

## PLAN AHEAD!

### Upcoming 2010 events...

**Founders Day**  
March 2010

**Blue/White Weekend**  
April 24

**Arts Fest**  
July 8-11

**Homecoming**  
October 9 vs. Illinois

### How to Register at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com)

Find your Member ID above your name and address on this newsletter, and follow the First Time Login link on the home page for full instructions.

You'll only need this Member ID once, as you'll receive a user-name and password for future visits.

#### Member ID found here,

123456  
Joe Sample  
12 Anytown Drive  
Anywhere, PA 12345

## FUNDRAISING

### Annual Fund vs. Capital Campaign What's the Difference?

The **annual fund** is our yearly fundraising drive to support our alumni relations program, including publication of Kappa News and maintenance of our web site. The annual fund begins September 1 each year. We ask that you renew your support each year to help continue our program.

The *Reason to be Proud* **capital campaign** is a one-time major fundraising effort to pay for the recent renovations at the Kappa Chapter house. Gifts to this fund are typically at a higher level, payable over five years.

# Kappa News

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



**Kappa Chapter**  
**Phi Sigma Kappa at Penn State**

November 2009

## CAMPAIGN UPDATE

### Reason to Be Proud Campaign is Winding Down

#### We Still Need YOU to Make our Campaign a Success

We have reported the success of our Reason to be Proud campaign over the last five years, with our \$1.7 million renovated house re-opened last year in time for the fall 2008 semester. We did a complete basement-to-top-floor renovation, with all plumbing, electrical and heating systems completely brought up to 21st century standards. We are one of only half a dozen or so of the 48 fraternities at Penn State that have had a complete top-to-bottom renovation in the last five years. This was the largest renovation of the house since it opened in 1927.

A recent *Collegian* article noted that there are a number of social fraternities at Penn State that have no houses. Still others are "gypsy" houses, moving from one vacant fraternity or rooming house to another each year. Phi Delta Theta's chapter has been shut down, with its house being rented by another fraternity. Beta Theta Pi, after a \$7 million renovation, has closed its chapter, and is planning to recolonize. It was the collective efforts of over 220 of our alums who donated their time and money to ensure our beloved Kappa Chapter did not meet the same fate as these other houses. If you have not visited our chapter house, we hope you do soon.

#### We Still Need Your Support

Though our campaign is winding down, we still need your support. We have a mortgage of just under \$1 million, which was necessary to finance the \$1.4 million in construction costs. If you are one of the 700+ Kappa Chapter alumni who have not yet made a contribution to this momentous effort, now is the time to show your support. Most of our campaign pledges are paid over a five-year period, and any money we raise now will be used to reduce the mortgage and cover some other items not covered by the construction project (media room floor, shutters, re-pointing the masonry).



You can make a big difference in the completion of this project for as little as \$50 per month, through a direct withdrawal from your checking or deposit account for five years, which would amount to a \$3,000 pledge. If another 150 brothers follow this plan, we will raise an additional \$150,000 of much-needed financial support.

If you have already pledged and would like to increase your level of support, please let me know and we can work to increase your pledge.

#### Recognizing our Loyal Donors

All campaign donors will be recognized on the *Reason to be Proud* campaign memorial plaque, which will be unveiled at our 2010 Founders' Day celebration. Naming opportunities for common rooms and bedrooms are also available. Find more information, including a pledge form, at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com).

Please help us wind up our campaign on a high note, and thanks to all of you who have made pledges for your very generous support. Without you, we would not have been able to complete the renovation of the house.

Fraternally,

#### Bill DeGrandis '77

Chairman, Reason to be Proud Campaign and VP, Alumni Association Board of Directors  
[billdegrandis@paulhastings.com](mailto:billdegrandis@paulhastings.com)

### Kappa Chapter Provides a Warm Atmosphere for Cold, Snowy Homecoming

By Bruce Balmat

The 2009 Homecoming Weekend saw more than 20 alumni from six different decades return to the renovated Kappa Chapter House. The actives and 18 new pledges had the house looking great for the pre-game party. There was quite a crowd as the poor weather forced the University to restrict parking to only paved lots and no tailgating was allowed at Beaver Stadium.

The Alumni Association held its Annual Meeting and elected **Dick Doherty '58**, **Bill DeGrandis '77**

and **Martin Barbado** to three-year terms.

This was a great event and alumni were warmly welcomed by the actives. Founders' Day, to be held in late March or early April, will give alumni another opportunity to rekindle old friendships and meet new brothers. Stay tuned for Founder's Day information (to be posted at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com)) and plan to visit the "new" Kappa Chapter house in spring 2010.



Board members and actives at Homecoming.

## WE NEED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS

### WHAT?!? We're Missing Email Addresses for a Whopping 70% of You!

Welcome to the 21<sup>st</sup> century, guys. We know that more than 32 of you have email addresses that you use on a daily basis. Please update your email address with us so that we can keep you in the loop throughout the year.

Having a high percentage of email addresses is a critical advantage to our alumni association. Why? It saves us money on paper and printing, it enables us to communicate with you more frequently, and, if you choose, your email address will be

available to other Phi Sig alumni through our password-protected online directory.

Oh yeah, and we promise not to SPAM you – ever. Your email address will be stored in our secure database and used solely for Phi Sig communications. It will never be traded or sold.

So please update your email address today to stay informed on the latest news and activities from Kappa Chapter undergraduates and alumni. You'll also receive electronic reminders when we're getting ready to

publish an issue of *Kappa News* so that you can submit your latest news and photos for publication.

**You can send your email address directly to our alumni relations firm at [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention Phi Sig PSU) or update it by logging on to [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com).** (See page 1 for further instruction if you haven't yet logged in to our site).

## FROM THE ARCHIVES...

### Back to the '80s

While we're glad that we've grown up from the days of mullets and acid-washed jeans (although we hear they ARE making a comeback), we still love finding photos like this from our chapter's history.

In this photo, brothers are admiring their many Homecoming trophies in 1986 (from the LaVie).

Help us publish more great old photos in our upcoming publications. Send the best shots from your era to us at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention Phi Sig at Penn State), or upload them at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com).



### From Initiation to “I Do”, the Kappa Chapter House Holds Many Memories for Steve Brose ‘69

#### Steve Honored with Penn State’s Liberal Arts Centennial Fellows Award

Many brothers can say that they have a strong connection to the fraternity house that they called home for a number of years throughout college. Not many, however, can say that it is also where they chose to say “I do.” **Steve Brose ‘69** and his wife Jan were married at Phi Sig, largely because of the bond they both felt to the house and to its brothers. They have now been married for 40 years.

Steve first heard about Phi Sigma Kappa from **Jim Gorman ‘66**, a dorm counselor his freshman year who was a brother. “Jim encouraged a few of us from my floor to go out and see the house,” Steve said. Feeling the most comfortable among the Phi Sig brotherhood, he and some fellow dorm residents decided to pledge. “As it turned out, one of the guys from the dorm my freshman year turned out to be one of best friends and still is today,” he said, referencing his close relationship with **Roger Barton ‘69**.

Steve and Jan still feel a great connection

The Phi Sigma Kappa Association would like to thank Steve for his continued support of both the annual fund and our *Reason to be Proud* capital campaign.

If you would like to reconnect with Steve, you can email him at [sbrose@steptoe.com](mailto:sbrose@steptoe.com).

to the fraternity and make it a point to get together with other Phi Sigs regularly. They see people like Roger, **Rich Newell ‘68** and **Jack Lloyd ‘68** at least annually. “We enjoy each others’ company every bit as much as we did in college,” Steve said. He also makes sure to keep in touch with **Kevin O’Leary ‘71** and **Paul Robertson ‘71**, among others, demonstrating the lifelong bonds Phi Sigs share with one another.

#### After Graduation, a Fulfilling Experience in the Field of Law

After graduating from Penn State, Steve attended Columbia Law School in New York. He worked for a federal appeals judge for a year before moving to Washington D.C., where he joined the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson law firm in Washington, D.C. He has been there ever since. While it is incredibly uncommon to settle at one firm so early into a career, Steve has now been there for 36 years, describing the experience as “very, very fulfilling.”

While being a lawyer can be very time-consuming, Steve makes it a point to give back to both Penn State and Phi Sigma Kappa. He was recently honored for his contributions to the College of the Liberal Arts at its Centennial Celebration by receiving the Liberal Arts Centennial Fellows Award. Having been active in the college for 15 years,

Steve was chosen as one of 22 recipients to be honored that night. Even after all of the time and support he has given to the college, he said he was “flabbergasted” when informed about his award. He was in good company, adding that among the other recipients were legendary Penn State athlete Jesse Arnelle, and David Morrell, author of “First Blood” and creator of the character Rambo.



Steve Brose

#### Giving Back to Phi Sig for the Significance it Made in His Life

In addition to his donations to the university, Steve continues to support the fraternity as well. “It was a hugely important part of my college years,” Steve said, having held the positions of Vice President and Rush Chairman of the house before becoming an officer of the Interfraternity Council. The fraternity’s significance in his life is what motivates him to continue to give back. “Jan and I have great friends that came from the house and I didn’t want to see it disappear,” Steve said.

On behalf of Phi Sigma Kappa, we would like to congratulate Steve on his award and thank him for the dedication and support he continues to show to our fraternity.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### Our Gift to You

Get your own piece of Phi Sig memorabilia this holiday season! All 2009-10 annual fund donors contributing \$250 or more will receive this limited-edition ornament of the Kappa Chapter house. Ensure yours today by making a contribution to the annual fund.

You can make your gift online at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com), or by calling 800-975-6699.



## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '50s

#### David E. A. Carson '55

(One Gold St. Apt. 23A, Hartford, CT 06103; DECARSO@aol.com) Sara and I celebrated 50 years of marriage at a party in Hartford this summer. Nan and **Gil Snyders '52** were among the guests. I was recently elected by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges to a three-year term as a Public Member of the Commission of Institutions of Higher Education. The Commission is the accrediting agency for all New England colleges and universities. The Carson Scholars program at the Ross School of Business is now in its fifth year.

### '70s

#### Robert "Pele" Withrow '75

(12312 Palisades Pkwy, Austin, TX 78732; rokewi53@hotmail.com) "Pele" is now in retirement in Austin, TX after completing a 34-year career with Kodak. It was a great ride with assignments in London, Atlanta, Tokyo and Singapore. I'm hoping to become

a WalMart greeter or the tool guy at Lowes/Home Depot. Keep watching for me, especially if you're in the Austin metro area! Get in touch if you're nearby or plan to visit. I live in Steiner Ranch. I'm always up for a game of whales-tales or zoom.

### '80s

#### Randy Carr '84

(1 Bayville Rd, Locust Valley, NY 11560-2002; hrcmc@aol.com) I'm still married to Holly. It was 24 years in August for those Phi Sigs who remember the wedding! We have one child, a daughter Meredith, who just turned 16.

### '90s

#### Chris Kane '91

(8608 Mayfair Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910; chriskane77@verizon.net) **Alex Tirion '91** and I play Harding Park prior to the Presidents Club tournament this year. Later that weekend, Chris Kane played in the Pebble Beach golf tourney and won shooting a 69 on first round at Pebble.

### What Tops Your Memory List from Happy Valley?

#### Dave Hyland '80

"Breakfast at the Corner Room"

#### Barry Atkinson '62

"My favorite prank from the '60s when we took bats the to Dracula movie in HUB."

#### Luke Spaseff

"The Phyrst on a Saturday night"

Share YOUR top picks at  
[www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com).

### Share Your News

This is an alumni **NEWS**letter, after all! Let us know what's new in your life. Upload your updates and pictures at [www.phisigpsu.com](http://www.phisigpsu.com), or email them to our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention Phi Sig PSU).

Get your own piece of the chapter house,  
just in time for the holidays!  
See page 3 for details...



*In this Issue...*  
- A Reason to be Proud Campaign is Winding Down  
- A Brother Remembers His Days at the House  
(Where He Also Tied the Knot)  
- A Look at Homecoming 2009

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