

UPCOMING EVENTS

25th Phi Open

August 15

Contact *Andy Beasley* at
beasgolf@gmail.com for more
information.

Homecoming 2015

November 7

vs. Illinois

OFFICERS

Indiana Theta of Phi Delta Theta Alumni Association

President

Gary Batesole '77
pdtdgb1418@gmail.com

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Treasurer

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Tim Quigley '76

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Barry Richard '05

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Ron Reehling '80

*Undergraduate Chapter
President*

Brandon Stoller '15
[president.purduephidelts@
gmail.com](mailto:president.purduephidelts@gmail.com)

ON THE WEB

Alumni Web Site

<http://purdue-phi.net>

Chapter Facebook Page

[www.facebook.com/pages/
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The Purdue Phi

Indiana Theta Chapter ♦ Phi Delta Theta Fraternity

Purdue University ♦ West Lafayette, Indiana

www.purdue-phi.net ♦ November 2014



ALUMNI REPORT

**Need a Reason to Stay Connected with Indiana Theta? Here
Are Just a Few to Consider...**

***And It's Not Just a 1,000-Pound Dancing Gorilla (Although That Could
Be One Pretty Great Reason!)***

By Gary Batesole '77, President, Indiana Theta Housing Corporation

There are many reasons to maintain your connections to Indiana Theta of Phi Delta Theta long after graduation. For those of you who have not maintained activity with your fraternity, I would like to offer several reasons to stay connected.

We have one of the largest numbers of dues-paying memberships in all of Phi Delta Theta. The dues you donate every year pay for the newsletters we mail out as well as monthly eNewsletters sent to your email. Your dues also pay for maintaining and updating our database of alumni, and provide you with access and use of that database at any time at no cost to you. We have even put together and mailed letters for alumni organizing reunions, and have only charged for the cost of stamps. Any dues that come in that exceed the operating budget for the above items are utilized for a special project at the Phi Lodge. Last year, the extra funds went toward the new Theater Room we installed.

Alumni-In-Action meets every fall to do a special project for the house. This year they built platforms for the new Theater Room, on which the new sofas will sit. This will allow those in the back to better see the new ten-foot-

wide high-def screen and hear the surround sound. We always need new volunteers to help AIA, especially next year when our wish list project is to renovate the dining room.

Speaking of the dining room, I recently ordered new tables and chairs from an Amish company in Shipshewana, Ind. I told the father of the family-owned business that we needed tables and chairs that would support a dancing 1,000-pound gorilla. Since he didn't understand what a fraternity is, the joke went over his head. When I explained that it was a group of young 20-year-old college students that lived together on campus, he said "oh, 20-year-old men, that we understand." He called me back the next week (yes, the Amish are allowed to use cell phones) and said "I think we have designed very strong tables for your 1,000-pound gorillas." "Dad" is personally delivering the new furniture because he wants to meet some of these Purdue students and see the place where Neil Armstrong lived during his college years.

We hope, through your participation, to continue to improve and maintain our 102-year-old Phi Lodge in the coming years. It requires your continued support—not only with your dues, but also with your time.



RUSH REPORT

Indiana Theta Utilizes New Recruitment Tools, Welcomes 25 New Phikea

Indiana Theta had some great new tools to utilize during recruitment this year. New “Rush Phi Delta Theta” banners (courtesy of **Andy Bosworth '80**) were made, as were two-sided business cards with the recruitment schedule and our contact information on them. Recruitment Chairman **Kyle Negley** also had the chance to utilize new recruitment software, Chapterbuilder, which kept detailed notes and photos of each recruit, and tracked information such as their majors and campus involvement. In all, we recruited 25 Phikea this fall with 16 still actively pledging. We'd like to thank alumni **Brad Dickinson '80**, **Rick Hayes '83**, Andy Bosworth, and **Bill Green '76** for their help in planning our recruitment events and working on the budget.

Brothers of Phi Delta Theta with the fall 2014 pledge class.



SERVICE UPDATE

PDT's Philanthropy Requirements Expand Fraternity's Presence on Campus and In Community

Philanthropically, Indiana Theta is proud to produce and sustain involvement between



A view of the Turtle Derby from above.

brothers as individuals and the Purdue community. We require each brother to join and be actively involved in at least one or two Purdue student organizations outside of the fraternity, and encourage each brother to pursue leadership positions in these organizations. Through this and PDT's own philanthropic events, we've increased the fraternity's involvement and image with the Purdue Greek system and the university as a whole.

This semester, Phi Delta Theta and Delta Zeta teamed up to raise money for the ALS Association and Starkey Hearing Foundation by hosting a

Turtle Derby. This second annual event is put on by having other Greek organizations sponsor turtles and entering them in heats of live races on the PDT front lawn.

At the time of this publication, Brother **Matthew Steggeman** was preparing to participate in the Purdue University Dance Marathon (PUDM) on November 22, an 18-hour dance marathon to benefit Riley Children's Hospital in Indiana. All proceeds go toward pediatric cancer research and “Child Life Zone,” a program of Riley's that provides patients with toys and other things that feel like home. Stay tuned to our upcoming eLetters for an update on the event.

ALUMNI UPDATES

A. John Geis '53

(371 Carolina Meadows Villa, Chapel Hill, NC 27517; ajgeis@att.net) My first great-grandson was born on October 8, my 83rd birthday. He has the same initials as me: A.J. Geis.

Ron Pierce '55

(1007 Capt O'Neal, Daphne, AL 36526; rpierce@wescoweld.com) I am still enjoying working each day in our family business as Chairman & CEO of Wesco Gas & Welding Supply. Being active all these years gives

me renewed energy and enjoyment. Joyce and I have four married children and 10 grandchildren that all live closeby. We greatly enjoy them. I continue to be active nationally and locally in the American Welding Society. Now as Chairman Emeritus I participate in the National AWS Board of Directors meetings and Foundation meetings, all of which are having marvelous success in growth of supporting our industry. Living in the Deep South allows me to play weekly golf games, which is still my passion. I hope this finds many of my old brothers in as good health as I am.

John Menaugh '70

(12441 Topaz Vista Way, Castle Rock, CO 80108; johnmenaugh@msn.com) I live in Castle Pines, Colo. with my wife Leslie. I retired from the DuPont Company after working almost 35 years in various sales and marketing positions. Our daughters, Katie and Ali, live nearby. Ali and her husband have two children, Adrienne and Reilly. Any brothers visiting Denver are welcome to stop by for a beer or some wine and enjoy our view. We can also go up the mountains to ski!

The Pillar Society is Built by the Foundation of Indiana Theta's Lifelong Leaders *Bob Bowen '61 is 8th Inductee to Join this Elite Membership for Lifetime of Service to Our Chapter*

Congratulations to **Bob Bowen '61** on his recent induction to Indiana Theta's Pillar Society. He joins seven other Purdue Phis who hold this honor, forming an elite membership of those alumni in our chapter who have given their time and treasure over a lifetime of service to our chapter.

Bob has been a longtime member of the Housing Corporation and currently serves as the president of the Educational Foundation. He ranks high on the list of alumni who have given the most money back to the chapter and is a founding member and donor to the Neil Armstrong Scholarship Fund, which funds scholarships and educational pursuits for Indiana Theta undergraduates.



Bob Lowe '59 (left) inducts Bob Bowen '61 (center) into the Pillar Society. Gary Batesole '77 presents the Pillar Society plaque.

Even with PDT playing such a huge role in his life after graduation (and perhaps Bob making even more of an impact on the chapter in his alumni years), he was still astounded to be presented with the honor of a Pillar Society induction.

"I was lucky to be a Phi Delt [as an undergraduate]," said Bob. "It was a game changer for me. I wasn't the world's greatest chapter member; I never was a great student until late in my years at Purdue."

However, that all changed when Bob got straight As and went from the bottom of the house to the top in one day.

"They started calling me 'Six-Oh,'" he remembered, referring to Purdue's former six-point grade average system.

"For me to get an honor from my fraternity was great; way beyond what I expected," he added. "I'm just happy to be a Phi Delt; to be part of the team."

And part of the team he is. In addition to his leadership roles within the Housing Corp. and Educational Foundation, Bob is actively involved in keeping his pledge class connected more than 50 years after graduation. Two years ago, eight members his pledge class had a reunion in Cape Cod, and are planning to do the same again in Florida in February. The next year they'll convene in Hawaii at the home of **Bob Weist '62**, followed by their 55th anniversary celebration at Homecoming 2016.

"How lucky am I to get together with guys I went to college with 50+ years ago and still enjoy?" he asked.

"My best friends are my fraternity brothers," he added. "Especially **Bob Lowe '59** and **Jim Wurster '59**; they're my heroes, they have been since I was a pledge."

Bob credits Phi Delta Theta and his brothers with instilling the values on which he built his career. In the class he teaches at Purdue, in the School of Civil Engineering, the very

first assignment he gives is for each student to explore his own personal journey and values. According to Bob, strong values build the foundation for leadership. Bob has even taught a few Phi Delt along the way.

When he's not busy teaching or volunteering, Bob also owns a construction business that builds power plants and water treatment plants all over the US. Now run by his son, the company employs fellow Purdue Phi **Brandon Haze '14** as a project engineer on their Plainfield, Ind. waste treatment project.

"He didn't get the job just because he's a Phi Delt," promises Bob. "He earned it."

The Phi Delt connection carries over to Bob's family, too. His grandson, **Joshua Stater**, is a current Purdue Phi, and two other

grandkids joined Greek organizations at Bob's urging.

"I told them: being Greek shrinks the size of the school and gives you leadership opportunities," he said. "I still get together with my fraternity brothers 60 years later." And there's a lot to be said about that.

The Pillar Society Members

Bob Holloway '48
 Ed Elliott '36
 Ted Reser '46
 A.J. McAllister '24
 Louis Lowe '28
 Bob Lowe '59
 Bob Haworth '76
 Bob Bowen '61

ALUMNI IN THE NEWS

A Phi Delt is the New Sheriff in Town

Barry Richard '05, a Purdue Phi Delt and a long-time member of the Housing Corp., won the election for the Sheriff of Tippecanoe County, the home of Purdue University. Congratulations, Barry!

Barry is the first of three brothers who were initiated through a special membership option of our chapter, and was initiated as an adult.

Find a link to the news article at purdue-phi.net.





PHI DELTA THETA

Purdue

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In this Issue of The Purdue Phi...

- 2 Great Reasons to Renew Your Involvement as an Alum
- 8th Brother Inducted into Indiana Theta Pillar Society
- There's a New Sheriff in Town, and He's a Phi Delt

PURDUE PHI EVENTS



Andy Beasley '91 (left) and Randy Asmus '82 at the 24th Phi Open

111 Brothers Gather for 24th Phi Open

Annual Event Continues to Be Purdue's Largest Greek Golf Outing

By Andy Beasley '91

On Saturday, August 1, 111 Phis gathered at Purdue for the 24th Phi Open golf tournament. Purdue Phi Delta Theta alumni from seven decades played, and many of the actives came to the course to socialize and run the 50/50 raffle. The brothers scrambled around the Ackerman Hills Course and finished up at Harry's for the 19th hole.

The golf was mostly bad, but the laughs were frequent. Thank you to everyone who participated and/

or sponsored this event! It was a fun weekend, and we raised about \$5,500 for the house.

If there is a fraternity brother you have not seen in a long time, contact him and see if the 25th Phi Open is a good opportunity to reconnect. Mark your calendar for Saturday, August 15th, 2015 for the 25th Phi Open at Purdue. Contact me at beasgolf@gmail.com for more information.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

You Are Being Called to Help Expand Our Base

The More Support We Have, the More We Can Do to Enhance Your Alumni Experience

We're looking to grow our Honor Roll in our the giving year, which kicked off September 1. In 2014-15 we are fully committed to expanding our base of supporters to include more brothers, and are striving to add 79 donors to bring our total participation to 120. Can we count you among them?

The annual fund serves as the operating budget for Indiana Theta of Phi Delta Theta Alumni Association. The more money

we raise, the more we can do to enhance your alumni experience through increased publications, gatherings and events, and more. Your donations also allow us to provide support and mentorship to our thriving active chapter, which is upholding our strong legacy on Purdue's campus.

Learn more at purdue-phi.net, where you can also view our list of donors to date and make your online contribution.

2014-15 Annual Fund Donors

Goal:
120

Donors to Date:
41

