

BETA CHI CHRONICLE

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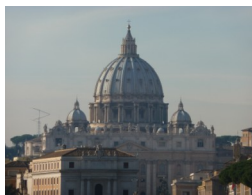
SPRING 2010 UPDATE

Brethren Abroad: Lessons from a Semester in Roma



My experiences abroad have given me a larger perspective of what it means to be a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi. I'd like to share three realms of enlightenment: the brotherly connection to family, the universality of music, and the strength of our chapter's bonds.

Family: Brotherhood is rooted in the model of family ties. While in Italy, I have met about fifteen of my Italian family members. On the surface, we have very little in common: different careers, different interests; even different languages. These people haven't even heard from my family in 60 years! And yet, when we met there was an immediate feeling of connection with each other and of felicity in knowing that, despite all our differences, we were united in the bond of family. Considering our brotherhood, I believe that this sort of unity should be something we strive for with each other: no matter how different or distant, we are still joined together and should celebrate that.



Music: I have had the opportunity to enjoy many musical events while here in Europe, but one concert in Rome particularly inspired me. The concert was *An Evening with Tchaikovsky and Prokofiev*, guest directed by the conductor of the Shanghai Orchestra. As I took in the

music, I was struck by the poetry of an American listening to an Italian orchestra performing Russian music, all conducted by a Chinese conductor. I have never seen anything else that can bring such diverse cultures together so seamlessly; music truly is the greatest of the arts.



The Pantheon—Rome's "Rotunda"

Our Chapter: When I left for Rome, I wasn't sure what to expect about our ability to stay in touch. I should never have doubted: the steady flow of repartee and laughter is the same as it ever was. I have been grateful for every email, message, and Skype call I have shared with you, and can't wait to see you again. I have learned to more fully appreciate being your brother.

Ma so questa: si devo morire, sono un fratello di KKPsi. Stavo pensando a voi ogni giorno, e sono felice che ci vediamo presto. Until next time, take care! ~Nick Vallorano



Me and my family that I met here

SPECIAL DATES OF INTEREST:

- May 4: Last Day of Classes
- May 5: Last General Meeting
- May 9: Departing Brothers Ceremony at UVA Chapel
- May 14: Last Day of Exams
- May 23: Final Exercises
- August 13: First Day of Band Camp!!!
- August 24: First Day of Classes

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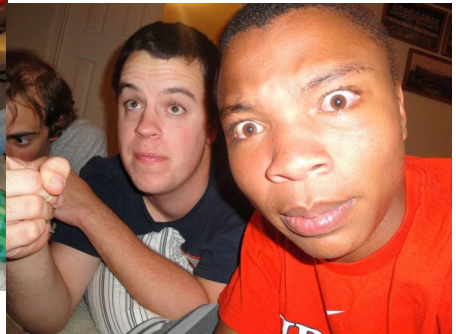
SPRING 2010 RETREAT



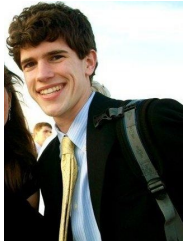
I had been looking forward to the retreat since the beginning of the MC process. I'm not sure if it was my love for sleepovers or the fact that I would be able to spend a weekend with the people I had been getting to know for the past month, but I was excited. It was through this retreat that I learned many things about KKPsi and its members. For example, I never knew how sporty we were as a group! When we got to Rachel's house, the first thing everyone did was go to the park. There was kickball, basketball, Frisbee, football, and even a little parkour. I also learned that KKPsi brothers play a mean game of Mafia. Never before had I played with so many people and so many creative additions, like the Jesus card. Whether or not there were planned activities, just hanging out with the brothers and other MC's was really fun. I was happy that I could spend so much time

with the brothers in an informal setting. Previously, tasks had been the main source of interaction with the brothers, with a few chapter dinners here and there, so this was a great opportunity for everyone to get to know each other better. In the long run the retreat helped me come closer to finding that elusive meaning of brotherhood I had been searching for. At that point in my MC process I had somewhat of an idea of brotherhood, but a lot of it had to do with working towards a common goal, mostly in the area of service. After the retreat I added to my definition the importance of social bonds that brothers should have with each other. The retreat was a valuable part of my MC process and I think the other members of the Upsilon class would say the same. ~Marley Ogden.

“IN THE LONG RUN THE RETREAT HELPED ME COME CLOSER TO FINDING THAT ELUSIVE MEANING OF BROTHERHOOD I HAD BEEN SEARCHING FOR.”



MUSICIANS IN ACTION



I've been going to Walker Upper Elementary School for a year and a half now, giving one-on-one lessons and playing with the introductory band there. I absolutely love the experience for some very simple reasons. They're fun, they challenge me as a musician and a teacher, and I learn a lot about myself in the process.

Giving lessons challenges me to speak clearly and correctly when I'm explaining music. Our idea of leadership, that getting people to do what you want because they want to, really applies here. For example, I want my student to learn what a sharp or flat is. It's clear to me what it is, but to this 5th grader, I'm speaking a different language. I have learned that teaching someone requires you to pick and choose each word carefully, and I've grown a lot through my mistakes and successes.

Going to Walker allows you to make a difference on a young musician's development. They look up to you as an older musician, even if they don't always show it. I hope that because we can go, and show them how cool band can be, they will want to keep playing music and succeeding in school. It is so rewarding to see a young musician understand the fundamentals of music for the first time, and for them to recognize how everything works. Seeing them connect with music gives me a chance to connect with music again.

As this spring semester has gone on, more brothers have been attending the full band rehearsal. I'll look up and see familiar faces, with the knowing looks from across the room that reminds me of high school band rehearsals. We're all getting ready for the May 14th performance. I really hope that our involvement increases at Walker, because this is truly one of the best ways to serve music in the community and promote one's own musicianship. ~Matt Gillwald



TIME WELL SPENT



I'll start off by saying that the Upsilon MCs of Beta Chi deserved their title as the "Oops Babies." Simply put, we liked to mess things up during the process... a lot. At some points, crossing the burning sands was more like crossing the pit filled with needles and syringes in Saw II. Snowpocalypse ruined

many plans for Rush. We sent Brothers dashing to the other side of the Rotunda on slippery marble on Bid Night. How were we supposed to know not to actually go on the Rotunda? We sabotaged their "secret" meetings during Big Brother week, resulting in their desperate fleeing through the Academical Village. (Cough, Mike Wu, cough...) The most notable "oops," of course, is our failures.

The Upsilon MC process was cursed with the failings of not one, but two quizzes. To make matters worse, after we failed our third quiz and completed Second Degree, we could not even talk to the Brothers for forty-eight hours. Time meant for personal reflection could be interpreted as punishment—a shunning of sorts, as close to hazing as Kappa Kappa Psi gets. At the time, 48 hours

seemed like a week, and April 25th seemed so far away. In comparison to last year, the 25th really was far away; the Tau class had their Third Degree on the fourth of April, a whole twenty-one days before ours.

Honestly, waiting that long to become a Brother was not the most enjoyable experience of my life. Looking back on it, however, I'm glad we did. I'm sure it can be easy to rush (no pun intended) through the process of becoming a Brother, but thinking about the Fraternity, waiting for the day you can wear Letters, and wondering what the hell AEA means for a long period of time really makes you respect the organization. Those 48 hours of isolation from the Brothers (doubled from last year's single day) really made us realize how important we all are in each other's lives. All together now: "Aww."

"THOSE 48 HOURS OF ISOLATION FROM THE BROTHERS (DOUBLED FROM LAST YEAR'S SINGLE DAY) REALLY MADE US REALIZE HOW IMPORTANT WE ALL ARE IN EACH OTHER'S LIVES."

I would suggest keeping Third Degree at this later date from now on. It truly helps the MCs understand their mistakes and makes them think about the process as a whole. At the time, sure—it sucks, but looking back on it, I would not want it to be any other way. I am proud and excited to be a new Brother of Kappa Kappa Psi, and I am positive that those extra three weeks in the Membership Candidate process only helped to fuel my enthusiasm. ~Ryan Yowell

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CONGRATULATIONS NEW BROTHERS!



The Beta Chi chapter inducted its newest Brothers on Sunday, April 25, 1010, from the Upsilon class. Top row (left to right): Sean Laffey, Matt Howdershell, Ryan Yowell, Ian Edwards, Mike Ngai, Brian Griffin. Middle row: Jonathan Hall, Emily Graham, Marbury Jacobs, Briana Collins, Tabitha Reddick. Bottom row: Mike Wu, Emily Sharp, Sarah Schmidt, Marley Ogden.

“WE WON’T STOP THE SERVICE”

Band camp, staying up all night,
Gatorade does not taste right,
popsicles, water bottles,
moving first years in.

Uniform sorting in the Cage,
ushering is all the rage,
sandwich-making, cookie-baking,
setting up Scott Stadium.

We won’t stop the service,
while we’re promulgating
other groups are hating.

We won’t stop the service,
striving for the highest,
and you can’t deny it.

Walker lessons after school,
archiving is really cool,
Blandy, mock degree,
dinners at O’hill.

Time for rush info sessions,
new faces, conversations,
game nights, snowball fights,
scav hunt was such a thrill!

We won’t stop the service,
while we’re promulgating
other groups are hating.

We won’t stop the service,
striving for the highest,
and you can’t deny it.

Bid Day, Precincts,
memorizing really stinks,
broomball, minimal falls,
helping high school bands.

Rachel’s house for spring retreat,
celebrating third degree,
Discoveroo, chalking too,
always lending helping hands!

We won’t stop the service,
while we’re promulgating
other groups are hating.

We won’t stop the service,
striving for the highest,
and you can’t deny it.

~Rewritten by Caitlin Campbell
(Original song by Billy Joel)



ABOUT MY BROTHER WU

Has my perception of Wu changed since we became brothers? I would like to say it has, but I still view him the same way. However, there is a new element added to Wu. He is still the same crazy friend we know and love, but I now see a serious side. We like to have fun when we are around each other. Now, we partake in service projects together and attend meetings. We are still roommates and hang out quite often, doing the same shenanigans we always do. But when it is time to be serious, I now know he can be. So, in short, my view on him hasn’t changed, but I now can see a more serious side to him.



Mike Wu and Sean Laffey