



Phi Alpha Kappa Newsreel

Fall 2017 Issue

A tradition of Phi Alpha Kappa Christian Fraternity
Since 1934

Presidential Greetings

Dearest Alumni and Friends of Phi Alpha Kappa,

Greetings from the Active Chapter! As the last of the leaves are falling and the snow starts to blow here in Ann Arbor, I hope this letter finds you well. At the house we are starting to look towards the end of the semester, with finals and projects on the not too distant horizon.

The autumn has the fraternity off to a great start. We currently have 18 actives and have enjoyed a hearty pledge class of 12. We've been blessed with a great group and it's been a blast to get to know everyone better the past few months. As we look to continue to be a light at Michigan and in Ann Arbor, I ask that if you know of anyone who is looking for a place to live among Christian men at the University of Michigan, tell them about the great fraternity that is Phi Alpha Kappa. We hope to attract Christian men of character to join our brotherhood, and carry on the traditions of the Dutch House for years to come.

I want to thank all of the alumni who were able to stop by for Alumni Day over Homecoming weekend. It was a lot of fun swapping stories of Phi Alpha Kappa lore over food, and also getting to see the football team get a win! We are greatly blessed and appreciative of such supportive alumni. We especially thank the Alumni Board for their continued effort and improvement of the Dutch House and the members inhabiting it. We truly appreciate your prayer, encouragement and guidance.

As a Chapter, we are continuing to seek out deeper relationships with each other and with our Father in Heaven. We ask that you keep Phi Alpha Kappa and its members in your prayers, as we continue to pursue the coming of God's kingdom here on earth.

God bless,

Nate Woznick
Active Chapter President
pres@phialphakappa.com

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Announcements

A Word about our Website

Please, visit our website! This is a great way to stay up to date on the current happenings and fraternity activities. It's also a great tool for recruiting new members. Updates are coming soon.

If you know of any young men who might be interested in Phi Alpha Kappa, please share our website with them!

www.phialphakappa.com

Phi Alpha Kappa's Annual "Smoker" Event

What: As we have done the last few years now, The Smoker will be a casual, open house style event in which past, present and future Phi Alpha Kappa brothers will be able to enjoy food and drinks at Founder's Brewing Company. Spouses and dates are welcome to join us, hors d'oeuvres and soda will be provided for all who attend, and there will be a cash bar. Alumni and Active members alike are encouraged to invite graduating high school seniors and their parents or anyone else who may be interested in membership. Our Vice President, Curt Silverthorn, will give a brief presentation covering some history of Phi Alpha Kappa and our current house atmosphere. If you know any students who may be interested in attending The Smoker this year, please contact Curt at vp@phialphakappa.com.

Where: **Founder's Brewing Company Centennial Room**
235 Grandville Ave SW
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

**Free parking is available in the Founder's lot located directly behind the brewery (to the South). The Centennial Room is accessed by using the elevator in the company store.

When: **Saturday, January 20th, 2018**
Beginning at 2:00 pm until 5:00 pm

Phi Alpha Kappa Pint Glasses

As we have previously mentioned in an earlier Newsreel editions, the active chapter has been looking into ordering custom pint glasses. Our very own Alex Harris has followed through on this venture, and we are making these glasses available to alumni. The glasses will cost \$10 each, plus shipping and handling needed to send the glass to you (if you can make arrangements to pick it up from the house it will be a flat \$10). Pictures can be seen below:



(front)



(back)

Glasses are already being enjoyed by PAK alumni. If you would like to purchase one of your own, there are plenty left.

For anyone interested in purchasing a pint glass, email Nate Woznick at pres@phialphakappa.com

Officer Reports

Vice President Report

I am happy to report that we have been blessed with a large pledge class this year! The pledge class consists of 10 new pledges that joined at that start of this fall as well as 2 lame ducks from last year. All in all, the class is made up of 5 Juniors, 2 Sophomores, and 5 Freshman. Many of them hail from the west side of the state and are a testament to the positive influence our large alumni network there can have. Recruiting efforts thus far have included participation in Festifall, flyers on campus boards, and co-hosting a back to school cookout with SAO, a Christian Sorority here on campus. We are hopeful that we can add a few more lame duck pledges to the pledge class at the beginning of next semester. There are currently 18 actives, and with pledges and boarders the house is full. Something we hope continues in the future. We will be graduating a large class this year, so I encourage you to prompt anyone you know who is attending Michigan or potentially applying to Michigan to check us out! Word of mouth has always been our most effective recruitment tool and our large alumni base is part of that.

Curt Silverthorn, Vice President
vp@phialphakappa.com

Business Manager Report

This is my second year as Business Manager for the house and we remain in a solid financial position. After several years of steady rent, we decided to marginally increase rent this year in response to smaller pledge classes in recent years and to solidify our position for the future. Due to this increase and a large pledge class this year, we are happy to be in the position we are in and pray for continued stability in the future.

Taylor Buist, Business Manager
business@phialphakappa.com

Sergeant-At-Arms Report

This semester has seen the brothers working hard to bring the house back into top shape. We have been busy painting all around the house, updating the pool room, and making quality of life improvements to common areas. The pool table is currently being restored and we once again have a television in the pool room to watch football while we play. We hope to keep up with the fall leaves and make sure the house continues to be a clean, comfortable place to live.

Andrew Dykstra, Sergeant-at-Arms
sergeant@phialphakappa.com

Steward Report

A hungry mouth will always have its place at Phi Alpha Kappa. As always, Amy, the chef, keeps food prepared and delicious for all that wander into the kitchen. Good food abounds, and with it, good conversations as record numbers of members have been at meals. Mealtimes remain one of the integral ways that we as brothers can build relationships. The kitchen remains one of

the favorite rooms in the house for many, as the memories of late night snacks in good company always outweigh any memory of kitchen jobs in favorability. It has been a blessing to make sure that the kitchen is in prime shape for use, because that often entails using it for good things myself.

Joel Harkema, Steward
steward@phialphakappa.com

Social Chairman Report

We started off the year with a cookout with the Christian sorority on campus, Sigma Alpha Omega (SAO). We had a solid turnout and all enjoyed hotdogs, hamburgers, and a good time of fellowship. Next, we made a trip to Wiard's Cider Mill and had some great fall fun. After that, we had our Halloween party where there were many great costumes including Maverick and Goose from Top Gun and Jim and Pam Halpert from The Office. Future events for the semester include a swing dancing night with SAO and a Christmas party.

Josh Fagerlin, Social Chairman
social@phialphakappa.com

Pledge Chairmen Report

This year we have 10 pledges and 2 lame duck pledges! The Phi Alpha Kappa house is alive and well, and the pledges are adapting to life in the house. We are thankful for such a great group of guys. Their industry and good-heartedness makes us proud to guide them through the pledge process. Please keep us in your prayers as we continue to grow stronger together through the rest of this term. As pledge

week is a trying time for all, we will strive to keep our attitudes warm (hopefully the weather will do the same). See you on the other side!

Josh Fagerlin & Zach Felker
Pledge Chairmen

Athletic Chairman Report

The fall has been another great semester for sports both played and watched. Saturdays see the house filled with maize and blue, with a large number of brothers attending home games, featuring frequent appearances from alumni. On the intramural sports side, the PAK men placed 3rd in the championship division of softball, and had fun playing soccer. Currently they are looking to make title runs in flag football and wallyball.

Garrett Prost, Athletic Chairman

Historian Report

History continues to unfold here at the Dutch House, and I am doing what I can to ensure that highlights will be preserved for those who follow. Progress is being made on electronically archiving important data. Less sensitive documents are being backed up at the Bentley Historical Library. Great care is being taken to withhold fraternal secrets from the public archive during this process. Progress is slow going on all fronts, but time is not of real importance.

May the peace of Christ find you all. Go Blue.

Zack Felker, Historian

Beastmaster Report

A golden blur soars across the diag, drawing the attention of all the passersby... What could it possibly be? Why, it is none other than Riley, the wonderful dog of Phi Alpha Kappa! He's here to chase squirrels and bring joy to the house, and it looks like the squirrels are going into hibernation. Overall, Riley continues to be healthy, happy, and eagerly awaiting the snow. His constant affectionate nature makes him a wonderful member of the house.

Joe Sorenson
Beastmaster

Chaplain Report

This year, we have continued to have PAK Packs with Sigma Alpha Omega, the Christian sorority on our campus and they have gone very well. In addition, we have worship nights on a monthly basis and people really enjoy them. Due to lack of demand and increasing involvement in church-affiliated Bible studies, we decided to discontinue the Bible study led by Matt Ackerman.

During summer 2017, several of the PAK members in Grand Rapids had a weekly Bible study and it was successful. One of the current pledges visited that Bible study, and it was a good place for him to get to know people before joining PAK.

One of my hopes for next summer is to possibly have a weekly Bible study for members in Grand Rapids and one for members in Ann Arbor, and possibly for some alumni to get involved to be good mentor figures for students. In addition to spiritual growth, these Bible studies can be a good opportunity for prospective pledges to

get to know PAK members before moving in, so they already have people they know before moving into the house, helping them get plugged in faster.

In addition to the house-related Bible studies and worship nights, I am encouraging members to host Bible study activities here in the house, especially as we have a lot of space that is good for hosting big events. Several members have hosted church-related activities in the house and guests really appreciate the generosity of PAK and the space to conduct their activities.

This has included, but not limited to weekly Thursday night gatherings that bring in 30-40 people from New Life Church, as well as a dinner/game night that brought in 20 people from Harvest Mission Community Church's international student ministry. Hosting church and Christian organization events is a good way to spread word about our house throughout the Christian community in the University of Michigan and Ann Arbor.

As long as I lived in PAK, one of my dreams was to see it become a hub of Christian activity at this university, and live up to the "A Light For Christ" painting which hangs on our Great Room wall by the time I graduate. I am extremely happy and thankful to God that this has come true. However, we as a house need a lot of prayers, as does every individual member of PAK, especially those of us who are officers, and thank you in advance for praying for us!

Jacob Molewyk
Chaplain



"A Light for Christ" Painting as mentioned in the Chaplain Report

Charity Chairman Report

I recently also assumed the position of Charity Chair, as there has been no other interest in the position, and plan to look up potential community service opportunities for people in the house to get involved with over the next month.

Jacob Molewyk
Charity Chairman

Meet the Pledges

Big brothers write these articles about their little brothers.

Daniel Bloink by Garrett Prost

Daniel is a Junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering, and hails from Flint, Michigan where he graduated from Powers Catholic High School. He spent his first two years of college at the University of Michigan Flint, before transferring to Ann Arbor. This past summer, Daniel interned for General Motors. Aside from academics, Daniel is heavily involved with Saint Mary's Church, singing in the worship band. Some of his hobbies include singing, piano, swing dancing, and spending time with friends and family. Daniel has made a great impact in his time with the house, and is one of the most genuine guys I know to have a great conversation with.



Kirk Dickson by Andrew Dykstra

Kirk Dickson grew up in the Grand Rapids area where he attended Rockford High School. He earned his associates degree at Grand Rapids Community College and at the University of Michigan he is continuing his studies, majoring in actuarial science. Kirk enjoys running, lifting, and hanging out in the exec double with his pledge brothers. Kirk says his favorite thing about the house so far is the community, and we think Kirk makes a great addition to it.



Jared Dirksen by Joe Tenbroek

Jared Dirksen is currently a freshman in the College of Engineering at the University of Michigan, who also recently graduated from Kalamazoo Christian High School. He has a wide variety of hobbies, such as playing ping pong, reading fantasy books like Game of Thrones, watching tennis and baseball, and many more. If he's not doing those, you can most likely find him either relaxing in the house or watching the latest episode of Rick and Morty with other PAK members. He aspires to have a career in automotive engineering, so perhaps we have another mechanical engineer in our midst. Overall, Jared is a great addition to the house and we all hope to get to know him more over the school year.

David Higuera by Lucas Barnes

David is a sophomore in the ever-popular college of Mechanical Engineering and comes from the west side of the state along with many of the rest of us. Northpointe Christian to be exact. Best known for his killer smile and classy style, you'll often find David hanging with the coolest students out there in the ME 250 machine shop working on designing and manufacturing a remote controlled vehicle for his favorite class. David is also known for cooking an amazing breakfast every morning consisting of 5 eggs over easy, toast, and a hearty glass of orange juice. A decorated athlete, David was a sprinter, thrower, and offensive lineman back in the glory days, and now finds himself locked in a heated battle for QB1 of the Phi Alpha Kappa intramural flag football team where he has acquitted himself very well so far this season. As he continues to learn the schemes, we wouldn't be shocked at all if coach Jim Harbaugh himself caught word of his heroics and stopped by one of the games to recruit David to save Michigan's season. The list of David's accomplishments continues to grow, and although he took a narrow loss in the house ping-pong tournament, he is no doubt one of the finest table tennis competitors in the land, which is a testament to his superior hand-eye coordination. As an organization we are blessed to have this high character man join with us, and look forward to seeing his many contributions to the fraternity, the University, and the world in the next 3 years and beyond.



Maccoy Kauffman by Joel Harkema

Maccoy Kauffman is now a Sophomore residing in the house of Phi Alpha Kappa. His Freshman academic efforts got him into the Ross School of Business, which I suppose is an alright place to study if you aren't in Engineering. Maccoy hails from Rockford, Michigan. He is a student manager at the East Quad Dining Hall, where puts in hard work and most notably brings home fresh bagels for the house. Maccoy will talk to just about anybody about just about anything, ranging in topics from the latest great meme to surface to a new strategy on how to talk to girls. His knowledge and good sense are certainly a valuable addition to the house.

Peter Lin by Nate Woznick

Peter Lin is a Junior pledge here in the PAK house. A graduate of Northpointe Christian, Peter spent two years taking class at GRCC before taking his talents to the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. Peter was born Northern Mariana Island near Guam and raised in FuQing, China, before he came to Grand Rapids as an exchange student. The house (and country) is blessed to have such a man of character and conviction. These days, he is typically found hitting the books in the Mechanical Engineering department, tearing into the competition on the ping-pong table, and impressing the ladies with feats of strength with his partner in flex and roommate, David. Peter's sense of humor, maturity, and genuine character excites the PAK actives as he continues

to invest into the organization.

Nick McKay by Joe Sorensen

One of our new pledges this year is Nick McKay. Continuing a proud tradition, Nick has come to the U of M from Grand Rapids. Continuing yet another tradition, Nick is here to study Computer Science. He is currently quite interested in the recent developments in autonomous vehicles, is studying these developments while at the University, and is planning to use his studies to join that work himself. Aside from his academic interests, Nick likes to play board and video games in his free time, often bringing in other members of the fraternity as well. He's even done work into designing games himself. With all of this, Nick looks to be a fantastic addition to Phi Alpha Kappa.

**Phillip Polkowski by Dan Botting**

It took a year after high school, but Phillip Polkowski (19) has landed at what could be his home for the next 7-8 years. After spending his first year of college at Ferris State, Phillip is now pursuing a pre-med degree here at U of M with the hopes of staying in town for medical school where he plans to train to be an orthopedic surgeon. Like me, Phillip is a huge Michigan football and basketball fan, which fits perfectly with his goal of going into sports medicine. So far this year we've been able to bond over wings and sports while venting our frustration for Michigan's offensive performance. Unsurprisingly given his love of watching sports, Phillip also likes to stay active and will be an integral part of many intramural teams in the coming year. I look forward to getting to know him more, and am proud to be Phillip's first brother as he's been "stuck" with only an older and younger sister up til now.

Christian Rodenhouse by Curt Silverthorn

Christian Rodenhouse comes to us from Grand Rapids Christian High School. He is a freshman here at the University of Michigan studying nursing. Christian is the oldest of three siblings. Growing up, Christian spent much of his time in the great outdoors. He particularly enjoys, whitetail hunting, fly fishing, kayaking, and camping. He especially enjoys sharing these experiences with his family and friends. He has been a fortunate hunter, bagging an 8-point and a 6-point buck since he started hunting in the 6th grade. He is now very involved here at Michigan spending time with the school of nursing, the Dutch house, and participating in YoungLife.



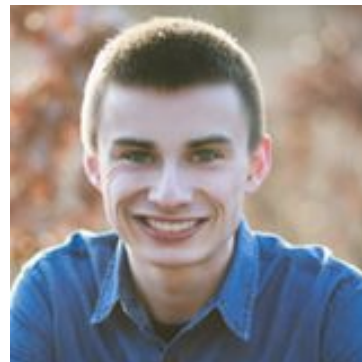
Matthew Shannon by Jacob Molewyk



Matthew Shannon was born in Pensacola, Florida, and after a couple moves, moved to West Michigan at the age of three. Growing up, he was involved in the Royal Rangers from kindergarten to 12th grade. He plays the viola and is involved with the Caledonia String Players. In his free time, Matthew enjoys going to concerts, playing Super Smash Bros, hiking, and hanging out with friends. Now, Matthew is a freshman and is studying engineering, though he is undecided on what aspect of engineering to pursue. On campus, he is currently involved with New Life Church, a hyperloop project team, and a research team investigation crystal calibration in an x-ray lab. During his time in the house, he hopes to grow his relationship with Christ, and learn more about his faith through interactions with other people in the house. He is also possibly interested in becoming House Historian.

Adam Werkema by Yan Wen Wang

Adam came from Grand Rapids, and is currently a freshman studying meteorology in the College of Engineering. He has a unique hobby of studying maps and has an overall knowledge of all the major roads in Michigan. Other than that he enjoys playing board games and running. He plans on challenging himself in a marathon in the near future. We are really grateful to have Adam joining us and are looking forward to know him more as the year goes on.

**Nick Youngs by Taylor Buist**

Nick is a freshman in the College of Engineering studying Mechanical Engineering. He hails from Byron Center, Michigan, and attended South Christian High School, where he played football after school and Yu-Gi-Oh at lunch. Nick enjoys taking long walks late at night to who-knows-where, but somehow always ends up in his bed by morning. In addition to restoring old record players and making fun of Christian in the group chat, Nick can often be found listening to Frank Sinatra and other artists from the golden age of music. Though he's not the most talented ping-pong player in the house, Nick is in the top 20 for effort exerted, and everyone appreciates that enthusiasm. We're happy to have Nick around for his next few years at UM.



The Active Members



Zack Felker
Historian, Pledge Chairmen
Senior
Physics, Astronomy



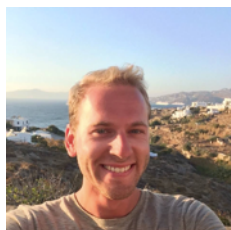
Lucas Barnes
Senior
Mechanical Engineering



Nate Woznick
President
Senior
Mechanical Engineering



Daniel Botting
Master's Student
Public Policy



Andrew Dykstra
Senior
Sergeant
Environmental Engineering



Joel Harkema
Steward
Junior
Civil Engineering



Joe TenBroek
Senior
Mechanical Engineering



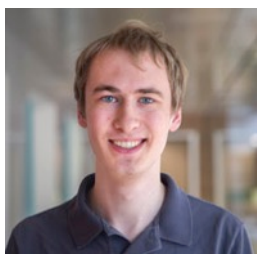
Jacob Molewyk
Chaplain, Charity Chair
Senior
Civil Engineering



Alari Maricq
Senior
Computer Science



Will Perry
Junior
Aerospace Engineering



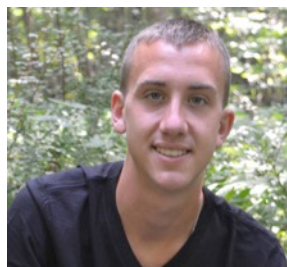
Joe Sorenson
Beastmaster
Master's Student
Computer Science



Josh Fagerlin
Social Chair, Pledge Chair
Sophomore
Aerospace Engineering



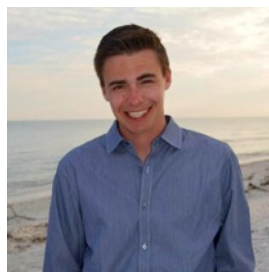
Daniel Harris
Junior
Microbiology



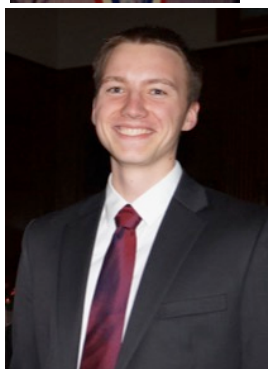
Curt Silverthorn
Vice President
Senior
Computer Science



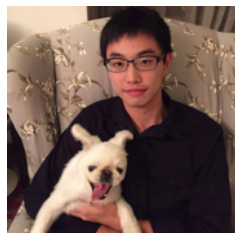
Daniel Ridderbos
Senior
Civil Engineering



Garrett Prost
Secretary, Athletic Chair,
Webmaster
Senior
Industrial and Operations
Engineering



Taylor Buist
Business Manager
Senior
Computer Science



Joseph Wang
Sophomore
Pre-Med

The Pledges



Kirk Dickson
Junior
Actuarial Science



Daniel Bloink
Junior
Mechanical Engineering



Jared Dirksen
Freshman
Undeclared



David Higuera
Junior
Mechanical Engineering



Peter Lin
Junior
Mechanical Engineer



Christian Rodenhouse
Freshman
School of Nursing



Maccy Kauffman
Sophomore
Ross School of Business



Matthew Shannon
Freshman
Undecided



Adam Werkema
Freshman
Meteorology



Nick Youngs
Freshman
Mechanical Engineering



Nick McKay
Junior
Computer Science



Phillip Polkowski
Sophomore
Pre-Med