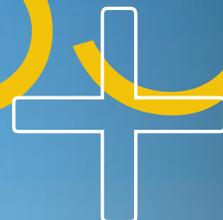


# MALTESE CROSS



Phi Kap  
Multi-Media  
Specialists

STATE OF THE  
FOUNDATION  
REPORT

Medal of Honor  
Recipient Brigadier  
General Robert Galer

# TRAVEL

WHERE OUR JOURNEYS TAKE US



# CARROLL K. SIMONS INSTITUTE

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# SPRING 2019

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The Magazine of Phi Kappa Sigma  
International Fraternity

**Volume 158, Number 1  
Spring 2018**

Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity Vision:  
Lifelong Growth and Development of  
the Fraternity and Its Members™

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# Our Experiences

## A Message from the Grand Alpha

Brothers,

Since our election at Grand Chapter, the Executive Board has been hard at work addressing some of our members' biggest concerns that have surfaced over the last year, namely the lack of a coherent web presence, professional development opportunities, support for struggling chapters, and regional coordination that brings our members together. I chose not to spend a lot of time outlining those changes here and instead direct you to our social media platforms where those updates are already posted.

Before I get ahead of myself, I'd like to thank all of you for your support. Without it, Phi Kappa Sigma would have shut its doors long ago, depriving our 40,000 living brothers of the developmental opportunities that make life during and after college easier and more fulfilling. Whether it's programming opportunities, leadership institutes, staff visits, or alumni events, our obligations to you require time and money to provide. Therefore, I want to take a moment in thanking you for your generous contributions of both.

I am happy to present this issue of the *Maltese Cross*, as I believe this issue is truly unique. As you read through the stories contained in this magazine shared by our brothers, I strongly urge you to not only take in the words, but to take in the experiences that make these travel stories special to our members.

Experiences.

To me, that is what makes Phi Kappa Sigma special, setting us apart from other Greek organizations. The experiences and opportunities we provide our members are like no other. Whether these experiences occur during their undergraduate years while attending one of our premier leadership programs (Carroll K. Simons Institute or Men of Honor), as an alumnus volunteering at the local level for the first time, a group of alums taking a vacation across the globe, or just a few old friends getting together for a family bbq; all of these experiences are unique because Phi Kappa Sigma is a part of them.

Phi Kappa Sigma has presented me with countless opportunities to travel and take part in new experiences. The personal growth and life lessons I have accumulated as a result are invaluable. I could take up half of this issue going into details of those experiences, but

that would do them no justice. Instead, I ask you to enjoy these stories, reflect on your own, and promise to continue taking advantage of all that Phi Kappa Sigma has to offer.

Next year, a new destination and experience is available to you all. Phi Kappa Sigma will find its way back home to celebrate our 100th Grand Chapter at The Bellevue Hotel in Philadelphia, July 9th-July 11th, 2020. Our journey started in this amazing city and is rich in Phi Kap history. Some of the highlights include an opportunity to see the Alpha Chapter house and, after walking a few blocks, you can even see Dr. Samuel Brown Wylie Mitchell's final resting place. Our planning committees are hard at work, I promise this is a Grand Chapter you will not want to miss. Mark your calendars, and I hope to see you many of you in Philly!

I want to share with you all my excitement of what the future holds for us. Thanks to a larger, hard-working staff, chapters new and old are (re)opening every semester. At the time of this publication, our Beta Theta Chapter has re-chartered; Gamma Mu Colony at Texas State is working on their petition to charter, and our founding father class at UC-Berkeley is bringing Phi Kappa Sigma back after a nearly-30-year hiatus.

We have several other promising expansion opportunities on the horizon. Our active chapters are steadily and organically growing, a testament to the efforts of our undergraduate members. We have exciting initiatives getting ready to launch that focus on our alumni and their experience. It truly is an amazing time.

Brothers, I want to thank you once again for the trust and support you have placed in us. The backbone of the Fraternity is not the Executive Board or headquarters staff; it's not the Foundation or even the chapters; it's you, the member of Phi Kappa Sigma. What we do, and the access we provide to opportunities for lifelong growth and development, is because of you.

Fraternally,

David M. Smith  
Grand Alpha  
Gamma Tau, New Hampshire '06

# Enhancing the Fraternal Experience

## A Message from the Executive Director

Brothers,

My name is David R. Wolf (Alpha Theta, Wisconsin '99), I am humbled and honored to serve as the Executive Director of Phi Kappa Sigma. From the moment I rushed back in the Fall Semester of 1994, this Fraternity has always been a constant in my life. I served as a chapter advisor for Alpha Theta Chapter for two years, am a three-time Men of Honor Facilitator, and served as Grand Tau back in 2018. With this track record in mind, I believe in this organization, most importantly what this organization can provide for the personal, professional, and social development of our members.

Coming into this role, my vision for Phi Kappa Sigma's future centers around two concepts: over-communication, and experiences. What separates our Brotherhood from other fraternities is the meaningful experiences we provide, developing our active members personally, professionally, all-the-while helping them forge lifelong friendships within those shared experiences. In order to foster these experiences, our responsibility is to simplify everything from an operational standpoint, so everything is as clear, concise and user-friendly for both our active members and alumni.

With the recent launching of our brand-new website, pks.org, I can confidently say we are on the right track. The flagship of our rebranding initiative, this website is the one-stop shop for everyone who is currently a member, considering membership, or curious about what we offer our members. Therefore, we must provide efficient resources and opportunities for growth and development in order to improve the active member experience.

One of those new resources is our Multi-Media Specialists Program, the Fraternity's newest social media and marketing internship program. In this program, our undergraduate members have the opportunity to post and design graphics to our social media platforms, gaining experience that can be utilized when applying for other jobs and internships. Additionally, I'm proud to highlight the production process of what will be our PKS Library; a collection of online learning modules that will aid chapter officers in navigating and understanding the

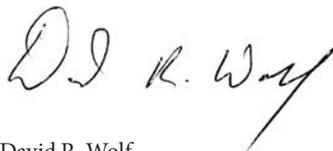
responsibilities of their roles. We are also planning on integrating ChapterSpot more-so into our daily operations.

With all of these new changes in mind, if you take away only one thing from this letter of address, know this: with the exception of ritual, I am open to any ideas and changes that may aid in building our organization into the great brotherhood that I know it can be.

**The flagship of our rebranding initiative, this website is the one-stop shop for everyone who is currently a member, considering membership, or curious about what we offer our members.**

The three main tenants I look for in every person, every member, is that they be humble, hungry and smart. It's what I look for in my staff, our board, myself, and it's what I expect out of everyone reading this magazine. Only by embracing these qualities can we ensure that our fraternity reaches its full potential, becoming a constant in our members lives as it has been a constant in mine. I look forward to serving you, our brotherhood, so we may continue to be

Stellis Aequus Durando.



David R. Wolf  
Executive Director  
Alpha Theta, Wisconsin '99

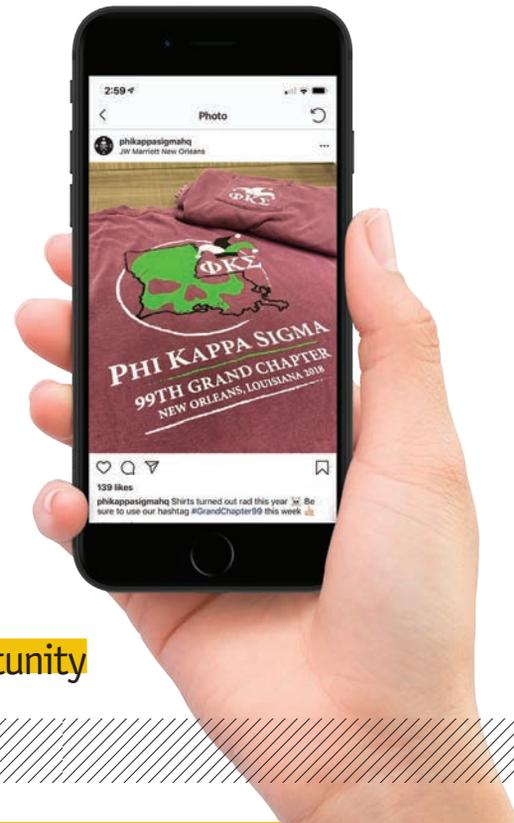


## Grand Delta Update

Last fall, Grand Theta Tim Schug and former Grand Theta Raymond Ruybe reduced the number of regional Grand Deltas from six to four and appointed four outstanding alumni volunteers to those roles; additionally they selected 20 Assistant Grand Deltas to service the entire network of Phi Kaps in the U.S. and Canada.

The core responsibility for the Grand Deltas is to make volunteering easier and more accessible to the chapters and alumni in their regions. Your 2018-2020 regional Grand Deltas are Chuck Beck (Alpha Epsilon, IIT 09'), Orion Pelausa (Delta Upsilon, VCU '12), Trevor Wiles (Gamma Gamma, Carthage '14) and Chase Harris (Omicron, Oklahoma '13).

# Multi-Media Specialists Program



## Our New Marketing & Social Media Internship Opportunity

**AS AN ORGANIZATION, IT'S OUR DUTY** to provide our members with real-world experiences and opportunities that will aid in their professional development, making them more competitive when pursuing their professional careers after graduation. It is also the best interest of our organization to simplify our daily operations as much as possible so we can dedicate more time to our brothers, our alumni, and our constituents. With this in mind, headquarters staff is proud to say that for the better part of a year, we have recruited capable members from across the country to form our Multi-Media Specialist Program.

Conceived back in early 2018, this program essentially acts as an internship opportunity, giving members from all our chapters across North America a chance to showcase and improve upon their social media engagement, outreach and graphic design skills and abilities. This program not only benefits our members, but our staff members as well. Aside from providing guidance and professional oversight, Phi Kappa Sigma's social media presence is nearly completely dictated and ran by our specialists, allowing staff to focus resources towards satisfying other various needs of our organization. ✦

*If you are interested in learning more about the program and are curious about how you can get involved, feel free to email [staff@pks.org](mailto:staff@pks.org) or call our International Headquarters at 463-200-5200.*



**"I made friends across the nation I haven't even met yet... I learned how to manage an organization's instagram, not everyone gets to do that. This is an experience you can't get anywhere else."**

Arnav Iyer  
(Beta Psi,  
Washington State '20)  
Team Lead-Outreach  
Instagram Coordinator



**"I came in this with zero graphic design experience [and] It gave me a whole new set of skills in the graphic design department... As long as you apply, we can find a spot for you to grow"**

Jonathan Dolan  
(Delta Gamma,  
Rowan '20)  
Team Lead-Design



**"It allows you to grow as a brother and really see the fraternity from the inside, allowing you to publish what you want to publish"**

James Overstreet  
(Zeta, Franklin  
& Marshall '21)  
Team Lead-Logistics

# Phi Kap Summer Internship



**WHEN HEADQUARTERS STAFF RECEIVED** word that a member of the TCU Colony not only lived nearby, but was looking for more opportunities to get involved, we saw an opportunity for an active member to gain valuable professional experience while helping

out with the ever-growing list of things to do before Grand Chapter. Alex West (Beta Theta, TCU '21), who recently initiated with the rest of the Beta Theta founding fathers this spring, got a behind-the-scenes look at what goes into the daily operations of Phi Kappa Sigma headquarters.

“My internship at headquarters was a valuable way to spend a few weeks during the summer,” Alex says. “The experience helped teach me those skills that will help me with my professional life as well as with the short term operations of my chapter.”

Alex’s experience largely involved training and working with the various administrative tools that gave him an inside look at the inner-workings of Phi Kappa Sigma. By working directly with our websites and online portals, Alex saw firsthand how these tools can assist or inhibit chapter operations.

Staff guidance was crucial in giving Alex an experience he could take back to his soon-to-charter colony at Texas Christian University. “Working closely with staff was especially beneficial,” he says, “especially with Connor Skaggs, since he was president of the Washington State Colony when they were petitioning to charter; I know his guidance during my internship contributed a lot to what I was able to take back to Beta Theta.”

After a few weeks of working out of the office, it was time to head to New Orleans for the 99th convention. “Grand Chapter was a great way to cap-off the experience,” Alex remembers. “Headquarters staff trusted me to help run the nearly week-long operations of this huge convention.”

Alex credits the abundance of historical documents and Fraternity relics kept at headquarters as a huge motivator to get involved with his colony at home. “I was recently elected vice president, and it was thanks to this internship that I was inspired to seek a leadership role. I’m looking forward to using everything I learned from this experience as my time in the Fraternity continues.”

Alex is looking forward to using the skills he learned during this summer internship to continue to help his chapter grow. Headquarters, additionally, is looking forward to continuing the summer internship program on a case-by-case basis, to those looking for professional experience while working with and learning more about Phi Kappa Sigma. ❖

**“The experience helped teach me those skills that will help me with my professional life as well as with the short term operations of my chapter.”**



*Above: Alex West being recognized for his hard work at Grand Chapter.*

Despite being shot down three times during the Battle of Guadalcanal, Robert Galer (Washington '35) survived and was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor, becoming a Brigadier General.

# AN HONORABLE ACE



**BEFORE BRIGADIER GENERAL ROBERT Galer** (Alpha Upsilon, Washington '35) was awarded the Medal of Honor, before he was inducted into the Legion of Valor, before he was one of the heroes of Guadalcanal, he was Bob, a jock from Seattle dreaming of one day taking to the skies.

From an early age, Galer's parents encouraged his obsession with flight and his fascination with 20th-century aviation pioneers, especially Charles Lindbergh, whose nonstop transatlantic flight in the Spirit of St. Louis was still fresh in the public's mind. His early interests would remain with him throughout his life, even guiding the decisions that would lead him to military greatness.

Tremendously successful in both school and athletics, Galer was accepted into the University of Washington, where he tried-out for the basketball team and joined ROTC. His dream was to follow in Lindbergh's footsteps and become a pilot. He excelled at Washington, and while pursuing a degree in commercial engineering was initiated into Alpha Upsilon Chapter and named All-American in basketball.

He would eventually be inducted into the Husky Hall of Fame and NCAA Hall of Fame for his contributions to basketball. For his military achievements, the University of Washington erected a memorial on campus in 2006.

Galer graduated from Washington in the spring of 1935 and was commissioned as an officer into the US Marine Corps, and later that year he began elimination flight school at the Naval Reserve Aviation Base in Seattle.

Though a promising young pilot, Galer's career got off to a rocky start when he crashed during one of his first flights. Over his career, Galer would lose five aircraft but take down many, many more in the process.

He spent most of his post-graduate-pre-war years traveling across the country, completing various trainings and honing the aviation skills that would eventually forge his reputation as a fearless, reliable squadron leader.

In January 1941, just over a year before the attack on Pearl Harbor, Galer was stationed on Oahu, where he would remain until being stationed in the Solomon Islands to fight in the Pacific Theater.

Everything for Galer changed on December 7, 1941.

The base was in chaos as Imperial Navy fighters bombed and then crashed into the ships in the harbor. American ships and aircraft destroyed or disabled, runways compromised, Lieutenant Galer and his men shot at the enemy fighters with rifles to little effect.

After the attack, Galer's squadron was sent to Wake Island while he, as the only available landing officer left,

was ordered to remain at Pearl Harbor. After the situation at Pearl Harbor was under control, Galer was given command of a new marine fighter squadron and deployed to the Solomon Islands, where the Battle of Guadalcanal would take place.

The battle, one of the most infamous in the Pacific Theater, Galer and his squadron were given one simple, daunting task: Take down as many Japanese aircraft as possible. The Japanese Mitsubishi A6M Zeroes ("Zeroes" for short) were lighter, faster, and more agile than the bulky Grumman F4F Wildcats used by Galer and his squadron.

No small task, Galer relied on Australian intelligence to determine when Japanese fighters were inbound. Then, he and his team would ascend to as high as 28,000 feet and dive toward the enemy planes.

While effective, the maneuver was risky. Pilots of the barely-pressurized planes risked blacking out during the descent, and those who didn't faced a barrage of heavy fire after completing the dive.

Galer was shot down three times during the battle. The last time, he landed in the water and had to swim for an hour to shore. He was reunited with his comrades the following day as they were making preparations for his funeral.

Despite the challenges, his strategy proved to be highly effective. Galer himself downed eleven enemy planes, at one point shooting down three within a single minute. Within the span of one month, his squadron had taken down 27 Japanese planes. Galer and his squadron were crucial to the success of not only Guadalcanal but the overall war effort.

In March 1943, for his heroism and contributions to the war effort, President Roosevelt awarded Galer the nation's highest military honor, the Congressional Medal of Honor. "For conspicuous heroism and courage above and beyond the call of duty," the citation read, "[and for] superb airmanship, his outstanding skill, and personal valor."

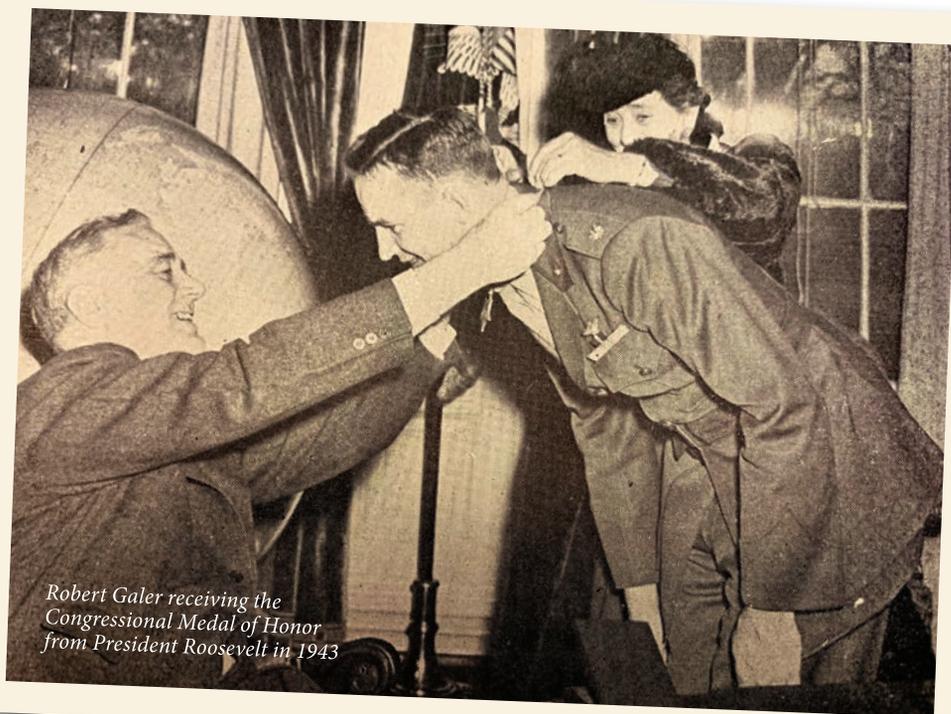
After receiving the Medal of Honor, Galer was grounded, much to his chagrin. But in August 1952, Galer's superiors relented and permitted him to fight in the Korean War. After an aerial battle near the North Korean capital of Pyongyang, he would suffer his final — and most preventable — crash.

"I went back to take a picture," Galer recalled later. "This anti-aircraft gun ... he nailed me."

Ejecting, Galer's foot caught on a belt strap, causing him to dangle head-down in a doomed aircraft. For what must have seemed like an eternity, he struggled to loosen the strap on his foot while also trying to maintain his bearings. Finally, he managed to slip his foot out of the strap, but in so doing slammed himself against the body of the plane, breaking several ribs and injuring his back.

"That's five planes you lost,' my son used to joke. 'You're an enemy ace!'"

Galer retired in 1957 as a brigadier general. After he left the Marines, Brig. Gen. Galer enjoyed a fruitful career as an executive at Ling-Temco-Vought and later at Bright & Co. He suffered a fatal stroke in 2005 and was buried with full military honors at the Texas State Cemetery. ❖



*Robert Galer receiving the Congressional Medal of Honor from President Roosevelt in 1943*



# TRAVEL

旅行 VOYAGE REJSE CESTOVAT VIAJAR PAGLALAKBAY



# WORLD

VIAGGIO VIAGEM HÀNH TRÌNH ПЪТУВАНЕ SAFARI

# ALWAYS ON THE MOVE

Navigating the world  
via trial by experiment

by Darold Bivens (Beta Psi, Washington State '18)  
& Connor Skaggs (Beta Psi, Washington State '17)

## ZACH ANSWERS MY CALL ON THE SECOND OR THIRD RING.

I hear Mexico City is the place to be this time of year — 75 degrees, sunny and too early in the season for most of the tourists — so it's hard not to envy him. Between sentences, I can hear him ordering breakfast.

"Sorry about that. I'm getting food at the hotel," he tells me.

This is Zach's second year traveling the world. I have no idea if this is the case, but what I'm picturing is him sprawled out by the pool at some larger-than-life hotel, eating breakfast and taking solace in the fact that while he got to sit back and enjoy the summer weather a few months early, the rest of us were shivering through one of the worst polar vortexes in recent memory.

Zach Jones (Delta Pi, Indiana '15) has been traveling nonstop while continuing to work his day job remotely. "I grew up in the Midwest," he tells me. "Then after graduation, I lived in Washington, D.C., then Indianapolis, and finally Chicago."

That's when he tells me he started to get tired of the normal day-to-day of corporate life in America. "It all just got to be so boring," he says. After a year of dealing with Chicago rent, commutes, and the mounting cost of living, he decided to call it quits. "I found a company that sponsors year-long trans-global trips for remote employees, so I figured, 'Why not?'"

For the price of a Chicago apartment, Zach was able to live and work in a different country every month. After getting approval from work, he packed up his suitcase, booked his trip, and began what would be a two-year expedition to everywhere.

"At this point, I've been to —" he pauses, "— thirty-four countries."

After listing some, most of which are nowhere near each other (it's not like he got dropped off in London and told to

work his way to Russia), I ask, "How do you navigate the language and cultural barriers?"

He laughs. "Trial by experiment."

Zach has a lot of funny, sometimes awkward, stories about his travels.

"Luckily, I've never been robbed or pickpocketed or anything like that," he says.

On one eventful trip to a Czech grocery store, he remembers, the cashier, an older woman who did not speak a lick of English, yelled at him and, realizing he didn't speak Czech, threw her hands up in frustration and marched into the back.

"It didn't occur to me that a lot of grocery stores don't have scales at the cash registers," he says. "I had a line of

*Above: Zach Jones taking in the deserts of Morocco.*

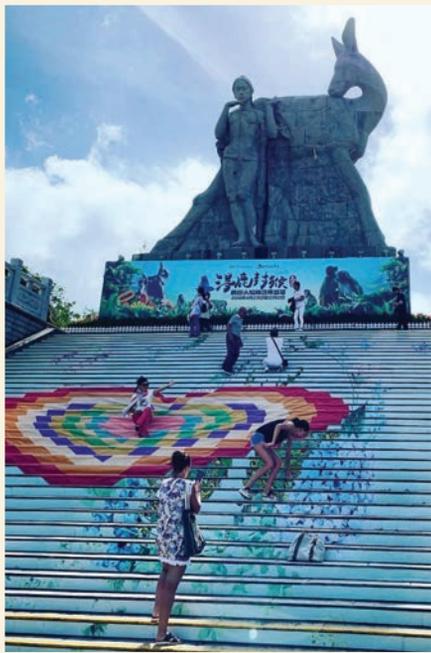
*Opposite top: One of the monuments standing at Luhuitoi at the island of Sanya, China.*

*Opposite middle: One of the many vast, mountainous landscapes of Iceland.*

*Opposite bottom: The Initiation Well in Sintra, Portugal.*

Photo by Betsy McCuepictures





people behind me, and she had no way to weigh my produce and no way to communicate that to me.”

He says the key is to travel light. “Everyone has their own travel tips, so definitely do your own research, but the two best, most standard pieces of advice I can give you for staying safe are to travel light and keep your money in your front pocket.”

In essence, don’t make yourself a target.

Zach takes great care to ensure he’s traveling as modestly as possible. “I don’t collect souvenirs,” he admits. “Almost everything you need you can buy wherever you’re going.”

His strategy is to wear his work suit on travel days and stuff everything he’ll need for his next trip into his suitcase. If he doesn’t need something, he gets rid of it.

Over the last two years, Zach says he’s become paranoid about not staying within that 50-pound limit at the airport. Pretty much everything in his suitcase is either work stuff like a laptop and electronics or clothes. And he keeps copies of all his IDs, credit cards, and even SIM cards in case something gets lost or stolen.

“Honestly, the thought of buying things makes me ill now,” he admits.

The company Zach initially booked through suddenly shutdown last year, stranding many customers overseas, but Zach and a handful of We Roam customers have continued their nomadic adventures around the world, booking their own reservations in hotels, Airbnbs, and hostels while continuing to work their normal jobs.

“Just be smart,” he says when I ask how someone can get started traveling. “Make duplicates of everything, talk to the locals, sit down with the concierge at whatever hotel you decide to stay at, and stay situationally aware.”

When I ask how to get the most out of your trip, he says, “Go to the secondary location.” Zach’s written articles on his “secondary location” theory, but the concept is simple: Go straight to the next place people want to go to. Avoid the tourist traps. Have a more intimate experience for a cheaper price, and with fewer people. ❖



**TRAVELER:**

Zach Jones  
(Delta Pi, Indiana '15)

**TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Czech Republic, United Kingdom (England and Scotland), France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Belize, Canada, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay, Australia, New Zealand, Morocco

**TRAVEL ADVICE:**

Go to the secondary location. Avoid the tourist traps. Have a more intimate experience for a cheaper price, and with fewer people.



# COACHING AND GUIDING WORLD-CLASS ATHLETES

Nobody starts out their career thinking “you know what? I’m going to coach the Olympics one day.”

*by Criss Somerlot, (Beta Zeta, Ohio '69)*



*Adam Nelson during the Shot Put Competition. Photo courtesy of USATF*

**STARTING AS A HIGH SCHOOL TRACK COACH BACK IN 1970,** I eventually worked my way up to becoming an official for the United States of America Track and Field Organization (USATF). Eventually, I became a committee member of the USATF, where I started networking with staff members on the national level who were also involved in selecting people for the Olympic staffs.

Eventually, I became a Men’s National High School Coordinator for USATF, where I was tasked with seeking-out successful high school coaches and bringing them on the team. Excelling in the position, this led to my first opportunity to travel internationally for a coaching assignment. Taking place in Spain and England, I acted on behalf of the Eight Nations Staff, working closely with junior athletes, in 1991. The success of this event launched my international coaching career, where in 1999, I would be tasked with traveling to Japan to work with the World Indoor Championship staff (friendly tip: there is nothing better than baby octopus for breakfast in Japan).

During each event I was assigned to, USATF staff members were closely monitoring and evaluating my performance, as well as the performance of my athletes. Nearly 34 years into my coaching career, I was selected to serve on staff for the 2004 Summer Olympics, taking place in Athens, Greece. This was something very special, and I was honored to do it.

One of the highlights in Greece was the shot put competition, a track and field event where the athlete’s goal is to spin rapidly in a small ring, all-the-while hurling a very heavy round ball as far as possible. The event took place at Olympus, home to the first-ever Olympic Games. Being the only event to take place at Olympus that year, the competition got the attention of over one billion viewers during its broadcast.

Needless to say, the stakes were high.

If there is one thing I took pride in as a professional coach, it’s that I always stood up for my athletes. Whether coaching for

a high school team or the Olympics, if I had reason to believe one of my athletes had been wronged, the fight was on ... and I am proud to say that I won about 80 percent of the fights.

Keeping all of this in mind, one of my olympic athletes was Adam Nelson, who competed in the shot put competition at Olympus. As soon as Adam casts his last throw (which was objectively the longest toss compared to all the other athletes), one of the judges called a foul on him. At the time, I was about twelve inches from the ring, but various cameras and other equipment blocked my view, so I couldn't get a clear visual on what just happened. However, I was close enough to get an earshot of Adam yelling "I didn't foul" at the top of his lungs.

I couldn't just stand there and do nothing, I had to stop the competition before they erased his mark. Jumping into the ring, I approached the officials who called the foul and demanded that they measure the throw, review the video and then make the call. Adam would go on to receive a silver medal for his performance (and would eventually win the gold medal three years later after the original recipient tested positive for using a banned substance to enhance his performance).

I still stand by how I acted on behalf of my athlete. This is an example of the right way to fight for your athletes; I didn't break any of the rules, I just knew all the ins-and-outs of them.

Three years would pass until I'd be selected once again to coach the 2008 Summer Olympics, this time taking place in Beijing, China. Even though this would be my second time, nothing could have prepared me for this experience; To put it simply, the Chinese Olympic Games were weird.

Before arriving at Beijing, all of the coaches and their athletes were escorted to a resort that was known for being a frequent meeting place for many of China's communist party leaders. This resort acted as a training camp for our athletes. I remember almost feeling like a prisoner at times; There were over 2,000 Chinese police officers, soldiers, and various other authorities guarding us every day. You really got the impression that the Chinese government wanted to make sure everything went smoothly.

However, there was a huge problem with food sanitation at the training camp, as we constantly had athletes who would suffer severe muscle cramps for up to three days at a time. None of this added stress could have been good for the athletes, especially when their nerves are already at an all-time high.

To put things into perspective, a gold medal for a track athlete is like a retirement plan. Winning a gold medal meant astounding amounts of publicity and hundreds-of-thousands-of dollars in brand deals and prize money. Yet as a coach, balancing what the athletes wanted alongside what they needed took insight. This meant, sometimes, you had to be firm and just say "this is what we're doing," other times you had to listen and guide them into making good decisions.

When the day finally came for us coaches and our athletes to be escorted to Beijing for the opening ceremony, I realized that this wasn't going to be anything like what I saw on television. After we were all bussed over to the stadium, the athletes, me and the other coaches waited as a group for almost two hours, marched into the stadium, stood for all of the ceremonies, then had to wait another two hours in order to get back to our rooms. To make matters worse, it was very hot, easily over 90 degrees. Me and the other coaches knew we were going to be on TV, so most of us dressed-up in suites and ties (which definitely didn't compliment the heat very well).

So there I am wearing a suite, tie, a pair of shoes I still haven't worn to this day, hot, tired and exhausted, waiting for the games to begin.

Then I heard the stadium chanting ...  
"U-S-A...U-S-A...U-S-A..."

Chills began to run down my spine, as the rest of the coaches and I began to walk into the stadium. Even though this wasn't my first time at the Olympics, it was my first time participating in the opening ceremony ... it was simply unforgettable.

When the Olympic games had come to a close, now on a plane flying home, I remember a smile coming across my face as I reflected on everything that just happened. Here I was, a man fortunate enough to have had the privilege of coaching the Olympics, usually a job meant for a younger coach. Yet, I have so many great memories of the people I met, the places I've been to, and all of the "stuff" I got involved with at the Olympics. These experiences were times of great expectations, establishing relationships, and of great travel. ❖



**TRAVELER:**

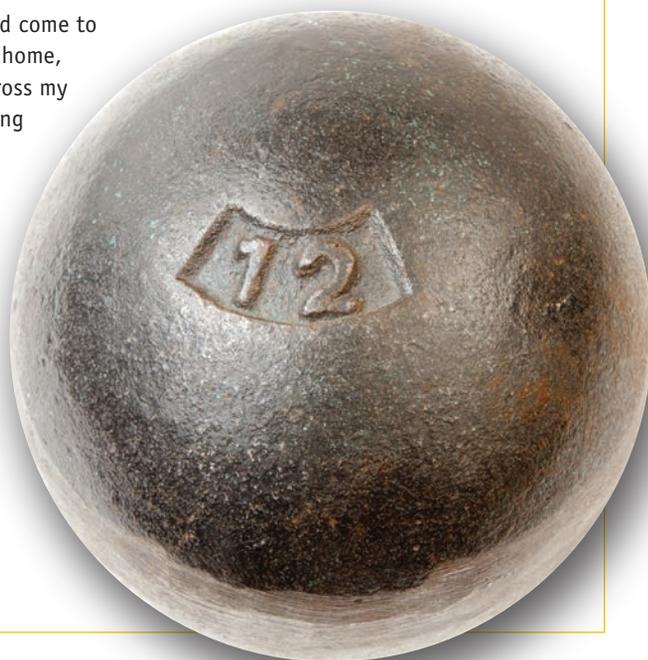
Criss Somerlot,  
Ohio '69

**TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

Greece, China

**TRAVEL ADVICE:**

There is  
nothing  
better than  
baby octopus  
for breakfast  
in Japan.





# PERSPECTIVES FROM INDIANA

## How I came to embrace the journey

by Andrew Amaya-Shaw (Beta Xi, New Orleans '17)



### **TRAVELER:**

Andrew Amaya-Shaw  
(Beta Xi, New Orleans '17)

### **TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

United States of America

### **TRAVEL ADVICE:**

Traveling can take you anywhere in your life, but sometimes it's the people you meet and the friends you keep that truly make the journey.

**AS A KID, I TRAVELED PLENTY. MY MOTHER,** an immigrant of Guatemala by way of The Bahamas, always stressed that a certain level of learning could only be achieved by putting yourself out of your comfort zone. Allowing yourself to experience cultures, philosophies, and societies vastly different from your own, you could see the world in different ways and bring fresh perspectives.

By the time I was 15, I got a passport and traveled from Europe to South America and back. In addition, New Orleans, my home, was a cultural gumbo, pulling influences from a multitude of different cultures from its 300-year history.

With all of this in mind, it was pretty easy to see why I'd be such a perfect fit for a job that has me on the road for twelve of the sixteen weeks in an academic semester. I saw value in learning new experiences, and my background as a founding father of my chapter prepared me as well. It just made sense.

The night I told my chapter that I had taken the staff job, there was plenty of well wishes and reminiscing. Until, that is, they asked where I was heading to.

"Indiana," I told them. "West Lafayette, Indiana."

My chapter brothers collectively held their breath for a brief moment.

"Well congratulations man! That's awesome!"

They raised glasses and voices in a cheer that was definitely too loud for a Buffalo Wild Wings, but their faces couldn't shake a puzzled expression.

Honestly, I was just as confused as they were.

Director of Member Engagement Ben Fournier and James Coffman, Director of Growth and Engagement, completely sold me on this exciting life of traveling around the country. Even I'd heard whispers of a UC-Berkeley expansion. I had delusions of grandeur that would make even Jordan Belfort sweat.

Yet there I was, explaining to my chapter

their former president had signed on with headquarters for a job that would show me the incredible sights and experiences of—Purdue University in West Lafayette, Indiana. Not for some glorious expansion project, but to help a small chapter return to its former glory. Not traveling around the country on some whirlwind adventure, but rather around the Midwest in a slow but precise circle.

I traveled through an hour of corn fields before making it to Purdue's campus. Upon unpacking at their chapter house, I took a tour around the town. It was impressive for itself, but I couldn't shake the building pressure in my chest.

I immediately called one of my pledge brothers, Cameron, back home. We shared a hearty laugh at my expense, growing a sense of buyer's remorse, until I sought out real advice.

"Cam, what if I made the wrong choice? What if I'm not supposed to be here?"

A long moment lingers.

"Well, you never really know, right?"

Sometimes it's not about where you end up, but rather how you got there. Taking the Midwest was never going to be a Central American cruise, but you're going to have more than a tale or two to tell whenever you come back. But only if you aren't scared to make this adventure your own."

It was a perspective change.

An epiphany.

It's easy to sit on top of the mountain and note how good the view is. But traveling the country for work is not at all the same. It's traveling from mountain to mountain, finding beauty in all of the moments in between. It's bonding with brothers in Kenosha and Dekalb. It's taking pride in working with your tougher chapters to help them overcome the obstacles.

Traveling can take you anywhere in your life, but sometimes it's the people you meet and the friends you keep that truly make the journey. 🍷

# “UN-COMFORTABILITY BREEDS GROWTH”

Traveling abroad changes a brother for life

*Darold Bivens (Beta Psi, Washington State '18)*

**FROM SHOOTING RIFLES IN VIETNAM TO SACRED** blessing rituals in Myanmar, Brent Van Brocklin (Beta Psi, Washington State '19) crammed a lifetime of experiences within one semester-at-sea. Over the span of four months, Brent's campus was a cruise ship, sailing to eleven different countries such as Japan, China, Vietnam, Myanmar, and South Africa just to name a handful.

When he wasn't studying poolside after class, Brent explored various countries, in some cases conducting field studies for various class projects.

One study took place in Vietnam, where Brent decided to learn more about the Vietnam War from the Vietnamese perspective ... which involved firing AK-47's at a local gun range.

"It was very loud," Brent described nervously, understanding these rifles were the same models used during the war. "First time firing a gun in my life."

Traveling abroad wasn't without it's obstacles; running into many language barriers, Brent resorted to non-verbal cues and basic words to communicate. To Brent's surprise, he didn't just overcome these barriers, he had deep, meaningful, connections with other people in spite of them.

While conducting a field study in Myanmar, Brent visited several Buddhist monasteries, learning about the role Buddhism plays in the country. Many of these monasteries also acted as orphanages, training the children as monks.

While visiting one of these monasteries, a monk noticed Brent wearing a bead necklace, a gift from one of his chapter brothers, and offered to bless it. Accepting the offer, the

monk sat down with Brent, took his necklace, then proceeded to individually pray for and bless all 108 of the beads within half a minute.

After the blessing process ended, Brent couldn't help but feel a strong, yet nearly indescribable connection with the old, yet very wise, man.

"I couldn't understand him, and he couldn't understand me ... but we had a connection" he declared. "I felt it and I think he felt it too."

Traveling abroad also gave Brent a sense of perspective, particularly during a conversation he had with a young man on a beach in Ghana.

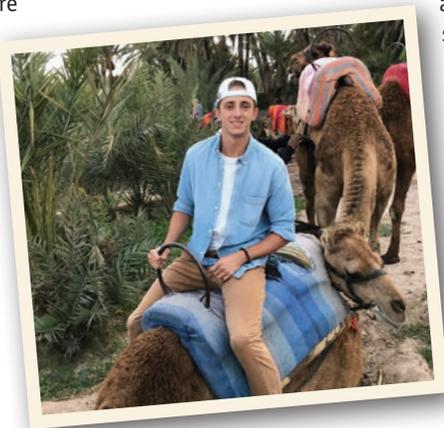
Despite their similarity in age (early 20's), Brent was shocked by what this young man had to go through; losing his dad when he was a small child, this man had to work and financially provide for his mother and five sisters. Expressing to Brent that the culture in Ghana highly discouraged women in the workplace, this man had to become the core provider for his family.

Yet in spite of these circumstances, Brent described the man as being very positive, laughing, always smiling. This is one of the moments where Brent expressed his realization of what really matters.

"It's not about the material and what's around you. It's about the people" Brent said.

Claiming that he is a different, and better, person for traveling abroad, Brent encourages others to do the same, that the only way to grow as a person is to travel and interact with places and people that are different from you, embracing what makes them, at first, feel uncomfortable.

"Un-comfortability breeds growth," Brent said. "[Traveling abroad] changed who I am ... it changed who I was." ❖



## **TRAVELER:**

Brent Van Brocklin  
(Beta Psi,  
Washington State '19)

## **TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

Japan, China, Vietnam,  
Myanmar (Burma), India,  
Mauritius, South Africa,  
Ghana, Morocco, Portugal,  
Germany, Austria,  
Netherlands.

## **TRAVEL ADVICE:**

It's not about  
the material  
and what's  
around you.  
It's about the  
people.

# FLYING TO CHINA, SHARING THE MOMENT

## Experiencing cultural wedding traditions

by Darold Bivens  
(Beta Psi, Washington State '18)

**WHEN PENG LI (DELTA PI, INDIANA '15)** first left China to pursue his education in the U.S., he didn't know anyone. He's an only child, had little help adjusting to the campus, struggled to overcome the language barrier, and struggled adapting altogether. He felt completely on his own.

All of that changed his sophomore year, when he rushed for Phi Kappa Sigma.

For the first time in a while, Peng felt welcomed, like he was something important to his brothers. He spent Thanksgivings with Julian Mizgala (Delta Pi, Indiana '16) from his pledge class. His pledge brother Dalton Feeley (Delta Pi, Indiana '16) even invited Peng to celebrate his first Christmas with his family, welcoming him with open arms. To brothers like Dalton, Peng isn't just treated like family, he is family.

"Let's put it this way: If [Peng] got hurt, he would call my Mom [too]," said



Dalton, expressing how close him, Peng, and both their families have become. "We bonded on a different level."

Fast-forward to December of 2018, Peng is in a relationship, engaged and ready to marry Yin, the woman he wants to spend the rest of his life with. He's stayed in touch with his brothers from Delta Pi, and invites them to attend his wedding in China as guests, groomsmen, and best men.

Dalton, Julian, as well as Jason DuBro (Delta Pi, Indiana '16) and Zach Jones (Delta Pi, Indiana '15) all flew-out to China to celebrate Peng's wedding. Peng saw this wedding as an opportunity to take care of his brothers just like they took care of him, wanting them to know he appreciated and would look out for them during their stay.

He did more than that. To quote Jason and Dalton, they basically lived Crazy Rich Asians for a week.

The wedding took place at the island of Sanya, known as the Chinese equivalent of Hawaii, the "home of weddings." Covered with sprawling mountain vistas, the island's city lights were so vibrant, they made the night sky look like daytime. Greeting each of his brothers at the airport, Peng immediately took everyone

as they landed out to eat, where they were introduced to mountains upon mountains of traditional Chinese seafood and cuisine.

"I think I ate more seafood in those past five days than I did in the past five years," Julian laughed. This became a constant theme;

"You eat, and drink, eat and drink, eat and drink...." reminisced Julian, as the Delta Pi brothers laughed and bonded with Peng, his fiancé, his family, and each other.

Never attending an Eastern-style wedding before, none of the Delta Pi brothers were prepared for its scale: Peng estimates everything leading up to, and including the ceremony, cost about 140-thousand U.S. dollars.

Each of his brothers were given Villas to stay in, personal photographers capturing their every move. Peng even had two of his friends, fluent in Chinese, act as translators for his chapter brothers, never wanting them to feel lost or uncomfortable.

Well, with exception of the "punishing of the groomsmen," that is.

While it's tradition in Western-culture that the groom must not see the bride before the wedding, it's the exact opposite in Chinese culture: the groom and his



groomsmen may see the bride before the ceremony, but at a price.

All of the groomsmen had to “woo” the bridesmaids before they could even enter the bride’s villa, literally bribing them, throwing small red “lucky bags” full of money through their window. Once the bridesmaids were satisfied, they’d let the groomsmen into the villa, where the real trials began.

From ping-pong ball dances, stepping across blue mats reminiscent of Lego pieces, to having their leg hair waxed-off, all of the groomsmen were dragged through an onslaught of humorous, yet all-in-good-natured trials, in order to actually see the bride.

“I felt bad for them...” Peng snickered, “but it was also fun to watch!”

While building these fun memories, these men also gained a sense of perspective, and appreciation for Peng. While walking around the city, Julian mentioned that Peng kept going on and on about how blue the sky was, how he was so grateful and happy that the sky was so blue, puzzling him at first. “It’s just the sky” Julian would say, not fully understanding Peng’s excitement.

Then it hit him: China is known for having massive pollution problems, their skies clustered with a constant array of smog. The blue skies of Sanya, a tropical paradise, was something to appreciate.

All of this led up to the big day. A bed of rose petals carpeted the asial. Standing in front of over a hundred of his closest family and friends, one of his brothers in the audience, three of them standing on either side of him, exchanging vows with his wife-to-be, Peng remembers feeling a nearly indescribable amount of joy running through him.

“I felt challenged,” he chuckles nervously. A brief pause, then a warm smile sprawls across his face ...

“I felt so excited ... happy.” When asking the men of Delta Pi how moments like these exemplify lifelong brotherhood, collectively everyone expressed it means you’re never alone, knowing that the relationships you forge with each other help shape you into who you are. Peng takes pride in this notion, highlighting the connection he has with his brothers in a speech he and his wife gave before the ceremony.

“Every moment we had in the past has already been carved into my heart, that is what brought us here together ... You have officially become the special friend in both of us together. Nothing would change your place in our heart.” ❀



**TRAVELERS:**

Peng Li (Delta Pi, Indiana '15), Julian Mizgala (Delta Pi, Indiana '16), Dalton Feeley (Delta Pi, Indiana '16), Jason DuBro (Delta Pi, Indiana '16), Zach Jones (Delta Pi, Indiana '15)

**TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

China

**TRAVEL ADVICE:**

Peng kept going on and on about how blue the sky was, how he was so grateful and happy that the sky was so blue, puzzling him at first. “It’s just the sky” Julian would say, not fully understanding Peng’s excitement.



# THE VAN LIFE

## Traveling the country by “Ship”

by Kevin Franke (Alpha Epsilon, IIT '09)

**WHEN MY WIFE AND I GOT MARRIED IN NOVEMBER 2016,** we weren't ready to buy a house and settle down. I already have a mountain of student debt from grad school, why take on a mortgage as well? Isn't it logical to tour the country and get a better sense of our options?

So, we bought a used van and converted it into a home on wheels. It's got everything we need to survive — refrigerator, sink, oven, solar panels, convertible bed/table, porta-potti, dimmable lights, and cabinets. We've lived in it full-time since June 2018. We call her “Ship,” homage to Carl Sagan's Spaceship of the Imagination.

It took one year and three months to build it. Both of us were working full time jobs and neither of us had any experience designing or building anything on that scale. We worked nights and weekends, it consumed our thoughts. It was always challenging,

often overwhelming, and never glamorous.

But, along the way, we sharpened our technical, organizational, and interpersonal skills (I like my chances of surviving the zombie apocalypse much better after having built that van). The most important thing I learned was how to accept failure as a necessary part of building anything worthwhile.

In June 2017, we left Chicago and drove straight to Alaska. (Go big or go home, guys). As of April 2019, we've slept in 34 different states and 5 Canadian provinces. Our goal is to sleep at least one night in all 49 continental United States by July. Then we'll think about settling down ... maybe.

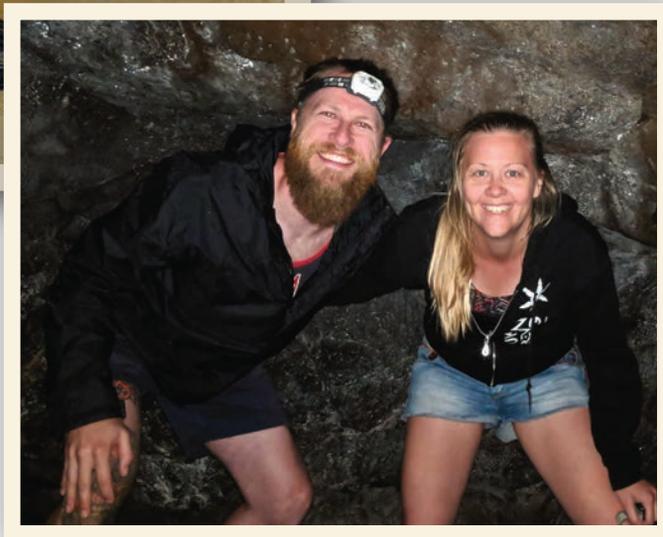
We drank a shot of whiskey with a human toe in it in the Yukon Territory (don't swallow the toe or else you'll pay a hefty fine!). We emerged from a lava cave at sundown to witness four planets and the Milky Way above a 2,000 year-old volcanic flow in Idaho. We've seen orcas in the Pacific, dolphins in the Atlantic, encountered bears, eagles, and alligators on hiking trails. We've visited over a dozen national parks, half a dozen national historical sites, and two NASA facilities, with many more on our agenda. I'm even an official Junior Ranger at Yellowstone National Park!

If you think I'm bragging, I'll stop you there; it's not the glamorous lifestyle that social media portrays. The van is a tiny space, so we have no privacy from each other. We park and sleep in a new place every night. We have to make educated guesses on where we'll be safe and undisturbed: parking lots, public land, rest



*Left: Kevin and Amy's DIY "Ship" kitchen*

*Below: Kevin and Amy inside one of Idaho's lava caves*



areas. We are always moving, so we have to work hard to create structure in our lives, or risk feeling lost. We often went days without showering (that's changed since we got a membership to a nationwide gym chain, though).

It's not a never-ending vacation, but the upside is more than enough to keep us going. We have a thirst to observe the breadth of nature, history, and culture of our great country, so our points of interest are national parks, museums, and cultural centers (and breweries).

We visit friends and family that we otherwise wouldn't be able to see without spending big money on airfare, vacation time, and car rentals. I've visited six different chapter brothers along our travels, with many more on the way. The brother who recruited me into the Fraternity is taking care of my pet snake while we travel. I've even been to three of my brothers' weddings since starting this whole thing. Truly, the Fraternity helped me forge lifelong relationships.

For the record, we're not vagabonds. The only way we're able to do this is because we

spent two years living very frugally to save money not only to afford the van and building materials, but to live for a year on a single salary. I am very fortunate to have a stable, work-from-home job with health insurance. But my wife didn't, so she had to quit her job for us to travel full time.

Phi Kappa Sigma undoubtedly paved the way for this path we've chosen.

During spring break my senior year, I traveled to Bend, Oregon, with four brothers to volunteer with Habitat for Humanity. We flew into Portland, drove up and over Mt. Hood, and across the Oregon high desert. It was literally the first time I had ever seen a mountain in my life. We helped roof a house, we hiked Smith Rock State Park, and I tried my very first

craft beer. Amazingly, power tools, hiking, and craft beer are still three main themes of my life.

Living in a van with your wife is a lot like living in a chapter house. At first, it sounds like a nonstop party, but you find out quickly that you have to work hard to make it work. You need to make sure your space is always clean or everything falls out of place. The rooms are tiny. You're always bumping into someone, and there's a good chance that person disagrees with you about something.

But you can't write them off. Because they are important to you, because there is value in finding common ground. After all, you're in this thing together. ❖



**TRAVELERS:**

Amy and Kevin Franke, Illinois Tech '09

**TRAVELED DESTINATIONS:**

United States of America

**TRAVEL ADVICE:**

Living in a van with your wife is a lot like living in a chapter house. At first, it sounds like a nonstop party, but you find out quickly that you have to work hard to make it work.



# Continuing to Support Our Future

## State of the Foundation

Brothers,

Travel is the main theme of this issue of the *Maltese Cross*, and that seems appropriate because travel is as fraternal as all-house meetings and incredibly long Chapter meetings.

I suspect travel has been a part of our Brotherhood from the beginning. Part of me likes to imagine our Founding Fathers “road-tripping” from Penn to Princeton to visit their Brothers at Beta Chapter. While the image in my mind may not quite fit the reality of that situation, I can honestly say that some of my best experiences as a Phi Kap have involved traveling with my Brothers.

Whether it was driving across Washington to visit Alpha Upsilon (and dominate them in pool hoops), traveling to the Alpha Psi Chapter for a leadership conference (with the esteemed Brother Tom Lorz) or attending Grand Chapter and/or the Foundation’s Annual Meeting; travel and Brotherhood have gone hand-in-hand. However, one of my favorite travel memories involving Phi Kappa Sigma didn’t even involve being with any of my Brothers.

I spent one Summer in Arizona and had gone to visit Lake Powell on the Arizona/Utah border. Lake Powell has approximately 1,900 miles of shoreline and is surrounded by sandstone cliffs. While swimming in the lake, I chose a spot to carve the Standard Recognition Symbol into the sandstone. Back then, carving into Lake Powell’s sandstone was then (and may still be) a common practice. However, to my surprise, I saw a Standard Rec. had already been carved into the very same spot I planned on using.

That memory reminds me of the reach our Brotherhood has. How deep and wide it runs; even in areas where we have no chapters, active or otherwise.

The state of the Foundation is strong. The Foundation hired an Executive Director of Development, Daniel Heiss (Beta Psi ’09), who has already begun implementing new policies and programs. The intent behind these programs are to increase and encourage active member support via increased scholarship awards, as well as providing support for the educational and leadership programs that benefit our active members.

How does the Foundation, and your support thereof, fit within the theme of this year’s Maltese Cross? Your generous gifts allow the Foundation to provide financial assistance for our active Brothers to travel to Grand Chapter, Men of Honor and the Carroll K. Simons Institute. These travel opportunities are instrumental in building and solidifying our Brotherhood, as well as providing educational and leadership opportunities.

On behalf of the Foundation Board of Trustees, I thank all of you that contribute gifts and donations to the Foundation, and humbly ask you to continue doing so, ensuring that Phi Kappa Sigma may continue to be *Stellis Aequus Durando*.  
+LT

Fraternally,

Robert J. Burnett, Washington State 1991 President, Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation

### FOUNDATION BOARD

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Robert J. Burnett  
Beta Psi,  
Washington State '91

**Foundation Vice President**

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Gamma Gamma,  
Carthage College '00

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Washington State '94

**Executive Director of Development**

Daniel Heiss  
Beta Psi,  
Washington State '09

# Ways You Can Support the Foundation

Each year, hundreds of Brothers support Phi Kappa Sigma through a contribution to the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation.

### Annual Fund

Many brothers donate throughout the year as part of our annual giving program. Gifts can be made securely online at [pks.org/support.php](http://pks.org/support.php) or mailed directly to the International Headquarters (the enclosed donor envelope has been provided for your convenience). Most Foundation donors do not direct the use of their annual gifts. This allows them to be allocated to the areas of most need. Brothers who donate as part of the annual giving program are recognized in the *Maltese Cross* each year. Brothers who donate at least four years in a row or at least \$10,000 in their lifetime receive special recognition.

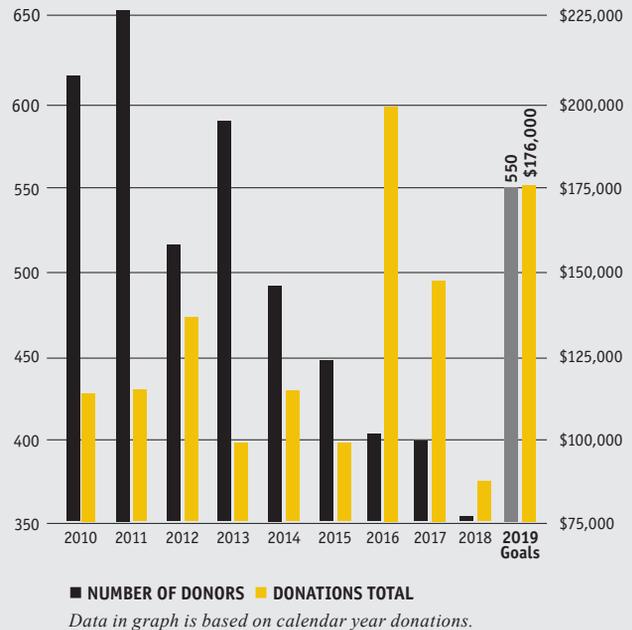
<b>GIVING LEVEL</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>
Diamond Skull Club	\$2,500 +
Platinum Skull Club	\$1,000 - \$2,499
Golden Skull Club	\$750 - \$999
Silver Skull Club	\$500 - \$749
Bronze Skull Club	\$250 - \$499
1850 Club	\$18.50/month (\$222 total)
Anniversary Member	\$168
Honor Roll	\$100 - \$249
Donor	Up to \$100

### Founders' Circle

In order to recognize those Brothers who have made significant donations to the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation, we have created the Founder's Circle. These members have donated at least \$10,000 in their lifetime (one or multiple gifts).

### Mitchell Society

Mitchell Society members are those Brothers who have included Phi Kappa Sigma in their estate plans through Bequests, Insurance Policies, Endowments, Charitable Gift Annuities, and Charitable Remainder Trusts. Mitchell Society members understand the importance of ensuring that



Phi Kappa Sigma's programs and services are available far into the future. Gifts such as these allow individuals and families to invest in and support Phi Kappa Sigma, guaranteeing its success for future generations. Please go to [www.pks.org/donate](http://www.pks.org/donate) or contact the International Headquarters for more information on the Mitchell Society and planned giving.

### Matching Gifts

Many companies have a matching gift program that can multiply your support and make your gift go further! Please ask your company's human resources representative for the necessary forms to send with your gift.

Please contact the International Headquarters at [giving@pks.org](mailto:giving@pks.org) or (463) 200-5400 for more information on how you can support Phi Kappa Sigma.

## FOUNDERS' CIRCLE

The following individuals or groups have donated a minimum of \$10,000 in their lifetime. The gifts may be one or multiple.

Christopher T. Benis, Washington State 1984	Joseph B. Moidl, Wisconsin 1994
Lonny Boeke, Carthage College 2000	Peter J. Nichols, Washington 1980
Allan M. Cameron, Denver 1962	Douglas W. Opicka, Illinois Tech 1997
Duncan H. Cocroft, Pennsylvania 1965	Neil J. Principe, Cornell 1967
Douglas L. Cox, Pennsylvania 1968	Timothy A. Schug, Illinois Tech 2007
Donald Craib, UCLA 1949	Ronald W. Siggs, Washington 1982
John J. Curley, Dickinson College 1960	Hamilton F. "Toby" Smith, Richmond 1983
David B. du Pont, Pennsylvania 1967	Ronald C. Stephens, UCLA 1963
John L. Finlayson, Franklin & Marshall 1964	Benjamin F. Taylor, Illinois 1999
Reynold R. Hagel, Washington 1980	

## FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS

We thank the following brothers for their generosity by sponsoring a Foundation Scholarship with their name. **These brothers have made a donation of at least \$10,000 in any calendar year, at least \$15,000 over two consecutive years, or at least \$25,000 in their lifetimes.**

Allen M. Cameron Jr., Denver 1962	John A. Murray, Denver 1957
Lt. Col. Rick S. Correz, UC-Riverside 1994	Peter J. Nichols, Washington 1980
Douglas L. Cox, Pennsylvania 1968	Douglas W. Opicka, Illinois Tech 1997
David B. du Pont, Pennsylvania 1967	R. Philip Petrowski, Wisconsin 2001
John L. Finlayson, Franklin & Marshall 1964	William B. Rozzi, Purdue 1980
Edward L. Flom, Illinois Tech 1954	Timothy A. Schug, Illinois Tech 2007
Norman R. Lindskog, Illinois Tech 1959	John W. Templer, TCU 1963

## LEGACY CIRCLE

The following individuals have generously given to the Founders Circle during their lifetime or as memorials and are recognized in the Legacy Circle.

Charles Fazio, Ohio State 1949	Boyd Lee Spahr III, Dickinson College 1963
Robert C. Forney, Purdue 1948	David C. Spraker, Wisconsin 1951
Ghery D. Pettit, UC Berkeley 1946	Roderick Williams, Washington 1961

## CHAPTER ETERNAL & MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The following individuals are deceased brothers who have generously donated to the Foundation throughout their lifetime. We honor their contributions by sponsoring a Foundation Scholarship with their name.

Bart A. Barre, University of Pennsylvania 1959	J. Karlem Riess, Tulane 1933
Charles Fazio, Ohio State 1949	Stuart M. Schram, Purdue 1937
Herbert F. Harvey, MIT 1942	Carroll K. Simons, Illinois Tech 1932
Arthur M. Jens, Illinois Tech 1904	David C. Spraker, Wisconsin 1951
Ghery D. Pettit, UC Berkeley 1946	Roderick M. Williams, Washington 1961

## 2018-2019 FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

For the 2018-2019 academic year, the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation awarded over \$88,000 to our undergraduate brothers.

Initiated undergraduate brothers were eligible to apply for two types of scholarships with the awards being distributed based on the following methodology:

### Need-Based Scholarships:

- ▶ 50% Financial Need
- ▶ 50% Scholastic Achievement

### Participation-Based Scholarships:

- ▶ 50% Chapter/Campus/Community Involvement
- ▶ 50% Scholastic Achievement

Scholarship Applications are available on February 15th and are due by May 1st of each year. For more information please go to [pks.org/scholarships.php](http://pks.org/scholarships.php) or email [staff@pks.org](mailto:staff@pks.org).

<i>J. Karlem Riess Scholarship:</i> Spencer Silveus, Alabama 2019	<i>Louis E. Stricker Scholarship:</i> Kyle Banashefski, Penn State 2020
<i>Edward L. Flom Scholarship:</i> James Cochell, Georgia Tech 2019	<i>R. Philip Petrowski Scholarship:</i> Jake Myatt, Wisconsin 2020
<i>Ghery D. Pettit Scholarship:</i> Dakotah Bowman, Indiana University 2020	Nicholas McDonald, Clarkson 2020
<i>Carroll K. Simons Scholarship:</i> William Loster, IIT 2020	Thomas Rougeux, Clarkson 2019
<i>Herbert F. Harvey Scholarship:</i> Ignacio Ortega Castineiras, MIT 2020	Noah LaRussa-Trott, Clarkson 2020
<i>David B. du Pont Scholarship:</i> Kurt Calabretta, Georgia Tech 2020	<i>Douglas W. Opicka Scholarship:</i> Matthew Flavin, IIT 2019
<i>Roderick M. Williams Scholarship:</i> Yuvraj Malhotra, Purdue 2021	Connor Schoepel, Carthage 2019
<i>John A. Murray Scholarship:</i> Amir Abdelnaby, South Alabama 2020	Joshua Richbart, Clarkson 2021
<i>Allan M. Cameron Jr. Scholarship:</i> Stuart Ferguson, Penn State 2020	Abhishek Anand, Franklin & Marshall 2019
<i>Lt. Col. Rick Correz Scholarship:</i> Panagiotis Zymaris, UMASS-Lowell 2020	Joshua Johnen, South Carolina 2021
	Nathaniel Payonk, Indiana 2019
	Jordan Nyman, Alabama 2019
	Brandon Mullins, Michigan State 2020
	<i>Norman R. Lindskog Scholarship:</i> Paolo Ratti Tamayo, IIT 2019
	Michael Huff, Carthage 2019
	Yang Tu, Princeton 2020
	Justin Scavone, Alabama 2020

# Roll of Donors

## Diamond Skull Club (\$2,500+)

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Purdue 1958

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Christopher  
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South Carolina  
1989

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South Alabama 1973

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Illinois 1957

David E. Buchen  
Pennsylvania 1968

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IIT 1966

John W. Campbell  
West Virginia 1964

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1953

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South Carolina  
1966

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Towson 1977

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Cornell 1958

William Dunn  
UCLA 1983

Richard W. Elliott  
Pennsylvania 1957

Douglas W. Ewell  
Virginia Tech 1980

Edward L. Flom  
IIT 1954

David W. Gates  
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Alabama 1989

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Purdue 1949

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New Hampshire  
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Robert S. Okleshen  
Tulane 1973

Michael William  
Palladino  
Georgia Tech 2003

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West Virginia 1962

Alan C. Pease  
Maine 1952

Ethan M. Pierick  
Wisconsin 2012

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Reiersen  
UCLA

Carl W. Riffle  
Maryland 1961

David P. Rose  
Kenyon 1981

William G. Rosing  
Illinois 1961

Herman L. Rundle  
UCLA 1958

David W. Schrimp  
Cal-Berkeley 1967

Kenneth Jay Shaw  
SW Texas 1988

Gary Arthur Spivack  
Randolph-Macon  
1972

Robert D. Starr  
Georgia Tech 1963

Thomas C.  
Stavredes  
Richmond 1959

Joseph J. Stramich  
IIT 1982

John Sturdivant  
South Alabama  
1970

Charles David  
Swope  
Ohio 1967

Thomas N. Thrasher  
UCLA 1990

Khiem Tran  
Virginia  
Commonwealth  
2014

William D. Vaughan  
Drury 1974

Dennis Walter  
Illinois 1992

John S. Wells  
Kenyon 1961

Banks Philpott  
Wilson  
UNC-Charlotte  
2002

## Executive Director of Development



Phi Kaps and friends,

I am honored to serve as Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation's new Executive Director of Development. Ever since my graduation from the Beta Psi Chapter at Washington State University in 2009, I have been involved as a volunteer with our organization at the local and national levels, as well as a Foundation Board Member.

During that time, I held many roles in the entertainment industry. I did everything from working as an actor's executive assistant and as the assistant to the president of a talent agency, running a celebrity-driven comedy podcast network, working on two seasons of Nickelodeon's Power Rangers, and performing stand-up comedy at clubs all over Los Angeles. Desiring to do something that made more of a difference, I went back to school for a master's degree at Georgetown University, while working in their athletics department. I then worked in the athletics departments at UC Riverside and UC Berkeley. I am confident that these experiences have prepared me to take on my role in the Foundation.

In my new role, it's my responsibility to encourage and support our brotherhood in creating an active alumni network. There are many alumni who have remained engaged since their graduation through event attendance, volunteering, and by donations to the Foundation. To those men, THANK YOU! Our organization would not be where it is today without your support!

For those who want a chance to become more involved, I will be hosting a regional alumni event each month. If you see a post or receive an invitation to attend one of these events, please make a point to attend or encourage others to do so. At the end of the day, we are brothers. My main objective is for us to get together, bond, and grow as brothers. What better way to get involved than with some free food and drinks?!?! I am also personally reaching out to as many alumni as I can to set up meetings and learn about their Phi Kappa Sigma experience, so don't be surprised if you see my name pop-up in your email!

Now, more than ever, your support is vital to the continued growth of our organization. Just as this magazine is made possible through the hard work of our Headquarters staff, the sustained success of our organization is only possible with the support of brothers like you.

If you would like to suggest a place to host a regional event, have any questions about how to get involved, or how you can make a gift to support our fraternity, the Foundation, and ultimately our undergraduate brothers, please contact me at [dheiss@pks.org](mailto:dheiss@pks.org). I look forward to meeting as many of you as possible, ensuring that our organization will forever remain *Stellis Aequus Durando*.

Daniel Heiss, Washington State '09  
**Executive Director of Development**

## Roll of Donors *continued*

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| Brian G. Wittenkeller<br>Illinois 1960           | Robert E. Freeman,<br>South Carolina<br>1958                  | Alex James Prokos<br>UNC-Charlotte<br>2008   |
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| David E. Carmack<br>Richmond 1959                | John F McClelland<br>Dickinson 1964                           | G. Douglas<br>Whitaker<br>Ohio 1964          |
| Bob A. Crouch<br>North Texas 1958                | Sully Wade Moore<br>UCLA 1987                                 | John White<br>UC-Riverside 1989              |
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| Mike A. DeFilippo<br>Radford 1990                | Thomas J. Neff<br>Illinois 1964                               |  |
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| William J. Ellerman<br>Purdue 1947               |   |  |
| Fred T Erskine<br>Washington &<br>Jefferson 1964 |   |  |

*Due to the transition into our new database, not all of last year's gift records have been successfully inputted, we apologize for the inconvenience. If your gift donation is not showing up, please contact the Foundation's Executive Director of Development Daniel Heiss at [dheiss@pks.org](mailto:dheiss@pks.org)*

## To the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation:

Thank you so much for your generosity in giving to the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation Scholarship! I am so honored to be able to have been given such a prestigious and highly regarded award. Each year I apply to as many scholarships as I can. This money makes it possible for me to attend Clarkson University by helping my family and I afford tuition each and every year. I am so lucky to have been given all of these opportunities to help me pursue my higher education, become a productive member of society, and advance my career to its full potential. I am involved in numerous on-campus clubs, achieved my goal of getting on the President's List (3.8 GPA), and I seek to maintain my current academic success. Therefore, I am so proud to announce that I have already secured an internship for the summer of 2019! My college career at Clarkson University would not be possible without the generosity of those like yourself who give back to students in need so that they can fulfill their full potential in college,



who will one day give back to others. It means so much to be awarded the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation Scholarship, a symbol of wisdom, responsibility, passion, motivation, and academic success. Thank you.

Noah LaRussa-Trott, Clarkson '20



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# Chapter Eternal

*We offer this loving prayer for all Phi Kappa Sigma Brothers who have entered the Chapter Eternal:*

“Thanks and praise be rendered now and forevermore to Thee, dear Lord, for having so graciously blessed our Fraternity Brother now fallen asleep. We trust Thee to re-unite the soul with the body in heavenly brightness on the Last Day. Lord, may You grant unto us a godly walk and peaceful departure at Your appointed time. Restore, O Lord, all distressed hearts with sweet comfort and keep us all perpetually in Thy grace for the sake of Thy eternal mercy and goodness. Amen.”

## **Adrian (Beta Nu)**

John Remick 1986

## **Alabama (Alpha Kappa)**

James D. Brooks 1961  
Dennis L. Waites 1963  
John P. Beasley 1989  
Robert R. Brauer 1988

## **Cal-Berkeley (Alpha Lambda)**

Ted Cotter 1978  
Richard F. Perata 1951

## **Carthage (Gamma Gamma)**

William G. Del Marto 2004  
Kevin R. Rehfeldt 1986

## **Cornell (Alpha Rho)**

Albert L. Hodge 1953  
Arthur Behrer Jr. 1948  
James M. Lillis 1963  
William G. Horton

## **Denver (Beta Gamma)**

Kenneth M. Robbins 1993  
Michael L. Naughton 1979  
Theodore N. Tautz 1958

## **Dickinson (Epsilon)**

John D. McLatchy 1983  
John A. Heppenstall 1961  
Raymond C. Grandon 1942

## **Duke (Nu)**

John C. Jurew 1955

## **Drexel (Gamma Beta)**

Victor Kuryanny 1996

## **Drury (Beta Kappa)**

Stephen H. Schnieders 1969

## **Franklin & Marshall (Zeta)**

Victor A. Bressler 1947  
Walter T. Andersen 1943

## **Illinois (Rho)**

Thomas B. Sleeman 1961

## **Iowa (Alpha Phi)**

George E. Davis 1953  
Kevin R. Alter 1990  
Vern E. Halverson 1952

## **Kansas (Beta Beta)**

Thomas J. Trotter 1961

## **Kenyon (Theta)**

Philip E. Bently 1955  
Michael Drozd 1984

## **Maine (Alpha Delta)**

Richard T. Secord 1957

## **Maryland (Alpha Zeta)**

Joseph W. Janssens 1958

## **MIT (Alpha Mu)**

Frederic R. Morgenthaler 1955

## **Northern Illinois (Beta Lambda)**

Rocky Markijohn

## **North Texas (Beta Eta)**

Alvin “Al” E. Miller 1964  
Donald “Don” C.  
Hufstедler 1964  
Robert J. Allen 1955

## **Northwestern (Upsilon)**

William F. Ginn 1945

## **Ohio (Beta Zeta)**

Thomas M. Shaw 1972

## **Ohio State (Alpha Chi)**

Robert L. Fireoved 1944

## **Oklahoma (Omicron)**

Floyd E. Suder 1943

## **Oregon (Beta Alpha)**

Jerry M. Burge 1953

## **Oregon State (Beta Epsilon)**

Wesley E. Harrison 1963

## **Pennsylvania (Alpha)**

David W. Guthrie 1951  
Jay C. Sands 1948  
Ronald K. Campbell 1972

## **Penn. State (Psi)**

Paul F. Corbiere 1949  
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William L. Schaal 1958  
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## **Purdue (Alpha Xi)**

Lawrence G. Weston 1948

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Charles M. Hatcher 1949

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James R. Sipe 1953

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## **Virginia (Eta)**

William M. Camp 1950

## **Virginia Tech**

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Howard M. Mulder 1940  
Kent W. Nelson 1953  
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Francis J. Langer 1958  
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## **Vanderbilt**

### **(Alpha Iota)**

William D. Bushong 1948  
James P. Powell 1950  
Edward M. Cheatham 1953

## **Washington & Lee**

### **(Alpha Alpha)**

Daniel D. Dickenson 1954

## **Washington State**

### **(Beta Psi)**

Douglas R. Ingram 1985 ✦

*Note: We can publish only the names of those members now deceased about whom we have been made aware. We apologize for any members whose names we have missed.*



*Above: Our Gamma Gamma Chapter at Carthage College proudly parading Phi Kappa Sigma on campus.*



# Chapter News

## ALABAMA

Our most significant achievements came in philanthropic pursuits. In the Spring we raised \$4,950 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and collected several hundred DNA swabs for DKMS to help fight blood cancer.

## CARTHAGE

Gamma Gamma chapter helped organize and run two philanthropy events. DKMS was brought to our campus and we had a great turnout of potential donors. Heels for Hope, an event to support Courage MKE, entertained our campus with professional, and student, drag queens. All donations went to Courage MKE to help homeless LGBT youth in need.

## CALIFORNIA-RIVERSIDE

We are currently in the works of establishing the Alumni Chapter for Beta Rho. However, it is completely pushed by the alumni base and we need volunteers to

have the executive cabinet set-up before they can establish this.

## CLARKSON

Beta Chi chapter took massive strides with improving our recruitment, doubling the number of guys we had over the year. We won the runner up for the largest percentage growth award at Grand Chapter.

## FRANKLIN & MARSHALL

Our brother Jose "Andy" Marquez is a very dedicated environmental activist. Andy takes any opportunity to learn more about the work done by ecology, going so far as to spending his college breaks in Yellowstone National Park to study the behavior of large predators, such as wolves.

## GEORGE MASON

The Gamma Xi Chapter brought in 17 new members in 2018. We also raised over \$2,000 for our national philanthropy, LLS. Collectively, our chapter dedicated nearly 200 hours to

volunteer work within the Fall semester of 2018. Our Social Media Chair has also revamped our social media presence and created a Rush Video that was seen by almost 1,000 people throughout the campus.

## GEORGIA TECH

Out of 30 other fraternities, our chapter achieved the 10th highest GPA on campus. Last spring, we hosted the first of our newly annual spring alumni gala. Finally, many of our members took advantage of the ambassador program and attended last year's Grand Chapter.

## IIT

Our chapter recently initiated 15 new brothers. Additionally, some of our newer/younger members are taking on more responsibility within the chapter, as our exec board mostly consists of underclassmen. Finally, each member achieved a minimum of 12 community service hours last semester.

## INDIANA

Delta Pi is a chapter of about 80 brothers that has a strong brotherhood and holds the values of Phi Kappa Sigma highly.

## KENYON

We held a fundraiser for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in the Spring which raised more than our initial charity goal. We also won awards at Kenyon for the highest-on-campus fraternity GPA as well as winning the national award for highest academic achieving chapter of Phi Kaps.

## MAINE

We recently recruited 11 new members, as well as 16 new members during the previous spring semester.

## MARYLAND-BALTIMORE

We raised over \$1,000 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society and initiated a strong 12 members this past semester.



Above: The brothers of Delta Gamma chapter with their previous educational consultant, Christian Springer.

# A Common Vision

## Rowan brothers experience early success

One of the brightest highlights for the Delta Gamma chapter here at Rowan University came this past summer at Grand Chapter when we were presented with first place for the Outstanding Chapter Award, Chapter Newsletter Award, and second place for the Community Service Award. To say it is an honor to have our chapter's achievements recognized by the brotherhood is an understatement; being chartered for barely over a year, we take pride in receiving such dignified honor. Receiving these awards prompted us to reflect back on all the work we put in to reach this point.

Starting a chapter from scratch is always a difficult process. Doing so at Rowan University was especially difficult, there being only 16 IFC fraternities on campus, including ours. Creating our chapter challenged all of us to stand-out amongst all of the other fraternities on campus. We heavily involved ourselves in philanthropy/community service opportunities, engaging in university-sponsored events such as Rowan's Dance Marathon and Relay for Life, all in addition to Greek-life events from talent shows to sorority hosted pageants. Our involvement played a vital role in growing Phi Kappa Sigma's reputation at the university, while building our chapter's reputation of containing a dedicated and reliable group of men. From high-quality recruitment classes, to hard-working individuals, our organization strives to be all we can be.

Without the contributions of all of our brothers, we never could have harnessed all the needed attributes in order to be recognized by our Fraternity on an international level.

If there is any advice we could give to other chapters striving to achieve similar goals, it'd be for them to truly embrace the concept of brotherhood, and to live by our motto as "men of honor." Our chapter may have set some lofty goals, but accomplished them due to the joint effort of all our brothers working together towards the same vision, holding ourselves accountable to the standards set by our fraternity's core values.

## MIT

Within the previous year, we have grown close to 25-percent in active members and have begun to place a greater emphasis on brotherhood bonding events, such as more class outings and bro-dates. We are in search of alumni hoping to impart some wisdom unto our current active members.

## McDANIEL

This year, our chapter enjoyed our first full semester back on campus as a fully re-chartered chapter. After being unchartered for the past two-and-a-half years, our chapter came back stronger than ever. We are excited to inform our alumni that we have grown above the recommended 20-percent of new brothers, as we have welcomed seven more brothers during this past semester.

## MICHIGAN STATE

We managed to secure a solid financial situation from the brink of financial collapse. We got two larger-than-average pledge classes, and anticipate that we will be entering the following semester with our highest numbers in years.

## NEW ORLEANS

Our chapter currently has 18 active members, with two members who are currently in transfer programs.

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS

From Fall 2018 – Spring 2019, we rushed a total of 11 new members. We are continuously building a relationship with our alumni and hosted our annual alumni board meeting back in March.

## OKLAHOMA STATE

Epsilon Beta became an official chartered chapter amongst the others of Phi Kappa Sigma, since its founding as a colony on April 14th, 2016. On September 28th, 2018 our colony became Epsilon Beta, and a new chapter for Phi Kappa Sigma.

## PENN. STATE

We had a great time participating in the homecoming parade and building a float with the Student Nursing Association of Pennsylvania (SNAP). We also had a very successful semester raising money for Thon and enjoyed supporting the individuals who participated, including one of our very own brothers, who danced for 46 hours straight to raise money for cancer research.

## PRINCETON

Our chapter initiated nine new members, securing the future of our chapter. We also raised \$1500 for Leukemia and Lymphoma research through our annual Pie-A-Guy charity event. We were also once again, ranked as the top Phi Kappa Sigma Chapter in regards to Scholarship excellence.

## PURDUE

This past Fall we recruited 10 members, which is equivalent to the number of in-house brothers. During Spring rush we recruited another 14 members to our roster. This brought our total active member count to over 30 people, and we are looking forward to next year for even more.



Above: Delta Sigma Brothers of Maryland-Baltimore County holding \$125,000 of the \$1,000 they raised for LLS.



Above: Our Beta Psi Brothers at Washington State are proud to announce that they have a 130 active member class.

#### **RADFORD**

Beta Omega chapter has focused on internal functionality and external standing through improved philanthropy efforts. We held two philanthropy weeks, with each week raising over \$2000 for fellow Radford Highlanders, who were diagnosed with some form of L.L.S. For the internal efforts, all officers worked directly with our national staff to improve upon their current roles and overall goals for our chapter. We are actively working to improve and grow our great chapter!

#### **RAMAPO**

This year our chapter has raised over \$2000 for various causes such as suicide awareness, Leukemia Awareness, Breast Cancer, and more. We have also grown so much as a chapter and have increased our GPA by a good margin.

#### **RANDOLPH-MACON**

This past fall semester, Tau Chapter lead a recruitment drive that initiated 5 members. This brought our active Brother count to 11 this Spring semester.

#### **ROWAN**

This year our chapter received an outstanding chapter award. This isn't just our biggest accomplishment this year, but our biggest accomplishment to date.

#### **SOUTH ALABAMA**

The executive board has revitalized a committee system to improve accountability and task delegation.

Our chapter is attempting to strengthen our bonds with estranged alumni members, and would love any brother in Mobile, Alabama, to visit the house and connect.

#### **SOUTH CAROLINA**

We raised \$10,000 for "Light the Night," which benefits the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

#### **TARLETON**

Epsilon Alpha chapter of Phi Kappa Sigma undoubtedly flourished within Tarleton State University. From philanthropy, to brotherhood, to campus involvement, we did it all. This

past year we held our second Miss Phi Kap pageant for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. We also hosted our very first SkullsWeek, raising roughly \$1,400 for LLS.

#### **TCU**

Even though we started the year as a colony, we were able to initiate 46 new members. We have built a strong relationship with TCU's IFC and are continuing to strengthen that relationship. We were granted an award from The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as the top Greek team in Texas. This all culminated into our re-chartering and initiation of 88 new active members.

#### **TEXAS STATE**

We had the opportunity to become founding fathers at Texas State University and to improve the perception of Phi Kappa Sigma and fraternity life as a whole.

#### **TULANE**

This year, we contacted alumni from our chapter in order to obtain updated contact information so that we may improve our

communication when planning future alumni events. We also initiated a fall class, held a successful alumni event in November, and inducted 20 new members.

#### **UT-AUSTIN**

Our chapter has been making great strides this year. From successful (and profitable) social events to lucrative philanthropy events; the chapter is achieving high standards. We have several active members taking steps to prepare for their careers by taking on internships and receiving certifications. Jacob Rey, the chapter's Alpha, is currently working as an intern for congressional representative Kyle Biedermann. Austin Schultz, the chapter's Beta, became EMT-basic certified. Diego Salazar, the chapter's Chi, is working as the head policy intern for the Texas House of Representatives Criminal Jurisprudence Committee. These are just a few of the accomplishments that the men of Phi Kappa Sigma have accomplished recently.



Above: Our Brothers at NIU's Beta Lambda Chapter.

#### TORONTO

We increased our chapter size by over 30 percent.

#### UCLA

The Alpha Psi chapter of Phi Kappa Sigma further dedicated its efforts to philanthropy. In the fall quarter, we coordinated a Bob Ross themed painting philanthropy, benefiting the Leukemia Lymphoma Society (LLS). For the Bob Ross painting philanthropy, the Alpha Psi chapter partnered with the sorority Phi Sigma Rho. This philanthropy united the greek community at UCLA, as we garnered support from members of multiple organizations. In 2018, we were awarded the Greek Community Impact Award for hosting multiple sexual assault workshops. We pride ourselves on helping those around us.

#### UMASS-LOWELL

Last spring our university selected us for Outstanding Community Service by a Group for our fall 2017 Cardboard City. Our school also hosts an Up Til Dawn event for St. Jude Children's Hospital and our fundraising team took 7th place, raising a total of \$1,910.

#### URSINUS

Every semester we hold our bike-a-thon event, where the brothers at Delta Rho ride one bike for 24 hours. Each brother switches-off every hour, raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. In total, we raised \$594, which is nearly double the amount we usually raise.

#### WASHINGTON

Our chapter this past year earned grades significantly higher than we had in the past. While we may have taken a dip this past fall quarter, we have continued to excel at a higher rate compared to previous years.

#### WASHINGTON STATE

This year, we have reached a roster of nearly 130 members. We are incredibly proud to be one of the largest fraternities on campus, in addition to instilling the values of Phi Kappa Sigma among a large group of men. In addition, our Instagram page is constantly updated, allowing our 600 followers to see our community achievements and bios of highlighted Phi Kaps. We also have a new webpage: [www.phikappasigmawsu.org](http://www.phikappasigmawsu.org). Our newsletters, PKS history, and membership portal are all located on this site. ✦

# Alumni Chapters, Associations

#### SOUTH ALABAMA ALUMNI CHAPTER

Last year, our alumni chapter hosted three Alumni social events, with an average of at least 20 attendees at each one. We also helped provide funding, materials and guidance to our South Alabama chapter in building a storage shed.

#### DELTA RHO ALUMNI CHAPTER

Over the past year, we have mentored our undergraduate chapter on operations and leadership. Additionally, we have organized and executed several networking events for alumni and active members alike. We have conducted several fundraising campaigns to build and distribute funds for undergraduate scholarships; most notably, we recently sent an additional five members to Men of Honor this year.

#### BADGER SKULL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Last year, we celebrated the ten year anniversary of the Alpha Theta chapter's re-chartering. We also took a ski trip with our chapter brothers last year, and even flew to Texas to visit one of our alumni. Finally, we celebrated the ten year anniversary of our alumni chapter's founding.

#### SKULLUMNI

Skullumni has had a great year, with just under one hundred dues-paying members, we were able to send three members to Grand Chapter 2018, as well as three active members to Men Of Honor. We also had the privilege to join our Alpha Delta Chapter undergrads, as well as five alumni, at the 99th Grand Chapter in New Orleans. We also had one alumnus receive the honor of being on the National Fraternities Financial Audit Committee. Skullumni also honored brother Mitch Sturgeon '86, by selecting him as the alumnus of the year for his courageous battle with MS, in addition to his success as a writer. We also hosted our first ever "Grumpstock," bringing together brothers from classes ranging between 1991 to 2009 to honor Brother Randy "Grumpy" King '98, in his battle against colon cancer.



Above: Our now chartered Epsilon Beta Brothers at Oklahoma State University.



istock/DNY59



# Returning to Berkeley

Phi Kappa Sigma officially re-colonizes Berkeley after a 30-year hiatus.

**EARLY INTO THE SPRING SEMESTER**, James Coffman, Director of Growth & Engagement, and Seagull LLC Contractor Connor Skaggs met in Oakland to begin the long-awaited expansion initiative to reopen the chapter at UC Berkeley. Alpha Lambda Chapter, originally founded in 1903, boasts many impressive alumni, including Rob Solomon, CEO of GoFundMe; Cal football player Don Sanguinetti; and Past Grand Alpha Ghery Pettit. After the Chapter closed nearly 30 years ago, Phi Kappa Sigma has been determined on re-colonizing Alpha Lambda.

It is with tremendous excitement that we can proudly say our expansion project at UC-Berkeley was a success, with Alpha Lambda being recolonized with 13 founding fathers. At the time of this publication, Alpha Lambda is proactively working toward receiving their charter in the very near future.

“Phi Kappa Sigma has turned into a fantastic opportunity for a diverse group of Berkeley students to come together and create their own legacy

on campus” said Andrew Cullen, the Colony’s Alpha.

“I’m so excited to be a part of Alpha Lambda” said Alpha Lambda’s Academic Chairman Patrick Pan, echoing his brother’s excitement. “The outcry of support we’ve gotten from headquarters, the university, and other Phi Kaps in the area has been an amazing source of support for what we’re trying to do here.”

**The Bay Area boasts one of the densest populations of Phi Kap alumni, both from Alpha Lambda Chapter and elsewhere around the country.**

Patrick’s right. The Bay Area boasts one of the densest populations of Phi Kap alumni, both from Alpha Lambda Chapter and elsewhere around the

country. In fact, headquarters is proud to report that not only are there enough engaged alumni supporting the recolonization to form a full alumni advisory board, but that a local housing corporation already in place all-but-ensures that whenever the new colony members need help, whether it’s just starting out or leading up to chartering, they have access to reliable resources.

“Honestly, I wish all our chapters had this much support at their disposal,” said Connor Skaggs.

Alpha Lambda officially recolonized on on March 16 with 13 members. If all goes well, the colony anticipates they will be able to submit a final petition to charter to the Executive Board by midterms of next fall, following what is sure to be a successful fall recruitment. ❖

*To learn more about becoming a Phi Kappa Sigma expansion consultant, or to refer a potential member, email us at [staff@pks.org](mailto:staff@pks.org).*



# Expansion & Growth



Brothers,

My name is James Coffman (North Texas '15) and I am Phi Kappa Sigma's new Director of Growth and Engagement. Having been on staff since the summer

of 2016, Mark Logsdon, previous Director and fellow Beta Eta chapter alumni, recruited and vouched for me as one of our fraternity's expansion consultants. Since the first day I received the position, I've taken great pride in my work, trying to support our fraternity in any way that I am able. I understand the responsibility of my position, of the big shoes Mark has left for me to fill. However, through my various avenues of experiences, I am confident in my ability to serve as your Director of Growth and Engagement and am excited to share with you the many different ways staff and myself plan on ensuring our expansion and recruitment efforts.

Phi Kappa Sigma is constantly opening chapters new and old nearly every semester. Headquarters' talented expansion team is currently working towards building an on-campus presence that may serve as an environment where meaningful experiences, both fraternal and collegiate, can be had. Therefore, my mindset is that we need to expand our operations to universities where we know we'll be successful. This means expanding to communities where there are engaged pockets of PKS alumni, good rapport with the university, as well as an interest group's support if there is already one in place.

Last semester, we focused our resources on reopening the Alpha Lambda Chapter at

UC Berkeley. However, Over the next several years, Phi Kappa Sigma plans on expanding to at least two more schools, and (hopefully) many more. If we were able to offer more support, we could grow the entire fraternity as a whole.

During our expansion team's chapter visits, we've come to the realization that we need to provide our chapters with more effective and reliable resources when it comes to their recruitment needs. With this in mind, we are excited to pursue Phi Kappa Sigma's enhanced recruitment model, which we rolled-out this past year while working with our Alpha Xi chapter at Purdue University. This model was led by Andrew Amaya-Shaw, one of newest educational consultants who joined staff in the past year. This model has staff members on campus for an extended amount of time, focusing solely on recruitment training. We've been exploring various possibilities on how we can build upon the foundation of this enhanced recruitment model in a way that will best serve our chapters.

During the first few weeks of each semester, all of our consultants will be on the road, introducing our enhanced recruitment model with chapters that are in need of it most. Our staff will visit chapters that we've scheduled for the current calendar year. If your chapter is interested in learning more about this model, but is not on the priority list, let us know and we will try to fit your chapter into our schedule as best as we can. If there are alumni associations or chapters that would be able/willing to help fund our recruitment efforts, we are more than happy to find a way to schedule additional chapter visits within our calendar and budget.

Overall, the responsibility of staff and myself is to fulfill Phi Kappa Sigma's vision

## Growth & Expansion

We are committed to opening new chapters all over North America and ensuring our existing colonies have what they need to be successful.

### New Chapters Installed:

**Texas Christian  
Oklahoma State**

### Current Colonies:

**California-Berkeley,**  
*Projected Chartering Fall 2019*

**Texas State,**  
*Projected Chartering Fall 2019*

### Enhanced Recruitment Chapters:

**Purdue**

Here's what you can do to help!

- ▶ **DONATE** to the Phi Kappa Sigma Foundation (gifts of \$100 or more may be directed toward the objective of your choice).
- ▶ Fill out a **VOLUNTEER** application at [PKS.org](http://PKS.org) or by emailing [expansion@pks.org](mailto:expansion@pks.org) or by calling Headquarters at (463) 200-5200.
- ▶ Direct any potential Phi Kaps to [BecomeAPhiKap.org](http://BecomeAPhiKap.org), and **REFER** them to our office.

The steady growth of our organization is crucial to ensuring our success for generations to come. We cannot do it without you.

Thank you for your continued support.

of lifelong growth and development. In order to fulfill this vision, we must bring the ΦΚΣ Experience to a larger number of undergraduate students across the country, and we encourage you to get involved with the Phi Kappa Sigma expansion initiative at your local university. Whether it's a chapter restart, an interest group, or simply visiting a university in your area, please contact the expansion committee at [expansion@pks.org](mailto:expansion@pks.org) to find out how you can get involved! 🦋

*If you would like to get involved with local expansion efforts, please contact headquarters at [expansion@pks.org](mailto:expansion@pks.org). It is only with alumni support that we are able to continue to open successful chapters across the U.S.*

# New [www.pks.org](http://www.pks.org)!

Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity is proud to present our brand-new website!

- ▶ Completely re-designed and re-imagined in every visible way
- ▶ Dynamic and responsive for mobile and tablet devices
- ▶ More user-friendly
- ▶ More organized
- ▶ Easier to navigate

Don't just take our word for it, check it out today!



## Brotherhood doesn't end after graduation.

**28 Regional Alumni Associations Now Being Created!**

The Fraternity and Foundation are now in the process of forming 28 Regional Alumni Associations. Their creation will rely on alumni to organize and host events that local alumni will enjoy participating.

### Why should I attend?

- ▶ Reconnect with brothers
- ▶ Create new friendships
- ▶ Develop social network
- ▶ Renew your brotherhood experience

### GET INVOLVED!

If you are interested in assisting in organizing or hosting an event in or around your hometown please contact the Alumni Committee at [alumnicomm@pks.org](mailto:alumnicomm@pks.org) or contact one of our Assistant Grand Sigmas.

For more information, visit [www.pks.org/alumni-associations.php](http://www.pks.org/alumni-associations.php)





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# ONCE A PHI KAP Always a Phi Kap



Since the first day we all decided to become Phi Kaps, this motto has been engrained into our minds. We tell folks that being a brother is for life and not just the four years we are in college.

Phi Kappa Sigma is deeply committed to this ideal and we are looking to improve our alumni relations and provide more value to our alumni members. At the 2014 Grand Chapter in Nashville, **an Alumni Relations Committee was formed to explore how we can better support our Alumni from a national perspective.**

If you would like to provide feedback or suggestions on how we can improve your experience, please feel free to contact the committee via email at [staff@pks.org](mailto:staff@pks.org).

**GET IN TOUCH. STAY IN TOUCH.**



**Send us Your Email!**  
[staff@pks.org](mailto:staff@pks.org)

Stay up-to-date on Phi Kappa Sigma news and receive invitations to exclusive alumni events.



**Follow us on Instagram!**  
[phikappasigmahq](https://www.instagram.com/phikappasigmahq)

If you're curious about all of the great things our active members are up to, our Instagram page is a great tool to stay informed on all things related to our undergraduate chapters.



**Become a Follower!**  
[facebook.com/phikap](https://www.facebook.com/phikap)

When it comes to Phi Kappa Sigma events and general updates, our Facebook page is a great resource to stay updated on all of the changes happening in our organization.



**Join Our Group!**  
**Search: Phi Kappa Sigma International Fraternity**

Whether you are searching for a job, looking to hire, or wish to discuss industry issues, the Phi Kap LinkedIn Group is a great tool.