Profile of a Phi Kap
Each story is uniquely Phi Kappa Theta

Making a Difference through a Donation
Thanking Foundation Contributors
Dear Brothers:

It is my pleasure to update you on the status of the Strategic Plan the Board of Trustees has been diligently working on. We have developed End Statements and Vision Statements for five strategic areas: Leadership Development, Spiritual Development, Intellectual Development, Fraternal Development, and Social Development.

To achieve our Vision, we have developed strategies, tactics and measures to drive Phi Kappa Theta’s improvement in these areas. As Trustees we will develop an action plan and determine the resources necessary to implement these tactics.

This will require far greater alumni involvement in the National Fraternity than ever before. The eight alumni Trustees and two collegiate Trustees cannot achieve the goals of our Fraternity’s Strategic Plan on their own.

The Fraternity needs YOU to give of your time and talent to deliver on our Mission: “Phi Kappa Theta actively develops men to be effective leaders who passionately serve their society, fraternity and God.”

Many of you have probably never been active alumni volunteers with the National Fraternity. This must change, or we will never fulfill the hopes and dreams of our Founders.

The Board will be reaching out, hoping that you will join us on our shared journey to create the Fraternity of tomorrow. Our organization must focus itself on developing courageous leaders who can solve urgent problems in our communities.

This effort is also crucial in developing the future Fraternity leaders. The more we broaden our alumni involvement, the deeper our bench will be for Brothers to take over the leadership of the Fraternity Board from those of us who serve today.

We will be test-marketing the Strategic Plan with collegiate and alumni Brothers with a formal presentation to the Brotherhood at this summer’s Phi Kappa Theta Leadership Institute in Phoenix on August 7th-10th.

It would be glorious if you could join us, since we will be rolling out new alumni leadership training in partnership with the North-American Interfraternity Conference. It will also be the event that kicks off our run up to the 50th Anniversary Biennial Convention in Columbus in August 2009 where we celebrate the men who brought Phi Kappa and Theta Kappa Phi together.

This is an exciting time for Phi Kappa Theta, and I hope you will be part of it.

Fraternally,

Robert P. Stalder
National President
This issue focuses on the “many faces of Phi Kap,” through telling the stories of seven alumni who take service to a new level in many walks of life.

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SPRING 2008

On the cover: This issue seeks to illustrate the different paths that Phi Kaps take to serve the organization, society and God. Each is unique, but each demonstrates how Phi Kappa Theta’s mission and values are woven into their lives.

Luminaries line the pathway for the Relay for Life in commemoration for those who are or have battled cancer. Survivor Mike Carr helps to coordinate a Relay for Life in his area. See page 06 for his story.

PROFILE OF A PHI KAP

This issue focuses on the “many faces of Phi Kap,” through telling the stories of seven alumni who take service to a new level in many walks of life.
We Need Your E-mail!

In honor of the up-and-coming 50th anniversary of Phi Kappa Theta we are striving to complete our database with not only your home address but your e-mail address as well. If you have not been receiving The Kappa Quarterly of Phi Kappa Theta, our quarterly annual e-publication, you are missing out on other important information about your Fraternity Brothers, undergraduate and alumni alike. To begin receiving The Kappa Quarterly please send us your current e-mail address to Executiveoffices@phikaps.org.

See yourself or your Brothers in The Temple of Phi Kappa Theta!

Send us story ideas and suggestions about ways that you, other Brothers, or your chapter is living out the Mission of Phi Kappa Theta. Share your stories with more than 30,000 readers in The Temple! E-mail Executiveoffices@phikaps.org with ideas or to share your story.

We would also like to include photos from your collegiate chapter and alumni brotherhood events in each issue of The Temple. Submit your photos to help illustrate the great things our chapters and Brothers are doing!

These pictures have certain guidelines they must meet in order to be used. Follow the Tips for Submitting Photos to get yours published!

• Turn off your camera’s date stamp.
• Send pictures of small groups of members, rather than trying to fit the whole chapter into one frame.
• Keep your background and foreground uncluttered.
• Photos of members wearing letters make Phi Kappa Theta stand out.
• We do not print photographs that show alcoholic beverages.

E-mailing photos

• Photos must be 300 dpi, so set your digital camera shoot at 4.0 megapixels or higher.
• They must be in an accessible format such as .tif, jpeg or .eps.
• Photos from your cell phone, Facebook, Snapfish (or other similar photo collection websites), or any website cannot be reprinted in the magazine because of their poor quality. Send digital files that come directly from the camera.
• E-mail photos as attachments. Do not paste them in an e-mail or Word document.

E - mail photos to: Executiveoffices@phikaps.org
Subject: (Chapter Name) Temple Photos

Mailing Photos:

• If you have a valuable or important photo, scan it at 300dpi and send it by e-mail or print a professional copy at a drugstore photo department. We do not return photos.
• We cannot use color copies or digital photos printed on your home printer.
• Write the chapter, names and explanation on a label and stick it to the back of the picture. Do not write directly on the photo or paperclip paper to the photo.

Mail photos to: Phi Kappa Theta National Office Attn: Keith Harshbarger Dir. of Communications & Marketing 9640 N. Augusta Dr., Suite 420 Carmel, IN 46032
The stereotype of a fraternity man was one who serves society, God and lives up to the values of his organization, fraternities would be the involvement opportunity of choice for men in college and afterward.

So often, negative stereotypes - focused on partying, disinterest in one’s community, disrespect to those unlike oneself - are played out on college campuses today.

Chapters and members that live Phi Kappa Theta’s values counteract negative stereotypes proving that Phi Kap Brotherhood is valuable and relevant.

This special section (p. 5 to 14) highlights seven Brothers that show that a “stereotypical” Phi Kap does not exist.

You will see that:
- A Phi Kap is a Peace Corp volunteer serving a global community, educating adolescents in Ghana;
- A Phi Kap is a cancer survivor promoting awareness about his disease and mentoring those who are struggling;
- A Phi Kap is one who shares his kidney, reconnecting with a chapter Brother after years of separation to give the gift of life;
- A Phi Kap is a newly ordained priest who spent decades serving his country in the Armed Forces;
- A Phi Kap is a comedian who believes in the healing power of laughter;
- A Phi Kap is a busy police officer who shares his time, talents and enthusiasm with many chapters in two different volunteer roles;
- A Phi Kap must be someone whose fraternity experience transcends college, utilizing the skills gained to serve the greater community, God and the organization. These profiles show how men are living out this mission in their daily lives.

by Heather Matthews
Managing Editor
Through pain.
Through misdiagnoses.
Through tumors.
Through chemotherapy.
Through radiation.
Through hospitalization.
Through surgery after surgery after surgery.

Mike Carr fought through it all to beat colorectal cancer and now he is fighting for others.

Carr has been instrumental in organizing a Relay for Life event for the past three years. Relay for Life is an all-night program that celebrates those who have overcome cancer, remembers those who have died and fights back against the disease.

After struggling with colorectal cancer for more than four years, Carr is now on a mission to “give back to recognize all of the people who helped us along the way.” He is the oldest of three siblings at age 45, and two have already faced cancer. One sister was diagnosed with breast cancer while she was pregnant. He and his younger sister work on the coordinating committee for the Relay for Life of the Northland in Kansas City, Missouri, sponsored by the American Cancer Society.

Carr organizes the teams that participate in the event, working to recruit and retain them. He partners with team captains on fundraising and participation. His sister chairs the planning committee, which they have both served on since after their first Relay.

“My sister did some of the breast cancer walks but she felt like it left out others who had suffered, like me,” Carr said. “She had done Relay for Life while in college. In the first one we did together three years ago, our team was made up of the entire family.”

It has become something that he looks forward to throughout the year because of the connections he has made. He was surprised at how deeply he would be affected by this one-day program.

“I thought we would have just mingled with people who were dealing with similar things and shared stories,” he said. “That is a big part of it – there are a lot of survivors, people who are dealing with cancer, people who have lost loved ones – but there is always somebody who you hear something from that just makes you say ‘wow.’”

“You really benefit from something someone else has experienced,” Carr reflected. “I always feel like there is someone that I help with my story to get over an emotional hurdle.”

In his cancer battle, Carr faced many physical and emotional hurdles. He was married in 1998, and less than a year later was diagnosed with colorectal cancer. He had lived with severe pain for months, being misdiagnosed with hemorrhoids at first.

“My oncologist told me not to give up but that it did not look good,” Carr said. Doctors told his wife that he likely had a year to live.

When doctors found a large tumor, they suggested to Carr and his wife to bank sperm, which they believe is the only reason they were later able to have their two daughters.

Carr went through chemotherapy and radiation to try and shrink the tumor, and then an unsuccessful surgery to remove it.

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After innovative combinations of radiology and surgery at the Mayo Clinic, the tumor was gone, but Carr was left without a colon and one kidney, a hole in his bladder, and other complications. Yet, doctors located
Cancer Survivor cont’...

another tumor in 2002 in the space where his colon had been, now attached to his muscles. Again he was told that he would not live another year.

They used different radiation strategies and the tumor disappeared. Doctors have not found signs of tumors since then, although the pain remains.

While undergoing treatment for colorectal cancer, Carr’s family served as his support system. His wife “has been nothing short of a saint.”

His team of doctors recommended that he no longer work, so his wife works to provide the family’s main source of income while he stays home and cares for the children and helps his other family members.

“I am here for the rest of my family. I really enjoy it,” he said. “If I hadn’t of gotten sick, I might not have realized how neat it could be, but now I wouldn’t have done anything else [but be a stay-at-home father]. It’s tough not making money, but its neat watching them grow up.”

This work environment has also provided the opportunity to work closely in planning the local Relay for Life event, happening July 18-19 this year. It will begin with an opening ceremony and dinner on Friday evening and end 13 hours later at 7 a.m. on Saturday. One of Carr’s favorite parts of the evening is the luminary ceremony, where a “baggiper plays while everything else is silent and we all walk behind him to remember those who are still alive and fighting, made it through and living, and those who have passed.”

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— Carr
Hanno is now in Uganda, where he lives with a family near the capital city during his training period. He is spending time learning the language and preparing to be a high school science teacher with 70 other Peace Corps volunteers. In mid-May, the volunteers will disperse as each takes his or her individual assignment.

Hanno will begin teaching 13 to 20-year-old students in classes ranging in size from 15 to 100. He is excited to teach because he was inspired by his own teachers at a young age and believes “educating the youth will help improve the country’s future.”

“It’s intimidating – that’s a lot of people to have control over in a class,” he said. “What I learned in Phi Kap will help me – the motivation of myself and learning to motivate others. It helped me to become a more confident leader.”

In his chapter, Hanno served as scholarship chair but was also recognized and respected by brothers as an informal leader.

Father Erwin Schweigardt, who has been the chapter advisor for 24 years and wrote Hanno’s recommendation letter for his Peace Corps application, saw him as a “silent leader,” “sincere and honest,” who was a mediator and “helped others to grow.”

“Thomas was a motivator who got others to go out and volunteer,” chapter brother Paul Capar said. “He was a leader-figure, stubborn in a good way. He had his ideals and defined values and didn’t let anything stand in his way. He was a great motivator and could bring the best out of you.”

Yet, Hanno was also inspired by his brothers when considering accepting this role.

“It has kind of been hard with my friends graduating and brothers getting great jobs making a lot of money,” he said. “But so many people supported me in this decision. It seems to
If you would like to contact Hanno, write to: 9640 N. Augusta Dr., Suite 420 Carmel, IN 46032

Hanno is training with other volunteers near Kampala.

Society

“Writing from Uganda

Excerpts from Hanno’s letter to The Temple.

Hanno is willing to sacrifice conveniences like running water and “spending all day on the Internet” because he is excited to meet new people and immerse himself in the Ugandan culture. Father Schweigardt thinks being in this environment will “challenge him to the core.”

“I appreciate that all humans can find things in common and relate to different people,” Hanno said. “I could easily be one of them if I had been born in Uganda, and they could have easily have been me if they were born [in the U.S.]. We are different, but we are all human beings.”

Connectivity to others is something Hanno began to deeply value through his experience with Phi Kappa Theta brotherhood.

“When you live in a house of 40 guys and no two of them are the same, you learn that even if you might not necessarily agree with someone, you can discuss our problems open and honestly and find the best solution,” Hanno said. “It’s the way we look out for each other, being there to support each other. I will try to make those connections and provide that to people – it’s going to help me wherever I go.”

Hanno is already making connections in Uganda. Capar has talked with him since his arrival and Hanno has expressed excitement about learning the new language and playing soccer with local children each day.

“It will be a huge challenge to be living with people in a different culture speaking a different language, but that’s something I am excited about,” he said. “I love learning about what lives of others are like and they can learn about what mine is like.”

Capar and other brothers are proud of what Hanno has chosen to do. He even considered joining the Peace Corps at one time. He and other chapter brothers are planning to visit him. Father Schweigardt thinks, “such exposure would be good for them because had the courage to put my ‘expected life’ on hold.”

Chapter brothers and alumni are still looking to Hanno for inspiration. “Joining a fraternity really opened doors to such opportunities. It opened up our eyes and had a strong impact on us,” Capar said.

Hanno’s dedication has encouraged brothers to volunteer in their communities with service entities like the Boys and Girls Club and Big Brother Big Sister to help society on a local level.

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“I encouraged him because I thought he could set an example for what his peers could be like,” Schweigardt said. “He is sending a very strong message to his peers that they could give back to society.”

When encouraging Hanno to take this opportunity, Capar referred back to their volunteering experiences in Phi Kappa Theta, urging him to “remember how we felt when we volunteered at a day care for underprivileged children,” and to think “what it would be like to devote your life to that.”

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Writing from Uganda

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Life here is entirely different. I have been playing a lot of soccer and volleyball with the local kids, so that’s been really fun and good to make connections and practice language.

I’ve been really surprised that you can get just about anything here, especially in the capital. The problem is just that people can’t afford it.

I’ll be heading to my site (Kabolosoke Core Primary Teachers College) on April 11. I’ll be teaching science (chem, bio, physics) to future primary school teachers. They said to expect class sizes between 50 and 100, I think. I’m very excited and I think I’ll be able to help out a lot.
When I found out he was going to be ordained, I just had to go. You do about five really important things in your life, and that was one of them for Tim.”

— John Mack

People ask if there is any benefit to being in a fraternity. In Phi Kappa Theta, our friendships endure,” Downes said. “The spirituality aspect separates us from other organizations. It adds something to your life and to your friendships.”

Downes believes that Gahan’s involvement in the fraternity was “very important to him in his life and may have started him on this path.”

In the 1960s, Gahan entered the University of North Texas after fighting in the Vietnam War as a Marine. He became a founding member of the Texas Kappa Alpha Chapter of Phi Kap, which was chartered in 1967. This is where he met Downes and Mack.

Mack remembers him as “not overly religious in college, driving around in a little sports car.” “He was a long-distance runner and a happy-go-lucky guy until he met his wife Tricia,” said Downes. Gahan married his college sweetheart and went back into the Marines after graduation. They had two children, but his wife died in her mid-30s.

“Multiple sclerosis took her quickly and he was very bereft after her death,” said Downes.

Gahan raised his children as a single-parent and continued to develop a successful career in the Marines. Several years after he retired as the vice president of Marine Corps University, he pursued becoming a Catholic priest.

The day after his ordination, Gahan held his first mass. The closing hymn played was the Marine hymn, and all over the church men of various ages began to stand at attention.

“When it ended, a man in front of me thrust his hand into the air and shouted ‘ooh-rah,’ (the Marine battle cry) and Father Tim put his hand in the air and said ‘ooh-rah’ right back to him,” said Downes.

After his mass, Gahan set up kneelers at the reception held in his honor so that he could give his priestly blessing to those that attended. Mack deeply connected with Gahan because his wife had also passed away. Both wives knew each other and went to UNT.

“I received (my blessing), but (John) waited,” Downes said.
arm, friendly, nice guy” is not necessarily the typical description of a sergeant on a campus police force. Yet, this is a fitting description of Joseph Przybyla, a Northern Illinois campus police officer, Great Lakes Province President of Phi Kappa Theta and PKT Properties Board President.

As Province President, Przybyla visits many of the 13 chapters in the province and has become a familiar face at national events. He was elected to the PKT Properties Board in 2006 and has become its president. Under his leadership, risk management has been a central focus for the board.

He sees two big issues facing chapters, fire safety and alcohol education. When working with collegiate Brothers, Przybyla takes a proactive stance on these issues.

He finds risk management the most satisfying part of his volunteerism and dealing with transgressions his most frustrating.

“I try to help undergraduates tap into the resources available to help them along the way,” he said. “My frustration comes when chapters or individuals become so set in their ways that they are not open to change and improvement.”

Przybyla credits the fraternity for providing him leadership and organizational skills, which he has adopted to his on-the-job performance as a police officer. He also values the opportunities his volunteer role has given him to travel, influence brothers and meet interesting people. In return, he gives Phi Kappa Theta enthusiasm, dedication, knowledge, and hours of hard work.

“For many of our undergraduate brothers, Phi Kappa Theta is their home away from home,” Przybyla said. “Alumni volunteers have the potential to help mold these men both as young leaders and future fraternity volunteers.”

In addition to his full time job with necessary overtime, he volunteers at the Red Cross giving instruction in CPR and First Aid. He also occasionally volunteers at the Newman Catholic Center at NIU.

“Giving back to the community is important because as fraternity men we must show that we care for more than just the social aspects of Greek life,” Przybyla said. “If our service work shows just one person that we care about those we share the community with, we will have accomplished our goal.”

For his attitude and actions, Przybyla has earned the respect of many in the Fraternity.

“I have known Joe since he entered Phi Kappa Theta as an undergraduate, and his action exemplifies our motto and code of conduct,” said Tim Clark (Iowa ’93), who asked Przybyla to take over the role of Province President. “He not only has a deep love and concern for our brotherhood but for each brother of our order.”

Przybyla joined Phi Kappa Theta at Lewis University in Lockport, Ill. in 1999. He was attracted to the colony because of its leadership on campus and the strength of its cohesion as a group.

“Joe, having graduated from Lewis will always hold a certain degree of importance with our chapter,” said Todd Lickus (Lewis ’08), the past Lewis University Chapter president. “He has been there with us through the good times and the bad … I know that everyone at our chapter is proud to have Joe as a friend, mentor and brother.”

At Lewis University, Przybyla became Associate Member Educator and Risk Manager. He graduated in 2002 with a B.A. in Criminal Justice and stayed on campus to earn his M.S. in the same field in 2003. He joined the NIU police force and after two years was promoted to sergeant.

On February 14 of this year, five NIU students were shot and murdered by a graduate student, who subsequently shot himself. Przybyla handled the 911 emergency system calls in the aftermath that day, and the next day escorted the Illinois Governor on a visit to the site of devastation.

“Dealing with the events of February 14 was one of the most trying experiences of my life,” he said. “In the midst of the sadness, long days and arduous tasks, I would look in my office and see a crest with the phrase ‘Give… Expecting Nothing Thereo’ and remember that the job was not about me, it was about the NIU community.

“The phone calls, emails, and text messages I received that horrible day and the days that followed from brothers around the country were a strong indication of the strength of our brotherhood.”
n what began 30 years ago as a relationship between two Phi Kappa Theta brothers in an old beat-up house on East 15th Avenue in Columbus, Ohio, continued last year as one brother saved the other’s life. In August 2007, Bob Messenger successfully donated a kidney to Mike Zorich, his Ohio Gamma Theta chapter brother, demonstrating the deep measure of the bond of brotherhood.

Building Brotherhood

The two brothers were initiated in the same year, Messenger in the winter of 1967 and Zorich in the summer. When Messenger pledged, he was unsure if fraternity life was for him but was encouraged by his big brother in the chapter.

“Fraternity life was an adventure and quite memorable,” Zorich said. “It was the friendship, common interests, athletics, homecoming, OSU football and all the other brothers beside me in good times and bad.”

Zorich was a flanker on the chapter intramural football team. He would fly down the sidelines, while Messenger stayed in the pocket to help protect the quarterback. Zorich played shortstop and captained the chapter softball team, and in the winter he was the best point guard the fraternity ever had, at least according to Messenger.

However, the two brothers truly began to get to know each other in the winter of 1968 when Zorich was elected treasurer and Messenger was chosen as chapter president. In the weeks and months that followed, Messenger received support from the brothers, but especially from Zorich.

“I was also trying to keep my grade point average at an acceptable level for admission into vet school someday,” Messenger said. “But I was not experienced in the areas of finance, accounting or economics and relied heavily on Mike for his wisdom and advice.”

They supported each other through more than their leadership roles. During their time in the chapter and throughout post-graduate education, they shared an apartment near the OSU campus.

“This was a ‘coming of age’ time for both of us,” Messenger said. “We each had girlfriends. We each lost girlfriends, and our hearts would be broken, until the next girlfriend came along. If we tired of talking about love and life, we could talk about the Buckeyes or the Browns or the Celtics.”

Zorich completed his Masters degree in Education and Messenger went into the College of Veterinary Medicine. Zorich stayed in Columbus to begin his teaching career. After graduating with his D.V.M., Messenger entered military service with the U.S.
Army. In the years that followed, the times together for the guys were limited to short visits when Messenger could take leave, but even then, they had some great times together.

**In a Time of Need**

Messenger’s responsibilities to a new family quickly replaced adventures he had enjoyed with Zorich and other Phi Kap brothers.

“Phone calls to each other became less frequent,” Messenger recalled. “The Christmas cards and birthday cards to each other dwindled and then stopped. There were a few short trips back to Ohio and a brief visit or two with Mike. In one of these visits, I learned that Mike’s health was failing, but I misunderstood the gravity of his illness.”

He would occasionally reflect on the times they had shared long before Zorich’s health began to deteriorate. These memories became poignant each November when Ohio State played the University of Michigan for football supremacy.

In Columbus, Zorich’s declining health brought a number of challenges. He made several attempts to find a teaching position that would enable him to perform at his best but as illness took its toll, he said goodbye to his chosen field and worked at jobs less stressful. Yet, they did not provide the intellectual challenge he loved.

Zorich remained optimistic and determined, but sometimes the challenges he faced seemed immeasurable. In 1996, Debbie Hogue came into his life. One year after meeting each other, they married, and she encouraged his survival.

“A friend told me one time that a few of the brothers had started an annual tradition of gathering at the Columbus home of [one brother] to tailgate in his living room and watch ‘the football game’ [where Ohio State plays Michigan] on his HD television,” Messenger said.

Although he had been out of touch with most in this group for 30 years, he “invited himself” to join them in November 2006.

When Bob Messenger arrived at his chapter brother’s condominium, he immediately felt at home. He found a seat beside Zorich and during commercial breaks they compressed years into minutes. Zorich told about his recent renal failure and his need to start dialysis.

He was calm and realistic about his diagnosis. His kidneys had been failing for several years, but he had been able to delay progression with diet and medication. Now his choices were limited: it was “dialysis or death.”

Because of Zorich’s age and the high demand and low supply of cadaver organs, he would not be eligible for a cadaver transplant for several years. His only real chance for a kidney would have to come from a living donor. Several of his family members and friends had offered theirs, but none was compatible. His blood type is AB positive, and less than three percent of the population is AB positive. As it happens, Messenger is AB positive.

**A Unique Bond**

Driving home to North Carolina took Messenger 10 hours. Throughout the trip he reflected, “If, just if, I was able to qualify as a living donor, would I be willing to have the surgery and give one of my kidneys to a guy I hadn’t seen or talked to for most of our adult lives?

“I flashed back to so many moments in Phi Kappa Theta,” Messenger said. “To the meetings, the ceremonies, the oath and to the brothers — guys who somehow validated the teachings I’d learned as a small child growing up in the Catholic faith, guys whose contributions to my successes in life and were never recognized, guys I loved and respected and who, I hoped, would someday regard me the same way.”

Messenger felt blessed with great health and wanted to share it with his brother.

“Fraternity is about love and sharing, and giving of one’s self to help another — this is what I was taught — the brothers, the oath, the fellowship we had,” he said. “In the end, the decision was easy. Mike is my fraternity brother and my friend and even though our relationship has been on hold for 20 years, I still love him.”

Messenger arrived home and made the call. The next few weeks were busy with filling out forms and repeated tests to determine Messenger’s compatibility as a donor for Zorich. The pre-transplant coordinator notified them in April 2007 that their tissues were compatible.

The surgeries were performed on August 14. During the two weeks of post-operative recovery they spent together, the brothers reminisced about the past and talked about the future — about watching their beloved Buckeyes and traveling to do things together with their families.

**Looking Forward**

“Thanks to my dear brother Bob, I have a new kidney and my future with Debbie will be healthier, brighter and longer,” Zorich said. “How does one thank another for risking his life and giving another human new life with an organ? I asked him how I could repay him. Bob dismissed my question immediately. So I have decided to return my deep gratitude toward Bob by ‘paying it forward’ through good deeds and assistance to my God, my friends and my family.”

As word spread about the transplant, brothers from their chapter called, visited and shared in the good feeling.

“I wish for them and any of the other brothers in our fraternity to know,” Messenger said, “that it would not have happened except for their wisdom and leadership 30 years ago in that beat-up little house on 15th Avenue.”
raig Shoemaker paid his way out of hundreds of dollars in college parking tickets as compensation for his first comedy gig.

“I drove a Cadillac ambulance painted bright orange – everyone knew it on campus – and I constantly parked in front of the president of the college’s spot,” Shoemaker said. “I accrued tons of parking tickets.”

But, apparently the California University of Pennsylvania’s president thought his “comedy mobile” was entertaining enough to hire its owner as the comedian for his inaugural ball.

As a member of the Pennsylvania Psi Chapter at California University of PA he made the brothers laugh while he was pledging. He would do impressions of them and even performed at other fraternities’ social events. Eventually Shoemaker realized that comedy was more than just a personality quirk – it was his future. Now an accomplished comedian, he reflects on his experiences.

“It’s been a progressive road,” he said about his career. “It’s been enjoyable, transformable, fantastic and sometimes difficult voyage of one-leads-to-the-other-to-the-other.”

His material “spawns from the truth,” and so much of it now derives from his experiences as a parent of two children.

“People relate to it,” Shoemaker said. “I’m that parent that I never thought I would be and saying the things I never thought I would say. Even if you don’t have kids, you were a kid at some time.”

Some of his material also comes from his Phi Kap experiences. He still keeps in touch with his “brothers for life” and they have “had a lot of laughs and that has been inspirational.”

“These guys also keep me real,” Shoemaker said. “They would never allow me to be famous – act famous. They keep me humble and remind me where I come from.”

Shoemaker has several DVDs and CDs, including The Love-master ... Unzipped that came out in February. He has written several children’s books; wrote and is producing a film; and runs the Laughter Store, an online shop for gifts that make people laugh.

“I mean, here you are in your hospital bed, and you get a fart machine. That’s funny … laughter is the gift that keeps on giving,” he said.

Yet, what he is most proud of is helping to form a non-profit organization that works to inspire people into wellness. Laughter Heals is a foundation that supports improvements in health care by raising awareness about the healing power of laughter.

Laughter Heals seeks to be the “free pharmacy” if “laughter is the best medicine.” Shoemaker, who helped to begin the organization, said they hope to provide a “laugh-mobile” that can travel to hospitals, senior homes, day care centers and other places. Another planned project is to offer humor classes for health professionals.

A closely-related project Shoemaker has in the works is Live to Laugh, a documentary where he will travel the world with a “pilgrimage of people, ill and sick” to places where people have recognized the healing power of laughter. From laughter clubs in India to Denmark, “the happiest country,” Shoemaker hopes to visit “places that have embraced contagious laughter as healing,” he said.

Balancing a lengthy stand-up tour this year with his numerous projects, Shoemaker notes that his success has been borne out of staying true to his values and experiences.

“Stay present to who you are. Stay as close to who you are and you will benefit from that infinitely,” he advised. “All of the success is borne out of that.”

Shoemaker’s DVDs, CDs, tour dates are at www.craigshoemaker.com
Visit Laughter Heals at www.laughterheals.org
Phi Kappa Theta’s list of the TOP 10 trends collegiate chapter members enjoyed in 2007

01 FACEBOOK
Possibly the greatest social networking site around, Facebook serves as a connecting tool for millions of high school, college students, and even alumni fraternity members. Find out what brothers you met at Leadership Institute are up to by “friending” them on Facebook.

04 RECRUITMENT T’s
Recruitment T’s get everyone excited about Phi Kap events held throughout the year. Recruitment chairmen design their own with the help of local and online companies.

08 CONCERTS
With bands like Paolo Nutini, Aqualung, Kanye West, Stephen Marley, The Killers and OneRepublic topping the iTunes charts in 2007, it’s no wonder everyone is a concert goer.

02 WII
Another revolutionary gaming system from Nintendo, the seventh generation Wii breathes new life into the classic Mario World. With wireless, futuristic controllers and movement sensors who needs anything more? What was so wrong with ‘16-bit’?

06 TEXT MESSAGING
One of the more dangerous activities to do while driving, text messaging is overtaking actually talking to one another as the primary form of communication for college students. With the cost of texting going down everyday, it’s easier and easier to carry on non-verbal conversations anywhere. LOL

09 STUDY SERVE ABROAD
Just like Brother Thomas Hanno (see page 08) serving in Uganda, studying and service abroad continues to inspire and enlighten Fraternity members. It also helps with personal, academic, intellectual, and career development skills. In the last decade alone there has been a 250 percent increase in study abroad participation (Vistawide.com).
Brothers,

The loyalty of our brotherhood has begun to shine as we have re-established our annual fund. The alumni who have generously responded are truly impacting other Phi Kaps and paving the way for the Fraternity to work towards its new vision.

The Phi Kappa Theta Foundation is proud to financially support several upcoming leadership development and educational programs the Fraternity is executing. These include The Leadership Institute for collegiate leaders, as well as the iServe Institute, a new volunteer training program. Both of these programs will be offered August 7-10, 2008 in Phoenix, Arizona at our annual gathering. We also will be recognizing our 2008 Men of Excellence honoree and scholarship recipients for academic and leadership excellence.

In this issue of The Temple, read about the Profiles of Phi Kaps, several individual Brothers who are impacting the world in incredible ways. These men attribute much of their inspiration and success to Phi Kappa Theta. The Foundation needs your help to ensure the Fraternity continues to influence and change the lives of young men.

The annual fund provides you with an opportunity to contribute to the Foundation and the future of Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity. I hope you will consider a donation of your money and resources to ensure these educational and leadership development programs are made available to Phi Kaps across the country.

Andrew Kowal, Kansas State ‘06, has been added to the Foundation staff as Director of Development. To learn more about donating to the Phi Kappa Theta Foundation, contact the Andrew at akowal@phikaps.org

Fraternally,

Anthony R. Zinnante (Houston ‘62)
Phi Kappa Theta Foundation President
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- Arizona Alpha Iota – Lyn C. Magnus, 1969
- Arizona Alpha Iota – Roy G. Medina, 1960
- Oklahoma Kappa – William J. Medley, 1952
- Iowa Xi – Michael W. Morrissey, 1968
- Missouri Kappa Kappa – Gerald J. Moscicki, 1957
- Iowa Xi – Patrick E. Mullin, 1968
- Missouri Kappa Kappa – Randy F. Perick, 1970
- Kansas Iota – Jack E. Peterson, 1959
- Ohio Psi – Robert E. Portik, 1958
- New Hampshire Epsilon – John C. Rouman, Ph.D., 1979
- Indiana Zeta – Joseph M. Ruan, 1956
- Oklahoma Nu – Kelly J. Schwarz, 1990
- Missouri Kappa Epsilon – T. Michael Shortal, 1961
- Missouri Mu – Richard J. Stgemeier, 1950
- Texas Beta Sigma – Scott Tyson, 1991
- New York Eta – John Varga, 1953

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- Georgia Gamma Tau – Mark Anthony, 1990
- Iowa Xi – Phillip C. Barry, 1968
- Kansas Iota – Michael J. Bartkowski, Jr., 1967
- California Alpha Nu – Joseph E. Biren, 1963
- Michigan Chi Rho – Patrick Bergmann, 1954
- Ohio Omicron – Paul E. Blessing, 1972
- Arizona Alpha Omicron – Dr. Steve E. Bojarquez, 1966
- Indiana Zeta – Tommy L. Brieser, 1970
- Washington Alpha Delta – Scott M. Burroughs, 2002
- Louisiana Xi – Charles M. Callais, 1984
- Pennsylvania Iota – Alexander Canonicca, 1965
- Washington Alpha Delta – Thomas P. Carmody, 1977
- Louisiana Nu Omega – Samuel J. Castano, 1983
- Texas Alpha Pi – Sanjay Chandra, 1987
- Kansas Iota – Bernard R. Chaput, 1953
- Indiana Zeta – John H. Denning, 1964
- Indiana Zeta – Lawrence F. Donecoe, 1968
- Missouri Mu – Richard W. Eimer, Jr., 1971
- Michigan Omega – Clayton F. Farewell, 1980
- Oregon Alpha Theta – Steven D. Faulkner, 1988
- Texas Kappa Alpha – Donald P. Fischer, 1967
- Iowa Xi – Emmett Full, 1946
- Indiana Alpha Gamma – Francis J. Giacobbi, 1963
- Kappa Epsilon – Joshua J. Gruve, 1996
- Indiana Zeta – Daniel L. Greer, 1966
- Iowa Xi – Timothy J. Hickey, 1967
- Texas Tau Mu – Federico G. Hinojosa, 1998
- Iowa Xi – Robert H. Homolka, 1983
- Massachusetts Lambda – Lawrence B. Horrigan, Jr., 1956
- Iowa Xi – Hollis B. Hunter, 1971
- Georgia Delta Rho – John J. Keene, 1978
- Kappa Epsilon – Robert L. Kiker, Jr., 1948
- Kansas Epsilon – Michael A. Lapaluda, 1969
- Kansas Epsilon – Jerome P. Lysaught, 1954
- Kappa Epsilon – John S. Madura, 1964
- Missouri Mu Sigma – Michael K. Markus, 1981
- Iowa Xi – Mike J. Mcclean, 1988
- Texas Gamma Sigma – Jeffrey R. McKee, 1991
- Indiana Zeta – Robert B. McNamar, 1950
- Iowa Xi – David M. McSweeney, 1983
- Michigan Omega – James G. Meenahan, 1960
- New York Sigma – Rafael Mendez, Jr., 1962
- Texas Kappa Alpha – Gerald J. Millman, 1969
- Massachusetts Lambda – John M. Nash, 1956
- Wisconsin Lambda – Dr. Thomas F. Patton, 1971
- New York Sigma – Matthew R. Pendergast, 2002
- New Jersey Phi Beta – Thomas J. Petrizzo, 1978
- Illinois Psi – Francis L. Pinnix, 1967
- Illinois Psi – Raymond E. Powers, 1959
- Oklahoma Kappa – Robert L. Quinnett, 1952
- Washington Alpha Delta – C. Allan Reitan, 1996
- Pennsauyvnia Iota – Robert W. Reitz, 2002
- Pennsauyvnia Iota – Dennis R. Rolfe, 1962
- Illinois Beta Delta – Robert R. Schneider, 1970
- Illinois Beta Delta – Robert R. Seppi, 1975
- Pennsylvania Alpha – Christopher M. Sexton, 1994
- Pennsauyvnia Iota – Angelo P. Sevarino, 1971
- Pennsauyvnia Iota – Edward R. Solvibbe, 1963
- Pennsauyvnia Iota – Robert P. Stalder, 1994
- Arizona Alpha Nu – David E. Stokbysuck, 1982
- Arizona Alpha Nu – Robert E. Scharff, 1945
- Arizona Alpha Nu – Thomas A. Van, 1960
- California Alpha Nu – John E. Welch, 1970
- Arizona Alpha Nu – Stephen A. Walling, 1970
- Arizona Alpha Nu – Bert Whitehead, 1966
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This year, the conference is expanding to focus on both undergraduate and alumni leadership development. See the backside of this issue of The Temple for information on the Alumni Values Institute.
The following is a listing of those Phi Kaps who have passed away throughout the past year. Please let us know if you encounter inaccurate information while reading the chapter eternal. If there is a brother than is missing from this time period that has passed away please contact us.

SPOTLIGHT

WILLIAM E. ASHE

William E. Ashe passed away January 23, 2008, at age 98. As a chapter founding father, he was the first person initiated into the Lambda Chapter of Theta Kappa Phi (one of the two organizations that merged to become Phi Kappa Theta) at Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He graduated from WPI in 1932 and became a mechanical engineer.

Ashe was born December 10, 1909, in Worcester, a son of Francis and Anna (McDermott) Ashe. A mechanical engineer, he worked at the former Rice Barton Corporation, retiring in 1974. Previously, he worked at the Worcester Stamped Metal Company, and at Wickwire Spenser Steel Company. Following his retirement, William Ashe served as a maintenance engineer at St. Paul’s Cathedral where he was a member.

His wife, Anna (Knox) Ashe, died in 1986. He is survived by a son, William E. Ashe, Jr., of Whitinsville; two grandchildren, Thomas F. Ashe, of Whitinsville, and Kathleen T. Dickinson, of Westfield; a great granddaughter, Magnolia Dickinson; and two sisters, Anna Ashe, of Worcester, and Marian Lawson, of Eastham. He was predeceased by two brothers, Charles and Frank Ashe.

Business Man
Fraternity Skills Help to Build Multi-Million Dollar Company

By Gene Ney
Slippery Rock ’90

When he pledged, Dan Jenkins didn’t think that joining a socially oriented college organization would serve as the foundation for building a multi-million-dollar business. However, for the owner of Jenkins Financial Corporation, that’s exactly what happened.

A native of the south hills section of Pittsburgh, Jenkins attended local neighborhood and high schools. When the time came for college, his first choice was the University of Pittsburgh, which is typical for many students in the region. As a freshman new to campus, Jenkins was inspired by Brian Lipinski, his roommate, to consider joining the Pennsylvania Mu Chapter of Phi Kappa Theta Fraternity. New to the concept of fraternal organizations, Jenkins attended several recruitment events hosted by the chapter in the fall of 1987.

Aside from the camaraderie and the strong positive impression he got from the active members, Jenkins was inspired by the legacy of the chapter. The Pennsylvania Mu Chapter, as we know it today, traces its origins back to December of 1920 to the Knights of Columbus and Catholic students at the University of Pittsburgh. A group of young men had been meeting infrequently, but on January 24, 1921 a constitution was drawn up officially organizing Psi Delta Chi, or more commonly known at the time as the “Catholic gentlemen’s group at the University of Pittsburgh.”

With fifteen members in 1922, Psi Delta Chi was chartered as the Pennsylvania Mu Chapter of Phi Kappa Fraternity at the recommendation of the late Bishop Hugh C. Boyle of Pittsburgh.

Gene and Fred Kelly, famous actor/performers; Dante Dalle Tezze, Pitt undefeated football team member and casualty of World War II; and Joseph W. Barr, former Pittsburgh mayor and Secretary of the United States Treasury are some of the prominent members of Pennsylvania Mu’s chapter roll.

A member of the fall 1987 associate member class, Jenkins was a leader and trend setter. As an active member of the chapter, he served as vice president, rush chairman, associate member educator and Greek Sing chairman.

After graduating from the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in business and communications in 1990, Jenkins began selling insurance for Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company. In 2000, Jenkins formed the Jenkins Financial Corporation. His business has exploded with growth and today has nearly 1,000 clients, more than $100 million in asset management, and more than $750 million in life insurance policies.

Despite the rigors of owning his own business and tending to the needs of his wife and children, Jenkins continues to remain actively involved with Phi Kappa Theta as an alumnus. He has served as president of the alumni association, coordinated alumni outings, and is now in the process of organizing a major fund raising campaign to renovate and upgrade the chapter house.

Jenkins attributes his current fortune today to the lessons he learned as a brother of Phi Kappa Theta. His “experiences as a pledge member taught him the importance of perseverance, and the fact that there is light at the end of the tunnel.”

Jenkins likens his fraternal experience to his business experience; for most businesses, and especially financial investment businesses, one does not usually reap the benefits until about five years after starting. Just like pledging where there is a goal one works for, so too is it with a business.

“Experiences as a pledge member taught him the importance of perseverance, and the fact that there is light at the end of the tunnel.” —Ney

He learned how to work and deal with people through his college fraternity experience, even when they had conflicting opinions. He honed public speaking skills, developing and working with budgets, and the value of life long friendships. These virtues have easily transferred into his business roles. Jenkins also learned how to cope with tragedy after the untimely death of his close friend and brother, Eric Ulmer. To sum it all up, Jenkins states “I would not be where I am in life today if it weren’t for Phi Kappa Theta.”
Historical Timeline of Merger

1933-4 – Records mark this as when the first formal discussions about the possibility of merging occurred between leaders of the two groups. From this point, both fraternities were determined not to be absorbed by the other group, adopting one’s name, badge or customs.

1955 – No real progress was made until the Penn State Conclave in which Theta Kappa Phi authorized its National Council to further explore consolidation.

April 1957 – A conference between national officers of the two fraternities was held to consider a possible merger.

February 1958 – They created a document formally outlining a plan for the consolidation.

Spring 1958 – Collegiate chapters sent in votes in favor of or against the merger. Eugene Montrone, President of Eta Chapter in Boston, Mass. of Phi Kappa wrote “Most of the brothers who, voted against it feel that it is an infringement upon Phi Kappa tradition” and that “they do not see the purpose of changing the colors, pin and other things which mean Phi Kappa to them.” However, the chapter voted in favor of the merger.
Phi Kappa, Theta Kappa and Phi Kappa Phi—two Catholic fraternities which long have talked merger—agreed Sept. 8 to take the big step. Delegates of each fraternity assembled in The Ohio State University’s Student Union building at each of their conventions, held simultaneously in Columbus, Ohio. Each organization ratified the merger, creating The Unified Fraternity of Phi Kappa Theta. The two groups saw the chance for immediate growth and the “opportunity to form into a strong national fraternity with the opportunity for even greater growth.” The combined fraternity would have more than 18,500 members and more than 50 chapters.

Late fall 1958—Fraternity leaders began the task of designing a new coat of arms, which took more than eight months. The coat of arms would be used for making certificates, membership “wallet cards,” plaques and much more insignia. There was much discussion over details including the exact shade of purple to be used, the size of each symbol to be represented, and to use English (rather than Greek) letters to spell Phi Kappa Theta on the scroll at the bottom.

December 1958—Committees of the two Catholic fraternities met over the weekend in Cincinnati to tackle the details and logistics of merging the two organizations. They began the discussions of numerous issues, including: the design of the badge and pledge pin, drafting a new ritual and blending publications, customs and policies.

January 1959—Fraternity leaders met all day in Chicago to continue discussions began at the December meeting. In the evening, they had a social gathering for members of both organizations in the Chicago-area, so that members and officers could get acquainted. A “gala cocktail party” was held in New York City in late December with the same purpose.

April 29, 1959: Charter Day—A charter-like transition document was issued to all chapters that amended their original charters. Dances, cocktail parties and other social events were held for each chapter and were attended by fraternity national officers, university administrators and guests. The Illinois University chapter even held a week of events to celebrate the consolidation, including a serenade, concert, movies, roller skating party, and all-Greek festivities. Alumni also held affairs on or near the Charter Day in cities like Chicago and New York City.
Interesting Results of Merger

Membership – At the time the organizations planned the merger in 1958, Phi Kappa had 31 collegiate chapters, 4 colonies, 31 alumni chapters, and more than 10,000 members. Theta Kappa Phi had 22 collegiate chapters, 2 colonies, 6 alumni chapters, and more than 6,000 members. The final merger resulted in 52 chapters on college campuses. On four campuses, both organizations had chapters, in which activities and memberships were combined to form one group.

Chapter badge – The quatrefoil badge of Phi Kappa forms the base of the new pin supplanted on the black face of the Theta Kappa Phi shield.

Coat of Arms – Behind the Phi Kappa Theta coat of arms appear a sword and a shovel, whereas two sword once backed the Phi Kappa emblem and a shovel stood behind Theta Kappa Phi’s. In each quadrant of the newly formed coat of arms is a symbol that was once central to one of the organization’s shields. The armor that rests atop the coat of arms resembles what once topped Phi Kappa’s shield, while the Chi Rho symbol above it was in the center of Theta Kappa Phi’s coat of arms.

Chapter names – All chapters retained their own Greek letter identifications but added the name of the state where the chapter is located. For example, Phi Kappa’s Alpha Chapter at Brown University became Rhode Island Alpha. Where both organizations existed on one campus, the letters combined to form one Greek name. For example, at Pennsylvania State University, where Theta Kappa Phi had Beta chapter and Phi Kappa had Gamma chapter, Pennsylvania Beta Gamma chapter now existed.

Governance – The groups entrusted governance to a board of 16 individuals, with eight coming from each organization. Both “Executive Secretaries” were retained as Executive Vice Presidents, as were both headquarters’ facilities for the time being.

Other notable mergers of fraternities around this time

Sigma Phi Epsilon and Theta Upsilon Omega (1938) became Sigma Phi Epsilon
Lambda Chi Alpha and Theta Kappa Nu (1939) became Lambda Chi Alpha
Alpha Sigma Phi and Alpha Kappa Phi (1946) became Alpha Sigma Phi

In each of these, the merged organization took the name and/or insignia of one of the groups. The merger of Phi Kappa and Theta Kappa Phi put both “on an equal footing” with a new name and consolidation of insignia.
Phi Kappa Theta proudly announces the launch of its volunteer training program, the (iServe) Institute.

To be held during summer’s Leadership Institute, the (iServe) Institute is designed to provide volunteers the essentials necessary to effectively serve in Phi Kappa Theta’s (iServe) Network.

The (iServe) Institute has been developed through the partnership between Phi Kappa Theta and the North American Interfraternity Conference. The (iServe) Institute is a values-based education program that includes training on the following topics:

- Understanding Values Based Organizations and Volunteer Challenges
- Understanding the Culture of today’s Collegiate Member
- Creating a Coaching Culture
- Navigating Conflict through Values
- Creating Change and Commitment

If you wish to become an active member of Phi Kappa Theta’s (iServe) Network, register for this summer’s Leadership Institute today!

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