

Psidelights



Penn State Skull House Est. 1890

www.psuskull.com

December 2014



IN MEMORY

Since the last *Psidelights*, we have learned of the deaths of the following Brothers:

Harold Muncaster '34
Hjalmar Breit '35
Jacob Forney '35
Joseph Thomas '35
Thomas Gluyas Jr. '35
Thomas Beck '42
William Sandston '42
Col. James Fitzpatrick Jr. '42
Miles Smith '43
David B. Graham '48
Jacque Hogg '48
Grant Davis '49
Richard L. James '50
Harry Solomon '54
Ray Miller '56
Orlin Davis '60
John Koenig '65
Guy Askley '71
Charles Miller '73
Brooke W. Smith '80

Psi Chapter mourns the loss of our Brothers and extends our sympathy to their families and friends. Please inform us of any Brothers who have passed away.

Save the Date

The 125th Anniversary: Let's Make It Special!

Time to break out the champagne and the tiny Corky party favors! Our 125th anniversary is coming up in 2015! We are looking to form a special committee to organize our anniversary celebration. If you are interested in being on the committee, please contact **Michael Rycheck '87** at mrycheck@aol.com or 718-625-6436. We hope to see you in 2015 at YOUR 125th Anniversary Event!

For The Kids

THON 2015...On our Way to Beating our Best! And we can't do it without the support of our alumni!

Please help our Psi Chapter actives raise the most funds ever for Skull House as part of THON (see page 2 for more on this year's theme and canning activities).

To donate, and make sure that the Skull House actives get credit for raising the funds, you have two options:

1) Online: Go to www.tinyurl.com/thonskulldonate.

2) Mail: Send check, made payable to Penn State Dance Marathon with Phi Kappa Sigma on the memo line, to the THON office at the following address:

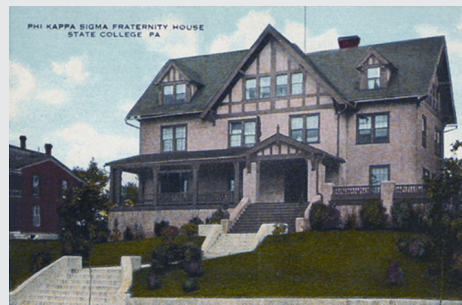
Attn: Dance Marathon Finance
Room 210 HUB
University Park PA 16802

For questions or more information regarding our THON efforts, contact THON Chair **Robert Rizzo '15** at robert.rizzo0829@gmail.com.

In Hindsight

Our Houses Side By Side: A Comparison

See how far we've come! The old house and the modern house.



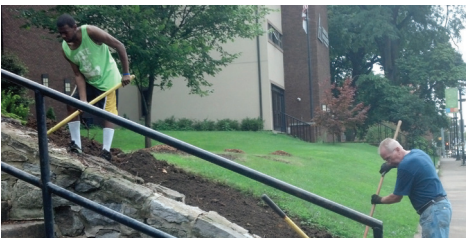
Summer Revamp

You Saw the Outside, Now See The Inside!

This summer, some major renovations were made to the Skull House. A lot of these changes were external, but some were internal, such as new bathrooms and new furniture. As you may or may not remember from our last issue of *Psidelights*, the 2014 alumni work day consisted of mostly outdoor work:



Brother John Apple '77 takes the wheel to dig out old stumps and roots in preparation for planting and mulch.



Current IFC vice president of sustainability and undergraduate brother Keith Taylor (left) and Brother Ralph Van Horne '75 prepare the ground for new shrubs.

For a better overall picture, here is a recent photo of the front of the house, with all the

front work completed:



Mulched and planted, come spring next year, this hill will be in bloom.

Stunning work! A great curb appeal change and a world of difference! So how does the inside look? Well, here's what was added:

- New bathroom sinks
- Renovated third-floor hallways
- Pledge room renovated
- New furniture on first floor

Here are the renovations...see for yourself:



New leather couches added to club room



Old, heavily used sinks replaced with shiny, new sinks



Brand new wood floors – you could see your face in the sheen!

Thank you to everyone who put time and effort into the renovations at Skull House this summer! We really appreciate it. Trust us when we say that you have made Skull House one of the best places to be at Penn State!

THON 2015

Childhood for THON Kids Means Something Different ... Survival

It's a difficult thing to consider.

Your whole beginning, the whole first chapter of your life set in a womb of whirring noises, plugs, wires, beeping sounds, and the odd feeling everyone has in the building. Trade your baseball bat and baseball glove in for an IV and chemotherapy. Take your school days and put them in white hallways and bed cots of weak and frail children. Trade every good friend you ever had as a kid for a doctor or nurse.

Put yourself there. Close your eyes and imagine if you have to. If it makes you uncomfortable, then definitely put yourself in those shoes.

THON is not just a beautiful symphony of Greek organizations moving to the rhythm of

the sunrise and sunset; it is, at the end of the day, a wonderful philanthropy giving to the Four Diamonds Fund at Penn State Hershey Children's Hospital. At the end of the day, your money goes to fighting cancer, a word that some children won't even comprehend unless they have it.

This year's theme is "Empower the Dreamers." What this means is that by having 15,000 students fighting for their THON kids, the THON families should feel empowered; that



they're really going to beat this thing and they're going to find a cure for pediatric cancer.

As Greek organizations get ready to take the dance floor in February, Phi Kappa Sigma is going to war against pediatric cancer, and they need your support! They were recently able to raise just under \$3,000 in their last canning campaign, with their next opportunity in December. Whatever (tax deductible!) amount you can donate to Phi Kap's cause is one donation closer to beating pediatric cancer. To donate directly, please go to <http://tinyurl.com/thonskulldonate>. Every dollar raised is For the Kids, so every dollar counts! Donate today!

Is This Thing On?

We're Looking For Email Addresses

As we grow and intensify our alumni relations program, and turn the mic up on Phi Kappa Sigma's story, the ability to have updated contact information (addresses and emails) for all of our alumni will be critical. We're currently missing 94 brothers! Let's try to make it 0!

Our database is for Skull House alumni communications only and is never traded or sold to other entities. Your info is safe and secure!

Short list of lost email addresses:	Brian Nussbaum '00	Richard Pease Jr. '92	Glenn A. Girol '84
Sean Burke '12	James McKee '99	Ralph Huff '91	John DiDonato '83
David Stone '11	Steven Sontheimer '98	Stephen M. Perry '90	Michael O'Connor '82
Matthew Orman '10	Adam Mills '97	Michael Meade '89	Carl Hoburg '82
Timothy Neubert '09	Randolph Frey '96	Braden Klug '88	Kurt A. Zimmerman '81
Clint Rock '03	Jason Smith '95	William Rosenhoover '87	David Pure '80
Kevin S. Dager '02	Brian W. Casey '94	Edward Celentano '86	Brian Brubaker '79
Dennis O'Connor '01	William Eckelmeyer '93	Scott Williams '85	

If you know how we can stay in touch with any of these gentlemen, please send an email to alumninews@affinityconnection.com to let us know what their email address is. Thank you!

Do You Realize You Own Real Estate in State College, PA? You literally own part of the Skull House!

Congratulations! You are a real estate owner in State College! What? What do you mean you didn't know it? Of course you did! Think about it this way: you lived in a house for a while and then subsequently rented it out to several...well, okay, maybe more than a dozen...or two dozen individuals. You and some of your friends split the cost on the place (and by some of your friends, we mean some of your closest pals, some of whom you have never even met and have been maintaining the place ever since you left).

"Right, right, we get it. But what do you mean maintaining?"

We mean the annual fund. The money that you put into the annual fund goes to several things:

Maintaining an alumni communications program - Any and all forms of communication we keep

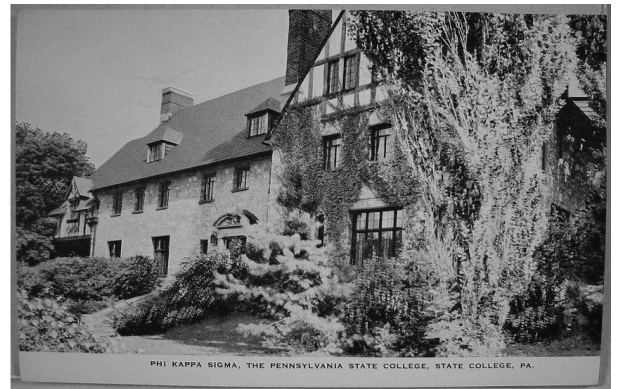


with alumni, including this newsletter, have come out of the money from the annual fund. Your contribution to the annual fund permits ongoing communications between the actives and alumni. Without **alumni support**, you would not be holding this letter.

Helping the undergraduates have a positive experience - We had an unforgettable time at Phi Kappa Sigma when we were actives. It is an experience that cannot be easily replaced or replicated. Your contribution will go towards helping the brotherhood fund things like college living expenses and recruitment.

Hosting alumni events - The best way to stay connected is to see each other in person. Post graduation, we may have gone our separate ways, but the best way to rekindle our sense of brotherhood is to have events to reconnect. The annual fund can allow us to not only have those events, but also make them fun.

Cultivating the brotherhood - All of the points listed here help con-



nect the active and alumni populations. Your money goes toward making connections between pledge classes and making our brotherhood one of the strongest on campus.

Now is your chance: you may do your part by going to our website (www.puskull.com) and donating what you can. Any amount counts! Make sure your future tenants will be comfortable and cozy in their new home.

Can't donate money? Volunteer! Contact **Michael Rycheck** at mrycheck@aol.com to see how you can serve your fraternity. Remember your time at Skull House, and know that we are extremely thankful! Get in touch with us today!

HONOR ROLL

We would like to commend and thank all donors for their contributions to the annual fund this year! Still want to get in on the Honor Roll? You definitely can! Just go to www.psuskull.com and click "donate" in the top right corner! We want to see your name!

1890 Club (\$890+)	Stephen T. Cramer	1982	Richard C. Solt	1960	Dues Giver (Up to \$99.99)		
Thomas L. Hebel	1977	William R. Turner Jr.	1986	Kenneth C. Louis	1961	George W. Blakslee	1943
		Brett R. Wenger	1988	Samuel B. Curry Jr.	1962	Eugene F. Graebner	1948
Stellis Aequos Durando Club (\$500 - \$889.99)	Henry J. Zielinski III	1991	John B. Hableren	1962	Edward W. Horn	1949	
Richard S. Schweiker	1950	Club Skull (\$100 - \$249.99)	Donald M. Barnes	1965	William Otto Rother	1955	
Ralph E. Breidenthal	1953	Jennifer Silvoy Capezzuti	Joseph W. Koletar	1966	Charles W. Schwambach	1970	
Mark C. Bokelman	1982	James E. Drylie	1943	Mark J. Nowakowski	1973	Stephen B. Rowe	1978
		Richardson B. Farley	1952	James M. Kerrigan	1978	Colin M. Kelly	1980
Psi Club (\$250 - \$499.99)	John S. Wylie	1952	Eric P. Johnston	1981	Anthony L. Nardini	2002	
Malcolm R. Fisher	1950	Graham Bill Hume	1955	Jeffry Brightman	1982		
Fred W. Montanari	1956	Frederick P. LeVan	1955	Christopher T. Genovese	1985	<i>Reflects gifts received between Jan. 1 through Dec. 1, 2014. To add your name to this year's honor roll of donors before Dec. 31, return the enclosed form with your gift!</i>	
Charles J. Yarbrough	1957	R. B. Mowery	1955	Lou Matlow	1988		
Henry J. Oppermann Jr.	1961	Alan J. Davidson J.D.	1960	Matthew Brown	1989		
James S. Broadhurst	1965	Bob Kiehl	1960	Robert E. Beran	1990		
				Eric T. Arcudi	1993		



William Otto Rother '55

(Weston, CT; rother1@webtv.net) Elk hunting in Idaho for their 10th year... all Penn State Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity forestry majors: Bud, a former smoke jumper and laminated-wood factory owner; Bo, a retired army colonel; and Otto, a retired travel executive and cruise lecturer as well as the current manager for world famous blind guitar player José Feliciano.

All three are in their 80s and still acting like they're back at Penn State. *Below: Bill*



"Otto" Rother '55, Bud Filler '56 and Bo Campbell '56.

Richard Solt '60

(Niceville, FL; richdulce@aol.com) Still living

in Niceville, Fla., near Eglin Air Force Base. The new F35s fly over my house every day, and I love the sound. Also, still working with Boeing as a consultant for the Saudi F15S program.

Sam Curry '62

(New Bern, NC, samndelle@suddenlink.net)

I joined six other Psi Kaps and their wives in March 2014 on a four-day Caribbean cruise. Included in the illustrious group were **Wienedjamer Buckenmeirs**, **Dick Solt '60**, **Roundman DeCavalcante**, **Huffy Hoffman '64**, **Pokeyman Allison '59**, and **Bill Schaal '58**. Many lies, chuckles and belly laughs were experienced. We tossed a few drinks and tried to sing Skull songs. Advice was to keep our day jobs!



Brothers Curry, Schaal, and Solt with their wives and CORKY at dinner at sea.

A second visit in August 2014 with Huffy at his home in Banner Elk gave us a flavor of the North Carolina mountains and its music. Great trip up Grandfather Mountain. And we

walked the entire width of the Appalachian Trail!

Then in October, 2014, while in the San Francisco Bay Area visiting our son and his family, we met **Paul Sheckler '60** and his wife Kay for lunch to catch up on their activities.

Joe Koletar '66

(Bolivia, NC; jwk357@aol.com) Joe will have his fifth book published in 2015, tentatively titled, *Inside the FBI: Personal Stories*. He served as a special agent and senior executive in the FBI from 1969-1994.

He was involved in three FBI investigations that later became movies: "Dog Day Afternoon," "Goodfellas," and "American Hustle." The real stories are a little different than what you see in the movies, once Hollywood writers get them.

Colin M. Kelly '80

(Richmond, VA) Had a great time visiting with my brothers from the late '70s during Homecoming.

We're missing a lot of updates from Brothers! Make sure you're sending in your updates as soon as you have something to share us with: new children, new marriage, new place to live, anything! We want to be active in your life, and we want you to stay involved with us! Have an alumni update you want to send to us? Send us your short update to alumninews@affinityconnection.com! We all want to know what you're doing in your life.