

NOTICE!

Would the brother who picked up the "Tails Table" over a year ago to repair it please let us know who you are?

Email **Dick Doherty '58** at cosdoherty@verizon.net if you know the whereabouts of this table.

Kappa News

www.phisigpsu.com



Kappa Chapter

Phi Sigma Kappa at Penn State

November 2010

HOMECOMING 2010

Kappa Chapter Celebrates the "Best Homecoming in Years!"

By Dick "Doc" Doherty '58

Homecoming was a great success for all at Kappa Chapter. Cathy and **Dave Hyland '80** and Pam and **Ben Jarmul '81** graciously opened their tailgate to the chapter. Many alums and their families stopped by. Several of the active brothers also attended. The food was great and the brotherhood even better. Many thanks to Dave, Ben and all for playing host. It was a big help.

Some of the alums and their families who attended were: **Bill DeGrandis '77, Roger Barton '69, Rich Newell '68, Matt Hilbert '81, Fred DeCock '80, Keith Whitman '80, Craig Wilson '78, Don Schnure '64, Jeff Hudak '09, Jeff Rehborn '81, Bill Kahanic '91, Roy Kern '83** and **Bill Armes '77**.

After the game, a game we can forget, we all gathered back at the chapter house for a

social hour and a delicious buffet dinner. Again a great turn out of brothers and their families. Many comments were heard as to how everyone enjoyed the events.

A big thank you to board member **Jon Little**, active **Ed Arnold**, and their crew for putting together a great event at the house. One of the best Homecomings we have had for some time.

Stay tuned to the monthly eLetter for news on Founders' Day in March 2011. Again we will honor an alumni brother of the year as well as an active of the year.

A big thank you to all who helped this Homecoming weekend and for all the support from those who attended.

Hail the ever growing throng or as you youngsters say "Damned Proud."

Chapter Officers

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Matthew McClelland
mattjmcclelland@gmail.com

Vice President

Ed Arnold

Secretary

Michael Guerriero

Treasurer

Matthew Knoblauch

Sentinel

Alexander Best

Inductor

Matthew Schirripa

Fall Pledges

Hesham Aziz Alaskar

Garrett Michael Devine

Christian James Guerriero

Nathen Richard Harwick

Dane Patrick Hopkins

Ben Van Johnson

Nicholas Jaymes Mcllelland

Jeffery Andrew Oberholzer

Richard Thanh Ta

Shaun Michael Umpleby

Richard Lon Walker

Do You Have a Reason to be Proud?

Final Call to Contribute to and be Recognized for Supporting our Campaign

By Bill DeGrandis '77

As we have noted by letter, eLetters and email reminders, we are wrapping up the *Reason to be Proud* campaign this month. We will be finalizing our plaque that recognizes the generous contributions of our donors. We will have the formal dedication of the plaque at Founders' Day early next year. We thank all of our donors. Without you, we would not have been able to finance the \$1.7 million renovation of the chapter house. We all truly have a Reason to be Proud. We have a beautiful fully renovated and structurally sound house, and a revitalized Kappa Chapter, enabling future generations of young men to experience Kappa Chapter and to be part of our life long brotherhood.

Per our Board-approved rules, if you made a pledge but have not yet made any pledge payments, you will not be listed as a donor on the plaque. In addition, if you are behind in your payments (we have sent numerous reminders

the last few months), you will be listed under the Society giving level based on your payments made, rather than your pledged amount. So please, let us know if you have any questions. Please access our web site at www.phisigpsu.com for a full list of donors.

If you notice an error regarding your pledge, please let us know right away. Now is the time to get up to date on your pledge payments (deadline is November 15), with the plaque to be installed in the coming months.

Contacts: **Bill DeGrandis '77**, Campaign Chair and Alumni Board Vice President: billdegrandis@paulhastings.com; 202-551-1720 (day)

Dick Doherty '58, Alumni Board Pres. cosdoherty@verizon.net; 610-323-3888

Ellen Konkle, Affinity Connection: ellen@affinityconnection.com

Giving Back to Preserve the House that Was "Home"

For **Dick Richardson '70**, the impressive gray stone mansion that sits at the corner of Allen and Fairmount is more than just a fraternity house. For Richardson, that house was a home, and like old photographs and memories, it is something he feels strongly about preserving.

Richardson came to Penn State on a track scholarship and had no intention of pledging a fraternity until his friend, **Roger Barton '69**, encouraged him to check out Phi Sigma Kappa.

"Roger and I played basketball together in high school. I'm sure he gave me my first beer and he was one year ahead of me in school," he recounts.

Molding the Man

Richardson remembers the three years he spent in the House as a period of growth and change which began with a grueling 15-week pledge period. He plowed through this rite of passage while juggling a demanding accounting curriculum and daily three-hour track practices.

"My spring break was all along the east coast with the track team rather than at the beach having fun," he laments. "I had classes. I had both Friday and Saturday all-night work at the fraternity. Pledging in those days was very, very hard. I doubt if anyone would do what we did today. I know they wouldn't," he admits.

In the end, the Phi Sig experience was worth the sacrifice and sleep deprivation.

In addition to teaching him about discipline and good time management, life in the fraternity gave him a chance to branch out from his sheltered upbringing.

"My father was the principal of my high school and we were a very conservative and quiet family," he explains. "I saw a lot of crazy stuff at the house and PSU and I was able to pick and choose where I fit in."

Richardson fondly recalls the parties, his studious roommate, Tom Petka and "just the great start the house gave me since I was a quiet, introverted guy."

When Richardson graduated in 1970, he felt he earned more than just a diploma. He came away from Penn State and the House a more social, well-rounded man. He launched head-first into a career as a Certified Public Accountant and a little over a decade later, the budding entrepreneur started and sold his own nursing home company.

Giving Back

Today, Richardson is still selling nursing homes, as well as assisted and independent living facilities. He and Bonnie, his wife of 27 years, are also actively involved in the lives of their five children and five grandchildren. Their two youngest children, 20-year-old twins Tyler and Alysse, are sophomores at Penn State.

"Alysse is a sorority girl and I couldn't be prouder of her hard work at everything.

Tyler is hesitant to follow in my footsteps at Phi Sigma Kappa, but maybe we can get him involved with the hockey team and get him to see the benefits of Greek life."

Even if his son Tyler doesn't end up pledging, Richardson is committed to making sure the opportunity is available to other Phi Sigma Kappa hopefuls. He has contributed a significant amount of time and money to maintain the House and support the fraternity. He feels grateful to other members who share his enthusiasm for the cause.

"The chapter house is very important to me and I am very thankful for the work the brothers put in to bring it back to life. The fraternity experience did more for me than some brothers, but those who can, should send in their contributions. There are a lot of doctors, lawyers and Indian chiefs out there who got more from their fraternity experience than they think. If you haven't sent money, you really need to think about it."

Reconnect with Dick at
rrichardson@marcusmillichap.com.



Dick Richardson '70

ALUMNI REUNION

Thank you to **Bruce Balmat '70** for submitting the following...

He writes, "Eighteen Penn Staters met for a few days this past summer in Yountville, CA to tour wineries and renew old friendships. Shown in the photo are **Doug Arnold '70, Rich "Bruno" Nonini '69, Bruce Balmat '70, Tom Petka '70** and **Craig Heckman '70**. Craig and his wife Barb hosted a picnic for the group at Rutherford Hills Winery."

Do you have Phi Sig reunion photos to share? Email them to content@affinityconnection.com and we'll feature them on our web site.



CHAPTER REPORT

Kappa Brothers Expand Presence On Campus and in Community

By Michael Guerriero

This fall semester has been going very well. During rush, we had 11 young men accept bids. In October we participated with the sorority, ADPi, in our annual Homecoming events, including building a float for the parade. We would like to thank **Dave Hyland '80** and **Ben Jarmul '81** for being kind enough to host a fraternity tailgate before the Illinois Homecoming game. We are also currently preparing for the new Greek event called "Greek or Treat," where children and parents are invited to "come trick or treating

at Penn State's fraternity houses for games, food and plenty of candy.

Much of the fall semester has been spent preparing for future events, which includes Superstars, Greek Week, and Parents Weekend. Also, during the weekend of October 22nd, all of our brothers traveled to various parts of the country to go canning to raise money for Penn State's Dance Marathon for kids with pediatric cancer. Everyone has been having a great time so far this semester and will hopefully continue to do so.

Phi Sig brothers at our Rush Hay Ride event.



ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

Send Your Nominations for "Alumnus of the Year"

By Roger Barton '69

The Alumni Board of Directors of Kappa Chapter is continuing an annual award to recognize an alumnus of Kappa who has distinguished himself in service to the country, his profession, community and/or fraternity, including alumni functions, assistance with the *Reason to be Proud* campaign, mentoring actives, or assisting the Phi Sig National chapter. The individual selected will be one

who exemplifies the Cardinal Principles of Brotherhood, Scholarship and Character by exercising leadership among his peers, neighbors and Kappa brothers to effect positive changes to his areas of attention.

The nomination form below should be completed and returned by February 5, 2011 to Roger Barton, 1 Fox Chase Circle, Harrisburg, Pa. 17111 or electronically at

rogbarton@comcast.net.

It is expected that the awardee will be honored at the Founders Day celebration in State College in March, 2011.

Questions about the award and/or application process can be directed to me through email or phone at 717-566-6001.

I would like to nominate the following brother for "Alumnus of the Year":

Nominee's Name: _____ Grad Year: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

My Information

Nominee's Name: _____ Grad Year: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Why I am nominating this individual (include significant information as to achievements identifying service to the country and/or successes in his profession, community and fraternity activities, whether involvement in alumni activities or the *Reason to be Proud* campaign, mentoring actives or with the Phi Sig National chapter). _____

ALUMNI UPDATES

'60s

Len Pasquini '66

(25814 Bristlecone Court, Golden, CO 80401; PsqnLn@aol.com) Much of what I am today in character was polished by my brothers who took a pledge and made me an active. Now I'm retired. I read the updates of past brothers and remember well our times together and appreciate their accomplishments in life and wish them continued success.

I've had the opportunity to visit PSU every year for the last 15 years (traveling from Denver, CO) to attend alumni meetings of my nuclear engineering college. The campus has grown, but is just as beautiful as my freshman year in 1962. I'm able to sit on the same benches at the HUB and recall my days going to classes from East Halls to the far west side of campus.

In the past few years I've been able to visit with my house roommate, Chuck Grogan and attend his daughter's wedding, and visit with Gene Ott and his wife Merrie at the B/W games. I've been able to stay in touch

with others by email: Flork, Glenn Jones, Joe Aita, Gwynne Jones. They have updated me on their contacts from our graduation class. Again, I'm thankful to all my brothers for their friendships that are now 48 years old.

I have three married children and seven grandchildren. I hope someday to have at least one of my grandchildren attend PSU. My middle child, Kristin, was born at Penn State in 1973 when I was in grad school.

May we all enjoy the fruits of our labor and remember: (PHI-SIGMA-KAPPA) Brotherhood, Scholarship and Character that I have so proudly worn on my ring over the last 48 years.

Roger Barton '69

(1 Fox Chase Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17111; rogbarton@comcast.net) I still live in Harrisburg. I'm retired after 37 years with the Pa. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation. Married to Jorja, 38 years, with kids Emily and her family in Hershey and Scott in San Francisco. I'm on the Phi Sig Alumni Board and have had the pleasure of also being in

State College a lot for my work and our kids' matriculation. I often see **Dick Richardson, Jack Lloyd, Rich Newell** and **Steve Brose** and have spent time again with other brothers from the past and have met many other great Phi Sigs recently thru the Board work and fraternity functions. I sincerely hope that many brothers can make a visit to the new house and get to meet the actives. I witnessed an enormous effort in rebuilding the House, but also in reestablishing the ideals of the

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, or email them to our editors at content@affinityconnection.com (mention Phi Sig PSU).



In this Issue...
 - Our Best Homecoming in Years!
 - Last Chance to Get on the Campaign Plaque
 - A Kappa Reunion in California

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