

The Graduate Newsletter of the Phi Kappa Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho

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### PRESIDENT'S LETTER

For many of you this may be the first time in a long while that you have heard much about what is going on at 311 East Armory. I apologize for the lapse in communications and I wanted to let you know that, now that the Crow House is back on campus at Illinois, a number of us who are new on the Board of the Building Association, together with the enthusiastic and dedicated Alums who have served over the last several very difficult years as Officers of the Board are committed to getting communications back on track with all of our Graduate Brothers.



Before you get nervous, this is not a solicitation. With the challenges that are ahead, I'm sure that we will need your support in a variety of ways, including monetary, but those pleas will come later. This is simply an honest to goodness effort to bring you up to date on what is going on with regard to the Phi Kappa Chapter. Hopefully this will help you feel the excitement and enthusiasm of the new Board and the Emeritus Board for what's happening. The Crows are back on campus at Illinois and we have great plans.

By way of background, after a rather grim period of time over the past decade, I hope all of you are aware that the Chapter has been rechartered and the Crows are back in the Chapter house. At the rechartering ceremony in November of 2003, 25 Brothers were initiated into the Fraternity. Four additional "founding" Brothers who were not able to attend the initial ceremony were initiated in December. With a number of the newly initiated Brothers graduating last year, at this time 15 Brothers and Postulants are living in the house with others living off campus. Although we would certainly like to see the house closer to capacity, this core group is paying the bills and working hard to continue the membership re-building efforts. Whatever you can do to



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help the undergrads in identifying top-notch candidates for Alpha Chi Rho will be greatly appreciated.

With regard to the house itself, the undergrads

and the Building
Association are
working on what is
going to be an
extended effort to
return the house and
the Chapter to the
level of greatness
that many of us
knew as undergrads.
This is probably
going to be a 3 to 5
year effort.



Alumni and new brothers celebrating the re-chartering of Phi Kappa on November 11, 2003.

Unfortunately, while the Chapter was inactive over a seven year period, the house was rented out, first to individual Sigma Chi members and then to Chi Psi. Particularly during the last couple of years of this period, a great deal of damage was done, and wear, tear, neglect, and age took a heavy toll on the house itself.

This is simply a sad fact and the Building Association has put together a short term plan to deal with the most urgent issues, including several must-do items in order to meet building code and University occupancy requirements. This includes a sprinkler system and replacement of windows and many of the doors which are in very poor condition.

But that is just the tip of the iceberg in terms of what needs to be done. More importantly, the combined old and new Boards of the Building Association are working on a comprehensive 5 year plan which we have named "Returning Phi Kappa to Greatness". This plan will address not only the re-habilitation of the Chapter House

itself, but also will include very innovative and aggressive plans for building the membership and the stature of Alpha Chi Rho at Illinois. As part of that, we are working on some very compelling initiatives that will help in attracting

the cream of the crop of the young men attending Illinois. You will be getting more details on this as the plan comes together.

Anyone who would like to help with any specific components of the

master plan is warmly encouraged to volunteer. We need help in defining and communicating Crow traditions, defining a minimum set of operating standards for the house and the undergrads, as well as assistance is needed in passing along "the spirit of Alpha Chi Rho". The undergrads are interested in understanding and reactivating the kinds of things which we knew as part of the culture and structure of Phi Kappa Chapter. Our goal is to re-instill and perpetuate the positive traditions.

We also need help in developing and executing recruitment guidelines and a recruitment plan. There are a host of other components of the master plan where help will be needed. As we said earlier, we will be calling on you for many forms of support. Volunteers to help with the Return to Greatness campaign are warmly invited to drop a note or email to alumboard@phikappacrows.org.



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### UNDERGRAD UPDATE

Our house G.P.A. has been on the rise for the last year or two. Last semester we attained a 3.03 which put us in the middle of the pack for fraternities. Because of the amount of work that went into rebuilding the chapter, our previous semesters' GPAs had been regrettably low. With an upgraded study area and a lot more attention paid to academics, our house average is

continually rising.

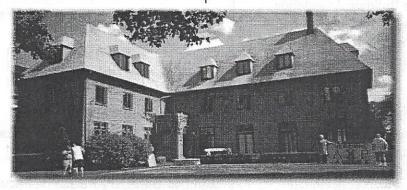
Over the last year we continued to participate in several service and philanthropic events. We adopted a highway last spring and have cleaned that 2 mile stretch every 3 months. We also participated

in Relay for Life, a semester-long campaign to raise money for the American Cancer Society, as well as several sorority philanthropy events.

Plans for our own annual Philanthropy to benefit either the Autism Society or Feed the Children have begun. One of our big ideas so far is to host a 4-Square tournament in the fall.

In addition to our improved GPA, this school year marked a change from the past few years in that we actually had a respectable social calendar. In the fall, we had 4 social events with sororities. We had events with Sigma Kappa, Phi Mu, 4-H House, and Presby House. In the spring we had events with Presby house and Alpha Omega Epsilon.

In the way of recruitment, we had a fall postulant class of 7 men. We have recently had elections and are already planning for a big fall recruitment class. This semester we only had one postulant. Spring rush is definitely a lot more of a challenge to recruit quality men, and we are constantly looking for ways to improve. Any ideas of events for recruitment from alumni would be greatly appreciated.



This picture of 311 E. Armory was taken back in 1997 during an alumni cleanup weekend.

We appreciate your continued support and look forward to seeing many of you in Champaign.

Next time you're in Champaign, definitely stop by and see the House; we're more than happy to have you.

In the Bond,
Dean Camberis, '05
Phi Kappa President, 2004-2005
2005-2006 Executive Board
President, Matt Militello
Vice President, Roger Serwy
Treasurer, Barry Underwood
House Manager / Chaplain, Keith Chernick
Member-at-large / Ritual Officer, Matt Duch
Risk Manager / Sergeant-at-arms, Anthonie Moll
Secretary, Joel Bonasera



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#### PASSING THE TORCH

Following the successful re-chartering of the Chapter in October, the Officers of the Building Association who had diligently served for over 10 years, requested that a new "crop" of volunteers be elected to serve on the Board of the Association. Eight individuals volunteered to be candidates and in December of 2004, these eight volunteers were elected to serve on the Board of the Phi Kappa Building Association. Fortunately, the officers of the outgoing Board graciously offered to continue to participate and contribute to a smooth transition of responsibilities.

At the first meeting of the newly elected Board in January, the new Board elected officers to serve for the coming year. The following is a directory reflecting the new and emeritus Board members and Officers as well as the newly elected undergrad offices.

# Members and Officer Directory 2005 Building Association Board of Directors

To cover all members and emeritus members, address email to:

alumboard @phikappacrows.com

President – Jim Spoor (1958)

jim@omniranch.com Office 303 592 3413 Home 303 781 7076

Vice President - Kevin (Chappy) Chaplin (2004)

Kevin.m.chaplin@accenture.com

Chappy9999@aol.com Cell 847 533 9097 Secretary – Jeff Dunning (1995)

dunningj@gtlaw.com Office 312 456 6612

Treasurer - Patrick Bowen (1994)

Patrickb72@prairienet.net

Office 217 678 8240 Cell 217 377 9790

Member -

Drew DePriest (2004) Illinidrew@yahoo.com

Member -

Hans-Peter (Pete of Mossberg)

Voss (1979)

pvoss@allstate.com Office 847 667 3269 Home 815 354 6791

Member -

Brian Dusak (2005)

bdusak@eraconsultants.com

Home 630 346 8191

Member ,University Relations, Faculty Advisor, Scholarship Advisor, and Local Issues –

Brian Brauer (1994) BrBrauer@fsi.uiuc.edu Office 217 333 9027 Cell 217 841 1820

Volunteer Attorney and Legal Advisor –

Jeff Wilson (1984) INTPROLAW@aol.com

Web Site Volunteer – Bob Horvath – Contact info below

#### Building Association Emeritus Board Members

Mark Bouckaert (1992) Past President

MJB@hplspen.com

mjbouckaert@comcast.net Office 847 392 2999, Ext. 225



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Kevin Anetsberger (1984) Past Vice President Kevin@tungsten.com Office 630 325 1001

Greg Remec (1984) Past Treasurer gremec@gmail.com

Bob Horvath (1983) Past Secretary and Web Site Volunteer

bob@horvath.com bob.horvath@motorola.com

### 2005-2006 Undergrad Chapter Officers and Executive Board:

President – Matt "Tweeder" Militello (2007) Mmilitel@uiuc.edu

Vice President – Roger Serwy serwy@uiuc.edu

Secretary - Joel Bonasera bonasera@uiuc.edu

Treasurer – Barry "Burr" Underwood btunderw@uiuc.edu

House Manager and Chaplain – Keith "Hartnett" Chernick (2007) kchernic@uiuc.edu

Member at Large (Webtorian) and Ritual Officer

– Matt "Duke" Duch (2007)

duch@uiuc.edu

847 404 3948

Risk Manager and Sergeant at Arms – Anthonie "Stew" Moll

moll@uiuc.edu

### JEFF AKE HELD HOSTAGE IN IRAQ

For those receiving this via postal mail, this article was written several weeks ago, and hopefully good news will have

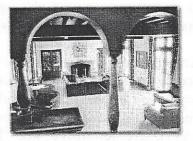


been forthcoming since the time of this writing.

In April, Jeff Ake (1981), was taken hostage in Iraq. Jeff is President of Equipment Express, a company that constructs machines used in filling bottles. Jeff was in Iraq helping the people of Iraq rebuild there country. His company was helping with filling bottles for water and cooking oil.

From news reports, it seems that the State
Department and Jeff's family desire is that for
his best interests, his story stays out of the news
as much as possible. We have respected their
wishes when contacted by the Daily Illini
newspaper for comment. We declined to
comment and we would request that any alumni
accommodate these wishes as well if in contact
with the media. We did feel it was important that

we did get the word out to the Brotherhood be aware of the situation. In the mean time, let's all hope for a Jeff's safe return.



### Let's Communicate

As best we can determine, nearly 800 Brothers have been initiated into the Phi Kappa Chapter of Alpha Chi Rho. Of those, National believes there are approximately 700 living graduate Brothers of Phi Kappa Chapter at Illinois. Particularly with the exciting things that are once again happening at 311 East Armory, we would certainly like to be in touch with every one of those Brothers. And, in the process we would also like to help you re-establish communications with your "Old Crow Buddies and Brothers". But somehow, contact with a substantial number of Brothers has been lost. The fact that you are getting this email or the mailed version of it confirms that we have some idea of where you are. That's a bigger step than you realize since we have managed to blend both an existing Phi Kappa Chapter alumni mailing list and a National list.

But we probably don't have much more than basic contact information for you. So one of the things we would like to ask you to do is to give us a short, sweet update on what's happened over the last few years and what's happening today in your life — a couple of short paragraphs would be super to get things started. We will be publishing these on a continuous basis over the next few months. If you can get your update to us via email (crownews@phikappacrows.com) that would make our job a lot easier.

Although we know that there are still some people who are not on the web and able to get email, we are hoping to use email as much as possible. It's just easier, faster, and less costly.

And it saves few trees as well. There are two email lists that you should be aware of. As was already mentioned, email sent to alumboard@phikappacrows.com is routed to the

current and emeritus board members. This is where the details of running the graduate chapter take place and where email destined just to the board should be sent. The main email list, which we encourage all alumni with email access to join is alumni@phikappacrows.com.

To subscribe to this email list, send email to alumni-subscribe@phikappacrows.com. This is

a moderated list, which means spammers and viruses are blocked by having email sent to a moderator for approval. We would only ask that email sent to the list remain on topic. More



http://phikappacrows.com/

information on the email list can be found on the web site.

Speaking of the website,

http://phikappacrows.com has a calendar of events, recent news, and information on how to become more involved. The technology on which the web site is built has the potential to become a great place for exchanging information about the future of the chapter, and memories of the past. Information on how one can contribute to the website will be sent on the mailing list and posted on the web.

Currently there are over 250 active email addresses on the mailing list. We are pleased that so many have found it since its inception, as it is the most efficient and cost-effective means of communication. We do understand that not everyone is on line, so we will continue to send out newsletters via postal mail to make sure everyone is aware of the status of the chapter going forward.



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### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Upcoming calendar of events

Golf Outing – Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup> Noon Tee Time Highland Woods Golf Course 2775 North Ela Road Hoffman Estates, IL

Join in for a great afternoon of golf with some of the greatest guys in the world This will be a 4 person scramble format with prizes for the lowest team score and highest team score

Limited to the first 40 golfers to sign up

\$75 per person includes cart and lunch. Pay by Pay Pal on the Crow Website.

Contact either Pete Voss at pvoss@allstate.com or by phone at 847 667 3269 or cell 815 354 6791 or Phish Bartlett at 217 649 8818

Mark your calendars now for **Homecoming** Weekend – October 22, 2005 as well as the entire Illini 2005 Football Schedule



Date / Opponent

Sept. 3 - Rutgers
Community/Youth Day

Sept. 10 - San Jose State

Varsity I Day/Boy Scout Day/Band Day

Sept. 17 - at California

Sept. 24 - Michigan State

Foundation Day

Oct. 1 - at Iowa

Oct. 8 - at Indiana

Oct. 15 - Open

Oct. 22 - Penn State

Homecoming

Oct. 29 - Wisconsin

Dad's Day/Salute to Agriculture Day

Nov. 5- at Ohio State

Nov. 12 - at Purdue

Nov. 19 - Northwestern

#### **Thanks**

Thanks to the following Brothers who served on the Building Association Board and who steered the difficult course through the Challenges of the past decade.

The Fraternity, the Chapter, the Building Association, and all of us as Phi Kappa alums owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the individuals who served as volunteers on the Board and who are now serving as emeritus members of the Board. These Brothers guided the Chapter through an extremely difficult and challenging period of time. These individuals personally provided the leadership to survive the painful closing of the Chapter in 1993 and have taken the necessary steps to preserve the Chapter house. They worked in cooperation with the National staff in the re-colonization effort, and they are continuing to serve the needs of the Fraternity.

Please join me in extending a very special Phi Kappa of Alpha Chi Rho thank you to the following Brothers for their dedicated service over the past decade:

Mark Bouckaert Kevin Anetsberger Greg Remec Bob Horvath Jeff Wilson Brian Brauer Terry Kuhn

> In the bond, Jim Spoor and the 2005 Board and the Emeritus Board of Phi Kappa

# Alpha Chi Rho 98th National Convention Information

Dates: July 28-31, 2005

Location: Hyatt Regency Boston, One Avenue de Lafayette

Boston, MA 02111

Telephone: (617) 912-1234 or (800) 233-1234

Web: www.bostonfinancial.hyatt.com

Room Rate: \$146.00 per night Room rate is offered three days before and after our event based on availability.

#### ROOM RESERVATIONS ARE MADE ON YOUR OWN

Package 1: Includes Fraternity Registration, Scholarship Reception, Scholarship Banquet, Saturday Stag Lunch, Presidential Reception and Feast of the Fraternity.

Package 2: Includes Fraternity Registration, Saturday Stag Lunch, Presidential Reception and Feast of the Fraternity. \$160.00

Guest/Spouse: Friday Night Scholarship Reception and Banquet \$75.00 Saturday Night Presidential Reception and Feast of the Fraternity \$70.00

Please send registration to the National Headquarters or register online at www.alphachirho.org/convention2005.

#### REGISTRATION DEADLINE FOR ROOMS AND FOR MEALS IS JUNE 30, 2005. LATE REGISTRATION IS BASED ON AVAILABILITY AND MARKET PRICE!

Alpha Chi Rho 109 Oxford Way Neptune, NJ 07753

Phone Number 732-869-1895 Fax Number 732-988-5357

### Registration Information

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Guest/Spouse Name	er I vertice er kei arrez est Prof.
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