



Tau Kappa Epsilon

February 16, 2011

To the alumni of the Xi Omega chapter of TKE:

As I am sure you are aware BATI (Blacksburg Alumni of TKE, Inc.), the company that owns the fraternity house has been working hard the last 12 months to bring about some major changes with the house and the chapter. The 15 board members of BATI and a small army of recruits have focused on four areas, with very positive results all the way around. Very briefly, they are:

- 10 years of deferred maintenance on the NEW house finally took its toll. Everything from painting, to flooring, to kitchen appliances were in need of time and money to get them back up to minimum fraternity house standards. They were completed over the summer and early fall.
- The house needs a financial 'home makeover'. The house has a \$470,000 balloon loan due this June. 12 rooms just cannot support the debt service and operating cost of the house while still maintaining a reasonable monthly rent. So the BATI board decided to collect donations from the alumni to reduce the debt enough so that the rent from the brothers living at the house can support its operating costs. We calculated that we needed to raise \$350,000 to make this happen. I am very pleased to say that with only 50 alumni contributing we have already raised \$100,000.
- The chapter needed an 'intervention'. The chapter was at a low point moral wise. One year ago they began a 2 year suspension from VA Tech. A good size pledge class of 12 new brothers was at the point of vanishing. A bunch of brothers were graduating. In speaking with the brothers, things did not look good. The intervention worked. It worked extremely well. The chapter initiated 10 of the 12 pledges. They elected offices for two year terms to lead them through the suspension. Moral is at a high point, if not an all-time high. No pun intended.
- The chapter, BATI, and a newly formed Xi Omega alumni association are working with university officials to make sure that TKE comes back on campus at VA Tech stronger than ever. Alumni and chapter officers have regular meetings with university officials regarding our reinstatement. The chapter has created committees to address each of the university's requirements for reinstatement. While being reinstated is in no way guaranteed, university feedback is that an active alumni involvement will make reinstatement almost assured.

That's what has been going on with your fraternity. Did you know that we have over 750 alumni in our ranks? I did not. More amazing is that we have raised \$100,000 from only 50 of

those alumni. Fund raising takes time. A lot of it. Contacting all 750+ alumni cannot be done with the 15 board members and our recruits. We need an army to help us. That's where you come in.

Most of you have been contacted regarding the house fund raising. As you can see from above that's only part of the story. There is so much more going on than just raising funds. But fund raising is the visible part. It's also the most labor intensive part. It's the part where we need your help.

Many of you that were contacted offered your support of the fraternity and house. Unfortunately, funds are tight. I can understand that. Everyone of us can. So, my personal plea to each of you is this. If you cannot write a check (credit cards work too, go to www.xoaa.org), I ask that you contact 3 alumni and personally ask them for a donation for the cause. Tell them you would donate yourself if you had the money. Tell them that you feel the same love for the fraternity now that you did back then, but you just don't have the money available, Bernie Madoff cleaned you out. But, what you do have is time. That's why you are contacting them to ask them for their support. You need them to help us out.

If you have questions regarding our efforts, just reply to this email. I or someone else will answer your questions. If you have not maintained contact with 3 alumni you can call, reply back to this email as well. Give us 10 names you'd be willing to call. I'm sure that we can get you good contact information on at least 3 of those people.

Do it now. Do not throw this email away. Print it out as a reminder to call three fellow alumni. I need this done over the next 7 days.

If you want to write a check, they are always welcome and encouraged. As president of BATI, please mail them to me at 508 Sandy Valley Court, Virginia Beach, VA 23452, payable to BATI.

You know why I said contact 3 brothers!!!

I love the fraternity,

Tony Lovelace
President,
Blacksburg Alumni of TKE, Inc.