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QUICK NOTES

Fond Memories of Happiness and Wisteria at 3809 Locust Walk

Joseph Goodhue '39 Donates Painting

Our sincere thanks to **Joseph A. Goodhue '39**. He generously donated a fabulous oil painting of the chapter house. This rare and valuable piece of art was painted in 1940 by Jean Brown, a graduate of the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts. In the letter that accompanied the gift, Joe commented on his "fond memories of the wisteria that surrounded the front entrance porch." He recalls his days at Phi Phi as among his happiest memories. He noted, "The comradeship I experienced then has carried on to this day."

The painting will be framed and secured in a place of honor in the house. Hopefully, the painting will evoke many more fond memories for generations of undergrads to come and for alumni who visit. Thanks again, Joe! (His current address is: 683 Main Street, Leominster, MA 01453).



Recent Chapter House Improvements

Life Safety Improvements Were High on the Fraternity's and the University's Lists

By Mark Kocent '82, House Corp President

In advance of the major renovation project being planned at 3809 Locust Walk, we addressed a few areas of concern this past summer. The second floor bathroom has now been thoroughly renovated to match the third floor bathroom project completed last year. New, individual shower stalls were installed along with all new plumbing fixtures, ceilings

and lighting. Most importantly, a complete structural assessment and re-stabilization of the floors was accomplished, eliminating problems that date back to 1975. This project was funded from our long term Capital Improvement Fund, and supported by rent revenue.

The other focus of work included improving life safety amenities throughout the house. A new fire alarm system was installed, additional handrail guards were added on the upper floors and miscellaneous electrical, sprinkler and egress elements were addressed. These upgrades were part of a University-wide life safety project in all of the Fraternity and Sorority houses on campus, funded through a University sponsored loan to each chapter.

All of these projects were carefully considered in order to be in sync with the larger renovation plans. Some additional projects, such as a new stair tower to replace the fire escape, will occur as part of the larger project to follow.



3809 Locust Walk, circa 1940

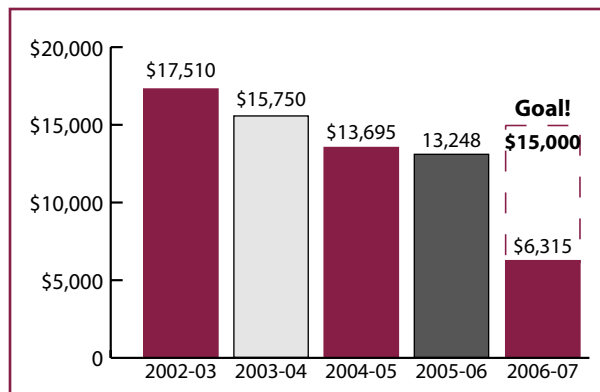
Thank You for Contributing to the 2005-06 Annual Fund Drive and Supporting Our Communications Program

Your Support Needed in 2006-07 to Get Annual Giving Back on Track!

We would like to thank the 121 alumni members who contributed to the 2005-06 annual fund. While we appreciate this support, we'd like to increase our giving totals to levels we've seen in years past.

Help us carry on our communications program by making your gift today. It's easy. Just call **800-975-6699** or logon to our new website at

www.phipi-sigmachi.org.



IN MEMORY

Remembering James B. Higgins '67

Help Honor His Memory Through Room Renovation and Plaque

By Richard LeSchander '68

I am seeking to memorialize our fallen brother, **James B. Higgins '67**, who was killed in a van/bicycle accident in Hawaii on September 9, 2000. Jim served as Quaestor and Consul to the chapter and was my roommate in the house for two years. He was a positive influence on everyone who knew him and the student I should have been. If I could garner enough support, I would like to fund a room renovation in the chapter house and affix a plaque thereto in Jim's memory.

Jim was an outstanding student at Penn, made the Dean's List at Wharton and sung in the University Glee Club. He then earned an M.B.A. at the University of Michigan and returned home to Dobbs Ferry, NY, to take a position with Arthur Anderson and received C.P.A. designation on his first try. In 1971, he married his college sweetheart, Patti Cline, whom many of you will remember as the apple-cheeked girl next door at Kappa Alpha

Theta. Their son, Christopher, was born two years later.

Jim's life took an unexpected turn when he was diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia in his late twenties. He could no longer perform the accounting work he so loved and

“Jim started his freshman year at Penn in September '63, pledged Sigma Chi in the Spring of '64 and graduated in '67 from the Wharton School.”

held a series of menial jobs for several years. He visited Hawaii with an acquaintance and eventually moved there, where his life was cut short at 55 years. Christopher has since been very effective at raising money for education and research related to schizophrenia in his father's memory.

Jim was my closest friend at Penn and a great brother to the Fraternity. I would welcome hearing from others who share my conviction that he should be memorialized in the house to which he gave so much of himself. Please email me at **richard.leschander@az-em.com** and copy **Mark Kocent '82**, the House Corp. President, at **mkocent@pobox.upenn.edu**.

Jim started his freshman year at Penn in September '63, pledged Sigma Chi in the Spring of '64 and graduated in '67 from the Wharton School. Many Phi Phi alums from '64 thru '70 might remember Jim. Donations on Jim's behalf can be made to the Chapter House via our account at the University. Checks must be written to the "Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania" and the code 600631 must be written in the memo line of the check. You you may contact Mark or me via email, or mail to: **Mark Kocent, Principal Planner, 3101 Walnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104.**

HONOR ROLL

Thank You to Our Donors!

The Following Alumni Have Contributed To Our 2006-07 Annual Fund

John W. Taylor 1929
Gordon G. Long 1936
Lester R. Giegerich 1940
Edward F. Ryan 1943
Thomas H. Nicholson 1944
Cornelius E. Smyth 1946
Lee M. Hale Jr. 1947
Douglas J. Hannah 1948
J. Joseph Tuohy 1949
John F. Mita 1952
Pierre A. RoCHAT 1952
Raymond H. Welsh 1953
Edmund R. Auer 1954
Thomas W. Hoff 1957
Hugh S. Kirkpatrick 1957
Murray K. McComas 1958
Sesto E. Vecchi 1958
Robert A. Gleason Jr. 1961
Jon L. Greenawalt Sr. 1961
John M. Holliday 1961

Fred A. Carpenter 1962
Frederick A. Parsons III 1962
Lawrence R. Van Deusen 1962
Luther Johnson Clark 1963
Harlowe R. Prindle 1964
John S. Sawyer 1965
Willis S. Hesselroth 1966
Thomas A. Cassel 1968
J. Gardner Collins 1968
Thomas P. Farrell 1968
George W. Morriss 1969
Charles K. O'Neill 1969
Richard P. Klich 1971
Robert M. Hellauer Jr. 1973
Robert G. Johnson Jr. 1974
Robert Shangraw 1977
James H. McClelland 1978
Michael Burka 1979
John M. Roth 1980
Ronald M. Caronia 1981

Steven M. Adler 1982
Paul G. Garvey 1982
Gerald D. Knorr 1982
Dhananjay M. Pai 1983
Brian J. Scanlan 1984
John F. Weinkopf 1984
Matthew D. Millan 1987
Jon Copaken 1989
Craig A. Saunders 1990
Brett A. Nakfoor 1991
Bruce G. Popko Jr. 1991
Mark H. Carroll 1993
David C. Istock 1994
Hardy M. Viener 1996
Bryan Angley 1997
Kevin O'Malley 1997
Scott J. Glosserman 1999
Adair B. Newhall 2000

*Reflects gifts received as of 12/1/06.

Making the Grade!

Chapter Implements GPA Incentive Among Other Semester Achievements

By Cameron Hoyler '07, Consul, Phi Phi Sigma Chi

The semester started strong, with the house's refurbished bathrooms and other areas. The Chapter made some additional changes over the summer. We instituted a new incentive that offers the brother with the most improved GPA a \$100 credit for his next semester's dues. We also have organized a biweekly cleaning service to keep the house looking its best. This has put pressure on the brothers to do their part with regards to trash removal so that when the cleaners come, they can focus on keeping the bathrooms sparkling and floors vacuumed.

“We instituted a new incentive that offers the brother with the most improved GPA a \$100 credit for his next semester's dues.”

We made a strong start on the philanthropy front, hosting a very successful first annual

Sigma Chi Volleyball Tournament on September 30th. We had teams from a number of sororities, athletic teams and fraternities. We raised just over \$1,000 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute. It is a tradition which should be maintained and serves as a very easy fundraiser for the house. (The only overhead was the volleyball!) And our own Sigma Chi team won the tournament, after a tough final match against the Club Volleyball team.

Our Flag Football team took top prize – winning the championship game in the Penn playoffs and moving on to the City Six Championship series. There, they were able to beat a very good Villanova team before losing in the semi-final game against Drexel.

On November 4th, the ladies of the Delta Delta Delta sorority joined us on buses to Princeton for the Penn vs. Princeton Football game. While the outcome wasn't ideal, everyone had a great time.

Homecoming was a huge success. Many alumni stopped by to enjoy the spread prepared by our chef, Daryl. Hopefully next year we can get even more alumni back to see how great the house looks!

“We made a strong start on the philanthropy front, hosting a very successful first annual Sigma Chi Volleyball Tournament, [where] we raised just over \$1,000 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute.”

The election of new officers happened just before Thanksgiving, and they will be installed before the end of the semester. Our next Consul, **David Mader**, is an enthusiastic and level-headed leader in whom I have complete confidence.

It has been a great semester and it is hard to believe that my term as Consul has already drawn to a close. It has truly been a pleasure to watch the house grow and hopefully we can continue the momentum. We are gearing up for a great rush next semester and look forward to identifying another strong class of leaders to carry the house forward in the future.

ON THE WEB

Now You Can Stay Connected With Phi Phi Alumni Online!

Visit www.phiphi-sigmachi.org To See Photos, Chat or Donate

Check out our new interactive website at www.phiphi-sigmachi.org! Log on today and take advantage of great reconnection tools!

- **Honor Roll of Donors**
Join us in thanking those who support our efforts to keep brothers connected!
- **Alumni Updates**
Find out what's new with an old friend!
- **Searchable Member Directory**
Look up a brother!
- **Online Photo Albums**
Browse through the photos and post your own!
- **Blog**
Read what others are saying or begin your own thread!

Our website will rely on **you** – our alumni – to keep the site filled with content! Upload your best photos, stories

and memories onto the site to let us know what's new. Make sure you receive all of the latest web notifications by updating your contact information online!



ALUMNI UPDATES

'40s

Lester Giegerich '40

(101 Long Neck Point Road, Darien, CT 06820; LesterTGC@aol.com). I buy, sell and manage commercial real estate with **Robert Crowley Jr. '74** (46 Sturgis Road, Bronxville, NY 10708; rc@carreden.com). I had lunch with **Joe Goodhue '39**, who taught me how to be steward of the House back in 1938.

Cornelius Smyth '46

(1288 Lost Arrow Place, Chula Vista, CA 91913) In June, I won the North American Senior Table Tennis Championships. I received gold in singles for men over 80 and gold in doubles for pairs over 75.

'60s

Robert Ciapetta '63

(18208 Gravinia Circle, Boyds, MD 20841; robert.ciapetta@montgomerycollege.edu) I married Camha Nguyen on December 2, 2005. I just completed my 37th year of teaching at Montgomery College and am currently teaching basic and intermediate ESL reading courses. I am a 4-year survivor of prostate cancer. My younger son, Luke, is in 12th grade, and my stepson, Anh, is in 10th.

J. Gardner Colins '68

(Pier 5 Townhouses, 7 North Columbus Boulevard, Unit 129, Philadelphia, PA 19106; judge.colins@pacourts.us) I am finishing my second five-year term as President Judge of the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania. By law, I cannot serve another term, although I will continue to serve as a Judge on the Court. If anyone knows of any job opportunities for an ex-King, please get in touch.

'80s

Mitchell Bland '83

(334 W. Solano Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85013; mitch.bland@cableone.net) I have been living in Phoenix with my wife for nine years and am still with the Washington Post Company, working in the Cable TV division. I travel a fair bit to Idaho, Utah and the Dakotas, and my skiing ability has gotten fairly good. I have a brother-in-law who is a professor of statistics at Wharton, so we get back to Philadelphia once or twice a year. He's a pretty normal guy for a math wiz. Please call if you're ever out this way. Just avoid the summers--it's pretty brutal!

Jon Copaken '89

(605 West 56th Street, Kansas City, MO 64113; jcopaken@cwbc.com) We welcomed a third child, Caroline, to the world on June 22, 2006. She is looking forward to many Penn Cheese Steak eating contests with

her brother, William (3), and older sister, Alexandra (5).

'90s

Michael Bushman '90

(217 East 89th Street, Apartment A, New York, NY 10128; michael_bushman@hotmail.com) I recently started a new business with fellow Phi Phi's **Peter Bierden '90** and **H. Douglas Campbell '91**. Check out www.rotateyourunderwear.com to see the site!

Brett Nakfoor '91

(7205 Sanderling Court, Carlsbad, CA 92011; bnakfoor@gmail.com) I saw **J. Douglas "Doug" Kramer '92**, **Matthew "Matt" Higgs '92** and **Sterling Lapinski '91** recently. Everyone is doing great.

Mark Carroll '93

(675 Ridgedale Avenue, Birmingham, MI 48009; mcarroll@questorfund.com) I recently started a new job as Managing Partner of Superior Capital Partners, a private equity fund focused on turnaround opportunities in the lower middle market.

Scott J. Glosserman '99

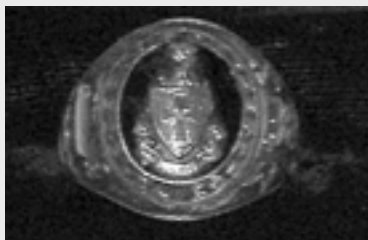
(2177 Outpost Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90068; glosserman@glenechoent.com) My first feature film, *Behind the Mast*, that I co-wrote, produced and directed, is coming out in theatres on January 5th, 2007!

The Legacy of W.T.M.

Tracking Down the History of a Sigma Chi Treasure

During homecoming, Past Grand Counsel **Murray McComas '58** presented a mysterious old Sigma Chi signet ring to the Phi Phi House Corporation. Inside the white gold ring was engraved the initials, W.T.M. - PENN - '38. So what was the rest of the story behind this mysterious treasure?

After some detective work, it became apparent that the ring was given to Murray by **Dr. Davis Durham '36**, who is one of our chapter's 24 recipients of the



Significant Sig Award. By tracing the initials and class year inscribed inside the ring it was determined that the ring belonged to **William T. Morgan '38**.

Brother Morgan was the first (or one of the earliest) Phi Phi of Sigma Chi brothers to lose his life in World War II. Brother Morgan was a pilot in a B-17 prior to the planes being equipped with tail guns and he was shot down in action. Following the war, Bill Morgan's family sent the ring to Brother Durham, who had been a roommate and close friend of Morgan at Penn. So know you know the rest of the story.

Brother Durham now lives in Costa Rica where he'll be wintering until the end of May. His phone and FAX number is 011-506-656-0233.

Alumni in the Spotlight



Sesto Vecchi '58 with President George W. Bush

Sesto Vecchi '58 recently had the opportunity of a lifetime, to participate in a round table discussion with President George W. Bush in Vietnam. He was one of five Americans and five Vietnamese who spent an hour with the President. Vecchi is currently practicing law in Vietnam. "The event was pretty exciting for a country boy from upstate New York," he joked.

For an article recapping President Bush's visit, visit our website at www.phipi-sigmachi.org.