



THE BETA MU REVIEW

PI KAPPA ALPHA • UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS • SPRING 2015

TEXAS PIKES' SPRING 2015 SEMESTER IN FULL SWING

Texas Pikes are enjoying an active spring 2015 semester. The chapter has 11 new spring pledges, who join the 34 new members initiated in December 2014. Our membership now stands at 140 brothers. The new spring members are introduced in this issue of *The Beta Mu Review* on page seven.

CONTINUED PHILANTHROPIC SUCCESS

The issue also highlights our ongoing successful philanthropic efforts supporting several nonprofits and causes like as the Settlement Home of Austin (the state's largest charity garage sale) and the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation Fun Run. We are very proud that Pike led other student organizations in raising more than \$8,200 through two pancake suppers at the Pike house and participating in a dance contest for the THON student series for pediatric cancer research at Dell Children's Hospital.

PARENTS COUNCIL ESTABLISHED

Pike is also pleased to have formed a new Parents Council which will be led by volunteer parents Stephanie Offill (son **Matt Offill '14**), Khalil Shalabi (son **Joe Shalabi '14**) and Robin Thigpin (son **Bryce Thigpin '14**). The Council provides another layer of assistance, counsel and support for the chapter. Parents are invited to join the Council and

become more deeply acquainted with one another and take part in their sons' fraternal experience. A Mother-Son Weekend was held in Austin on April 10-12, 2015, and a Father-Son weekend will occur next fall.

PIKES ENJOY SOCIAL EVENTS AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS

The Pike spring social scene is highlighted by the always enjoyable winter-themed party Pikes Peak in late January, a fun Round-Up Weekend in March and our Spring Formal in April, this year to be offsite in San Antonio. In addition to a strong brotherhood, academics remain a priority at the Pike house. The actives' overall GPA is 3.1 per the university's most recent semester rankings, placing our actives 12th of the 27 IFC fraternities at Texas.

Fraternities' purpose and behaviors are receiving a great deal of examination nationally upon campuses and in communities. Texas Pikes are committed to scholarship, leadership, athletics and being gentlemen. Beta Mu Chapter joins the international Pike Fraternity in honoring the legacy and vision of our founders especially in tolerance, dignity and respect of all persons, not just across the campus, but in how we lead our lives.

Please enjoy this issue of *The Beta Mu Review*.

Beta Mu Celebrates Pi Kappa Alpha's 147th Birthday at Founders' Day

Beta Mu Chapter hosted its 95th Founders' Day in Austin on February 28, 2015. Inclement weather forced the cancellation of a golf tournament, but the rain and cold did not deter an evening reception and barbecue dinner at 2400 Leon Street. The chapter hosted a number of alumni and wives for dinner who toasted Pi Kappa Alpha's University of Virginia founding 147 years earlier. Pikes enjoyed reciting the fraternity's preamble, received an update from chapter officers and met the new spring pledges. Introductions were made all around of the alumni, with some colorful remembrances shared over dinner. The Alumni Advisory Board dedicated the 2015 Founders' Day to the memory of recently departed brother **Dennis McCleskey '77**. Nearly 100 actives and pledges attended the dinner. Among the alumni attendees were Beta Mu Building Corporation President **Don Flournoy '66**, Alumni Advisory Board members **Steve Dunn '73** and **Jon Jones '77**, and **Tom Peel '73**, **Phillip Braithwaite '87**, **Steven Sockwell '87**, **Greg Garner '87**, **Stratton Borchers '07** and **Will Jones '07**.



Pike External Vice President J.D Swancoat '12 welcomed Lynda and Mark Isensee '77, who travelled in from Houston, for the reception and dinner.



Pikes Richard Winfield '87, Todd Quisenberry '86, Carter McCrary '87 and David Clifton '87 reconnected at Founders' Day.

“FRIENDSHIPS FORMED AT PIKE REMAIN AN IMPORTANT INFLUENCE IN MY LIFE AND CAREER”

Alumni Spotlight on Houston Attorney Scot Clinton '96

Scot Clinton '96 was born and raised in Austin, knowing he always wanted to be a Longhorn. Fortunately he became a Pike and was a key part of a stellar pledge class of men pledging in 1995 and initiated in 1996, a group of close brothers who remain in contact today. Scot relates, “We were indeed a close group and today still have an annual pledge class reunion. Many of us were from Houston or have ended up in Houston, and that makes it easy to keep the brotherhood together.” Scot’s Houston gang includes **Jeremy Garner '94**, **Kevin Swantkowski '94**, **Jeff Seely '94**, **John Franklin '94**, **Blair Woodward '94**, **Jon Strieby '96**, **Bryant Fitts '96** and **Lee Zieben '96**, and elsewhere in Texas are **Michael Mayrath '96**, **Matt Shrum '96** and **Gianni LaBarba '96**.



knew pretty quickly that this was a great bunch of guys and that I wanted to be a Pike. I liked the fact that there was a diverse group from all backgrounds, yet everyone got along and had a great time,” says Scot. His Pike memories include Swamp, Texas-OU weekend and football weekends, spring break trips, ski trips and duck hunting near Austin on cold, early mornings. “Pike and U.T. were great training grounds for post-college life. I learned that it’s important to work hard at school and in a career, but it’s also important to spend time with friends and have fun.”

Fellow Houstonian **Lee Zieben '96** (a member of the Beta Mu Alumni Advisory Board) remains very close to Scot today, telling *The Beta Mu*

Scot grew up in Austin in the shadows of the Capitol and with a politically active attorney father. Scot graduated from Stephen F. Austin High School in 1994, completed a B.A., in History, in 1999 from U.T. and earned a J.D. from U.T.’s School of Law in 2004. Scot is the founder of the Clinton Law Firm in Houston. His practice focuses on commercial and business litigation, including breach of contract and torts involving deceptive trade practices, fraud and breach of fiduciary duty. The firm also handles issues relating to consumer fraud, employment and real property, including lien, contract and warranty issues.

In 2012, Scot began his own firm after serving in the Texas attorney general’s office as an assistant attorney general. Scot says these years in public service were formative. “While at the AG’s office I successfully resolved a wide variety of cases, and was recognized in *Texas Lawyer/Verdict Search’s* Top Texas Verdicts of 2011 for obtaining the #1 jury verdict in the category of consumer protection (#15 overall in the state of Texas).” Scot’s legal prowess has led to his selection for inclusion in the 2015 Texas Rising Stars list, published by *Super Lawyers*. He was previously selected to the 2014 Texas Rising Stars list. Scot was influenced to pursue a career in the law by his late father, Judge Sam Houston Clinton, who after a distinguished law career was elected to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals in 1978. Scot’s dad served three consecutive six-year terms on the state’s highest criminal court. His 1,094 opinions are the second-most ever written by a judge on the court.

Bryant Fitts '96 is a pledge brother and fellow lawyer, sharing office space with Scot in Houston today. “It’s such a pleasure to have Scot right down the hall from me. He has a sharp legal mind and a great sense of humor. It’s always refreshing to trade an old college war story, but more often than not we are bouncing legal strategies around together.”

Scot was introduced to Pike while going through rush as a sophomore with his roommate and best friend from high school who knew some Pikes. “I

Review, “My fondest memory of Scot is traveling in Spain together and watching him drive a moped off a pier into the ocean while in Mallorca. A more important and special recollection is serving as groomsmen in each other’s weddings, standing together at the altar with our wives-to-be.”

Scot was a very active leader in Beta Mu, serving as internal vice president, chairman of Honors Council, state rush chairman, social chairman and Interfraternity Council representative. He counsels today’s Pike members to have fun but “to attend class, get good grades, find mentors, work or intern in a few different businesses and environments so you can get a good idea of the options available to you. Never be afraid to ask questions about things you don’t know anything about.”

Scot is married to Ashley Campbell, a Zeta Tau Alpha alumna who graduated from U.T. in 1999. The couple met at a Pike-Zeta mixer but lost touch and years later reconnected in Houston, marrying in 2010. They have two sons, Sam (3) and Campbell (3 months). He is active in the Houston community, serving as a member of various Houston Bar Association committees and sections, is former co-chair of Houston Young Lawyers Disaster Relief Committee, and former co-chair of Houston Young Lawyers Teen Civil Leadership Academy Committee. Scot is member of the World Affairs Council of Houston and volunteers at the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Scot says with little ones and a busy law practice, he has limited time for hobbies but when he can break away fishing tops his list of favorite pursuits.

Scot is pleased to see the chapter performing so well today, with solid membership numbers and broad reach across campus. “I’m very grateful for friendships formed at Pike, which remain an important influence in my life and career today. I know that today’s Beta Mu actives will take Pike values and learnings to prosper in their lives and careers ahead.” Scot can be reached at scot@theclintonlawfirm.com.

DR. BRIAN BABIN '68 **ELECTED TO U.S.** **CONGRESS**

Pikes across Texas and the nation celebrated the election of Beta Mu initiate **Brian Babin, DDS '68** to the United States Congress in November 2014 to represent the 36th District of Texas. The 36th District is a relatively new congressional district created following the 2010 Census. The District includes portions of southeastern Harris County and moves eastward to include Liberty, Hardin, Orange, Chambers and Newton Counties. Brian worked very hard in a 12-person Republican primary, securing the nomination in a runoff election and handily defeated the Democrat nominee in the November General Election. The 114th Congress includes 22 physicians and three dentists. Brother Babin was sworn in to the 114th Congress on January 6, 2015.



Texas Pikes of Brian's era regard him fondly, particularly his prowess as a Golden Glove boxer who could also sing and play a mean piano.

Mack McKinley '68 grew up in Beaumont with Brian, crediting him for his recruiting into Pike. "Brian and I were roommates in the Pike house in the fall of 1969; it was a great time. Texas Longhorn football of course dominated the social scene those years. We cheered on fellow Pike gridiron heroes like **Cotton Speyrer '68**. It's no surprise Brian aspired to public service. He is dedicated and intelligent and has given much in terms of community and public involvement, all the while being a terrific father, raising great kids with Roxanne."

Brian spent several years at U.T., ultimately graduating from Lamar University and then going on to U.T. Houston Dental School. He served as an Air Force dentist and later practiced dentistry in east Texas for many years. A lifelong east Texas resident, Babin served as mayor of Woodville, was engaged with numerous civic organizations, deeply involved in east Texas water issues and has been active in Republican politics for many years. Roxanne and Brian Babin married in 1972 and have five children and 11 grandchildren. Congressman Babin's mailing address is P. O. Box 159, Woodville, TX 75979.

Pike Brothers Remember **Dennis "Buffalo" McCleskey '77**

One of Pike's most beloved 1970s-era members, **Dennis McCleskey '77**, passed away unexpectedly of heart failure on January 5, 2015, in his Carrollton home. Nicknamed "Buffalo" at a young age, he was indeed physically large, with an enormous sense of humor and a giant heart.

Dennis grew up in north Dallas, attended Thomas Jefferson High School and then, after brief stops at SMU and U.T.-Arlington, made his way to Austin where he became a Pike. Among his childhood friends in the neighborhood were the Biskamp boys: **Mark '77, Brett '78** and **Eric '80**.

Buffalo was a natural leader and used this trait to guide him in his successful business life in sales and as a commercial real estate broker. Dennis' obituary, written lovingly by his family, mentions his love for U.T. and Pike: "Of his nickname Buffalo, it is a fitting nickname as Dennis lived his life according to his own rules with a degree of roaming freedom and joy we all wish for. He was his own man with a style that was unique, beautiful and unsurpassed. Dennis was a proud graduate of his beloved University of Texas at Austin. Who else but Buffalo would have an eight-foot-wide Longhorn steer mounted in their living room? He was also a ringleader at his fraternity, Pi Kappa Alpha, and was the frequent chairman and organizer of a Pike golf tournament 'The Toad,' which has continued year after year since his college days. If ultimate power and success were measured by the love of friends and family, Buff would have ruled the world. Everyone who knew him loved him and he never met a stranger."



Back row from left: Buffalo McCleskey '77, Robb Stewart '76, Merritt Belisle '76 and John Scofield '75. Front row: Lil Sis Susan Bateman, Ken Kangeiser '78, Steve Johnson '77, Johnny Rathmell '76, Jon Jones '77, Randy Swope '75, Dr. Jimmy Smith '76 and Steve Harry '77.

A memorial service was conducted for Dennis on January 17 at Northway Christian Church in Dallas. More than 60 Pikes attended to pay their respects and to share some quite colorful stories. It was noted that **Jay Lucas '76** was mentioned frequently in some of the tales. Among the many college and high school friends sharing remembrances as speakers in the service were Pikes **Mark Biskamp '77, Dr. Bo Frederick '78, Jon Jones '77** and **Tucker Graves '78. Gib Wood '79** played a harmonica solo of "Amazing Grace."

Many other Pikes attended the memorial service or a wake later that evening at the popular Greenville Avenue watering hole, Stan's Blue Note. Pikes in Dallas for the farewell included **Brian Banks '79, Keith Bellinger '79, Kenny Brown '78, Mike Calloway '78, Nino Corbett '79, Bob Dedman '78, Steve Dunn '73, Tim Fleet '78, Stuart Ford '76, Allen Gump '76, David Howell '79, Dr. Pat Jaeckle '77, Dr. Jim Harris '78, Jeff Hinson '74, Steve Hudson '76, David Jones '76, Ken Kangeiser '78, Russ Keene '80, Matt LaPasta '79, Jay Lucas '76, John Passero '79, Ross Vaughan '79, Dr. Tom Weber '78, Ben Weil '77** and **Kirk Williams '80**.

Jon Jones '77, who offered a eulogy at the service, remembered Buffalo fondly: "Buff lived up to his nickname. He was larger than life and was well respected by everyone with whom he came in contact. We will certainly miss his infectious smile, his quick wit and loyal friendship. He was loved by many and left this earth too damn early."



Pikes salute Buffalo McCleskey at Stan's Blue Note, a favored Pike watering hole in the 1980s.

John Murray '74 shared a warm Facebook post following the funeral service: "The memorial service for Buffalo this afternoon was a moving experience as so many souls attended to say goodbye to a paragon of our youth. Dennis was a true friend, a subtle personality that was tastefully and amusingly boisterous."



Thank You, Generous Beta Mu Brothers

In the fall of 2014, 64 brothers donated \$26,967 to support our alumni communications program. We wish to acknowledge these new contributions (marked by an asterisk) and thank all previous contributors (lifetime giving noted) to the Beta Mu fund listed below for all their support.

Gold Club (\$5,000 and above) * Mickey V. Elliott '47 * M. Harman Parrott '48 Ambassador Stan L. McLelland '64 Dow B. Hickam '65 Edward S. Hyman Jr. '65 William R. Thomas '75 * John A. Rathmell Jr. '76 Todd L. Hasie '81 * Todd J. Quisenberry '86 George M. Fettingner			
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2400 Leon Club (\$100 to \$499) Pike Powers Kristen Romano D. R. Veazey '32 Ralph E. Williams '35 Ellis O. Mayfield '36 M. Dudley Gowland '37 Collins M. Burton '38 James H. Scruggs Jr. '40 Robert G. Sharp '42 Elton L. Brogdon '44 Fred E. Scott '44 * Peyton O. Abbott '45 Forrest L. Freitag '46 David I. Wilhelm '47 Frank A. Gibson '49			
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Pi Kappa Alpha

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Jeffrey D. Boldrick '94
John W. Franklin Jr. '94
Jeremy R. Garner '94
David A. Morris Jr. '94
Adam R. Oglesby '94
Kevin R. Swantkowski '94
Blair M. Woodward '94
George J. Neill '95
Cody Armbrister '96
Scot Clinton '96
Matthew W. Shrum '96
Gregory J. Sproat '96
Henry B. Ellis, M.D. '97
Ryan A. Puryear '97
Tyson Stargel '97
John R. Baker '98
Jeffery A. Hickl '98
Ryan A. Anawaty '00
William Dyer '00
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Mark J. Trevino '01
David L. Bowman '02
Brad Harris '02
Matthew Obermeier '02
David Polerstock '02
Brandon J. Savisky '02
Joseph Sommerfield '02
Anderson Price '03
Matt Harris '04
Luis F. Lafratta '04
* Parker L. Ramsdell '04
Chad Smith '05
Stratton L. Borchers '07
Josh T. Devin '07
* Aaron M. Motsinger '07
Austin Shires '08
Houston H. Berger '09
Chris A. Hunt '09
Jeff Hunt '10

Walter D. Shepherd '70
James A. Smith '70
Dr. Ray A. Faires '71
Gregory J. Perrin '72
Russell C. Conkling '76
David P. Haynie, M.D. '76
Brian S. Bessellieu '77
Steven F. Harry '77
Robert C. Tysor Jr. '81
Brian D. Baird '83
Jim Newberry '83
Robert J. Shonk
Jeff E. Buell '86
Markham R. Teguns '86
Michael A. Poth '87
James U. King III '88
Kevin Carlson '91
Robin Trotman '92
Louis M. Matetich III '93
Bradley L. Maxcey '93
Thomas B. Walsh '93
David W. Paris '96
Brian Newman '97
James Iacuone '98
Jonathan Drucker '01
William Chenault '02
J. Patrick Braun '07
Will T. Jones '07
Jay A. Messer '08

Brotherhood Club (Up to \$99)

Chester W. Ditto '22
Emmett L. Whitsett Jr. '33
Carl H. Burnham '37
Robert A. Dube '44
James W. Crawley '45
John C. Rainwater '45
James K. Wilhelm '45
Frank A. Reed '46
Thomas K. Bamford '47
T. Clinton Baskin '47
Charles A. Stephens '47
Gerald R. Brooks Sr. '54
Roger V. Chenault '55
David D. Michie '55
Sidney C. Stewart '55
H. Don Smith, M.D. '58
Antonio L. Dieste '59
Hubert W. Ratliff Jr. '59
Fred E. Ingerson Jr. '60
* Robert H. Kuempel '61
Rabun T. Wilson III '61
Garry D. Brown '62
Eric L. Westerman '65
Clayton M. Amacker Jr. '70

Richard O. Busby II '54 entered Chapter Eternal on August 16, 2014. He was a past president, vice president and the secretary/treasurer of the Liberty/Dayton Chamber of Commerce and was honored in 1984 as the Man of the Year by the Chamber. Dick also served on the Board of Directors of the First Liberty National Bank. He loved fishing, hunting, golf and watching football, especially his Texas Longhorns. Dick is survived by his wife of 50 years, Velma; sons: Dale, Lee, Steve and Mike; 13 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Dr. Michael M. Ditto '58 entered Chapter Eternal on August 16, 2013. Michael practiced medicine for 23 years in Arlington, Texas. He is survived by his wife of 45 years, Paula; sons: Jason, Christopher and Mike; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

Dr. William E. Hyden, DDS '68 entered Chapter Eternal on March 13, 2015. He was a resident of Austin, Texas, and is survived by his wife, Judy; son, Scott; daughter, Allison; three grandchildren; and many other loving family members and friends.

Douglas C. Wistner '06 entered Chapter Eternal on January 12, 2015. After U.T., Doug pursued graduate studies at Boston University, where he earned an M.A. of public health. Upon completing his studies, Doug first worked as a financial analyst in Boston and then as a health care consultant in Boston and Austin. He was an athlete, scholar, brother, son and friend to many. He is survived by his parents, Kathy and Granger MacDonald and Clifton and Pam Wistner; sisters, Sarah and Christine; and stepbrother, Justin.

ALUMNI UPDATE

James L. Wilborn '54 still works and travels the western U.S., mostly the west coast and Rocky Mountain areas. "Good luck to all of you! I had a great time at U.T. in the '50s." Jim and his wife, Micki, live in Billings, Mont., and have two sons, Jim and Robert.

Charles L. "Corkey" Mackenzie '56 is compiling a family history and so far has found two relationships by either marriage or blood to every U.S. president from Washington to Obama. Corkey spends most of his time at home trying to keep up with the paperwork for his rental property. Corkey lives in Houston. E-mail: bravomackenzie@earthlink.net

Jeffery L. Adams '79 and his wife, Kelly, are restoring a historic lake home in Wisconsin. Additionally, Jeff is advising marathon tours on their business development strategy and co-hosted the Antarctica Marathon in March. E-mail: jeffrey.adams@comcast.net

Alex Glasscock '82 and his wife, Sue, operate The Ranch at Live Oak Malibu. The Ranch is a world-renowned weeklong fitness and wellness program set on a historic 200-acre ranch in Malibu, Calif. The program was founded in 2010 and since its inception has received 2012 and 2013 World's Best Spa awards by *Travel & Leisure*. E-mail: alexg@theranchmalibu.com

John W. Ward '85 is a managing director at Accenture. He and his wife, Mary Jo, live in Dallas and have two children. Their daughter, Catherine, is a junior at U.T.

Austin majoring in business and minoring in Spanish and is chaplain of Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority. E-mail: john.w.ward@accenture.com

Eric E. Alt '86 has lived in San Francisco since 1997 and would love to see any Pike Texas brothers who are traveling through or visiting the city. Eric and his wife, Claire, have two children. E-mail: eric.e.alt@gmail.com

Hal A. Lambert '89 founded Point Bridge Capital in 2013, an investment management and capital advising firm serving foundations, endowments and high net worth individuals across the U.S. Offices are located in Dallas and Fort Worth. Hal recently completed a four-year term as finance chairman of the Texas Republican Party. Hal and his wife, Elaine, live in Fort Worth, and have two daughters. E-mail: hal.a.lambert@gmail.com

G. Jeremy Neill '95 and his wife, Tricia, live in Encinitas, Calif., with their daughters, Bella and Audrey. "We travel to Austin at least once a year and attend a football game when we're able. I keep in touch with my Beta Mu brothers and last spring traveled to Costa Rica on a surf trip with **Dave Kurak '95**, **Joey Jackson '95** and **Baer Blanchard '96**." E-mail: gjneill@yahoo.com

Cody Armbrister '96 and his wife welcomed their third child, Emmett, "who could be in the pledge class of 2033." Cody and his family live in Houston, Texas, where he is employed with CBRE. E-mail: austinarchie@gmail.com
(Continued on page 6)



Q & A with New Pike President Tyler "TJ" Weido '12

TJ: Tyler "TJ" Weido '12 is a junior from Houston. He is a finance major interested in corporate finance and investments. He was elected Pike president by his peers in November 2014 and will serve for one year. TJ is also a member of U.T.'s oldest honorary service organization, Texas Cowboys.

Beta Mu Review: Tell us about where you grew up, about your family and life before attending U.T. Where did your nickname come from?

TJ: I was born in Houston and grew up in the northern Houston suburbs in the Spring/Klein area. I went to Klein High School where I was a member of National Honor Society and a two-year varsity football letterman. I graduated as number 18 in my class of 776. I am a product of a great, caring family. My parents, Kevin and Michelle Weido, have been a great inspiration. My dad is a lawyer with Shell Oil and mom is a registered nurse and real estate agent. I have one older brother who graduated from Notre Dame in 2012. "TJ" stands for Tyler James, my first and middle names.



TJ Weido '12 (foreground) following the presentation of his chaps at Texas Cowboys initiation in late 2014. Other Pike Cowboys include (standing, from left) Chris Roman '12, Cannon Crew member Kyle Shaffer '11, Dalton Hardy '11 and Matthew Lillard '11.

BMR: What attracted you to Pike? When did you pledge?

TJ: I joined Pike after attending rush events at orientation and a few rush parties in Austin the summer before my freshman year. Pikes seemed to be a group of very tightly knit guys that knew how to have a good time but were also academically driven. I was a member of the fall 2012 pledge class. For me, it was a great decision to join Pike.

BMR: You've been a visible, consistently active leader in the chapter. What offices have you held?

TJ: Pledge class president, academic chairman, fall 2013 pledge educator, summer 2014 co-rush chairman, and chapter president.

BMR: What vision or goals do you have as president?

TJ: I'm fortunately joined by seven other officers who compose the executive committee and inherited a solid operation. A large focus for us is on house maintenance and renovations. We plan to have the interior of the house repainted and perhaps, with the help of alumni and parents, to refurbish the common areas. The house has served the chapter very well for 60+ years but requires a lot of TLC. We are eager to work with alumni on planning for a new house expansion in 2015-16. We are grateful that those discussions are ongoing and appreciate our expanding alumni relations.

Pike of course has a very busy social calendar already planned for the remaining 2014-15 school year. Continuing Pike traditions are important. Last fall's SWAMP party was, we believe, its 63rd year, and we hold a winter-themed party now called Pikes Peak right after returning from the holidays, as well as a destination spring formal in San Antonio.

Academics are also of extremely high importance and our executive committee will work closely with the new academic chairman and new honors council to improve chapter grades. We have an overall chapter GPA of 3.1 but want to increase it. Risk awareness is also something we take seriously. Focusing on the pledges, academics and safety are my top priorities.



The Weido family are huge Longhorn fans. TJ and his parents, Kevin and Michelle, enjoy a 2014 Pike Texas Longhorn football tailgate together.

Finally, we are excited to launch a parents club in 2015. Not only will our parents get to know one another and share in the brotherhood, but we welcome their involvement and association into the organization that is the centerpiece of their sons' lives throughout college and beyond.

BMR: What are you studying? Do you have a career path identified or specific industry in mind to join?

TJ: I am a finance major. Last summer I interned at Hart Intercivic, an Austin technology company led by two Pike alumni (**Philip Braithwaite '87** and **Steven Sockwell '87**), where I was a marketing/sales intern. For summer 2015, I look forward to working for Ford Motor Company as a finance intern in Dearborn, Michigan. I am contemplating, but undecided, about pursuing graduate school.

BMR: Tell our readers about your hobbies and interests.

TJ: I'm an avid Longhorns football fan and try to attend most games, home and away. I enjoy watching professional football as well and support my hometown team, the Houston Texans. I was invited to join the Texas Cowboys service organization in fall 2014 and spend a good portion of my time attending various meetings and volunteer/charity events through that organization. Last semester I volunteered once a week at Rosedale Elementary School, a school for special needs children.

ALUMNI UPDATE

(Continued from page 5)

Anderson Price '03 and his wife, Royale, recently concluded a year-long trip around the world. This has been one of their goals since meeting as undergraduates in 2004. Pikes can view the trials and tribulations of planning, budgeting and executing a round-the-world trip at www.travel-cowboys.com. E-mail: andersonprice@gmail.com

Robert T. Auers '09 is a process engineer at Western Refining Corporation and lives in El Paso, Texas. E-mail: robertauers@yahoo.com



WELCOMING SPRING 2015 PLEDGES AS NEW MEMBERS

Justin Cliffe*

San Antonio, Texas
Brandeis High School

Activities: Model United Nations

Major: Psychology
(Grandfather)

Charles Raymond Massey Jr.,
University of Houston '59)

Matthew Delaney

Coppell, Texas
Coppell High School

Activities: Class President,
National Honor Society, Baseball

Major: Business

Charles Folger

Copperas Cove, Texas
Copperas Cove High School

Activities: Student Council,
Baseball, Youth Advisory
Committee

Major: Aerospace Engineering

Levi Kaip

El Paso, Texas
Coronado High School

Activities: Baseball, UIL Math &
Science, National Honor Society

Major: Chemical Engineering



Top row, from left: Justin Cliffe, Adam Lewis, Adam Northam, Emmett Kennady, Levi Kaip and Brian Lenert. Bottom row: Matt Delaney, Taylor Senn, Blake Steines, Charles Folger and Jason Rowland.

Emmett Kennady*

College Station, Texas
A&M Consolidated High School

Activities: National Honor
Society, AP Scholar with
Distinction, Environmental Club

Major: Chemistry

(Father **Emmett Hubbard
Kennady III**, Washington
and Lee University '77)

Brian Lenert

Dunn Loring, Va.

George C. Marshall High School
Activities: Baseball, Basketball,
National Music Honor Society

Major: Mathematics

Adam Lewis

New Braunfels, Texas
Canyon High School

Activities: National Honor
Society, Basketball

Major: Business

Adam Northam*

Texarkana, Texas

Pleasant Grove High School
Activities: Eagle Scout, Debate
Team, National Honor Society

Major: Plan II/Business Honors
(Brother **Mark Northam '13**)

Jason Rowland

Humble, Texas

Atascocita High School
Activities: National Honor Society,
Social Action, Golf Team

Major: Biochemistry

Taylor Senn

San Antonio, Texas

Smithson Valley High School

Activities: National Honor
Society, Swim Team, Family and
Community Service Club

Major: Chemistry

Blake Steines

College Station, Texas

A&M Consolidated High School

Activities: National Honor
Society, Swim and Cross Country
Teams, Student Council

Major: Biomedical Engineering

* Legacy, relatives in parentheses

Pike Philanthropy Commitment Continues to Expand

Focus on Texas THON, a Party with a Purpose

Texas THON is a totally student-run fundraising competition with fraternities, sororities and other student organizations to raise money for Dell Children's Medical Center. The THON series occurs at a number of colleges across the country born out of the Children's Miracle Network Dance Marathon movement. The THON charities at major universities are primarily run by Greek members and raise millions of dollars annually. The fundraising parties are designed around the theme "Party with a Purpose."

Texas THON has traditionally held Pancake Nights which had, in the past, been at the Tejas House. For the 2014-15 year, Pike took ownership of Pancake Night and expanded it, raising \$8,200 between the fall and spring events. Other events with Pike management raised \$26,600 for Children's Miracle Network and Dell Children's Medical Center. Pike is justifiably proud of leadership that yielded more than one-fourth of the THON total at U.T. of \$102,274.

"The THON movement is growing at Texas," explains Pike Philanthropy Chairman **Baylor Morrison '14**. "We are pleased that Pike has repositioned THON at U.T. as a major vehicle for Greek charitable giving among students. THON has generated an enthusiastic outlook for the future of the program."



Pikes on stage were recognized as the number-one fundraising organization at the closing spring presentation party of Texas THON in February.

2015 Rush Co-Chairmen Plan Active Summer



Pike rush leaders ready for summer are J.D. Swancoat '12, Ryan Thompson '13, Ryan Merkley '13, Colby Lewis '13 and Michael Moroney '13.

The Pike rush co-chairmen have been nominated and are preparing for an active spring and summer of Pike promotion. They are **Colby Lewis '13**, **Ryan Merkley '13**, **Michael Moroney '13**, **J.D. Swancoat '12** and **Ryan Thompson '13**. These new leaders have exciting summer plans to introduce incoming students to Pike. The plans include a number of Austin events, as well as a sustained Houston focus throughout the summer. New Houston city rush captains will be named this spring and Houston alumni will be contacted to support this reconstituted rush effort in the region. Alumni can refer prospective rushes by sending an e-mail to rush@texaspikes.com or downloading and mailing a rush recommendation form found on the texaspikes.com/rush page. Rushees may also directly register on the same webpage.



THE BETA MU REVIEW

**Pi Kappa Alpha
Beta Mu Alumni Group
P.O. Box 7842
Austin, TX 78713-7842**

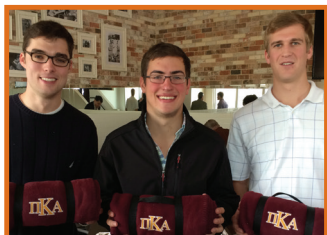
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BETA MU ALUMNI HONOR DECEMBER GRADUATES

With the support of Beta Mu's Alumni Fund, a Senior Sendoff lunch and presentation of gifts in Austin was held in December 2014 for eight graduating Pikes. The new Texas Exes are **Chandler Abbott '10**, **Will Brown '11**, **Scott Englar '11**, **Dalton Hardy '11**, **Anthony Kruger '10**, **Jordan Robirds '10**, **Zach Schaefer '10** and **Evan Scofield '10**. This was an impressive group of upperclassmen whose leadership will be missed, including a past Pike president, past vice president external, past treasurer, and former rush chairs, as well as two Texas Cowboys and one Silver Spur. The new graduates are heading into new careers: Abbott is newly employed by Oracle Corp.; Brown is in management consulting with The Structure Group; Hardy is employed by pipe maker Tenaris; Kruger is applying to medical schools; and Schaefer has joined the deal advisory practice of KPMG.



New graduates presented with Pike blankets are Jordan Robirds '10, Scott Englar '11 and Dalton Hardy '11.



John Scofield '75, a member of the Beta Mu Alumni Advisory Board, congratulated his son, Evan '10, at the Senior Sendoff luncheon.

Alumni-Led Career Advisory Sessions Held During Holiday Break

As in recent years, alumni participated in Career Advisory Sessions during the holiday break. Pike students had the opportunity to join a Houston "Preparing for Law School and a Legal Career" lunch discussion on January 6, and a January 8 session on "New Media, Big Data and the Digital World" at the studios of YouPlus Media in Dallas, a company owned by **Jeff Hinson '74**. These events were organized by Pikes Continuing Education Chairman **Drew Lane '14**.



Pike alumni and undergraduates enjoyed lunch and a career session on the legal field January 6 at the Houston offices of Jones Day.

At the Dallas event, Jeff led a tour of his digital firm's nerve center and creative studio. Pikes studying advertising, marketing and computer science enjoyed the session with Jeff. He discussed his firm's media, film and digital branding and marketing capabilities, as well as generational changes in social media and how Big Data opens a significant business opportunity for this generation of marketers. Jeff, who serves on the Advisory Board of U.T.'s Moody College of Communications, as well as several publically traded companies, was an excellent presenter according to attendees.

Likewise, the alumni lawyer presenters in Houston provided firsthand knowledge based on experiences in preparing for law school, how to excel in law school and what to expect in a legal career, including small solo practices to mid-sized firms to large global law firms. The working lunch was held at the downtown Houston office of mega global law firm Jones Day, by partner **Bruce McDonald '82**. Joining Bruce (kneeling, center in photo) as faculty at the lunch were fellow attorney Pike alumni **Mack Gibson '67**, **Chad Smith '04**, **John Wallace '78** and **David Zdunkewicz '81**.