



the *Kap Key*

SUMMER 2016

NEWSLETTER OF THE KAPPA ALPHA SOCIETY

WHAT MAKES A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION?

During the past 190 years, The Kappa Alpha Society has transformed itself from a single chapter founded in Schenectady, New York, to an international organization with chapters in the United States and Canada, one member at a time, with rituals established by its founders in 1825.

A student, perhaps through his friends, is drawn to KA, shows interest in becoming a member, and through the process of initiation, joins the oldest established fraternity in continuous existence. The student finds that joining a literary society is one of the best life choices made. As a member, the student forms a strong bond with his brothers that will forever be associated with KA. After a few years, the student graduates. How can he continue to be involved with KA? Perhaps he becomes involved with his local chapter, participates in events, provides financial support, or volunteers at the national level by becoming a member of any number of committees, working on issues ranging from risk management to preserving our history, as well as increasing the recruitment of new members to the Society.

The national organization is all the brothers that have worked in the past,

are working now, and will work in the future to realize the objectives of The Kappa Alpha Society.

As with any large organization, there have been problems, issues, controversies, and disagreement. Difficult challenges are addressed not only for liability reasons, but more importantly, because unacceptable behavior is contrary to our vows and to the objectives of the Society.

The state of the Society is very strong. This past academic year, 60 new members joined our brotherhood. The future is bright and limitless, for our Society has a powerful engine of human resources to propel it forward. The members of the Executive Council work toward good governance, fiduciary responsibility, and the support for our undergraduates. It is vital that we work together, across chapters, to support and learn from each other.

UNDERGRADUATES

Our undergraduates are our public face and reason for existence; the chapters are the backbone of the Society. It is the continuity, institutional knowledge, and dedication they represent that hold our chapters together.

Our undergraduate members are a wonderfully diverse group who hail from various parts of the United States, Canada, and abroad and are active in all areas of college life. They are athletes, musicians, artists, actors, and scholars. We are proud of the tradition they carry forward, as well as the present

and future they embody for the Society.

The Society provides a formal structure that lets brothers stay in each other's lives pretty easily for a very long time.

SUPPORT OUR PROGRAMS

Through your financial support and personal involvement, we have improved our communications, provided funds to encourage inter-chapter participation to events, and provided scholarship awards. These alumni-funded scholarships, presented annually, are awarded to those actives whose efforts have strengthened KA in the areas of chapter improvements, campus leadership, community service, and alumni relations.

Our national website continues to expand. All are encouraged to explore this deep resource at www.ka.org. You'll find opportunities for social networking, a chance to connect with old friends, historical tidbits, and information about upcoming social events. Take a moment to log on and review and update your contact information. Let us know where you are and what you are doing!

The Kap Key: We are, at our roots, a literary society. Let's celebrate our roots through creative expression from the current membership. Please help out, send us your creative observations and your passionate dreams, and so live up to the spirit of KA.

With this edition of the *The Kap Key*, you'll find a gift form and envelope enclosed, even if you've already contributed during the 2015–2016 fiscal year. Every individual contribution truly makes a difference. Dues paid to The Executive Council of The Kappa Alpha Society help us to provide actives and alumni members with programs and activities that cannot be supported by the Foundation under IRS

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Save the Dates...

CONCILIUM

October 1, 2016 :: Hobart College & CH Chapter, Geneva, New York

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKENDS

October 14–15 :: CC Chapter, Schenectady, New York
October 28–29 :: VM Chapter, Montreal, Quebec
November 4–5 :: VT Chapter, Toronto, Ontario
November 18–19 :: VOO Chapter, London, Ontario
December 2–3 :: CH Chapter, Geneva, New York

Visit www.ka.org for event details.

JOHN HART HUNTER EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

REPORT FROM JAMES L. GOLDMAN, VC'81, VP'86

Our Secretary, David T. Finkelstein, VP'87, wrote in these pages last year about the exceptionalism of The Kappa Alpha Society relative to the many other Greek-letter collegiate organizations that followed KA during the last nearly 200 years. Without a doubt, our organization is exceptional in having established a path and set a tone that few other fraternities have achieved, none fully. But his insightful article got me thinking about exceptionalism as it applies to our undergraduate members individually.



As I travel from chapter to chapter, participating in the initiatory activities at each, I am constantly and consistently awed by the talents and abilities of the young men whom we have attracted into our circle. We often say that they are the leaders of tomorrow, but even as college undergrads, they are already leaders, whether academically, in sports, in community involvement, or simply by inspiring great effort from the younger members who follow them. It's difficult for me to imagine that I was even close to their level of achievement as a Cornell student 37 years ago.

If my words have not convinced you, let me suggest joining our leadership team at our annual leadership conference, known as "Concilium," and held usually each September. At this one-day symposium, we gather the officers and senior members of each chapter together to share their collective experience as leaders of KA and to address any issues or problems currently facing their chapters. That's a day when we truly feel humbled, listening to the eloquence and profound insight of some of the most intelligent young folks in the U.S. and Canada, some of whom are not, at that point, yet 20 years old!

I also note with some pride the high proportion of our undergraduate members who choose to continue their studies at the graduate and, in many cases, doctoral levels of study. It seems that our Society not only attracts students

already committed to serious educational achievement, but also provides the inspiration for them to continue their studies beyond the undergraduate degree. As president of an educational foundation, I feel no greater metric can validate our efforts. While I am not aware of any formal statistics on the matter, from the number of PhD alumni and candidates that I continue to meet in KA, I am pretty confident that Kappa Alpha boasts the largest percentage of PhDs amongst its membership of any collegiate social fraternity.

KA sets a great example of how fraternities ought to integrate elements of fun, satire, and parody into what otherwise can be a serious academic atmosphere. On very rare occasions, enthusiasm gets the better of us, and we misjudge our actions. Too often, peer pressure for high levels of both fun and achievement is mistaken for hazing. Hazing is a serious problem indeed, but just because youthful misbehavior occurs in a fraternal context does not make it hazing, contrary to what you might hear from college administrators. I recommend to you Dr. Finkelstein's excellent article "On Hazing in KA" for additional insight into how our Society stands against hazing (see page 3).

Since the 1999–2000 academic year, The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation, Inc., has awarded more than \$160,000 in scholarships to deserving Kaps who have proven themselves not only academically but also through their leadership, their extracurricular activities, and their contributions to their chapters and community, and in their support of the Society. This year, the Foundation awarded a total of \$13,000 to 13 actives whose achievements were recognized at the 158th Kappa Alpha

New York City dinner held this past January. The investment made in these actives has and will benefit the Society now and in the future. See the accompanying article (page 6) describing that fantastic evening and listing the names of this year's award recipients.

You *do* make a difference. Your gift will have an impact and will support all of the terrific students in KA today and in the future. Use the enclosed envelope to mail your check, or make a donation online through the Society's web site at www.ka.org.

As you know, The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation, Inc., has been designated in the U.S. as a 501(c)(3), public, charitable, and educational organization, and for U.S. taxpayers, your contributions are fully tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law as a charitable contribution. Your contribution may well qualify for matching

funds from your employer. The Foundation, an independent entity affiliated with the Society, makes financial grants to support exclusively educational and charitable programs that benefit Kaps, our chapters, and the collegiate world at large.

In addition to your financial contribution, which is essential and greatly appreciated, you can also get involved with the alumni group supporting your chapter or with the Executive Council, which supports the entire Society. Our undergraduates are uniformly appreciative of the time given by alumni volunteers.

We offer profound thanks to those alumni who have financially supported the Foundation through their contributions. If you have not yet or not recently supported our efforts, we invite you to join this renewal of enthusiasm for and generosity toward Kappa Alpha. Please do support our important work; it is making a difference.



James L. Goldman, VC'81, VP'86
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JHHEF (CANADA) REPORT

As you might have read in previous issues of *The Kap Key* and other correspondence, we are in the process of building up The John Hart Hunter Educational (Canada) Foundation (“JHHEF (Canada)”), which was granted full charitable status by the Canada Revenue Agency on January 5, 2012, thus providing a tax benefit for contributions from Canadian alumni. All contributions to JHHEF (Canada) now qualify for full charitable tax credit under Canadian Law.

Through the financial support and generosity of our alumni, JHHEF (Canada) is developing scholarship programs and granting financial assistance for the benefit of students attending Canadian colleges and universities. Supporting an organization dedicated to the history,

literary values, and scholarship of our Canadian chapters is highly encouraged.

It is also time to start the process of “paying forward” the funds so generously donated by The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation Inc. (U.S.) in support of our Canadian students through the scholarships awarded since the 1999–2000 academic year. While less than 10 percent of the contributions were donated by the Canadian alumni, fully 40 percent of the scholarship awards were given to our Canadian Kaps.

Since November 1, 2012, our Canadian foundation has received \$27,485.28 in 122 contributions from Canadian Kaps. With more than 1,968 Canadian alumni, I encourage all to directly support our actives. Please consider a generous gift to

our Canadian foundation.

Contributions can be made directly online through The Kappa Alpha Society website (www.ka.org) by clicking on the “Give to the JHHE(Canada)F” link, or by returning the enclosed gift form. A Canadian tax receipt will be provided to you by mail.

Together with my fellow board members, we are pleased to invite all Kaps to play a critically important role in the growth of the JHHEF (Canada).

Thank you for your support!
Michael E. Mestinek, VA'93
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Educational (Canada) Foundation
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ON “HAZING” IN KA

HAZING! It is the one word mention that strikes fear in the hearts of parents of prospective fraternity members. It is the charge used as a weapon by the critics of the fraternity system. It is a real problem with which fraternities have dealt with for years.

Yes, hazing is certainly a real world concern. Organizations such as The Kappa Alpha Society and her unintended fraternity and sorority progeny are not, and should not, be in the business of recruiting young people and doing them harm.

However, making such a blanket statement is not necessarily accurate. As members of the Society, we can only speak for the Society. We are not privy to the secrets, rituals, and procedures of any of the other Greek Letter Organization nationals.

Once one also considers the spontaneous inventiveness in cruelty of which college students can be capable, and the power over the lives of prospective members that actives are given along with titles such as “President” and “Pledge Master,” hazing, especially including risk to life and limb, can easily be introduced at the local level outside the knowledge and control of a national leadership, alumni leadership, or a membership at large. This especially holds where local undergraduates perform rites without supervision or at least observation.

So, does hazing exist in the North American College Fraternity in 2016? Certainly! Is it an issue for The Kappa

Alpha Society? It is, but only in that the misdeeds of other nationals cast a negative shadow on the whole fraternity system, as to which KA is lumped in by the general public and the educational establishment, despite our differences and uniqueness.

One thing we can certainly say with pride: The Kappa Alpha Society does not haze!

We know certainly well what John Hart Hunter and his fellows set out to create and their motivations. It was definitely not a club for sadism. What they set down as our rites and procedures is what we still practice today, with little alteration, almost two centuries later.

Our ritual, our initiation, is not one of hazing. We do not risk the well-being of young people whom we want to include in our KA family and have as life-long loyal Kaps. Why would we?

The risky part for us, of course, is what happens at the chapter level. The deviation from centuries’ old ritual, the creative addition of cruelty, can always introduce hazing to the process. While that might be a source of misery for our fellow organizations, there are fundamental reasons why it is less so for us. Remember, our active chapters tend to have robust alumni organizations with the hands on presence of alumni leadership. Our national Executive Council is also hands on with a ubiquitous presence. Most of our pledges reach initiation

(continued on next page)



Get In Touch!

Each and every one of you, as alumni, is encouraged to reach out to The Executive Council with your thoughts, ideas, concerns, and support for our great organization.

The Executive Council includes:

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ON "HAZING" IN KA *(continued from previous page)*

having met key alumni. Key alumni are also present when it matters most. The undergraduates of the different chapters become acquainted and are quick to judge and criticize each other, especially over matters that have deviated towards the inappropriate. All this helps keep our process on track and helps us control undesirable local innovations.

That being said, there will be an initiate here and there that does not take things as intended, misinterprets the experience, and convinces themselves that they were hazed. After so many initiates in so many chapters over so many years, that is an inevitability. In addition, we have the situation where a certain generation of alumni of one particular chapter vehemently insist that what we do is hazing. The issues of that one chapter in that one era is not the focus and purpose of this article. Regardless, the vast majority of a++oi, both current and historic, from fourteen other chapters, plus the a++oi from that one chapter that preceded them and succeeded them, would vehemently disagree with them and find our activities to be more in accordance with what is written here.

While it is true that if a disgruntled Kap says we hazed, that does not demonstrate any fact of hazing on the Society's part. We still, as the Society, need to be vigilant when said allegations extend beyond the Society. Damage can, and has been done.

Still, to be kind, part of the disagreement may be the fundamental issue of the very definition of hazing. Any honest and fair discussion or debate on the topic will have to deal with this tough issue.

Just like with pornography, and rape, and certain other ills of our civilization, there is wide debate as to what does and does not constitute the concept. As has been done with pornography, it certainly can be claimed that you know it when you see it. However, as I previously demonstrated above, such a position can lead to wide disagreement.

There are those who will claim that what is designed to cause physical harm or that leaves a mark, be it by scarring, tattooing, branding, is hazing and anything that falls short of this is not.

On the other extreme are those who will claim that anything more than a pat on the shoulder, the receipt of a certificate, and maybe the equivalent of a group sing of Kumbaya is hazing.

Clearly what we do in KA is not hazing according to the first categorization,

yet might be considered so by the second. But these are the extremes, the truth being somewhere in the murky space between.

Certainly, one could try to resort to dictionary definitions. For example, the Merriam Webster definition states: "[T]he practice of playing unpleasant tricks on someone or forcing someone to do unpleasant things" and "the action of hazing; especially : [sic] an initiation process involving harassment[.]"

The overly broad inclusiveness of this, and the problems of further arguments over the subjectiveness and the meanings of "unpleasant" and "harassment" should be self-evident.

Wikipedia's current definition includes: "Hazing is the practice of rituals and other activities involving harassment, abuse or humiliation used as a way of initiating a person into a group."

This is again overly broad and problematic. Just looking at the concept of humiliation: Should we be discussing the private humiliation of failing at something and the resultant motivation to try again and succeed, or should we be discussing the public humiliation of being made a spectacle and being opened to ridicule? What exactly was the intent of the neologist?

By this time, a fair question would be what exactly is wrong with an overly broad definition of hazing, as casting a wide net would certainly catch every true instance. The problem would be what else is caught up: the false positives if you will. Being overly broad includes many day by day experiences in daily living, including many things necessary to function in society.

As we are discussing college fraternities and sororities, and our Society in particular, let's focus on campus experiences. Here is a list of things to ponder as to whether or not they are hazing according to the stated definitions: the admissions process itself, exams that are more challenging that they need to be, any exams for that matter, papers and essays designed to make the student think, any papers or essays for that matter, public posting of grades, professors making examples of students before entire classes or in private, any censure or anything punitive, tryouts for athletics or performing arts. How about that perfect example of unpleasantness, harassment, and humiliation that is the Socratic teaching method?

By some definitions of hazing, every college student is hazed constantly every single day they leave their dorm rooms. Clearly a more restrictive definition is needed.

Again, discussing fraternities and sororities, and our Society in particular, let us focus on pledging and initiation.

Clearly, as stated before, if an activity leaves a mark be it by tattooing, branding or scarification, it is hazing. If it is specifically intended, or any rational person would recognize it, as a true risk to life and limb, it is hazing. If it is designed solely for public humiliation, it is hazing. If it exists solely for the jollies of the members or as revenge for what they had gone through during their turn, it is hazing. If it mandates the commission of a crime be it robbery or vandalism, rape or other sexual abuse of person or animal, underage drinking or substance abuse, it is hazing. If it involves sexual victimization, or dangerous intake of otherwise legal substances, it is hazing. This is a reasonable, and fairly exhaustive, list of what should be included.

As regards the issue about things unpleasant, as so much of inescapable life is unpleasant from taxes to jury duty to arguing with people, it is a useless concept in this context and should be discarded. Does anyone seriously expect organizations such as ours not to collect initiation fees and dues? They are certainly unpleasant.

In discussing what constitutes hazing, as important as what activities should be included is what activities should be excluded. The overly broad definitions would block legitimate activities that promote group bonding, foster tradition, and provide for the education of new members. These are the very three things a pledge program and initiation are supposed to accomplish!

Why group bonding? A chapter is a simulated or ersatz family. The goal is to have it be a functional one, where everyone respects each other and works together for the common good. In a real ideal family, children grow up in the home environment and get properly socialized. In our setting, we have a few weeks at most to accomplish the same with late teens/early 20-somethings. The sooner the pledges/prospective members get to know each other, and their capabilities and limits, the better. Group tasks and challenges are a reasonable way to achieve this efficiently. Thus, is having a pledge class clean the fraternity house top to bottom hazing? No, it achieves a legitimate goal. However, deliberately trashing the fraternity house beforehand is hazing. Including the pledges in an entire chapter cleaning of the house is the antithesis of hazing. Is having the initiates dig pits six feet long, three feet wide,

ON "HAZING" IN KA *(continued from previous page)*

six feet deep, with or without being surrounded by death imagery, hazing? There should not be much argument there.

Tradition is valuable. It binds people across time and space, adding weight and significance to membership in a group. The knowledge that the rites being performed by you, or for you, or around you have been done the same way for centuries or millennia should be humbling. It should impress a oneness with generations of individuals who went before. The similar knowledge that the rites are being performed in multiple places contemporaneously should impress the import of gaining a new group of peers. Common experience is a point of reference when meeting others in the group for the first time. It expedites fellowship. For Kappa Alpha, we have thousands of brothers, and sisters, who experienced our traditions across fifteen schools for 190 years. That is valuable.

Contrary to the pop culture stereotype, fraternities and sororities do have an educational mission, or should from the perspective of Kappa Alpha, as we came first and created the concept. Think of our pillars. They are fields of study that were neglected, discouraged, or banned by the faculty of Union College circa 1825, but promoted as an organizational basis by our founders. Think of the Greek letters our organizations use. Are they there as an affectation, or are they a reflection of our being based on classical knowledge and its promulgation?

Focusing on the Greek classical world, let us consider some hypothetical fraternity rites. Remember, that as members of KA, none of us are privy to those of any other fraternity. If any actually perform these, that would be coincidental.

If you were to found an organization based on Classical Greek culture, you

could focus on the history. For example, the Battle of Thermopylae. Let us look at a hypothetical Sigma Lambda, Στρατός του Λεωνίδα, the Army of Leonidas, a hypothetical fraternity based on ancient Sparta. Certainly such a fraternity might want all of its members to have a taste of what it was like to defend that pass with a small band against the entire Persian army of Xerxes. How might this be accomplished? What if the official ritual called for the pledge class to ceremonially defend some position, whether physically, emotionally or intellectually? What if this fraternity's rites simply boiled down to an elaborate game of Capture the Flag? Would it be pointless hazing or an educational challenge?

You could also focus on the mythology of Classical Greece. Let us now look at a hypothetical Gamma Eta, Γίους του Ηρακλή, the Sons of Hercules. Perhaps such an organization's initiation calls for a symbolic reenactment of the Twelve Trials. While the true trials involved a lot of slaying, capturing and stealing, activities that wouldn't be condoned today, such an organization might have their initiates face a dozen representative challenges. Slaying the Nemean Lion? That could be facing your fear. Capturing the Cretan Bull? That could be following clues to get, say, a challenge coin from a particular professor. Cleaning the Augean Stables could be a house clean. Obtaining the Girdle of Hippolyta could be following clues to, say, figure out which alumnus' spouse to approach for some documentation of achievement. This fraternity's rites might also be boiled down to something otherwise common, this time a version of a treasure hunt. Again, would this be pointless hazing or an educational challenge?

A third way you could base an

organization on Classical Greece would be to focus on the philosophy. This time, let us finally look at a hypothetical Alpha Pi, Ακολουθήστε τον Πλάτωνα, Follow Plato. Such an organization might use *The Republic*, particularly the Allegory of the Cave. While they might not chain their initiates in a cave, which likely would be hazing, they might pose an intellectual challenge of some type to each initiate that only ends when he sees the light, obtains enlightenment, figures out the basis of the organization, or figures out a grand secret. What if the journey to get there that is demanded invokes the Hero's Journey as described by Joseph Campbell? Would this be hazing or would this be an activity with a beneficial, educational purpose?

Think of the initiation experiences of The Kappa Alpha Society. Think of the messages relayed in the ritual. Think of what the initiates are asked to experience, their journeys. Are these just for the enjoyment of the members present? Of course not! KA is offering opportunities for personal growth and preparation for post college life. They are ultimately meant to be beneficial. Do they facilitate building relationships between the initiates and the Society's actives and alumni? Yes they do! Do they foster traditions dating back to 1825? Yes they do! Most importantly, do they serve the educational mission of KA? Are they educational in their own right? The answer is of course "Yes"!

Thus The Kappa Alpha Society does not haze.

Quod erat demonstrandum.

David Finkelstein, VP'87
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Kappa Alpha Society
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Concilium:

*The Kappa Alpha Society
Annual Undergraduate Leadership Conference
Saturday, October 1, 2016
at Hobart College in Geneva, New York*

If you are an alumni leader or volunteer, and you would like to help with the organization and running of this important annual leadership development conference, please contact us via email or telephone:

John Enteman, PRESIDENT

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Jim Goldman, PRESIDENT

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The Kappa Alpha Annual Undergraduate Leadership Conference is supported by the generous donors of The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation, Inc.



158TH NEW YORK CITY DINNER

As has been the custom of The Kappa Alpha Society, a great turnout of alumni and undergraduates gathered for this year's 158th New York City Dinner, held at the Princeton Club on January 29, 2016. Executive Council President John H. F. Enteman, CG'72, warmly welcomed over 90 alumni, undergrads, and guests attending this year's festivities.

Thomas G. Feore, VT'17, enlightened the assembled with a reiteration of the literary production he created for the conclusion of the VT Alumni Reunion Weekend on November 7, 2015, and then was presented with a special John Hart Hunter Literary Merit Award.

The enthusiasm and party spirit at the dinner was evident by the singing, which increased in volume as each table of Kaps stood and "raised their glasses"! Still, a gentlemanly decorum was maintained throughout the highly entertaining

evening. It's easy to say a good time was had by all.

After a delicious filet-mignon dinner, Dr. James L. Goldman, VC'81, VP'86, President of The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation, Inc., took center stage. As has been done in the past, a small group of outstanding undergraduate students was honored as recipients of The John Hart Hunter Educational Foundation, Inc., Scholarship Awards Program for the 2015–'16 academic year. The JHHEF scholarships are awarded annually to students demonstrating exemplary academic performance (grades), community service, and leadership in Kappa Alpha activities. Dr. Goldman had the pleasure of describing the talents and accomplishments of each of these wonderful young men, and presenting each with his award check. Kudos to the 12 scholarship award recipients for representing the best in KA!



2016 Scholarship Award recipients at the New York City Dinner.
(photo and photo at top taken by Jim Goldman, VC'81, VP'86)

WHAT MAKES A NATIONAL ORGANIZATION?

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tax-deductible guidelines. You can make secure online payments at www.ka.org.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? VOLUNTEER

We are looking for volunteers willing to help; provide content for the website; be a mentor to a student; provide advice to current undergraduate officers; consider volunteering your time to make our chapters stronger.

Our Society is a living, breathing, ongoing entity. It is more than just the past; it is the present as well. It is upon that present—certainly defined by its past—that the future of KA depends.

Thank you to all the alumni who give generously and annually to ensure the continuation and vibrancy of our traditions, values, and organizational assets.

Please feel free to call me or to send me an email to discuss the direction and progress of The Kappa Alpha Society.

John H.F. Enteman, CG'72
President, The Executive Council of
The Kappa Alpha Society
917-913-5542
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Congratulations

to The John Hart Hunter
Educational Foundation, Inc.,
Scholarship Award Recipients
for 2015–2016.

Jared T. Diou-Cass, CC'16
Francis A. Rocco, CC'17
Connor F. May, CH'16
Louis M. Brown, VC'16
Akito T. Nicol, VC'16
Jorge J. Quesada Davies, VT'16
Russell K. Beatty, VL'16
Joseph P. Ingaglio, VL'16
Eric W. Tweel, VM'16
Seunghun Lee, VP'16
Harold A. Smith-Perez, VOO'16
Vincent F. Magnet, VD'16

KA IN CC CHAPTER REPORT

“Ye” Union boys continue to thrive as we move into the future. It has now been a little over five years since our re-founding, and CC has continued to make its mark. For the 2015–2016 academic year, CC has brought in six a++oi with bright and shiny keys into our beloved society. With these additional a++oi, we have a total active count of 18. These a++oi are dedicated and hardworking, with wide ranging interests from political science to mechanical engineering.

This has also been a very academically diverse group; no two a++oi are studying the same field. The CC Chapter is not only growing in numbers, but also in our activities on campus and within our community. We participate in club sports and plays, and we are leaders within organizations ranging from clubs to student government.

This year, we once again held our amazing annual Poetry at the Nott, where Union students and faculty shared their favorite works from short essays to slam poetry, all led by CC Kaps. We have continued to serve and volunteer at Vale Cemetery in Schenectady, the resting place of Captain Isaac Wilbur Jackson, by helping with the upkeep and operations of the grounds. Continuing with our philanthropic endeavors, several of our a++oi sponsored three local children during the winter holiday season by buying presents so that everyone will have a memorable Christmas. We have actively been involved with the local community, helping to construct a playground at a local park and participating in Schenectady’s John Calvin Toll Day of Service.

CC Kaps have maintained excellent standing within Union College, boasting the Interfraternity Council’s highest GPA and coming in second place in Union’s Chapter of Excellence review. In recognition of this, CC was presented an award by the Office of Greek Affairs for our outstanding achievements within the Union community. CC is also ecstatic to again be able to announce it has maintained its flawless reputation since its re-founding of attending every s++g this year. It is a record we take great pride in because we love to meet our fellow a++oi from near and far. Unfortunately, the Union boys will be saying goodbye to six graduating brothers who have left a

strong mark on all the undergrads. While they will be leaving, they shall forever be with us in the S++ B++. There are many fun and exciting adventures coming up for CC, which we enthusiastically await.

Alexander Chu, CC’17

KA IN CH CHAPTER REPORT

It renders rather unsurprising that the Kappa Alpha Society chapter at CH has, yet again, flourished socially, academically, and philanthropically this past academic year. With bright young scholars newly found, we at Hobart College continue to steer our starry vessel toward great success, both at home and abroad. As is tradition, CH takes continued pride in our incredible ability to acquire balanced and driven individuals, inhabiting vast and deeply rooted standings across a wide landscape of social settings, clubs, activities, and athletics. It is with great pride and joy that I detail these admirable and impressive goals met by some of the greatest people I’ve ever had the pleasure of knowing.

My name is Daniel Costello, a current junior and recently appointed G++s, and it is without hesitation that I can say KA has changed my life. Being honest, I had my reservations about joining such a group for a long while. Subservience, as it functions within a “selective” and “elitist” community of college men, to me, registered as something to avoid. I am an individual, and one who never needs to prove myself “worthy” to associate myself with such men in altogether counterproductive ways. However, as you all well know, this was not the case of the demanding and life-changing process that is KA. I joined, I learned, I grew, I made bonds infrangible, and I learned more about the self than I thought imaginable. I am constantly surrounded by, to put it bluntly, my best friends, and an incredibly supportive and loving group of guys. This opportunity to write about such gives me great honor and humility.

To show support for Charles Ruehl, a member of our society and great friend who battles a rare degenerative muscular disease, we decided to host a two-on-two basketball tournament right in the backyard of the Lodge. With bleachers brought in and stadium seating, we acquired 30 two-player teams to participate, and ultimately raised \$1,400 dollars in donation

for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. It was a beautifully competitive and fun tournament, and we all took great pride in our accomplishments. While communal, the idea for such can be accredited to our previous Vice President Jack Slattery, CH’16, and Patrick Hatheway, CH’16.

KA has continued to help out around both the college community and the community of Geneva, New York, the surrounding town. On September 11, in the fall semester, KA planted 2,977 small American flags on the beautiful hill surrounding the quad to honor the victims of that tragic day fourteen years ago. Just this past week, KA volunteered our time to help out with the HWS Day of Service, where we went to an off-site location in town to help with a spring cleanup. We raked and bagged and helped replace the bases on the nearby little league field. One of our N++ F++ this past fall, Jack Hearn, CH’18, is in charge of running this year’s Relay for Life, for which KA has a team. Many CH alums have donated money to the newly opened and beautiful performing arts center, for which we hosted a cocktail reception for the college president and others. We have also found great success in semesters abroad. I had the enormous opportunity to study during the fall semester in Galway, Ireland, and many of our members flourished in countries like Italy, Spain, Denmark, Ireland, France, and the UK, spreading our vibrant and upstanding character across the globe.

In the classroom, an equally important aspect of college to all of us, we have many standing members on the dean’s list. Not only this, but also many of us, Dylan Hedgepeth, CH’17, for example, stand as well respected TAs for difficult classes such as Organic Chemistry. Our dear friend Greg Hunt, CH’17, has embarked on an entrepreneurial adventure, starting his own company. Quick STX, his brainchild, is a lacrosse device that allows a player of any skill level to play catch with one’s self, honing in and developing necessary skills for the game. Many other members secured quite impressive jobs and internships for the summer. Our recently appointed president, Liam Brooks, CH’17, secured a position as a brokerage intern for Karbone, a New York City-based investment bank specializing in the new-energy economy. Ben Carr, CH’16, locked up an entry-level
(continued on next page)

position as a rotational analyst in the private bank section of CitiBank.

There are undoubtedly many more individual successes that we have had this past academic year; however, to keep this letter on the side of brevity, I will conclude with an understanding. A personal understanding, yes, but one so evidently occurring within each member of this wonderful community, of the love and support that has been brought upon us by the majestic S++ B++.

Y.I.T.B,
Daniel Costello, CH'16

KA IN VC CHAPTER REPORT

I would like to highlight some things about this previous school year. It was a great one for KA in VC, which participated in a large number of Kappa Alpha's various events. We sent delegates to several of the alumni reunion weekends, including one in Canada. A relatively sizable delegation attended the New York City Dinner, which the brothers really enjoyed. C++n participation has been very high, with a new house dog, a golden retriever named Tack, and a new location for the Lodge, even though everyone was spread out across Ithaca. Though we have a smaller group of active members going into next year, we are all very active and love KA, so I am hopeful going into our next year that we will be able to enjoy ourselves, and the Kappa Alpha community at large.

Peter Brown, VC'16

KA IN VT CHAPTER REPORT

Another year has passed, and KA in VT's incontrovertible reputation as the pinnacle of fraternal magnificence has had yet another year of glorious particulars to bolster its claim to *de facto* flagship. Our annual alumni weekend saw the induction of eight excellent individuals, the proud haul of a net cast once again as wide as the crumbling crawl space underneath the Lodge's basement staircase. The active chapter displayed supreme prudence and took great pride in initiating one young man in particular: a WUSC scholar, refugee, and international humanitarian speaker hailing from South Sudan.

On the subject of international VT, VT Kaps Jimoh Obviagale and Andrew Arruda and VOO and VD Kap Thomas Hamilton recently founded KA in Palo Alto, displaying characteristic VT and KA brotherhood and entrepreneurial genius in the founding of ROSS, an artificially intelligent provider of paralegal services, recently awarded access to IBM's Watson supercomputer. Featured in such publications as the *Financial Times*, *The New York Times*, *The Guardian*, *The Economist*, and the *ABA Journal*, we wish our brothers well and are certain they will continue to enjoy marvelous success.

Further laying the groundwork for KA in VT's eventual legal empire are our esteemed graduates heading off to some of the world's finest law schools this year: one to Columbia, and two to Harvard. We wish them safe travels and great success. Although the Toronto chapter displayed uncharacteristic amity this year, by way of the valiant effort made to actually attend other alumni weekends, no such good will was shown to the gelded, feeble, vastly inferior opponents of VT's sportsmen. VT Kaps continue to be a dominant force in collegiate cricket, soccer, football, and, as always, rugby. While VT's hockey contingent managed to end all of its games in utter ignominy, one lean, dexterous, and criminally handsome brother on the varsity fencing squad swiftly negated all humiliation incurred. Travelling seven hours northward, into the bitterly cold reaches of our nation's capital (an inhospitable backwater known to us as "Ottawa"), this dashing VT Kap emerged victorious in the inter-university championship, securing an OUA gold medal with his team, the OUA banner for the university (for the first time in nearly a decade), and eternal reverence for the VT chapter from U of T's athletically inclined.

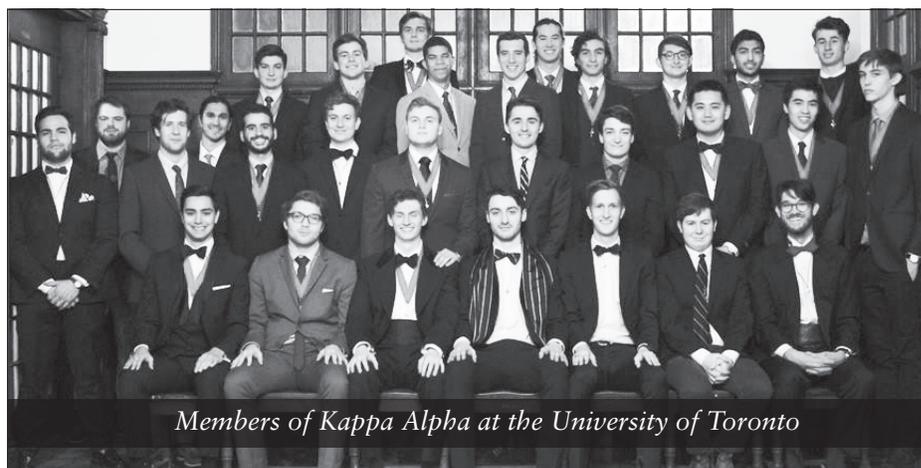
In addition to improving our standing in the community, VT made several fine improvements to our Lodge. The third-floor banister has been fully replaced, and the fire alarm system has been substantially upgraded. VT Kaps continue their stranglehold on U of T's G7 research group, this year exalting one exceptional brother to chairman, the highest rank possible for an undergraduate.

The group will once again send many of our best brothers abroad, this year to the breathtaking island of Ise Shima, Japan, to produce internationally published works. In less pleasant journalistic news, our school newspaper, the largest in Canada and once-glorious under the reigns of a VT brother, is now on the brink of total collapse as the profound competence and journalistic brilliance of Kap hegemony slowly bleeds from it. It is with similar melancholy that I hand over control of our magnificent chapter to a new generation of gentlemen. K++s, brothers: may you prostrate yourselves before the glorious legacy you were left, that you may one day be worthy to lick the dollops of shimmering splendor from the floor we once tread on.

Yours Radiantly,
Jorge Quesada Davies, VT'16

KA IN VL CHAPTER REPORT

I am excited to inform you of some new changes and updates regarding the Kappa Alpha Society at Lehigh University. This spring semester, KA in VL initiated 11 new members to the Society. The newly initiated members come from a diverse set of backgrounds and bring new interests to the Lodge. We are very excited to have all of them with us and look forward



Members of Kappa Alpha at the University of Toronto

to their contributions to KA in VL and to the Kappa Alpha Society as a whole.

During the entire 2015–2016 academic year, the brothers of KA in VL had worked hard to organize new philanthropy events and to develop personal leadership skills around campus. Full reports of these accomplishments are detailed in the annual Kappa Alpha Society Accreditation Report, which was submitted to the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs in April 2016. This report comprised four main developmental subcategories for every chapter: intellectual development, organizational development, community development, and leadership development.

The VL Chapter of The Kappa Alpha Society achieved a rating of “bronze” for the 2014–2015 overall accreditation report (the rating for the 2015–2016 report was not available when this chapter report was written). This was a step below the “silver” rating that was received for 2013–2014. Of the five subcategories, we received a “bronze” rating in organizational and leadership development, “silver” in the areas of community and facility development, and “bronze” in intellectual development. From the report, it is clear that academics struggled. To address the problem, we worked with the Center for Academic Success and created an academic council to help guide brothers in various fields of study. The result of the changes is clear, with a 0.2 increase in average GPA since the previous accreditation report. The foundation that has been laid will help contribute to continuing the trend.

The biggest change that occurred internally this past year was in the area of accountability and risk management. In previous years, risk management was dealt with by the social chair. This caused many of the risks to go unattended to due to the fact that the social position was the one creating risks in the first place. With the help of the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Affairs and other fraternities, we created the position of risk manager, which will be better equipped to deal with the day-to-day safety at KA in VL.

Over the course of the year, the KA brothers worked to create new philanthropy events, as well as to continue traditions we had already started. This year, we moved our focus for community service toward working directly with the Bethlehem community. Events like our Thank-giving dinner with the Boys and Girls Club of Allentown and our work with the South

Bethlehem Project and the New Bethany Ministries Luminaries Night allowed the VL Chapter to build a relationship with the community around us.

The 2015–2016 academic year was progressive for the VL Chapter in many aspects. We have continued the practices that have made VL successful in years past and also have implemented new initiatives to help our chapter give back to the surrounding Bethlehem and Lehigh community, as well as to The Kappa Alpha Society. We hope to continue these improvements in the upcoming year and for years to come at KA in VL.

Jordan Hess, VL'18

KA IN VM CHAPTER REPORT

The 2015–2016 academic year got off to a great start and continued to improve as the year progressed. KA in VM successfully hosted its third Alumni Reunion weekend in October, which kicked off the fall semester on a very high note. Over the course of the year, VM welcomed nine new members into the midst of our ranks, two of whom will be holding officer positions for the upcoming year. Currently, VM stands at 24 active members, soon to be 23 as former Literary Secretary Eric Tweel will be continuing his academic journey in the greener pastures of law school. Another Kap who is testing the boundaries of academia is Abicumaram Uthamacumaran, who has spent much of the past year at the University of Berkeley, working on his PhD in biophysics with a particular emphasis on cancer research, and who will have his first academic paper published this upcoming summer. Several members of the chapter have had individual papers and articles published by various McGill newspapers.

Serving as president for this past year has been wonderfully rewarding and a very eye-opening experience for me. Each and every day proved to be as challenging and as enlightening as I had wanted it to be. One of my biggest goals this year was to ensure that VM sent a delegation down to every KA event, as I felt it important that we maintain and grow our ties and connections with the other chapters. This has allowed us to transcend the bonds forged within our chapter over the last few years into an overarching sense of brotherhood among all members of KA,

from VM and beyond. Being in this role has shown me the skills and characteristics that are required to be a leader, and this has made me not only a better Kap, but also, more importantly, a better man. In my three years as a member of VM, our numbers have grown, but we remain as tight-knit a community as we were at the beginning, and this has always been why I take so much pride in KA.

It is with an equal sense of pride that I will get to enjoy watching our next year of leadership continue to grow VM and to advance us further in our establishment as KA's finest. It pleases me to announce the passing on of the honor of leading VM to Matthew Henderson. I would like to take a moment to offer my thanks and gratitude, on behalf of the whole chapter, to all the alumni and undergraduates from other chapters who have helped VM throughout the years with their commitment to helping us grow.

I would also like to formally announce the dates for our next Alumni Reunion weekend, which will be taking place October 28–29, 2016, at the VM Lodge, 2109 Rue Saint Urbain.

Long live KA and long live KA in VM
Zakariya Somji, VM'17

KA IN VP CHAPTER REPORT

In the 2015–2016 academic year, the Pennsylvania Beta Chapter reached both new success and battled with newfound challenges. In 2016, recruitment was tougher than in past years, and a total of six new a++oi joined the chapter, replacing our six graduating seniors. Our yearly alumni reunion, as usual, took place in March, with a N++ F++ from VM joining us, as well as our own alumni and current membership.

Despite facing recruitment challenges from renewed university regulations, the Pennsylvania Beta Chapter remained active in philanthropy, social affairs, and academics. In 2016, the chapter's primary philanthropic activity was our participation in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life at Penn. Largely thanks to the leadership of A++os Thato Moupo and Philanthropy Chair Sam Iacobellis, as well as support of all present a++oi, KA was the highest-raising chapter of Penn's 28 Interfraternity Council chapters and the fifth-highest contributor of all participating

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Penn organizations. In 2016–2017, we plan to continue and extend our engagement with philanthropic efforts under the leadership of newly elected S+L Nick Meyer and re-elected Philanthropy Chair Sam Iacobellis. Many of our a++oi also individually contribute to philanthropic organizations, such as Big Sisters Big Brothers, mentoring children and teenagers in the primary and secondary schools around Penn's campus.

On the social front, the chapter focused on two main initiatives: improved sorority relations and increasing activity in athletic initiatives. We have managed to improve our relations with Penn's Alpha Delta Pi sorority, with our chapters participating in each other's social events and philanthropic initiatives, including date nights, mixers, and the sorority's annual Pie-A-President philanthropy drive. In athletics, the chapter has participated in numerous intramural and philanthropic sporting events, including the Alpha Phifa charity soccer tournament.

Penn Kaps also continue to be one of the most diverse and academically successful fraternity memberships on campus. We have several a++oi in prestigious scholarship programs, including Shamarlon Yates, a member of the Mayor's Scholars program of Philadelphia, and Jussi Lundstedt, a Fulbright Undergraduate Grantee. Several a++oi serve as high-ranking officers in various campus organizations, including Sam Iacobellis, newly elected undergraduate assembly college representative. This year, one of our graduating seniors, Or-yone Lee, was also awarded the JHHEF scholarship for stellar academic performance at Penn. We take great pride in our members' academic achievements and continue to support our brothers in reaching the highest standards in academic excellence.

The next academic year, with the impending graduation of our largest ever class of members, the class of 2017, promises to be a time of both challenges and opportunities. With this in mind, the chapter has elected its best and brightest to serve in the chapter offices. The new leadership looks forward to maintaining KA at Penn as one of the most academically successful and close-knit brotherhoods, embracing both KA's and the chapter's rich history. We aim to continue bringing together men seeking a fraternity experience that enables both personal growth and lifelong connections.

Jussi Lundstedt, VP'17

KA IN VOO CHAPTER REPORT

It was a great year for the boys of VOO as they found a fine balance between upholding traditions and creating new ones. The first event of the year was a lamb roast, an outdoor festive meal among close friends and some new ones. It was there that two of the three newest members, Ronald Poon (current rush chairman) and Jacob Ma (current treasurer) were introduced to the boys of KA. Rafin Reza, the third and final new member, met the boys at their notorious Wine and Cheese Poetry Night. The reunion itself was an outstanding success. In terms of travelling to other chapters' reunions, VOO made sure to commit as much as possible. There was also an emphasis put on getting the newer members out to see how it gets done!

In regards to academics within VOO, aside from high performances, there was also much diversity, including philosophy, business management, food sciences, and theoretical physics, among others. This exposure to a wide range of different perspectives created a stimulating Lodge environment. On their trip to KA's annual New York Dinner, at which former President Stephen Vijayakumar, current Literary Secretary Dylan Skurka, and current President Harold Smith-Pérez attended, the last received the JHHEF scholarship for his academic excellence and extracurricular involvement.

In addition to several poetry nights and the lamb roast, there were other successful events. In early October, Rafayat Reza, a musician and brother to current VP Social Rafin Reza, performed an eclectic mix of funk, Latin, soul and jazz music at the Lodge for VOO's pilot Vinyl Night. Due to its resounding success, Rafayat visited the boys again on St. Patrick's Day, showcasing a fresh crate of records amidst the festivities. In late November, the boys had their Christmas formal, where they sang, danced, and ate with joy. In early April, they had a spring formal to celebrate the fantastic year they had, with a very notable guest appearance from Les Howard, a graduate of VP and long-time friend of the boys of VOO. This year also saw a special involvement in athletics, as VOO formed both indoor and outdoor intramural soccer teams, the latter of which took second place!

Aside from academics and social involvement, much effort went into

improving the Lodge itself. The main room, hallways, many bedrooms, and common areas were repainted and covered with artwork, unique second-hand furniture began to be collected and put in bedrooms (with the hope that future Kaps will find them fully furnished), and a television set was finally installed in the common area, all of which make the Lodge a comfortable and sophisticated setting.

With many members graduating over the past two years, it has been and will continue to be a crucial yet exciting time for VOO. Although faced with the challenge of inexperience (indeed, the most senior officers have only two years of involvement in KA), this year's graduating class has done an excellent job of preparing the younger members, many of whom are enthusiastic about taking on newly appointed leadership roles. The future is looking very bright for the boys of VOO going into the 2016–2017 year!

Harold Smith-Pérez, VOO'16

KA IN VD CHAPTER REPORT

The days were long but the year was short, and VD's stein flowed over with successes, achievements, and overall galantry and, of course, debauchery. With the previous year's graduates furthering careers, educations, or in alumnus James Hunter's case, TV personas, our ever buoyant ship, captained by S+L Boutilier, wasted no time in finding hands worthy of VD's deck. At VT's annual weekend, we welcomed Liam Benedict and Ames Esler. Ben Dunsy and Dexter Harvey, welcomed at our own weekend, completed this foursome of N++ F++, all of whom encapsulate the amicability and intelligence for which VD sedulously strives.

Embraced in the arms of a comparatively mild winter and heralded by welcoming roads, our actives made sure that our distant visages did indeed make our far-off brethren's hearts grow fonder. Delegations joyfully abounded, traversing our fair continent in order to attend Concilium, VM, VT, VOO, CH, and the New York Dinner, stamping our presence with our convivial chant.

In addition to new members, this year saw the major upgrading of VD's Lodge. While we will all miss the mild must and rustic charm of 1193 South Park Street, the high ceilings, live plants, and crown

mouldings of our 1869 heritage Victorian at 1043 Tower Road is the spring promise of summers in store for Dalhousie's KA.

In old home and new, our literary merit burns strong. Our trusty T++M played host to the enthusiastic readings of every A++S, and discussion was plentiful. But it did not end there. A++S Flanzraich saw to the publication of King's College's *Hinge: A Journal of Contemporary Studies* as assistant editor, while

I and A++S Robert Halperin submitted poems for publications at a few of the nation's literary hubs (results still pending). Greater yet, A++S Vincent Magnet ended his undergraduate career by earning the thesis prize for his honour's project; we all wish you the heartiest of K+L+S, Vincent. A++I Magnet, Gabriel Flaherty, and Thomas Goessaert will be saying goodbye to dear old Halifax, but of course, not to KA in VD.

And now, with summer approaching and the promise of excellent years beyond the horizon, we lay in wait to see what lies in store for the S++Y B++D in KA in VD. She promises friendship and success, achievements and growth both academic and personal, and—who could forget—this beautiful brotherhood to share it all with.

YITB,
Shawn Weidman, VD'17

REMEMBRANCE – W. OWEN LAMPE, VP'49

The University of Pennsylvania Chapter of Kappa Alpha was deeply saddened to hear of the death on July 22, 2015, of W. Owen Lampe, VP'49, at age 87. Owen was unofficial *pater familias* of KA in VP for many years and distinguished himself at the national level as president of the Executive Council from 1991 to 1993. Owen was a VP representative to the Executive Council from the early 1970s until 2010 and also served as secretary from 1980 to 1987 and as vice president from 1987 to 1991.

VP Kaps will long remember Owen's remarkable gift for connecting with undergraduates, through both his treasury of stories of chapter life in the 1940s and his enthusiastic participation in initiations. Owen's lifelong commitment to the VP Chapter demonstrated to hundreds of VP Kaps that our traditions and ethos remain constant in every generation.

Owen began his student days at Penn in late October, 1945, under somewhat inauspicious circumstances. He arrived on campus the weekend of the famous 1945 Penn-Navy football game (Penn lost 14-7), came down with appendicitis three weeks later, and ended the semester weighing a mere 105 pounds. He joined Kappa Alpha in the spring of 1946, in the same class as Herb Barnes, VP'49, and Charlie Rue, VP'49, who would both become life-long friends (later, in his retirement in Chatham, New Jersey, he also lived down the street from Art Wiegand, VP'48).

After initiation, Owen quickly immersed himself in chapter life. He became house steward early on but only narrowly survived a house mutiny after he ordered ham and Swiss cheese sandwiches week after week, and his fellow Kaps from the late '40s never let him forget this sensitive miscalculation! These same brothers had

a great thirst for pranks; on one occasion, the undergraduates fitted a third-story window in the VP Lodge with a police siren that they would blare without warning, bringing traffic on Locust Street to a halt (Locust had not yet been closed to non-pedestrian traffic); on another occasion, the brothers managed to drive a Volkswagen onto the front steps of Phi Kappa Sigma in the dead of night, forcing their neighbors to come and go the next morning by climbing through the car's front passenger seats.

Owen was also one of the chapter's last living links to its founding members; he personally knew KA in VP's founder, Charlie Cole, VP'09, who still attended c++ns in the mid-'40s, as well as other early members. Owen later regaled undergraduates with tales of the elderly Charlie Cole's terrible memory and his lengthy efforts to help Charlie find his car after most c++ns. (This was considered a minor inconvenience, as Sunday night c++ns ended promptly at 8:00 p.m. in order to give everyone a chance to get to Smokey Joe's to watch the Ed Sullivan Show.)

After graduating from the Wharton School in 1949, Owen served in the Army Reserves and embarked on a successful career alongside fraternity brother Andres Soriano, VP'50, at the Soriano-controlled Philippines conglomerate Ansor Corporation. Owen remained a senior executive with the Ansor Corporation for more than two decades.

Owen joined the Executive Council in the early 1970s and remained an active participant for many years, as well as a fixture at New York City Dinners. In 1984, Owen, then secretary of the Executive Council, played a critical role in the re-establishment of the Princeton Chapter. Later, in 1992, Owen, then president of the Executive Council, oversaw the

establishment of the Calgary Chapter and served on its initiation committee.

Owen's first loyalty was to KA, but he was also a committed alumnus of the University of Pennsylvania. He served as class-gift chair of the class of 1949 for many years and, in that capacity, was instrumental in the raising of money for the building in 1974 of the Class of 1949 Bridge across 38th Street. He later served as president of the class of 1949 during its 40th and 50th reunion year celebrations.

Owen was a paragon of self-effacing modesty, always refusing to take any credit or play a VIP role at chapter alumni events. When certain VP Kaps became aware that Owen would not be able to attend the chapter's 90th reunion dinner, efforts were made to secure at least a written statement from Owen. Owen, true to form, regarded this as pompous and refused. In fact, little did we know that, at the time, Owen was working hard with Herb Barnes, VP'49, to track down and present a proclamation on behalf of the chapter to our then oldest VP member and patriarch, Thomas Files, VP'29, a then 98-year-old retired dentist living in Maine. We were not at all surprised that Owen was working hard to make sure little-sung members got their due, while eschewing laurel leaves for his own contributions. (We were, however, surprised to find out from Owen that Dr. Files had been his childhood dentist in Milburn, New Jersey!)

Hopefully this article has gone a short way to document Owen's many years of loyal service to the VP Chapter, as well as to recount some of his favorite stories from the 1940s. He was truly one of the Penn Chapter's greatest alumni, and he will be much missed in the years ahead.

The KA in VP Alumni Association

Stay in touch

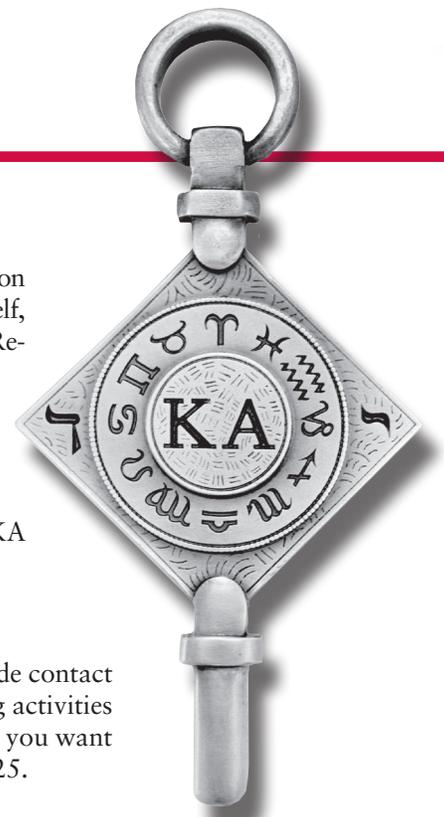
WITH THE KAPPA ALPHA SOCIETY

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the Kap Key

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