

## **Timothy T Murray**

---

**From:** "Tammy B" <Tammy819@AOL.COM>  
**Date:** Sunday, July 17, 2011 6:06 PM  
**To:** <TKE\_XI\_OMEGA\_ALUMNI@LISTSERV.VT.EDU>  
**Subject:** Summary & Slide Show From June TKE Project Weekend !! (Finally)

Hello All,

Sorry for the delay on getting this out. It's been a busy summer for all of us! (And, as always, apologies for duplicates of this e-mail).

**We had a great work weekend in June.** We are getting better at planning and working efficiently. Last year's work weekends were a learning experience. The usual suspects were in attendance this time including our three "House Improvement Award" Winners from last year: **Chandler Slate** (2010), **Matt Leffler** (2011), and **John Shirley** (1987?). Chandler drove all the way from OHIO to be with us. A few folks arrived early and began work Friday late morning/afternoon. We worked into Friday night, all day Saturday, and into Sunday afternoon.

Three of our Award Winning Little Sisters from last year (now alumni) also showed up again: **Chrissy Stone**, and **Claire Tidwell** who worked on the house, and **Kala Letts** who made a quick appearance to say Hello as she was passing through town. Current little sister **Grace** made cookies in lieu of being there (three plates of cookies & brownies is OK by me !!!)

**"CLASSIC TEKES":** **George Bidanset** (and his daughter Patricia), **Pete Saunders**, **Monty Fearnow**, **Scott Steiger**, **Scott Rowe**, and **John Shirley** were all in attendance. This was Scott Rowe's first visit back in many years, and I believe he had a good time! Of course I was there (**Tammy Bagnato**), and will qualify myself as a "Classic Teke".

**The Amazing Tom Kuhn** (2010) was also in attendance. (Tom has his own category).

**Alumni (Gen X)** in attendance: **Neil DeMarco** (2010), **Chandler Slate** (2010), **Spencer Smith** (2011), **Matt Leffler** (2011).

**Current Brothers** (also NEW house tenants and Officers...and MAJOR contributors to TKE) in attendance: **Marc Mazzie** (Prytanis), **Mark Letenzi** (Epi-Prytanis), and **Taylor Witt** (Hegemon). Current house resident **Scott Koermer** also lent a hand!

**Alex Pavlosky** and **Will Franco** showed up to move out some belongings, and **Drew Snider** had a birthday, so his Mom showed up and brought a birthday cake (which we all enjoyed).

And, a **good friend** to many Tekes: **Jonas Weigert** showed up and worked side-by-side with us through the weekend. What a guy!! Give him a bid !!

Saturday's Lunch was ordered from Jimmy John's courtesy of Tammy Bagnato, and organized by Matt Leffler, and Dinner was provided by Monty Fearnow and John Shirley. Monty brought ribs (already marinated) with several different sauces, potato salad, Cole slaw, and watermelon. John Shirley marinated zucchini for grilling (thanks John for making a "low-fat" version also).

**WORK DONE ! :** (although some specific names are mentioned in this summary below, please see the Slideshow to view all who worked so hard! Everyone deserves a tremendous amount of credit here).

- Mowed the 2' tall grass, including string trimming (mower and string trimmers ran almost non stop). Thanks Spencer Smith for being the first active brother on the scene to jump into this

- task. And thanks to ALL of the guys who worked on mowing, weeding, trimming, etc. See Slideshow for all troopers.
- Pruned the tree under power lines along parking lot / driveway (massively). I'm pretty sure we left enough leaves and bark to keep it alive. We also cut up and removed a large dead and fallen tree along back property line, which fell in our yard.
  - Finished repairing the drywall on the ceiling in the Brothers' Room
  - Completely (and properly) repainted the Brother's Room (thanks Pete Saunders for choosing a kick-butt TKE "Smoldering Red" color!).
  - John Shirley acquired a used dishwasher (a surprise gift), and installed it after removing the defective unit. The replacement seems to work well, and the price was right!
  - Taylor Witt (active brother/officer/new house resident) brought a gas grill to the house for future cookouts. We used John Shirley's grill for the weekend cookout.
  - 6 of the 13 HVAC units were removed from the rooms, and cleaned outside. They were completely filthy inside and out, and smelled. The remaining 7 will be cleaned during the next work weekend. A lot of people helped with this...see slide show!
  - Two broken HVAC units were diagnosed, and parts were ordered (Thanks Monty for knowing HOW to do this and ordering the right parts).
  - Upstairs BATI closet was cleaned, TKE documents organized, and some wall hangings repaired / replaced, with installation of new items. Thanks Tom & Claire for reading every SINGLE paper in the closet and finding the poem about Tyler Fearnow.
  - All the room door lock malfunctions were resolved for the time being, with all original hardware installed, and all locks working.
  - Appointments were met for mowing, cleaning, carpeting, and other needed repairs. Estimates and assessment of work are now in progress.
  - An effort was made to track down any water leak the house may have (due to high water bills recently), which included checking all water lines, both water heaters, and all toilets.
  - George Bidanset inspected the toilets, and made any necessary repairs. Thanks too to George's daughter Patricia who assisted with these mundane tasks!
  - The wireless internet was upgraded to offer more capacity, and stronger signal to the fringe areas, thanks to new hardware and higher gain antennas. (Thanks Monty ...AKA "PC Rx")
  - Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors were tested by Scott Steiger, and passed (albeit after he convinced someone that running a gas leaf blower in the house halls and stairwell was an effective way to clean). Most brothers eventually dutifully left the house as all alarms sounded, and we suggested that the "fire drill" was a success.
  - Deck rails and boards were repaired and worked on by many. Chrissy was the Queen of the power saw, and by late Saturday, she was *clearly* in charge of that project...with the "Classic" Tekes referring to her as "The Boss". The Great Scotts helped out with this project as well.
- 
- Further work was completed on the steps from "Great Room" (aka Party Room) to Hallway.
  - Power Washed the deck (Thanks Scott Steiger for bringing the washer). Many helped with this.
  - Finish cleaning/ remove any trash in rooms 11 & 12 (though the bathroom needs help).
  - Thanks Taylor and others for tackling the kitchen and general CLEANING.
  - Fixed broken pipe in electrical closet behind Kitchen
  - Remove the "Crows Nest" from roof (Scott Rowe was the King of this project)
  - Finish replacing old faceplates with newly purchased faceplates. (Go Tom Kuhn, Matt Leffler & others!!)
- 
- Cleaned out and repaired the shed in the corner of yard. Several helped on this.
  - Tuned-up the Lawnmower. Monty also ordered parts to maintain the high quality mower that we have.
  - Framed and hung more letters received from other TKE Chapters after 4-16 (this was Tom

Kuhn's pet project. Go Tom)

Again, a **BIG THANKS to all who have had faith and belief in Tau Kappa Epsilon at Virginia Tech**. This house is the centerpiece of proof that the organization can and will thrive for another 30+ years!

Next work weekend is August \_\_\_\_\_. Please RSVP if you plan to attend.

Here is the link to the Slide Show:

<http://s856.photobucket.com/albums/ab129/tammyb819/Working%20Weekend%20%20June%2024-26%202011/?albumview=slideshow>

Enjoy!



**Tammy Bagnato**  
TKE Little Sister (1987)  
Direct: 703-606-9950



Tau Kappa  
Epsilon