Friendship | Sound Learning | Rectitude

# THE SCOOLL

of Phi Delta Theta

× Fall 2025

# Guard Against Elation

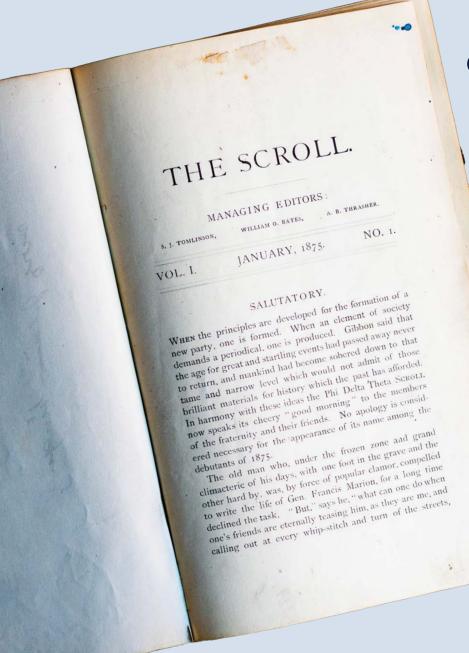
General Council President Nat Love challenges you to ask yourself, 'What more can I do?'

# **PLUS**

Celebrating Twenty-Five Years of Alcohol-Free Housing

Iron Phi
Celebrates
Fifteen Years
of Developing
Philanthropists
Through Athletics

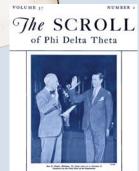
# From the Archives



# Celebrating 150 Years of The Scroll

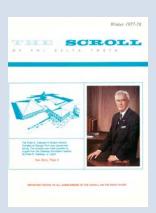
The first issue of *The Scroll* appeared in January 1875. William O. Bates, *Butler 1875*, began with a greeting, "The Phi Delta Theta Scroll speaks its cheery 'good morning' to the members of the Fraternity and their friends." Even though the initial issues were a resounding success, the magazine nearly died in its second year due to a lack of funding. Members and alumni subscription costs were based on the honor system, and many weren't paying.

At the July 1876 Convention, the motion to make subscriptions compulsory passed, but they didn't provide a means to collect the \$1.25 assessment. Bates couldn't publish the September edition because he ran out of funds, and he left the role of editor after that. The magazine went dormant until after the 1878 Convention, when they again passed legislation making the subscription price mandatory. Bates went on to a successful career as a playwright and reporter in New York. George Banta, Indiana 1876, and Marshall F. Parrish, Ohio 1876, brought out the magazine again in September 1878, and the publication has been continuously in production.



First edition with photo on cover, Volume 57, No. 1, October 1932

. October . 1922 .



First edition in color throughout magazine, Volume 102, No. 1, Winter 1977







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## On the Cover

Nat J. Love, Michigan '81.

# This Page

**Top:** Nat Love (far left) after being elected to the General Council as member-at-large at the 2018 San Antonio Convention.

**Bottom:** Participants at the inaugural Iron Phi 5K at the 2010 Orlando General Convention.

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# President's Letter

thoughts or dreams did I ever think that when I walked through the doorway of the Phi Delt house at 1437 Washtenaw, that one day, I would be one of the leaders of our great Fraternity. Like many of you, when I went to college, I had no plans to join a fraternity. Neither of my parents was part of a Greek organization in college. Still, somehow, as a seventeen-year-old on the University of Michigan campus, I was placed with an MBA student who was Greek from another college. Larry Butler would talk about his experiences, and it was like having a big brother who encouraged me to go through rush. So, when a few friends from my dorm suggested I go to some recruitment events, I did.

ever in my wildest

At the end of January, I was asked to join our Michigan Alpha Chapter and was one of a pledge class of nineteen. A very large class for our chapter at the time. I was lucky to live in the chapter house for three years, primarily by holding various offices in the chapter. Little did I know at the time the effect those various offices would have on helping me to develop my future leadership skills.

Later in the magazine, you will read how I stay engaged with the Fraternity that set me on the path to becoming General Council President. This continued relationship with Phi Delta Theta has led to lifelong friendships and some of the best times in my life. I have also witnessed the power of transmitting the Fraternity forward, and those transformational experiences are what I draw upon in my focus for the next biennium.

At the 85th General Convention in Atlanta, I presented a coin and challenged everyone to, in the words of Robert Morrison, "Guard Against Elation." In his farewell address to the attendees at our Semi-Centennial Convention in 1898, Morrison went on to say, "You must guard against elation. Do not look at the past as

a thing that should be satisfying; look at it only as something in general that was well done. Thank God for it but go and do something better."

On one side of the coin is our Fraternity brand mark surrounded by our three Cardinal Principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude. These three principles given to us by our founding fathers are our life filter. Use this side of the coin as a reminder of *The Bond* you signed and use it to navigate life's challenges as you pursue being the greatest version of yourself. On the other side is Morrison's phrase, Guard Against Elation. I believe we can accept Morrison's challenge and move our Fraternity forward. We are the best international fraternity, and we certainly have much to celebrate. However, upon self-reflection, we can recognize that there is room for each of us to improve, to do iust a little more.

In 2000, General Headquarters and the General Council took a stand and moved the Fraternity forward. They took a hard look at the current chapter operations and realized that Phi Delta Theta had veered too far away from the tenets that the founding fathers had established in our Cardinal Principles. After much debate, it was determined that the best possible outcome for the Fraternity would be to take a bold step. While many of our peers loudly proclaimed it would be the death of Phi Delta Theta, the implementation of the alcohol-free housing policy twenty-five years ago has instead led directly to a stronger, more successful organization and to a better-quality member. On pages 27-31, hear from those who were directly involved in the decision-making and implementation of the policy.

By not resting on our laurels, pushing ourselves to become the greatest version of ourselves, we can not only make a bigger impact on our members, but also on our communities. Iron Phi has been doing this since 2010. More than 2,700 Phis and friends of Phi Delt have raised at least \$1,000 and competed in an activity



to raise money for research to find a cure for ALS. Last year, our members raised over \$1.3 million for various charities, the primary being Live Like Lou and Iron Phi. We had 165 Phi Delt chapters register to provide valuable service to ALS families through Live Like Lou's Connect and Serve program, plus there were thirty-nine Iron Phi chapters, thirty-five Triple Crown chapters, and more than 450 new Iron Phis. But we can do more! You can read more about the history and impact the program has had over the past fifteen years on page 32.

So, as we start the new school year and biennium, I want to remind you to ask yourself, "What more can I do?" That could be anything from wanting to help in finding a cure for ALS or supporting an ALS family, making your first donation to the Foundation, taking a leadership role in your chapter or as a volunteer, or making your chapter better. **Guard Against Elation.** Be proud but not satisfied!

Yours in the Bond.

Nat J. Love, *Michigan* '81 General Council President, 2025–27

athenal J. Ine



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s the reporter of the General Council, I am excited to share highlights from our first steps together in the 2025–27

biennium. The opening weeks were about setting a strong foundation—clarifying roles, looking ahead strategically, and making sure our chapters and volunteers feel and are well supported.

The biennium began with in-person meetings to kick off the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute.

# Orientation and Strategic Conversations

We began with orientation sessions for our newest members-at-large, Brothers Kerrie Herren and Bill Wittress, joined by President Nat Love, and Fraternity Executive Vice President and CEO Sean Wagner. These one-on-one conversations helped establish personal connections and common ground before diving into the business of the General Fraternity.

We then welcomed Bob London, a governance and foresight expert, who challenged us to think big about the General Council's overall fiduciary duties and role in long-term planning for a sustainable future. Together, we reflected on trends in higher education, philanthropy, and the changing needs of our undergraduates. These conversations will continue at our fall retreat, shaping how we adapt and serve our brotherhood in the years ahead.

# First Meeting Highlights from the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute

At our first formal meeting, we focused on creating clarity for the biennium. Some of the key actions included:

Appointments and Assignments: We confirmed new and returning General Officers and adjusted provinces.
 Importantly, we realigned General Council liaison assignments to match the regions served by chapter support coordinators, creating a more seamless support system for chapters.

# Reporter's Letter



- Policy Updates: Following General Convention, we adopted a revision to *The Code* (Section 138: Time of Initiation). This change clarifies accreditation standards and outlines how special cases are handled, ensuring consistency and fairness across chapters. Implementation details have been shared with the chapters and volunteers.
- Other Discussions: The Council also reviewed chapter and financial administration, potential participation in the Foundation for Fraternity Excellence's campaign, support of the discussed partnership with Beyond Academy, and identified needs related to ritual equipment.

## A Word of Thanks

Finally, I want to extend gratitude on behalf of the General Council. Your daily dedication—whether mentoring young men, guiding chapters, or sharing your perspective—makes Phi Delta Theta stronger. Please continue to share your feedback and questions with us; your voice is central to the work of supporting our chapters and alumni. Feel free to provide that feedback at <a href="mogg@phideltatheta.org">mogg@phideltatheta.org</a>. It's a privilege to serve as your reporter and to keep you updated as we move forward with purpose and momentum.

Mike Ogg, Sonoma State '01 General Council Reporter, 2015–27



# Friendship





**CHAPTER PROFILES** 

# **Major Trophy Winners**

n June, during the 85th biennial General Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, the Fraternity was proud to present awards and major trophies to chapters, volunteers, and alumni. Initially named the Harvard Trophy, the award was renamed the Oxford Trophy and first presented in 2019 at the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute in Oxford, Ohio, to commemorate the birthplace of our Fraternity and home of our General Headquarters. It recognizes the most outstanding Phi Delta Theta chapter at a large institution of over 20,000 students. The George E. Housser Trophy is awarded annually to the top Canadian chapter demonstrating all-around excellence in internal management and chapter operations, campus leadership, and campus participation. The Kansas City Trophy is awarded to the most outstanding Phi Delta Theta chapter on a campus of under 10,000 undergraduates. The Founders Trophy is awarded to the most outstanding Phi Delta Theta chapter at a medium-sized institution.

## Oxford Trophy-Colorado Gamma, Colorado State

In its one hundredth year, Colorado Gamma brought together over 180 brothers for their centennial celebration, honoring several generations of Phis. With a strong chapter GPA of 3.30 and recognition as an Iron Phi Chapter for the fourth consecutive year, Colorado Gamma continues to prioritize both academic and philanthropic excellence. This year, they raised more than \$37,000 for charitable causes. Beyond the classroom and fundraising, Colorado Gamma is leading the way in wellness education. Through impactful partnerships with organizations like Mothers Against Drunk Driving, they've hosted workshops on substance use, mental health, and healthy sleep habits—empowering their members to live well-rounded, values-driven lives. We proudly congratulate Colorado Gamma on their remarkable year and their fourth win of the Oxford Trophy.



### Colorado Gamma: Colorado State

- Founded: March 11, 1921
- Total Initiates: 1,474
- Current Size: 88
- Living Alumni: 993
- · Chapter Grand: 358

## Colorado Gamma Accolades

- · Accreditation Level: Gold Star
- Oxford Trophy: 2019, 2020, 2023, 2025
- Iron Phi Chapter: 2019, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024
- Triple Crown Chapter: 2023, 2024
- Iron Phis: 78
- Live Like Lou Connect and Serve: 2022–23, 2023–24, 2024–25
- Whole Man Scholarships (2),
   Harrison Presidents Scholarship

**PREVIOUS PAGE:** During the 85th General Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, Phi Delta Theta recognized Brother Howard Gellis, *Pennsylvania* "75, (pictured on right with Past President of the General Council J. David Almacy) with the 2025 Raymond L. Gardner Alumnus of the Year Award. **ABOVE:** Four-time Oxford Trophy winners Colorado Gamma.

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# Friendship











**TOP:** British Gamma chapter advisers accepting the Housser Trophy for the chapter. **TOP RIGHT:** Missouri Beta wins the 2025 Fly High Max Award. **LEFT:** Founders Trophy winners Ohio Epsilon. **MIDDLE RIGHT:** Rae Ann and Steve Gruver speak after being presented with the Order of the Sword and Shield, the Fraternity's highest citation for distinguished service.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:** Kansas City Trophy winners California Psi.

## Housser Trophy-British Columbia Gamma, UBC Okanagan

For the second time, the British Columbia Gamma Chapter at UBC Okanagan is the winner of the George E. Housser Trophy. In just one year, they tripled their recruitment numbers, thereby strengthening their chapter and increasing their impact on campus. They also tackled financial challenges head-on, eliminating thousands of dollars in chapter debt. Their commitment to philanthropy stood out, raising hundreds of dollars for UBC Okanagan Health and Wellness to support men's mental health initiatives. With a GPA of 3.32, these brothers have shown that academic excellence, fiscal responsibility, and purposeful growth can go hand in hand. Congratulations to British Columbia Gamma for winning the George E. Housser Trophy.

# Founders Trophy-Ohio Epsilon, University of Akron

As the recipient for the Founders Trophy, the Ohio Epsilon Chapter at the University of Akron exemplifies what it means to lead with purpose. Over the past year, the chapter supported three ALS families, completed nearly 1,500 hours of community service, and earned Iron Phi Chapter recognition—demonstrating a commitment to philanthropy and impact. In celebration of their 150th anniversary, Ohio Epsilon welcomed more than two hundred alumni, friends, and family for a milestone event that honored their rich history across generations. With the highest GPA of any fraternity on campus, Ohio Epsilon continues to set the standard for academic excellence while building a legacy grounded in service, brotherhood, and leadership. Phi Delta Theta proudly recognizes Ohio Epsilon on their seventh major trophy win.

# Kansas City Trophy-California Psi, **Loyola Marymount University**

California Psi at Loyola Marymount is redefining what it means to be a chapter of impact. This year, California Psi raised over \$26,000 for different causes, including Iron Phi, the B+ Foundation, the Live Like Lou Foundation, and the LA Fire Relief. They were also recognized as a Triple Crown Chapter. California Psi saw an astounding 100 percent retention rate of new members, demonstrating the strength of their brotherhood and new member experience. This year, they strengthened their diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts and rebuilt vital relationships with university staff by hosting eighteen supported events on campus. With a GPA of 3.32, California Psi isn't just leading, they're inspiring their campus community. Congratulations to California Psi for winning the Kansas City Trophy! ×



## British Columbia Gamma: UBC Okanagan

- Founded: February 19, 2022
- Current Size: 15
- Total Initiates: 167
- Living Alumni: 42

## **British Columbia Gamma Accolades**

- Housser Trophy: 2022, 2025
- Iron Phis: 1
- Accreditation Level: Gold Star
   Live Like Lou Connect and Serve: 2022-23, 2024-25



## **Ohio Epsilon: University of Akron**

- Founded: January 19, 1875
- Total Initiates: 2,212
- Current Size: 63
- Chapter Grand: 979

## **Ohio Epsilon Accolades**

- Accreditation Level: Gold Star
   Iron Phis: 60
- Founders Trophy: 2020, 2022, 2025
- Iron Phi Chapter: 2019, 2020, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025
- Triple Crown Chapter: 2024, 2025

Living Alumni: 1.179

- · Live Like Lou Connect and Serve: 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26
- Whole Man Scholarships (3), Harrison Presidents Scholarship



## California Psi: Loyola Marymount University

- Founded: November 21, 2015
- Total Initiates: 297
- Current Size: 67
- Living Alumni: 221

### California Psi Accolades

- Accreditation Level: Gold Star
   Live Like Lou Connect and
- Kansas City Trophy: 2025
- Iron Phi Chapter: 2025
- Triple Crown Chapter: 2025
- Iron Phis: 4

- Serve: 2022-23, 2023-24, 2024-25, 2025-26
- Whole Man Scholarships (1)



Friendship

# **Undergraduate Profile**



- YORK '26

# Hoshner Tavadia

Hoshner is a senior at York University in Ontario, Canada, studying computer science and is the current chapter president. He recently interned as a data engineer for RBC Investor Services.

"I joined Phi Delta Theta because I was searching for a community rooted in purpose, integrity, and belonging. What I found was far more than I expected. I discovered a group of men who held each other to high standards, who showed up for each other consistently, and who pushed me to grow into the best version of myself. As chapter president, I've had the privilege of helping to shape our culture, mentor incoming brothers, and represent Ontario Delta at national events. This experience has given me confidence in my voice, clarity in my values, and relationships that will last a lifetime. Joining Phi Delt was one of the most transformative decisions I've made in university—and it continues to guide how I lead, serve, and live with integrity every day."

# Why did you choose your major or field of study?

I'm currently pursuing a bachelor's in computer science with a specialization in software development at York University. Alongside this, I'm also completing a minor in business entrepreneurship through the Schulich School of Business at York University. I chose this path because I've always been fascinated by how things work and how technology can be used to build scalable, real-world solutions. This combination of computer science and entrepreneurship reflects how I think about the future, to create things that matter and have a positive impact on the world.

# What does it mean to be the 2025 recipient of Phi Delta Theta Foundation's most prestigious scholarship, the Arthur R. Priest Award?

Being selected as the recipient of the Arthur R. Priest scholarship is one of the most humbling honors I've received during my time as an undergraduate. It's not just a recognition of academic achievement or leadership, it's a reflection of the shared values and standards that unite us as Phis. This scholarship serves as both a validation of the effort I've put into bettering myself and my chapter and as a motivator to continue striving for excellence. It's easy to forget, in the hustle of student life, how far-reaching the support network of Phi Delta Theta truly is. Receiving this scholarship reminded me that there's a community behind me cheering me on, investing in my growth, and believing in the man I'm becoming. That sense of connection and support is something I carry with deep gratitude.

## How has your leadership style evolved while in college and as a member of Phi Delta Theta?

When I first stepped into leadership roles, I thought leadership meant having the answers and being the most vocal person in the room. Through

my time as chapter president and my experience within Phi Delta Theta, I learned that leadership is less about directing and more about serving. It's about listening intentionally, making space for others to thrive, and being the steady presence during both victories and setbacks. I've learned how to handle conflict with patience, how to navigate difficult decisions with integrity, and how to build consensus among people with differing opinions. These are lessons I wouldn't have learned in a classroom. They came from late-night chapter meetings, one-on-one conversations with brothers, and the challenge of representing a diverse group of young men. My leadership style today is grounded in empathy, collaboration, and a commitment to doing what's right even when it's not what's easy.

## How do you plan on keeping Phi Delta Theta in your life after graduation?

For me. Phi Delt is more than an undergraduate experience, it's a lifelong brotherhood. After graduation, I plan to stay connected through alumni associations, mentorship. and continued involvement with the Canadian Foundation. I've already experienced the value of intergenerational mentorship within Phi Delt, and I want to pay that forward by guiding and supporting younger brothers as they navigate their own journeys. Whether it's offering career advice, attending alumni events, or even contributing to future scholarship funds, I want to remain actively engaged. The Fraternity has shaped who I am today, and I know it will continue to be part of my life through friendships, values, and service for years to come. X

# **Alumnus Profile**

MANITOBA '01

# **Justin Reitsma**

Justin Reitsma, Manitoba '01, is currently a border officer with the Canada Border Services Agency assigned to the Winnipeg Air Commercial Unit, which investigates smuggling through air couriers. Justin is also a captain in the Canadian Armed Forces and is currently the commanding officer of 1226 Fort Garry Horse Army Cadet Corps. He joined Phi Delta Theta in 1999 at the University of Manitoba, Manitoba Alpha. He served as warden, recruitment chair, and vice president. He is the current chapter advisory board chair at the University of Manitoba, the University of British Columbia, Okanagan, and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also sits on the Board of Directors for the Canadian Foundation of Phi Delta Theta, is a faculty member for the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute and is a First Thursdays with Phis leader. Justin currently lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and is married to his wife, Dr. Leslie Redmond (Kappa Alpha Theta Sorority), with whom they have a son, Spencer, a daughter, Peyton, and two cats.

Recently, Justin's unit was honored by the City of Winnipeg on its one hundredth anniversary. As he explains, "Throughout history, when an army was approaching a city, they would fly their banners (colours) and flags to signify they were an attacking force. The Freedom of the City recognition historically meant that, in this case, an army or regiment would be allowed into the city, not as a threat, and would be allowed to fly their colours openly, not as a threat but as a friend. This year was my unit's one hundredth anniversary. So, to recognize this great achievement, the City of Winnipeg's Mayor Scott Gillingham presented me as the commanding officer to accept this honour on behalf of all past, present, and future members. This was a once-in-a-lifetime achievement, so I have a great sense of pride for being part of this. It's something I will always remember."

# How have you stayed connected with Phi Delta Theta after graduation?

Staying connected with Phi Delta
Theta after graduation has been really
important to me. I've served as a
chapter advisor president for Manitoba
Alpha and as a sitting member
with British Columbia Gamma, and
Wisconsin Alpha, which has allowed
me to stay involved with undergraduate
brothers and support them as they
grow as leaders.

I also organize First Thursdays with Phis every month—it's a great way to keep the alumni community engaged and make sure we don't lose that sense of brotherhood after college. On top of that, I've been part of the faculty at the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute, which is always a highlight of my year. Being able to give back and help shape the next generation of Phi Delts is something I really value.

Most recently, I've joined the Board of Directors for the Phi Delta Theta Canadian Foundation, representing Manitoba. It's been a great opportunity to support scholarships and leadership programs that make a real difference in our members' lives. Phi Delta Theta continues to be a big part of my life—and I'm proud to still be contributing in meaningful ways.

# Do you feel that Phi Delta Theta made a difference in your life?

Joining Phi Delta Theta was honestly the best decision of my life. It's where I met my closest, lifelong friends, the kind of people I know will always have my back, no matter what. Phi Delta Theta gave me the courage and confidence to push myself, both



professionally and personally, and that's shaped who I am today.

It's also opened doors to experiences I never would've had otherwise, such as traveling to new places, meeting incredible people, and building connections that go far beyond the fraternity. It's how I got into my career in law enforcement and in the military. More than anything, I know that the men I met through Phi Delta Theta will always be there to support me in times of need, and that's something you can't put a price on.

# Do you have any advice for current student?

I would say take advantage of everything the Fraternity has to offer. Travel around North America, visiting other chapters, going to Oxford for the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute, and to see General Headquarters. Use the connections the Fraternity has given you, such as networking for jobs and advice. And try to savor every moment because it goes quickly, and before long you are an alumnus. X



# **Volunteer Profile**



WASHBURN '94

# **Christopher R. Hill**

Chris is a lieutenant colonel in the Air National Guard and currently serve as the commander of the 190th Comptroller Flight and Wing Staff Agencies, stationed at Forbes Field Air National Guard Base, Kansas. In this role, he serves as the principal financial advisor to the wing commander as well as an assistant United States Property and Fiscal Officer for the State of Kansas, responsible for planning, managing, and directing the resource management activities for the Wing's \$45 million in annual funds.

I'm a Kansas Beta Phi, Bond #1360. I was drawn to the chapter due to the fact that my stepdad was initiated in the same chapter, along with several guys from my hometown. At one point, we had a fairly large Wellington, Kansas, contingency in the Kansas Beta chapter house. I recall vividly that I attended a recruitment party in late May, signed a bid card, and two days later left for Air Force Basic Training. I completed basic training and technical training over the summer and arrived at Washburn

the first week of September. I served as recruitment chairman, warden, alumni secretary, and president. After graduation, I continued to look for ways to stay involved during graduate school at Oklahoma State University. During my time in Stillwater, I served as an unofficial assistant chapter adviser and had a great experience. It opened my eyes to the differences and similarities in the Phi Delt experience at a smaller school like Washburn vs. much larger universities like OSU.

Phi Delta Theta had a substantial impact on my life as an undergraduate and I looked for ways to get involved as an alumnus. Since my graduation from Washburn University, I have been a consistent volunteer. Serving as chapter adviser, CAB chair, housing corporation president, province president, education commissioner,



Shi Delta Theta had a substantial impact on my life as an undergraduate and I looked for ways to get involved as an alumnus. Since my graduation from Washburn University, I have been a consistent volunteer.

as well as serving on faculty at multiple McKenzie Family Presidents Leadership Conferences, alumni summits, and Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institutes. I also serve on the planning committee for Leadership Kansas and teach part-time as an adjunct professor in the School of Business at Washburn University. I reside in Topeka, Kansas, with my wife Amy, a fellow Air National Guard Officer, along with our blended family of five children, Hannah, 20; Maddy, 18; Jay, 17; Evie, 16; and Bailey, 16.

# Who or what inspired you to become a volunteer?

I had an adviser when I attended what was then known as Leadership College as an undergraduate. That experience in Oxford had a profound experience on my life and what would turn out to be my lifelong love of being a Phi Delta Theta volunteer.

# What would you tell someone who is considering volunteering for Phi Delta Theta?

It will be the best investment you ever make; in the future of our Fraternity, in the men that you impact, and in what it will do for you as a mentor.

# How have you stayed connected with Phi Delta Theta after graduation?

Nearly all of my closest friends are Phi Delts; three of my five groomsmen in my wedding were Kansas Beta Chapter brothers.

# What accomplishments or career milestones are you most proud of, and how do you attribute them to your experience?

I'm proud to be an Air Force officer. I served for nearly twelve years as an enlisted member before being selected as an officer, and becoming a commander in multiple units has been a privilege and an honor. Being a dad/stepdad to five amazing kids has been an amazing experience as well. In Phi Delta Theta, I have loved all of my volunteer experiences: serving as education commissioner and province president have been the highlights of my Phi Delta Theta volunteer experience thus far.

# Do you have any advice for current students?

Take full advantage of the opportunities that you have as a Phi Delt: the leadership opportunities, the volunteer

and philanthropic opportunities, and the lifelong bonds of friendship you will make with your chapter brothers. If you are lucky enough to have a chapter house, and if you are lucky enough to live in it, enjoy every minute of that experience! Some of my best memories are the simple and low-key times—simply having lunch or dinner together at the house, hanging out between classes, or just being at the house with your brothers in the middle of the day. X



# Nominate a Phi Delt

Know a Phi Delt who is doing extraordinary things? Nominate him for a chance to be featured.



# × Volunteer Recognition ×

During the 2025 General Convention in Atlanta, the Fraternity honored the following Phi Delts for their unwavering support, generosity, and years of dedicated service to Phi Delta Theta. Thank you for your service! You can read more about these volunteers and the awards on our website under News and Stories.



Mark L. Bye Legion of Honor



Jay V. Ihlenfeld Legion of Honor



**Rich Fabritius**Legion of Merit



Tim Becker
Samuel V. Stone Chapter
Advisory Board Chairman
of the Year Award (pictured
on left)



Joe Morel
Oliver J. Samuel
Outstanding Province
President Award



Friendship

# Fraternity Update



ALCOHOL-FREE HOUSING IMPLEMENTATION

# Stepping Up and Stepping In

Learning how to lead during a pivotal change in the Fraternity's history By Sean S. Wagner, Executive Vice President and CEO

n this issue, you will read about the bold decision from Phi Delta Theta leadership to create and implement the alcohol-free housing policy that went into effect on July 1, 2000.

In February 1997, when the policy was announced, I was a high school junior who wasn't sure where I was going to college, let alone if I was going to join a fraternity. Over two and a half years later, on September 12, 1999, I was initiated into the Pennsylvania Mu Chapter of Phi Delta Theta at Widener University, a group that wasn't quite ready for this change. Ten months later, the alcohol-free housing (AFH) policy was implemented, and I had the opportunity to serve as social chairman during our first 'dry' semester and chapter president from November 1999 through the following December. I didn't join Phi Delt for alcohol, but it was a big part of what my chapter had to offer at the time, and I wasn't in those roles because I was a

transformational leader, but because someone had to "step up and step in." My years in the chapter at that pivotal time helped shape me into the leader I am today and taught me valuable lessons, including change management, scenario planning, coalition building, and the need to lead by example.

Starting on page 25, you'll read in this issue that this policy has drastically changed Phi Delta Theta for the better, and it has, but that doesn't mean it came easy for those who lived it. From a policy implementation standpoint, resources were spent on determining where someone could and couldn't bring a beer, but much less on assessing the impact on the experience of current members and how to attract future members who wouldn't be rolling into our house for parties on the weekends.

Over time, our chapter decided to move into the dorms and join student organizations to find new members who were more interested in our mission



than our social calendar, but not before shrinking and regrouping years later. This was an experience that Phi Delta Theta experienced as a whole, by dropping as much as 16 percent in members and 10 percent in chapters in our first decade of alcohol-free housing. Over time, the ingenuity and hard work of our brothers, recruitment strategies to build personal connections while promoting a values-based leadership, and the introduction of the Greatest Version brand launched in 2011 have helped make Phi Delta Theta what it is today and substantively a different organization now twice its size as in 2000.

Today, we recognize that the policy isn't perfect, but it effectively helps chapters prioritize their values, resulting in our houses being cleaner and statistically safer than those of our peers. Fortunately, the hard work due to the culture shift is done, but that's not to say that chapter leaders today have it easy; quite to the contrary. Challenges with keeping their members safe remain, along with topics like Phikeia education, mental health, and everything that society projects on college campuses, are making the chapter president's job arguably harder than it's ever been. My belief, as someone who was part of the challenges of the change, is that its results put us in a better position to support our brothers today and ensure Phi Delta Theta's legacy for years to come. X

# **Get Engaged**





## Save the Date

What are you doing for March 15, 2026? It's never too early to start planning for Founders Day. Scan the QR code to learn more about General Headquarters event planning services.

ORANGE COUNTY CALIFORNIA ALUMNI CLUB

# **Celebrating Fifty Years of California Theta**

By Jim Harvey, UC Irvine '84

he Orange County, California Alumni Club celebrated Founders Day on April 10, 2025, with a dinner at the University Club on the UC Irvine campus. One hundred thirty alumni and undergraduates attended the event. Jim Harvey, UC Irvine '84, served as master of ceremonies. Alumni were joined by undergraduates from California Rho at La Verne and the new California Alpha Alpha Emerging Chapter at California State University, Fullerton. The centerpiece of the evening was a celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the chartering of the California Theta Chapter at UC Irvine. The event featured a display of historical memorabilia and remarks by Bond #1 William Zulch, UC Irvine '77, and Jay Jones, UC Irvine '78. Ed Baquerizo, UC Irvine '79, led the group in honoring all men who served as chapter president or as a member of the chapter's advisory board. Greg Roche, UC Irvine '81, led

a toast to the members of the chapter's Grand Chapter. One

hundred alumni of the California Theta Chapter were on hand to participate in the celebration.

Ivan Ayro, *La Verne* '98, Omicron South province president, reported on the state of the chapters in the province and Fraternity initiatives. Kevin Somel, *Puget Sound* '24, General Headquarters' recruitment specialist, reported on the progress of the Fraternity's emerging chapter at California State University, Fullerton.

Curtis Parvin, *UC Irvine '80*, led a Legionnaires ceremony in which Michael Getto, *Colorado '79*, William Zulch, *UC Irvine '77*, Stanley Schowalter, *UC Irvine '75*, William Warhurst, *UC Irvine '77*, Michael Atchison, *UC Irvine '78*, Thomas Herrinton, *UC Irvine '78*, Michael O'Shea, *UC Irvine '76*, Jay Jones, *UC Irvine '78*, Ed Baquerizo, *UC Irvine '79*, Gregg Nuessly, *UC Irvine '78* and Charles Van Dagens, *UC Irvine '79*, were inducted into the Golden Legion. Thirty-three Phis received their Silver Legion pins. X



## **Texas Epsilon Reunion**

Tio Kleberg, *Texas Tech* '69, sent in this photo of Texas Tech Phis. They have been gathering for twenty-six years. Pictured here in Ruidoso, New Mexico.



## Friendship





Bob Biggs presenting Sam Furrow with the General Council proclamation

BRINGING OLD FRIENDS TOGETHER AGAIN

# **Tennessee Gamma Reunion**

Celebrating the founding days at UT Knoxville

By Larry W. Anderson, UT Knoxville '69

he brothers from the early years (1963–67) of UT Knoxville gathered on April 26, 2025, for a reunion dinner at Cherokee Country Club in Knoxville, Tennessee, to celebrate the early days of our chapter. Forty-three brothers attended the dinner, along with their spouses and guests, and over eighty people enjoyed the evening sharing memories, recounting their college days from long ago, and catching up after many years.

Former Tennessee State Supreme Court Justice Brother Gary Wade, '70, hosted the evening program. We recognized and celebrated the chapter's Bond #1, Sam Furrow, '63. Phi Delta Theta Executive Vice President and CEO Emeritus Bob Biggs attended and provided a proclamation on behalf of the General Council recognizing Sam "for his exemplary service, leadership, and lifelong dedication to the Fraternity and expresses its deepest

gratitude and most affectionate good wishes of all Phi Delta Theta members everywhere." Bob Biggs noted that "in the true spirit of the Tennessee Volunteers," two Tennessee Gamma brothers from these early years had been recognized with the Raymond L. Gardner Alumnus of the Year Award: Sam Furrow in 1992, and Judge Gary Wade in 2007.

We were fortunate that all five sweethearts attended; four of the five had married Tennessee Gamma brothers! Brother Reverend Robert Cantrell led a prayer and a moment of silence to honor those brothers who are members of the Chapter Grand. The evening's program ended with the singing of "Eternal Praise."

The success of this early years reunion was thanks to the planning committee, which included Brothers Ronny Roberts, '69, Larry W. Anderson, '69, Jim Harb, '68, Dan Delozier, '68, the class captains, and the dinner committee, along with all the brothers whose presence made this a memorable evening. X



## Ohio Alpha Florida Trip

John H. Clark, *Miami '83*, shared with *The Scroll:* "On February 22, 2025, in Fort Myers, Florida, at the beautiful home of Jim and Linda Barr, a group of Ohio Alpha Phi Delt brothers from the classes of 1982–85 gathered for a day of fun. The day's activities included pickleball, a boat ride, drinks, and food. And of course, a lot of the same stories that have been told for forty years."

IN THE PHOTO: Tom Walsh, Mark Miller, Tom Diehl, John Clark, Dave Schmitt, Jim Barr, Greg Wagner, Steve Tavoso, Dan Haglund









**FOURTH ANNUAL REUNION** 

# **Largest SWOS Gathering Yet**

A weekend brings together generations of Oklahoma Gamma Phis By Rick Shelby, SWOSU '70

n December of 2021, Phi Delta Theta's Oklahoma
Gamma Chapter at Southwestern Oklahoma State
University celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its
installation. That event became the genesis of an annual
reunion. In May 2025, the fourth iteration of the event
was held in Oklahoma City, with the highlight of the
weekend being a reception/dinner featuring remarks from Past
President of the General Council President J. David Almacy and
Devon Energy CEO Rick Muncrief, '80.

The event drew the largest turnout to date, with a total of sixty-eight brothers, ranging from some of the founding members to current undergraduates. In addition to hearing from Almacy and Muncrief, other highlights included the announcement of Jeff Gragg's, '86, election to the Oklahoma Gamma Hall of Fame, Eli Goodman's, '25, selection as the 2025 recipient of the inaugural

Richard D. Shelby Founder's Award, and the establishment and funding of the Oklahoma Gamma/Shelby Leadership Fund. The Oklahoma Gamma/Shelby Leadership Fund was established for two main purposes: first, to provide the \$1,000 scholarship awarded to the recipient of the Shelby Founders Award, and second, to support other authorized chapter activities. Seeded by Rick Shelby with a \$10,000 gift, alumni raised an additional \$40,000 within two months.

Founding member Rick Neal, '70, remarked that "not only was the reunion a fabulous opportunity to reunite with old friends, but it also served to remind him of why he chose to become a Phi in the first place."  $\times$ 

**TOP RIGHT:** J. David Almacy with chapter president, Bryson North. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Bryson North, Rick Shelby, Eli Goodman.



A SEVENTEEN-YEAR TRADITION

# **Alabama Beta Annual Reunions**

In October, the brothers of Alabama Beta will gather at Auburn to celebrate brotherhood, the Fraternity, and to enjoy an SEC football game. These annual reunions have been taking place since 2008. In October 2023, the chapter advisory board decided to combine another event, parents weekend, to create a larger and more valuable gathering. This combined get-together has led to significant parent engagement with alumni and increased undergrad participation. This year's reunion on October 17 and 18 is shaping up to be another good time as brothers meet to play golf, have dinner, celebrate Golden and Silver Legionnaires, and remember new inductees into the Chapter Grand, while cheering on the Tigers as they take on Mizzou. Go Tigers! And War Eagle!



Chapter Advisory Board Alumni Chairman Adviser Jimmy Webb, '78, shared: "What does Phi Delta Theta mean to me? Long-lasting friendships and brotherhood are the first things that come to mind. As part of a large fall of 1974 pledge class, fifteen or more of us will receive our Golden Legion pins at our fall reunion, and we will be joined by five Phis from the spring class of 1975. Nearly a dozen of us have remained very close for more than fifty years. We see each other at almost every home football game, several basketball games, and Fraternity meetings each year.

I treasure the fact that the special bond of friendship and brotherhood spans across different age groups, including older Phis as well as undergraduate members. Many of the older Phis served in World War II and the Korean Conflict. It has been incredible to hear stories from over fifty brothers in the chapter who fought in World War II.

There is a group of us who play golf together several times a year. We have traveled to Scotland and Ireland to play, and now we play at a brother's home course in Georgia, Maryland, or in Auburn during reunions, as well as at a tournament to raise funds for the Auburn golf teams. There are

always many stories told during these golf outings. Some are even true.

The great friends I have met through Phi Delta Theta over the decades are one of the main reasons I give back to the chapter to help it be the best it can be."



Chapter Advisory Board Academic Adviser Ray Briscuso, '81, reflected, "I enrolled at Auburn University knowing only two other freshmen, and I was overwhelmed to be one of 20,000 students, 750 miles from home. I found the other Auburn fraternities to be homogeneous, while the Phi house made me feel comfortable and welcomed, celebrating individuality and brotherhood. I've been a grateful Phi for over forty-five years.

Thanks to an older brother, towards the end of my freshman year, I was encouraged to volunteer at a position within the IFC. A year later, I was elected IFC treasurer, and the following year, IFC president. Our chapter excelled in fellowship and brotherhood, and the advice and guidance I received from older brothers had a tremendous impact on my life.

I started going to our annual reunions in 2008 and about ten years ago, I was ready to give back to the Fraternity, so I joined the chapter advisory board (CAB). In a short time, I became CAB chair and, four years later, transitioned to CAB secretary. Serving on the CAB and attending our annual reunions makes it easy to stay in touch with brothers and the chapter. My alumni experience has

been fun and rewarding. I've especially enjoyed participating in province and Phi Delta Theta CAB meetings (held at the University of Maryland and Lehigh), a General Convention (Pittsburgh), and a McKenzie Family Presidents Leadership Conference (St. Louis).

The Fraternity taught me how to socialize, plan and execute events, budget, build consensus, network, and contribute—skills that have been the foundation of my career. My advice for current students is to get to know your upperclassmen brothers, and my advice for seniors is to help positively influence the underclassmen. Use your time in the Fraternity to make the friends who will stay with you for the rest of your life. X



One of the things I am most proud of is that thirty years later, our sons are Phi Delts. This shows a continued legacy of friendship and unity. It says a lot about our Fraternity that our sons also went Phi Delt. Delt. Delt. Delt.

**LEFT TO RIGHT:** Clyde Patton III, Clyde Patton IV, Perri Soper, Michael Soper

# **A Long Lost Legacy Connection**

ver a recent Zoom meeting, two Texas Zeta brothers reconnected for the first time in two decades. The brothers lost touch after graduation as they began their careers, raised families, and lived their lives. These men, Clyde Patton III, TCU '90, and Michael Soper, TCU '89, had an additional bond as Michael is Clyde's Big Brother. Recently, the men learned that their sons became Phi Delts at Texas Zeta. Even though Perri Soper, '27, and Clyde Patton IV, '27, didn't know each other, they met at a recruitment event and became really good friends. About two to three months into their friendship, the sons learned about their fathers' Big/Little Brother connection.

Both Michael and Perri went to the same small Catholic high school in Houston. Neither had Texas Christian on their radar when they were visiting colleges. Michael was visiting Southern Methodist University, and while in the area, decided to go see what TCU was like. According to Michael, "I had never heard of it, but fell in love with TCU. The students on campus were warm, and it seemed like a natural transition from my high school. Because my brother and uncles were Phis, when I went through recruitment, I checked out Phi Delt. Because of that legacy

connection, it helped me make my decision to join Phi Delta Theta." For Perri, he had been looking to go to a business agriculture school like Texas A&M, but his dad introduced him to TCU. Perri recollects that on his visit to campus, they "met with the dean and immediately knew TCU was the school I wanted to attend. Many of our family members are alumni, and being a legacy had a huge impact on my decision to apply and attend TCU, as well as join Phi Delt."

Clyde III was visiting Texas schools from his hometown of Memphis. He had never heard of TCU, but on his school visit to SMU, he also went to learn more. "Both the environment and the people made me fall in love with the school. No one from Memphis at that time was going there, but I knew it was the place I wanted to be. During freshman orientation, I attended a softball game and met some Phi Delts there, and I really liked them. They invited me to a summer event, and before school started, I already knew I would join Phi Delt. It was the best decision I could have made."

Similar to Perri, Clyde's dad introduced him to TCU. In his experience, "all the guys from Memphis join Kappa Sig. My dad wanted me to check out Phi Delta Theta, and I'm so glad I did because I fell in love with the guys. When they offered me the bid, I accepted it. To my knowledge, I'm the first guy from Memphis not to join Kappa Sig."

When asked what he gained from Phi Delt experience, Michael said, "One of the experiences I gained from my fraternity experience was that when you join Phi Delta Theta, you learn as a Phikeia that "one man is no man." In high school, even if you work in a group setting, you can always elevate yourself (individual leadership). Phi Delt was the first time that I was thrown in with a group of people, and we had to work together: You are one. This is one of many life lessons learned, and I still use it today."

Perri, the current chapter president, and Clyde, the alumni secretary, are proud of the work the chapter has put into the parents club. Perri said that not only was their recent mom's weekend a huge hit, but their "moms have bonded and become best friends. They have even created their own group. They get together to play pickleball and go to baseball games"

When thinking about his favorite memory of his Phi Delt experience, Michael said it was "watching Perri and Clyde get initiated." X



## Friendship



Florida Gamma at Florida State University, re-installed on August 23, 2025

GROWING THE FRATERNITY

# **Transmit Greatness**

Recruiting the next generation of Phis

By Jim Rosencrans, Vice President of Growth and People

ast year, Phi Delta Theta set forth on a mission calling on all members to transmit greatness by recruiting young men who exemplify our values into the Fraternity that can provide them with numerous lifelong benefits. To support this effort, General Headquarters invested in and deployed various resources to intentionally support the recruitment efforts of our chapters and welcome new emerging chapters into the fold. As a result, Phi Delta Theta experienced the largest increase in new members since the pandemic, successfully inducting nine emerging chapters and celebrating three charter installations.

## **Recruitment Challenge Numbers**

Phi Delta Theta continues to drive recruitment success by setting clear challenge numbers for both chapters and emerging chapters as they build their Phikeia classes. These challenge numbers serve as a data-driven

benchmark, inspiring chapters to approach recruitment with a growth mindset. Phi Delta Theta is proud to recognize and celebrate the chapters that met or surpassed their fall and spring challenge numbers during the 2024–25 academic year. Thirty-six chapters met or exceeded their fall recruitment challenge number this year, leading to a 67 percent increase in recruited Phikeias compared to the previous fall. Nineteen chapters achieved or surpassed their spring recruitment goal this spring, resulting in a 95 percent increase in Phikeias recruited compared to the previous spring. Six chapters met or exceeded their challenge number both semesters, resulting in a 63 percent increase in Phikeias recruited this year compared to last. This year, we're aiming even higher. As the fall recruitment season kicks off, we're challenging every chapter across North America to continue to transmit greatness by identifying and recruiting men who live our values of

Continued on next page

## **Fall Winners**

- Arkansas Beta
- British Columbia Alpha
- California Alpha
- California Nu
- California Sigma
- California Zeta
- Colorado Alpha Florida Alpha
- Florida Kappa
- Florida Mu
- Georgia Delta
- Georgia Eta
- Illinois Beta
- Indiana Beta Indiana Kappa
- Indiana Theta
- Kansas Beta
- Kansas Epsilon

- Missouri Beta Prime
- Nebraska Alpha
  - New Hampshire Beta
  - New Jersey Epsilon
  - North Carolina Fta
  - North Dakota Alpha
  - Oklahoma Epsilon
  - Oregon Beta
  - Pennsylvania lota
  - Pennsylvania Pi
  - South Dakota Alpha
  - Tennessee Alpha
  - Texas Delta
  - Texas Mu
  - Texas Nu
  - Washington Delta
  - Wisconsin Alpha
  - Wisconsin Zeta

# **Spring Winners**

- Arkansas Alpha
- Arkansas Beta
- British Columbia Alpha
- California Zeta
- Colorado Alpha
- Illinois Eta
- Indiana Theta
- Marvland Delta
- Massachusetts Epsilon
- Nebraska Beta

- Nevada Beta
- New Jersey Gamma
- Ohio Alpha
- Ohio Theta
- Ontario Delta
- Pennsylvania Theta
- Quebec Alpha
- Texas Gamma
- Texas Tau

# **Expanding the Fraternity**

Planting the flag on campuses across North America

hi Delta Theta is preparing to embark on its boldest expansion initiative in recent history, setting the stage for remarkable growth during the 2025–26 academic year. This fall, the Fraternity's expansion team will establish new chapters at eight diverse institutions across the country.

This ambitious and diverse expansion slate reaffirms Phi Delta Theta's commitment to growth while strategically responding to the challenges facing higher education. At a time when colleges are confronting the "enrollment cliff," the Fraternity's efforts reflect leadership, innovation, and confidence in the enduring value of fraternity membership. By balancing fresh opportunities on new campuses with the restoration of historic chapters rich in tradition and alumni support, Phi Delta Theta ensures its legacy thrives while opening doors for future generations of students.

The upcoming year will test Phi Delta Theta's resolve, but it will also highlight the strength of its brotherhood. By boldly entering new markets while honoring historic roots, the organization is not only growing in numbers but also deepening its impact. As the higher education landscape shifts, Phi Delta Theta stands ready to meet the moment, advancing its mission to cultivate the greatest version of every brother and to shape the future of fraternity life. ×

## **Fall Installations**

• Florida Gamma (Florida State), August 23, 2025

## **Fall Expansion Projects**

- Maryland Alpha (University of Maryland)
- Texas Rho (Texas A&M-Corpus Christi)
- West Virginia Alpha (University of West Virginia)
- Massachusetts Kappa (Quinnipiac University)
- Michigan Kappa (Michigan Technological University)
- Wyoming Alpha (University of Wyoming)
- Indiana Eta (Indiana State University)
- Ohio Kappa (Bowling Green State University)

Continued from previous page

Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude. Each chapter has received a personalized recruitment challenge based on its campus's unique potential, past performance, and number of graduating seniors. Chapters that meet or exceed their challenge won't just be doing what ought to be done—but will earn a chance to win exclusive incentives and recognition from across Phi Delt Nation. X

# ×

# Refer a Phi

Know a young man who embodies Phi Delt's values? Share his name with us so we can connect.



# Recruitment Coaching Program Supporting Your Chapter's Growth Goals

Phi Delta Theta is dedicated to helping each chapter transmit greatness on its campuses. To support this goal, the Fraternity offers recruitment coaching that provides all chapters with direct access to fraternity growth experts who will supply the tools, guidance, and accountability necessary to develop a more efficient, high-quality, and sustainable growth system.

Every chapter has unique growth potential, and this program is designed to help recruitment chairmen unlock it through personalized one-on-one support. Whether your chapter is large or small, on a campus with a traditional fraternity culture or a more unique environment, our growth team has the experience and background to offer the right support for your situation.

## **Benefits to Recruitment Coaching**

- Tailored recruitment support for your chapter/campus
- Strategic development of recruitment plans
- Application of myPhiDelt tools and resources
- Identifying and leveraging campus opportunities
- · Proven marketing and communication techniques
- Guidance on effective recruitment events
- · Strategies to boost morale and member involvement
- · Analysis and recommendations for ongoing improvement



Scan to Learn More About Recruitment Coaching





By Jennifer Morrow, Senior Director of Marketing Communications and Scroll Editor

President Nat Love's childhood was very nomadic. When he was very young, his father was in the United States Air Force. Born in Sacramento, California, at six months old, Nat's parents moved the family across the country to the Maine-New Hampshire border. After his father's service in the air force concluded, the family moved back to Michigan, and his dad rejoined General Motors. The family didn't stay in Michigan for long, as his dad's position took the family all over the world. In the following interview, Nat talks about growing up, his fraternity experience, and his vision for the next biennium.

eneral Council

## Nat's Journey to Phi Delt

I went to high school at the American School in London, not far from Paul McCartnev's house. Our family lived fifteen miles north in the town of Watford. Watford's only reason for fame was that a certain musician grew up in a smaller village right next to it, and his favorite football team was the Watford Hornets. That musician ended up being

one of the most popular musicians in the world; his name was Sir Elton John. He ended up playing two concerts in my high school gym as his career was starting to take off.

After graduation, I left England to come home to college in America. I was planning on studying pharmacy, and at that time, there were only seventy-five schools that had pharmacy programs. I applied to five of the schools, and was accepted by all five. Because I went to school in the United Kingdom, some schools thought I was an international student and didn't even send me an application, such as Purdue. University of Michigan did, however, and I applied and was accepted.

I was a young undergrad, only seventeen when I arrived on campus. I was paired with an MBA student from Bowdoin College in Maine as my roommate. As I mentioned in my opening letter, my roommate, Larry Butler, was Greek, and he encouraged me to go through recruitment so that I could meet people since I had been abroad through high school.

Neither of my parents was in a Greek organization. No uncles either, so I had

done. Thank God for it but go and do something better. ""

-Robert Morrison

no real connection or real plans to join a Greek organization. But Larry often encouraged me, and when recruitment time came in January, he said, "You know, you should check them out."

Michigan had a fairly strong Greek community. I think there were about thirty or so fraternities. So, as a group of friends from the dorm, we went and made a connection at Phi Delt, primarily due to sports. The athletic director of the chapter was pressuring the recruitment chairman to recruit a lot of multi-sport athletes because he wanted to win the IM championship.

Well, he was able to do that. I was in a pledge class of nineteen, which, for Michigan at the time, was a big class. For example, the class before was four. And of the nineteen, most of us, if not all of us, had played two or three sports in high school, with one of them a varsity, cross-country runner. We did go on to win the IM championship that year, and for many years to come.

One of the greatest experiences I think anyone can have is to live in the chapter

ABOVE: Nat and Marcia Love's family. Pictured left to right, Jordan Love, Ben Love, Courtney Love, McKenzie Love (in arms), Marcia, Nat, Ingred Whowell, Madi Love (in arms) Amanda Love, Jared Love, Harper Love (in Arms), and Zach Love.









house, and I was fortunate to live in Michigan Alpha's for three years. That was primarily due to the fact that I held officer roles. So, although I was not the chapter president, I was the steward, which I would argue is the most powerful position in the chapter house when you control people's stomachs and work with the house manager to make sure jobs get done. When your brothers don't get to eat, a lot of people either like you or don't at certain times.

I also served as a scholarship chairman and represented the pharmacy school on the student government. For the last few years, I was the alumni secretary. Pharmacy school is a six-year program, so during the final two years, I lived down the street with two older Phi Delts in what we called the PDT clinic. One of my roommates, Jon McLain, '77, was in dental school, and the other, Ralph Everson, '78, was in medical school. So, we might have taken out a few stitches, put in a few stitches, maybe done a few

other minor surgical procedures. Treated a lot of common aches and pains. I always joke that we had an HMO (health maintenance organization) long before they became popular.

Just after my junior year, I started working for Meijer, the originator of the supercenter supermarket concept, as an intern in 1978. So, when I graduated, I had a choice to make.

I could continue working at Meijer, where I had benefits and was about a year and a half away from earning another week of vacation, among other perks. Or I was considering moving to Snowbird, just outside Salt Lake City, to be a pharmacist at the pharmacy there, where I would have done a lot of skiing and probably paid very little, and definitely would have received few benefits.

For some reason, common sense took over, and I didn't pursue what seemed like an exciting job working in Snowbird. I ended up working for Meijer for thirty-eight years, eventually retiring as the vice president of drug store. While at Meijer, I served on the University of Michigan pharmacy advisory board for twelve years.

When I graduated, I was asked to join the house corporation for Michigan Alpha. I believe that was mainly for two reasons. The first reason was that the chapter, along with the house corporation, had started a golf tournament, and the house corporation guys didn't want to lose it since it had become an annual event. The second reason was that I could type. Back then, there were no word processors or personal computers. Using a list provided by General Headquarters, I had to type on labels with a typewriter, stick the labels to envelopes, and send them out. Regardless of the reasons, I was happy to be asked and served as a member for seventeen years, the last three as president.

I lived the life of a normal alumnus for about two years, then one day Mike

THIS PAGE TOP LEFT: From left to right, Michigan alumni John Kraus, '80, Nat Love, Robert Lewandowski, '79, and Joe Fattore, '79. TOP RIGHT: Jim Warner, Akron '70, and Nat Love. BOTTOM LEFT: Nat Love with Michael Scarlatelli, Kettering '76. BOTTOM RIGHT: After the General Council elections at the 2021 General Convention, Tom Balzer, North Dakota '99, Nat Love, Moe Stephens II, Southern Indiana '99, J. David Almacy, Widener '92, and Todd Nisbet, USC '87. NEXT PAGE LEFT: Nat Love with his brothers, Dan Love, Ohio State '76, and Dave Love, Michigan '89. NEXT PAGE RIGHT: Nat and Marcia Love.





Scarlatelli called. He had just been elected to the General Council as a member-at-large, and he asked me if I would be interested in being the Sigma North province president. This was in 2000. I did that job for the next eighteen years. I had pretty much all the chapters in Michigan and occasionally, Bowling Green State University, in Ohio.

I found that being a province president was probably one of the more rewarding jobs in our organization. Jim Warner became the Sigma South province president at the same time, and as our regions at times overlapped, we got to know each other well. We were province president pledge brothers.

Jim and I started hosting Bi-Prov Retreats. These grew into the Ouad-Prov Retreat, which included chapters from Central and Northeastern Ohio, along with all Michigan chapters. Besides offering member development, the retreats provided an opportunity for Phi Delts to work with province presidents and create programs that addressed urgent topics relevant to both undergraduates and the province. It was also a chance for undergraduates to meet Phi Delts outside their chapter and get a sense of a larger Phi Delt community. These regional conferences were the springboard for the Fraternity-wide province retreat model.

In 2018, I was in Steamboat Springs, Colorado, when General Council Treasurer Dr. Chris W. Brussalis called and asked if I would consider running for the General Council. I couldn't believe anyone would care about my opinion, but I decided to run. I was elected at the 2018 General Convention in San Antonio, along with J. David Almacy. Dave and I became General Council pledge brothers and, for the next seven years, we served on the council together. As I reflect on this period of time, we had quite an interesting run.

Our first retreat as a council was supposed to be held in Asheville, North Carolina, but then Hurricane Florence was on track to make a direct hit. This seemed like it could be a sign of how our term might go. Especially since the meeting was taking place nine months after Max Gruver died due to hazing at Louisiana Beta. As a result, the Fraternity was reviewing policies, Phikeia education, and ways to keep our members safe. The council ended up meeting in Hueston Woods Park, just outside of Oxford, Ohio.

Our other major focus of that first meeting was reviewing Phi Delta Theta's strategic plan, Phi Delt 2020, and planning for Phi Delt 2030. In drafting the plan, we were discussing the enrollment cliff, the decline in young men attending four-year higher education institutions, and more. COVID-19, and the challenges it would bring to our members, wasn't even on our radar yet. Thankfully, five years into the 2030 plan, the Fraternity is ahead in nearly every metric. Like any good organization, strategic plans are somewhat fluid because they are always being adjusted as the world continues to change. In fact, at the first retreat of this biennium, the General Council and General Headquarters staff reviewed and revised the plan to set the Fraternity up for continued growth and success.

# **Challenging Ourselves to Do More**

This biennium, the General Council will be focused on:

- Being guided by our three Cardinal Principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude.
- Attracting the top talent on our college campuses and bringing them into our Fraternity. Growing both our number of members and our chapters.
- Continuing to focus on member development by providing programming and resources to allow our members, undergraduate and alumni alike, to become the greatest versions of themselves.
- Completing the rollout of our unified Phikeia education program.
- Providing the highest level of chapter support in the industry by focusing on consistent engagement.
- Continuing to move North Hall
   Properties and all its entities forward to
   provide safe and affordable housing for
   our undergraduate members.
- Increasing the number of volunteers and training them so that they are well-equipped to work with our undergraduate members.
- Growing alumni engagement and building on the success of First Thursdays with the Phis, as laid out in *Phi Delt 2030*.

For this biennium, we have created a challenge coin. If we cross paths while I'm traveling, I might give you a coin. On one side is our Fraternity brand mark surrounded by our three Cardinal Principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude. Use this side of the coin as a reminder of *The Bond* you signed and use it to navigate life's challenges as you



pursue the greatest version of yourself. Reflect on this side of the challenge coin and ask yourself, "how can I use the Cardinal Principles to achieve the goals that are important to me?" If you use these principles as your life filter, you're going to live a pretty good life. You're going to be a pretty good father, a pretty good husband, and a pretty good member of society.

On the backside of the challenge coin, Guard Against Elation. The phrase comes from our founder, Robert Morrison, when he made his farewell address to the attendees at our Semi-Centennial Convention in 1898. Guard Against Elation reminds us that we can do more. That is why one of the biggest focuses for this biennium will be on growth. We have invested in hiring recruitment specialists to support ten emerging chapters, the eight fall expansion projects, and at least five confirmed spring expansions. We aren't just focused on the number of chapters but also the size. Ever since the Fraternity implemented alcohol-free housing in 2000, the quality of our members has increased exponentially. The intelligence of these students leads me to wonder if I could even get into Phi Delta Theta anymore! They just have a thirst to learn, and on top of that, over the past ten years, they have adopted the concept of philanthropy.

Whenever I attend conferences and events with leaders from our peer organizations, I feel very proud of our members. Whether it's their GPA, campus and community leadership, or making a difference in people's lives by raising money for Live Like Lou or supporting

families affected by ALS through the Connect and Serve program, my Phi Delta Theta brothers truly stand out.

Which leads me back to Robert Morrison's farewell speech. What can we do to support even more ALS families? We all know the effect of ALS and how devastating it is, not only on the patient but also on the family. It's especially hard when one of our members gets this disease. We know we can do more. Why do we only have forty Iron Phi chapters? Why not one hundred? How many Triple Crown chapters would we have then? What if the Live Like Lou Connect and Serve program could support three hundred families? Raise \$2 million? I don't know what the ceilings are, but I sure would like to find out.

I think that's what this biennium is about, challenging ourselves.

We have the momentum, and we will reach the Foundation's Campaign 2030 goal of \$30 million. Brother Tio Kleberg has embraced our Guide Against Elation and challenged us to get \$40 million. Achieving that would allow the Foundation to: educate 2,000 Phis annually through engaging in-person events; grant \$2 million each year in scholarships and leadership programs; award \$250,000 annually in first-generation scholarships to new members; ensure anti-hazing education reaches high schools via Phi Delta Theta chapters; We can do this, but it will take all of us to reach Tio's challenge. At just over the halfway point, we thank former chairman and vice chairman Kenny Jastrow and Mike Fimiani for their leadership and vision, and passing

the torch onto co-chairs Tio and Janell Kleberg, along with their son Chris as vice chairman, who have stepped up to do more and bring the campaign to a successful close.

You may remember that Tio and Janell Kleberg were the first to give \$1 million to support Phi Delta Theta's educational programming. The continued success of the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute led them to ask, "What would another \$1 million do?" If the initial gift can support 1,000 Phi Delts each summer in Oxford, why can't it support 2,000? They have challenged the Fraternity to do just that by 2030 and lead by example by generously supporting the Fraternity with a second \$1 million gift. Thank you, Tio and Janell!

## Be Proud but Not Satisfied

I will be challenging Phi Delts as I travel across the country for installations, anniversaries, and Founders Day celebrations, and as I speak to students and volunteers at Kleberg and the McKenzie Family Presidents Leadership Conference, I will encourage them to reflect on their own experiences and ask themselves, What more can they do? For I believe that we all, upon self-reflection, will admit we can all do a little more!

College is a place to take risks. If you think about it, your chapter is a living lab. It's an excellent place to learn, push yourself, and develop your leadership skills. You have no idea what the effect of holding an office in your fraternity or being involved on your campus is going to be like till you get twenty years down the road. As you look back, and you say, yeah, that's where I cut my teeth. That's where I really learned it. Every CEO that's ever been invited to speak at Kleberg or McKenzie always reflects back to their fraternity experience; that's how they got their start.

Guide against elations! Sit back, reflect, and decide what more you can do to your personal bar. I promise you, it will pay dividends down the road.

Proud to be a Phi! X

**ABOVE:** From left to right, General Headquarters senior leadership Dylan Berg, Jesse Moyer, and Sean Wagner with the General Council Members Dave Almacy, Todd Nisbet, Tom Balzer, Mike Ogg, and Nat Love.



ALCOHOL-FREE HOUSING POLICY

# **Celebrating Twenty-Five Years**

Those responsible for implementation reflect on the Fraternity's process and progress

By Kate Ferguson, Senior Director of Strategic Communications, and Jennifer Morrow, Senior Director of Marketing Communications and Scroll Editor

n 1997, Phi Delta Theta made a decision that would forever shape its future: the move to alcohol-free housing. At the time, it was groundbreaking territory that no other fraternal organization of our size had forged.

For some, it was controversial. For us, it was defining. Twenty-five years later, the students of today have never known Phi Delta Theta any other way.

## Flashback to the Year 2000

On July 1, 2000, alcohol-free housing officially started, and Phi Delta Theta gained national attention. If you were in college then, you might remember the uncertainty. You might have heard that it was going to be the death of Phi Delta Theta. You may have even wondered, Will this work? Fast forward to today; those same students are now in their forties, some with college-aged kids of their own. A lot has happened in twenty-five years.

## A Change in Culture

The policy wasn't just about removing alcohol from chapter facilities; it was about restoring the Fraternity's

focus to what the Immortal Six intended: Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude.

In the mid-to-late 1990s, fraternities faced low academic performance, rising insurance costs, and declining alumni involvement due to an alcohol dominated culture on campus. Phi Delta Theta's leadership at the time realized they needed to address these challenges head-on and replace them with a values-driven culture that would continue to shape stronger men and better versions of themselves. The Fraternity's decision was supported by the fact that some students also wanted a change. In 1980, 20 percent of college students wanted an alternative to the status quo, something like alcohol-free housing; by 1990, 35 percent of the students wanted an alternative, and by 1995, 52 percent did.

"If you want to change your organization, don't be afraid to take big steps; most decisions in organizations are made incrementally. The Greek movement was facing a serious issue with alcohol. It was the cause of every significant problem the Fraternity had: grades, quality of members, alumni

If you want to change your organization, don't be afraid to take big steps; most decisions in organizations are made incrementally.

participation, and quality of chapter houses. Additionally, parental support and Greek numbers were declining," reflects Past President of the General Council, M. Scott Mietchen. Scott served on the General Council during the decision-making and implementation of



"You know, I think the one thing about Phi Delta Theta that is so unique is that we have a long history of adopting change initiatives

that are industry-leading and make us who we are, and we've been able to embrace those differences. We've been able to implement those differences, and we've done so fearlessly." —Tom Balzer, Program Coordinator of Alcohol-Free Housing, 1997–2001



Because of alcohol-free housing, "The other key things that I've seen, growth in the Fraternity, recruitment numbers went up. Our insurance costs, as the

broker and as the staff member at the time in charge of that, had a dramatic reduction. If we look now, today, our frequency of claims is down about 67 percent, and the severity of claims is down about 68 percent." —Marc Mores, Director of Chapter Services, 2000–04

the alcohol-free housing policy.

In 1993, a Phikeia at Auburn named Chad Saucier died from alcohol, leading the General Fraternity to take a hard look at the social aspect of fraternity, as it was attracting students who were more focused on the fun that you can have in college rather than the values of the organization. Alcohol was leading to the deterioration of facilities, assaults, and hazing incidents. General Headquarters staff and the General Council began to recognize that Phi Delta Theta was moving further and further away from its founding principles of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude, and the values of the founders and The Bond that Phi Delts all try to live up to today. In 1994, at the General Officers Conference, the idea of alcohol-free housing was discussed. General Headquarters staff presented, and students and volunteers were invited to participate. At the end of the conference, there was a vote on whether it should be taken up as a resolution at the 1996 Orlando Convention. As a province president at the time, J. David Almacy remembers the moment they voted. "I remember at GOC, they asked us for 100 percent support on moving forward with the alcohol-free housing initiative. We

didn't start the conference talking about alcohol-free housing, so it's fascinating to see that as the two or three days went through, there was a lot of politicking and a lot of communication and education, and eventually, I remember on that last night, the lighting was a little bit dimmer in the room . . . the vote came through, and I remember looking around the room and seeing every hand raised, and I was so proud of the decision that we made. And in my view, we've become a better organization because of it."

Phi Delta Theta's accomplishments stem from the united front of the General Council and General Headquarters, with further support from house corporations providing grants and the Foundation funding scholarships. But it was also the local alumni and students. As General Council Treasurer Tom Balzer points out, "the local chapter members who embraced this and made this part of the lifestyle and showed really early on, you know, the critical mass that we started developing . . . that early success, I don't know that we would have been able to make the groundswell that we got." Tom served as the project coordinator for alcohol-free housing at General Headquarters and traveled to chapters in the US and Canada, educating and enforcing the new policy.

Even with early support, it wasn't always an easy journey. Young leaders had to make hard choices. Educational Commissioner David Kovacovich recalls that going alcohol-free at Arizona State in the 1990s was not a smooth transition. The culture at ASU was very alcohol dominated on campus, especially in the Greek system. As chapter president, "We



"But for me, specifically as somebody who was leading a group of men, having to wrap my head around fraternity without alcohol in the chapter house, and

then communicate that [to others]... so navigating not being hypocritical, and making my own choices and what that means—there was a lot there, that I grew a lot during those couple of years."
—Moe Stephens, Chapter President, 1996–98

had to do some member reviews. We had to eliminate some people from the chapter. And that was a very difficult thing to do. But ultimately, what we tend to take for granted is that we go to college for an education. We go to college to create the format for our career. The social aspect is a complement to what we do after we've fulfilled our academic obligations. That was a little bit lost at the time when I was in college at Arizona State. Having alcohol-free housing helped us focus better on the genuine intent of our Fraternity, the Cardinal Principles of our Fraternity, and the real benefits of our Fraternity."

By shifting the focus back to the Cardinal Principles and providing policies and education to keep our members safer, this has led to reduced property damage, injuries, and insurance claims, which in turn keeps costs stable and facilities in better condition for future generations.

## A Lasting Legacy

Alcohol-related incidents, including deaths, sexual assaults, fights, hazing, and vandalism, had become alarmingly common in the Greek community. In 1989, a study showed that as many as



"When I went through recruitment in 1998, alcohol-free housing was a huge selling point for me to join the organization. When I saw the facilities

and knew that it would be a safer and cleaner place, it really attracted me as an undergrad to want to join the organization, particularly since the other fraternities on my campus were not alcohol-free."

-Joe Morel, initiated 1999



Phikeia educators at the 2025 Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute in Oxford, Ohio



"We wouldn't be where we are without alcohol-free housing. It changed the quality of our members. It changed our parental engagement. It changed

the university engagement and changed our alumni engagement. It helped us improve our chapter houses and helped our members focus more on what a fraternity is supposed to be. Nothing would be possible today, or we would not have the success we're having today, without alcohol-free housing."

—M. Scott Mietchen, General Council Reporter, 1998–2000

47 percent of students living in Greek housing identified as heavy drinkers. This is compared to 14 percent of students overall, indicating a significant gap in heavy drinking rates between those in Greek housing and the general student population. Of all insurance claims filed against Phi Delta Theta up to mid-1997, 53 percent were alcohol-related. Insurance settlements for these claims totaled over \$5.5 million.

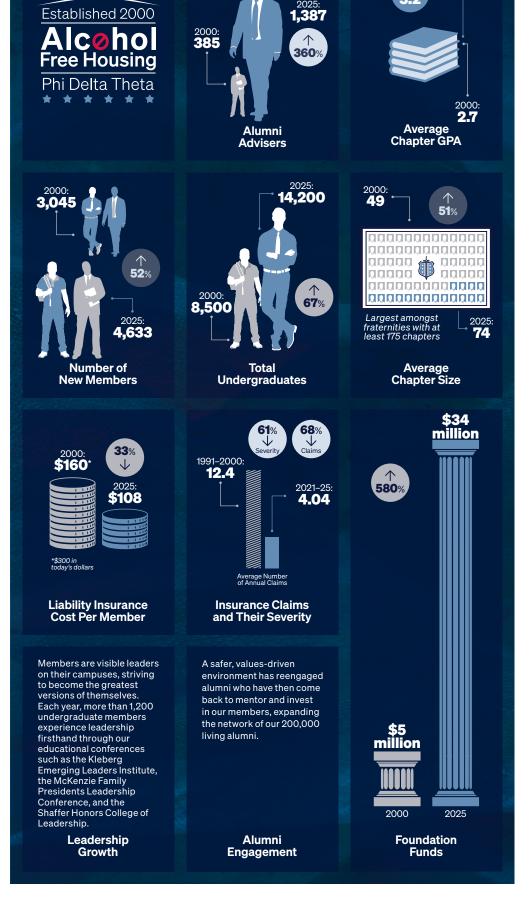
In 2004, when Michael Scarlatelli was General Council President, the Fraternity had between 6,500 and 7,000 undergraduates; now, Phi Delt has 14,200. Mike says this is due to the quality of members today. "The level of the undergrad in terms of participation, being able to discuss topics, presenting themselves, showing up on time, the way they come dressed to conventions and conferences is night and day. This has led to the growth of the Foundation by leaps and bounds from where we were. I mean, multiple times, not just two, three, or four times, because our alumni are looking at the value. They're coming to



"I think it's important to remember that the organization is what we're here to protect in the long run. And being alcohol-free means the

ideals of the organization can come to the forefront of everything that we do. From volunteering in the community to being a more impactful community member to being more academically driven and focused, it can really shift an organization to that perspective when alcohol isn't the culture anymore."

—Phil Cantrill, initiated 2000





"The policy was meant to reduce harm, to basically stop providing a mechanism for undergraduate members to hurt themselves. So, we're twenty-five years down the

line in enforcement. The reason the policy works is because when [a violation] comes to light, there's rigorous enforcement, meaning we're removing officers, we're engaging in education, putting disciplinary controls on a chapter of social probation, then if necessary, charter suspension." —Rudy Porchivina, General Council Member-at-Large, 2000–02

our conferences, our conventions. They're seeing the undergrads and interacting with them and seeing the quality of the students we're bringing in. And that's bringing in donations so we can fund more of these programs. So, the legacy over twenty-five years in terms of where we were with our Leadership College that began in August 1990, when we'd have maybe 200 and 300 students in one of the smaller conference rooms. Tio and Janell Kleberg saw the value this conference made on our students and invested \$1 million in 2012 to support what is now called the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute. Their generosity means that we're able to fund over a thousand students every August coming to Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. It has grown to have not just the main Kleberg track but also the Shaffer Honors College, and most recently, due to Mark and Shirley Craig's \$1 million gift, we have two more tracks that will allow even more leadership support for our members. What we've been able to implement with the Fraternity and the growth of the Fraternity with donor support it's been amazing."

When alcohol-free housing began, it was a bold experiment. Today, it's



"Phi Delta Theta has been able to initiate big strategic plans like Phi Delt 2020 and Phi Delt 2030 and live our values by doing big things to

serve our communities. This includes our partnership with the Gruver Foundation and the advent of our Taking a Stand, high school education program, and the creation of the Iron Phi Foundation and the Live Like Lou Foundation. These efforts allow us to live our values in taking on causes a lot bigger than us. Because we're focusing on our values, and not on our problems, we can focus on delivering best-in-class leadership programming, funding transformational scholarships, and investing our resources in those things." -Sean Wagner, chapter president, 2000-01

simply part of who we are. It has shaped a generation of Phi Delts who see the Fraternity not as a social club, but as a true value to their career and personal aspirations. When asked about living in the chapter house, Drew Annable, Widener '26, said, "It's been actually pretty nice having alcohol-free housing, having that safe space to go to be able to just hang out with brothers and chill and being able to bring PNMs (potential new members) into the house to showcase it and show them what we're about. Also, working with our brothers to have events and recruitment events at different locations. Especially philanthropy events. That's a big way we like to show off our Fraternity—those moments are, I think, key in our recruitment and advertise Phi Delta Theta." Fellow Pennsylvania Mu brother Joe Walsh, '27, confirms. "This is my first year staying in the house, and I'm really enjoying it. I feel like a big stereotype that we run into while



"We survived twenty-five years where some people thought we might last five by going alcohol-free housing. We proved some of the challenges that

we have that we could overcome, and we can sell the idea, and people were willing to join an organization that had alcohol-free chapter houses. The one thing we challenged with people, that doesn't mean we're an alcohol-free fraternity; it means our chapter houses are alcohol-free. People can still join, they can still drink, and still have a good time if that's what they want. It's just not going to be in our chapter facility. So, I think the biggest thing is we're still here; we're still a viable group. [Alcohol-free housing is] a selling point on some campuses when we're doing expansion presentations." —Charley Pride, General Council Treasurer, 2000-02

recruiting is the belief that fraternity is about alcohol. A lot of the freshmen that I've talked to this year say that alcohol is the reason they don't want to be in a fraternity. Their coach or the sports teams are really scared that being in a fraternity is going to take their time away from what they're supposed to be doing. But I feel that rather than that, Phi Delt pushes our integrity of academics, and everything that you're supposed to be doing as a student, like making sure your grades come first. That has helped change perceptions that fraternity can be more than being social and alcohol."

Alcohol-Free Housing set a new standard for the fraternal world, but for nearly two decades, Phi Delta Theta stood alone in fully implementing the initiative. In 2017, Sigma Phi Epsilon passed a resolution at their Grand Chapter Conclave to achieve completely substance-free facilities by August 1, 2020. Shortly after, Beta Theta Pi and



Drew Annable and Joe Walsh, Pennsylvania Mu

"The greatest challenges [of implementation] were actually getting some of the alumni on board. When you think about it, you know, back in the late 1990s and early 2000s, when there would be homecoming games, tailgating generally, they were starting at their fraternity houses. Some fraternity houses were right there by the stadium. And of course, what was there? Alcohol. So that had to stop, and there was a lot of pushback from the alumni until they

got used to not being able to have it on the property. And for the undergrads, their biggest problem was that a lot of the more recent alumni would show up at the house with a case of beer or something, and it was difficult to get them to say, 'Hey, brothers, we can't have that anymore in here. You need to remove that and take it outside." —Mike Scarlatelli, General Council Member-at-Large, 2000–02



"Every one of our chapters doesn't have to be alcohol-free, but they get to be alcohol-free, and there's an important distinction there. Our

chapter houses are our boardrooms. They're our offices, our places of residence. And keeping that clean and organized is a heck of a lot easier when you're not throwing humongous parties there. It's pretty nice to visit a campus on parents' weekend and not have your feet sticking to the floor. It's pretty nice to bring a partner or prospective partner to your place of residence, to your fraternity house, and not have the place smelling like a barn. These are just general things that accompany our commitment to alcohol-free housing." -Dave Kovacovich, Chapter President, 1996-97

Delta Upsilon adopted similar policies. Their adoption showed that even our peers, once cautious, came to recognize the success of our approach.

## **The Next Twenty-Five Years**

The fraternal landscape has changed dramatically since the year 2000. Many organizations still wrestle with questions of purpose, safety, and relevance. In the grand scheme of things, this initiative has only been implemented for just 14 percent of the Fraternity's existence. Still, Phi Delta Theta is building on a quarter-century of proven results, preparing its members for the next twenty-five years and beyond. We hope to also promote future changemakers for the challenges we may face in the years to come.

"To do what ought to be done, but would not have been done unless I did it."

"Implementing alcohol-free housing led to campuses requesting that we



"We saw that 75 percent of our undergraduates were underage. And what we were doing as a fraternity and as a Greek

system, we were providing places for them to break the law. And we decided that that wasn't something we wanted to do. Fraternities and sororities are the only organizations on a college campus that have a pledge or take an oath to be better than the average student. And so we felt that there was something better out there. We wanted to provide a better opportunity, a better chance for learning what the Fraternity is all about, rather than having alcohol be the important factor." —Bob Deloian, General Council President, 1996–98

expand on their campus. As to our alumni's reaction, some alumni were split. However, most alumni were extremely supportive of it. We got letter after letter from alumni and parents alike who were thrilled that we had removed the alcohol from the chapter house. Alcohol had not been in chapter houses for 150 years. It has only really been in the chapter houses to the extent that it was for 50 or 60 years. Alumni wrote letters talking about how they had overcome alcohol abuse. And then we had those who said we were going to ruin the Fraternity. And I think time told the tale that we didn't ruin the Fraternity. And the decision that was made has allowed Phi Delta Theta to become what it is today," concludes Scott Mietchen.

As a result of taking this big step, Phi Delta Theta became more than just a fraternity—it became the premier fraternal leadership society, known for developing men who lead on their



"There was a lot of positive feedback, because you have to realize, you know, prior to, say, the late 1960s, our fraternity houses were alcohol- and

substance-free, and they were like older alumni saying, 'You finally figured it out. You're getting back to the core principles of a fraternity: Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude.'
As I like to tell people, reporters in particular, we're getting out of the bar business, and we're getting back into the fraternity business, and that was successful."—Bob Biggs, Executive Vice President, 1991–2016

campuses, in their communities, and their careers.

For the members of 2050, alcohol-free housing won't be a 'policy change' they've heard about—it will be a tradition they've inherited. And that's precisely what leadership decisions are meant to do: create a better future for people you may never meet.

Like any major policy change, it has been and will continue to be met with its challenges. Yet, Phi Delta Theta is a better international Fraternity today than it was twenty-five years ago. Phi Delta Theta chose to lead. Today, we tell the story and continue the legacy.



# **Follow Along Online**

Earlier this year, Phi Delta Theta General Headquarters interviewed brothers, staff, and alumni to share the real stories behind alcohol-free housing. Stories on how it started, what it changed, and how it's still shaping lives will be shared online throughout our

alcohol-free housing's twenty-fifth anniversary celebration, from July 2025 to July 2026, and archived at the Phi Delta Theta Museum website.



Scan QR Code or Visit phide.lt/AFH

"And as a chapter president, I was terrified. After going to leadership conferences and such and learning about risk management and my own responsibility, if something were to happen under my watch, I would not want to be responsible for that. And so we did everything in our power to make sure that folks were safe at our own parties. And so I sort of think back about that, and then the plight of current chapter presidents and

future chapter presidents and the quality of our membership. You know, if we were recruiting based upon actual brotherhood and Sound Learning and Rectitude and what it meant to be a family on campus who enjoyed social activities, certainly. But if all we shared was alcohol, then that wasn't really a brotherhood in my mind."

—J. David Almacy, Province President, 1996–2005



Inaugural Iron Phi 5K during the Orlando General Convention in 2010

# Iron Phi Celebrates Fifteen Years of Developing Philanthropists Through Athletics

veryone loves a challenge, and when that challenge offers the opportunity for personal growth, accomplishment of athletic goals, and supporting important causes, great things happen. Fifteen years since its inception, Iron Phi engagement is at an all-time high, and the program has become a rewarding component of the Phi Delt experience.

## From Idea to Program Creation

The Iron Phi story began on the streets and classrooms in Cincinnati, Ohio, when the Fraternity's then director of education, Steve Good, combined a frustrating marathon experience with his MBA education at Xavier University to build an idea.

"Having received a graduate fellowship from the Phi Delta Theta Foundation, I remember going into my MBA experience with a goal of using the education to add value to the Fraternity," said Good. During my time in grad school, I also completed my first marathon, but I left disappointed after running alongside charity athletes who had achieved much more than I had in that moment—finished the race AND raised money for a cause. The experience, coupled with my desire to do more with the Fraternity's connection to Lou Gehrig and the ALS community, sparked the Iron Phi idea and a really fun MBA capstone project."

Lou Gehrig, *Columbia 1925*, was known as the Iron Horse during his baseball career because of his durability and perseverance. His prowess as a hitter, consecutive games-played record (2,130), and never-give-up attitude after being stricken with ALS inspired those around him. In the spirit of Brother Gehrig, the name Iron Phi was given to the concept to encourage those involved to remembers Lou's approach to life when setting out to achieve something.

"I remember being encouraged by my supervisor, Sean Wagner, and then General Council President Mark Ochsenbein to create a program proposal for the General Council to consider at its annual fall retreat. Being a young employee, my nerves were met with great enthusiasm by the board, and I was given the green light to bring Iron Phi to life," Good said.

After surveying Fraternity members to gain feedback about key components of the program (required fundraising amount to become an Iron Phi, what the funds would support, and ideal incentives) and building the Iron Phi fundraising website, the program was launched in February 2010.

It was determined that to become an Iron Phi, participants would need to raise \$1,000 through their personal Iron Phi fundraising page and accomplish an athletic goal of choice. In return, individuals would receive an Iron Phi Bond #, an incentive box including an Iron Phi race shirt, and recognition on Iron Phi's social media accounts.

"It was really important to all of us, including those surveyed, to direct the funds equally to the ALS cause and the development of leadership programs within the Fraternity. We knew that Iron Phi funds could amplify impact by contributing to the ALS community while building the philanthropic muscle of our members," said Good.









# **Growth Through Healthy** Competition (And a Lot of Fun)

Iron Phi has always thrived on the power of the individual participant, but the introduction of the Iron Phi Chapter status and two chapter-based annual competitions has helped fuel growth.

"Our members love accomplishing goals together, so it was no surprise when participants started asking for chapter challenges and incentives a few years into the program. We introduced the Iron Phi Chapter concept, rewarding chapters whose Iron Phi participants collectively raise \$10,000 or more in an academic year. The combination of personal and chapter achievement really sparked momentum," said Good.

Two annual flagship competitions

were later introduced—Iron Phi Rivalries and Lou's Olympics—and have brought a new level of energy, teamwork, and friendly bragging rights to the program at the chapter level. Together, they've created seasons of excitement that keep brothers training, fundraising, and bonding vear after vear.

Every fall, the Iron Phi calendar ignites with Iron Phi Rivalries, a spirited face-off between Phi Delt chapters that channels the intensity of college rivalries into a force for good. From August 1 through November 30, rival chapters go head-to-head to see who can raise the most funds—adjusted per undergraduate member-while earning bonus points for recruiting

new participants, reaching fundraising milestones, and crowning new Iron Phis.

While Rivalries spark momentum in the fall, winter and spring belong to Lou's Olympics. From February 1 to April 30, participants choose from forty-four athletic challenges everything from marathons to weightlifting records, cycling distances to the fastest Murph workout—all while raising funds through their Iron Phi fundraising page. Those who raise \$444 or more during the competition

TOP LEFT: Nebraska Gamma (Creighton) Phis. TOP RIGHT: Patrick Whitaker, UC Davis '24, and Jason Hacker, UC Davis '23.

**BOTTOM LEFT:** New York Kappa at Hofstra University won the 2020 Clark Jackson Award.





# Iron Phi By the Numbers

- **Dollars Raised:** \$5.5 Million
- Number of Donations: 57,122
- Individuals Registered: 12,275
- Iron Phis: 2.728
- Iron Phi Chapters in 2025: 39
- Average Annual Fundraising
   Growth: 17.74%
- Top All-Time Fundraising Chapter: Georgia Alpha (Georgia) – \$284,631
- Top All-Time Fundraising Individual: Bob Sherwin (Cal State, Northridge)– \$45.617
- Top Fundraising Month: April
- Percentage of Iron Phi Donors
   Who Are Not Members of
   Phi Delta Theta: 70%
- Average Number of Donations Iron Phis Receive: 12

and post the top result are rewarded with a gold medal. For many, the highlight of Lou's Olympics is the daily challenges that result in sponsorships from current Iron Phis.

The chapter competitions have helped drive a culture of philanthropy within many Phi Delta Theta chapters, leading to further recognition and success.

"I have been a strong supporter of the Iron Phi program since its inception, and personally was one of the earliest Iron Phis. It made me very proud when my own chapter, Utah Alpha at the University of Utah, incorporated the Iron Phi program as a key element of its Phikeia education program. This has been a terrific way to demonstrate to our members the importance of serving others – not only during their time in college, but also preparing them to serve others throughout their lives. Since Utah Alpha's work began with the Iron Phi program, the chapter has achieved Iron Phi Chapter status for nine of the past ten years and has raised over \$200,000, ranking it second among all Phi Delt chapters. The chapter's support of the Iron Phi

program has also created a great deal of pride among our alumni, parents, and university administration," said Scott Mietchen, *Utah* '84, Iron Phi #31.

## **Proud Moments**

Similar to when Iron Phi participants and chapters feel great pride for their achievements, there have been a number of moments that have stuck out for the program over the years.

The first Iron Phi 5K was hosted at the 2010 General Convention in Orlando. Since then, brothers and guests have participated in nearly twenty Iron Phi 5Ks at both Convention and the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute.

In March of 2016, after 2,223 days since the program was launched, Iron Phi surpassed its first \$1 million raised. Fast forward to February of 2025, Iron Phi surpassed \$5 million raised, with its most recent million dollars raised in 453 days.

In November 2017, it was announced that Phi Delta Theta would partner with the Pittsburgh-based organization, Live Like Lou, to grow it into a national nonprofit organization and establish it as the Fraternity's philanthropic

cause of choice. Iron Phi became a key driver in the Live Like Lou Foundation's growth, contributing to the \$13.5 million it has raised to date.

As the pandemic took root in 2020, and Phi Delta Theta was forced to adapt its operations at both the international and chapter level, Iron Phi became a positive outlet for many Phis as they were able to channel their isolation into personal and community impact.

"From a personal standpoint, I gleaned immense pride when alumnus Bob Sherwin, Cal State Northridge "70, became our top overall individual Iron Phi fundraiser in 2023. To see others, who have been affected by ALS, adopt the program and infuse it into their lives is a great feeling. I can see how much Iron Phi means to Bob, and he has set an amazing example," said Good.

Sherwin stated, "My mother died of ALS, and I do everything I can to raise money to find a cure. As a Phi and a competitive person, I was always intrigued by the Iron Phi program. I wanted to take on the challenge as an older Phi Delt. The Fraternity changed my life as an undergraduate and has been an integral part of my life ever



Runners and guests at the Iron Horse Challenge created by Pennsylvania chapters in 2013

since. Taking on the Iron Phi challenge has been an opportunity to give back to the Fraternity, leave ALS better than I found it, and keep me young."

## **Looking Ahead**

As Iron Phi turns the page on its first fifteen years, the vision for the future is clear: deepen impact, broaden reach, and build the capacity to carry the program well into its next chapter. That begins with the alumni network. While undergraduates have been the Iron Phi growth engine, there is an enormous opportunity to engage more alumni, both those who never had the chance to participate as students and those who might take on new challenges in the next stage of life.

Re-engaging current Iron Phis is another top priority. Thousands have

become Iron Phis over the years, but the relationships and motivation built through that journey don't have to end when one receives an Iron Phi Bond Number. New initiatives will focus on inviting past participants back for re-commitment challenges, milestone anniversary events, and mentorship opportunities for first-time Iron Phis. By fostering an ongoing community, Iron Phi can continue to inspire those who have already experienced its rewards.

To support that growth, Iron Phi is also turning its attention inward—strengthening the operational infrastructure that makes the program possible. More robust systems for fundraising and chapter support will create a smoother, more scalable experience for everyone involved. Enhancements in marketing,

communications, and data analytics will help identify trends, celebrate success stories, and keep the energy high year-round.

Finally, the next era of Iron Phi will include a deliberate focus on major gift fundraising through the Phi Delta Theta Foundation's Campaign 2030. As the program's reputation grows, so does its potential to attract philanthropic leadership gifts from alumni, friends, and partners who believe in the mission.

As the program has evolved over the years, Iron Phi has resulted in much more than just the funds raised. It has developed thousands of Phi Delt philanthropists, built confidence around personal goal setting and achievement, sparked motivation for physical fitness and health, and contributed to mission impact for both Phi Delta Theta and the Live Like Lou Foundation.

"I hope every Phi will consider becoming an Iron Phi at some point. I hear from participants all of the time, young and old, that their Iron Phi experience has become a highlight of their Phi Delt journey. It's a feel-good program that greatly rewards those who say yes to the challenge," said Good. X

# **Early Chapter Momentum at the Iron Horse Challenge**

In 2013, Phi Delta Theta chapters in Western Pennsylvania worked together to host the Iron Horse Challenge, one of the first multi-chapter Iron Phi gatherings. Phi Delts from IUP, Robert Morris, Washington and Jefferson, Clarion, Pitt, and Allegheny all participated. Each chapter had at least one relay team that ran the same course as the Pittsburgh Marathon in relay segments, chapter versus chapter.

The kickoff took place at Point State Park in Downtown Pittsburgh. Neil Alexander, Pittsburgh, encouraged the runners with a short speech, and his daughter, Abby, ran with group. Along with his wife, Suzanne, and hundreds of families and friends, Neil established the grassroots effort Live Like Lou in 2012.

The Iron Phi event also helped raise awareness for the then little-known Live Like Lou startup to those outside of the Pittsburgh area. It brought participating chapters closer to the

cause and increased brotherhood and cooperation among those chapters in the area.

"Many of us share the group photo every year when it pops up as a memory, as we all feel closer because of that event, especially after Neil passed away just two years later," said Zach Hilliard, IUP '13.

Phi Delt volunteers Dr. Chris W. Brussalis (General Council Member-at-Large) and Jordan Pallitto (Upsilon South Province President) attended. Many who participated eventually came to work for General Headquarters or became volunteers. Jim Rosencrans, *IUP '13*, Rick Goughneour, *Robert Morris '13*, and Zach Hilliard, IUP '13 joined the staff as leadership consultants. Joel Bender, *IUP '14*, and Brandon Long, *Robert Morris '16*, currently serve as province presidents. Many others serve on chapter advisory boards.

# ----- FULFILLED POTENTIAL

# **Sound Learning**



# Letter to My Younger Self

Dr. Edward G. Whipple, PhD, Hanover '74

s a Past President of the General Council and Trustee Emeritus of the Phi Delta Theta Foundation, I have gained a great deal from my Phi Delta Theta experiences. These experiences as an undergraduate and later as a volunteer in various roles have shaped both my personal and professional lives. I have been fortunate to work in education throughout my life, starting as a high school teacher and coach, then moving to college as a hall director, fraternity and sorority advisor, associate dean of students, dean of students, and finally, for the past thirty years, serving as a vice president for student affairs at five different colleges and universities. My Phi Delt experience taught me the importance of caring for others, understanding the 'right thing to do,' and then acting on it, as well as emphasizing the value of intellectual development in everyday life. This foundation, provided by my fraternity experience, became increasingly clear as I grew older.

As a twenty-two-year-old in my first year of high school teaching, I wish I could have read the points I am articulating below. Mistakes wouldn't have been made, sadness and heartache may have been avoided, and possibly relationships that had gone awry would instead have been strengthened. These 'lessons' include:

Realizing the two most important things in life are one's health and one's family. Obviously, if a person's health declines, that inhibits them from fully enjoying the many opportunities available in the world. Family does not necessarily mean blood family—I define family as a network of individuals who are there to support you at any given moment.

Being kind—while this seems simplistic and trite, it is amazing how much kindness is missing in the world today. Words hurt, and people are so free to use them and fail to realize the impact those words have on others and how that harm affects many other aspects of life.

Understanding what a work ethic is—social media has reduced people's attention spans and caused many to jump from one activity or job to another without focusing on the quality of their work. The adage "work until the work gets done" no longer seems to apply to many people. Work is either not completed well or not completed at all.

Appreciating friendships—lifelong friends (and especially those made in the fraternity) are important, and it takes work to maintain those friendships, like any relationship.

Fraternity friendships "are for life," but maintaining them requires commitment on both individuals' parts.

Standing up for what you believe this is especially difficult in today's world, where political lines are drawn, people don't listen to each other, and 'free speech' has taken on a negative connotation. "Doing the right thing" applies to both personal and professional life.

I learned a valuable lesson as General Council President. Phi Delta Theta's alcohol-free housing gave me an opportunity to test my ability to do what was best for the Fraternity, even though there were many who were not supportive of my leadership on this issue. The discussion about alcohol-free housing began during my term as General Council President, from 1992 to 94. At that time, alcohol was being served to volunteers at events like Convention and meetings between Conventions. As a college



vice president for student affairs, I saw firsthand how alcohol abuse affected many undergraduates' academic performance, campus leadership, and relationships with peers and college officials. I also clearly saw the link between hazing and alcohol abuse. When we started discussing this with chapter advisers and province presidents, there was tremendous pushback against even talking about no alcohol at events. My General Council decided to stop serving alcohol at events for volunteers and their wives or partners who attended. There was tremendous animosity on the part of a vocal group toward me and the other Council members; however, we knew it was the right decision for the survival and growth of Phi Delta Theta. It would have been easier to give in and avoid addressing the issue. Although it took four years, and it wasn't until Dr. Bob Deloian's 1998 Convention that Phi Delta Theta officially approved alcohol-free housing, I believe the 1992–94 General Council stood firm for what it believed was right and laid the groundwork for the 1998 adoption.

I wish I had better understood right after my undergraduate program the points I just articulated. However, we all know that real growth and understanding happen only through experiences, successes, failures, and relationships.

**PREVIOUS PAGE:** 1992 General Council, Tony Ambrose, *Kentucky '67*, reporter; Stan Gilson, *CSUN '70*, member-at-large; Ed Whipple, *Hanover '74*, president; Arby Dickert, *Clemson '78*, member-at-large; and Bob Deloian, *Arizona State '66*, treasurer.





# **Six Things with Corby Robertson**



Fraternity Executive Vice President and CEO Sean Wagner presents Corby Robertson, *UT Austin '69*, with the Nance-Millett Free Enterprise Award

At the 2025 Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute, Phi Delta Theta honored Brother Corbin "Corby" Robertson Jr., UT Austin '69, as the 2025 recipient of the Nance-Millett Award. Corby was initiated into Phi Delta Theta on March 26, 1966, by the Texas Beta Chapter at the University of Texas at Austin. Corby is a renowned entrepreneur, philanthropist, and leader in the natural resources sector. He serves as the chief executive officer and chairman of Natural Resource Partners L.P. The Fraternity also inducted Robertson into the Phi Delta Theta Sports Hall of Fame, joining his lifelong friend and business partner, Chris Gilbert, UT Austin '69, in recognition of Robertson's lasting impact on the worlds of football and golf.

# 1. Do you feel that Phi Delta Theta made a difference in your life?

The relationships that I have enjoyed with many Phi Delta Theta brothers have enriched my life in many ways: friendships, business, travel, and appreciation for shared values, including UT.

# 2. What is your most memorable experience or moment from Phi Delta Theta?

A lot of happy times, such as the first date with my wife, were at Sunday lunch at the house, etc.

# 3. Who from your chapter inspired you? Have you ever told them that?

My campus experience at UT included relationships with Phis in Honor Business like Kenny Jastrow and Joe Bob Kinsel; with Phis on the football team like Pete Lammons and Chris Gilbert; and with Phis in the Texas Cowboys, who are UT's campus leaders like Frank Haddock and Dick Kimbrough. Our chapter was blessed with outstanding individuals who have started businesses, endowed charities, served in education, and become doctors, lawyers, and leaders in all fields of endeavor. They know that they are appreciated!

# 4. What accomplishments or career milestones are you most proud of, and how do you attribute them to your experience?

I have left things better than I found them, wherever I have focused through teamwork and serving the mission.

# 5. How have you stayed connected with Phi Delta Theta after graduation?

I am still in contact with several brothers from Texas Beta and other Texas Phis.

# 6. Advice for current students?

You each have the opportunity to learn from each other and make lifelong friendships! Relationships make good things happen. There are several leadership takeaways that I ask you to consider. Care about your teammates. Nobody accomplishes something worthwhile alone. Your team can tell when it's about you and when it's about the team. Also, serve the mission and not yourself. People will follow leaders who care about their teammates and work to accomplish shared objectives. Make the most of every day, cherish relationships, and give thanks to God for your many blessings. X

# **Pursuit of Greatness**





**John Hines,** *Puget Sound '05*, was selected by the Puget Sound Alumni Association as one of the recipients of the 2025 Distinguished Alumni Award for Service to Community (pictured above). This award is presented to alumni whose commitment, skill, and dedication have had a significant impact on their community. Through voluntary service in artistic, recreational, educational, human service, or other worthy organizations, recipients of this award improve the quality of life around them. John is currently an instructional facilitator for the Tacoma, Washington, School District and a part-time City of Tacoma Council Member.

Peter Spartin, McDaniel '84, has been named to the McDaniel Board of Trustees. Spartin graduated in 1984 with a bachelor's in economics and business administration from the college, where he was a member of the Green Terror football team, involved with Phi Delta Theta, and contributed to the student newspaper. He later earned a Master of Science from the Johns Hopkins University in 1996. He is currently managing director for Globalis Partners, an affiliate of Butler Capital Partners. ×

# Largest Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute to Date!

The 2025 Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute was the largest in-person event in Phi Delta Theta history, with nearly 1,100 registrants across four educational tracks. Students listened to inspiring talks from professional speakers and dedicated Phi Delt alumni who encouraged them to live with integrity, prioritize brothers' wellness, and prepare for future leadership within the Fraternity.

Small breakout groups were led by a distinguished group of faculty, including several Past Presidents of the General Council, former General Headquarters staff, and active chapter advisers. These faculty volunteers guided their groups through engaging activities and discussions focused on how to better lead a chapter toward success in various aspects of fraternal life.

In the words of a participant who filled out the evaluation survey, "I had a fantastic and extremely fulfilling time at Kleberg and would highly recommend

this experience to all my brothers!" In fact, 98.1 percent of students would recommend attending the conference to future Phi Delts. Another student closed out his feedback form by saying, "What an amazing experience. It has taught me so much."

Thanks to significant donations by Tio and Janell Kleberg and Mark and Shirley Craig, the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute continues to impact a growing number of Phis while moving toward the goal of 2,000 attendees by the year 2030. This trajectory of growth will ensure that even more men are positively impacted by the educational experiences and community-building that take place during our in-person events. X



**ABOVE:** lowa Beta Chapter brothers Sean Grim, '14 (Jay's Hope board member), Kase Heuermann, '14, Blaine Flanagan, '13, Jay Burger, '14, Drew Turner, '14, Ross Williams, '14 (Jay's Hope board member), Patrick Grim, '13, and Sam Gray, '14. **NEXT PAGE:** left, Sam Gray, right, Drew Turner.

# Advocacy

LIGHTENING THE LOAD

# Jay's Hope

lowa Beta brothers honor a friend by creating a support network for young people struggling financially during cancer treatment

By Sam Gray, Iowa '14, and Drew Turner, Iowa '14



Jay's Hope is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization focused on offering hope and joy to young adults battling cancer. The organization was founded in 2016 in memory of Jay Burger, who lost his courageous battle with cancer and lived life to the fullest each and every day, spreading joy and reminding us all about the everlasting power of love, family, and friendship.

### **About Jay**

Jay graduated from the University of Iowa with a bachelor's in marketing in 2014. While at Iowa, Jay was an active member of the Iowa Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta—a place where he met an



amazing group of young men that he cherished as friends.

Jay was a well-rounded young man—handsome, intelligent, loyal, and outgoing. Above all else, family and friends always came first for Jay. His commitment to those he loved was felt deeply by all of us who adored him, and those strong bonds of love will remain unbroken for an eternity.

Jay had a zest for life that never fizzled despite his twenty-month battle with Ewing's Sarcoma. He was a true hero, fighting with every ounce of strength to his last breath. He is remembered as a best friend, an amazing brother, a remarkable son, and a resilient warrior like no other.

# **About Jay's Hope**

When Jay lost his relentless battle with cancer, his family and his friends all felt a significant void. In the months that followed, we reflected on the gap in grant support for young adults battling this dreadful disease. We felt compelled to establish something that would not only keep Jay's memory alive but would offer hope and joy to others like Jay who were faced with their own battle. The mission of Jay's Hope from the beginning has been to offer hope and joy to college students and young adults battling cancer. Whether individuals use grants to attend concerts or travel, or they need to use the



dollars to assist with treatment expenses, we knew there was a need. Additionally, we sought to establish resources for these individuals that would assist them in their journey.

As a key driver for raising funds, we decided to launch a golf tournament, as the golf course had been a refuge for Jay during his treatment. Along with Jay's mom, we organized our first Jay's Hope Back to Business Golf Tournament on the one-year anniversary of Jay's passing, July 25, 2017. We raised over \$50,000 in that initial tournament. Fast forward nine years, and we recently held the ninth annual golf tournament on July 21, 2025, raising more than \$85,000. The tournaments have all sold out and have become a large draw for our Phi Delt brothers, who are now scattered across the United States. As the organization has grown, we have added other fundraising activities, including a Chicago Marathon team for Jay's Hope. In October this year, twenty-five determined individuals will run 26.2 miles to raise money for Jay's Hope. We are proud to be an official charity partner of the Chicago Marathon. While registration is closed this year, if you are a Chicago Marathon runner, you can still opt to raise money for Jay's Hope. Next year, we will again be recruiting team runners; applications will be available on the Chicago Marathon page. If you would like to support our



2026 Jay's Hope Team, please visit https://phide.lt/JaysHope.

As a 501 (c) (3), we are led by a board that includes four of Jay's Phi Delt brothers. Over the past nine years, we have raised over \$1 million, which has allowed us to deliver on our mission. Jay's Hope has given out over twenty-five grants to young adults battling cancer from across the United States. The stories of our grantees are inspiring, including one young woman who also battled Ewing's Sarcoma. She utilized her grant to cover expensive fertility treatments, and we received the great news last year that she welcomed her first child. We also paired with the Chicago Bulls and

Advocate Children's Hospital to create teen rooms in Chicago area hospitals featuring some of Jay's favorite arcade games. The Chicago Bulls Teen Lounge was dedicated to Jay's memory in the hope that the space would be a source of strength to lift spirits, lighten worries, and brighten the day of those braving their own battle.

The mission of Jay's Hope is to provide college students and recent college graduates battling cancer with a source of strength and hope to lift their spirits, lighten their worries, and brighten their day as they brave their battle. If you know of a Phi Delt or other young adult undergoing cancer treatment who

needs extra support, have them visit <a href="https://jayshope.net/#support">https://jayshope.net/#support</a> and fill out the Request Support form. Any current college student or recent graduate who is a young adult undergoing a battle with cancer is eligible. Individuals who are eligible are welcome to apply on our website. Our mission is to help as many young individuals as we can. If you know of someone eligible, you are also welcome to submit their story. There are no restrictions on how the grant money is used.

If you want to donate or support Jay's Hope, please visit https://jayshope.net/#donate. ×

# What are some of your favorite memories of your time at lowa Beta with Jay?

Our Phi Delt memories with Jay started early and often. Jay always had a knack for bringing all of us together and building bonds. In our first semester, Jay was elected as our Phikeia social chairman. Jay organized various ski trips, weekends in Chicago at various sporting events, and music festivals that all created memories that will last a lifetime.

# Was there anything about your Phi Delt experience that influenced you in creating Jay's Hope or provided the necessary knowledge to create a philanthropy?

During our time at Iowa Beta, being a member of Phi Delt meant living by the values of leaving someone better than you found them and being your brother's keeper. Jay embodied those ideals every day—always ready to lend a hand to anyone, friend or stranger. His impact on us as friends and brothers inspired us to give back to others facing a journey like his.

When Jay was diagnosed with cancer, we saw firsthand the gap in funding for young adults. While there were numerous grants for children and for parents with young families, those who didn't fit those categories often had no financial support. In the spirit Jay shared with so many, we founded Jay's Hope with the mission of closing that gap and ensuring young adults receive the help they need.

# What are you most proud of with Jay's Hope?

**Sam:** In life, we believe in turning hardship into hope for others. Hearing the words "you have cancer" as a young adult is something no one ever wants to face. With Jay's Hope, we're able to provide not just financial support, but also a source of encouragement to lift people's spirits during their darkest

moments. Knowing we can bring light, hope, and relief to those navigating such a difficult journey is what we are most proud of.

**Drew:** I'm most proud of the support Jay's Hope is providing to young adults battling cancer, rallying around the light that Jay gave us and passing it on. Personally, my proudest accomplishment with the Jay's Hope team was running the Chicago Marathon in 2022, having not run more than a 5K before. Jay was constantly on my mind throughout the six months of training and pushed me across the finish line, reminding me of the strength and perseverance he had during his battle with Ewing's Sarcoma.

# Do you feel that Phi Delta Theta made a difference in your life?

Sam: I'm a proud third-generation Phi, and many of my closest friends today are brothers from lowa Beta. During my time as president, we organized multiple philanthropies each year, and I saw firsthand the impact those efforts had on individuals and our community. Experiencing that at such a young age taught me the lasting value of service, leadership, and building genuine relationships—not just for those we help, but for the character it builds in ourselves. Those same values are at the heart of my career as a vice president of sales at FactSet Research Systems, where connecting with people, understanding their needs, and providing solutions are essential to success.

**Drew:** Phi Delt and the brothers, like Jay, have made a significant impact on my life. I joined as a legacy and came away with lifelong friendships. I now work in the insurance industry as a business development professional, where building relationships is a key part of my role. My experience in Phi Delt expanded my ability to connect and deepen relationships with those I do business with as a territory manager at Nationwide Insurance.

# **Foundation News**

omehow, it's already fall

2025. While time seems to

move faster every month,

# **Momentum for the Phi Delta Theta Foundation**

the Foundation works hard to keep Phi Delta Theta relevant in our modern era. We can do this because of our loyal supporters. Thank you. During the General Convention in June, we launched phase 2 at the midpoint of our Campaign 2030: A Greater Version for Tomorrow. It's not about changing goals, but about changing how we reach them to ensure we support the greatest needs of our young Phis in 2025 and beyond. We celebrated Kenny Jastrow and Mike Fimiani as chairs of the first half of our campaign and welcomed our new co-chairs, Tio and Janell Kleberg, along with their son Chris Kleberg, to help lead us boldly into the future.

In addition to celebrating our midpoint and launching phase 2, we also held our sixth Day(s) of Giving for the Phi Delt Fund. Phis from all over joined us in a heated chapter competition, raising over \$300,000 and unlocking \$30,000 in immediate chapter leadership funding for the winning chapters. Since its inception, generosity from Days of Giving has generated over \$1.3 million in support of our mission.

As the Foundation encourages support every day from gifts of all sizes, the charitable landscape continues to evolve. Changes in federal law create new and different opportunities for philanthropic consideration (such as the Secure Act 2.0 and OBBB). Our team acts as your charitable adviser and can help you navigate these new waters. We understand that the primary reason people give is because they care. They care about our mission: developing young men and supporting their educational pursuits. The impact of philanthropy is the most important part. However, how and when people give can vary greatly depending on tax savings.

# A Greater Version for Tomorrow: Building Momentum

Campaign 2030 continues to propel Phi Delta Theta forward. Over the past five years, it has fueled innovation, expanded member development programs, strengthened recruitment efforts, and deepened our philanthropic impact on young Phis. During this period alone, we have provided \$8 million in financial support for Phi Delta Theta. Our goal by 2030 is to impact Phi Delta Theta by annually granting out \$2 million or more. Broadly speaking, we have raised over \$20 million toward our \$30 million goal. We are also excited to announce that, for the second year in a row, we received a \$1 million commitment. This time, from Tio and Janell to double down on the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute's impact.

Phase 2 of A *Greater Version for Tomorrow* will enhance in-person experiences while integrating technology to extend our reach to those who are separated by distance. Key priorities include:

• Growing Leadership Development: Expanding the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute and the McKenzie Family Presidents Leadership Conference to accommodate

more delegates.

- Strengthening Scholarship Support: Increasing our scholarship programs to provide transformational experiences and combat the rising cost of higher education.
- Introducing New Giving
  Opportunities: Expanding initiatives
  like the Oxford Fund and continuing
  the First-Generation Student
  Scholarship Program to provide crucial
  financial aid and support.

# How You Can Make a Difference in 2025 and Beyond?

As 2025 unfolds, I invite you to take two meaningful actions: refer a Phi for fraternity membership and invest in the future of our young Phis. If you have not yet made a gift, consider becoming a first-time donor. If you have given before, encourage a pledge brother to join you in supporting the Phi Delta Theta Foundation.

Our annual Giving Tuesday Interfraternal Competition (where we will beat SAE, Sigma Chi, and everyone else again, right?) will take place on December 2, providing a prime opportunity to make a lasting impact. Now, more than ever, is the time to philanthropically partner with the Foundation as we embark on the next phase of *Campaign 2030*.

Additionally, I encourage you to explore ways to leave a legacy for both your family and Phi Delta Theta through the Living Bond Society. How can you ensure your annual support continues for perpetuity? Transformational giving creates transformational experiences, shaping the leaders of tomorrow within our brotherhood.

Your Foundation team is honored to serve as your philanthropic adviser, helping you maximize your impact and legacy.

Proud to be a Phi!

Yours in the Bond,

W. Andrew Cole

PS Want to explore creative ways to give? Contact me or our Director of Advancement Brayden J. Hosman, at bhosman@phideltatheta.org.



Scan to Donate phide.lt/HowtoGive

and ale



# **Donor Profile**

LAMAR'66

# A Legacy of Leadership and Loyalty

James C. Eskridge celebrates fifty years of giving back to Phi Delta Theta

or James C. Eskridge, the values of leadership, service, and integrity have been lifelong companions. From his early days in Pasadena, Texas, where he earned the Eagle Scout Award in 1961, to his distinguished career in youth development and military service, Brother Eskridge has consistently embodied the ideals of Phi Delta Theta.

Now celebrating fifty consecutive years of giving to the Phi Delta Theta Foundation, Eskridge's story is one of enduring commitment. His first donation came in 1975, and over the decades, his contributions have included a Charitable Gift Annuity for The Living Bond Society, memorabilia for the Foundation archives, and commemorative bricks in the Sesquicentennial Courtyard—honoring both his own journey and the memory of fellow brothers.

"My support of the Foundation is a sound investment in the future of Phi Delta Theta," Eskridge shares. "It ensures scholarships, fellowships, educational programs, and housing grants that shape tomorrow's leaders."

Eskridge's Phi Delt journey began in 1964 at Lamar University, where he joined the Delta Rho Colony. He played a pivotal role in the installation of the Texas lota Chapter in 1965, serving first as vice president and then as president. His leadership continued beyond college, through active participation in alumni clubs, Founders Day events across multiple states, and the 2018 Biennial Convention in San Antonio.

A proud Golden Legionnaire, Eskridge received his pin in 2015 at a Founders Day event in Seattle. Reflecting on the moment, he recalls signing *The Bond* of Phi Delta Theta in 1965 and later organizing a Golden Legion ceremony for fellow



brothers during the Texas lota Chapter Reunion in 2018.

His professional life is equally distinguished. Eskridge served in the U.S. Air Force from 1967 to 1974, specializing in Aerospace Reconnaissance Intelligence Operations, with assignments in Vietnam, Germany, and at Strategic Air Command Headquarters. He earned two USAF Commendation Medals for Meritorious Service.

Following his military service, Eskridge dedicated thirty-four years to Scouting America, serving in executive roles across the country and retiring in 2008 as associate director for Compensation and Benefits at the BSA National Council.

He met his future wife, Kathryn, at college, and soon she accepted his fraternity drop. They married after graduation and will celebrate their sixtieth wedding anniversary in 2026. They reside near Seattle, Washington, as do their son, daughter-in-law, and two granddaughters

Through it all, Phi Delta Theta remained a constant. "Robert Morrison said, 'To do what ought to be done, but would not have been done unless I did it, I thought to be my duty.' That principle has guided me throughout my life," Eskridge reflects.

His advice to future leaders is simple yet profound: "Lead by example. Integrity and consistency between words and deeds are the foundation of true leadership."

James C. Eskridge's legacy is a testament to the power of living *The Bond*. His half-century of generosity and service continues to inspire, ensuring that Phi Delta Theta remains a force for good in the lives of generations to come. X



**LEAVE A LEGACY** 

# **Invest in Future Generations**

Join the Living Bond Society today

oe Morel, WKU '02, continues to be a loyal Phi, dedicated volunteer, and strong supporter of our Fraternity and the Phi Delta Theta Foundation. Most recently, at the 85th biennial Convention in Atlanta, Georgia, the Fraternity recognized Morel with the Oliver J. Samuel Outstanding Province President Award for his service as Eta North province president. This award acknowledges Joe's more than twenty-one years of dedication to Phi Delta Theta.

Not only is Morel generous with his time, but he is also a passionate and consistent philanthropic supporter of the Phi Delta Theta Foundation. In addition to his monthly donation, Joe supports various initiatives within the Foundation, such as honoring a brother's entrance in the Chapter Grand or supporting scholarship efforts organized by local Phis. As a family man, Joe has carefully considered how to care for his loved ones while also providing the resources to ensure his legacy within Phi Delta Theta continues after his induction into the Chapter Grand.

Morel recently notified the Phi Delta Theta Foundation of his intentions to name the Phi Delta Theta Foundation as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy. By notifying the Foundation, Joe ensured the Foundation could best honor his intent through joining the Living Bond Society.

When asked about the Living Bond Society, Joe shared:

"It was important for me to include Phi Delta Theta in my estate planning to help create opportunities for future generations of young men to benefit from the valuable experiences, mentorship, and community that Phi Delta Theta provides. It's a way for me to leave a lasting legacy that aligns with my values and commitment to fostering the personal and professional growth of others."

Joe can be seen as a frequent volunteer at the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute or other Phi Delt events, wearing his exclusive Living Bond Society lapel pin. We are grateful to the Morel family for their generosity and foresight. Their planned gift exhibits that planned giving is not just about leaving a legacy, but rather smart, long-term planning to align philanthropy with their financial goals. Most Living Bond Society gifts are structured in a way that has no immediate out-of-pocket costs and can be tax advantageous to you and your heirs.

To learn more about establishing your legacy in the Living Bond Society and investing in future generations of Phis, contact Brayden Hosman, director of advancement for the Phi Delta Theta Foundation. He can be reached at <a href="mailto:bhosman@phideltatheta.org">bhosman@phideltatheta.org</a> or (513) 280-6724. X

ABOVE: Joe Morel, fourth from right, pictured with fellow Western Kentucky students and alumni.



# A Remarkable Year of Impact So Far

Advancing the Mission of Phi Delta Theta

s 2025 reached its midpoint, the Phi Delta Theta Foundation celebrated a truly remarkable year of progress. Thanks to the generosity of our brothers and friends, the Foundation has already awarded over \$575,000 in scholarships to support 519 recipients from 133 chapters across North America—and this is only halfway through the award period. Even more scholarships are scheduled to be distributed this fall, ensuring that our impact will continue to grow in the months ahead.

These scholarships offer more than financial support—they enable recipients to access new opportunities and reinforce Phi Delta Theta's values of Friendship, Sound Learning, and Rectitude. Looking ahead, we hope to grow these scholarships even further as part of Campaign 2030: A Greater Version for Tomorrow, expanding our impact and providing even more members with resources to thrive and succeed.

# By the Numbers: 2025 Scholarship Awards

**First-Generation Student Scholarships:** 

These awards support brothers who are the first in their families to attend college — a powerful step forward for them and future generations. **\$240,800.00:** 177 students

### **Undergraduate Scholarships:**

Merit-based awards that recognize academic achievement, leadership, and community impact.

**\$177,532.36:** 163 students

#### Whole Man Scholarships:

Funding to attend the Shaffer Honors College of Leadership at Kleberg, awarded to those who exemplify the Fraternity's holistic approach to personal development. **\$88,561.39:** 73 students

#### **Local Chapter Scholarships:**

Scholarships funded by specific chapters and donors, empowering students at the local level. **\$29,728.32:** 69 recipients

#### **Harrison Presidents Scholarships:**

Named for former President Benjamin Harrison, these awards recognize outstanding chapter presidents and executive leaders.

**\$18,958.34:** 17 students

### **Kenneth D. Hansen Grants:**

Awarded to undergraduate student-athletes who do not receive athletic scholarships from their universities. These grants support brothers who balance academic achievement, chapter involvement, and athletic excellence without institutional athletic aid.

**\$20,000.00:** 20 recipients

Each of these awards represents more than just a dollar amount—they're a reflection of the Fraternity's deep commitment to building future leaders. From first-generation students to student-athletes and chapter officers, this year's 519 recipients represent 133 different chapters across North America — a powerful testament to the widespread impact of the scholarship program.

As we look to the future, the Phi Delta Theta Foundation is committed to growing these programs and reaching even more deserving students. Together, we are building a stronger, smarter, and more service-minded brotherhood.

Thank you for making this extraordinary year possible.

#### **Quotes from Thank You Letters**

This year's impact spanned academic disciplines, leadership roles, and campus involvement. From first-generation college students to chapter presidents, the stories behind each recipient reflect the depth of character and potential within our brotherhood.

"Being a member of Phi Delta Theta has been one of the most meaningful parts of my college experience. The values of friendship, sound learning, and rectitude resonate deeply with me. It is truly humbling to be connected to Jordan L. Haines's legacy through this scholarship," Andrew Jamail, *Kansas* '27

"The Proud to be a Missouri Alpha Phi Scholarship has completely opened new opportunities for me and has alleviated my financial burdens. This scholarship gives me the liberty to focus on my academic goals and curricular involvement, and I cannot say thank you enough," Baylor Adamovsky, Missouri '27

"As a proud member of Phi Delta Theta at the University of Puget Sound, I have been fortunate to grow as a student, athlete, leader, and brother—especially this last year being on the executive team as Treasurer. Your investment in students like me is a powerful reminder of the lifelong impact that alumni and supporters have on our Fraternity's future," Ethan Roeder, *Puget Sound '27* 

# **Canadian Foundation**

# A Record Year for Canadian Foundation Awards

New scholarships available to non-Phi incoming freshmen will support chapter growth

By Rob McInnes, Dalhousie '85, Chairman, Canadian Foundation

he Phi Delta Theta
Canadian Foundation
announced its 2025
award winners on a live
YouTube presentation
on April 22, 2025.
Nineteen undergraduates from every
university where the fraternity has a
chapter in Canada were granted over
\$43,000. This marks a record for the
Canadian Foundation in total dollars
granted in a single year.

Every dollar awarded this year is directly due to the generosity of undergraduates, alumni, and friends of Phi Delta Theta who have made a charitable donation to the Canadian Foundation. Without these donations, we simply wouldn't be able to provide financial assistance to our outstanding undergraduate scholars and emerging leaders. So, on behalf of the Directors of the Canadian Foundation, thank you to those who made a

tax-deductible donation to the Canadian Foundation last year.

This year's winners represent many of the outstanding young campus leaders and scholars in Canada today.

# The Undergraduate Achievement Scholarship (UAS)

In 2024, the Canadian Foundation celebrated its fiftieth anniversary. Since its founding in 1974, the Canadian Foundation has granted over \$500,000 in scholarships and leadership awards to over four hundred individuals from coast to coast. Over the past half-century, the Canadian Foundation has received over 3,300 individual contributions and raised over \$1.1 million from alumni, undergraduates, and friends of Phi Delta Theta in Canada.

In recognition of the Canadian Foundation's fiftieth anniversary, we established a brand-new award that we believe is rather innovative, as it relies



on fraternity undergraduates and alumni to nominate individuals for it. The new award is called the Undergraduate Achievement Scholarship, and we announced the first four winners of the UAS in September 2024, totaling \$3,500.

During the summer, the Canadian Foundation issues a call for nominations to all Canadian alumni and undergraduates, asking them to submit the name of an incoming male or female undergraduate freshman who is attending a university where Phi Delta Theta has a chapter in Canada. We send the incoming student an award application asking them to provide their high school or community college transcript, their resume, and a personal statement that details their leadership development experience and plans. The Foundation passes the names of these emerging leaders to the president of the Phi Delt chapter on campus so that they can consider the individual.

To learn more about the Canadian Foundation, how to apply for an award, or to make a donation, visit **phideltatheta.ca.** X



# 2025 Canadian Foundation Scholarship Winners

Jonah Leibu, Dalhousie '26, \$4,000
Daniel Chu, McMaster '26, \$4,000
Anjais Arachi, Toronto '25, \$3,500
Ethan Tinevez, British Columbia '27, \$3,250
Sam Strong, McGill '27 \$3,000
Hridayaansh Jain, Toronto '28, \$2,000
Youssef Rahman, York '27, \$2,000
Zee Sajid, Alberta '25, \$2,000
William Wang, Toronto '27, \$2,000
Carson Lecky, British Columbia '26, \$2,000

CJ Ozee, UBC Okanagan '26, \$2,000 Joshua Little, York '24, \$2,000 Robert Butenko, McGill '27, \$2,000 Simarpaul Singh, Manitoba '26, \$1,875 Kavi Dsesai, Manitoba '27, \$1,875 Prabnoor Singh, Manitoba '26, \$1,875 Adam Dubinsky, Manitoba '25, \$1,875 Steven Lei, McMaster '26, \$1,000 Apollo Hebert, Alberta '25, \$1,000



Scan to Watch the Awards Presentation Replay



Nominate a Canadian Phi



# Iron Phi



FIFTEEN YEARS OF PHILANTHROPY

# **Iron Phi Chapter Champions**

Leading With Purpose, Raising for Impact

By Steve Good, Executive Director of Iron Phi

uring the 2024–25
academic year,
thirty-nine Phi
Delta Theta chapters
achieved Iron Phi
Chapter status—each
raising \$10,000 or more to support ALS
through the Live Like Lou Foundation
and promote a culture of philanthropy
within the Fraternity. But behind every

total is a story of leadership, unity, and purpose.

At Wichita State University, Connor Pore, '26, of Kansas Delta helped lead his chapter to a fourth straight Iron Phi Chapter title by building a culture of consistency and community. "Don't let the \$10,000 goal scare you," he says. "Break it down. Celebrate every small win."

At the University of Mississippi, John Woods Hollowell, '28, and Mississippi Alpha raised an astounding \$48,918. With 60 percent chapter participation and over thirty brothers running the same 5K, the effort became a unifying experience. "The chapter grew closer as we completed this task," John shared.

Ethan Hunter, '26, of Florida Omicron at Nova Southeastern University, led













a \$15,000 campaign by embedding Iron Phi into the Phikeia experience. "Philanthropy isn't an obligation—it's a legacy," he says. The result: 75 percent participation and a transformed campus presence.

At Westminster College, Daniel Backer, '25, of Missouri Beta, proved that small chapters can make a big impact. Creative events and direct outreach helped his chapter top \$10,000 twice. "Know your chapter. Know your campus. Know your alumni," he advises.

Grant Oliver, '27, of Washington Alpha at the University of Washington, led an effort to raise \$21,879 through consistent communication and authentic leadership.

"People want to support passion," he explains. "Start with your story."

At West Texas A&M, Bryce Wiginton, '25, of Texas Theta helped raise \$13,710— the highest dollar-per-man average across Phi Delt. Centered around Valorie Kiper, a local woman with ALS, their campaign had deep personal meaning. "Excitement and purpose can move mountains," Bryce reflects.

Widener University's Drew Annable, '26, led Pennsylvania Mu to its first Iron Phi Chapter milestone, raising over \$13,000. Small incentives and a visible goal kept momentum high. "When half the chapter started fundraising, we hit our goal faster than expected," he said.

At Seton Hall, Dominick Valentine, '26, guided New Jersey Gamma to \$23,000 by weaving Iron Phi into recruitment and education. "Get creative and never forget the mission," he says.

And at Emporia State, Chris Peine, '25, of Kansas Epsilon quietly united nearly 100 percent of his chapter in service. "Philanthropy isn't a one-time goal; it's a mindset."

Each of these leaders proved that Iron Phi isn't just a fundraiser—it's a movement. As George Ferguson, *DePauw* '27, of Indiana Zeta put it best: "When service meets brotherhood, great things happen."

PREVIOUS PAGE: Grant Oliver, Washington '27. TOP: Connor Pore, Wichita State '26; Ethan Hunter, Nova Southeastern '26; Dominick Valentine, Seton Hall '26. BOTTOM: Drew Annable, Widener '26 (center); Daniel Backer, Westminster '25; John Woods Hollowell, Mississippi '28.



# **Live Like Lou Foundation**





TOGETHER, WE'RE LOU(D) AGAINST ALS

# 2025 Lou Gehrig Day Recap

By Maycee Wilkie, Live Like Lou Communications and Marketing Specialist

ou Gehrig Day and ALS awareness games resonated across Major League Baseball like never before this year. Thanks to powerful partnerships with the Permobil Foundation and Phi Delta Theta, the Live Like Lou Foundation brought hope and support to families impacted by ALS in ten MLB stadiums. As part of each event, people living with ALS were surprised with custom, team-branded Permobil wheelchairs, honoring Lou Gehrig's legacy and empowering independence.

#### **Atlanta Braves**

Chris Sale of the Atlanta Braves is this year's recipient of the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award. The Fraternity awards it annually to a Major League Baseball player who best exemplifies the giving character of Hall of Famer Lou Gehrig. Sale received the award on June 4, 2025, in Atlanta during a game against the Arizona Diamondbacks. This award was especially meaningful for Chris Sale because his grandmother died when he was six years old due to ALS. He said, "Tonight was very special for me. It was actually really cool that my mom was here too. She lived that experience with her mother, my grandmother." Sale is the sixth Braves player

to win the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award, following Warren Spahn (1961), Hank Aaron (1970), Phil Niekro (1979), Dale Murphy (1985), and John Smoltz (2005).

Ben Brandenburg, a proud UGA graduate and member of Georgia's athletic community, was honored with a Braves-branded wheelchair sponsored by Permobil. Live Like Lou received a \$10,000 donation from the Atlanta Braves Foundation.

#### Milwaukee Brewers

Before the Brewers' ALS awareness game on April 19, Live Like Lou was honored at Christian Yelich's third annual Home Plate Charity Concert, which raised over \$175,000 with support from the Goo Goo Dolls and the Nicotine Dolls. Executive Director Wendy Faust took the stage to share our mission and the urgent need to support ALS families. Brewers fan Mike Seitz was surprised at American Family Field two nights later.

#### **San Francisco Giants**

The Giants honored Etzael Jimenez by presenting his family with his custom chair. Though Etzael joined via FaceTime and tragically passed away the following morning, his vibrant spirit

LEFT: Chis Sale, the 2025 Lou Gehrig Memorial Award winner. RIGHT: Ben Brandenburg was presented with a Braves-branded Permobil wheelchair.









and the love of his mother and caregivers were deeply felt. Pitcher Tristan Beck, a Lou Gehrig Memorial Award nominee, unveiled the chair in his honor.

#### **Miami Marlins**

Edil De Leon received his custom chair in a celebration filled with unity and joy from fans and families alike. A devoted father of three, special education teacher, and retired elite powerlifter, Edil has dedicated his life to supporting children with autism. He once ranked among the top US middleweights, winning four Puerto Rican National Championships. Now facing ALS, he leads with strength, raising awareness, inspiring

others, and showing what it means to live with purpose.

# **Los Angeles Dodgers**

Jason Ramirez, a beloved high school softball coach and lifelong Dodgers fan, was recognized by Freddie Freeman during the Lou Gehrig Day ceremony at Dodger Stadium. Diagnosed with ALS following a remarkable 25–3 season and a State Coach of the Year honor, Jason received his chair in front of a roaring hometown crowd.

# **Kansas City Royals**

Sarah Nauser Olsen, a lifelong Royals fan, ALS advocate, and former police

officer, was celebrated for her strength and ongoing advocacy. Before retiring, she fulfilled a dream by serving as an officer in the Royals dugout, a moment that sparked a lasting friendship with her childhood hero, George Brett.

The evening also honored Royals star Bobby Witt Jr. as a finalist for the Lou Gehrig Memorial Award.

# **Chicago White Sox**

Kenneth Anthony Moore Sr., a devoted father, artist, and Chicago sports superfan, inspired fans with his humor and faith as he received his new chair. He was joined by Andrew Vaughn, the team's Gehrig Award nominee.

**TOP LEFT:** Mike Seitz was presented with a Permobil wheelchair at the Milwaukee Brewers game. **TOP RIGHT:** San Francisco Giants Lou Gehrig Memorial Award nominee Tristan Beck honoring Etzael Jimenez by presenting his mother with a wheelchair. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Edil De Leon, along with his family, is pictured with Miami Marlins President Caroline O'Connor, representatives from Permobil, Live Like Lou, and Phi Delta Theta. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Sarah Nauser Olsen received a Royals-brand Permobil wheelchair.













# **Boston Red Sox**

Friends and family surrounded Tara Bartlett and her 101-year-old grandmother as Fenway Park cheered her on. Her chair presentation was a powerful reminder of perseverance and love in the face of ALS.

# **Pittsburgh Pirates**

At the Pirates' Lou Gehrig Day game, Live Like Lou board chair Dr. Chris W. Brussalis, *Allegheny* '87, presented William Lemmon with an Onward Award and scholarship for his future studies. William, whose father is living with ALS, threw out the ceremonial first pitch.

#### Cincinnati Reds

Steve Romberg and his son, Olam, visited all thirty MLB stadiums together before ALS changed their journey. The Reds' Gehrig Award nominee, Brent Suter, helped bring their story full circle with a meaningful celebration of Steve's creative spirit and love for the game.

# **Texas Rangers**

At the Rangers ALS awareness game on September 8, Marcus Semien was recognized as the team's Gehrig Award nominee, and Diana Buckroyd, a Dallas native, was surprised with a custom Permobil wheelchair. She was joined at the game by dozens of friends and family members who have lifted up her family since her diagnosis.

#### Thank You to Our Partners and Community

This year's Lou Gehrig Day marked ten remarkable activations, each a testament to what we can achieve together. We continue to carry Lou Gehrig's extraordinary example forward through surprise presentations, powerful stories, and unwavering support.

Whether you joined us at the ballpark, watched from home, or cheered for your favorite team, thank you for helping us keep Lou's spirit alive. ALS may be unpredictable, but with courage, community, and compassion, we *live like Lou*.

**TOP LEFT:** Kenneth Anthony Moore Sr. presented with his White Sox-branded Permobil wheelchair. **TOP MIDDLE:** Boston Red Sox Gehrig Award finalist Liam Hendriks with wife Kristi and Live Like Lou Program and Engagement Director Laura Peterson. **TOP RIGHT:** William Lemmon with his parents at the Pittsburgh Pirates Lou Gehrig Day game. **BOTTOM LEFT:** Steve Romberg is presented with his Reds-themed Permobil wheelchair, with Reds Brent Suter, and representatives from Permobil and Phi Delta Theta's Sean Wagner and Renée Crist Lefter. **BOTTOM RIGHT:** Diana Buckroyd with Rangers Marcus Semien, representatives from Permobil, Live Like Lou Executive Director Wendy Faust, and Iron Phi Executive Director Steve Good.

# Phi Delta Theta Chapters Champion the Fight Against ALS

Record-Setting Impact 2024–25 Triple Crown Recap and Philanthropy Highlights

he 2024–25 academic year marked another outstanding chapter in Phi Delta Theta's commitment to honoring Lou Gehrig's legacy and supporting the ALS community through the Live Like Lou Foundation. Fraternity-wide, brothers showed up in a big way:

- \$328,777 was raised through Live Like Lou-focused philanthropy events hosted by Phi Delta Theta chapters across North America.
- \$850,508 was raised through the Iron Phi program, which supports both the Phi Delta Theta Foundation and Live Like Lou.

This year also saw **thirty-six chapters** earn the distinguished Triple Crown Chapter honor, an award recognizing those who:

- Served ALS families through Connect and Serve
- · Became recognized Iron Phi Chapters, and
- Hosted a philanthropy event and donated to the Live Like Lou Foundation.

# imes Triple Crown Chapters imes

Alabama Beta Kansas Gamma California Delta Marvland Delta California Phi Michigan Delta California Psi Mississippi Alpha California Zeta Missouri Alpha Colorado Alpha Missouri Beta Colorado Gamma Nebraska Alpha Florida Kappa New Jersey Gamma Florida Omicron North Carolina Eta Georgia Alpha Ohio Epsilon Georgia Gamma Pennsylvania Mu Indiana Beta South Carolina Beta Indiana Gamma Texas Delta Indiana Theta Texas Theta Texas Zeta Indiana Zeta Kansas Alpha Utah Alpha Kansas Delta Washington Alpha Kansas Epsilon Wisconsin Alpha



Washington Alpha

# Four Ways to Support Live Like Lou

# Register to Serve an ALS Family

Join our Connect & Serve program and make a meaningful impact by volunteering with an ALS family in your community. Whether it's yard work, outdoor repairs, painting, or simply showing up with a smile, your time matters.

#### Attend a Live Like Lou Event

From trivia nights to athletic fundraisers, Live Like Lou events bring communities together to raise awareness and support families living with ALS.

#### **Donate**

Make a direct contribution to support Live Like Lou's programs—funding scholarships, ALS research, and quality of life grants for ALS families nationwide.

#### Join Lou's Crew

Become a part of this Lou's Crew by raising at least \$444 in a year and completing either: an ALS service event OR an athletic challenge like The Lou Workout, or by becoming an Iron Phi.

- Lou's Crew is designed for individuals and small groups passionate about ALS awareness. Every dollar raised supports the mission of Live Like Lou.
- Iron Phi participants fundraise while completing athletic goals, strengthening the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and its impact in the fight against Lou Gehrig's disease (50 percent of proceeds support Live Like Lou; 50 percent support Phi Delta Theta).

Visit livelikelou.org to learn more.



# **Chapter Grand**



William C. "Bill" Hatter, Western Kentucky '66, Bond #1, entered the Chapter Grand on May 18, 2024. His chapters sent in the following tribute.

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of the founder of the Kentucky Eta Chapter—a man whose life exemplified our three Cardinal Principles, Bill founded the chapter in 1966 and later served as chapter adviser for over twenty years. He was instrumental in acquiring the first chapter house. His involvement with the chapter and Big Brothers Big Sisters was a testament to his belief in the power of mentorship. He changed and saved countless lives with his guidance and support through the decades.

An avid boater, he found solace navigating the open waters. Likewise, in his life and leadership, he traversed challenges with grace and resilience. Boating was not just a pastime; it was a reflection of his life's journey, as he guided and led others—always with a calm and composed demeanor.

Known for his generous spirit, he was the pillar of any community he was part of, constantly giving back by organizing events, volunteering, and offering a helping hand to those in need. His actions spoke volumes about his character and the values he cherished.

Reflecting on his life, we are saddened but reminded of the profound impact a single person can have on broader communities. He was a mentor, a caring husband to the love of his life, Becky, and a cherished brother. His spirit and values will remain in our hearts and be a beacon to us. Rest in peace, Brother Hatter. Your legacy will continue to inspire and guide us forever.

James A. Keitz, Oklahoma State '67, known to many as Jim, Jimbo, Keitzee, peacefully entered the Chapter Grand on April 22, 2025, following a brief illness, just days after celebrating his eightieth birthday. A graduate of Oklahoma State University with a degree in business, Jim was a lifelong and avid Cowboy fan and active alumnus, with many activities and time, including his favorite, years of season tickets to countless football games where he was a steadfast presence to wildly cheer on his beloved Pokes. He served the Fraternity as the Phi Delta Theta honors members who have entered the Chapter Grand by listing them in the magazine. To submit obituary information, email scroll@phideltatheta.org.

house corporation secretary for the Oklahoma Beta house corporation. He was a recipient of the A.B. Mayor Alcott Award, presented in 2012 by the Oklahoma Beta alumni. He remained a life member of the OSU Alumni Association and the Posse Club.

After college, Jim served as a captain in the US Army, stationed in Panama. Upon completing his tour of duty, he and Sharon returned to Oklahoma City, where he began his career in insurance by founding Keitz and Associates, Inc., where he officed with his father. He later joined Messer Bowers Company, where he worked faithfully until the end of his life.

John R. Shulock, Western Kentucky '70, entered the Chapter Grand on June 5. 2025. John dedicated his life to both family and a distinguished career in professional baseball. He proudly served as a Major League Baseball umpire for twenty-five years, wearing #29—a number known and respected throughout the league. His commitment to fairness, professionalism, and love for the game left a lasting legacy on and off the field.

Thomas M. Rafferty, Penn State '76, entered the Chapter Grand on June 6, 2025, at the age of seventy.



A native of Fayetteville, New York, Tom was initiated into the Pennsylvania Theta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta in October 1973 and graduated from Penn State in 1976. As an undergraduate, he was a steady and unshakable presence on the offensive line for the Nittany Lions. He lettered from 1973 to 1975 and served as team captain his senior year. During those three seasons, Penn State posted a combined 31-5 record, including an undefeated 12-0 campaign and Orange Bowl victory in 1974. Each of those teams finished in the national Top 10.

In 1975, Tom was named a first-team All-American by The Football News and the Football Writers Association of America.

Following graduation, he was selected in the fourth round of the 1976 NFL Draft by the Dallas Cowboys. Tom spent all fourteen years of his professional career in Dallas, first as a guard and then as the team's starting center. He appeared in two Super Bowls, winning Super Bowl XII in 1977 as a starting

# A Legacy of Quiet Strength: Honoring Brother Joe Royce







The Phi Delta Theta Foundation joins the brotherhood in mourning the loss of one of its most faithful champions and dearest friends, **Joseph W. Royce**, *Southwestern* '63, who entered the Chapter Grand on April 25, 2025. A Phi for sixty-four years, Brother Royce's life was a testament to loyalty, humility, and steadfast generosity—his legacy etched into the very foundation of Phi Delta Theta.

Initiated into Texas Gamma on March 18, 1961, at Southwestern University, Joe Royce embodied the values of our Fraternity with uncommon grace. His support for the Phi Delta Theta Foundation was unparalleled, culminating in his entry into the Benjamin Harrison Association, an honor reserved for those whose lifetime giving exceeds \$1 million. Joe was one of only five brothers to ever reach that level of generosity, and one of just four to do so during his lifetime.

But Joe's impact extended far beyond the financial. He served as a member of the Foundation Board of Trustees for the last nine years, where his wisdom, warmth, and thoughtful presence shaped countless decisions and inspired his fellow trustees. Whether participating in strategic planning or simply checking in with Foundation staff after an event, Joe's voice was always one of encouragement, calm confidence, and genuine care.

His spirit was perhaps best captured in the way he engaged with fellow brothers: undergraduates and alumni alike. As a frequent participant and Fellow at leadership events like the Kleberg Emerging Leaders Institute, Joe immersed himself fully. He was the last to leave evening discussions, the first to offer a story or a kind word, and often seen closing out the night in heartfelt conversation with students and staff. One Trustee recalled watching Joe serve as 'president' during a mock chapter session, beaming with pride and humility as he led a room of young men, many decades his junior.

Joe's humility was profound. He gave without asking for acknowledgment and often followed up Foundation events by requesting contact information for attendees, so he could send handwritten notes of encouragement and gratitude. His kind, deliberate nature—accented by a strong, slow Texas drawl—made every conversation feel like a front porch moment with a beloved grandfather.

He also found ways to make the Foundation feel personal. Joe regularly asked about the families and lives of staff and other board members, kept up with personal milestones, and shared photos of his own family with equal pride. His

presence—be it at a board meeting or over a quiet lunch in Houston—made everyone feel like a friend.

Joe's Phi Delt wardrobe was always on display—pins, cufflinks, ties, socks—and his support for the Fraternity was not just seen but felt. Even in his final days, Joe was reaching out to Atlanta-area Phis in anticipation of the 2025 General Convention, ready to connect more brothers to the mission he so deeply believed in.

At the 2023 General Convention in Scottsdale, Arizona, Phi Delta Theta surprised Joe with the Legion of Honor award. Surrounded by his family, he accepted the recognition with characteristic humility and gratitude—a fitting tribute to a man who had quietly strengthened the very heart of our organization.

Brother Joe Royce's life was a masterclass in servant leadership. He gave not just his treasure, but his time, his heart, and his wisdom. The trees he planted—through scholarships, leadership development, and personal mentorship—will provide shade for generations of Phis he never met. And that was exactly the way he wanted it.

In Coelo Quies Est. Rest well, Brother Royce. Your legacy lives on.

TOP LEFT: Barbara and Mickey McKenzie, Janell and Tio Kleberg, Mark Craig, and Joe Royce.

TOP RIGHT: Joe at the 2014 Kleberg.

BOTTOM: Mike Hyatt and Joe after they were both awarded the Legion of Honor in 2023.



# Honoring a Legacy of Dedication to Our Fraternity









General Council Member-at-Large, **Todd M. Nisbet,** Southern California '87, passed away peacefully in his Columbia, Tennessee, home on June 18, 2025.

Todd was known for his unwavering determination, keen and creative business sense, fun-loving spirit, and sharp sense of humor. He was a loving husband to his wife Anita, and father to his cherished children, Virginia, Harry, and Emma.

Todd fought his personal battle against ALS for three years, but he had served in the fight to find a cure and support those living with the disease for many years before his own diagnosis—through the Live Like Lou Foundation, the Iron Phi Foundation, and the Fraternity's partnership with Permobil. It was his fervent prayer that a cure would be found, if not in his lifetime, within his children's lifetime.

#### A Fraternity for Life

A committed Phi Delta Theta volunteer and leader, Todd Nisbet served in many positions with the Fraternity over the years. From 2012 to 2021, he served as Province President, earning recognition as the 2018 Oliver J. Samuel Outstanding Province President of the Biennium. In 2021, he was elected to the General Council at the General Convention in Pittsburgh—an honor he considered his greatest privilege.

Todd was a legacy and, like his father, was initiated into the California Delta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta at the University of Southern California on January 14, 1985. As an undergraduate, he was an influential leader, holding several executive officer positions.

# A Family Legacy

Phi Delta Theta is a cherished family tradition. Michael (father), who has since entered the Chapter Grand, was also a Phi from California Delta. Scott (older brother) is a Phi from Colorado Beta at Colorado College. Harry (son) is a Phi from Tennessee Gamma at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, and Nicholas (nephew) joined the Colorado Gamma at Colorado State University this past academic year.

Inspired by his life as an engaged member, volunteer, General Officer, and General Council member, the Foundation worked with Todd to create The Nisbet Family Legacy Fund for Networking to celebrate his legacy of connection, personal growth, and opportunity within Phi Delta Theta.

This fund honors Todd Nisbet's life and decades of dedication to our Fraternity, while creating a lasting legacy of professional success that reflects the enduring values of Phi Delta Theta, as well as the contributions of three generations of Nisbet Phis. From his initial move to Nashville, where he connected with local Phis, to his successful consulting career, Todd's story highlights the transformative impact of these networks.

By creating this fund, we aim to provide valuable resources that encourage career exploration, mentorship, and further build upon our Campaign 2030 efforts. These resources will help young Phis navigate their professional paths and lives beyond college, equipping them with the tools they need to succeed. All funds go to empower Phi Delta Theta members to harness the strength of our brotherhood, turning their career aspirations into accomplishments.

**TOP MIDDLE:** Legacy Phis Michael, Harry, and Todd Nisbet. **BOTTOM:** General Council (2023–25), Mike Ogg, J. David Almacy, Tom Balzer, Nat Love, and Todd Nisbet.

guard. His durability and leadership made him a staple on the Cowboys' offensive line, blocking for Hall of Fame quarterbacks Roger Staubach and Troy Aikman along the way. He retired after the 1989 season with 203 games played and 182 starts, still ranking among the top in franchise history.

Tom passed away in Windsor, Colorado, where he had been hospitalized following a stroke in early May.

John F. Gilmore, Michigan State '52, entered the Chapter Grand on June 7, 2025. He was a loyal, supportive friend, patron, and founder of the arts—particularly opera, symphony, and theater-in Grand Rapids, Chicago, and Colorado, and a regular donor to the Phi Delta Theta Foundation. A brilliant, savvy, visionary businessman, he was the Honorable Leader of the Gilmore (restaurant and hotel) Collection, which he headed with his son Gregory, A voracious reader of great, ponderous, often arcane books. he was a devotee of the Wall Street Journal and many periodicals. He read widely in US and world history, remembering great swaths of what he read and dispensing quotes when needed. He

curated a personal library that a friend, a former president of Grand Valley State University.



Bruce Hagen, North Dakota '52, a dedicated public servant and the longest-serving statewide elected official in North Dakota history, entered the Chapter Grand on Thursday, June 19, 2025, in Bismarck. He was ninety-four years old, just two days shy of his ninety-fifth birthday.

He earned a bachelor's in philosophy and a master's in government and economics from the University of North Dakota, plus did an additional year of postgraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin. Bruce served in the US Army during the Korean War (1950–52), training troops in Alabama. He was active in student government at UND and remained a progressive voice throughout his life. His lifelong love of farming continued even after he entered public service, maintaining family farmland in Ramsey and Benson counties with the help of trusted farming partners.

Appointed by Governor William Guy in 1961 as deputy motor vehicle registrar, Bruce Hagen soon after began what would become a nearly four-decade tenure with the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC), starting on September 19, 1961. He was re-elected six times, serving until his retirement on December 31, 2000.

Bruce once said, "My roots are in the good soil of this place [the Devils Lake area]." He will be remembered for his deep love of North Dakota, his enduring commitment to public service, and the kindness and generosity he extended to all who knew him.

Michael D. Lewis, Oklahoma State '82, entered the Chapter Grand on July 28, 2025. Michael graduated with a bachelor's in business management from Oklahoma State University in 1982, where he was a proud member of the Oklahoma Beta Chapter of Phi Delta Theta, Michael served as the chapter president from 1981 to 1982, served as a chapter advisory board chair, and was a donor to the Phi Delta Theta Foundation. He went on to obtain a juris doctorate from the O.W. Coburn School of Law at Oral Roberts University and was a member of the

school's last graduating class before the law school closed in 1986. Immediately upon graduating from law school, Michael accepted an associate position with the law firm of Looney, Nichols, Johnson & Hayes in Oklahoma City, where he practiced insurance defense, among other things. Michael left Looney Nichols in 1990 to form his own practice and remained self-employed up until the time of his death. He was known for his quick wit and heart for helping those around him.

Douglas "Doug" Walsh Thompson, Oklahoma State '75, entered the Chapter Grand on August 21, 2025, in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Doug graduated from Oklahoma State University with a degree in marketing, where he was a proud member of Phi Delta Theta. Never one to stop learning, he later returned to school to earn a degree in chemical engineering from the University of Houston. Following in his father's footsteps, Doug served as president of Southwest Filter Company, initially founded by his dad. Under Doug's leadership, the company grew from a predominantly elements-based business into a manufacturer known for building some of the largest vessels in the



industry. He led with high standards, a sharp mind, and a deep commitment to the people who worked alongside him. A lifelong and enthusiastic supporter of the Oklahoma State Cowboys, Doug hosted tailgates for home games and traveled near and far to cheer them on. Orange ran in his veins-win or lose, he was there. Doug served the Fraternity as the Oklahoma Beta house corporation president.

John W. Tissue, West Virginia '58, entered the Chapter Grand on August 30, 2025. John was a devoted Mountaineer having earned an undergraduate degree in 1958 and a law degree in 1960 from West Virginia University, He established an endowed law scholarship at the WVU College of Law and was a member of the prestigious philanthropic Irvin Stewart Society and the Woodburn Circle Society of the WVU Foundation. He was a member of Phi Delta Theta Fraternity and Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. John served as the Upsilon South province president in the late 1960s.

# University of Akron

# Ohio Epsilon

William D. Chandler, '50 Edward F. Steinkerchner, '52 Ralph Ellis Fisher, '52 Martin J. Vronick, '56 Robert J. Waddell, '58 Harold R. Movsesian, '67 James H. Brumbaugh, '70 Theodore G. Kozma, '72

# The University of Alabama Alabama Alpha

Milton E. Miller. '71

### Allegheny College Pennsylvania Delta

Scott H. Fergus, '67 Robyn R. Small, '75

### University of Arizona Arizona Alpha

John C. Wilbur, '58 Donald Hakes, '01

# **University of Arkansas**

### Arkansas Alpha

James D. Hearnsberger, '82 Jalen Jordan, '26

# Auburn University Alabama Beta

Robert L. Glenn, '59

### **Ball State University**

### Indiana Kappa

Richard G. Zeller. '80

# **Bowling Green State University** Ohio Kappa

Roy G. Clark, '64

# Butler University Indiana Gamma

Philip S. Kappes, '47 William C. Van Ness, '67 Robert S. Stewart, '72 Michael Joseph Smith, '90

# California State University, Northridge

# California Zeta

Gerald K. Matthews, '67 Rodney Kerwin Menzel, '93 University of California

# Centre College

Kentucky Alpha-Delta

George Tams Curlin, '61 Victor A. Cavanaugh, '64

# University of Chicago

#### Illinois Beta

Charles M. Coppedge, '24 Stanley K. Stewart, '64

# University of Cincinnati

# Ohio Theta

Richard G. Hyde, '52 Robert I. Hossli, '53 Richard H. Mitchell, '55 Thomas H. DeWees, '58 Allan F. Schanzle, '59 Robert F. Hartmann, '62 William E. Miller, '65 Richard P. Driscoll, '66

## **Colgate University**

# New York Zeta

Donald S. Trischett, '49 Stephen J. Ketterer, '52 Arthur J. Steneri, '56 Vincent J. Eible, '59 David M. Culver, '62 Campbell H. Gould, '66 Kent A. Walker, '76 David Bryan Lehr, '93

# University of Colorado Boulder Colorado Alpha

William J. McSweeney, '73

# Colorado College Colorado Beta

Robert H. Jones, '58

# Cornell University New York Alpha

Richard G. Rutledge, '56 Clayton G. Haviland, '56

# Dalhousie University

#### Nova Scotia Alpha

Karl M. Brikkels, '82

# Dartmouth College New Hampshire Alpha

Harold R. Douglas, '58

# Davidson College North Carolina Gamma

Marion E. Jernigan, '60 William P. Reed, '76

# **Denison University**

#### Ohio lota

James M. Kalbfleisch, '56 Robert B. Austin, '62 Anthony E. Harris, '65 Franklin D. Hoffman, '67

# DePauw University

# Indiana Zeta

John Albert Armantrout, '53 Robert C. Coolidge, '55 Richard Bartlett Findley, '90 Bruce Lee Fleck, '99

# Dickinson College

# Pennsylvania Epsilon

George C. Eisley, '56

# Duke University

North Carolina Alpha John G. Morris, '66

# Eastern Kentucky University

Kentucky Theta

Ellis C. Anderson, '71

# Emory University Georgia Beta

William M. Madison, '46 John L. Cromartie, '64

# Emporia State University

Kansas Epsilon

Nicholas Ryan Newhouse, '05

# University of Florida Florida Alpha

William H. Told, '51 Alan Gerald Divers, '57

# Florida State University Florida Gamma

Terrence K. Barrows, '57 Mark A. Werner, '65 Peter Michael Stellato, '04

### Franklin College Indiana Delta

James D. Strietelmeier, '59 Noah A. Stodghill, '63 Philip N. Heller, '71

# University of Georgia Georgia Alpha

John T. Whelchel, '58
Thomas J. Kempton, '59
Larry Hamilton Capel, '63
Joe D. Tanner, '63
John M. Sherman, '67
John D. Spivey, '70
William K. Holmes, '71
Thomas L. Fricks, '72
Boyd R. Dethero, '73
Edward Harper Baker, '88
Christopher Marshall Miller, '89

# Georgia College and State University Georgia Zeta

Charles E. Green, '81

# Georgia Institute of Technology Georgia Delta

Wade T. Mitchell, '57 William E. Beckham, '58 Richard L. Cromer, '65

# **Gettysburg College**

Pennsylvania Beta

Clarence B. Rogers, '51 Lee P. Cummings, '67

# Hanover College

Indiana Epsilon

Philip L. Cordes, '51 Benjamin B. Wernz, '53 Richard B. Walker, '54 Theodore S. Proud, '57 Richard D. Nelson, '63 Vincent M. Rak, '78

# University of Idaho

Richard A. Riggs, '55 Terry G. Hollifield, '69

# University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Illinois Eta

Robert T. Parkhill, '46

## **Indiana State University**

Indiana Eta

Max Alan Hoke, "73

# Indiana University, Bloomington

Indiana Alpha

Allan L. Litz, '60 Marc A. Williamson, '82

# University of Iowa

Iowa Beta

Charles A. Hanson, '49

#### **Iowa State University**

Iowa Gamma

John H. Kelley, '45 Arnold W. Anderson, '46 Keith Hartley Hildreth, '51 James B. Lindgren, '52

David A. Fulton, '55

David A. Fulton, 55

John A. Vanden Brink, '55

Wallace C. Gifford, '56

Charles O. Meyer, '57

John D. Ehrhardt, '58

James W. Lamson, '58

James W. Lamson, Jo

Allen Nicol Bolte, '61 Jon W. Spelman, '62

George H. Schaller, '62

Daniel A. Young, '82

# Iowa Wesleyan University

Iowa Alpha

Merle C. Unkrich, '54

# University of Kansas

Kansas Alpha

James B. Steerman, '58

Robert B. Rugh, '61

William W. Brown, '64

William T. Grant, '72

Steven J. Perkins, '73 David B. O'Hara. '81

David Shobe, 2023

# **Kansas State University**

Kansas Gamma

Gary W. Nelson, '63

Stuart R. Leonhart, '64

David L. Roskam, '69

# Kent State University

Ohio Lambda

Richard D. Alexander, '73

# Kettering University Michigan Delta

Glenn D. Kensicki, '69 Randall P. Cremean, '84

# Knox College Illinois Delta-Zeta

John W. Pacey, '53 John D. Russell, '56

John D. Russell, '56 Frederick M. Pacey, '58

# Lafayette College Pennsylvania Alpha

George Fuller Groves, '53 Bruce J. Forbes, '85

# Lawrence University

Wisconsin Beta

Eugene S. Johnson, '66

# Lehigh University

Pennsylvania Eta

Gene M. Pope, '60

# University of Manitoba Manitoba Alpha

William E. M. Head, '57

John Anthony MacDonald, '60

David W. Smith, '63

lan A. Johnson, '65

John D. Anderson, '71

Kevin A. McGarry, '73

Beau Deven Schell. 10

University of Maryland-

# College Park

Maryland Alpha

Robert H. Larsen, '52

Robert W. Smith. '63

Robert M. Dudley, '69

Thomas George Bedard, '88

# McDaniel College Maryland Beta

Robert L. Davis, '75

# McGill University Ouebec Alpha

John Brian McGuigan, '54

# Mercer University Georgia Gamma

William B. Fowler, '53 Frank J. Jordan, '69

Clyde H. Robertson, '77



### University of Miami Florida Delta

Paul T. Pearse, '64

# Miami University Ohio Alpha

David A. Pettigrew, '36 Richard D. Muir, '54 Donald Schneider, '58 Arthur Carroll Frock, '60 Bruce A. Frallic, '66 William Ostertag, 2018

# University of Michigan Michigan Alpha

David E. Dutcher, '48 Douglas H. Wicks, '50 Frederick L. Leydorf, '53 Philip A. Grashoff, '66

# Michigan State University Michigan Beta

John Frederick Gilmore, '52 Kyle M. Otterbein, '55 Courtney A. Lecklider, '55 Richard T. Lewis, '55 Gary J. Horton, '62 Glenn M. Frank, '63 Michael James Dixon, '74 David Clark Miller, '80

# University of Minnesota Minnesota Alpha

George T. Scott, '53

# Minnesota State University, Mankato Minnesota Beta

Larry W. Klante, '66 John Mackey Bowen, '67 Thomas C. Hermel, '68 Steven L. Larson, '70

# University of Mississippi Mississippi Alpha

Cary H. Cocke, '64 Andrew Christian Smith, '01 Wyatt Thistle, '27

# University of Missouri Missouri Alpha

John W. Hammond, '56 William Hugh Tobin, '63 William G. Little, '64

# University of Montana Montana Alpha

Paul H. Anderson, '64

# University of Nebraska-Lincoln Nebraska Alpha

Frank D. Tomson, '60 John D. Link, '64

# University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill North Carolina Beta

Robert Peter Killinger, '58 Daniel K. Moore, '63 Francis F. Willingham, '65 Russell F. Redding, '65

# North Carolina State University North Carolina Delta

Bobby Thomas Thekkekandam, '02

# University of North Dakota North Dakota Alpha

E. Bruce Hagen, '52 Michael D. Barfuss, '74

# Northwestern University

Illinois Alpha

Stephen C. Ryan, '72

# The Ohio State University Ohio Zeta

Forbes L. Linkhorn, '53 George E. Niemeyer, '59 David L. Hull, '61 William Franklin Bippus, '65

## Ohio University Ohio Gamma

William James Phillips, '58 James A. Levero, '67

### Ohio Wesleyan University Ohio Beta

Clay P. Hepler, '49 Clinton A. Vidic, '54 Edgar A. Bircher, '56 David M. Hume, '60 Phillip D. Prather, '61 James H. Russell, '65 Robert H. Bauer, '72

# University of Oklahoma Oklahoma Alpha

Philip B. Howard, '50 Charles H. Johnson, '55 Richard H. Champlin, '57 Floyd E. Skarky, '60 Bruce Arnold Torbett, '60 Russell C. Phillips, '62 Vandye J. Forrester, '64 Allan Gordon Muchmore, '85

# Oklahoma State University Oklahoma Beta

James A. Keitz, '67 Douglas W. Thompson, '75 Michael D. Lewis, '82

# University of Oregon Oregon Alpha

William F. Perl, '53 James F. Spiekerman, '55

# Oregon State University Oregon Beta

Richard A. Coleman, '56 Thomas R. Hussey, '65 Jerry W. Farr, '67

# University of Pennsylvania Pennsylvania Zeta

Raymond F. Dacek, '52 Douglas K. Dumm, '67

#### Pennsylvania State University

Pennsylvania Theta Robert A. Hollen, '54 Thomas M. Rafferty, '76

# University of Puget Sound Washington Delta

Alexander G. Bennett, '63 James R. Brown, '75

# Purdue University Indiana Theta

Ronald C. Pierce, '55 Clarence A. Posthauer, '60 Robert V. Thompson, '81

# University of Richmond

Virginia Delta

R. McIlwaine Keever Jr., '74

#### **Ripon College**

Wisconsin Gamma

Thomas P. Hardy, '74

# **Schreiner University**

Texas Sigma

Jerry Eugene Marshall, '52

# Sewanee: The University of The South

Tennessee Beta

George W. Matthews, '54

# University of Southern California

California Delta

Todd McLean Nisbet, '87

# Southern Methodist University

Texas Delta

Theodore R. Hume, '61 Robert M. Reed, '62 George M. Boswell, '62 Douglas H. Rogers, '67 Charles C. Clymer, '67 John M. Jackson, '68 Gregory P. Loos, '72 Clayton Allan Mitchell, '72

Christopher R. Case, '85 Lee Steven McWaters, '88 Donald Robert Bloom, '88

# Southwestern Oklahoma **State University** Oklahoma Gamma

Gary D. Logan, '71 Lee R. Whitmer, '72 Michael E. Dollins, '73

# **Southwestern University** Texas Gamma

Hollis F. Johnson, '60 Joseph W. Royce, '63 Scott Alan Bailey, '88

# **Stanford University** California Beta

Theodore W. Seweloh, '61

# Stephen F. Austin **State University Texas Eta**

John G. Prendergast, '68 William M. Harber, '71 Joseph E. Day, '81 Ryan Derr, '27

# University of Tennessee, Knoxville

# Tennessee Gamma

Benjamin E. Bumgarner, '64 James R. Rose, '64 Marion E. Francis, '64 Edward R. Talone, '64 Stephen R. Goza, '64 Dale Scott Costner, '65 Robert E. Houser, '66 Joseph L. Royal, '66 John B. Brimi, '66 Shelburne Ferguson, '66 Robert L. Harris, '69 James H. Crawford, '69 Alexander F. Brandau, '69 N. Douglas Milligan, '71

### **Texas A&M University**

#### Texas Nu

Rob Houston Legg, '95

# The University of Texas at Austin

# Texas Beta

David S. Shelmire, '56 Russell L. Martin. '57 Wade C. Smith, '58 Edwin D. Greer, '83

# The University of Texas at San Antonio

#### Texas Xi

Andrew Guerrero, '04

# **Texas Christian University**

# Texas Zeta

Hywell D. Garrett, '61 Tolbert F. Yater, '61 Marion Douglas Moore, '61 James D. Lasater. '65 Thomas F. Anderson, '68 Beauregard Brite White, '76

### **Texas Tech University**

### **Texas Epsilon**

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# **University of Toronto**

# Ontario Alpha

Glenn M. Davis, '74 Douglas George North, '88

# **Tulane University of Louisiana**

Louisiana Alpha Albert W. Schorre, '68

# University of Utah

#### Utah Alpha

Robert F. Daynes, '46 Richard A. Groth, '65

# Valparaiso University

#### Indiana lota

James William Schmid, '60

# **Vanderbilt University** Tennessee Alpha

Frank M. Duke, '52 Richard E. Allen, '63

# Wabash College

#### Indiana Beta

Stephen A. Gould, '66

#### **Washburn University**

#### Kansas Beta

Robert L. Chesnut, '50

# **University of Washington**

# Washington Alpha

James W. Hayes, '51

# Washington and Lee University

# Virginia Zeta

William B. Barnett, '58 Leslie E. Gaut, '60

# **Washington State University**

# Washington Gamma

Edwin O. Hannus, '57 George Michael Malcolm, '68

### **Washington University**

### in St. Louis

# Missouri Gamma

Arthur E. Obrock, '60

Richard Dean Fraunfelder, '67

# **West Texas A&M University**

#### **Texas Theta**

Daniel Baker Byrd, '87

# West Virginia University

# West Virginia Alpha

Andrew K. Emmerth, '56 John W. Tissue, '58 Robert W. Kendall, '63 Robert S. Camp, '65

# Western Kentucky University

### Kentucky Eta

William C. Hatter, '66 John R. Shulock, '70

# Westminster College-Missouri

#### Missouri Beta

Robert E. L. Lamkin, '63

# Whitman College

#### Washington Beta

Alan H. Haselwood, '60

# Wichita State University

### Kansas Delta

Dennis M. Gleason, '69

# University of Wisconsin-Madison

### Wisconsin Alpha

William Marshall Lee, '43

# University of Wyoming

# Wyoming Alpha Charles J. Clare. '61

Robert O. Winchester, '64

... in coelo quies est

"in heaven there is rest"



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Maycee Wilkie





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# Save the Date!

# 2025 Giving Tuesday Interfraternal Challenge

On Tuesday, December 2, 2025, Phi Delta Theta is going for the three-peat!

For the past two years, Phi Delta Theta has led the Interfraternal Challenge on Giving Tuesday—and we're ready to make history again.

Mark your calendar and join us in securing our third straight victory. Every gift strengthens leadership programs, scholarships, and the future of Phi Delta Theta.

# Want to help us get a head start?

Make your gift early at phideltatheta.org/donate and leave a comment that says "Giving Tuesday." Your early support counts toward our goal and helps us build momentum for the big day!



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Update addresses at phideltatheta.org or send to update@phideltatheta.org

Parents: If this issue is addressed to a son who no longer maintains a permanent address at your home, please notify General Headquarters of the correct new mailing address by contacting us at update@phideltatheta.org or (513) 523-6345. Thank you.

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ALL PEIDELE.

