Greek Life Gives Back

By: Alexandra Kokkinos

Monmouth University participates in The BIG Event annually, which is a fun-filled day of community service every October where locals get together to service the community. SGA is responsible for this event, and Greek Life got involved this semester.

On October 17th, 2009 every fraternity and sorority participated, each sending several members to one or two locations where they volunteered their services of lending a hand doing projects to any of the six local communities that needed help. ZTA was sent to two locations – where they donated their time to painting, cleaning, and planting.

Katy McChesney, a member of ZTA, felt “so rewarded to be able to give back to the community.” In fact, many girls were inspired by this event to continue to give back. Kat Youngworth wants to “find ways to donate more time to the Boys and Girls Club,” that she volunteered at.

Overall, the event was a complete success. All of Greek Life enjoyed this event, which gave them a chance to give back to the community. We are all looking forward to participating again next fall.

Phi Sigma Sigma’s “Monmouth Idol”

By: Rebecca Lynn Turner

Phi Sigma Sigma held their annual Monmouth Idol on October 14, 2009 to benefit the National Kidney Foundation. This year, tickets sold out to the event that highlights the talents of Monmouth University students. Phi Sigma Sigma’s Agnes Kim hosted Monmouth Idol alongside Michael Donza of Phi Sigma Kappa. By the end of the evening, $2,123.00 was raised for Phi Sigma Sigma’s philanthropy.

Third prize, 5 free tanning sessions at Tiki Tan along with a gift certificate to Scala’s, went to Dave Barlow and Nick Grimaldi of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Second place, one month of tanning and a gift certificate to Surf Taco, went to Jeff Brady of the Monmouth University football team. Rachel Wilson, a sister of Delta Phi Epsilon, took first prize winning a $200 gift certificate to Mosaic salon, three months of tanning, and a meal for two at Turning Point. Thank-you to everyone who came out to support Phi Sigma Sigma and the National Kidney Foundation!
Tyler’s Tips

As we have put the Halloween season behind us, it’s time to start looking forward to the Holiday season that includes many Thanksgiving, Christmas, and the New Year celebrations. We all enjoy the time off from work and studies as well as the time to relax and unwind to get ready for the next semester. Unfortunately, we tend to unwind in some unsafe ways. The holiday season tends to see an increase in fatalities due to the use of alcohol. “In 2004, between Thanksgiving and New Year’s Eve, 1,316 (37.5 percent) of a total 3,511 traffic fatalities were alcohol related,” (About.com: Alcoholism). There are some things that you can do to ensure that your holiday season is a safe and happy one: Monitor what you are putting into your body. Remember that a shot of alcohol is the same concentration as one bottle of beer. So if you are having that Long Island Iced-Tea while you are out, you are not having one drink, you are having about five. It takes approximately one hour for the body to process one drink. If you alternate an alcoholic drink with a non-alcoholic drink while you are out, it will give the body time to process some of the alcohol. Appoint a designated driver for the evening. If you are planning on going out with a group, have someone who is not drinking do the driving. Many times a bar will provide free soda to a person who designated his/herself the driver for the group. Put the phone number of a local cab company in your cell phone before going out. If you aren’t going to designate a driver for the night, be proactive in getting home safe. Have some extra cash put in a spot in your wallet or purse just for the cab ride home. Most importantly, please take care of yourself and your brothers and sisters. We want everyone to have a safe and happy holiday season. We also want everyone back and well rested for a busy spring semester. For other ideas on how you can be safe this holiday season, contact Suanne Schaad, Substance Awareness Coordinator, at sschaad@monmouth.edu.

By: Alexandra Kokkinos

The Think Pink Volleyball Tournament was hosted Saturday October 10th, 2009 at Monmouth University in the Boylan Gym. This tournament was organized by Zeta Tau Alpha on behalf of their philanthropy, Breast Cancer Awareness and Education. The success of the event benefited all of Monmouth University’s Greek Life and, of course, Breast Cancer. ZTA raised about $1,000 for Breast Cancer, which is double what was raised last year’s event. This annual tournament had weeks of preparation in order to make sure it was a success. Kait Redy and Alie Kokkinos, ZTA’s fundraising co-chairs, worked twenty-four-seven to make sure this event went well. For the past two weeks Zetas have been sitting outside of the student center handing out pink ribbons and pink lollipops to all of Monmouth University’s faculty and students who were more than willing to donate. Each team who participated signed up during these days, and gave a donation to play as well. The day of the tournament the gym was decorated in all pink, the dj, Chris Spirito, was set up and the pizza and desserts provided by Sig Pi and ZTA were ready to be devoured. All of the teams arrived by 6pm and the tournament began. The games were exciting and fun. The women played on one court, while the men played on another. In the end there were two winning teams one men’s (Sorebo) and one women’s (ZTA) who went home with prizes of over a hundred dollars worth of gift cards to local restaurants. Ultimately, the event was a huge success. The amount of dedication to Breast Cancer Education and Awareness was overwhelming. ZTA is extremely proud of all of the hard work put into this event and of all of the donations received. Hopefully, next year will run just as smoothly, if not better.

Pictured Above: The men’s winning team, Sorebo and Zeta Tau Alpha.