

# THE PHOTA



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



Above: President Heckler and Assistant Dean Carrie Whittier participated in the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge with the men of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and the women of Chi Omega!



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 31: *Student Leadership Conference*

September 1: *Fraternity Grand Chapter, 9pm*

September 2: *Sorority Grand Chapter, 9pm*

September 3: *Joint President and IFC/Panhellenic E-Board Meeting at 8:15 pm*

September 4: *Academic Resource Fair 4pm*

September 7: *Sigma Pi Amazing Day*

September 7: *Phi Sigma Kappa Pizza Eating Contest*

## The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge Hits Valpo

The Facebook phenomenon of the #ALSIceBucketChallenge has hit Valparaiso University, and the Fraternity and Sorority community has been excited to participate. Chapters have been challenging one another, chapter advisors have been in on the challenges, and most recently the President of the University and the Assistant Dean of Students also participated. The ALS Ice Bucket Challenge order has included:

- Phi Sigma Kappa challenged Carrie Whittier
- Sigma Pi challenged Kappa Delta, Kappa Kappa Gamma and Carrie Whittier
- Sigma Phi Epsilon challenged Phi Kappa Psi, Pi Beta Phi and President Heckler
- Pi Beta Phi challenged Kappa Kappa Gamma and Phi Mu Alpha
- Kappa Kappa Gamma challenged Sigma Chi and IFC/Panhellenic
- Kappa Delta challenged Sigma Chi and Chi Omega
- Carrie Whittier challenged Phi Delta Theta and Dance Marathon
- President Heckler challenged Lambda Chi Alpha
- Chi Omega challenged Gamma Phi Beta
- Gamma Phi Beta challenged the Recruitment Counselors

Lambda Chi Alpha, Phi Delta Theta, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia are all scheduled to complete their #ALSIceBucketChallenge in the next few days!

ALS is the national philanthropy of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity, and the ALS Ice Bucket Challenge has raised more than \$100 million in the last month alone. Valpo fraternities and sororities are proud to have been a part of the efforts to raise funds and awareness!

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# Chapter Spotlight:

## Sigma Chi Fraternity

Sigma Chi at Valparaiso University has had an eventful summer at its national leadership conferences. First, Brother Ben Hoemann was invited by the Crossroads committee to provide feedback to the development of the Sigma Chi Crossroads program. Crossroads is a national program developed by Sigma Chi to prevent alcohol and drug abuse. Brother Hoemann's insight will help the committee positively develop its program.

Junior brothers Austin Davis and Aaron Hallenberg were chosen by the national Sigma Chi organization to attend Horizons. Horizons is a week-long leadership retreat in the mountains of Utah. It focuses particularly on developing individual leadership skills within each of its participants. Brother Davis states, "Sigma Chi and Horizons helped me understand what kind of leader I am while giving me the greatest experience of my life thus far." Brother Hallenberg adds, "It was an experience you can't find anywhere else. It was an amazing opportunity to learn about myself and how I can make this world a better place through Sigma Chi." Sigma Chi at Valparaiso University expects great things from brothers Davis and Hallenberg as they continue in their Sigma Chi career.



Austin Davis (above) and Aaron Hallenberg (below) in Utah for the Horizons program



Finally, many members of the Executive Committee attended the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, or BLTW, this summer. The 2014 BLTW was held in late July at Ball State University. Unlike in years past, where individual officers met with other similar officers from around the country, this year our own chapter had much more time to develop its plan for the academic year. This new Workshop system will help us here at Valparaiso University develop attainable and ambitious goals for the academic year.

Our Consul, Benjamin Crowe, states, "Balfour Leadership Training Workshop was a great experience for our chapter this summer. It gave our Executive Committee the opportunity to work, plan, and have fun together while learning about many new ways that our chapter can improve and continue striving for excellence. We are also very grateful to have won a Petersen Significant Chapter Award for our achievements this past year, and we are already building on that this fall."

Sigma Chi at Valparaiso University hopes to have another successful year on campus. We will continue to seek excellence in the classroom, dedicate ourselves to philanthropy, and develop strong bonds of brotherhood. We look forward to a great academic year.



### Sharing the Good News

The Valparaiso University Kappa Kappa Gamma chapter received Honorable Mention for their New Member Program this summer at the Kappa Kappa Gamma national Convention in Houston, Texas!



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

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