

# THE PHOTA



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

## Valpo Welcomes the Class of 2019



Valparaiso University welcomed more than 900 new students to campus this August! Fraternity and sorority members were a part of more than 300 volunteers that assisted with Freshman Move-In on August 22, 2015. The fraternity and sorority community partnered with the Valparaiso University Football Team, Campus Ministries, New Student Orientation Staff, Residence Life and a few other student organizations to welcome new students and their families.



From 8:00 am to 1:00 pm, move-in day volunteers would unload cars and move all of the items of the new students into their residence hall room. Parents expressed their great appreciation for all of the assistance from the move-in volunteers, and the volunteers had the opportunity to meet new students and welcome them to the Valparaiso University family!

The welcoming of new students to campus continued through a full schedule of Welcome Week events for which fraternity and sorority members have been active participants. Hosting the annual Meet the Greeks event as well as participating in the Student Activities Fair, first year students have had the opportunity to learn more about the opportunities fraternity and sorority membership provide.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 5: *Phi Sigma Kappa Pizza-thon*

September 6: *Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Chris Patterson Memorial Music Festival*

September 7: *Labor Day (classes in session)*

September 10: *Academic Resource Fair*

September 12: *Popcorn Festival*

September 25-27: *Homecoming 2015*

To cap off Welcome Week, fraternity and sorority students served as Team Leaders for the Welcome Week Service Project at the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. More than 75 first year students participated in the service project helping to eradicate invasive species from the Dunes National Park. Following the service project, the tradition of Dunes Day with great success!



# Chapter Spotlight:

## Phi Sigma Kappa

The Valparaiso University chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa Fraternity received several recognitions at the Phi Sigma Kappa National Convention this summer. The chapter received the Herbert L. Brown Outstanding Chapter Award, which is the highest award that the national fraternity bestows on a collegiate chapter.

In addition, Jacob Defassio was awarded the Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award from the national fraternity. He has now been recognized by both Valparaiso University and the Grand Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa for his outstanding advisement of the chapter.



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## #ReThinkGreek Campaign

Our campus is very excited to be participating in a radical national marketing campaign to shape the future of fraternities and sororities. Targeting unexpected students who value a modern approach to fraternity and sorority life. Check out [www.ReThinkGreek.com](http://www.ReThinkGreek.com)! This is a really big deal! We're one of dozens of campuses across North America participating in this national marketing campaign.

With all the negative media about fraternities and sororities this past year, we want to proactively shape a positive fraternity and sorority life story. That story is inclusive of everyone, targeted to high performing student leaders, and built by experienced marketers who have helped fraternity and sorority life grow for over a decade.

Here's how you can participate!

- FOLLOW [@ReThinkGreek](https://twitter.com/ReThinkGreek) on Twitter
- LIKE [ReThinkGreek](https://www.facebook.com/ReThinkGreek) on Facebook
- SHARE anything you see tagged with **#ReThinkGreek** or **#AvoidAverage** by the Valpo Fraternity and Sorority Life social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube)



The story of this campaign is kind of cool. It was started by undergraduates at Belmont University several years ago and it was recently relaunched as this big national marketing campaign.

Now we get to participate! We have the opportunity to help high performing students on our campus “rethink” the opportunities fraternity and sorority life has to offer. We can help them “AVOID AVERAGE” in college, and get connected with organizations like ours which provide powerful life-changing experiences.



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

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