

*IT IS ONLY THROUGH YOUR DONATIONS THAT THIS NEWSLETTER IS POSSIBLE.*

# Mountaineer PHI PSI



*West Virginia Alpha...A strong, rich tradition of Phi Kappa Psi*

Zachary L Mendelson '79, Editor

May 2003 • Volume 59, No. 1

## WEST VIRGINIA ALUMNI ATTEND CABO LEADERSHIP RETREAT

The 1st West Virginia Alpha Leadership Retreat to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico was by all accounts, a 'Major Success'. A total of 41 brothers, spouses, and friends attended the February 22 – March 2nd gathering.

Our hosts for the week, Jerry & Florence Nelson, welcomed us to their sprawling estate, nestled along the picturesque Sea of Cortez. The setting presented a perfect opportunity for brothers representing five decades to meet, discuss, and strategize for the continuation of our Preserving Our History Campaign.

The attendees were representative of those brothers who have assisted our efforts since the campaign commenced. This campaign continues to be an effort to create a 'new' vision for the 21st century whereby our chapter can rebuild its values and traditions, along with providing brothers with a dynamic learning environment that promotes scholarship, community service, character development, and leadership skills.

In addition, our fraternity is embarking upon the most ambitious fund-raising effort in its history. Our campaign goal of \$1 million will enable us to refurbish and renovate the James



*The Nelson Estate located in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico provided the perfect setting for members to continue the revitalization of WV ALPHA*

Cochran House, the Goose House, the Memorial Chapel, a permanent House Preservation Fund (sinking fund), along with establishing an endowment for scholarships (to attract the best and brightest on campus).

Over the last fifteen months, the interior of the Memorial Chapel has been fully renovated and restored. On February 16, 2002, nearly fifty-years after it was built, our fraternity re-dedicated our chapel.

Our host, Jerry Nelson (UCLA '48), personally escorted all of us on a tour of the recently completed Cabo Alpha. This beautiful facility will be utilized to house, feed, and educate Phi

Psi's (from throughout the country) during their respective Spring Breaks.

Cabo Alpha has been a 'dream come true' for the Nelson's. This magnificent facility will become the future training ground for the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity. Both Jerry and Florence are both very active teaching these young men.

In fact, during our visit, several of us took in a morning session in which Jerry was tutoring 31 young men from Michigan Alpha. Ten brothers from WV Alpha were to attend the week of March 17th

**[See insert for additional information about Cabo Alpha].**

### Mountaineer PHI PSI

P.O. Box 4070  
Morgantown, WV 26507-4070

Address Service Requested



Brothers tailgating at the Miami vs WVU Football Game, October 26, 2002 included: {L to R} **Chuck Kersting '82, Mike Robinson '81, Larry Cavallo '81, Pat Parrill '81, Kent Muscaro '81, John Miesner '81, & Tim Dyer '81**

# FROM HERE . . .

- (499) **John Shott '42**, 115 Fawn Circle, Bluefield, VA 24605. Ph: 276-326-6091. Sent \$50 and writes: Bonnie and I will celebrate our 56<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary on December 27<sup>th</sup>, (2002). We have two sons, five grandchildren, and no great grandchildren, yet. Our oldest grandson will be married in June. Time marches on.
- (608) **Joseph Reger '47**, 2025 St Andrews Drive, Berwyn, PA 19312. Ph: 610-647-1636. Mailed \$50 and states: We're enjoying retirement more each year. It's strange, but there's never enough time for everything
- (624) **Edward Brandt '47**, 110 Whitetail Trail, Pawley's Island, SC 29585. {New Address} Ph: 843-235-9055. Sent \$30 and notes: My wife, Barbara Harrison, and I moved into our residence on December 30<sup>th</sup>.
- (643) **Thomas Seckman '48**, 944 Forest Acres, Nashville, TN 37220. Ph: 615-833-0571. Contributed \$100 and writes: Enjoying retirement—12 grandchildren and a little consulting engineering keep me going.
- (661) **J.R. (Dick) Holt '49**, 6318 Roberto Drive, Huntington, WV 25705. Ph: 304-736-7445. Renewed subscription (\$30).
- (700) **John Windsor '52**, P.O. Box 522, Fairmont, WV 26555. Mailed \$25 for subscription.
- (722) **Arch Meredith Jr '53**, 6455 St Andrews Drive, Stockton, CA 95219. Ph: 209-478-6123. Renewed subscription (\$30) and his wife (Fran Alderson Meredith, Delta Gamma, WVU) writes: Arch really enjoys the newsletter—you are doing a great job keeping everyone in touch. He's still battling ALS—Lou Gehrig's Disease—and would enjoy hearing from old friends. Email: [afmjr@attbi.com](mailto:afmjr@attbi.com)
- (795) **Terry Gribble '56**, 102 Chaucer Ct, St Clairsville, OH 43950. Ph: 740-695-4796. Sent \$30 and notes: No new news. I sent \$40 on 4/02/02 and you noted I had mailed \$10. Here's an extra \$30 for a very good cause. Good Issue! Congrats to the Chapter Review Committee. Not much good to have a great campaign for WV Alpha with the "inside" of the house needing cleaned up more than the "outside".
- (855) **John Pyles '59**, 4721 Kahala Ave, Honolulu, HI 96816. Contributed \$100.
- (886) **Stephen McWhorter '60**, 11510 Maple Ridge Road, Reston, VA 20190. Ph: 703- 707-0721. Mailed \$50 noting, "Great to hear about our chapter".
- (978) **Walter Bird '65**, 5358 York Road, P.O. Box 202, Holicong, PA 18928. Ph: 215-794-9578. Mailed \$50 and writes: Madonn and I are in the process of selling our Bed and Breakfast and we will be moving to Morgantown. Looking forward to travel and friends as we retire.
- (1072) **Thomas DeWitt '68**, 457 Lakeview Dr, Morgantown, WV 26508. Ph: 304-284-5124. Contributed \$50 for newsletter.
- (1085) **Douglas Keller '68**, Box 2 Burnt House Rt, Smithville, WV 26178. Mailed \$100.
- (1110) **John Cooper-Martin '69**, 1021 Gilbert Road, Rockville, MD 20851. Ph: 301-294-6557 [New Address]. He notes...continuing work as a pastoral counselor.
- (1208) **Gordon Letterman '72**, 2521 Joy Road, Occidental, CA 95465. Enclosed \$100 and writes: I enjoyed seeing you again at the GAC. I am always proud of how large a contingent of WV Alphans attend the GAC, no matter where it is held. Having two past presidents in our group was a great honor. The only thing that bothered me about the whole event was that my daughter was enticed away from me by the Stanford undergrads instead of the WV Alphans. I will expect a better performance in 2004. My mother, who was unable to attend because of her health, questioned me in detail as to who all of the WV brothers she knows were there. I'm so pleased the Mountaineer Phi Psi had that great picture on the front that I could show her. She recognized many old friends, and asked that I pass along her best wishes to all of them. And what would a GAC be without being able to spend some time with my friend, **Bob Bird '73**.
- (1261) **Wayne Hall '73**, 112 Sheldon Drive, Moore, SC. Ph: 864-574-5081. Sent \$30.
- (1322) **Paul Nichols '75**, 3804 Candlelight Dr, Camp Hill, PA 17011. Ph: 717-763-0319. Contributed \$50 and writes: Getting ready to retire from the Navy after 20 years & start a second career as a consultant. Our daughter, Danielle, will enter WVU in the fall 2003 as a freshman. Enjoy the newsletter!

*"I am always proud of how large a contingent of WV Alphans attend the GAC, no matter where it is held. . . Having two past presidents in our group was a great honor."*

## RETURN MAILER

Mail to: Mountaineer Phi Psi  
PO Box 4070  
Morgantown, WV 26507

Please send me more information about the Preservation Campaign

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Init.Yr. \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

The above address is new

Email \_\_\_\_\_

NEWS ABOUT ME: \_\_\_\_\_

2003 Subscription	\$	30.00
Voluntary Contribution	\$	_____
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$</b>	_____

05/03

## RETURN MAILER

# CHAPTER NEWS

- Justin Merzeau, GP, has done a "nice job" organizing the chapter during this spring semester. As the chapter continues to operate under tight guidelines from the University, Merzeau, the officers, and the chapter members are re-establishing themselves within the Greek community.
- In conjunction with WVU's Gamma Beta Phi society, the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity was recently recognized for toys that were donated to the St Jude Children's Research Hospital. "Justin Merzeau, our president, pretty much came up with the idea to participate and then organized the rest of the fraternity," stated Dimitri Devalroger, treasurer of the fraternity. About 25-30 brothers participated in the event, each donating a couple toys each. The Phi Psi's were the only fraternity on campus to take part in the charity event.
- On April 4<sup>th</sup>, **Terry Bowden '75**, in town to commemorate Morgantown High School's 75<sup>th</sup> birthday, spoke to the brotherhood at the Memorial Chapel. Bowden, an ABC Sports Studio Analyst, spoke briefly and then answered many questions about the college football environment today. Bowden also promised to return to campus next fall. Also attending this event was Ron Justice, head of Student Organization Services, and also Mayor of Morgantown.
- The chapter continues to make significant progress with their grade point average (GPA). During the Fall 2002 semester, twenty-four achieved a 3.0 GPA. Three individuals, Ron Longo, Justin Mahalik, and Pat Rose, achieved a 4.0 GPA.
- **Jim Harner '64**, Faculty Advisor, has been very busy working with the chapter to locate University resources that can assist brothers with study habits, time management, tutoring, etc. Harner arranged for Tom Sloane, Associate Dean of Student Life, to meet with the chapter within the last month.
- Ten brothers represented West Virginia Alpha in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico at the Cabo Alpha Leadership Academy during their recent Spring Break—March 17<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup>. Over 700 young Phi Psi's will attend during 2003.

# ALUMNI NEWS

- **Robert “Bob” Lazzell ‘42** and his wife, Lucille, celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary with a beautiful reception at Lakeview Scanticon Resort & Conference Center on October 19, 2002. This affair was given by their seven children: Kathaleen, Valerie, Wenona, Robert, Harlan, Mary Francis, and Walter.
- **Charles Bishop ‘60** was inducted into the WVU School of Physical Education Hall of Fame on October 4, 2002. Brother Bishop received his B.S. Degree in Physical Education in 1963 and an M.S. Degree in Rehabilitation Counseling in 1964 from WVU. He received a Doctorate Degree in Counseling Psychology in 1973 from the University of Georgia. For the last twenty-years, Bishop has held senior level positions in recognized Fortune 100 firms undergoing significant change. **William “Spider” Morgan ‘59** presented Brother Bishop for induction.
- **Forest “Jack” Bowman ‘58** joined Acacia Business Solutions LLC, a subsidiary of Jackson & Kelly Solutions LLC, in September 2002. Bowman will serve primarily as a business ethics consultant; with a great deal of his time dedicated to mediation and conflict resolution work, management, and leadership training. Last year, Bowman retired from WVU after 23 years of teaching law. While teaching, Bowman was a seven time “Professor of the Year”.
- Members of the Supervisory Committee met with University officials {Herman Moses & Ron Justice} on January 21<sup>st</sup> to update and inform. Moses noted he was “very impressed” with the progress our chapter has made...along with the continued involvement of the Supervisory Committee. Chairman of this committee, **Robert Henderson ‘60**, along with other members, have contributed selfless hours to this endeavor.
- A very special “Congratulations” to Melvin Rexroad, owner of Rexroad Heating and Roofing Inc, for being recognized recently by Lennox for sixty-years of selling their products. Although not a brother, Melvin, and his wife Helen, have known and befriended many of the brothers over the years. Melvin’s father started the business in 1937.
- The Pittsburgh Alumni Association is proud to announce its resurrection and successful Founders day Dinner held April 30, 2003 at the Duquesne Club. The dinner was to be held in February but due to an 18-inch snowfall it had to be postponed. Due to the efforts of Jim Denny, **Abe Key ‘78** and Ray McCormack, the executive officers, a diverse mix of local chapters (undergraduate and alumni) witnessed the revitalization of an alumni association that was originally started just after WWII. All brothers living in the Pittsburgh area are welcome to join. The following individuals have volunteered to serve as the representatives for their chapters: Ron Demay, Penn State; Al Cuneo, W&J; **Rick Nelson ‘64**, WVU; Marty Farrell, Indiana University of PA; and Michael Mayer, Allegheny College. If interested, contact Jim Denny at [jcpdenny@adelphia.net](mailto:jcpdenny@adelphia.net)
- In an effort to comply with the University’s request for a ‘house proctor” **Brice Cooper ‘98** has agreed to move into the Goose House in August 2003. Cooper, a former GP, is awaiting a slot in the Basic Officer Training School of the US Army. **Andy Wilkins ‘65**, president of the James Cochran House Association, is working with a contractor to refurbish the interior of the Goose House. In 2001 the exterior of the Goose House was renovated.

# ... To THERE

- (1348) **Patrick Whalen ‘76**, 1420 Country Club Drive, Lancaster, PA 17601. Ph: 717-509- 8801. Mailed \$50 and notes: Zach, you do an outstanding job keeping brothers informed. Thanks for the dedication. Life is good in Lancaster—happily married for 18-years...two sons, ages 16 & 8. One daughter, age 13.
  - (1379) **Robert Welch ‘77**, 600 W. Divine Street, Dunn, NC 28334. Ph: 919-892-1399. \$50 and writes: I suspect my atrocious handwriting is too blame. Bro **Jeff Brooks ‘78** called to instruct me in the spelling of his last name. Great to hear from Jeff.
  - (1386) **David Hanna ‘77**, 103 Millers Cove Rd, Newport News, VA 23602. Ph: 757-877 -0353. Mailed \$50 and states: Had great time at the House last summer (Reunion weekend) and seeing all the gang! Think it should be an annual event. Brothers **Jim Hamer ‘79**, **Jeff Brooks ‘78**, **Ken Waldron ‘78**, and **Eddie Harrah ‘81** all live in Tidewater Virginia area—come see us!
  - (1442) **Timothy Muscaro ‘79**, 3502 W. Bay to Bay Blvd, Tampa, FL 33629. Ph: 813-216-7560. Contributed \$50 and writes: Had a great time at the Alumni Weekend last summer. So happy to see everyone and so proud everyone is doing well in so many ways. When we do it again, please...as many guys that can come, come!
  - (1516) **Stephen Hamer ‘81**, 7 Fairway Drive, Huntington, WV 25705. Ph: 304-453-6381. Contributed \$80 and notes: Donna and I are enjoying life and staying young. As we have been blessed with another son, Matthew James Hamer, born February 23, 2002. This new son, along with our daughter (Christina, age 12), and son (Stephen, age 9), continue to enrich our lives.
  - (1517) **Michael Robinson ‘81**, 474 Hidden Creek Lane, Harrisonburg, VA 22801. Ph: 540-433-5011. Mailed along \$50 and writes: A few of the guys gathered for the WVU vs Miami (football) game last fall and enjoyed listening to each others stories— which have grown as the years pass! Mario’s Fish Bowl was in good shape—as we sampled a few “bowls”.
- {Editor’s note: see related pix elsewhere}*
- (1528) **Matthew Mazanek ‘82**, 126 W. Coldbrook Circle, The Woodlands, TX 77381. Ph: 409-273-3709. Renewed subscription (\$30) and writes: Kathy and I have lived in The Woodlands, outside of Houston for the last ten years. Son, Michael is a fresh-man at Texas A&M. Daughter, Natalie is 13, and Katherine is 9. I left Exxon-Mobile a few years back and I am now sales manager for a private lubricants and fuel marketing company named H&W Petroleum.
  - (1585) **Doug Sutter ‘84**, 3204 West Forest Lake Drive, Sarasota, FL 34232 {New Address} Ph: 941-923-8788. Mailed \$ 50 and notes: I’d like to give props to you Zach for keeping all the brothers “connected” and your tireless work on the House Campaign. You do a great job! I just wish more brothers from the 80’s would write to you so we could see what they are up to. Many of my last impressions of them are from the 80’s (and many are not pretty) so they should make a post and make amends! Marsha and I have been married 13 years and have four kids to chase around. Christopher (9), Nicholas (6), Danielle (3), and Lauren (1) keep us busy to say the least. We all enjoy the beach, boating, sports and the Florida lifestyle. Work is good as Florida construction is booming. We now have three offices (Ft. Myers, Sarasota and Tampa) so I am busier than ever. Any old friends passing through please look me up or send an email to [doug@sutterroofing.com](mailto:doug@sutterroofing.com)
  - (1594) **David Calabrese ‘84**, 15718 Knox Hill Drive, Huntersville, NC. Ph: 704-655-2505. Mailed \$55 and notes: Marianna and I had our second beautiful girl, Nena Alivia. I am covering the east coast as a regional sales manager for Nice-Pak. Call us if you come through Charlotte.
  - (1696) **David Woolley ‘88**, 141 Lawnside Avenue, Collingswood, NJ 08108 {New Address}. Ph: 856-858-2338. Contributed \$20 and writes: Got married in March of 2001 to April Lee Smith, who graduated from KU in Lawrence, KS. Hopefully the Mounties never play the jayhawks because my wife would see my “dark side” if WVU lost.

*“A few of the guys gathered for the WVU vs Miami (football) game last fall and enjoyed listening to each others stories— which have grown as the years pass! Mario’s Fish Bowl was in good shape—as we sampled a few “bowls”.”*



*Breakfast each morning was a time to . . . reminisce about days of yore!*



*Who was telling the biggest lie . . . I wonder?*



Would your honey be a girl?



*A personal tour of Cabo Alpha was give to each of us by our host Jerry Nelson*

Honey . . . It does or doesn't wash off?



*The fishing in Cabo San Lucas is unbelievable. Seems like we all caught fish.*



*Brad Layne enjoying the libations of Cabo*



*How about a Cabo . . . Hi! Hi! Hi!*



*These guys were the welcoming committee. Looked like Gilligan was going to take us on a "three hour tour"!*



*Zach & Krista Mendelson take a moment to share the true spirit of Cabo.*