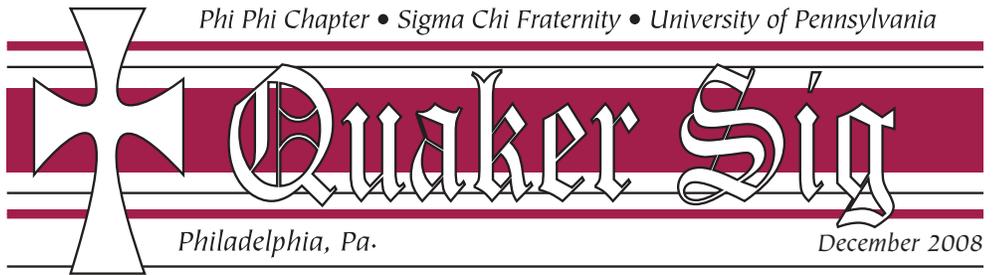


## 2008 HONOR ROLL

Gordon G. Long	1936
Joseph A. Goodhue Jr.	1939
Edward F. Ryan	1943
Cornelius E. Smyth	1946
James H. Allen	1949
Porter R. Taylor Jr.	1949
J. Joseph Tuohy	1949
David E. Brewer	1950
H. Samuel Greenawalt Jr.	1951
John F. Mita	1952
George S. Bowden	1953
Mason D. Marvin Jr.	1953
Raymond H. Welsh	1953
Fergus M. Sloan Jr.	1954
Fred A. Sbrilli Jr.	1956
Murray K. McComas	1958
Sesto E. Vecchi	1958
Alvin V. Shoemaker	1960
Silas H. Shultz	1960
Robert A. Gleason Jr.	1961
Fred A. Carpenter	1962
Harry H. Rowland Jr.	1962
Luther Johnson Clark	1963
Bernard G. McGarry Jr.	1963
Stuart H. Lollis	1964
John S. Sawyer	1965
Willis S. Hesselroth	1966
Thomas A. V. Cassel	1968
George W. Morriss	1969
Charles K. O'Neill	1969
Richard A. Carroll	1973
Vincent A. Kolber	1974
Michael Burka	1979
John M. Roth	1980
Mark H. Carpenter	1982
Paul G. Garvey	1982
Gerald D. Knorr	1982
Ronald I. Woodmansee	1982
Dhananjay M. Pai	1983
Brian J. Scanlan	1984
Dirk W. Soutendijk	1986
Joseph S. Sheetz	1989
Todd W. Bauer	1991
David C. Istock	1994
Todd Johnson	1995
Donald Anthony McComas	1997
Scott J. Glosserman	1999

*Giving year runs from September 1 through August 31. This list reflects donations received as of 11/20/2008.*



## ALUMNI REPORT

### Shoemaker Green Named for Phi Phi Alum Public Space to Commemorate Al Shoemaker's Vision to Connect Campus to the City

In recognition of their longtime service and support of the University of Pennsylvania, **Alvin V. Shoemaker '60** and his wife Sally were honored on October 30th by President Amy Gutmann and Board of Trustees President Jim Riepe with the surprise announcement of Shoemaker Green, a welcoming new public space at the University. As a forecourt to the historic Palestra and Hutchinson Gymnasium and flanked to the south by Franklin Field and its new Weiss Pavilion, Shoemaker Green will provide a quiet respite and social gathering space on 33rd Street.

Twenty-five years ago, as president of the Trustees, Al envisioned the University's eastern expansion and began discussions with the U.S. Postal Service to one day acquire their property. Almost three decades later, the University's award-winning master plan, Penn Connects, called for a new public green in front of the Palestra, as a link to the new postal acquisition recently announced. Shoemaker Green will always commemorate Al's vision and dedication to create this new connection and expansion of the campus to the city.

The announcement was made as part of a stunning dinner celebration, held on the floor of the Palestra. On hand to celebrate with Al and Sally were over 300 family, friends and colleagues, including four Penn Presidents. As Trustee Chair and now Emeritus Trustee, Al

was fortunate to work with Presidents Sheldon Hackney, Claire Fagin, Judith Rodin and Amy Gutmann. His leadership in supporting women's



*Sigma Chi brothers on hand to celebrate included: (from left to right) Jerry Knorr '82, Mark Kocent '82, Doug Kramer '92, Chris Shoemaker '91, Al Shoemaker '60, Murray McComas '58, Finn Faldi '91 and D.A. McComas '97.*

achievement in athletics and academia is exemplified in Penn's appointing and hiring of three female Presidents and in his role in the creation of the Trustees Council of Penn Women.

Sigma Chi brothers were on hand to join in the celebration as well. **Jon Huntsman '59** provided a moving tribute to Al and Sally, highlighting their 50 years of unselfish dedication to Penn. Fellow Sigs attending the event included: **Murray McComas '58** and **John Greenawalt '61**, along with **Jerry Knorr '82, Mark Kocent '82, Chris Shoemaker '91, Finn Faldi '91, Doug Kramer '92, Brooke Hayes '93** and **D.A. McComas '97**.

Below is an artist's rendering of the proposed Shoemaker Green.



## CHAPTER REPORT

### Phi Phi Boasts a 15% Increase in Derby Days Donations, a Rise in the GPA Ranks and Seven Varsity Athletes within the Chapter

By Kevin Cole, Consul

The Phi Phi chapter has had another excellent year. In the spring, we initiated 14 new brothers hailing from ten states. These brothers are talented to say the least. They are involved in the University community in many ways including seven varsity athletes (two lacrosse, two golf, two baseball and one squash). We hope to have another great rush this year, with

a goal of initiating 20 new brothers.

Philanthropically, we raised money during Derby Days for Phi Phi alum **John Huntsman's '59** Cancer Foundation. We raised 15% more in donations than the previous year and hope to continue our fundraising growth in the coming year. We are currently planning a charity beach volleyball tournament and a

food drive supporting the homeless of West Philadelphia for the upcoming months.

Additionally, we have made significant strides in academics. Over the past year our house GPA has increased by over a tenth of a point. In the process of improving, we overtook ten fraternities on campus in the house GPA ranks.

## UNDERGRADUATE HONORED

### Wharton School MBA Student Chosen as Sigma Chi Fellow for 2008-09 Academic Year

By Matt Scattarella '03; [scattar2@wharton.upenn.edu](mailto:scattar2@wharton.upenn.edu)

It is with great excitement that I write to inform you of my recent selection as the Phi Phi Chapter's Sigma Chi Fellow for the 2008-09 academic year. Formerly the Balfour Fellowship, the Sigma Chi Fellowship program's goal is to provide accessible academic stimulus and guidance to undergraduate chapters of Sigma Chi. The Fellowship is awarded to graduate students interested in serving as an active educational resource for an undergraduate chapter. As a second-year MBA student at the Wharton School, I am particularly excited to return to Phi Phi to fulfill this role. Having graduated from Wharton's undergraduate program in 2003, I am thrilled with the opportunity to give something back to the brotherhood that has provided me with unparalleled support over the years. The Phi Phi House Corporation is generously funding the scholarship award, and for this I remain ever grateful.

In addition to this gift, the Phi Phi Scholarship fund, led by Brother **Murray**

**McComas '58**, has offered an additional \$1,000 of funding to cover the administrative expenses associated with the program so that I am able to receive the full award. Needless to say, this support is a great help to me as I seek to fund my graduate education. A sincere thank you to all of you who have provided support to Phi Phi over the years in order to ensure these types of programs can occur.

I have already met with some representatives from the brotherhood to talk about our goals for the year, and they seem equally enthused about the program. Specifically, we have laid out four primary goals for the academic year. While this list is not meant to be exhaustive, it represents our current view of the most effective ways to positively impact the chapter from a scholarship and leadership perspective.

#### Goals for the year include:

- Create an Alumni/Faculty Speaker Series
- Implement an ongoing Annual Scholarship Award program

- Create a Sigma Chi graduate student network, providing the opportunity for Sigma Chis from various Penn graduate programs to connect with the chapter and with one another
- Improving Phi Phi support structure by filling chapter advisory roles

I am very much looking forward to supporting the efforts of the chapter throughout the upcoming academic year. To the extent that you have any questions or input related to the program or our goals, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. I would also like to formerly extend an invitation to any of you that might be interested in participating in the Alumni/Faculty Speaker Series.

Thank you once again for your continued support of the chapter and I look forward to providing periodic updates related to our progress.

Visit [www.phipi-sigmachi.org](http://www.phipi-sigmachi.org) to read more about Matt's goals.

## ALUMNI UPDATES

### '40s

#### Cornelius Smyth '46

(1288 Lost Arrow Pl., Chula Vista, CA 91913-2800) I am still treasurer of the San Diego Table Tennis Assn. (with more than 650 members). My working career as a director of the company managing the Barona Indian Casino ended in December 2006. This

year I reached the semi-finals in the North American Table Tennis Championships, having won this event sponsored by famous Penn graduate Bill Heiklejonh in 2006 and 2007. In 2007, at age 81, I won the 50-45 year-old doubles at significant Phi Phi Sig **Jon Huntsman's '59** World Senior Games. Does Phi Phi still have the table tennis table that I donated several years ago?

#### Porter Taylor Jr. '49

(1855 Evergreen Pt. Rd., Medina, WA 98039-2325; [porterleetaylor@msn.com](mailto:porterleetaylor@msn.com)) The most valuable courses I ever took at Penn and Wharton were those that came with the responsibility that came with serving as "Q" and "C" and House Manager as a freshman at 3809 Locust. Keeping 15 to 25 brothers together was a great experience!

## "I Must Attribute a Good Portion of [My Success] to My Undergraduate Fraternity Experience"

*Judge James Gardner Colins '68 was Inspired to Join Sigma Chi by Witnessing the Fraternal Bond that Brought Together Vastly Different People*

A judge of 28 years and today a part of one of the world's leading law firms, Judge **James Gardner Colins '68** got his start as a brother of Sigma Chi.

"I must attribute a good portion of what limited success I have achieved to my undergraduate fraternity experience," he said. "The experience of listening to the viewpoints of others at our chapter meetings and reaching collegial decisions in a cordial fashion served me well during my ten years as President Judge of Commonwealth Court."

Following in the footsteps of a father who graduated from Harvard, there was a certain amount of pressure for James to attend an Ivy League School. Having grown up in Philadelphia, the University of Pennsylvania seemed like the perfect choice.

"I fell in love with Penn from the first time I saw it," he said. "Oddly enough, this was when my father took me to Franklin Field to see the last Penn/Penn State football game at which Penn was slaughtered. Despite this, the school left a very positive and lasting impression on me."

Ten years later, James was recruited from Northeast High School to play football for Penn. "It was a very exciting and rewarding time and I was very enthusiastic at the prospect of attending what was then one of America's finest universities and is now America's finest university," he said.

Although James had no real familiarity with the Greek system upon his arrival as a freshman, he enjoyed his first meeting with the rush chairman. He says the deal was sealed when late in the fall of his freshman year, then presidential candidate Barry Goldwater gave a speech with a special greeting to his Sigma Chi brothers in the audience.

"I was so impressed that there was this bond between individuals of vastly different generations from vastly different parts of the country, solely created though their fraternal experience," said James.

James lived in the fraternity house sophomore and junior year with roommate, the late **Michael Cavanagh '68**, and formed close friendships with many people. "My

classmates **Tom Farrell '68**, **Frank Tracy '68** and I are still quite close and I look forward to bumping into **Tom Cassel '68**, **Gene Castellano '68** and **Gordon McLaren '68**."

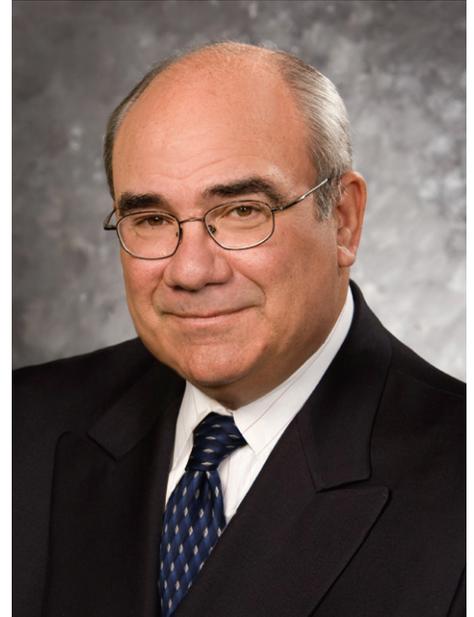
James says that the list of names goes on and on and when he sees his undergraduate fraternity brothers ten, 20, or even 35 years later, it is almost as if time really has not passed and the bonds of friendship are instantaneously renewed.

Among the various social events and charities involved in fraternity life, James and his brothers raised money for the Wallace Village Project and enjoyed the annual "Sweetheart Ball" and black tie dinner dance.

Keeping him even busier, James majored in history as an undergraduate. "Unfortunately I think I had too much fun and should have spent more time with my studies," James says. "That is one reason why I have been so strongly impressed with the chapter's outstanding grade point average throughout the most recent decade." James obviously worked just as hard as the current brothers to earn himself a spot in law school after graduation.

Law school was a grueling process for James, but after he completed school he earned a prestigious job as an Assistant District Attorney, working for now United States Senator Arlen Specter. "District Attorney Specter was a great boss, and ran a good office," he said. "During this time, I would often think about how great it would be to become a judge." After this, Pennsylvania Governor Dick Thornburgh appointed him to a vacancy on the Philadelphia Municipal Court. "Present Pennsylvania Governor Ed Rendell had been an undergraduate friend at Penn, and was instrumental in recommending me to the Merit Selection Commission," James said. "I was later elected to a full term."

Three years later, James made the decision to seek one of the three vacancies that had opened up on the Commonwealth Court of Pennsylvania and received one of the three Democratic nominations. "After several recounts, the results of the April primary were finally made official in September," he said.



**James Gardner Colins '68**

"Luckily, I was the leading vote getter on the Democratic ticket in the November election. I worked incredibly hard for this, and I received the backing and support of many of my fraternity brothers from Penn, as well as from other Sigma Chi chapters."

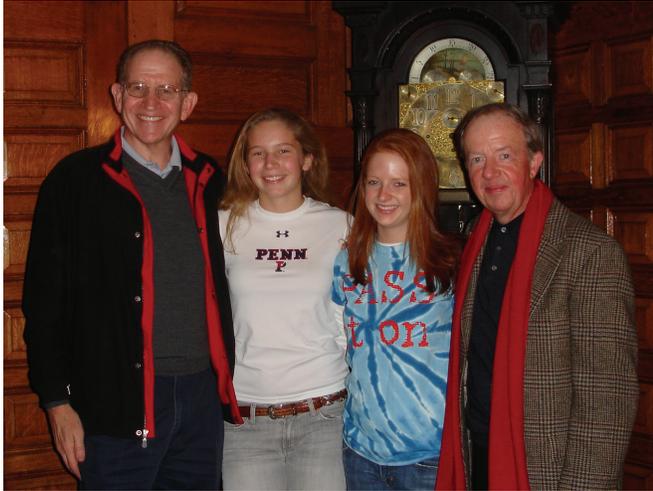
After 28 years as a judge, James decided it was time for a change. "Mindful of Robert Frost's great poem, 'The Road Not Taken,' I decided that it was time to do something different, and reentered the world of private law practice."

James currently works at the law firm Cozen O'Connor and notes that it is a challenging and rewarding experience. He also has four children: Sarah, Alex and Leah and step-daughter Julia. He is happily married to his wife Judy.

In a final note James says, "I think it is important for all of us to continue to financially support the national fraternity and our undergraduate chapter. We have all been enriched by having the unique opportunity to attend the University of Pennsylvania and to live as undergraduates in our historic chapter house."

# HOMECOMING 2008

Among the Phi Phi alumni who returned to campus for Homecoming included **Vince Kolber '74** and **Bob Crowley '74**. They cheered on the Quakers at Franklin Field and then enjoyed mingling with other alums at the Chapter House along with their daughters, both of whom are frosh at Penn and living in the Quad. No doubt these Class of 2012 women are future Sweetheart of Sigma Chi candidates!



*Vince Kolber '74, Susan Kolber '12, Charlotte Crowley '12 and Bob Crowley '74 at the Chapter House.*



*Bob Crowley '74 and Vince Kolber '74 at Franklin Field.*



*This public green at Penn is named after a Phi Phi alumnus. Who is it? See page 1 for the story...*

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