

# THE METEOR

A PUBLICATION OF KAPPA CHAPTER OF CHI PHI FRATERNITY

FALL 2008

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## Alumni Association Determines Plan to Guide Kappa Chapter Toward Success

### *We Need Your Involvement!*

The Alumni Association knows that Kappa Chapter needs revitalization and a plan to get back on campus. We decided to take our thoughts to some alumni. Over the past year, we spoke with numerous Brothers about Kappa Chapter and collected valuable insights, ideas, concerns, and suggestions. Using this feedback, we have decided on a solid direction to guide our Fraternity back to success.

One big concern for Brothers we spoke to was how and why we are in this position. What caused our demise? The board agrees our Chapter's downfall and temporary closing was a result of all our own faults. The Alumni Association went dormant and let the youth do as they pleased. At the same time, we left one man alone to run our association. The result is the situation we are in.

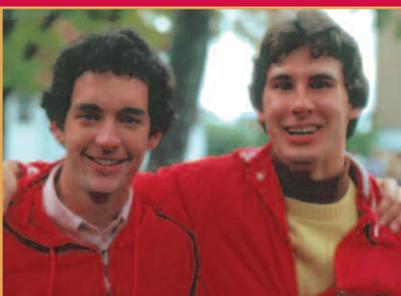
I remember when Chi Phi was the best chapter on campus, and I believe we can return Kappa Chapter to its rightful place once again. I believe future Chi Phis will be able to enjoy Greek life similar to our experiences. The solution lies within each of us. We have to engage and revive our involvement with the association! This is not a one-man show. This has to be a collective effort of Chi Phi alumni.

### **New Alumni Relations Program**

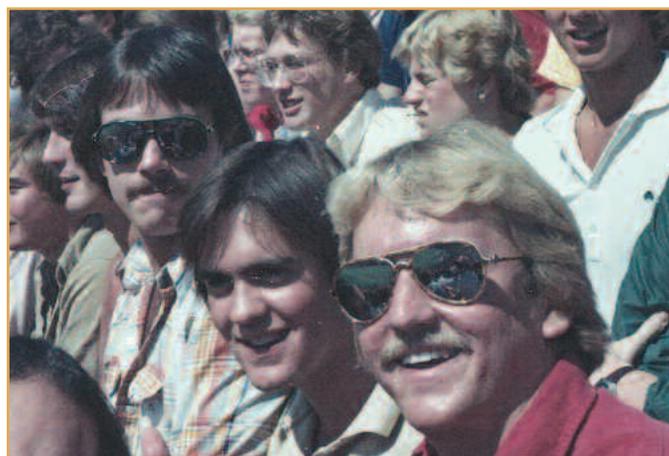
We've undertaken a new alumni relations initiative to take Kappa Chapter into the next 90 years. This plan takes into consideration all the feedback that's been given to us. I think you will be pleased with the results. Read more about our new alumni relations program in the article on page 3.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## FLASHBACK PHOTOS



*Patrick Corrigan '82 and a friend during their undergraduate days.*



*Left: Undergraduates sit outside the Chapter House and enjoy the snow. Left to right, Michael Endres '80, Matthew Rice '82, Michael Johnson '82, dog Orphie, David Morton '82, and Christopher Hagerup '82. Above: Chi Phi Brothers watch a Badger football game. From left, Raymond Warell '81, Michael Sund '80, and John Gobes '80.*



**CHI PHI**  
Authentic

### **Kappa Chapter's Mission Statement**

**Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi endeavors to create an environment where young men can learn and live a connected yet respectable Greek lifestyle as a student at the University of Wisconsin.**



# QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**Q: Why are fraternities still relevant?**

**A:** Fraternities can provide a number of things for a young man. They provide complementary social education and community connection to the University. It allows men to meet a broad spectrum of friends and the potential to meet a future spouse. Perhaps, most importantly, it teaches members tradition, legacy, camaraderie, leadership, and fellowship.

**Q: How is the Chapter going to change for the better?**

**A:** We plan to collaborate with the University and National Office to rebuild traditional values and community respect.

**Q: With regards to tradition, how are we going to get back to our roots?**

**A:** The association has an active alumni steering committee that coaches, teaches, and mentors. They will teach new members vows, commitments, ceremonies, songs, secrets, etc. They will also encourage alumni gatherings and interactive involvement.

**Q: What is the current state of the Greek system at UW and what is Chi Phi's standing with the University?**

**A:** The Greek system at UW has done a phenomenal job of exemplifying the four pillars of Greek excellence: scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and citizenship. In 2007, 117 Greek students held campus leadership positions and six chapters have a faculty outreach program. They continue to have a good working relationship with the chancellor and dean

of students. Chi Phi is in good communication and standing with the University, and UW supports our return to campus.

**Q: What is the role of National in the recolonizing efforts?**

**A:** We are in contact and in good standing with National as we plan our recolonization effort to kick off in fall 2009. National is a critical link to our success and wants to be involved. The National Fraternity controls our charter and is our liaison to the University. National's involvement will help us recolonize and guide us procedurally.

**Q: Who is our contact at the Chi Phi National office in Atlanta?**

**A:** Kim Godwin has taken over responsibilities as director of expansion and has been fantastic in supplying the Alumni Association with anything we request. Kim mentioned representatives from National will travel to Madison to meet with University of Wisconsin fraternity council members in early 2009.

**Q: Who has been helping the board members determine the best course of action?**

**A:** In February 2007 we had our initial Alumni Association meeting where Assistant Executive Director of Chi Phi **Richard Kuerston, Mu Zeta '02** was there to give suggestions and support. In May 2007 **Rocco Henry Carnevale, Mu '80**, the national grand alpha, met with several alumni board members and was updated on our progress and offered direction.

# Alumni Association Determines Plan to Guide Kappa Chapter Toward Success

*(Continued from page 1)*

### Recruiting an Active Chapter

We have a long way to go. Most importantly, we need to recruit new Brothers. We need to recolonize and have an active Chapter operating independently of our house. When our lease expires with Pi Kappa Alpha, our active Chapter will have a house to move into, and Chi Phi will return to Wisconsin.

### \$25K in 25 Days Initiative

It has to be mentioned that Brother **Ed Rogan '65** once again put his foot forward in Chi Phi's best interest by conducting the \$25K in 25 Days fundraising campaign. Many thanks go to Ed; we are grateful for his involvement. Please read the article on page 3 regarding this fundraiser and many thanks to all who donated.

### Assets and Spending

Our assets are \$819,101 and we've spent funds on alumni communications, efforts to bring Chi Phi back to Wisconsin, the chimney replacement, and other substantial repairs to the Chapter House. While we want to preserve our assets, we'll continue to have needs for house repairs, alumni communications, and alumni events. All will require your involvement and support.

### Share Your Thoughts and Suggestions

To share any thoughts or suggestions, use the new P.O. box and directly connect with your board. Send us your ideas so we can serve you. Get involved and attend annual meetings and upcoming social events.

We are moving in the right direction, Brothers. We need your help. This is your association and we all look forward to the day when we can visit our Chapter House again and reignite Chi Phi in our hearts. I look forward to the day when we are swapping stories at our house after a Badger football game.

Fraternally,  
**Jim Trotter '78**  
Alumni Association President  
(920) 728-1906  
kstjet@sbcglobal.net

## Recruitment Recommendations

Alumni, we value your referrals. We are recolonizing and need your help! If you know of any legacies or quality young men with Chi Phi character heading to UW, tell us about them. Get involved and help us out! Send prospect information to **Jim Trotter '78** at [kstjet@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kstjet@sbcglobal.net) or mail this form to Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi, P.O. Box 398, Cedarburg, WI 53012. Jim will personally see each man is contacted.

Prospect Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
Does prospect have a XΦ relative? \_\_\_\_\_  
High school attended \_\_\_\_\_  
Reference submitted by \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_



## ALUMNI CONTRIBUTE \$20,725 TO \$25K IN 25 DAYS INITIATIVE FOR KAPPA CHAPTER OF CHI PHI

### 40 Generous Kappas Support Recolonization Efforts

Thanks to our 40 generous Kappa Brothers and friends who came together in support of our quest to reestablish Chi Phi at the University of Wisconsin. Your generosity has resulted in \$20,725 raised in gifts of support. We were a bit shy of our initial goal but this initiative, added to our rent income, allowed us to cover the costs of routine house maintenance, our marketing study, and our communication and recolonization efforts. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has mistakenly been omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to the Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi, P.O. Box 398, Cedarburg, WI 53012 or e-mail **Jim Wagner '81** at wag@wi.rr.com.

Thank you, Brothers, for your gifts—they are truly appreciated!

Fraternally,

**Lenny Auerbach '67, Ralph Connit '67, Gary Pauly '67, Ed Rogan '65, Denny Schoville '67, and Paul Zeller '71**  
\$25K in 25 Days Committee

Thomas M. Anderson '60  
Leonard Auerbach '67  
Gerald E. Battist '61  
Benjamin F. Bennett '41  
Walter O. Bredendick '59  
Jack K. Brens '65  
Michael J. Cavill '69  
Charles E. Claflin '52  
Thomas E. Corth '60  
Wendell Davis '77  
John DeHorn '61  
Andrew DeMarco '90  
Douglas Dollif '86

Alice Draves  
In memory of  
William Thorkelson '39  
and William Draves '40  
Brian J. Endres '76  
Thomas J. Formolo '86  
Richard R. Grant '68  
Douglas P. Haensel '85  
Joseph P. Hildebrandt '66  
Dr. Mark J. Hoel '78  
Erik J. Hoekstra '00  
H. William Hoge '66  
Fredrick W. Jensen '56  
J. Peter Johnson '63  
Bradly Kuether '87  
Jack R. Kunkel '54

Glen Leggoe '77  
Clayton J. Lynde '68  
Thomas P. Madsen '98  
John H. Mahoney '65  
William Norris '67  
James G. Ozark '68  
Gary L. Pauly '67  
Edward Rogan '65  
Dennis A. Schoville '67  
Ronald P. Siepmann '54  
Jon T. Stoddard '64  
Laurence W. Trotter '52  
Peter J. VanEvery '65  
Robert E. Westervelt '50

## Alumni Relations Program Launched

Upon graduating from Wisconsin, we all leave Chi Phi with high hopes of keeping our fraternal bonds intact. Unfortunately, we quickly find that many new interests—careers, families, and civic activities—can create valid diversions. The day-to-day activities of life take over and, before long, we fall out of touch and begin to wonder what happened to our Brothers. Without a solid alumni relations program in place, our members lack the means for staying connected to the Fraternity.

With this in mind, our annual alumni relations program is designed to help our members stay in touch and to cultivate awareness and involvement in Kappa Chapter and its future. There are several elements that are key to the program's success.

### Two Newsletters Each Year

We will mail two newsletters each year containing alumni news, information on upcoming events, reports on various Chapter activities, and current lists of alumni officers. The newsletters will also discuss our recolonization efforts and where your Chapter is headed for the future.

### Two Appeals Each Year

After the fall and spring newsletters, we will send out an appeal to help support the Chapter. Due to the various giving patterns of our members, we believe two appeals each year are far more successful than just one. Many alumni choose to contribute each time they receive a solicitation, while others would rather give a

larger gift on an annual basis. We also realize that, occasionally, members will misplace the first appeal and the second one gives them another opportunity to support the Chapter. The contributions received as a result of these semi-annual appeals will not only help sustain the alumni relations program, but provide funds for house maintenance and the Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi. In each appeal we will include a list of annual appeal contributors.

### Biographical Update

Once a year, we will send out a biographical update that allows alumni to update the information we have on record. These updates also provide information for one of the most popular features in the newsletters, Alumni News. We recently sent out a bio update; please fill it out and return it. Altogether, the updates are a vital tool for maintaining our records and our ties with one another.

### Alumni Support

We would love support from all of you. A big way to contribute is if you know quality young men heading to UW, tell them about Chi Phi. In addition, see the form to the right to see how you can get involved. We also need Brothers in the Madison area to step up and help with events, communications, and the recolonization efforts.

We hope that through the Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi annual alumni relations program your fraternal bonds are regularly renewed and strengthened.

We are always interested in hearing from you, so if you want to become involved, have any suggestions, alumni news, or ideas for articles, please submit them to Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi, P.O. Box 398, Cedarburg, WI 53012, or e-mail **Jim Wagner '81** at wag@wi.rr.com.

## Alumni Serving Kappa Chapter

Want to reconnect with Chi Phi Brothers from your class decade? We need 20 alumni to communicate with Chi Phi Brothers via phone and e-mail to report what the alumni board of directors is doing to bring Kappa Chapter back to Madison.

- Yes, I want to spread the word and become a communications volunteer.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please mail this form to:  
Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi  
P.O. Box 398, Cedarburg, WI 53012

For more information contact  
**Jim Wagner '81** at wag@wi.rr.com  
or (414) 331-2036.



## Web Sites

Kappa Chapter's Web site is improved!  
Look for monthly news and tell us what  
is going on in your life.  
[www.kappachiphi.org](http://www.kappachiphi.org)

Chi Phi National  
[www.chiphi.org](http://www.chiphi.org)

University of Wisconsin  
[www.wisc.edu](http://www.wisc.edu)



*The voting board members of Kappa Chapter.  
From left, Bill Saemann '77, Mark Paschal '84,  
Dave Prochetta '81, Jim Trotter '78,  
Jim Wagner '81, and Terry Brown '88.*

## Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi Board of Directors

President  
**Jim Trotter '78**  
Elm Grove, Wis.  
(920) 728-1906  
kstjet@sbcglobal.net

Vice President  
**Bill Saemann '77**  
Gurnee, Ill.

Secretary  
**Dave Porchetta '82**  
Milwaukee, Wis.

Treasurer  
**Bill Kirchen '77**  
Cedarburg, Wis.

Communications  
**Jim Wagner '81**  
Menomonee, Wis.

Financial  
**Terry Brown '88**  
Wauwatosa, Wis.

Property Improvement  
**Mark Paschal '84**  
Milwaukee, Wis.



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## CHI PHI ALUMNUS ACHIEVES PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONAL SUCCESS Alumnus Spotlight—Ralph Layman '77

For generations Americans have been asking themselves what it takes to succeed in business. It seems Chi Phi alumnus **Ralph Layman '77** has figured it out. He credits passion and a positive attitude for leading him to his position as president and chief investment officer of international equities at General Electric Asset Management. "I think the most important thing is attitude. That is a big part of success . . . really creating that fresh attitude and running with it. It comes down to having a passion for what you do."



Ralph laid the groundwork for his career while at the University of Wisconsin where he earned a bachelor of science degree in economics and a master's degree in finance. He joined Kappa Chapter in 1975 and found "the perfect balance of students, jocks, partiers, and characters." Ralph describes Chi Phi as "a great place to find yourself and not outgrow during your dynamic college years." He fondly remembers his undergraduate time in Madison. "[Chi Phi] enabled me to balance life as it comes . . . the pressures, the joys, the parties, the disappoint-

ments, and balancing responsibilities with the undying attitude that you do not want to ever totally grow up!"

This fun-loving mentality is something Ralph has carried into his adult life. Whenever he can sneak a rare break from work, he and wife Jasbeena travel the world. Other hobbies include trying to beat his college daughters, 22-year-old twins Katie and Michelle, at foosball; walks on the beach with Jasbeena and young daughter, Karina; a trip to London to run a marathon with 17-year-old son, Robby; and skiing with his 19-year-old daughter, Lizzie. When describing his children to others Ralph commonly says, "I have three girls in college, one girl in diapers, and a boy in between!"

The balance Ralph learned at Madison is clearly a practice he continues today. Between a successful career, a growing family, and world travels, Ralph seems to be enjoying it all. His principles on attitude and passion are incorporated into all aspects of his life and have certainly served him well. E-mail Ralph at [layman@optonline.net](mailto:layman@optonline.net).