Message from the President

83 S. Kanawha is looking better every day!

Brothers and Friends,

As some of you may have heard, and for those who have not, the home that stands tall at 83 S. Kanawha has been undergoing some major renovations since last year. It began with relatively minor remodeling such as patching up walls and putting in new doors, but during the summer of 2007 it was really taken to the next level. The Brotherhood returned to find many new improvements. Some of these new additions include a new ceiling and sprinkler system in the basement, new fire doors, a new ceiling on the porch with fixed floor boards as well, and best of all a completely upgraded kitchen. We received brand new cabinets, refrigerator, oven, a clean linoleum floor, and a new washer and dryer. The Brotherhood is very grateful to all who made this possible and are taking the proper measures to make sure all of these things stay in perfect condition. We also were granted enough money to paint nearly every floor on the house new colors, which has received tremendous compliments from all, and are now saying we may be one of the best looking fraternity houses. The Brothers of Alpha Sig plan to keep working to improve the house as much as they can, every chance they get. Taking pride in our house is a primary focus for us and we plan to keep it looking good for years to come.

In Phi,

Brian Schooley, BN '05, 08
Starting the Year Off Right
Chapter Eyes Cup

The beginning of each school year is the most crucial time of the year. It is the time to lay out the goals for the year and to start things off right. The Beta Nu Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi plans on doing just that. We want the President’s Cup!

“The remodeling work that was put into the kitchen made it look remarkably better. The new cabinets and appliances should provide a much better living environment for the brothers and promote the house in a more positive manner.”

Justin Spratt ’02, ’05
Housing Corp. President

Fall Events at Alpha Sig Brothers Prepare for Homecoming, Fall Philanthropy

First and foremost, the Chapter is proud to announce that it has gained two new pledges this semester: sophomores Andy Rowan of Buckhannon, WV and Charlie Powell of Marietta, OH. Look for the next issue of the Signal to find out more about them.

Also, the Brothers recently threw their annual Toga Party. Throughout the years, this party has held strong and always gets better. This year the bash went off smoothly, with no incidents whatsoever. The house was packed and the Brothers had the privilege of hosting three Alpha Sigs from Delta Epsilon Chapter at Rio Grande College, as well as several alumni who were in town for the weekend attending the Parsons wedding.

During Parent’s Weekend the Beta Nu Chapter co-hosted a cookout with the women of Zeta Tau Alpha. The event was thrown in honor of both groups’ families. The day turned out to be a great success. The Brothers, Sisters, and families enjoyed great food and a fun time playing horseshoes and cornhole.

Homecoming is fast approaching and many alumni are going to be visiting, including new brother Karl Kiewiet de Jonge’s father, who was a Phi Sig over thirty years ago. The Chapter is looking forward to reconnecting with these alumni and sharing some brotherhood. To this end, the Brothers have planned a reception for alumni at the chapter house on Saturday, October 20 at 4:30 PM, to be catered by Annie’s Market (a local business). Plan on coming back to your home among the hills!

There is a change this year regarding the Haunted House. Due to fire regulations, we are unable to have it at the Stockert Youth Center. Also, due to the ongoing fire code renovations, the Chapter house will not be available as a venue. We are currently exploring other philanthropic options to support Upshur Co. Head Start this fall.

The Chapter came into the fall semester having earned the award for Most Improved Chapter, recognizing our efforts throughout last year. While things are heading in the right direction, we believe there is always room for improvement. Beta Nu has set several goals for the school year. These include improving the Chapter GPA (which has been well above the all-male average for several semesters running), implementing values-based recruitment strategies aimed at increasing both the quality and quantity of our pledges, improving relationships with the Administration and other Greeks, and expanding our alumni outreach efforts. The Chapter has also implemented a progressive risk management policy which will allow us to have a great time while limiting our liability and keeping others safe.

In summary, we have high expectations for this year. The Chapter has received high praise from many sources, including (but not limited to) the campus administration, parents, the faculty, and even local law enforcement. It is our fervent desire to parlay this momentum into a President’s Cup victory that can make Brothers new and old proud!
Rush Takes Center Stage  
Chapter Implements New Rush Model

Times have changed as generations have gone by, and membership in Greek organizations across America has been on a steady decline. The job of recruitment has become exceedingly difficult, as college students are looking for more than the “Animal House” image the media has put into the collective consciousness.

After a few semesters of small pledge classes, the Brothers decided that the recruitment process needed to be changed. Waiting for people to come to the house does not work anymore—you have to go to them. And that is exactly what we are doing.

Over the past two years the Brotherhood has adopted the Dynamic Recruitment Program as its primary recruitment framework from which to seek out and gain quality men, as defined by values-based criteria. The Dynamic Recruitment Program was developed by Josh Orendi, an Alpha Sig from Beta Gamma Chapter at Bethany College. Orendi has established a consulting firm called Phired Up Productions that travels around to different campuses teaching Greeks new and effective ways to increase both the quantity and the quality of the recruits coming in to their chapters.

The Phired Up model has helped the chapter to develop a fresh perspective of the recruitment process and lead the way in rushing. The newly structured system can be effectively propagated as new Brothers come into the organization, and will set a precedent for all Greek houses on campus. After implementing this process, recruitment has rapidly become an organizational strength, and has raised expectations for the spring.

Brothers Hold Fall Smoker  
High Hopes for Spring

The Chapter hosted its biannual smoker on September 2, 2007. Food preparation was lead by Brother Ian Sullivan, our sweetheart Ashley Hodak, and two shirted girlfriends, Sara Bogdan and Lisa Mead. These three prepared a feast, with baked ziti that lasted for days afterward.

Smoker attendance was remarkable for the fall semester. The Brothers hosted several prospective upperclassmen for the fall, as well as more than a dozen interested freshmen gathering information about pledging in the Spring. The future is looking bright for the Brotherhood.

Faculty Advisor Joe Book ’03, ’06 and Grand Chapter Advisor J.L. Lawrence ’02, ’04 were also in attendance.

Chapter Creates Alumni Outreach Director Position  
More Alumni Involvement Sought

Greetings Brothers, Parents, and Alumni! During the Spring 2007 semester, new positions were filled in the Beta Nu Chapter. One new position was created for the specific job of Alumni Outreach. Branching out to alumni new and old has become a high priority for the Brotherhood. Over the years, Brothers have lost touch or have not updated their contact information upon graduation, and we feel we have not done our part to keep you involved. Another key factor that was considered in the development of this effort was the two fraternities that came before the Beta Nu Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi. The Beta Nu Chapter shares many of the same traditions, and feels that engaging the Phi Sig alumni is imperative in enriching the collective Brotherhood experience going forward.

Jared Weller ’03,’07, has kindly assisted with the creation of an alumni database, to better facilitate contact with alumni new and old. The Brothers of Beta Nu would ask that all alumni get in touch with Alumni Outreach Director Karl Kiewiet de Jonge (kiewietdejong_k@wvwc.edu) or Jared Weller (weller_js@alphasig-betanu.com) and update their contact information, so that we may better keep you informed of the activities of the Chapter.
Congratulations to the Shearers!
Brother and Mrs. Russ Shearer ’03 welcome daughter into world

Congratulations and well-wishes go out to Brother Russell Shearer ’03 and his wife Danielle, who on October 16, 2007 welcomed daughter Ava Marie to the world. She weighed 9 lbs. 3 oz., after roughly 12 hours of labor. Mother and child are both doing well.

Russell, a native of Clay Co., WV, recently returned home from a tour of duty in Iraq with the US Army Reserve. He was initially stationed in Iraq at Camp Liberty, but spent most of his time inside the International Zone serving his country honorably as a combat medic. He returned to his home in Parkersburg, WV this September, just in time for his little girl’s arrival!

Through his service to his country, Russ has become a shining example of our fraternity’s commitment to the values of Patriotism & Honor. He is a credit to the Old Gal, and the Chapter would like to express both their sincerest gratitude for his service and most jubilant congratulations on he and his wife’s new arrival! For He’s an Alpha Sig!