

# CANDLELIGHT

Beta Phi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha • Purdue University  
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**Left:** Alumni and undergraduates in front of the Chapter House during the 2016 Pike reunion. **Middle:** Brothers sing traditional Pi Kappa Alpha songs.

**Right:** Greg Delaney '73, Tom Donald '74, Bill Chen '72, Pat McGivney '75, Ralph Born '72, Charlie Sodini '74, Rex Martin '72, Bill Gafe '73, Dave Lowe '73, John McCormick '73, and Tom Eyre '71 get together every summer to attend a baseball game and see the sights of the area where they meet. This August, they met in the Twin Cities.

## 2016 PIKE GOLF OUTING AND REUNION A SUCCESS

Brothers, the 2016 Pike golf outing and reunion was maybe the best one yet. It was held on June 18 and we were one of the first groups to play the newly (Pete Dye) renovated Akerman Hills Course. Mother Nature played her part and we had tremendous weather. We had 44 golfers and over 50 joined us at the house for dinner afterwards. The winning foursome was **Kyle Russell '10**, **Tim Lukoshus '10**, **Ross Barclay '10**, and **David Yates '10**.

The door prizes included several donations from alumni, which were highlighted by two tickets to a Cincinnati Bengals football game and a chance to meet Bengals tight end Tyler Eifert. As is always the case, the camaraderie, fellowship, and brotherhood were the best part of the event. Having a chance to have our cookout on the front patio of the house sure brings back a lot of great memories.

2016 will mark the last time you get this report from me. Three younger alumni, **Ben Phillips '10**, **Josh Bellman '08**, and **Alex Schmitt '07**, have officially taken over the golf outing. It sure was a pleasure for me to be able to just show up and play on an outstanding course. **Mark your calendars! The 2017 golf outing and reunion will be on Saturday, June 24.** I hope to put a large enough group together so that we can take over the course. Start putting your foursomes together. More details will come out in the spring.

In the bonds of φφκα,  
**Joe Conti '85**  
President, Beta Phi Foundation  
(812) 629-3356  
joscon\_61@yahoo.com

## Bob Nice '82 Says Farewell as Home Association President Matt Folz, Theta Omicron '07 to Take Over



Rich Russell '58 and Matt Folz, Theta Omicron '07 presented Bob Nice '82 a special award for his service on the Home Association.

What do life, sports, and fraternal service have in common? The answer: they all have seasons! After 25 years on the board of directors of the Home Association, serving the last eight as its president, a new season has arrived for me. It is time for new leadership to take over the reins. With fondness, I appreciate the opportunity to reflect on this past "season."

I was blessed to live in the house with a group of achievers. We won at athletics, we had a great social calendar, we were active on campus, and we were recognized nationally with three Smythe awards. As an undergraduate, that was the order of importance to me. I probably

feel differently today about what that order should be.

When I took over as president, the Home Association was broke. During the first two months, we had a failure of some water tanks and the estimated cost of repair was \$12,000. Problem was, we only had \$5,000 in the bank. Thank God (or at least **Rich Russell '58**) for the Beta Phi Foundation. With its financial backing, we promptly made the needed repairs and restored hot water to the house. Please continue to support the foundation with an annual gift. Aside from bequests, if it received just \$50 or \$100 from our

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Bob Nice '82 Says Farewell as Home Association President

(Continued on page 2)

1,000-plus brothers a year, it would go a long way toward endowing us well into our second century at Purdue!

Things have changed greatly since I began. We recently completed a \$1.5 million renovation of the Chapter House. We have a low interest mortgage and we are paying it down ahead of schedule. We have adequate operating funds, a savings account, and a furniture reserve fund. We annually buy Pike jerseys for all the brothers—in house and out of house—which they wear proudly on campus and which serves as a great marketing tool to prospects and to sororities. We continue to be recognized as one of the strongest fraternities at Purdue. Help us keep it that way by sending recommendations for young men known to you who will be attending Purdue!

We've done a lot of things over the years, but I have two favorites. I personally chose to put up the huge Pi Kappa Alpha letters across the top of the front of the house. Anyone within a block of us will know who we are without having to read Greek letters. Second, we have a Goalrilla basketball goal and a new concrete pad for a smooth half court. All of the old trees behind it have been removed, so no more upheaval. Our letters are "in the paint" in garnet and gold.

My final effort was to plan for the future. My successor is **Matt Folz, Theta Omicron '07**. He was a Pike at Indiana State (where they've earned about 25 Smythes in 35 years). He then worked for nationals for a year before going to law school. While with nationals, Matt helped with our recruitment program and contributed significantly to the uptick in quality of membership we have experienced over the last five years. Matt is now a practicing attorney and has served on our board for the past three years. I know you will give him the support I have received from so many of you.

I will continue serving the fraternity as a member of the Long-Range Planning Committee of the foundation. Safe travels until our paths cross again!

In the bonds of φφκα,  
**Bob Nice '82**

## THANK YOU, ANNUAL DONORS

Our third year post-capital campaign is coming to a close and 45 alumni have stepped up to invest in Beta Phi's annual campaign. Thank you to those donors for committing almost \$6,000 thus far in 2016—please help us close 2016 out strong! Your gifts help support our undergraduates' scholarship and recruitment activities, as well as our alumni communications.

## Strong Alumni Leadership for the ΠΚΑ Chapter at Purdue

The following are key alumni in the management of the Chapter House and undergraduates:

Home Association Board

*New President*

**Matt Folz, Theta Omicron '11**

[matthew.r.folz@gmail.com](mailto:matthew.r.folz@gmail.com)

Alumni Advisory Board

*New Chairman*

**Ben Phillips '10**

[benphillips.purdue@gmail.com](mailto:benphillips.purdue@gmail.com)

Alumni Advisor

*Continues as an Advisor*

**Josh Bellman '08**

[josh.bellman@gmail.com](mailto:josh.bellman@gmail.com)

Beta Phi Foundation Board

*Continues as President*

**Joe Conti '85**

[joscon\\_61@yahoo.com](mailto:joscon_61@yahoo.com)

Beta Phi Long-Range Planning Board

*Continues as Chairman*

**Rich Russell '58**

[rich@richandphyllis.com](mailto:rich@richandphyllis.com)

Chairman and Advisor of the Beta Phi Boards

*Continues as Chairman*

**Rich Russell '58**

[rich@richandphyllis.com](mailto:rich@richandphyllis.com)

As Beta Phi alumni, you can be proud of this unique structure of volunteer alumni support that manage the Chapter House and the support of the undergraduates. The combined total of this support group represents approximately 30 men. Included with the dedication of these alumni also comes a wealth of professional knowledge, experience, and guidance. Their meetings are three to four times per year, usually at the Chapter House. Our 2016 celebration of 95 years on Purdue's campus is a testament to our strong and diversified alumni support. Please contact any of the chairmen above if you have any questions, suggestions, or would like to volunteer your time with any of the boards.

In the bonds of φφκα,

**Rich Russell '58**

Chairman of the Boards

## WELCOME, SPRING 2016 INITIATES

**Ben Birney '19**

*Concord, N.H.*

**Ben Collier '19**

*Granger, Ind.*

**Brad Jacobs '19**

*Fishers, Ind.*

**Thomas Kim '19**

*Yorba Linda, Calif.*

**Connor Knack '19**

*Dixon, Ill.*

**Matt Kramer '19**

*Granger, Ind.*

**Chris Kreid '19**

*Evanston, Ill.*

**Deaven Medlin '19**

*Granger, Ind.*

**Zach Panzer '19**

*Fort Wayne, Ind.*

**Mitch Parker '19**

*Fort Wayne, Ind.*

**Varun Prakash '19**

*Naperville, Ill.*

**Jacob Townsend '19**

*Fort Wayne, Ind.*

**DJ Woodard '19**

*Danville, Ind.*



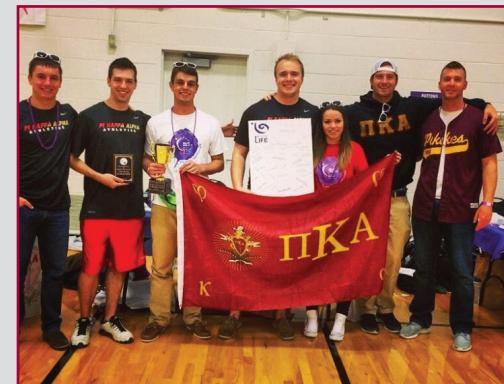
*The Chapter with the Purdue Fire Department and the sorority participants after Pike's Firefighter Challenge.*



**Left:** Chad Mateja '17, Avery Szatny '19, Andrew McGowan '17, and Mitchell Reeser '19 at the International Convention in New Orleans.

Awards were won for 20-plus members at Pike University events, Pike work day, Chapter excellence, and 100-plus members.

**Middle:** The fall 2016 new member class at the Steaks and Stogies welcome event. **Right:** Mitchell Ahaus '17, Andrew McGowan '17, Tyler Frizzi '17, Connor Chambers '19, Greg Dyer '16, and Nathan Devillez '17 after winning the Greek and campus cups at Relay for Life.



## BETA PHI AWARDED ORIANS EXCELLENCE AWARD Pi Kappa Alpha Succeeds in Campus Involvement, Philanthropic Events

The last six months have been extremely busy and rewarding for the Beta Phi Chapter! We ended the spring semester with over \$6,800 raised for the American Cancer Society by participating in Purdue's Relay for Life, taking home the campus and Greek cups for the event. The fraternity finished with our best GPA (2.97) and philanthropy dollars raised (\$9,345) in my four years as a Pike. We also finished with more community service hours (3,019) than any other Chapter on campus. These achievements were enough to earn us an Orians Excellence award at the national convention in New Orleans this summer as among the top 20% of Pike Chapters in the nation.

The Chapter shows no sign of slowing down as we complete the fall semester. Thirty-nine new members signed bids during recruitment, giving us one of the largest classes on campus. Pike's Firefighter Challenge continued to grow and raised over \$6,000 for the National Fallen

Firefighter's Foundation. The Dream Girl competition has returned to the Chapter for the first time in many years and is already being highly contested by the sorority women on campus. Pike won the campus Greek Olympics competition and took home the Greek Cup in Purdue Dance Marathon.

We even started a Chapter website, which has been lacking in recent years! We encourage all of our alumni to visit our undergraduate website at



[www.purduepikes.org](http://www.purduepikes.org) and sign up to receive e-mail updates from us at the Chapter. It's always a great day to be a Pi Kappa Alpha member!

In the bonds of φφκα,  
**Andrew McGowan '17**

317-332-6011 / [purduepikepresident@gmail.com](mailto:purduepikepresident@gmail.com)

# CHAPTER OFFICERS

President

**Andrew McGowan '17**

Internal Vice President

**Carson Rivard '18**

External Vice President

**TJ Dellavilla '18**

Treasurer

**Chad Mateja '17**

Sergeant-at-Arms

**Wesley Groves '18**

Secretary

**Mitchell Reeser '19**

House Manager

**Alex Foster '18**

Recruitment Chairman

**Avery Szatny '19**

Risk Manager

**Eli Scherrer '19**

New Member Educator

**Joey Insko '19**

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## Beta Phi Foundation, Inc.

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please e-mail [jgoodman@penningtonco.com](mailto:jgoodman@penningtonco.com).

## Alumni Update

**Leonidas W. Payne IV '54** moved to Noblesville, Ind., in May. "At my age I can't remember many new things. Since I went into aerospace jobs I never thought I would be a Hoosier; but here I am hoping this is my last move." E-mail: [lpayneiv@yahoo.com](mailto:lpayneiv@yahoo.com)

**Thomas M. Lemons '56** received two U.S. patents that identify how LEDs should be used to illuminate sports facilities. Tom and his wife, Priscilla, live in Peabody, Mass., and have two daughters, Elizabeth and Katherine. E-mail: [tmlattla@aol.com](mailto:tmlattla@aol.com)

**Frederic C. Westendorf '60** was inducted into the Westchester County Senior Citizens Hall of Fame for 20 years of service providing free tax preparation for taxpayers throughout the county. After 13 years as the Westchester AARP Foundation Tax-Aide District Coordinator, he

stepped down in 2011 to become the technical coordinator for the district's 100 volunteers. This includes supporting 20 sites at libraries and community centers with laptops, wireless routers, and networked printers. "This keeps me off the street from November through April of each year." Frederick lives in Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. E-mail: [fcw@alum.mit.edu](mailto:fcw@alum.mit.edu)

**Rex A. Martin '72** released a CD of all original music with his band, 2B Stainless. The title of the album is "Out of the Woodwork," and is available on iTunes and Amazon. It's a collection of songs that span the early '80s to the present. Rex and his wife, Lynne, live in Indianapolis, and have three children. E-mail: [remartinpiano@gmail.com](mailto:remartinpiano@gmail.com)

**Douglas M. Balser '79** and his wife, Donna, have been married for 32 years and live in

Austin, Texas. They have three children and two granddaughters. He retired from IBM after 32 years in 2012 and started a business with Donna in 2007. E-mail: [dmabalser@austin.rr.com](mailto:dmabalser@austin.rr.com)

**Patrick S. Ward '02** reports that after nearly four years in New Delhi, India, he moved back to the U.S. with his wife, Sarah. They settled in the greater Washington, D.C., area. "I will continue working with IFPRI, and will continue conducting research throughout South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa." E-mail: [p.ward@cgiar.org](mailto:p.ward@cgiar.org)

**Aaron M. Smith '09** is a project manager with Balfour Beatty Construction. He started the Lowcountry Pike Alumni Association in 2015 with area Pikes. Aaron lives in North Charleston, S.C. E-mail: [aaron.smith1585@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.smith1585@gmail.com)

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