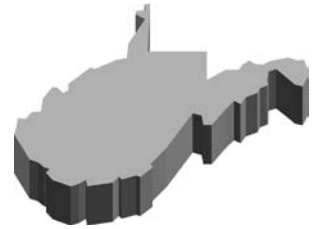




JANUARY 2007

Mountaineer Pike

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE ALPHA THETA CHAPTER OF PI KAPPA ALPHA AT WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY



Henry "Hank" Wagner '61 Makes \$50,000 Challenge Gift

Inspired by the success of the recently launched capital campaign to purchase and renovate the chapter house, **Henry "Hank" Wagner '61** recently made a \$50,000 challenge gift to support the current effort. Wagner is making the \$50,000 gift with a condition that at least four other alumni brothers match his commitment, and that an area in the renovated house be dedicated to those who have served Alpha Theta as SMC.

"During my college years, Pi Kappa Alpha put me on the right path," said Wagner. "Now, 46 years later, I think

it's time to give back to ensure future generations of young men benefit from these same experiences."

Wagner continued, "A capital fundraising campaign of this magnitude takes leadership. We need alumni to come forward and support this project. I want to encourage others to step up and make similar leadership gifts, so that we can be sure Pikes have the very best house and are the very best fraternity at WVU."

Wagner recently retired after serving 25 years as chief executive officer of

Jewish Hospital HealthCare Services, the parent company of a regional health care network providing services in over 40 locations in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. After graduating from West Virginia University in 1964, he went on to earn a Master of Hospital Administration degree from Duke University.



Henry "Hank" Wagner

In reflecting on this generous gift, national campaign co-chairman **Doug Ladish '62** commented, "We can't thank Hank enough for his willingness to invest his time and resources in this campaign. We'll be working very hard over the next few weeks to obtain commitments from others who are willing to match Hank's gift and motivate others to support this important project."



Jeremy Hatcher and Lisa Costello are the 2006 Mr. and Ms. Mountaineer.

Pike Named 2006 Mr. Mountaineer

Jeremy Hatcher an environmental protection major from Ripley, was named 2006 Mr. Mountaineer at the November 11, 2006, football game against Cincinnati. Hatcher served as a chapter officer and its IFC representative. He also served as

executive director of the Mountaineer Maniacs. The Mr. Mountaineer title is awarded to the WVU student who epitomizes the gold and blue spirit of a true WVU Mountaineer through outstanding campus leadership, community service and scholarship.

Founder's Day 2007

Founder's Day is tentatively scheduled for March 3, 2007, at a location to be determined. Alumni co-chairmen **Mike Shook '77** and **Gary Duryea '71** are already working on the event. For all of the latest information, be sure to visit <http://www.wvupikes.com>.

Alumni Advisory Board Being Formed

Brothers **Mack Gardner '65** and **John "Greek" Allevato '62** have agreed to establish a new Alumni Advisory Board (AAB). The goal of the AAB's near-term efforts will focus on developing and recommending AAB roles and support activities. The AAB will also work to develop procedures and guidelines for the house and chapter management functions based on existing PiKA published procedures and roles supported by WVU policies where appropriate. Alumni from recent years, especially those who have served as chapter officers, are invited to volunteer to support the effort. If you would like to serve on the Alumni Advisory Board, please send a note by February 15, 2007, to

mackgardner@aol.com
and
jtall@adelphia.net

letting them know that you are willing to contribute your thoughts and ideas.

Alpha Theta Excellence

By: Doug Ladish, President, Alpha Theta Alumni Association

The Campaign for Alpha Theta is just one aspect of a broader initiative started in 1999 by a small group of Pikes who gathered for a reunion in Morgantown.

We started with a simple vision... return Alpha Theta to the WVU campus and protect the PiKA asset located at 117 Belmar Avenue. Since that time, we've refined our vision: ***Alpha Theta Chapter is the model of fraternity excellence on the WVU Campus and within Pike International.***

To achieve that vision, a strategy was needed... complete with longer-term objectives and annual goals. We wrote our first documented strategy, objectives and goals in 2002. We updated them in 2004 and again in early 2006. We've made substantial progress on many of the longer-term objectives that we set, and it's time for us to again review and update our strategy, objectives and goals.

This is a call for input and participation from all Alpha Theta initiates... both Alumni and Active Chapter members. We need diversity of insight to ensure the needs of all the key stakeholders are recognized and addressed. Please contact **Doug Ladish '62** (doug.ladish@yahoo.com, 919-523-0908 cell) if you would like more information on our broader plan or would like to participate in the review and update of our strategic plan to achieve our vision:

Alpha Theta Chapter is the model of fraternity excellence on the WVU Campus and within Pike International.



Focus On: Pi Kappa Alpha International

Nationally, Pike is a leader among all national fraternities. Pi Kappa Alpha boasts 201 chapters, 119 alumni associations and more than 220,000 initiates. Pi Kappa Alpha has maintained the largest average chapter size of any inter/national fraternity for most of the last 20 years.

Pi Kappa Alpha also provides a wealth of educational and leadership conferences, and Alpha Theta actives take full advantage of all of them.

Their signature program, Pike University, is dedicated to providing members of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity with superior events and programming focused on personal development and leadership training. Launched in August 2003, Pike University has impacted the lives of more than 3,600 undergraduates since its inception. Events sponsored by Pike University address the educational needs of all members, from pledges and new members to chapter officers to our dedicated alumni volunteers through various conferences and programs including area Leadership Summits, the Chapter Executives Conference, the Volunteer Forum, The Academy and the International Convention. Alpha Theta alumni attendees at recent housing forums have included **John Allevato '62**, **Dan Brennan '65**, **Phil Iapalucci '83**, **Doug Ladish '62** and **Jim Laughlin '60**.

In addition, Pi Kappa Alpha staff members conduct over 150 three-day consulting visits and more than 30 three-day recruitment visits to chapters across the country. Alpha Theta's own **Brendan Ruppert '00** recently completed a one-year assignment on the headquarters staff as a Chapter Consultant helping facilitate many of these programs throughout the Carolinas Region.

The Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity is truly making the fraternity experience more positive for thousands of undergraduates across the United States, and Alpha Theta is benefiting from all of them.

Visit <http://www.wvupikes.com>

Have you visited the Pike website recently? It is full of useful alumni information. Visit the site to:

- Update your mailing address and contact information
- Search for an old friend
- Download and read past newsletters
- Post newsworthy information about yourself to share with other alumni
- Learn more about the capital campaign

Capital Campaign Approaches Half-Way Point

Nearly half of the \$550,000 needed to purchase the house on Pike's Peek has already been raised thanks to the generosity of 69 alumni and undergraduate brothers. As of January 15, 2007, just over five percent of all living Alpha Theta alumni have pledged \$256,780. To see a list of these generous alumni, visit <http://www.wvupikes.com>.

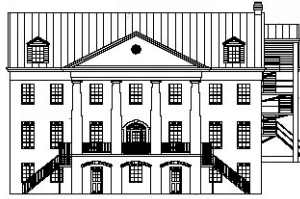
Most pledges were made payable over a five-year period, but Alpha Theta has already collected more than \$65,000 in cash and enjoys a 99% collection rate.

"Our capital campaign will set the standard for Alpha Theta's future," said national campaign co-chairman **Joe Feola '79**. "Home ownership and financial independence will allow us to renovate the Pike house so that it is a model fraternity facility."

The alumni house corporation has already signed an option to purchase the house from the International Fraternity within five years at a cost of \$550,000 - the value indicated by an independent appraisal in 2004. The \$550,000 figure is also approximately equal to the cost of recent renovations, improvements and back payments owed. Commercial property values in Morgantown today indicate a facility the size of the Pike house and the property it sits on is worth nearly \$2.7 million.

"For the last few months, we've been working behind the scenes," explained Feola. "Our volunteer committee has been reaching out to their old friends asking them to participate in this campaign. If you have not yet been called but want to participate, let me know. If you've received a call, please return the call and participate to the extent you can."

Donors can make contributions according to a schedule that meets each individual donor's



The Pike House will undergo exterior and interior renovations after Alpha Theta purchases it. This is a conceptual design of the changes contemplated for the front of the house.

needs up to a five-year period. Alumni and friends can make payments by cash, check, credit card or using appreciated securities.

"If we join together, as brothers, to raise and collect the money we need, our alumni house corporation can take sole ownership of our chapter's home free of debt," said national campaign co-chairmen **Doug Ladish '62**. He continued, "Purchasing the property with as little debt as possible will provide us with the flexibility we need to make some much-needed improvements to the physical structure. But there is more than physical change required. While the funds are being raised and collected, a volunteer group of alumni will develop a long-term operational plan for our house that will specify management and reporting procedures, establish occupancy principles and guidelines, and coordinate necessary activities to provide effective planning and supervised implementation of renovation activities."

To learn more about the campaign or to participate, contact either Joe or Doug at:

Joe Feola '79
joseph.feola@morganstanley.com
(412) 434-8519

Doug Ladish '62
doug.ladish@yahoo.com
(919) 523-0908

Brother to Brother

Andrew Riley Barrett '58 posted the following message on the website: "I am thrilled that a lot of our guys through modern technology can easily keep in touch and seem to want to do so. I am in my 41st year of residential real estate in a suburb of Nashville, Tennessee. This work has been good to me, and at 1.5 years from age 70, I will keep on until I drop. I am looking at possibly another five years but at a less stressful pace. My wife of 36 years, Marcella, is now retired from nursing. We have three children and one grandson 9 months old in Durham, North Carolina. I am hopeful the alums can band together to restore and improve the house as I found the brotherhood and the relationships to be profitable to my maturing. A

lot of what we did was nonsense. Remember the wake for the Ivan Bush alligator that died, and the ambush by the town boys at our old house on Campus Drive? I would love to hear one of those old gab sessions led by Tom Freeman and Tom Wetzel after midnight and the dates were gone. Lots of memories, a bunch of great guys. With the leadership training offered by National and serious scholarship interest by the guys, I feel our brotherhood can be quite a positive experience for many in the future."

After graduation in '67, **Charles "Mack" Gardner '65** joined the Air Force (to avoid an Army draft) and received a commission in early '68. After a

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Alpha Theta House Company

President
Joseph C. Feola '79

Vice President
James P. Chipps '80

Secretary
Douglas J. Ladish '62

Treasurer
Philip J. Iapalucci '83

Capital Campaign Committee

National Campaign Co-Chairmen
Joseph C. Feola '79
Douglas J. Ladish '62

Communications Chairman
C. Mack Gardner '65

Campaign Committee
John "Greek" Allevato '62
Matthew Armandi '03
Andrew R. Barrett '58
Matthew Beaulieu '87
C. Dan Brennan '65
Larry R. Cobb '59
Al Dering '65
Gary E. Earp '65
James Gabriel '64
Joseph Gogolsky '68
Duffy P. Guschel '90
Philip J. Iapalucci, Jr. '83
James H. Laughlin, Jr. '60
Richard M. Little '90
Brad M. Meyers '92
Charles W. Miller '48
Thomas Pendleton '55
Richard L. Rawlings '63
John Rohal '66
Fred K. Swiger '60
David R. Vaughn '60
Henry Wagner '61
Thomas Whalen '80

SMC
Ryan Coss '03

Alumni support and assistance provided by Omega Financial
(800) 955-ALUM (2586)
www.OmegaAlumniServices.com

Brother to Brother

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20-year career, he retired as a lieutenant colonel from a Pentagon assignment. He has been in Northern VA since 1980 and worked for various government contractors since 1987 as a manager of Information Technology systems and programs. He posted the following message on the website: "I've truly enjoyed the revival of the relationships with brothers I've known (and did not know prior to 2001). The strength of the bonds that I formed 40+ years ago seem to be resistant to time and uncaring of age. I'm not reliving our youth; I'm marveling at the consistency of values, the persistence of good character, and the rewards for accepting a challenge. The efforts and accomplishments of the active brothers since 2003 despite the encumbrances and the issues they faced, or maybe because of them, have created a team of planners and achievers that rivals any in my experience.

Joseph H. Gogolsky '68 wrote: "The best years of my college life were spent at the PIKE house, and I would love to see the house restored. I would even be willing to

come down and donate time to clean the place up. Our pledge class moved all the concrete and laid out the patio with the help of Joe Aiello, and we had a ball."

Gary Duryea '71 is the Chief Engineer for Monitor Instruments of Russellton, PA. His brother, **Tony Duryea '71**, is President of Trinity Select, LLC, of Russellton, PA.

Anthony G. Schmeck '71 wrote to say: "Nothing interesting from my end. I want to hear and share more about what is going on with the house. I miss those walks up the hill. It would probably kill my fat old ass to try and walk it today."

Ryan A. Coss '03 recently began his second consecutive term as SMC of the chapter and is a current frontrunner for athlete of the year among the active brothers. He is a founding father of the chapter and currently serves as a sergeant in the United States Army and is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom. If anyone has any questions about events going on with the chapter contact Ryan at rcoss@mix.wvu.edu.

Did you recently get married? Have a baby? Change jobs? Retire? Let us know. Post your news online at <http://www.wvupikes.com> by clicking on the "News and Info" tab.

Alpha Theta History Project

William R. Mitchell '60, now living in his native Kentucky, is currently writing a complete history of the Alpha Theta Chapter and enlists the enthusiastic support of all alumni and active members of the fraternity. Planned is a handsomely bound history of the chapter which will be available by pre-publication subscription.

Alumni with historical material are asked to submit any information you may have dating from the original chartering in 1904 down to current time. Include your phone number for follow-up. Submit historical information to:

William Mitchell
P.O. Box 727
Radcliff, KY 40159.
E-mail: mitchline@yahoo.com
Phone: (270) 351-4915

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY



Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Edit your member profile online at <http://www.wvupikes.com>, or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: Alpha Theta Alumni Association, P! Kappa Alpha #530, P.O. Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name _____

Initiation Year _____

Address _____

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Alpha Theta Alumni Association
P! Kappa Alpha (#530)
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

