

# THE CHI PHI chakett news

Spring 2018



## EMORY ALUMNUS HONORED

*As Georgia Hospice Pioneer*

**Dr. William B. Fackler, Gamma 1942**, and his wife Marjorie were the 2017 Honorees at the 21st Annual Ely Callaway Golf Event, which benefits the West Georgia Hospice. A retired cardiologist, Brother Fackler was the type of doctor who provided hospice care before “hospice” was even a formal concept.

Thirty-five years ago, the Facklers opened their home to fifty volunteers who worked for the only eight hospice facilities in Georgia. That day began a new mission for the trailblazing couple: Provide the type of support they knew families needed, something especially relevant to the Facklers after losing their 21-year-old daughter Laura in 1979. Mrs. Fackler thus became one of West



Chi Phis in attendance at the Ely Callaway Golf Event. Left to Right: Gordon M. Smith Sr., Gamma 1957; Gordon M. Smith Jr., Mu Delta 1986; William B. Fackler, Gamma 1942; and Sykes Smith, Mu Delta 1989

Georgia Hospice’s first volunteers and was instrumental in sharing a young student’s design for a theoretical hospice facility with Ely Callaway Jr. – a design which Mr. Callaway then fully funded.

Brother Fackler and his sons have played in the Golf Event every year since 1996 and even have the distinction of being back-to-back champions. This year, he was joined at the event by several Chi Phi Brothers from the Gamma and Mu Delta Chapters.



### *“A Truly Singular Honor”*

Do you know a Brother who deserves to be celebrated for his hard work?

Created in 1924 to honor the late Edwin Erle Sparks, Alpha-Chi 1884, Iota 1884, President Emeritus of Pennsylvania State University, the Sparks Memorial Medal is Chi Phi’s highest award for individual academic achievement.

In the spring of 2017, only 13 of our 57 active Chapters had a Sparks Medal recipient. Do not let your Chapter miss out on this award of excellence! Please make sure their Chapter Advisor or a University Administrator goes to [chiphil.org/sparks](http://chiphil.org/sparks) to fill out the nomination form to acknowledge a Brother for his outstanding accomplishments!



## BROTHERS,

We are excited to be experimenting with a new layout and theme for our spring edition of The Chakett!

This slim and trim version of our National newsletter is reminiscent of many of the outstanding Chapter newsletters which we have seen for many years. You will notice more content published on our website and on social media in the coming months in lieu of printing a larger spring issue, and we hope that you find the content fresh and exciting.

Know that while this is a new and exciting time for the spring Chakett, the fall edition will remain unchanged in length and style. In addition to our normal fall content, we will run our full listing of donors and Brothers who have entered Chapter Eternal over the past year.

There has been no shortage of Chi Phi news this spring. The Fraternity Chartered three Chapters this spring; Alpha-Pi at Iowa State, Delta at Rutgers, and Delta Theta at Clemson. Looking to our future, it seems we will have many more Chartering Ceremonies to attend!

We hosted our first Thetas Academy in conjunction with our annual Alphas Academy in January, with 37 of our Chapters and Colonies represented. Despite having to cancel the Regional Leadership Alliance in New York due to weather, we had more than 400 undergraduate Brothers attend RLAs this year. The Council and National Office are also working diligently on our Regional Ritual Retreats this summer. Programs like these would not be possible without the continued support of Alumni like you, and we thank you for the investments you have made with both your time and money.

We would like to personally extend an invitation for you and your family to join us at the 153rd Chi Phi Congress in Atlanta, Georgia, on June 22-24, and the annual Watts Gunn Memorial Golf Tournament on June 21. Visit [chphi.org/congress](http://chphi.org/congress) for more information.

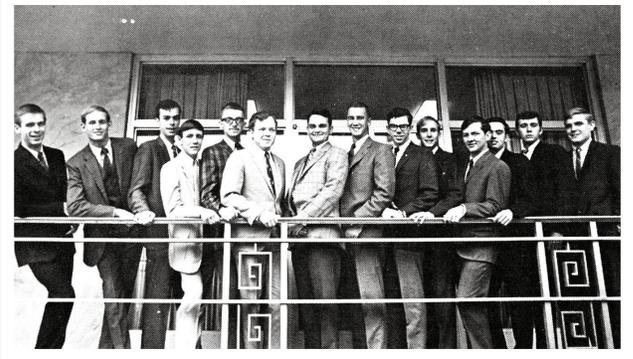
Fraternally,



**Robert K. Walker, Iota Delta 1970**, Grand Alpha



**H. Michael Dever, Eta 1978**, Educational Trust Chairman



**From the Archives: The first New Member Class at the then-Georgia State Colony in 1968. After an absence of more than thirty years, Chi Phi will soon welcome another class of Founding Fathers to Chi Delta!**

## *A Year Of Opportunity: FOUR EXPANSIONS SCHEDULED for 2018/2019*

Next academic year will be a busy one for Chi Phi across the country! The Fraternity is excited to announce that we have four expansion projects on our horizon: two in the fall and two in the spring.

Students returning in the fall to Georgia State University (Chi Delta) and UNC Charlotte (Psi Delta) will be greeted by expansion teams from the National Office. Our comeback at both campuses has been eagerly awaited for several years. Chi Phi is already garnering interest from students on both campuses.

The expansion team will rest and regroup over the holidays before breaking out the springtime gear and heading to Indiana University (Iota Delta) and Emory University (Gamma).

Do you know a young man on any of these campuses? Be sure to tell them about Chi Phi and email John Fisher, Coordinator of Growth, at [fisher@chphi.org](mailto:fisher@chphi.org) to recommend them for membership!

We are fortunate that all three of these cities (Atlanta gaining both Chi Delta and Gamma) already have strong populations of Chi Phi Brothers – but we still need your help! Alumni who volunteer as Chapter Advisors, or who even take on minor roles as mentors to officers or other members, make a lifelong impact on our newest generation of Brothers. Your Chapter affiliation does not matter – we are all Chi Phi! If you are interested in taking on a supportive role with one of these new groups or a group already active in your area, contact our office at 404-231-1824 or email Erin Wilensky, Director of Member Education, at [wilensky@chphi.org](mailto:wilensky@chphi.org).

Chi Phi's latest Colony, Founded Fall 2017 at Central Michigan University, is doing well and continues to grow!



# SET UP FOR SUCCESS: *Preparing our New Leaders for the Year Ahead*

The beginning of a new year is always an exciting time for Chi Phi Brothers as Officers step into their newly elected positions, recruitment and education of a New Member Class commences, and, of course, Chapters travel to Chi Phi events across the country. As in years before, our educational programs kicked off with Alphas Academy. However, this year also saw the debut of Thetas Academy; a program specifically designed for New Member Educators. The program provided the new Thetas with the tools and resources needed to ensure their New Member program would be a triumph for all involved. The men were challenged on traditional ideas surrounding New Member Education, provided strategies on best practices, and were supported by a team of Chi Phi Alumni and Student Affairs Professionals.

**Right: Chi Phi was honored to once again have USMC Brigadier General J. D. Alford, Alpha Zeta 1986, as our keynote speaker at Alphas and Thetas Academy**



**Far Right: Members of Rho Theta (Arizona State) take part in a Chapter strategizing session to formulate a plan for the coming year during the West Coast RLA**

Our Regional Leadership Alliances were also found to be a hit this year with more than 400 undergraduates attending between February and March. Thirty-two breakout sessions were offered throughout each RLA, giving participants the option to choose sessions most relevant to their office, Chapter, or campus. The six programs (not including the snowy New York RLA!) held across the country brought Chi Phi undergraduates and Alumni together for a weekend of learning and bonding.

None of these programs would be possible without the generous donations of Chi Phi Alumni. With over 90% of participants saying they would highly recommend their Brothers attend next year, there is no doubt these educational sessions are having a positive impact on the Fraternity. So, thank you! Thank you for your time, your financial support, and your unwavering dedication to our mission of Building Better Men.



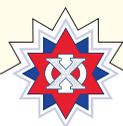
## *Scholarships Prove Vital for our Brothers*

Did you know that the Educational Trust awards over \$100,000 annually in scholarships to deserving Chi Phi Brothers?



**“This scholarship will enable me to spend less time worrying about how I am going to be able to afford school/room and board/Fraternity dues; and instead empower me to focus my efforts on becoming a better man and a stronger Chi Phi.” — Derek Kane, 2017 scholarship recipient.**

Each year, scholarships are available for both undergraduate and graduate students through general scholarship funds, named scholarships, and Chapter-specific scholarships. To learn more about these opportunities or if you are interested in creating your legacy by establishing a named scholarship, or serving on the Scholarship Review Committee, contact Laura Landry, Director of Development, at [landry@chphi.org](mailto:landry@chphi.org).



# *Greek Life's Struggle For* **CONTINUED RELEVANCE**

It has been a challenging year for Greek Life in which a number of fraternity related deaths have sparked national outrage, caused numerous colleges and universities to suspend Greek activity, and have fueled serious conversations about the future of such organizations. If we are being honest, we must ask the question:

## **Do today's social fraternities still provide meaningful value to the college undergraduate experience?**

This is by no means a Greek-only issue. According to a study by the University of Maine, more than half of college students involved in clubs, teams, and organizations experienced hazing. The study further revealed that hazing - defined as any activity that "humiliates, degrades, abuses or endangers an individual, regardless of a person's willingness to participate" - was overwhelmingly under reported.

Unfortunately, hazing is only one of a growing trend of pernicious and offensive behaviors that can be observed on today's college campuses. Binge drinking, dangerous party cultures, drug abuse, and misuse of social media are further examples of a decline in social capital in American society and on the majority of college campuses.

Our challenge, and that of all fraternities, is that we are living and competing in a world characterized by failed male leadership and veiled accountability. In a world of men behaving badly, undergraduate fraternity men are frequently portrayed as major contributors to a recurring pattern of socially unacceptable behavior.

As public sentiment continues to build against us, the future of Greek Life hangs in the balance. The harsh reality is that, unless we return to conduct and activities that are befitting the highest and best purposes of fraternal life, we will ultimately be forced to disband or be irreversibly altered to a superficial shell of our current state. We will only prevail in this struggle when we have consistently demonstrated unwavering and uncompromised congruence between our values and our actions. Many of us once referred to those guiding principles as "**Living the Ritual.**"

If we are truly committed to preserving our legacy for future generations of young men, then we have but one choice. **We must take every conceivable measure to ensure we remain relevant to our young men, their parents, our Alumni, and our higher education partners.**

These are complex social problems that lack easy solutions. In order to realize meaningful change it is important to identify the key barriers to change and dismantle those barriers. When done correctly, the Greek Life experience provides today's college student with one of the premiere opportunities for leadership and meaningful social interaction. Unfortunately, when done incorrectly, we feed a critical narrative for those who question our continued relevance.

I can assure you that the Grand Council, National Staff, and Educational Trust are fully committed to the correct path. They have dedicated all of their talent, energy, and resources to the pursuit of positive change. The National Staff has been charged with developing and delivering educational programs that provide our members with the knowledge and skills that are requisite to making Chi Phi part of the solution.

The challenge to our continued relevance is irrefutable. Fraternities either commit to positive change or others outside of Greek Life will assume control of our future. **Recognizing the struggle for continued relevance is the first step in the journey to reaffirm our relevance, but it is our uncompromising commitment to preserving our values based legacy that ensures our future.** That future belongs to all of us.

We have enjoyed 194 years of Brotherhood and we will soon be the first college fraternity in America to celebrate a bicentennial anniversary. We should seek nothing less than being the best and that means we remain steadfastly committed to the same path as those Brothers whose inspiration, vision, and condition prompted them to band together to form this Brotherhood we call Chi Phi.

Fraternally,



**Dr. James P. Soderquist, Alpha 1967, Epsilon 2014**

Grand Beta, Council Liaison to the Trust (2017-present)

Grand Alpha (2009-2015)

Educational Trust Chairman (1999-2008)



# Chapter Spotlight: ALPHA-PI at IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## HELLO BROTHERS,

Here at Iowa State our Chapter is thriving and looking back on a successful academic year. We recently held our first philanthropy event, Chi Phi Football, which set forth a tradition for years to come as one of the most fun philanthropies at Iowa State. Our Chapter also succeeded during Homecoming Week with our team taking third place in overall points, third place in community service hours, and first place in Yell Like Hell, where we got painted up and screamed about our pride for Iowa State University (Don't ask me why, I'm only in charge of the traditions of Chi Phi).

This past semester hasn't been all fun and games, however, as our Brothers hit the books and achieved the highest growth in Chapter GPA from a year ago among all IFC fraternities at Iowa State. This growth can be attributed to our academic success plan, which has encouraged Brothers to get good grades, attend tutoring sessions, and even help tutor other Brothers.

This semester is also a significant one for us as we received our Charter this March and became a full Chapter of Chi Phi. This achievement can be attributed to the faithful and dedicated Founding Fathers of our Colony who set forth a vision of a fraternity at Iowa State built on the Values of Truth, Honor, and Personal Integrity, and who succeeded in their endeavor to establish Chi Phi at this University. As we push ahead into the new world of having a Charter, it is safe to say that the foundation has been laid for Chi Phi to grow and flourish in the future at Iowa State.



Fraternally,  
**Jacob Peake,**  
Zeta of the Alpha-Pi Chapter



The newly Chartered Alpha-Pi Chapter celebrates their milestone achievement on March 24



Alpha-Pi Brothers and their teammates after winning Yell Like Hell in October

**Editors Note:** Thank you to Brother Peake for answering the call for Chapter submissions! We will be featuring other Chapter stories on our website and through monthly Grapevine Newsletters. To ensure you get these stories and more, update your contact information with Dan Coutcher, Coordinator of Communications, at [coutcher@chphi.org](mailto:coutcher@chphi.org), or by calling our office at 404-231-1824.



## alumnus HIGHLIGHT

**Paul DePace, Rho Iota Kappa 1966**, received the Paralympic Order, the highest accolade from the Paralympic Movement, during the 2017 Paralympic Sport and Media Awards in September. He received the Order alongside Denmark's Karl Vilhelm Nielsen and France's Gerard Masson. The Orders were presented by Sir Philip Craven, then the President of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

Brother DePace, the President of the International Wheelchair and Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) received the Order in recognition for the nearly 50 years of work he has put into the Paralympic Movement. During this time, he has been an athlete, coach, United States' Chef de Mission, and Board Director for the Atlanta 1996 Paralympic Games Organizing Committee. His roles have also included Vice-President of the International Stoke Mandeville Wheelchair Sports Federation (ISMWSF) and IPC Executive Committee. As IWAS President since 2001, he did much to promote Paralympic sport internationally from the grassroots to high-performance levels.

\* Original article by Daniel Etchells, Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.



### Paralympic Awards Gala 2017 Abu Dhabi, UAE



Above: Left to Right: Sir Philip Craven, president of the International Paralympic Committee, and award winners Nielsen, DePace, and Masson. Photo by Gaber Abideen, UAE. Inset: Paul DePace, Rho Iota Kappa 1966, The University of Rhode Island. Photo by Nora Lewis.

## alumni news & notes

**Richard Kevin Taylor, Nu Delta 1987**, retired from the Tallahassee Police Department in November after more than 28 years of service. He will continue his law enforcement career as Marshal for the 1st District Court of Appeals for the State of Florida. He reports that his wife Wendy and three kids, Wyatt, Brandon, and Courtney, are all excited for the career change.

**Donald Hunt, Omega Zeta 2001**, and his wife Katie welcomed their son Lawson Gordon Hunt on January 18, 2018.

After nearly six years at the Port Authority of NY & NJ/PATH in various capacities, **Dubary A. Brea, Upsilon 2008**, has joined the NYC Department of Transportation as the Deputy Director of FTA Grant Programs. He is based in Lower Manhattan and reports much excitement for this new opportunity.

**The Iota Chapter and Alumni Association** will be holding a 135th Anniversary Celebration and Reunion September 7-9, 2018. Registration forms for the event will be mailed over the summer and will be posted on the Alumni website, ChiPhilotaAlumni.com.

Are you a fan of CBS's show Bull? **Ryan Haddad, Alpha-Chi 2015**, appeared on an episode in January as Juror #2. He told us, "I delivered the verdict, so they couldn't cut me!"

**The Mu Chapter and Alumni** gathered on January 13 in tribute to the late **Edmund Ruhl, Mu 1948**. Over one fifth of all Mu Chapter Alumni were present.

**Dennis Welch, Xi Delta 1973**, visited the Chapter House at Florida Tech late this fall, where he happily passed down old Chi Phi stories as well as his "pledge paddle" to the Chapter.

After graduating with his master's in Paleontology this spring, **David Mertz, Alpha-Chi 2013**, plans to attend the University of Nebraska-Lincoln to pursue his PhD.

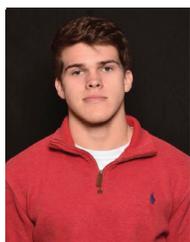
**Josh Matt, Xi Theta 2018**, plans to attend Montana State University in the fall to pursue his PhD in Microbiology.

**Chris Warren, Mu Delta 1995**, is working to reignite interest in the **South Florida Alumni Club**. Contact the National Office if you are interested in joining him, or if you would like to begin a Chi Phi Club in your area.

The Grand Alpha Nominating Committee has opened nominations for the election during the 153rd Congress. Head to [chiphil.org/nominate](http://chiphil.org/nominate) to propose a candidate for Grand Alpha!



This spring has been a challenging one for Brothers across the country. The Fraternity lost remarkable Brothers from all walks of life – some who were just beginning a lifetime as a Chi Phi and some who spent more than 80 years in our Brotherhood. Our Fall 2018 issue of the Chakett will contain a full Chapter Eternal roster for the past year.



**Joseph Tanner Wray, Phi Delta 2019**, a junior Aerospace Engineering Major at University of Tennessee-Knoxville entered Chapter Eternal unexpectedly on February 23, 2018. Tanner was taking part in the annual Ace Miller Memorial Boxing Tournament when he collapsed and later passed away.

He was Initiated in the Spring of 2017 and served as Zeta in the fall before being elected Beta for the 2018 calendar year. His Chapter Brothers remember him as “a mentor, athlete, scholar, and friend to all he impacted in his short time.” He was 20 years old.



**Brother Purks accepting his Cronkite Award at the 150th Congress, with Executive Director Michael Azarian, Psi Delta 1997**

**A young Jim Purks interviews Dr. King and other Civil Rights leaders in this undated photograph**



**James H. Purks III, Alpha-Alpha 1959, Delta Pi 2002**, entered Chapter Eternal on February 19, 2018 at the age of 81. Brother Purks was Initiated into the Alpha-Alpha Chapter at UNC in 1956 as a legacy, his father being a member of the Gamma Chapter at Emory University. He spent his younger years as a reporter during the Civil Rights Movement, several times interviewing Martin Luther King Jr. and other Civil Rights leaders. His career also included a stint as President Jimmy Carter’s Assistant Press Secretary.

In his later years, Brother Purks became a Deacon in the Episcopal Church and dedicated his life to charity work. He became heavily involved with the Delta Pi Chapter in an advisory role and was elected an honorary member in 2002. For his lifelong commitment to bettering society, the Fraternity honored Brother Purks during the 150th Congress with the Walter Leland Cronkite Jr. Congressional Award, the highest honor that can be bestowed on any Brother.



**Robert G. Cleaveland, Alpha-Chi 1967**, entered Chapter Eternal at the age of 73 on February 14, 2018, after complications from surgery. Brother Cleaveland passed away exactly 53 years after he and his wife Deanna went on their first date. He was an Air Force Veteran of the Vietnam War and an insurance

broker and financial planner by trade. Brother Cleaveland also holds the distinction of being a founder of Make-A-Wish Alaska & Washington, an organization he spent the next 30 years helping to build. The organization granted six Wishes in its first year, and thanks to Brother Cleaveland and other leaders, they hope to grant 360 Wishes in 2018.



**William D. Gardiner, Lambda 1936**, entered Chapter Eternal on January 3, 2018, at the remarkable age of 101. Brother Gardiner was a veteran of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam, including thirteen years of overseas duty. In 1973, he retired at the rank of Colonel after thirty-one years with

the Army. He was an inspiration to his many Brothers of Lambda in his later years, making the trip to Berkeley for Homecoming as recently as 2013. He was even an author, having written his biography *Three Wars and Rusty Muskets*, a reflection on his many years of service.

We would like to apologize for an erroneous Chapter Eternal listing from our Fall 2017 issue which reported **William M. Wallace, Nu 1967**, as deceased. Brother Wallace has called and assured us that he is alive and well. However, we are sad to report that **William F. Wallace, Nu 1965**, entered Chapter Eternal on September 22, 2016.



# The Chi Phi Fraternity

1160 Satellite Blvd. NW  
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Join the Chi Phi Educational Trust for the annual Watts Gunn Memorial Golf Tournament on Thursday, June 21 at East Lake Golf Club, the home course of Watts Gunn and Bobby Jones.



Information on pricing and sponsorship opportunities, along with player registration, can be found at [chiphi.org/watts-gunn](http://chiphi.org/watts-gunn)

For more information, contact Development Coordinator  
Lauren Van Scoyoc at [vanscoyoc@chiphi.org](mailto:vanscoyoc@chiphi.org) or at 404.231.1824

Proceeds from Watts Gunn support Chi Phi Leadership Programs such as Alphas & Thetas Academy, Regional Leadership Alliances, and Alumni programs

