



Greetings,

The College football season is well underway and Auburn is off to a great start. Even though time marches on, it seems as it was only yesterday that the final notes of our 2010 AKA reunion faded into a warm Alabama night. As with every AKA reunion, this year's gathering at the Opelika-Auburn Marriott Resort once again proved to be a fantastic venue to catch up with fellow Knights, their families, and our many friends. Even better, it was a great opportunity to celebrate the return of long absent Knights to our party!

I would be horribly remiss in writing another word without recognizing the incredible energy and talents of Charlie Higgins, our AKA reunion coordinator in perpetuum. Rumor has it Eveready's concept for the Energizer Bunny came after spending just a few moments with Charlie. I believe it! Charlie's contributions to the AKA are the stuff of legend and will never be surpassed. Charlie, thank you for your devotion to the Knights and the way you honor all of us with your friend-

ship. I look forward to working next year's festivities with you.

Congratulations to this year's two scholarship recipients from the current band—first time undergraduate recipient Charlie Ann Grimes, vocalist, and repeat recipient Jimmy Johnson, lead alto, now pursuing his doctorate at Auburn. It's a pretty rewarding feeling to help these incredibly talented Knights on their educational journey.

Speaking of the current band, they were as hot as ever in closing out Saturday night. Please don't forget that as the band confronts the challenges of replacing departing members this year, remember we all need to do our part in keeping this music alive by marketing the Knights and letting the band know of any performance opportunities in your area.

Time does indeed march on and our February AKA Board meeting will be here before we know it. With that in mind, I encourage you to feed any thoughts or suggestions regarding the AKA and/or our reunion to me or any other Board member.

In closing this short epistle, I wish to extend my heartfelt appreciation to Jana Calano for her past two years of service as AKA president. As you can imagine, just about anybody involved with the Knights has strong feelings as to how things should be done. Jana patiently took note of those concerns and, more importantly, ably considered many disparate opinions with extreme graciousness. Jana, thank you!

Keep Swingin',

Peter Blaise

ll.

Room Reservation Info

Call 1-877-563-4301 to reserve or check on room status. Be sure to request AKA reunion rates.

Obituaries

At this writing we are all still above ground! Let us be prayerful this remains to be true.

General Membership Meeting

July 24, 2010

Jana brought the meeting to order at 10:18 AT.

Jana presented all items acted on at the board of directors' meeting.

The membership voiced its support for the scholarship recommendations.

Charlie Higgins notified the membership to be on the lookout for a reporter who is doing an in depth story for a local independent newspaper, i.e. please be nice to them. The reporter will be interviewing throughout the event.

Charlie noted the increased attendance this year. Richard Garrett noted that increased publicity probably had something to do with it.

Graham Thomas presented his idea for honoring Marion Evans. The

membership humped its support for his pursuit of this project.

M/S/C (L. Johnson/Brumbeloe) to accept slate of candidates presented by Peter Blaise and approved by the board of directors..

Bob Jemian asked for all members to encourage the purchase of the fund raising merchandise..

AKO, Inc: Nothing to report

Jack Drescher thanked the membership for all the support he received following the death of his wife.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 AM.

OUR LEADERS

PRESIDENT

Peter Blaise
(850) 897-3728

VICE-PRESIDENT

Dave Edmunds
(850) 897-3728

SECRETARY

Nat Michelson
(904) 226-6065

TREASURER

Wade Johnson
(334) 332-9156

HISTORIAN

Charlie Kinzer
(434) 392-1731

LIBRARY ARCHIVIST

Tom Winstead
(256) 852-0138
Bob Jemian
(205) 910-1280

PUBLICITY

Patrick Bruce
(334) 319-6154

AKAA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Fritz Siler, Chairman
(770) 978-1287

REUNION COORDINATOR

Charlie Higgins
(334) 288-5001

EDITOR, AKA NEWSLETTER

Fritz Siler
Nat Michelson
Lyle Johnson, Consultant

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Jana Calano

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2011

Neal Brumbeloe
Cecil Wilder
Steve Means
Paul McCracken
David Zuwiyya

2012

Tim Bauer
Norm Boldin
David Friddle
Jason DeBlanc
Jim "Teeny" Mahaffey

2013

Richard Garrett
Mike Stough
Patrick McCurry
John Conner
Joe Watson

AKO Business Manager

Errick Johnson
(334) 707-5405

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AND NOW! For some important links to over a thousand pictures of the 2010 AKA Reunion!!! This marked the 80th year of the existence of the AKO, with the exception of WWII. It is only fitting that there be this incredible amount of photos. Thank you, Fred Atkins Speyer for this massive mountain of shots. Just click on the link or copy and paste. The photos in the hard copy of *The Bridge* are but a fraction of these.

[http://picasaweb.google.com/SpeyerS-ports/AuburnKnights80thReunions Part 1#](http://picasaweb.google.com/SpeyerS-ports/AuburnKnights80thReunionsPart1#)

<http://picasaweb.google.com/SpeyerS-ports/AuburnKnights80thReunionPart2#>

More to be found there !! Visit the web site!







