



Phi Sigma Delta of Zeta Beta Tau

UMass Amherst-Alumni Newsletter



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Brotherhood - is not a one year commitment, it is a life-time commitment.... We took an oath to remain brothers. An oath is something that cannot be taken back, that's what makes it an oath. We may have outgrown pounding down beers but you can never outgrow your commitment and the bonds of brotherhood.

From the President:

Hello brothers. In January I attended a mini reunion held in Worcester. Eight of us enjoyed about three hours of "good and welfare" at O'Connor's Irish Bar and Grill. The attendees were Stan Kittredge, Steve Garanin, Bob Malovich, Al Spekin, Joe Parslow, Lloyd Bristol, Jay Cammarata, and myself. I really enjoy these little gatherings and was happy it was planned in the one week I was back from Florida.

I was disappointed that the reunion last October overlapped a planned trip to Italy with three other couples from our community in Naples. The October meeting was mostly at the old "367" house thanks to the work of Stan. Like we did several years back, refreshments were served and a house meeting took place in the church next door. The turn-out was fantastic (I'm so jealous!!) and everyone had a great time. Please go the website and view all the pictures taken during the weekend. It's so nice that a number of brothers from the earlier classes are getting into the fold again. How nice is that!!!!!!!!!!!! I'm sure no other fraternity at UMass has an organization as vital and active as ours. Yes, friendship is the sheltering tree.

Shame on us for not taking a few pics of our luncheon at O'Connor's. Several of the guys also manage to get tickets to the basketball games and turn out for them has been really enjoyable. I drove out last year and had a wonderful time at the game and then dinner later that night. I'm ashamed to say that it was my first visit to the new Mullins Center arena. Finally a venue worthy of a school of our stature. Red sox days have taken place on a number of dates over the last five years and are really a treat.

We are hoping more of the guys can share this wonderful bond of brotherhood and good times with us. Really guys, it is like the years have melted away and you will pick up with conversations you started back in the 60's and 70's.

On my trip home from Worcester, I called Ralph Goldfarb who, as I suspected, was down in Florida for the annual Phi Sig Super Bowl weekend with our Florida contingent. He told me that he was meeting with Berkowitz, Goodfriend, Gideon, and DelSesto (how did that Italian sneak in there?) Sorry if I overlooked someone.

Another dozen Brothers were able to get together in May at Fenway Park for what has become an annual Red Sox game.

Hope to see you soon, Bill

Letter From the Treasurer:

Great time at the reunion last October at the old Chapter house. Thanks to all of you who attended and a special thanks to those of you who helped out. Lloyd has the pictures some of you sent up on the web site: phisig.atspace.com check them out. As Bill said in his opening remarks the weekend reunions and the mini reunions, Red Sox games, basketball games etc. have been a great time. During the house meeting at the October reunion I was instructed to make plans for another reunion and to schedule it in Las Vegas. Since that time those that I've polled we unanimous about wanting to return to Las Vegas. So, I've done as asked and booked a venue. More info will come out shortly but there is information on the dates and location at the end of this newsletter. Please mark your calendar and let me know if you plan to attend..... Stan

Brother Biography: Since 2005 many of our newsletters have included Brother biographies.

After much prodding Stephen Garanin BS 70, MEd 72 sent the following.

Sometime during the Summer of 1968, while living at the "old" Chapter House, I had an epiphany. If I wanted to actually graduate, I would need to do something drastic to get my grades up to snuff. For me, living at the House was not cutting it; too many distractions...card games, parties, loud music, women, beer, fun, etc. Late that summer I move, along with Steve Karoul, into an apartment on Main Street.

The process worked out well. I was able to complete the requirements for a BS in Fisheries Biology, with a minor in Botany. It did take an extra semester, but that was a small price to pay for a degree. I had also applied for and was accepted into a Master's program in the Botany Department.

Concurrent with this concentrated push to graduate, I realized that graduation meant only one thing...I was going to be drafted. Vietnam was becoming a major conflict and the Army needed bullet stoppers. Having gotten myself together academically, I had to find a way to start grad school. I spoke to a number of people and they suggested the National Guard as an alternative to active duty. In early January 1970, I received my diploma and draft notice simultaneously. I went to the armory in Greenfield, my hometown, and swore allegiance to God and Country; two months later I found myself at Fort Polk, Louisiana.

I ended up graduating with a Med in Botany and Secondary Science Education in December 1972. Prior to that I obtained a position as a Junior High School science teacher at Hampshire Regional School in Westhampton, MA. This lasted for three years. I then did long term subbing throughout the Valley. I realized that I needed to find a new career path as school administrators and parents were going to making me crazy.

I worked for the Greenfield YMCA as Membership and PR Director for a year while trying to figure out where my career path would take me. Using several great contacts, I obtained the Fuel Assistance Director for a n anti-poverty agency in Franklin County. This job got me interested in the broad field of Management.

While working at this position, I went to the Northampton branch of Antioch College. They had an accelerated intensive program to obtain a MED in Public Administration/Organizational Development. I was able to complete the degree requirements in 14 months. The question now was what to do with the skills learned with the new degree. Realizing the Valley was perhaps a bit restrictive, I opted to move to the BIG CITY---Boston.

(Did I mention that after 10 years with the National Guard, making it to Staff Sergeant, I decided that if I was going to stay for 20 years, I should do it as an officer. I got commissioned, along with Brother Fran Bourdon, in July 1979.)

After several months if I would ever get a job in the Boston area, I landed a Fuel Assistance Director position for Revere and Chelsea. This job challenged my knowledge, skills and abilities, but with a great staff guiding me. We were able to become the #1 program in

the state in two years!

Two years later I was asked by ABCD of Boston to take over and fix their ailing program. I accepted the challenge. After streamlining the processes and organizing their staff, we were steadily moving up the state rankings. However, fate once again intervened before I could become complacent and bored.

A good friend and previous company commander with the MAARNG was working fulltime for the Guards. He had a special project that needed to be done that required organizational skills on a large scale. Right up my alley! I took two weeks' vacation from the Fuel Assistance position to work with him. I was surprised just how much I liked the work, camaraderie and environment in the military. Several months later I was offered a fulltime position of my own with the MA National Guard. I accepted!

As with any military organization, you go where ordered and do what the organization needs done. Over the next 28 years, until retirement, I held a number of positions in the fulltime force: Facilities Management Specialist, Staffing Specialist, Supervisory Contract Specialist, Deputy State Logistics Officer, and State Human Resources Director, are the most prominent.

Concurrent with these positions, my military rake appointments increased. In August 2004, I reach my highest rank, Colonel. This gave me the opportunity to help guide, in some small way, the Massachusetts Army National Guard into the twenty-first century. I remained with the MAARNG until November 2008, when I reached my Mandatory Retirement Date.

Not being content to merely retire and fade away, I found, applied for and obtained a position with the Federal Department of Transportation in Cambridge. I was hired as a Senior Contract Specialist. This mostly entailed contracting for all the necessary supplies and services for the 1000 person workforce and the 14 story building. I stayed with this job for almost four years. I then realized that, not getting any younger, it was time to treat myself with some time to do what I wanted to do: RETIRE!

Since that time, I have spent more time doing all those postponed things: traveling with my wife Bonnie, finishing paddling the Connecticut River and many others, spend more time in the forest hunting deer and bear, work on a research for a series of article about the Connecticut River and the Connecticut River Valley, and generally enjoying the finer things in life (like attending PSD reunions.)

News from the Brothers:

Bob Keene '64 has a new email address RAKEENE1@gmail.com

Sarmiento Silva '76 has been at Medimmo for 5yrs

Mel Yoken '60 received the UMass distinguished alumni award for 2013


Steve Garanin '70 completed the canoe trip traveling the entire length of the Conn. River. Also a new cell 978-460-4207

George Donovan '63 is at: donovan@msudenve.edu

Roy Immonen '71 has a new cell 508-838-0058

John Laczek '71 also has a new cell: 860-280-4667

Jim Kurty '73 is at: kurtyhouse@gmail.com

Ralph Goldfarb '68 has sold his CPA Firm in Framingham and moved to Las Vegas at  RTZ57@cox.net 2128 Sierra Heights Dr 89134

Bill Troupe '67 has relocated to: 15 Fairway Dr., Topsfield, MA 01983 h-978-561-3065 c-617-504-9895

Jay Cammarata '71 has relocated to: 167 Lakeshore Dr Blackstone, MA 01504

The summer 2014 UMass Alumni Magazine has a good article on the history of Fraternities and Sororities at UMass

Last year's reunion at the old Chapter House could not have gone better. Forty brothers and spouses spent the weekend at UMass and toured the Chapter house on Saturday. As always, it was great to see everyone with each brother sharing

his memories of his time at Phi Sig.



During our business meeting scholarships were awarded to Allison White, Chanelle Nastasia, Leigh Kittredge and Evan O'Reilly.

During New Business, Treasurer Kittredge '72 was instructed by the Brotherhood to plan the next reunion and locate it in Las Vegas. Our 2009 reunion in Las Vegas was a huge success and those that attended suggested a return visit was in order. After soliciting suggestions from those at in attendance and through further discussions Las Vegas was the overwhelming choice.

From the Treasurer ; Next Reunion: The MGM Grand, Las Vegas, NV will serve as our host hotel/casino the weekend of February 7th 2015. I have been working with the MGM Grand and secured a block of rooms surrounding the weekend so that if you want to stay before and/or after the reunion weekend you will have accommodations at our special rate.

Make your reservations now by calling the MGM Grand at: 800-929-9411 and reference the Phi Sigma Delta Reunion (room block PHI0215). Rates are Weds & Thurs \$141.00: Fri & Sat \$111.00 and Sunday \$91.00 Additionally a daily resort fee of \$25.00 plus tax is required, rooms are for single or double occupancy. Reservations may be cancelled 48 hours in advance at no charge so there is no reason not to book now!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The MGM Grand is a 4 star hotel located on Las Vegas Blvd (the strip). I will make arrangements for us to dine as a group on both Friday and Saturday evenings. Time and locations to be announced.

Those of you who have an interest in playing golf please contact Tony Lauria or Benn Titleman who will be coordinating that aspect of our reunion. Please give them an idea of when and how many times you'd like to play. Tony is at: 408-778-5040 or anthony-m-lauria@yahoo.com Benn is at: 720-334-1377 or benntitleman@hotmail.com

Please let me know your intentions to attend the reunion by forwarding \$25.00/per person to Stan Kittredge 399 old Farm Rd Franklin, MA 02038. make checks payable to Phi sigma Delta.

Fraternally,
Stan Kittredge ' 72 Treasurer

Scholarships:

Scholarship applications for 2014 are due before the annual meeting and should be forwarded to Chairman John Cycz at 23 Capt. Lathrop Dr S. Deerfield, MA 01373. Applications can be downloaded from the web site or by contacting John at: 413-221-9938

WEB-SITE: The Phi Sigma Delta of Zeta Beta Tau UMass Alumni web site remains up and running. Please check it out if you have not seen it lately at phisig.atspace.com (no www). Scholarship applications are available on the site. If trouble with link, try <http://phisig.atspace.com> . 2013 photos of the reunion at the old house are up ! Check out the military service your fellow brothers gave their country. Website changes made weekly so check the site often.

Association Dues:

Dues for our Association are strictly voluntary but as you know it does take money to make our Association work. I believe every one of you will agree that our time together has been well worth the \$10.00 annual dues. Please remember that in order to have a vote at our meetings you must be a member in good standing. If you are unsure of your dues status give me a call or drop me an email at 508-528-1107 kitco1@comcast.net. Mail to: 399 Old Farm Rd Franklin, MA 02038
Thanks, Stan

PLEASE if you receive a copy of this newsletter by U.S. Mail it is because I do not have your email address. Please forward your email address to me at: kitco1@comcast.net **Fraternally, Stan Kittredge ' 72 508-528-1107**

Try the website at Phisig.atspace.com Email Stan Kittredge