

Spring 2005

ALPHA



# Quarterly Newsletter of Phi Kappa Psi at the University of Washington

2120 Northeast 47th Street

Seattle, Washington 98105

## Founders Day 2005

**Mark Jonson '90**, president of the Alumni Association, presided over a capacity crowd of alumni and undergraduates in the Fireside Room of the Seattle Yacht Club on March 5 to celebrate our 153<sup>rd</sup> Founders Day. **Ed Jensen '56**, former president and CEO of US Bank and retired president of Visa International, spoke about *"The Implied Social Contract — To Give Back for What We Gained."*

Ed explained his Phi Psi experience and what he gained from the Fraternity. Then, his value of fraternities died over the years, and came back to life from his experiences at the Cabo American Leadership Academy and with the Washington Alpha undergraduates, and witnessing the positive changes taking place in the chapter. He described the implied "social contract" — the obligation for all alumni to give back to the chapter, how many of us are failing in that promise, and now need to help it survive — and thrive.

**Matt Anglin '90**, chairman of the Scholarship Committee, announced 16 scholarships awarded to undergraduates, totaling **\$13,000**. They are funded by one-half of the annual income from your contributions to our permanent Scholarship Account in the Endowment Fund. (The other half of the income is reinvested). In addition, five more Entering Freshman Scholarships will be awarded later in the year.

**Gordon Burgess '56** from Connecticut, and **Don Kennedy '44** were presented bottles of champagne for winning *The Farthest Traveled* and *Oldest Alumnus* awards. A spirited, not-so-silent auction to benefit the Capital Campaign was led by **Rich Clasen '83**, and amateur auctioneer **Daryn "Country" Klinginsmith '86**, who used his down-home, fast patter to sell the items. A total of \$9,835 was raised to help pay Capital Campaign operating costs.

Alums contributing to the auction were: **Erik Knoph '85**, a bottle of Columbia Riesling rare ice wine, sold to **Jim Connelly '02** for \$160; **Jerry Nelson '48**, three week-long packages at his beautiful estate in Cabo San Lucas, sold for \$2,300 each to **Chad Barnes '90**, **Todd King '90**, and **Curt**

**Tenzler '56**; **Gordon Burgess '56**, a week at his condo in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands sold to **George Henny '85** for \$750; **Jason Schnack '02**, two pounds of Kona coffee sold to **Don Kennedy '44** for \$100; **Chapter "We'll Do Anything" two 3-man work teams** for \$160 each sold to **Kurt Helgerson '87** and **Brent Knudson '91**.

**Mark Crisler '80**, a magnum of Robert Mondavi Pinot Noir sold to **George Henny** for \$140; **Craig Nishizaki '88**, **Jim Boyle '88**, and **Joe Pruss '81**, a Columbia Tower Club dinner for 2 sold to **George Henny** for \$280; **Mark Crisler '80**, two 1.5 litre bottles of Mondavi Cabernet Sauvignon sold to **Jim Boyle '88** and **Joe Marshall '88** for \$130 each; **Craig Nishizaki '88**, a Monte Carlo Night at The Columbia Tower Club sold to **Daryn Klinginsmith '86** for \$250; **Rich Beauchamp '73**, two round-trip standby tickets on United Airlines to any location sold to **Billy Kerechek '04** for \$475; **Dustin Birashk '96**, tax preparation sold to **Joe Taller '54** for \$200. Thanks to everyone — alums and undergraduates — who contributed a great bunch of bargains for a good cause! Brothers, get those checkbooks working!

The Parents' Group was represented by Kathy and **Barry Katzen '61**, parents of **Tyler '04**, **Mike and Carla McKendry**, parents of **Colin '03**, and **Bev Fissel**, mother of **Brian '04**. The highlight of Parents' Group activities this last fall was the successful Christmas Stockings tradition at the chapter house in December. (See photos on page 6.) A Parents' Group project and barbecue at the chapter house are being planned for spring quarter.

The 50<sup>th</sup> reunion of the Class of '55 drew **Wayne Browne**, **Stan Kohagen**, **Kerry McMahan**, and **Paul Wineman** together. Stan flew in from Palm Springs, and Paul from Marina Del Rey, California. Where were the other 16 from '55?

Following the dinner, about 25 young and old alumni gathered at the chapter house. Some of them had not been there in years. The house looked great, and the undergraduates enjoyed showing off the house improvements and their cleaning handiwork.

*Plan Ahead for next year!*

## Founders Day 2006

Saturday, February 18  
Seattle Yacht Club



## The Implicit Social Contract : To Give Back for What We Gained

By Ed Jensen '56, President & CEO, US Bank Corp.; President, VISA International (Ret.)

There are Brothers in this room to whom I have not spoken in decades, until recently. Yet, despite time, the bonds of friendship return through shared memories and experiences. The chapter was a sort of collegial "gang," bound not by drugs or violence but by the lessons of cooperation and mutual support. We learned discipline, cooperation, and compromise in an atmosphere of self-governance. And we learned from each other, gaining common values and loyalties around the notion of Brotherhood. The experience made us accepting and non-judgmental of each other then, and even now.

The 1950s were golden years for the Greek System. But the mores of the environment then also encouraged a fraternal elitism and conformity, eventually providing fertile ground for a counterculture to emerge. We shared a wonderful era of tradition, but we were also the forerunners of social change that began in the next decade.

### My Phi Psi Experience

I joined the Fraternity because I needed a place to live. The big bonus was an environment that made a huge difference in my life. What institutional influences made a major difference in your life? Personally, I can list three or four, but the Fraternity is one.

Now, I ask myself, *"If the Fraternity made a difference in my future, have I, in turn, made a difference in its future? And was there an 'implicit social contract,' an obligation to give back for what I gained?"* I'll answer these questions in a moment.

When the plane arrived in Seattle from my home in Hawaii, I knew no one. I can't begin to describe how different it was from Honolulu. Phi Psi was the best of the good fraternities that I visited. I thought, "This is where I want to belong." I found that I was one of 43 pledges, all strangers, now to be considered Brothers. But I didn't like the rules, the discipline, the hacking, or pledge servitude. When I got off that plane from Hawaii, I was an immature kid, possibly headed for trouble.

I remember I was upset one day when an upperclassman hacked me too hard for some infraction. Mildly stated, I was insubordinate. This landed me in the library for a disciplinary meeting with the Governing Committee. I was given a choice: conform or become homeless. I chose to curb my temper and behave.

That meeting saved me from myself, and I got down to the business of being a fraternity man. My insecurities began to diminish, and I began to grow. I bought a cool Harris tweed jacket and a couple of rep silk ties, learned Phi Psi history and songs, and school songs, too. I performed my pledge duties diligently, even found them fun, working with my pledge Brothers. I decided to use study hours to do just that, and as the quarters passed, my grades steadily improved. I learned table manners and socially correct behavior; pledge Brother **Gordie Burgess** taught me to dance, **Ken Hart** taught me how to talk to women. The Fraternity gave me time to grow up and gain social skills, preparing me for a career I would never have anticipated. All things considered, it was a great place to live! I met my future wife through the Fraternity, another of those major events that changed my life. Twenty-six in my class were initiated and, after four years, went our

separate ways. The notion of Brothers and Brotherhood vanished, although the connection was still there.

### Changing Perceptions

Through the years that followed, I didn't like what I read and heard of fraternities: drinking and drug clubs where sex was the common value. I rejected fraternities as valuable institutions. Or were they just a reflection of changes in society which I didn't like? I felt that they were in a state of decay. Yes, there was a social contract to give back for what was taken, but the institution that gave it to us, for me, was dead. Not giving back became an easy decision. I became very anti-fraternity. I've learned since that our chapter has had highs and lows throughout the years. Thankfully, it has survived, while some other fraternity chapters at Washington have declined and failed. Through it all, a determined minority of alums have stayed with it, thinking it was possible to "go back to the future." They honored that implicit contract to give back, with time and money.

### A Personal Change

My attitude made a 180-degree turn when I was invited to speak at the American Leadership Academy in Cabo San Lucas, plus meeting our undergraduates there and at Founders Day. (I have spoken at Cabo three times.) I discovered that these kids are no different than we were; they just live in a different time, under different standards. I found that the benefits of "fraternity" are still alive and well.

The best part was meeting **Jerry Nelson**, California Epsilon '48, and the "father" of the ALA, the dirt-poor kid from a single parent family, who went to UCLA on a \$100 scholarship and became a Phi Psi. It made a huge difference in his life and career, and in how he became extremely successful. Now Jerry feels strongly about that "implicit social contract" to give back. His passionate commitment to teaching leadership and character-building skills to young Phi Psis is a lengthy story in itself. In short, he feels that the ALA, with alumni-taught curriculum and mentoring, can develop youth by leveraging the values of fraternity which have become dormant. Jerry convinced me to join this effort.

### The Failed Promise

Other than what I have already mentioned, what else did we take from the fraternity experience? Let's talk about the chapter house. At one point, I was a House Manager, and I recall that our house bills paid for operating costs. Nothing, year after year, was put aside for using it — nothing for remodels, upgrades, or capital expenditures; nothing for replacing old wiring and pipes. We used what was there, left it, and the future generations got what was left over. This has continued for nearly 75 years, through those highs (when we could have set aside money) and lows (when we couldn't). The house bills were subsidized by that "implicit promise" to pay back the subsidy in the future when we could better afford it. The problem is, decade after decade, that subsidy has not been repaid. This is an economic "model" that would never work for a hotel, an apartment complex, a dormitory, an office building — even a warehouse. In fact, if we do not honor this promise, the house will close sooner or later because it cannot sustain itself.

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### Mini-Founders Day in Rancho Mirage

Al Bidwell '54 (far right) hosted Palm Springs area alumni for lunch at the Desert Isle Country Club on February 25.

From left: Stan Kohagen '55, Corey McMillan '55, Bob Berst '49, Ed Jensen '56, John Johnson '50, and Al Bidwell.

## Giving Back (Cont. from page 2)

### The Possible Consequences

The model is failing because many alumni who were subsidized don't want to give back. So, the old fraternity value system, including The Creed preached to today's undergraduates, which we swore to honor, is suspect. The result: There is less incentive for undergraduates to take care of a facility when alums seem not to care. The alumni superficially look at how the house is maintained and conclude that the students don't care, so they ask, "Why should I waste my money?" The undergraduates see the chapter house as it is now, not as it was 50 or 60 years ago, and accept it. Indifference sets in and we've set the chapter up to eventually fail. The opportunity to help young men through the system that helped us starts to slip away. The alums, through their apathy, are allowing an institution to die, one that is as important today as it ever was. If you met some of today's undergraduates, and witnessed the Cabo leadership training, you would understand this.

### Times Have Changed

Alums can use the excuse that values are not the same today, so why support a value system that we don't understand. Before you buy into that excuse, let's see the UW and Phi Psi experience as it is today:

Average High School GPA:	3.68
Average College Entry SAT Score:	1280
UW All-Men's Average GPA:	3.15
<b>Phi Psi Washington Alpha GPA:</b>	<b>3.27</b>

Academic pressure and competition are more intense than ever. Only a small percentage of undergraduates get into the schools of their desired majors. To compete, academic scores are important for our undergraduates. They must achieve at least a 2.85 in their first quarter to be initiated. Our Phi Psis furnish their rooms with computers, video games, TVs, and mini-refrigerators. They sleep in their rooms, except for pledges in their first quarter, who use the sleeping porch. They study elsewhere, in the chapter study hall, or on campus. They use the internet to prepare and submit papers, assignments, and to do research. Resumes of college activities and community service become important to develop as they go through school. They're competing, not only with other UW students, but in a world economy that is more fast-paced and complex than it was decades ago.

Formal rush disappeared 30 years ago. Now, rush is perpetual and extremely competitive. The fraternity chapters with the best product are the most successful. That good "product" includes academic achievement, an up-to-date facility, brotherhood, and social activities.

Fraternities now don't just compete with each other. They compete with the University's tax-financed grand dormitory facilities, plus many new off-campus apartments that fill the shortage for housing.

### The Fraternity Today — And Tomorrow

Washington Alpha now, with the help of parents, alumni, and Jerry Nelson, is producing a good product, despite an aged, obsolete chapter house. We can all be proud of our undergraduates. They are making a difference. The chapter currently has 44 members, of whom 32 live in the house. The live-in capacity is 53. There are virtually no town men who live at home; to join, most entering freshmen want to live in. Their house bill is \$2,000 per quarter, with another \$2,000 for school costs, *minimum*. There are 29 fraternities at the University of Washington, including new, strong ethnic fraternities.

We have a few unique benefits over other UW fraternities: the leadership and character-building training at The American Leadership Academy; our Cabo Fall Chapter Retreat for alums, parents and undergraduates; our annual Chapter Scholarships — about 20, totaling \$13,000 this year and gradually increasing each year, funded by income from the Chapter Scholarship Fund Account at the Endowment Fund — income earned from your contributions. We also have support from a Parents' Group, and a hard-working group of volunteers in our

House Corporation. Plus, we have some special facilities — the Computer Lab in the old Penthouse Room, and our own Study Hall in the old sleeping porch space.

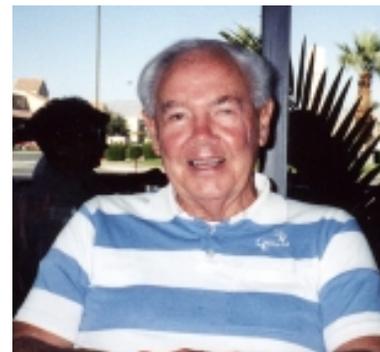
Phi Psi placed second in Greek Week this year, the main fraternity/sorority event which includes competitive sports, games, and talent show. The chapter is involved in community service with The Boys & Girls Clubs of King County, Adopt-A-Highway, and other programs.

Washington Alpha undergraduates now are a quality group of young men. But, the chapter needs about 20 more. With the old facility working against them, despite the low numbers, they are doing their best to maintain the house, more so than many of the other fraternities.

Our legacy should be "Better than all," like the chapter house that I knew. An outstanding facility is an important element in competing with the alternatives. It can again be the best if we choose to honor that contract to give back what we have taken — and gained. *The fraternity made a difference in our lives; now we need to make a difference for it.*

## Why I "Give Back" By Del Cyr '46

Even though Washington Alpha is far from me, in both distance and time, those years back in the '40s mean more to me now than they did almost 60 years ago. I am now blind in one eye, and have long suffered from rheumatism so crippling that I had to move from the Northwest to the Desert more than 50 years ago. But my Washington Alpha brothers were some of my closest friends almost 60 years ago, and I still regard them as such today. It was an exciting time, with both older brothers coming back from World War II, and new pledges in my Class of '46, many of them returning veterans starting school on the GI Bill. I learned from all of them, and grew as a person in those four years. Phi Psi brothers helped make me who I am today.



I am "giving back" now for what I gained, as much as I can within my means, this year totaling \$25,000. I was just informed that the Alumni Scholarship Committee will start a Del Cyr Scholarship in 2006, using some of the income from that principal to provide assistance funds annually for a freshman, tentatively starting at \$800. I am delighted to know that I will be benefiting a young Phi Psi who is beginning his years in the chapter, and that this scholarship will continue in perpetuity, long after I am gone.

I have witnessed Jerry Nelson's passion for teaching leadership and character-building training to our young undergraduates. I've heard through *The Alphan* how the chapter is improving, and about the dedicated few who are leading this change. I read every word. If I were younger, healthier, and closer, I'd be working right along with them.

I read of alums from my time — and later — who perhaps met their wives through the Fraternity, had a wonderful four or more years there, may have relatives who are also Phi Psi brothers, who now occasionally write comments to "Dawg Talk," or come to Founders Day. They may continue to stay in contact with some classmates; yet, they don't attend their class reunions.

Many do nothing. Not even a small amount to the Publications Fund to keep *The Alphan* going, which is totally dependent on contributions; nothing to The Scholarship Fund that ensures the chapter's

*(Continued on page 4)*

## From the Chapter President *By Jim Connelly '02*



At the start of my freshman year, I decided to go through rush. Phi Psi was the first fraternity chapter house I visited, and then I visited one more. After seeing Phi Psi and meeting the brothers of Washington Alpha Chapter, I knew that was where I wanted to belong, for the same reasons I am still living in the house after three years. I have also committed to live in for my fourth year.

Despite the age of the chapter house, we are working together to maintain it as best we can. We want our alumni to be proud of it — and us.

Our 3.20 GPA is above the All-Men's Average again this year. We also require that pledges earn a 2.85 GPA in fall quarter in order to be initiated winter quarter.

We are involved in community service, planning activities with the Girls & Boys Clubs of King County, and we continue to participate in the Adopt-A-Highway Program, maintaining a section of I-5 North, south of Northgate. Individual brothers also do volunteer work, like **Brian Fissel '05** at Children's Hospital; **Ken Katzaroff '04** at Union Gospel Mission and Cathedral of Joy; and **Matt Koch '02** at the Phoenix Society to help the homeless.

Last fall, Phi Psi placed second in Greek Week, the major fraternity/sorority event of the year, involving sports and game competitions (we sponsored the Jello Wrestling!) and a talent contest. More

recently, **Jack Chang '05** placed seventh out of 29 fraternities in the Mr. Greek Competition. For the talent portion, Jack wore a bear costume and sang Bobby Darin's "L is for the Love."

We realize that the chapter membership number is too low, but we have a good solid pledge class of ten men, all of whom are living in, getting good grades, and helping make the house a better place to live. We are working with our new chapter advisor, **John Lapsansky '00** to raise the membership through more aggressive rushing.

We thank **Stan Kohagen '55**, Alumnus of the Year, for his continuing support of the chapter, which enabled us to replace the dining room and mezzanine hall tile floors. **Daryn Klinginsmith '86** also contributed, and **Matt Anglin '90**, president of the House Corporation, helped us repair the badly deteriorated subfloor. Even some sorority girls helped us remove the old tile. The dining room floor pattern now matches that of the library, beige with brick red and black outer borders. The library floor was replaced a number of years ago, thanks to **Lloyd Harmon '45**.

**Matt Koch '02**, Outstanding Brother of the Year, did a great job as house manager for the past two years, has lived in the house all four years, and has played on many IMA house sports teams.

We appreciated the large group of young and old alumni who came by the house after Founders Day. We hope this will continue as a tradition at Washington Alpha. Please join the group next year, or come by the chapter house anytime and let us show you the improvements that have been made. Amici, — *Jim Connelly*



**Before and After: The new floor brightens the dining room.**

## Why I "Give Back" *Cont. from page 3*

financial future and provides income for needed scholarships. Most of them have been successful — some are wealthy, comfortably retired, and could easily afford to do both — and even get a tax deduction. I bet they contribute to charities, their church, country club, or lodge — you name it. But not a dime to the Fraternity that provided them the place and time to grow up in those fledgling college years. Why, I don't know. Have they forgotten what they gained? — *Del Cyr*

### The Del Cyr Freshman Scholarship To Be Awarded Founders Day 2006

*Freshmen needing financial assistance may apply.*

## 2005 Cabo Chapter Retreat

Alums and parents: The dates for the Chapter Retreat in Cabo San Lucas are **Sunday, September 11, through Sunday, September 18, 2005** — and you are invited. If you are interested, contact Stan Kohagen, stanko206@aol.com, or Jim Boyle, jdb\_uwhuskies@yahoo.com. Ask anyone who's been there; it's a great event! Students, start saving for your airline tickets!

## Results of "Giving Back" — \$13,000 Awarded in Scholarships

**Matt Anglin '90**, chairman of the Scholarship Committee and president of the House Corporation, introduced the '05 winners of the annual scholarships at Founders Day.

### Academic Achievement

(\$200 per consecutive quarter for GPA above 3.25)

\*Freshmen who earn 3.25 in their fall pledge quarter awarded \$600

<b>David Lodge</b>	\$600	<b>Colin McKendry</b>	\$600
<b>Brian Thorpe</b>	\$400	<b>*Dan Rowse</b>	\$600
<b>Travis Fry</b>	\$400	<b>Matt Dunnigan Ryan</b>	\$600
<b>Tyler Katzen</b>	\$200	<b>Robert Rose</b>	\$200

### Freshmen of the Year

**Joseph Kurz, \$800**

3.5 GPA

Highest pledge test scores; writes for *The UW Daily*; leads by example

**Kevin Abena, \$800**

3.25 GPA

Second in pledge test scores; Chapter Historian; played IMA football and volleyball; represented chapter at Greek Alcohol Summit

### Sophomore of the Year

**Billy Kerechek, \$800**

3.8 GPA; Business Major

VGP in '04; fraternity educator; helped in summer rush; social committee; helped in refurbishing basement music/TV center; leads by example

### Junior of the Year

**Randy Wiegering, \$800**

3.5 GPA; Construction Management Major

Chapter Treasurer; Rush Chairman '04; works part time at University Club; internship with Connor Homes; pledged to live in the chapter house all four years and every summer

### Brent Streich Memorial Scholarship/ Senior of the Year

**Kyle Ducey, \$1,200**

3.6 GPA; Double Major in Construction Management and Accounting Chapter GP — two terms '04; served as officer or committee chairman since initiated; lived in the house all four years and last two summers; UW Soccer Club member since freshman year, current manager

### John Quick Memorial Scholarship — Outstanding Brother

**Matt Koch, \$1,200**

3.5 GPA; Civil Engineering Major



House Manager two years; held officer position for three years; many IMA chapter sports teams; participated in Greek Week; works at UW Capital Projects Office; internship with Seattle Public Utilities; involved in Phoenix Society (temporary housing for homeless families); lived in the chapter house all four years and every summer

### Rudd Lawrence Community Service Award

**Ken Kataroff, \$800**

3.7 GPA

Adopt-A-Highway Program; organized two cleaning events; Martin Luther King Day of Service planning; organizing Boys & Girls Clubs involvement; volunteers at Union Gospel Mission

### Dale McKnight Academic Most Improved Award

**Isaac Benham, \$800**

English and Philosophy Major

2003 GPA - 3.3; 2004 GPA - 3.7 (high of 3.93 fall quarter)

Served as Sergeant-at-Arms and on various committees; lived in the chapter house summer '04; involved in numerous IMA sports; works at UW Pathobiology Lab.

Reason for Improvement: decided on major and gained motivation to attend Law School

## Alphan Postscripts

From **Kitty Rowse, mother of Dan '05**:

"So far, we are very pleased with all that Phi Psi has brought to Danny's life. He earned his Eagle Scout rank this past February, and the fraternity reminds me of the brotherhood of scouting that we have experienced. Danny seems to have found his niche in the fraternity and I know at colleges as large as the UW, it makes a huge difference to feel that you belong. He was very anxious (after Christmas break) to get back to Seattle and fix up his room."

From **Gordon Collins '43** about 'The Greatest Generation':

"Two years ago, I heard about the Greatest Generation (Founders Day theme). At that time, I talked to **Bob Edgers '49**, who used to live on the same street about seven houses apart, when we were about 8–10 years old. I looked forward to seeing him and reminiscing with some of older Brothers at Founders Day. I flew up and saw only **Bill Blecken '42** from my time. What a disappointment! So, the package of information that you sent to me with quotes from other World War II alums was very interesting.

**Jim Slayden '43** was one of my closest friends, and reading his war experiences was 'heavy' to say the least. I joined ERC as Jim did but didn't return until early '47. The recollections by **Frank Nolan '43** were thoroughly fascinating, too. At that time we knew, and said so, that Phi Psi was the greatest house on campus. Later on during my time on the East Coast, I found that Washington Alpha was one of the best chapters in a great fraternity."

*Historical footnote: Gordie's parents stored the heavy oak dining room tables in their basement during the War, when the Chapter House was rented out to the University for nurses in training and became Zanadu House.*

From **Kathy Katzen, mother of Tyler '04**:

"When I first visited the Chapter House, the spiral staircase impressed me the most. What a statement it makes even if the house is a 'tired old lady.' It was a bright spring afternoon, and I thought the house was beautiful. We had seen a couple other fraternities that were pursuing Tyler, and Phi Psi was the cleanest and in the best condition out of all that we saw. The other thing that impressed me was the alumni involvement. Whatever I can do now to help is small in comparison to what some of the alumni have done recently to make the house better. Barry and I had such a great time preparing the Christmas stockings. The response from the boys has been so wonderful — they appreciate what we are doing for them."

Excerpts from Letter to Paul Wineman from **Matt Moeder '03, GP of Kansas Alpha**:

"Cabo is truly a life-changing experience, and it touches the mind, heart, and soul of every participant. I left paradise a better person, brother, and most important, a better leader. I don't think that the knowledge and motivation that I gained will ever fade.

Not only was your speech practical but it also was inspiring and inquisitive. You didn't paint this idealistic picture of what the world will be like after we graduate. Rather, you gave us all a needed dose of reality.

Nothing that I can write in this letter will come close to expressing my sincere gratitude for what you've done for me and countless other young Brothers. But, I can promise this: That I will work to leave my chapter better than the way that I found it."

## Washington Alpha Winter Quarter Grades

**Chapter Cumulative GPA: 3.27**

**UW All-Men's GPA: 3.15**

**Congratulations, Brothers!**



*Photo by Kathy Katzen*

## The Spirit of Christmas Returns!



**Santa's Helpers:** Front row, l-r: parents Hanna Ducey, Barry Katzen, and Nancy Johnston. On stairs: Bob Read, Doug Johnston, Steve Fissel, and Kathy Katzen. Not pictured: Bev Fissel, Bill Kerechek, and Susan Benham.

Santa's helpers in the Parents' Group returned to the chapter house just before the Christmas vacation break to festoon the spiral staircase with purple and gold stockings, one for every undergraduate brother and one for John Costello, the cook. The stockings covered the railing all the way from the mezzanine to the third-floor landing.

Led by **Kathy** and **Barry Katzen, '61**, the "elves" outdid themselves, leaving a filled stocking plus a big bag of other goodies on the step below each stocking, stuffed with everything from dental floss and engraved pens to homemade fleece scarves.

Thanks to all the parents who helped: **Nancy and Doug Johnston, Steve and Bev Fissel, Bill Kerechek, Hanna Ducey, Bob Read, and Susan Benham.** Special thanks to **Jim and Kitty Rowse** for the homemade scarves, to **Cece and Dr. Denny Homer** for the toothbrushes, toothpaste, and popcorn, and to **Stan Kohagen, Nicky Fry, Kathy Yudiskas, and Donal Connelly** for sending money to help buy items.

*(If we have left anyone out — please accept our apologies!)*



### Class of 1956 45<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Gathering

Eight alums from the Class of '56 and their wives celebrated their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversaries together last October 22-24. Shown here at the Waverley Country Club in Portland, Oregon, are (from left, clockwise): Dick and Connie Troyer, Herb and Ann Saunders, Lee and Carolyn James, Neil and Nancy Tikka, Curt and Carol Tenzler, Avon and Fred Holmes, Linda and John Meyer, and Marilyn and Ed Jensen.

## Obituaries

**Robert R. Wadleigh, '46-482**, of Seattle, passed away December 27, 2001. The alumni office received notification from the post office in February 2005.

**John F. Villesvik, '50-563**, of Edmonds, Washington, died November 4, 2004. Thanks to his wife, Linda, for informing the alumni office. John was born in Seattle and grew up in Yakima, graduating from Yakima High School in 1949. He graduated from Washington State University, then went to Alaska as an Air Force lieutenant. Later, he worked with the Anchorage Community Theater and then moved to Kona, Hawaii, to run a marine hardware store. After retiring, John and Linda moved to Edmonds in order to be closer to their family. John was an avid boater and was involved in the Coast Guard Auxiliary while he lived in Kona. Back in Washington, he continued to enjoy boating. He and Linda were married for 45 years. Family members include a son, John; daughter, Mary; two granddaughters, Miranda and Mona; a brother, Alan; a sister, Mary; and many nieces and nephews.

## 2005 Cabo Chapter Retreat!

September 11 - September 18, 2005

You are invited!

Contact Stan Kohagen, [stanko206@aol.com](mailto:stanko206@aol.com), or  
Jim Boyle, [jdb\\_uwhuskies@yahoo.com](mailto:jdb_uwhuskies@yahoo.com).

Ask anyone who's been there —  
it's a great event!

## Dawg Talk

**John E. Johnson, '50-567**, reports that he "loved the Cabo retreat." Get in touch with "Johnny" at 576 S. Vista Oro, Palm Springs, CA 92264, or 760-320-0103. He is involved in the Rainbow Foundation for Scholarships and TWA Senior Retirees. "These are not 'the golden years,'" he comments.

**Marshall J. "Jack" Fahlstrom, '51-580**, who retired from Seattle City Light, is a past president of the Retired City Light Employees Association. He plays tennis (doubles) weekly at Lower Woodland Park. "I team ski race at Alpental Snoqualmie. They call me the 'Old Bear.' I believe I am the oldest of 1,700 ski racers who race in City League. I met another Phi Psi at last year's Founders Day who races in City League (side by side format). Erma and I go to Mariner Spring Training at Peoria, Arizona, in March." Jack and Erma live at 13740 Interlake Ave. N., Seattle, WA 98133. Their family includes son David (46) and his wife, Kris, and their children, Adam (14) and Anna (10); and daughter Nancy Martinez, her husband, Michael, and their child, Sydney. Jack and Erma receive phone calls at 206-362-7782, and e-mail at [jackandermaf@aol.com](mailto:jackandermaf@aol.com).

**H. Allan Bidwell, '54-643**, retired from the J.C. Penney Company. He is a past president of Rotary and continues to be active in the Palm Springs, California, Rotary Club. Allan is serving as Assistant Governor for Southern California, 2004-06. "My wife, Betty, and I will be attending our ninth Rotary International Convention in Chicago this summer to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Rotary." Allan and Betty (Long Beach State, CA) are parents of Cmdr. Christopher Bidwell, USN (47), Carrie Bidwell Teixeira (45), and Kelley Thomas (37, San Jose State). Contact Allan at 900 Island Dr., #306, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270; 760-770-5088; [albidwell@aol.com](mailto:albidwell@aol.com).

**Neil W. Botting, '60-754**, is interested in working with non-profit health care organizations, particularly pre-hospital and hospital emergency care. He writes: "Hello, Brothers! I retired from Shell in

1993, where I worked in human resources and general management in the US and overseas. Was a volunteer paramedic for 20 years, and after my first retirement, became an RN and worked in an ER for 10 years. Retired again in 2003 and moved to Colorado, where we built our home on 73 acres of useless rocky hills, about 30 miles west of Colorado Springs. I am helping with the establishment of a nonprofit hospital and have helped hospice, fire, and EMS groups with organization effectiveness improvement. Will likely do some paramedic volunteering and EMS teaching, perhaps some Emergency Room RN work, and some consulting in the organization effectiveness arena. My wife, Michal Tracy Botting (WSU), stays busy with her activities, including stained glass, and we like to travel and have folks drop by and use our guest cabin." Neil and Michal can be reached at PO Box 756, Florissant, CO 80816; 719-748-3003; or [neil@BottingNet.com](mailto:neil@BottingNet.com). They have a son, Tye Botting, PhD (39), and a daughter, Shaar Botting (37).

**Roger K. Tulloch, '62-814**, writes: "I retired this past January after nearly 40 years with the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). Spent the first 3-4 months painting the inside of the house and putting in a sports court for the grandkids — at least that's the justification we used. In August, I was informed by CDC that I was being awarded the 2004 William C. Watson, Jr., Medal of Excellence for '... contributions made to the efforts of the CDC and unwavering belief in Public Health.' Not ready to fully retire, I continue to work one day a week in Seattle at the Harborview Medical Center's STD Clinic, and I spent October in Baltimore on a contract with Johns Hopkins University to assist the Baltimore City Health Department. Last week, I had lunch with **Pete Janni ['62-805]** in Olympia, and we committed to getting together on a more regular basis to go fishing, or to have lunch, or to simply share stories — some of them even true — from our days together at Washington Alpha." Roger and his wife, Jackie, live at 102

E. Enchantment Dr., Union, WA 98592. Call him at 360-426-7979 or send e-mail to [RJTulloch@msn.com](mailto:RJTulloch@msn.com).

**Stephen E. Murphy, '63-832**, reports that he is "back to the hometown from Washington, DC, consulting for Seattle's largest private equity group." His special interest lies in "grass-roots development in Latin America." Steve and his wife, Victoria (KKT), receive mail at PO Box 15155, Seattle, WA 98115. Send e-mail to [stephenmurphy1@compuserve.com](mailto:stephenmurphy1@compuserve.com) or call 206-525-5511.

**William B. Kitts, '68-924**, is a CPA. "I co-authored *Longshot: The Story of the Buchan Bakers*, about Seattle's first national basketball champions. Anyone who remembers the great local teams and players of the 1950s will enjoy this book. See [www.buchanbakers.com](http://www.buchanbakers.com)." He is married to Cindy, and they reside at 15019 93rd Pl. NE, Bothell, WA 98011. Send e-mail to [WBKCPA@comcast.net](mailto:WBKCPA@comcast.net). The family includes Jill (31), Melissa (29), and Jamie and Jeff (16).

**Steven A. Fawthrop, '79-1148**, writes: "After moving to Orange, California, in August 2003, we rented for a year. We like the area, so we bought a home and moved in October." Contact him at 825 E. Ferndale Ave., Orange, CA 92865; 714-279-0487; [safawthrop@aol.com](mailto:safawthrop@aol.com).

**Mark A. Jonson, '90-1371**, reports: "I married Christina Kircher (AXΩ-WSU) this past summer and moved to the east side — can a minivan be far behind? My lawn mowing business continues to prosper — picked up my second client, **Todd King ['90-1370]**, after a referral from **Darin Forkenbrock ['90-1384]**." Mark can be reached at 2025 240th Ave. SE, Sammamish, WA 98075; [markj@mckinstry.com](mailto:markj@mckinstry.com).

**David W. Auckland, '93-1446**, writes: "Keep up the good work. The last couple of issues of *The Alphan* have been great!" David lives at 7711 44th Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115.



## 2004 Honor Roll of Contributors

We've said it many times — and once again: Thanks to the 111 brothers listed below, who contributed a total of \$6,180 via the alumni communications program. And thanks to **Richard S. Zahniser '42** and **Robert O. Blecken '47**, who have already sent contributions for 2005. Your contributions keep *The Alphan* in circulation. When you're sending a contribution, write a note to Dawg Talk, too. Let us — and your classmates — know what you're doing, and where you are!

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