



THE BASEMENT

Jul. 2019
Vol. 6

Lambda-Psi Alumni Monthly Newsletter



LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! Think about it for a moment, what better location could we have ever dreamed of for our ECU headquarters. Credit to whoever carved that plot of land out for us (*there's got to be a story about that somebody knows!*). Anyway, how fortunate were we as undergrads to spend our long days and even longer nights on the steps, in the living room, bedrooms, and especially *The Basement* of 951 E. 10th St. There's an argument to be made there was no better house for not only a fraternity, sorority, or any organization for that matter that rivals us. From a centralized, access to everything within walking distance and ample parking stand-point, there is no debate. How many times did you leave the TKE house with merely five minutes to spare until class in the Brewster buildings started...knowing all the while you could quite possibly still be one of the first folks to arrive. Think back to those weekends after a long Friday night hanging around downtown Greenville to then wake up on a cool Saturday to the thunderous drums pounding as ECU's marching band prepared for what could be considered the most American experience created to date; college football. Strolling down college hill after a big ECU football victory is an experience second to none knowing the fun that awaits us heading into the night. The alumni association encourages you to exert the effort it takes to plan for and execute a trip to Greenville this fall. Let's keep the momentum going and continue building towards our bright future as a fraternity. Let's go get it!

Inside This Issue

PG. 2 – 2019 Alumni Wknd. Update

PG. 5 – New ECU Rule!

PG. 6 – Brother Making Headlines

PG. 7 – Lambda Psi Brother Bios:

Highlighted Bio Quote –

“I am gearing up for a 3-month stint in Antarctica to study the population dynamics of Weddell seals”

PG. 10 – Doc's Corner

PG. 12 – A Look Back into History

PG. 13 – Call to Action

PG. 14 – Alumni Board Contact Info





ATTENTION YOUNG ALUMNI

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*Don't let money be the reason you do not attend the
2019 Lambda Psi Alumni Weekend!*

Your brothers are here to help!

A **free** ticket to Saturday's football game (vs William & Mary) and **\$20** towards your fee for Friday night's cocktail event will be gifted to the **first 10** brothers that engage the points of contact below. Only requirement – you must have pledged between Spring 2013 to Fall 2017 and are still in good standing with the Fraternity.

Other seasoned alumni, how else can we help our younger brethren?! Let's make this an unforgettable weekend filled with love, charity, and esteem.

If you qualify and are interested in attending, please call or text:

Drew Griffin

President

Lambda Psi Alumni Assoc.
(919) 796-1170

Ryan Troutman

Secretary

Lambda Psi Alumni Assoc.
(336) 908-0098



TIME IS TICKING... RSVP TODAY!



RAISING THE BAR

2019 Alumni Weekend
September 20-22



Annual Brotherhood Meeting



30 Hotel Rooms
Reserved



Friday Morning Golf Outing



Football Game
NO QUARTER!



Friday Night Cocktail Event



Let's Party!

For questions, please contact:

Dylan Moore

(252) 414-0712

dsmoore2895@gmail.com



2019 TKE LAMBDA PSI ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA EPSILON TAU KAPPA
DA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMBDA PSI LAMB



\$50 Per Golfer

Tee times between 11am – 12:30pm

Groups of four (4) will be selected based on experience, unless otherwise requested.



Reserve your spot today:

RSVP no later than Thurs. Aug 15



Don Troutman

(336) 707-3330

dontrounman57@gmail.com

Dylan Moore

(252) 414-0712

dsmoore2895@gmail.com



Brook Valley Country Club

311 Oxford Rd

Greenville, NC 27858



NEW RULE – DOWDY FICKLEN



ECU Football Player (above) upon hearing the news.
Coach Houston (below) at the recent news conference



BIG NEWS! We recently learned on Friday, July 12th the ECU Athletic Association has listened to our brotherhood's lobbying efforts to now allow us to book-end our 2019 Lambda Psi Alumni Weekend Football Tailgate with purchasing ALCOHOL once inside Dowdy-Ficklen! ECU Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the sale of beer and wine at athletic events, making it the fourth UNC university to adopt the new policy. ECU's goal is to sell alcohol in the football stadium and at Minges Coliseum for men's and women's basketball games starting this year and at Clark-LeClair Stadium for baseball games in the spring. ECU will sell beer and wine from **two hours prior to game time and through end of the third quarter.**

Lambda-Psi Alumni Association recently caught up with Coach Mike Houston soon after the monumental decision at a recent football news conference to find out his perspective on the new stadium policy. We asked if there were any concerns now that cold beer would be flowing throughout Dowdy-Ficklen...he maintained a stoic demeanor and acted like most coaches regarding controversial topics, he said a whole lot without saying too much at all; simply put, "I've got too many people that depend on me playing on the field to worry for one second what's going on in the crowd." Despite the reserved response, Coach Houston gave us a subtle feeling that he at least saw the move as favorable...but who are we to assume?! See everyone at the game!!

BROTHER MAKING HEADLINES

We believe that the essential elements of true brotherhood are love, charity, and esteem.

Whether we remember it or not, every brother of the Lambda Psi chapter has uttered these words. These elements are the backbone of our Fraternity, and without them, we would collapse.

Matt Scully (scroll 481), proud owner of the most popular breakfast/brunch spot in Greenville, The Scullery, truly exemplifies these traits.

The Scullery made national headlines earlier this month because of an act of kindness and generosity rarely seen, but not uncommon if you know Scully. With the President of the United States giving a speech in Greenville, The Scullery announced they would be donating the entire day's sales (~\$5,800) to the American Immigration Council. No matter where you fall on the political spectrum, it is safe to say this is love, charity, and esteem personified.

While this may be his most publicized charitable donation, it is far from his only. Matt also donates to the Greenville Police and Fire Departments, the Food Bank of Central and Eastern Carolina, and the local humane society, in addition to over a dozen other local organizations.

Be sure to stop by next time you're in Greenville!



"We just thought this would be an opportunity to spread a positive message"

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 fraternity 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 network!**] 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.

Each month five (5) new brothers will be selected and featured in The Basement and by the time our Annual Fall Alumni Weekend is here, the brotherhood bios should accelerate your ability to get to know brothers spanning from 1968 to 2017.

Name: Brandon Davis
Scroll Number: 543 (Fall 06)
City/State: Missoula, MT



Why is TKE important to me? I didn't really know what to expect when I joined TKE. After joining, however, it became apparent that TKE was much more than a frat. TKE was the platform that brought people together regardless of color, political or religious beliefs. In doing so, TKE became a melting pot of new ideas and diversity. My experiences at TKE molded me into the man I am today. I gained new insights and perspectives and made lifelong friendships.

Memorable TKE Experience: There are so many! But this is easy, the 2008 Christmas formal. I actually don't remember much from that night but from the pictures it looked like a wild night. And I'm pretty sure I earned the nickname "Booty Shake'n Davis" that night!

The most forgettable experience, however, was having to listen to my roommate James Moore sing and moan in the shower each night, ha! James' rendition of *I need a girl* by Trey Songz is forever embedded in memory.

Unique Facts: I am a ginger.

Skills: This past April I received my M.S in Wildlife biology from the University of Montana. During graduate school I have had the opportunity to conduct research around the world. Last summer I tracked muskox in Greenland to study their microbiome. Currently, I am gearing up for a three-month stint in Antarctica to study the population dynamics of Weddell seals.



Name: Travis Overocker (right)
Scroll Number: 486 (Spring '00)
City/State: Outside Carrollton, GA

Why is TKE important to me?

TKE always meant friendship to me in the sense of challenging everyone of us to be the best version of ourselves. We accepted everyone who was real, regardless of whether they fit in elsewhere.

Memorable TKE Experience:

My best memory that's fit to print is helping one of our Older Brothers, Brent, getting elected as Student Body President during our Pledge years.

Skills/Occupation:

Criminal Defense Attorney outside Atlanta, GA



Name: Kent Lewark (left)
Scroll Number: 363 (Fall '88)
City/State: Norfolk, VA

Why is TKE important to me?

TKE is important to me because of the people I met and the relationships I developed. My TKE brothers helped me develop personally and find the confidence to become the individual I am today.

Why is TKE important to me?

My most memorable experience was leading the 1989 Spring/Fall classes as Hegemon.

Unique facts:

I'm a serious animal lover with a dream of one day opening a No-kill shelter.

Skills/Occupation:

I have been in the retail garden center business for over 15 years but just recently left that world to do my own thing as an independent landscape contractor.



Name: Cameron Bush (right)

Scroll Number: 193

City/State: Wilmington, NC

Why is TKE important to me?

I pledged my freshman year and met men who would be my best friends for the rest of my life.

Memorable TKE Experience:

In the fall of 1982 a group of brothers were in the TV room watching The Saint. We hatched a plan to steal(borrow) the ram from Chapel Hill College. The rest is the subject of legend.

Unique facts:

I live in Wilmington with my wife, Barbara.

Skills/Occupation:

Lawyer



Name: Greg “Daewoo” Plunkett (left)

Scroll Number: 583 (Fall ‘08)

City/State: Cary, NC

Why is TKE important to me?

TKE is important to me for two reasons. The first would be the relationships I know will last the rest of my life. The second is the appreciation of hard work and true understanding of grit. Fall 08 used to joke that last week of pledging. We would wish someone would sucker punch us in the face so we could justify letting out our pent-up anger and emotions on a justifiable candidate. Now, when shit goes sideways in the most colossal way, I think back to that last week and laugh realizing it’s not that bad.

Memorable TKE Experience:

Hands down meeting my wife, Melissa, my sophomore year in the house. My friend brought her roommate down to pregame for downtown. I remember seeing her and thinking I am about to do something stupid or I am going to marry her. Who knew it was one in the same!

Unique Facts:

I am terrified of styrofoam.

Skills/Occupation:

I am a salesman for Public Safety equipment like Uniforms and Body armor.



DOC'S CORNER

The doors are ALWAYS open...so what happened to them??

I love this fraternity. I do not get how a majority of our 700+ Brothers have cut the bonds that we shared. I can understand how someone in the Class of 2010 might react differently to me who joined the fraternity 40 years earlier (“He’s as old as my Grandpa”). It’s not that... What I am trying to say is how a brother can be part of the brotherhood for 4-ish years, (what we call an “Era”) then graduate or leave and never be heard from again... I never understood how that could happen. The lifecycle is that you graduate or leave ECU and jump on the Real-Life Train. Sure, that ride can be encompassing for a while with little time for looking back in the rearview mirror or remembering the bonds that united us. There’s that first real job, making money, relationships, marriage, children (not always in that order), family, ex-wives, etc. All of that is understandable but some brothers seem to just disappear and forgot their pledging & brothering they did with 30-40 others who formed the fraternity of their “Era.” Again, it makes you wonder how they can forget those bonds. Lambda-Psi Chapter has a population base of 700+ recorded brothers but only <100 solid contacts who open their emails. It just makes you wonder...

What happened? Where are they? Did our 951 East 10th Street bond mean nothing to them?

Well, maybe it isn’t that they abandoned or forgot us... Last year I made a few calls to brothers of my Era to see if they would assist in our fundraising efforts to rehab the Tekehouse for the Phi Mu Sorority lease. During one of those calls I was reconnected with a pledge brother of mine whom I have not spoken to in 20+ years. It was GREAT. After a couple of minutes of catching-up, it seemed we had never lost connection. *That ole Teke for Life thing was still there.* I told him why I was calling and amazingly he said, “Oh, man, **I thought ya’ll had forgotten me.** How can I help?” He had unintentionally just **DRIFTED AWAY**. Frankly, I felt some guilt that we/I had let him DRIFT away for all those years. Why didn’t we reach out sooner and pull him back into the bond?

That call lead to me to a startling realization that, **WE have about 600 Brothers that WE let DRIFT away.** In a rather broad sense, when WE let a brother drift away it is a sort of burial of those brothers.

Okay, hang with me a minute... I am going to get serious for a couple of paragraph:

Last month’s issue of The Basement had an article on the Life and Death of Jonathon Bennett. That article truly defines brotherhood to me. It shared the depth of feelings and sadness when we lose a brother. In the “Era” of brothers I am in, Al Meeks was the first to die. In 1981, a few years after we all had exited Stage Left from Greenville, he was killed in one of those senseless traffic accidents.



DOC'S CORNER

When the call went out to us about his death the news hit us hard. Most of us immediately jumped off the Real-World Train and trekked back to G-ville, assembled and attended his funeral. There was little coordination to meet other than we knew we needed to show our respect and sorrow from his Teke fraternity family to his paternal family. After the funeral we decided to hold an impromptu wake in Al's memory. Most attending that wake were Tekes but we had a sprinkling of girlfriends and Little Sisters. We found a restaurant in Eastern NC that sold beer at 2:00 in the afternoon and would give us a private room to lament in. We remembered him and told a lot of great Al Meeks stories that afternoon. What I remember the most was that wake started out in sadness but ended in joy. How could a wake for a dead brother end in joy? Well, being together in that moment, with the bonds of brotherhood, made it joyful. Of course, we will remember and celebrate Al Meeks whenever our ERA gets together.

I would like to ask each of you to do 2 things before we publish the next Basement...

I. FIRST REQUEST: Reach out to a Drifted Away Brother (a DAB) that “we” let drift away.

Recommend the following approach:

- A. Invite them to the September Football Weekend.
- B. Ask them to give you their email address and add them to the Basement Newsletter.
- C. Suggest they email a picture to us along with a brief message or send their most funny/favorite story we can share about them at our Football Weekend.
- D. Don't ignore the above.

My Pledge Class, Delta, had 32 pledges to start with. AND only 2 of us are still involved actively. 30 of them drifted away. How many of those “Drifters” are in your Eras? What can you do to bring'em back? You might be surprised at their appreciation as I was when I reconnected to my long-lost Pledge Brother after 20+ years. I challenge all of you to pick up that cell phone of yours and reach out to those DRIFTED AWAY BROTHERS and ask'em, “Where you been? We want you back.”

There is a rumor that some of them procreated and even became respectable citizens. Imagine that!

2. SECOND REQUEST: Email/call me and tell about some of your stories and memories from your ERA. The Basement needs to publish those stories. As we continue building ourselves back to campus, these stories will be what bridge the gap between us and those select individuals to bring TKE back to ECU campus prominence.

Email: dlepay@gmail.com or 727.224-1439
YITB, Doc



A LOOK BACK

There were no better times than spending a warm day hanging on the porch at 951 E. 10th 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!





WE NEED YOU



1968 1978 1988 1998 2008 2018 2028

The Lambda Psi of Tau Kappa Epsilon is comprised of 700+ Brothers spanning the past 5 decades. Unfortunately, we only have **50%** of the brotherhood's active email addresses and even worse, we have gaps in our scroll numbers and need your help identifying these missing brothers.

And that's where *you* can help.

We are looking for brothers to represent 5-year increments in which they were an active brother. This would greatly help the alumni association gather contact information and scroll numbers, distribute information, promote upcoming events, etc.

If you're interested, please contact **any** member of the alumni board!

1968 – 1973

1993 – 1998

1973 – 1978

1998 – 2003

1978 – 1983

2003 – 2008

1983 – 1988

2008 – 2013

1988 – 1993

2013 – 2018



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

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