

NU NEWS

- FALL 2009 -

A PUBLICATION OF THE NU CHAPTER OF TAU KAPPA EPSILON
THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY



A new location, and many other changes!

THE NEW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON WILL BE BIGGER AND BETTER THAN EVER

There will be a lot to like about the 55th Annual Nu Chapter Christmas Luncheon on December 11. So many changes have been made that we have practically reinvented the popular affair.

Since we left the tradition of Founders Day to the Active Chapter, this is the closest thing we have to a banquet, so we have planned an event whose location and cost are expected to attract many new Fraters, making this the greatest coming together of Nu Chapter Tekes.

Mark your calendar for Friday, December 11, because even the day of the week is changed. We will be at Hs. Lordships Restaurant on the Berkeley Marina, site of several happy banquets of years past. Everyone liked the sumptuous surroundings of the Torch Room, and the view of the Campanile across the estuary—on the campus where it all began.

The cost is \$45, down from \$64 last year; drinks are less expensive, and parking is free. We'll begin to gather about 11:00 or 11:30, and drinks may be ordered at the bar, adjacent to our room, so we can begin socializing as soon as we arrive.

Lunch will be a buffet—not cold cuts or peaches and cottage cheese—but a full array of entrees and side dishes. Red and white wine will be on each table. The ladies, whose own buffet will be a more modest \$30 (because they do not require a banquet room) will be seated at their own special table in the dining room, and will join us after lunch for more visiting and perhaps serenading by some members of the Active Chapter who will also be present.

Attire, as usual, is dressy, or reasonably so.

The Berkeley Marina is more convenient to the greater number of alumni, and it is felt that the change to Friday will be more attractive to those who wish to make a weekend out of it.

Frater Peter Cloven is coordinating the event. He must have all reservations and checks by December 4. A reservation form is in this issue. Don't miss this. It's going to be huge.

LETTERS FROM THE ACTIVE CHAPTER

LETTER FROM THE PRYTANIS

Dear Alumni,

Tau Kappa Epsilon is off to another fantastic semester and year! There are so many great things happening at the house right now that are making TKE one of the best houses on campus. TKE is growing quickly with the right kind of men that will help continue to build off of what TKE has become and push Tau Kappa Epsilon to its next level.

Right now, TKE is one of the biggest, if not the biggest, house on campus with sixty-three active members. On top of that, we have just inducted seventeen pledges who are looking forward to joining the house and becoming Fraters in TKE. That is eighty members! This semester was the first semester that we were not able to provide housing for all of the members that wanted to live in. On the one hand that is unfortunate, but on the other hand it shows that TKE is strong and flourishing in the Greek community.

Academically, TKE is also among the strongest houses. We were just ranked 5th best GPA on campus out of the 36 fraternity houses in IFC. Last semester we hit the books hard and achieved a 3.35 GPA collectively as a house. Our goal this semester is to boost this GPA rating another .05 points to hit an impressive 3.4 GPA as a house. The work ethic of the brothers right now is phenomenal and I see us reaching our goal if not surpassing it.

Philanthropically, Nu Chapter and Nationals are now partnered with St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Our Philanthropy Chair has already started getting the ground work to do a joint philanthropy event with the Tri Deltas who share the same philanthropy. On top of that, we are looking forward to another fantastic Battle of the Bands event!

The bottom line is that it is a great time to be a TKE. The Nu Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon is thriving right now and we are

(Continued on page 3)

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DON'T SHOOT! I'M JUST THE EDITOR

I had an editorial all written, and I have to tell you, it sucked big time. Then the submissions for Nu News from the Active Chapter arrived on my computer yesterday.

Magic!

So I scrapped what I had written and started anew. What follows - my message to the Actives - is inspired by their contribution:

You guys amaze me. Absolutely amaze me. How did we get so lucky? In just a few pages, you took me into the past and thrust me into the future. You jerked my emotions all over the place.

You piqued my memory: There was the night I pledged. We had gone to see "Kismet" in San Francisco in a 1926 Buick. There was my first room on the third floor, west side, which happened to provide a stunning view into a bedroom of the girls' dorm next door. And there was that afternoon, when I was Hegemon, my beloved pledges kidnapped me (almost). Pinned between two men in the back of a Ford convertible, I leaped into the front seat, snatched the keys out of the ignition and threw them up onto the balcony of what was then the AGD sorority across the street. It was my finest hour. And there were the serenades. The Teke songs. The Teke Band. The RFs*. All of it good. Some of us call it "the old house."

Fast forward fifty-plus years. So much has changed, but so much remains the same. You have made astounding changes, yet "the old house" still lives. The best of both worlds confronts me when I visit. It is surreal—hauntingly familiar on the one hand, but strangely new on the other. You have learned well from the past and you are enhancing Teke life in the present.

Abraham Lincoln said, 'I like to see a man proud of the place in which he lives.' Your loving care of the House speaks eloquently to that pride

As I read of your scholarship, the other-centeredness of your philanthropic efforts, your diverse academic majors, the breadth of your interests, and the intensity with which you express your hopes and dreams, I am overwhelmed. Surely the future belongs to each and all of you.

Thank you. You rock my world.

* I don't know whether this term is still around; but if you don't know what an RF is, consult an alum, preferably not in the presence of your wife or your girlfriend.

ABOUT THIS ISSUE

In this issue of Nu News, we depart from our usual format. Instead of including photos of a previous alumni event, we highlight scenes of Channing Way and the lives of the undergraduates who populate it. We appreciate the cooperation of Histor Dustin McKenzie who has assisted us with the presentation of this gallery of pictures.

LETTERS FROM THE ACTIVE CHAPTER CONTINUED....

operating better than we have in the past. Our 63 members are all passionate about the house and making it the best house at Cal. If you haven't had a chance to visit the chapter, we would love to see you around the house whenever you could make it or for any of the home football games. Thank you for your continued support and I hope to see as many of you as possible around the house soon! Go Bears!

Yours In the Bond,

Michael Cerussi, #1041
Prytanis, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE HEGEMON

This fall 2009 semester is looking bright here at TKE-Nu, and this fall pledge class only seems to enhance our anticipation. After another successful rush, our 16 person pledge class looks to continue our trend of steadily increasing numbers. Today we are one of the largest fraternities on campus, and we are proud to have balanced these numbers with quality membership. We believe this pledge class will be no exception.

It's still early in the pledge season, but Peter Cloven's two-and-a-half year tradition of 'Bonding Night' was successful as usual, and the group appears to be getting along rather well despite the eclectic mix of backgrounds, personalities, and age-groups.

This week, the pledge class will be electing their officers. I'm excited to see the leadership begin to emerge from this point. It's still early in the process, but I believe this group has some promising potentials for not just their pledge class, but for the future of the fraternity. I believe Tau Kappa Epsilon is in great hands and I am confident these men will shine in the pledge process and only continue as they hopefully become brothers in the bond.

Yours in the Bond,

Camden Andrews #1060
Hegemon, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE HISTOR

Beginning my second semester as TKE-Nu's Histor, I feel that I am in a prime position to effect change in the future of this Fraternity by continuing our connection to its past. This semester, I am excited to expand our house-sponsored alumni events from one to three and give the active Fraters a better chance to learn more about our esteemed alum and connect with them on a personal level. I hope that this expansion of events will go well and will continue with each Histor who succeeds me.

Our first event at the chapter house, the Alumni Cocktail Party, was a great success – a strong number of alums from all decades showed and enjoyed a lighthearted night with the brothers of the house. We have two more events this year. The first, The Founding Fathers' BBQ, is a celebration for the young men that brought TKE back to Cal six years ago. The second, the annual TKE Thanksgiving Dinner, will be an end of the year celebration for brothers, alums, friends, and family. We hope to see everyone at both of these events.

I am proud to say that today's history lessons are continuing to expand and everyone in the house from pledges to brothers are getting a taste of all eras of Nu Chapter history. This is being done by the continuation of the "Know Your Nu History" questions that are being sent to pledges via email. These questions range from serious to silly and challenge pledges to seek out brothers and alumni to find the answer to historically relevant questions.

On a closing note, I encourage all the alums to come by the chapter whenever possible. The house itself has been renovated in many areas and is absolutely beautiful. The new pledge class is full of personable, upstanding gentlemen. And as always, the chapter welcomes any stories or anecdotes of old that any of you wish to tell. God Bless; I look forward to meeting you all!

Yours in the Bond,

Dustin McKenzie #1078
Histor, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE HOUSE MANAGER

Tekes at Cal have always taken a large amount of pride in the house they live in; this semester is no different. This semester, many brothers are banding together and pitching numerous ideas as to how we can make this house more comfortable to live in, study in, and have fun in. Every semester we designate one day as TKE Day on which the brothers work together to advance the physical state of the house. These ideas will come to a head during this time as we attempt to install many improvements in the interior and exterior of the house. This year our two major projects will be the continuation of the building of the barbecue in the backyard and constructing a new sturdier gate on the west side of the property. In addition, brothers on this day will be working to fix up closets and clean up landscaping in the front and back yards. We hope that this TKE Day will be immensely successful and that these improvements will stand for years to come.

Yours In the Bond,

Josh Feldman #1090
House Manager, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR

Throughout the summer, the brothers at TKE worked to organize the study library by creating an online, searchable catalogue of all the texts we own. The study library is also now organized by Dewey Decimal numbers, to make it more easily accessible to the chapter. We hope that this change will not only save brothers money but will also encourage each other to further investigate texts with similar information that our classes require. I also am currently working to compile old exams and study materials into an online study bank, so brothers are more prepared for midterm season. In addition, I have been holding study hours throughout the week with both brothers and pledges, all with the intent of maintaining TKE's high standards of academic excellence. We hope that these changes will continue to push TKE-Nu into higher GPA levels as we strive for our pre-set goal of a 3.4 chapter GPA.

Yours in the Bond,

Alvin Yi #1097
Scholarship Chair, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE PHILANTHROPY CHAIR

Greetings, I'm Ted Rothenberg and I'm the Philanthropy Chair for this fall semester. We've already hit the ground running this semester, and there are a lot more philanthropy events in the planning. Just last week we hit off the year with our first event, participating in the Berkeley Path Wanderers Association. During this event we helped build pathways in the Berkeley hills to enable easier access between streets. It was quite a demanding workout, digging and carrying soil up steep hills, but in the end, those who participated benefited from the great amount of collaboration and camaraderie that was established. The next event our house will be involved in is the Berkeley Project Day 2009. During this event, students and volunteers from all around Berkeley gather around the city to participate in community enrichment, greening, and city works. These activities range from cleaning the streets of trash to removing graffiti on buildings to planting trees.

As you all know, the new recipient organization of TKE's national philanthropy fundraising is St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. I am in the process of planning out, either for this semester or for spring semester, a "Letter-Writing Party" in which brothers will write letters to family and friends requesting donations for St. Jude's. After attending a St. Jude's collegiate seminar in Memphis, TN this past summer, I learned that these Letter-Writing parties are a very effective way of raising money for the cause.

The biggest philanthropy event that our house will be personally throwing this semester is the second annual Battle of the Bands (BOTB). This event attracts masses of people from all over the campus, including people in and outside of the Greek System. It

is an effective and fun way of raising money, and last year it was a huge success.

In the end, I am confident we will have a productive semester in the realm of philanthropy and giving back to the community.

Yours in the Bond,

Ted Rothenberg #1096
Philanthropy Chair, Nu Chapter

LETTER FROM THE ATHLETICS CHAIR

Athletics play a significant role in the mental/physical growth and development of our Fraters. Not only does Tau Kappa Epsilon prides itself on competing at the highest level on the courts but the Fraters also always display sportsmanship on and off the field. Being a part of intramural sports means being involved with the entire Greek community at large as well, from the other fraternities that we compete against to the sorority sisters that play on many of our teams.

Rolling off of a very successful spring semester, Nu Chapter is currently competing in six intramural sports: CoRec 11 vs. 11 soccer, IFC basketball, CoRec basketball, CoRec volleyball, Open League softball, and Open League ultimate Frisbee. More impressively, there is a very diverse and athletic group of ladies from many of the other sororities who also play for TKE's intramurals, including our Chapter Sweetheart. The entire Fraternity, along with many close friends, come out strong each week to show support for their players. The brotherhood that is shown gives us a tremendous edge in bringing home some championships this semester! Go TEKES!

Freddy Yip #1035
Athletics Chair, Nu Chapter

XI CLASS: MEET OUR NEW INITIATES

TOM PAULINO - SCROLL NUMBER 1089

My name is Tom Paulino. I am currently a third year Political Science major. For me, TKE is my home away from home filled with new people that I can call brothers. Tau Kappa Epsilon has given me so much already and I am very excited to give back equally if not more in return.

JOSH FELDMAN - SCROLL NUMBER 1090

Hi there, my name is Josh Feldman. I am a sophomore from Los Angeles. I am an intended Philosophy and Rhetoric major. I am currently living at TKE and acting as apprentice house manager.

While I had never even considered joining a fraternity in the beginning of freshman year, becoming a Teke has been the best decision I have made at Berkeley. Being a part of this inspired and supportive group of men has been invaluable to my college experience.

CHRISTIAN HANDLEY - SCROLL NUMBER 1091

My name is Christian Handley, and I was born at the tender age of zero in Singapore, and proceeded to live there for nine years. During my tenure there, I studied at De Hollandse School, or, literally translated, The Dutch School. I came to Cal to attain a Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering and I hope to use my degree towards space travel or public transportation. Ever since I joined, I am loving Tau Kappa Epsilon, from the individual brothers at Nu Chapter to the organization as a whole. I look forward to a fruitful four years at Cal, harboring close friendships as well as excelling in academics and extracurriculars.

KYLE MESHNA - SCROLL NUMBER 1092

My name is Kyle Meshna. I am a second year Rhetoric and Media Studies Major. I enjoy playing sports and painting in my free time. I am so happy that I was given the opportunity to join this great house; it has given me a home in such a large university and surrounded me with great men who I hope I can continue to get closer to.

PAUL SOTO - SCROLL NUMBER 1093

Hi! My name is Paul Soto and I'm a third year Math and Economics Major. The reason I like TKE so much is that there are so many diverse people in the house; however, one of the many things that brings us together are the values that represent TKE. I hope to use these values in my future endeavors as I soon graduate and enter the real world.

ROBERT RIGONAN - SCROLL NUMBER 1094

My name is Robert Rigonan and I'm a second year from San Diego, California. I'm majoring in Society and Environment with a double minor in Public Policy and Global Poverty and Practice. Last semester, as the Pledge Class Historian, I constructed the Xi class scrapbook digitally and had it printed professionally. I hope to continue this as a tradition within the fraternity because it provides great records for future men in the Bond. I am currently the Griffin for the Omicron pledge class, a job that I am delighted to fulfill as I get to know the pledge class on a personal level. Outside of TKE I am involved with Sustainability Team, Berkeley Energy and Resources Collaborative, and Cal Teach.

DANNY FREISINGER - SCROLL NUMBER 1095

My name is Danny Freisinger and I am in my third year at Berkeley. My major is Sports Broadcast Journalism. I am the current Sports director at KALX Berkeley radio station, which includes broadcasting all Cal football, basketball, and baseball games. Go Bears!

TED ROTHENBERG - SCROLL NUMBER 1096

Hi, my name is Ted Rothenberg. I'm a sophomore here at Cal and originally from Los Angeles. My intended major is Molecular and Cellular Biology. I love playing sports and I'm currently on TKE's intramural softball and ultimate frisbee team. I participate in campus organizations including Camp Kesem, which is a children's summer camp aimed at helping families coping with cancer. I am additionally the Philanthropy Chair for TKE this semester.

ALVIN YI - SCROLL NUMBER 1097

Hi, my name is Alvin Yi. I am a second-year at Berkeley hailing from San Jose, CA. I intend on double majoring in Economics and Integrative Biology, hopefully pursuing a master's in business in the future. I enjoy listening to a wide variety of music, from folk to hip-hop, in my free time. This semester, I am the Scholarship Chair.

ANDY HENNING - SCROLL NUMBER 1098

Hi, my name is Andy Henning. I'm a second year History major. In my free time I enjoy running and swimming. I think it is fantastic that there are so many diverse interests here at TKE – without a doubt, there is always something to do in the house with one of your brothers. I hope that we continue to foster such a brotherly environment.

DAN WAIT - SCROLL NUMBER 1099

My name is Dan Wait, I'm a second year intended Integrative Biology major and Chemistry minor. In my free time I love to play basketball, eat, and take naps. I chose to join TKE because it's the one place I found the brotherhood I was looking for. This place has helped me more than I could have ever imagined and will only continue to help me throughout the year.

MAX KEELER - SCROLL NUMBER 1100

Hi, my name is Max Keeler. I am currently a second year major in Political Economy with a minor in Chinese. I enjoy learning other languages-- I'm fluent in Spanish and in my third year of studying Chinese-- and being outdoors. I spent this past summer as a backpacking guide at Philmont Boy Scout Ranch in New Mexico.

ABI BALA - SCROLL NUMBER 1101

My name is Abiram Bala and I am currently an undergraduate sophomore at Cal. I am an intended Molecular and Cell Biology major with the goal of attending medical school in the future. I was raised in Fremont, California and as a NorCal native I am ecstatic to root for the California Golden Bears! Outside of TKE, I am involved with academic research, a few student groups, and directorship in the ASUC. With this fall semester being my first as a fully initiated Frater, I intend to continue having extraordinary experiences while simultaneously becoming even closer to the house.

NEW INITIATES CONTINUED...

BEN GRIGORI - SCROLL NUMBER 1102

I'm Ben Gregori, and I'm a second year Political Science and Classics double major. I grew up in the East Bay and came to Berkeley to broaden my perception of the world and meet inspiring people. Joining TKE has been an amazing experience so far and I can't wait for what's to come.

AVI BASKIN - SCROLL NUMBER 1103

Hi, my name is Avi Baskin. I am a sophomore at UC Berkeley but originally from San Francisco. My intended major is Public Health with an emphasis in Biostatistics. I love sports, especially rooting for the Bay Area teams. Outside of school, I do behavioral and biological research at a Hyena colony in the Berkeley hills. I am additionally volunteering at Oakland Children's Hospital in the playroom.

DAVID HERSCHORN - SCROLL NUMBER 1104

My name is David Herschorn, and I'm a sophomore from Santa Barbara double majoring in Development Studies and Environmental Economics and Policy. I pledged TKE in the spring after a long semester of checking out the Greek system and, after getting a bid, pledged because although I liked a lot of guys in other houses, I fit in the best in TKE's friendly, open atmosphere. I have loved every moment of college so far. Besides school and social life, I have been able to develop my interests in photography and the outdoors.

JONATHAN CHANG - SCROLL NUMBER 1105

Hi, my name is Johnny and I am a second year major in Bioengineering. I enjoy playing sports and listening to music in my free time. I cannot wait to experience my undergraduate years in TKE and I can easily see myself having some of the best years of my life in this house with the brothers. Go Bears!

VICTOR SANDERS - SCROLL NUMBER 1106

Hi, my name is Victor and I am a second year here at Cal. I believe that pledging was one of the best experiences I have had and I can only hope that being a brother will only bring more experiences of the like. I enjoy watching sports (especially our Golden Bears) and surfing.

TKE

A GALLERY OF L



Frater Jeremy and Frater Adam with their dates at the Red Carnation Ball



Our new members are great in spirit and number.



Before the great hike up Mt. Reyes begins...

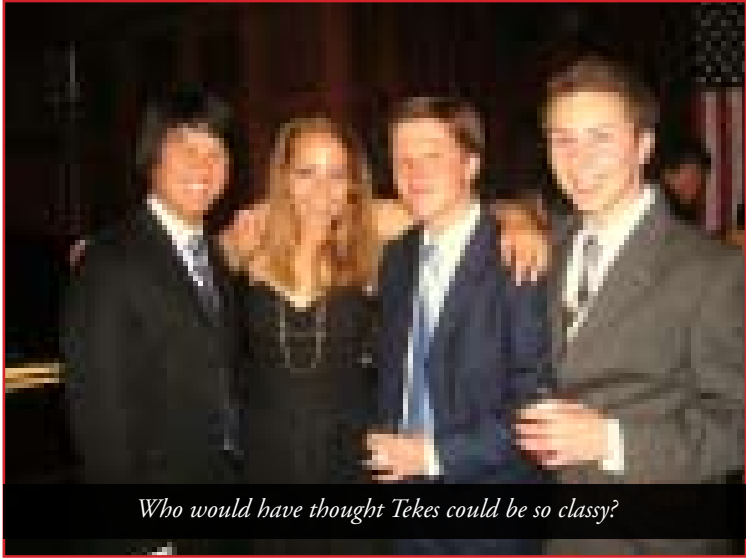
LIFE ON CHANNING WAY – 2008-2009



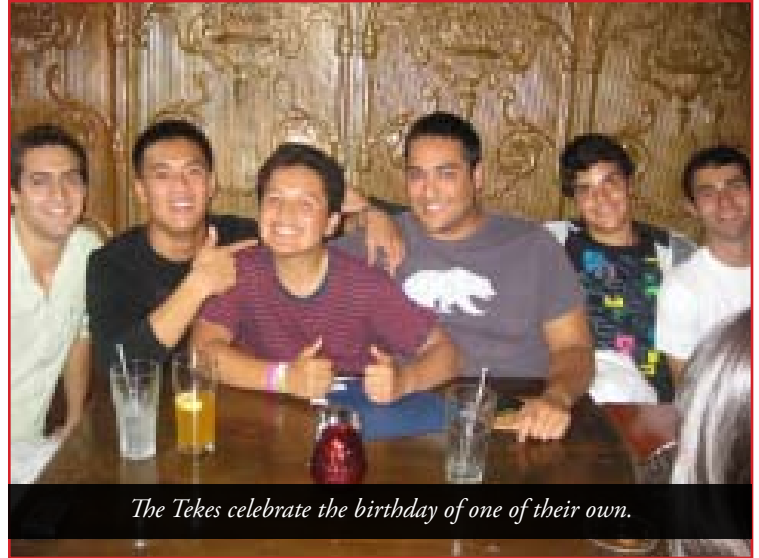
Tekes from Nu and around the United States enjoying the evening with actor Rob Schneider at the Regional Leadership Conference.



Three fraters having a good time right before departing for the Red Carnation Ball



Who would have thought Tekes could be so classy?



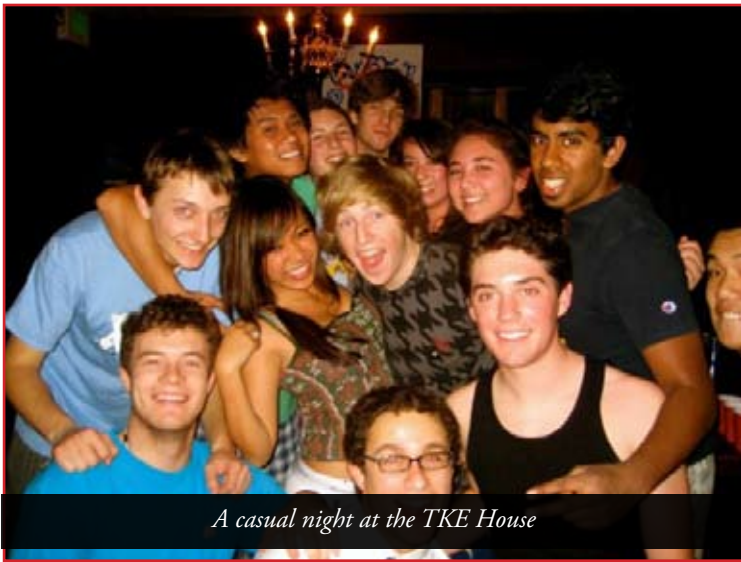
The Tekes celebrate the birthday of one of their own.



Tekes just hanging around...



Tekes and their dates having a great time at the house



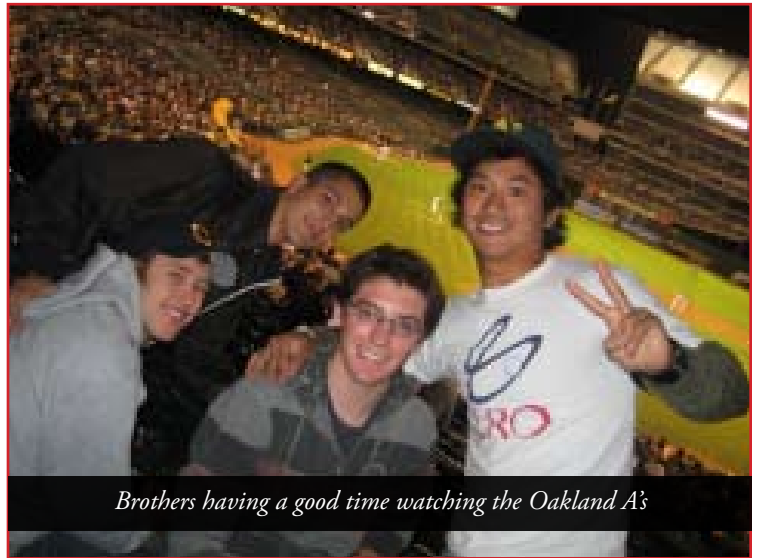
A casual night at the TKE House



The new Tekes get accustomed to one another



A few Tekes fighting for a cause by playing basketball.



Brothers having a good time watching the Oakland A's



The Tekes seem to be everywhere in Berkeley.



Our new members showing a little school spirit at a Women's Basketball Game

NEWS OF NU ALUMNI

HAL PLIMPTON '58 writes: "Mary and I just completed an almost 4,000 mile serendipitous road trip, following the radiator cap through Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, and reluctantly back home. A most scenic and rewarding odyssey. Highly recommended. In Kennewick, Washington, we spent two wonderful days reuniting after 50-plus years with Frater **JOHN BOLAND**. As the supply of wine bottles sank lower, the laughter got louder and reminiscences got longer. John's familiar wit and humor has only improved over the years. His clarinet continues to draw crowds to traditional jazz gigs in the area. He promises to journey south and hopes to get together with friends in the bay area."



Frater John Boland



Fraters Boland and Plimpton toast the future... or something

TONY WAYNE '70 has left Argentina after almost three years as Ambassador, heading to Afghanistan where he is overseeing non-military assistance and development programs in Kabul.

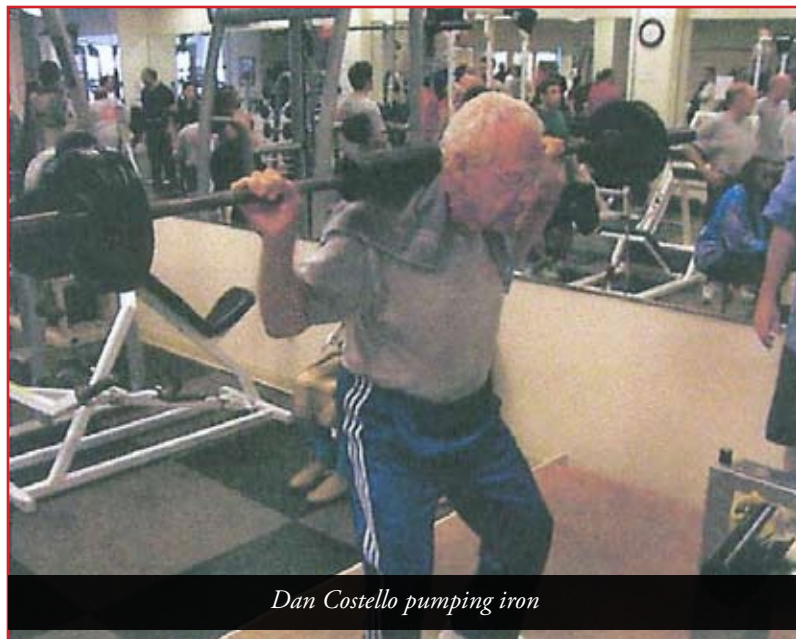
Tony is married to Pam and has two grown children, Kristen and Justin.

FOSTER SHANNON '52 says that his primary activity in 2009 has been completing his eighth book, "Why Are These Presbyterian Churches Growing?" The book was released 21 July. "Now," says Frater Shannon, "I need to interest people in reading it!"

Quintessential foster dad **ROBIN HARRIS '56** reports that Jeffrey, having turned 18, has left the fold, is now living with his mother, and things are going pretty well. "He still has his sights set on Cal and TKE," Robin says, "but that's a long way off. First things first...like grades!" Meanwhile, Robin is busy on his book, "The Fearless Foster Parent," expecting to publish in December or January. With any luck, Frater Carl Anderson will like it well enough to write the Foreword. Robin also expects placement of two more kids shortly, and is going to be teaching a workshop on foster parenting at Mendocino College this winter.

Here's a word from **CHRIS MURRAY '85** of Alameda, who says: "As I am updating this record online, I am finishing preparing food for a graduation party for my youngest, Adam. It doesn't seem that long ago that I was at Berkeley, and now Adam is about to head off to college. He will be at Santa Monica College, getting his GE work done with the goal of transferring to USC (I know, hard to take) to get into their TV and film production program. He will also continue doing stand-up and improv comedy, which he has been doing in San Francisco for about four years now. I am looking forward to watching him chase his dream! My daughter Liz is currently finishing her junior year at Davis. She is pursuing a degree in the design department. I always look forward to her bringing some of her projects home to see. Kris and I will be celebrating our 24th wedding anniversary in June and are looking forward to the empty nest starting this Fall."

Don't mess with **DAN COSTELLO '50**. He recently won a weight-lifting contest at the Olympic Club, in the over-80 group at their Annual Strength and Fitness competition, placing first in the deadlift, squat and bicep curl. What a guy!



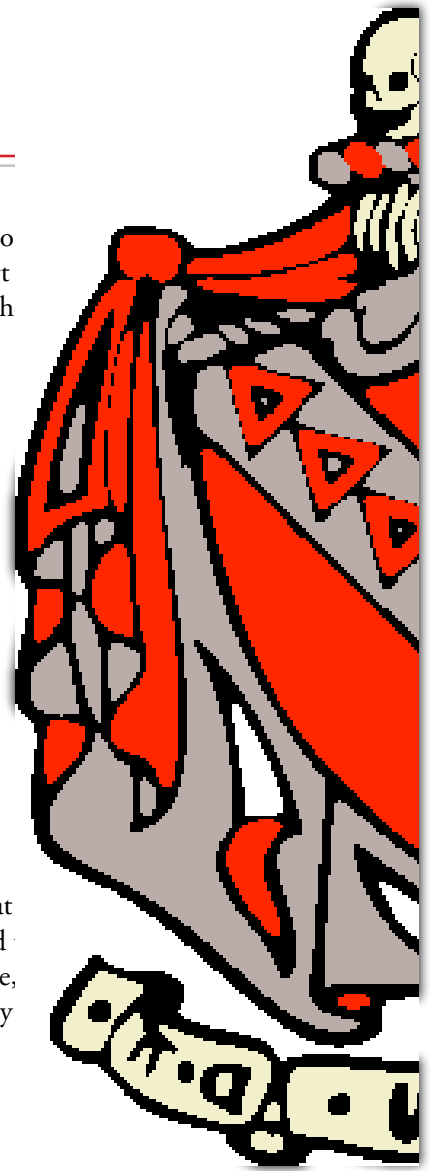
Dan Costello pumping iron

BITS AND PIECES

We wonder whether any group of alumni has ever been treated more royally than we are, thanks to men of the Active Chapter. Pre-game or post-game activities, cocktail parties and dinners are all part the enjoyment to which we are so frequently invited. Your adrenalin rush when walking through the front door is incredible. If you haven't taken advantage of their hospitality, do it now.

Breathes there a Nu Chapter Teke with a computer who hasn't figured out how to access the directory of his Fraters? Well, let me go over this again. It's at www.TKENu-Alumni.org. Once onto the home page, click on Member Directory. Then for access, type CALTEKE for user name, and calteke for password (both case sensitive), and there it is! You'll find a directory of active alums, deceased alums, lost alums, and undergraduates and their parents. It's a treasure trove of information. Then, if you like, review the past eight issues of Nu News; then look elsewhere on the menu to peruse other interesting sites.

Nu News comes at you two ways now. The Governing Board was joined by Chip Wray and Robin Harris August 23 at the Chapter House in an effort to make the publication and distribution of Nu News more efficient and timely. As a result of this meeting, Nu News will publish on a somewhat earlier deadline, and distribution will be by e-mail on or about October 23, with a hard copy mailed all Nu Chapter Tekes on that date. Noting that we do not have e-mail addresses for all Tekes online, a campaign will be launched, coordinated by members of the Active Chapter to contact Fraters by phone to determine e-mail addresses and correct other information in our roster.



We Need Your Email Address

WWW.

TKENU-ALUMNI.ORG

More and more communication is moving "online", but there are still far too many Tekes for whom we do not have an email address, and desperately need to improve our list.

We want to include you in all future email notices regarding alumni events, chapter updates, and Nu News.

If you're not already receiving email notices from us, please fill out our sign up form on our website (www.TKENu-Alumni.org) by clicking the "Join TKE Email" link.

Chapter Eternal

CALVIN VERNON BLAND '50 (1925-2007)

Cal Bland, born August 1, 1925, passed away of leukemia at his home in San Jose November 24, 2007. He grew up in Oakland and attended the now defunct University High School where he met future Tekes Len Corsentino, Tom Morgan and Bill Hexner. Two days before his 18th birthday, Cal enlisted in the army, serving his country bravely in the 101st Airborne Division. He made 25 jumps into France and Germany and participated in many battles. In one, the Battle of the Bulge, his nerve and valor were sorely tested, as his unit was surrounded by the German army. If it weren't for a rescue by General Patton's tank corps, he probably would not have gotten out alive. He ended the war without being wounded.

Following the war he entered Cal as an engineering student and joined the Masonic Club where he met Bill Rus, Ed Dermott and Bill Heath. These three, plus Bill Hexner, George Dove, Peter Komor and others were the driving force behind the colony that became Nu Chapter of TKE. He also brought in his close friend Dan Costello as a pledge in 1948.

Cal left school to go to work for Pacific Intermountain Express (the transportation industry would become his career) and it was about this time that friends invited him on a blind date with Magdalene (Maggie) Welch, a lab technician at Providence Hospital in Oakland. They were married over 50 years and had four children, one of whom, Carol, became an evening news anchor in San Jose. He had eight grandchildren.

A tall man whose voice, and gritty charm resembled John Wayne, Cal could build or repair anything, once even building an automobile, and he loved helping people with their household problems. He was a man of many talents.

HERMAN WILLIAM FISHER '52 (1929-2009)

Herm was born April 9, 1929, and passed away at his Walnut Grove ranch, September 13, 2009. Following high school, he entered Cal, graduating with a degree in agricultural engineering in 1952. He will be remembered by Tekes as one of the men who constructed huge, two-story papier mache structures at the chapter house for games and dances.

He served his country honorably in the Korean war as a 2nd Lieutenant in the army. He retired from a high executive position at PG&E after 35 years. He was a past president of Walnut Grove Rotary, and active in Indian Guides and Boy Scouts. In his community, his dedication to family, work, community and church were noble and unselfish. Herm was not as active in Fraternity affairs as he had wanted to be in recent years, as he was confined to a wheelchair with leukodystrophy-- although he did attend a Founders' Day Banquet in Spring, 2001—the last time that many Tekes saw him. He lived with much pain, from which he is now thankfully released.

Herm is survived by Marilyn, his wife of 54 years, daughter Susan and son Scott and their families.



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