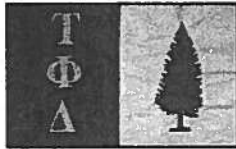




NEWS FROM THE TREEHOUSE

Tau Phi Delta Fraternity – Penn State Alpha Chapter
www.tauphidelta.org

Spring 2019



Tau Phi Delta Fraternity
427 East Fairmount Avenue
State College, PA 16801-5711
(814) 237-2207

Executive Committee

Phi: Matthew Mihaly
Alpha Phi: Travis Kostyal
Tau: Nick Greci
Sigma: Luke Norwig

Standing Committees

Membership: Alex Gallaher
and Aaron Sweger
**New Member Educator (aka
Pledgemaster):** Jared Adam
Social: Tyler Turcheck
and Nick Greci
Philanthropy: Aaron Sweger
Activities: Alex Gallaher
Finance: Tyler Turcheck
Ag. Student Council:
Jared Adam and Aaron Sweger
Community Service:
Aaron Seweger
Risk Management: Chris Barnish
and Aaron Sweger
Academic: Cody Kline
Alumni: Eric Kemper

Phi's Report

Matthew G. Mihaly (Fall '16)
(203) 824-7474 / mmihaly14@gmail.com

Greetings Brothers,

Spring has sprung here in Happy Valley. While the end of the semester is quickly approaching, there has been a lot going on here at good ole' Tau Phi Delt.

The Brothers spent the first few weeks of the spring semester recruiting heavy and doing everything we can to get our name out there.

We had an abundant amount of rushes and had hopes of a decent-sized pledge class. Yet, our high numbers quickly dwindled and at the moment we currently have 4 pledges.

We didn't get the number we wanted, but we certainly got the quality. These pledges are highly ambitious and very hardworking.

With that being said, this past fall we also welcomed one new Brother (Refer to "Membership Update" on page 3).

There are currently 11 Brothers that are living in the House and 2 outside (Tied up with apartment contracts).

The Brotherhood has recently participated in annual dance marathon (Now called the THON) and the Penn State Woodsmen Team (See page 4).

We held a few socials and were involved with many community service activities. After a ton of hunting in the fall, the House is looking forward to this upcoming spring gobble and trout seasons.

With the snow practically all melted, the Brotherhood is starting to get at it with spring cleanup and we are looking forward to enhancing the outside landscape of the fraternity.

In terms of financial matters, we are in a sustainable position for Fall 2019, but, yes, our future is ultimately in jeopardy.

So the in-house bill for the fall will increase from \$4,325 to \$4,500 per semester. For those who live out of House (with contractual obligations to an apartment), the bill will raise from \$650 to \$800.

With such low numbers and current university restrictions, it has been a struggle to maintain a comfortable in-house living number.

With that being said this brings me to a much more serious note. In a time of struggle and need, the Active Brothers are asking for your help and will be accepting any alumni donations at this time. From small to large, any amount will be greatly appreciated. We understand the history of this house and the importance that it means to all of you.

From great memories to career connections to friendships made, Tau Phi Delta is the greatest place on the face of the earth!

Continued on Page 2 ~

PLAN AHEAD...

 Spring Homecoming

April 13, 2019

 Fall Homecoming

October 5, 2019



A Happy Valley Spring at TΦΔ

Alpha Phi's Report

Travis J. Kostyal (Spring '18)
(570)578-1111 / tjk5594@psu.edu

Phi's Report (From Page 1)

We would like to utilize these donations for recruiting events, advertisements, and such. Essentially, to form a dedicated membership fund that will help keep the House full of Brothers and pledges.

We know without a doubt that the alumni will not let this House turnover and neither will we. We are doing the best we can at the moment and we understand the seriousness of this situation and we ask the alumni to do as well.

We all look forward to seeing everyone at spring homecoming this year. Also, plan ahead and we hope to see you at the fall homecoming in early October.

And most importantly we want to thank the alumni for everything they've done. Without you guys, there wouldn't be us.

Should you have any questions, comments, or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

We are hopeful for the future, but we need your help more than ever...
... God's not through with Tau Phi Delta fraternity just yet!



Any support and donation to TΦΔ – in order to help us continue to maintain and repair our fraternity house and recruit new Brothers – would be greatly appreciated.

If you so desire, please mail your check (payable to Tau Phi Delta Fraternity) to:

Tau Phi Delta Fraternity
Attn.: Nick Greci, Treasurer
427 East Fairmount Avenue
State College, PA 16801-5711

We thank you in advance for your consideration and generosity!

With another lap around the sun comes several repairs and upgrades throughout the House. Before going into more detail on that, I would like to applaud Br. Matt Mihaly for his time and effort put forth as Alpha Phi in 2018 as he moves into his term as Phi.

As in years past, the woodshed was stocked up with plenty of wood, much of it thanks to Br. Jake Leonard, for hunting season and the cold Pennsylvania winter. Further added to the woodpile was the wood care of the previous removal of our huge Norway maple hanging precariously over the next door neighbor's house.

Minor repairs were completed around the fraternity house as they came up, such as leaky pipes or bad dryer vent hoses that needed replaced, as well as organizing house clean up events to keep the house in order.

However a big ticket item came this winter, it was time to get a new boiler. Unfortunately, the increasing price of steel in 2018 substantially increased the cost of our new boiler. However, it was imperative to put in a new one, and over the Christmas break, we contracted Breon's Heating and Air Conditioning to install a new boiler. Several issues came up along the way, and we are still in contact with Breon's to get everything properly taken care of and up to code; the new boiler is up and running, nonetheless.

Seeing as the "Hobart" (aka dishwasher) was put in nearly thirty years ago, we also had to install a new one of those due to wear and tear. Unfortunately, the installation of this new appliance, although necessary, increased the price of our rent by over \$100 per month.

The second-floor shower has black mold growing on the ceiling and walls, and we are planning to do demolition and refinishing of the drywall in the upcoming weeks. Black mold poses a serious health issue, and we will take great caution to properly ensure the safety of everyone in the house. As spring begins to take shape in Pennsylvania, we will work on the landscaping around the house to make it attractive to onlookers and potential new members.

Last semester's pledge projects consisted of the installation of squirrel feeders, a kayak rack, and a new mailbox. The squirrel feeders have proven effective, and the kayak racks are convenient for several of the brothers. The new mailbox is nice to have, as the old one was simply a box on the front porch.

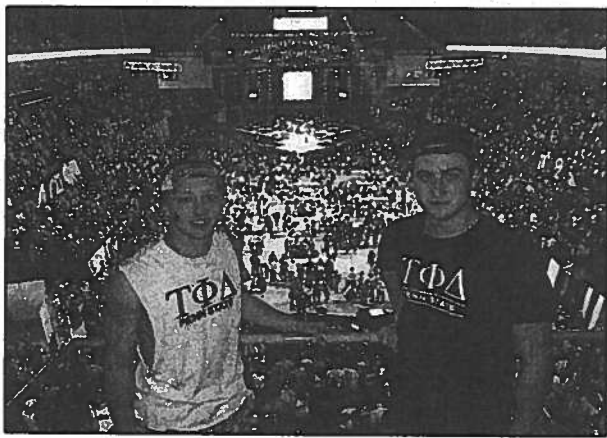
Last Memorial Day weekend, several Actives and alumni installed a new retaining wall along the western side off Holly Alley.



Our Retaining Wall Project

It is thanks to the support of alumni that we can make big projects, such as the new boiler, possible. As Actives, it is our duty to carry on the traditions of Tau Phi Delta and make the betterment of the House our goal.

For any of you that have questions or constructive criticism on improving the house, please feel to contact me. Thank you again!

Worth Sharing ...

Tau Phi Delta's Presence at the 2019 THON



**Recent PSU Woodsmen Team
Included Several Brothers and Little Sisters**

Visit us online at: www.tauphidelta.org
&
Follow us on Instagram at: [tau_phi_delta_psu](https://www.instagram.com/tau_phi_delta_psu)

**Other Fraternity
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**2019 W. James Evans
Memorial Golf Tournament**

Skytop Mountain Golf Course
► Seeking Brothers to help organize.
James Cowan
jmc4con@verizon.net

**Considering A Class of 1979
40th Anniversary Reunion**

During Fall 2019 Homecoming
► Looking for lost Pledge Brothers.
John "Ben" Herr
johndavidherr@gmail.com

Membership Update

Alex Gallaher (Fall '17)

(717) 480-3606 / atg5201@psu.edu

Aaron Sweger (Spring '18)

(717) 802-6123 / ams8707@psu.edu

Recruiting new members for the Treehouse has become the number one priority of our fraternity over the last year.

After meeting nearly a hundred students at Penn State, and offering several bids, our efforts have yielded one Brother in the Fall:

- Cody Kline (Oley – Environmental Systems Engineering).

We also have four pledges for this Spring:

- Dan Smith (Beaver Falls – Petroleum Engineering),
- Owen Neff (Lancaster – Wildlife and Fisheries),
- Matt Bellia (Beaver Falls – Environmental Resource Management), and
- Luke Talley (Kennett Square – Agricultural Business Management).



Spring 2018 Pledge Class

As for our newest Brother, Cody Kline, he continues to impress us with his initiative and work ethic and has played a significant role in our chapter in his first semester as a Brother.

The pledges have been working extremely hard and show relentless dedication and desire to earn their

title as a Brother. These five young men have great potential and will play critical roles as executives and ambassadors for our brand.

For those who are unaware, university restrictions have crippled new membership across Greek life at Penn State. Our fall recruiting class of just one pledge was standard amongst fraternities. Of the nearly 1,100 students who registered for legal recruitment this year, only 300 of the students registered in the fall, and only 211 received bids from fraternities.

We worked hard to interest freshman and kept them involved as much as we were allowed throughout the fall, but lost several to other houses who did not follow such rules. In other words, our rushes were attending events that the University states are not legal, thus giving the other fraternities an upper hand. Several alumni have suggested we do the same, but it is of the utmost importance that we meet the expectations and uphold the regulations of the Penn State, without their recognition, or being suspended for having these illegal events, we would be given the “death penalty” – as many organizations already have.

We have begun several new avenues of recruitment, the most successful being social media advertising (www.instagram.com). Our advertisements reached out to nearly 2,500 students at Penn State, and we have been in touch with several.

These were so successful that we received comments from athletes here including All-American wrestler Roman Bravo-Young, suggesting to other wrestlers that

they would probably like our fraternity.

We are also going on a campus tour in April, where we will be traveling to four branch campuses to recruit transferring sophomores with outdoor interests.

Recruiting has gradually become an expense of endeavor, and trying to balance our budget without being able to invest heavily in this area, we are looking for your help.

If you would be interested in sponsoring a rush/new member event (i.e., clay shooting, bowling event, special dinners/cookout) your donations would be greatly appreciated.

We are encouraged to host events outside of the fraternity house, and receive a \$50 reimbursement from Penn State, but that does not cover all of our costs. We would love to host large events, but simply cannot finance them with our current budget.

We have titled our current recruitment efforts “Make Tau Phi Great Again.” We feel confident that we are not far from accomplishing this goal.

With your aid, we will be able to channel the strong interest for the upcoming fall, and have the Treehouse at Penn State thriving again in no time!





TΦΔ ALUMNI UPDATE & TAPROOT SUPPORT FORM

Please take a few minutes and tell us about yourself and your family so you can be included in the "Alumni Updates" section of the fall 2019 issue of *The Taproot*.

Name and Nickname _____

Pledge Class (i.e., Fall 1922) _____ Graduation Year(s) _____

Phone Number(s) (To be printed) _____
(Specify home/work/cell)

Email Address (To be printed) _____

Quotable comments and other information about you, your family, your career and interests outside of work (If need be, continue on a separate sheet).

Enclosed is my contribution to support the continued printing of our alumni newsletter – *The Taproot*:

\$10 \$20 \$30 or \$_____ (Specify amount).

Please make your check payable to: Tau Phi Delta Foundation (Add to memo: The Taproot)

Then send this form and the check to: **Bill Herb**
 9780 White Swan Court
 Chestertown, MD 21620

We thank you for your continued support as we strive to keep the spirit of TΦΔ alive as we reach out and communicate with 800-plus Tau Phis across America and a few internationally!

You may also send an alumni update and suggestions for future newsletter articles by email to the editor, Bill Herb, at: m.b.tailfeathers@gmail.com



Tau Phi Delta Fraternity
427 East Fairmount Avenue
State College, PA 16801-5711

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

TΦΔ SPRING HOMECOMING

April 13, 2019

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 9:00 AM | Fraternity Board of Directors & Foundation Trustees Meeting
And Special Session with Grand National Chapter Officers |
| 12:00 Noon | Active/Alumni Tailgate Gathering at IM Fields (Yellow Lot)
Exact location to be determined on game day...
... But look for a "Trump 2020" flag on a pole. |
| 3:00 PM | Blue-White Scrimmage Football Game Kick-Off |
| One Hour After Game | Victory Celebration with Beverages at the House
"Yes, Penn State will win!" |

~ Donation requested for tailgate lunch/evening event ~

**For More
Information Contact**

Eric Kemper (Spring '18), Alumni Committee Chairman
(814) 237-2207 - or - (610) 730-3995 / emkemper726@gmail.com