

ALPHA RHO ALUMNI CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Featured in this Issue Alumni Spotlight Homecoming a Success! Birthdays

Brothers enjoying time together at the Homecoming tailgate in the Blue Lot prior to the WVU victory vs. Texas Tech!



SPRING ALUMNI WEEKEND **APRIL 2018** Details coming soon!



Alpha Rho Alumni gathering for lunch at last year's Spring Alumni weekend. We hope you can join us April 2018 in Morgantown.

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - KEN BERKO, AP 367

For our alumni spotlight, we caught up with Ken Berko, AP 367 to learn more about him and his family who now reside in North Carolina. Ken is the current Regional Leader for the Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter in Charlotte, North Carolina and has been instrumental in efforts to reengage our alumni.

Alpha Rho (AP): Tell us a little bit about your family. Ken (KB): "Very happily married to the girl I met for the first time playing hacky sack on the turf at the Mountainlair. We have two boys, Cole 15 and Ethan 12. After spending time in Cincinnati and Connecticut, we moved to the Charlotte area in Dec. 2014.



AP: Tell us about your career and what you do for a living. KB: "After graduating in 1996, I followed Leigh Ann down to Memphis, TN. While there I ended up on a road trip with Aaron Myers, AP 322. That was how I got started in my 13 year career in banking/ mortgage lending. After spending 7 years as a stay at home dad, I recently went back to school and am now a NC Registered Trainee working towards becoming a Certified Residential Appraiser."

AP: What are the things you do to enjoy life away from the responsibilities of your career?

KB: "I really enjoy watching and attending sporting events. Leigh Ann and I have gotten to see the Mountaineers in four bowl games since graduating. I've also been lucky enough to attend 18 consecutive Sweet Sixteens. I have completed 2 half triathlons and enjoy trying to battle back against getting old. I get to play poker with a great group of guys each month. We spend a lot of time watching our boys play sports. My son Cole plays AAA hockey for the Jr Hurricanes. We have met some terrific families through hockey and really enjoy the time spent traveling to new cities and new rinks. Ethan loves playing beschedl and hoc just started playing factball on his middle school baseball and has just started playing football on his middle school team.'

AP: What do you consider your best memories from your time as a Student Member of Pi Kappa Phi and Alpha Rho? KB: "I really enjoyed the comradery that comes with being part of a great fraternity. Friday afternoons in Morgantown were the best.

(see KEN BERKO on page 2)



HOMECOMING WEEKEND A SUCCESS!

Close to 40 Brothers and guests took part in Homecoming, October 13-15 in Morgantown making it another successful event for the Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter.

A special thanks to Chairmen Emeritus Mike Turner, AP 220 and Eric Dyson, AP 355 as well as Patrick Folio, AP 147 for their contributions to the weekend. For more visit, http://wvupikapp.org/homecoming-a-success/

Show your support today! It's easy! Simply visit <u>wvupikapp.org</u> and click 'Contribute' then view the membership levels. You may make a full payment or set-up monthly installments.



LET US KNOW Did you recently get married or have a child? Did you get a promotion at work or new job? If you have anything you wish to share, we want to know.

Visit <u>http://wvupikapp.org/letusknow</u> to submit your news.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Alumni Weekend (April 2018)

RECENT & UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- Barney Denson, AP 360 October 15
- Brendan Gilligan, AP 425 October 28
- Kris Scheponik, AP 357 November 3
- Erik Baldwin, AP 412 November 9



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KEN BERKO (continued from page 1)

Tailgating for football games. Road trips to Pittsburgh, Baltimore, and New York. Mountain biking in and around Coopers Rock."

AP: You have been a contributor to the Alumni Chapter. What are your observations of the work the Alumni Chapter is doing and why is it important for you to be a part of it?

KB: "The brothers involved in reviving our Alumni Chapter are doing an amazing job. Each of them are extremely busy in their daily lives, and the time they take to dedicate to making sure this is a success is truly commendable. It is important for me to be part of this now because, in hindsight, I was not as involved with the leadership side of the chapter as a student as I could have been. There were many opportunities for me to develop different skills that I didn't take advantage of then. Well, I decided it's never too late to start."

AP: Soon we'll be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Re-chartering of Alpha Rho in 1978 and the Reorganization of the Alpha Rho Student Chapter. What does this mean to you and what do you want our Chapter to look like in the future?

KB: "I look forward to a student chapter, led by a strong and active alumni chapter, getting back on campus and regaining our position as a leader in the Greek community at WVU."

Ken also added, "On a side note, the 2018 WVU football schedule was just released. I look forward to seeing many of you in Charlotte and Raleigh next season!

Lets Goooooo Mountaineers!"

Thanks to Ken for sharing some information about him and his family as he continues to be a passionate and supportive alumni member and Mountaineer. Many thanks to Ken for his regional leadership in Charlotte! To learn more about the Charlotte Region, visit <u>https://</u> www.facebook.com/groups/charlotteAPAC/.

Stay Connected

Keep up to day for future events: Follow, Like and Share via Facebook (Pi Kappa Phi - Alpha Rho Alumni), Instagram (@wvupikapp) or Twitter (@wvupikapp) & <u>wvupikapp.org</u>.

Also, feel free to join us on our next Board of Directors Conference Call on November 15 at 6:00pm EST.

