

The New ALTO

Fall 2013 Edition



Building the Bonds





The New ALTO

Fall 2013 - Hosted by Texas A&M University - Commerce

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Those Involved:

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Dr. David Scott
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KKΨ - ZK President

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Lindsey Sanders
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A Letter from Zeta Kappa and Epsilon Beta

To the Brothers and Sisters of the of the Southwest District,

The Zeta Kappa Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Epsilon Beta Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma from Texas A&M University-Commerce are proud to host the 2013-2014 New ALTO issue. We are excited to be a part of this special project not only because it is our second consecutive year, but also because it will be the last year any university/college chapter will be able to host it. The theme this year is "Building Better Bonds" and will consist of numerous articles covering multiple surfaces, but will mainly focus on building better relations between your chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma. Our chapters of Zeta Kappa and Epsilon Beta know as well as other chapters how important it is to work as a unit in serving our bands; no job can be too small or too big. Thank you for your continued service and all that you do. We hope you enjoy the fall edition of the New ALTO, and have a great rest of the year!

AEA and ITB,

Brandon Fisher
Zeta Kappa President
(2013-2014)

Jessa Martinez
Epsilon Beta President
(2013-2014)



Solo vs. Ensemble

By Dr. David Scott- KKΨ
Texas A&M University Commerce
Music Department Head



There are times in our musical lives when we have the opportunity to make music all by ourselves: as the performer at a recital, in an audition, or in a practice room as we prepare for any number of musical settings. These times can be exhilarating, exhausting, scary, boring, nerve-wracking, or daunting. Performing a solo and the emotions it brings with it has been the basis for many personal decisions to get into music, and maybe just as many to get out of music as a profession. It is one of the hardest things to do in our art form and yet many people, professionals, amateurs and students, perform them with seeming effortless-

ness. While some of the best music ever composed was intended for a solo instrument or voice, there is far more repertoire for ensemble, music made by a group of people. The variety of ensembles stretches the imagination; choirs, orchestras, bands, chamber groups of every instrumental variety, groups engaged to perform the music of a particular culture. The possibilities seem as endless as our imaginations can stretch them and in many cases beyond anything we had previously imagined. And just because this music is intended for a group performance, it is not any less valid, or excellent,

or worthy of consideration as the highest our art can produce.

It is good to be reminded that, whether or not we like to think about it or act on it, it is part of the human condition to be better as a

"We ARE better as an ensemble..."

group than as individuals. One shining example is Yo-Yo Ma, the world famous cello virtuoso. He could easily make a comfortable living performing only solo literature, like so many of the great cellists before him. However, for much of his mature career, he has instead chosen to actively seek out musical opportunities in collaboration with artists from classical, jazz, folk idioms, as well as the music from other cultures. Most of his performances are now in ensemble, sharing his musical genius along with the spotlight.

So it is with Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, and each individual chapter of our great organizations. There is a need for leaders to step forward every year and for each new and continuing project. Our organizations are wonderful places to learn how to take charge, to find your own voice on a crowded campus, and to be one that is looked to or held up as right or good. But that is only one way to "make music." The other music, the kind at which our fraternity and sorority truly excel, is the one that brings many voices together, that seeks collaboration and looks to find new harmonies. Working in ensemble is the key to our success and to look for solo opportunities di-

minishes the whole in many cases. Rather, if we seek ways to use our own strengths to make others better, more confident, more harmonious, we have presented the best performance we can; we have done our best and supported the best in others at the same time.

While we should absolutely be driven by personal, inner ambitions, and hold ourselves accountable and responsible for our own performance in every situation, we MUST use that same passion to find, support and further the fellowship of the fraternity and sorority in all its activities, both separately and corporately. We ARE better as an ensemble and our college bands, our chapters, and each of us will be better for it, as well.

Dr. Scott is Head of the Department of Music at Texas A&M University-Commerce. He was initiated into the Beta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi in 1979 and is a Life Member of the fraternity. Previously, he was Director of Bands and Head of the Department of Art and Music at Angelo State University, where he served as Sponsor of Epsilon Kappa (KKPsi) and Delta Tau (TBS) chapters. He served as Governor of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi from 2005-2009 and is an Honorary member of Delta Tau and the SWD of Tau Beta Sigma and the National Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi.



Connecting with ALL Brothers and Sisters

By Madelin Laney-TBΣ Secretary
Delta Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma
University of Oklahoma



At the University of Oklahoma, we are lucky to have four strong music organizations; Kappa Kappa Psi, Tau Beta Sigma, Phi Mu Alpha, and Sigma Alpha Iota. While there are many differences among these four groups, there are also similarities that bond us all together. Music, fellowship, and service seem to be common threads in all of these close knit groups, so why not build up the bonds between them? Here at OU over the past two years, we have been working on this. While it is still important to do things solely as a sorority and jointly with our brothers, one cannot deny that sometimes the more the merrier. Last year, TBS and SAI held a joint social event where we went dancing. It was a blast and a lot of fun to bond with

the sisters of both sororities. Earlier in the semester, Kappa Kappa Psi and Phi Mu Alpha also held a joint social event, an ultimate Frisbee game. This bonding has led to the planning of multiple four way service projects and social events. One in particular, which we are all pretty excited about is planned for the spring semester. Our school holds an annual community wide service event where anyone and everyone can register, be placed on a team, and get assigned a site to serve. It's called Big Event, and next semester we, as in all four groups together, are hosting a similar event for the schools and band programs in our community. We are calling it CAT-COMM, short for Catlett Community, Catlett being name of our music building. Together we will ask the surrounding band directors and schools if they need any help and after dividing our giant group into teams we will go out and serve the music community. Not only will we have the opportunity to help our local schools, but we will also get to bond with ALL of our brothers and sisters. In addition to serving together we

are also promoting music jointly. This fall we are hosting a master class for Oklahoma All-State students. Classes will be taught by the talented faculty of the School of Music and run by the brothers and sisters of all four organizations. Following the classes Phi Mu Alpha is hosting a concert, the American Music Recital, which they have asked us to be a part of. We are also integrating a fundraiser and service project this November to help out with Moore disaster relief. In addition to all four groups taking part we are also working with the Collegiate National Association for Music Education and we will specifically work on relieving anything music related that's needs our help. By joining forces we will be able to get a lot more accomplished this year and in the years to come! If your school has any of these organizations I would encourage y'all as a group to strengthen those ties. It is fulfilling to have such good relations with more people and serve a common goal.



Involvement for Our Chapters

From: Scott M. Sergeant-TBΣ
Tarleton State University/Eta Nu
Southwest District Vice President of Membership



Being an active member of the Eta Nu Chapter at Tarleton State University for around four and half years already, I have seen many things change. Members come and go, presidents retire and some even go alumni. As I got more seasoned to the chapter, I began "filling the shoes" that I am in today. I started stepping up and volunteering for more and more things, I ran for offices when I could and I took a chance at being the first district officer from Eta Nu. Over my last few years, one thing that I have always been told was to be involved in as much as you can. When I

first heard it, I never really thought much about it, even thinking, "That's ridiculous." However, now that I have matured and developed a lot since my first year of college, I can say without a doubt that that is an important part of development for anyone. Now, you are probably wondering, "why should I be so involved?" Simple, involvement is like a slingshot. The more you are involved, the bigger the reach that you can have. Whether it is involvement in Tau Beta

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Involvement for Our Chapters

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Sigma to get your name to other chapters, or on a campus level, where you are trying to be your Student Government Association's Senior Senator. It all helps you, but it does not necessarily get you all the way there. Think about that slingshot, it might get your pebble from where it is now to a much farther place than if you threw it, but it is not always guaranteed to hit the target.

"So I am getting involved just to gain something?" Nope. Some people like to get involved at local animal shelters just because they want either something to do or they just love animals. Being involved is not always about gaining something. For me, just doing those little things that no one else wanted to do seemed to put a smile on my face. Involvement can do that too!

Okay, I know you are probably wondering, "Scott, what is the point you are trying to make here?" The point is this, if we as members of Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi do not

get involved in some way or another, then what are we doing here? We are organizations that serve the bands, and we do just that plus a little more. Involvement is one of those key factors to the day-to-day operations of our chapters and we may not even realize it. Fundamentally, if no one wants to get involved, then nothing can get done.

I know for my chapter this has happened on a couple of occasions over the last few years. No one wanted to do anything outside of what we already did, which was minimal. We were not very active outside of our little bubble of Tarleton State University, and we had many members with the "we like it how it is" mindset. Being a new member at the time, it was not quite what I was looking for when I had pictured myself being a member down the road. Over the next few semester though, we started getting more and more members that wanted to do more and more with the chapter. That is exactly what we did, we

busted our chapter out of that bubble it was in, got involved with others from around the district and we made a lot of long last bonds with people and chapters that, prior until then, we would have never dreamed of making. I think the biggest challenge that we faced, and I am sure that you will or have, is how do we get these members involved. There are many ways to do this, and one of them is through membership education. Whether it is for a Membership Candidate or someone that is already an Active Member of your chapter. The education process should be where people start to develop that drive to be greater. In a great education process, show these members what that they will be doing and how it can better them as a person, a member and as a chapter. It is a simple fix and one that usually has great outcomes. Just showing people what it can do for them is one of the oldest tools in the book.



How I Discovered Much Love in the Bond

By Helen Moore- KKΨ
Southeastern Oklahoma State University/Eta Nu Chapter
Southwest District President 2013-2014



To say the least, National Convention was a whirlwind of adventure, stress, enjoyment, and self-discovery. It was the first time, in a very long time, that I had been away from my friends and

family. The past National Convention, I traveled with my VPME Tim, my Big Emily, and two other brothers, Cindy and Randi Jo. At this point, I had only been an active since the past November and had no clue what was in store but I had always felt this urge to go and that I would regret it if I didn't.

That trip was a hot mess, but it is one I will always cherish and it created a special bond that I will have with those four people that no one else will have.

This time around, I had just been elected President of the District, I now had a bazillion (I know it wasn't this many) responsibilities and for the first time, I was alone. I didn't have a "travel buddy" but when I got on the plane, I was fortunate enough to be seated by Sarah Cox, the Western District President of Tau Beta Sigma. As soon as we realized who we were sitting by, it was as though we'd been best friends for

"We are one in the same and that our values are their values"

forever and I felt not as alone as I had before. It helped me appreciate how genuine and special the bond is and it started to get me thinking about how my process would've been or how my outlook could've changed if my university still had Eta Kappa, our TBΣ chapter.

Yes, I had worked with my counterpart, Kristine, the previous year and I loved the sisters, including Kat, Katie, Jacklyn and Erika, on council but I never felt truly bonded with them because of many different reasons, one including that most were very far away. This mentality completely changed when DLC started. A

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How I Discovered Much Love in the Bond

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lot of times, we were broken up for discussions and activities, but in planning Convention, I kept thinking about how to involve the Sisters and what would Heather, my counterpart, think of the ideas. We were all with each other all the time and the sense of distance passed. Also, because I was the only girl on the KKΨ District Presidents, I roomed with a TBΣ President and during the week. I roomed with Heather, Meridith and Emily. My complete culture changed from just thinking about my Brothers to thinking about everyone. I discovered in my week of bonding in Massachusetts

that we are one in the same and that our values are their values and my love for the sisterhood has grown and continues to grow.

I love Heather, Scott, Meridith and Emily because they aren't just my Sisters, but they are also great friends. I love the fact that if I have any problems, that I can call any number of 10 people on council, and they are willing to help. I think what works so well with this year is that from the get-go, all parties on council are friends and truly care for each other. We want us to succeed and we want to succeed ourselves. I guess what I want to say

most is Brothers, don't take your Sisters for granted and Sisters, don't take your Brothers for granted. For those who have both organizations, you are truly blessed to be a part of something that a lot of Brothers and Sisters, including myself, don't have the opportunity to have and those who only have one, take care of what you have.



Creating History

By: Connor Parker-KKΨ

University of Oklahoma/ Delta Chapter



Collecting and preserving the history of an entire chapter can be a daunting task, especially with the chapter approaching its centennial celebration. Since no charter members of Delta chapter survive to this day, we have to make sure we keep our history alive and well. It's difficult to push the chapter forward without keeping an eye on the rear-view mirror.

Delta Chapter looks to preserve three types of historical data: Facts, traditions, and stories. We preserve each of these in a different way.

We keep a written record of facts, primarily tracked by our Vice President of Membership and Historian. For instance, Delta Chapter was founded on May 21, 1921 under our first president, Scott P. Squyres. We keep this sort of information on file and give copies of it to membership candidates in their Membership Education Book each year. Facts can be the hardest to find but the easiest to keep. Take a look at national headquarters for founding info on your own chapters.

Actions keep traditions alive. We open every chapter meeting with the call to order of our mascot, Bouga, and recite the creed of Kappa Kappa Psi. This opening ritual is so ingrained in our identity that it sometimes shocks new members to learn that other chapters don't memorize the creed. It is the responsibility of the active chapter, through these actions, to perpetuate tradition.

Stories, my favorite kind of history, are kept alive by word of mouth and

by the people involved. They can change with time. When Brother Davis jumped off a cliff with the hunk of driftwood destined to become our mascot, he was clad only in his underwear. Jack Lee, however, decided that this phrase meant, "He somehow managed to get back into his underwear." Thus, the story had been amended. Through the passing down of these stories, facts become legends, and legends become traditions. We keep stories circulating by retelling them and inviting alumni to return to chapter meetings and tell us of their misadventures.

You don't need a map to go on a treasure hunt – just dig through a box of your chapter's old things. Take a road trip to headquarters for a history lesson or invite some wrinkly old men to a chapter meeting so they can tell you what it was like back in their day. There's always a chance your chapter's history isn't all that exciting, dramatic or glamorous, but it's important to keep it close to heart. In any good chapter, ten, thirty, and one hundred years down the road, there will always be stories worth telling.



Singing

By: Sara Zavorka- KKΨ

Stephen F. Austin State University/Gamma Phi Chapter



Singing. That's what first really sparked my interest for Kappa Kappa Psi. I saw the letters on many shirts, but didn't know what they meant or stood for as a new freshman. I heard their name and saw it associated with

service for the band and thought that was neat. Yet, it wasn't until a marching band-wide picnic at our local lake that I actually saw them altogether for the first time. They were huddled in a massive circle, swaying back and forth and singing. Then they were laughing, and just having an overall great time. I was captivated and just wanted to stare at it all. As an introvert through and through, I'm the quiet type. When I witnessed that first public singing though, just wow. The singing, that moment. That is when it really hit me- I needed to find out more about this group.

Singing is, I believe the glue that sticks individuals together, and our chapter together. I crossed in spring of 2011. Since then, I have seen things change in our chapter-

new officers (myself included last year,) new rushes, new classes cross, new former actives becoming alumni, new brotherhood bonds being formed, new progresses in motivation, and of course, new fundraising ideas and new service projects. The Gamma Phi chapter is constantly trying to change to improve, as is the fraternity as a whole. Some changes have not yet taken full affect as beneficially as we would have liked. A very small handful have even brought about a more negative twist so far, though changes have been mostly initiated to correct such. All in all, besides the concept of band service, and brotherhood, one thing has consistently remained the same in our chapter, and that thing, is the music and its singing.

I guess the point I'm trying to get at is that, I still remember vividly me being on the outside of the circle while the singing was going on that first public time. I remember being a candidate and finally being able to stand inside the circle, muttering along to some of the words as I slowly tried to pick it up. I remember rehearsing it with my class in desperate attempts to understand the notes. As a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Education major, my lack of aural skills courses

made it rather difficult, but now, even with my awful singing skills (or lack thereof entirely,) I'll still try so long as it is to sing with my brothers. Finally, when my class was able to singing the word "brother" for the first time in the hymn, man... tears. I witnessed the same overjoyed sense of relief mixed with ecstatic optimism from each new candidate as they crossed over to join the official circle of the brotherhood for the singing, finally, as brothers.

Even when drama arises, even when mistakes have been made, even when personal matters have taken over unintentionally, the singing always happens. We will continue to stand in that same circle, with the same people surrounding us- our brothers. We will continue to sing with our Tau Beta Sigma sisters when we can. We will continue rehearsing our joint song together. We will continue the singing. It is the closest thing we have, as individuals, to music, at all times, and that is precisely what brought us together and what will keep us from ever straying too far. Music, and singing, captures the rhythm of the heart, is the closest thing we, as humans, have as a glimpse into the soul, and into the secret realms of the brotherhood.



Service to Secure Our Bonds

By: Meridith Crawford-TBΣ

Texas Christian University/Beta Delta Chapter

SWD Vice President of Special Projects 2013-2014



We are a service organization. We all have joined this Sisterhood/Brotherhood to serve not only our bands but our communities and the bonds we make in this family will last forever.

I have seen many of my Brothers and Sisters forget what service really is. Service is defined as the action of helping or doing work for someone. A common definition I hear is "sacrificing

time and resources to give back to the community" which is not a bad definition at all, just the wording is very misleading. Service does not have to be a large sacrifice, it does not even have to be a sacrifice. The word sacrifice implies that you intend to get something out of the experience. Almost every time I have seen the word sacrifice it has implied selfish intentions, for example sacrificing in baseball is known as getting out so that another base runner can advance and potentially score a point. Even though they would be taking an out, it would result in a point for the team which in the end

benefits the one who sacrificed themselves on the baseball diamond.

Sacrificing is not a bad thing, I fully support doing what is best for the team and for others around you. But it is not the right word to use when referring to service. You should not serve someone expecting anything in return. You should not sacrifice anything to help someone out. You should add service into your life because you want to help someone through a hard time or just even do something nice for someone. There does not need to

Service to Secure Our Bonds

Continued...

be a reason behind doing service besides bettering our community.

help someone through a hard time or just even do something nice for someone. There does not need to be a reason behind doing service besides bettering our community.

I challenge everyone here to complete service with a smile on your face, let us show everyone what we can do in our schools and in our district. At every service event you go to tweet a picture to me @TBSigmaSWDVPSP and

soon you will be able to see how much service we are providing. We are all serving, there are hundreds of us working on contributing something to this community in a positive way. I challenge you to leave a legacy in your community, even if it is in a small way.

Share your service ideas, what can we do as organizations to improve the service experience? Service is such a major part of being a member of Tau Beta Sigma or Kappa Kappa Psi but it is often viewed as work. It is easy to

get caught up in recruitment, Bigs/Littles, and social activities which are all necessary and very important. But it is not the reason we were created. We were created to serve our bands. Never look at service as a chore but an honor, you were initiated because your Brothers/Sisters see something in you, something that can contribute to the chapter, the band and the community.

MLITB



My Life on the C-List: "Keeping the White Hat Gleaming," Band Service Through All By; Erika Pope-TBΣ Southwest District Counselor



It's the fall semester and many of you are deep in halftime shows, pep rallies, homework, exams and deadlines...lots of deadlines! Of course this time of year also brings about the start of many new things, including on the small screen that we

stare at constantly, or maybe that is just me because as I am working on this article, I am noticing that usually as I am writing, I find myself watching an episode or two of one of my favorite shows and somehow the inspiration for the topic of my article comes from the basic plot of said show...well, here I go again! My latest guilty small screen pleasure comes by way of ABC's Scandal. It's got all the makings of a show that can last for several seasons, or at least four more if we go by Washington D.C. standards... It has a fast moving...yet multi-themed plot, suspense, action, seduction, cut-throat politicians, of course there has to be a love story and for those of us in the music world, a pretty awesome soundtrack of R&B hits from the 60s and 70s...for me it also doesn't hurt that the main

character's name is Olivia Pope... we're practically related! Though the overall story paints a picture of a philandering Commander In Chief and the lengths at which many go through to cover up the misdeeds in Washington D.C. (I almost forget that it's TV sometimes...), there are two recurring themes that speak to me in terms of the service we provide our band programs.

On many occasions during the run of this show Ms. Pope and her merry band of wounded and disgraced D.C. legal minds, refer to the work they do in crisis management as "putting on the white hat," or being the "gladiators," for each other and the clients they work for. Historically the use of the "white hat" symbolizes those who are admirable, honorable and good. Think back to the classic western movie (...we are in the Southwest, after all...), the hero or law-abiding citizen is always the one with the pristine white hat and in the case of the characters on Scandal, all though each of these individuals have their own battles to fight, they know that the commitment they've made to someone else is important and so there are times when they have to remind themselves to put the "white hat back on," or to "be a gladiator."

In Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi, it's acceptable to say that we

are the gladiators of our band programs. We work, we fight and we press on, to ensure that our band programs are taken care of. There really should not be an option when it comes to serving or not serving the bands within your music program. Without a clear mission, we would be merely a club of individuals. There will be tough times both on a personal level and a chapter level and occasionally your metaphorical white hat of band service will lose its pristine look...it's a white hat, so it's bound to get dirty! But it's what you do to clean up the white hat that will matter most to your band program.





The Model of a True Relationship

By: Zach Stewart-KKΨ

Stephen F. Austin State University/ Gamma Phi Chapter
Secretary



“For Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, we bind our love that we have for each one...”

At the 2013 SWD Convention held at Sam Houston State University, the Gamma Phi and Beta Zeta chapters of KKΨ and TBΣ at Stephen F. Austin State University were honored to have their joint song selected as the official joint song for the Southwest District. Using the lyrics to song, it is easy to see how important it is for our organizations to work together for the common benefit of our college and university bands.

“...As Brothers and Sisters we work all together to help and serve and create Greater Bands...”

We all know that our organizations are here to serve our bands. As individual organizations we work to accomplish many things that help our bands, whether it is by cleaning up the band hall or filling up the coolers with water for marching rehearsals, but it takes more than one of our organizations doing certain activities for us to reach the highest potential of service to our bands. The lyrics state that we work all together to help, serve, and create greater bands. The most important part of that statement is that we work all together. Here at SFA, our separate organizations might do different service pro-

jects that benefit the bands, but it's when we combine ourselves that we do the most for our bands. Every spring, SFA hosts a Concert in the Park, something that our university has been doing since the 1960's. If done only by one organization, the event could possibly be pulled off, but it would lack the fun atmosphere that it currently has. By combining the forces of Gamma Phi and Beta Zeta, the Concert in the Park brings in a large crowd that shows off the amazing musicians that the SFA Bands has to offer and continues one of our many traditions. By working together we have been able to help serve some of the greatest bands in SFA history, including the largest marching band SFA has had in its 90 years of education.

“...We Strive for the Highest to create shining spirits...”

No one can go through the experience of active Brotherhood or Sisterhood and come out the same person that they were when they went into it. Something that comes from this experience is the joint relationship that many members of both organizations have. It is hard for a school that only has one of our great organizations to get the full rounded experience that comes from being involved in KKΨ and TBΣ. If a member were to stay involved with only their organization instead of forming bonds with their cohorts, they lack the ability to expand their horizons. By staying reclusive to their organization, the member may never understand why Wava or Boh are so important to each group. They may know of them, but they will never understand the emotional bond that each group has to these amazing people. Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma are like the melodies and harmonies of a university band program. While you still may have music with only one of these parts, it takes both working in tandem for the full reality of the music to come into play. It takes both organizations working together to not only help their band

program, but to help take its members from being average students who enjoys music to students who love music and will do whatever they can to help make their band programs the best they can be. While striving to improve their program, they evolve their personalities based off the experiences they get through both their respective organizations, as well as the unique understandings that they receive from working jointly with the other half of our special duo.

“... Always remember that our love will never die!”

It is through the joint relationship that I have been able to observe from the Gamma Phi and Beta Zeta chapters that I have seen a unique example of how two separate organizations can work together to promote a talent and grow programs. This relationship is far better than the relationships I learn in my own political studies during class. As I sit in my international relations class or U.S. Congress class I cannot help but think how different our world would be if the strong bond between Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma have were prevalent through the many organizations that exist in our world. As we graduate from our respective schools and move out into the real world, the bonds created by KKΨ and TBΣ will always be there. Each of our organizations has their own highly respected members and you can probably assume that the service leadership qualities that these members gained through their time in active membership led them to be the persons they are or are remembered to be. I know that I personally will use the skills I have learned through my time as an active Brother as I begin the next step in my life. I am proud to be a Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi and I am privileged to have known, and worked with, some amazing Sisters of Tau Beta Sigma. As stated in the joint song, “Always remember that our love will never die!”



Joint Fundraising

By: Stephanie McCullough
University of Arkansas/ Lambda Chapter
SWD Secretary Treasurer



The only thing more fun than a successful fundraiser is a successful joint fundraiser. More man and woman power means not only a bigger inflow of funds, but a higher level of awesome! Last year, our chapter (Lambda) and our Sister chapter (Psi) did a joint restaurant profit-sharing fundraiser at Arby's. We received fifteen percent of all profits brought in that evening. Through social media, word of mouth, and posters, we were able to bring in about \$150 in just a few hours one evening.

Working jointly is a joy. At that event last year, going to eat and support our own cause was an accidental social event

in itself! Think about it; who are your closest friends? I find that mine are often those with whom I regularly dine. When I went through the Kappa Kappa Psi process, eating dinner together after band was how I got to know so much of the Brotherhood. We would sit in the same place with TBS in the student union, and our giant familial gatherings drew us closer between bites. What a blessing it is to be able to do this and make money at the same time!



Rolling in the Dough—How to Successfully Fundraise

By: Emily Murphree-TBΣ
Howard Payne University/ Delta Upsilon Chapter

When considering fundraising, ask yourself the following questions: What is the purpose of this fundraiser? Do you need to do a fundraiser or do you have enough in your account to have a nice cushion after spending the required amount? Who will benefit from this?

Fundraising is a series of planning, maintaining, calculating, and tons of teamwork with your fellow brothers and sisters to get the ideas cranking out. First, decide as a chapter what your goals are. Is your chapter going to send a delegate to the District Convention? How about to National Convention? Are there supplies, tools, or instruments that your director needs help purchasing or wants for your band? These are just a few questions to consider when deciding on goals. Always remember the purposes and make sure that whatever

your chapter decides to do fulfills them. Next, consider the audience or consumers that you are selling or providing a service for. Make sure that whatever you do is helpful or something that they would want to buy to support your cause. Choose a reasonable amount of money to put into merchandise and make sure that the price you set to sell the merchandise allows a profit. No one ever wants to be in the red, so make sure that the sell price is reasonable for the consumer so that the merchandise will sell.

Smiling faces, attractive signs, and modest clothing are the best policy for a chapter oriented fundraiser. Creativity is always a plus and sparks the consumer's interest. Advertise like crazy with e-mails, flyers, and person-to-person. Be proactive and get out there!





Forever the Privilege of Membership

By: Austin Bordelon- KKΨ

Louisiana State University/ Beta Gamma Chapter



As the collegiate experience reaches its end, one might reminisce on how the last

four years of their life were spent. As a member of KKΨ/ TBΣ, you begin to realize all of the incredible blessings bestowed upon you. These organizations has given you Brothers and Sisters, that have altered the course of your life, a dedication to serve in your community, and an undying passion for the music that holds us all together as a fraternity and sorority. Unfortunately, the day that seemed far away has finally come: graduation. The time has come to say goodbye to the alma mater and begin life anew: a career, a family, or even graduate education. No matter where life after college takes you, the message and the ideals of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma beat as one with your heart.

We are responsible for entering recent graduates into the alumni status smoothly. Besides normal protocol, recent alumni, as well as current alumni, should be made aware of the benefits available to them. Such benefits, including entering the Life Member status and joining the national and/or local Alumni Association of your organization, should be brought to the attention of your alumni so that they may continue to strengthen the bonds of their brotherhood or sisterhood. If you do not have a local alumni association, the National Alumni Association is ready to assist you.

Your alumni should not be shoved into the files of your chapter's history: collecting dust and slowly receding in memory. On the contrary, they should be celebrated. An easy way to

accomplish this is by continuing to treat them as Brothers or Sisters. Send your alumni updates on your chapter's major events and progress so that they remain connected to your organization. If your band programs hold alumni events, collaborate with your band director to also recognize KKΨ/ TBΣ alumni at these events. Create events that encourage camaraderie between your alumni and active Brothers and Sisters (membership candidate participation is recommended for maximum effect).

Beta Gamma strives to provide our alumni updated chapter information and events that encourage alumni participation. Emails on chapter affairs are sent through listserv and our alumni Facebook group. In the fall, during the LSU Alumni Band Reunion, we



Alumni and active brothers and sisters viewing chapter scrapbooks at the 65th Kappa Psi-BΓ Reunion

take the time to recognize our KKΨ and TBΣ alumni and publish "The Old Alto," our annual newsletter summarizing last year's chapter events. This year, Beta Gamma held its 65th KKΨ-BΓ Anniversary Alumni Reunion. To celebrate this important year in our history, we invited all of our alumni (including the sisters of former TBΣ-AΔ) to view the different projects held by our committees and reminisce on their past through our collection of scrapbooks. Videos and slideshows from current and past eras of the chapter were enjoyed, and the alumni were impressed to see our family tree that traced the lineage of Beta Gamma back to 1995. We concluded our reunion with the singing of the hymn

by all Beta Gamma Brothers. This was an unprecedented event that ended as a tremendous success.

Fall events are sometimes difficult to schedule, especially during football season. If this situation exists at your university, more efforts should be focused toward creating spring events. Beta Gamma usually holds two kickball games pitting our alumni against our actives (with the help of membership candidates if they care to join) in friendly competition. Whatever your chapter decides to do, remember that your alumni appreciate remaining involved and connected with the organization to which they devoted their time.

It is also important to remember that a Brother or Sister that has transitioned into the alumni status may still be involved in normal chapter proceedings (in a sense). They are and should be welcome to your chapter meetings, ritual performances, and any chapter events that you see fit. Their available wisdom is always appreciated when the chapter has approached an obstacle and needs guidance. If the organization could survive through wars and

other times of strife, your chapter can survive with help from your alumni.

Organizing and retrieving all of this information may seem overwhelming; however, creating an office within your chapter that would be responsible for handling such communications and resources would provide efficiency and relief.

When someone is awarded membership into KKΨ/ TBΣ, it is an honor that does not fade away after graduation. They have left a permanent mark upon the chapter. Their purpose in the chapter will be passed upon future generations. Therefore, it is important that we celebrate our alumni. Even a small action may lead to a large reaction, such as alumni donations, increase in brotherhood and sisterhood, and knowledge about the organization that may have been

Forever the Privilege of Membership Continued...

previously forgotten through time. Your alumni's contribution can only benefit your chapter. When dealing with alumni affairs, I am reminded of Kappa Kappa Psi's second purpose:

"To honor outstanding bandmembers through privilege of membership extended as a reward for technical

achievement and appreciation for the best in music."

Although your brothers or sisters may no longer attend their alma mater, the honor of membership in Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma lives on and is forever a privilege.



Service to Music while Studying Abroad

By: Samantha Toback-TBΣ

Sam Houston State University/Alpha Omicron Chapter



When I came to Viña del Mar, Chile for my semester abroad, I never expected to find myself serving music. As a Spanish major, a semester in a Spanish speaking country is invaluable to my future – but leaving my sisters and the band was a tough decision to make. I spent my last week in the states with sisters and brothers at the 2013 National Convention and left for Chile two days after getting home. Living in a foreign country was strange, and seeing posts about summer band and rush events made me miss home a bit more than I thought I would. I was prepared for a semester without band or choir, a semester of musical silence. As I began adjusting to life in the southern hemisphere, I started looking into clubs on campus. Lo and behold, there was a choir here at Universidad Viña del Mar! My excitement when I found out that I would be able to make

music with Chilean students was off the charts. I went to the first rehearsal, accustomed to the school choirs I had been in back in Texas – fairly large, full of people who can read music and know about things like vowel tones and tuning. You can imagine my shock when I walked into a tiny room with broken stands and about 8 other people. One of the basses had never read music before. There were no tenors. I've always sung alto, but since there were so few sopranos and I've been a musician my entire life, the director asked me to sing soprano. I went home after that first rehearsal with my mind in a tumbling mess. I wasn't sure if I wanted to continue with this tiny little choir, but my love of music and desire to serve won out over my fear of making a fool of myself so I kept going to rehearsals. I offered to help teach some of the other students how to read music. I would get to practice early and rearrange the chairs and stands from a jumbled mess to an ordered arc. Any time I found something I could fix, I would fix it. Our director caught me moving stands one day and nearly cried. When he asked what I was doing, I told him that I was simply doing what I've always done – serving music. I explained that I was a member of Tau Beta Sigma, and while we normally serve collegiate bands, that wasn't going to stop me from serving our choir. The joy in his eyes when I told him that there were dedicated groups

of students in the US who willingly choose to serve their music programs was beautiful. He started laughing and told me that I should bring Tau Beta Sigma to Chile, and laughed even harder when I told him that I already had by coming here.

I've also been volunteering in a local elementary school teaching English. A few of my students were also members of their school choir, and asked me to come to a rehearsal. One of the songs they are singing this year is Let It Be by The Beatles, and they've been struggling with how to pronounce some of the phrases. Helping the kids with rhythm and pronunciation and seeing their faces light up when they got it right was worth every single moment they tested my emotional poise. The joy of music can be shared with everybody, regardless of what language (or languages) they speak.

I might not be playing my horn in the stands at the football games, and I might not be loading up the truck before and after rehearsal. I miss my sisters. I miss marching band. I miss having classes in English! But I'm here, living by the 8's and 5's, and serving music in every way I can.



Joint Education

By: Brandon Fisher-KKΨ

Texas A&M Commerce Texas/Zeta Kappa Chapter
President



What does building better bonds mean to you? Do you feel like you have a good relationship with your joint Chapter? Whether the answers to those questions are yes or no, the next question is why. Having a good relationship between Chapters means that you have a great understanding of what each Chapter's purpose on campus is, and how that directly affects your respective Chapter. In order to build successful Chapters that can accomplish great things together, you must first educate everyone that is coming into the Chapters.

It all starts during rush events. It is very beneficial not only for the Chapters, but also the prospective members if the Chapters get together to have a joint rush event. This joint rush event will serve multiple purposes. It will show that the Chapters get along and can work together. It will also serve as a great way to attract even more people because it will naturally be a larger event. Most importantly, it will allow the Chapters an

opportunity to explain to the prospective members how Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma are both similar, and also how they are unique.

Formal rush events, or whatever night bids are given out should be on different nights. This will allow anyone that is torn between the two organizations to go to both events as a last chance to get a better

feel for what will be best for them. Bids for Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma should be due at the same time in order to give any prospective member that has receive a bid from both organization the same dead line. It is not completely fair to have one bid due before the other, because then the prospective member will have to ultimately decide according to one organization instead of both.

During the process it is best for the membership candidates of both organizations if they have processes that align together. They do not necessarily need to be the exact same day. In fact, if they were the exact same day that could create some logistical issues, but the closer they are together the better.

The Joint Ceremony is particularly important during each Chapter's membership education process. This is a great opportunity to show that the Chapter's of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma also share something special. The Zeta Kappa Chap-

ter of Kappa Kappa Psi and the Epsilon Beta Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma have a bit of tradition for one of the days prior to the joint ceremony. We have "Switch Day" a few days before the Joint Ceremony, and use it as a day to educate the Kappa Kappa Psi MCs about Tau Beta Sigma, and to educate the Tau Beta Sigma MCs about Kappa Kappa Psi. For one day, each of the MC classes will switch the organization that they are affiliated with. During that day they do whatever the organization would typically have their MCs do. At the end of the day there is an event held. The Membership Educator for each Chapter will teach them everything that they will need to know about the organization. The event usually ends with some fun activities that conclude in revealing whom the MCs' Big Sister or Big Brother is from the other Chapter.

Having a Big Sister for Kappa Kappa Psi MCs and a Big Brother for Tau Beta Sigma MCs can transform into a very educational and meaningful relationship. Our Chapters are working together on things so often that it can be very helpful to have a specific person in that Chapter that each person is able to communicate with when it comes to joint relations or anything in general. Building better bonds is about the Chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma being able to work together efficiently and effectively to serve the band. This starts with joint education and ends with lifelong relationships.



"Beyond our Borders" *The importance of extra-district bonds.*

By: Josh Stickney-KKΨ

University of Oklahoma/Delta Chapter
SWD Co Member-at-Large

Often, we ask our fellow brothers and sisters what passions they have or what interests they might have. Maybe it's recruitment. Maybe it's hands-on service. Maybe it's photography and archiving. My passion is meeting people- especially brothers and sisters. Within the last few years, I have had the honor of meeting many from around the district and nation. Now, I

am challenging you to do the same. In a world with more social media than is even necessary, communication has never been easier. It is vital for our fraternity and sorority that we not only develop these relationships, but that we also foster the sharing of ideas. There are always opportunities to meet brothers and sisters from around the country and I hope that

this article brings light to a few of them.

The National Councils of both KKΨ and TBΣ schedule regular times to meet and discuss all things service and music using Google Hangouts. If you have a Google Plus account, you have access to Google Hangout! Also, be sure to get on the National

“Beyond our Borders” The importance of extra-district bonds. Continued...



Listserve in order to receive notifications about these meetings dates and times. I have personally been a part of several “hangouts” with national officers and I have found them both entertaining and beneficial. This is a terrific opportunity to meet the national/district officers as well as other active members from around the country.

In addition to video-chats, the internet brings other opportunities to share ideas. A great resource for ideas starts with other chapter and district websites. For example, I personally keep up with several chapter blogs to not only keep up to date with my friends, but also to get ideas about programs and activities. The Gamma chapter of KΚΨ at the University of Washington is a great example (<http://students.washington.edu/kkpsi/>). So you may be wondering, “How do I meet brothers/sisters this way?” I think I can speak for many past and present chapter executive council members when I say that receiving an e-mail asking about a chapter pro-

gram or idea is a huge compliment. After you find an idea worth pursuing, try sending that chapter a short e-mail to 1) open a line of communication 2) receive more information about their programs and 3) get to know their chapter officers/members. I am sure that a new Facebook friend will probably come out of the deal!

My final thought on getting to know others outside of the district is simple. Travel. Simply put, the best friends and relationships that you will get out of your organization will come from personal, on-on-one, face-to-face interactions. You might be interested to know that other districts have similar, yet unique versions of area workshops. For instance, if you ever find yourself in the Northeast District, try swinging by one their Precinct Days for a day of fellowship and learning. Additionally, the 2014 Midwest District Convention will be held at the University of Missouri – just a few hours from many in Oklahoma and Arkansas. This could be a great way to experience another district’s culture, as well as forming new bonds with brothers and sisters outside of the Southwest. There are many travel opportunities that you can engage in both camaraderie and learning. Continue to check the Southwest District Facebook Page and Blog, as I will be posting other district’s workshops and convention dates.

I hope that during your time as an active member of Kappa Kappa Psi or Tau Beta Sigma you are able to for at least one close friend outside of the district. Our brother and sisterhoods are expansive and there are so many untapped resources for you to discover. Remember to always strive to be the best representative of our brother and sisterhood, our district, your chapter, and yourself. AEA.



Josh with 3 other District Members-at-Large at the 203 National Convention.

L to R:

Josh Stickney, SWD, Delta – University of Oklahoma

Amanda Polanowski, NED, Iota Delta – Towson University

Kaila Eason, WD, Gamma – University of Washington

Carissa Vinovskis, MWD, Epsilon Omega – University of Nebraska



Joint Relations

Sami Belford-TBΣ

University of Arkansas/Psi Chapter

I remember when I was going through the membership candidate process, meeting with an older member of KKY to have them sign my paddle and they asked what I thought about joint relations.

“Joint relations? What do you mean?” I had never really heard this phrase before.

“Joint relations, you know. The way we interact with sister (or brother) chapter. How brothers and sisters connect and work together.”

I told him that I thought our relations were fine. Nothing wrong or alarming, but like normal brother-sister relationships; sometimes absolutely hilarious and wonderful but also a bit frustrating at other times. He told me that I needed to make sure to always maintain solid relationships with brothers.

Joint Relations Continued...

That everything stemmed out of getting along with each other. I eagerly nodded and agreed, he signed my paddle, and I went on my merry way.

But as I've matured in this organization, I've begun to think more on what joint relations actually is. It is much more than just getting along with each other. More than being aware of what your fellow chapter is up to and having a meeting once a month where everyone groans and gathers for a quick catch up on the things going on that month.

Joint relations are about supporting one another. I know this word gets thrown around a lot, and I know how cliché it is to define words in articles but I feel this is necessary.

To bear or hold up; serve as a foundation for

To sustain or withstand without giving way; serve as a prop for

To undergo or endure, especially with patience or submission; tolerate

To sustain (a person, the mind, spirits, courage, etc.) under trial or affliction

To maintain (a person, family, establishment, institution, etc.) by supplying with things necessary to existence; provide for

To hold up each other, to be a foundation for one another. Something to fall back on if the going gets tough.

Supporting is sustaining or withstanding without giving away. Without giving away when times are rough, when communication is lacking, when tempers are flaring, when

life takes control and chaos ensues. Always being there.

To undergo or endure, especially with patience or submission. I feel like that one could get just about anyone who has had to deal with any sort of joint conflict. Tolerating each other with patience and submission. Compromising.

To sustain under trial or affliction. When something happens that causes stress to your brother or sister chapter, be there. Sustain them. Give them unending support and love through the trials and through the pain.



And lastly, to maintain by supplying with things necessary to existence. Imagine life without your fellow chapter. Take a step back and think about it. What would your organization look like? What would your service to bands look like? Different, right? Strange and kind of weird. Remember that our organizations would not be nearly as strong without each other. We must support one another, or we will fail. Without strong joint relations, we wouldn't be where we would want to be. You must love and support each other. Unconditionally, meaning without reservation or stipulation or end. And that will get you farther than anything else with your joint chapter.

As a sister of the Psi chapter, I know

that I can count on my brothers of Lambda to be there for me and for my chapter. This year has marked some significant changes for recruitment in Psi. We changed from a fall recruitment process to a spring recruitment process. And our brothers have been there for us every step of the way. To listen to our rants about how things will never work out, to celebrate when they end up working out exactly like we planned anyways, to help us solve problems and smooth out issues with class and dignity. And we'd do the same for them every day. I am immensely grateful I chose to attend school at the University of

Arkansas, that I joined the Razorback Marching Band, and that I became I sister of the Psi chapter who has such wonderful brothers and sisters to surround myself with. Even though getting along is a part of it, joint relations are way bigger than that. It's about loving and supporting one another from today until our rest.



Gettin' 'Em in the Door- A new way of thinking about Recruitment

By: Patrick Forrester-KKY

Louisiana State University / Beta Gamma Chapter
Vice President of Membership Education

MY GRANDFATHER USED TO ALWAYS SAY the “hardest part of being a preacher is gettin’ ‘em in the door”. He was of the philosophy that if he could get them to show up he could convince them to stick around. When I took over as VPME, I decided I would follow Papa’s lead and focus on “gettin’ ‘em in the door”.

This past fall we had 25 applicants for new membership, this may not sound like a huge number but let me put it in perspective. Our chapter is currently made up of 29 members, of 8 members will be graduating within the next year. Furthermore, in the past four semesters we have only had 27 applicants... TOTAL and in the fall of 2011 we did not have a single applicant. So, when I say that 25 applicants was a huge accomplishment it was big! For a long time, our recruitment process started with the chapter getting together and deciding on individuals that we felt would be good for our chapter. After that we held a smoker, with usually luke-warm Cane’s Chicken Fingers, a couple of ineffective recruitment events where we focused on trying to convince the few individuals we deemed “would fit” to join our fraternity. When developing my new strategy for recruitment week, I had three goals in mind: combine recruiting with service for the band, create fun events that would attract a lot of people, and most importantly ensure that when it was all said and done I was able to “honor outstanding bandmembers through privilege of membership”. The biggest difference in the approach was all in how it was “sold”. When inviting people, I made sure to let them know that my events were simply fun events open to the band, as opposed to an event meant to re-

cruit for the fraternity. In doing so, I was able to gain interest of individuals who had not necessarily wanted to join or were unaware of Kappa Kappa Psi. This year we held four official recruitment events: a cookout following a Tiger Band rehearsal, a day of Service, a Board Game night, and our first ever Kappa Kappa Psoaker.



time that separation does not breed disaster.) Having brothers be visible and engaging throughout preseason camp and then also during all of our recruitment weeks is essential. Because these events are also meant as service to the band members, it is important that anyone who participates feels welcomed and comfortable. This “covert” recruiting model is much more about creating an environment where people are enjoying themselves and are willing to ask questions.

Creating an environment that was inviting and engaging was our main goal when we sat down to draw up our events. For example, our cookout was scheduled immediately following a Tiger Band rehearsal right beside the band hall. It was easy to get people to come out because it was convenient

and who does not want free food. Once we had them there, brothers were able to have real discussions about why they joined, what makes our organization so great, and what all we do. That way when people were debating over whether or not to send in an application, they could attach a friendly face to the organization. A friendly face that might be the extra little push they needed to apply. All of the event were scheduled and created with the intention of primarily being fun and convenient for the band and a recruitment event for Psi secondarily. This philosophy was what pushed us to create an event like the “Kappa Kappa Psoaker”. The “Psoaker” was a water-balloon battle, slip slide, and pie chair meant to simply be a release and cool-down following a hot and humid marching band rehearsal It was just good (not so-) clean fun. However, in the midst of dodging water balloons and licking whipped cream from the lips after a

Our recruitment process, although, officially started the first week of school was in the works long before the first event. Recruitment is not a single event it is about creating an image that people like and want to be a part of. In our case, we hit the ground running as soon as band camp started. Everyday of camp I made it a priority that Brothers had on letters – especially those who were section leaders. The idea being just like that behind a billboard, temporary and consistent exposure creates familiarity, which in turn creates preference. Following camp I held a “War Room” meeting with the brothers to develop a list of individuals who we wanted to be sure were talked to during our events. However, the goal at our recruitment events was to make sure that there was always at least one brother talking with every non-brother or group of non-brothers. (Recruiting is the one

Gettin' 'Em in the Door- A new way of thinking about Recruitment

pie to the face, we managed to get 16 applications that day alone.

All of that being said, it is most important to remember that recruiting is about the people not the event. Therefore, success of a recruitment event is getting people to show up. It then becomes the job of the brothers to get them to stay; which we were pretty good at this year...



we are not constantly trying to push the envelope and come up with better ways to serve and get people involved in our organization, our recruitment will become stale as it did before. I encourage you to always find new ways to reach people where they are when recruiting; don't focus on the picture perfect membership candidate, focus on "gettin' em in the seats" because you never know who you could miss if you do not get them to show up.

~AEA

I will close by saying this we were successful this past fall, however, if

Bonds of Brotherhood

By: Segun Kanyinsola

The strongest link in the	downs,	The one who you,
world,	Its twist and turns,	Can never lie to.
Is that of brotherhood,	Those trivial moments,	The one who stands by you,
An oath so powerful,	Are what makes the oath	Through thick and thin,
Nothing can break,	stronger,	A friend not only in need,
The sacred oath,	A brother is not just your	But a friend indeed,
Link by blood is not enough,	friend,	No one's else comes close,
Love, honesty and trust is	He is the one you share your,	Than your brother,
what it entails.	Deepest secrets with,	He loves you as you love him,
It's like most phenomena's,	The one who can read you,	So says the law,
Of our time,	In and out,	That binds you to him,
Comes with its ups and		As him to you,
		The law of brotherhood.

From the Brothers and Sisters of
Zeta Kappa and Epsilon Beta



Live Long and Prosper!

AEA and ITB