

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue White Game

April 17-19

Looking for a reason to come back to Happy Valley? Well, save the date for this year's Blue and White game at 4:00 PM on Saturday, April 18! It promises to be a good time, as always, and a good way to see what Penn State is going to have in store for the rest of the Big Ten this year!

Make this year's Blue and White weekend special by making it a Pi Kappa Phi reunion in State College.

Arts Fest

July 9-12

If you like arts and crafts (or if you just want to make plans to meet up in State College), mark your calendars for **July 9 - 12!** 2015 promises to be an amazing year full of many events and opportunities to catch up with brothers back in Happy Valley!

Check out page 4 to see what's new in Happy Valley.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

We recently learned of the deaths of the following brothers:

Frank M. Eby, 1940

Lyle M. Koenig, 1947

John W. Foreman, 1948

James G. Kollar, 1968

Martin S. Pallagut, 1970

R. Kim Allegretto, 1978

Alpha Mu mourns their passing and sends condolences to family and friends.

Alpha Musings

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



STATE COLLEGE, PA.
February 2015

STATE OF THE CHAPTER



When Life Gives You Lemons . . .

By **Stephen J. DiOrio, President**

As many of you know by now, on November 20, 2014, the Interfraternity Council at Penn State suspended the Alpha Mu Chapter's associate member education program after receiving an anonymous letter specifically detailing allegations of hazing behaviors.

Following a thorough investigation, Alpha Mu's charter was not revoked, but instead it has been reclassified to an associate status and the Charter is "escrowed." The Alpha Mu Associate Chapter will have the ability to petition the National Council no earlier than October 31, 2015, but only after following detailed minimum requirements.

What does this mean?

- All current undergraduate members will have their membership reclassified into a disciplinary alumni status. This will preserve their membership in the fraternity but preclude them from being able to be involved in operations or activities.
- The undergraduates will have the opportunity to petition for reinstatement through a membership review process that will be completed over the next 30 days.

Additionally, the complexity and extent of hazing and other violations have prompted a

considerable amount of conversation between the volunteers, fraternity staff and university administration on whether a successful culture change can be accomplished at Penn State. Ultimately, Pi Kappa Phi's primary concern is maintaining the safety, well being, dignity, and respect of our members.

We make lemonade...

The period of suspension will allow us to instruct and mentor those undergraduates who are interested in being a part of Pi Kappa Phi and our great history and legacy in the following areas:

- Proper compliance with recruitment
- Education and ceremonial proceedings of the fraternity

In the days ahead, the number of undergraduate members willing to proceed with the proscribed process may be fewer, but the quality of the fraternal bonds among the actives and between the actives and alumni will be stronger.

I speak on behalf of the board and will say that we are very optimistic about the future of Alpha Mu Chapter and invite all alumni to help strengthen these bonds with your personal involvement and continued financial support. Your participation will make a difference in the life of a student—and a brother.

HONOR ROLL

*Thank you to the following donors who have supported the annual fund so far this year.
We can't do this without you!*

Eugene E. Kline, 1948
Ray E. Plymyer, 1948
Edwin R. Yeager, 1948
Jeff Hathaway VMD, 1949
John R. Mumma, 1949
George O. Herold, 1950
H. Donald White, 1950
H. William Brady, 1951
Richard F. Seidel, 1952
John Muench Jr., 1953
Theodore O. Struk, 1954
Axel H. Swanson III, 1954
Robert D. Buchwald, 1955
William F. Exley, 1955
Richard C. Heim, 1955
Martin R. Hornung, 1955
Robert J. Elmes, 1956
George W. Fasic, 1956
Richard F. McKnight, 1957
Donald L. Woodrow, 1957
Herbert F. Heffner, 1958
David B. Ferraro, 1959
Richard J. Kleinert, 1959
Vincent Maggio, 1959

William Simon III, 1959
Ronald K. Burdette, 1960
Alexander Bruce McKay, 1960
Harvey E. Strine, 1960
Hal Miller, 1961
Maurice P. Ranc, 1961
John H. Williamson, 1961
William H. Deihm Jr., 1962
David R. Lowthert, 1962
Richard G. Vuono, 1962
Earl B. Hoffman Jr., 1963
H. Michael Maetz, 1963
Brian T. Shirk, 1963
William S. Simpson, 1963
William J. Vernon Jr., 1963
Thomas Edward Keen, 1964
Ronald 'Zeke' D. Boldt, 1965
Thomas A. Burns, 1966
Anthony J. Zeme Jr., 1966
Douglas R. Forbes, 1967
Robert L. Healy, 1967
Jon D. Benedetti, 1968
James H. Hugar, 1968
John C. Turcek, 1968

James C. Murdough, 1969
Ernest Matthew Hause, 1970
Al Joseph Olah, 1970
Ralph L. Eckert, 1971
Robert J. Hoppes, 1971
Michael B. Trull, 1971
Eugene A. Bruss, 1972
Keith L. Shaner, 1972
Guy A. Kanak, 1973
Todd F. Kelly, 1973
Ronald D. Trull, 1973
John F. Hickey, 1974
Mark S. Singel, 1974
Lee R. Stone, 1974
William C. Lane, 1975
David A. Vensko, 1976
Jeffrey L. Wilhour, 1976
Harry N. Barfoot III, 1977
Stephen J. DiOrio, 1978
Ralf Sherry, 1978
Robert J. Simon, 1978
David M. Kyle, 1981
Stephen B. Letendre, 1981
Scott A. Horner, 1982

Gerry C. Yantis Jr., 1982
Bruce R. Foster, 1983
Guy M. Williams, 1983
Christopher T. Reitman, 1984
Scott J. Jandora, 1986
Bryant P. McGuire, 1986
Keith W. Bornmann, 1987
John C. Lawless, 1987
Ronald W. Losefsky, 1987
Kevin Donlon, 1990
Daniel G. Dwyer, 1990
John Volarich, 1990
Tom Keady, 1992
Michael J. Scheel, 1994
Matthew A. Curtin, 1998
Lou Lombardo, 2001
Corey Michael Talone, 2004
Aaron Christopher Crooks, 2006
Stephen Raymond Valahovic

Refers to gifts received by 2/16/15.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Robert D. Highton '53 (1496 Wessex Circle, Reno, NV 89503-1543; jake@unr.edu)

I graduated from Penn State in 1953 and taught 13 years at Wayne State University in Detroit and 34 years at the University of Nevada, Reno. I am retired with emeritus status, but still go to my Nevada office every morning to write columns and articles.

Thomas W. Balderston '64 (1972 Thatch Palm Dr., Boca Raton, FL 33432-7457; hcptomb@att.net)

I have two new books - *The Damascus Quran* (a novel) and the *Wonder of Terra*, which is available March 25. Visit my publisher at www.tombalderston.tateauthor.com.

See page 3 for a Q&A with Tom.

William J. Beisel '64 (308 Erie St., Edinboro, PA 16412-2213; billbeisel@verizon.net)

I married Dawn Greenwalt on December 27, 1965. We had two girls and now have two grandchildren, both boys. I retired several years ago, so we spend summers on our boat at Chauatuqua Lake in New York.

Robert J. Trotter '75 (363 Eagle Creek Circle, Lake Mary, FL 32746-3829;

rtrotter03@att.net)

This past year I had brain surgery for a meningioma (a tumor of the sack that contains the brain). It was not malignant and the surgeon said he got it all. It required 30 days of radiation follow up because it was so large and to make sure there was no reoccurrence. This resulted in a seizure the day before Halloween when we were in SC for the OSU and Maryland games. It was very much like a reoccurrence of the tumor because it created swelling on the brain, like the original tumor. Thank goodness it wasn't, based on two follow up MRIs.

My Pi Kap brothers that I have kept in touch with, **Bill Walsh** and **Scott Edelman** in particular, were there for support through this whole thing. I also recently celebrated 14 years with my lovely wife Debra. We have enjoyed travels to Fiji, Spain and Costa Rica. She has been a real trooper when it comes to care giving. Right now I'm concentrating on getting back to 100%. I am retired from IT management with Teradata Corp.

Gerry C. Yantis, Jr. '82 (805 Clearlake Pt., Seneca, SC 29672; gcyantis2@yahoo.com) 2014 was a big year for Amy and I. The last

of the children have graduated from college, we traveled to Ireland for the UCF game to meet up with Dave and Karen Kyle and were fortunate to run into Kevin and Kim Murphy as well as the Weirman contingent (Kenny, Wendy, Randy, etc.) to share a few pints before and after the game.

We sold our Herndon, VA home of 24 years and moved to Seneca, SC. We now enjoy living on Lake Keowee. If you are headed in the direction of Greenville/Clemson, SC, let us know.

Corey Michael Talone '04 (1016 Thrush lane, Norristown, PA 19403; ctalone@gmail.com)

I was married July 17, 2014 in Riploi (Tuscany, Italy) to Laura Teats. I also started a new job with Henry Frank & Company as a partner. It is a professional CPA firm specializing in tax, accounting services, attestation and consulting, located in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

Send *your* update to
[alumninews@
affinityconnection.com](mailto:alumninews@affinityconnection.com)
today.

ALUMNI Q & A

“It made me feel like a part of something . . .”

An interview with author and brother, Tom Balderston '64

Did you know you have an author amongst your fraternity? Recently, we spoke with **Tom Balderston '64** to learn more about what he has been up to since his time at Penn State:

Q: What made you start writing and are you working on any future projects?

A: It was partially credited to retirement. I grew up in a Christian family, but pursued it more when I was challenged to read the bible, which I read cover-to-cover. Doing this changed my outlook on my faith: I saw the reality of Christ. My first book was a testimony to my family, but I was advised by a minister friend to publish it. The second book built off of my first, and the third was more of a novel. A follow-up is coming at the end of March and takes the form of a biblical allegory. As for the future, I currently have six files of stories building up; however, I am not entirely focused on any of them. You could say I have a little bit of writer's block. I post a blog every week and try to do some form of writing every day. I probably will not have another book out for a few years.

Q: If you could go back and relive your college years, what would you change and why?

A: If I could go back to college, I would be a better student, but it was really just a lack



of maturity on my part. Going from my home environment to college, I had a renewed sense of freedom. Everything was so new and different that I was not very focused on work, but once I went to grad school at the University of Southern California, I had a different outlook on schoolwork.

Q: What about being in Pi Kappa Phi makes you the most proud?

A: It enhanced my time at the university and made my college life more enjoyable.

Q: Do you have any advice you would share with future generations of brothers?

A: My best advice goes for anyone, not just future brothers. Being a part of a social order has some value. Personally, it made me feel like a part of something and not just an individual. A fraternity is not a group of people with common interests, but after so much time together, we all end up having a unique bond that brings us closer.

Q: Tell us about your family

A: I have four kids, three daughters and one son, who are all married, and they all have a very positive work ethic. Along with my kids, I have ten grandkids. We are a very close family. My first wife passed away and

I am in my second marriage, in which we have formed a blended family. Although they all work in different cities and fields, all our children talk to and help out one another by sharing ideas. There are many families like ours with strained relationships, so we are lucky and blessed to have such a tightly knit family.

Q: What would you say your life's mission is?

A: Well, I am in my 70's, so if I had one, it is almost over, but as I look back; I realize that I never truly had one. I had good parents who always taught me that a positive work ethic and faith made me a better person. I was taught that I never got rewards unless I earned them. I attribute many of my life accomplishments to my faith and believe that the Lord is on my side. I would not have accomplished all I have if I did not have His greater guidance.

Q: If you could choose one thing to be remembered about you 50 years from now, what would it be and why?

A: I always supported what others did and was never jealous of them. I wanted to see people get ahead and accomplish things. I like to say, "if you can't be a good leader, be a good cheerleader."

We wish Tom the best of luck in the publishing of his novel in March and his files of stories still waiting to be read! To visit Tom's website, please go to: www.tombalderston.com.

ALUMNI REUNION

7 Brothers Meet in Florida for Surf, Sand, Brotherhood, and a Little Golf



L to R: Mic Say, Gary Bello, John Kieser, Rick Say, Julz Trull, Steve Bradley and T Burns.

Mic Say '70, Gary Bello '69, John Kieser '69, Rick Say '72, Julz Trull '73, Steve Bradley '71, and T Burns '66 recently met in Fort Myers, FL and had a mini-reunion! The group played golf at Twin Eagles. The last time these guys saw each other was in August for their typical summer rendezvous in

Happy Valley. Although it is nice for everyone to meet up at the same time, John says, "Getting together with a few old pals for drinks and golfing is a memory that will never be forgotten!" They all agreed that while it was not a very serious game of golf, it was definitely a great time!



PI KAPPA PHI Penn State

Alumni Relations Processing Center
P.O. Box 7007 • Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Address Service Requested

540-167

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
State College, Pa.
Permit No. 2

In this Issue...

- *What to do when life gives you lemons...*
- *What's new in Happy Valley?*
- *Updates from Tom Balderston '64, Robert Trotter '75 and more!*

Formal Photo Flashback

Remember that old prom photo you didn't want us to find? We found it!

Ah, formals. So many memories made and pictures taken. Remember when you wore that crazy costume to prom? If you don't, don't worry! That's just what we are here for. It's time to refresh your memory!

The photo on the left is from junior prom, Knights of the Round Table, in 1956. Clearly, they brought their A-game



Junior Prom, Knights of the Round Table, 1956

with the costume selection. On the right is the fall '70 and spring '71 pledge class at their formal, looking snazzy in tuxes and floor-length, patterned gowns. Don't these photos take you back to the glory days? So



Spring formal, 1971

those boxes that have piled up and ask all your friends. Please send your best formal flashback photos to alumninews@affinityconnection.com.

why not share and relive some of those fond memories in the process?

You know what that means. Dig through your photo albums, sort through

UP AND COMING IN HAPPY VALLEY



If you are planning to make a trip back to Penn State this spring or summer, grab your friends and check out two new hot spots that are new to the Happy Valley scene.

Liberty Craft House just opened Valentine's Day weekend right next to Inferno and Saloon off of College Ave. It combines prohibition-era accoutrement with innovation to create a one-of-a-kind experience. Their draft innovation features a 47-tap draft system has been intricately designed to pour ale, lager, wine, soda, coffee and cocktails correctly (That's right! Mixed cocktails and coffee

from a faucet!). Each draft is displayed on HD screens above the bar with information on what is tapped, including a live image of what remains inside each keg.

Coming Soon! Barrel 21 (2235 N. Atherton St., State College) Otto's Pub and Brewery is in the process of opening an upscale distillery and dining experience called Barrel 21 across the road from their present location on North Atherton, and you don't have much longer to wait! Slated to have a locally-sourced menu (just like Otto's does), the distillery will offer locally-sourced fruit brandies, whiskey, rum and gin.