The Purdue Phi

Indiana Theta Chapter ◆ Phi Delta Theta Fraternity ◆ Purdue University

West Lafayette, Indiana ◆ www.purdue-phi.net ◆ May 2002



A Special Ceremony, and a Busy Spring Semester

L to R, Barry Richard and Tom Williams

here has been and will continue to be much activity at 503 State Street this spring and summer. The most important item is our large class of new initiates who signed the bond after Christmas break. Of note about this class is that our House Director, Barry Richard, was initiated under a program that national headquarters has for initiating non-students. Adults who have never joined a fraternity can be initiated at the request of the undergraduate chapter for their work and dedication to Phi Delta Theta. The chapter voted to extend this honor to Barry, and he accepted. He attended pledge training classes and helped with pledge projects. This is not an honorary

membership, but a full membership in Phi Delta Theta.

Barry went through initiation and signed the bond. His father-in-law, Tom Williams (a Hanover Phi), attended the initiation.

Kenneth "Trey" Musser III was initiated by his father, Ken (Purdue '71). Ken traveled all the way from Georgia just to see his son initiated. Also attending were the relatives of new third-generation initiate, Michael Kappes. Michael's grandfather, Philip "Skip" Kappes (Butler '57), father Mark Kappes '77 and brother Alex Kappes (North Texas '04) all attended the initiation ceremony. Michael's uncle was Peter Kappes (Purdue '55). Alex initiated Michael with the pin that Skip gave to Mark, who had passed it to Alex. I hope Trey and Michael pass on their pins to other Phi Delts sometime in the future.

We are continuing work on the outside of the Phi Lodge this summer. After waterproofing the foundation and tuckpointing the brick last year at a cost of \$110,000, we still had a few leaks. It was determined that the 7,500-square-foot roof needed replacement after more than 30 years of use. That work will be done after school is out, at a cost of \$25,000. The repairs never end on an almost-century-old structure. We have also invested in new dining room tables and chairs, as well as chairs and sofas for the living room on the main floor. This furniture is coming out of some of Purdue's dormitories, so the price was a fraction of what buying new furniture

would have cost, which we cannot afford at this time (see roof repair). This means that by next semester, the Phi Lodge should be dry and nicely appointed on the inside.

I cannot overemphasize the improvement in the quality of undergraduates who have come into the house the past few years. Since

going "dry" three years ago, it has been a struggle to repopulate the Phi Lodge. With the new incoming pledge class and the carry-over undergraduates, the house is finally shaping up to reach the quality we want in Phi Delta Theta. As a testimony to the improvements over the past year, four undergraduates who had moved out of the house during the past two years are moving back in for their senior year. I think all the alumni will be proud of the group living in the Phi Lodge next year and will continue to support them.

Gary Batesole '77 Housing Corporation President

Elliott Scholar Winner Announced

ast year, Bob Bowen '61 and his wife, Terry, set up a fund to award a yearly scholarship for those students currently active at Phi Delta Theta. The Bowens honored Ed Elliott '36 by naming the scholarship after him for his many years of service to Phi Delta Theta and Purdue University.

This year's winner is Michael Kappes. Michael pledged last fall and was recently initiated into the bond. Ed met Michael at a dinner



L to R, Michael, Philip "Skip", Mark and Alex Kappes.

that Ed sponsors during the first weekend of school every year to interest freshmen in joining the fraternity. Ed took an immediate interest in Michael because of Michael's enthusiasm for our fraternity. His great uncle Peter Kappes and father Mark Kappes 1421 both were Phis at Purdue, and his grandfather, Phillip "Skip" Kappes, was a Phi at Butler ('47). His brother and two second cousins are also Phi Delts. Nice to keep it in the family.

12th Annual Phi Delt Open ... Details in the accompanying insert!

From the President

By Matt Theophilus '03, President, Indiana Theta

This past spring semester has been an exciting one for the brothers of Indiana Theta, especially the newly initiated. In early February, with help from Jason O'Rourke from Headquarters, we initiated 24 members into the Bond of Phi Delta Theta. This is the largest class since the adoption of the alcohol-free housing. Along with the excitement of being initiated, the fall 2001 pledge class was honored with a trophy and plaque for earning the most improved GPA out of all the pledge classes in any fraternity on campus. Along with their improved grades, the fraternity's overall GPA improved to above a 2.5 for the first time in more than five years.

Every year the brothers of Indiana Theta hold a lunch and auction for their mothers which coincides with Purdue's Mothers Weekend. This year the day was a huge success. The cook put on a wonderful sandwich buffet and the auction following was the best in recent years. The money raised from the auction is used to purchase items that will help improve the house. Last year the money went to buying the new pool table in the foyer, the mural of the house in the cafeteria, and the benches in the red brick room. This year we were able to raise over \$5000. At this time we are unsure of what the money will go to, but I'm sure it will be something of great use. Also, the Jeremy P. Francis Scholarship was established during the Mom's Club annual meeting held during Mom's Day. Jeremy passed away this summer and the moms thought it would be nice to establish a scholarship in his honor. The scholarship will be given to a brother who lives in the house, is a junior or senior, has a 2.5 or higher GPA, and does not have any other scholarships.

The house has seen some changes this year and there expects to be some more this summer. Several brothers designed and built a movie theater in the game room. The movie theater comes complete with stadium seating and surround sound. It has seen a lot of use in the few weeks since its completion. The game room also received a new coat of blue paint. Several brothers wrote to famous Phi's in hopes of getting signed pictures which we can hang up on the walls in the game room. This summer the roof will be redone to correct the leaking problem. The brothers have also been trying to raise some money to help with other house improvements. Things we would like to see done include: redoing the walls and floors in the hallways and foyer, redoing the bathrooms, and painting the inside of the house. These are just a few ideas we hope to get accomplished if we raise enough money.



As the semester ends, we look back on this year with great pride. We accomplished many great things and we are looking forward to another great year next year.

Indiana Theta Chapter Pledges

Guthrie Briggs Vivi, IN

EET

Eric Ehlers

Mishawaka, IN Undecided

Josh Hardman

Mitchell, IN Engineering

Matt Paulson

Chesterton, IN MGMT

Matt Prarat Vivi, IN

MGMT

Joey Rinaldi Hiltonbrand, SC Science

Derek Smith

Midtown, IN Food Science

Drew Welsheimer

Mishawaka, IN Communications



Welcome our new pledge class! Back row (L-R): Matt Prarat, Drew Welsheimer, Derek Smith. Front row (L-R): Eric Ehlers, Guthrie Briggs, Joey Rinaldi, Josh Hardman, Matt Paulson.

Go-Kart Grand Prix Team Needs Help

by Mike Turner '04

With 152 laps completed, the Phi Delta Theta Grand Prix team finished in seventh place after their clutch teeth were ground to stumps in last year's race. That race also saw the last laps for revered veteran driver Quinn Thalheimer, a professional kart driver. However, the team has high hopes for this season.

The Phi Delt Grand Prix kart has a green tony frame. It was modified years ago to fit its custom-made roll cage. Powering our kart is a two-stroke, 100 cc Yamaha engine that can produce almost 16 hp. This may not sound like a lot, but it can carry our driver to over 70 miles per hour.

This season, sophomore driver Jeremy Hall trained to take the seasoned kart through qualifications and into the big race. But his skill can make up for only so many problems caused by a deteriorating machine. Whether we like it or not, speed on



the racetrack boils down to who has the money, and Phi Delta Theta is always looking for sponsors for future years to come. Please contact me at 765-743-8180 or Turnermh@purdue.edu if you are willing to help in the future.

2001-2002 Contributors

Thank you to the brothers listed, who have already contributed to our 2001-2002 giving program. Your gifts provide the sole support that enables us to continue our alumni relations program, which includes the publication of this newsletter. If you have not yet sent a contribution for the 2001-2002 giving year, please do so today.

Purdue Phi Club

Kenneth C. Matthews '46 John M. McLellan '49 Jacob R. Stevens '99 Eric Von Grimmenstein '77 Thomas K. Dickinson '39 Philip D. Edwards '44 Richard K. Davisson '50 Edmund T. Baumgartner '49 John W. Scales '49 James A. Guyot '50 John A. Beletic '51 John R. Patterson Jr. '50 William R. Blew Jr. '51 James G. Staples '53 Frederick A. Server '54 Harrison A. Smitson Jr. '55 Edward G. Slatcher '55 Max H. Amstutz '55 Maurice G. Lorenz '56 William I. Ney '56 Ronald E. Snyder '56 Edward E. McCallum '56 Jerome L. Pickford '57 Robert W. Edmundson '62 Floyd E. Allen '63 Larry L. Bennison '63 Larry K. Long '64 Larry S. McDonald '67 Michael D. Miller '67 Scott L. Soucek '68 William K. Robinson Jr. '71 Donn T. Davies '72 Thomas F. Hamilton '72 Edward J. Mooney Jr. '75 Douglas W. Keene '75 Thomas L. Short '76 Jeffrey N. Reising '77 Bradley P. Dickinson '80 Michael A. Fouts '80 Michael C. Harper '79 Robert L. Hofmann '83 Josef A. Lorenz '85 Larry B. Taylor '86 David M. Hill '86 John S. Haering '87 Gregory D. Bell '88 Michael E. Eccleston '89 Timothy S. O'Bryan '90

David M. Heuck '91 John R. Deal '93 Richard H. Zay '93 Keith R. Huehls '94 John T. Best '97 Patrick J. Byrne '00

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Greg A. Leininger '75 James T. Judson '76 Alexander C. Lange '78 Gary R. Batesole '77 Jeffrey N. Reising '77 Robert C. Bouggy '78 John C. Zinser '79 Peter N. Tunnicliffe '81 Fritz W. Schumann '79 Timothy G. Marshall '80 R. Victor Thompson '81 Brett S. Kilpatrick '80 Ben E. Yeakley '81 Randy A. Asmus '82 Randall T. Clark '81 John M. Hare II '83 Thomas R. Hill '84 Michael L. Alber '84 John J. Schafer '86 Stephen J. Melonides '88 Robert F. Logan Jr. '87 Andy L. Beasley '91 Daniel S. Cozewith '89 Martin G. Rossio '90 Adam D. Decker '91 Robert M. Sweeney '91 Richard R. Norton '93 D. Brandon Weddle '95 Mark T. Van Etten '99 Anthony E. Sebastiani '98 Keith A. Carlson '98 Ian J. Reynell '99 Cesar Castillo '99 Todd M. Rath '00 Patrick J. Byrne '00

Breakfast Nook Renovation Fund

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NOTE: Contributions of \$100 or more to the Educational Fund includes membership in the Purdue Phi Club. Donations of \$1,000 or more qualify for Purdue PHI BRIGADE 1000.

Thomas P. Moore '72

Michael A. Moore '73

A Phi Delt Inspired Romance

Ed Elliott, President of the India Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta Educational Fund, and our Chapter House Advisor for the last three years, Sally Dodds Combs, were married January 5th at All Saints Episcopal Church in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Sally became a widow in 1998 after 34 years of marriage with Dr. Bill Combs. Bill, a former All-American football star at Purdue, was Purdue's athletic team physician for forty years. Having been longtime good friends, Ed asked Sally in June 1999 if she would consider being the House Mother for our Indiana Theta Chapter. She initially expressed some interest before saying "no." She recommended Barry Richard for the alternative position as House Director. After Barry accepted this position, Sally agreed to serve as the House Advisor. Both Barry and Sally started in these capacities when the fall semester began in August 1999. A lot of positive things for the chapter have happened since they became involved. Sally, Barry and Ed teamed up together in our Phi Delt golf tournaments in 1999, 2000, and mid-2001 and have worked together on many chapter projects. The companionship developed into a romance after Ed became a widower early last year. Sally's Florida nieces had a 70th birthday party for her at Marco Island last July. They played some golf during that Florida visit and there have been many ensuing golf games since then. At the Purdue Athletic Hall of Fame Dinner last November, speaking from the podium in behalf of his father, Edward Charles Elliott, a 2001 inductee, Ed stated that "for the first time, the son of an inductee and the widow of a prior inductee are announcing their engagement to be married.' Bill Combs was a 1997 inductee.

Ed's best friend since they were eight years old and a Purdue brother Phi classmate, Charles Callison was the Best Man at the wedding ceremony. Sally's Matron of Honor was her best friend Marjorie Vaughan Price. Ed and Sally honeymooned at Casa de Campo in the Dominican Republic and enjoyed playing golf there every day on two great Pete Dye golf courses. Both are now legal residents of Naples, Florida, but plan to spend a lot of time at Sally's home in Lafayette.



L to R, Marj, Edward, Sally and Charles, January 5, 2002

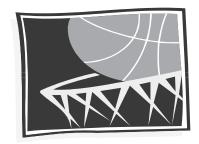
Phi Delt Athlete

By Joseph A. Thomas '04

I came to Purdue University with hopes of setting a solid foundation for a successful career in engineering. The only aspects of Purdue University I had previously known about were in relation to either its strong engineering or athletic programs. I've known from an early age that I would pursue a career in engineering. I also knew that I would want to pursue athletic competition at the collegiate level. As my senior year of high school came to an end, I received no scholarship opportunities from any colleges or universities. As a result, I assumed that I was going to fall short of my aspirations of competition at the collegiate level.

My true passion is with the sport of Basketball. I played every position for my high school team. I was the tallest player on the team, which is why I spent most of my time

playing as a forward or as the center. My versatility and athleticism allowed me to play all positions though. My true gifts and talents have proven to be a better fit for the sport of Track and Field. I competed in the



jumping events, high jump, long jump, and triple jump. The high jump was my strongest event.

On the second day of school, I received a phone call from Lisa Olson. She introduced herself as a coach in the Track and Field program here at Purdue. Lisa went on to explain (Continued on Page 6)

Good News/Bad News Comments

By Ed Elliott '36

aving been involved with Indiana Theta for seventy years—initially as a Phikeia in 1932, as an active until graduation in 1936 and a Brother Phi alumnus for the past sixty-six years—has provided me with an opportunity to observe the ups and downs of the chapter for a longer period than very few other brothers. Having the oldest chapter house of any fraternity in the state of Indiana—well-located across the street from the campus and still very eye appealingour chapter has some positives for which we can all be proud. With these, and now as an alcohol-free house with an outstanding group of

active members, we have a combination unduplicated at Purdue. As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter. there is a lot to be done in maintaining and updating our facility—a price to pay for preserving our historical gem. To get this accomplished, we need a greater percentage of financial support from our Alums than the approximately 25% who have paid Purdue Phi dues and/or made donations during the current fiscal year. We greatly appreciate the support from those on the Donor List in this newsletter. If your name is not listed, please send in your contribution as soon as possible.

Today's Greek Students: Confident, Concerned, Capable A View from Today's College Classroom

By Harry Zimbler, associate professor, Penn State University

Take heart, America! There's a positive movement afoot on today's college campuses that goes largely unreported and unrecognized. It is a remarkable transformation, and anyone who doubts that the future for the nation is bright has not been paying enough attention to it. This is a first-hand report from the Joab Thomas Classroom Building on the main campus of Penn State University.

I am talking about the focused, motivated, self-starting students who I meet in my classes every semester. Sure, this limited empirical evidence is unscientific. Still, I would have painted an entirely different picture five years ago.

Many of today's undergraduates know where they want to go and are willing to work hard and ask others how to get there. Most surprising to me is that a great percentage of the very best students are members of sororities and fraternities.

Now, on the first day of class, I can pick out the Greek students. They are confident, sit in the front, ask questions and participate in discussions. In a word, they are the best students, the leaders in the classroom and on campus. They cajole and

push one another to perform well on exams and quizzes, and form study groups outside the class, without being told to do so.

What's truly impressive is their willingness to get involved in causes larger than themselves. Take the Penn State Dance Marathon, the largest student-run philanthropic event in America. Often, I'll see my students in business and organizational meetings for various committees working hard to raise money for children with cancer. Last year, the Marathon raised more than \$3 million dollars. It is successful because there are undergraduate members of the Greek system willing to take on incredible responsibilities in a mature way.

Don't get me wrong, I still hear about the occasional campus incident where some fraternity brother acts like a jerk or worse. But these are fewer than ever and they are far overshadowed by the fact that the vast majority of Greek students are taking the initiative to improve campus and community relations.

Make no mistake; I come to my respect for Greek students honestly. As an undergraduate hippie back in 1968, the last thing I would have considered is membership in a fraternity. That was for dweebs and nerds. Later, as a young instructor, I had nothing but contempt for kids who seemed to be "buying" their friends. Fraternal life seemed like an abdication of individual choices and responsibilities. When my own daughter decided to join Gamma Phi Beta, I did everything I could to talk her out of it.

Thankfully, my membership in the "Woodstock Generation" expired. Now I enjoy having Greek students in my classes. They have taught me to see beyond the "Animal House" stereotypes to view a world where young people are preparing for the future.

The last thing I ever expected to do was to become a Greek booster. But that's what I am now. In fact, I often wonder how improved my own life would be if I had acquired leadership skills as an undergraduate. The highest compliment that an old hippie like me can pay to today's Greek students is to say, "I wish I could be one of them."

The next time you watch a movie or television show which includes a stereotyped frat boy or sorority girl, remember that the reality is much different, and much, much better.

Spring 2002 Theta Chapter Officers

Name	Office	Hometown
Matt Theophilus '03	President	Mishawaka, IN
Collin McGrady '03	Vice President	New Castle, IN
Nik Groves '03	Secretary	Kokomo, IN
Beau Baird '03	Treasurer	Greencastle, IN
Stephen Bush '03	Warden	Columbus, IN
Aaron Landini '03	House Manager	Carmel, IN
Ryan Lower '03	Steward	Logansport, IN
Mike Meenan '03	Risk Manager	Wooster, OH
Brandt Davis '03	Rush Chairman	Mitchell, IN
Steve Brown '04	Assistant Rush	Batavia, IL
Brian Falloon '03	Assistant Rush	Ft. Wayne, IN
Adam Devon '04	Philanthropy //	Granger, IN
Trent Daily '03	Social Chairman	4m
Brian Falloon '03	Social Chairman	Fort Wayne, IN
Mike Turner '04	Scholarship	Minneapolis, MN
Stephen Bush '03	Phikeia Educator	Columbus, IN
Don Kennedy '03	Public Relations	Warsaw, IN
Andrew Hilgart '02	Favors Chairman	Barrington, IL
Mike Turner '04	V.P. of Alumni Affairs	Minneapolis, MN

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Gary Batesole '77	Dr. Doug Christiansen
	(Utah '87)
Vice President	Director of Admissions
Jeff Reising '77	Purdue University
Secretary	House Advisor
Andy Beasley '90	Sally Combs Elliott
Treasurer	House Director
Mike Fritton '90	Barry Richard
Board	Members
Dr. Bo	b Bouggy '79
Caesar	Castillo '99
Bob H	aworth '75
Mark 1	Kappes '77
	rch '90
Joe Ri	1811 90

Educational Fund Officers

PresidentEd Elliott '36

Vice President Bob Bowen '61

Secretary/Treasurer
L. Robert Lowe '59

Phi Delt Athlete ... Continued from Page 4

that my high school coach had gotten in contact with her in regards to my talent and potential. She requested that we meet and discuss the possibilities of me jumping for Purdue. She convinced me that I have great potential to succeed, which could result in scholarship opportunities. So I started practice that very week.

Freshman year proved to be a busy one, balancing academics with athletics and pledge-ship with Phi Delta Theta. I finished off the outdoor season with a ninth place finish at the Big Ten Championships with a jump of 6'8". My height was significantly lower than what I was expecting

from myself, so I'm looking to come back stronger at this year's Big Ten Championships. My personal record that I set last year was 6'11". My goal this year is to jump 7'2", which could place me as high as second place at the Big Ten Championships.

Achieving my high expectations goes beyond how I handle my responsibilities. Thus far, I have experienced a great deal of support from my brothers of Phi Delta Theta. They have been extremely helpful in providing support in many ways. This is why I feel an extra responsibility this year to perform at a higher level in order to represent my fellow Phi Delts.

News from our Alumni

Ernest W. Ripy Jr. '35 (518 S. Main St., Lawrenceburg, KY 40342) My wife and I celebrated our 65th wedding anniversary in January. We were married on January 2, 1937. We have four children, nine grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren.

Richard N. Brigden '61 (5142 Fairlawn Crescent Ct., Charlotte, NC 28226; rbrigden@bellsouth.net) I enjoy my condo on Cape Cod during the summers, and traveling the Intercoastal Waterway and from the east coast of Florida to Massachusetts on my trawler.

Stephen T. Van Matre '63 (Cedar Grove, Greenville, WI 24945-0114; IEE1@aol.com) I am chair of the Institute for Earth Education in Greenville, WV.

Terry L. O'Connell '67 (146 Lukesport Dr., Quincy, MA 49082; oconnelltl@ charter.net) I sold my pharmacy in 2001. Sally ('67) and I are now semi-retired. I would like to hear from members of my pledge class and others, especially Gary Glover '65, Michael "Mike" D. Miller '67 and James "Jim" Williams '66.

Alan G. Carlson '67 (3440 Northome Rd., Deephaven, MN 55391; acarlson@ merchant-gould.com) Chairman and CEO of Merchant & Gould in Minneapolis, Minn.

Douglas A. Joyce '67 (30 Stratham Green, Stratham, NH 03885; joyce@dwc.edu) Director of flight operations at Daniel Webster College in Nashua, NH, I'm still busy at Daniel Webster College. Our fleet is now up to 35 aircraft, and student interest in aviation is still very strong.

Willis R. Smith II '67 (P.O. Box 237, Brookston, IN 47923) Agronomist with Senesac Inc. in Fowler, IN.

James T. Judson '76 (17111 Phillips Ave., Los Gatos, CA 95032; jimjudson@ attbi.com) Retired as director of finance at Sun Microsystems Inc.

Robert K. Collins '81 (9045 Cottage Grove Pl., Highland, IN 46322; fca@ mail.icongrp.com) President of Fred Collins Architects Inc. in Hobart, IN.

Marsh C. Kriplen '86 (32 W. 86th St., #3A, New York, NY 10024; m.kriplen@

ramsa.com) Landscape architect and architect with Robert A. M. Stern Architects in New York City. I married Alyssa Turner in Geelong, Australia, in November 2000. Best man was **Paul A. Puckett** '87. Also present were **Bradley** "Brad" **Erwood** '90 and Jim Quinlan.

Thomas W. Vahle '89 (22812 Eriel Ave., Torrance, CA 90505; tomv@ houstons.com) Regional manager for Houston's Restaurant.

Michael J. Briselden '91 (4299 Catamount Dr., Lilburn, GA 30047; mrarkansas@aol.com) I am project manager for The Whiting-Turner Contracting Co. in Atlanta, GA.

CHAPTER GRAND

We regret to inform you of the death of

William C. Musham '38 (7/01) and **Kenneth L. Mulholland '40** (8/14/01).

Phi Delta Theta mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.



Joe Fuller '57 says, "Our pledge class of 1953 had a great reunion last October at Lafayette. We all had such a great time that we held a mini reunion in Naples, Fla., in February of this year."

Enjoying the mini reunion in Naples are, from left to right, Don Klingler '57 (wife Katie in front), Joe Fuller '57 (wife Cheryl in front), Connie Scott and Tom Scott, Nancy Schuele and Bob Schuele '57, Kate Armstrong and Dean Armstrong.