ALPHA RHO CHAPTER ALUMNI NEWSLETTER OCTOBER, 2008

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This fall marks the eighty-third edition of the Alpha Rho chapter; a long, strong tradition of brotherhood that we are proud to continue. This past May, members of our Spring 2005 pledge class graduated to pursue bigger and better things. We wish them all the best of luck as esteemed alumni of the Alpha Rho chapter.





Justin Wier President

Our remaining twenty-four brothers have come together once again this semester to fulfill the object of our fraternity with renewed vigor and dedication. The year ahead of us is full of service projects, fundraisers, interest sessions, a new class of Probationary Members, alumni events, and much more. So far we've planned over twenty ushering events in Hill Hall, started two major fundraising projects to supplement our income from weekly grilled cheese sales, had our yearly trip to play with the Louisburg High School band at a football game, planned social events in conjunction with the UNC chapter of Sigma Alpha lota, begun preparation for a special Alumni Weekend in February, and thorough planning and recruiting for another successful class of musicianly men.

And as always, it's great to hear from alumni. If anyone has questions, announcements, or anything else, feel free to contact us at any time through email, telephone, or by writing us.

ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

The 5th annual Alpha Rho Golf Tournament will be held at The Challenge Golf Club in Graham, NC this year on Sunday, November 16th. Greens Fees are \$48 per person, which includes cart rental. Please email JR Varner (jrvarner@gmail.com) no later than Friday, October 31st if you are interested in playing. Feel free to visit the course website at www.thechallenge.com.

SPRING ALUMNI REUNION

By Evan Carroll (Alpha Rho, 2005)

"All in all it is big band pure and simple. It was a new experience for both band and audience and in a way, Carolina. An experience we hope is repeated time and time again because The Sinfonians put out an exciting sound that only a jazz orchestra can." That text is from the 1964 recording of The Sinfonians Jazz Orchestra, which existed from 1963 until the late sixties. Sponsored by the Alpha Rho Chapter of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity, this group was comprised of graduate and undergraduate students who were responsible for the entire administration of the band. Their concert in 1963 marked the first Jazz performance at Carolina since the 1940's.

Now over 40 years after their first performance, we're bringing them back together. February 27 - March I, 2009 will be our annual alumni weekend, but this year we'll have a special focus on those alumni from the 1960's. Planned activities will include a reception, dinner and possible jam session. This weekend also coincides with the annual Carolina Jazz Festival with concerts and clinics to fill out the weekend. For those who are interested in Basketball, this weekend will also include our annual alumni basketball tournament and a Men's Basketball game against Georgia Tech.

All Alpha Rho and Sinfonians alumni are welcome to attend. Please save the date and RSVP as soon as possible to evan_carroll@unc.edu or at (910) 540-3826. If you are interested in attending, but are unavailable this weekend, please let us know. If enough people cannot attend this weekend, we'll reschedule. We look forward to seeing everyone in February.

To keep up with the latest information about the reunion, visit us online at:

www.unc.edu/sinfonia

A special thanks to all of those who responded to the last newsletter with more information about The Sinfonians.

ALPHA RHO CHAPTER

THE KENAN MUSIC BUILDING

By Spencer Braswell (Alpha Rho, 2007)

Beginning the first weekend in November, the Department of Music will have yet another home. Kenan Music Building, located just feet west of Hill Hall, will open its doors to students and faculty.

The state-of-the-art facility contains many amenities long needed by the department. The building houses a large instrumental rehearsal hall, 18 faculty studios for applied teaching, 100 and 45-seat classrooms, three piano studios, three ensemble rehearsal rooms, three practice rooms, a world music room, a digital theory laboratory, a recording studio and a percussion suite. The building is three full stories and is more than 100,000 sq. ft.

The Kenan Music Building is the first of several phases for the planned Arts Common at UNC. Subsequent phases will include more landscaping development, additional individual practice facilities, and a 650-seat concert hall.

Hill Hall will continue to be used by several professors, ensembles rehearsals, student organizations, and the UNC Bands office. The Department is expected to be fully moved in by January. Classes will begin in the Kenan Music Building at the start of the Spring 2009 semester.



New faculty Sinfonians, Dr. Jon Finson (left) and Professor Brent Wissick, were initiated on April 26th.



The Kenan Music Building stands beside the Hanes Art Center, facing South Columbia Street.

FACULTY INITIATION

By David Steele (Alpha Rho, 2005)

This past spring two members of the UNC Department of Music were initiated into the Alpha Rho Chapter.

Jon W. Finson is a widely published musicologist in both the United States and Europe. He received an undergraduate degree in Music from the University of Colorado at Boulder, a Master of Arts at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Chicago. A majority of his research has focused on nineteenth century German music, and American popular song. Recently his focus has shifted to the interactions between image and music in American cinema.

Brent Wissick is a Zachary Taylor Smith Distinguished Term Professor and longtime instructor of Cello. Additionally Wissick has taught viola de gamba and chamber music during his time at UNC. Other than UNC, Professor Wissick has also taught at the College of St. Scholastica in Minnesota, Chautauqua Institution, and the 1997 Aston Magna Academy at Yale. He has presented lectures, master classes and recitals throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. We wish them the best in their careers and research, and welcome them to the Alpha Rho family.

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

SERVICE UPDATE

By Myron Massey (Alpha Rho, 2007)

We are pleased to report unprecedented attendance at a recent Midnight Mystery Tour in conjunction with UNC's annual Week of Welcome festivities. Over two hundred students attended the evening of history and legend. The event is part of a renewed initiative by the fraternity to increase campus involvement and interaction with the general student body. We would like to thank the Week of Welcome committee for the opportunity to share our appreciation for the history of this great university.

Other service projects include an ongoing ushering service to concerts in Hill and Person Halls and holiday performances on Franklin Street with tips to benefit the local soup kitchen and the Sinfonia Educational Foundation.

NEW BROTHERS

By Myron Massey (Alpha Rho, 2007)

Alpha Rho welcomed four new brothers into the fraternity on March 29th, 2008. Geoff Mackey is a junior Information Science major from Greensboro, North Carolina. Mackey has been part of the Marching Tar Heels trumpet section. Jason Bost is a sophomore from Spencer, North Carolina; majoring in chemistry. He plays alto saxophone in the Marching Tar Heels. Ben Charlton is a sophomore from Lynchburg, Virginia majoring in International Studies. Charlton plays trumpet in the Marching Tar Heels. Stephen Hudson is a sophomore chemistry major with a minor in creative writing from Seneca, South Carolina. While at UNC Hudson was a member of the Marching Tar Heels and sang bass in the Carolina Choir. Since becoming a brother Hudson has transferred to Furman University where he is a member of the Marching Paladins and the FUtones, a co-ed contemporary Christian a cappella group. He is getting to know the brothers of the Gamma Eta chapter and is looking forward to becoming involved.

ALUMNI CLUB

Interested in reconnecting with your brothers in an unprecedented way? We're exploring the possibility of creating an Alpha Rho Alumni Club. Its mission will be to provide social events for alumni and support for the chapter. If you're interested in helping to establish this organization, please contact us at the information below. An organizational meeting will be scheduled in the near future for those interested.

STAY IN TOUCH

Just a reminder to please update any contact information that may have changed recently at Lyrecrest online by logging on to My Desktop at http://www.sinfonia.org or calling the national office at I-800-473-2649. Updates can also be made through the UNC General Alumni Association by emailing them at alumni@unc.edu. And if you aren't already, feel free to join the Alpha Rho Alumni Listserv. Please let us know if you would like to be added. Additionally, we're always excited to hear from our alumni, please feel free to contact any of us at the information listed below.

Evan Carroll@unc.edu or 910.540.3826

Matthew Brown mbrown04@email.unc.edu



New collegiate brothers, Geoff Mackey, Stephen Hudson, Jason Bost and Ben Charlton, were initiated on March 29th.



Campus Box 3320 Hill Hall The University of North Carolina Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3320



THE ALPHA RHO ALUMNI NEWSLETTER BRINGING YOU THE LATEST FRATERNAL NEWS FROM CHAPEL HILL

Remember the Sinfonians?
We're inviting them back to Chapel Hill. Check out the front page to learn more.

