

## THE WOLFCALL

The newsletter for alumni and friends of Indiana Epsilon Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity at Valparaiso University - Spring/Summer 2017

## **Inaugural Professional Development Night a Success!**

The House Corporation and chapter worked together to sponsor a Professional Development Night for the current senior class as well as a handful of juniors selected through a lottery. The event was a huge success with 30 attendees, including the Head of Greek Life, Carolyn Whittier and Faculty Advisor, Bonnie Dahlke.

The goal of the event is to allow actives to hear from two successful professionals regarding subjects they will face in their personal and professional lives after graduating from Valparaiso. The first guest speaker, **Shawn M. Collingsworth '91**, is President & CEO of the Advancement Center for Washington Township Schools & North

Central Alumni. The second guest speaker, **Nick Libert** '97, is the Broker/Owner & CEO at Exit Strategy Reality as well as the Owner of Nick Libert Properties Inc.

Both guest speakers covered a variety of timely and useful topics such as how to brand yourself during the job search, habits that lead to a successful and professional life and personal finance tips.

Due to the popularity and success of the inaugural Professional Development Night, the chapter and House Corporation hope to continue this event for many years to come.



Brothers and faculty gathered at the Helge Center on campus for the first Professional Development Night on April 28, 2017.



Nick Libert '97 spoke to brothers about what he looks for in potential employees, social media pitfalls and, of course, personal finance - including debt and buying houses

## **Want to Give Back?**

This past fall, the actives developed a mentoring program. The brotherhood is looking for alumni support and we think your experience both in and out of college would be great advice to a current brother.

Here are ways you can help your mentee:

- Counsel on the transition from a student to a professional
- Provide career path guidance
- Explain the basics of:
  - o Buying a car or house
  - o Paying insurance, rent and utilities
- Offer advice on career development
  - o Provide advice on resumé & cover letters
  - o Give pointers for ideal companies to consider
- Answer questions the mentee might have

If you are interested in becoming a mentor, please contact **Jacob Rinda** '16 at *jacob.rinda@valpo.edu* and **Cody Shumaker** '05 at *cs.shumaker@gmail.com*.

# Congratulations to the 2017 Graduating Class!

Randal Lukac Ryan Acosta **Zachary Baids** Alexander McDaniel Kyle Campbell Andrew Mckissick Stefon David Donald Middlebrook Jonathan Dyche Ryan Schrock Samuel Fisher Clayton Summers Matthew Fitzpatrick Jacob Yager Matthew Kosloske Benjamin Young Derrick Long

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## **2017 Executive Board**

#### **President**

Nicholas Eder '15 Indianapolis, IN nicholas.eder@valpo.edu

## **Vice President**

Matthew D'Alessandro '16 Villa Park, IL matthew.dalessandro@valpo.edu

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### **Recording Secretary**

Burns Halverson '15 Pewaukee, WI burns.halverson@valpo.edu

#### **Corresponding Secretary**

Austin Cintron '17 Lake Station, IN austin.cintron@valpo.edu

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#### Chaplain

Aaron Mehner '15 Cape Girardeau, MO aaron.mehner@valpo.edu

## Messenger

Norman Palmer '16 Tinley Park, IL norman.palmer@valpo.edu

## Sergeant in Arms

Ryan Palkon '16 St. John, IN ryan.palkon@valpo.edu

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## **You Can Recruit!**

We are always looking for young men who have the character to make great Phi Psi brothers. If you have a son or family friend who may attend Valparaiso University, please send his name and contact information to phipsi.recruitment@valpo.edu.

## **Update from the Chapter**

Active brothers of Indiana Epsilon continue to maintain a strong presence on campus and within the community. The highlight of the semester was Phi Psi's Annual Chili Cook-Off to celebrate Founder's Day. Additionally, the chapter's GPA is on the rise with a current GPA of 3.22, placing them in third place among all fraternities.

Seventy people came out on a warm 60 degree day in February to enjoy this year's Phi Psi Chili Cook-off. Sixteen teams brought their best bowl of chili to share. In addition to delicious chili, guests had the opportunity to partake in cornhole and whiffle ball games. In a highly competitive contest, Chi Omega beat out the back-to-back champs Kappa Kappa Gamma in Lambda Chi's annual whiffle ball tournament. All proceeds benefitted the Boys and Girls Club.

This year's Greek Week included Mr. Valpo Pageant, Greek Olympics and the always exciting SongFest! As part of the Greek Week festivities, all Greeks participated in a blood drive.

Spring recruitment was a success with six events and the first preference dinner since 2012. The chapter extended 25 bids to potential members - all of whom attended preference dinner. At the dinner, Brothers JoBe Cerny '67 and Stefon David '15 gave excellent speeches highlighting their favorite memories as members. At the end of recruitment, the chapter welcomed eighteen new brothers. "The guys make me feel included and I felt like the perfect fit for who they are," said Kostadin Pendev '17. "They made me feel like I deserved to be part of the brotherhood."

The brothers are proud of their recent accomplishments and look forward to beginning an excellent fall semester.



Greek Week events included Mr. Valpo Pageant, Greek Olympics, SongFest and a blood drive.



Sixteen teams brought various styles of chili to this year's Annual Chili Cook-Off



Twenty-five potential brothers attended the first preference dinner held since 2012.

Spring 2017 New Members Caleb Alles
Austin Cintron
TJ Gorski
Harrison Jenny
Daniel Langston
Ross Lazar

Mark Long Korey Mertz Will Michener Brendan Miller Kostadin Pendev Jordan Reimer

Vince Russ Ethan Uysaloglu Brad VanWagoner Kenny Vos Nathan Woltmann

Jeremy Wu

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## Featured Phi Psi: Ben Nicol '00



Ben Nicol '00, CEO of Phi Kappa Psi Foundation

House Corporation Secretary, **Ben Nicol '00**, has devoted thirteen years to the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation as a professional staff member. He currently serves as the Chief Executive Officer. In this position, Nicol leads all aspects of this non-profit foundation with over 15 employees, an annual budget of \$7 million and a membership base of over 84,000 constituents.

Nicol's daily tasks include strategic planning, fundraising, human resources, finance management and policy making. He also serves as a spokesperson for the foundation.

When asked why Nicol devoted so much time to Phi Kappa Psi, he replied, "Little did I know, or frankly expect, Phi Psi and Valpo to have such a dramatic effect on my life. My decision to attend Valparaiso University and affiliate with Phi Psi has altered my life forever. A loving wife, a meaningful career, a strong friendship circle, a professional network - all can be traced back to the brotherhood. And I am eternally grateful for that. This is the reason why I strive earnestly to encourage other young men and elder alumni to continue to engage with our Fraternity and appreciate our brotherhood for what it is - a remarkable incubator for leadership, friendship and lifelong bonds."

## 2016-2017 House Corporation Officers

### President

Zach Albers '04 zalbers@gmail.com

#### **Vice President**

Scott Rodseth '04 scott.rodseth@gmail.com

#### Secretary

Ben Nicol '00 bsn@pkpfoundation.org

#### Treasurer

Chris Ciupke '01 cjciupke@gmail.com

## **Brother Updates**

**Nick Libert**, '97, was recently entered into the Inc 5000's list of Fastest Growing Private Companies for 2016 as his real estate brokerage, Exit Strategy Realty, continues to grow in Chicago and beyond. They recently opened a satellite office in North West Indiana, servicing Valparaiso, Lake/Porter Counties and surrounding areas.

Richard W. "Rich" Soeken '64 passed away on March 14, just shy of his 73rd birthday. To those who knew him best, Brother Soeken was a wonderful, fun-loving, gifted "gentle giant" and a mighty warrior for God through his 45 years of Youth and Family Ministry. He was married to his wife, Rita, for nearly 50 years. Brother Soeken was originally from Lyons, Kansas and a member of the VU championship football team of 1964.

**Dr. John Bohlmann** '92, N.D., graduated from Valparaiso in 1995 with a civil engineering degree and shortly thereafter followed my dreams of becoming a PGA Professional. He taught and competed in golf locally in the Mid-Atlantic area for 14 years during which time he met his wife, Jaya and welcomed our daughter, Adriana, who is now 12 years old. Through the encouragement of his wife and friends, he decided to pursue his deeply held passion for preventive and natural health care - which he had been exploring for years.

In December of 2016, he graduated from National University of Health Sciences in Lombard, Illinois with a Doctor of Naturopathic Medicine degree. This is a four year medical school with a curriculum superseding some of the best medical schools in the nation. Brother Bohlmann plans to start his medical practice in Maryland focusing on treatment of people with chronic illness as a result of poor lifestyle, genetic predispositions and environmental toxicity. Naturopathic doctors look at the health of the whole person and seek to find the root cause of illness. They use the least force intervention possible and support the body's natural ability to heal and rejuvenate through many modalities including: nutrigenomics, nutrition and lifestyle counseling, mental and spiritual counseling, hydrotherapy, homeopathy, herbal medicine, spinal manipulative therapy, minor surgery and pharmaceuticals (if necessary). The medicine is profound and effective for a wide variety of complaints.

Brother Bohlmann currently resides with his family in Olney, Maryland and is thrilled to share his latest accomplishments with his brothers at Indiana Epsilon!

Do you have an update you would like to share with brothers? Recently married, change jobs, have a baby or retire? We want to know! Send life updates or stories to alumni@valpophipsi.org. Your story could be featured in the next edition of The Wolfcall.





Phi Kappa Psi Valparaiso University (3209) PO Box 2187 Columbus, GA 31902-2187

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City/State/Zip \_

Phone (H)

Address \_

Phone (W) \_\_\_

Email

THE WOLFCALL Spring / Summer 2017

## Save the Date for Homecoming - September 29 -October 1, 2017!

**Schedule of Events:** 

11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Phi Kappa Psi Alumni Welcome Pig Roast

We want to know you're on campus. Check in at the House and enjoy some BBQ before heading over to the cheer on the Crusaders to victory! Families welcome.

1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.: Phi Kappa Psi House **Corporation Meeting** 

## 4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.: The Past, Current and Future of Phi Psi at Valparaiso

Indiana Epsilon is exploring the possibility of launching a capital campaign to build a brand new chapter house for Phi Psi at Valparaiso. We invite alumni to head to the House to remember and relive the glory days of fraternity past, learn about the activities of the current brothers on campus and in the community, and to learn about the vision for Phi Psi at Valparaiso for years to come.

5:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity Photo and Special Recognition of Reunion Classes

Join alumni and actives for a group photo in front of the House at 801 Mound. Immediately following will be a special recognition of all alumni classes being honored by the University.

## 5:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.: Phi Kappa Psi "Happy Hour" and Cornhole Tournament

Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres while engaging with fellow alumni and current actives. During "Happy Hour" actives and alumni will battle in the Inaugural Phi Kappa Psi Cornhole Tournament.

## 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.: The Past, Current and Future of Phi Psi at Valparaiso

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All events are open to families and take place at 801 Mound Street.

## **Follow Indiana Epsilon on Social Media**

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