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The Link

Linking the Foundation with the Future
www.vtlambdachi.com

Spring 2009



See You in Blacksburg Homecoming 2014 October 3 & 4, 2014

Come join us to celebrate the 56 Anniversary of our founding as Sigma Omega Tau Fraternity!

Golfers will assemble at the Blacksburg Country Club on Friday. Our tournament director, Big E, will once again coordinate this annual sporting event. Cost is \$50.00.

We will gather for our traditional Friday night gathering at 413 E. Roanoke Street beginning at 6:30. Our resident southern connoisseur, Mike Whaley, will once again delight our palettes with a buffet of BBQ, Brisket, Beans, Slaw, Mac & Cheese, Cookies, Brownies, Chips & Dip. Three beverage tickets will be provided for those who have registered in advance. The cost for this southern meal is \$21.00.

Saturday brings the Annual Alumni Meeting and then we will watch the telecast of the Hokies as they battle the Tar Heels in Chapel Hill. Following the game, the Holiday Inn on Prices Fork Road will host a cash bar and dinner of Prime Rib or Rosa Chicken for \$36.00 and \$27.00, respectively. Full menus can be found at the registration site: <https://squareup.com/market/lambda-chi-alpha-alumni-chapter-at-virginia-tech>

Please place your order for the events by pointing to the above URL. You can see the list of registrants by clicking on the Events link at our web site: <http://www.vtlambdachi.com>.

Rooms have been reserved on a first come, first served basis at the Holiday Inn and Days Inn on South Main Street. Call soon and we'll see you in a month!

Benoit Scholarship Awarded to XX

First funded in the late 1980s through gifts to the Alumni Support Fund, the Robert E. "Doc" Benoit Scholarship has returned this year. Named to honor Doc's long tenure as faculty advisor and mentor to countless brothers, the \$1,000 scholarship has been awarded to XX. ADD SOMETHING ABOUT THE RECIPIENT.

Doc was first recruited as our Faculty Advisor by Joe Kincheloe '67 ΣΑ247 in 1963 and he has been involved ever since. As an undergraduate at the University of Vermont, Doc was a member of Lambda Iota, founded in 1836, and still in service to the Burlington campus today. This scholarship was established in honor of

his selfless devotion to the fraternity, the compassion and care he has shown for our brothers, his mentorship of countless brothers who needed his leadership and sound advice, and his lifetime of academic pursuits. He also inspired several generations of runners.

While we all know Doc as our brother, his students and colleagues also recognize his academic excellence. He continues to teach today and has been recognized with numerous awards over the years, including Biology Department Teaching Award (1996), Biology Department Advising Award (1996,1997), Alumni University Teaching Award (1984), Arts

& Sciences Teaching Excellence Award (1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1984), Wine Award (2002). Benoit served on the Academy of Teaching Excellence continuously since 1984. In 2002 he

was also awarded the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Virginia Professor of the Year.

Alumni Notes

Matt Brooking '97 ΣΛ381 and his wife, Jeni, welcomed their third child ,XX, to the world on January 15, 2014. Coincidentally, **Louis Brooking '68 ΣΩΤ ΣΛ243**, and his wife Ginger, welcomed a grandXX of the same name at the exact same moment.

John Cowan '62 ΣΩΤ has retired from the practice of law. John practiced with Franklin, Williams, and Cowan in Fredericksburg. He also served as the House Corporation's registered agent for many years.

Jeff Gilliland '86 ΣΛ167 completed the Walt Disney World Marathon in 3:47:56, placing 1,046 out of 19,232 finishers in the January 2014 race. Jeff is a principal at J2 Engineers, Inc. in Manassas.

Jesse Harris '96 ΣΛ429 rappelled off the 26 story Suntrust Plaza building in Richmond raising over \$1,500 for the Special Olympics in October 2013. Jesse is an endodontist with his firm, East Coast Endodontics in Mechanicsville.

Kevin King '79 ΣΛ94 attended the christening of the USS Gerald R. Ford (CVN-78) at Newport News Shipbuilding in November 2013. Kevin is an engineer and lives in Yorktown.

Arch Marston '82 ΣΛ126 has been named president of AES Consulting Engineers. Arch has been with the company for 30 years, serving the last 18 as vice president. AES has four office serving central and eastern Virginia.

Tim McDermott '77 ΣΛ64 joined 120 other fraternity alumni at the Lambda Chi Alpha Neville Advisor's College in Indianapolis. The two day conference trains fraternity alumni to become better advisors to undergraduate chapters.

Dennis Parsons '81 ΣΛ100 retired as director of Spotsylvania County Public Schools Career and Technical Education Center following his career in public education. Dennis is now a realtor with Coldwell Banker Carriage House Realty in Fredericksburg.

Joel Schmidt, M.D. '80 ΣΛ90 was named a Top Doc by Richmond Magazine in 2013. Joel is an associate professor in the Division of Pediatric Pulmonary Medicine at Children's Hospital of Richmond at VCU Health System.

Lee Smartschan '05 ΣΛ499 has become the Virginia State Corporation Commission registered agent for the chapter's House Corporation. Lee is an attorney in private practice in Midlothian.

Gene "Cro" Thayer '69 ΣΩΤ and the crew of his sailboat, Pterodactyl, won the 2013 Sportsmanship Award for aiding a disabled competitor in very challenging conditions during the Down the Bay race.

Ryan Wilson '01 ΣΛ436 and his wife, Stephanie, celebrated the birth of their daughter Cadence Grace, on February 9, 2014.

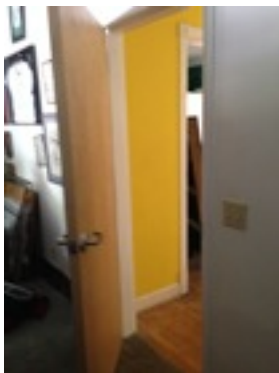
Send in your note on the gift form below or by email to alumnisecretary@vtlambdachi.com



**Summer
Beach Bash
2014
by
Ryan Bennis
'06 ΣΛ507**



House Repairs for Security and Durability



Thanks to brothers who have supported the Alumni Support Fund, the Alumni Chapter Board of Directors recently approved a \$XX bid from XX to install new interior doors on all bedrooms, the Chapter room, and between the living room and front hall. These solid core wooden doors have secure locks and are mounted in metal frames. Supervised by Mike Whaley '96 ΣΛ423, XX did an excellent job. Not only

do the doors improve the living space, they provide house brothers the ability to secure their personal property as well as improve the security of the



house and Chapter room. From our perspective as alumni, this investment will prevent the periodic, if not constant, kicking-in of doors. As we move to a more professional, landlord/renter relationship with the active brothers, the cost incurred to repair all future damage to items that have been upgraded, like these doors, will be assessed against the active chapter. These repairs were completed over the summer in time for the new academic year.

Treasurer's Report
by Danny Morse '03 ΣΛ467
Balances (8/31/14)

Alumni Chapter: \$X,XXX

House Corporation: \$X,XXX

Mortgage: \$XX,XXX

Alumni Support Fund Donors (1/1/14 - 8/31/14)

Platinum (≥\$1,000)

George R. Camalier '67 ΣΩT

Matthew T. Marshall '98 ΣΛ420

John Windsor '77 ΣΛ69

Gold (≥\$500 & <\$1,000)

Kurt Zuch '90 ΣΛ280

Silver (≥\$250 & <\$500)

Richard Prestwood '70 ΣΛ23

Dotson (≥\$100 & <\$250)

Rob Beale '98 ΣΛ405

John Funkhouser '67 ΣΩT

Eric Lohman '00 ΣΛ474

Tim McDermott '77 ΣΛ64

Ken Proctor '00 ΣΛ416 (IMO John Serumgard '00 ΣΛ421)

Preston Wall '06 ΣΛ526

To make a gift to this year's Alumni Support Fund, please mail in the form below or point your browser to: <https://squareup.com/market/lambda-chi-alpha-alumni-chapter-at-virginia-tech>



**Active Update
by High Rho Kyle Mahoney '16 ΣΛ698**

Spring history.

**Reminder!!
Fall Homecoming - October 3 & 4**

Blocks of rooms have been reserved at the following hotels:

Days Inn \$69.00 per night
3503 Holiday Ln, Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540) 951-1330

Holiday Inn \$XX.XX per night
900 Prices Fork Rd, Blacksburg, Virginia 24060
(540) 552-7001

Ask for the Lambda Chi rate at the hotel of your choosing.

Or check out www.airbnb.com to rent a home in Blacksburg!

**Lambda Chi Alpha @ Virginia Tech Alumni Chapter
Alumni Support Fund
2014 Commitment Form**

Name: _____ Class Year _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email Address: _____

I am pleased to make the following gift this year:

\$ _____ \$ _____ \$ _____
Total Gift Amount enclosed Remaining Balance

Signature Date

(Gifts are currently not tax deductible; however, we hope you will make a gift regardless.)

To make a gift online, please point your browser to: <https://squareup.com/market/lambda-chi-alpha-alumni-chapter-at-virginia-tech>

Home address: _____

Additional information:

Title: _____

Company: _____

Alumni Notes:

Please make checks payable to Lambda Chi Alpha – VT Alumni Chapter and return this form with your gift to:

Danny Morse, Treasurer
752 9th Street, SE, #302
Washington, DC 20003