



Tau Kappa Epsilon – Alpha Zeta Chapter
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An open letter from the Alpha Zeta Chapter to Purdue men considering joining TKE:

Joining a fraternity is an important decision. Although there are many available, try to find one that meets your individual needs. Find one that is respectful to the virtues of its members. Find an established organization that fosters academic and personal success.

Founded more than a century ago on January 10, 1899, TKE includes a very diverse membership, and is the largest college fraternity in the world with locations at 270 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada. Since 1899, more than 229,000 men have accepted the challenge of membership in Tau Kappa Epsilon. The Alpha Zeta chapter at Purdue University was founded on December 20, 1928, and has initiated 1,719 men to date. They are men of sterling character who have become leaders in their occupations and communities.

Teke Leaders

- 40th President of the United States **Ronald Reagan**
- U.S. Supreme Court Justice **Charles Whittaker**
- U.S. Senator and President Pro-Tem of the Senate **Robert C. Byrd**
- Astronaut **Gerald Carr**
- University of Illinois Chancellor **Dr. John Cribbet**
- Walgreen Drug Store Founder **Charles Walgreen**
- Hilton Hotel Founder **Conrad Hilton**
- Polymer Color Corporation President **Benjamin C. Madey** (Purdue)
- Nyloncraft Corporation President **James V. Wyllie** (Purdue)
- Dow Chemical Chairman/CEO **Paul Orefice** (Purdue)
- Carboline Corporation President **J. David Porthouse** (Purdue)
- New York Yankees First Baseman **Bill “Moose” Skowron** (Purdue)
- NFL Founder and Chicago Bears Owner/Coach **George Halas**
- NFL Buffalo Bills General Manager and Coach **Marv Levy**
- NFL Quarterback and TV Analyst **Terry Bradshaw**
- NFL Quarterback and TV Analyst **Phil Simms**
- TV analyst and Basketball Coach **Digger Phelps**
- Actor **Robert Wuhl**
- Entertainer **Merv Griffin**
- Country Singer **Willie Nelson**

Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity

Our mission is to aid men in their mental, moral, and social development for life

Declaration of Principles

The Fraternity requires its members to live up to our standard of excellence at all times. In our Declaration of Principles, we are warned that a fraternity, like any other organization, group, or family, is judged by the character of its members. A man who joins our Fraternity no longer has his own reputation to consider, but must remember that his every action reflects on every member of his chapter, and on every member of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Every action done in company ought to be done with some sign of respect to those who are present.

Tekes for Life

Our men embody the principles promoted by the Fraternity and are poised for success. They belong to TKE, "The Fraternity for Life." We believe that your Fraternity participation should be something you experience for a lifetime. After you graduate, many opportunities remain to stay involved in the Fraternity because the friends that you make, and the experience you gain, will last forever.

A perfect example of a lifelong fraternal bond is captured by the relationship between two Purdue Tekes, Ben Madey and Jim Wyllie, both current members of our Board of Advisors. In the mid-1980s, Ben asked Jim to loan him \$250,000 to start a business. Jim agreed, but insisted that \$50,000 of the loan be returned to him in the form of stock in Ben's company. Throughout the next decade, Ben repaid the \$200,000 loan with interest, and Jim held on to the stock. In the late 1990s, Jim told Ben he wanted to cash-in his stock which was now worth \$90,000, but only asked for the original \$50,000.

To Jim's surprise, Ben refused his request to buy back the stock, and did so on three different occasions. Finally, Ben suggested that he would be happy to loan Jim \$50,000, but Jim was to remain the owner of the stock. Jim agreed to the compromise, but was baffled by what had taken place. A year later, Ben, who knew his company was going to be purchased when Jim tried to cash-in his stock, sold the business for an amount so substantial that Jim's stock was worth \$1,000,000, something Ben suspected might be the case when he refused to buy back Jim's stock for only \$50,000.

Ben could have made \$950,000 simply by returning Jim's stock to him at the time and price Jim suggested. Instead, he made certain that Jim would make nearly a million dollars in lieu of keeping the money for himself. And he did so without violating any insider trading laws. That's an expression of brotherhood for all to emulate.

Grades, GPA Requirements, Pledgeship and Hazing

In the fall of 2006, TKE permanently moved to The Lodge to take advantage of the great combination of both fraternity and apartment living that this arrangement provides us. We are living at the Lodge for the same costs per man we had while housed in our former fraternity, but without the maintenance and janitorial time and expenses. More importantly, our new location has provided us with outstanding study conditions as evidenced by our ranking of 4th out of Purdue's 41 fraternities with a GPA of 2.91, above both the "All-Men" and "All-Fraternity" grade indexes as well that same semester

we arrived. More recently, during the fall 2007 semester, we went so far as to attain 7th out of the same 41 fraternities with a GPA of 3.01.

A 2.5 semester GPA is required for a new member to be initiated. Pledges failing to earn a 2.5 GPA will become affiliate members until such time that they can reach our academic standards for initiation. The chapter itself is required to maintain a 2.5 GPA, and is not permitted to pledge anyone with less than a 2.25 accumulative GPA at Purdue or a 2.3 high school GPA if no grades have been earned at Purdue prior to the semester pledgship is scheduled to begin.

All new members of TKE experience a new member education period. This education period takes place over a few months and during this time the pledges participate in a variety of events. They will learn about the University and the Fraternity, and participate in leadership retreats, community service projects, campus activities, and other functions that are designed to build friendships and teamwork among the new and older members of the Fraternity.

Hazing is a practice that is NOT honored by TKE. Even during the many decades of the 20th Century, when most fraternities hazed their new members, it was not a part of TKE pledgship. Ever since "Animal House" was released, there has been a stereotype that has lingered for years that places fraternity members in a category of partiers and otherwise irresponsible and abusive people. We are trying to reverse this perception on every level because it is simply untrue. TKE prides itself on the values upon which we were established: love, charity and esteem.

Verbal and physical harassment of pledges has never had a place in fraternity life simply because there is nothing good that can come from it, and, unfortunately, occasionally some very negative things result. Having to be embarrassed, humiliated and/or physically hurt to be able to join a social organization defies reason and logic, and the entire harassment process serves only to satisfy the harmful psychological needs of the perpetrators.

Both the undergraduate and alumni members of this Fraternity full expect that, despite the fact that pledges have nothing to fear from initiated members regarding harassment, all pledge lessons, which include historical facts and basic Greek fraternal information and concepts, will be successfully completed. Failure of pledges to comply with this requirement will result in extended pledgship until they are properly educated.

Every member's first obligation is to the University and his studies and then to extracurricular activities that include the Fraternity. TKE assists by offering scholarship development programs, which may include study partners, mentors, study hours, and time management workshops. During the new member education program, pledges will be around members who already know how to use campus resources that will benefit their academic experience and help them excel to their highest potential. More importantly, pledges will be surrounded by people who care about them and their academic achievement.

Participating in any campus activity will require an investment of one's time. However, national research has shown that when involved in campus activities, college students are more likely to

graduate. They also say that their college experience was more satisfying because they were involved. Through fraternity involvement, you will learn how to balance your academic commitment, work, campus involvement, and social commitments.

Advisors and Mentors

We have a Purdue University Vice-President, John Schneider, as a faculty advisor, a Purdue Aeronautics Professor, Dominick Andrisani, as a chapter advisor, and a live-in residential advisor, Larry Weis, who graduated from Purdue as a Teke in 1962 who also taught and coached at the collegiate level. The President of our Board of Advisors, Dr. Bill Risk, is a Teke graduate of Purdue who earned his degree in 1960 at the age of 20 after only three years of study. He is now a dentist in Lafayette, Indiana.

We are fortunate to have many experienced and enthusiastic advisors and mentors with us every day to guide us in the following eight areas of personal development which we experience through our membership in Tau Kappa Epsilon:

- Scholarship
- Character
- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Service in the Community
- Brotherhood
- Fraternity for Life
- Social Skills

Non-Scholastic Qualifications for Membership

Full-time male students, including those who are married, with at least one more year of undergraduate course work to complete at Purdue's West Lafayette campus, are welcome to join. We only ask that they live at The Lodge in Building #7 should they choose to become a Teke. (Married Tekes can, but do not have to, live in Building #7, but must reside at The Lodge.) Suitemates are determined by the Undergraduate Executive Council, but members enter into apartment contracts (\$375/month – 12 months) with The Lodge on an individual basis.

Potential members will not be judged by their wealth, rank or honor, nor accepted because of their desire or ability to consume alcoholic beverages, use or obtain illegal drugs or engage in sex. Men are considered only for their personal worth and character. During the recruitment of new members, we actively pursue those men who: have a wide range of interests, and seek to enhance and broaden them through spirited conversation; possess athletic prowess; participate in campus activities.

Non-Academic Leadership Opportunities Provided by TKE International

Through our membership development and education programs, each Teke can achieve his personal best in all areas of his college experience, preparing him for success for the rest of his life. There are four different major educational programs that are offered by TKE. It begins in the fall semester with all the Province Educational Conferences (PECs) that are hosted by Grand Province Advisors. Then Regional Leadership Conferences are next in the educational cycle. These conferences build on the functionality that is presented during the PECs, and begin to integrate different topics. The Leadership Academics round out the educational cycle of Tau Kappa Epsilon in the summer. Conclave is

our largest programming event. At Conclave, a wide variety of programming and brotherhood opportunities are available.

- Province Education Conferences

These conferences are organized and executed by the volunteer leadership of the Fraternity. The Grand Province Advisor and his province team offer sessions based on Rush, Candidate Education, Retention, and Ritual. Province Educational Conferences typically take place during a fall weekend.

- Regional Leadership Conferences

Eight RLCs are held every spring semester (February and March), two in each of TKE's four regions. Each RLC provides Tekes with an opportunity to network and fellowship with other Fraternity members in their staff region, as well as gain in-depth, hands-on training from high caliber corps of TKE volunteers and staff. RLCs have sessions, which educate and inform both our collegiate members and our alumni volunteers.

- Conclave

Every two years the Grand Council comes together for a broad range of educational programming and brotherhood. In addition, a new Grand Council is elected and legislation is voted on by the Grand Chapter. The conclave site rotates from city to city across North America in odd numbered years.

- Leadership Academy

The TKE leadership academy offers a week-long intensive personal development opportunity for underclassmen each summer where members learn how to develop and maintain teamwork, trust, and brotherhood in their respective chapters.

Costs to be a TKE

- Candidate Initiation Fees

There are a couple of costs that are associated with joining TKE. The first is the candidate fee of \$91 which must be paid by all of the candidates within 14 days from the start of their pledgeship. The second is the initiation fee of \$309 which must be paid prior to initiation. Total pledge dues are \$400.

- Undergraduate Membership Dues

Dues are payable in two installments of \$350 at the beginning of each semester. Dues cover: Interfraternity Council dues, TKE International dues, social obligations, internal philanthropy, external philanthropy, rush, liability insurance, brotherhood events, athletics, pledge training, Grand Prix, fundraising, retreats, scholarships, Greek relations and contingency expenses.

- Annual Alumni Dues

Each year our Board of Advisors asks all chapter alumni to help support Alpha Zeta financially by paying dues at the following rates: \$50 from alumni 30-years-old and younger; \$150 from those alumni 31-years and older. All alumni are eligible to reduce their annual dues costs by paying three years at a time at a lower rate. Alumni dues cover: rent of chapter and resident advisor suites, resident advisor salary, utilities, office expenses, fund raising, homecoming, rush, and contingency expenses.

Activities Sponsored by TKE

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athletics • Parties • Pledgeship • Picnics • Paintball • Laser Tag • Poker • Golf Outing • Parents' Days • Barn Dance • Miniature Golf • Guest Speakers • World Series Party • Super Bowl Party • Cookouts/Barbecues | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open House and Tours • Red Carnation Ball • Greek Gala • Run for Reagan • Feeding the Homeless • Fall Dance • Sorority Mixers • Brotherhood Events • Philanthropic Events • TKE Educational and Leadership Conferences • TKE International Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentoring Disadvantaged Youth • Swimming Pool Parties • New Member Recruitment • Attending Sporting Events • BCS Championship Game Party • Televised Purdue Football and Basketball Away Game Parties |
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Additional Benefits of Membership

Unlike any other fraternity at Purdue, TKE has, at no additional costs:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24-hour maintenance and emergency service • Gated Community • Trash Removal • Commercial-sized washer and dryer in each apartment • Water • A fully furnished apartment • Cable TV • High Speed Internet • Large swimming pool • Full-sized sand volleyball court • Tennis court • Game room | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer room • Tanning machine • Social/activities room • Video game room • Workout room • Roundtrip bus service to campus and surrounding area 16 hours per day • Annual cleaning and painting of apartments • 12-month use of the apartments • When a member is not home, special mail delivery receipt service • A bathroom in each bedroom • Lawn and garden care |
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- Snow removal

If you want to supplement your academic career with some organized social, athletic, and non-academic and academic intellectual pursuits, TKE may be exactly what you want as it would positively influence not only your college experience, but your life after Purdue because Teke friendships, molded through our brotherhood, are forever.

If you are interested in learning more about Tau Kappa Epsilon or how we can suit your needs, please contact the Fraternity at (765) 497-2724. We look forward to hearing from you.