

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue-White Weekend
April 11-13

Homecoming 2014
September 27

Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Corporation

President

Stephen J. DiOrio '78
steve@stevediorio.com

Treasurer

John Miller '78
jmiller@spscom.com

Secretary

Stephen R. DiOrio '05
stephen.r.diorio@gmail.com

Board Members

Richard Parks '78
Steven Earhart '81
Scott Horner '82
Ken Weirman '81

GET INVOLVED

As we continue to strengthen our alumni relations program, we are also looking to expand our alumni board. In need of more than just your financial contributions, we are extending our arms and asking you to give back as a volunteer.

Volunteering for Alpha Mu requires little time and effort, but the rewards pay dividends. This is your chance to have your opinions heard and make a difference for the future of our chapter. Contact Steve DiOrio to express your interest.

Alpha Musings

ALPHA MU CHAPTER PI KAPPA PHI FRATERNITY
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
www.alphamupikap.org



STATE COLLEGE, PA.
November 2013

ALUMNI REPORT

It's Time to Have Some Fun!

Revitalizing Your Alumni Experience and Offering More Ways to Reconnect with Fellow Pi Kapps

By Steve DiOrio '78 (steve@stevediorio.com); President, Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Corporation

It's time to have some fun!

The Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Corporation has been working hard to better organize itself, putting us in a position to offer a more rewarding alumni experience for our brotherhood.

Thanks to our partnership with Alpha Management, we have outsourced house management and operations, sparking some positive results.

Through these efforts, we have advanced to secure leases prior to the start of the school year, have begun planning our fall 2014 budget, and are able to proudly report that the Alpha Mu house is at capacity this academic year.

Working with Alpha Management has freed up board members to focus on other areas of need – specifically, strengthening our alumni relations program. Our main goal is to bring back a major annual alumni event that encourages brothers from all era to reconnect, rekindling old friendships and fostering new ones. We are planning to host a formal alumni event in 2014, either during Blue-White or Homecoming weekend. Stay tuned to www.alphamupikap.org for much more information.

In the meantime, we welcome and endorse smaller alumni reunions that you would like to hold. Take the lead from **Ed Korecky '69** and the rest of the guys from the late '60s and

early '70s, who have been holding an annual golf reunion for the past decade. They pride themselves in picking up right where they left off year after year (read their story, and how you can plan your own similar event, on page 3).

As we work to revitalize our alumni relations program, we are counting on one very critical piece to ensure our success: your continued



Ed Korecky '69 and other alumni from his era have been reuniting annually in Happy Valley for the last decade. Take advantage of upcoming opportunities to reconnect with your fellow brothers through Pi Kapp events.

involvement. In addition to your financial contributions, which fund our communications program, support alumni events and help with ongoing maintenance at the house so we'll always have a place to return to at Penn State, we need your participation in other areas as well. Make sure your email address is updated so you stay informed of the latest news and event info. Plan a reunion with a group of brothers this year (either in State College or in your region). Volunteer to mentor an active brother or to assist the board. You can make a difference in the future success of our alumni program and our active chapter.

This is the year to have some fun and rekindle those connections that drew us all to Pi Kapp when we were undergraduates. I'm looking forward to reconnecting with you this year!

CHAPTER REPORT

A Full House

Alpha Mu is Growing, with a 23-Man Pledge Class and a House that's Filled to Capacity

By Ed Foy (ejf5160@psu.edu), Chapter President

Alpha Mu Chapter is winding down from a dedicated and successful fall rush. We welcomed 23 new members in the fall 2013 pledge class. These new recruits add to our outstanding membership numbers of 89 active brothers with 40 living in the house, putting us at capacity.

Philanthropically, our efforts this semester have been focused on THON. Nearly 75% of our brotherhood took part in three canning weekends this semester. Our goal is to improve on our total from last year and raise more than \$200,000 for the Four Diamonds Fund in 2014 and place among the Top 5 Greek organizations again. At the time of this publication, we were getting ready to host a new philanthropy event, modeled after successful similar events at other Pi Kapp chapters. On November 21, we set up a

stationary bike in the HUB, and brothers alternated riding the bike for 48 consecutive hours to raise money for Push America and raise awareness for people with disabilities. Our goal for the fundraiser is \$1,000. Stay tuned to www.alphamupikap.org for a recap of the event in the coming weeks.

Academically, Pi Kapp's GPA ranks in the top 15% of fraternities, with a 3.17 average. About one-third of brothers have been named to the Dean's List in the past year and have been focusing heavily on their studies. Brothers have been able to benefit from group study thanks to the addition of tables and chairs in the basement.

Also at the house, the chapter has made some significant steps in improving its overall

appearance. We are in the process of installing a new roof after encountering some leaking issues. We also purchased four new table and chair sets, which have significantly boosted the social atmosphere for the brotherhood. Additionally, we have established a house cleaning program to increase accountability and responsibility for the ongoing upkeep at the house. Brothers rotate cleaning positions each week, a process that has proven to be extremely successful.

It's been a great year so far and we are excited about the efficiency improvements we've seen thanks to our work with Alpha Management Group. We look forward to continued success, improved operations and increased accountability as we move forward.

FALL 2013 PLEDGE CLASS

Stephen Oswald Langhorne, PA	Colin Sweeney Downingtown, PA	John Mullery Ridgefield, CT	Zach Sheier Lafayette Hill, PA	Jake Mingione Conshohocken, PA
David Sahagian Bergen County, NJ	Jack Bertolami Downingtown, PA	Devin Walsh Mendham, NJ	Connor McLaughlin Bryn Mawr, PA	Anthony Haughey Plymouth Meeting, PA
Joseph Donofry Springfield Twshp, PA	Sam Mattern Garnet Valley, PA	Brad Marshall Berwyn, PA	Neil Arthur Medford, NJ	Mike Gilbert Rye, NY
Greg Tierney Pleasantville, NY	Drew Peysner Long Beach, NY	Chris Esposito Blue Bell, PA	Patrick Scher Glenside, PA	
Christian Dambly Media, PA	Paolo Rivera Washington, DC	Vito Braccia Horsham, PA	Jason Wayne New City, NY	

ALUMNI Q&A

Learning the Skills to Run a Corporation

Michael Stepanski '90 Recalls How Collaboratively Operating the Pi Kapp House Prepared Him for Career Success

Thank you to **Michael Stepanski '90** for participating in this alumni Q&A...

In what ways are the skills and values you learned at Pi Kapp still relevant in your life today?

Working as a team at Pi Kapp to run a house of 50 brothers required a lot of work. I learned the basics of acting in a corporate structure, in which tasks were accomplished via chair positions much the same as VPs are assigned. We elected leadership via Archon

and Vice Archon positions to monitor and make executive decisions, and the Chairs (VPs) reported up and down the ladder. In the end, the success of the house administration was dependent upon everyone pitching in and working towards this common goal. Whether we knew it or not, we ran a corporation!

If you could choose one brother to reconnect with this fall, who would you choose, and why?

I'd like to connect with about 100 brothers

this fall. We could spend days or weeks recalling stories from that house during the 1985-1989 era.

Share an update on what's new in your life today.

I just celebrated my 20-year wedding anniversary to my wife, whom I met in my last semester living at the house.

Reconnect with Mike at stepanski.mike@faadv.com.

A DECADE OF STRENGTHENING PI KAPP BONDS

Alumni Group Returns to Happy Valley for Annual Golf Outing and Reconnections

Nearly 10 years ago, a group of eight brothers from the late '60s and early '70s came back to Penn State for an informal golf outing at the Nittany Lion Inn. Thanks to an annual commitment to preserving their connection, their reunion has occurred every year and expanded to groups of 12 to 30 brothers returning every year. Brothers come from afar – Texas, Missouri, Florida, Georgia, Michigan, Kentucky – as well as from nearby – Connecticut, New York, Ohio, New Jersey, and, of course, Pennsylvania.

According to **Ed Korecky '69**, there is a recurring theme to the exclamations that the

core group hears from brothers whom they had not seen nor heard from in many years. Statements like: "It's like we never left!" And "It's so easy to return and pick up where we left off." And the wonderful bewilderment of "How is it that we still feel a connection after so many years?"

Ed says it best. "We can only attribute that to our common Pi Kappa Phi and Penn State experiences, which we all enjoyed so much in our undergraduate days, and continue to cherish so much today," he cites.

Would you like to follow in the footsteps of this generation of brothers and plan your own reunion at Penn State? The Alumni Corporation would love to help facilitate and/or be present at any local events that you would like to organize for your era or class. We welcome opportunities for you to gather at the house, and can help to collaborate with the active chapter as you plan your reunion.

Contact Steve DiOrio at steve@diorio.com for more information.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

Alumni Donations Spark Highest Annual Giving Total in Past Five Years

Your Continued Support Needed to Perpetuate Alumni Program and Keep House Competitive

Thanks to overwhelming alumni support, we ended our 2012-13 giving year on August 31 with the highest total we've seen in the last five years. We ended last giving year with \$13,295 raised for the annual fund. Find a list of last year's donors at www.alphamupikap.org.

Our annual fund supports the ongoing operations of the Pi Kappa Phi Alumni Corporation, specifically our communications program and the hosting of better and more frequent alumni events. Additionally, alumni donations help to preserve the Alpha Mu

house, providing our undergraduates with quality housing that is competitive in price with other living options on and near campus.

In addition to planning a major alumni event in 2014, we have some specific projects on our wish list that alumni contributions will help us to complete:

- Replace the roof (in progress at the time of this publication)
- Refurbish bedrooms
- Completely renovate and modernize

bathroom facilities

- Update kitchen areas

As the last line of the Creed of Pi Kappa Phi states, "I believe that my chapter can become an ideal chapter, and I shall do my share to make it so." Thank you for doing your share by making your annual fund gift today. See below for how to make your gift.

2013-14 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

Thank you to the following alumni who have made financial contributions to kick off our 2013-14 giving year, which began September 1...

Edwin R. Yeager	1948	William Simon III	1959	John M. Rodgers	1971	Matt Poprik	1996
George O. Herold	1950	Hal Miller	1961	Guy A. Kanak	1973	Matthew A. Curtin	1998
Robert W. Boyd	1951	Maurice P. Ranc	1961	Todd F. Kelly	1973	Jarrett Laubach	2001
Ralph W. Moyer	1951	Richard G. Vuono	1962	Lee R. Stone	1974	Lou Lombardo	2001
Richard F. Seidel	1952	Thomas Edward Keen	1964	William C. Lane	1975	Russell Talone	2002
John Muench Jr.	1953	Thomas A. Burns	1966	David A. Vensko	1976		
Theodore O. Struk	1954	Douglas R. Forbes	1967	Thomas Sherry	1978	<i>Reflects gifts received as of November 12, 2013.</i>	
Axel H. Swanson III	1954	Jon D. Benedetti	1968	Thomas J. Robinson	1979		
Robert B. Berger	1955	James H. Hugar	1968	Mark D. Berger	1980		
Robert D. Buchwald	1955	Thomas A. Pollack	1968	David M. Kyle	1981		
Martin R. Hornung	1955	John C. Turcek	1968	Bruce R. Foster	1983		
Walter H. Imboden	1955	Gary D. Bello	1969	Paul Lerro	1983		
George W. Fasic	1956	James C. Murdough	1969	Keith W. Bornmann	1987		
Herbert F. Heffner	1958	Ernest Matthew Hause	1970	Timothy S. Clark	1987		
David B. Ferraro	1959	Donald S. Mizell	1970	Timothy A. Matson	1989		
Richard J. Kleinert	1959	Robert J. Hoppes	1971	Daniel G. Dwyer	1990		

Make your gift today!
Donate online at
www.alphamupikap.org.

ON THE WEB

Out of the Loop!

We're Missing Email Addresses for Nearly Two-Thirds Our Alumni!

Nearly two-thirds of our alumni brothers don't have active email addresses on file. That means that 667 of you are missing out on the latest active and alumni news and event details, delivered right to your inbox.

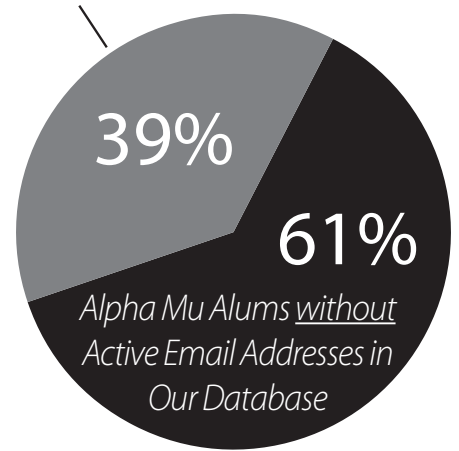
If you haven't been receiving our monthly eLetter and other electronic communications, log on to **www.alphamupikap.org** to update your email address. You can also send your updated contact information to

our alumni relations office at feedback@affinityconnection.com (mention Pi Kapp PSU).

In addition to receiving our chapter communications, you will also ensure that your email address is available for other brothers to contact you through our (password-protected) online directory.

Our email database is used solely for Alpha Mu communications and will never be traded or sold.

Alpha Mu Alums with Active Email Addresses in Our Database



Alpha Mu Alums without Active Email Addresses in Our Database

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Great Moments Forever Captured on Film

New Alumni Web Site Allows Users to Share and Comment on Archived Photos



Did you know that our online community at **www.alphamupikap.org** now features the opportunity to upload your own pictures to our group photo albums and comment on others? If you're among the guys forever captured in this image from the 1989 *LaVie*, head on over to our web site to leave a comment on this picture.

Other brothers: take advantage of the opportunity to upload similar pictures from your own era. We may select them to appear in an upcoming publication and hopefully spark some fun banter and memories among your class.

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