

# The Wolfcall

Fall 2002

The Newsletter of Phi Kappa Psi - Indiana Epsilon

Vol. 5 Issue 1

## New Alumni Organization Formed

John Schroeder ('53)

Indiana Epsilon will soon be 50 years old and the celebration to honor this landmark occasion is on track to be a truly memorable occasion.

The active brothers of Phi Kappa Psi hosted an open house on April 27.



Those of us who were in attendance were greeted to a stimulating display of recent accomplishment and an acknowledgement of the contribution of alumni of the past. The brothers of Phi Kappa Psi have for

49 years maintained the traditions of fraternity and brotherhood established by Phi Delta Psi, are still "the best on the hill".

The active brothers outlined a plan for a fitting observance of the 50th anniversary of Phi Kappa Psi at Valpo, to be held on May 2-4, 2003. We hope you have already marked the dates on your calendar and are making plans to attend this event. A fiftieth anniversary happens once in a lifetime. Don't miss it.

In correlation with the celebration, several alumni, led by Don Fites ('53) have organized a campaign to raise \$500,000 for scholarships, house repairs and to finally retire the mortgage on the present chapter house. The group is sending out information in the mail. Look for it in the coming weeks and if possible, please contribute.

To further assist the active brothers in the house, an Alumni Association has been established. A subcommittee consisting of Harry Henderson ('53), Greg Grossart ('93) and Eric Johnson ('84) has been created to develop an organizational structure for the alumni of the chapter. The purpose of this organization will be to maintain the high standards of Phi Psi at Valpo through its interaction with the active members.

The celebration will mark another turning point in the history of Indiana Epsilon. Join us and be a part of that history!

### Goals of the Fundraising Drive

Retire the mortgage.

Increase the chapter endowment for scholarship.

Provide funds for needed repairs and renovations to the chapter house

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE...

Chapter Update - pg.2

Anniversary Weekend Events - pg. 4

House Corporation Update - pg. 3

# President's Report - Getting Back to Basics

**Ben Nicol ('00)**

This year the brothers of Indiana Epsilon have been filled with both an enthusiasm and commitment to meet new and challenging goals. Many of the brothers have excelled immensely on the individual level, and we have proved once again our ability to excel together as a group through the creation of a very impressive list of accomplishments (See chart below). As a Chapter we have remained committed to the basics of fraternity life: academics, community service, athletics, and a healthy social life.

Riding high after the Sesquicentennial Celebration in Pittsburgh, brothers Seth Teply ('99), Dave Byers('01), Aaron Priest('01), Ryan Hayes('01), and myself were in attendance and were pleased to bring home several awards. It was also a valuable time to connect with undergraduates from other chapters and also to reconnect with alumni.

## **Recent Awards**

### **Homecoming 2002**

- First Place - Parade Banner Competition
- First Place - 'Living Life Display' Competition (House Decorating)
- Spirit Stick Award (Overall winner)

### **GAC 2002**

- Hyatt "Pat" Eby Community Service Award
- Ralph D. Daniel Award for Excellence in Chapter Management

### **2001-2002 Greek Awards**

- Outstanding Campus Involvement Award
- Public Relations Award
- President's Award of Achievement

Homecoming was a weekend to remember for the Phi Psi alums and actives. Certainly the typical events contributed to the occasion, but a notable difference from recent homecoming weekends was the overwhelming attendance of alums from all generations. The weekend began with the annual journey to Duffy's (formerly Jackson's and the Blue Goose) and continued with Midnight Mayhem and

on Saturday, the annual pig roast. Coupled with the continuing tradition of winning several of the homecoming awards, Phi Psi was again for the second year in a row excited to have the Homecoming King (Byers) as a brother.



**Brothers pick up trash on U.S. 30 as a part of Highway Cleanup Day**

We currently have more than 55 active brothers, including our most recent pledge class of 6 fine young men. The current pledges hail from around the globe and add much character and diversity to an already strong chapter here at Valpo. With the increasing standards needed for admittance to Valparaiso University, Indiana Epsilon has seen strong growth academically each year. Along with an aggressive recruitment program the house has also focused more on internal Brotherhood events. Retreats and goals setting sessions along with more frequent 'Brother's Nights' have brought the house closer together.

We have also strived to improve and remain dedicated to philanthropic activities. In the past year the chapter has chosen to concentrate much of its efforts on the local community. Not only did we perform our usual highway cleanup more frequently than in the past, but our level of commitment was higher than in previous years. This past year we completed more community service hours than any other Greek organization totaling more than 2300 hours. We have also begun a new community focused mentoring program. Working in coordination with Valparaiso University, brothers drafted a proposal for a Lilly Foundation Grant in order to fund this mentoring program. The Chapter was awarded \$4,000 in order to mentor eight local middle school aged boys. Brothers meet weekly with the group and provide structured activities ranging from sports and video games to

**See BASICS, p. 5**

# House Corporation Update

Eric Sampson ('86)

This past year has been busy for the Housing Corporation.

In late March the chapter house experienced a minor fire in one of the suites on the third floor. While there was no structural damage, water and smoke damage occurred in the affected room as well as the hallway just outside the room. Needless to say, repairs and renovations of the affected space dominated much of the rest of the spring semester.



The Chapter House still stands proud after more than 30 years. Recent repairs will ensure its lasting for years to come

By the end of the spring semester, the house was in great need of many repairs. Funding for maintenance concerns had come from both chapter and House Corp.

budgets, but even with more than 50 active brothers, there simply wasn't enough funding to address every need.

By July, it became clear that the House Corp. would need to seek some outside financing. Lingering expenses from the March fire as well as a dire need to replace the fire alarm system made quick action necessary. A decision was made to apply to The Endowment Fund of Phi Kappa Psi for a second mortgage in the amount of \$30,000.

This mortgage takes advantage of the sizeable balance of the Chapter Scholarship Fund and allows us to borrow (at a competitive rate) for brick and mortar needs. This loan does not affect the amount of money available for scholarship awards, and interest paid on the loan benefits the Endowment Fund as income.

This loan allowed us to retire debts to the con-



The barroom project has been one of many recent tasks undertaken by undergraduates to enhance the quality of the house.

tractor that renovated the rooms involved in the fire, and made possible the complete replacement of the fire alarm system. The old system (while still operational due to the skill of some undergraduate brothers) was a patchwork of equipment from several vendors and had aged to the point that parts were difficult to obtain and knowledgeable service was almost impossible to find.

Additionally, we were able to upgrade the electrical service to the house. The demand on the electrical system has increased exponentially over the years with the addition of computers, stereos, televisions and air conditioners. None of these items were anticipated when the house was built in 1970. In the fall of 2001, the electrical demand actually caused a failure in the meter serving the building that lead to an outage requiring emergency service. This upgrade should handle the electrical demand for some years to come.

Finally, some bothersome plumbing problems were addressed. For many years the chapter house had been plagued with repeated plumbing back-ups that caused damage to hallway carpet as well as sanitation concerns and high plumbing repair bills. A contractor was employed to rout

See HOUSE, p. 5





INDIANA EPSILON

# Indiana Epsilon's 50th Anniversary

*"A fiftieth anniversary happens only once in a lifetime...don't miss it."*



INDIANA EPSILON

## Friday, May 2

---

### Anniversary Kickoff

*801 Mound St.*

Begin the weekend with a casual dinner at the house. Mingle with old friends and their families.

### Late Night Gathering - 8 p.m. to 2 a.m.

*Duffy's Place*

*(formerly Jackson's and the Blue Goose)*

Come have a great time reliving all the great memories over unlimited food and drink at everyone's favorite neighborhood place.

### Night Life - 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

*Pat's Ice Cream Parlor*

Come on over to Pat's Parlor, located on Lincolnway a few blocks west of campus. Enjoy some of the best gourmet ice cream in town.

### Childcare Services - 8 p.m.

*Neils Science Center*

Parents, feel free to leave your children with our childcare service. They'll watch movies and get to play with college students as well as other children their age.

## Saturday, May 3

---

### Anniversary Classic

#### Golf Outing - 8:00 a.m.

*The Course at Aberdeen*

Registration begins at 7 a.m. with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. for this four person scramble. Each group will be paired with an active brother. Every golfer will receive lunch and prizes will be awarded for contests.

### Trip to Michigan City - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Take a trip with family and friends to Michigan City for great shopping at the outlet mall. Transportation provided.

### Trip to the Dunes - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Enjoy the sunshine and your favorite beach activities on Indiana's beautiful lakeshore. Transportation provided.

### Campus Tour - 10 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Take a look into the past and a glimpse into the future as tour guides show you around the VU campus. Both walking and driving tours will be available.

### Family Picnic - 12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Enjoy an exciting afternoon of fun, fellowship and food, including the traditional hog roast. It's a great way to intermingle with old and new Phi Psi's alike!

### Chapter Meeting - 3 p.m.

*Location TBA*

### 50th Anniversary Banquet - 6 p.m.

*Casa Del Roma Restaurant*

Enjoy interacting with generations of Phi Psi's during this formal banquet. A cocktail and hors d'oeuvres hour will be followed by dinner at 7 p.m. A cash bar and entertainment will be provided.

## Sunday, May 4

---

### Anniversary Brunch - 9 a.m.

*Union Great Hall*

### Worship Service - 10:30 a.m.

*Chapel of the Resurrection*

Visit [www.valpophpsi.org](http://www.valpophpsi.org) for complete details and registration form

## BASICS (from page 2)

study time. The program has proved to be more beneficial for the actives than ever imagined.

Phi Psi's continue to volunteer for events both on campus and in the community. Brothers also continue to be involved in many campus activities and hold many leadership positions. The student body president, outgoing Interfraternity council president, Hellenic Council president, musicians, orientation assistants, and athletes are all Phi Psi's.

The Chapter also upholds the strict academic standards set not only by itself, but also by the university and the national office. The



**Academics remains a high priority as Indiana Epsilon ranked third among fraternities at VU during Spring 2002.**

Scholarship committee has been working to develop programming to challenge brothers. It has also established an internal mentoring program and is now looking to alumni to help with several other new programs.

It is often said, especially during recruitment, that Phi Kappa Psi is a fraternity for life. Certainly within

the last few months it has become more than evident that the Indiana Epsilon chapter recognizes this lifetime bond. The brothers are eagerly planning for the chapter's 50th anniversary. I encourage you to continually check out our new website for updates on the 50th celebration.

The brothers here are a tight knit group who strive only for the best and work towards maintaining a respectable reputation from not only our community, but also from our university and our alumni. We ask for your continued support as both alumni and undergraduates work together to continue the long legacy of Phi Kappa Psi at Valparaiso University.

## HOUSE (from page 3)

the drain lines in the house and power-flush the years of buildup that had accumulated from hard use. Additionally, new fixtures were purchased and installed for the second and third floor bathrooms. The chapter has reported that the plumbing has been problem free for the first time in years.

It is necessary to note that many undergraduate brothers participated in the research and gathering of bids that made these projects possible. Without their dedication and determination, many of these repairs would not have been possible.

But we can't stop with what has been done. There are still several maintenance projects that must be addressed. For one, the condition of the gutter system must be improved. There is noticeable soffit decay that needs to be repaired as well.

Another is the replacement of the existing windows. The chapter study room and the room that was affected by the fire have both received new double hung insulated windows. Those windows replace single pane, Plexiglas windows that have never served their purpose well. If the rest of these substandard windows were replaced with similar windows, there would be a noticeable reduction of utility costs and much improvement in comfort to the residents.

As we look ahead to the coming years, we realize that though we are fortunate to have a house in such great shape, there are still and will continue to be maintenance concerns that will need to be addressed. Hopefully, we can address those concerns quickly and efficiently.



# Phi Kappa Psi - Indiana Epsilon

801 Mound St.  
Valparaiso, IN 46383

Visit us on the web at:  
[www.valpophipsi.org](http://www.valpophipsi.org)

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Valparaiso, IN  
Permit No. 3

## Weekend Events - May 2-4, 2003

### Friday, May 2

Anniversary Headquarters . . . . .2 p.m.  
Night Life . . . . .4 p.m.  
Anniversary Gathering . . . . .8 p.m.  
Childcare services . . . . .8 p.m.

### Saturday, May 3

Anniversary Headquarters . . . . .8 a.m.  
Golf Outing . . . . .8:30 a.m.  
Trip to Michigan City . . . . .9 a.m.  
Campus Tour . . . . .10 a.m. and 3 p.m.  
Trip to the Dunes . . . . .11 a.m.  
Family Picnic . . . . .12 p.m.  
Chapter Meeting . . . . .3 p.m.  
Anniversary Banquet . . . . .6 p.m.

### Sunday, May 4

Anniversary Brunch . . . . .9 a.m.  
Worship Service . . . . .10:30 a.m.

Register at [www.valpophipsi.org](http://www.valpophipsi.org) by  
clicking on the Anniversary link.

### Keep In Touch With Us!

The new Indiana Epsilon Alumni Email Listserv is up and running and will be used to keep all alumni informed of chapter and alumni events.

To join, send an email to  
[indep@valpophipsi.org](mailto:indep@valpophipsi.org)

We look forward to hearing from you!

### Alumni Weekend Is Back February 22, 2003

Snow football, VU basketball and the house band "Amici" are a few highlights of this fun-filled weekend.

To register, send an email to  
[indep@valpophipsi.org](mailto:indep@valpophipsi.org)