

CANDLELIGHT

Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha • Purdue University
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SPRING 2013

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THANK YOU,
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ANSWER: 1,689

Question: How many men have lived at 629 University?

So, which would you rather have? One check for \$100,000 or 1,000 checks for \$100? I choose the latter, or somewhere in between because that means Beta Phi has more alumni support. Given the approximate number of brothers who have lived in our fraternity house it just seems like we could come up with enough \$100 gifts to finish this campaign! What a wonderful sign of brotherhood. So far, 240-plus brothers have joined the cause. Interestingly, more than 40 of those donors graduated before 1964 and never lived in the chapter house. Only 1,489 to go!

Beta Phi has touched 1,689 lives in some way. If only those walls could talk! Some of us have become famous, others have made fortunes, but most of us have just led normal lives. There is a common thread, however. We were all randomly pulled together through Pike. We lived, ate, studied and partied together. We had some difficult moments but most were positive, and we were taught a whole lot of life lessons. We made friends and some of those relationships endured. Most did not. But it is still amazing to walk into that foyer and remember the guys you lived with all those years ago. The bond is real. I hope you all get a chance to enjoy it one day.

We want to perpetuate the opportunity for this fraternal experience. We want to *Honor Our Legacy* and *Secure Our Future*. Thanks to the recently announced \$100,000 matching

gift, we are only \$100,000 away from making this effort a reality! We hope to complete the needed upgrades during the summer of 2014, although we are planning to start the project with a new roof this summer. We have a team of brothers from a variety of disciplines working on the details. A lot of effort has gotten us this far, and we are encouraged now that we can sense success. Many thanks to all of you who have pledged! Now call one brother who has not and ask him to join you.

We still need more of you to get involved! Please make a pledge today. You will have three years to pay it out. I am serious when I say that I would rather have a 1,000 checks at \$100 as that would at least indicate that you still feel some tie to the fraternity. Others I know can and will do more.

You can see from the articles in this edition of the *Candlelight* that the chapter is making good progress. We remain optimistic that another Smythe is not too far down the road. Plan now to get back to campus for a visit and join us at the Pike Reunion on September 14 as we celebrate the unmatched success of this critically important campaign.

Send your pledge today. Thank you for your support.

In the bonds,

Brian Doolittle '70 / brdoo@comcast.net

MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL PIKE OLD MASTERS



Brothers and alumni at the Chapter's annual Pike Old Masters event.

The sixth annual Pike Old Masters Program was held December 1 and 2. It was a great success with **Eric Deahl '82**, **Patrick Gault '85** and **Rob James '86** as our distinguished alumni participating. The Old Masters were treated to a Purdue vs. Xavier basketball game on Saturday evening followed by dinner with a group of the undergraduates. Possibly the best exchanges of the event took place during dinner. The alumni were able to have long, casual conversations with the undergraduates; there were stories shared in both directions. One alumnus used the phrase "same play, new players." It is amazing how the more things change the more they stay the same.

Eric Deahl shared that one of the most valuable experiences he had while living in the house was as the athletics chairman. Learning how to put all of the pieces together to win is something he still uses today. Eric told the undergraduates, "You only get one shot at life; make the most of it."

(Continued on page 2)

HONORING OUR LEGACY, SECURING OUR FUTURE

Joe Conti '85 Joins Foundation Board of Directors

We are pleased to announce that at the November 2, 2012, Foundation board meeting held in West Lafayette Brother **Joe Conti '85** was unanimously voted to join the Foundation board of directors. Joe is no stranger to Beta Phi alumni leadership. Joe was past president of the Home Association and past chairperson of the Chapter Advisor Board. Joe's loyalty and commitment to the Chapter House and undergraduates truly show a passion to make Beta Phi one of the best fraternities on Purdue's campus. He has certainly arranged his work schedule over several years to be present and help the Chapter weather many ups and downs. He has also earned a deep respect from the dean of students. Joe's past involvement will add to future decisions of the Foundation. Joe graduated in 1985 with a degree in supervision. He resides in Newburgh, Indiana, with his wife, Cheryl. They have two children, Kaitlen and Joey. Let's all congratulate Joe on being elected to the Beta Phi Foundation board of directors!

MEMBERS PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL PIKE OLD MASTERS

(Continued from page 1)

Patrick Gault candidly told the undergraduates that while he was at Purdue he always struggled to get the best grades. What it taught him was how to just outwork your competition and how to differentiate yourself during interviews and in your work. "If you lose, then learn from the loss and make yourself better."

Rob James made the point that now while they are young is the "best time to take some chances, take some risks. Don't ever stop searching for what makes you happy, and when you find it go after it."

This is just a snapshot of the wisdom shared at this year's Old Masters. The alumni completely enjoyed the event, and the undergraduates were thrilled with how the interchanges went between them and the alumni. This year we will hold Old Masters the first or second weekend of December again. If there are any alumni interested in being a Pike Old Master please contact either **Josh Bellman '08** at josh.bellman@gmail.com or me at jconti@landstar.com.

CHAPTER ADVISOR REPORT

Over the first weekend in January, we held our second Chapter executive board retreat. The purpose of these retreats is to make sure that the incoming executive board is as organized as possible prior to all of the members returning to the house for the semester. We have a great bunch of new executive members. I want to say a huge thank-you and job well done to outgoing President **Brad Pierson '13** and his entire team. The Chapter has been blessed with several great presidents over the last few years. Brad was no exception. **Quentin Phelps '15** is our new president. Quentin served under Brad as risk manager over the last year. He has all of the leadership qualities we have come to expect. I look forward to working with him and his team.

The Chapter fell short of their GPA goal but that was really the only negative for the fall semester. We are among the leaders in athletics, campus involvement, philanthropy, and recruitment. The implementation of our tutoring program has also begun to make an impact. The program was tweaked slightly to make sure we are getting the best results possible, and we look for the GPA to climb. The new member GPA was actually higher than that of the members. It is usually the other way around in the fall semester, with the freshmen struggling to learn Purdue and going through pledgship at the same time. Those pledges were the ones that used the tutoring program the most. We will keep a close eye on this program but we expect great things.

The Pike golf outing is scheduled for Saturday, June 22. Flyers will be going out soon but **MARK YOUR CALENDARS**. We will be keeping the format the same: member and guest or father and son. Everyone that attended last year really enjoyed that format and felt it made for a much better event. We have a block of rooms set up at the Purdue Union Club Hotel; 10 rooms for both Friday and Saturday nights have been set up under Pi Kappa Alpha at \$98 per night. Those rooms will be held until June 7, so make your reservations early!

Sincerely in φφκκ,
Joe Conti '85
Chapter Advisor
jconti@landstar.com

NEW CHAPTER TUTORING PROGRAM

The Beta Phi Foundation is pleased to announce and support a new undergraduate tutoring program starting January 2013 which was piloted last fall. There was a desire from the undergraduates to improve their individual and collective GPAs. As we started 2013 we were fortunate to have **Charles Kent '60** and his wife, Mary Lynn, talk to the Beta Phi Foundation about contributing \$3,000 annually to help fund a new expanded tutoring program. The Foundation has agreed to contribute \$3,200 per year and the Chapter will contribute \$1,800 annually. With all three partners working together \$8,000 is now available annually to hire tutors to assist the undergraduates to improve their grades.

The program is designed to provide group tutoring for Chapter engineering students. Another group tutor will be selected to assist the new member class for spring of 2013. The program also provides for individual tutoring services not to exceed \$50 per week. Tutors must be registered with the Chapter executive board prior to employment and will contract with the Beta Phi executive board. With over 40 fraternities at Purdue, we were told we are only the second fraternity to offer tutoring to their Chapter. We believe this will be looked on very favorably by both parents and the university and will be an excellent recruitment tool.

This new tutoring program has received a lot of appreciation from the undergraduates, and the program will be monitored for improvement in grades and can be changed or improved as we go forward.

In the bonds of φφκκ,
Rich Russell '58
Beta Phi Foundation President



Brothers at the Pike's Fireman Challenge philanthropy.

BETA PHI RECEIVES TOP MARKS ON CVA EVALUATION

Members Make a Difference on Campus and in the Community

Fall 2012 was an exciting time for the Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha. Coming off a semester of many changes and a 47% live-in increase for the Chapter House, the members were ready to start the work of becoming the best chapter on campus and in the nation.

The Chapter was visited by our national consultant and had its annual CVA evaluation. The Chapter performed excellently and received 4.09 out of 4.25. This is a score of excellent and only the top 10% of Pike chapters receive a score this high. Another notable highlight from the fall was the kickoff of our first annual Pike's Fireman Challenge. Similar to the regular Fireman Challenge, fraternities and sororities competed to see who could complete the obstacle course in the shortest time. With 10 fraternities and sororities competing we raised over \$1,000 for the National Fallen Firefighters Foundation. We are excited to develop this philanthropy and make it a premier event on campus for other Greek chapters to be involved with and support a great cause.

This semester we want to continue our path of excellence and decided that we needed to project the Chapter externally. We hosted a philanthropy called Pikes for Strikes that we co-sponsored with Chi Omega to raise money for the Lafayette Boys and Girls Club by holding a bowling tournament at the Union Bowling Alley. We also hosted an Easter egg

hunt with the Boys and Girls Club to get involved with the community. We are getting geared up for Grand Prix! We will be running two cars in this year's race and hope to finish in the top three.

With a quality pledge class, we at 629 University plan to grow and remain a competitive Chapter in the Greek community at Purdue. With the Chapter hiring a general tutor for the members, we are able to strengthen our scholarship. With the adjustments and new members taking committee head positions and holding positions in other campus organizations, we are developing our leadership. As we compete for athletic championships, we are honing our skills as athletes. And every day we practice the values learned in ritual to remain gentlemen on this campus.

If you ever want to relive your memories at 629 University, please feel free to stop by and meet the brothers. We are always happy to see alumni come back to the house and to hear their stories. It's a great day to be a Pike!

In the bonds,
Quentin Phelps '13
 Chapter President
qphelps@purdue.edu



Eric Foster '13, Matt Brigeman '14, Brandon Bergman '15, Javier Castenada '13, and Daniel Leeb '14 during a Purdue football game.



Fall 2012 pledge class.



Participants in the first annual Pike's Fireman Challenge.



HONORING OUR LEGACY

THANK YOU, LOYAL BROTHERS, FOR COMMITTING MORE THAN \$1 MILLION

We are deeply grateful to the following Pike brothers for committing \$1,009,304 to the *Honoring Our Legacy, Securing Our Future* campaign. These brothers recognize the importance of ensuring the future of the Beta Phi Chapter and have demonstrated a sense of gratitude for their personal experience by making an investment in the future of Pi Kappa Alpha at Purdue. Commitments are still needed from the rest of our alumni to achieve our goal of \$1.2 million and complete the core critical upgrades of this major project.

All donors contributing a minimum of \$2,500, over a five-year period, will be recognized on a plaque prominently displayed in the Chapter House. Donors at or above \$1,000 will be listed in all campaign publications. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 so that we may make a correction.

Garnet & Gold Society (\$100,000 and above)

In honor of Richard L. Russell '58

Harry F. Hixson '60

Charles D. Kent '60

In memory of Robert S. Kirk '82

Steve Mathy '81

Robert J. Nice '82

Emanon Society (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Anonymous

Robert L. Rain '55

Michael D. Wright, P.C. '85

John Romanowski '86

Grand Prix Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Pi Kappa Alpha Home Association

Jean and James Biek '55

Charles N. Hetrick '63

"The Spirit Lives On"

In memory of

Roger Lantz '70, Wes Brown '71,

Wren Hillman '72, and

Mike Neely '73

In honor of

Donnie Anderson '70

Geoff Boling '70

Doug Clay '70

Brian Doolittle '70

J. Craig Swanson '70

John C. Wolfe '70

Thomas L. Maddox '71

Tom Eyre '71

Greg Ketz '71

Stephen T. Peppler '71

Peter A. Velde '71

Bruce C. Bailey '72

Ralph S. Born '72

Mark S. Lindsay '72

Rex A. Martin '72

In memory of Chris Grubb

Wade D. Miquelon '87

Doug Kinder '91

William Kinder '95

Shield & Diamond Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Class of 1964

Tony Loesch '64

Bill J. Chen '72

φκκ Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

Anonymous

Ed Neufer '59

Bruce C. Bailey '72

In memory of Robert S. Kirk '82

Greg M. Lernihian '81

In honor of Charles A. Browning Jr.

Robert L. Browning '85

Michael T. Maloney '85

Beta Phi Excellence Society (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Larry Wright '57

J.R. "Dabo" Dabasinskas '59

Frederic C. Westendorf '60

Don Orr '61

David L. Parker '65

Richard L. Duncan '69

Jeffrey L. Copeland '69

Don Foertsch '72

In memory of Juanita Bennett

Ed Wundrum '73

John B. McCormick '73

Bill "Sammy" Samuelson '73

Timothy B. Groves '79

The Greg Eifert Family '84

Doug Wright '86

Aaron M. Smith '09

In memory of Will Beinlich '15

Steve Phillips '11

Josh Bring '15

Nicholas Devine '15

Michael Jones '15

Quentin Phelps '15

Ricardo Turula '15

Beta Phi Leadership Society (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Anonymous

Anonymous

In memory of Ree Vitale

Eugene J. Vitale '52

In honor of Rich Russell '58

Rollin C. Dix '57

David K. Brennan '64

Roger A. Bair '64

Wendell L. Pieper '65

John W. Bevelhimer III '65

In memory of Mack Cramer '69

James Barr '66

Joe Baxter '68

David C. Dayton '66

Ralph R. Hofman '69

Randy S. Meyerholtz '72

William B. Kroll '74

Patrick A. McGivney '75

Pledge Class of 1977

Greg Gartner '80

Gary A. Brownfield '83

Doug Krynicki '83

Class of 1984

Russell A. Strobach '84

Philip G. Petri '85

Kirk Cerny, *Beta Gamma* '89

In memory of Michael Ward '91

Kevin L. Cooney '92

Eric D. Craig '99

Andrew S. Knosp '99

Robert Kozel '08

David Yates '10

In honor of the Class of 2010

Kyle P. Russell '10

Jared Levitt '14

Beta Phi Brotherhood Society (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Anonymous

Roy E. Hofer '57

James A. Richman '57

Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of March 28, 2013

\$1.2 million
campaign goal

\$1,009,304 in total
contributions

241 loyal donors

1,751 mailable alumni

www.pikapurdue.org

Richard L. Russell '58

Don W. Rain '58

Louis H. Antoine Jr. '58

James A. Roath '58

Dale Frost '59

R. H. Gilbert '59

In memory of Chuck Walshon '59

Charles "Chuck" Roeder '59

Thomas G. Kaiser '61

Richard A. Justice '61

Jerome Kessel '61

Joseph H. Haseman Jr. '61

Don Biddle '62

Merlin G. Bell '62

Donald K. Willing '63

Samuel J. Gilmore '64

Donald W. Johnson '64

In memory of Rollie Nail '64

Janet R. Nail

Roger A. Bair '64

David K. Brennan '64

Donald W. Johnson '64

Gary H. Johnson '64

Tony Loesch '64

John W. Bevelhimer '65

Jan M. Freeman '65

David L. Parker '65

Robert W. Raichle '65



William D. Preston '64
 Thomas J. Stiles '64
 Gary H. Johnson '64
 Rolland S. Nail Jr. '64
 William Kuczynski '64
 Raymond W. Schier '65
 Jan M. Freeman '65
 Raymond J. Norris '65
 William H. Hegarty '65
 Paul D. Nystedt '66
 John H. Pigman '67
 Robert D. Baker '67
 Robert D. Blue '68
 Kenneth G. Bassler '69
In memory of Jim McKinnon '70
 Tony Baudanza
 Brian Doolittle '70
 John Hammond '71
 Bruce Bailey '72
 Dr. Bill Stanton '71
 Alvin Rohrer '72
 John B. Gripman '73
 Robert W. Deprez '81
 Brian W. Walker '81
In honor of Brian Lernihan
 Michael R. Sutton '82
 Mark A. Shireman '84
 James E. Shaw II '84
 Joe Conti '85
 Charles E. Rice '87
 Brett F. Gemlick '91
 Craig Knies '97
 Matt C. Newton '02
 Ryan Raber '05
 Evan A. Schmitt '09
 Steven P. Quinlavin '10
 Eric M. Havel '11
 Wesley Lichlyter '11
 Derek S. Worsley '11
 Francis H. Yu '11
 Kevin Canida '12
 John Hayes '12
 Joseph M. Kohnert '12
 Austin H. Warren '12
 Andrew H. Barber '13
 Javier Castaneda '13
 Eric Davis '13
 Eric D. Prickel '14
 Brandon K. Bergman '15
 Pravin P. Bhimalli
 Matthew J. Seidl '15
 Dane Anderson '15
 Peter Martucci '15
 James McGuinness '15
 Jack Boes '15
In honor of CP
 Connor Phelan '15
 Zachary Cranz '15
 Killian Wagner '16

TYLER VIERNOW '85 SHARES HIS MEMORIES OF BETA PHI, HIS ADVICE AND WHY HE SUPPORTS THE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Living on the fourth floor of Harrison Hall, **Tyler Viernow '85** watched as **Russ Strobach '84** and **Bob Browning '85** pledged Pi Kappa Alpha in the fall of 1981. When spring recruitment began, Tyler and five brothers from his floor decided to pledge the fraternity. "Pike was impressive during recruitment, and having people I knew and respected there was also an important factor in my decision.

Tyler served the fraternity as the external vice president and helped publish the *Candlelight*; he later worked with **Ed Buckley '85** doing photography for the Grand Prix board. Tyler says he couldn't help but have pride in being a Pike. "We had a great house! Pikes were highly respected, and most everyone was active in a variety of campus activities. We were at the top in Grand Prix, U-Sing, sorority events, and everyone had fun."

Tyler graduated with a bachelor's degree in management in 1985. He is the general manager of revenue cycle technology at Optum, a health services company owned by United Health Group. "I've been fortunate to work with some large, nationally recognized healthcare organizations. A new wave of innovation is starting in healthcare, driven in part by technology and genomics. Over the next 10 years, the industry will be substantially transformed: an exciting change that will affect all of us!" He says he stumbled into the health care industry 27 years ago while working at Andersen Consulting (now Accenture). Brothers **Danny Flint '85**, **Bob Gray '85**, **Chris Gruber '85**, and **Jeff Uligian '85** all went to work for Andersen out of college. "It was a very lucky break and it has provided great opportunities. That was probably an important influence and Andersen was a great start to my career."

His advice to undergraduates and young alumni is to recognize that you will learn throughout your career. "No one knows everything; don't be afraid to make mistakes. Find a mentor to help you focus on where to improve. I look for high-energy recruits with strong communication skills, a commitment to work hard and the potential to grow beyond their entry position."

Tyler says living in the same house with 80 people helped him learn to compromise and find a solution

to tough issues, which is something that he uses in his life every day. He has fond memories of his time living in the house like the Grand Prix in 1985, U-Sing, road trips to Iowa and Rib Mountain, walkout to Wisconsin, 1984 Chicago Cubs, and Morty and Mel's mix tape that was the soundtrack to their college years. He says if anyone still has a copy of that mix tape he would like to know.



He has attended the golf outing every few years and tries to stop by the house when he is in town for football games. He attended the fall Pike reunion a few years ago and said it brought back great memories talking with brothers and pledges. "It was good to see that the strong legacy of Beta Phi continues."

Tyler has also maintained friendships with brothers over the past 30 years. "**Mark Koza '86** lives nearby in Colorado and we connect regularly. I speak with my big brother, **Joe Conti '85**, often. Last summer, I went backpacking with **Mike Maloney '85** and his son. When in Chicago, I'll see **Mike Wright '85**, **Rob James '86**, **Scott Eichenauer '85**, **Garth Carter '85** and **Kirk Dauksavage '86**. **John Romanowski '86** visits Colorado with his family every few years. I met up with **Pete Schmitz '84** in California in February."

To those brothers who may have lost touch over the years he says, "My life is much richer because of staying connected to my Pike brothers. It's never too late to reestablish those relationships. We share great history and great memories."

Through the support he received as an undergraduate and alumnus, Tyler said it was an honor to be able to support the capital campaign. "It's important to preserve Beta Phi for future generations. Pike was an important part of my Purdue experience. I didn't have to think twice about supporting this campaign. To remain competitive and attract the best and brightest, the physical house must be a safe, attractive place to live. It's important for the alumni who have benefited from Beta Phi to contribute to this campaign as they can."

Tyler lives in Colorado and enjoys being active, snowboarding, mountain biking, and fly fishing. E-mail: tviernow@gmail.com

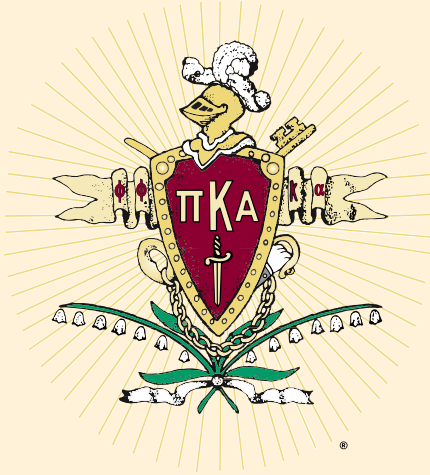
SAVE THE DATE

Tenth Annual Pike Golf Outing Saturday, June 22, 2013

Purdue Golf Course
More information to follow
on www.pikapurdue.org.

11th Annual Pike Reunion Saturday, September 14, 2013

Purdue vs. Notre Dame
Foundation-sponsored
reception after the game.



CANDLELIGHT



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BROTHERHOOD GROWS AFTER COLLEGE FOR STEVE PEPPLER '71

Attending Purdue University was a family tradition for **Steve Peppler '71**. His father attended Purdue and was a member of SigEp, and Steve says he remembers listening to his father's stories about his experience in the fraternity and how he stayed close with his brothers. Once on campus, Steve's best friend was assigned to the Pike house, and after a lunch with the Chapter and meeting **John Hammond '71**, he found it was the best group of guys for him.

Steve says an advantage of Purdue and life in the fraternity was its location. "Being across the river from Lafayette we learned how to make our own fun, and we were very creative. If Purdue was located in some big city we would have gone our own separate ways. At Purdue the best times were when we were doing things together."

Obtaining his bachelor's degree in electrical engineering, Steve's bonds with his brothers grew stronger after graduation. After a couple years of living in Chicago, he moved to San Francisco. Brothers **Greg Bartlow '70** and **Lars Jentsch '73** later moved out west and they ended up living together. Then **Charles Sodini '74** and Steve's former roommate **Bob Munro**

'71 moved to San Francisco as well. Greg introduced Steve to cycling, which has become a lifelong passion for him. After five years living in San Francisco, Steve quit his job and traveled with **John McCormick '73** and **Bob Goodwin '75** to Europe for four months including cycling. He returned to Orange County as a sales engineer for Marathon Electric where he worked for nine years before he quit and traveled back to Europe to cycle, logging more than 3,000 miles.

Finally he moved to his current home in Temecula, California, where he established a tax practice and is a financial planner. "My relationships with brothers blossomed after school. Since 1975 a core group has gotten together for a New Year's celebration every year and we travel all over the country based on who is hosting it. Charlie Sodini lives in Boston and started a baseball outing in 1998. Every year 12 brothers go to Boston to see the Red Sox play, and then we usually travel to Maine or Martha's Vineyard. The annual get together's keep our friendships alive and allow us to get to know our brothers families."

To any alumnus who may have lost track with brothers or the Chapter, Steve encourages you

to reach out. "The friendships are still there. It just takes a phone call or conversation and it all comes back."

Steve feels it is important to support the capital campaign. "I greatly benefited from being a part of the Chapter. The greatest friendships I have are with the guys I met at the Chapter, and it is only natural that I want to give back. Being in the Chapter was one of the greatest events of my life and it's still a big part of my life and my friends' lives. It's also important to give back so that young men can have the same experience that I had."

Steve continues to cycle around the world. "I am heading to southern Italy in May with Charlie Sodini. In June I'll ride with Team in Training around Lake Tahoe on America's Most Beautiful Bike Ride in order to raise money to fight leukemia, lymphoma and blood cancers." Steve lives in California with his wife, Dulce. His daughter Jacqueline is a freshman at Northern Arizona University. E-mail: speppler@earthlink.net