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Syosset, NY

Patrick Coleman '12
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Westport, CT



The Phi Phi Review



www.PhiPhiClub.com

Phi Phi Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho • University of Pennsylvania • Philadelphia, Pa. • Spring 2009

ALUMNI REPORT

AXP Plays a Significant Part in All of our Lives

Alumni Support Ensures our Continued Legacy at Penn, Active Communications Program

By John Hawkins '93

I was really moved by something that Brother **Robert White '66** recently said:

"I greatly benefited from the personal, social and brotherly contacts which AXP has brought to me, both at Penn and since then. It has played a significant part in my entire life and growth. That's why I support the annual fund."

"I greatly benefited from the personal, social and brotherly contacts which AXP has brought to me, both at Penn and since then."

As a volunteer, it's great to be reminded that my efforts support something that is still meaningful to my fellow alumni. And it means more than a mere "thank you" can express when

brothers like Bob (and the other 41 donors to our annual fund so far this year) put their money where their heart is with a financial gift.

The Honor Roll on page 2 recognizes the loyal donors who have contributed to the 2008-09 annual fund, which began September 1. We'd like to see that list grow! We realize that economic times are tough, but what would happen to Phi Phi Club if no one chose to support it this year? Ensure the continuation of our alumni club and communications program by making an annual fund donation.

If your AXP experience was and still is meaningful to you, follow Bob's lead: join him on the Honor Roll of Donors before the giving year ends August 31. Send a donation today along with the enclosed form.

CHAPTER REPORT

Phi Phi Brothers Succeed in Campus and Community Activities

So far this spring, our newly-elected officers have done a fine job leading the brotherhood. We are currently in the process of educating our newest postulants under the guidance of illustrious brother **Dan Neves**.

The brothers of Alpha Chi Rho have also been very active in the University community. Sophomore **Alex Kalish** just finished a very successful season for the Penn swim team. At the last match of the season, against Big 5 rival LaSalle, Alex finished first in both the 500- and 1000-yard freestyle to help the Quakers beat the Explorers to finish the season on a high note. The brothers wish Alex and the rest of the swim team the best of luck in the ECAC

Championships coming up on February 27th.

Evan Carabelli served as co-captain of the club soccer team, which finished in the top 25 in the country the past two years. He is also involved with the West Philly Tutoring project. **Trey Reece** was also recently elected as vice president of new member recruitment for the IFC.

Also, brothers **Daniel Miller** and **Danny Katz**, as well as Bharat Kuncham (the latest addition to the coaching staff) have once again volunteered their time to coach youth basketball in West Philadelphia. With their teams usually finishing well, the three of them are hoping to take home the championship to dear old Alpha Chi this year.

FUNDRAISING

Why Do You Support the Annual Fund?

We hope that you greatly benefited from your AXP experience when you were an undergraduate. As an alumnus, please consider paying that experience forward for future generations by making financial contributions to the annual fund. Without alumni support, Phi Phi could not continue its legacy at Penn.

As of February 16, we have raised \$4,160 to the annual fund. Help us to exceed last year's total of \$10,625 by making a contribution before the giving year ends

August 31. See the enclosed form for details.

We asked a few donors why they support the annual fund. Here is what they had to say...

"Because I'm a brother! That relationship didn't end when I graduated."

- **Byron Connell '63**

"Ours is one of the last, maybe the very last, independently-owned fraternity houses at

Penn. As an undergraduate, maintaining our independence was important to me and today, as an alumnus, it remains important to me. Without alumni support through the annual fund, Phi Phi's continued independence would be in peril. To lose that would be to lose something precious. We owe it to current and future undergraduate brothers to give what we can to maintain the unique Phi Phi experience at Penn."

- **Mark Coogan '83**

2008-09 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Thank you to the following alumni for making donations to the 2008-09 annual fund, which began September 1.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|------|--------------------------|------|------------------------|------|
| William Craemer Jr. | 1938 | Byung Chan Simeon Park | 1959 | Thomas A. McCarthy Jr. | 1978 |
| Harry J. Crosson Jr. | 1940 | Stanley T. Szczurek Jr. | 1960 | Wayne S. Firsty | 1985 |
| William J. Crosson | 1942 | Lloyd H. Winter Jr. | 1960 | Richard D. Ing | 1985 |
| William R. Cooper | 1946 | Harry J. Stuart | 1965 | Martin D. Isaac | 1985 |
| J. Richard Chase | 1947 | Richard M. Donner | 1968 | Peter A. Stevens | 1988 |
| Robert J. Gilford | 1950 | G. Donald Allen | 1970 | Russell D. Blumer | 1992 |
| Arthur C. Staib Jr. | 1951 | Michael J. Karpinski Jr. | 1970 | Matthew R. Couture | 1992 |
| Charles C. Easton Jr. | 1952 | Fred P. Sanfilippo | 1970 | Matthew Gilroy | 1996 |
| Horace L. Kephart | 1952 | Donald R. Dinan | 1971 | Eduardo Briceno | 1998 |
| William T. Kvetkas Jr. | 1952 | John G. Kelly | 1971 | Deepak Kollali | 2004 |
| John Leferovich Jr. | 1953 | Ronald L. Miller | 1971 | | |
| Robert R. Gaudian | 1955 | Robert S. Goodwin | 1972 | | |
| Allen J. Staib | 1955 | Eric P. Robbins | 1976 | | |
| David J. Rosser Jr. | 1956 | Steven Arkin | 1977 | | |

Reflects gifts received as of February 16, 2009.

OLD PHOTO ALBUM

Help to Preserve Phi Phi's Past

We invite you to help preserve a piece of Alpha Chi Rho's history by submitting the best pictures and memories from your era for our archives. These submissions will be featured in future issues of *The Phi Phi Review* and online at www.phiphiclub.com.

Submit your stories and photos to our editors at content@affinityconnection.com (mention AXP at Penn in your message).

In this photo: The living room in the 1920s.



“The Camaraderie [at AXP] has Stayed the Same”

Rob Rosenbaum '90 Tells of how his Crow Experience has Shaped his Life and Why He Still Supports it Today

To **Rob Rosenbaum '90**, brotherhood means more than just remaining friends. It means “having a tie to people that eclipses; being family with people who aren't family,” which he says still holds true in his life today.

Rob had not always had his sights set on the University of Pennsylvania. After looking at a few other schools, he decided on Penn because he liked the programs the school had to offer.

His first year living in the dorms, he met a few guys that were members of Alpha Chi Rho. They invited him to several social functions at the house, which he gladly accepted. And although he checked out two or three additional fraternities on campus, in the end he chose Crow.

“It just seemed like a natural fit,” said Rob. “Alpha Chi Rho actually overlooks the campus green, so the location and the house itself were a good fit... the camaraderie, good sense of friendship, and just the brotherhood that was there drew me to join.”

“I support [the Phi Phi Club] because they supported me.”

For Rob, one of the most memorable times with the fraternity was after he had finished pledging. Being done and realizing he had completed the pledging process was a great experience.

“[Finally] getting through pledge week with the same people, who all went through the same experiences [was big],” he said. “You really don't know when you're done until you're done.”

Rob went on to live in the Crow house for the next three years. His sophomore year was the only year he had a roommate, **Josh Getzler '90**, with whom he still remains in contact today.

While he was at Penn, Rob studied the Biological Basis of Behavior, a mixture of biology and psychology. Although it was sometimes hard to manage the fun of the

fraternity and the work of school, Rob said it gave him a good balance.

“You know the saying: all work and no play make Jack a dull boy; well that is very true,” he said. “Having activities outside of school work helps you manage your time and wind down; you got to pick and choose which fraternity activities you really wanted to do so you would be motivated to get your work done.”

Rob also found time to play club hockey at Penn, which he enjoyed very much.

Being a member of AXP helped shape Rosenbaum for the future.

“The development of working with a group of people, dealing with different personalities, leadership...you take them with you,” he said. “Learning all of these things at a younger age really helped me throughout the rest of my career.”

After graduation, Rob went on to attend the Jefferson Medical School in Philadelphia. He is currently an Emergency Medicine Physician at the Christiana Care Health System. He works clinically in the level 1 trauma center. He is also the medical director of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for New Castle County.

“Emergency medicine is an evolving field of medicine and still [relatively] young,” he said. “[People] that need access to care, the way healthcare is now paid for, how people look for care; these things all wind down to emergency care.”

Rob also says the ability to think on his feet, which he learned from being a Crow brother, has greatly helped him in furthering his career path.

As for current brothers of Phi Phi, Rosenbaum wants them to realize that all jobs have stress, but it's within these times of stress that you realize you want to be there.

“Do something you love, you cannot be 'something for other people,’” he said. “Every job has stress [and] for everyone stress is different. You know you are in the right career when even on the worst day of that job, you'll still like what you are doing.”



Rob Rosenbaum '90 with his wife Jean and their three children.

He also encourages brothers and alumni to remain close to AXP after graduation and to strive to contribute to the Phi Phi Club and its facilities.

“I support [the Phi Phi Club] because they supported me,” he said. “Alumni need to help ensure that the upkeep of the house and basic maintenance are taken care of.”

And since he graduated in 1990, Rob says things haven't changed much between fraternity life then and now.

“Technology [may have] changed, but the camaraderie has stayed the same,” he said.

Rob is happily married to his wife Jean, who he met during his sophomore/junior summer at Penn. They have three beautiful children: an 8-year-old daughter, Lauren, a 6 ½-year-old son, Andrew and a 4-year-old daughter, Christina. Currently residing in Wilmington, Delaware, they spend their summers together at the Jersey shore. Rob enjoys spending his spare time playing tennis, both in a league and competitively.

And if Rob had to choose one word to describe his years as a brother in Alpha Chi Rho, he would simply call it “fantastic!”

ALUMNI UPDATES

'50s

Peter Sigmund '51

(137 Hendricks St., Ambler, PA 19002-5913; prsg@verizon.net) No golf for awhile because I am still recovering from a broken shoulder and humerus suffered while body surfing in Brigantine, NJ.

David J. Rosser Jr. '56

(1789 Juniper Ridge Ln., Fallbrook, CA 92028-8034; drosser@att.net) I spent 30 years at IBM, moved 11 times, loaned to a minority college in a special program, became a tenured professor at Essex County College, retired again, taught computer classes at Mira Costa College in California. Now I tend my avocado and citrus groves and visit with my children and grandchildren in beautiful southern California.

'60s

Byron P. Connell '63

(50 Dove St., Albany, NY 12210-1811; bpconnell@verizon.net) I'm still in Albany, NY working for The University of the State of New York, where I've been for 38 years. Currently I focus on development of state policy on higher education. Tina and I have been married for over 40 years. Our daughter also lives in Albany and works for the New York State Health Department. I've been a Trustee of the Alpha Chi Rho Educational Foundation for almost ten years (the only Phi Phi currently on the board).

John M. Smartt Jr. '66

(2001 Partridge Run Lane, Knoxville, TN 37919-8967; johnsmarttcpa@yahoo.com)

I have been accepted as a full member of NAPFA, the National Association of Personal Financial Advisors, the "fee-only" association.

'80s

Eric Vandecar '83

(105 Stone Bridge Ln., Bedford Hills, NY 10507-2243; eric@vandecar.com) Thanks for the hospitality on reunion weekend.

Mark Coogan '83

(199 Griswold Rd., Wethersfield, CT 06109-3600; mark.coogan@himco.com) I'm still happily married and the father of two teenage daughters. I recently completed my second two-week voyage in the North Atlantic, traveling to Iceland, Greenland, and Spitsbergen.

Allen Staib '55

(11 Old Fort Dr., Hilton Head, SC 29926-2601; ajstaib@aol.com) My wife and I recently returned from southeast Asia where we had a great visit with Brother **Vora Kunjara '55** and his wife Nayana in Bangkok, Thailand. Vora has three married children, several grandchildren and retired from the police force as a Major General several years ago. He has been an active member of the Royal Bangkok Sports Club for over 50 years, was the chairman of the horse-racing committee for more than 45 years, and plays golf at the club. We have visited with them two other times, and they have always been so gracious and welcoming. We traded old black-and-white photos of life around the house: poker games, shooting pool, beer parties, sitting on the wall talking with the nurses going by, harassing the new pledges, etc. It was fun reliving those days long ago. I know he would love to hear from any of you who knew him. His mailing address is 921 Onnut 46, Suanluang Suanluang, Bangkok 10250 Thailand, or you can email him at nayana_kunjara@yahoo.com. This is a picture we took on our last trip.



LOST LIST

Help Us Find a Lost Brother

We've lost touch with the following alumni and need your help to find them. If you know of their current whereabouts, send an email to our alumni relations office at content@affinityconnection.com (mention AXP at Penn in the subject).

Joseph Cox '48
Girard Lindner '50
Richard Blaess '51
William Cromwell '56
Robert McCleave Jr. '56
Richard Devane '57
Kenneth Narehood '57
Donald Powell '60
Steve S. Bertha '63
Sidney Ranck Jr. '64

Robert White '66
John Kramer '67
John Hanson '70
Timothy Campbell '71
William Farran III '72
J. Carroll '74
Davidson Peter '75
Manuchehr Tabibian '78
Patrick Sun '81
Jeff Rubin '83

Eric Howlett '84
Andrew Engelhard '86
Gregory Pomper '89
Jeffrey Bernardo '92
Hugh Morton '94
Noah Sferra '96
Scott Stewart '97
Charles Margosian III '98
Tavis Cannell '99
Luv Shah '99

Kenneth St. Hill '99
Sean Ward '00
Peter Hicks '01
Jason Mckuch '02
Jonathan Frerichs '03
Greg Millhauser '03
Stephen Harris '04
Matt Ehmer '05
Clay Pfanstiel '05