

September 2017 Issue: Alumni & Undergraduate

Men Of Character Staying Safe



Brothers and Friends,

I preface this with the fact that this month's message is more of a somber one. It is important though and must be said.

Fraternity men are our own worst enemy. The calls to close Fraternities and Fraternity systems are not a result of people just not liking Fraternities. They are a result of individual Fraternity men and Chapters behaving badly. Unfortunately the good ones get lumped in with the bad ones but this is not new news. It can be very hard to tell the difference. There are only a few solutions to our problems. First we need to follow our own rules, work towards our Ideals and represent Fraternity in the most positive light we can. Second we need to start holding others accountable when they don't do the same. This could be a member in your chapter, your chapter as a whole, or another Fraternity/Sorority on your campus.

At the National Headquarters we are here to help. We do understand that sometimes individuals or chapters can go down the wrong path. If you find your chapter or specific members doing this please don't be afraid to call our office. Failing to do so could lead to consequences that will stick with all of us for the remainder of our years. A few additional thoughts related to this. If you ever find yourself being hazed or witnessing hazing call 911 immediately and walk away from the scene to safety. If you ever find someone that is too drunk to wake up or a danger to themselves/others call 911 immediately. If you ever see someone abusing someone else call 911 immediately and try to get people to safety. The day of being a quiet bystander is gone. We all have a responsibility for the safety of each other and for the future of Fraternity.

Be Safe Brothers,

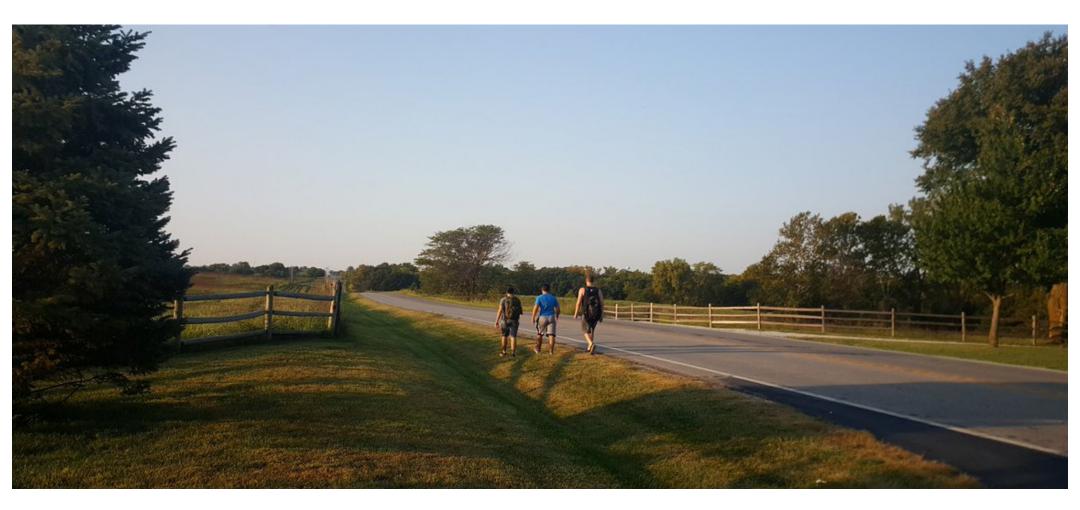
Fraternally, In D. Slil

Jeremy Slivinski, Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director

Front Cover: Gamma Pi Chapter at the University of Connecticut, hosting a successful recruitment event.



Pigskin Pass Off

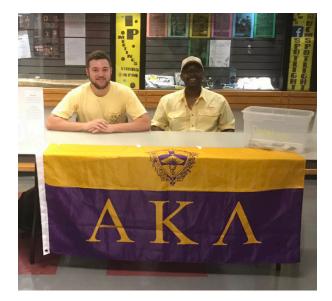


Sigma Chapter at the University of Central Missouri

recently embarked on their annual philanthropy "Pigskin Pass Off" making the 115 mile hike to collect donations and raise awareness for Cystic Fibrosis. *Article continued on next page...*



Pigskin Pass Off Continued



Brothers tabling at the University of Central Missouri's Union raising awareness of Cystic Fibrosis, their event, and collecting donations for the cause.

Donations can be made <u>here</u> as well as a review of their progress on their Twitter page <u>here</u>.

This fall, Sigma Chapter at the University of Central

Missouri held its annual philanthropy event, Pigskin Pass Off, walking one of the game footballs from Missouri Western State to Central Missouri. The event is to raise awareness about Cystic Fibrosis and anyone can donate to the chapter where all proceeds will go to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

Jessie Stinson, Assistant Director for Greek Life, said "I'm so proud of the dedication I have seen from the Sigma men during the Pigskin Pass Off over the last six years. It's fun to see the excitement that builds around this annual event as well as the philanthropic dollars they have been able to raise and bring awareness for Cystic Fibrosis research."

InsideAKL reached out to Chapter President Brian Miller for more information.

How long has Sigma hosted the event?

"Sigma chapter has hosted this event since fall of 2012 so this is our sixth year doing it."

How much planning goes into preparation?

"We start planning the event during our summer meeting which takes place in July, so it takes about two months of planning."

How are members selected to walk?

"We open it up to all chapter members and usually have about 3-5 walkers per day, it is all on volunteer basis. Walkers usually talk to their teachers about what we are doing and for the most part are very understanding so that makes the scheduling pretty flexible."

What is the goal?

"We donate our money to Cystic Fibrosis because one of our founding fathers when rechartering battles the disease. It is also not a very common or well known disease, there is also not a known cure to this disease so any awareness we can raise can go a long way. Our goal this year is to raise \$2500."

Any personal thoughts or experiences from when you have walked?

"From personal experience the walk is very difficult. After a day of walking most members are very exhausted and completely drained. The reason why we walk though is because when battling Cystic Fibrosis you have to keep your body in great shape. Walking everyday promotes great health and great physical stamina, it really puts in prospective how hard people with cystic fibrosis have to work everyday to maintain a healthy lifestyle."

Article continued on next page...





Alumni Spotlight



Article continued on next page...



Alumni Spotlight Continued

Bill tell us about how you found and joined AKL and about your experience as an undergraduate member of BN at VCU?

"I was a commuter student looking to get involved with a student organization to enhance my college experience. I had been to the Student Commons a couple of times looking at different organizations and trying to find some way to be involved with the campus life more. I met Nick Applegate who was working the information table in the Commons. I still remember to this day that he was pointing to his AKL hat when I asked about joining a fraternity or other organization."

"From there it was game on. I attended several events for AKL, met a lot of the brothers, I saw the camaraderie between all of them (something I really didn't see in other fraternities at the time) and knew I had to be part of that organization. As for my undergraduate experience, it was probably one of the most incredible things I've ever been a part of. The friendships have lasted a lifetime, truly "Affiliation Kindled for Life." Some of my fondest memories surround the community service activities that we did. To this day, I volunteer and share a significant part of my time, resources and talent to organizations in my community."

What leadership positions did you hold in the chapter or in campus organizations?

"I was fortunate to have the opportunity to participate in many leadership activities with the fraternity and with the university. I served in several leadership roles in the fraternity, including house manager, vice president and president and for the Greek Council I was Greek Week Chairman and the Treasurer for the Greek Council. Each of these roles presented their own unique challenges and each the opportunity to learn and increase my skill set."

You received your bachelor's degree from VCU in 1989, tell us about your career path that has led you to your current position?

"I got my first job after college as the result of some work I did for one of my business class professors. He had recently joined the board of a new local non-profit group that was going to put on concerts and theater events. They hired me as the marketing director. We had a shoestring budget and no name recognition in the marketplace. We were able to survive for about a year. After the organization folded I started my search."

"My next job is where I think I got the bug for hiring great talent. I joined the CA Reed company as the Merchandiser Manager. As part of that job I was responsible for hiring part-time merchandisers throughout Virginia and parts of North Carolina and West Virginia. Eventually I become the regional manager, handling the territory from Delaware to Georgia. I managed a staff of 125 part-time retail merchandisers throughout the southeast. The merchandising program was being phased out by my organization and they offered me a job in the marketing department in Indianapolis but I decided to stay in the Richmond area and I took a position as a sales rep for Paychex payroll processing and HR services. Through Paychex I learned a lot about the statutory requirements for payroll processing, how to sell a service (intangible) and I received some exposure to Human Resources Management practices."

"I stayed with paychecks for about a year-and-a-half. Then the opportunity came to join an expanding "Mom and Pop" staffing firm. The owners were very passionate about their business and they needed somebody to lead the expansion in the Richmond market. It reminded me of being a charter member of the fraternity again. There was not a lot of prior history in our marketplace and I had the opportunity to write my own story. I took the Richmond Branch sales from less than \$10,000 a year to over four and a half million dollars a year over the course of the next several years. When the owners decided to retire, they offered me the opportunity to buy the business. I decided to buy it."

"I took a 40% pay cut to finance the payments to the previous owners. I worked 10-hour days and almost every weekend you could find me in the office working on paperwork that needed to be done. Over the course of the next few years I grew the business by another two million dollars a year in

Article continued on next page...



Alumni Spotlight Continued

sales and I started a background screening business as a division of the staffing organization. In 2013 we spun the screening division off as its own standalone business and in 2015 I sold the staffing business to a large staffing firm out of Atlanta Georgia. After the sale of the staffing business, the new owners hired me as a regional vice president (my current role). I'm still co-owner of the screening business."

What skills and experiences do you feel from your time as an undergraduate have helped you the most as a professional?

"Responsibility, integrity, motivation and leadership are all valuable lessons I learned as an undergraduate in Alpha Kappa Lambda. As an undergraduate leader in the fraternity you have to find ways to motivate "volunteers" to work towards a common goal. In the business world many leaders use the threat of career advancement and/or the increased or decreased of financial compensation as a way to motivate staff. I have found that being able to articulate a common goal and leading the team through personal actions as the best way to help the organization reach the highest level."

You remained involved with BN chapter after you graduated, tell us a bit about your experiences as a chapter advisor and corporate board member?

"I think I joined the corporation board immediately after graduating from college. We were chartered in 1985 and I graduated in 1989. There weren't a lot of alumni available to serve on the corporation board and it seemed to be a good way to give back to an organization that had given me so much. I really enjoyed mentoring our undergraduate leadership team. The other brothers that served on the corporation board during those years really deserve a lot of credit for helping our chapter be as successful as it could be. I have been fortunate to celebrate many successes with our chapter, including; multiple Holmes award winners, multiple Leadership Award winners, Outstanding Chapter Award honors and so on. My story would not be complete without noting the most difficult thing I have ever experienced as an organizational leader, the loss of the life of one of our undergraduate brothers, Adam Hogg."

Bill, tell us about your family life?

"My wife Meredith and I are truly blessed with two wonderful daughters. Meaghan is 8 and Alexandra is 5. If anyone is doing the math, yes we got started pretty late with our family. We live in the West End of Richmond, VA. Meredith is a Case Manager for one of the largest hospitals in our area. Meaghan and Ally attend Short Pump Elementary. Both enjoy Taekwondo and will participating in their first regional tournament this fall."

Bill, what advice would you give to AKL undergraduate chapter members today? "Work hard, hone your skills as a leader, be fair and respectful to your brothers and always be a Man of Character"

Thanks to Bill for taking the time to talk to us! If you have an alumni you'd like to see featured in upcoming issues please email info@akl.org with "InsideAKL" in the subject or fill out an article form <u>here.</u>



CrowdChange Philanthropy



In recent times, Alpha Kappa Lambda has been exploring the best way to grow our philanthropic efforts and awareness. These Hands Don't Hurt has become more vital to a campus environment, but far too often raising awareness is contained to the confines of the campus. More AKL chapters and colonies are engaging locally and dedicating their time to helping others but those efforts cannot always be shared on a larger scale.

To further assist all our chapters and colonies, the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda is very excited to announce a new partnership with CrowdChange, <u>https://akl.crowdchange.co/fundraiser</u> CrowdChange is a fundraising platform specifically catered towards fraternity and sorority philanthropy events. It is meant to help students raise more money, awareness, and save time. This new partnership offers each of our chapters the ability to host their philanthropy events and fundraisers on our very own CrowdChange website.

"CrowdChange allows us to streamline the process. In the past, the National Headquarters might not find out about an event until after it happens. Not only are chapters able to plan the event easier, but using CrowdChange allows it to be shared to a wider population." Jeffrey Szumanski, Chief Operating Officer, went on to share his excitement about the project, "Normally we see a chapter sit at a table and collect a money leading up to an event. Using CrowdChange, a chapter can share an event with people that are not local to campus and it can even be shared in our national social media. The extended reach to raise awareness about these issues is fantastic,"

For chapters and colonies, a quick overview of some of the features CrowdChange has to offer:

- Dedicated website page for the event to raise awareness
- Personal and team fundraising pages for everyone in your chapter
- Online ticketing
- Online donating
- Downloadable guest and donor lists

A short tutorial can be set up individually with all philanthropy and community service chairs. This service is available now to all chapters and colonies and we encourage everyone to start using it today.

Alpha Kappa Lambda created These Hands Don't Hurt in 1996 to support the fight against domestic violence and abuse. October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and we hope all our chapters host These Hands Don't Hurt on their campus or in their community and use CrowdChange to bring awareness to an even larger audience. Resources on hosting These Hand Don't Hurt are available through the National Headquarters.



Chapter & Colony Standards

The Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda Chapters are considered in good standing when all standards established by the Constitution, Bylaws, Standing Rules, and Statements of Policy of policy are met.

Failure to meet these standards may result in action taken as prescribed by the governing documents or by a vote of the National Executive Council to suspend the chapter. All of these standards MUST be met in order for alcohol to be present on chapter premises and/or in chapter common space.

These standards can be found on the fraternity website <u>here</u>. For questions regarding your chapter or colony's standing, or more information on how to meet these standards, please contact info@akl.org.

- The chapter holds business meetings on a regular basis.
- The chapter must meet its recruitment target as determined by the National Headquarters.
- The chapter must be at or above the average Fraternity chapter size on campus.
- The chapter GPA is at or above the All-Men's and All Fraternity averages.
- The chapter has a functioning corporation board that assists in financial and housing activities.
- The chapter must have an active advisory committee that includes at least a general chapter advisor and a faculty advisor.
- The chapter attends all mandatory national fraternity events.
- The chapter has not had a risk management violation addressed by the National Headquarters within the last 365 days.
- The chapter has a functioning new member education program that lasts no longer than 8 weeks.
- The chapter holds Ritual at least twice annually.
- The chapter is financially current with the Fraternity.
- The chapter received a risk management education program within the last 365 days provided by a Fraternity or appropriate University employee.

The Efficient Leader Featured Article

Originally published June 14th, 2017 by www.tom-healy.com

When I hear people complain about not having enough

time in the day, what I really hear them say is "I'm not efficient enough". The ability to be efficient is one of the most over looked skills that many great leaders possess the more time that you can create for yourself, the more of an impact you can have! In this blog I'll walk through the top ways I've discovered to be efficient from others I admire; many of the top leaders I know literally look at efficiency like a game and are constantly trying to maximize what they can accomplish in a given amount of time. These efficiency tools apply to everything you do. Your career, your personal life, organizations you are involved with, your civic involvement and anything else you can image! So, why Should You Be More Efficient?

Saves You Time: Lets do some simple math here, if you utilize the right tools and save yourself an hour per workday that is roughly 250 hours per year or 5+ work weeks... how nice would it be to have 5 extra weeks to relax or accomplish more? Realistically the tools below will save you more than that, so plan on having what will feel like extra weeks per year to do whatever you want!

Helps You Make a Greater Impact: With the additional time you create, you can have an additional impact on whatever you care about - career, family, friends, community, etc... great leaders are constantly looking for ways to have a greater impact on the things they care about.

Lowers Your Stress Level: As you incorporate efficiency into everything you do, you are also removing

the clutter from your life. This can by physical clutter (like a stack of paperwork) or digital clutter (like a full email inbox). Clutter is a negative stresser and adds a tremendous amount of unnecessary stress into your daily life, which sucks the energy right from you!

Following are some of the key areas that leaders are efficient with, and the purpose behind its importance.

Daily Planning: If you are waking up in the morning without a detailed plan, you are already being inefficient. At the very least, you should have a list of times for meetings/calls you have and a prioritized task list of what you need to accomplish for the day.

Email Management: By far the best method for email management that I've ever seen is called "Do It, Delegate It or Defer It" which means you can immediately respond, immediately delegate it to the appropriate person or defer it so that it shows up back in your inbox at a set time in the future. This allows you to have an empty inbox at the end of each day, tackle pressing issues immediately, delegate stuff you shouldn't be doing and differing non-pressing items to the time in the future they need to be done.

Task Management: Rather than jamming up your calendar with tasks, having sticky notes everywhere or just a long list of items you need to accomplish, the best thing is to have a task management program where you can prioritize based on due dates, categories, set repeatable daily/weekly/monthly/yearly tasks and much more!

Project Management: Working on complex projects by yourself, and especially with a team of people, can be a nightmare so you want to have a process-oriented project management tool where you can lay out a clear process, easily share files, comment on specific items, communicate with others and other key project tasks all in one central place that is accessible on your computer, tablet and phone.

Outsourcing: Why spend all day trying to do something that will turn out mediocre when you can find someone online to quickly do a great job at a reasonable cost? Outsourcing tasks such as data gathering, research, graphic design, grammar editing and much more will save you a ton of time and create better results for you and whoever you work with.

Mobility: Efficient leaders are able to continue being productive in any setting, including riding on a subway, flying on a plane, driving their car, sitting in a coffee shop without WiFi or anywhere else they might find themselves. Make sure to have a computer/phone/tablet that all seamlessly connect to each other and add the best productivity apps you can find. In addition to the ones above, I love listening to podcasts and audio books on Audible because you can be learning a ton on the go rather than sitting around reading to learn, spend that time doing something else!





Four Years For Life Alumni News & Events

Xi Chapter Alumni at Truman State

Jose's Shootfest Hollister, Missouri



Alumni from the 70's of our Xi Chapter at Truman State met for their annual Jose's Shootfest in Hollister Missouri on September 15th, 2017. The event started several years ago with a handful of members and has been steadily growing.

Pictured left to right: George Onik, Rick Lewis, Gary Fisher, Lewis Leake, Bob Goellner, Mark Schoene, Paul Yates, Bruce Kerr, Jim Carmichael, Mike "Cookie" Dunard, Mike "Barf" Bishop, Greg Burch, Bob "Jose" Chandler, Steve Wenger, and Steve Waters.

Beta Psi Chapter Alumni at Missouri State

25 Year Alumni Reunion Springfield, Missouri





Founded on September 12, 1992, the Beta Psi Chapter at Missouri State University recently celebrated their 25th anniversary. The weekend saw a full slate of events with an alumni banquet, Missouri State football, and brotherhood. All events were extremely well attended and it was a great opportunity for alumni to reconnect.

Gamma lota Chapter Alumni at EMU

Homecoming Tailgate & Dinner Ypsilanti, Michigan

The tailgate will begin at 11:00am, followed by the Homecoming game starting at 2:00pm vs. Western Michigan University. After the game, we have a 6:30pm dinner reservation at Tower Inn. The per person cost for the dinner will be roughly \$10. Any change in price will be communicated prior.

If you are able and willing to make it to both the tailgate and the dinner, please RSVP for both <u>here</u>. Any of your family is also welcome to attend either event with you. Also, if you have any tailgating materials such as cornhole boards, tables, etc. please feel free to bring them.

If you have any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact Kenny Richardson, Chapter President, at kricha45@emich.edu

Planning an event? Let us know so we can feature your details in the next issue of "Inside AKL" by emailing info@akl.org or clicking <u>here</u> for our online event/article submission form.





Atlantis Paradise Island Resort August 1–4, 2018

Don't Forget Your Hotel! Reserve <u>here!</u>

Don't Forget Your Passport! Easily apply <u>here!</u>





Counter-clockwise from top right:

lota chapter members at Kansas State University after co-hosting Manhattan's 5K Food for Life Run.

Alpha Zeta at Northwest Missouri State University raising our fraternity flag.

Xi chapter members at Truman State University's IFC "Meet and Greet" recruitment event.



<u>Inside AKL</u> is a monthly, educational publication by the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, for undergraduates and alumni. Brothers and friends are encouraged to submit news, articles and photographs of chapter events, philanthropy and service projects as well as other notable achievements. Correspondence can be submitted using the link below.

Online Event/Article Submission Form

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Statistics

Active Chapters & Colonies: 43 Undergraduates: 1,600+ Alumni: 25,149 Spring New Members: 257 Fall New Members: 554

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