



CANDLELIGHT

BETA PHI CHAPTER OF PI KAPPA ALPHA • PURDUE UNIVERSITY
Published by the Beta Phi Foundation



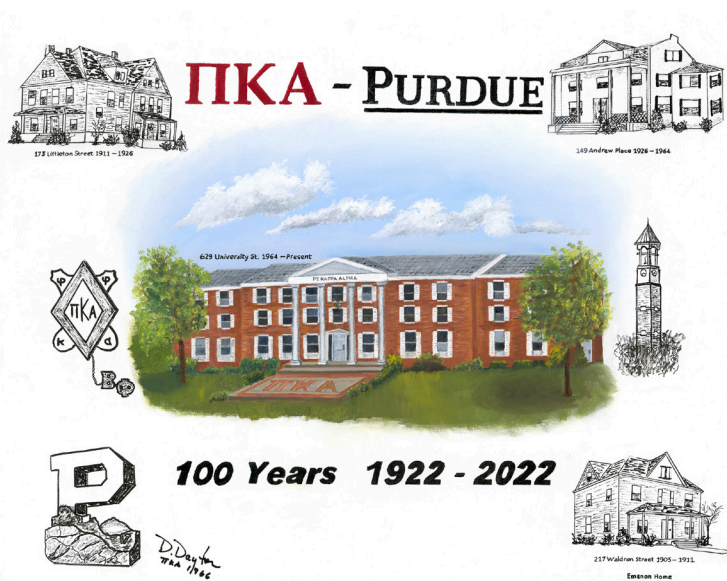
Spring 2021

Making PIKE a Fraternity for the Future National Headquarters Unveils Reimagine Fraternity Campaign

I want to dedicate this first portion of my article to our Beta Phi 100-year anniversary celebration, which will be held in the fall of 2022. Final dates are still to be determined, so please make a note for your calendars. We will get the actual dates out to everyone as soon as possible. We will soon start flying a commemorative flag and a banner at the house to help remind anyone who might be on campus. We will also open several online stores for you to purchase commemorative items. You will find a flyer inside this addition to show you some of the items that will be available for purchase. The first store will open in early August. A portion of the profits will go toward our campaign to fully fund the tutoring program. Of course, donations to the campaign can be made directly, are encouraged, and greatly appreciated. We are truly looking forward to a great weekend for our 100-year celebration.

Now I need to address a recent tragedy that took place at the Bowling Green University Pike Chapter. A new member passed away in a hazing incident. You can put whatever word to it you want: senseless, stupid, unconscionable. No words will bring this young man's life back. We are living in a time when the actions of one person or just a few people can directly impact everyone. National Headquarters has issued a mandatory pause in all new member activities as a result. Beta Phi Chapter remains in front of the curve when it comes to hazing. We have a ZERO tolerance policy. Anyone who hazes will immediately be expelled from the Chapter and the fraternity. Our Chapter advisor meets with incoming classes of potential new initiates, and they have contact numbers for the members of Home Association and Foundation.

National Headquarters has also just recently unveiled a *Reimagine Fraternity* campaign. We at Beta Phi recognized 10 years ago that we must become an organization that adds value to Purdue, other than just another housing unit. It has been, and will remain, the direction we will



move. We will wholeheartedly embrace the program and pursue the principles of Friendship, Love, and Truth. There is NO MARGIN for error. We cannot fail in this quest to make Beta Phi and all of Pi Kappa Alpha the best place for a young person to join.

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

TUTORING PROGRAM ENDOWMENT CAMPAIGN STATUS

As of April 12, 2021



— CAMPAIGN GOAL: \$140,000
— TOTAL CONTRIBUTED: \$106,031
PERCENT RAISED: 75%

Please help us raise the remaining \$34,000 in time for Beta Phi's centennial! Contribute today by visiting pikapurdue.org/donate-now and directing your gift toward the tutoring program.

REGISTRATION for the Golf Outing JUNE 12

www.pikes.eventbrite.com

Click the link above to view the golf outing details and to register. We look forward to seeing you there!

Stay connected by visiting pikapurdue.org.



A MESSAGE FROM HOME ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT TOM MADDOX '71

I am a member of the Class of 1971 and joined the Pi Kappa Alpha Home Association in 1975. I first served under **Ed Neuffer '59**, then **Dick Russell '49**, **Jim Barr '66**, **Lou Quinto '82**, **Joe Conti '85**, **Bob Nice '82**, and, most recently, **Matt Folz, Theta Omicron '07**. I share this with you because on September 14, 2020, I became the Home Association president or, as some refer to it, the new sheriff in town.

As you can imagine, it has been a very interesting six months navigating the challenges of COVID-19. As Matt mentioned in the fall 2020 *Candlelight*, we have installed hand sanitizer stations and purchased sanitizing equipment. We have also encouraged the brothers to follow the Protect Purdue policies, procedures, and guidelines. I have attended all of the virtual Protect Purdue Town Hall meetings and updates. The Protect Purdue Task Force is monitoring all campus housing units very closely.

We recently added three new cameras to provide a better view of both the inside and outside of the Chapter House and to better protect and serve the brothers and their guests.

The house membership stands at 40 brothers; however, the Purdue Pikes ranked 14th highest in the number of new fall pledges among all

Pi Kappa Alpha chapters across the country with 39 new members. With the additional spring 2021 pledges, we could potentially welcome 60-plus members to the house, which is close to capacity.

As Matt Folz stated very well in the spring 2019 *Candlelight*: it's no secret that college social fraternities currently exist in an environment much different than the environment experienced in the past, and because of this shifting landscape, fraternal programming has also shifted. Every successful fraternal organization is taking steps toward adapting its programs to this new environment, including Pi Kappa Alpha. Fortunately, the values ingrained in our ritual continue to stand the test of time and serve as the nucleus upon which successful programming is built and, in turn, successful young men.

If you should have any questions or comments regarding the Home Association, please feel free to call me at (314) 973-7666 or email me at t1m@t1mcos.com.

Fraternally,
Tom Maddox '71
Home Association President

THANK YOU, GENEROUS BETA PHI BROTHERS

Thank you to the 90 supporters who committed more than \$21,500 to the Beta Phi Foundation in 2020. These donors listed below stepped up to invest in Beta Phi's future, and we could not be more grateful. Every dollar supports the educational programming 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.

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John W. Bevelhimer III '65
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Brian R. Doolittle '70
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Corey S. Drake '93
Mark D. Politte '93
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Ben Phillips '10
Kiefer R. W. Capps '17
Nancy J. Adams



Rex Martin '72 holds up Beta Phi's 1956 composite photo.

Preserving PIKE's History

Rex Martin '72 Calls Upon Beta Phi Brothers to Help with Composite Collection Project

As we prepare for Beta Phi's centennial in 2022, it's important that we celebrate our brotherhood's history and do our part to help the Chapter flourish in its second century at Purdue. Beta

Phi Foundation Historian and Secretary **Rex Martin '72** understands that every brother has played a big role in Beta Phi's success over the past 99 years and is committed to documenting it for all to see. Rex has been hard at work with collecting Beta Phi's past composites that are missing and is calling upon all brothers to help with the project.

"It is imperative that we maintain a record of our brothers, so that those who came before us are never forgotten," Rex said. "So far you, our alumni, have done a great job contributing your composites. Yet we still have some gaps to fill to complete the project. The biggest gap is from 1985-1986 through 1995-1996. If you have any of these years, please contact me. If you don't want to give up your original, we can arrange to make a copy."

Rex's passion for PIKE has been evident since the day he joined Beta Phi. He's enjoyed the opportunity to build upon his Beta Phi experience while serving on the Beta Phi Foundation board for the past 17 years. When Rex took on the role of Foundation secretary in 2010, **Rich Russell '58**, who was the president at the time, realized how copious and detailed his minutes of each meeting were. Rich eventually asked Rex to also serve as the Foundation's historian and he's been a natural fit in both roles.

The lifelong friends that Beta Phi has given Rex have been a constant reminder to him of how important it is to build

upon PIKE's tradition-rich legacy at Purdue. Rex has remained in close contact with the brothers from his era and is thankful for the traditions that have strengthened their bonds over the years. He is proud to be part of a group comprised of Beta Phi brothers, their spouses, and even their children that has met up for New Year's Eve every year since 1975.

"There are more than 40 individuals in the group, but there's a core group of about 10 to 15 that participates most every year," Rex said. "To add fun and competition, we began staging an air guitar contest in 1980 with the winner taking home a traveling trophy to hang with honor on their wall. Each year during the holiday season, we look forward to joining together again to celebrate our friendship and love of life."

With the passing in recent years of several members of the New Year's group, we are reminded of how important it is to remember those who enter Chapter Eternal. The composite project is yet another way that Rex hopes to honor those brothers no longer with us so that their impact at Beta Phi will never be forgotten.

"I would really like to complete this project by the time of our 100th anniversary in 2022," Rex said. "I hope that those from other eras and especially ones who have recently graduated remain in close contact with their brothers. A friendship that begins as a PIKE brother can last a lifetime with just a little effort and a lot of love."

If you have one of the missing composites listed to the right, or would like to reconnect with Rex, you can reach him at rexmartinpiano@gmail.com, (317) 445-5077, or 8912 Keever Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46234.

Help Us Find These Beta Phi Composites

All years prior to 1950
1950
1951
1952
1955
1957
1959
1961
1968
1972-1973
1985-1986
1986-1987
1987-1988
1988-1989
1989-1990
1990-1991
1991-1992
1992-1993
1993-1994
1994-1995
1995-1996
1997-1998
1998-1999
2000-2001
2003-2004
2007-2008

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Charles Edward Eastwood III '75 entered Chapter Eternal on November 12, 2020. He moved to San Diego, Calif., in 1977 and worked for Anthony Industries, where he designed and implemented electrical, cable, and wire assemblies. He then started his own business, EastElect, as an electrical engineer. But, perhaps he was best known as a consummate musician, singer, and guitarist extraordinaire. While a student, he performed in the group *Bandana*. More recently, he was playing with the San Diego group *The Tone Junkies* and was working on a solo recording project. Ed is survived by his partner, Patti Smith-Martin, daughter, and granddaughter.

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Jayden Alton | Oceanside, Calif.
Jackson Burkholder | Zionsville, Ind.
Tejas Chandrasekhar | Raleigh, N.C.
Brennan Chopp* | Carmel, Ind.
(Father)
Teagan Compton | Carmel, Ind.
Thomas Comte* | Newnan, Ga.
(Father, **Matthew Comte, Epsilon '98**;
Uncle, **Kevin Smallhorn, Epsilon Nu '96**)
Mark Fillar* | Naperville, Ill.
(Brother, **Paul Fillar, Delta Xi '19**)
Fulton Greiner | Valparaiso, Ind.
Christian Gutwein | West Lafayette, Ind.
Jack Harper* | Seattle, Wash.
(Father, **Dan Harper, Iota Mu '90**)
Avery Hollinden | Jasper, Ind.

Jared Hughes | Brownsburg, Ind.
Blake Iftiger | Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
Erik Jacobson | Chicago, Ill.
Martin Kim | Derby, England
Vineel Kothuri | St. Louis, Mo.
Jason Mair | Jasper, Ind.
Jack May | Warsaw, Ind.
Mitchell Oh | Ames, Iowa
Tommy Park | Orange County, Calif.
Amit Sundaram | Austin, Texas
Nick Super | Plainfield, Ill.
Reed Tillinghast | Weston, Fla.
Kamron Tower | Flanagan, Ill.
Carlos Velasquez | Lafayette, Ind.
Grant Zore | Fishers, Ind.
*Legacy; relation in parentheses



Above: Reed Tillinghast '20 and Mark Fillar '20 participating in workday this spring.

Right: Levi Siewert '19 and Jimmy Drescher '20 participating in workday this spring.



Beta Phi Foundation, Inc.

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Moving Forward

*Beta Phi Chapter Leads
Purdue Student Organizations
in Dollars Raised*

This semester, the Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha at Purdue University has experienced continued success as a result of our great fall semester and the many gentlemen taking charge in their different leadership roles. With COVID-19 restrictions being stricter than they were in the fall semester, brothers have seen great improvement and excellence in the realms of academics, philanthropy, and other student organizations.

As for philanthropy, Purdue Pikes have been heavily involved in raising funds for Relay for Life, which is a fundraising event for the American Cancer Society and many other cancer-related institutions. Currently, our fraternity leads all student organizations at Purdue in funds raised, nearing \$5,000 for the semester, as the virtual fundraiser is still ongoing.

With the lack of ability to get physically involved with many things on Purdue's campus, much of our time has been spent on our PIKE Motorsports Purdue Grand Prix team. Every year, Purdue hosts an annual go-kart race on our campus track. The Beta Phi Chapter had two karts for the season and our Grand Prix team worked tremendously hard for this year's race held on April 24.

Beta Phi also hosted our annual PIKE Workday this semester and managed to complete a near entire renovation of the basement in our Chapter hHouse. With the addition of a new DJ booth, new tables, and additional murals on the walls, the basement

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



Crew Chief Joey Keeler '18 doing a tech inspection before the Purdue Grand Prix Race 64 while driver Will Weisbrod III '18 gets ready to race.

looks very refreshing and will be ready for use in the fall of 2021.

Overall, Beta Phi has done an exceptional job finding ways to utilize extra time to further develop membership and increase involvement with activities of high importance.

Fraternally,
Will Weisbrod III '21
Chapter President

2021 CHAPTER OFFICERS

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Will Weisbrod III '21

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Gus Rupp '23

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