

FALL 2011

THE METEOR

A PUBLICATION OF KAPPA CHAPTER OF CHI PHI FRATERNITY

SUPPORTIVE ALUMNI AND ENTHUSIASTIC UNDERGRADUATES PUT CHI PHI BACK ON THE MAP

There is a buzz in the air on the University of Wisconsin campus: **Chi Phi is back!**

We can all be proud—our XΘ letters are back where they belong on the façade of our beloved Fraternity house at 200 Langdon Street. What an unbelievable accomplishment!

Just over four years ago, the cry for help went out: our Fraternity was done. It was an awful time. Through the persistent efforts of a few Brothers, we began our crawl back and, against all odds and pessimism, our persistence paid off.

On July 30, 2011, in the 100-year shadow of our forefathers—Red Triangles—we took back our house. If you weren't there, we missed you. Approximately 60 XΘ alumni attended, and we activated four new men, which brings us to a total of 20 actives; 13 of whom moved in on August 15. We held our annual meeting and followed that with a wonderful cookout, which brought about a grand social exchange of deep feelings for our Fraternity. Appropriately,



Actives and new initiates at the ceremony and celebration at the house on July 30.

our men were taught Wales Tails, so the tradition carries on.

The feelings of gratitude were felt by all who attended the July 30 celebration. Many brothers spoke openly about their enthusiasm of our accomplishment. As always, it was just great to be together again and enjoy each other's company. Brothers from the 1950s through the newer generation attended, making it a very well-rounded group. While the campus police were on watch, there were no incidents. It was a great celebration.

The house is going through the turmoil of repairs and renovations. Every surface is under attack: from the floors to the walls and ceilings. All visible points, like doors and windows, are also being updated. Furnishings are on order, along with appliances and a new dining room table and chairs. The house is being made over just in time for a successful recruitment.

Wait until you meet our actives! They are a wonderful group of smart guys and show tremendous appreciation for the effort their Alumni Association has put forth. We are witnessing the renaissance of Chi Phi.

Your board of directors has nine voting members with a circle of advisors offering to help. The Chapter officers are solid and well established. Other than some bank debt to manage, we are also financially solid. With 14 live-ins, Brothers, we will just break even to cover all expenses this year. Our goal is to obtain 20 pledges this fall and half as many in the spring. If that goal is achieved, we should have a full house next year and be back on solid footing.

We have turned the corner, gentlemen. Now all of us need to come together and support this wonderful rebirth. Please find time to visit 200 Langdon. Homecoming is going to be a big event—don't miss it! You can find the agenda on the back page.

(Continued on page 2)

Recruitment Recommendations

Alumni, we value your referrals. If you know of any legacies or quality young men with Chi Phi character heading to UW, tell us about them. Send prospect information to **Thatcher Jensen '14** at trjensen2@wisc.edu.

Kappa Chapter's Mission Statement

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

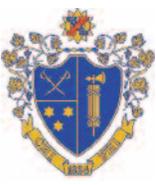


CHI PHI

Authentic



Joe Lein '13, John Gobis '80, Steve Baker '80, and Dave from XΦ National.



Chi Phi Ready to Take Its Place on UW Campus

Strong Academics and Involvement Prepare Chapter for Campus Presence

With 20 actives, our beautiful, historic house at 200 Langdon, and a promising future, the Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi is back! The past year of participating in intramurals, performing community service, engaging in brotherhood events, and running Chapter operations has paid off as we move back into the house and prepare for an exciting semester.

Chi Phi Academics Lead the Pack

The Chapter experienced great success in academics this semester, finishing with the third highest GPA among all 28 fraternities. The spring semester GPA was also an improvement from fall semester. In the upcoming year, we plan to maintain and improve our Chapter GPA through mandated study hours and group library study sessions.

Kappa Chapter Turns Focus to Recruitment

After working hard to recruit more men to the colony, we are proud to announce that we have four new members: **Andy Zirzow '13**, **Dan Beggs '14**, **Erik Friede '13**, and **Nick Makhija '13**. As we prepare for the coming year, our biggest focus is recruitment, with our goal to recruit 20 guys and double our numbers. If you would like to recommend a future Chi Phi, please see page 1 for more information.

Community and Campus Involvement Prevalent within Kappa Chapter

On April 20, a group of Brothers participated in a campus-community cleanup, removing garbage from the UW campus. On Easter, several Brothers went to a local community service center to help participate in an Easter egg hunt for children. On June 23 - 26, Brother **Mike Herrmann '13** and I attended congress in Orlando. We had the pleasure of meeting brothers from many other Chapters and participating in some changes to Chi Phi law. The Chapter celebrated our reclaiming of the house on July 30 with all 20 actives and about 35 alumni.

Chi Phi men participated in many intramural sports last spring, including basketball, dodge ball, tennis, and volleyball. Brothers **Thatcher Jensen '14**, **Kyle Romance '13**, **Mike Herrmann '13**, and **Steve Dallich '13** competed in an interfraternity golf tournament, as well.

All in all, the Brothers are very excited to be a part of the rejuvenated Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi. We owe a big thanks to all of our alumni and supporters, who have helped get us to where we are today. As we move back into our house, all the Brothers share the same ultimate goal for Chi Phi: to reclaim our spot as the top fraternity on campus.

Fraternally,
Joe Lein '13
jlein@wisc.edu
(262)-853-0887



Alumni and actives at the July 30 celebration.

CHI PHI BACK ON THE MAP

(Continued from front page)

Please send your donations to the Alumni Association. The gifts we receive foot the bill for our newsletter communications. Madison guys: it's time to get involved! Come and visit during a football game—you will be shocked at what you see! **Kappa Chapter is back!**

We are proud of our accomplishments and of our active colony. At this rate, it is very possible that we get our charter back in just a year's time. Wow! Get on board, and join this train. We are not slowing down or looking back. Chi Phi will take its place back on campus as number one again soon. After all, "We're the best house...."

Oh, and did I mention our guys have the highest GPA on campus of the social fraternities? We are very proud to have such high-quality men honoring our "Time Honored Tradition."

I hope to see everyone at Homecoming on October 15.

In the XΦ Bond,
Jim Trotter '78
kstjet@sbcglobal.net



Brothers Terry Brown '88, Russ Lein '81, and Jim Trotter '78, the two past alumni presidents and current alumni association president, celebrate the reclaiming of the house on July 30.



Top from left, Brothers Homa '14, Dallich '13, Lein '13, Kream '13, bottom, Gaddam '14, Makhija '13, and Romance '13 participate in a campus-community clean up on April 20.



Brother Homa '14 plays lacrosse on the Madison men's Club Lacrosse team.



THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI

Thank you to our loyal alumni who responded to the Chapter's spring 2011 appeal by contributing \$6,690 with 57 gifts. Your support makes a difference in the future of Kappa Chapter as Chi Phi returns to the University of Wisconsin. We hope that more Brothers will make the decision to support the Chapter as we work to prepare the Chapter House for our active Brothers' return.

Contributors are listed below in graduation order. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift, please contact **Bill Kirchen '77** at the Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi, P.O. Box 398, Cedarburg, WI 53012 or via e-mail at wkirchen@wi.r.com. Thank you for your support!

Scarlet and Blue Member (*\$500 and above*)

* Robert E. Westervelt '50
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Ronald P. Siepmann '54
* James A. Garvens '58
Neil J. Burmeister '60
* Gerald E. Battist '61
Robert F. Claus '65
* William A. Godar '69
* Thomas P. Madsen '78
James E. Trotter '78
* Theodore C. Meyer '81
* John H. Underwood '81
Mark R. Paschal '84
Nicholas W. Stocking '96

Chakett Member (*\$250 to \$499*)

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* Glen Leggoe '77
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* Dr. Stephen T. Baker '80
* John E. Gobis '80

Michael Kerns '80
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David Porchetta '81
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Harlan Mork '94
Jay Warner '97
Eric Anderson '98

*Donor to spring 2011 appeal.

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Henry K. Saemann '42 entered Chapter Eternal on March 27, 2011, at the age of 90. Upon graduation from the University of Wisconsin Henry entered the U.S. Army. He was an artillery captain in the 8th Army and served in France and Germany. After the war Henry returned from Europe and began his career with the Equitable Life Insurance Company. He lived in Milwaukee, Sheboygan, Cleveland, Wis., and finally Elkhart Lake. He is survived by his wife, Virginia, his children: Robert, Nancy, Nina and Barbara, and multiple grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Ronald P. Siemans '54 passed on to Chapter Eternal in May 2011. Ronald was a prominent real estate

developer and played a significant role in the residential development in Waukesha County, Wis. He was well known by community leaders for "working with the land" during development. He also was credited for building a new type of subdivision in 1966, which provided common, open space to be shared by all residents. This led to national recognition for his company and their creative style of development. Ronald is survived by his two sons, Jim and John.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Richard M. Moe '51 retired from his second career as executive director of the Norris Center for the Performing Arts in 2008. There, he was a founder of the nonprofit Norris Pavilion for the Performing Arts, completed in 1999. He and his wife,

Joan, have two children and four grandchildren. They live in Rolling Hills Estates, Calif. E-mail him at dmoe@norristheatre.org.

William "Tad" Murphy '56 retired to the Bay Area in California after living and working in construction management and sales in Peoria, Ill., for 16 years and in Denver for 20 years. Tad and his wife, Virginia, enjoy their three children: Mark, Maureen, and Marilee, and their seven grandchildren.

Gary Konwinski '74 retired in 1994 and now runs an importing business, Quality Lapel Pins, and provides consulting to the nuclear industry and the Environmental Protection Agency. Gary has two grown sons and two grandchildren, still enjoys classic cars, and loves living in Colorado with his wife, Nancy.

They travel frequently to beach destinations in South America, Mexico, and Central America. Gary says, "Life is what you make it."

Bradley D. Chapin '84 serves as president of M&I Bank Minnesota. He and his wife, Mary, have three sons: David, Jack, and Ryan, who attends the University of Wisconsin. Brad and Mary live in Excelsior, Minn.

John Micucci '96 is a senior account executive at EMC Corporation. He lives with his wife, Amy, and son, Maxwell, in Encino, Calif.

Ryan Haugarth '02 has developed an e-commerce site, GourmetKagoo.com. He and his wife, Karen, live in Paris, France, and are relocating to Hong Kong, China, in the fall.

HOMECOMING AGENDA

All Chi Phi alumni are invited to come HOME to 200 Langdon to join us in commemorating 100 years since the birth of Red Triangles and the rebirth of Kappa Chapter.

**OCTOBER 15
11 AM**

Watch the Badgers take on Indiana.

3 PM (Following the game)
Alumni reception at the house

5 PM
Pig, lamb, and corn roast barbecue

8 PM 'til the cows come home!
Live entertainment and
Homecoming bash

Festivities provided by the Kappa Alumni Association. Donations are welcome.

For only \$25 plus shipping, a sweatshirt hoodie may be ordered with commemorative embroidery.

This is going to be huge!

Ambition and Loyal Friends Carve Path of Success for John Underwood '81

During his freshman year at Wisconsin, **John Underwood '81** lived on a floor full of sophomores at Kronshage Hall. He was automatically drawn to the group, which included **Mike Kerns '80**, **John Gobis '80**, and **Steve Baker '80**, and the personal integrity each one had. When they pledged Chi Phi, John was convinced of their choice and soon discovered the positive environment and ambition Chi Phi and its Brothers provided.

John's undergraduate experience was filled with sports, parties, and academic rigor. "I remember playing backgammon in room four, often with John Gobis; having private meetings in the bar room before big parties; attending football games at Camp Randall where Chi Phi was inevitably at the top of Section O...and the obvious academic rigor and education." With John through all of these experiences was his group of hard-working, ambitious friends who stuck together, even in an

environment like UW-Madison. He is continuously grateful that Chi Phi became the focal point for reinforcing those values throughout his undergraduate experience.

The integrity and ambition that Chi Phi and John's Kappa Brothers provided has stayed with him through the years. Following his graduation, John remained in Madison to earn an MBA. At that time, he shared a house with two of his Chi Phi Brothers, **Russ Lein '81** and John Gobis, who were attending law school and medical school, respectively. John is now a senior managing director with Pflingsten Partners, a Chicago-based private equity investment firm.

John has maintained his ties with Chi Phi, not only through his friendships but also through involvement. He is a member of the Chi Phi Milwaukee Fantasy Football league, "where my primary job is to prevent the league commissioner from deviating from league rules, which has been a failure." As a Packers fan in Bears territory, John makes it to Lambeau Field every

year, with one tailgate reserved for his Chi Phi Brothers. He also heads north to Ontario for a yearly fishing trip with Mike Kerns, **Dave Porchetta '81**, Russ Lein, **David Underwood '82**, **Ted Meyer '81**, **Dave Kurtz '82**, John Gobis, and **Jim Wagner '81**.

John and his wife, Betty, reside in Arlington Heights, Ill. They have two daughters, Emily, who graduated from the University of Wisconsin in 2010, and Kelsey, who is a senior at the University of Wisconsin.



THE METEOR

Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi
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John, daughters Emily and Kelsey, and wife Betty cheer on the Badgers at the Rose Bowl.