
ALPHA TAU ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

2006 End of Year

From the Chairman

By Craig Polk

2006 was an interesting year. We have seen many improvements and the future looks even brighter. We have had many great events and have completed our 1st year under our new goal system. Here is a breakdown of our alumni goals:

Short-term goal: Increase alumni at events & complete Alumni Restructuring, by end 2007.

We have had successful alumni weekends & I look forward to continuing that & having the alumni that come to these events grow. We also have our base-line Alumni Attendance List & will add this to the Chapter web site soon (this is going to be used to track increase/decrease of alumni at events). The Alumni Restructuring plan is well under way. We are separating the alumni board into 3 main groups: Alumni Executive Council Housing Corp, & Chapter Council. Current plan is that all 3 sections will be fully formed & operating by end of 2007.

- Executive Council: This is alumni council, this is already formed. This council will have responsibility for all aspects of the Alumni Association and the Alumni Corporation.

- Housing Corp: This council has been formed, Mike Krupnick is the chair. This committee will have responsibility for all Chapter house maintenance & repair issues.

- Chapter Council: This is being formed. This council will be responsible for the linkage from undergrads to alumni as well as the link from our Chapter to National. They will also act as advisors to the undergrad members.

Mid-term Goal: All alumni debt paid back, house improvement project list created & work started, by end 2010.

Alumni debt is tracked by BOF, alumni tax loan is paid back, alumni alarm loan repayment has started. Housing Corp is starting to put list together, hope to have list by end 2007 & then start to get bids.

Long-term Goal: Sprinkler debt paid off, all house improvement projects completed, by end 2015.

NJ state loan is tracked by BOF, all payments made on time & up to date.

In Phi,

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From the Vice Chairman

By Deep Balendra

This is the end of the 1st year after our new goals were set. Last year we Here is an update on where we are today with some of our undergrad goals.

Short-term goal: Alumni connection, more participation in the brotherhood, less introverted brotherhood, by end of 2007

We are having two alumni meetings at the Chapter house per year (as part of the Alumni Day) & the undergrads have been participating in them. The Housing Corp and Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committees were formed & are involving the undergrads. We had a great turn out at the 80th anniversary and have reconnected with many alumni, thanks to the undergrads for all their hard work. Based on these factors, this goal has been completed, but we will continue to work to increase our alumni connections with our undergrads.

Mid-term Goal: GSP Award by end of 2010.

We have voted to form a Chapter Council and Tom Lutz (our current GCA) is in process of putting that Council together. This council will work as advisors to help steer the undergrads toward this goal. We will put a list together of what we feel we need to do to get the SP Award.

Long-term Goal: Raise Money to repaint house by end of 2015

With the restructuring of the Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committee, we are working on a plan to come up with the money needed for this project. These committees all will have undergrad members & will work with the alumni to meet this goal.

Truly in Alpha, Sigma, and Phi

From the Grand Chapter Advisor

By Tom Lutz

Several steps in improving recent alumni future involvement were taken this year. Along with the 80th anniversary and the forming of the Fundraising/Alumni involvement committee, we are also forming a council that will work directly with recent alumni and undergrads. As part of National's 2005 to 2010 year plan (which we adopted in 2006) a council called the Chapter Council is being formed. This council is chaired by the GCA & has 10 other members; 3 of them being undergrads. This council will focus on providing alumni advising to the undergrads in matters from brotherhood development, parents' relation, and ritual, to name a few. I am looking for people to volunteer for the following advisor positions: Financial, Ritual, Brotherhood, Scholarship, Risk Management, Recruitment, Parent/Family Club. I am currently asking for volunteers to contact me at tommylutz@gmail.com

The Undergraduate membership is strong and increasing. There are currently 28 active members. Please welcome the new members that were added in the Mystic Circle in 2006: John Taylor, Wayne Stankewicz, Carlos Nunez, Bryan Long, David Kafrouni, Christopher Jefferson, Derek Ives, John Daily, & Stephen Iesals

Also welcome the recent graduated to status of alumni: Hieu Trinh, Dev Ramudit, Will Merunka, Brian Compter, Marshall Powers, Dan Mirota, Dan Grinkevich, Joe Haydu, George Grzyb, & Devin Watkins

Also, current HSP Jason Travis and I will be attending the HSP-GCA Academy of Leadership on Feb 9-11, and look forward to meeting leaders of ASP.

In Phi,

Calendar of Events

Alumni Spring Weekend April 21st & 22nd

Event – Talisman Dinner

– At TBD / on April 21, 2007 at 7pm

Event – MS-Walk

– At Liberty State Park / on April 22, 2007 at 9am

Event – Alumni meeting/lunch & Softball Game

– At Chapter House / on April 22, 2007 at noon

Event – Camping Trip

– At Kittatinny Campgrounds / in May or June

Alumni Fall Weekend beginning of October

Event – Oktoberfest

– At Chapter House / on October TBD at 7pm

Event – Strides Against Breast Cancers

– At Military Park in Newark / on October TBD at 9am

Event – Alumni meeting/lunch & Football Game

– At Chapter House / on October TBD at noon

Event – Thanksgiving Dinner

– At Chapter House / on November 20th at 7pm

Event – Christmas Dinner/Party

– At Chapter House / during December

PLEASE CHECK WEB PAGE FOR UPDATES

From the Secretary

By Zef Ferreira

This past October 15, we held an all alumni meeting at the Chapter House as part of Fall Alumni Day. The main discussion points were around the goals that have been setup by the VP and the BOF Endowment Fund. Other discussions dealt with the restructuring committees, forming of the Chapter Council and appointing of committee chairs. The Fundraising Committee was restructured to include alumni events & involvement & is now known as Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committee. Constitutional Committee was removed. Appointment of the committee chairs are:

BOF Chair: Craig Polk

Housing Corp Chair: Mike Krupnick

Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Chair:
Zef Ferreira

Chapter Council Chair: Tom Lutz (GCA)

We also discussed the Chapter Web site, tobetterthaman.com. New ways of getting information to the alumni and undergrads are on this site. Brothers can create profiles and search for contact info for other brothers. We also talked about the plans for the 80th & finalized on those plans. Much work has gone into the 80th and the Undergrads should be proud of the effort they have put in. I am sure this event will be a big success.

Yours in the Mystic Circle

From the Treasurer

By James Muscianesi

Our 2006 financial summary is as follows:

Year End Balance = \$ 13,689.63

(Project break down)

insurance	sprinklers	alumni debt	scholarship	projects	emergency
\$6,000.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$-	\$-	\$4,689.63

Our 2006 financial goals were as follows:

- 1.) Spring 2006 and Fall 2006 semester payments collected from undergrads. – Both payments collected, GOAL MET
- 2.) Pay 2006 House Insurance, approx. \$12k. – Payment was made in October 2006, GOAL MET
- 3.) Met BOF Payments. – All alumni tax loans are paid in full, started alumni alarm system loan re-payments 6 months early, all 4 NJ sprinkler loan payments were paid on time, GOAL MET
- 4.) Have \$10k in Alumni bank account at year-end. – Have over \$13k in account, GOAL MET

Our 2007 financial goals are as follows:

- 1.) Spring 2007 and Fall 2007 semester payments collected from undergrads.
- 2.) Pay 2007 House Insurance, approx. \$12k.
- 3.) Met BOF Payments.
- 4.) Have \$10k in Alumni bank account at year-end.

For the third year we have been able to have an overall balance of over \$10k in our account. As mentioned at the 80th Anniversary, bringing our Chapter debt of over \$200,000 down to approx. \$50,000 is a major accomplishment to do in only 4 years. Thanks to help from alumni & undergraduates, we have paid off all the 1996 alumni loans & have already started to pay back the 2004 alumni alarm system loads (started 6 months ahead of schedule). We have been current with our sprinkler debt and have had no problems with collection of money from brothers living at the house.

Contact Information

Alpha Tau Community Homepage: <https://www.e-greek.net/servlet/LoginServlet?chapterid=45&>

Group Site: http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alumni_at_asp/ Chapter Homepage: <http://www.tobetterthaman.com/>

Committee Updates

- Benjamin Oliver Fund
- Constitutional Committee
- Housing Corporation
- Fundraising Committee

Benjamin Oliver Program Update

Chair: Craig Polk

This year, the Program has reached another major milestone. We have entered into the final phase of the BOF program; to setup funds for future scholarship and house improvement. There will be e-mails as well as mailings that go into this final phase in more detail, but I will provide a summary here:

We have accounts setup so that we can for the first time in our Chapter history we can collect tax exempt donations. During 2007 we are going to be running a pledge campaign with the goal of raising at least \$45,000 worth of pledges. We need this amount for the accounts to be come active and the scholarships to be paid, if we do not get enough pledges in 2007 then the BOF Endowment Funds will be closed. Once we raise that amount, starting in January 2008, we will begin collection of the pledges. All pledges will be collected by December 2010. These funds give us the ability to give out recurring scholarships to Stevens as well as to National Leadership training programs. Also, and most important, these funds give us borrowing and spending capital for house improvement projects.

This is the main focus of the BOF Committee this year. We also will be working with the Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committee to add us in this important goal. Even though the BOF Endowment Fund is the major focus of the committee, we will still be tracking collection of past debt owed to the Chapter and payment of Chapter loans. Also note, this marks the 5th year that we were able to give out two scholarships. This year's winners were Thomas Ritter of the \$1,000 Academic Scholarship and Hieu Trinh of the \$250 Leadership Scholarship.

Ben Oliver Fund end-2006 Goal Report:

Our goals for the end-2006 time frame included the following:

ITEM: New 15 year plan goal {Old 5 year plan}

1. Pay back 1997 Tax Alumni Loan: goal = 90% [goal = 90%], currently at 100% this goal has been completed; all alumni checks have been sent out. Thanks to the undergrads for their help.
2. Pay back Sprinkler Installation Loan: goal = 13.4% [goal = 70%], currently at 9.1%.
3. Pay back 2004 Fire Alarm Loan: goal = 0% [goal = 80%], currently 6.7%. This payment was started 6 months ahead of schedule.
4. Pay \$1,250 toward Undergraduate Scholarship for 2006: goal = 100% [goal = 100%], currently at 100%. This was collected (goal met). Winners were named at Talisman dinner.
5. Collection of Total Debt: goal = 35% [goal = 90%]. This is still at 17%, we need to figure out what we are going to do about this. No additional past debt was collected in 2006.

Ben Oliver Fund goals for 2007 Goal Report:

Our goals for the end-2007 time frame included the following:

ITEM: New 15 year plan goal {Old 5 year plan, this is the last year for the old 5 year plan}

1. Pay back Sprinkler Installation Loan: goal = 20% [goal = 100%].
2. Pay back 2004 Fire Alarm Loan: goal = 40% [goal = 100%].
3. Pay \$1,250 toward Undergraduate Scholarship for 2007.
4. Collection of Total Debt: goal = 40% [goal = 100%].
6. Collect/raise \$45,000 worth of pledges for BOF Endowment Fund: goal = 100%

Benjamin Oliver Fund 2006 Contributions

On behalf of the Benjamin Oliver Fundraising Committee, we would like to thank all of the individual brothers that helped us raise or donate money during 2006: (this list also includes donations collected during the 80th anniversary)

\$5,000 Ben Oliver Club: No contributions

\$2,000 Alpha Tau Club: No contributions

\$1,000 Phoenix Club: Craig Polk

\$500 Talisman Club: Rob Vesterman

\$225 1845 Club: Howard Smith

\$150 Pinnacle Club: No contributions

\$75 Anniversary Club: Deep Balendra, Michael Coless, Bob Gajarsky, John Hochstein

Other: Ellis Farmer, Alexander McKenzie, Nirav Patel, William Proskow

Constitutional Committee

Chair: Paul Serrilli

This is the last report from me. In the Fall 2006 meeting, an alumni council executive committee vote was done to remove this committee and except the draft changes that were in place. Since a period of four years, we were unable to get a quorum of active alumni to take part in a vote, based on this it was determined that the four years of using the draft constitution produced no grievances or issues with the alumni. Therefore the changes were accepted.

These changes center on new forms of communications that allow brothers you live at a distance from Hoboken, NJ to also be able to take part in meetings, such as to allow e-mail (distance) voting. Along with those changes, a few new policies as well as additional positions have been added.

Yours in the Mystic Circle

Housing Corporation

Chair: Michael Krupnick

We are still working on putting together a list of all housing improvement projects that have to be done on the house. We are hoping to have that list complete by summer of this year. We will then approach contractors for bids and time schedules of work. The plan is to list these on the web site (Chapter Homepage) when the list is complete and also provide any photos that show how we are updating the house.

Fundraising Committee

Chair: Michael Krause

This marks the final report from me as the active Fundraising Committee chair. With the vote in the Fall 2006 alumni meeting, the Fundraising Committee is being reorganized into the Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committee. This committee will be chaired by Zef Ferreira. Zef is working on restructuring the committee and will send out future correspondents related to alumni events and fundraising efforts.

The goal of the Fundraising/Alumni Involvement Committee is to coordinate the fundraising efforts of the alumni and the undergraduate members as well as working to plan alumni events. This committee will plan & organize events in an effort to raise money for the chapter. The main goal of this committee is to support the projects that the Housing Corp as well as supporting scholarship fundraising.

The current project that is being worked on is the final Phase of the BOF, or the BOF Endowment Funds. There will be e-mail as well as mailings that will talk about this program in more detail.