

### **Alumni Associations**

Your chapter's alumni members are probably widely scattered, of all ages, and of varying means. An Alumni Association consists of all of the members of a particular chapter that are no longer undergraduates. Therefore, it unrealistic to assume that all members of your chapter Alumni Association can get together for an annual meeting that, alone, will be sufficient to keep them informed and allows for enough opportunity to participate in the activities of the Association.

Within your association, it is more desirable and valuable to provide for participation of many, rather than the ease of a few doing all the work and having all the responsibility.

A Chartered Alumni Association is one that has met the requirements outlined in the Black Book and has received a charter from the Grand Council.

Once an Association receives its charter, it may become eligible for a vote in the Grand Chapter by meeting five requirements.

The International Fraternity provides a variety of services to Chartered Alumni Associations designed to assist them in increasing the involvement of all of the chapter's alumni.

All of TKE's chapters are encouraged to establish a Chartered Alumni Association, which can be chapter-based or geographically based.

### **Advantages of Chapter Alumni Associations**

- Continue the friendships made while in college
- Encourage the alumni to return to campus reunions
- Generate support and help for the undergraduate chapter
- Publish a regular newsletter, with the undergraduate chapter, keeping all alumni informed
- Assist in maintaining accurate addresses of all alumni
- Promote the Fraternity by exemplifying the fact that TKE is...the Fraternity for Life

### **Advantages of Chartered Chapter Alumni Associations**

- A vote and a voice in the Grand Chapter
- Involvement in insuring a successful future for Tau Kappa Epsilon
- Provide support for the expansion of alumni programming
- Obtain new ideas on stimulating alumni support and involvement
- Provide an example of dedication and participation

### **Requirements for Obtaining a Charter for Your Alumni Association**

1. A signed petition by at least 20 of the chapter's alumni, indicating their desire to obtain a charter for the Association.
2. Payment of the \$55.00 charter fee. This covers the cost of the charter, as well as the cost of registering the Association.
3. Payment of the \$25.00 Association fee. This covers the cost of the following services:
  - A listing of the chapter's alumni, including address and scroll number. A new list is sent to all Chartered Associations each year.
  - A copy of the Alumni Association Manual, as well as several other resource publications.
  - An open charge account for your use in ordering supplies from the Offices of the Grand Chapter.

A copy of the application form, as well as further information, may be secured by writing to the Executive Vice President at the Offices of the Grand Chapter.

In addition to being kept informed, alumni like to feel that their contributions of time, effort and money are worthwhile. Asked to aid on specific needs or projects, they will almost always be happy to do so. Projects your chapter Alumni Association might consider, include:

HOMEcomings - can be an alumni project with planned activities for those alumni (and wives) returning to campus. This would have to be coordinated with the chapter to avoid conflicts, but it has been proven that those Homecoming activities which are most successful are those that have a large amount of alumni-planned and alumni-oriented activities.

RUSH - should always be part of the Association's function. Alumni in the area of the chapter, as well as alumni of the same chapter who live in other cities, can host and assist in rush parties for the chapter.

AREA GET-TOGETHERS - can be planned if many of your alumni live in the same geographical area. Alumni from the same chapter who live in Chicago, for example, can plan to get together periodically for social functions or to hear a report on the chapter's activity. (Delta Chapter has an annual Delta Chapter Night in downtown Chicago each year, which is very successful.)

TKE EXPANSION - can be a function of the Alumni Association. Usually alumni are aware of the educational facilities in their area and can alert the TKE Offices of the Grand Chapter of accredited institutions seeking to open up or expand its Greek System.

LIBRARIES AND SCHOLASTIC AIDS - can be financed by your Alumni Association and may be a function of one of the standing committees.

SCHOLARSHIPS - can also be granted by the Alumni Association. Donations can be made to the Teke Educational Foundation and designated specifically for use at your chapter. (Several chapters already have such programs in effect, thanks to the far-sightedness of many alumni.)

RITUAL - by an alumnus Ritual Team can be very impressive and effective. Alumni in your area may wish to form such a team for initiations and installation of officers.

#### **Other Activities for a Chapter Alumni Association**

- Hold an annual reunion for all alumni
- Publish a directory of all chapter alumni
- Sponsor a scholarship through the TKE Educational Foundation
- Publish newsletter with news of the chapter's alumni
- Secure recommendations of rushees for the undergraduate chapter
- Host a rush event for the chapter
- Serve as honorary big brothers for the new members
- Provide support and assistance to the Chapter Advisor and Chapter Board of Advisors
- Establish awards for the recognition of outstanding undergraduates and alumni
- Sponsor a delegate to each Conclave
- Sponsor a delegate to a TKE Leadership Conference
- Encourage excellence through support of undergraduate chapter activities
- Demonstrate the meaning of the motto that TKE is...the Fraternity for Life