



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Members of the Crimson Key Society,

As wintry winds whipped the newly bare tree branches, and while Harvard Football reached its first back-to-back Ivy League championship since 1983, the Crimson Key Society gathered in celebration of its 60th Anniversary. It was a pleasure to see so many alumni back on campus and I was honored to have the chance to meet so many of you. As I did so, I was constantly reminded that despite Crimson Key's evolution over its sixty years of existence, in many ways we haven't changed at all. Our membership has always been comprised of an incredibly dynamic and inspiring group of people, and it remains as such today.

In addition to our Anniversary event, our regular fall activities have been as strong as ever. Beginning in September with Freshman Week, and followed by Freshmen Parents' weekend in November, Crimson Key received warm feedback from the students, their parents, and Harvard administration. We have also initiated two more alumni-focused efforts this semester. Firstly, we are working with the Harvard Alumni Association to welcome Harvard alumni back to campus—a perfect project for Crimson Key! Secondly, on a note that is perhaps more relevant to you, I am proud to announce the creation of the Crimson Key Society Alumni Association, which you can find more information about in this edition of Keystone.

As I prepare to pass the torch to a new president and a new board, I have come to appreciate my time in Crimson Key in a new way. The opportunity to spend time with such an amazing group of people has been an absolute delight. I trust that many of you still feel the same way and as a soon-to-be alumnus I trust that Crimson Key will be in good hands for many years to come.

I hope you enjoy this edition of Keystone.

Happy Holidays!  
Timur Kalimov '09

## NEW INITIATIVES

### Alumni Association

Sixty years ago, a small group of intrepid undergrads took on the ultimate University service mission: showing prospective students and entering freshmen that yes... Harvard students can be gregarious, enthusiastic and socially adept. Sixty years, countless ice cream bashes, Junior Parents' weekends and Key initiations later, we are proud to announce the official launch of the Crimson Key Society Alumni Association (CKSAA)!

Our preliminary goals for the CKSAA are simple: to continue to connect Crimson Key's award winning personalities, professions, and pursuits for years after graduation, so that every week of our lives can be as great as Freshman Week. We plan to have an up-to-date online database of all CKS alumni, quarterly bar events, annual dinners, and yes, maybe the occasional alumni *Love Story* Screening. We'd like to start in New York City and expand from there. For those of you in college, look forward to staying connected with the CKS and our dynamic members long after your last dramatic performance of the three lies of the John Harvard statue.

Alumni, we need your info! Please send your name, class year, post or permanent email address, occupation and city of residence to [cksalums@gmail.com](mailto:cksalums@gmail.com). Please also send us any ideas or suggestions. Why is the chair smiling? Because this is going to be awesome.

Much Key Love,

Oliver Barrett IV, CKSAA General Counsel  
The Lady in Blue, CKSAA Party Tsar

And your inaugural CKSAA Board of Directors...

Jon Gruber ('02)  
Tabby George ('03)  
Erin Sprague ('05)  
Maya Simon ('06)  
Tim Kalimov ('09)

Brian Hayes ('03)  
Pete Giordano ('04)  
Lindsey Gary ('06)  
Allison Keavey ('07)

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



Alumni Hugo Van Vuuren, Renny Little, & Dean of Freshmen Tom Dingman celebrate Crimson Key's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

## All in the Family

Becoming a part of Crimson Key is like joining a family—for some people, literally.

Amelia Muller '11 joined Key last spring, following in the footsteps of her sister, Allidah Muller '05. "I was happy with my extracurricular choices during the fall of my freshman year," Amelia says, "But I didn't feel like I was meeting a lot of new people through them." She knew that Crimson Key provided opportunities to get involved at Harvard and to become friends with an interesting and diverse group of people.

Allidah thought Amelia was a fit for Key, but she didn't push her younger sister to the organization: "Allidah didn't even have to encourage me to comp during my freshman spring—I already wanted to," Amelia says.

For Robby Kirkham '10, his brother's experiences as an undergrad in Crimson Key shaped his perception of the organization and his decision to join. "My brother told me a lot about his experiences with Key and it sounded like a lot of fun," says Robby. "I also really wanted to be a part of welcoming the incoming class to Harvard during freshman week."

His brother, John Kirkham '01 attributes some sibling bonding to the shared experience of Key. The two met up following freshman week this year—after Robby had been dutifully practicing his lines for the annual showing of *Love Story*. "I hadn't seen the movie in years," says John, "But I immediately started to remember some of the big lines, like, 'Sirap...Jenny always wanted to go to Sirap—ohh!'"

But although some aspects of Key have remained constant, Allidah and John can trace the changes the organization has undergone through the eyes of their siblings. Along with having grown in size, John notes the development of Crimson Key's role on campus, and the Mullers echo his sentiment.

"From staffing Al Gore's sustainability speech to providing volunteers for an alumni association weekend, Crimson Key is constantly expanding its reach across campus and growing its reputation with the administration," says Amelia. "My impression from comparing our Crimson Key experiences is that Key plays a much broader role in university events today."

For some older generations of Key members, the changes have been even more extreme. Rufus W. Peebles '61, J.D. '64 was President of Crimson Key in 1960-61, before the organization included women. His daughter, Mariah Peebles '09, sought out Key before she even knew her father had been among its ranks. Mariah recalls getting into Key and sharing the news with her dad: "I told him about it and he was like, 'Oh yeah, I was President of that.'"

-Emma Lind '09, Tour Coordinator

## CRIMSON KEY GIFT FUND

### Benefactors of CKS (\$250-\$499)

Charles Cordray

### Sponsors of CKS (\$100-\$249)

David & Pearl Alberts

Joseph Cronin

Howard Filston

Stephen Koster

Frank Pastor

Marvin N. Bagwell

Charles & Suzanne Feinning

David & Roberta Harrison

Kenneth & Mary Mac Cormack

Richard Tompkins

### Friends of CKS (up to \$100)

Antonio Rossman

Crimson Key would also like to extend our thanks to those alumni patrons of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reception in November.

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Patrons:

Brian Hayes

Mireya Nadal & Joseph Ronayne

Barney & Temple Schauble

Richard Horowitz

Peter Lindenfelser

Matthew Woodward

To make a tax-deductible donation to Crimson Key, please make checks payable to Harvard University with "Crimson Key Society" in the memo line, and mail to:

Crimson Key Society

Student Organization Center at Hilles

59 Shepard St. Box# 34

Cambridge, MA 02138

All donations will go toward future issues of Keystone and the new Crimson Key website and guidebook. Donors will be recognized in the next issue of Keystone and in the new edition of the Crimson Key Guidebook.

Thank you in advance for your support!

Matt Bresnahan '09, Treasurer

## Freshman Week: By the Numbers

85 Members of Crimson Key Society

88 Arrival Day Shifts

10 Days of Freshman "Week"

497 Shifts Filled

1000 Balloons

27 Small Social Events

702 Love Story Tickets sold

17 Pairs of Bell-bottoms worn

10 Talent Show Acts (1 Winner!)

29 Songs at the A Cappella Jam

>1000 First Chance Dancers

20 Dodgeballs at the Freshman Olympics

2016 Scoops of Ice Cream served

1,674 Welcomed members of the Class of 2012

-Ana Gantman '10 & Brian Fithian '10

Freshman Week Coordinators