

PHI THETA KAPPA KANSAS REGION

Volume 2, Issue 3

August - September 2007

please send future submissions to cbush3@butlercc.edu

Kansas Region:

I would like to welcome you to the 2007 - 2008 school years. I am Chase Rhoades, elected as your Kansas Regional Phi Theta Kappa President in March at Hutchinson. I attend Allen Community College in Iola, KS and graduated in May with an Associate in Science. I am remaining a third year to concentrate on my passion in Phi Theta Kappa. I will be taking classes at Allen County and other online classes to carry on in my studies. My plans are to transfer to either the University of Oklahoma - Norman or the University of Nebraska - Lincoln in pursuing a degree in meteorology.

I hope to see you at all the regional meetings and perhaps the international meetings as well. If you are a new member, I encourage you to attend a regional conference. You will learn more about Phi Theta Kappa and meet several people from our region with similar goals. When you travel to internationals you will see hundreds to thousands of people depending on the event across the United States and beyond of all cultures, ethnicities and vocal accents sharing much of the same interior motifs as you.

Our regional officer team consists of:

Brent Haverkamp, Vice President of the Northern District is attending Johnson County Community College and is currently looking at Rockhurst University to major in the Chiropractic Profession.

Michael Steen, Vice President of the Southern District is attending Coffeyville Community College and plans to major in computer science with a focus on networking technologies.

Ashley Naber, Vice President of the Western District. Ashley is currently attending Pratt Community College where she is majoring in Athletic Training. She will graduate from PCC in the Spring of '08 with an Associates of Science Degree. After PCC she plans on transferring to the University of Nebraska in Lincoln to receive a bachelor's degree. Her goal is to work in a college setting as a Head Athletic Trainer.

Christy Bush, Vice President of Correspondence. Christy plans on attending either Friends University or Wichita State University in pursuit of a Master's Degree in Criminal Psychology.

Kelby Hutsler, Vice President of Alumni, graduated from Kansas City Kansas Community College with an Associates of Arts. He is currently attending Rockhurst University in Kansas City, Missouri. Kelby is pursuing a Bachelors Degree in Secondary Education in Social Studies.

What is Phi Theta Kappa?

Phi Theta Kappa is the largest honor society of the two-year college. Phi Theta Kappa is comprised of four hallmarks: Scholarship, Fellowship, Leadership and Service. The more active you want to be in Phi Theta Kappa, the higher the rewards to you are. It's quiet simple actually. You are automatically guaranteed a scholarship to any university upon transfer, just for being a member. Scholarships range from a thousand dollars to full ride depending on the college and even you activity in the organization. The more you do in your chapter and abroad, obviously the more fellowship you are part of and the more trips you may have the opportunity to take. Personally, not only have I been from border

to border and college to college in the state of Kansas, but I have traveled to Paducah, Nashville, Des Moines and Chicago. This year I will travel to: Atlanta, Texas A&M, Philadelphia, and overseas to European countries. As for leadership, you can choose to be a leader and head Phi Theta Kappa at the chapter, state, and / or international levels. Or you can organize and head service projects from Keeping America Beautiful, Relay for Life team, aiding disaster relief, food drives, book drives, paper drives and the list could go on. Last year Phi Theta Kappa raised more money than did any other organization in the fight for cancer. With the coverage and diversity we have in Phi Theta Kappa, it makes it all the more powerful.

Check out the Phi Theta Kappa website (www.ptk.org) to learn more and keep in touch with what's going on not only in your chapter and region, but also in sister regions and at the international level.

Important Dates:

Regional Leadership Conference
(Parsons, KS)
September 21 - 22

Regional Honors Institute
(Dodge City, KS)
November 9 - 10

Regional Convention
(Kansas City, KS)
February 28 - March 2

*This is your chance at running for a Regional Officer position.

Chase A. Rhoades
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Hey Everyone!

This is Jami Van Brocklin. Some or none of you may know that my husband and his brother, along with one of my cousins, have all been serving in Iraq with the US Army since Oct. 20, 2006. They all 3 left the same day....2 from Ft. Hood and my husband from Ft. Riley. My husband recently found out that his unit is not being extended due to certain

circumstances that cleared their unit of the extension.

However, we, the wives and family members, were all originally told they were being extended till January 2008. The wives of the unit are the ones who prepare the barracks for the returning "single" soldiers who live in the barracks. The wives get together and supply the barracks with the necessities that the soldiers will need once they arrive home. The wives do this for the soldiers because once the soldiers arrive home, they will not be afforded the time to gather their necessities before coming home or once they come home.

More than likely, they will return home close to bedtime, so they will need to be all ready to go the next day. Well, since they didn't get extended, we are now doing this on shorter notice. Normally, we'd have a fundraiser to raise the money for the stuff, but because of the short notice, we will not have enough funds or time to raise the funds to do this. I spoke with Susan Forrest about this, and she is interested in us doing this as a Phi Theta Kappa project, or possibly a Regional Project. We need to supply 80 soldiers with the following items:

- Bath towels and wash cloths, any color
- Twin-sized bed sheets, any color (and possibly pillows!)
- Personal hygiene products shaving cream, disposable razors, toothbrushes, toothpastes, etc.)
- Bath products (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap bars, etc.)
- Target or Wal-mart gift cards for the wives to purchase this stuff for them!

We have to have all this stuff to the base, Ft. Riley in Junction City, by September...probably early to mid, seeing how they could actually come home towards the end of September, if their unit is ready to go by then. However, they are DUE to be home in October. Again we are supplying for 80 MALE soldiers! When you take both of

those into consideration, we really don't have that much time to get this done!

I am asking each one of you, if at all possible, if you could help to contribute to this project! Let's call this project "OPERATION RETURNING THE FAVOR" they have been at war for 1 year and now we can return the favor to help them out!!! I'd greatly appreciate any and all help given to us! When these guys come home, they should have nothing to worry about. They need a break! We can help!!!

Please email me back and let me know if you can help...whether it's just helping out 1 soldier or many...every little bit counts!!!

Thank You.

**For additional information please contact Katie Roach at:
croach@bulercc.edu or
kolbir1003@yahoo.com

In case you missed all of the fun from Summer Planning here is a copy of the minutes taken at the Regional Meeting that day:

**Summer Planning
July 22, 2007
Minutes**

Chase Rhodes -

- Opening and welcome
- Special thank you to Susan Forrest and Butler Community College
- He also spent some time encouraging everyone to think about running for Regional Officer Positions in the spring.

Christy Bush -

- Roll Call
 - In Attendance
 - see attached

**Chase Rhodes -
Regional Goals**

- Regional Meeting Attendance
 - Leadership
 - Honors
 - Regional Meeting
- Newsletter submissions
- Increase of candidates for Regional Officer Positions

Old Business -

- Regional Pins -
 - no info
- Joey's Bill
 - Update in Newsletter
 - Possible new meeting to be announced

New Business -

- Floods
 - Michael Steen - Coffeyville
 - Victims affected:
 - Tori Lomas - former officer
 - Several other Phi Theta Kappa members
 - Pam Howe in charge of a Flood Victims Relief Fund
 - Send donations (checks payable to :)
 - Flood Victims TLC
PO Box 964
Coffeyville, KS 67337
 - Possible fund raisers
 - Key chains \$5.00 or Regional Pins \$3.00
 - Regional Fundraiser
 - Raise \$1000.00 by years end to help flood victims
 - Each chapter to raise \$____ / chapter to aide the victims in the Region effected by natural disasters
 - Possible incentives:
 - Free registrations at Regional events for the top raising chapters (1 - 2 registrations for the top chapter)
 - Suggestion made to start a Kansas Relief Fund; each chapter to raise their dues by \$1.00 - \$2.00/member and those dollars be kept in a fund managed by the Regional Coordinator
- Operation Return the Favor
 - Volunteers needed
 - Care packages for the troops over seas
 - Details to follow from Katie Roach, project chairperson, Butler Community College, Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter
- Welcoming of the new Pratt advisor

Regional planning meeting and adjournment to follow.

Minutes recorded according to:

- Christy Bush

- Kansas Regional Vice President of Correspondence

Kansas Regional Coordinator Ruth Randall is taking a one-year sabbatical from the Coordinator position, effective immediately. The sabbatical is to allow Ruth to fill a temporary leadership position at her college. Susan Forrest will serve as Acting Coordinator for the Kansas Region for the next 12 months.

Susan serves as advisor to the Alpha Phi Alpha Chapter at Butler Community College, a position she has held since 2001. The chapter has consistently achieved the five star level in the Society's Five Star Chapter Development Program, and was also honored with a Leadership Hallmark Award at the 2007 International Convention in Nashville.

Susan is a certified instructor in Phi Theta Kappa's Leadership Development Studies and received the Paragon Award for New Advisors in 2004 and also received the Distinguished Advisor award in 2007. We are very grateful to Susan for her willingness to devote her time and talents to ensure a prosperous year for the Kansas Region. Her contact information is as follows:

Susan Forrest, Acting Coordinator
Phi Theta Kappa Kansas Region
Butler Community College
901 South Haverhill Road
El Dorado, KS 67042
Phone: 316-322-3251
Fax: 316-322-3109
sforrest@butlercc.edu

Sincerely,

Rod A. Risley
Executive Director

Congratulations to Susan Forrest and we all wish both Ruth and Susan much success and happiness with their new positions.

The Alpha Gamma Upsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Cowley College sponsored its first ever blood drive at the Southside Center in Wichita on May 3. After donating blood, Phi Theta Kappa member, Zach Helms, signs a poster to be sent to Virginia Tech as a show of concern and support for their students and staff. In the future, the chapter will be sponsoring a blood drive every semester at the North Campuses.



From left to right:

Lisa Burns, Ellen Herdler, Vi Nguyen and Jennifer Holley, members of the Alpha Gamma Upsilon chapter of Phi Theta Kappa at Cowley College, as they man a bake sale table at the Cowley College annual Spring Bash held on May 9th at the Southside Center in Wichita. Donation jars were also located in Ark City and at the Mulvane Bloomenshine Center. A grand total of \$850.00 was collected from students and staff and sent to the Cannonball Trail Chapter Red Cross in Pratt, KS. All the proceeds will go to the Greensburg tornado victims.
