

## UPCOMING EVENT

Alumni Day BBQ  
May 15, 2010

## PLAN A REUNION

By Jordan Gushurst '95

As one of the newest members of the Phi Phi graduate board I hope to inspire a new alumni tradition. Based on the tremendous success of the 10th anniversary party organized by our class president, **TJ Zane '95**, I would like to see every class host a special reunion gathering for every 5th year reunion.

If your class is celebrating a milestone reunion (2005, 2000, 1995, 1990, 1985, etc.) this year, call your friends and decide together that this is the year to catch up during Penn's Reunion Weekend May 14-16.

Please email me at [Jordan@gushurst.com](mailto:Jordan@gushurst.com) with your plans so we can track how well we are doing.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

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# The Phi Phi Review

[www.PhiPhiClub.com](http://www.PhiPhiClub.com)

Phi Phi Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho • University of Pennsylvania • Philadelphia, Pa. • Spring 2010

## ALUMNI REPORT

### The Countdown to 100 Years is On

#### Phi Phi Prepares for Centennial Anniversary of Chapter House

By John Hawkins '93, President, Phi Phi Club

It's hard to believe that in just seven years, our chapter house will reach a gigantic milestone: it turns 100 years old in 2017. As we approach this historic occasion in Phi Phi's history, we must begin to preserve our house's history and legacy while preparing it for the future. **Pete Sigmund '51** and **Joe Moloznik '54** are soliciting members for a Centennial Capital Committee to modernize and endow the house for its next century, and anyone interested in serving on the committee should contact me at 215-848-8620 or [jch@pobox.com](mailto:jch@pobox.com).

In the meantime, we have immediate needs to repair the house floors and banisters and roof, which together will cost between \$10,000 and \$20,000. The funds need to be



The Phi Phi house turns 100 in 2017!

raised this spring so repairs can be done this summer, and that fundraising is just about to start. Look for more information to arrive via mail and email.

Speaking of email...we are continually looking for ways to increase our electronic communication in an effort to keep printing and postage costs at a minimum. Currently, we only have valid email addresses on file for 57% of our alumni brothers!

**If you haven't been receiving our electronic communications, please update your contact information by sending an email to [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com)** (mention AXP at Penn). Your email address will be used solely for Phi Phi communications.

## CHAPTER REPORT

### Improving Alumni Relations

#### Phi Phi Actives Expand Outreach Efforts to Alumni Brothers

By Joe Sanfilippo C'11, Chapter President

This fall, the undergraduates of Phi Phi Chapter geared their focus towards recruitment. For the first time in years, the brothers participated in fall rush and initiated three new brothers midway through the semester.

In addition, many brothers worked early in the academic year to secure a strong turnout for the annual Phi Phi Homecoming, which coincided with the University's Homecoming on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Undergraduates put in hours on the phone and on the computer reaching out to alumni with personal invitations, while updating the existing contact information.

The entire brotherhood benefited as a result, seeing a great turnout from Phi Phi graduates, young and old. The undergraduates were also appreciative of the numerous donations made toward the house, especially in a difficult economic climate.

The goals have not changed for the spring. The undergrads are putting their collective effort toward recruiting a strong pledge class and improving the house in whatever way we can with the resources available. We hope to have a strong turnout at Alumni Day in May.

## ALUMNI Q&A

### "I Didn't Stop being a Brother When I Graduated"

Thanks to a second look, **Byron Connell '63** has enjoyed the lifelong benefits of being a member of Alpha Chi Rho. Here, he shares why he joined AXP (and, why he almost didn't) and how it still plays a role in his life today.

#### Why did you join Alpha Chi Rho during your college years?

I would not be a Crow if it had not been for Curley Walden. As a freshman (in the early '60s), I had pretty much decided not to join a fraternity. In those days, all freshmen men lived on the freshman quad of the Men's Dorm (the 36th Street side). Rush was during the fall, with pledging in the spring. I had participated in rush parties -- they were parties, after all! -- including a couple at Phi Phi. None of them really clicked for me. Apparently, Phi

Phi had not had a successful rush. I believe the chapter was down to about nine brothers. Early in the spring term, Curley came from National and personally rushed several of us -- including me. He painted the picture of Alpha Chi Rho that I had missed in my visits to the chapter in the fall, and I agreed to pledge. Later that spring, I was initiated in a chapter meeting that proceeded immediately to the election of officers and I went from pledge to newly initiated brother to chapter treasurer, pledge master, and ritual officer.

#### What is the biggest thing you feel you learned from your Alpha Chi Rho experience?

The following year, I was able to hand the treasurer's and pledge master's jobs to other

brothers. However, what I will always remember from my undergraduate days is how welcoming we all were and how willing to work together for the good of the chapter and the Fraternity. That's what brotherhood means.

#### How would your life be different today if you had never joined Alpha Chi Rho?

I can't imagine.

#### Why do you financially support Phi Phi in your alumni years?

Because I didn't stop being a brother when I graduated.

*Reconnect with Byron! Email him at [bpconnell@verizon.net](mailto:bpconnell@verizon.net).*

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Phi Phi Scholarship Needs You

At Homecoming this year, another Phi Phi undergrad received \$3,000 towards his studies from the Rappaport scholarship. The scholarship has made a lasting impact on the chapter and its undergraduate brothers. By contributing now, we can build an even larger fund to help these young men with the ever increasing cost of obtaining a Penn education. Your most generous, tax-deductible contribution



should be made to the Alpha Chi Rho Educational Foundation, Phi Phi Fund, 109 Oxford Way, Neptune, NJ 07753 or online at <http://www.axpef.org/donate.htm>.

*Left: Phi Phi Brothers Jim Rappaport, Byron Connell and John Hawkins with 2010 Rappaport Scholarship winner Jesus Rosado.*

## OLD PHOTO ALBUM

Thanks to **Urban Reininger III '57** for submitting this picture of the pledge class of 1952.

As we approach the 100th birthday of our chapter house in 2017, we want to begin to collect many more great photos from throughout our history!

If you have pictures from your era to share, please email them to [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention AXP at Penn) or mail them to the return address on this newsletter.



## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '30s

#### William Craemer, Jr. '38

(5100 Sharon Rd 153W, Charlotte, NC 28210-4772) **Robert E. Derby** (AXP Pres of '38 class) and I (treasurer) enjoyed our get-together at the U of P class of 1938 70th reunion last spring. Both of us are somewhat worse for the wear of the years but OK in the heart.

### '50s

#### Daniel G. D'Imperio '53

(4001 Broadway, Allentown, PA 18104-5256; dimperio@verizon.net) On a recent trip to St. Augustine FL, I contacted other Alpha Chi Rho brothers in the area for a "get to know each other" with **John Richardson '63**, **Ron Coyle '53**, **George Van Hartogh '53** and **Pat Brown '43**. We had a wonderful evening and renewed an old bond. Brothers 4ever.

### '60s

#### Stanley T. Szczurek, Jr. '60

(237 Coverly Rd., Lansdowne, PA 19050-1713; stanzurekjr@rcn.com) I recently had some dental work done by a female dentist. Noticing she had a U of P diploma on the wall, I inquired if she ever attended any parties at the Crow House. She immediately identified 219 S. 36th Street, proceeding in great detail, having been "parked" for many nights at the "bar-in-the-basement." In 1954 my father was renovating one of his bars and I convinced that we needed a bar at my fraternity. Several members of the Happy Six, including my big brother **John Leasure**, brothers **Vora Kunjara**, **Ben Jakacki** and a few others I cannot remember, collected the bar and we installed it in the chapter house basement. My last visit to the house was in the summer of 1979. The bar was still in great shape. Is it still in use?

#### Jim Benjamin '62

(26 Schnoor Rd., Killingworth, CT 06419; benjamin@comcast.net) Barbara, our golden retriever Lily, and I cruised the Great Loop (eastern half of United States, including parts of Canada), commencing

June 25, 2008 from Westbrook, CT and returning June 11, 2009 aboard our NordicTug 42, Golden Lily. For details of this 6,000 mile journey, click on their web site [www.goldenlilytug.com](http://www.goldenlilytug.com). During the past ten years, we have spent the summers cruising to Lake Champlain and Canada. For the winter of 2009 -2010, we have returned to Burnt Store Marina in Punta Gorda, FL to spend the winter.

**Pete Sigmund '51** just had a second grandson, David, from the marriage of son Joseph to Natasha, a native of Moscow. Mark, the second of Pete's four sons, will marry Andrea Diaz, a native of Columbia, South America, on July 24. I was initiated into the fraternity in a separate ceremony six months after the rest of my classmates and it remains an indelible memory, as does the first Christmas party, with its eggnog.

### '80s

#### Joe Weinlick '89

(313 E. Main St., Lititz, PA 17543; jweinlick@iliad.com) Currently Chief Brand Strategist for Brownstein Group in Philadelphia ([www.brownsteingroup.com/](http://www.brownsteingroup.com/)). Married to Elizabeth Dellevigne, whom I met at an informal party at Alpha Chi Rho. Two kids – Lily, 6 and Jake, 4. Recently re-connected with Andrew Ingino after our boys ended up in the same pre-K class at St. Peter and Paul.

### '90s

#### Raj K. Guharoy MD '95

(209 Woodbine Dr., Marlton, NJ 08053; raj\_guharoy@jefferson.edu) I moved to Houston from NYC two years ago. Still working in the ER down here for The Methodist Hospital at Sugar Land...Just had my second kid, Siona, on 1/14/10. That was exciting, but now I'm pooped (figuratively and literally). Kai, now 2 years old, was my first. Fava was here for the weekend not too long ago. I have also spoken to Tim Brown and Ed Briceno not too long ago. I'm looking forward to my 15-year reunion this year at Penn and re-visiting with my aging brothers!

#### Noah Sferra '96

(70 Memorial Plaza, Pleasantville, NY 10570; nsferra@yahoo.com) Jessica and I moved out to Northern Westchester County to Mt. Kisco (aka Zipkin-land) about 20 minutes from where I grew up. This after a combined 30 years in NYC. We kept the place Hell's Kitchen though and we are still regularly in town a couple nights a week.

About a year ago I left the NetSuite software community and moved over into a company called Demand Solutions. We specialize in Supply Chain Management/Forecasting software so still in tech, still on the (dark) sales side.

### '00s

#### Nayan Mehta '08

I'm working at a technology company called Prysm in the San Jose, CA. The company has invented a brand new large format display technology, and I work in Business Development. I live up in San Francisco, CA and my two roommates are also AXP '08 - **Sandeep Subhedar** and **Gordon Su**. I'm sure I have some fond memories of my time at AXP, but for some weird reason, they are all very hazy.

**What's new with you? Submit an update and photo for a future issue! Email our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention AXP Penn).**

## IN MEMORY

**James Masland '25**

**Richard Dole '29**

**William Westphal '30**

**Bingham Van Dyke '33**

**Walter Gallagher '37**

**Charles Grosjean '38**

**Joseph Zikmund Jr. '40**

**Harry Crosson Jr. '40**

**Louis Dethloff '42**

**Willis Mohn '43**

## HONOR ROLL

### This Issue of Our Newsletter Brought to You By...

William J. Crosson	1942	Scott F. Kiesling	1989
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Allen J. Staib	1955	Michael A. Alfano	1993
David J. Rosser Jr.	1956	John Hawkins	1993
James L. Benjamin	1962	John G. Richards II	1993
Byron P. Connell	1963	Christopher W. Humphreys	1994
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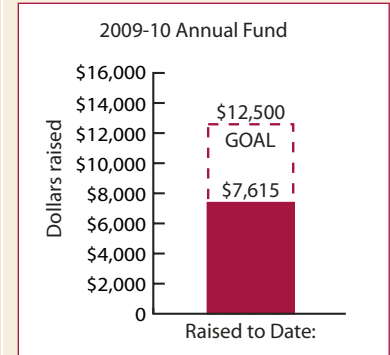
*Reflects gifts received as of February 8, 2010.*

### Why Support the Annual Fund?

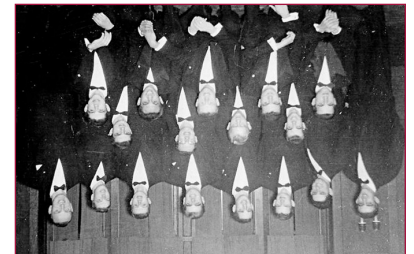
Well, for starters, the annual fund is our sole source of income to maintain our alumni relations program. This includes publication of The Phi Phi Review and other communications, maintenance of our web site, hosting of alumni events, cost of repairs and maintenance for the Chapter House and the ability to keep you connected with your AXP friends.

We rely on alumni annual support to keep our program going strong. With our alumni base just under 1,000 strong, each and every gift makes a big difference. We can't continue our program without you.

You can make a gift today by calling 800-975-6699.



We're on the lookout for great photos from our chapter's history! See page 2 for how to submit yours.



401-050

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Alpha Chi Rho



**The Countdown is On to Our House's 100th Birthday!**

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