

2017-2018 ANNUAL FUND

How Do I Give To Chi Phi's Annual Fund?

If you haven't read the article by Brother Ken Jacobsen in this issue, please do. It details the very specific needs of Alpha Delta and how you can be involved.

Enclosed within this newsletter is a response envelope. This is to aid you in contributing to Chi Phi at Penn State, to help raise the necessary funds for new hardwood floors in the Chapter House, which you can do in one of three ways:

- Via the enclosed return envelope
- By visiting www.chiphi-psu.org and clicking "donate"
- Or by calling our toll-free donation line at **1.800.975.6699**

Any amount, no matter how big or small, will go a long way in further beautifying OUR Kingdom. We hope to see you at the next Alumni event and show off the new hardwood floors that, without your help, would never be possible.

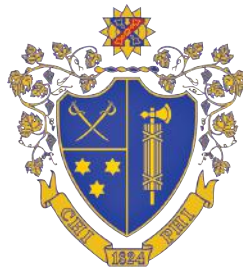
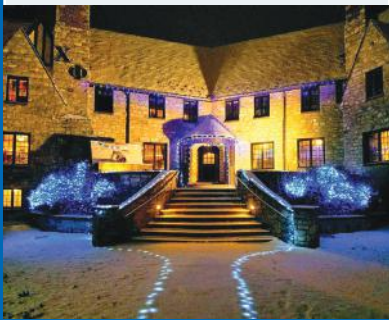
In the Spirit of the N.R.,

The Alpha Delta House Association

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

The Kingdom Shines Bright During Recent Holiday Season

Over the 2017 holiday season, some of the Active Chi Phi Brothers snapped a great photo of the Kingdom, showcasing the new Greek letters added just this year!



Alpha Delta DATA

Alpha Delta Chapter of Chi Phi at Penn State • www.chiphi-psu.org • March 2018

YOU NEVER GET A SECOND CHANCE AT A FIRST IMPRESSION

Annual Fund Re-Established To Replace Kingdom's 85-Year-Old Hardwood Floors

By **Kenneth Jacobsen AD '66**

Wishing all the Alumni and Brothers of the Alpha Delta chapter of Chi Phi a happy and prosperous upcoming new year!

I have always heard that you never get a second chance to make a first impression and this is certainly true when you enter Chi Phi's front door. I was always taken back at how impressive the club rooms looked when entering the house. These original 1932 hardwood floors are in need of replacement and cannot be refinished again. Hence, as we re-launch our annual campaign, we are designating the funds we receive this year to replace the hard wood floors.

When we considered the scope of the original \$2.0 million renovation, one of the important items on the list was the replacement of the entry foyer, club rooms and library hardwood floors. However, the actual \$1.3 million budget in pledges and financing could not cover this cost, so it was moved to Phase II. When the house renovations were completed and we recolonized in 2013 to reopen the fraternity, all major Phase I renovations were completed, and the house was refurbished. You can read a terrific story that describes the success - <http://onwardstate.com/2013/12/04/os-cribs-fraternity-edition-chi-phi/>.

Note that when we embarked on the original Campaign for Alpha Delta, we suspended the annual campaign to focus everyone's efforts on the capital we needed for renovations. As the campaign, renovations and pledge collections were drawn out for several years, the Board was willing to forego everyone's annual \$50-\$100-\$250 contributions to ensure that enough was raised and collected so we could actually keep the Kingdom.

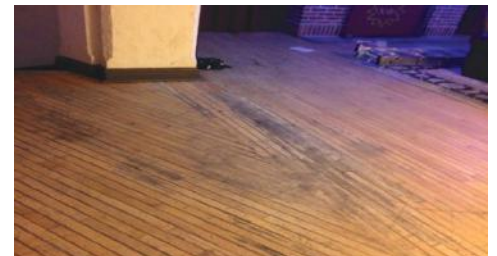
Here we are, 5 years after our grand re-opening, and we need an Annual Campaign more than ever, and this year, we need a little more than usual. Our annual campaign goal is to raise \$50,000 to cover the floor replacement (\$35,000-\$40,000), and fund some minor maintenance projects, kitchen equipment replacements, and ensure that alumni relations and communications efforts are restored to previous levels. Please make an annual contribution, and consider stretching a little as a sort of 10-year catch-up so we can get the new

floors done this summer. Certainly, a contribution of \$1,000 or more will put your name on a stone that will forever be part of the gorgeous front patio as a reminder of your outstanding commitment, so if you missed the opportunity in the original campaign, now is your chance!

Kenneth Jacobsen, AD'66

House Association Board & Construction Advisor

Announcing Our 2018 Annual Campaign – Replacement Of Club Room Hardwood Floors



This is a recent photo of the existing hardwood flooring installed in 1932. Refinishing over the years has opened up the joints between each board to a point where re-sanding and refinishing again is not an option. Don't you wish your floors lasted for 85 years!

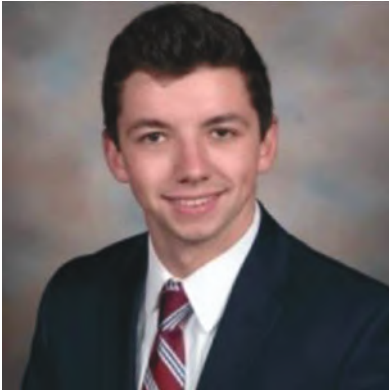
In addition, large areas of original sub flooring are soft (spongy) from water damage, especially near the radiators.



This is a photo of the main club room taken in August of 2013. New sub flooring with 2 1/4" x 3/4" red oak hardwood floors having a polyurethane finish will encompass an area of approximately 2,100SF on the main level and replace the existing worn out flooring.

All work would be done during the summer of either 2018 or 2019 depending on the success of raising the funds needed.

Philanthropy, Concerts, and More at 360 E. Hamilton!



Here at the Alpha Delta chapter, we have been going to great lengths to make an impact in our community. Whether it be campus wide events such as THON, or smaller events put on at the house, this has been a focus of our brotherhood over the past year. Additionally, Alpha Delta reports a healthy spring new member class of 19 young men.

Recently, we have paired with a new sorority, Omega Phi Alpha, to partner with us for THON. Since the pairing, we have been working endlessly on raising money for the event. In the fall semester, we spent a weekend canning all over Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The canning weekend allowed us to spend a full day outside raising money and talking to people about what we do for THON. We also plan to go canvassing and to continue to host fundraising events to help increase our total right up until THON's commencement on February 18th.

Other than fundraising, we provide support for THON families - the Garcias, Martins, and the Zieglers. We have been with Josiah and his mother Erika Garcia since 2014 and visit them multiple times a year. Josiah finally finished his treatment this fall and we celebrated with a skate party where we had about 40 brothers go and celebrate in Dover, PA. Josiah loves music, video games and sports and he cannot wait to attend Penn State as a student and a brother of Chi Phi. Due to our new partnership with Omega Phi Alpha, we gained two new families this year and we cannot wait to build a strong relationship with them over the next few years. THON is extremely impactful on many families and something that many of our brothers hold very close their hearts.

Another focus of our chapter has been community outreach. In the fall semester, we

organized a Sunday brunch at our house and invited numerous people in the community. Our guests ranged from our next door neighbors to the newly elected State College mayor, and everyone in between. We thought this event would be a great chance for our brothers to interact with our community members and for the community members to see what our fraternity is all about. All in all, about 40 community members showed up throughout the day and our feedback from them was very positive. This event went very well and we think it went a long way in our relationship with the community. We look forward to hosting more events like this one in the future.

Along the same lines as our brunch, we recently invited a local policeman to come speak to the brothers at the house. Officer Adam Salyards graciously volunteered to come to this event and teach us how to be better neighbors. His presentation covered many topics from local laws to crisis management. Overall, he provided us with some great tips that will help us continue to improve our standing in the community. We cannot thank Officer Adam Salyards enough for volunteering his time to us and we think we gained some great information from his presentation.

One of the final big events we put on recently was a philanthropy concert at our house. Multiple brothers knew of musicians that would be willing to come perform and we saw this as a great opportunity for philanthropy. Our proceeds from the event will be donated to the Boys and Girls Club of America. We were able to get two separate artists to come perform at the event with one of our brothers as the opening act. Between selling tickets online and at the door, we were able to raise a solid amount of money

to put towards our charity. Prior to the event, we went to many measures to ensure the event would be run smoothly and safely for everyone attending. Sure enough, the event went great and everyone had a good time. We hope to continue to do more big philanthropy events in the future to help raise money.

Over the past year we have also had many brothers involved in Men Against Violence, and Greeks CARE, two on campus organizations that share the goal of decreasing sexual assaults by spreading awareness, providing information on resources, and promoting bystander intervention. Through these programs our brothers have facilitated presentations for other fraternities, sororities, club and varsity sports teams, and other student organizations, and formed a very strong relationship with the staff at the Gender Equity Center, a division of the office of student affairs that oversees both programs. The involvement in these programs has provided many leadership and service opportunities for our brothers, and we have an even larger number of brothers participating in both organizations this year because we all feel that this is a very important cause.

Overall, the brothers of the Alpha Delta chapter have been working hard to improve our community relations while raising money for THON and philanthropies. All of our recent events have turned out well and we have received positive feedback from those attending. In the future, we will continue to work at improving our relations and making a positive impact on the community around us. This past year has been pretty successful, but we believe that this is just the start of the great things that we can achieve as a fraternity.

In The Spirit of the N.R.,

Adam McCullough

President, Chi Phi Fraternity,

Alpha Delta Chapter

Vice President, Enactus at University Park

Cell: (330) 690-9369

College of Engineering, Class of 2020

CHI PHI IS BACK!

Re-building Old Bridges, and Renewing Love for Alpha Delta

By **Bob Berg '76** President, Alpha Delta House Association

The Alpha Delta Chapter of Chi Phi is back! Most, if not all of you, know that the Alpha Delta (AD) house was closed and the chapter was disaffiliated from Chi Phi National in 2008. Over the five year period from 2008-2013, while the house was closed, capital was raised by the alumni and this money was used to make extensive renovations to the AD house. The house was reopened for the Fall 2013 semester. The chapter was re-colonized but, in fact, it was only a house as the fraternity and all that this means no longer existed at that time.

The process of rebuilding a fraternity has been a long, often challenging, and, in the end, very rewarding process. Operating systems such as financial reporting, food service, and maintenance and repairs have been put in place. Policy documents ranging from the bylaws to job descriptions for the executives on the executive board have been drawn up. Occupancy contracts and food service contracts are in place. A solid new member program has been put into

place and the house is near capacity filled with high caliber individuals. House traditions were identified and, with the exception of hell week and anything else that can be called hazing, have been re-established. The AD brothers worked with both Chi Phi National and AD alumni to accomplish this reconstruction and received accreditation from National in March of 2015.

While the brothers have been very successful rebuilding the Alpha Delta chapter of Chi Phi at Penn State and have develop a solid foundation of brotherhood to build on in the future, it is time to reconnect with AD brothers of yesteryear. During the pause to reset Chi Phi, many of you have drifted off and connections to Chi Phi have become more of a memory than a continuing brotherhood. Now that the house is up and running, there is a place to gather and rekindle old friendships and rebuild the Alpha Delta brotherhood. In addition to meeting old friends, it would be great for the active brothers to meet the Chi Phi alumni

to get a better understanding of how friendships made in college last for a life time and meet the men that are all a part of Chi Phi history.

As a first step to rebuilding old bridges, the active brothers and I would like to extend an invitation to join us for homecoming weekend this Fall. The Fall of 2018 homecoming is scheduled for October 13th when the Nittany Lions play Michigan state. This is early enough that there is a good chance for great weather and the game should be interesting as we try to avenge last year's loss. Throw in the opportunity to catch up with old friends, meet new ones, and share stories with current brothers and you have the ingredients of a great weekend. For an added bonus, the food on Saturday night will be off the charts. The only element missing to make the Fall 2018 Chi Phi Homecoming a success is you. Mark the date in your calendar and start making plans. If you have any suggestions for improving the attendance at homecoming, we would love to hear from you.

ALUMNI PROFILE

Holding Out Hope for Chi Phi and the Greek System

Jim Delark '66 Shares Thoughts on the State of Greek Life



Jim Delark '66 has hope, even at a time when the Greek system is facing scrutiny at colleges and universities across the country. He has faith that fraternities

and sororities can survive if they take the time to evaluate their purpose and how they can reinvent themselves. His loyalty shouldn't be a surprise to those that know him, though. After all, just 10 years ago, he and many others in our alumni group,

stepped in to raise funds, rehabilitate the property and get it up to code, and to re-establish the chapter.

"We all made the decision to invest in Chi Phi so other young men would have opportunity we had," he says. "And now, I think it's important for alumni brothers to provide continuing support—the chapter will need support going forward to maintain what we established—and re-established in 2012."

Now, Jim hopes Chi Phi is headed in the right direction.

"When we re-colonized the chapter, the fellows in charge of doing that certainly intended to redirect the focus of the fraternity," he explains, noting the value

of leadership education in addition to the social benefits that fraternities offer. "The fraternity system as a whole has had to reinvent itself. It just wasn't sustainable the way it was. And there have been some incidents that have made national news regarding the Penn State Greek system—the Beta Theta Pi incident. That has everyone doing some soul searching and asking, 'what is purpose of Greek system and how can we improve it?'"

Though Jim attended Penn State and lived in the Chi Phi house at a time when the main focus of fraternities were social gatherings, there were other benefits he's grateful for today—benefits that he wants other young men to have the chance to gain from Chi Phi too.

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- *Jim Delark '66 On Greek Life*

ALUMNI PROFILE cont'd

“The biggest benefit was living with a group of people you didn’t know before,” he says. “You had to make friends, learn to get along, and essentially run a small business. We did our own budgeting, which was great experience to have. You make lifetime friends through the experience as well.”

“It was a great place to meet members of the opposite sex too,” he adds, laughing. “The sororities came to events quite often.”

Jim also wouldn’t have two of his best friends if it weren’t for joining Chi Phi.

His friendships with **Allen Gromko '66** and **David Betts '67** have lasted more than 50 years.

“Throughout the years, I’ve always managed to see them quite a bit because I traveled a lot for business,” he says, explaining that he is now retired from his management role in the steel and plastic industries. “David lives in Arizona, so I’d pop in and see him when I was in the area. I also see him every Christmas. His daughters live in the Philadelphia area and when I go up to see my family there, we always get together. Allen and I ended up living in the same town after graduation and spent a lot of time together. I’ve watched both Allen and David’s kids and grandkids grow up. It’s just part of an extended family—it’s a great experience.”

In addition, **Larry Parsons '66** has also kept in touch and visited Jim over the years.

It’s friendships like these that make Jim remember the value of his Chi Phi years and give him hope that the experience will live on for others. He advises active brothers to “do everything in moderation and do the best they can.”

“If they do the best they can, they won’t have to look back and say ‘Gee, I could have done better,’” he says. “You get very few opportunities like this in life—to attend such a terrific university and have the opportunity to experience and learn all kind of things. You need to make the best of it.”

In the end, Jim admits the future of the Greek system—as well as higher education—is uncertain, but his hope for the best still shines through.

“The university obviously has gone through some difficult times,” he says. “The whole thing with Chi phi is happening in context of the greater challenges that the university faces—and for that matter higher education. Certainly there are financial aspects—there’s the increasing cost. I just marvel at how much money it costs to go to college. In fact, I couldn’t have afforded to go if the situation was the same back then. So what is the future of huge bricks and mortar campus that we see at Penn State and other big universities around the country? Is that a sustainable model for education going forward? I don’t know. There are tremendous costs with keeping up with that infrastructure and providing all those services and so forth. It’s an interesting time... but there are always challenges. It’s not something new—they’re just different challenges. Hopefully, the experience people have in going through a great university like Penn State help them at some future date to help solve those problems. That’s what it’s all about.”

We hope that other alumni share Jim’s faith in Chi Phi’s future. If you’d like to share your story, like Jim, make a gift at www.chiphi-psu.org, to ensure Chi Phi’s legacy lives on.

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