

# THE PHOTA



The Phota (the Greek word for lights) is a publication of the Valparaiso University Panhellenic and Interfraternity Councils

## Celebrating Homecoming at Valpo

Valparaiso University's Homecoming Weekend is always a special time for fraternities and sororities, and the 2014 celebration was no exception. Every year Homecoming provides a visual representation of the lifelong commitment to both alma mater and to the fraternity and sorority experience. Homecoming kicked off on Saturday morning with the Fraternity and Sorority Update by Assistant Dean of Students Carrie Whittier, followed by the All Sorority Brunch in Scheele Hall. Every chapter then hosted a tent at the Crusader Street Fair before the Homecoming Football Game, followed by a wide array of chapter alumni/ae gatherings on Saturday evening.

This year both the Homecoming King and the Homecoming Queen are members of the fraternity and sorority community. Homecoming King Michael Micek of Phi Sigma Kappa, and Homecoming Queen Amanda Moulchin of Kappa Kappa Gamma, were enthusiastically welcomed to coronation by the Valparaiso community.



2014 Homecoming Queen Amanda Moulchin, ΚΚΓ and Homecoming King Michael Micek, ΦΣΚ

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- November 1: Sigma Phi Epsilon Founders Day
- November 2: Lambda Chi Alpha Founders Day
- November 6: Faculty & Staff Reception, 4pm
- November 7: IFC Brat Fest, 6pm
- November 11: Gamma Phi Beta Founders Day
- November 12: IFC and Panhellenic Officer Elections
- November 14: Order of Omega Progressive Dinner, 6pm



On Sunday morning, a number of fraternity and sorority alumni/ae members received awards from the Valparaiso University Alumni Association. The Alumni Achievement Award was presented to Erik Hromadka, Sigma Tau Gamma from the Class of '88 and Janet Mielke Schwartz, Alpha Phi Delta from the Class of '74. The Alumni Service Award was presented to Linda Olsen Ertel, Kappa Psi Omega from the Class of '69 and Thomas Madden, Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia from the Class of '82. Finally, the Outstanding Young Alumni Award was presented to Joshua Lee, Sigma Phi Epsilon from the Class of '98.

# Chapter Spotlight:

## Phi Sigma Kappa

The Phi Sigma Kappa fraternity at Valparaiso University is celebrating 50 years of brotherhood in 2014. The men of Phi Sigma Kappa have a lot for which they can be proud, and alumni and undergraduate members gathered the weekend before Homecoming and during Homecoming weekend to celebrate! Phi Sigs gathered to see Alumnus Harold Mobley ('71) win the Valparaiso University Alumni Achievement Award, and alumni members also spent time with the current undergraduate chapter celebrating the past and providing insight for a successful future.



Hoping to continue this history of success, the men of Phi Sigma Kappa have hit the ground running this fall. Phi Sigma Kappa hosted the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Pizzathon, and raised over \$400 for Reins of Life, an organization that provides therapeutic horseback riding to children with disabilities. The annual Phi Sig's "4-Play Concert Series" also grew this fall. Four bands that have played venues such as the "House of Blues" performed in the Harre Union to raise money for Phi Sigma Kappa's national philanthropy, Special Olympics. The concert more than doubled the previous year's attendance and raised more than \$500 for Special Olympics. The men hope to continue both event's explosive growth into next year.

As a part of Phi Sigma Kappa's mission to better the community, brothers enthusiastically participated in the annual Valparaiso University Day of Caring. The men of Phi Sigma Kappa volunteered at the Lakeshore Paws Animal Shelter, and hope to continue to volunteer with the animals in the year ahead.

## Sharing the Good News

### College of Arts & Sciences Lumina Awards

On October 19, 2014, students from the Valparaiso University College of Arts and Sciences were recognized with a Lumina Award. The Lumina Award is presented to students who have completed 84 credits at Valparaiso University and whose cumulative grade point average is 3.75 or higher.

The following members of the Valparaiso University fraternity and sorority community received a Lumina Award this year:



Monica Albers, ΓΦΒ  
Avery Blackburn, ΓΦΒ  
Alexandra Elisha, ΧΩ  
Andrew Frasure, ΣΧ  
Erin Harrington, ΧΩ  
Grace Keller, ΧΩ

Elizabeth Meyer, ΚΚΓ  
William Olson, ΦΚΨ  
Ryan Piaskowy, ΣΧ  
Puttipong Pongtanapaisan, ΦΜΑ  
Melissa Rink, ΚΚΓ  
Alexander Uryga, ΦΔΘ  
Garrett Warren, ΣΧ



Have a story to share in the next issue of *The Phota*?

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