



# PHI ALPHA KAPPA

# NEWSREEL

FALL 2011 EDITION

A TRADITION OF PHI ALPHA KAPPA CHRISTIAN FRATERNITY SINCE 1934

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## Presidential Greetings

Alumni, Friends, and Family Members:

Greetings from the active chapter of Phi Alpha Kappa! It's football season here in Ann Arbor and Brady Hoke's Wolverines are giving us something to cheer for. After the last few disappointing seasons it looks like things are finally starting to turn around for the Maize and Blue.

The Dutch House continues to prosper as seven young men were accepted into pledgeship this year. Three graduate students, four undergraduate students, they are men of true character and we look forward to guiding them through the pledgeship process. The addition of the pledges brings the house to capacity with members occupying almost every room! Our house dog, a Black Labrador named Jake, also lives with us. He can frequently be found in the kitchen with our excellent cook, Amy. It is truly an exciting time to be a member of Phi Alpha Kappa.

Several changes have been made to the interior and exterior of the house in the past months. Fall work day was a frenzy of cleaning and yard work and Phi Alpha Kappa looks spectacular. Recent changes include repair of all roof leaks, electronic locks, a few new lofts, a fancy new grill, and an icemaker.

Thank you to all the Alumni who were able to join us for Alumni Day a few weeks ago. If you were not able to make Alumni Day you are always welcome to stop by. We are so blessed to have such supportive and Godly people associated with Phi Alpha Kappa. I especially want to thank the members of the Alumni Board for the time and effort that they donate to the Dutch House. Your support is invaluable to us.

If you know of anyone who is attending or going to attend the University of Michigan and might be interested in joining the Dutch House please do not hesitate to contact myself or our Vice President, Jeff DeNooyer. Hail to thee Phi Alpha Kappa, Go Blue, and God bless!

Your Fraternal and Spiritual Brother,

Nate Lundell

[pres@phialphakappa.com](mailto:pres@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Vice President**

Once again, we have been blessed to have a full house starting off the fall 2011 school year. There are 8 new faces in the halls of Phi Alpha Kappa including 6 pledges and two boarders. Each one of these strong Christian guys has already proven to be a great addition to the house chemistry and I look forward to getting to know each of them as the year progresses. Overall I am happy to report that there is a very positive and cohesive bond throughout the entire house and I could not be more excited to see that bond grow stronger as we continue. As always, we are still looking for more fine young Christian men to join Phi Alpha Kappa and to fill our house in the coming years so please do not hesitate to send me any information on potential pledges that would be suitable additions to the house!

Jeff DeNooyer

[vp@phialphakappa.com](mailto:vp@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Business Manager**

The new school year has started and the financials of Phi Alpha Kappa are looking strong. We are currently at capacity for the second year running with all 31 spots in the house filled. We had a money surplus last year which has relieved some of the financial pressures we had faced. This year with the full house we should expect surplus as well. The surplus will allow us more leeway to improve the living standard and funds that can go to repairing the house.

Zach Cammenga  
[business@phialphakappa.com](mailto:business@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Steward**

It's a new year, and the Phi Alpha Kappa Dining Room is under new management. For the first time in a long while, the house is filled to capacity. It's business as usual for our cook, Amy, whose culinary offerings continue to put even the tastiest dorm food to shame, despite our growing numbers. Thanks to the abundance of residents, and this year's reforms in labor distribution, residents and guest enjoy first class service, and the kitchen and dining room have never been cleaner. For the homecoming football game on October 29<sup>th</sup>, we hosted our annual Alumni Day, which was a tremendous success this year- I hope all who attended enjoyed their visit. It's still quite early in the year; I'm eager to see what else can be accomplished before it's over.

Mitch Overbeck  
[steward@phialphakappa.com](mailto:steward@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Sergeant**

Life is good at the Dutch House this fall. The house is clean, warm and secure. In the past year, as I've shown contractors and other guests through the house, nearly all of them commended our upkeep of the premises, saying that Phi Alpha Kappa enjoyed the highest standard of living they had encountered among the fraternities of Ann Arbor. This standard of living in which we pride ourselves can be attributed to the continual effort of our members and alumni to volunteer their time and resources to maintaining and improving the Dutch House. I would like to especially thank our alumni who helped out this summer after the June board meeting splitting firewood and cleaning the grounds. The alumni June workday, a somewhat new tradition, has proven to be a big help in keeping the house in shape over the summer.

The most notable improvement to the house this year will be the repair of all known roof leaks, which is currently in progress. The flat rubber roofs atop the two turrets have been removed and replaced, along with the rotten wood structure underneath them. Two copper dormers on the third floor are also being replaced later this fall. Since this time last year, we have repainted the great room, foyer and dining room to match the hallways of the upper floors. New electronic locks have been installed to replace the failing simplex locks on the two stairwell doors.

Lee Overbeck  
[sergeant@phialphakappa.com](mailto:sergeant@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Chaplain**

The men of Phi Alpha Kappa have started the academic year eager to grow as a community in Christ. To achieve this, we have continued several traditions that have helped past members enrich their faith. We are holding weekly Bible study in the Great Room, being led by Sam Boldenow, the current pastor of Campus Chapel. In these first few weeks we have been working our way, chapter by chapter, through Ephesians, and it has been wonderful to gain new insights into God's Word. Another event that we hope to prove fruitful is weekly praise and worship, previously held on Wednesday mornings, now held Monday evenings. It is our hope that this new time will allow for more members to attend who wish to – and thus bring us closer together as brothers in Christ.

In addition to these weekly events, it is our hope that in the coming semester, the house will take a day or two and go on retreat, where we shall seek to better understand our relationships with each other, and our own personal relationships with Jesus.

Matt Rouhana  
Chaplain

## **Report from the Social Chairman**

The brothers of Phi Alpha Kappa are preparing for yet another year of some good ol' Christian brotherhood. While our real social events have been slow to start, friends and family have been seen each Saturday surrounding the television watching yet another Michigan victory. Guys Night Out official ignited the spark to the year in terms of social events. After some time getting acquainted with the new pledges this provided a good opportunity to really allow the brothers to have some good conversations and enjoy some good food in the wake of our exams. This year we plan to participate in a wide range of events that will allow for everyone to enjoy themselves while with their brothers. Some of the events for this semester will include: whirlyball, paintball, the gun range, and a trip to a sporting event like a Wings game. Our house, as usual is planning on holding our annual Phi Alpha Kappa Halloween Party. This year we plan to outreach to a number of organizations and people with the hope that we can gather and support an environment for whoever wishes to join us. As the year progresses we hope to have some good times and make some more good memories.

Jade Watts  
[social@phialphakappa.com](mailto:social@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Athletic Chair**

This fall we once again played soccer. We've had great turn out for the games getting upwards of 13 house members at the fields. Currently we are undefeated and heading towards the semi-finals for our league. After the end of the soccer we begin the flag football season and will hope for a better record than last year. With a great house full of skilled athletes we are looking at a great year for house sports.

Andrew Dykstra  
[athletic@phialphakappa.com](mailto:athletic@phialphakappa.com)

## **Report from the Pledge Chairs**

We have 7 pledges this semester: 4 undergraduate and 3 graduate students. This is both a higher percent and a higher total amount of graduate pledges that  $\Phi$ AK has seen for some years. We hope that this will contribute to the maturity and respectability of the pledge class, as it appears to have done so far. The pledges have taken to their duties and tasks well: they shined the 'M' on the Diag, they performed spiritedly in the what-may-become-annual Pledge Concert, and they are gearing up for Pledge-Active Football. We have a good pledge class, and look forward to any lame duck pledges that may join us in the winter semester.

Tim Hausler & Ted Zaroff III  
Pledge Chairmen

## **Report from the Charity Chair**

This year we have a lot of good and fun charity projects planned. In addition to our standing collection of pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, we have competed in a dodgeball tournament for breast cancer research, and completed in the Big House Big Heart race for Mott Children's Hospital. We will not end with those though. There are several activities planned for the rest of the year, including Relay for Life, United to Heal, The Casino Charity Night, as well as many others.

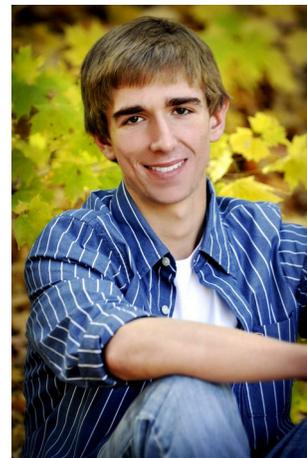
Patrick Lind  
Charity Chair

## Pledges

Phi Alpha Kappa presents its Pledge Class of Fall 2011!

### Joe Kropiewnicki by Eric Vis

Joe is a freshman who comes from the fine city of Rockford, Michigan. He attended Rockford High School, where he played baseball as a pitcher and helped bring his team the state title last year. I am sure if the house ever plays softball, his baseball pitching skills will allow him to be an ace softball pitcher. Although still undecided for his major, Joe is considering a mathematics related degree like Actuarial Math. He is one of several pledges who are living in the house this year, and enjoys watching sports, especially the Tigers and Lions. He also enjoys just hanging out with the guys and playing intramural sports for the house team. Joe is a top-flight young man, and should make an excellent addition to the fraternity.



### Alex Hoogland by Jeff Bergman



Alex Hoogland finds his way to Phi Alpha Kappa from Grand Rapids by way of Johns Hopkins University. Alex is a 2007 graduate of Grand Rapids Christian High School and recently graduated from Johns Hopkins with a Bachelors of Science with a concentration in Environmental Engineering. He is currently studying at the University of Michigan for a Masters degree in Environmental Engineering. In addition to his studies Alex enjoys sports finding time to run on a regular basis. He also finds time to engage in other sports activities along with other house members. We look forward to having Alex join us as a new pledge here at the house.

### Mark Vander Roest by Tyler Bowden

Mark “Marky-mark” Vander Roest is a second-generation legacy of the house. He is from Ann Arbor, but decided to live at Phi Alpha Kappa as a live-in pledge this year. Mark is a freshman this year choosing to study Biomedical Engineering. While attending Ann Arbor Huron High School Mark played both lacrosse and ran cross-country. He can usually be found around the house hanging out with all the guys joking around and just being social. We’re expecting big things from Mark seeing as how his brother was the house president and his father is a member of the alumni board.



### Domenic Kelly by Matt Rouhana



Domenic is our one and only out of house pledge this semester, living in the renowned Bursley Hall and double-majoring in Computer Science and Mathematics. While only a freshman at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor is by no means an unfamiliar place to him. Domenic attended Fr. Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor, and has called the city home for most of his life. He is quite the musician, and can be found gently strumming a guitar or filling the halls of Michigan with his sonorous voice. Dom is also a fantastic thespian, participating in several plays in high school. At home, Domenic attends Christ the King Catholic Church, and goes to St. Mary's Student Parish while at UM. He is looking forward to getting to know the guys in the house, and is eager to contribute to the wealth of personality at Phi Alpha Kappa.

### Joel Koper by Paul Nagel



It is with deepest pride and greatest pleasure that I introduce Joel Koper, one of our finest and most remarkable pledges at Phi Alpha Kappa. Joel hails from the town of Waterford, the land where the people are strange and the fast-food restaurants are plentiful. He attended Waterford Kettering High School, where he is still known to this very day for his infamous pranks. Young master Koper began his college career in the Fall of 2010. He is currently in his sophomore year at the University of Michigan pursuing the study of Biochemistry.

A wise man once said, "My fellow Dutchmen, ask not what your PhiAK can do for you - ask what you can do for your PhiAK." Joel Alexander Koper was that man. Always striving to improve the quality of life at the fraternity, Joel Koper is the very looking-glass of Christian charity. Whether it be lending an ear to a garrulous member, or helping out with dishes after dinner, Joel serves his fellow brothers with the most cheerful disposition.

Although he is a distinguished academic, Mr. Koper devotes many-a-hour to the pursuit of leisure. He enjoys playing video games, especially *Super Smash Brothers*. He is also a devoted viewer of *House, M.D.* – an American television medical drama. Joel finds the protagonist, Dr. House to be a personal role model and source of inspiration. Lest he be labeled as a "secluded television junkie," I must make it known that Joel Koper spends the majority of his free time in the merry company of others. He can often be found associating with the likes of Paul Nagel; the house clones, Mitch and Lee Overbeck; as well as Patrick Lind; and trusted roommate, Alex Hoogland.

Joel Koper has grand aspirations for the future. He hopes to someday work as a doctor in the emergency room. Although no mortal man can foretell what the future has in store, I wish Joel the very best as he continues on his life journey. May the Lord be with him ... always.

### **Brian Wybrecht by Zach Cammenga**

Brian joins Phi Alpha Kappa as a pledge as a graduate student. Brian comes to the University of Michigan after seeing the error of his ways and receiving his bachelor's degree from Michigan State. Brian is a first semester graduate student here at the University pursuing his masters in Civil and Environmental Engineering. In his free time Brian enjoys playing basketball and football and will be a good addition to our intramural teams. We all look forward to learning more about Brian as he proceeds with his pledgeship here.



### **Mike Vos by Trevor De Jong**



Mike Vos is currently a second year Graduate Student in the Urban Planning department at the University of Michigan. Prior to attending U of M he got his Bachelor's Degree from Calvin College. And he graduated from Calvin Christian High School. His interests include sampling the wide variety of beer available in Michigan and abroad as well as brewing his own varieties when he has the time and one day hopes to be able to start his own brewery. He also enjoys playing Ultimate Frisbee and can be found quite often shirtless in one of the many green spaces in Ann Arbor flinging the disc to one of his fellow Frisbee enthusiasts. He seems to be fitting in quite well at the Fraternity and is pouring himself wholeheartedly into pledgeship. So far one of his favorite

aspects of the house is our in house cook, Amy. We've been having a lot of fun so far this year getting to know Mike and look forward to what the rest of the school year will bring.

**The Actives**



Kevin Egedy, Sophomore,  
Electrical Engineering



Paul Stam, Junior Mechanical  
Engineering



Issac Olson, Sophomore  
Aerospace Engineering



Zach Cammenga, Senior  
Electrical Engineering



Jeff Bergman, PhD  
Student Structural Engineering



Eric Vis, Junior Actuarial Math



Jeff DeNooyer, Junior Political  
Science



Paul Nagel, Senior Industrial &  
Operations Engineering



Nate Lundell, Junior Civil &  
Environmental Engineering



Joel Ondersma, Masters Student  
Biomedical Engineering



Andrew Dykstra, Sophomore  
Mechanical Engineering



Lee Overbeck, Senior Civil &  
Environmental Engineering

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Brian Mejeur, Junior Aerospace Engineering



Matt Rouhana, Sophomore Electrical Engineering



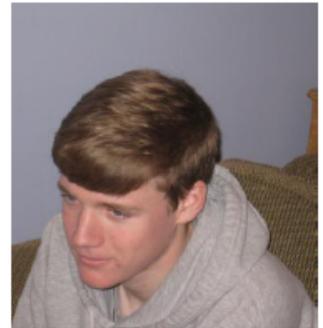
Tim Hausler, Junior English



Jade Watts, Junior Industrial & Operations Engineering



Ted Zaroff III, Senior Chemical Engineering



Ryan Wawrzaszek, Sophomore Material Science and Engineering



Tyler Bowden, Junior Civil & Environmental Engineering



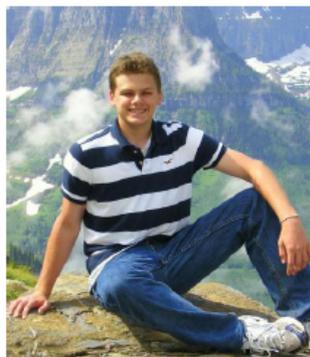
Trevor De Jong, Super Senior Statistics



Patrick Lind, Senior Evolutionary Biology



Mitch Overbeck, Senior Electrical Engineering



Dan DeVries, Sophomore Movement Science