

Homecoming '04 a Success!

Rico Hernandez '78

Our annual Homecoming was a resounding success, with over 100 Phi Psis and guests in attendance. Some notable alumni present included: Chuck Scott '51, Dick Dundas '54, Tom McDonald '57, and former SWGP Dick Ong, Oregon Beta '57. Chuck and his wife traveled from Turkey to be with us for the occasion. Chapter Re-founders Mark Reinecke '78 and Carlos Hernandez '78 were also in attendance. Many brothers from the '80s filled the alumni ranks as well: Brothers Mike Bergines '83, Dave Levy '83, Kevin Gross, '85, Joe Dew '86, Tom Griesser '86, Socrates Jimenez, '88, TJ Al-Jubeir '88, and Greg Nagler '89.

During the cocktail hour, Jordan, our chef, treated us to delicious hors d'oeuvres. Afterwards, he served us a tasty buffet dinner that consisted of prime rib and garlic

shrimp. Dinner was followed by a crème brulee dessert. The dinner concluded with an uplifting chorus of Amici. Many brothers commented that the Phi Psi dinner was the highlight of Homecoming

Weekend. Much thanks to brothers Chris Montgomery '99 and Brian Burton '04 who organized the evening. We hope to see more alumni brothers at next year's Homecoming Dinner!



Brothers and guests enjoy Homecoming dinner together

House Corporation News

Rico Hernandez '78

Brothers, as we mark our third year in our home at 592 Mayfield, the excitement of being a housed chapter continues. The school year began with a House Corporation-sponsored leadership retreat in Kauai nicknamed "Hawaii Alpha". The leadership retreat, in its second year, was conducted by Brother Christopher Montgomery '99 at the

condo of Brother Rico Hernandez's '78 on the island of Kauai. In attendance were Chapter GP Andrew Schwartz '03, VGP John Garrod '03, P James Hom '02, and Social Chairman John Stockdale '04. Topics discussed included risk management, rush, alumni relations, and chapter goals for the 2004-05 school year.

The House Corp sponsors the retreat as part of its commitment to leadership development. In addition to sponsoring Hawaii Alpha, the House Corp sponsors Chapter Officer attendance at the following leadership schools conducted by the National Fraternity: Fraternity Educators' Leadership Academy

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House Corp News

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(FELA), Presidents' Leadership Academy (PLA), and Woodrow Wilson Leadership Academy. The House Corp firmly believes that developing leaders, both for the fraternity and for society, is consistent with its mission and should be pursued.

On Sunday, October 24, 2004, the morning after Homecoming, the House Corporation's Board of Directors gathered for a strategic planning session after thorough and thoughtful preparation. Brothers Mike Bergines '83, Mike Wilson '96, Chris Montgomery '99, Russell Jong '83, Chapter GP Andrew Schwartz '03, Chapter P James Hom '02, and Rico Hernandez '78, in addition to Silicon Valley Alumni Association President Eric Watkins '98, discussed the House Corp's characteristics (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, etc.), developed a mission statement and vision for the group, confirmed our values, and established objectives,

key strategies, major goals, and a strategic plan for the next five years.

Briefly, the House Corp's main goals are being driven by the needs of the chapter and the group's desire to foster scholarship, leadership, brotherhood, and to lighten any financial burdens that may exist or arise that would hamper a young man's ability to study at Stanford of become a Phi Psi. We look forward to sharing more information on our plans as they develop, and hope to receive your support in its implementation.

Brothers, as the Chapter continues to prosper, we welcome alumni involvement in the House Corporation. Your gift of time or talent will be greatly appreciated. Please contact Rico Hernandez '78 at 415-810-2664 or axecal@aol.com if you would like to become involved on a committee (Finance, Marketing, or Fundraising) or would like to express any views or opinions. Your input is valued.



John Stockdale, Andrew Schwartz, James Hom, and Christopher Montgomery at the "Hawaii Alpha" leadership retreat

Alumni News

Nate Selden '83 and Karen Selden are proud to announce the birth of their third child, Megan, on October 1st, 2004, weighing in at 7 pounds 4 ounces, 20 inches long. Megan joins her 5 year old brother, Ryan, and 4 year old sister, Lauren, who are glad to welcome her to the family.

Greg Nagler '89 traveled from Beijing, China to celebrate Homecoming '04. Greg's Dad, James '58 was unable to attend, but sent his good wishes.

Another brother, **Morgan Noble '39**, was unable to attend Homecoming due to illness. Morgan Noble nonetheless sent his best wishes to all the brothers. We missed having his trademark red sport coat at the dinner.

Mark Miller '04 reports that he is settling into the routine as a first-year medical student at the Harvard Medical School. We are proud to report that The Endowment Fund of the National Fraternity awarded Mark a Founders' Fellowship. Congratulations Mark!

Sean McGraw '85 and his wife Janet (Stanford Delta Gamma, '85) just welcomed their third son, Connor, to the Phi Psi Future Legacy Club.

Dave Lippeatt '83 joined in when he and his wife Claudia welcomed Lucas early in the year—the number of boys these pledges from the mid-80's are cranking out is pretty impressive:

Alumni News

- **Kelly Sims '85** – Andrew
- **Tony Espiritu '85** – Zack and Ryan
- **Kirt Thomson '85** – Cole
- **Sean McGraw '85** – Tyler, Connor, and Kyle
- **Dave Lippeatt '83** – Lucas

They blew past “basketball team” size and are rapidly approaching the ability to populate Sunken Diamond!

Dave is stationed in Lima, Peru right now working on the economic and political desk at the State Department. He is looking to return to Washington, DC next year for a job here in the States before trying to head to Europe.

If you have a new job, got married, retired or would like to send news to your fellow brothers, please send them to Rico Hernandez '78 at Axecal@aol.com or Mike Bergines '83 at mike_bergines@hotmail.com.

Chapter Eternal

We regret to announce that the following brothers have joined Chapter Eternal since our last newsletter:

- Glen M. Smith '35
- Ben C. Garside III '47
- Arthur B. Ferguson Jr. '68

What Does Phi Psi Mean to You?

This column is the first in what we hope will be series of contributions by Cal Betans in answering the question, “What did Phi Psi mean to you as a student, and what does it mean to you now?” We ask that you submit any thoughts, be they a single idea, an anecdote, or a full column to Mike Bergines, '83, at mike_bergines@hotmail.com for publication in future newsletters.

The Ties that Bind

Mike Bergines '83

I didn't arrive at Stanford with the thought that I would join a fraternity—and my first rush party, which involved ducking flying beer bottles at another Stanford fraternity, did nothing to encourage me. But then a fellow Southern Californian I met at a “Welcome to Stanford Party” 6 months before—Dave Lippeatt, '83—encouraged me to meet some guys from an unhoused fraternity that he had been impressed with at their first rush event. I went and found them to be warm, interested in us as individuals, and passionate about their group. A few weeks later, I

pledged with 26 other guys into a Phi Psi chapter that had only 17 members at the time.

First pledge, then active, then pledge educator, then GP. Along the way, I met some incredible people—they became my second family and kept me engaged and vibrant during a tough financial and familial time for me. I learned some valuable things from Phi Psi—the benefit of listening to, considering, and incorporating other points of view; the importance of learning to influence, rather than direct people, the need to look outside your immediate reality and help others; and the power of per-

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Reflections of a New Brother

Jonathan White '04

My name is Jonathan White. I am an ex-pledge, and I am proud to be a Phi Psi. As a Newly Initiated Brother, I am experiencing all that is Phi Psi for the first time, and I am thoroughly enjoying every moment of it. From spring rush last year to the Phi Psi reunion this year, I feel as though I am becoming closer and closer to the fraternity. It seems as though I just rushed last week, even though I know it was way back in the spring of last year. Time truly flies when you are having fun

among good company, and thankfully I have had no shortage of either.

Following the brief rush period, my fellow Puds and I were bombarded with fraternity facts and history in the Pledge Education process, instructed to remember every detail as best we could. Pledge Education was not limited to learning about the history of our brotherhood, but also included many pledge events and other bonding activities; we

The Ties That Bind

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sonal relationships and group bonds.

And the ties have only become stronger with time—the majority of my good friends in life—my true friends—are Phi Psis. I met my wife through two of my Phi Psi brothers, David Lippeatt '83 and Andrew Lloyd '84. Andrew took me to Colombia to visit Dave, who was working at the Embassy in Bogota. They opened my eyes to a different world, and Dave's Colombian wife introduced me to my

wife. And in April 2001, Kerry Dailey, '85, Kirt Thomson, '85, Dave, and Andrew all traveled to Colombia to attend my wedding. A new world, a special woman, and a memory for a lifetime all brought to me by Phi Psi.

Phi Psi enriched and influenced my life as I was developing into an adult and has continued to shape it in an incredibly positive way as I travel through life. I tell skeptics that stereotypes don't apply—sure, we drank a few beers, and only recently stopped recounting great sto-

ries in brutal detail at every group gathering—but, for me, being a Cal Betan Phi Psi has always represented the ideal of fraternity as it was first conceived. You know, the 18th century French idea of fraternity. And to borrow from a famous credit card commercial:

- Keg of beer - \$50
- Winnebago rental - \$750
- Tommy Burger drive-thru bill for 12 at 1:30am- \$60
- Memories and friends to last a lifetime... Priceless

Reflections of a New Brother

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learned as much about the past of our brotherhood as we did about the current brothers. Needless to say, some things learned during that time will not be repeated here for various reasons, but we all came out of the education process as better men, soon to be brothers.

Rush gave way to initiation, and initiation opened the doors of the fraternity to us. I'm sure you can all recall your own initiation ceremonies and the feelings of joy and honor at becoming initiated. Though initiation was the beginning of my career as a brother, it was not until our annual Phi Psi Homecoming that I felt like I was a real member of the fraternity. Seeing so many brothers, both young and old, made me truly glad that I could be associated with such a family, and a family it is. To think that I will be welcomed by brothers initiated 10, 20, and even 50 years from now

leaves me with a certain sense of awe.

The flurry of activities afterward simply reinforced my feelings of warmth and love for my brothers. The annual Phi Psi 500 tug-o-war event, our weekly movie nights, the occasional party with many hours

of set up and preparation (including but not limited to the construction of an indoor waterfall), and simple meals around a giant table surrounded by my brothers all make me love my decision to rush, pledge, and join this family. I am Jonathan White, and I am proud to be a Phi Psi.



Actives Tony Colvin '03 and Jorge Eugenio Ortiz Hinojosa '04

I would like to contribute to the ongoing success of the California Beta chapter through a donation to the California Beta House Corporation in the amount of:

\$25 \$100

\$50 Other Amount: _____

Checks may be made payable to the California Beta House Corporation. Please send this coupon along with a check to:

Rico Hernandez
386 San Jose Avenue #4
San Francisco, CA 94110

Rico Hernandez '78 can answer any questions about donations at (415) 810-2664 or axecal@aol.com.



Re-founders Mark Reinecke '78 and Carlos Hernandez '78 at Homecoming



Active brothers enjoy dinner together at the house

GP Remarks

Andrew Schwartz '03

What is it that makes a group of otherwise ordinary college students Men of Excellence? Is it their ability to organize and execute a successful philanthropy event, raising hundreds of dollars for a local charity? Is it their dedication to the community, sending volunteers consistently, week after week, to distribute food at a local food bank? How about their desire to give back to the campus, hosting top leaders in business and the arts, in a venue open to the community?

The Phi Psi chapter at Stanford University excels in all of these areas. But how does that separate us from any other fraternity, at any other school? What makes the California Beta chapter of Phi Kappa Psi different?

I have come to the realization that what makes me happy when I step through the doorway at 592 Mayfield is not the fact that we throw Battle of the Bands, listed as one of the top 10 most successful events on Stanford's campus. Nor is it the

classy Speakeasy Jazz nights we host. It's not what we do, it's who we are.

When I talk to a prospective member of our fraternity about Phi Psi, of course I tell him about the events he will be a part of as a member. But that's not the selling point of this fraternity. The real selling point is when I walk around our house and introduce him to various brothers.

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**Phi Kappa Psi
California Beta Chapter
592 Mayfield Ave.
Stanford, CA 94305**

GP Remarks

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I bring him into one brother's room, full of pictures of car interiors – this brother has been asked to work with Volkswagen to redesign the interior of their vehicles. I introduce him to another brother, who has been gone for the first week of the quarter, having represented Stanford at the

ACM Computer Science competition in the Czech Republic. Then to another, who has just returned from tutoring a new band member to play an instrument. Then another, who has stopped out for a quarter to publish biology research (and to help re-found another Phi Psi chapter in his spare time).

Without a doubt, the prospective member is wowed by the uniqueness, the individuality, and the way each individual brother is able to excel at everything he does. He wants to be part of that. He wants to be surrounded by these Men of Excellence.

News from SVAA

**Eric Watkins '98
President, Silicon Valley Alumni Association**

Encouraged by the turnout at last year's **Founder's Day event**, the dinner this year will again be brothers-only! It will be held **Friday, Feb. 18, 2005**, at the Stanford chapter house. Cocktails will begin at 6:30, and dinner is at 7:30.

The **Monthly Alumni Dinner** continues to be popular! This is an informal gathering held the first Thursday of every month. We meet at old Stanford hangouts like the Dutch Goose and the Oasis. Recently, Sachin Agarwal started or-

ganizing a similar dinner for people living in San Francisco. This one takes place mid-month.

Email ewatkins@stanfordalumni.org or call 650-814-4364 if you'd like to be added to our mailing list!
