From: Tau Kappa Epsilon tke.lambdapsi.alum@gmail.com Subject: The Basement - Vol. 12 (TKE Lambda Psi Alumni Monthly Newsletter) Date: January 31, 2020 at 1:31 PM

To: thomas1hill@gmail.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR! It is an honor and a privilege to serve this Alumni Association. For all of us serving this group, it is not easy, each of us has competing priorities, not enough time in the day to do all that we want, much less what we need. Frankly, it is sometimes hard to see direct value in the actions each of us have dedicated over the years to maintain Lambda Psi. For me, I find myself pinballing back and forth on how much time and effort I can give to this group given the rigors of life; but I'm always reminded of the special bonds we formed at the bottom of the hill sandwiched between the Brewster Buildings and the Catholic Student Center; special bonds I do not want to let go without a fight! Relationships are labor intensive, and we have to regularly decide this association and its relationships that come with it are a priority. It is the only way we'll reach our long-term goals. I believe whenever we truly make something a priority in life, they somehow always finds a way to get done. Let's be realistic, Lambda Psi is not top priority in any of our lives but dat' gummit' (Bobby Bowden voice) You guys are worth the effort and we will fight to keep US! Drew

## Inside This Issue

- PG. 2 Brotherhood Story
- PG. 3 Lambda Psi Brother Bios:

Highlighted Bio Quote – "My two best friends, to the is day are pledge brothers of mine. We don't just consider ourselves brothers, but members of each others families"

- PG. 5 Basement UPDATE!
- PG. 6 Financial Snapshot
- PG. 7 Special Call Out
- PG. 8 Doc's Corner
- PG. 11 We Need Basement Writers
- PG. 12 A Look Back into History
- PG. 13 Alumni Board Contact Info



# BROTHERHOOD STORY

# The Basement recently caught up one of Lambda Psi's respected brothers, Mr. Britt Starling, Scroll 536 out of Greenville, NC.

After arriving to ECU in the fall of 2005 I was almost immediately interested in TKE.

I roomed with my best friend from high school, Cody Squibb who was also a newly inducted brother. Shortly after the move into Aycock Hall we went down college hill to the TKE house. I was introduced to a gripping group of guys to say the least.

I pledged the following semester. Pledging in the spring of 2006 had its ups and downs. Had a few bad breaks that semester, one of which was my





car getting wrecked. Towards the latter part of the semester with school, pledging, and super angry parents was feeling little down on my luck. That was all going to change when I was asked to help Drew Griffin's father Mr. Jeff Griffin paint the much-needed chapter room. From college football, seersucker suits, to how bad the chapter room needed painting we had much to talk about. His perspective was refreshing and had a great sense oh humor. Afterwards my moral was back up. Was able to get into the fraternity in the spring of 2006 and finished the semester with a decent GPA.

The following fall semester as a NIB was s successful one. TKE was able to get a large pledge class and Mr. Griffin was inducted as well. Mr. Griffin will greatly be missed. This life experience would have never been possible without TKE.



# BROTHERHOOD BIOS

Since 1968, TKE Lambda Psi Chapter has built proven leaders. Our sacred bond, held faithful by so many, was committed to for each of us to become the best version of ourselves. We cannot let this bond, cultivated during undergrad, die as alumni. As we start this chapter's new reality, the journey back to ECU campus, the brotherhood bio section highlights our storied fratemity men coming from all walks of life with dynamic skillsets. Our chapter is full of talented leaders able to do

so much for each other.

The brotherhood bio section serves as that bridge over water to introduce brothers from all eras and hopefully accelerate our ability to help one another. If you see someone you would like to connect to [growing your personal & professional <u>network</u>] then reach out, you already established common ground just by being fraternity brothers. Our hope as an alumni executive team is to add value so we can maintain a robust, mobilized alumni association. Each bio will feature the brother's name, scroll number, current location, why TKE is important, unique facts, and finally what skillset that brother feels they are experts in. The featured bio will continue in each volume of The Basement and our goal is to strengthen the bond and build deeper connections across our alumni base.

# ▲ WE NEED YOUR BIO! ▲

Please contact **Matt Kraus** (<u>matthew.richard.kraus@gmail.com</u>) to be featured in an upcoming issue of The Basement!

Name: Bill Van Horn Scroll Number: 117 (Fall '74) City/State: Oak Island, NC



#### Why is TKE important to me?

Wow, Where do I start. When I joined, I was eager to build a unique network of friends and to enjoy the social life of a fraternity. During my years at the frat I learned how to deal with people, build business wisdom, develop a "hustler" mentality and so many other life skills. But the real takeaway is I have a TKE family and brotherhood that spans over 45 years. As I get older, I cherished the long-lasting friendships that has added value to my life.

#### Memorable TKE Experience:

I lived in the TKE house for  $4 \frac{1}{2}$  years plus a couple of summer sessions. What a blast. Perhaps a record ? So way too many experiences to list but here's a few:

- Road trips
- Welcoming 8 pledge classes
- Friday Happy Hours
- Ist Boxing Tournament
- Red Carnation/Beach Weekends
- Late nights in TV room Being a "Reverend" and having revivals

Night of Madness

 Socials, Moser Farm, Sorority formals

## Unique Facts:

My Nephew, TJ Hill is a ECU TKE and was the Crysophylos (I was Crysophylos 1975/1976)

## Skills/Occupation:

Retired Part Owner of a Software Product and Custom Development Company. An additional skill is organizing golf outings, I have had the privilege of putting together bi-annual golf outings for a group of old TKE's for close to 30 years.



#### Why is TKE important to me?

I could give a list of reasons, but the main reason is the bond I have with my brothers. My two best friends, to the is day are pledge brothers of mine. We don't just consider ourselves brothers, but members of each others families. They are Stephen Grubbs and Felix Forbes, my two brothers from two other mothers!

#### Memorable TKE Experience:

I have to say the one that sticks out the most is our scavenger hunt as pledges. One of the brothers, wanted a live chicken, for the house! Why he wanted a live chicken, is a mystery to this day. Needless to say when, 6 guys are knocking on a farmers front door at 2:00 am, he's not the happiest man in the world. We claimed to be from the ECU Biology Dept., why we said that, who the hell knows but it sounded good to us in our condition. Name: John Lamb (Lambo) Scroll Number: 273 (Fall '85) City/State: Greensboro, NC



never knew, how fast I could run, until he pointed his rifle at us, and said get off my property, and the let off two rounds above our heads. When you hear bullets flying over your heads, you really do find how fast you can run. Some how or another we did get a chicken. We did get all of our whites, from the brother who wanted the chicken. The chicken lived a couple of months at the house, until it disappeared behind the walls in the basement.

## Unique Facts:

Born in Greenville, NC , while parents were attending ECU.

#### Skills/Occupation:

Outside sales representative, calling on Circle K and Sheetz convenience stores.

Name: David Smith Scroll Number: 235 (Fall '84) City/State: Laguna Vista, TX





## Why is TKE important to me?

The memories of spending time with men like Jack Cohen, William Morton, Ronny Jones, the Poplin brothers, the Lowe brothers, my big brother Catfish, all the people I shared that time of my life with will be with me forever. These truly are my brothers for life.

## Memorable TKE Experience:

Beating NC State in their own house!

## Unique Facts:

I live in the southern most point of the US.

## Skills/Occupation:

I teach 8th grade US History and coach football and basketball for the Port Isabel Tarpons



# TARGET IS SET! OPERATION BASEMENT RECON

Recall November's newsletter, Marshall Warren, Scroll 138 volunteered to spearhead our effort to assess the basement for future use options.

## \*\*\* LATEST UPDATE \*\*\*

- A. Contacted the city inspector and unfortunately there was nothing recorded on file as to what might condemn the basement but did obtain key points and next possible steps.
- B. Ist and foremost there have been 4 code changes since we had the house gutted in 2005
- C. Based on the description it sounds like it could be a regress issue.

- D. City Inspector suggested we check ceiling height is 80"
- E. City Inspector stated it must have sprinkler system throughout space
- F. Needs to have heating so sprinkler does not freeze which we have
- G. There needs to be adequate exits and that depends on how many people the basement can occupy. For example if the square footage is 1000' and you have tables, couches, pool table etc. that takes up square footage and exit requirements differ.
- H. Marshall's willing to wager the basement exit leading to the back door is not adequate to be considered an exit.

## \*\*\* FOUR REQUESTS \*\*\*

- 1. Can someone local please check basement ceiling height?
- Can someone help find out what it would cost to get blueprints drawn up designed how we want to use that space. It's always been a big gathering space with minimal amenities. Would be curious what other options could be drawn up (e.g., living space, hybrid).
- 3. We need to eliminate water flow to basement. Can someone local get solid estimates on this?
- 4. Someone contact local company to get a quote on drawings so we can decide next steps - pay for drawings, etc. once drawings are done, and we have determined how the basement will be utilized, we can submit to city inspector for approval.





# FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT

This page highlights the Alumni Association's current financial position. We want everyone fully informed as to avoid hearsay, uncertainty, or anything of the like. Transparency is paramount as we rebuild the chapter.

Current Position (21 Oct 2019)										
Cash Reserves	\$11,822									
Bank Mortgage Ioan	(\$80,377)									
Total	(\$68,555)									

## IF INTERESTED TO LEARN MORE DETAILS, REACH OUT TO DREW GRIFFIN, JOE MOSS, OR

MARSHALL WARREN

Aug-22 Sep-22 Oct-22 Nov-22 Dec-22

1.888 \$ 1.888 \$ 2.638 \$ 1.888 \$ 1.888 \$ 4.845

	-		_		_		_			-		_		_				_		_			
		Jan-20	F	Feb-20	1	Var-20		Apr-20	May-20	L	Jun-20		Jul-20		Aug-20	S	ep-20	(	Oct-20	Ν	lov-20	0	)ec-2
Expenses	s	4,741	\$	2,188	s	1,888	\$	1,888	\$ 1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	2,638	s	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	4,84
income	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	s	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,0
taxes due																							
pay \$20,000 loan back to Alumni	\$	4,822	\$	6,634	\$	8,746	\$	10,858	\$ 12,970	\$	15,082	\$	17,194	\$	19,306	\$	20,668	s	22,780	\$	24,892	\$	4,04
		Jan-21	F	Feb-21	1	Mar-21		Apr-21	May-21		Jun-21		Jul-21	1	Aug-21	S	ep-21	(	Oct-21	N	lov-21	۵	)ec-2
Expenses	s	4,741	\$	2,188	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$ 1,888	s	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	2,638	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	4,84
income	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	s	4,000	\$	4,000	\$ 4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	s	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,00
taxes due					s	1,549				Γ													
pay \$5,000 loan back to Alumni	\$	3,306	\$	5,118	s	5,681	\$	7,793	\$ 9,905	\$	12,017	s	14,129	\$	16,241	\$	17,603	\$	19,715	\$	21,827	\$	15,98
	Γ									Γ													
	+		-		-		-			+		-		-		-		-		_		-	

Feb-22 Mar-22 Apr-22 May-22 jun 222 Jul-22

4741 \$ 2188 \$ 1888 \$ 1888 \$ 1888 \$ 1888 \$ 1888

	-	- 19 - C - C	-		-	1999.00	-		-		-		-		-		-		-		-	1000	-	
income	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000
taxes due					s	1,549																		
	s	15,241	\$	17,053	\$	17,616	\$	19,728	\$	21,840	\$	23,952	\$	26,064	\$	28,176	\$	29,538	\$	31,650	\$	33,762	\$	32,917
			Γ				Γ												Γ					
		Jan-23		Feb-23	1	Mar-23		Apr-23		May-23	Ju	n-23		Jul-23	1	Aug-23								
Expenses	s	7,160	\$	2,188	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888	\$	1,888								
income	s	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000	\$	4,000								
taxes due					s	1,549													Γ					
	s	29,757	\$	31,569	s	32,131	s	34,243	s	36,355	s	38,467	s	40,579	\$	42,691								
										_		_		-				_						

Payback Security deposit to Phi Mu - \$10,000

Payback tke undergraduate account balance held in trust - \$12,000

\$ 32,691

Fees/large maintenance reserves required in bank account - \$6000 not liquid

Payback brothers who lended money in 2018 to ensure loan processed - \$25,000

S 20.691 Money left for alumni account at end of Phi Mu lease to furnish house and make necessary updates

## Additional Cost/Revenue Drivers

- \$25K brothers due back in Dec 2020 based on last minute money raised in summer 2018 to ensure loan went through to get Phi Mu in the house.
- D. Lewis \$5K, J. Lindley \$5K, B. Van Horn \$5K, J. Kevil \$2500, E. Jackson \$5K; M. Warren \$2500
  As of November 2019, taxes increase since Lambda Psi is now a landlord



# SPECIAL CALL-OUT

Servant-leadership is a timeless concept, the phrase "servant leadership" was coined by Robert K. Greenleaf in The Servant as Leader, an essay that he first published in 1970. In that essay, Greenleaf said: "The servant-leader is servant first... It begins with the natural feeling that one wants to serve, to serve first. Then conscious choice brings one to aspire to lead. That person is sharply different from one who is leader first, perhaps because of the need to assuage an unusual power drive or to acquire material possessions...The leader-first and the servant-first are two extreme types. Between them there are shadings and blends that are part of the infinite variety of human nature.

The Basement Newsletter was notified last week that multiple brothers noted in the financial snapshot graciously donated \$25,000 in August 2018 but have since decided to forego recovering any of their money given that most-dire time for Lambda Psi Alumni Association.





# DOC'S CORNER

7 | Page

## The Teke Experience

Recently a question came up about how "similar" the **Teke Experience** has been for the Newer (and obviously younger) "Era" Fraters when compared to older "Era" *Dinosaurs* like me and all those Eras in between. Maybe a better question is how different was the Teke Experience for the many Eras of Fraters over the 50+ Years of Teke-dom? Or, for the most part, except for clothing style, pop music and the different definitions of "legal", has that experience been pretty much the same for all of us ECU Tekes regardless of when we pledged?

It is an interesting question... Is it as one of our great Lambda-Psi philosophers, Chip Russell, has said frequently over the years, "Boys will be Boys..." to explain our many excesses. Maybe we can extend Chip's insight to mean, "Tekes will be Tekes" no matter what year we were born.

So, how realistic can it be to speculate that we can **Relate as Brothers** to each other since we have 50+ years of ECU Teke-dom with over 700 of us fraters passing through 951's door. Do the similarities of the experiences bridge brothers ranging in age from 19/20 years old to those pushing 80? There has been some discussion about how the mix of younger brothers will be with the Founders of Lambda-Psi and Early Era brothers like myself. Some think that with the recent cycle of "correctness" that Millennials' and Generation X'ers' Teke Experiences will be different and more "vanilla".



In trying to find an answer to the "Difference Question", a frater on the alumni board suggested that I contact Frater Trevor Novak. Trevor pledged in 2014 as he was starting his Junior Year.

have been in person with a couple of Millers consumed each. But maybe the isolation gave us both a chance to be more candid.

The following conversation between Trevor and I about our Teke Experience has a 45 Years difference in time. Trevor pledged in 2014 and I pledged in 1969.



# DOC'S CORNER

## QUESTION: "Why Teke?"

**Trevor:** "I had been around ECU for a couple of years and been through a formal Rush. I was an upcoming Junior when I pledged. It was all about joining the REAL Brotherhood there. I knew Jonathan Bennett and I was one of his friends. It had to be real brotherhood there if he was there. I knew there would be a lot of shared memories and I would be building deep friendships. And, yes, I knew also that the fraternity would allow me to build skills and it would look good on my resume.

**Doc:** "I joined Teke because I sensed that unlike the other frats I had visited there was something different about Teke. There seemed to be a closeness/brotherhood there. I am an "only child" and I was attracted to that. Other frats I had visited seemed they were more roommates than brothers. Tekes had these unwritten rules/protocols especially about girls. "You NEVER snake a brother" was one strictly adhered too. Those unwritten rules were put together over time to keep us together.

# <u>QUESTION:</u> "Other than Brotherhood, was there ONE SPECIFIC THING that made you Go Teke"?

Trevor: "They accepted me for who I am. It was like I was family."

**Doc:** "No one asked me what my family did for a living. Not a single time. Every other fraternity I went too someone would ask; Where are you from? Blah, Blah, blah... What does your Dad do for a living? Tekes didn't care. They accepted me for who I was... I joined a brotherhood."

QUESTION: "When you think about Teke what pops in your mind?"

<u>Trevor:</u> "Good parties, loved the parties...But, what I remember is the time we spent together after the parties. Late night, hanging around talking. I have a lot of good memories about those late-night talks and fun. It was a great feeling being there with my brothers.

**Doc:** "If you have read any of my "columns" in the Basement you'll recognize I have a recurring theme... The TV Room. I loved just sitting there with a roomful of brothers, drinking beer, watching a game, a movie, "The Young and The Restless" and discussing Life, The Universe and Teke. And, those "Walks of Shame" were particularly enjoyable. You shared a lot about your thoughts and sometimes they got stomped on. It was a lot of fun just hanging out. It was some of my best time as an active brother.



# DOC'S CORNER

## QUESTION: "What did you do as a Fraternity that you are most proud of?"

**Trevor:** "It was the Cookout for America Charity we sponsored. We planned it for months. We wanted it to be better than the previous one. All the funds went to support the Wounded Warrior Foundation. It was a needed cause and an honorable organization. Everyone worked hard at it. We organized, planned, and it was amazing what we could do TOGETHER. It made us a stronger Brotherhood and it meant something to all of us. We became bigger because of it..."

**Doc:** "I think everyone in my era would point to the "Boxing Tournaments." It was such an unlikely success since we had to get approval from the University. It took everyone of us along with a bunch of Little Sisters to make it happen. Even the brothers who usually found ways to "coast" along got fully engaged. We all ignored everything else during the tournaments. I'm sure the bar revenue drop in Downtown Greenville was noticeable because we, Tekes, didn't have time for anything else. I will never forget the feeling we all shared after the last fight of our first tournament. "We did it!" We did become bigger because of it..."

Trevor and I talked about a lot of other things on that phone call. We had never met but there was that connection through our similar Teke Experiences. Yeah, we both had puked our brains out a few times at 951, chased sorority girls, played Inter-Fraternity Sports, gone to Football Games but we had experienced those things almost a half-century apart... **45 years apart** (when my Era talks about our "old" college girlfriends now, we are being literal). But, I think the above brief Q&As proves our "common" experiences and life at 951 easily bridges those years. That Teke Experience is built on all the commonalities that bond us together stronger than the years separate us. So in other words, **Tekes will be Tekes... FOREVER!** 

That Teke Experience may change a little here and there, but the "Soul" of that Teke Experience remains the same for all of us. We are Lambda-Psi Tekes and We are Tekes for Life.

Oh! One last thing Trevor and I strongly agree on... If we have daughters, they will NEVER go to ECU!

Teke for Life!

YITB, Doc

Please send me your stories, questions and comments at <u>dlepay@gmail.com</u> or, call me 727.224-1439.



# BROTHERHOOD VOLUNTEERS

The Alumni Board thanks all the brothers below for their willingness to contribute to one month of The Basement newsletter between now and September 2020. If you want to join in, please reach out to Drew Griffin or Ryan Troutman.

The Basement Newsletter – Planned Contributors												
Nov 2019	Ray Sharpe											
Dec 2019	Ron Jones	Curtis Robinson										
Jan 2020	Britt Starling	Thomas Wiggins										
Feb 2020	Ryan Butcher	Michael Criscitiello	Thom Riekel									
Mar 2020	Bill Van Horn	Carl Martin	Greg Plunkett									
April 2020	Mike Piniaha	Brandon Pittman	?									
May 2020	Marshall Warren	Aaron Gentzler	Brian Brantley									
June 2020	Don Troutman	Zachary Payne	Nathan Gminder									
July 2020	Mike Acree	David Schillo	TJ Hill									
Aug 2020	Ken Piche'	Adam Daniels	Cadyn Laffen									





# A LOOK BACK

There were no better times then spending a warm day hanging on the porch at 951 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. as classes let out, and a cold brew was waiting on us to toast the day. The below pictures will serve as a look back into times like that to remind us who we are from 1968 onward...Enjoy!







# ALUMNI BOARD CONTACT INFO

The Lambda Psi Alumni Association Board is here to serve. We ask you to join us in re-building our chapter's foundation. It is easy to walk away, it is easy not risk failure, and it is easy to not be vulnerable. The new Lambda Psi experiment is underway and when thinking about what type of men we need for this journey, the following excerpt from a 1910 speech delivered in Paris, France by President Theodore Roosevelt comes to mind:

"It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat."

Reach out to anyone below to get involved. We need more strong hands to commit small actions so
we can reach our large goal of building Lambda Psi into the premier ECU fraternity.

Lambda Psi Alumni Association Board												
Name	Scroll	Position	Phone #	Email								
Drew Griffin	526	President	919-796-1170	colonelgriffin14@gmail.com								
Marshall Warren	138	Vice President	480-773-3617	mwarren03@gmail.com								
Joe Moss	IY-564	Treasurer	252-864-5568	onebadtke@gmail.com								
Ryan Troutman	518	Secretary	336-908-0098	rmt0512@gmail.com								
Jim Kevil	140	Housing	973-903-7818	j.kevil@yahoo.com								
Doc Lewis	60	Fundraising	727-771-7040	dlepay@gmail.com								
Dylan Moore	661	Event Planning	252-414-0712	dsmoore2895@gmail.com								
TJ Hill JR Rochester	581 592	IT	336-508-7897 901-853-7071	thomas1hill@gmail.com trulyjr@gmail.com								
Don Troutman	145	Charity	336-707-3330	dontroutman57@gmail.com								
Britt Starling	536	Finance	910-596-1187	cbs020990@yahoo.com								
Scott Mosher Cameron Bush	199 193	Rush	802-448-4394 910-762-7606	smosher@nuharborsecurity.com piratebush@yahoo.com								

Connect via Member Planet – <u>CLICK HERE</u> Connect via Facebook – <u>CLICK HERE</u>



Copyright © 2020 Alumni Association, All rights reserved. You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

Alumni Association 951 E 10th St Greenville, NC 27858-3602

Add us to your address book

Want to change how you receive these emails? You can <u>update your preferences</u> or <u>unsubscribe from this list</u>.

