

## Phi Psi Alumni Tailgate Club Is a Success

The visibility and activity surrounding our tailgate operation resulted in more alumni stopping by the chapter house during football season, which greatly enhanced the game-day atmosphere for our actives, alumni, and guests. Back by popular demand, we are proud to announce the fraternity is once again offering alumni reserved tent space for tailgating on the front lawn nearest the Phi Delta Theta house. Our tailgating experience provides a great opportunity for alumni to have a reserved tailgating area to socialize with friends and families before and after every home football game.



### The Phi Psi Alumni Tailgate experience includes:

- one 10 x 10 tent with eight tailgating chairs and one six-foot folding table
- one parking space for each tent space reserved in the fraternity parking lot
- use of adjacent 20 x 40 tent with two big screen high-definition televisions and seating for game watching
- a meal for eight served in the fraternity courtyard before the game (additional meals can be purchased for \$10)
- drink table with water coolers in the large tent
- fans to help cool down on those hot and humid game days
- labor to set up and break down your tailgating area
- security for your tent during the game

The tailgating experience is offered for a \$2,500 donation for the season to the House Corporation, and a portion of proceeds will help support the chapter's summer recruitment efforts. For 2009 we were able to support the chapter with **\$11,125** allocated directly for summer recruitment expenses.

During this past summer, with the help of Mark Dixon (Alumni Advisor for Recruitment), we financially supported two undergraduates, Ben Beutel and James Stewart, to focus full-time on summer recruitment. They made phone calls to almost every incoming male freshman/transfer

student, and held open houses for rushees and their parents the first night of every Bama Bound orientation session. At each of the open houses we had undergraduates, our housemother, and at least one alumni present. These open houses contributed greatly to the chapter's rush success. This effort resulted in a large number of visitors, both students and parents, to the Phi Psi House. They also held several recruitment events at Jay's lake house, and took a group to a Braves game in Atlanta. Our recruitment effort led to the largest pledge class ever for Alabama Alpha, with a total of 29 pledges. This past summer's recruitment efforts would not have been possible without the financial support of the Phi Psi Alumni Tailgate Club. This source of revenue, allowed us to implement the most comprehensive summer recruitment program in our chapter's history. With the experience gained from last summer, we think our recruitment program can be even more successful this summer.

With continued support from the Tailgate Club, we plan to allocate more than **\$12,000** for our summer recruitment program. This money will go to cover the expenses of having two undergraduate brothers working full-time on recruitment throughout the summer. It will also cover their housing and other living expenses. We also plan to expand the number of recruitment events. Similar to the Braves game trip that we held last summer, we want to have more events around the state and in other areas around the Southeast. **If you would be willing to host an event, please contact Mark Dixon (Alumni Advisor for Recruitment) at [mdixon@usrhealthcare.com](mailto:mdixon@usrhealthcare.com) or (615) 828-0538.**

The following is a list of the tailgate tent captains who participated in the Tailgate Club in 2009:

- Jay Masingill (2 tents) (86)
- Mark Dixon (217)
- Tom Gunter (111)
- Dennis Cameron (2 tents) (136)
- James Webb (404)
- David Williams (110)
- Ed Lowery (2 tents) (122)
- Tommy Stephens (526)

We can't list everyone who participated in the Tailgate Club, but we greatly appreciate your participation, which contributed greatly to the growth and success the chapter has achieved over the past year. We would like to expand the tailgate by a couple of tents this year, so if you know of anyone who might like to participate please let us know. If we could expand our alumni participation by a couple of tents this year, we could increase summer recruitment support to at least **\$15,000**.

Once you secure a tent, you are guaranteed a reserved tent spot the following season, as long as you reapply with your payment by this year's deadline of June 1. If you have an interest in receiving an email invitation to participate in the 2010 tailgate, please contact Jay Masingill at [jay@ogb.state.al.us](mailto:jay@ogb.state.al.us) (205) 792-0599. Jay will be happy to assist you in securing a tent, or if you are interested in sharing a tent with other alumni he will assist you in locating other alumni with similar interest.