



# MAP · E · C · K

## Phi Kappa Theta, Mass Eta

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

<http://web.mit.edu/pkt/www/peck/>

## The State of ΦΚΘ 2010-2011

Dear Phi Kappa Theta alumni and family,

My name is Cory Kays and I have served as the undergraduate president over the past year. Several memorable events have occurred throughout the year and many changes have occurred within both the chapter and National, so I would like to take this opportunity to update you all.

As you may know, there have been two significant upgrades to the house. During Winter work week, several brothers constructed a new bar, complete with a granite countertop. In addition to the improved appearance which the bar provides, it has also resulted in an improved layout of first front. Additionally, the newly initiated Associate Member class of 2014 repainted the front entryway and laid hardwood floors, further improving the appearance of the house.

PKT National has a new accreditation system, which has required the chapter to add several workshops in the areas of leadership development and spiritual development. Thankfully, several alums - including Ray Tong '07 and Derek Wu '05 - have graciously led discussions on these topics. Furthermore, the creation of Alumni Advisors to various undergraduate officer positions has proved helpful to the executive board.

On the MIT side of things, our semiannual MIT AILG accreditation review was held on February 12. The committee noted the great turnout from both alums and undergraduates. We hope to hear the results soon; from all indications, we were recommended accreditation.

Lastly, the MIT Administration has been working to shorten fraternity pledge programs to a maximum of 12 weeks (in accordance with many national fraternity regulations). We are adjusting our program to be in accordance with this, and while the schedule is certainly expedited, the content and spirit remain largely the same.

It's been my pleasure serving the house as president over the past year. With Owen Derby '12 taking over, PKT will be in capable hands.

*Cory Kays '11  
Outgoing President*



To all ΦΚΘ Brothers: Founders Day is Saturday May 7th!

As we converge on Thompson Island's Outward Bound facility, whether you're catching up with bros, enjoying the beautiful scenery, performing great feats of athleticism, or partaking in the great lobster/clam/chicken/salad/pie/etc. feast, a good time will be had.

The ferry will depart at **NOON** sharp from the EDIC pier along Summer Street at the Black Falcon Terminal in South Boston, about a mile out from South Station. We recommend arriving at the pier early, as the ferry will not wait for stragglers, and most of us probably couldn't pass the swim test anymore without cheating. There are huge playing fields for sports and trails for hiking, and all sports equipment is provided except for softball gloves. If someone has an emergency and has to leave early, a **SMALL** boat departs the island at 2:00. Otherwise we depart Thompson Island at 5:00.

Afterwards, there will be a brief annual meeting at the house at 6:30 PM which is another great time to get to know the current house and have them gasp in awe at how much you have matured and wizened... or haven't. The cost for the entire Thompson's Island outing will be \$80 per adult and half of that per pre-teen. The alumni meeting at the house is free, of course, and further activities may be launched from there!

See you in May!!

*Erik Hjerpe '83, Alumni Board President*

## Founder's Day 2011

Thompson Island Picnic

Saturday, May 7  
12:00pm-5:00pm

Annual Alumni meeting:  
6:30pm at the House

Coordinate with your Pledge Class  
&  
Bring your family

Contact Erik Hjerpe with RSVP, Questions  
[ehjerpe@alum.mit.edu](mailto:ehjerpe@alum.mit.edu) (978) 985-3049

## Undergraduate Wish List

If you remember back to your days as an undergraduate, you might recall late night conversations dreaming about how to improve the house. Whether it be something unrealistic (Like the class of 2005's dream of installing a hot tub underneath the first front floor) or something feasible (**Max Farrell '04** and **Matt Medak '02** transforming "The Fluff" into "The Studio" with some well-planned murals), upgrading the physical house is an important aspect of day-to-day life at PKT. However, some projects fall outside the scope of the yearly budget of both the active brothers and alumni board.

The undergraduates have compiled a list of these improvements: projects that fall between capital improvements and work week renovations. Please contact **Erik Hjerpe '83** ([ehjerpe@alum.mit.edu](mailto:ehjerpe@alum.mit.edu)) or a member of the alumni board if you are interested in making a specific contribution.

**Automatic hand drier (Xcellerator or Dyson Blade)** - 2nd floor bathroom could really use a paperless hand drier, mostly intended for use during parties to help with general cleanliness, but also improve general sanitary conditions.

**Projector and screen (and possible mount)** – A projector for use in Chapter would satisfy many needs. Aside from the typical use—cases during house meetings, alumni board meetings and rush meetings, it would also be a great addition to the entertainment potential of the house, adding the Chapter as a place for large screen gaming events and larger seating for movies.



*A view of the new bar, mid-renovation.*

**Roof Top Gas Grill (plus gas line to roof)** – Because of safety concerns, we are not permitted to use a charcoal barbecue on our rooftop for events like the 4th of July and during Rush. A safe and legal solution would be a gas grill, as long as the gas was delivered via hard pipes from the same gas supply that we use for running the driers and stove.

**New processor for the house server** – The undergraduates recently upgraded the RAID storage on the house server to 4 TB. However, we are unable to run any sort of rush database or internal website off our box due to the 5 year old processor. We don't need anything fancy, just reliable and robust.

**New TV for First Front** – Due to the work week remodeling of the bar this winter work week, we needed to relocate the TV and associated viewing area from

in front of the bar to in front of the fireplace in First Front. The old TV which was located inside the bar is starting to go and does not fit in First Front. A new, 60-inch, flat-screen TV or projector and screen would be an awesome addition to the new arrangement.



*The current layout of First Front: a borrowed television obscures the fireplace and mantle. A wall mounted set or drop down projection screen could preserve the aesthetic of first front.*

**Big brother lists** – The undergraduates are planning a possible mural in fourth lounge that maps all the big brother trees. Please send them any documents that could help them with this project!

*Owen Derby '12  
Incoming President*

## Alums gather for the races

On August 6th to 8th, we held the now traditional Ninth Whitney Racing weekend in Saratoga Springs hosted by Don "Quasi" and Donna Colosimo '62. For Fri, night we had a warm up dinner of stuffed salmon on the BBQ. Attending were **Richard Sparapany '56**, **Dave Bradley '57**, **Gene "Monk"** and **Syl Montrone '59**, **Joe Mariano '59**, **Howie "HS"** and **Cynthia Lahman '59**, **Ed "Gung"** and **Cathy Martens '59**, **John "Butcher"** and **Ricki Lordi '60**, and **Greg "Spender" Doyle '62**. We were missing **Emilio** and **Heide Signes '60**. Emil became part bovine with a valve replacement two weeks previously. We were joined on Saturday at the races by Alpha Etas, Richie and Ann Rudolph, Jack and Bunny Nevin and Jack McNamara. The results at the races were very mixed. Some losing, some about breaking even, and at least one actually coming



*Greg "Spender" Doyle ('62), Don "Quasi" Colosimo Quasi ('62), Gene "Monk" Mon-*

*trone ('59), and Owen "OH" Haselton '59* out ahead. Spender had help from **Owen "OH" Haselton '59** and a PK by osmosis) by phone (OH was in Seattle) in the selection of horses that came in dead last! OH was diligently handicapping while the rest of us picked horses by name, trainer or jockey.

Sunday the Montrones, Martens and Colosimos visited the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge followed by dinner the Red Lion Inn. Last year, we were the trend setters for Chelsea by having dinner at the Beekman Tavern in Rhinecliff. So we're are wondering who is going to be having a wedding in Stockbridge!

Spender spent Sunday playing golf at the "public" Saratoga National Golf Course.

We all wish the best to **Al Graffeo '40**. We remember his efforts to keep us on the straight and narrow – or at least to avoid too many visits to Station 16.

*Don Colosimo '62*



## Help Save Phi Kap History (and Relive it in the Process!)



Several boxes of Phi Kap history were discovered in the chapter room and attic after this past year's work week cleaning. Unfortunately, many photos and rush books were in very poor shape. Unless these photos are digitized, it is very likely that they will not survive many more years. It would be a real tragedy to lose so much of Phi Kappa Theta's history. Ideally, everything from the boxes would be digitized and put into an online album where brothers can log on, browse, and give the labels to photos. To whet your appetite, I have included a few choice examples from the find. The approximate cost to hire a service to scan all the photos has been quoted at \$200. If you would like to donate to this project, contact Aaron Wippold ([aaron.wippold@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.wippold@gmail.com)).

Please email Aaron if you can identify the brothers and events above. The best captions will be included in the next issue of the PECK.

*Aaron Wippold '05  
Alumni Board*



## Phi Kaps attend Regional Conference

This past IAP undergraduate members **Blake Chambers '13**, **Kevin Singh '13**, **Saif Hakim '14**, **Vivaek Shivakumar '14** and **Owen Derby '12** attended the PKT regional conference held at the Becket-Chimney Corners YMCA in Becket, MA. The following is Blake's account of the weekend:

"The weekend started off slow. We all drove to the middle of nowhere to the snowy YMCA camp that I was sure had been the set of some cheap 1970s horror film. After arriving and settling in, we started by discussing several topics related to the fraternity ideals. There was an air of restraint at first; no one was really willing to open up, that is until Kevin Singh spoke his mind. We started with identifying our ideal brotherhood and then went into some deep spiritual discussion. As a strong believer in the wealth of diversity, I was happy to see the many different faces of PKT present at the conference. The RPI bros were always outspoken and joking around, and we shared rush stories, drinking stories, and came up with a plan to play some inter-chapter volleyball up at the ski-lodge (their chapter house at RPI). WPI proved to be quite a juxtaposition to their brothers. They were an intellectual bunch eager to discuss different ideas and play some catch phrase. Chapters from UNH, UMASS Dartmouth and the colony from Bridgewater were also present.

The rest of the weekend focused mainly on hazing and its prevention. We watched a video on the "By-Standard Effect" and another on hazing and I think we all took something away from both. Personally, as Risk Manager for Mass Eta, I was eager to discuss other chapters' parties and events and maybe steal some ideas. One of the last event was a round table session where we broke into groups focused on one aspect of fraternity life. The event was very successful in my eyes, especially for the two Associate Members attended."

*Blake Chambers '13  
Undergraduate Risk Manager*



*The '14 Associate Member class spruced up the entryway to the house as a part of their Associate Member Project. Not pictured is the newly renovated coatroom and storage space for parties.*

### Class Competitions (For fiscal year up to 1/15/2011)

| #  | Class         | \$       |
|----|---------------|----------|
| 1  | Class of 1999 | \$2420   |
| 2  | Class of 2000 | \$660    |
| 3  | Class of 2006 | \$619.98 |
| 4  | Class of 2005 | \$470    |
| 5  | Class of 2007 | \$465    |
| 6  | Class of 1984 | \$400    |
| 7  | Class of 1983 | \$250    |
| 8  | Class of 1991 | \$250    |
| 9  | Class of 1970 | \$200    |
| 10 | Class of 2008 | \$197    |
| 11 | Class of 1962 | \$150    |
| 12 | Class of 2009 | \$150    |
| 13 | Class of 2003 | \$120    |

Classes with less than \$120 donated

2010, 2002, 1948, 1959, 1987,  
1996, 1985, 1992, 1980, 1997,  
1990, 1952, 1964

## From the '14 Associate Member Blog



The '14 picking up trash in Dudley Square for their community service project



(Left) The '14s sitting still long enough for a group photo.



(Above) The '14 keeping up a proud tradition of cross dressing... this time at the SK Late Night event. This photo made the front cover of the Tech.

## Mass Eta Alumni Write from Near and Far

Looking forward to being tarred and feathered, **CRAIG WILDMAN '03** accepted a position at Chevron and moved to Berkeley CA. Please check on him at 2229 McGee Ave, Apt G, Berkeley, CA 94703

**JOHN F. P. "Fritz" ZENGEL '46** passed away peacefully after a long illness on March 22, 2010. He was 92. His family can be reached at 237 Chatham Hill Rd, Wenatchee, WA, 98801 or by phone (509) 662-6516.

**BOB MUHR '64** lives at 5561 Camino Cerralvo, Santa Barbara, CA 93111. He can be reached at (805) 964-7330 or [surfinbob@msn.com](mailto:surfinbob@msn.com). He reports that there is nothing new in his life, but that when he was last in Boston, he couldn't locate the house. (PKT is located at 229 Commonwealth Ave.)

**PAUL GIBIAN '48** passed away on September 1, 2010 of a heart attack. He is survived by his wife, who can be reached at 1604 Foulkeways, Gwynedd, PA 19436-1033.

**MICHAEL M. TING '92** would like to hear from you! Write or visit him at 29 Claremont Ave #105, New York City, NY, 10027. You can call him at (212) 864-5398 or email him at [mmt2033@columbia.edu](mailto:mmt2033@columbia.edu).

**MICHAEL MORTONSON '04** has moved to 2578 Scioto View Ln., Columbus, OH 43221.

**JOHN E. "Jack" PRESCHLACK '54** was appointed to the MIT corporation Development

committee as a Florida representative. Call his cellphone at (847) 507-6358 or email him at [jepcor@tds.net](mailto:jepcor@tds.net). You can write him at 101 Oyster Cut, Vero Beach, FL 32963 or call his home at (772) 234-8209. In the summer, you can reach him at 820 E. Westminster Rd, Lake Forest, IL 60045 or call his home at (847) 234-8209

**AARON WIPPOLD '05** has at long last completed his Masters of Divinity and is taking some much deserved time off. You can find him working as a barista/ice cream scooper at Toscanini's Ice Cream in Cambridge... Stop by and get a free scoop of ice cream or cup of coffee!

**RANDALL J. "Randy" HOGAN JR '49** died May 11, 2010 after a long illness. He was surrounded by his family.

**RAY COVERT '86** writes: I am currently living in Palm Beach Gardens, FL with my wife Mary and my daughter Carolyn. My oldest son, Christopher, lives in PA with his mom, but he likes to come down every chance he gets. We are expecting a little boy, Sam, next week. Things are fairly busy around here, and we have not enjoyed the beach as much as we would like, but we're managing. I work at home for a consultancy firm based in Washington, DC. Working at home has its advantages and disadvantages, and it has taken a few years of telecommuting to get it all sorted-out. My many thanks to all of you who made Webex, Google Docs and cheap long distance calling

possible! I would love to attend my 25th reunion this year, so let the gang know we are considering coming to Boston with the kids. We just need someone to watch the dog, guinea pigs and rabbits.



**ANDREW ERICKSON '12** got married to Amy Budnowski in Milwaukee Wisconsin at Eastbrook Church on May 31st (pictured above). His grandfather presided the ceremony. Several '12 pledge brothers made the trip to join 800 other guests. So it was a really great time hanging out with friends. The couple went to Barcelona for their honeymoon.

Please email me, **Aaron Wippold '05** [aaron.wippold@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.wippold@gmail.com) with comments about *The Peck* or with requests for your picture or letter to be published.