



THE HOUSE ON THE HILL

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALPHA UPSILON CHAPTER OF KAPPA ALPHA ORDER AT OLE MISS - WINTER 2016

Alpha Upsilon Welcomes 76 New Brothers!

Congratulations to our Rush Chairs, **William Mayo '14** of Oxford, MS, **Wade Meena '14** of Jackson, MS, **Jeffrey Holt '14** of Biloxi, MS and **Franklin Garstin '14** of Nashville, TN, for another incredibly successful recruitment! Please join us in welcoming the Fall 2015 Pledge Class!



John Adams
Yazoo City, MS

Clay Coker
Jackson, MS

Mack Hubbell
Lake Oswego, OR

Oliver Marshall
Atlanta, GA

Joel Ray
Starkville, MS

Kort Stutz
Charleston, SC

Ben Allen
Houston, TX

Wesley Daughdrill
Prentiss, MS

Jonah Ivey
Powder Springs, GA

Kent McNamara
Jackson, MS

Stone Reeves
Rayville, LA

Bryan Sumner
Jackson, MS

Youssef Awad
Savannah, GA

Will Driscoll
Lexington, VA

Joe Johnson
Atlanta, GA

Will Miller
Athens, GA

William Richardson
Nashville, TN

Emmit Thames
Gulfport, MS

Parks Ball
Nashville, TN

Avery Duncan
Philadelphia, MS

Payton Karno
Bay St. Louis, MS

Will Miller
Fairfax Station, VA

Sage Riggs
Charlotte, NC

Gray Threadgill
Madison, MS

Nathan Bell
Albany, GA

Jonathan Ellis
Atlanta, GA

Kell Kelleher
Metairie, LA

Harrison Moore
Jackson, MS

Mixon Robb
Wichita Falls, TX

Tucker Tims
Grenada, MS

Blake Brennan
Jackson, MS

Jimmy Fildes
Detroit, MI

David Kilgore
Memphis, TN

Noel Morgan
Tupelo, MS

Trevor Rogers
Westlake, TX

Payton Tucker
Corinth, MS

Cason Caldwell
Birmingham, AL

Cam Glaeser
Grand Rapids, MI

Braxton Kinney
Brentwood, TN

Martin Padiak
Baton Rouge, LA

Wesley Rule
Jackson, MS

Bryan Turner
Belzoni, MS

Nolan Casey
Albany, GA

Justin Hall
Memphis, TN

Clayton Kirkland
Madison, MS

William Peaster
Yazoo City, MS

Spencer Rushing
Batesville, MS

Michael Drew Turner
Oxford, MS

Grant Chambliss
Montgomery, AL

George Hart
Monroe, GA

Evan Langham
Baton Rouge, LA

Tatum Peters
Shreveport, LA

Myles Seiple
Flower Mound, TX

Maddy Vick
Baton Rouge, LA

Bowen Clegg
Clarksdale, MS

Sam Hart
Flower Mound, TX

Parker Langham
Peachtree City, GA

Drew Phillips
Oxford, MS

Ben Shaffett
Clarksdale, MS

Joey Walden
Oxford, MS

Caldwell Clegg
Clarksdale, MS

Anderson Helton
Jackson, MS

Jackson Maddox
Houston, TX

Ross Pounders
Atlanta, GA

Anderson Smith
Birmingham, AL

Reid Watson
Jackson, MS

Brooks Coker
Yazoo City, MS

Cole Hernandez
Tampa, FL

Robert Mahaffey
Springfield, MO

Gore Pulliam
Greenville, MS

John Harold Smith
Philadelphia, MS

Pat Williams
Montgomery, AL

Case Hollenbeck
San Antonio, TX

Alex Mangialardi
Sbelby, MS

Slade Rand
New Orleans, LA

Hunter Story
Memphis, TN

Alpha Upsilon Holds Rose Ball in New Orleans

This spring, Alpha Upsilon held its annual Rose Ball Weekend in New Orleans, Louisiana. The chapter permanently rebranded their annual formal to distance themselves from the negative trappings associated with the Old South period, but maintained the worthy Southern traditions of chivalry, respect for God, period dress and festivities. "We felt rebranding our formal was an important step to ensure Alpha Upsilon does not receive any negative attention and to ensure our chapter's public relations," explained **Saxon Nelson '13**, newly elected Number 1 for 2016. "We decided to honor another Kappa Alpha tradition with our formal, and rechristened the event "Rose Ball" in honor of the crimson rose."

Brothers delivered the traditional scroll invitations, accompanied by a crimson

rose, to their dates' respective sorority houses. The chapter split into groups and delivered the Rose Ball invitations during dinner. One brother read out the invitation and the group called out the names of their dates in front of the rest of their chapter.

"Our dates absolutely loved the process and many told us it made them proud to be asked by a Kappa Alpha rather than a member of just another fraternity," Brother Nelson said.

On Thursday, brothers escorted their dates to the KA House for a catered dinner and later proceeded to the Oxford Square. On Friday, beginning at noon, brothers and their dates boarded buses and headed off to New Orleans for a weekend of boots, hoop skirts and swing dancing. **Justin Caballero '13**, the chapter's Social Chair, reserved a hotel on Royal Street, right in the heart of the city. The brothers and their dates



Alpha Upsilon brothers and their dates gather outside St. Joseph Plantation in New Orleans for the 2015 Rose Ball.

spent Friday night and Saturday morning exploring everything New Orleans has to offer, including breakfast at the famous Café Du Monde and walking through the French Quarter.

"There was enough free time in our schedule for everyone to have a chance to soak up the history and ambiance that makes New Orleans such a fascinating destination," Nelson said. "We had plenty of first-timers who scoped out all the major sites with veteran visitors acting as their tour guides."

Saturday evening, everyone donned their tuxedos and hoop dresses and made their way to St. Joseph Plantation. Beneath a large tent in the manor's backyard, brothers enjoyed live music, dinner and dancing. Despite the muddy grounds, the brothers and their dates had a great night of fellowship and relaxation. Even as the hems of their dresses became darker and darker with mud, the ladies showed no sign of regret. The annual Kappa Alpha Rose Ball was a roaring success and set the bar for all future formals.

2015 Kappa Alpha Rose Named at Rose Ball

Alpha Upsilon names a Kappa Alpha Rose each year to honor the woman on campus who the chapter feels best represents the Order and its values. This year, the brothers selected Mary Carter Thornton as the 2015 Kappa Alpha Rose. Brother **Justin Caballero '13** presented the chapter with their new Rose at the Rose Ball in April of 2015. Everyone throughout Alpha Upsilon likes and respects Mary Carter, or as most know her, MC. She is a loyal supporter of the Order and currently dates Brother **Jack Shannon '13**.



Alpha Upsilon named Mary Carter Thornton Kappa Alpha Rose at this year's spring formal.



Congratulations to these five AY men on their induction into the Omicron Delta Kappa honor society! Pictured (L to R) with outgoing ODK President Rob Barber in center is Miller Richmond '14, Cal Wilkerson '13, Rod Bridges '13 and Hollis Burrow '14.



The 2015 pledge class gathers together at the main entrance to Camp Alpine at the annual pledge retreat before they embark on a weekend of brotherhood bonding and team building exercises including a high and low ropes course.

Chapter Officers

Number I
Saxon Nelson '13
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Number V
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Number VI
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Number VII
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Number VIII
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Number IX
Chandler Telfer '15
crtelfer@go.olemiss.edu



Matthew Oellerich '13
Number I - 2015

A Letter from the Outgoing Number I

This past fall, the men of Alpha Upsilon worked hard to strengthen our chapter and grow our brotherhood. We eagerly put ideas into place and invested in the betterment of Kappa Alpha Order, and our chapter thrived because of our investments. As last year's Number I, I want to thank all of you for your support and involvement in Alpha Upsilon. Without the foundation set by the brothers who came before us, we would not be where we are today.

The chapter entered fall semester with the second highest GPA among all fraternities on campus. While we were proud of this ranking, we were not satisfied and our goal was to achieve a chapter GPA of 3.0 by the end of the fall semester. We are awaiting the results of our final exams and projects, eager to see if we met this goal.

We excelled not only in academics but in student leadership as well. Alpha Upsilon brothers hold leadership positions in ten organizations on campus. We also have a number of brothers who are members of prestigious organizations such as Mortar Board and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. These men showcase the leadership skills and dedication to excellence Alpha Upsilon strives to instill in all brothers.

Alpha Upsilon is currently one of the largest fraternities on campus with 271 active brothers, and the largest KA chapter in the nation. These men are doing incredible things on and off campus. 2015 was a fantastic year to serve our great brotherhood. I am excited to see what is in store for this year as we continue a strong tradition of excellence within the fraternity and on our campus. God Bless.

Fraternally,
Matthew Oellerich, '13
Number I – 2015



Congratulations to **Jackson Gunn '13** for receiving the *Irby Turner III Scholarship*, *Hugh Comer Scholarship* and *Robert W. Woodruff Scholarship* for the 2015 - 2016 school year!

Alpha Up 4th Annual Kappa Alpha Classic Golf Tournament

Alumni, active brothers, friends and family convened April 24 - 25 for Parents Weekend and the Fourth Annual Kappa Alpha Classic Golf Tournament. The weekend was the perfect opportunity for everyone to come together and give back to the community, and Alpha Upsilon did just that.

On Friday, April 24, the brothers held a cocktail party at the KA Mansion to give brothers and their families a chance to reconnect and relax. The Alpha Upsilon Mother's Club hosted a silent auction at the party to raise money for the Kelly, Kelly & Wilbanks Scholarship Fund, established in 2012 to honor the lives of **Sam Kelly '12**, **Mason Wilbanks '12** and **Walker Kelly '12**, who died in a tragic car accident in October 2011. Each year, the chapter awards one of its members a \$5,000 scholarship from the scholarship fund. Thanks to the generosity of alumni and parents, the silent auction raised \$60,000 for the scholarship fund.

On Saturday morning, over 100 brothers and alumni met at the Mallard Pointe Golf Course in Sardis, Mississippi, for the Fourth Annual Kappa Alpha Classic to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA).

"The golf tournament is always such a fun event, and it's an excellent chance for some friendly competition," says **Cole Putman '14**, the acting Philanthropy Chairman who coordinated the event. "**Noah West '13**, **Barker Howard**, **Hayes Riser '13** and **Matthew Oellerich '13** won the tournament this year, and I know there are plenty of brothers who are looking forward to a rematch this April."

This year, Alpha Upsilon raised \$10,000 for the MDA thanks to the generosity of parents and alumni who joined the tournament. The money raised will help fund



L to R: House Mom Connie Bohlke, Cal Wilkerson '13 and Matthew Oellerich '13 present MDA Fundraising Coordinator Cecily Barker with a \$10,000 check.

medical research into cures for muscular dystrophy and other diseases of the nervous and muscular systems. The chapter looks forward to next year's tournament and continuing to support the MDA as they search for a cure.



A group of AY men attends KA Court of Honor 2015. **Seated Inductees (L to R):** Scott Coopwood '82, Joe Roberts '76, Ed Barnett '73, Bill Ray '75. **Standing (L to R):** Doug McKinnon '72, Ron Applewhite '74, Swan Yerger '53, Wirt Yerger '49, Lee Hawkins '75, Carey Johnston '75, Darden North '75, Dick Wilson '58, Bill Harper '61, Stan Viner '76, Gray Wiggers '68, John McCarthy '65, Walter Denny '54, Jon Turner '75 and David Krouse '85.



KAs from the 1980's convene at a recent Ole Miss football game. **Bottom Row (L to R):** Buddy Dearman '83, Ricky Hentz '81, Nancy Donosky, Don Kilgore '82, Lamar Alexander '85. **Second Row (L to R):** Scott Coopwood '82, Wesla Sullivan Leech, David Krouse '85, Ernie Mellor '82, Marty Ferguson '84, Mike Quinn '83, Art Spratlin '88 (House Corp. President), Win Rawson '85, Randy Ivy '82, John Benard Smith '85, William Douglas '80, Derek Henderson '78, Mike Brennan '83, Allen Williams '83, Jimmy Turner '83, Tim Climer '83, Art Huggins '83. **Third Row (L to R):** Mike Carr '01, John Thomas '86, Glenn Cofield '80, Spencer Turner '84, John Rodgers Brashier '82, William Gage '84, David Basinger '83, Cal Mayo '83, Curtis Gentry '84, David Wallace '85, John Mayo '94 and Hal Nielson, an SAE who photo-bombed the group!



(L to R) Miles Magness '13, Texas Province Commander David Martineau '88 and Jack Pickering '13 attend the KA Convention in Lexington, VA.



KA alumni and legacy fathers gather at the 2015 Initiation Banquet celebration. (L to R) Ford Franklin '12, Matthew Oellerich '13, Jon Turner '75, Stan Viner '76, Lee Paris '76, Dick Wilson '58, Mike Kerce '81, Stacy Davidson '79, Shelby Hall '12, Scott Coopwood '82 and Mike Briggs

House Corporation Officers

President
Arthur Spratlin '85
Jackson, MS

Vice President
Gary "Lee" Hawkins '75
Madison, MS

Treasurer
John Eric Hester '01
Jackson, MS

Secretary
McLaslin "Cass" Dodgen '04
Oxford, MS

Alumni Advisory Committee

Chapter Advisor and Chairman
Trey Horne '02
Oxford, MS

Committee Members
O'Keefe Graham '02
Oxford, MS

John McCarthy '62
Oxford, MS

Irwin Province Officers

Province Commander
Jason Barrett '98
Starkville, MS

Deputy Province Commanders
Will Bradham '98
Cleveland, MS

Jon Turner '75
Jackson, MS

Parents' Club Officers

Helen Phillips
Oxford, MS

Alyce Krouse
Oxford, MS

KA Manor Renovations and Improvements

The KA Manor underwent multiple house updates over the past year to include complete renovations of The Robert E. Lee Room. Housemother, Connie Bohlke, oversaw the renovation and the once rarely used Lee room is now an officer and executive board member "get-away."

This summer, the chapter incorporated a stage into the existing brick wall in the back of the house to cut down on rental costs when artists perform there for various events. This fall, thirty-two more brothers moved into the House on the Hill and were the first to enjoy the completed projects.

AY Brothers Receive Service Awards at KA 150th Sesquicentennial Anniversary Ceremony



On August 22, 2015, Brother **Jon Turner '75**, of Jackson, received a Distinguished Service Award in recognition of career achievement and unwavering commitment to the Order. After serving as Alpha Upsilon's Number

II and Number VI during his undergraduate career, Brother Turner continued investing his time and energy in AY as an alumnus, going beyond the call of duty.

Kappa Alpha's national organization awarded Jon the "Knight Commander's Accolade" in 2001 in recognition of his efforts in leading the restoration and re-chartering of Alpha Upsilon, and the active chapter honored him as "Alumnus of the Year" in 2003. Brother Turner also served as co-chair for the 2004 capital campaign, served on the Alumni Advisory Committee for ten years and received an induction into the Irwin Province Court of Honor. Currently, Jon serves as a Deputy Province Commander for Irwin Province.



Brother **Dick Wilson '58** received the Most Significant Contribution to Irwin Province Since its Creation in 1951 Award. While in college, Dick served as President of the Associated Student Body at Ole Miss and

received an induction into the Ole Miss Student Hall of Fame in 1962. While attending Ole Miss, Dick began a lifetime of devotion and contributions to the Kappa Alpha

Order. After serving as a chapter officer, undergraduates of the Irwin Province chapters elected him Province Commander, a position he served from 1973 to 1982.

Dick served as Preceptor of the Emmett Lee Irwin Province Court of Honor for 35 years from 1971 to 2006. He previously served on the Alumni Advisory Committee for AY and as the chairman for many years. Dick has been involved with initiation and ritual instruction at some point with all of the Irwin Province chapters as well as at national model initiations. Brother Wilson served a term on the Board of Trustees of the Kappa Alpha Order Educational Foundation. Knight Commander Jack R. Taylor bestowed the Knight Commander's Accolade on Dick in 1984, the highest individual honor bestowed upon an alumnus for service, leadership and dedication to the Order. No one person impacted Irwin Province more than Brother Dick Wilson!

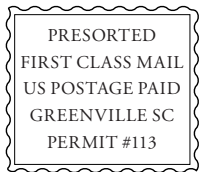
Knight Commander Accolades received recognition through the years including these AY alumni: **Jon C. Turner '75**, **James B. Campbell '77**, **Tom B. Scott '77**, **Dick Wilson '84**, **Douglas C. Stone '90**, **Lawrence W. Gysin '91** and **William E. "Bill" Garner '92**. Over the past 41 years, twelve Knight Commanders awarded only 217 of these honors nationwide.

Also recognized at the Sesquicentennial Celebration for their years of dedicated service were former Province Commanders and AY alumni **John L. Gainey, Jr. '54** (1951-54), **Douglas C. Stone '41** (1954-65), **Dick Wilson '58** (1973-82) and **David W. Dogan '74** (1995-2005).



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 Columbus, GA 31902

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Initiation Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____



THE HOUSE ON THE HILL

WINTER 2016

Alumni in the News

Do you know of special distinctions, honors, etc.? Contact **Jeffrey Holt '14** at jcbolt2@go.olemiss.edu for recognition of yourself or a fellow KA in the next newsletter.

Alpha Upsilon Cultivates Leaders on Campus

Alpha Upsilon is proud to have strong leaders representing the chapter and the Order on campus! These men honed their leadership skills while serving the Order and now represent KA on campus through executive positions in ten different groups and membership in prestigious organizations such as Mortar Board and the Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. These men define AY's excellence in student leadership:



Rod Bridges '13
ASB President



Nick Vonder Haar '12
President of the Student Alumni Council



Joseph Rebentisch '13
President of Patterson School of Accountancy



Josh Daniels '13
Vice President of the Patterson School of Accountancy



Jack Pickering '13
President of the School of Business Administration



Hugh Warren '13
President of the Engineering School



Michael Holman '14
Student Director of the Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College



Michael Resha '13
ROTC Battalion Commander



Loden Snell '15
Omicron Delta Kappa's "Freshman of the Year"

