



ATΩ Kappa Rho: Alumni Newsletter

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In This Issue

- Welcome!
- Taulympics
- Brother Spotlight
- ATO Philanthropy
- Alumni Highlight

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to the first alumni newsletter. As our chapter grows older and we begin to actually have alumni, we feel that it is ever important to keep those who have gone before us informed of their ol' fraternity alma mater. Therefore, please take a moment to pour yourself a cup of tea or wine and catch up on the happenings of "the dear old gold and blue."

Taulympics 2021

Brotherhood is a key component in the life of a brother of Alpha Tau Omega. ATO strives to promote brotherhood in all aspects of life in order to foster a community that builds men up to be the best they can be.

The brothers of Kappa Rho this semester have started off building a strong building community with new members and promoting strong ties of brotherhood. There have been brotherhood dinners, bible studies, hangouts, and much more. However, the crowning brotherhood event of the semester is Taulympics. Taulympics is a semester long brotherhood event that includes team bonding through dinners, hangouts, competitions, and a variety of other challenges. At the beginning of the semester multiple captains are chosen from the senior class. These captains then participate in a snake style draft where they select brothers to be a part of their team to help compete in a multitude of activities or tasks that are created by the game masters (positions selected to handle the running of Taulympics). These activities and challenges last the whole semester and each activity is worth certain point values. The team at the end of Taulympics with the most points is crowned the winner and receives a cash prize to do with as they please.



Alpha Tau Omega Social Media Accounts

Instagram:
[@samfordato](#)

Facebook:
[Alpha Tau Omega at Samford
University](#)

Link to our Web page:
<http://www.samfordato.org>

Contact Us

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This is an event that all brothers look forward to and enjoy throughout the semester as they try and strategize different ways to earn points. Senior captain Hudson Beaudry said, "I think Taulympics is just a great way to maximize friendships in the fraternity. Not only do you get to hang out with the guys on your team, but you get to build stronger relationships through gaining points. The key is to have a team who actively tries to participate, which makes gaining points so much easier".

Taulympics is done to promote brotherhood and connect members who may not be as close with each other as they are with other members. The different challenges utilize skill sets and talents that every brother can contribute to as our game masters look to make the events fun and interesting for everyone. Game master Ian Lansing gets to look at the game from behind the scenes and has stated, "My favorite aspect of the events is watching how the teams coordinate themselves to maximize points. I really enjoy the captains making an effort to bring pledges into the fold and get them involved". Taulympics is coming to an end in the next few weeks however, the bonds and ties of brotherhood that have been recognized this semester will echo throughout the future of Kappa Rho.

Brother Spotlight

Over the summer one of our very own brothers, sophomore Jackson Scontras (Sconny) had the opportunity to intern at Capitol Hill under Senator Susan Collins of Maine. During the internship Jack learned what it was like to be a senate staffer and about life in politics.

From answering phones, attending hearings, and even writing drafts for the Senator herself, this was without a doubt one of the biggest sets of responsibilities

that Jack has ever been given. No matter, Jack said, with confidence, "I had an amazing time working in Washington despite the large amount of work and responsibility I was given".

Aside from work, Jack really enjoyed getting to know the staffers as well as Senator Collins and there were some days where he said he felt as though he was a full-time Staff member rather than a temporary intern.

If that wasn't exciting enough, there were some days where he would have a casual chat with the likes of Rand Paul or Joe Manchin; both are well known and highly respected senators. Jack took this summer to help set himself up for the future and



with this internship he hopes to use it as a stepping stone to go into politics after graduation.

Alongside his internship in DC he is also the president of Turning Point at Samford (A nonprofit organization that advocates for conservative values on college campuses). Jack did an amazing job during his internship over the summer and continues to exemplify the values of ATO through leadership on campus. We are proud to have him as a member of Kappa Rho. Congratulations and good job to Sconny, Ruh Rah!

ATO Philanthropy and Service

Finding avenues to give back to the Birmingham community while maintaining safety in a global pandemic has been my most strenuous challenge as Social Service Co-Chair. While difficult, the Kappa Rho chapter considers community service an integral part of who we are.



This year especially, it has taken great initiative from the Social Service community and chapter as a whole to make sure we are able to give back. Our most frequent and popular service event is held every week at the Lovelady Thrift store. Our relationship with them has been very rewarding not only for them, but for us as well! Our chapter also participated in Samford Gives back, a service event this past spring.

This year Kappa Rho also worked alongside an organization called Rise against Hunger where brothers helped pack meals for those in need. It was a great success and our chapter packed more meals than any other group!

This fall we have also started to volunteer with Magic City Woodworks, a nonprofit organization that aims to restore men and bring them out of unemployment among other issues. Our chapter helps them with maintenance and landscaping tasks at their grounds and woodshop. Finally, apart from service to the community, our chapter has put a large emphasis this year on serving fellow brothers.

This includes donating books to our ATO library so that other brothers do not have to pay large sums of money to buy books for class. Additionally, this also includes tutoring brothers in classes they may struggle with. All of these are ways that brothers of Kappa Rho can help and serve fellow brothers.

Social service is and will continue to be of the utmost importance to the Kappa Rho chapter of the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity and we look forward to continuing to foster a mindset of service throughout our community both inside and outside the fraternity.

Alumni Highlight

In this edition of the alumni highlight, we have the pleasure of talking about brother Austin Hoover. Austin is currently located in Atlanta Georgia working a sales job. As well Austin like many of our other very accomplished has gone out and done incredible things within the workforce. Austin received an award recently for having the 2nd highest gross profit with the store he is working at. We are extremely proud of Austin and all of our other alumni that have made great strides since their time at Kappa Rho. As Austin had reflected on his time at Kappa Rho he mentioned that Step Sing his freshmen was truly an incredible experience. With step sing coming back this year we are more than happy to hear this from our extinguished alumni. Lastly, Austin had a piece of advice that truly exemplifies us a fraternity saying, “The connections from ATO do extend into everyday life once you get a job. You start hanging out with brothers that move around you and you start closing deals with people that were members at one point! This all starts during rush and the members chosen will represent your brand forever! So always think of that when looking at new members! I hope everyone is doing well and RUH RAH.” With this new exciting pledge class, these are the ideals that we want to be reflected in our chapter



Alumni Reunion

Attention all alumni for the first time in Kappa Rho history we are excited to host the first-ever annual Alumni Wine Mixer. This event will be held at Ozan Winery & Vineyard on December 10th. We are extremely excited to be able to host such a great event for all of our beloved alumni.

If you have any questions about the event or would like to purchase a ticket please contact istrong@samford.edu or by phone at (919)-760-5497.