

FALL 2012

THE METEOR

A PUBLICATION OF KAPPA CHAPTER OF CHI PHI FRATERNITY

CHI PHI RECHARTERED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON

ALUMNI CREATE LONG-TERM HOUSING STRATEGY

In December 2006 the cry for help rang out over the Internet: Chi Phi at the University of Wisconsin-Madison was closing. Since that day, alumni leadership has been revitalized and necessary action has taken place. A request was written to National Chi Phi Headquarters asking for our charter to be put in temporary receivership.

The Chapter House was vacated and the alumni were left to deal with the damage and repairs. Borrowing money from the bank, we were able to update the mechanicals to keep the house in operating condition. In June of 2008, **Ed Rogan '65** led a campaign to raise \$25,000 in 25 days. He successfully raised \$23,500 in a 90-day period.

On August 1, 2007, we leased the house to ΠΚΕ, which provided cash-flow for the four years. The alumni leadership evaluated the condition of the house and worked closely with National to ensure the lifelong sustainability of Chi Phi on campus. The alumni board knew it was time to focus on recruiting members and began the recolonization process of Kappa Chapter.

Numerous meetings between the University of Wisconsin-Madison administrators, the Madison Police Department, the Interfraternity Council, the National Panhellenic Council, and representatives from Chi Phi National took place to prove that Kappa Chapter was worthy of a return to campus. We paid down the debt that was owed to National and other utility companies while making payments on our bank loan. During the fall of 2011, we worked closely with a recruitment firm who helped us recruit 19 new members. We took ownership of the house again after completing many significant repairs such as new windows and doors, repainting the entire interior, and new mechanicals.

In 2011, 14 new members moved into the Chapter House, helping produce revenue. No major structural repairs were needed at that time. The undergraduates living in



the Kappa Chapter house are a respectful group of young men and National Chi Phi granted the colony permission to recharter a year earlier than expected.

Chi Phi was rechartered September 22, 2012, with a ceremony and gala celebration that was five years in the making. Grand Alpha Dr. James

Soderquist and Chi Phi Executive Director Michael Azarian were in Madison to conduct the recolonization ceremony, inducting the Kappa Colony back into the Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi. Alumni, actives, friends, and family were at the celebration, which truly was a joyous occasion.

Against all odds, we overcame the near impossible. Kappa Chapter is back on solid footing at the university. There are 37 undergraduate members, plus a strong pledge class, who strive to live by the values and morals that Chi Phi is known for. We know that they will pave the way for Chi Phi in academic excellence and leadership for many generations.

Congratulations to everyone involved for a job well done. The Chapter House is in good condition, but the alumni leadership has found that it needs renovation in order to provide our members a safe place to live. We are in the final stages of bidding a fire suppression system that must be installed by January 1, 2014; and a professional group has been hired to audit the house condition. Structurally, we are extremely sound, but recommendations have been put forth to remodel while the walls are open for the fire suppression system installation. The Kappa Chapter Alumni Volunteer Committee is in the process of assessing these recommendations and is creating a long-term housing strategy. Stay tuned for ways in which you can help.

Fraternally in the Bond,
Jim Trotter '78
(262) 352-1716
ksjet@sbcglobal.net

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



Larry Trotter Sr. '52 Reflects on Family Ties to Fraternity

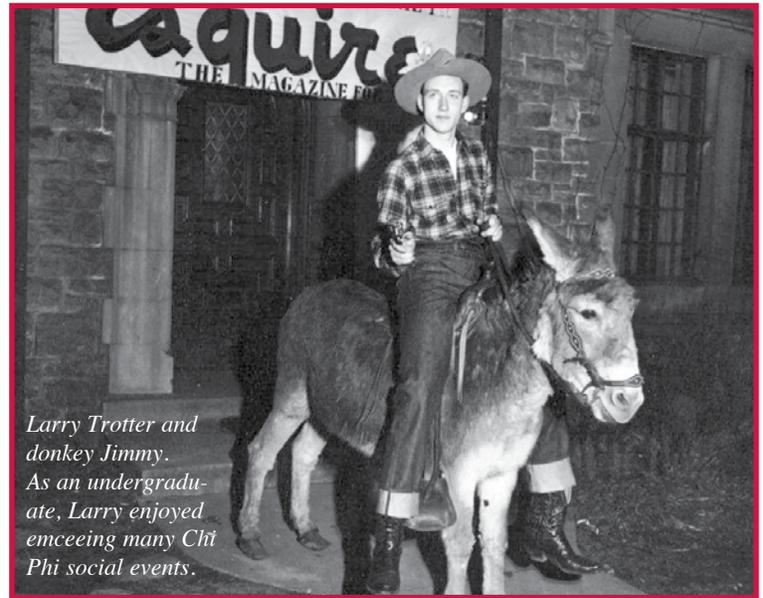
Chi Phi Unites Trotter Family

The Trotter family has a long history with Chi Phi Fraternity. It all began in 1880 when **William Ramsay Trotter** joined the Kappa Chapter of Chi Phi at Brown University. Years later **Laurence "Larry" Trotter Sr. '52, Larry Trotter II '77, Jim Trotter '78, and Rob Trotter '84** would all join Chi Phi Fraternity—and would all become members of Kappa Chapter.

In 1895 the Kappa charter at Brown University was revoked. Later, in 1916, the Kappa Chapter was recolonized at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. "I am very proud of the fact that my grandfather and all three sons were members of Chi Phi," Larry Sr. said. "It truly is a wonderful legacy."

Larry Sr.'s journey at the University of Wisconsin-Madison was a stepping stone to the next chapter in his life. Upon arriving on campus, he found that he was unsure of what he wanted to do post-graduation. After taking a series of recommended aptitude tests he was told, "You don't want to be a doctor. You don't want to be a lawyer. You don't want to be an engineer. You have a very unusual background, and it shows that you should be the president of a manufacturing corporation." He was only 19 at the time and questioned the recommendation. After serving four years in the Air Force, four years in the insurance business, and 14 years in the box business, he founded Colonial Container Corporation.

While Larry Sr. studied at the university for only a few years, his journey as a member of Chi Phi is ongoing. He has many memories from his time as an active member, including a 115-mile canoe trip in five



Larry Trotter and donkey Jimmy. As an undergraduate, Larry enjoyed emceeding many Chi Phi social events.

days with Kappa Brothers **Jack Crowe '48** and **Conrad Bittner '48** and the social events hosted at Kappa Chapter—the Esquire Parties and the infamous Cherokee western party. "I borrowed cowboy clothing from various friends," he said. "I hired Jimmy. Now, Jimmy was a mule. I rode him into the grand room of the house. Can you imagine the girls and everything? But they realized it was safe and they just loved him. When he drank a beer out of a bottle, they all just about flipped. And, who could forget our fabulous Mrs. Janda, our housemother?"

Since retiring, Larry has written a book, COAZ, which details his time in Chi Phi, as well as his military experience. Larry and his wife, Bette, recently moved back to the family ranch in Colorado after living in Sedona, Arizona, for 14 years. The couple has three sons, nine grandchildren, and is expecting their fourth great-grandchild on Christmas day. E-mail Larry at letrotter57@eaglevalley.net.

Kappa Chapter Celebrates Rechartering with Special Ceremony

What a wonderful day for Kappa Chapter Chi Phis. Parents, alumni, national representatives, actives and pledges gathered around 9 a.m. on September 22. The weather cleared and the sun came out for the game against UTEP. After the Badger victory, going back to the house felt different that day. Everyone was greeted by a warm reception as we waited for the rechartering ceremony to begin.

Kappa Alumni Association President **Russ Lein '81** gave an introduction and toasted our achievement. Grand Alpha Jim Soderquist spoke very highly of the Kappa Chapter and how we performed remarkably well in achieving our recharter. In fact, the actives accomplished this task one year sooner than anticipated. Our Kappa Chapter leads the country as the model for the rechartering process. Kudos to the brothers for their outstanding work.



Jim turned the program over to National Director Michael Azarian. Michael read the ceremonial script and our Kappa Chapter become whole once again. It was a very emotional and gratifying moment. Michael also spoke words of caution: Kappa Chapter can only succeed with alumni support. Michael further commented on the large turnout present for this occasion and that Kappa Chapter looks to be well supported.

Each active member was then called up by name to accept our new Charter. Our guys looked awesome in coats and ties. Many photos were snapped and the celebration was followed by dinner and some good Chi Phi fun. It was really great to see brothers and spend a day with them reminiscing about events that took place during our time.

Rechartering is only the beginning of the rebirth of our Chapter. Getting us to this point took an

incredible amount of effort from the following alumni brothers:

- Jim Trotter - Past President, BOD member
- Russ Lein - BOD President
- Bill Saemann - BOD Vice President
- Dave Porchetta - Past Secretary, BOD Member
- Tom Rowe - Past Secretary, BOD Member
- Jim Wagner - BOD Secretary
- Bill Kirchen - BOD Treasurer
- Mark Paschal - BOD House Manager
- Dave Kurtz - BOD Member Advisor
- Larry Davis - BOD Member Advisor
- Ray Warell - BOD Member Advisor
- Jerry Kulcinski - Campus Chapter Advisor, BOD Member
- The Active Colony

This amazing group of Chi Phi brothers remained steadfast and truly guided the Fraternity back to chartered status. It is awesome what can be accomplished when you believe your purpose. Thank you, Kappa brothers!



COLONY GRANTED CHARTER

Undergraduates Appreciate Alumni Support

Since returning to the University of Wisconsin-Madison campus only two years ago, the Brothers of the Kappa Colony have demonstrated the values of our ritual with the aspiration of receiving our charter and becoming an official Chapter of the Chi Phi Fraternity. During our journey, a close-knit brotherhood formed, and we have shaped Kappa into a thriving organization.

The Kappa Colony received recognition at this year's Chi Phi Congress as Accredited with Distinction and Best Colony Recruitment. Most importantly, however, the Grand Council accepted Kappa's petition to charter. On September 22, Grand Alpha Dr. James Soderquist and Executive Director of Chi Phi Michael Azarian were in Madison to conduct a ceremony that transformed the Kappa Colony into the Kappa Chapter of the Chi Phi Fraternity.

The Brothers of Kappa could not be more proud of the progress that our Fraternity has made and are incredibly appreciative of the assistance from our alumni, national offices, university and the Greek community. Thank you for your dedication to bringing the Chi Phi Fraternity back to the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Fraternally,

Kyle Hall '13, Alpha/President
kdhall2@wisc.edu • (715) 347-3001



Kyle Hall '13 and Bradley Bartel '15 with Chi Phi Brothers from University of Wisconsin-La Crosse at Congress.

Welcome, New Members

Douglas Greenberg '15
Weston, Mass.

Benjamin Howery '15
Verona, Wis.

Collin McFerrin '15
Minocqua, Wis.

Daniel Schraufnagel '15
River Falls, Wis.

Tyler Slowiak '15
River Falls, Wis.

Tyler Talafous '15
River Falls, Wis.

Brennan Waller '15
Fort Atkinson, Wis.

James Waller '13
Lake Geneva, Wis.

TOM ROWE '60 PROUD OF UNDERGRADUATE MEMBERS

FRATERNITY CREATES STRONG BOND BETWEEN BROTHERS

In 1967, **Tom Rowe '60** attended the wedding of his college roommate and Kappa Chapter Brother **Charles Robb '61**. This wedding was unlike any other Tom attended. It took place in Washington, D.C.—at the White House. It was a formal, Marine Corps military wedding with the bride and groom proceeding down the aisle under a canopy of crossed swords.

Charles was marrying Lynda Bird Johnson, the daughter of President Lyndon B. Johnson. "Charles was a fellow NROTC student at the university and Chuck married Linda," Tom said. "I attended the White House wedding, where I met the president, secretary of state and many celebrities and prominent guests."

Being a member of Chi Phi didn't just lead Tom to the White House for a wedding. It also led him to Norway to visit Fraternity Brother **Claus Sonberg '60**. Claus was from Norway and was an exchange student during college. "Claus spent summers and vacations at my home during college," Tom said. "(In Norway) we found the original Rowe family farm that dates back to 1857. We stayed with Claus as he drove us to

western Norway and the Sognefjord where we met our relatives." In 1972, Claus became the godfather to Tom's son, Keith.

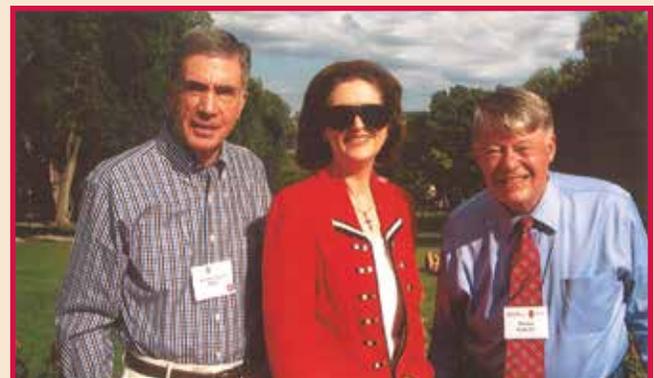
For the last 25 years, Tom has worked as a commercial real estate broker for the James T. Barry Company in Milwaukee. In 1998 he received an award for being the top commercial real estate broker in Wisconsin. Over a 10-year period he sold and leased one million square feet of industrial and office space in southeastern Wisconsin.

Tom also served on the city council for Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and is an active member of the Rotary Club, serving as president. "Our club designed and built the performance plaza in downtown Wauwatosa for community concerts and family activities," he said.

For the last five years, Tom has served on the Kappa Chapter Board of Directors, helping revive the Fraternity on the UW campus and regularly making the 75-mile drive to Madison to meet with the board

and undergraduate members. "My loyalty has been with Chi Phi for more than 50 years. This revival has brought a new vitality to the Fraternity and the alumni are proceeding with a passion for success," Tom said. "The new initiates are such a great group of young men. I would be proud to have any of them as my son."

Tom has five children, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. E-mail Tom at tqrowe@aol.com.



Charles Robb '61, Lynda Bird Johnson and Tom Rowe '60

SAVE THE DATE HOMECOMING OCTOBER 27

Alumni joins us after the game for a cocktail reception at the Chapter House.

THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI

Thank you to our loyal alumni who responded to the Chapter's spring 2012 appeal by contributing \$6,060 with 39 gifts. Your support makes a difference in the future of Kappa Chapter as Chi Phi reestablishes itself at the University of Wisconsin.

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.rr.com. Thank you for your support!

Scarlet and Blue Member (\$500 and above)

Robert E. Westervelt '50
Phillip A. Stafslin '53
Ronald P. Siepmann '54
James A. Garvens '58
Roger L. Gossel '58
John G. Powles '58
Neil J. Burmeister '60
Gerald E. Battist '61
Jon T. Stoddard '64
Robert F. Claus '65
Warren J. King '68
William A. Godar '69
Ralph Layman '77
Thomas P. Madsen '78
James E. Trotter '78
John E. Gobis '80
Theodore C. Meyer '81
John H. Underwood '81
Mark R. Paschal '84
Thomas J. Formolo '86
Nicholas W. Stocking '96

Chakett Member (\$250 to \$499)

Duane Redeson
Noah Saemann '37
John H. Saemann '38
James Christenson '39
Charles Christenson '40
John A. Brady '45
Charles Drewry '45

James S. Andrews '48
Jack Crow '48
Kenneth A. Teumer '49
Adelbert Bertschy '50
Phillip F. Clauder '50
William Halvorson '50
James C. Huber '50
Stanley L. Loose '50
Richard M. Moe '51
Arnold R. Bertelsen '52
John R. Pike '53
Thomas Beach '54
John Eimerman '54
Robert Linn '55
Bruno J. Mauer '55
Richard W. Mueller '55
Charles B. Kleinschmidt '56
W. Tad Murphy '56
Paul D. Sims '56
William Wuerger '56
John W. Johnson '57
James Kobach '57
Kurt Rossner '57
Robert B. Teska '57
Richard Wangelin '57
Wayne Arihood '58
Ronald A. Bero '58
George Crownhart '58
Walter O. Bredendick '59
Roger B. James '60
John Rickmeier '60
Kenneth P. Kinan '61
Gerald Kulcinski '61

Dennis Niebuhr '61
Charles Robb '61
Thomas Q. Rowe '60
Michael W. Copps '62
Lynn Pollnow '62
Gary L. Schulze '62
Thomas Smith '62
John S. Clarke '63
A. Severin Johnson '63
James A. McMillin '63
Robert E. Slavik '63
Peter Lillegren '65
Bruce Bendinger '66
Dr. Bill Hoge '66
Steven Wilmeth '66
Ralph Connit '67
Donald L. Knutzen '67
Dennis A. Schoville '67
Robert Conway '68
Russell A. Ewig '68
Michael J. Cavill '69
Jay Shirman '69
Lewis Turner '70
Timothy Wipperman '70
Michael Crotty '71
Gerald L. Roth '71
Kenneth Aldridge '72
Harley H. Schoenfeldt '76
Skip Davis '77
Christopher Endres '77
Glen Leggoe '77
William Saemann '77
Dr. Stephen T. Baker '80

Michael Kerns '80
Michael J. Sund '80
Mark Koenig '81
Russell M. Lein '81
David Porchetta '81
Todd Romance '81
James D. Wagner '81
Raymond A. Warell '81
Patrick Corrigan '82
David Kurtz '82
Lawrence G. Davis '83
John D. Haesler '83
Duncan C. MacNaughton '84
Michael P. Formella '85
Eric King '85
Douglas Dolliff '86
David Wyatt '86
Mark A. Behrens '87
Bradley Hammitt '87
Joseph P. Lobo '87
Greg M. Kastenholz '88
Michael Swenson '88
Jim Wegerbauer '89
Jeffrey G. Langenbach '90
Christopher M. Unger '91
Jess Langerman '93
David Perlson '93
Matthew Roethe '93
Harlan Mork '94
Jack Morrone '96
Christopher W. Bauman '97
Jay Warner '97
Jared Brunnabend '99

Robert Goeckel '99
Jason Fenske '01
Luke P. Dixon '03

Princeton Order Member (\$100 to \$249)

Secret Order Member (Up to \$99)

Jean K. Hawks
Benjamin F. Bennett '41
Gerald Holton '49
Harry W. Horning '52
Robert Jobin '52
Harry C. Mussman, D.V.M. '52
Clarence R. Muth '52
Evert Wallenfeldt '54
Roger Froehlich '61
Michael Moran '61
Larry Skaff '63
John H. Mahoney '65
Edward Rogan '65
Grant Beise '66
William Norris '67
Ronald G. Koppman '71
Brian J. Endres '76
Laszlo Kaveggia '78
Wesley M. Ricchio '84
Christopher B. Royse '91
Eric Anderson '98
Jason A. Kobylarz '98



THE METEOR

Alumni Association of Kappa of Chi Phi
P.O. Box 398
Cedarburg, WI 53012

Address Service Requested

PSRT
FIRST CLASS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAWRENCE, KS
PERMIT #570