



# Quaker Sig

Philadelphia, Pa.

December 2003

2003-2004

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## Chapter

# Report

By Allan Haldeman '04

## Alumni Returned for Homecoming

As has become customary at the Phi Phi house, we again hosted our alumni for Homecoming Weekend 2003. Beginning with a brunch on Saturday morning and followed by the Penn/Princeton football game (the Quakers, of course, emerged victorious yet again) and culminating in a cocktail hour on Saturday evening, this year's event was another success.

Alumni from more than four decades of Phi Phi came back to the chapter house to celebrate, meet the new and current brothers, and see old friends. In accordance with tradition, young alumni members were back in good numbers, as representatives from the classes of '99, '00, '01 and especially '02 returned to 3809 Locust Walk. Strong contingents of alumni from the '80s, '70s and '60s were in attendance as well.

The newly formed alumni committee also had a chance to meet this fall. **James Allen '02**, current consul **Andy Little '04** and pro-consul **Sangeen Zeb '04** were able to meet along with **Jon Greenwalt '61** to discuss further initiatives toward making the Phi Phi Chapter the best that it can be and once again a Peterson Significant Chapter Awardee! ■

## The Big

# Apple

By Tom Valenti '00

## NYC Alumni Gatherings

On October 23, Phi Phi alumni met at the Penn Club in New York City for an informal night of cocktails and catching up. Though attendance was light, classes were represented from the 1960s to 2000. Of course, everyone was well fed from the cheesesteak buffet, courtesy of **Jerry Knorr '82**.

The idea of getting the alumni of the New York metropolitan area together has been floating around for a long time. The seemingly natural influx of Phi Phi alumni to the area has created a network that has largely been untapped for many years. October 23 was an initial attempt at trying to incorporate that network. This first meeting will hopefully form a springboard for future events.

The evening was publicized by a mass e-mailing and word of mouth. The next event will probably take place in the spring. Please make sure our alumni database includes an updated e-mail address for you so that you can be made aware of future dates. Send an e-mail to our alumni relations office at [news@2stayconnected.com](mailto:news@2stayconnected.com) to update your contact information and/or send a news update. ■



Brothers Roberto De Jesus Toro '40 and Joe Goodhue '39 met in Miami for the first time since graduation. Turn to Page 4 for more alumni news. (Photo submitted by Joe Goodhue.)

# Report

## The Sigma Chi Club of Philadelphia, Inc.

*Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes*

November 8, 2003

10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Phi Phi Chapter House  
3809 Locust Walk  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

### *Attendees:*

Mark Kocent '82, President  
Jon Greenawalt Jr. '91  
Mark Kramer '00  
Tom Valenti '00  
Ronald Woodmansee '82  
Andrew Little '03, Consul  
Sangeen Zeb '04, Pro-Consul

### *Discussion Items*

#### **1. Consul's Report on the State of the Chapter**

**Andy Little** gave a brief synopsis of the current state of affairs in the chapter. Brotherhood spirit and camaraderie are strong among the 45 brothers, 18 of whom are living in the house. The sophomores in the house this year have supplemented their work crews with visits from an outside cleaning service, supported by brothers' personal funds. The recently formed Alumni Advisory Board had a fall meeting with Chapter Adviser **Jamie Allen '02** and **Jon Greenawalt Sr. '61** in attendance. The formal rush period will take place in January, while potential candidates are being casually approached mainly via the teammates of fellow athlete-brothers. Some water damage has occurred to the chapter room floor due to a leak in the adjacent laundry room. Mark and OFSA will coordinate repair work by plumbing and wood-flooring contractors.

#### **2. Review of Neighbors Meeting**

A meeting, coordinated by OFSA and hosted by Hillel, took place in October with the goal of maintaining open lines of communication among new and old neighbors in the 38th Street and 39th Street area. Jeremy Brochin, director of Hillel, gave a tour of their recently completed facility and offered its use for meetings or events. Thus far, it appears that all neighbors have been responsive to each other's schedules and activities. Service access to Sigma Chi has been re-established via 39th Street and the new service drive north and east of Hillel. In accord with our university agreement, Sigma Chi has been utilizing its four parking permits to accommodate

the kitchen's operational needs and miscellaneous brotherhood deliveries. Ongoing efforts and communication are being made to discourage pedestrian traffic from Locust Walk via the volleyball court area to Hillel. It was suggested that Sigma Chi should offer to host the student leadership of Hillel for a dinner.

#### **3. Alumni Treasurer's Financial Report**

Prior to the meeting, board treasurer **Jerry Knorr '82** forwarded a thorough financial analysis and description of all alumni accounts. In brief, there are four separate accounts in which our revenues are held, each with unique funding streams and expense designations. The Phi Phi of Philadelphia account is our alumni dues account that primarily funds our annual communication program. Knorr has wisely invested the nominal annual net balance of this account into a \$51,000 reserve fund. Two accounts held by the university on our behalf provide a means for making tax-deductible contributions toward chapter house improvements. Generous contributions have been received from **Paul Kelly '62** and Sally and **Al Shoemaker '60**, in addition to 36 brothers who supported the **Eric Riester '91** memorial fund. These two accounts and their collective balance of \$257,000 represent the ongoing revenues available for our renovation plans. The final account is our OFSA-managed Capital Improvement Fund. This rent-supported fund, dependent on house occupancy, is our means of making annual repairs and physical improvements, such as the recent GreekNet wiring project installed this past summer. The current balance in the CIF is \$34,000. Expenses to date toward the renovation project total \$104,000 including costs for the feasibility study, the consul's bedroom demonstration project and the initial design phase documentation.

#### **4. Fund-raising Strategies for Renovation Project**

**Mark Kocent** presented a summary of the renovation plans and estimates of the probable costs as follows: \$1.0 million for interior renovations/restoration, \$0.5 million for exterior restoration and \$1.5 million for the proposed addition to include an accessible entrance, stair tower, new bathrooms and additional bedrooms. Our pooled resources outlined above yield about 10 percent of the \$3 million estimated total project cost.

Our active fund-raising campaign has been held in check as a more optimistic economic picture emerges. As positive economic trends continue, we are preparing to launch a full-fledged campaign. Toward that end, we discussed campaign strategies such as targeting key donors, seeking a substantial "challenge" gift, naming/recognition opportunities, recruiting class captains and an undergraduate role, possibly assisting in a phone-a-thon.

#### **5. New Business**

Two proposals were offered for consideration:

- The undergraduates are seeking board financial support for two permanent sound-system installations, one on the first floor of the house for background music at cocktail parties, the second for basement dance parties. In each case, the proposal asked for \$2,000 of alumni support to be added to \$500 from the undergraduates. After a lively debate of the pros and cons of both, the board dismissed the first-floor proposal as unnecessary, but regarding the basement agreed to provide a secure installation of any new audio equipment, to be purchased by the undergraduates.
- Mark presented a letter from OFSA that requests each Greek alumni chapter at Penn to contribute \$1,000 toward the university's Greek Scholarship Fund. The request has been made in response to a \$20,000 challenge grant from an anonymous donor, in an effort to raise the scholarship's fund above the \$100,000 endowment threshold. The board was favorably disposed to contribute, but asked that Mark first seek some additional information regarding the terms of scholarship granting and potential benefits to Sigma Chi undergraduates. (Mark noted the Phi Phi Chapter maintains a balance of \$13,000 in a Sigma Chi Foundation account that can be accessed by the board for educational/scholarship purposes.)

#### **6. Announcements**

Undergraduates were encouraged to submit a Phi Phi Chapter news article for the next Magazine of Sigma Chi. The next board of trustees meeting is planned for spring '04.

#### **7. Meeting Adjourned**

(Final score at Franklin Field: Penn Quakers 37, Princeton Tigers 7.) ■

# An Exemplary Brother

Jon Huntsman '59

The following excerpt is reprinted from the Spring 2002 issue of *The Magazine of Sigma Chi*.

Jon Huntsman: I was born and raised in a very small, rural Idaho community, where no one had any substantive money; we were all farming, and my father was a rural school teacher. So starting at age five, when I had my first income, I have always given 10% of my income to my church in the form of tithing. And that's just been an automatic part of my life. I've always felt a deep sense of commitment to my faith. As a result of that, even though my parents were not active in our faith, and did not pay a tithing, I always felt a deep sense of commitment to organizations and causes that I felt were worthwhile and true. And thus, my contributions started very, very early in life, even when I used to make 50 cents a day picking potatoes and putting them in gunny sacks, in the second, third and fourth grade, I'd always pay 5 cents at the end of the week.

So that evolved to the point where my father, at age 42, went to graduate school and became a student himself. And it was my job during my eighth and ninth grades to work after school for a few hours, and all day Saturday until late at night, to pay the family medical bills and automobile bills. So I thought every eighth and ninth grader had to work and give their money to their family, because my dad was a student. We lived in student housing, [which was] \$45 a month. So it was very important that I work and put what I make in the family pot. So once again, I found myself very happily doing something that in my opinion was only fair and right and was of great value to my family, and I didn't know that others of my age weren't all doing the same thing. It just seemed the natural thing to do. That was a great lesson for me.

When I got married as a Navy officer, I was making \$332 a month. I was out of college, married, and paying my tithing to my church — \$33 a month. But I felt it was really important during that first month I was married to give a \$50-a-month contribution to Navy families that were struggling — enlisted men, seamen, people who had two or three children and had a very meagre income.

So I would always take \$50 a month, and my wife didn't quite know where the money went; she didn't know until several years afterward when one of the families told her that it wasn't for her husband, they would've never made it through some of the difficult times

in their lives. And my wife went back and found out that the two previous years, the disappearing money had really been to help these families that probably were making what we were making, but to me, we were getting along just fine.

I was a pretty thrifty guy in my life, and we didn't always need very much to live on. So that kind of evolved into just generally giving whatever we had in our life, and as our businesses became more successful — my mother died young, of cancer; and my father died of cancer; and I had cancer twice — I began to give a lot, as soon as I could make enough to have a decent living and a middleclass living, everything over that, I would give to charitable organizations that I felt were very important.

I was about 30 years of age when my mother died. I began to really sink a lot of money into cancer and giving to the general causes that would help cancer; eventually, we founded the Huntsman Cancer Institute. I've given \$225 million to that cause, and another \$125 million to causes in under the general banner of eliminating human suffering. To me, the elimination of human suffering is a great goal in life.

We have given a great deal to universities — scholarships and things like that — but probably 80 percent of our total funding in life has been for the relief of human suffering. And I've found this is a great sense of joy and a great sense of honor. I have been criticized by my banks in the last year and a half, because of the recession and other problems that have affected our industry, and most manufacturing businesses; that I've given too much of our earnings away. We've given 100 percent of our corporate profits in the past 15 years — 100 percent of our profits have gone to charities and humanitarian sources, a total of \$350 million. And banks have been highly critical of me, particularly young bankers, guys in their 20s or 30s. I've told all of them that, 'We never know when we're going to be in the position to give. We'd better give when we're in a position to do it. If we wait until the end of our life, when we may or may not have anything left, we certainly have lost the joy of giving.' And I can't help what happens in our businesses, we run great companies around the world, and do \$8 billion in sales throughout the United States and 43 other countries. And my philosophy



is, 'When you're able to give, you give.' You don't question it; you don't think about the future; if you have a charitable heart and love your fellow man as we're taught to do, then you give when you have the opportunity and the funds, or the human volunteer service. There are a lot of ways to give, and volunteering is a very significant way, and assisting

in other ways, in projects, and then of course, charitable financial contributions. So the spirit of giving is a great sense of reward to oneself. I have a sign that I keep right behind my desk — I've used it for graduation speeches at different colleges — it's a motto I've tried to follow in my life, and it says, 'The greatest exercise for the human heart is to reach down and lift another person up.'

That's a motto that to me cuts across all religions, all ethnic groups and nationalities. We've never really cared — we've given huge amounts of money into India and into the former Soviet Union, into countries of the world where the religions and people are different [than mine], but they're all God's children.

And so I've always felt that one of the greatest attributes one can ever possess is to understand and feel and sense and live by the human spirit, where when you sense something needs help, you don't even think about it, you just react positively. You know, I've given millions of dollars away just when I've come upon a scene where people need money, or need help. Today, with the economy where it is, I'm not quite as able to do that as I have been the last 15 years. But over a lot of years, much of our money has gone to [specific] cases — homelessness has been a huge [one] for me; food kitchens and feeding the poor through St. Vincent De Paul programs. At one time we were the largest supporter in America of St. Vincent De Paul. It's sponsored by the Catholic Church, and I'm not Catholic, but they sent me over to meet with Pope John Paul II, and he puts his arms around me and hugs me and said, 'I just want you to know how much I love you. You're a gracious and charitable man.' And I said, 'Your Holiness, you're a gracious and charitable man.' I think things [moments] like that have been great times in my life — great instances of joy and happiness — when I've been able to put my arms around people of other faiths, and other religions, and other backgrounds, and we can talk about helping those in need. ■

# Alumni UpDates

## Davis G. Durham '36

(901 Mt. Lebanon Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803; durham45@comcast.net) Nothing new at age 89. I spend the winters in either St. Lucia, the West Indies or Costa Rica. I see my French girlfriend three or four times a year.

## Walter E. McGervey '46

(183 Los Cerros Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94598) During a routine physical exam, they discovered an abdominal aneurysm in April 2002. In June 2002 I had surgery to correct the situation and feel lucky the aneurysm did not burst. As my doctor phrased it, "It could be the third strike in the ninth inning."

## Porter R. Taylor '49

(1855 Evergreen Pt. Rd., Medina, WA 98039; porterleetaylor@msn.com) I have gotten a complete new knee this month. It is to replace a Sigma Chi interfraternity

injury in 1947 that was never repaired because the medical world did not know how to do it successfully at that time.

## James R. Shope '56

(7600 Merle Ridge, Baldwinsville, NY 13027-9435; jshore@usadatanet.net) After 36 years with Bache Prudential Securities, I retired on January 1, 2003.

## Alan R. Decker '68

(P.O. Box 98, Bay Head, NJ 08742-0098; esal13@aol.com) Still plugging away.

## Stanton C. Marcus '78

(1015 Gayley Ave., Ste. 1275, Los Angeles, CA 90024; stantonmar@aol.com) I had a chance to visit the house when I was in Philadelphia during May for my 25th reunion and was surprised to see a beach volleyball court where I used to park. I enjoyed talking to some of the current brothers who were around the house and was glad to see Sigma Chi doing so well.

## James R. Goodfield '84

(9 Hawthorne Pl., Apt. 17-M, Boston, MA 02114-2343; jimgoodfield@hotmail.com) Happy to report the arrival of Elizabeth Patton on July 28, 2003, to ensure that her big sister, Laura, is not getting all the "air time."

## N. Thatcher Scharpf '84

(PSC 78, Box T, APO, AE 09723; scharpfnt@state.gov) My wife, Donna, and I finished 10 months of Estonian language training in June 2003 in Washington, D.C., and we are heading over to Tallinn, Estonia, for three years with daughter, Nathalie (6), and son, Holden (4).

## John F. Weinkopf '84

(Rua Vinicius de Moraes, 221/401, Ipanema, RJ, Brazil 22411-010; jweinkopf@ig.com.br) I joined the Rio de Janeiro-based legal department of Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, the world's largest iron ore mining company. I am primarily responsible for international matters.

## Michael J. Bushman '90

(6 CityWalk, 29 Seward St., London, England EC1V 3RF; michael\_bushman@hotmail.com) Recently spent a week canoeing 110 miles through Montana with **Peter Bierden '90** and **Doug Campbell '91**, and then a week sailing the Mediterranean with **Brendan Kelly '91** and **Scotty Brion '92**, proving that friendships extend long past college days.

## Jon L. Greenawalt '91

(700 Old Marple Rd., Springfield, PA 19064; jgreenawalt@gapinter.com) My daughter, Allegra, is 2-and-a-half years old and son, Julian, is 1 year old.

## Jason S. Weisstein '91

(5006 48th Ave. N.E., Seattle, WA 98105; aqua1marine@yahoo.com) We are ecstatic over the birth of our new baby boy, Samuel Mason Weisstein, born April 18, 2003.

## Donald A. McComas '97

(226 W. Rittenhouse Sq., #818, Philadelphia, PA 19103-5742; dmccomas@wharton.upenn.edu) Back at Penn to get my MBA.

## Jon L. Jachman '99

(235 W. 48th St., Apt. #42M, New York, NY 10036; jon\_jachman@yahoo.com) In April 2003 I married my college girlfriend and sweetheart of Sigma Chi, Arielle Goldklang. Many Sigs were in attendance.

## Charles W. Braff '00

(22 Swansdown Dr., Toronto, Ontario, Canada; chuckbraff@hotmail.com) I am currently working in British Columbia building a condo complex on a ski hill.

## Colin B. Bradley '03

(302 W. 12th, Apt. 9A, New York, NY 10014; colin.bradley@instinet.com) From **Christopher Carroll '00**: Colin Bradley '03 married Sarah Ashmore on July 26 at the Metropolitan Club in New York. They spent a two-week honeymoon in Italy then returned to live in New York. The wedding party included groomsmen **Christopher Carroll** and **Tim Filla '98**. Other alumni attending included **Nick Filla '97**, **Bart Hacking '99**, **Luke Gorman '99**, **Jon Jachman '99** and Arielle Goldklang Jachman ('97), **Mark Kramer '00**, **Tom Valenti '00**, **Jordan Jacobs '00**, **Mike O'Connor '00**, **Peter Wang '00**, Angie Whittenburg ('00) and Lauren Imbesi ('01). ■

## In Memory

Since publication of our last issue, we have learned of the death of **Philip A. Pohlke '29** (5/7/03), **H. Reed Hunt '40** (1/29/03) and **Edward J. Reilly '51** (12/24/02). Sigma Chi mourns their passing and extends sincere condolences to their families and friends.

## John B. Clement '92



Brother John Clement's ('92) exhibit, "As Pure As Math" on display at NAVY Pier in Chicago (May 2000).

(1196 Metropolitan Ave., Brooklyn, NY 11237) I have been living in Brooklyn since 1992, creating sculpture and exhibiting in New York, Connecticut, Maine, Tennessee and Missouri, as well as internationally. Large-scale steel construction is my main focus now. I am currently working on various public and private commissions.