



Brothers with dates at the beach for White Star.

Questions? Comments?

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Another Successful Rush

The future of Sigma Nu looks secure at the University of Georgia after another successful rush. Twenty young men accepted bids to join the ranks of Mu Chapter during this fall's fraternity rush. These men come from many different locations across the state of Georgia and the southern United States, including Savannah, Augusta, and Birmingham, Ala.

The candidates were extended bids on the basis of six characteristics: academics, athleticism, moral values, appearance, social skills, and leadership ability. Each candidate was unanimously approved for a bid by the chapter. "We managed to recruit a large class while still showing selectivity," Rush Chairman Jacob Johnson said. "We don't believe in handing out bids to every per-

son who walks into our house." Johnson coordinated a strong rush period that included trips to Braves games, cookouts, and rafting excursions. His hard work resulted in a pledge class whose size equals or exceeds that of many other well-established fraternities on the UGA campus.

"Once these men are initiated, our chapter will have 70 men, which demonstrates the amazing growth we have made in just over 24 months," says brother Clayton Cox. In an April meeting with the active chapter, alumni adviser John Hearn gave a moving speech stressing the importance of this year's rush. He shook each brother's hand and asked them to "make it happen."

"Hearn's speech really put the wind under our sails," said LEAD Chairman Michael Weldon.

For several of the candidates, Sigma Nu is a family affair. Kevin Swatek, an Economics major from Carrollton, is the grandson of E.B. Jones, a n alumnus of Mu Chapter. The group of twenty has already shown their eagerness to contribute to the chapter. Since their August 27 candidate ceremony, they have chosen a president, Keith Reeves of Savannah, and have coordinated successful fundraisers and a designated driver program.

The men will be initiated as Mu brothers in a November ceremony.

Drew K. Wheatley

Mu 2310

Upcoming Alumni Events

As the summer came to an end, it was an exciting time for the Mu alumni. We successfully hosted alumni events in Macon, Savannah, and Atlanta. Special thanks to all those who attended but we hope to meet more Snakes of the past in the coming months. There will be two opportunities for alumni to interact and meet the active Mu chapter. The annual Alumni Tailgate will be during the Auburn game Saturday, (November 10) and the initiation ceremony for the fall pledge class will be on the following day on Sunday, November 11. All are encouraged to come. Please RSVP. **Clayton Cox Mu 2305**

Event	Date
Alumni Tailgate	November 10
Initiation	November 11

State of the Chapter by Commander Joel Stern Mu 2297

As Mu Chapter progresses through our fifth semester since rebuilding, our growth and development continues to be unparalleled. Our current pledge class remains at 20 candidates, meaning that we will be over 70 members after they are initiated. This new group is from all around the state, including three from Savannah and two from Augusta, finally giving these two major cities strength on our roster. Three of the candidates are legacies.

Our campus involvement has increased in strength with the end of the last school year and the beginning of the current. We now have the most SGA senators and IFC committee members of any chapter on campus. We continue to keep our Adopt-A-Highway Athens section of road clean, and we were the victors in the 2007 American Red Cross UGA/GA Tech Platelet Challenge. The number of brothers participating in UGA HEROs,

Relay for Life, and Student Judiciary is increasing at a steady pace too.

While working hard for Mu Chapter or other campus and community organizations, the brothers and candidates are having an exciting semester socially. Just past the midpoint of the semester, we have already had several chapter and pledge-class socials. We traveled to Atlanta in mid-September for a Braves game date night and executed a very successful Parents' Weekend surrounding the Ole Miss game. The chapter is excited for our Alumni Tailgate on Auburn weekend. We are planning a third year at the Dillard House for White Rose formal in January.

Luckily the past calendar year has provided many brothers with the opportunity to meet and visit with alumni that we previously did not know. We have hosted brothers Jon McGavin and Dr. Verner Chaffin this

month to speak with the entire chapter. A special thanks to them, as well as the alumni involved in the rush process this summer. We at Mu Chapter also highly appreciate the constant hard work that the Alumni Advisory Board and Mu House Corporation have and will continue to put in to our planned move back to River Road.

The momentum that we are persistently gaining will put us in an excellent situation for 2008. We will be transitioning into a new Executive Council after our elections in November, and we cannot wait to see the great things to come for Mu Chapter. Again, we could not have accomplished what we have done without the support of our alumni, as well as our parents. If you have questions or comments, or are interested in speaking to the chapter, contact me at your convenience.

Chapter Hosts Alumni Speakers by Alan Pierce Mu 2286

Throughout Mother Mu's return to prominence nothing has been more vital to success than the unprecedented alumni support that the chapter has received. Needless to say, the collegiate chapter greatly enjoys the chances it has to interact with its many respected alumni brothers. As part of the LEAD education program, the chapter seeks to further this interaction. This fall, active Mu brothers were pleased to welcome two prestigious alumni for chapter speaking engagements. First, Mr. Jon McGavin, Mu

2036, shared fraternity and military experiences as well as advice for the active chapter. As General Manager of the Ritz-Carlton Buckhead, McGavin embodies the aspiration and work ethic that Mu Chapter instills within the men of the active brotherhood.

Even with Brother McGavin's impressive success, he would certainly admire the credentials of the chapter's second speaker for this fall. Dr. Verner Chaffin, Mu 621, has been a University of Georgia devotee for over fifty years. Distinguished Brother Chaffin taught

law at the university from 1957-1989 and now sits as the Fuller E. Callaway Professor Emeritus at the UGA School of Law. Dr. Chaffin treasured his undergraduate time with Sigma Nu so dearly, that later in his life he wrote a brief history of his time as an active brother and Georgia collegian. This fascinating piece can be found at the chapter's website. The chapter is extremely excited to have hosted Dr. Chaffin and Mr. McGavin this fall. If you are interested in speaking, please contact Commander Joel Stern.

Meet a Candidate: Stephen Thompson by Andrew Laarhoven Mu 2333

Hometown:
Savannah

Major:
Chemistry/History (Pre-Med)

Organizations:
SGA, Wesley Foundation

Interest/Hobbies:
playing golf, movies, reading

Scholarships:
Ramsey Scholar, State of Georgia Academic Scholar



A Ramsey Scholar and Valedictorian of his alma mater Savannah Christian, Thompson is excited about the new opportunities to be found at UGA. Bringing in 51 credit hours (giving him junior status by January 2008) through AP courses in high school, Stephen chose UGA over Duke, Davidson and Emory because of the scholarship opportunities.

He is quickly joining in on Mu Chapter's involvement standard by becoming one of the fifteen on the Freshman Board in Student Government. Thompson is showing a promising future in the organization. Sigma Nu runs in his blood as his brother was a Snake at Georgia Southern. This is definitely not the last that we will see from this promising new brother.

A Word From the Alumni Advisor by Michael Barry Mu 2071

Question: "Where are we with the House?"

Answer: "We are ready to go – we could execute on a relocation plan to River Road TODAY, but we are waiting on UGA to accept our reasonable, practical solution. If UGA follows through with its August 2006 promise to us, the House will happen, but let me tell you about the CHAPTER."

Over the last 18 months, we have challenged the students to focus on those things that they can directly control – grades, campus involvement, recruitment, responsible social activities, carrying themselves like men of good character and committed to always raising the bar for themselves and the Chapter as whole. This single-minded focus has served them well. Today, Mu Chapter is not defined by a structure. Mu Chapter is not constrained by pre-conceived notions. Today, Mu Chapter stands tall as a fraternity that has built a solid foundation of campus leaders on a proud history of 1400+ *living* alumni (+2400 total initiates). Mu Chapter consistently demonstrates to the UGA community and our alumni that it stands immedi-

ately ready to positively contribute not only as a leader on the new River Road Fraternity Row, but within the broader UGA campus as a whole.

- Campus sororities know Mu Chapter because they have come to know the members through other campus leadership activities and then at Sigma Nu parties, date nights, homecoming socials, and other events – and how they conduct themselves at these events – not because of a particular address.
- The UGA administration knows Mu Chapter because its members are recognized leaders and carry themselves as such on campus.
- Alumni know Mu Chapter because of the mature way that the students present themselves and the pride that both carry as Mu Brothers.
- Prospective recruits know Mu because the Chapter members and alumni present and deliver a fraternity experi-

ence that stands head and shoulders above any other experience offered on Campus.

Your Chapter is working hard to establish itself (and is succeeding). You should be proud of their efforts.

Thanks to our Alumni.

Jon McGavin, Verner Chaffin, Eric Ferrara, Chris Smurda, John Hampton, John A. Hearn, Alan Brown, E.H. Culpepper, George Hearn, III, Robert Durham, Dick Craft, Gerry Whitworth, Carl Vann, Roger Land, Nick Byers, Mike Malcom, Robert Fowler, Tom Greene, Luther Lockwood, Scott Chappell, Charles Tumlin, David Findley, Robert Pease, Robert Hunicutt, Curt Fowler, Dan Lovein, Bob Lawson, Timothy Blanco, Jeff Shiver, Lanny Allgood, Ernie Ward, Alan Bodiford, Lamar Merk.

Contribute to the Annual Fund and help Mu continue its success. See the back page for a summary of the housing report.

Alumni Spotlight: Mark A. Schlabach, Mu 2127

Active: 1991-1995; Journalism Major

Roommate: Commander in 1995 and lived in the Commander's suite

Hometown: Madison, Georgia

Family: Wife (Heather – UGA '95) two daughters (Caroline-6; Jane-5)

Memory of Mu Chapter: Meeting Tom Johnson (M 1232), former editor for the LA Times and President of CNN, while sitting on the back porch on River Road – who evidently made quite an impression on Mark as a future journalist

Brothers in touch with now: Lives down the road from Comer Hampton (M 877) whose son John Hampton (M 2232) lives in Atlanta. Also, Miles Milam (M 2125); Justin Martin (M 2135); Mark Neal (M 2124); Steve Tomlinson (M 2156) and Brad Koontz (M 2112).

Career: Sports Writer for ESPN.com covering college football and basketball. Formerly a sports writer for the Atlanta Journal Constitution and The Washington Post. (Also editor of the Red & Black while at UGA.)

See www.ugasigmanu.com for more alumni spotlights.



Brother Looks to Future in Armed Services By Jason Ducker Mu 2303

Sigma Nu Brothers are involved in a wide variety of activities on the UGA campus, and one of our more dedicated members is Robert M. Woods, a member of the ROTC program. He subsequently has become a member of the collegiate military honor society, Scabbard & Blade. Here is a look at how he is currently involved in ROTC and looks to a future in the military:

What first got you interested in joining ROTC and the military?

I grew up in a military family. My father is a General and currently serves in the military; my mother actually went through the ROTC program at Georgia when she was here. I have always wanted to follow the tradition of service to my country.

What are your plans for after college?

I plan on joining the military and serving for at least six or seven years.

What is the hardest thing you've had to do while in ROTC?

I am on the Ranger Challenge team which competes in a variety of events against other schools. We practice very hard and train constantly to prepare for events such as a hand grenade assault course, a marksmanship competition, and the rigorous physical test which is a timed run with about forty pounds strapped to you.

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HOUSING FUNDAMENTALS

- UGA asked Mu to relocate to River Road in August 2006.
- River Road is a viable option for Mu Chapter.
- Mu Chapter is not asking for a “free ride”
- Mu Chapter’s financial proposal to UGA is both a) reasonable and b) financially feasible from the University’s perspective. The total value of our proposal to UGA over the initial 30 year term is in excess of \$6 million.
- The University has complete ability to accept our proposal now and break ground on River Road, immediately.

Send Your 2007 Annual Fund Contributions to:

Sigma Nu Fraternity Home Association, Inc.
3520 Old Lexington Rd
Athens, Georgia 30605

WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW TO ENSURE SUCCESS

- Remind (at EVERY opportunity) each and every UGA administrator, executive, donor, Regent and parent that you are a Sigma Nu and that their immediate action on the River Road Park is critical.
- Forward RUSH contact details for rising freshman *at any University* to the Commander. Even if the students are not going to UGA, we want them to know about Sigma Nu.
- Contribute to the Annual Fund and help the House Corporation meet its nearly \$40,000 in annual cash needs. Mu cannot do this without your help.
- Call or email with any questions, comments or suggestions. See www.ugasigmanu.com for all of our correspondence with UGA.