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# Topeka Jayhawk Club

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## WORLD FAMOUS ROCK CHALK CHANT #1

Bleacher Report, (a sports entertainment Internet site) columnist Alex Callos ranked the top coolest football sayings and wrote this about KU's "The chant may be even better at basketball games, but it is also goose-bump-worthy at football games." Part of Kansas Athletics tradition for more than 100 years, the Rock Chalk Chant was first followed by Notre Dame's Play Like a Champion, Oklahoma's Boomer Sooner, Alabama's Roll Tide, and Marshall's We Are Marshall.

#### HISTORY OF THE ROCK CHALK CHANT

The Rock Chalk Chant has been the battle cry of KU fans for over 100 years. This strange, traditional chant, which is among the most famous of all college cheers, was started by E.H.S. Bailey, a professor of chemistry.

Bailey wanted a cheer for his Science Club. Returning from a convention in Wichita, Bailey and some associates patterned the yell after the rhythmic cadence of their train rolling along the tracks. On May 21, 1886, Bailey submitted the cheer to his club. Originally, the chant was "Ray, Rah, Jay Hawk, K.U." repeating the words three times. This yell was used by the science club the next year and there were frequent allusions to "The Science Club Yell" in the student newspapers.

An English professor suggested that "Rock Chalk" be substituted for "Rah, Rah" because it rhymed with Jayhawk and because it would be symbolic of the chalky limestone formations found on Mount Oread.

The chant was adopted as the college yell after the state oratorical contest in Topeka in 1886 because KU student yells for the their winners were enthusiastic, but unorganized. By the Fall of 1887 the yell was know as the offical yell of the school as the student newspaper reported on November 4, 1887,

"Every college of importance in this country has a college cry. In every town in which a college is situated, the midnight air resounds with the hideous yells of the student, symbolic of victory, defeat, or devilment. The students of the University of Kansas use their yell but little and it is only amidst great victory that "Rock-chalk-Jay-Hawk, K-U-U-U floats through out the midnight air reminding one of a band of Apache Indians."

By 1889 the form of the cheer had changed to the drawn-out cadence repeated twice, followed by three staccato repetitions.

-kuathletics.com

### **HOW CAN I GET MORE INVOLVED?**

The Board of Directors is comprised of anyone in the TJC who is interested in serving and becoming involved. They are hard working volunteers managing and assisting at any of the various events we plan, serving as an officer, and offering valuable input into any number of issues and ideas that concern the TJC and its 1500+ members (700+

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Volunteers who worked particularly hard are our presidents:

1994-1996Dan Ramberg1997-1999Larry Tenopir2000-2002Otto Schnellbacher2003Dallas Power2004-2005Pat Maxon2006-2007Justin Glasgow2008-2010Kathleen Hickert2011-PresentDusty Wagoner

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of every month in the basement of the McCrite Plaza Retirement Community, 1608 SE 37th St, at 5:30PM. Everyone is welcome. You can ask any board member or call our president if you are interested in becoming a board member.

#### RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP FOR CALENDAR YEAR

Around November 1<sup>st</sup> renewal application forms will be sent to each household for renewal of your 2013 membership. If you are a multi-year member you will not receive one.

For your convenience, ten dates have been scheduled at Fairlawn Mall on which you can renew, pick up your membership gift, and receive your FREE basketball poster:

Saturday	11/24/12	10AM-Noon	Wednesday	01/02/12	5PM-7PM
Wednesday	11/28/12	5PM-7PM	Saturday	01/12/13	10AM-Noon
Wednesday	12/05/12	5PM-7PM	Saturday	01/19/13	10AM-Noon
Saturday	12/15/12	10AM-Noon	Saturday	02/09/13	10AM-Noon
Saturday	12/22/12	I0AM-Noon	Saturday	02/16/13	I0AM-Noon

Two and three year members who do not need to renew this year will still have to pick up their membership gift and basketball poster.

We will also be at some Hawk Watches and at the Bill Self/Bonnie Henrickson luncheon later this year. (Dates will be announced later.)

## **BITS & BEAKS**

Congratulations to Coach Bill Self who will be awarded the John R. Wooden Award's "Legends of Coaching" honor in 2013.

Congratulations to Wayne Simien, Bud Stallworth and David Jaynes who were selected to be Inducted into the Kansas Sports Hall of Fame .

This year's Roundball luncheon has been scheduled by KU for Wednesday November 7th. We will send out more info as soon as we receive it from KU.

Click on the "Hawk Face" on the front page to download pumpkin templates for Halloween!