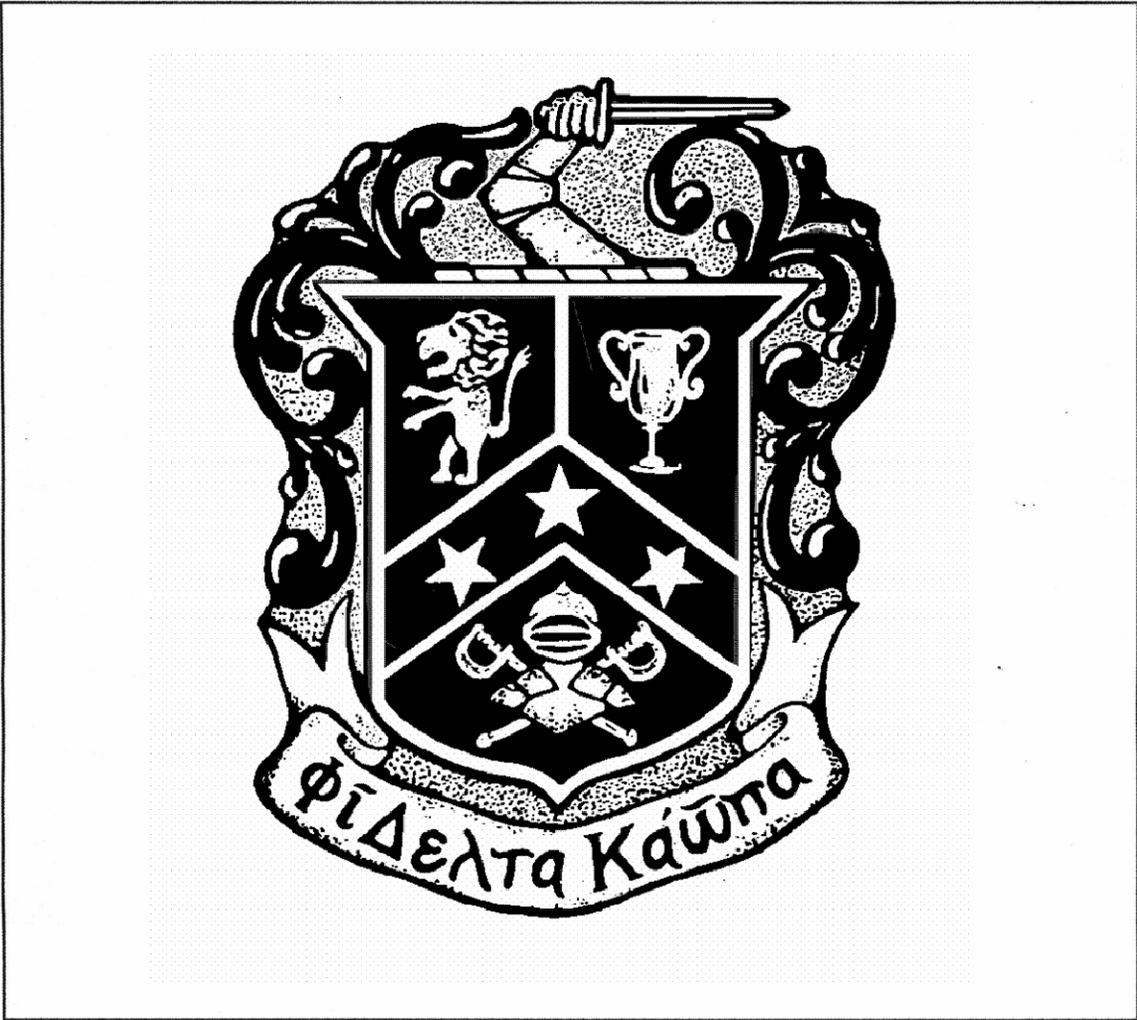


PHI DELTA KAPPA

MAGAZINE



THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE PHI DELTA KAPPA FRATERNITY, INC.



MARCH 2012

PHI DELTA KAPPA MAGAZINE

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NATIONAL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

WHAT CAN I DO FOR MY FRATERNITY

I had been struggling with this month's message when I happened to have a conversation with PNP Jon Handy, sort of like meeting a wise man on the road, and he gave me the inspiration for what follows.

President John Kennedy, in his 1961 inaugural address, asked "Ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country." Now I wonder how that same question might apply to our Fraternity.

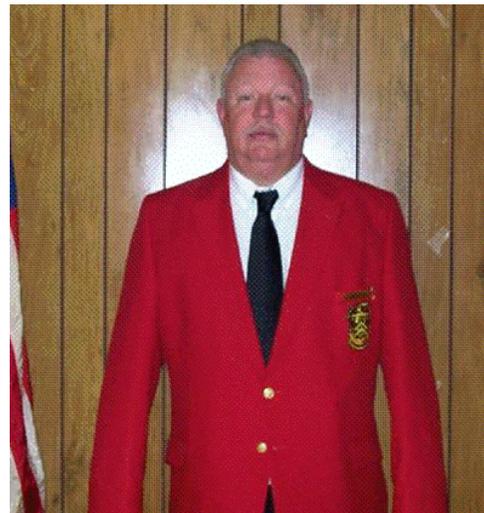
As Americans, there are certain things that are expected of us, go to work if we have work, and if we don't, make every effort to find work, take care of our families, pay our bills, pay our taxes, look out for others, and in general try to live up to the golden rule.

As Phi Delts, when we joined, other than Gamma Lambda, not very many things were expected of us. Other than paying our dues, there were no requirements of how many meetings we had to attend, or work committees we had to be part of, or how many socials we needed to chair, or even attend for that matter.

The willingness to serve any country or organization must be self-motivated and come from deep within yourself. Phi Delta Kappa gives you a better opportunity to do that than any other organization that I know of. I personally have been blessed to rise to the highest elected office that the fraternity has to offer and have met some of the finest people in the world along my journey. I wish the same for every member of Phi Delta Kappa, but you must be willing to take that first step. Get involved in your chapter, take a road trip to another chapter, learn to be a good Phi Delta Kappa. Service can and is a very rewarding experience.

Spring is here and a new baseball season is rapidly approaching GO REDS!
Always looking forward,

Craig Brutout
National President



Brian Nelson
National Vice President

Howdy brothers and sisters. For those who do not know it, this month Spring SEC is being held in Danville. I will be talking about Brotherhood. For without Brotherhood why are we here? We joined this fraternity because we wanted be around men who we can trust.



Now I will let you know that some of this information came straight from the Brotherhood Guide because I know you all read it. Here is the second paragraph of the guide:

A brotherhood must be successful. Two men working together can lift more weight than the total amount that two of them can lift individually. Ten men working towards the successful organization and completion of a goal that they all believe in will find that success comes earlier and faster than it would have (if ever) with only one or two participants.

For Phi Delta Kappa to be successful, we must master Brotherhood and this is what I want to bring to the fraternity. I believe that each chapter has its own small group of brotherhood but how do we connect these small groups together? I believe that it's the job of your National Officers and how they do it is by building up relationships with chapters that they are assigned to coordinate with and by the articles they write in the maga-

zine. It's important for National Officers to build camaraderie with the members of this fraternity. Here is another paragraph from the guide:

"An old sport coach once said that a beer time after a game is just as important as the game itself". His meaning was simple: the camaraderie that develops over a beer after the game turn teammates into friends. You can let a teammate down; you will never let a true friend down. In our case, the game is our meetings and our true friends are our brothers.

As for us National Officers, we need to bring back some camaraderie to ourselves. When I first became a National Officer, I felt close to the other officers, a loyalty to them. I still have a sense of respect for those now PNPs, but I don't feel we have the same camaraderie today that we once had amongst the officers. What I also want to do as President (if elected) is to bring back that unity to the National Officers, for as it was said in the previous paragraph we all must work together for a goal that we all believe in, then we will find that success comes earlier and faster than it would have (if ever) with only one or two. We cannot be divided.

Brian Nelson



Sam Agresti
National Master of Ceremonies

Hello to all my brothers from south Florida. Well March is coming soon and February was a busy month for our fraternity. Here in the south we had River Ranch, Super Bowl parties, sweetheart dinners, and charitable events in all our Florida chapters.



I made a trip to Tampa to attend a meeting and it was well attended. I saw old as well as new members and was informed on the chapter's activities. The clubhouse was looking good as always and the beer is always cold. They have initiated several new members and the newly formed pledge program has been highly successful in bringing in qualified candidates. They also are working on charitable projects in the community. I was accompanied by brother Jerry Johnson to help make the four hour trip over and back in one day doable. I informed the members about the latest information I had and hoped some might attend spring SEC in Danville.

As for the chapters here in south Florida, they have been busy as well with activities. I'm looking forward to seeing what Vice President Brian Nelson has planned at spring SEC. I'm sure this half of the year will be productive and will be reflected at this summers National Convention. As always I'm proud to be a Phi Delt .
Sam Agresti

**What Happen to the Colts?
Chris Parks
National Auditor**

Hello Brothers and Sweethearts! March is upon us which means all of the basketball fans are ready for March madness!



Have you filled out your brackets yet? Ready to impress us all with your basketball knowledge? The analysts have already told us who will be crowned the champions, so why watch? It might have a little to do with the kids who go out on the floor, even after they've been told they can't win. Those who supposedly know have told them and us that they can't change the outcome of the tourney. But still they take the floor, they play their hearts out, and at the end of the first round, they have managed to trash the brackets and have made an impact! By the final four, there always seems to be a team there that nobody thought would get out of the first round, but here they are making an impact!

March is an exciting time for college basketball but it falls short in importance in our lives. Especially for our fraternity, March is the time our National Vice President will hold our Spring SEC in Danville on the 24th, where he will lay out his vision for PDK for the next year. For those of you who have never been to a spring SEC this would be good time to attend. Brother Brian will lay out his vision for the fraternity, the direction

he would like to take us in. Now not knowing exactly what Brother Brian will put out at the meeting, and knowing that he has PDK in his heart, and his only premises for wanting to be our National President is to work in the best interest of the fraternity. I for one am looking forward to the spring SEC, to hear his vision on how we are going to move forward. I have all the confidence in the world in Brother Brian's commitment to the fraternity and judgment that he will make a positive impact on the fraternity!

"How will my actions today reflect on our fraternity tomorrow?"

Chris Parks
National Auditor

**Year End and New Beginnings
Jeff Woolf
National Inner Guard**

Greetings Brothers and Sweethearts, I am not sure as to why, but I have had a difficult time coming up with an idea for this article. I do have my share of distractions at present, not the least of which is following my grandson Devon's run at a state title in wrestling. He has finished second the last two seasons with his only loss coming in the championship match each year. He is currently undefeated again this year heading into semi-state this coming weekend. We keep hoping the 3rd time is a charm for him. He has also signed a letter of intent to wrestle for Pur-



due, which is a little tough for an Indiana University fan to accept, but I know I will wear black and gold for him. Enough bragging for now.

I never knew much about wrestling as a sport until I started following Devon as a youngster. I did go to one high school wrestling match in my teens, but paid little attention. I think a girl might have been the reason I was there. I cannot say for sure any more. Whenever I heard the word wrestling, Dick the Bruiser and Big Time Wrestling was what came to mind.

I have discovered the sport is really quite interesting. Much like high school golf, it is a team sport played on an individual basis. Each contestant is on his own facing an opponent one on one. Points are awarded to his team, varying by the degree with which he defeats his opponent. A fall, pin, receives 6 points; a technical fall, winning by 15 points, is worth 5 points; a major decision, winning by 10 points, gets 4 points; and a win by decision is worth 3 team points. So as you can see, each individual match, regardless of the weight class is equally important to the team and therefore no one match is more, or less, important than any of the others. If one contestant loses his match, there are others with the opportunity to recover for him.

In Phi Delta Kappa, much the same can be said for the individual chapters and the fraternity as a whole. No one chapter being more important than any of the others, nor is any one chapter less important to the national fraternity than any other, regardless of size.

In turn, in each chapter no one member is more important than any of the others. Each member has his own voice and the ability to cast a vote in whatever direction he wishes. All members are on a level playing field. What they do with this equality is entirely up to them. In Phi Delta Kappa, your vote and your opinion truly do count. Attend meetings, voice your opinions and cast your votes. PDK is yours to control.

Until next time,
Jeff Woolf

Editor Note: Devon Jackson is State Champion at 138 pounds by decision 12-2.

Gregory Trombly National Outer Guard

Hello from MS ALPHA. As the Hospitality Chapter, I would like to thank our National Sweetheart Karen Williams for calling our Chapter house and wishing everyone a great year. She is doing a wonderful job, God bless her! I look forward to River Ranch to meet all my brothers from Florida NU, MU and Alpha Lambda and many others. Then it will be Spring SEC in Danville where we can get down to new business. We need to go forward, with our disillusioned brothers, by enlightening them that we are not a perfect organization. That we learn from our mistakes. I know things could have been handled differently. We have all had our say on this matter, I am sure this will not happen again in the future. Our President has a right to request information within his scope of his responsibility and he did so. I

am very sorry you did not get to vote but our constitution states.

Section 2: No person shall be eligible to sit as a delegate or alternate delegate at any session of The National Council unless he has been an active member, in good standing, of this fraternity at least six (6) months prior to the time of holding said National Council session, except in cases where a chapter shall have been organized less than six (6) months.

I know that the brothers at FL MU work hard to increase membership and strive to improve things at their chapterhouse and National! I know we can go forward together to build a better PDK without disillusioned brothers. In the future you will be able to see transparency it is what we do in rituals and meetings. Do not let misunderstanding stand in our way, go forever forward.

Brotherhood takes shape in many ways. We must try to balance our Chapters with National so that we can plan our organization so that we get the most out of it. Sharing ideas, networking, will only better our future. I welcome you, Jay, and am thankful you have many good friends in your Chapter and the PDK. Sam writes in his Feb article that FL MU new members are becoming responsible brothers and not just members. I know now that we are on the right track. Will see you all soon for some brotherhood! Remember if it is to be, it is up to me! Proud to be a Phi Delta!

**Spring S.E.C.
March 24, 2012
Danville, IN**

Spring S.E.C. is this coming March 24, 2012 in Danville. The meeting will start at 9:00 a.m. and the doors will be open at 8:00. There will coffee and donuts. The local chapter will provide dinner on Friday and Saturday they will have an all you-can-eat spaghetti dinner.

I have reserved rooms at the Comfort Inn, 8229 US 36 East, Avon, IN 46123 (317)272-8789. It has a free breakfast, free high speed internet, and a pool. It is best that you reserve your room as soon as you can. You can find your own accommodations if you wish, but I am staying at this hotel and I can transport you from there. I will be available to pick anyone up at the Indianapolis airport all day on Friday and return you to the airport.

Brian Nelson

**MAGAZINE
BOOSTER
PLATINUM
Pat Gunn
GOLD**

SILVER

BRONZE

Hello from Cracker Country By David Rieker

Hello again from cracker country. The other night, we had another successful Officers Installation Party at the club. I asked around to see if we were expected to wear black coats etc. When I asked Tim Musser he replied, "That's the only time I get to dress up, so I'm wearing mine."

So I decided to do the same. Well, its sort of common knowledge that humans stop their growth in their late teens and early twenties. Not so with me. You see, I have continued to grow in every direction but up. I've never seen so much well toned muscle on one person in my whole life! The party was a real success with Bob Gunsauillas coming in as our new chapter president surrounded by a host of mental giants for officers.

Anyway, the experience with the fitting room led me to make a New Year's resolution. I was going to get a little more exercise by using Mary's treadmill to tone-up. I set aside 30 minutes in the afternoon. I figured to start slow and build up speed. Well, about five minutes into the workout, I started feeling some pain in the outside of my right foot and it was getting worse, so I stopped the machine. I figured it was because I was barefoot so I went to find an old pair of sneakers. Finally, I was back on the machine and things were going well and I was making progress for about 3 more minutes, when I noticed a little cramping in the calf of my left leg. I figured it must be the slight incline I had set. So, after

adjusting the machine down and a little rubbing I got back on. Not a minute passed before the pain hit my leg with a vengeance. That was the end of that!! Thank God I didn't aspire to become a ballet dancer. It's hard to believe that I can spend a half hour to forty-five minutes browsing through a grocery store and nothing happens. Mary said it must be mental. I wonder what she meant by that.

Now for fiction and fact from the Phi Delt Almanac. A study was needed to determine what is the greatest reason for Human Longevity. We Phi Delts pondered and used our deepest thinking and finally, after many weeks of deep thought, we concluded that the best answer is, "keep breathing!" So, be well and stay well! Cracker Boy signing off. Dave Rieker.

PNP Corner By Keith Orr

Greetings from the Flagship of the South.

Been awhile since I have written an article, and there are reasons why, a lot of them. Been on crutches for the past 16 months from a broken leg suffered at a sports camp I went to work for the summer of 2010. Since then I've had seven operations on my leg, and thanks to my doc's, I did not lose my leg.

The brothers at Fla Nu have been so supportive that I can't thank them enough for their support during this crisis. There is something good that comes out of all things. Brotherhood, and it is a blessing

that we can have the thankfulness that we can lean on during hard times. I hope every brother can learn from my past and hope that whenever a brother needs a helping hand, PDK will be there beside him. At times, little things that may seem trivial to some, often help so much that they go unnoticed, but when you are handicapped it means a lot. So much for personal crap.

Our President Chris threw a great awards banquet and was elected to another year in office, we are lucky to have him as our officer. One little note, at one meeting night last month, at attendance were 5 PNPS, 2 emirs, and 2 chapter presidents of the year, not a bad turn-out, eh? Had a real good turn out for the Super Bowl party, go Giants! Bingo tomorrow night, hope I win a game or two, could use the cash.

Might stop now but my friend Abe once said "Tis better to be silent and be thought a fool, than to speak and remove all doubt". I and two other PDK's went into the diner the other day and a women begins to start gagging. One of my brothers asked if she could breathe and she shook her head no. So I lifted her dress up, kissed her bottom side, and she was so startled she had spasm and coughed up her food. My brother said "I heard of the Hind-Lick before but I never seen it done" Hug-a-Brother, Stretch.



COMING EVENTS

- Mar. 14** Basketball Auction, Gamma Theta, Danville, IN
Mar. 17 St. Patrick's Day Dance & Carry-In, Gamma Theta, Danville, IN
Mar. 24 Spring S.E.C., Gamma Theta, Danville, IN
Mar. 30 Chili Cook-off, Gamma Theta, Danville, IN
Apr. 14 Beta Eta 100th Anniversary Dinner, Beta Eta, Winchester, IN
Apr. 27- 28 Southern District, Mississippi Alpha, Meridian MS
May 5 Derby/Cinco de Mayo Party, Gamma Theta, Danville, IN
May 7 Northern Brotherhood, Zeta Eta, LaPorte, IN
Jul. 25- 29 National Convention, Beta Eta, Winchester, IN

Standing Events

- Every Friday, Dinner, Gamma Theta, Danville, IN**
Every Saturday, Steak Dinner, Mississippi Alpha, Meridian, MS
Every 2nd Saturday, Men's Breakfast, Mississippi Alpha, Meridian, MS
Every 2nd Friday, Bingo & Dinner, Florida Nu, West Palm Beach, FL
Every 3rd Saturday, Dinner, Beta Nu, Kokomo, IN
Every 3rd Friday, Dinner, Bunko, Florida Mu, Lake Worth, FL
Every Last Friday, Blues Jam, Beta Nu, Kokomo, IN

We can only put it in the Coming Events if you let us know!! By letting everyone know what is happening and when, it allows more members to make plans to attend.