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ALUMNI MEMORY

"Every football Saturday there was a cocktail party pre-game and another after the game with dinner for the Alumni. And we made money to help with the upkeep of the house. In fact, the basement bath room was a pledge project paid for by attending grads."

Urban Reiningger III '57



The Phi Phi Review



www.PhiPhiClub.com

Phi Phi Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho • University of Pennsylvania • Philadelphia, Pa. • Spring 2015

CAMPAIGN REPORT

Chapter House Centennial Campaign Kickoff

The Campaign Will Lead to the Complete Upgrading of the House

By Pete Sigmund '51

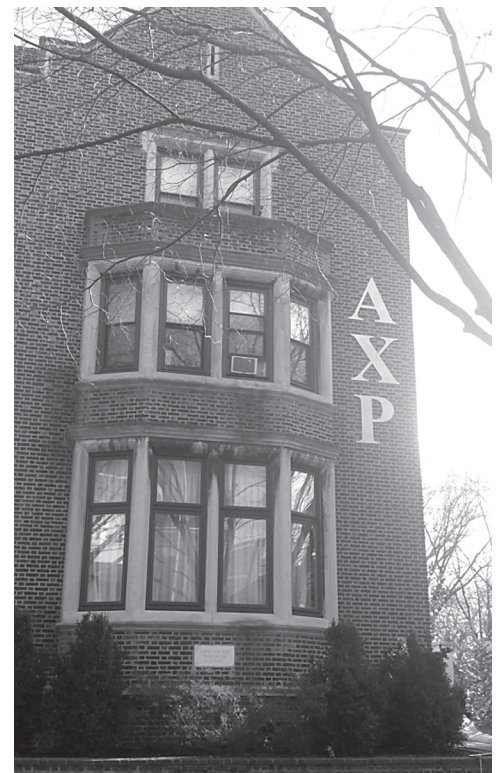
The campaign to completely refurbish our cherished Phi Phi Chapter House for its 2017 centennial year is now entering its critical kick-off pledge/gift phase.

Each of our nearly 800 graduate brothers will receive a personal appeal letter with explanatory brochure, pledge card and return envelope in the next few months as part of our five-year New Century Capital Campaign. We hope to raise at least \$500,000 for much-needed projects such as safety upgrades (including a new electrical wiring, sprinkler and alarm system); completely reconstructed bathrooms, dining room and kitchen; new carpets for the stairs and hallways; painting of all the rooms; paying off our mortgage; and creating an endowment for future needs.

The pledge form will offer a wide range of donation options. You can, for instance, join a pledge club honoring an outstanding graduate brother. A five-year pledge of \$5,000, for instance, puts you in the Paul K. Addams Club and can be paid in monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annual installments. Or, you may opt for an outright gift like money or appreciated assets or a bequest in your will. The names of contributors will be displayed in a centennial plaque in the foyer and will also be listed in a centennial donor book.

You may wish to donate a special gift (how about a grand piano or stained glass window?) as a class or in honor of a classmate who has entered the Chapter Eternal.

"The House, which we own as the graduate chapter, was built in 1917 at the most convenient and desirable location on campus," said **John Hawkins '93**, president of the Phi Phi Club. "We can finally make up for the wear and tear of the years at this place which holds so many memories of so many brothers and events, from parties to initiations. We



want to also make its interior as attractive as it was in the old days. This will make us more competitive in attracting new pledges who wish to live in the House."

The Chapter House Centennial Committee which is directing the campaign is currently chaired by **Pete Sigmund '51**, **Jordan Gushurst '95**, and **Suresh Swaminathan '04**. The campaign has been in the planning and individual contact phase for several years.

The House was our second home while we were undergraduates at the University. If we could have, we would have bottled that great fraternal spirit in the brotherhood. This is your opportunity to keep that light alive as the House enters its second century.

SURVEY RESULTS

How Does Your Alumni Experience Measure Up?

Phi Phi Alums Weigh in on Events, Donations and More

In a recent e-mail survey distributed to all Phi Phi alums, brothers shared their thoughts on their alumni experience.

When questioned about the most valuable part of their fraternity experience, an overwhelming amount of brothers responded that they valued the lifelong friendship, brotherhood and social benefits that AXP continues to provide, even years after graduation (one brother even met his future wife at a fraternity/sorority mixer). Individual growth and development of moral ideals, such as AXP's Landmarks, were cited as key benefits as well.

Many brothers were also enthusiastic about attending alumni events. Homecoming is an especially popular time to visit the House, share Penn memories with family, and support undergrads receiving the fraternity's Rappaport scholarship.

However, as many brothers have relocated since graduation, it is not always easy to make the trip to the Phi Phi house. Regional get-togethers were a popular suggestion, including networking events, cocktail parties, dinners, game-viewing parties, and even a 5K. According to responses, there are significant amounts of alumni in both the Northern California and D.C. areas.

Naturally, all brothers prefer to keep up with news from their own pledge class, but many also enjoy reading about or meeting alums from other eras as well, including today's undergrads and their improvements to the House.

Although many felt that appeal letters are distributed a bit too frequently, most have made financial contributions to Phi Phi since graduation.

"When I became a Crow, it was for life.

Supporting the Chapter financially is part of my obligation as a Brother," one brother wrote.

Brothers admitted that they would be quite disappointed if Phi Phi would have to be shut down. "I would be tremendously sad," one brother replied. "I know our brotherhood would not allow something like that to happen."

Some wished to be better-informed about how their donations are being used, from House renovations to scholarship funds. Others expressed interest in donating their time instead, by serving as a mentor, committee member, event planner, or newsletter contributor.

We thank everyone who took part in this valuable survey!

CHAPTER REPORT

Undergrads Getting the Job Done

Phi Phi Will Add 15 New Brothers this Year

By Evan Spiller '15

Phi Phi began last year small but spirited. An unusually large senior class had graduated but an unusually small one—just three strong, in fact—stood ready to make sure we recovered. The brotherhood knew the situation was precarious, so it took charge of the chapter's fate, throwing two great rushes, and nearly doubling membership.

This year, the question was could Phi Phi continue to grow? The answer: yes. This spring, after a week of paintball, 76ers games, mixers and, yes, parties—thanks to sophomore and Rush Chair **Mike Reynolds**—Phi Phi was able to add eleven new members.

Including the four new brothers that the chapter added in the fall, Phi Phi will add fifteen new brothers this school year, five more than the outgoing senior class.

"I'm just happy it all worked out," said junior and President **Kevin Burke**. "It will be great to see them contribute to the house over the next three semesters. We got a great, diverse new group of guys." The pledges have been busy learning house knowledge, doing brothers favors, and earning those signatures before each week's meeting.

Upperclassmen have been busy too...finding jobs. With ironed suits—thanks to the pledges—they have been embarking on interviews, hoping to find work in law firms, banks, the entertainment industry, the tech industry and consulting. **Paul Barañano** has secured himself a position as a trader in Chicago. **Alex Hoffman** will be working as a consultant in Washington, D.C. **Graham White**—who took the past two semesters off to work on Obama's campaign—will be temporarily giving up the bully pulpit, and attending law school.

As for the house geeks, three brothers—Juniors **Nate Fraenkel**, **Dan Zhang**, and **Ryan Sasson**—participated in Penn Apps, a two-day "hackathon" where students compete to program the best application for a computer or smartphone. In just 48 hours, Fraenkel and Zhang built a program that allows for online jam sessions and Sasson created an application that helps people transfer their online Rolodex.

Overall, life at the house is busy, productive, and fun. Here's to two more great months at 219 S. 36th St. before summer break!

ALUMNI PROFILE

How a One-Time Stroll Led to a Lifetime of Love for AXP After Almost 60 Years, Joe Moloznik '54 Is Still Actively Involved with AXP

In the fall of 1949, Penn freshman **Joe Moloznik '54** strode down South 36th Street, taking in the sites and sounds of his campus. It was rush week and he was looking for a fraternity. He'd found a couple he wouldn't mind joining, but hadn't made up his mind which might be the best fit.

As he walked past 219 South 36th Street, he heard music streaming out of the open door, as though inviting potential pledges to come inside. Intrigued, he stepped into the house. Someone was playing the piano, surrounded by a small group of singers.

He knew he was home.

It may have been the music that caught his attention; from his days in the Latrobe High School glee club to his current stint with the Philadelphian Singers, Joe's been entertaining folks with his vocal talents for decades. However, it was the camaraderie—that nearly instant connection with the men he'd soon call brothers—that made him an Alpha Chi Rho for life.

Having served in myriad leadership roles, including president of the alumni board, Joe is well-known among his AXP brothers for his decades of service to the fraternity.

"Joe's a great man ... and has saved the fraternity from legal problems time and time again over the decades," says **John Hawkins '93**, current president of the alumni board.

A "semi-retired" senior partner with Fell and Spaulding, a century-old Philadelphia law firm, Joe humbly downplays his service to the fraternity. Though, he does recall negotiating a settlement when two AXP brothers were charged with "maliciously cutting down a tree that belonged to the university" after campus police followed "tree-dragging tracks" through the snow to 219 South 36th Street.

Joe now serves as chairman emeritus of the alumni board and is enjoying his (semi) retirement. He and his wife, Betty, still reside in the Philadelphia area, and have six children and 15 grandchildren who are scattered from California to New York.

Despite choosing a college that's an easy drive across his home state of Pennsylvania, Joe's journey to Philadelphia was anything but simple or direct. He enrolled at Penn in 1949, four years after graduating from high school. During the fall of his senior year in 1944, Joe had joined the Air Force as a reservist, and was called to active duty following graduation in May 1945.

Joe pounced on an opportunity with the intelligence division and was assigned to the US Embassy in Moscow, where he served for nearly three years.

Toward the end of his time in Russia, Joe began exploring his options for attending university back in the States. When he learned he'd been awarded a grant to Penn, he enrolled for the fall 1949 semester.

In 1950, with a year of college under his belt, Joe was getting ready to settle into a summer job when the Air Force called him back to active duty for the Korean War, after which he landed an assignment at the Pentagon. But Joe was still going to be far enough from Philadelphia that attending classes at Penn was out of the question. So, he enrolled at Georgetown, taking a series of courses that he transferred



Joe Moloznik (second row, ninth from left) and the rest of the Phi Phi brotherhood in 1950. (From *The Record*).

to Penn when he returned to Philadelphia to finish his degree.

The house at 219 South 36th Street was just as he'd left it, albeit with a few new faces. Joe recalls evening get-togethers, singing sessions, and backyard volleyball games with AXP brothers, Alpha Chi Rho girlfriends (including his future wife, Betty), friends and family members, as well as the fraternity's honorary pet, a "gorgeous boxer" owned by the family of the late Hank Inman.

"Those were very great days," Joe says, adding that more than a few good times were had across the street from the chapter house at Smoky Joe's Tavern.

"There was a rumor afoot that I can't confirm or deny," Joe says mischievously, "that if you went down into our chapter room, which was in the basement where we held our meetings, there was a door that allegedly, purportedly, otherwise led under 36th Street into another door that allegedly opened up into a stairway that led into Smoky Joe's."

Joe won't relinquish any more details of this decades-old mystery, offering only that "it might have some validity in part."

Some secrets, it seems, must remain within the walls of 219 South 36th Street.

It's been more than 60 years since Joe first set foot in the Phi Phi chapter house, but his AXP brothers -- the men he roomed with, studied with, got into occasional mischief with -- are still very much a part of his life, and he of theirs.

In fact, Joe and Betty throw a biennial homecoming party, regularly attended by AXP alums, primarily from the classes of '53 and '54.

"During those parties," Joe says, "we spend an inordinant amount of time doing all of those things that fraternity brothers do when they haven't seen each other in a long time, which is to talk about things that never happened."

Those memories (however embellished) are built on an impressive six decades of friendship and brotherhood.

"My best friends to this day are fraternity brothers that I was with 60 years ago," says D'Imperio, who was Joe's roommate in the chapter house. "We made friendships that endured. My signoff when I send an email is 'brothers forever.'"

Read more of Joe's story at www.PhiPhiClub.com

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

By the Numbers

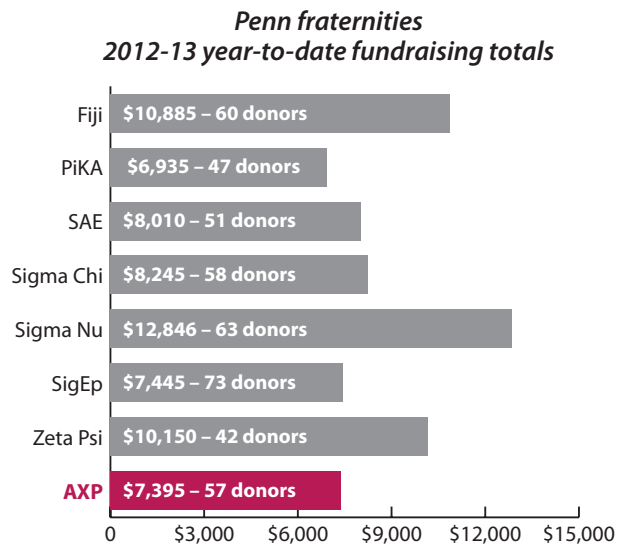
Annual Fund Support is Critical for the Growth of Phi Phi

As we approach the 100th anniversary of our house in 2017, we need alumni support to prepare for the preservation of our home at Penn. Short-term expenses, covered by our annual fund, help us to maintain operations including our alumni relations program, events and chapter programming. We must raise at least \$10,000 annually toward that fund to keep our programs running year after year. Thank you for your support so far this year!

Your continued support tells us that you value the lifelong relationships you have developed through AXP and that you are committed to developing the next generation of young leaders. Please consider sending in your donation for the annual fund or making a gift at our website today.

Keep in mind that the annual fund is separate from the upcoming Centennial Campaign, which is raising funds specifically for upgrades and improvements to our Chapter House. Both funds are important for the ongoing success of the chapter.

To date 2012-13 annual giving results for Penn alumni associations. Data compiled by our alumni relations firm, Affinity Connection. Your annual donation is critical to our position on campus to keep our house and active chapter competitive with other fraternities!



In this Issue...
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