



Phi Alpha Kappa

News Reel

Fall 2008 Edition

A tradition of Phi Alpha Kappa Christian Fraternity since 1934

Presidential Greetings

Dear Alumni and Friends of Phi Alpha Kappa,

Greetings from the men of Phi Alpha Kappa! The fall semester is already completed, and it is time to publish the Newsreel once again. Formerly known as the Phi Alpha Kappan, this letter has served as a way of communicating with alumni since 1934. Let us continue this tradition now and far into the future.

Since the last Newsreel, the Phi A K has gone through changes. We are now fortunate enough to have a full house with 31 residents. Therefore, there is reason to be hopeful that the house will not only continue the success of the past, but also expand upon it.

Repairs and improvements to the building and its contents have again consumed the time of many house members. Over the summer, there were enough projects to keep a small contingent of house officers busy even with the help of alumni and others. Special thanks are in order for Eric Joy at Christensen's Plant Center of Plymouth, Michigan for giving Phi Alpha Kappa many plants at a great discount. We would also like to thank Hank Byma, a landscape architect, who designed the new landscape in front of the house. Thanks are also in order to John Prins and his father and family, as well as Mike Vander Roest and his father, Bill, and their family for the countless hours of work each put into the improvement of the fraternity building and grounds.

As always, there are a few upcoming events. The Alumni Dinner / 79th Anniversary Dinner will be Friday, March 27, at 7:00 PM at the University Club in Grand Rapids. On behalf of the Alumni Board and the Active Chapter, I would like to welcome you to this event. Also, be aware that there may be an alumni work day at the house during the summer of 2009. Please see the announcements section for more information.

The first half of the 2008-2009 academic year has been encouraging. We look forward to the coming months, years, and decades as the Dutch House thrives.

God bless, Go Blue, and hail to thee Phi Alpha Kappa!

Eric Falstad, President

Officer Reports

Vice President Report

This year looks like it is going to be a very good year for recruiting. Thanks to the hard work of the house last spring, we started the year with nine in house pledges and one out-of-house pledge. Adding these to the two current lame-duck pledges gives us twelve pledges this semester. We were also able to fill the house by adding four boarders, which has not been done in the past couple of years.

We have held two well attended cook-outs this fall, from which, we were able to obtain more interest and contacts who may pledge in the winter term. Also, to attract more interest, the house will be advertising and hosting parties. Much of our recent success in recruitment was due to our current members spreading the word around campus and to friends and relatives back home. We hope and pray that this continues as we search more options for spreading the Phi Alpha Kappa name. If you know of any relatives, friends of relatives or relatives of friends who will be attending U of M next fall, please contact VP at vp@phialphakappa.com.

As always, please keep the house in your prayers, asking for strong membership in the coming years.

Dan Prince
Vice President
vp@phialphakappa.com

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Announcements

Events

Annual Alumni Dinner / 79th Anniversary Dinner

What: This is a dinner to commemorate the brotherhood and longevity of Phi Alpha Kappa by coming together with alumni, active members, and pledges. More information, including to whom and when to RSVP, will be available later.

Where: University Club at the Fifth Third building downtown Grand Rapids (same venue as last year)

When: March 27, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Alumni Work Day 2009

What: Alumni Work Day is a new invention of the Alumni Board. It is to be held annually during the summer to improve the house. Please come and join the fun and satisfaction of working with fellow alumni on your old place of residence.

Where: Phi Alpha Kappa, 1010 East Ann Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

When: To be determined

Other

www.phialphakappa.com

Visit our website. This is a great way to stay up to date on the current happenings and fraternity activities. The members' profiles are updated regularly.

If you would like to receive the News Reel and other PhiAK mailings by e-mail, please contact:

Dave Slopsema

Alumni Board President

dslopsema@comcast.net

The Alumni Board Recruiting Committee Asks for Your Support

The Recruiting Committee, chaired by Bill Vander Roest, requests your help in the recruitment of our future Phi Alpha Kappa brothers. If you know any young men interested in the Dutch House, please contact the Vice President at vp@phialphakappa.com.

Sergeant-at-Arm's Report

The Dutch House is looking in its prime due to a summer of hard work and a productive fall workday. The members have done a lot of work in cleaning and fixing up the house. Please stop by and see the improvements on your next visit to Ann Arbor!

One of the large projects was redoing room 207 (torpedo on west end of 2nd floor) complete with drywall, carpet, painting, and a new ceiling. The room is looking good and was ready in August for Andrew and Steve to move in. Another large project was cleaning and repainting the kitchen. The kitchen is now a warm light blue color that Amy helped pick out.

In June, my dad, who has extensive electrical knowledge, helped replace the electrical breaker box to bring the house up to code and ensure safety. Additionally, we replaced the overgrown bushes in the front yard and brought the ivy on the front of the house back under control.

On work day, members were active cleaning the attic, painting window trim, sanding and repainting the house doorways, and cleaning the kitchen. We are also in the process of re-framing the house pictures. We have acquired an extra computer, which will be used to scroll these pictures on a monitor in the great room.

These improvements have the house looking good and feeling more like home for everyone living here. To celebrate, we have acquired an LCD big screen TV. Additionally, if you would like to help with any projects, make recommendations for improvement, or make a donation for a project please email me.

John Prins
Sergeant-at-arms
sergeant@phialphakappa.com

Business Manager Report

To begin my business manager report, I would like to thank Kayle Hinkle for his two years of service as the business manager of Phi Alpha Kappa. His dedication to the position and scrupulous attention to detail has set Phi Alpha Kappa on a road to maintain its financial solvency and integrity. He was able to cut costs in tough times, often in the face of small amounts of ridicule for being "cheap." Lastly he continues to offer his support to me as I continue his work and learn more about the organization. Thanks Kayle!

The work of my fellow officers, along with the grace of God, has made this a relatively easy position this year. Our house is full with 31 gentlemen this year providing approximately 18,880 dollars a month in rent revenue. Though our expenses have increased with a full house, we are budgeted to catch up on missed rent payments to the board by second semester. In addition, the house may have excess money that the members can use for entertainment and leisure (conditional on a vote, of course). Alumni should see a new TV in house second semester. However, Kayle's principles of conservative spending will not be forgotten. First and foremost, the excess money will be used for house repairs and the betterment of the organization. This means more money spent on recruiting, repairs and charitable events.

My plans as business manager are to manage the house's finances, challenge house members to be involved in our community and in campus events, and to assist in positioning the organization to be both highly regarded and financially sound.

Thank you,

Anthony Abruzzo
Business Manager
business@phialphakappa.com

Kitchen Steward Report

It's another year and somehow I am still the Steward here at Phi Alpha Kappa. How did I get talked into doing this again? Maybe God is calling me to go into restaurant management. We business school kids are seriously considering such options these days, as the jobs in banking and trading have grown scarce.

But as the stock market continues to plunge, our appetites remain high. With 31 guys in the house now, we go through food like the U of M goes through coaching salary dollars. Our epicure cook Amy Caldwell is up to the challenge though. She continues to prepare delicious meals and we all continue to eat more than we should. In fact, some of the freshmen who were slotted to be wide receivers for our intramural football team this fall have since become linemen.

The kitchen itself is in fantastic shape. Over the summer we painted it a nice Pale Frost (AKA light blue) and had a new circuit breaker box installed with new wiring and circuit breakers. We are proud to say that we can now toast, microwave and prepare coffee all at the same time. A plumbing job rounded out the major repairs and so on workday all that was left to do was clean up.

If you are ever in the area be sure to stop by the house for lunch at noon or dinner at 6:00 pm. Alumni visits to the house were at an all-time low this football season, but we are always happy to recount past (winning) seasons with Wolverine faithful.

Mike Vander Roest
Steward
steward@phialphakappa.com

Pledge Chairmen Report

So far this semester we have maintained our eight pledges from last semester and have voted two more young men who have been voted into pledgeship at the January and February house meetings and will be lame ducks. They are a really fun group of guys who are becoming more open and entertaining every day. All of our pledges continue a healthy devotion to Taz and more importantly an unhealthy devotion to Michigan Football even in the off-season.

The pledges have so far been keeping up with their duties to the house, and we expect them to continue. Each pledge has a unique personality which hopefully you have seen from last semester in their articles by their big brothers. All of our pledges will be in the house at least one more year should they be voted into activeship. Overall, these guys are a great group and we cannot wait for them to mature even more.

Ben Carpenter and Jung-Ho Kim,
Pledge Chairmen
bcarpe@umich.edu, junkhok@umich.edu

Chaplain Report

The semester is well under way here at Phi Alpha Kappa, and the spiritual environment in the house is the best I've seen in my time here. We've been having a study centered around the book *Wild at Heart*. Matt, a pastor from Campus Chapel has joined us, and discussions have been very interesting. We meet every Monday night and discuss biblical masculinity, centered around John Eldredge's presentation of it in *Wild at Heart*.

We just recently had our first prayer meeting as a fraternity and hope to have others follow. As always, bagel time provides a lot of interesting discussions, and I've seen or taken part in discussions throughout the day. Topics range from faith to contraception to charity to our duty as citizens. We will soon be having a collection for anyone who wants to donate to Compassion International or World Vision. We have also been looking into service opportunities. I look forward to the rest of the semester as we continue to honor God through our lives as students.

Kalev Maricq
Chaplain
kmaricq@umich.edu

Social Chairmen Report

The year at Phi A K has gone great so far. The only downside is that the Michigan football team isn't quite up to par. Aside from that, we have been having a pretty good time here at the house. We have already played Whirleyball once and we have had two public tailgates before the Utah game and the Notre Dame game. We also have had a house party already.

We also had great fun with the Christmas party, guys' night out, and the rest of the social schedule. We look forward to more fun next semester as we are planning a spring break mission trip, a visit to see the Michigan hockey team beat Michigan State, and many more renditions of Whirleyball.

Trevor De Jong
Social Chairman
social@phialphakappa.com

Athletic Chairmen Report

Phi Alpha Kappa kicked off its IM season with IM soccer in mid-September. The house won its first two games and lost the third to advance to the winner's playoffs. After a tie in regulation in the first playoff soccer game, the house team was defeated in the second round of penalty kicks. The guys of Phi Alpha Kappa are also lost in the first round of the playoffs in flag football. The third IM sport in which the house will participate is IM basketball, which will take place during the winter semester. The house has high expectations for basketball. Phi Alpha Kappa will also be holding a few in-house athletic events. The pool tournament will wrapped up in October. Later, we will have tournaments on the Nintendo Wii such as Wii bowling, Wii tennis, and Wii baseball. The annual ping-pong tournament is also fast approaching; it will take place in winter semester.

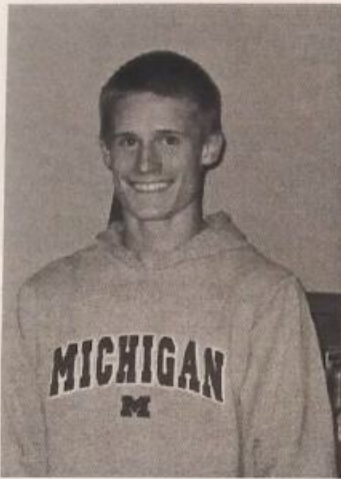
Joel Ondersma
Athletic Chairman
athletic@phialphakappa.com

Meet the Pledges

These articles are written by the actives about their little brothers.

Matt Bekken

By Anthony Abruzzo



My little brother is Matt Joseph Bekken from Grand Rapids Michigan. He is a freshmen majoring in Engineering, but he is undecided as to a specialty. Matt decided to come to the University of Michigan for its prestigious engineering program and the opportunities it would provide. When Matt is not doing class work he enjoys playing sports such as soccer and football or hanging out with his friends. He attends New Life Church, Crew Bible study, and he would like to be the athletic chair of PHIAK in the future. In a perfect world Matt would work for N.A.S.A. as a shuttle engineer.

Andrew Ludwig

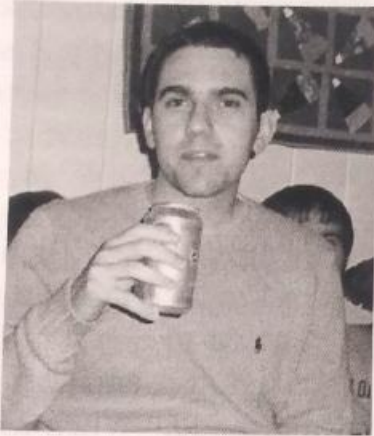
By Joel Ondersma



Andy Ludwig, son of Pete and Mary Ludwig, hails from Jenison, Michigan. Andy attended nearby Unity Christian High School where he spent four years cheering on the Crusaders as they routinely defeated the other Christian schools of West Michigan. In his spare time Andy enjoys playing various sports and cruising around in his truck, which uses more gasoline in five minutes of idling than many small countries use in an entire year. Around the house you can find Andy playing super smash brothers, throwing a football around, or just hanging out in the arctic wasteland known as lower triple. Andy plans on majoring in biology and then continuing on to dental school, where he will master the art of making patients feel guilty for not flossing.

Michael Tinaglia

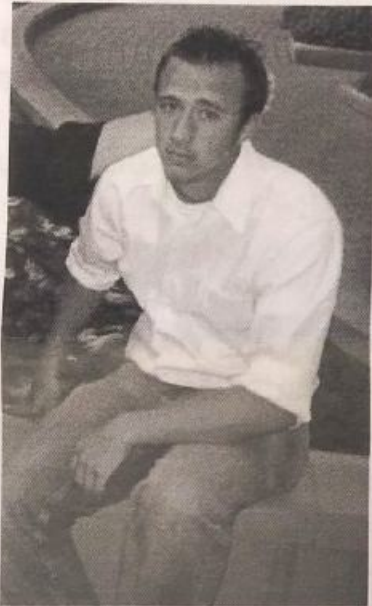
By Trevor DeJong



Mike is a freshman in the Literature, Science and the Arts school. He is currently undecided on what he wants to do but is leaning towards ergonomics or organizational studies. Mike hails from Des Plaines, Illinois which is just North of Chicago, by O'Hare International Airport and he graduated from Main west High School. In his spare time he enjoys reading, running, Classic Rock, and College Football. Here at Michigan he also attends CRU (Campus Crusade for Christ). He always likes engaging in conversation with people around the house and is a welcome addition. Mike lives in the Lower Triple with his roommates Andy Ludwig and Matt Bekken; and enjoys the year round air-conditioning therein.

Josh Mackey

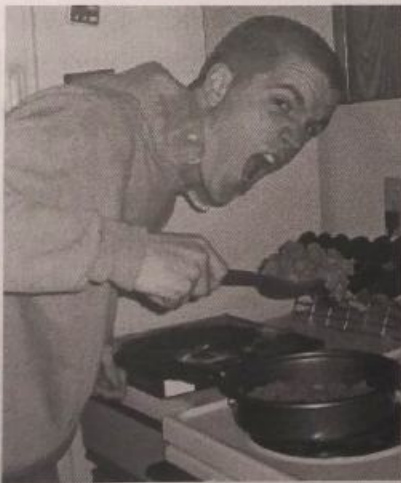
By Josh Koetsier



Josh Mackey hails from Byron Center, MI where he attended Byron Center High School. Josh is the eldest son of Todd and Lisa Mackey. Josh has one sister who is currently a junior in high school. While Josh is at home, he attends Heritage Baptist Church. Josh is planning to go onto Medical School after he finishes his undergraduate career. In his free time, Josh likes to watch and play sports, hang out with his friends, and participate in youth group. This past summer, Josh participated in a 400 mile bike ride to help witness for the Lord.

Michael Broersma

By David Denyer



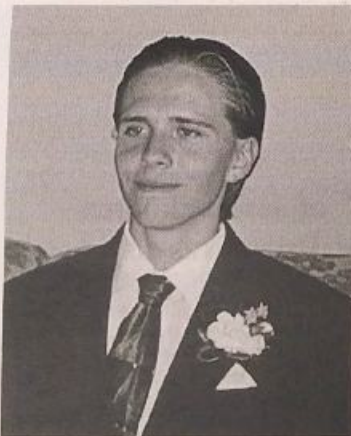
Michael Peter Broersma was born in Grand Rapids Michigan. He is an avid violin player as he has performed and courted many women (since his kindergarten years) due to his unique and, as several of his ladies have stated, "extremely tempting musical ability." He is currently studying programs in the environment as a "side hobby" while majoring in excessive gluttony (indicated by his candy and ramen noodles shelf of "gluttonous material"). He is hoping he can find some time this semester to visit the movie set of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory as the movie holds a special place in his heart.

Josh Hiemstra
By Greg Hoogland



Josh was born and raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He is a senior at the University of Michigan studying industrial operations. Josh is a graduate of North Pointe Christian High School. After college, Josh hopes to work on the west side of the state improving industrial operations at a factory. Besides studying and spending time with his girlfriend Nicole, Josh enjoys watching Michigan football, the Detroit Pistons, and playing survival bingo. Josh has supported the house this semester through his participation on the house's IM soccer and football teams. Josh is a welcome addition to the house. We have already enjoyed having him live with us, and we look forward to getting to know him better during the following year.

Ted Zaroff
By Dan Armstrong



Ted Andrew Tadeusz Shalmahet Zaroff III hails from Belleville, Michigan. Following the traditions of Ben Panning, Karl Kappler, and Ben Carpenter, Ted attended Father Gabriel Richard High School in Ann Arbor and is a freshman in the University of Michigan College of Engineering majoring in undecided. A consummate gentleman, Ted prefers khaki pants, never wears shorts, possesses a keen sense of grammar, only eats the finest quality chocolate, and participates in the most historical extracurricular activity at the University of Michigan: The University of Michigan Men's Glee Club. Despite his love for dancing and singing, you will not find Ted singing in the shower, unlike his good friend and trusty roommate, Paul Nagel. Rumor has it that Paul has contended that singing in the shower enhances one's vocal performance, yet Ted countered, "Mr. Nagel, how could my voice sound better?" Depending on how lazy he is feeling, you will find Ted wearing his hair in two distinct styles. As an only child, Ted has invented his own language, builds things out of origami, has three cats, and is literally obsessed with kittens. As a brilliant student of calculus, German, and monograms, Ted finds all sorts of extra time to play Bomberman Hero, Katamari Damacy, Super Smash Brothers, and Dungeons and Dragons. Ted is approachable and open, and has been a welcome addition to the fraternity. There is no other man like Ted Zaroff III; there never was, and there never will be.

Andrew Howe
By David Denyer



Andrew James Howe was born of Timothy and Patricia on February 23rd 1990. He was born with a rare genetic disorder called retinitis pigmentosa which at this point has no cure; however, Andrew prefers to look at the bright side: "I got a free laptop for college so Im pretty excited about that...so have I shown you how my laptop can swivle and I write stuff on the screen and..." (I quickly took a bathroom break before the elaboration got out of hand) Andrew is here at the "U" for a degree in "women's studies" and is currently in the accelerated program which he says requires that he go to class 25 minutes early to immerce himself in the study of "women conversation". He is very excited for the dance party coming up as it gives him a chance to explore a whole new dimension of his concentration: dancing women. He says he is looking forward to at least 5 years here due to the fact that no one yet has successfully completed the senior thesis of "what a woman wants" but he says he will not rest until he has solved the problem for all humanity and, especially, as he is quoted saying, "the men of Phi Alpha Kappa."

Steve Cooper
By Eric Falstad



Steven Daniel Cooper was born the 4th of seven children in the Cooper family. His older brother, Brian, was also a member of Phi Alpha Kappa. Steve attended high school at North Pointe Christian in Grand Rapids. He joined the house from GRCC due to the recommendations of Coop 1 and Daniel Armstrong. Coop is a junior in the College of Engineering with a concentration in Biomedical Engineering. He thoroughly enjoys a game of racquetball from time to time. When Coop grows older, he would like to have a pot belly and sit on the porch of his cottage. This is after he comes up with some goals and accomplishes them. Steve is quite a fan of imbibitions, and we are glad to have him live with us this year.

Paul Nagel

By Kalev Maricq



Paul Joseph John Nagel is a freshman in-house pledge. He is planning to major in some sort of engineering and minor in Spanish. He is from Dexter, MI where he grew up with his younger sister and learned how to play with stuffed animals. He attended Gabriel Richard High School, and enjoyed cross country, ultimate Frisbee, video production, and building with Legos. His favorite aspects of the house are playing super smash brothers with his fraternity brothers, taking part in theological discussions, the Christian support he finds here, and Amy's cooking. He also has enjoyed playing Half Life 2, Kingdom Hearts and many other glorious titles with his friend and trusty roommate, Ted Zaroff. He is an avid star wars fan, and prefers the original trilogy (specifically The Empire Strikes Back) to the newer films. He attends Christ the King Catholic Church. His dream job would be to design Legos. He looks forward to finding a way to use Spanish and engineering after college, and to continued mission work in Mexico. He sees his time at Phi Alpha Kappa as a great opportunity for fellowship and growth in Christ, and is excited for the rest of his time here.

Matt Stoebner

By Eric Falstad



Matthew Alan Stoebner was born and raised in the real Kansas City, Kansas in 1985. He is a senior who will graduate in December with a degree in Aerospace Engineering. As a member of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps (AFROTC), Matt succeeded in gaining the best job security a man can have in these uncertain times. The only sure things in life are death and taxes, and Matt will go on to be paid with our tax dollars to work in a lab somewhere in Area 51 to develop new instruments of death. Matt will most miss Chuck Norris movie parties that go on in the house when he leaves after graduation.

This is a picture of the great room where house meetings are held. For the fall party, this room is transformed into a dance floor.



Eric Falstad evades the onslaught of pledges during the annual pledge active football game held in early November. Actives won 35-28.



Active Summary



Dan Prince
Vice President
2nd Year Grad Student
Electrical Engineering



John Prins
Sergeant-At-Arms
Junior
Mechanical Engineering



Ben Carpenter
Pledge Chair
Senior
Computer Science



Anthony Abruzzo
Business Manager
Junior
Business



Mike Vander Roest
Kitchen Steward
Junior
Business



Dave Denyer
Junior
Undeclared



Greg Hoogland
1st Year Grad Student
Architecture



Benjamin Dykstra
Senior
Physics



Eric Falstad
President
Senior
Economics and
Political Science



Taz Maraz Atang
House Dog
9th year
Communications and Ball



Daniel Armstrong
4th Year
Dental Student



Trevor De Jong
Sophomore
Computer Science



Kalev Maricq
Chaplain
Junior
Undeclared



Josh Koetsier
Sophomore
Naval Architecture/Marine
Engineering



Joel Ondersma
Athletic Chair
Sophomore
Bio-Med Engineering



Jung-Ho Kim
Pledge Chair and Secretary
Junior
Pre-Med

These pictures outline the difference made by the landscaping.





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