

December 2016



Phi Kappa News

NEWSLETTER FOR ALPHA CHI RHO ALUMNI FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



Greetings Phi Kappa Crow Brothers,

I hope that this note finds everyone well and ready for the holiday season. I want to first of all “Thank” everyone who came to Champaign for homecoming this year. We had a pretty well attended homecoming, could have been better, could have been worse, but considering the poor state of the football program here, you have to come down for something other than to cheer a winning football team! We had a good crowd at the tailgate gathering and also after the game at the Chapter House. A list of the attendees is in this newsletter.

We have a few of our Commemorative coins left, and 6 hats. If anyone is interested in purchasing one or more, let me know and I will get them out to you. We will sell the large, enameled coins for \$12 each or 2 for \$20. I will throw in a hat if you buy 2 or more coins, or if you just want a hat it is \$10. I can probably ship whatever you want for \$8.

Now is the time of year that we need to be thinking about giving to support the Phi Kappa Chapter. Contributions may still be made before the end of the year to support repairs and improvements to the Chapter House. We also need to retire the debt we acquired to make the Chapter House conform to the City of Champaign building safety regulations a few years ago. Our loan balance is \$140,000. We are now up to code, but we are currently making payments to retire the loan. Please give if you are able. Make checks payable to “Phi Kappa Building Association” and mail to P.O. Box 103, Westmont, IL 60559. Gifts may also be made through a life insurance policy, stocks or by remembering Phi Kappa in your will.

Fraternally, and In the Bond,
Brad
Brad LaPayne, President
Phi Kappa Building Assn.

In This Issue:

- * October 29, 2016 – Illinois Homecoming Celebration
- * November 22, 2016 – Alumni Happy Hour
- * December 3, 2016 – New Brother Initiation
- * December 5, 2016 – Fall Elections for Resident Chapter

We want to hear from you!

It may have been a few years since you were on campus, and it may have been a while since you talked to some of your Brothers. You are invited to reconnect and rekindle those great memories by letting us know what you have been up to. Married? Children? New job or life passion? Write a paragraph or two and send it to andrew.kosowsky@sbcglobal.net so that we can share your milestones with the Brotherhood.





A Word from the Undergraduate President

Dear Alumni,

The end of a great Fall semester is upon us. Hopefully, we are in your thoughts and prayers during the impending Finals. The Undergrad Chapter has continued to maintain a high GPA. We also look forward to the Spring semester's philanthropy event - stay tuned for details! This semester we have participated in the philanthropy events and dinners of several sororities.

On December 5th, we held Fall elections. Positions such as Public Relations, Alumni, Ritual Office, Postulant Educator, Rush, External Social, Internal Social, and Sergeant-at-Arms were decided. Don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns about what the goings on of the House are. You can text me at 815-708-1168 or email me at aggonzo326@gmail.com. Happy Holidays! And Happy New Year!

In the Bond,
Alejandro Gonzalez
Undergraduate Chapter President

Undergraduate Elections

On Monday, December 5, 2016 the Phi Kappa Undergraduate Chapter held Fall Elections. Results are as follows:

President: Alejandro Gonzalez
Vice President: Harrison Bush
Treasurer: Matt Zwolinski
Secretary: Stefone Hoff
House Manager: Nick Arquette
Risk Manager: Anthony Wegman
Postulant Educator: Tim Hurley
Ritual Officer: Steven Singer
Rush Chair: Lucas Marvin
Assistant Rush Chair: Julian Morris
Assistant Rush Chair: Daniel Lee
Assistant Rush Chair: Rajeev Pilutla
External Social: Mikey Ernst
Internal Social: Nate Kelly
Public Relations: Thomas Paul
Alumni Relations: Patrick Storm
Scholarship: Austin Sun
Philanthropy: Tim Fallon
Sergeant at Arms: Kapil Thacker
Steward: Chase Engelbrecht



We wish the newly elected officers best of luck in their positions, and are confident that they will lead Phi Kappa of Alpha Chi Rho to continually increasing strength and prominence at the University of Illinois!

ALUMNI ACTIVITIES AND UPDATES

HOMECOMING 2016 – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH

On Saturday, October 29th a number of Phi Kappa alumni made the pilgrimage to Champaign for our Centennial Homecoming 2016! The undergrads and alum board hosted a tailgate in Lot 31 beginning at 8:00AM, and continuing through the football game. Quite a few alumni and undergrads took part in the tailgate. The football game did not have a favorable outcome, as our Fighting Illini were trounced 40-17 by those pesky Minnesota Golden Gophers. Despite the unfavorable football outcome, those attending the tailgate had a great time as they reconnected with those they knew, and had the opportunity to meet the undergrads and other AXP men that they had not met yet.

After the tailgate Brothers, spouses and families stopped by the Chapter House to view the recent renovations, as well as the memorabilia on display. Tasty BBQ was available along with beverages, and those in attendance had a great time reconnecting with their Phi Kappa brothers. We look forward to next year's Homecoming, a win by the Illini, and an even higher attendance by the Brotherhood. Pictures from Homecoming 2016 can be found on the last couple of pages of this newsletter.

PRE-THANKSGIVING HAPPY HOUR – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22ND

On Tuesday, November 22nd a group of AXP alumni got together for the second annual pre-Thanksgiving Happy Hour. The event was once again organized by board member Neil Kilcoyne, and took place at South Branch Tavern & Grille on Wacker Drive in downtown Chicago. All of those in attendance enjoyed reuniting with others from their college days, and having a few refreshing pre-Thanksgiving refreshments. The event was well-attended, and we look forward to the next alumni reunion event. Watch upcoming newsletters, as well as your email and the Phi Kappa Facebook page, for news regarding future events.

LINKEDIN PHI KAPPA GROUP / NETWORKING AND MENTORING

If we are to be one of the stronger fraternities on campus, the undergrads need to have solid alumni support. As part of this effort, a LinkedIn group for Phi Kappa has been set up and all Phi Kappa brothers are invited to join. You can find the group yourself, or contact Andrew Kosowsky on LinkedIn and he will send you an invitation to join the group. Once we get enough Brothers to sign up, we can explore networking/mentoring opportunities wherein alums can offer guidance and advice to undergrads or recent graduates in their career field. Please let us know if this is something in which you are interested.

DONATIONS

As Brad mentioned, there is always the need for donations in order to ensure that our almost-100 year old building is maintained in acceptable condition. You can make checks payable to "Phi Kappa Building Association" and mail to P.O. Box 103, Westmont, IL 60559. Another option is to visit our website at www.axpillini.com and make a donation online via PayPal. Your generosity will help Phi Kappa grow and thrive in the next 100 years!

If you need to stock up on AXP clothing and accessories, you can go to the new official online store of Alpha Chi Rho Fraternity at the following website: www.axpgear.com

FALL 2016 PLEDGE CLASS INITIATION

On Saturday, December 3, 2016, seventeen Postulants officially entered the Brotherhood of Alpha Chi Rho and became the newest members of the Phi Kappa Chapter. We are proud to welcome the following men into our Brotherhood:

<u>First Name</u>	<u>Last Name</u>	<u>Major</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
Andrew	Kanelos	Kinesiology	Chicago, IL
Austin	Sun	Computer Science	San Jose, CA
Carson	Banghart	Business	Champaign, IL
Chase	Engelbrecht	Computer Science	Freeport, IL
Dusty	Frye	Sports Management	Troy, MI
Endy	Lozano	Architecture	Champaign, IL
Hyun (Daniel)	Woo (Lee)	Mechanical Engineering	Joliet, IL
Jacob	Franklin	Agricultural Econ	Pana, IL
Julian	Morris	History	St. Joseph, IL
Matthew	Georges	Undecided	La Grange, IL
Michael	Starks	Community Health	Champaign, IL
Nicholas	Miller	Business	Geneva, IL
Patrick	Storm	Econ	Kenilworth, IL
Paul	Furer	Computer Engineering	San Ramon, CA
Rajeev	Pillutla	Electrical Engineering	Bridgewater, NJ
Rakesh	Wimmer	Civil Engineering	Australia
Tim	Fallon	Business	Kenilworth, IL



Post-initiation group pictures of various "Pledge families" within the Phi Kappa Chapter

Alpha Chi Rho: Phi Kappa Chapter Postulant Program



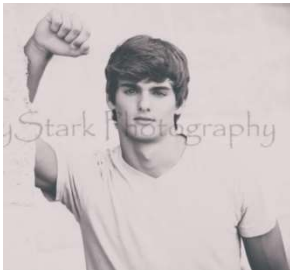
As Postulant Educator, I felt that this semester was going to be large in terms of the impact it would have on the Phi Kappa Chapter moving forward. Our house is in a critical period of growth and I wanted to continue this strong surge with an effective postulant program. We are excited to say that we have initiated 17 new Brothers. We have a 10-week program that focuses making the transition from postulants to not only brothers, but young men, in the finest way possible.

Our mission was to educate our future new members on not only our Landmarks and traditions of Alpha Chi Rho, but our great history as well. This pledge class has exceeded expectations when it has come to educating themselves on the history of our great Brotherhood. We constantly saw a plethora of knowledge coming from our pledges and we repeatedly saw them making great strides to be one of the best classes we as a chapter have seen in a while. It was also extremely critical to us that our pledges focused on their studies. Our Scholarship Chair consistently held study hours and we had brothers reach out to pledges who seemed to be struggling. We made sure that the pledges knew how important school was and that they were taking their studies as seriously as we do. Our Philanthropy Chair also worked with the pledges to make sure our postulants knew the values in giving back, and participated in some volunteer work throughout their program.

Moreover, while I saw educating our new members on our history as a high priority, I also felt it was important that they got to know all Brothers in the house and felt close to the brotherhood. This semester I introduced interviews, where pledges interviewed each Brother, getting to know a little about them and what they do. I saw this as a great way for pledges and Brothers to get to know each other and at the very least have a little bit of knowledge of who is who. This was a great success and we saw a great increase in the number of brothers who felt they knew the pledges much better than in the past. With initiation last Saturday, we were excited to finally initiate one of our strongest pledge classes and can't wait to see where they take our chapter and our fraternity.

In the bond,
Jake L. Bajo

A Word from the Pledge Class President

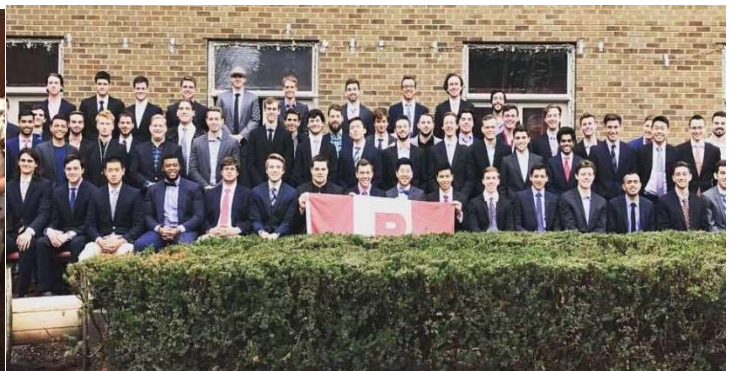


Hello, my name is Jacob Franklin. I'm 19 years old and from Pana, Illinois. I am currently majoring in Agricultural and Consumer Economics; and am the Pledge Class President of the 2016 Fall Pledge Class. I decided to pledge Alpha Chi Rho because of the devout brotherhood between all of the brothers and to continue the legacy my father, Dan Franklin, started in 1977.

Pledgeship has been an eye-opening journey for our pledge class. When I ran for Pledge Class President, I ran because I wanted pledgeship to go as smoothly as possible. I have learned how to lead a group of individuals who come from different parts of the country and have vastly different backgrounds. Pledgeship has created many lifelong friendships for all of us. We have grown closer to one another in ten weeks than I ever would have imagined. I cannot wait to see what the future holds for our class and the fraternity of Alpha Chi Rho.



The New Initiates



Phi Kappa Undergraduate Chapter – 12/03/16

HOMECOMING 2016 ATTENDEES

As mentioned earlier, Homecoming 2016 was well-attended, particularly by more recent graduates. Following is a list of Graduate Brothers who attended. If your name was omitted, please accept our apologies for the oversight.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Class Year</u>
Carl Amrhein	1976
Alan Bateman	1976
Brad LaPayne	1976
Mike Robinson	1978
Rich Furr	1979
Rob Rudow	1980
Steve Berns	1981
Gary Schmitz	1985
Andy Kosowsky	1987
Brian Schmidt	2009
Jason Luksis	2009
Sean Rohan	2009
Kevin Flaherty	2011
Justin Pacheco	2011
Jackson Shedelbower	2012
Mark Giertych	2012
Kyle Lowry	2012
Neil Kilcoyne	2013
Steve Heiss	2013
Aaron Letterly	2013
Jason Freek	2014
Evan Sanford	2014
Jonathan Lippner	2014
Jarrell Boykin	2014
Peter Davis	2014
Parker Brown	2014
Kurtis Houdek	2014
Mike Sistler	2014
James Conlon	2015
Jonathon Binkley	2015
Ian Eckles	2015
Tony Gallo	2015
Alex Kay	2015
Brandon Holland	2015
Paul Mastrantonio	2015
Luke Pope	2015
Charles Swanson	2015
Gustavo Alisio	2016
Kevin Letterly	2016
Will Hsieh	2016
Matt Mason	2016
Mike McGinn	2016
Kenny Miller	2016
Matt Reardon	2016
Nandu Talugula	2016

HOMECOMING 2016 PICTURES

Following are pictures from the Homecoming 2016 BBQ at the Chapter House:



HOMECOMING 2016 PICTURES (CONTINUED)

