



BLUE KEY

HONOR SOCIETY

"SERVING, I LIVE"

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CHAPTER HIGHLIGHTS NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2005

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Announcements - The annual Blue Key Leadership

Conference will be hosted by the Blue Key Chapter of the [University of Toledo](#) in Toledo Ohio on June 10-12, 2005. A copy of the agenda will be posted soon in the [Leadership Conference Section of the website](#).

Reminder: Effective July 1, 2004, the Blue Key Board of Directors set dues at **\$40 for new members**. This is a lifetime membership.

Graduation is coming up! Don't forget to order honor cords and medals for your graduating seniors. Take a look at <http://www.bluekey.org/merch.html> to see the available merchandise.

Blue Key Family

Please email the [webmaster](#) with any news, announcements or updates regarding your chapter so that they can be included in future editions of the newsletter.

Chapter Spotlight

The main purpose of this newsletter is to feature an outstanding Blue Key Chapter. Future newsletters will spotlight different Blue Key chapters from across the country to honor that chapter's achievements and hard work. We hope you enjoy learning how the Blue Key Chapter at Michigan Technological University contributes to campus life!

Michigan Technological University

Blue Key Chapter and Winter Carnival History

Michigan Technological University is a small school of around 6500 students located in Houghton, MI, in the pristine Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Houghton has an average annual snowfall of over 200 inches per year. This over abundance of snow led students in 1922 to start a celebration of the white fluffy stuff. This was the beginning of Winter Carnival. Winter Carnival started off as student organizations on campus held a one-day "Ice Carnival." The show was staged in a traditional circus-like setting. Events included band performances, student acts, and speed and figure skating competitions. For a few years, "Carnival", as most Tech students commonly refer to it, was so well received that students decided to make it an annual event. Over the years, Carnival has grown and is now a 3-day long celebration, with 2 weeks of competition in Special Events beforehand. A two game intercollegiate hockey games was added, a parade (which was discontinued), fireworks, a torchlight parade, and numerous special events.

In 1936 the biggest and most notable change to Carnival came with snow statues. Over the years the statues became famous for their size, detail, and design as building methods and “secrets” have been passed from year to year.

Winter Carnival has a variety of Special Events...

Broom Ball: a version of ice hockey where a ball is used as a puck and brooms are used instead of hockey sticks.

Human Ice Bowling: where a person is wheeled on a saucer towards large bowling pins.

The Beards Competition: it is the only indoor special event (not counting the events done in the skating arena). Participants are given almost two months to grow a full beard, a mustache-goatee, or sideburns.

Curling

Ice Fishing Tournament

Human Dog Sled

X Country Skiing

Ice Skating

Downhill Skiing

Snowboarding

Winter Carnival also has a Queen's competition, where girls compete with talent, short answer questions, and overall impression (among many other qualities). The main attraction of Winter Carnival is the all-nighter... where on Wednesday night the entire community comes out and walks the campus and streets of Houghton admiring the completion of the snow statues, enjoying live music and student groups vending. On Thursday student groups perform in a Stage Revue. This is a chance for students to express yet another side of their creativity, where they work for months on writing, building and perfecting their performances. On Friday and Saturday, many of the community come out to enjoy the Intercollegiate Hockey series. Finally on Saturday night the weekend of fun is wrapped up with a fireworks display, torchlight parade, and a dance.

Blue Key has sponsored Winter Carnival since 1934. The responsibilities of Blue Key range from the organization, planning, funding, and overseeing every aspect of Winter Carnival to make sure everyone has an enjoyable experience. Winter Carnival has become so well known around the upper Midwest and with alumni that hotel rooms are usually booked a year in advance within a 60 mile radius of Houghton. About 6000 tourists come and enjoy the festivities every year and bring a tremendous economic impact to the small community.

Michigan Technological University Blue Key Members:



Back row (left to right): Megan Rose, Kelly Wesemann, Matt Alisch, Travis Hansen, Tom Thornton, Todd Anderson, Grand McAdams, Tim LaBonte

3rd row (left to right): Spencer Kelly, Jenell Beardsley, Archita Sivakumar, Maribeth Powers, Natalie Flynn, Ashleigh Hope, Hang Kim Do, Kyle Kirkish

2nd row (left to right): Darren Perttu, Danielle Ladwig, Jen Nelson, Jessica Dessellier, Cathy Waisanen, Mark Callow, Laura Walikainen, Crystal Strait

1st row (left to right): Brian Reath, Brian Wardman, Eric Krause, Rob DeMarte, Emily Braun, Lisa Thiry, Jason Phillips

Missing: Jack Blundell, Derek Dehn, Blake Fecteau, Brent Fogal, Josh Lepinski, Jon Machnacki, Amanda McKenna, Colin Meisel, Kim Segal, Shaunna Turner, Mike Vance

Blue Key Committees 2004-2005

President: Mark Callow
Vice President: Jen Nelson
Treasurer: Jessica Dessellier
Secretary: Cathy Waisanen

Committee	Chairperson(s)	Members
Community Liaison/ Publicity	Kelly Wesemann	Amanda McKenna (Fall co-op) Derek Dehn (Fall co-op) Jack Blundell Hang Kim Do Brian Reath Kim Segal Crystal Strait

Funding & Awards	Danielle Ladwig	Matt Alisch Jenell Beardsley Archita Sivakumar Tom Thornton
Queens	Emily Braun	Jason Phillips Lisa Thiry
Special Events	Blake Fecteau Spencer Kelly	Ashleigh Hope Jonathan Machnacki Kyle Kirkish Eric Krause Josh Lepinski Colin Meisel Shaunna Turner
Stage Revue	Laura Walikainen	Rob Demarte Natalie Flynn Grant McAdams
Statues	Megan Rose Brian Wardman	Tim LaBonte Mike Vance (Fall Co-op) Brent Fogal (Year Co-Op) Todd Anderson Travis Hansen Darren Perttu Maribeth Powers

Pictures of Historic Winter Carnival Statues

These pictures will allow you to get a grasp of the size and how much detail work the patronages and participants of Winter Carnival put into the statues.



Mississippi River Ferry Boats



Historic Town-like setting (Saloon)



Old Shipping Shop (note windows are actually solid sheets of ice that are etched to give them their appearance)



Snow Statue Under Construction



Irons are used to smooth the snow structures over and spoons fired by hand held torches are used to detail the statues out.



Re-creation of a Medieval Bar

Mark your calendar! The dates of Winter Carnival 2006 are February 8-12, 2006! Visit Michigan Technological University's Blue Key website to view more pictures from Winter Carnival at www.mtu.edu/carnival.