

Chapter Officers

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Samuel C. Atkinson

Grand Procurator
Christopher C. Shea

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Ramsey Schilling

Grand Scribe
Douglas D. Colson

Grand Treasurer
Tyler S. Collins

Asst. Grand Scribe
Andrew C. Gast

Asst. Grand Treasurer
John R. Noojin

Rush Chairman
Ryan A. Maurer

Pledge Education Chairman
Kevin J. Gough

2009 Football Schedule

Sept. 5	Jacksonville State
Sept. 10	Clemson
Sept. 17	at Miami
Sept. 26	North Carolina
Oct. 3	at Mississippi State
Oct. 10	at Florida State
Oct. 17	Virginia Tech
Oct. 24	at Virginia
Oct. 31	at Vanderbilt
Nov. 7	Wake Forest
Nov. 14	at Duke
Nov. 28	Georgia

What's My Member ID?

You can find your Member ID for First Time Login on www.kappasigmagt.org above your name and address on this newsletter. Once you're registered on the site you'll be provided with a username and password.



THE ALPHA TAUKER

www.kappasigmagt.org

March 2009

Alpha Tau of
Kappa Sigma

CHAPTER REPORT

Alpha Tau Earns 7th Highest Spot in Philanthropic Hours among Kappa Sigma Chapters

Chapter Boasts 22 New Members from Last Two Pledge Classes

By Samuel C. Atkinson, GM

The brothers of Alpha Tau had a very successful fall semester, boasting a pledge class of 17 worthy men and earning the 7th most philanthropic hours of all Kappa Sigma chapters. During the fall semester, the chapter volunteered 1,249 hours and raised more than \$1,400 with events including a blood drive, cornhole tournament, and golf tournament.

Alpha Tau is also off to a great start this semester, with a spring class of five pledges: **Patrick Murray Belton, Berkeley Reynolds Brown, Jeremy T. Craig, Brian T. David** and **Eric F. Shults**. The brothers are also hosting a softball tournament on April 11th to raise

money for charity. All chapters are invited to attend to try and compete against the Alpha Tau brothers.

We're looking forward to another Yellow Jacket football season, which will be here before you know it! If you're back in Atlanta this summer or fall, make plans to stop by the house to meet the active chapter and share stories from your own days at Kappa Sig.

For updates on Alpha Tau or to suggest future chapter news topics, contact me at c.atkinson21@gmail.com.

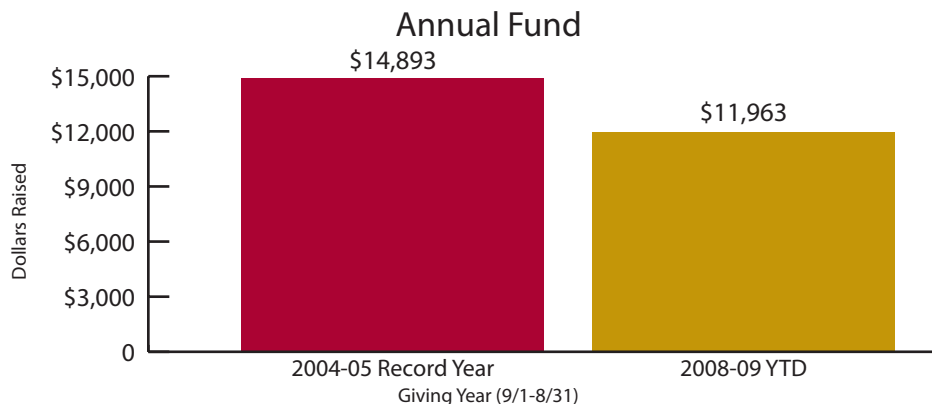
ANNUAL FUND

On Track for a Record Giving Year

Support the Annual Fund to Continue Communications Program

At the midway point in our giving year, we are pleased to announce that we're on track to exceed our record annual fund total of \$14,893 set in 2004-05. As of March 12, we have raised \$11,963 to the 2008-09 annual fund. Help us

make this another record-breaking year and add your name to the Honor Roll of Donors by making an annual fund donation. You can do so online at www.kappasigmagt.org or by calling 800-975-6699.



Alpha Tau Brother was On Board Hudson River Flight

Charles Spiggle '92 Credits Pilot and First Responders for Amazing No-Casualty Emergency Landing

By Jimmy Fortuna '91

When brother **Charles Spiggle '92** boarded US Air flight 1549 to head home on Thursday, January 15th, it was far from the first time. The flight had the virtue of being one of the only ones returning to his home in Charlotte, NC early enough for him to see his family at a reasonable hour. On that day, however, the routine flight was anything but normal, and he was soon worried that it might very well be his last.

"I never thought I'd ever be in a plane crash, but it looks like I picked a good one at least."

Just moments off of the runway the plane struck a flock of geese, and the fate of everyone on board suddenly hung in the balance. As we all know now, Captain Chesley Sullenberger was able to execute an amazing feat of aeronautical skill that afternoon - a casualty-free water landing into the Hudson River. The professionalism of Captain Sullenberger and his aircrew, the calm of the passengers and the speed with which New York City's first responders brought aid to bear all helped to

prevent what could have easily become a large and tragic loss of life. In the moments after the massive bird strike on brother Spiggle's plane, however, he could not know that the event would later be described as "The Miracle on the Hudson;" he knew only that his plane was in serious trouble. As he told *Tech Topics* magazine in a recent interview, the thought going through his head was chilling. "After all the times of thinking this could happen," he said, "it's going to happen."

The three-and-a-half minutes that elapsed between the loss of power in both of the Airbus A320's turbofan engines and Captain Sullenberger's deft landing seemed like 20 to 25 minutes to brother Spiggle. At first everyone aboard and on the ground thought the aircraft would make an emergency return to La Guardia airport, but it was not to be. The plane did not have enough airspeed, altitude or power to make an emergency landing at La Guardia or any other airport. Very little time elapsed between brother Spiggle's realization that the plane would be landing in the Hudson River and the landing itself, but it was plenty enough to think about his wife Kelly and his two children Caroline

and Jackson. "I can keep my head. I can get out of the plane. I have a wife and two kids," he thought.

And he did get out. Swiftly rescued and cared for along with 150 fellow passengers, Brother Spiggle immediately began receiving an outpouring of help and care from his colleagues at Wachovia, including a brand new suit of clothes from Brooks Brothers and chartered flight home to his family the next morning. Meanwhile, it wasn't long before Alpha Tau's email listserv was streaming with messages, brothers all over the country shocked to learn that he was on the plane and relieved to know that all was well.

On Saturday morning brother Spiggle took a few moments to send out a word of thanks to all of his well-wishers at Alpha Tau.

"Thanks everybody for worrying about me," he said. "I never thought I'd ever be in a plane crash, but it looks like I picked a good one at least. Pilot, first responders, ferry crews, fellow passengers were all great. I look forward to seeing all of you at the tailgate this fall."

Amen to that brother Spiggle. Amen.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Back in 1956...

At the opening of school, the campus's third oldest fraternity started its quest for those elusive IFC points. Among the honors taken were second places in the 'Reck parade and cross-country meet, a



league championship in football and fourth in swimming. At homecoming their neat modern house boasted a great display, one of the best. Fall quarter saw a pledge class of 38 and the welcome addition of a house mother, first in chapter history...Kappa Sigma is well represented in almost every campus honorary and activity.

Bob Beach and **Russ McDonough** are the editors of the *Engineer* and the *Technique*, respectively. Brothers Baker and Thornwell are active in Student Council work, and **Lynn Fowler** is

Bulldog Club president...Self-reputedly party champions of the campus, the Kappa Sigs started another spectacular year with a real gone party after the Miami game. Big events of the social year were the traditional Black and White Formal, the Founders' Day celebration and a very informal house party.

Article from the 1956 edition of Blueprint. See more pictures from our chapter's history and submit some from your era at www.kappasigmagt.org!

A group of stags enjoys the cameraman while more energetic dancers enjoy the fast combo.

2008-09 ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

Founder's Circle (\$500-\$999.99)

D. Keith Gettmann 1973
Charles B. (Brad) Smith 1982

Scarlet, White, & Emerald Green Society (\$250-\$499.99)

Thompson G. Daniel Jr. 1956
Wilford C. Lyon Jr. 1958
L. Joseph Rogers 1958
James O. Hines 1960
J. William Goodhew III 1961
William S. Rhodes 1970

The 1869 Club (\$186.90)

Pat F. McGarity 1956
William F. Williams 1957
Robert D. Robinson 1958
Glen C. Smith 1958
Geoffrey C. Gill 1964
Michael L. Smith 1965
Edward W. Godfrey 1968
Steven N Millspaugh 1971
Gregory T. Davis 1973
Michael S. Hug 1980
Daniel J. Westbrook 1991

182 Sixth Street Society (\$182)

Stewart D. Winn Jr. 1958
Richard A. Sperry 1959
Richard B. Blessey 1966
Gordon M. Ryland Jr. 1969
Andrew K. Phelps 1976
Gary L. Harrell 1984
Patrick Winston Hunter 1987

Star & Crescent Club (\$100-\$181.99)

Gordon B. Cauble 1940
Leonard J. Murrans 1947
Bill G. Bruner Jr. 1950
Zachry S. Norville Jr. 1951
Joseph P. Sullivan, LTC, USAF (R) 1952

James R. Chalker 1955
Robert C. Schroeder 1955
Robert Denmark 1956
L. Andrew Hearn Jr. 1957
David W. Jeffrey 1957
Thomas U. Lassiter Jr. 1957
Jack P. McClendon 1957
Richard F. Bridges 1959
John W. Delind III 1959
Charles A. Gibson 1959
Jack D. Liles 1960
Ben Chilcutt 1961
George T. Gannaway 1961
Ted I. Haney 1961
Clyde Wayne Bud Hill Jr. 1961
Gerald W Lewis 1961
Wiley R. McCoy Jr. 1961
Ronald M. Wilson 1961
Richard L. Mitchell Jr. 1964
Stephen Clayton Perry 1964
James C. Tillman Jr. 1964
Aubrey P. Watson 1965
George Scott McCoy Jr. 1966
Lester McTier Anderson 1967
John H. Rowley 1968
Terry A. Graham 1969
William P. Bowers 1970
Clifton T. Hutchinson 1970
Hank H. Weatherford Jr. 1975
Robert M. Leonard 1978
Roland Derik Davis 1990
Andrew R. Philippo 1992
William E. Webb 1992
Christopher J. Finke 1994
Adam M. Goldstein 2001

Alpha Tau Supporter (\$50-\$99.99)

John B. Kackley 1937
George H. Center Jr. 1942
William J. Wren Jr. 1946
Donald O. Ricketts 1950

Fredrick L. Jones 1951
William H. Schroeder Jr. 1951
Donald H. Barnes 1952
Fred E. Rogers Jr. 1953
William C. Cheek Jr. 1955
Frank E. Edrington 1955
Lawrence E Lymburner Jr. 1956
George A. Jackins Jr. 1958
Armand and Travis E. Breard 1959
Robert V. Soderholm 1959
James C. Harden 1960
Peter F. Grazzini 1961
John D. Waldron 1962
William H. Hocutt 1964
Jerry T. Kendall 1965
Hal W. Lamb III 1966
Anthony R. Pitts 1966
Hugh B Anderson Jr. 1968
Donald E. Wilkinson 1969
John W. Hewitt 1971
Jesse L. Morrison Jr. 1971
Chuck C. Antonio MD 1972
Brian L. Baccus 1973
Alan W. Lunsford 1973
Peter G. Brown 1975
Ralph E. Sykes 1981
Greg Jenkins 1982
Jeffrey S. Warner 1986
Collin R Campbell 1997
Keith Alan White Jr. 1997
Mike M. Hierholzer 1998
Thomas R. Qualters 1999

Others (Up to \$49.99)

Scott W. Holman Jr. 1947
Martin J. Keller 1956
Robert C. Stanek 1990
Theron L. Huss 1999

*Reflects gifts received as of
March 12, 2009.*

ALUMNI UPDATES

We want to know what's new with you too! Share your update online at www.kappasigmagt.org.

'70s

Andy Phelps '76

(akphelps@bechtel.com) I still work for Bechtel after 30 years and have moved to northwestern British Columbia with my wife Barbara to manage the construction of a \$3 billion aluminum smelter for Rio Tinto Alcan. I climbed Mont Blanc in France last year with my two sons, who are both at Georgia Tech. Michael is a freshman EE and Edward

is working toward his PhD in Biomedical Engineering.

'80s

Kurt von Borries '80

(1761 Canton Hills Cir., Marietta, GA 30062-4613; jkvb4u@bellsouth.net) I have been living in East Cobb, Marietta, since 1985. On July 1st, I will be taking office as President of the Rotary Club of East Cobb. Over the years, I have bumped into a couple of other Alpha Taus who are Rotarians: **Greg**

Davis '73 of the Buckhead Club and **Jeff Cooper '85** of the Henry County Club.

'90s

Collin Campbell '97

(100 West Ridge Dr., Hendersonville, TN 37075; collin@soltus.com) Easton Ray Campbell arrived December 29th at 6:25 CST, weighing in at 7 lbs, 10 oz., 21.5 in. Dad is ecstatic, mom and son are doing great.

KAPPA SIG MEMORIES

Alumni Respond to Previous *Alpha Tau*ers

Thank you to the following alumni for participating in the continuation of discussions and/or articles that were originally published in the past few issues of The Alpha Tauker.

“The beer in the coke machine idea was started when I was GM in 1970. It was an idea that **Ken Slaman '71** came up with to help raise money to purchase some new living room furniture. We had several brothers who had military fathers, so they could make purchases at the Ft. McPherson PX. We would make as many runs as needed to fill up the machine with 3.2% alcohol beer. Ken's idea was to fill up every other empty can with sand, so that your first quarter got you a can of sand and the second quarter got you a beer! It worked very well and the additional funds helped us purchase new furniture.

- **Steve Norris '71**, in response to *Kappa Sig Jukebox Memories* in the November 2008 issue.

“It was cool to see the story about the jukebox in the pit. During my last year at Tech, the EMI guy was bringing in new songs and some of the great classics were being removed so he gave some of the 45's to me. They were very worn but now I have those exact 45's of 'Amos Moses,' 'Polk Salad Annie' and I think 'Whiskey River' from Kappa Sig on an old jukebox my wife and I have in our basement (pit?!). Anyone remember the beer machine we had down there? Fifty cents for a cold bud, Heineken or 'mash?' Obstacle pool?”

- **Jim Duncan '85**, in response to *Kappa Sig Jukebox Memories* in the November 2008 issue.

“As I remember it, the first rock that had disappeared from time to time finally disappeared for good in the late '50s. A new rock was then obtained with the help of a pledge's father, who worked on the Stone Mountain Face Project at the time. It was

delivered on a low boy truck and lifted it off by a tow truck and placed it at the corner. One of our neighboring fraternities dug the hole and buried it one night. If memory serves me right (no guarantees of that!), we dug around the rock, had another tow truck come in and lift it out of the hole. We then had concrete poured into the hole and reset the rock where it is today. This rock weighed about 4,000 pounds. So the whole thing now at the corner probably weighs in the ballpark of 5 tons. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

- **Robert Soderholm '59**, in response to “The Origin of the Rock” in the March 2008 issue of *Alpha Tauker*. There's a great chain of other brothers' responses to this story at www.kappasigmag.org.

We want to hear your responses to these stories, or the best stories from YOUR era too! Share them on the message boards at www.kappasigmag.org.



Going back in time to relive a year in our chapter's history! See page 2 for a walk down memory lane.

An Alpha Tau Alum was On Board the Hudson River Flight...Read Inside for His Story!

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