

From the Executive Vice President

ANSWERING THE CALL



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Some things in life are too important to ignore. Some things are so vital to one's way of life and basic beliefs that action must be taken. Sometimes one must put aside his or her routine and do what is right for the collective good of society. As of September 11, that sometime is now.

Rooted in the very concept of fraternity is a common bond or sense of community, a banding together per se of people who hold certain ideals constant. Tau Kappa Epsilon has always believed in this sense of community, of cooperation and teamwork, and of having many men act together as one man. Whether a Teke be an American, Canadian, or other nationality, he is part of a collective whole dedicated to helping others, his school, and his community.

The cowardly and venomous acts of September 11, 2001 have resonated throughout the free world. Thousands of lives were lost in the attacks in New York City, Washington, D.C., and the crash in Pennsylvania. Among the dead and missing are people from more than 60 countries, many faiths, and countless backgrounds. At least three Tekes are among the victims, and countless other Fraters and friends have been profoundly impacted by these events.

The names of Fraters John C. Willett (initiated in 1991 at Kappa-Nu Chapter, Rockhurst University), Sgt. Major Larry L. Strickland (initiated at Chi Chapter, University of Washington, in 1968), and Douglas A. Gowell (a founder of Mu-Epsilon Chapter, University of Lowell, initiated in 1969) are among the thousands whose lives were abruptly cut short by the unprovoked and unjustifiable acts of terrorists.

With the United States and her allies now engaged in a new war on terrorism, many Tekes have asked what kind of role they can play to help with this effort and to make a meaningful contribution to society. As our members have done for generations, today's Tekes are answering the call for leadership and service.

As an individual, there are many things that each of us can do to make a difference. Immediately following the attacks of September 11, thousands of Tekes poured to hospitals and blood banks, donating life saving blood to help those in great need. Tekes donated clothing, resources, and supplies to help those displaced by the tragedy, including many of our own Fraters near "Ground Zero" in New York City. Several dozen of our chapters have held fundraisers to benefit the Red Cross, the September 11 Fund,

together to help each other out—financially, emotionally, professionally, and spiritually.

For every member of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity, there are many ways you can make a meaningful contribution—by providing your time, talents, and resources. Donations of time and money directly to the Red Cross, Salvation Army, and other worthy causes—can be of great assistance to those impacted by the events of September 11 and others who may be in the future. We should also be mindful that many resources

benefiting other worthy causes in our communities—such as local shelters, youth services organizations, care for the elderly, etc.—have been diverted to help with national emergency relief efforts. These local charities may now be in the greatest need of additional support, since their fundraising and manpower core has been shifted to help deal with the current tragedy. The



Butler Tekes raised money for the American Red Cross. (see page 12)

and other worthy causes, raising collectively tens of thousands of dollars. All of these acts have helped provide emergency relief, and have provided a way for these Fraters to contribute and make a difference.

There's plenty more to be done. Unfortunately, it is likely that the events of September 11 may just be a beginning to what may become a very uncomfortable period for many in the United States and elsewhere. In times like these, either the best or worst in people emerges. So far, we've seen the best of what our society does—a uniting of our American and Canadian communities, and a global banning together to root out those who believe in causing pain and destruction for their own sake. We've seen people from all walks of life, all age groups, and varying political perspectives pull to-

Fraternity has links to worthy charities and organizations (located at <http://www.tke.org/service.htm>) that can benefit from your time and resources.

As TKE helps show the world that we are "Redefining Fraternity," we can demonstrate our commitment to our core ideals through helping others in this time of great need. Each of us, as Tekes, and each of our chapters, colonies, and alumni associations can do something positive to help—not only with the current crisis, but with building that better society. I'm very proud of the work we've done to help those affected by September 11, and I'm sure the community will be equally proud of the service that members of our Fraternity will provide in the months ahead.

May Our Fraters Rest in Peace

The Offices of the Grand Chapter of Tau Kappa Epsilon Fraternity express our sincere condolences and offer our prayers to the family and friends of the victims of the terrible tragedy that befell New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, D.C. Below are listed those fraters we are aware of who have entered the Chapter Eternal as a result of the events of September 11. The OGC would appreciate any information on any other fraters who may have been lost.

John C. Willett

John Willett, 29, was on the phone in his 101st-floor World Trade Center office when the first American Airlines jetliner crashed into his tower Tuesday morning. His parents, Ronald and Lucy Willett, were notified on Friday by the president of Cantor Fitzgerald Securities, where John worked, that their son did not escape. The Willetts' adopted John, their only child, when he was six months old. He grew up in Independence and attended Truman High School for one year before the family moved to the Branson area. He earned a bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia and his master's degree from the University of Missouri-Kansas City. He worked on a doctorate at Notre Dame and also studied at Rockhurst College one year and became a member of Kappa-Nu Chapter (#738) in 1991.

Fratr Willett was active in politics and became acquainted with many of the state's top Democrats. In 1994, he worked on House Speaker Jim Kreider's campaign and on Alan Wheat's U.S. Senate campaign. In the mid-1990s, then-Gov. Mel Carnahan appointed John to finish an unexpired term as Taney County treasurer. At the time, he was called the state's youngest county treasurer. He worked as an analyst for CO2e.com, a division of Cantor Fitzgerald.

Sgt. Major Larry Strickland

Sgt. Major Larry L. Strickland was one of nearly 200 killed in the attack on D.C. He died at the age of 52 Tuesday, September 11, after giving up a day off to attend an important meeting at the Pentagon. A jetliner had torn through the West Wing of the Pentagon and Larry's office. The first-born son of Olga Strickland, Larry was a Sgt. Major in the Army and a senior advisor to the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He had spent 30 years in the Army, and was just 19 days shy of retirement.

A member of Chi Chapter, #521, Larry

was initiated April 28, 1968, and graduated from the University of Washington in 1971.

He loved big game fishing and cooking and once crafted a gingerbread house at Christmas for his three children. He is survived by his wife Debra, also a Sgt. Major in the Army, two sons and a daughter, all in their twenties.

Douglas A. Gowell

Douglas A. Gowell, 52, died unexpectedly Tuesday, September 11, when the hijacked United Airlines flight on which he was a passenger crashed into the World Trade Center in New York.

Born in Fitchburg, Massachusetts, Frater Gowell graduated from Lowell Institute of Technology in 1970. He worked at developing cutting edge technology for the past two and one-half years at Avid Technologies in Tewksbury as Director of New Market Development. Doug also worked for other technological companies including Augment Systems Inc. of Westford,

Polaroid Corp. of Waltham, and IMAGITEX Inc. of Nashua, NH.

Gowell was one of the founding members (#16) of the dormant Mu-Epsilon Chapter at Lowell, and met his wife Barbara in 1969 at a party on campus. They dated for two years and, after marrying, lived in Lowell for five years before moving to Methuen in 1975.

Doug had a genuine interest in a wide variety of leisure time activities and hobbies. Foremost was his love for all types of music, followed by his desire to investigate, use and understand many forms of technology. His wife described him as full of curiosity, challenging himself daily to learn new things and grow personally—truly embracing each day with such a positive outlook!

He is survived by his wife Barbara J. (Smith), son Michael and daughter Jessica of Methuen; two brothers and sisters-in-law, and a sister and brother-in-law. His half-brother, and many nieces, nephews and in-laws also survive him.

Mrs. Gowell said it is a testament to her husband's memory that many of his former fraternity brothers flew from other parts of the country to attend his memorial mass.



Tekes Organize Relief Effort

As Fraters of Tau Kappa Epsilon, we refer to each other as brothers ... brothers who share a common bond. Well, the thousands of firefighters across the country also refer to each other as brothers, and they too share a common bond—a bond defined by heroism, courage, and valor.

New Yorkers have always referred to police officers as "New York's Finest," but today they are referring to the city's firefighters as "New York's Bravest." They have exemplified the ideals that we hold most sacred: love, charity and esteem. As Tekes, we share many values with these heroes. The media in New York has recently begun to pay tribute to New York's Bravest by no longer referring to the site where the twin towers once stood as "Ground Zero" ... instead, they are now calling it "Ground Hero."



WebRecruiter LLC, by which Frater Laurence Footer is employed, has been utilized to set up a web site called <http://www.ground-hero.org> on which they are selling "Ground Hero" T-shirts that pay tribute to the thousands of firefighters and rescue workers. One hundred percent of the money collected from the sale of these shirts will be contributed to firefighters, rescue workers and their families. All Fraters around the country are encouraged to support this effort.