



Fall 2021

Our Pike Scholarship Winners



Joe Conti '85 and Bora Taspek '24.



Joe Conti '85 and Jason Mair '24.



Joe Conti '85 and Ben Hartley '23.



Charlie Hetrick '63 and Sean O'Sullivan '23.



From left to right: Sean O'Sullivan '23, Gus Rupp '23, Ben Hartley '23, and Jason Mair '24.



Joe Conti '85 and Gus Rupp '23.

Continuing a Better Education
Congratulations to Our Beta Phi Brothers

We had a great day at the Chapter House for our annual reunion weekend and football game versus Illinois. Several alumni joined at various times during the morning and afternoon, and the 3 p.m. kickoff allowed for plenty of time to socialize. Mark your calendars for October 7-8, 2022; we will be celebrating Beta Phi's 100-year anniversary! We have several events and presentations planned. If there is a year that you want to make sure to come back to West Lafayette, make it 2022!

In preparation for our 100-year anniversary, we have undertaken a fundraising campaign to fully endow the tutoring program. We are very thankful to those who have already donated. It is our goal to announce the donation totals at our 100-year celebration. As part of that fundraising campaign, you will be able to purchase commemorative items using our upcoming online stores—we will announce and remind you as they open. A portion of each purchase will go toward the tutoring program.

The Beta Phi Foundation continues its work to create a better educational experience for our undergraduate. Supported by our generous alumni, the foundation has been able to give out four scholarships each year. Due to COVID-19

concerns in 2020, however, the Rain and Bowes Scholarships could not be presented. This opened the door for a total of six scholarships to be awarded in 2021, which included two Rain and two Bowes scholarships.

The Bowes Scholarship has always been closely tied to GPA, and the two recipients in 2021, both with a perfect 4.0 GPA, were obvious: **Jason Mair '24** is from Jasper, Indiana, and studies biomedical engineering, and **Bora Taspek '24** is from Ankara, Turkey, and is studying aerospace engineering.

The Bob and Marylou Rain Scholarship was originally endowed through PIKE National. The foundation took over the management of this scholarship two years ago. The 2021 scholarships have been awarded to the following two members: **Gus Rupp '23** is from Elkhart, Indiana, has a 3.56 GPA, and is studying supply chain information and analytics, and **Ben Hartley '23** is from Fishers, Indiana, has a 3.56 GPA, and is studying industrial engineering.

Charlie Kent was the alumnus primarily responsible for creating the Most Improved GPA Award. He was the original alumnus who worked to create the tutoring program. This scholarship goes to **Tom Placzkowski**

'22, a senior from New Berlin, Wisconsin. He has raised his GPA high enough to have been awarded an internship with NASA.

Our most recently endowed scholarship is the Charlie and Charlotte Hetrick Scholarship. Charlie is one of the original Beta Phi Foundation members, but he would not have been able to make such a tremendous commitment without the support of his late wife, Charlotte. This scholarship is given to a brother who exemplifies leadership inside the house over a period of time. Charlie was present at the Chapter House to personally present the first Hetrick Scholarship to **Sean O'Sullivan '23**, a junior from Fort Wayne, Indiana, who is studying mechanical engineering.

I hope you will join me in congratulating our 2021 scholarship recipients. The chapter currently holds a 3.16 cumulative GPA, which is the highest we have achieved since the tutoring program began several years ago; at that time our GPA was 2.6. The program is successful, and with your assistance, we can provide our undergraduate members with even more support as they make their journey through Purdue.

In the bonds of φφκα,
Joe Conti '85
President
Beta Phi Foundation
joe.conti@construcks.com
(715) 498-4498

AN IMPROVED CHAPTER HOUSE

See What Projects We Completed This Summer

This is the beginning of my second year serving as president of the Home Association and my 47th year on the board of directors.

Last year was, to say the least, challenging with the COVID-19-related issues, rules, and procedures. Additionally, very low occupancy in the house and the expulsion of a few bad apples led to reduced operating income. With the support of Foundation President **Joe Conti '85**, Property Manager Dick Cypherd, Chapter SMC **Will Weisbrod '21**, and the rest of the Home Association team, however, we survived and entered this school year on a strong note.

We took advantage of an empty house over the summer to complete many projects at a total cost of approximately \$50,000. Those projects included:

1. Replaced concrete front patio and steps to be completely new. Thanks to **Bill Kinder '95** for the work and for his financial contribution to fund this project.
2. Repaired, sealed, and striped the back parking lot.
3. Renovated three rooms upstairs. Two remaining rooms will be renovated next summer.
4. Upgraded and refreshed the area between the sidewalk and street in front of the house.
5. Replaced the basement ice machine.
6. Cleaned dryer vents.
7. Cleaned and checked HVAC units.
8. Replaced several damaged or missing chairs. We appreciate the foundation covering these replacement costs.
9. Deep cleaned the entire house, including removal of old and abandoned furniture left by brothers who are not returning this fall.
10. Installed five new windows to replace those no longer functional.
11. Repaired all spring semester damages.

Regarding COVID-19 in this new school year, 100% of the current residents have either been vaccinated, have had COVID-19, or are tested on a regular basis. We continue to follow the "Protect Purdue" policies and procedures.

The current SMC, **Conall Farney '23**, and his executive board are doing an outstanding job and working closely with Dick Cypherd and myself to keep the house in excellent condition. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (314) 973-7666 or tlm@tlmcos.com.

In the bonds of φφκα,
Tom Maddox '71
Home Association President

Thank You, GENEROUS BETA PHI BROTHERS

Thank you to the 73 supporters who have committed more than \$22,000 to Beta Phi so far in 2021. These donors, listed below, stepped up to invest in Beta Phi's future, and we could not be more grateful. Every dollar supports the programming and facility necessary to keep Pi Kappa Alpha a premier fraternity at Purdue. If you have been omitted from our contributors list, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our communications coordinator at alehr@penningtonco.com with any corrections. *Commitments are as of December 1, 2021.*

Gerald E. Grant '54	John L. Hammond Jr. '71
C. Craig Hudson '56	Gregory M. Ketz '71
Rollin C. Dix '57	Bruce C. Bailey '72
Jim M. Thompson '57	Rex A. Martin '72
William R. Morgan '58	Michael R. Nowling '72
Harry G. Chase '59	Alvin G. Rohrer '72
Dale J. Frost '59	Gregory L. Delaney '73
Fredric C. Westendorf '60	John B. Gripman '73
Joseph H. Haseman '61	David J. Lowe '73
William C. Young '62	John B. McCormick '73
Charles N. Hetrick '63	William A. Samuelson '73
Roger A. Bair '64	David F. Peppler '74
David C. Follmer '64	Charles G. Sodini '74
Donald W. Johnson '64	Patrick A. McGivney '75
Tony Loesch '64	Jeffrey M. Etter '77
John W. Bevelhimer III '65	Timothy B. Groves '79
Martin C. Hegglin '65	Mark J. Kendle '80
Wendell L. Pieper '65	Timothy J. Prickel '80
Robert W. Raichle '65	Kenton C. Grant '81
Kenneth A. Probst '66	Robert J. Nice '82
David A. Walters '66	Robert J. Shusta '82
Robert D. Baker '67	Michael R. Sutton '82
Paul L. Pence '67	Mathias J. Sutton '83
John H. Pigman '67	Kirk D. Dauksavage '86
Daniel T. Herron '68	Michael G. Iem '87
Philip D. Preuninger '68	Timothy J. Lorenc '88
Steven D. Scruggs '68	Steve S. Sczurek '90
Jeffrey L. Copeland '69	Kurt Heuberger '91
R. Richard Hofmann '69	Thomas C. Callahan '92
David C. Tucker '69	Kevin L. Cooney, Esq. '92
Geoffrey C. Boling '70	William A. Kinder '95
Brian R. Doolittle '70	John F. Cyr '96
John C. Wolfe '70	Casey J. Hiers '01
Dennis E. Dreyer '71	Kiefer R. W. Capps '17
Thomas W. Eyre '71	

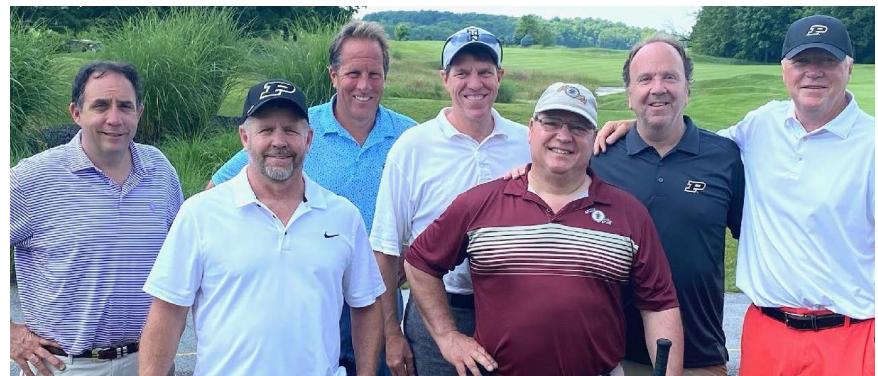
A SUCCESSFUL GOLF EVENT

Thank You to Those Who Joined!



It was great to have brothers join us for dinner after a long day of golf!

The 2021 annual Beta Phi Golf Outing was a great success. Due to a few last-minute cancellations, we ended up with 32 golfers. The winning team was made up of **Ben Phillips '10, Mike Kristakis '86, Troy Miller, and Craig Miller**. The round was interrupted by a brief rain shower; however, it finished with sunshine, which is a usual occurrence for the annual outing. A dinner and celebration following the round took place at the PIKE house, and many ended up at Harry's to relive some of the "good old days" and reminisce with their fellow brothers. The date for the 2022 Golf Outing has been confirmed for June 11 back at Purdue—make sure to mark it on your calendars! Registration will be up after the start of the new year at <https://pikes.eventbrite.com>.



From left: Mike Kristakis '86, Gary Cochard '85, Kirk Dausavage '86, Garth Carter '85, Joe Conti '85, Russ Strobach '84, and Greg Rogers '84.

CALLING ALL BROTHERS

We Still Need Composites to Complete Our Project

We are fast approaching our 100th anniversary celebration, scheduled for October 2022, and are still in need of composites to complete this important project. There are several from the 1950s and only two from the 1960s (1961 and 1968), but the biggest era that we need help in is the period from 1987-88 through 2003-04. Take a few minutes to check your old PIKE archives, and if you have any of these composites, please contact me. Maybe one of your classmates has a copy, so please pass the word. These composites will become an important archive in the history of our Chapter.

Help us find these Beta Phi composites:

All years prior to and including 1952, 1955, 1957, 1959, 1961, 1968, 1987-88, 1988-89, 1989-90, 1990-91, 1991-92, 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95, 1995-96, 1997-98, 1998-99, 2000-01, 2001-02, 2002-03, 2003-04, and 2007-08.

In the bonds of φφκα,

Rex Martin '72

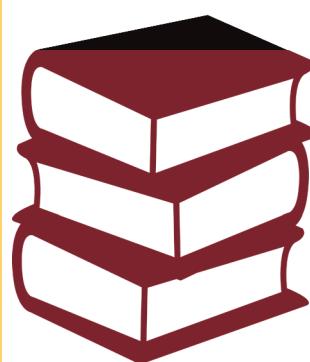
Beta Phi Historian

rexmartinpiano@gmail.com

(317) 445-5077

TUTORING PROGRAM ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN STATUS

As of December 1, 2021



— **CAMPAIGN GOAL**
\$140,000

— **TOTAL
CONTRIBUTED**
\$118,256

— **PERCENT
RAISED**
84%

Please help us hit our goal in time for Beta Phi's centennial! Contribute today by visiting <http://pikapurdue.org/donate-now> and directing your gift toward the tutoring program.

EMBRACING THE BETA PHI BROTHERHOOD

Active Members Stay Involved in Activities and Philanthropy



Thank you to everyone who joined us for Alumni Day!



We welcomed 38 new members to Beta Phi this year.

Hello, Beta Phi brothers. The year is coming to an end, and our active members have embraced the fall semester. We welcomed an excellent new member class, participated in many events, and enjoyed our brotherhood.

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to Purdue's high standards for the safety and health of their student body, the roughly 80% vaccination rate of West Lafayette, and the involvement of every brother of Beta Phi, we were able to obtain the largest pledge class on campus. These 38 young gentlemen were able to enjoy a more normal Greek life experience this semester compared to the previous semesters. The 2021 fall recruitment class is one of the most diverse, involved groups of students we have ever seen, and we are very excited to see what the future holds. Along with recruitment, a glimpse of normal Purdue social events and sports are being carried out, allowing for a very successful Alumni Day and Parent's Weekend! We cannot wait for the Old Masters Weekend in December.

BROTHERHOOD

The Beta Phi Chapter has been able to enjoy a return of in-person events, allowing for ritual and history to feel more alive than ever. Doing everything over Zoom will not be missed, and it feels great to be taking steps forward. Athletic participation has been wonderful, Pi Kappa Alpha has at least one team in all intramural sports, and all teams understand the focus on getting the win. Club sports are still a big part of the Chapter, and we have members involved in crew, lacrosse, baseball, and hockey.

This past summer, all SMCs had the opportunity to participate in the first-ever President's Council event in Memphis, Tennessee. This experience was truly one of a kind, and all the chapter presidents learned

an immense amount of information, all while having fun. I was honored to receive a quote regarding the event in the most recent fall 2021 issue of *Shield and Diamond*. It read, "My biggest takeaway from the President Assembly was this idea of unified power. No matter how big or small, every chapter faces the same problems and diversity. Rounding up all chapter presidents allows you to see that reality on a first-hand basis. Even better, rounding up all the presidents allows you to see and feel the amount of power and capacity for positive change that every member holds in the bonds of Pi Kappa Alpha."

LEADERSHIP

The gentlemen of Beta Phi have been involved all around campus since the start of the semester. We have already made many memories hosting a very successful PIKE Fireman's Challenge (raising over \$9,000), challenging sororities around campus to the annual Dream Girl Competition, and placing second in Phi Mu's Miracle Mania philanthropy. We have been stressing the importance of philanthropy, campus involvement, and community service, and all brothers have risen to the occasion.

As far as adversity is concerned, Purdue's Greek life, and Greek life around the country, has been experiencing many issues around power-based personal violence and sexual assault. Pictured to the right is our Chapter's statement regarding these terrible events and situations.

I'm proud of my brothers for taking lead this year, and I look forward to ending the year on a strong note.

In the bonds of φφκα,
Conall Farney '23
Chapter President



Conall Farney '23 speaks at the President's Assembly.



Brothers and guests at the PIKE Fireman's Challenge.

09/30/2021

PI KAPPA ALPHA

Scholars, Leaders, Athletes, Gentlemen

In response to the current state of the community we call home, it is our duty as proactive members of IFC to speak up. We would like to make it known that every member of our chapter fully supports the mission and goal of the Purdue Panhellenic Association's *Respect Resolution*. The safety of every student at Purdue University is our number one priority and considering recent events, fraternity men are falling short. The terrible occurrence of sexual assault has been an underlying issue in our society

For far too long, this issue CANNOT be resolved until it is properly addressed. This step is one in the right direction and the gentlemen of PI KAPPA ALPHA are fully endorsing any preventive measures. We MUST work as one, building off a foundation composed of accountability, education, transparency, and justice. Tools and assets such as SASEE, the SAFER Action Plan, and the Sex Signals program need to be utilized, respected and understood by all. Let us collaborate, educate, and innovate through this deplorable time- interfraternally, we need to be the change.

-Purdue Pikes

Conall Farney – President
Augustus Rupp – VP | Sean O'Sullivan – VP
Anish Saha – VP | Levi Siewert – VP | Alek Rudy – SaA
Matthew Wilson – HSO | Eric Billy – Treasurer

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Ralph Born '72 entered Chapter Eternal on January 14, 2021, after contracting COVID-19. He remained very active with Beta Phi Chapter and a close friend to many alumni of his era. Born May 22, 1949, in Staten Island, N.Y., he attended Terre Haute Gerstmeyer High School, and then Purdue, where he was president of our Chapter. He graduated in 1972 and was a successful engineer and project manager for Jacobs Engineering, retiring in 2019. He was one of the original members of our Beta Phi Alumni Association, a participant in our Old Masters' program, and an avid fan of the Boilermakers. You would often see Ralph attending the annual Homecoming and reunion gatherings where his kind spirit and genuine, caring persona made for instant friendships. He was a member of the PIKE New Year's group that has gathered every year since the mid-1970s, celebrating a bond that was born out of our Chapter and continued on as a lifelong brotherhood of friendship and camaraderie. He also was an active member of the Upstate South Carolina Purdue Alumni group and was instrumental in the establishment of the Theta Sigma Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha at Winthrop University. He often spoke with great pride of this accomplishment. Ralph will be remembered as a dedicated Pike, whose personal qualities of dedication, loyalty, empathy, and a robust love of life have endeared him to so many of his family and peers. He is survived by his wife, Dana, and his three sons, Nathan, Alex, and Andrew.

A memoriam has been set up in Ralph's name, and contributions can be made to the Beta Phi Foundation at P.O. Box 2853, West Lafayette, IN 47996-2853. Please write "Ralph Born Memoriam" on the memo line.

John B. McCormick '73

unexpectedly entered Chapter Eternal on March 13, 2021, at the age of 69. He was born and raised in Green Bay, Wis., and always had an unwavering allegiance to the Green Bay Packers, attending many games at Lambeau Field. He was also a season ticket holder for the Minnesota Twins. After graduating from Purdue University, John went on to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison Law School. He was a dedicated public servant, practicing law in Wisconsin and Minnesota. He joined the City Attorney's office in St. Paul, where he rose to deputy city attorney, retiring in 2012. John will be remembered for his positive approach to life, quick wit, outgoing personality, eagerness to help others, and deep love for his family. He was an outstanding brother, making Beta Phi Chapter proud each day with his compassion, friendship, and humor. John will be missed by his friends, family, and Pike brothers.

A memoriam has been set up in John's name, and contributions can be made to the Beta Phi Foundation at P.O. Box 2853, West Lafayette, IN 47996-2853. Please write "John McCormick Memoriam" on the memo line.

ALUMNI UPDATE

Harry Chase '59 has volunteered as a family and child advocate in distressed areas of northeast Tennessee and southeastern Kentucky since retiring from Wakefield Engineering. He lives in Knoxville, Tenn. Email: hgchase@yahoo.com

Joseph Haseman '61 has a son who just retired after 30 years of service in the Army. Joseph volunteered at the St. Vincent orthopedic unit prior to the pandemic, but lately, he has been hibernating in retirement. Joseph lives in Evansville, Ind. Email: shaseman@live.com

Robert Brockhaus Sr. '66

was recently honored by Saint Louis University, which established the Robert H. Brockhaus Chair in Entrepreneurship. (No professor has been recognized with an endowed chair in their name in the 100-plus year history of the SLU Business School.) Bob is the president of Progressive Management Enterprises, a real estate management firm that he established in 1969. He is also the managing director of The Brockhaus Group, which provides consulting services to large family-controlled businesses in the U.S., Europe, and Africa. Bob lives in St. Louis, Mo.

Douglas G. Clay '70 has lived in Colorado for 44 years; he resides in Greeley. He enjoys camping, hiking, sailing, skiing, biking, mountain climbing, playing tennis, and golfing. He recently bought a condo in Vilano Beach, Fla., where he spends the winter. There, he likes to go backpacking as well as kayaking in rivers and swamps. "No alligator wrestling as of yet." Email: dgclay@prodigy.net

Peter A. Velde '71 retired as a senior partner after 35 years at Kightlinger & Gray LLP in Indianapolis, Ind., and after 44 years of practicing law. In 1997, he retired as lieutenant colonel with the Indiana National Guard after 21 years. Peter has coached youth league football in Carmel, Ind., for 10 years, and he was an Indiana football referee for eight years. He and his wife, Doreen, compete in ballroom dance. They live in Carmel, Ind. Email: pvelde@k-glaw.com

Jamie Maas '85 has been married to his wife, Denise, for 30 years. They have two grown children, Andy and Rachel. Jamie and Denise became first-time grandparents after the arrival of their granddaughter, Margaret, on June 17, 2020. They live in O'Fallon, Mo. Email: maasjt@aol.com

Joseph L. Gerzema '92 resides in Farmington Hills, Mich., with his wife, Melanie. He works at Fox Sports Detroit as the national sales manager; his wife is a nurse anesthetist. They have four children, Patrick, Noah, Elizabeth, and Jack. "Looking forward to getting back to Purdue and visiting the Pike house soon! Hail Purdue!" Email: josephgerzema@mac.com

Jeffrey Langston '92 is looking forward to starting the multi-faceted housing project at Purdue on the corner of Airport Road and State Street. He has been blessed this year to have helped launch the third Safe Families house in greater Indianapolis. Jeffrey lives in Carmel, Ind. Email: jeff@oldtowndesigngroup.com

Chapter Officers

President

Conall Farney '23
Wheaton, Ill.

Sergeant-at-Arms
Alek Rudy '23
Flemington, N.J.

VP Membership
Anish Saha '23
Santa Clara, Calif.

Internal VP
Augustus Rupp '23
Elkhart, Ind.

External VP
Sean O'Sullivan '23
Fort Wayne, Ind.

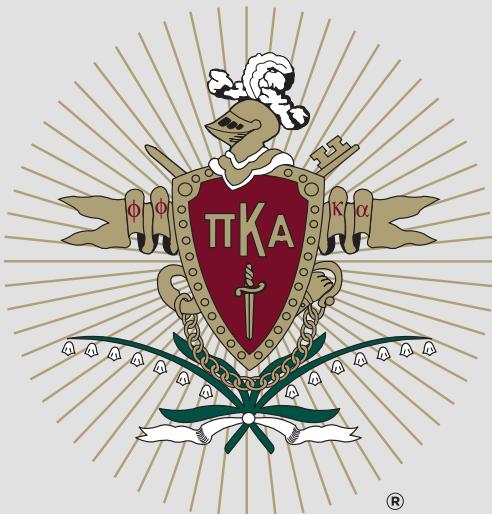
Treasurer
Eric Billy '24
Danville, Calif.

VP Communications
Levi Siewert '23
Floyds Knobs, Ind.

Risk Manager
Matthew Willson '24
Allendale, N.J.

Welcome, NEW MEMBERS

Amadou Barry
Tobias Bautista
Carson Bennett
Jack Blanthorn
Michael Bobber
Patrick Brown
Caden Chen
Josh Clark
Josh Downham
Colin Greathouse
Zach Herman
David Hoffman
Anton Josifovski
Christos Kaifas
Jacob Kaplan
Cooper Keillor
Brandon Lewis
Adithya Mahesh
Arjun Mangipudi
Mike Mattern
Kyle McKeon
Will Messmer
Khaya Ngoma
Leyton Noerenberg
Liam O'Connor
Joe Patton
Hayden Payne
Alex Pons
Rahul Prasad
Prajesh Sivakaran
Troy Tamura
Jason Tankersley
Ege Toplu
James Vollmer
Russell Whitman
Dylan Yoder
Abel Zajzon
Murat Zamir



CANDLELIGHT

Beta Phi Foundation, Inc.

P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 66044
PERMIT #570

If you would prefer to receive the *Candlelight* via email only, please email alehr@penningtonco.com.

Research Proves the Fraternity Experience Is More Relevant to Today's College Students than Ever Before

Recent research on fraternities and sororities demonstrates how positive the impact of the Greek experience—and the PIKE experience—is for undergraduates today. Both inside and outside the classroom, we are providing tangible value at the most important time of growth in their lives.

Membership **improves the learning gains** students make in the classroom, and members are **more academically engaged** than their peers.

Members are **more involved** in campus activities than other students, and Greek organizations **promote both personal development during and satisfaction** in their college experience.

Fraternities and sororities seek to enhance inclusivity, and our members actually report **higher levels of interaction with people different from themselves compared to unaffiliated students.**

These benefits are **even greater for first-year students** as they join fraternities and sororities and find community and belonging. This leads to **stronger retention and higher graduation rates** among Greek students than their peers.

As many college students experience stress, loneliness and depression, fraternities and sororities **offer critical connection and a sense of community**, and members report **higher levels of positive mental health** than their unaffiliated peers because of it.