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Alpha Musings

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



STATE COLLEGE, PA.
October 2020

ALUMNI NEWS

Submit Your Update Today at www.alphamupikap.org!



In 2019, these brothers headed back to State College for a golf outing. Have you seen any Pi Kapp brothers this year, virtually or socially-distanced? Tell us about it! Send us an update by visiting the "Submit an Update" tab at www.alphamupikap.org and we'll add it to the next newsletter.

George Fasic '56 looks back at his time at the house as a place where he learned significant social protocols that aided him in his career. "The house mother taught me social graces and dining etiquette and social events increased my comfort level with talking to others. I learned how to get along with others, even those less-liked," he says. "It had a big impact on increasing my maturity." George was an urban planner for 50+ years and is currently sponsoring the Fasic Planning Scholarship Program. He lives in Kendal Crossland, a life care community in southern Chester County, and volunteers for several nonprofits. He can be reached at gfasic@verizon.net.

Don Woodrow '57 says the biggest thing that's stayed with him from his Pi Kapp experience



No trip back to Penn State is complete without a visit to the Lion Shrine!

parties, eating all the donuts before the others woke up (bad feelings ensued, he says).

After Penn State, Don went on to work as a geologist for the VA Dept of Highways, then went on to get his MS and Ph.D. He became a faculty member at Hobart and William Smith

is friendships. "I value very much my long-term connections with **Bill Simon '59** (now deceased) and **John Schmucker '58**, who I talked to just the other day. I have bumped into several other alumni over the years."

He has a lot of favorite memories: **Harry Holm '57** strumming a guitar at the bottom of the stairwell and humming OM loudly, the precursor of the hippy anthem. Mrs. Bubb's cooking, and cleaning the kitchen after Saturday night

-Continued on Page 2

REMEMBERING TRADITIONS

Three Favorites We Can't Wait to Experience Again

WE ARE... missing White Out this year

We appreciate these photos from Homecoming 2016 even more now, in the midst of this strange fall season. There are a lot of things that we Nittany Lions are missing out on this year. In times like these, we suggest looking back on better days. In remembering our traditions, we reassure ourselves that someday they will return, for us and future generations of Nittany Lions to enjoy.

We'd like to remind you of three traditions that make coming back to Happy Valley feel like coming home.

White Out

The first White Out game didn't take place until 2004 — against Purdue, if you can believe it — but it was solidified as a hallowed tradition after the 2005 game against Ohio



State. After two disappointing seasons in '03 and '04, the Lions made a legendary comeback at 17-10, re-establishing themselves on the national stage. The fans were also looking to make a name for themselves, and they did, when they rushed the field and created an atmosphere that Kirk Herbstreit called the best in the country.

THON

The Penn State IFC/Panhellenic Dance



Marathon, or THON, is the largest student-run philanthropy in the world. The goal is to provide emotional and financial support, spread awareness, and ensure funding for critical research—all in pursuit of a cure. For The Kids!

"We Are"

The popular version of the "We Are" origin story involves the Nittany Lions taking a stand against racism in the

1940s by refusing to travel to the Cotton Bowl without their two African-American players. While the story is true, the iconic cheer came into wider use when cheerleaders began using it in the late '70s. It was inspired by similar Ohio State and USC cheers. Either way, the chant is as loud and proud as any in the nation, and there's no better sound than hearing the crowd roar "WE ARE" at Beaver Stadium.

ALUMNI NEWS

—Continued from Page 1

College in Geneva, NY, and today he teaches geology part-time at Berkeley City College in Berkeley, CA. "Life is good," he says. He can be reached at dwoodrow@contractor.usgs.gov.

Harry Barfoot '77 says that the most valuable part of his Pi Kapp experience was the closeness of the brotherhood. "To this day, I have friends from the mid- to late-'70s who I still see a few times a year. During the pandemic, we've also held Zoom calls every month and choose a topic for us to submit in advance and we try and determine which brother submitted which answer." Harry retired at the end of 2017, and just celebrated his 39th wedding anniversary to his beautiful and loving wife Sally. He has two kids, both of whom are PSU grads. "We all enjoy football weekends when we are playing ball!" Harry can be reached at harry.barfoot@gmail.com.



Bruce Berwager '79 retired in August 2019 and moved to Incline Village, Nevada, on the NE side of Lake Tahoe. He says he was having fun skiing until the lockdown started. "Hopefully, all Pi Kapps and families are weathering this storm well," he says.

Walt Rakowich '79 contributes because he has a heart for Pi Kappa Phi. "It groomed me as an individual in college and definitely made me a more well-rounded person. For that, I am eternally grateful!" He enjoys seeing active brothers thriving and becoming better individuals because of their experience with the house. He connects with more than 20 brothers. They email regularly and recently met over a Zoom call. "It was a blast and certainly got us to think about what is important in life. Friendships are at the top of the list!" He reports that he still lives in Denver and loves to play golf. His first leadership book, *Transfluence*, will be published this fall. He can be reached at wakowich@gmail.com.

Buster Graham '88 says his favorite thing about being an undergrad in the house was being around people who liked to have fun while focused on success in their current and future lives. "It was a great time to be a Pi Kapp!" He says he'd like to see today's actives get the same opportunities and stay strong in today's tough times! His daughter is continuing the legacy and is a junior at Penn State. Buster can be reached at earlgraham@aol.com.

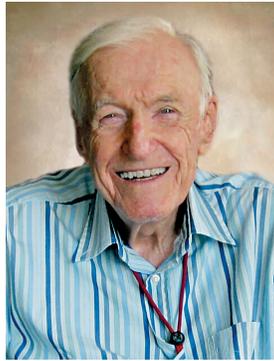
CHAPTER ETERNAL

Remembering Dr. Richard W. Brown, Jr.

We regret to inform you of the passing of **Brother Richard W. Brown, Jr. '43**. He was preceded in death by his wife Betty J. Withrow Brown after 68 years of marriage. He was born to Richard W. Brown and Mae E. Brown on August 21, 1921, in Reading PA, and graduated from Reading High School in 1939.

He obtained a B.S. from Penn State and a VMD from the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania. He was employed in private practice and then served as a veterinarian in 1946 for the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration on ships transporting draft horses to European countries devastated during WWII.

Brother Brown was a research fellow at the Department of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Minnesota (1947-1951) where he earned his Ph.D. He became a principal research veterinarian



at the United States Department of Agriculture in charge of mastitis research at the Animal Disease Station in Beltsville, Maryland, and then the National Animal Disease Laboratory in Ames, Iowa until his retirement.

He was a member of Sigma XI Research Society, the New York Academy of Sciences, and Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Microbiologists. After retirement, he and his wife Betty moved to Boulder City, Nevada in 1982. He enrolled in numerous UNLV Continuous Education courses pertaining to the desert.

Brother Brown enjoyed hiking sponsored by the U.S. National Park Service at Lake Mead and Red Rock Canyon and going on guided trips with the UNLV faculty. He also enjoyed playing golf before and after retirement.

We send our sincere condolences to the family of this fine gentleman and we honor his memory. Rest in Peace, Richard.

SURVEY SAYS

We Recently Asked Brothers: Where was Your Favorite Place In State College?

Here's What You Had to Say...



"The Creamery, for obvious reasons!"



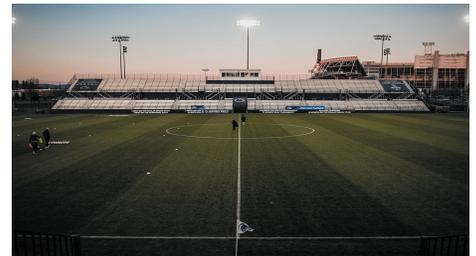
"The fraternity house at 409 E. Fairmount Ave!"



"HiWay Pizza for a late Saturday night."



"Pre-football game tailgates. Loved the camaraderie."



"The tradition was to attend the Friday night soccer games at Jeffery Field under the lights. It was a great time and I enjoyed watching our team."



"The sub place near McClanahan's."

PI KAPP THROWBACK

A Pi Kapp Vacation:

Looking Back at a '60s Road Trip to Steel City

A few years ago, **John Williamson '61** shared this snapshot from 1960, writing, "Packing turmoil in the 'Roaring Twenties Suite' as John Williamson struggles to finish a paper before dressing and joining roommate **Hal Miller '61** (foreground) and reluctant driver **Guy Stevens '61** (back left) on an impromptu road trip to visit Brother **Chuck Lewis '63** in Pittsburgh. Although a reluctant driver, Guy was first to pack and ready to roll for a splendid visit to the Steel City, which also hosted several Alpha Mu visits during Pitt-Penn State football games."



Do you have any photos from your time at Penn State that you'd like to share with the rest of us? We want to see them! Send them to alumninews@affinityconnection.com or log in to post them on our website at www.alphamupikap.org.



PI KAPPA PHI Penn State

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In this edition of Alpha Musings...

- *Alumni News! Brothers share life events and career updates*
- *Pi Kapp Throwback: remembering a '60s road trip to Steel City*
- *Flash Report: the vital stats of Alpha Mu*

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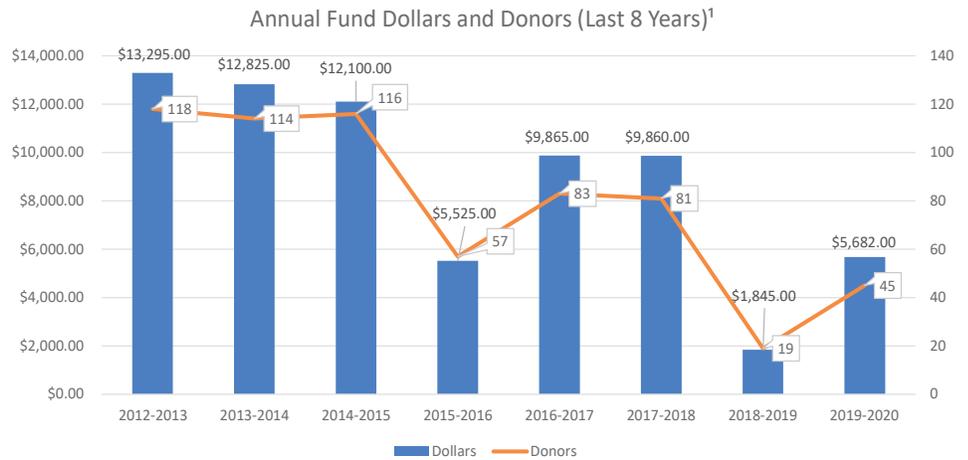
FLASH REPORT

The Vital Stats of Alpha Mu

A healthy fraternity is a living thing. It requires maintenance, care, and supervision. You are a member and an owner! To perpetuate our chapter and keep it strong, we as volunteers keep a close eye on the “beating heart” of our chapter, the brothers, and key statistics. Check out the full flash report of Alpha Mu’s alumni, donors, and donations on the alumni website.

Top 3 Decades of Donors (Last 5 Years)

1960-1969:	\$8,280.00
1970-1979:	\$8,187.00
1980-1989:	\$7,210.00



ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

Help Us Make the 2020-21 Giving Year Strong!



Alumni contributions are at the heart of everything we do. Our communications, events, and support for the Chapter all rely on gifts to our annual fund. And, as alumni, we play a critical role in making sure our Chapter lives on.

The giving year began anew on September 1, 2020; help us make this giving year the strongest one yet for Pi Kappa Phi at Penn State. As an alumnus, you hold the key to preserving our fraternity for its next 100 years. To give to the 2020-21 annual fund today, use any of these methods:

Visit our website to donate online at www.alphamupikap.org;

Call our toll-free Donation Hotline at **1-800-975-6699**;

Mail a check to our donation processing center listed below.

Pi Kappa Phi
Penn State University
Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Together, we can keep Pi Kapp at PSU going strong.

We would also like to thank those Brothers who have contributed to Alpha Mu so far this giving year! The Honor Roll below reflects the names of those who have made gifts to the Annual Fund between September 1, 2020, and September 21, 2020. Within each

Giving Level, donors are listed by graduation year. Thank you to all of our donors for their ongoing generosity!

\$100 - \$249.99

Harold O'Connor	1952
Axel Swanson	1954
Robert Buchwald	1955
Robert Healy	1967
Donald Holman	1969
Guy Kanak	1973
David Kyle	1981

Up to \$50.99

Richard Seidel	1952
David Waddell	1962
Theodore Webber	1968
Jeffrey Lasala	1980