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Gavin Geib '21

THE HELPING HAND OF A PHI PHI

Mark Kocent '82, House Corp President

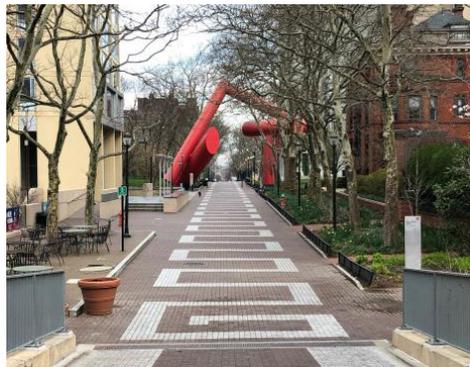
The contents of this newsletter were prepared a month ago... The spring semester was in full swing and the Phi Phi Chapter House was abuzz with activity. The undergraduate brothers were ready to depart for Spring Break, looking forward to warmer climates, sipping a few Coronas and some well-earned R&R before returning to campus to complete the end of the year. We now know that a different kind of Corona has changed all of our lives.

This timeout of our normalcy may be a rare opportunity to reach out to family, friends and brothers, doing what we do best. Offering strong arms of support, consolation for the present and hope for the future. Whether checking in to see if an elderly parent, grandparent or neighbor needs something at the store; keeping in touch with your brothers to see how they are coping; or making a contribution to those less fortunate or serving on the front lines of this challenge. (Brother **Drew Brees Purdue '01** has set the standard here!) Whether it be small gesture or a larger statement, the exemplary behavior and strength of our brotherhood is built to withstand and even thrive at times like this.

I decided to print the enclosed stories, most prepared by the undergrads, to illustrate the energy of the Phi Phi Chapter, its ever present leadership and commitment to our future. The brothers are home now, learning online and the campus is quiet. This fall, Locust Walk will return to its bustling daily life and we look forward to celebrating to a momentous occasion in our Chapter's history.

PHI PHI CHAPTER TO CELEBRATE 100 YRS AT 3809 LOCUST WALK

Eric Zimmerman '22



Locust Walk Today



Locust Walk in the Fall

Our illustrious chapter was chartered in 1875 and moved a few times in its early years until a group of forward thinking alumni established the Sigma Chi Club of Philadelphia, our present day alumni House Corporation. In 1920 the Club's Board of Directors purchased our stately home at 3809 Locust Walk, the former residence of Anthony J. Drexel's daughter Frances and son in law, James William Paul. This fall, we will celebrate the 100th anniversary of the dedication of our beloved chapter house. This celebration is planned to coincide with Homecoming 2020 on the weekend of November 13-14th. This

celebration will be an amazing opportunity for generations of Phi Phis to come together and celebrate the countless memories we have all made at 3809 Locust. Tentative plans include a formal celebration and dinner on Friday at the house, where young and old can share stories and reminisce. On Saturday, we are planning on having more lively festivities before and after the Homecoming game against Harvard. It is our sincere hope that you can all make it. If you have any questions or suggestions surrounding the 100th anniversary event, please email **Eric Zimmerman** at ericzim@sas.upenn.edu.

LOST

Help Us Find Lost Brothers

We are working to collect up-to-date contact information for as many brothers as possible to keep our alumni informed about all things Phi Phi (reunions, events, achievements, alumni updates, and more!)

Please take a minute to skim through our lost email list and lost mailing list at www.phiphi-sigmachi.org. If you

know a brother's contact information, right click his name and select "Open link in new tab," which opens an email window. Just type your message and submit it to us so we can update our records!

YEAR IN REVIEW

Paul Huntsman '20

Greetings from the undergraduate brothers of the Phi Phi Chapter of Sigma Chi. The current state of the chapter is as strong as ever with steadfast involvement in athletics, service, and academics. In the fall of 2019, we proudly welcomed nine new brothers who were deemed fit for membership in our fraternity. Our chapter now stands strong at 59 members.

In the summer of 2019, four executive members energetically represented the Phi Phi Chapter at Sigma Chi's annual Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop at Bowling Green. The brothers gained a deeper knowledge and appreciation of our ritual and expansive fraternal network. Our chapter also had the pleasure of assisting in the installment and initiation of the Iota Chapter at West Chester University. We welcome the Iota brothers to our Province.

As we approach the end of the year and prepare to send off our seniors, we wish them the best of luck in their new careers. Following the great path of many Phi Phi brothers, our seniors have secured jobs at some of the most coveted companies around the world, including Guggenheim, TD, J.P. Morgan, Barclays, Citi, KKR, and many others.

It was truly a great honor to serve as consul for the Phi Phi Chapter and follow in the footsteps of my grandfather, **Jon M. Huntsman '59**, who also served as Consul while at Penn. Growing up, I remember my grandfather frequently sharing that the Phi Phi brotherhood and Sigma Chi's fraternal values assisted him through many of life's challenges. As we transition into a new year, the Phi Phi Chapter welcomes **Gavin Geib '21** as our new consul. Gavin is a gifted leader equipped with the necessary attributes to advance the state of the chapter.

THE YEAR AHEAD

Gavin Geib '21

I am thrilled to serve as the Consul for the Phi Phi Chapter for this upcoming year. It is a dream come true to follow in the footsteps of my father, **Gregory Geib '88**, who also served as Consul of the Phi Phi Chapter during his time at Penn. Whenever he comes back to visit, he never fails to mention that it was him and his brothers who constructed the sand volleyball court outside of the house that we still use today. I hope my contributions as Consul will leave a similar legacy.

Wharton alumni and founder of Oaktree Capital, Howard Marks, famously once said that the most important part of leadership is selection. I am proud to say that I believe our chapter has done an outstanding job of selecting members to our executive committee. There is an incredible amount of passion and commitment in the room. In the first month of working together, we have made tremendous strides as a group and I expect this to continue. With the support of the executive committee, I will do my best to leave the fraternity better than I found it.

One of my main goals as Consul is to continue to improve our philanthropy efforts. We hope to build off the success from 2019 and enter the new decade with momentum. As a chapter, we intend to achieve membership in the "\$20k" club, meaning the chapter will attempt to raise at least \$20,000 towards the Huntsman Cancer Institute over the course of the year. A distinguishing feature of our chapter compared to other Sigma Chi chapters is our alumni base. Due to the generosity of **Brother David Fleshman '61** and his pledge to match up to \$50,000 worth of donations, we believe we have a unique opportunity to meet and exceed this goal. We plan to double down on philanthropy efforts to ensure that we are taking full advantage of this opportunity. Other goals of mine include working more effectively with the chapters in our Province (Villanova and West Chester) as well as continuing to build relationships with the University leadership and the International Fraternity. I feel that we are well positioned to have a successful year. I am honored and humbled to represent the Phi Phi Chapter and the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

PHI PHI PHILANTHROPY

Joel Alexander '22

The philanthropy committee is extremely excited about our upcoming and past philanthropic efforts. Already this year, the committee has organized a charity volleyball event and a fundraising campaign for Phi Phi's chef, John Wright. Earlier this school year, Chef John tragically lost his brother. In support of him and his family, the chapter organized an extremely successful fundraiser, consisting of 10 teams from various Greek houses and sports teams. Through an extensive letter writing campaign to families and loved ones, our brothers managed to raise over \$3,000 for John and his family.

This year presents a unique opportunity for Phi Phi philanthropy as Brother **David Fleshman '61** has already committed a challenge matching gift of \$50,000 in support of the Huntsman Cancer Institute. Brother Fleshman's generous donation sets an example of the goodness and charity that Phi Phi hopes to instill in its brothers. The philanthropy committee sincerely hopes more of our brothers will follow Brother Fleshman's lead and donate to this honorable cause. The committee is in the process of planning a unique and memorable Derby Days. The chapter will soon be reaching out to sororities in order to form teams for Derby Days events. However, this semester's philanthropy will hopefully not be limited to students. We plan to host an alumni golf outing where our alumni can get involved and support our philanthropic efforts while having fun with fellow Phi Phis from many years.

If you would like to support our efforts in any way or have any questions, please contact either Philanthropy Chairman Joel Alexander at joelalex@sas.upenn.edu. You can donate directly to our Derby Days campaign on the Huntsman Cancer Institute website. The link to the Phi Phi Chapter's page is: <https://hope.huntsmancancer.org/huntsmanchallenge2020/university-of-pennsylvania>.

RUSH UPDATE

Robert Littlefield '22

This past fall, Phi Phi welcomed another great class into our ranks. The fall pledge class, headlined by star players on the football, track, and lacrosse teams, has already made an immediate and palpable impact on the fraternity as the class has already begun to fill important roles within the chapter. With men whose goals range from going to the Olympics to joining the Navy SEALs, Phi Phi is incredibly proud to now call these young men our brothers. Recruitment events for the fall included volleyball tournaments and individual dinners in which rushes were sold on what it truly means to be a Phi Phi.



The chapter is equally excited about the spring class that is currently pledging. The spring pledge class has already begun to grow closer and the bonds among its members are beginning to take shape. The class is diverse in talent, featuring aspiring DJs to varsity athletes. Recruitment events for the spring included paintball and a hibachi dinner. We look forward to further educating this class and feel that the future of Sigma Chi is looking brighter than ever.

If you would like to recommend an incoming freshman who you feel would fit in well with the Phi Phi culture, please reach out to **Robert Littlefield** at robertrl@sas.upenn.edu or seanhugh@sas.upenn.edu.

VARSITY SPORTS UPDATE

Eric Zimmerman '22

This year, like many in the fraternity's history, has been especially successful for our brothers on varsity athletic teams. From football to track, lacrosse, baseball and golf, the brothers of Phi Phi continue to make a tangible impact for our University on the sports field.

This past fall, Phi Phi had 14 brothers play on the gridiron at Franklin Field. While the Quakers did not have their most enviable season, our brothers brought esteem to both the University and our chapter with their performance on the field. Brother **Gregory Begnoche '19** had an amazing season, winning a place on the All-Ivy First-Team. Brother Begnoche allowed zero sacks as a member of the Quakers offensive line. Overall, the Phi Phi Chapter could not be prouder of our brothers on the football team and the incredible amount they contributed the Quakers this last season.



On the lacrosse team, Phi Phi has two brothers currently poised to make huge impacts this season. Brother **Sean Lulley '21** and Brother **Samuel Handley '22** are both predicted to make incredible contributions for the

Quakers. Brother Lulley, a junior attacker, made a huge impact on the field last year. Playing in all 16 games, Brother Lulley played a crucial role in securing the Quakers 2019 Ivy League Championship. In the final game against Harvard, Brother Lulley scored both a hat trick and the game winner, a memory that every Phi Phi in attendance will not soon forget. Brother Handley, a sophomore midfielder, was named to

the All-American First-Team, the only Quaker and the only freshman in the country to receive such an honor. Brother Handley set the record for points, goals, and assists made by a Penn freshman. Both Brother Lulley and Brother Handley are primed to lead the Quakers to another landmark season in 2020.

The track and field team features two men we are proud to call brothers: Brother **Marc Minichello '22** and Brother **Vincent Oliver '22**. Brother Minichello, a javelin thrower, holds an incredible personal record of 77.15m and was a 2019 All-American Honorable Mention in javelin as a freshman. Brother Oliver, a thrower, holds the distinction of having been on both Penn's varsity football team and track and field team and totaled two top-10 finishes in 2019.



Brother Marc Minichello '22 competed for the United States at the Under-20 Pan-American Championships in Costa Rica this last summer.

Phi Phi boasts membership on several other teams as well. On the baseball team, Phi Phi is proud to have our own Brother **Kyle Cronk '21** playing in the outfield. Brother Cronk not only crushes it on the diamond but has also done an impressive job as one of Phi Phi's Social Chairmen this semester. On the golf team, Brother **Caleb Blackburn '22** is known for his friendly disposition and his grace on the links. Brother Blackburn also serves as one of Phi Phi's two Magisters, instilling in our new pledges our fraternity's values and traditions.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS UPDATE

Eric Zimmerman '22

This last semester saw Phi Phi's flag football team start the year off with high hopes. In the weeks leading up to the start of the season, the team engaged in frequent practices. Aided by several former members of the Penn varsity football team and former high school football players, the chapter was prepared for a phenomenal season. Unfortunately, skill at tackle football did not transfer as effectively to flag football as the chapter had predicted.

In the first game of the season, the Phi

Phi team faced off against OZ (former ZBT). While Phi Phi had primarily practicing their passing game, the chapter quickly found that the majority of play was on the ground. After being scored on early in the game, Phi Phi quickly found its footing and engaged in a tiring back-and-forth with the men of OZ in which most possessions resulted in punting the ball downfield. Despite Phi Phi's near comeback in the final minute of the game, we unfortunately lost the game 8-6.



better than ever with another year of intramural flag football experience under our belts.

In our second game, Phi Phi came out swinging and bested Apes (former AEPi) 24-13. Our third and final game was a tragic, injury-fueled, and unexpected 20-13 loss to AEPi. Next season, Phi Phi is looking forward to coming back

SOCIAL UPDATE

Gabriel Wineman '22

This semester we are looking forward to a calendar full of great social events with our new members and always welcome recent alumni who would like to socialize with their Phi Phi brothers. This semester we kicked things off by helping Chi Omega celebrate their new sisters, assisting with their bid day festivities. The day was a great success with many of Chi Omega's new sisters having a great introduction to both our brotherhood and our new pledge class. Since then, the social calendar has been filled with events that have helped us to form friendships with the new classes of the Sigma Delta Tau and Alpha Phi sororities and the Tabard Society. We have also had some great events with the women's field hockey, lacrosse, soccer, and volleyball teams. All of these events

thus far have received rave reviews from those we have hosted, and we are very excited that many people around campus know that Sigma Chi always offers a welcome door and good times.

We also have events planned with other Penn sororities, Delta Gamma from Villanova, and Alpha Phi from Saint Joseph's University. In addition, we are looking forward to Phi Phi's classic "Kegs and Eggs" events this semester. In recent semesters, "Kegs and Eggs" events have consistently proven to be the highlights of the social calendar, with Chef John Wright serving up some delicious breakfast to complement an early start to a day of good times. Overall, our social calendar is looking stronger than ever.

BUILDING FUTURE LEADERS OF THE WORLD:

How Sigma Chi is Molding Generations of Greenawalt Men

Jon Greenawalt, Sr. '61 is part of a long line of Sigma Chi gentlemen from his father down to his grandson. Because of his storied lineage with the group, his participation in its leadership and his belief that Sigma Chi produces men ready to lead, he gives of his time and talent to the Sigma Chi organization.

"The fundamental reason [I give] is that my experience with our Order, and the great men who are part of it, have contributed their skills, caring and support to me in immeasurable ways, including helping me to design and deliver leadership skills that I have used in my consulting profession," Greenawalt, Sr. '61 says.

"I believe it is my responsibility and honor to give back so that Sigma Chi can continue to build future leaders for the world."

Jon believes the most valuable part of the Sigma Chi experience is to learn to respect, appreciate and cooperate with a wide range of different temperaments, talents, convictions and backgrounds – an experience that should be sought after and highly valued.

In the Greenawalt family, it certainly is. With three generations of Phi Phi Sigs, the value and mission are held in high esteem.



Jon Greenawalt, Sr. '61 and H. Samuel Greenawalt, '51 (chapter eternal)



Jon Greenawalt, Jr. '91 and his wife, Jennifer

Jon Jr., '91, his son, is a Phi Phi Sig. Before him, his older brother **Sam '51** and father were Phi Phi Sigs as well. His granddaughter, Allegra, is a first year student at Penn, and his grandson, Julian, will be joining her in Fall 2020. Greenawalt, Sr. still leads his consulting firm, Personal Mastery Programs and actively assists in the fraternity with leadership training for both alumni and undergraduates.

ALUMNI NEWS

Michael Grossman '99 still maintains many connections to Sigma Chi. He gives to the annual fund, maintains relationships with Brothers and recently attended his Sigma Chi 20th reunion. The fraternity made a great impact on his life and now he is paying it forward to other Brothers.

"First and foremost, I believe firmly in giving back to those who have helped me along the way in life. Some of my best memories from Penn happened with my Phi Phi brothers at my side. The experiences and relationships we built could only be made possible with adequate funding, both from existing brothers and generous alums," Grossman says. "If I can help to fill that gap and take away even a small part of that financial burden for some brothers so that they can have the experiences I had as a part of Sigma Chi, I am highly motivated to give each year."

“ Happily and busily retired, part-time college professor, charitable volunteer, ever-hopeful golfer, and proud grandpa.”

~ James Hatch Jr. '71

“ After working in NYC for 12 years after graduation, I have now lived in the San Francisco area for the last 14 years. My wife, Sue, and I have two children, a son in ninth grade and a daughter in seventh grade. I am presently head of U.S. M&A for Canaccord Genuity.”

~ David Istock '94

“ I'm practicing law in Vietnam, where I've lived for 35 +/- years. I have a robust flock of children and grandchildren, all of whom live in the US. My last trip to the house was about two years ago with my daughter and grandson. It was great to walk through the house, talk to the brothers who happened to be there, free up my memory and be a student again.”

~ Sesto Vecchi '58

Don't forget to send us your life accomplishments, updates and news at alumninews@affinityconnection.com. We want to hear from you!

Grossman has lived in Boston ever since graduating from Penn in 1999. He and his wife, Abby, and two boys, Tyler (10) and Jack (7) live in the same South End neighborhood he moved to after graduation. Outside of his work as a portfolio manager at MFS Investments, he spends a lot of time at the rink and on the athletic fields coaching his sons' hockey and lacrosse teams and watching them play soccer.

Recently, Grossman enjoyed spending time with many brothers from the class '99 at his 20th reunion in addition to the various interactions with other Brothers. He sees

Bobby Dziedzich '99 when in London for work; he would like to go for long runs followed by yogurt, cereal and a banana with **George Bell '99** more frequently; and he has gotten to know **Bobby Alexander '14**, who he met while coaching his son's hockey team in South Boston.

“ Still working harder than ever, year 39 as a self-employed insurance “geek” (a broker) and really just enjoying life with my wife. Kids are all doing well (one is in grad school at Penn) and two young grandchildren. Giving back when I can to organizations like the Union League Legacy Foundation (chair of the Good Citizen Day committee) and the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life here in Marlton, NJ where I live and work.”

~ Ronald Woodmansee '82