



WESTERN DISTRICT

PUBLICATION
THE ACCENT

KAPPA KAPPA PSI TAU BETA SIGMA

THE BEST OF EDITION



THE ACCENT



Spring 2013 Issue | Volume I





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TAU BETA SIGMA



THE BEST OF EDITION

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Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I present to you the Best of Edition of the Accent! These pages represent many of the wonderful articles submitted to the accent in the past four months. Re-reading all of the articles submitted reminds me why I am proud to be apart of the western district. I hope that reading this publication will give you an idea of what is going on in the district and encourage you go write for the accent in the future, as the publication of the best of edition is my final contribution to the west as an active brother I just wanted to say how thankful I am to have had the oppurtunity to serve as your publisher. As I will no longer be acting as publisher if you ever have to contact me please e-mail me at sariasphs@gmail.com

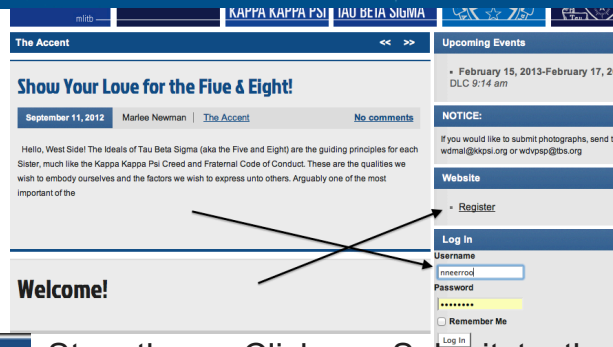
Although this publication presents the Accent to you all in one convinient place, I encourage you to go read the accent whenever you can. New articles are posted at least once a week, and with more and more people writing, articles are being posted more often.

For Ideas on what to write about, check out the fall packet accent page which can be found on the western district website (thewest.kkvtbs.net), and write a short paragraph or two.

MLITB,
Spencer Arias
2012-2013 Western District Publisher
Beta Omicron Chapter, Arizona State University
Sariasphs@gmail.com | 602-885-1863

HOW TO WRITE AN ACCENT ARTICLE

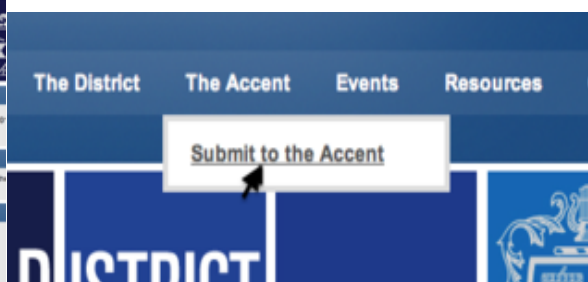
Step one: Log in to your western district website account. If you don't have one, you should register for the accent, by clicking on register and following the step-by-step instructions. The Webmaster will then have to accept you as a member of the western district website.



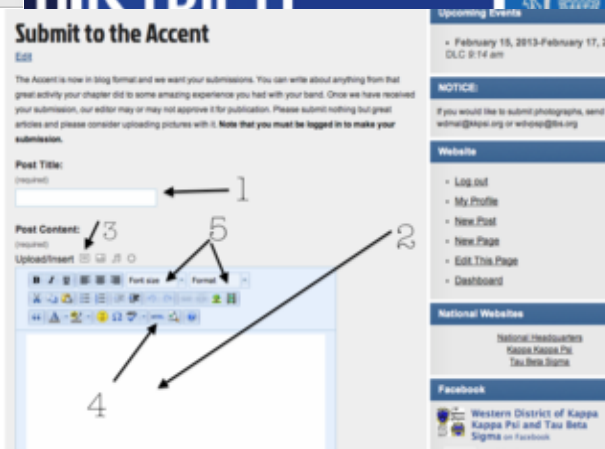
Step two: Hover your mouse over The Accent at the top of the page



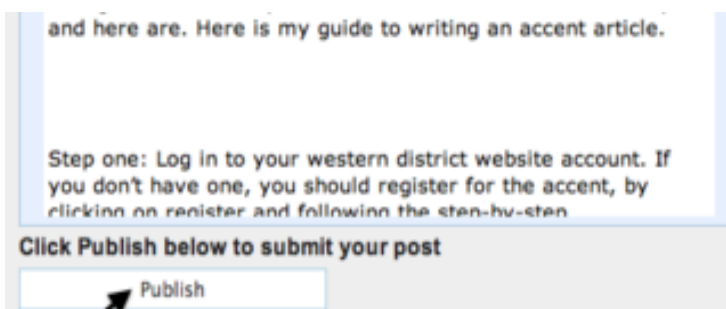
Step three: Click on Submit to the Accent



Step four: (1) make up a creative title that will make people want to read your article, and (2) write your article in the box below. (3) You can upload pictures, video, music, or other media in your posting as well as switch to (4) HTML mode if you would like. (5) You can format your article however you would like as well, but I suggest you use plain text as it is easier to read.



Step five: click publish!



Step six: Voila! your post is now submitted. You now just have to wait for me to approve it. The only reason it would not be approved, was if there was something inappropriate in the post or if there was any problems that I would then contact you to fix.

A Message from the New Publisher

Hello Western District!

My name is Hillary Tung and I am your Western District Publisher for the 2013 - 2014 School Year!

So a little about myself:

- I am originally from Irvine, California
- I currently attend California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo)
- I am a 3rd year City and Regional Planning major working on a minor in Sustainable Environments (and possible another minor in Environmental Studies). I want to work in the field Low Impact Development and Green Stormwater Infrastructure
- I am a brother from the Iota Pi Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi
- I play the Trumpet and Clarinet
- I was initiated on March 4, 2012 in the Psi Class
- I have attended as many District Events including DLC 2012 and 2013; California State Days 2012; WDC 2012 and 2013; Psi's 3rd Degree in 2012 and 2013; and Washington Weekend 2012
- My favorite color is a dark greyish purple
- I love Disney. My favorite Disney Character is Stitch!!! :D
- I just love the Western District!!
- I have so many wonderful district memories, but my favorite district memory might be Washington Weekend 2012. I got to travel to Seattle, Washington for the first time and I fell in love with the city. We got to visit the beautiful UW campus and hang out there while playing games and getting to know everyone else who was attending the event. We also had the opportunity to visit downtown Seattle and Pike Place. I got to experience Jon Casey's driving in a car and also a golf cart. I got to know so many brothers from the northern states of the Western District whom I do not see as often. I also appreciated the hospitality of Angela Chin and thank you Kaila for putting together such a memorable event!

There are so many reasons why I love the Western District. We have the smallest amount of chapters and the largest area, but we all made an effort to participate in District Events even though we might be on the road longer than we are actually at the event. That is serious dedication and it just shows how many people love the Western District.

I wanted to be publisher for the Western District because I was always interested in the Accent. I usually check the Accent weekly to catch up on new articles to see what other chapters are up to. I also wanted the chance to give back to the Western District before I became an alumnus.

I have a few new visions for the Accent this year. Of course I will encourage everyone to write an article. Whenever a chapter has small event or a large one, I want the chapter to write an article so that everyone in the Western District knows what the chapter has been up to. A new project I want to implement is a monthly newsletter called "What has the West been up to?" (If anyone has a more clever title, please give me your suggestions!) The purpose of this is to distribute a small graphically interesting newsletter that will give everyone an update of what each chapter has been up to during the month (This will start after the summer). The newsletter can be passed around during chapter meetings so those who do not usually look at the Western District Website can still get updates as to what is happening in other chapters.

MLITB,
Hillary Tung
2013-2014 Western District Publisher
Iota Pi, Cal Poly
wdpub@kkpsi.org | (714) 474-7951





Chapter Updates



Some of our brothers and sisters were the lucky 28 that were chosen to represent the Fresno State Marching Band at the Hawaii Bowl (Fresno State vs SMU) They will be playing today December 24th 2012 at 5pm Pacific Time on ESPN! This was a great opportunity for them to represent not only our marching band but also Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma! We are proud of our brothers and sisters! Go Dogs! Beat the Mustangs Feed the Band!!!

MLITB

Stephanie "Firebolt" Medina
Eta Omega



Iota
Alpha
And
Eta
Omega

Omega Chapter Update

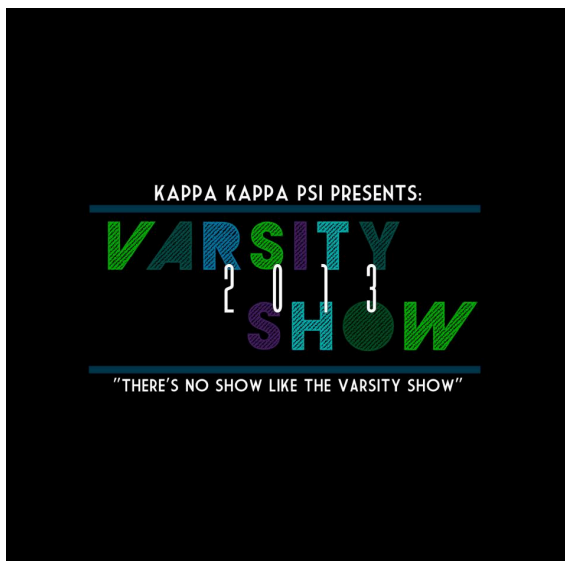
Fresh off of hosting Arizona State Days, we Omegas are as busy as ever this semester. Everyone had a great experience catching up with old friends and meeting new ones, and a big shout-out to our very own Western District President Jeanette McMillan for making the long trip down to Tucson to join us! Highlights of the weekend included playing for the kids of a local Boys and Girls Clubhouse, a race around various campus landmarks for cheap bragging rights, and singing on the top of "A" Mountain while the sun was setting. Thanks to the members of Beta Omicron, Gamma Kappa, and Alpha Chi who helped make our State Days memorable (as well as the members of other chapters I may have missed!)

As rewarding as our involvement is with the Pride of Arizona marching band, Omega has recently been working to improve the depth and quality of our service to the concert bands and the School of Music at large. Setting up chairs and stands for every rehearsal of the Wind Ensemble, Wind Symphony, and Symphonic Band has been a great way to increase our presence around the music building, and our assistance in running the U of A Honor Band Festival this semester proved to be both valuable and rewarding. As has been our tradition, we will also provide ushering services for the concerts of the previously named ensembles as well as a free reception afterward for concert-goers.

Perhaps one of the most exciting developments this semester has been our work bringing the K κ Ψ Varsity Show back to our campus, a talent/sketch competition Omega used to host way back in the 50's and 60's. Our VPA, Drew Eary, has been working tirelessly (along with his equally-dedicated committee) to make this event a reality. Preparations have included a re-design of the Varsity Show logo, the creation of flyers and posters, and meetings with the Panhellenic Association and Interfraternity Council to encourage the participation of the other fraternities and sororities on campus. The Varsity Show will be held on-campus on Friday, April 19 at 7 pm, and all proceeds will benefit the band program at Amphitheater High School, which (like many programs) is struggling and in need of assistance. Anyone who can make it down is of course invited to attend- we would love to see our fellow brothers and sisters of the Western District at this event! The Facebook event can be found here <https://www.facebook.com/kkyvarsityshow>, and you can even follow the Varsity Show on Twitter! @kkyvarsityshow

Our Prospective Member class, Epsilon Psi, is well on its way in its journey toward joining our brotherhood. They have already had many positive experiences, including the chance to meet Brothers and Sisters from other chapters at State Days, and continue to grow and better understand what it means to be a Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. We are excited for what they can bring to our organization! Finally, all of us here at Omega, like the rest of the District, are gearing up for events such as DLC (which only a couple days away!!), WDC, and not-so-far-away National Convention 2013. We are thrilled to have several Brothers attending DLC, and hope to have just as strong of a representation at District Convention in Boise. For now, California here we come!!!!

AEA,
Nathan Salazar
University of Arizona
Kappa Kappa Psi, Omega Chapter
President



KKPsi
Omega

It is with great pleasure, that the Omega Chapters of Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma present their newest classes! Kappa Kappa Psi Omega welcomes the prospective member class of Epsilon Psi



Pictured from left to right:
Kevin Dickey, Zach Harper, Jule Streety,
Kaitlyn Myers, Chris Vance, Emmil
Lavarias, and Austin Bloom



Pictured from left to right, Front Row: Nick
Flanery, Skyla Robinson, Rosa Rodriguez,
Holly Paxton, and Brissa Vega Second Row:
Sarah Moore, Angelica Alvarez, Meg Smith
(VPM) Bonny Pacheco, and Lizette Garcia

Buffelgrass Begone!

The Omega Chapters of Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi believe in helping the community in all ways possible. While our mission is to promote music within the community and dedication to our college band, that doesn't mean we can't be helpful in other impactful areas. This is true with many projects that we participate in, most recently volunteering for the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, which is located in the outskirts of Tucson.

Over the past few years, many native species of plants in this desert have become endangered as a result of a new imposter that has overrun much of the natural desert vegetation. According to the Museum, *Pennisetum ciliare*, more commonly known as 'Buffelgrass' is a plant that can reproduce incredibly fast and far immediately after even just a light rain. As it expands its area, it can absorb all the water in its vicinity prohibiting other plants from also obtaining any water. Additionally its "dense roots and ground shading prevents germination of seeds. It appears that buffelgrass can kill most native plants by these means alone" (Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum).

This has been an issue that has affected this community as this species of plant can be found in areas all across town, and this is a simple summary, but we invite you to learn more about it (particularly if this is your field of study, or if you have homework you could be doing but would rather not) at the museum's own website: http://www.desertmuseum.org/invasors/invasors_buffelgrass.php.

Where do we come in? Well, "Buffelgrass can be controlled by manual pulling and herbicides." Emphasis on the manual pulling. That's right ladies and gentleman, on Saturday, January 26th, the joint Omega Chapters headed out to the museum to help protect the local environment by identifying the imposter plant, and eliminating it from the area. It was a soggy, all-day affair that really helped the community as we protected an area that is dedicated to the preservation and education of the desert that we call home.



Pictured from left to right: Photobomber (unknown), Megan Naquin (TBS), Alyssa Pfotenbauer (KKΨ), Marisa Lunde (TBS), Tyler Fallon (KKΨ), Tatlin Barber (KKΨ), Lauren Bernas (KKΨ), Alyssa Robinson (TBS), Nikki Taylor (TBS), Christina Gilbert (TBS), Rachel Pauls (TBS).



Tyler Fallon (KKΨ) hard at work!

Lauren Bernas (KKΨ) doing
back-breaking work!

Christina
Gilbert
(TBS)
breaking a
sweat!

Traveling from Tucson to San Luis Obispo is an incredibly long 11 hour drive, without stopping. The car ride was filled with loud music, snacks, energy drinks, and talk of how beautiful California was. Of course, we didn't get to California until it was dark, so we had no idea how it looked, but our excitement for DLC was overwhelming.

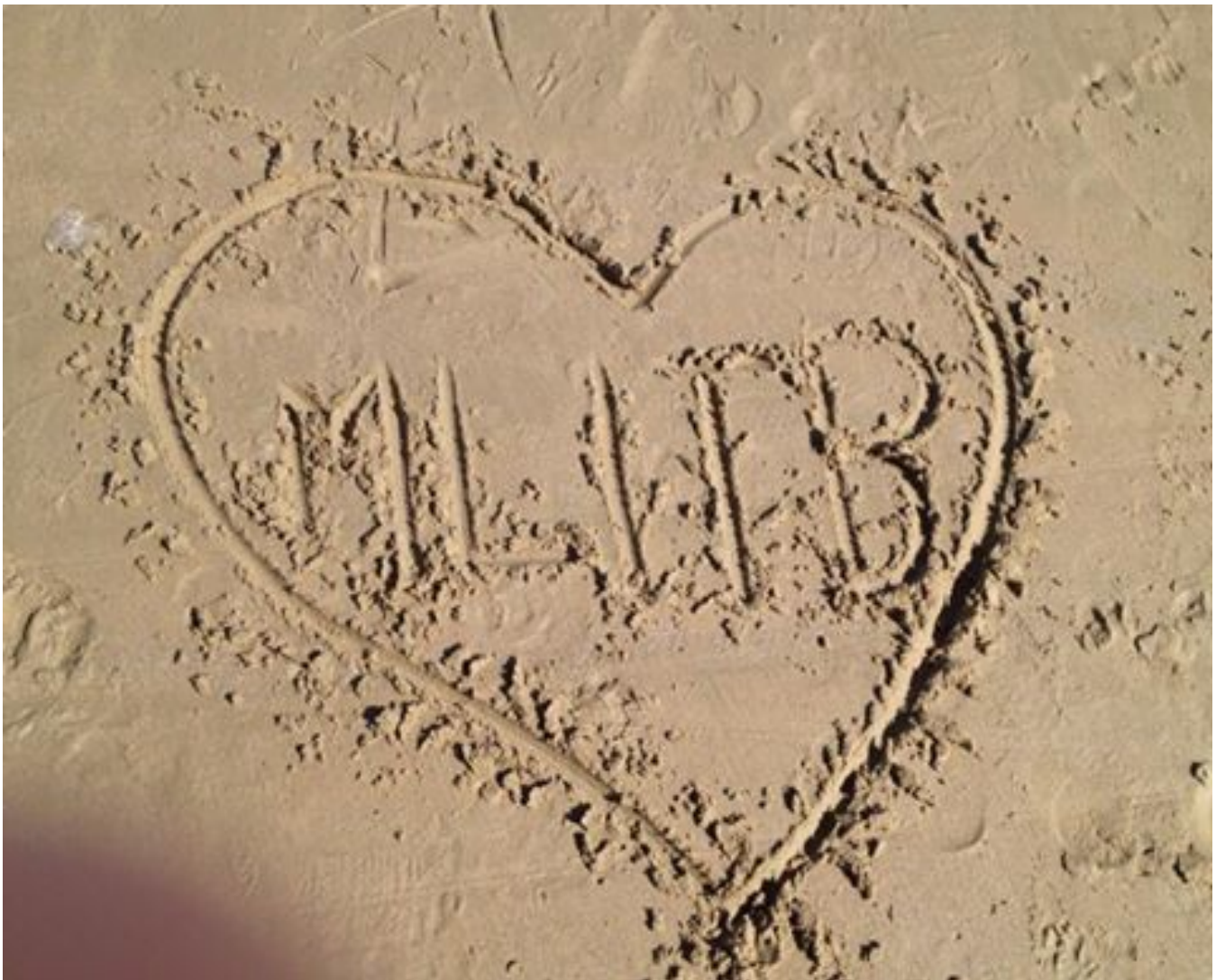
I knew we would learn skills during DLC to become better leaders for our chapters, and for other brothers and sisters, but I did not realize there were so many wonderful people I would share my experience with. Every chapter has their strengths and weaknesses, but it amazed me that we used the people we knew and other chapters to help strengthen ourselves and to provide support to other chapters.

When I joined Tau Beta Sigma two years ago, I just thought it would be something I would join, and be a part of, but that I would forget about it as soon as I left college. I knew I would gain brothers and sisters of the Omega chapters, but didn't really realize what I was joining or how much it would change my

life. When I joined Tau Beta Sigma, I gained so much more than a memory from college. I was privileged enough to be a part of something that continually supports me, helps me grow, and has changed my life for the better. Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi will never be something that is just a memory – It is a beautiful way of life, filled with incredible people and wonderful ideals that will stay with me long after I have graduated.

The point is, DLC made me remember what I love about our bond through service and music. It makes me realize that not only do I have an amazing home chapter, but every other chapter is just as special to me, and I would do anything for them. Not only do I have support in Tucson, but I have it around the district and around the country. Being a sister is so much more than belonging to an organization and it is something that I could not have learned without all of the incredible people I have met along the way.

MLITB,
Rachel "RAOK" Pauls



Last quarter Epsilon Kappa hosted its annual spaghetti dinner as a recruiting event for potential candidates. Many people showed up whom we weren't expecting and the entire event went well. As the marching season drew to a close, it was hard to say goodbye to everything that had happened over such a great season. As such Epsilon Kappa, and our brother chapter Psi, decided to jointly host a band Banquet for all of the band members as a thank you for everything they have done. The event was well attended and included great food and a presentation created by a sister from our very own chapter. To everyone's surprise there was even a thank you video sent in from the stars of our football team. In addition to Band Banquet Epsilon Kappa has also helped put on social events to help keep the band spirit and morale high especially since marching season is now over. This includes an exciting game of laser tag for the band and the ever paranoia inducing favorite of assassins.

In addition to putting on some events for the marching band Epsilon Kappa has also been busy with service projects and events in an effort to focus on all aspects of the ideals of Tau Beta Sigma. This includes an upcoming Reading to kids event and a joint performance with our brother chapter at the Studio City School. Additionally, our chapter will be hosting a reception for the Symphonic band Concert This weekend and also helped to clean the equipment room for the Marching Band. Future planned events include our annual Girl Scout project and playing music at a local retirement home for the elderly. In order to make sure that all of these events are well funded we have also performed many fundraising activities of our own including the delicious bake sales and a TV taping on the show *Lets Make a Deal*. All of these events turned a nice profit for Epsilon Kappa.

The biggest thing that has been happening at Epsilon Kappa though is probably the most exciting thing and that is the new candidate class. Here at Epsilon Kappa the candidate process is in full swing with an incredible seventeen candidates in the Alpha Rho class. Furthermore, the UCLA Bruin Marching Band Assistant Director is even going through the necessary steps to become an honorary sister of Tau Beta Sigma. The new candidates are going through the process smoothly thanks to the hard work of our Vice President Micah Shaw. Most recently, the candidates have just completed their second degree and have received opposite bigs from our brother chapter. Throughout the entirety of the candidate process, it can be easy to focus solely on our chapter alone. In order to maintain good relations with Psi, we both agreed to have a Brotherhood/Sisterhood week with a wide range of events. The week started off with a nice trivia-like game in order to see which chapter knew more about the opposite one. Other events throughout the week included a Brotherhood/Sisterhood Ceremony, Top Iron Chef competition, and even an Olympic games setup to conclude the week.

Lastly, district events as a whole remain in our hearts and minds from all of here at Epsilon Kappa. As it stands right now sisters have already planned to attend state days in Fresno in just a couple weeks as well as Western District Convention in Boise. We extended the invitation to our prospective member class as well and can't wait to see what their responses are. Also, plans for National Convention in Massachusetts are already underway in terms of logistics and transportation costs. From all of us here at Epsilon Kappa, MLITB.

Michael Mehlberg Univerisy of California Los Angeles Tau Beta Sigma Epsilon Kappa Chapter



Epsilon Kappa

Bringing Back Band Banquet

This year the EK and Psi chapters jointly brought back the Band Banquet to celebrate the end of an amazing season, for both the marching band and our UCLA football team. Everyone got dressed up and primped for a delicious dinner catered by C&O's and a presentation of awards chosen and voted on by each section. The banquet also featured a raffle with some great prizes and a message from UCLA quarterback Brett Hundley and running back Jonathan Franklin congratulating and thanking us for a great season. This event was really about thanking the band for all of their hard work and their commitment to making the Solid Gold Sound the best it can be. We ended the night with a slideshow capturing all the good times throughout the season, some Diddy Reese cookies, and a good old-fashioned 8-clap!

Audrey Urrutia EK



My Brotherhood/Sisterhood Journey

Where would I be without my Brothers? The beauty of the bond between Tau Beta Sigma and Kappa Kappa Psi is that we are brought together on common grounds, through our mutual devotion to music, leadership, and service. Though our purposes and approaches may differ, and conflict may arise, there is an inherent connection between us that transcends the boundaries of our respective organizations. We are family. We laugh together; we cry together; we cry from laughing-so-hard-we-can't-breathe together. It's difficult to find the words to verily and accurately capture the power of the Bond, but I'm going to try.

This is one girl's journey through Brotherhood/Sisterhood. I don't remember exactly when I learned I would receive a Big Bro or what that even meant— I was still spinning in a whirlwind of Tau Beta Sigma 101— but I'll always remember the moment it happened, when I joined the extended tribe of the Wu Tanj Clan. It was sealed with a bite of a red velvet cupcake. Eric Kveton was officially my Big Bro and I could not be happier: my second trumpet soul Brother and hero who guided this clueless freshman through her first season with the UCLA Bruin Marching Band. He answered all of my silly band and football-related questions, and he would later become my mentor as the editor of the band-wide game day newsletter. I had genuinely always wanted an older brother, and now I finally had one.



**PsiEK B/S Camping at
Joshua Tree 2009**

But the moment that will forever define the Bond for me took place during Brotherhood/Sisterhood (B/S) Camping at Joshua Tree over my first-year Spring Break. I had been Active for merely weeks at the time, and there I was in the desert with nearly fifty members of my new fraternal and sororal family. My Big Sis, Erin Cubbon, was in charge of the event as one-half of the Director of Brotherhood/Sisterhood Relations (DOBSR) duo with Heather Dennis. It was an office and an event that I would later take on in my senior year in a moment of poetic cyclicalism. To this day, whenever anyone asks for my favorite memory as an Active I always recount the experience when a large group of us went rock climbing. Nevermind my crippling fear of heights and completely nonexistent physical prowess, I was ready to use whatever strength and agility I could muster to traverse those peaks. Many times my individual drive wasn't enough. We came upon a boulder too steep for most of us to tackle alone. Eric was one of the first to overcome it, and then he stayed to pull up each and every following Brother and Sister to the top. With my raw and sweaty palm outstretched, my Big Bro reached down from above to hoist me to the apex. The image of that gesture has stuck with me throughout my entire Tau Beta Sigma career. That moment, for me, was the moment I officially felt initiated into the Brotherhood/Sisterhood that is PsiEK.

What better metaphor for the power and potential of the Bond between Brothers and Sisters than members of each organization helping each other climb mountains?

Leaving that trip inspired, I became more and more actively engaged in this Bond, from taking on four Little Bros, creating videos and attending B/S events, to eventually being elected Director of Brotherhood/Sisterhood Relations myself. Out of my three full years as an Active, none could hold a candle to my year as DOBSR. It brought me and my Little Bro (and DOBSR counterpart) Kelsey Chesnut closer together; it challenged me to be an event planner rather than just a creative project manager; it helped me become an infinitely better leader; and it allowed me to develop relationships with people who have made an indelible imprint on my life.



Me and my Big Bro, Eric Kveton,
at B/S Camping 2009



Me and my Little Bro/DOBSR counterpart, Kelsey Chesnut, at
B/S Camping 2012, in our "This was our event!" pose



PsiEK B/S Camping at
Joshua Tree 2012

And as I stood atop that same mountain at Joshua Tree, overlooking the very same vista that initiated me into PsiEK, I couldn't have asked for a better way to end my time as an Active.

As we begin Brotherhood/Sisterhood Week and head into the final week before Western District Convention, now is the perfect time to take a step back and reflect on those Brothers or Sisters whom have made you feel welcomed within the TBS-KKPsi Bond. Your WD Member-at-Large and I hope that you reverently participate in this week's activities, and we look forward to seeing the Western District blanketed in the spirit of Brotherhood/Sisterhood.

MLITB!

Marlee Newman

WD VPSP, 2012-2013

Iota Pi hosted “Run For Music” – a 5k/10k fun run. It was our most successful fundraiser ever! We had over 140 participants and raised more than \$2,100. The intent of the fundraiser was to support band programs at local schools, the Cal Poly Band trip to Europe, and Iota Pi in general. Everyone in our chapter came together to make this event a success, even our perspectives. Some highlights from “Run For Music”:

- Receiving our first online registration 3 months in advance!
- Meeting at 6 am to set up in the wind and cold. It was still dark and we saw the sun rise
- Setting up the blow-up finish line, race clock, tables, and decorations – watching everything finally come together
- Playing in the pep band during runner check-in
- “Hey Baby’ing” our associate band director who was pacing the run
- Watching kids try instruments for the first time at the Musical Petting Zoo
- Checking-in the entire Cal Poly women’s volleyball team
- Watching runners go by as we played in small ensembles around the route. One of us got a tip for playing the Star Wars theme!
- Seeing “Run For Music” on the news that evening

Receiving lots of positive feedback from our participants with the desire to run again next year!



This quarter gone by way too fast, we can't believe that we are already into Spring Break. Gamma has worked very hard this quarter to ensure that we are continuing to improve our chapter, the band programs here at UW, and the music community in the general Seattle area. Here are some of the things we have been working on:

The local classical radio station King FM hosted an instrument "petting zoo" at Benaroya Hall that our chapter was invited to participate in. Our actives and PM's helped by bringing instruments to the event, mentoring the kids on the different instruments, and other random tasks that the event organizers needed help with. "It was very rewarding to see kids face's light up when they produced a sound! Since it was some of these kids' first time being able to make music, I thought it was really special being able to be there to share that moment with them," said Joelle, a Gamma PM. Also, Gamma has been helping out one of the graduate students in the UW School of Music Erin Bodnar by playing our instruments in her oboe and bassoon class. This is just one of the many projects we have undertaken to improve our relations with the UW school of music.

Recently, Gamma organized and performed in a concert called Connecting Through Music at a local retirement home for their residents. Kassey and Daniella (who organized the concert) decided to call the concert Connecting Through Music because this connected us to another population in the Seattle area, as well as other musicians at the UW who came out and played with us. We had vocal performances, solo piano performances as well as a sax quartet, a clarinet choir, and an a cappella made up of brothers and PMs. We love to perform anywhere we can but especially with our brothers, and that made the night really special for us.

Kappa Kappa Psi for the UW has really grown in this last year and we have been able to expand our efforts across the entire campus and in Seattle, but what hasn't changed a bit is our love for getting in the car and heading off to see all of our brothers and sisters in the Western District! After kicking off the district season with 20 brothers travelling to an aca-awesome Wagon States Days in Eugene, we were able to make it out to District Leadership Conference in San Luis Obispo (aboard the Alpha Epsilon-deemed "Struggle Bus"!) and Utah State Days where our only car troubles were running out of gas and semi-dangerously cruising straight in a gas stall somewhere along I-90. A few brothers were also able to join Theta in Corvallis for their 2nd Degree and Mu Pi in Eugene for their very special 3rd Degree! And of course it was really awesome to see so many of you up here for a very sunny Pac-12 Women's Basketball Tournament.

The Alpha Epsilon class is almost active! All nineteen of our prospective members have been voted through to third degree, and now we just have to put them through. Due to scheduling conflicts, they have to wait until April 2nd but it's in time for WDC. They have done a marvelous job completing their requirements and organizing their projects. The PM service committee did Gamma a wonderful service by revamping our board in the UW school of music, the PM fundraising committee is putting together a music Bingo night, and the PM music committee is organizing a trip out to a local school that is seeing its band membership dwindle. We cannot wait to have these wonderful musicians as a part of our chapter!

We are so excited to continue to develop the projects we have ongoing, and prepare the chapter for jurisdiction and elections in the upcoming months. It was so good to see all of you in all of our travels, and we look forward to seeing you all at WDC!

AEA and mmmlltb,

Ben Horst and Kaila Eason
The Secretaries – Gamma Chapter
Kappa Kappa Psi
University of Washington



Last year, for the first time in the history of our chapter, Zeta Xi held a chapter retreat! We had been looking for opportunities to bond and grow as a chapter and the idea of a weekend away seemed like the perfect bonding activity. After much debate of place, date and cost, the chapter finally decided on a camping trip to Mission Beach during the last weekend in April.

Some sisters were not too pleased about the idea of spending three days in a tent, but by the end of the weekend, everyone had had such a good time and nobody still seemed to think that camping had been a horrible experience (granted, this was 21st century camping with electricity, wifi and showers, but some of us just can't live without those luxuries). Our amazing executive council planned the daily activities for the retreat, with help from the rest of the chapter. Some activities and games were simply for fun and getting to know each other and others were taken more seriously, touching on topics such as leadership, the Five and the Eight, sisterhood, trust and respect.

Zeta Xi came out of our chapter retreat closer, stronger and more energetic than we did going in. We saw a positive change in the air at meetings and around campus after retreat. Our camping trip created a more positive environment for our chapter and sisters began communicating better and spending time with sisters they didn't know as well before the retreat, and thus, our group dynamic as a whole became a lot more positive.

Because of the success of last year's retreat, Zeta Xi's executive council has agreed to host another this year around the same time. We are exploring different options for location this year such as cabins in Julian, a hotel on the beach or even a sister's family's timeshare. Regardless of where it will be, we are already very excited for our retreat this semester. There will be new activities, new group leaders and a new environment to look forward to, but our goal remains the same: to come out as better sisters in the bond.



Camille Dhennin
Zeta Xi

Zeta Xi

On April 14th, Beta Omicron's Music Committee put on a new project that will hopefully become a lasting tradition: a composition competition judged by all of the Active Brothers themselves. The entire chapter formed a reading band to play six new works for band, written by composers as far away as Brazil. Then, we discussed and voted for them based on how well a high school band could play them. Honorary brother Carrie Pawelski conducted the pieces, and the local High School Williams Field will play the winning piece, "Carousel" by Keane Southard next year.

This event was beneficial for everyone involved. For the composers, some of whom were present at the competition, this was a great chance to hear what their compositions sound like with a "real" band, instead of a Finale MIDI recording like they are used to composing with. We also streamed the event live so the composers who couldn't be there—and anyone else who was interested—could hear what their compositions sounded like. For the Brothers, it was exciting to create music with only each other. Throughout the year, we're involved in tons of different ensembles, from School of Music ensembles to marching band to concert band, but we rarely come together and play music together just as a chapter. The mere fact that our chapter can orchestrate a whole band is an advantage of being a huge chapter... We only needed to bring in three non-brothers to fill out parts! Finally, one of our brothers, a music education major named Matt Vezey, had the privilege of conducting the band piece that another brother, Spencer Arias, wrote dedicated to Beta Omicron itself. This was a great leadership experience for Matt, and of course a very meaningful experience for Spencer as well. Matt also got to conduct the ASU Wind Ensemble, comprised of the best students in the School of Music, when they sight-read Spencer's piece later in the week.

Finally, the Williams Field band students who will perform "Carousel" next year will get an experience that most high school students will not ever get: premiering a new work. Since the band has improved drastically this year, aided by members of our Music Leadership committee, this is a great way to honor their achievements and inspire them to keep working hard. It is so incredible to think about how many groups of people Beta Omicron impacted through one service project, from a high school band, to talented composers, to the Brothers themselves. This is just one example of how our music committee has incorporated all three pillars of Music, Service, and Brotherhood into their projects this year.

Alaina Peters - Beta Omicron



**Beta
Omicron**

On Monday night the Beta Omicron chapter music committee was sitting in our committee meeting discussing projects that we could do that would not overload the chapter with more things to do as there are a lot of things going on. When we do not have a prospective class the Brotherhood committee has small little bonding events call bro-dates where they pair up each brother with another brother and you go out on a "Date" where you hang out and its a lot of fun and good way to get to know your brothers one-on-one, especially with people you may or may not hang out as much with. This is especially important when you have large chapters like ours.

I thoroughly enjoy bro-dates and have missed them which is why we came up with an idea that would be similar to brodates but less time intensive and also would reflect out committees want to increase the musical experience of all active members (and prospective members). This is how we came up with Music Buddies. It is simple we pair people up with a random other person, and those two people get together on facebook or in person and say "listen to this song/piece" you listen and then you can talk about it or not (although I encourage talking). I posted the list of names today and got an overwhelming amount of positive Reponses about how awesome this is. Within an hour eight people came up to me saying they already did their music buddies and are excited for next week.

Not all projects have to be big. This small social event gives brothers the opportunity to share what they love about music and helps them get to know each other in a more intimate way. Plus it gives me the opportunity to make actives listen to my music

Spencer Arias - Beta Omicron

Psi does Music Buddies as well! We love it, and have a different theme for songs to send to our buddies each week/ every other week. We also used to think up different methods for pairing people up, like playing the game where you look at your feet then simultaneously up, and if you meet someone else in the circle's eyes, they are now music buddies, so I suggest trying that!

I'm really glad that you guys are doing this, it is a great way to get to know your Brothers better, and to learn about new music!

Michelle Monroe - Psi



Music Buddies



DLC WAS AWESOME! Ok now that I got that over with lets talk about how wonderful DLC was. We began with a wonderful student workshop series hosted by a brother from Iota Pi Roxy Windover. She did such an awesome job talking about qualities leaders should have. The next day we did some cool service projects. I helped make posters for a local school. Sarah Cox a sister from Epsilon Kappa and I made the best poster ever about the Romantic Era. Then we did a bunch of workshops hosted by the council, then by Trevor and James, and by Stephen and me. We then did the western district joint experience. Then PJ's and hot chocolate. The last day we did another workshop or 2 and finished with some awesome pictures and singing. Now that you got my 1 paragraph recap of DLC down to my favorite part.

My favorite part of DLC definitely had to be the service project. 1) I got to finally hang out with Sarah Cox who was my pen pal last year, and 2) we made an awesome poster, and 3) we got to really serve both organizations purposes well and joint. It was a worthwhile experience and I hope I get the opportunity to serve with other brothers and sisters in west in the future.

Spencer Arias – Beta Omicron

DLC13 holds so many great memories for me. but I think my favorite parts are when I get that wonderful feeling after meeting someone new and becoming instant friends. And that happened all of the time! You don't get that joy very often in regular, routine life, so it's nice to have multiple continuous days of that!

But if I had to chose an event, it would be joint experience! It's hard to not feel happy when you are reminded that there are a ton of amazing people around you that you not only like to spend time with, but that you also respect and admire.

Memories, man.

Michelle Monroe - Psi



AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAALLLLLLLLLLLLLL THE FEELSSSSSSSSSS!!! There were so many great parts of the weekend. Seeing my chapter come out in full force to put on an excellent DLC was absolutely wonderful, but bonding time with the district council was fantastic as well. I'm not sure I have a single favorite moment, so I'll include a few: 1. Western District Experience: Getting to read for this instead of participate is such a crazy experience. In one cycle of Jaelise and I's station (music/Enya project), several people were moved to tears, and Jaelise and I even teared up a bit. The Joint Experience has always been powerful for me, but to see how powerful it is for others was even more amazing. 2. ADVENTURE TO NOWHERE! After Saturday of DLC, Jeanette and I needed a breather and decided to drive out to Morro Bay. 30 minutes later and Alexis brilliantly realizes that she wanted the 1 not the 101 to get to Morro Bay. It was late, ok? But an hour later, and lots of bonding and stars later, we returned to my apartment and dfrtied off to dream land. The journey to nowhere reminded me that no matter what activity you're partaking in, if you're surrounded by your loving, amazing brothers, it's always a good time. 3. Getting to bond with my freakin awesome counterpart. Jaelise and Stephen got to town a day early, giving us plenty of time to hang out and really get to know each other even better. For those of you that don't know, Jaelise is one of the most wonderful human beings on the planet and she can make tuna appear out of nowhere when you're out of cat food and your cat is starving. She has magic powers.

All in all, the weekend was fantastic and the smiles continued throughout the week
Alexis Howell – Iota Pi



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