

# The Purdue Phi

Indiana Theta Chapter ♦ Phi Delta Theta Fraternity  
Purdue University ♦ West Lafayette, Indiana  
[www.purdue-phi.net](http://www.purdue-phi.net) ♦ **November 2004**



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**Grand Prix 2004  
and Alumni  
Update Photos  
Inside ...**

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## Chapter Report

### Chapter Sees Many Successes

It's been a great start to the school year. We have the largest number of brothers living in the Phi Lodge in 15 years. Sixty-three young men moved into the house (capacity is now 65) this fall and immediately began to rush new pledges for next year. The fall pledge class stands at 20, and the list for spring rush has already exceeded last year's list. This means we should also have a full house next year.

With the additional rent being paid, we will be able to complete the work on the outside of the Phi Lodge that we began five years ago, without borrowing money or requiring a fund-raising campaign. This summer we renovated the breakfast bar in the dining room, as well as the laundry rooms. We also recarpeted the living room and computer room and plan to recarpet the hallways next summer.

The Phi Open golf outing this year was

also a record-breaking success, with 93 participants. **Andy Beasley '91** tells me his goal for next year is to break the 100 barrier. Not quite as exciting as breaking the sound barrier but a close second. The second floor of Harry's Chocolate Shop was full of Phi Deltas of all ages after the outing, with all sorts of lies (sorry, make that "stories") being told. Next year we need to have the Purdue Phi Deltas win the open — the Indiana University Phis have taken the trophy too many years in a row.

Homecoming was another success this year, even if the football game against Wisconsin did not end up the same way. We had many brothers from several decades return and several brothers who returned for the first or second time since they graduated. We hope to continue building the number of alumni who return to the Phi Lodge each year for homecoming.

If you are thinking about organizing a reunion, please give me a call or e-mail me, and I can help you contact brothers from your era. We have a very good database, and it is simple for us to get you a list. Also, please visit our Web site at [www.purdue-phi.net](http://www.purdue-phi.net) and keep in touch with fellow Phis as well as the new brothers who keep our traditions alive at Purdue University.

I would also like to encourage all of you to continue to join the Purdue Phi Club. Our dues pay for the newsletters, membership database, homecoming expenses and our Web site.

Yours in the Bond,

**Gary Batesole '77**  
[garybatesole@netzero.net](mailto:garybatesole@netzero.net)  
(317) 842-7459 ■

## Alumni Letter

### Letter from a New Graduate

Brothers,

Purdue University has a new alumnus, and his name is **Nick Champion!** After many hours in the library, classroom and local pubs, Purdue awarded me a bachelor's degree in management with a minor in management information systems. Hail, Purdue!

I call it the "Out in Four and Ready for More" plan.

Many know me as the guy who always has a smile on his face or the funny man who only laughs at his bad (good to me) jokes, or the one who keeps the party going. But not everybody knows my accomplishments at Purdue. During my four years, I joined social, business and honor fraternities — Phi Delta Theta (president), Alpha Kappa Psi (vice president of administration) and Order of Omega, respectively. Once understanding the "ropes" of the clubs, I soon took on leadership roles. My focus and dedication to these fraternities led to national and university awards, raising money for charities, meeting famous alumni, setting up tailgates and what should be a lifetime of friendships.

With a full schedule during the regular school year and intense Purdue football, I also took a summer to study global business in Copenhagen, Denmark, and to travel to parts of Europe. As I try to get everything out of life, I believe I received

everything I could from Purdue (Go, Boilers ... Boiler Up!). Now graduated and back from two great weeks in the Bahamas, I begin my job hunt and a new chapter in my life.

Who I am today is not just because of me but because of everybody who has influenced my life. That is why I must say thanks to my family, friends, teachers, coaches, Scout leaders and whomever else made me into who I am. I could not have done it without you.

If you are ever in the Chicago area, please don't be afraid to stop by. Thanks for everything and best wishes.

Yours in the Bond,

**Nicholas J. Champion**  
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*A final fountain run for the graduate!*

## Phi Delt's Take Top 10 Finish

After sitting out a year, the Phi Delt Grand Prix team came roaring back to capture ninth place overall.

Since 1958 many Purdue organizations have assembled teams and funded carts to compete in the annual race, frequently referred to as the "greatest spectacle in college racing." This past spring the brothers at Indiana Theta showed they have what it takes to compete with the best 33 teams on campus.

Due to not competing for a year, the cart needed some major work including the engine, clutch and brakes, and many minor parts as well. The crew worked diligently every night — after homework, of course — for two weeks prior to the race. All the hard work paid off when they qualified in 16th place.

Starting mid-pack was no challenge for **Jeremy Hall** as he quickly picked off seven carts to move into the top 10. As the lap count grew, so did the number of carts claimed by mechanical failures and race damage. Hall moved his way up to sixth place, where he stayed through the pit stop on lap 80, halfway through the race. As the race neared 120 laps, the heat and adrenaline poured as Hall and another driver collided as he tried to take fifth position. Hall gained fifth but the next few laps revealed that something wasn't right with the cart.

In the collision the roll cage had broken and was lifting up on one side. The safety crew quickly noticed it and issued a black flag resulting in an unscheduled pit stop to fix the problem. With only a limited number of tools in the pits, they

quickly wrapped safety wire around the broken piece and sent Hall back onto the track. The wire failed to hold and Hall was issued another black flag, resulting in a mandatory inspection by track officials. With laps winding down, the safety worker agreed that the roll cage was still safe enough, and Hall sped back onto the track after losing a few positions. A few laps later, the checkered flag flew. Hall had completed 145 laps, placing him ninth overall.

"I just wanted to say I finished the Purdue Grand Prix. I never dreamed we would make top 10," Hall said as he climbed from the cart.

The brothers at Indiana Theta would like to thank the housing corporation for their generous donation that went to rebuilding the motor, the guys at Comet Kart Sales (Greenfield, Ind.) for rebuilding the motor and for all their support in getting the cart back to top condition, and the alumni and families who donated money, shirts, tools, time, etc.

None of this would have been possible without also the countless hours spent by the crew — **Jeremy Hall** (driver), **Brandt Davis**, **Jeremy Baker**, **Mike Turner**, **Dean Sipes** and **Pat Miller** — and all the brothers who came out to the garage on those late nights to help.

Finally, a special thanks goes to the huge group of people who came to the race to show true Phi Delta Theta support. ■



## Indiana Theta Has Bright Future

The Indiana Theta Chapter is again flourishing here at Purdue University. The house is at, or very near, to capacity. With 63 brothers living in, there is always something going on around the house. And with eight new brothers initiated and 22 phikeias selected during fall rush, this trend is sure to continue. Indiana Theta has turned the corner toward a better future and is already reaping the benefits of it.

To ensure our continued success, several small but sure-footed steps have been taken. The number of house study table sessions has increased significantly, and hopefully this will help satisfy our goal of strengthening the house GPA further. Also, we placed in the top 10 in fraternity athletics. Our new fall pledge class will only further enhance the already-excellent athletic performance of the chapter.

The chapter's continued and improved involvement with philanthropic events also bolsters our reputation. We now make it a point to participate in numerous philanthropic events run by other houses throughout campus, on top of our own very successful philanthropy operated with Kappa Alpha Theta, benefiting the Lou Gehrig's disease foundation.

Indiana Theta also looks to increase alumni involvement with the chapter, one thing that has been lacking in years past but recently has been improving greatly. Indiana Theta has a bright future and is looking forward to enjoying your company whenever you stop by the house.

If you have any questions please feel free to write to our vice president of alumni affairs, **Paul Schulenburg**, at [pschulen@purdue.edu](mailto:pschulen@purdue.edu). ■

## Alumni UpDates

### **Richard E. Wagner '42**

(1786 Imperial Golf Course Blvd., #306B, Naples, FL 34110; [mickanddillie@juno.com](mailto:mickanddillie@juno.com)) We're both very much alive. We celebrated our 61st anniversary on February 19, 2004, and my 84th birthday on March 1. We disagree with the saying, "It's no fun getting old."

### **Richard K. Davisson '50**

(425 Fair Oaks Dr., Williams Bay, WI 53191-9404; [ddavisson@aol.com](mailto:ddavisson@aol.com)) Moved into a new house in the Midwest. Otherwise, nothing new.

### **Robert K. Marlowe '52**

(36 Ocean Meadows N., P.O. Box 1780, Ogunquit, ME 03907; [bobm5@gwi.net](mailto:bobm5@gwi.net)) I do volunteer small-business counseling with the SCORE chapter in Portland, Maine. SCORE is an SBA resource that helps people who are interested in starting their own business, or people who are currently in business and wish to talk with experienced business people. There is no charge for our counseling service, and we also hold workshops for a small fee.

### **Thomas O. Hippensteel '59**

(P.O. Box 1477, Carbondale, IL 62903-1477; [khippensteel@yahoo.com](mailto:khippensteel@yahoo.com)) Karen and I recently retired and built a home in Carbondale, Ill., while still living in Laguna Beach, Calif. It is a dream come true with plenty of room for our 13 grandkids, and it has a five-acre pond in front of it. We also planted a French hybrid vineyard that we will label as HippenHoff Vineyard Chambourcin and Traminette. We invite

fellow Phi and Purdue friends to visit us and sip some wine while viewing beautiful sunsets.

### **Danny M. Heatherson '69**

(51132 Covington Shores Dr., Granger, IN 46530; [dansr\\_2000@yahoo.com](mailto:dansr_2000@yahoo.com)) Just an update to let you know Pat and I are back in Indiana — in Granger, to be exact. We moved here two years ago from Virginia where I was plant manager for a NIBCO plant. I am now at corporate headquarters in Elkhart. I would love to hear from the brothers in this area to catch up on old times. Pat and I celebrated our 37th wedding anniversary in September of this year and have an 8-year-old grandson and a 2-year-old granddaughter. I look forward to hearing from you.

### **Richard G. Sears '69**

(1906 London Ln., Wilmington, NC 28405; [ricks@wilmingtongroup.com](mailto:ricks@wilmingtongroup.com)) For the guys in the 1967-69 era: My beloved wife of 36 years, Terry, passed away in June following a four-and-a-half-year battle with cancer. Terry and I were pinned in 1967 and married while at Purdue in 1968.

### **Michael R. Wilcox '69**

(5707 Bluebell Dr., West Vancouver, BC, V7W 1T2, Canada; [mwilcox@domex.ca](mailto:mwilcox@domex.ca)) Wife and I moved to Vancouver just a year ago so she could do "HealthTalk Radio." She is Dr. Meg Jordan, and you can see photos and learn more at [www.megjordan.com](http://www.megjordan.com). I have a mineral exploration company called Domex

Resources Ltd., and we are developing a gold property in Nevada. Weekends are mostly spent sailing our J-35 in the Gulf Islands and Georgia Strait. Kids are grown, bills are paid and life is good.

### **Paul A. DeNuccio '71**

(2 Long Marsh Ln., North Oaks, MN 55127; [denuch4@aol.com](mailto:denuch4@aol.com)) **George Fleet '71** and I welcomed **Stu Ledingham '71** to Minnesota for a little golf and a little (more) wine this June 2004. George and I are both with the 3M Company in St. Paul. Stu lives in Southern California and is CEO of Solus.

### **Tom Hamilton '72**

(10875 Leebur Dr., Sunset Hills, MO 63128-1532; [tom6868@att.net](mailto:tom6868@att.net)) I was promoted in March to associate vice president and manager of branch voice communications for A.G. Edwards & Sons, overseeing telecom support for 800 U.S. retail locations plus institutional sales offices in London, England, and Geneva, Switzerland.

### **Thomas P. Moore '72**

(802 Kestrol Ct., Basalt, CO 81621; [sportmd@sopris.net](mailto:sportmd@sopris.net)) Gail and I had our first baby, Noland Paul, on October 10, 2003. We live near Aspen, Colo., and can be reached at 970-927-3344 or by e-mail.

### **True B. Morse '79**

(4 Feather Dr., Asheville, NC 28805-9750; [tjmorse@charter.net](mailto:tjmorse@charter.net)) Well, we know we don't know how to plan a reunion. **Ralph**

*(Continued on Page 4)*



# Alumni UpDates

**Green '79, Tom Martino '79, John Clark '79** and I met recently for our 25-year reunion, assuming others would do the same. We did get to see **Dave Fouts '79**, who was there. **Bob Bouggy '78** and I are going to start now with plans for a 30-year homecoming reunion in 2009, so start looking for information.

## **Michael H. Miller '87**

(8346 S. Forest Ct., Trafalgar, IN 46181; michaelhowardmiller@yahoo.com) I work for a British company. We do hydraulics, oil and fuel systems for race cars. Still happily single, got my pilot's license last year and someday hope to fly to the moon. In the meantime, I've been living on a lake about an hour south of Indy with my "girlfriend" and two dogs, A.J. Foyt and Baloo. If any of my brothers who are now attorneys could contact me (317-225-6462) ASAP, it would be greatly appreciated! My best to all of you!

## **Michael A. Fritton '90**

(6925 N. Delaware St., Indianapolis, IN 46220; mfritton@somr.com) My wife, Ann, and I welcomed the birth of our third son, Matthew, on February 21, 2004. He joins older brothers Jack (7) and Alex (4) to help complete our



*Matthew joins Jack and Alex as the newest member of the family of Michael A. Fritton '90.*

golfing foursome (I'm the D player).

## **Keith R. Huehls '94**

(409 Windfield Pl., Lexington, KY 40517; khuehls@hotmail.com) After a 10-year tour of the Midwest (Illinois, Ohio and Kentucky), I've landed back in Indianapolis with Applied Engineering Services. Still looking for a house ... so I'm going to be homeless for a while.

## **Alan Rader '95**

(9928 Fall Creek Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46256-4803; alan@curvechasers.com) I am now a network engineer for Baker & Daniels law firm based in Indianapolis. We have nine locations, three of which are in China where we just opened this year. I myself did not get to go over there, but it has been a neat and challenging experience. I finally got engaged last fall, which did not work out. I've started racing motorcycles and am in my third year of doing so. I love it and am doing fairly well, I might add. I also host track days, which give street riders a chance to take it to the track where it is safer to go fast. You can get more information and see pictures on my Web site if you want (<http://racing.curvechasers.com/alan.asp>).



*The need for speed: Alan Rader '95 in action.*

## **John T. Best '97**

(2651 Renshaw Dr., Troy, MI 48085; johntbest@hotmail.com) My first child just entered my life. It's a girl! My wife (Juli) and I are very excited. One thing I will always remember about Phi Delta Theta is

that there wasn't a day that went by that I wasn't laughing about something that had happened to one of the brothers. I will always be grateful for that ... oh, and also the future opportunity to work on the political campaign of **Curtis Rand '97**.

## **David Gearhart '02**

(1014 W. George St., Chicago, IL 60657; gearhart\_9@hotmail.com) A pledge brother of mine, Cliff Thompson, and I have just recently been part of a new startup. We have only been in business for a couple of months, but things are really going strong. We are a full-service mortgage company that does refinancing, home purchases and commercial mortgages. If any of you need to refinance your home or are buying a new one, let us know. We will definitely help! Contact us at NovaStar Home Mortgage Inc., 770-392-3388. ■

## **Edward Elliot Scholarship Award Winner**



*William "Billy" Nutting is from Osceola, IN and is studying BCM. Congratulations Billy!*

See inside for photos of Phi Delta  
success in Grand Prix 2004!

Indiana Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta

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