



ΦΚΣ ΑΔ

BLACK & OLD GOLD

The Newsletter of Skullumni – The Alpha Delta Alumni Chapter

Stellis Aequus Durando

Issue 4 – Fall/Winter 2003

Heroes, All

- Brothers Eric Puls '94, Kyle Fox '98, & Jeff Shirland '99 talk about their deployments overseas

The first thing Captain Kyle Fox '98 did when he returned home to Texas from his second tour in Korea was reacquaint himself with his 2-year-old daughter and wife. Fox, who missed his daughter's first birthday while serving overseas as an Intelligence Officer, also enjoyed a "big juicy steak" at Outback Steak House. Birthdays. Steaks. Family. Things most Americans take for granted on a daily basis but for those serving overseas in the Armed Forces, being away from the ones they love and the luxuries of living in the states is just another part of their job.



from the Alpha Delta chapter are complaining. Far from it. They are men who know the importance of their duties. "The U.S. presence in South Korea is part of a very important deterrent to keep North Korea in their place," said Fox, who now is an Intelligence Operations Chief with the 314th MI BN based in San Antonio, TX. "Despite the rhetoric, the North will not likely attack South Korea while U.S. troops are continuously preparing for war." He added, "I kept a good attitude knowing that I was a part of something that essentially may save millions of Korean's lives."

The same is true for Captain Eric Puls '94 and First Lieutenant Jeff Shirland '99, both of whom were deployed to the Gulf Region last spring. Brother Shirland, who is currently serving as a platoon leader with the 1136th Transportation Company at Camp Arifjan in Kuwait, said there are many things he misses back home. "I like to hunt all through the fall," said Shirland, an Old Town, ME native. "Also, the holidays are coming up so you think about family and friends that much more."



Fox stated that he could not go in to detail about his current duties but said he has a "very important mission" that is focused on the "bigger picture issues." While stationed in Korea during his second tour, Fox was with the 2nd Infantry Brigade located 10 miles from the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ). "My main focus was giving the Brigade Commander timely predictive analysis of enemy capabilities and most likely courses of action," he said. "There haven't been any confirmed hostilities on the DMZ for quite some time, so we spent the majority of our time preparing for war through *Warfighter* exercises."

Brother Puls is a captain in the 4th Infantry Division and seeing a lot of action in Iraq. In a letter from this past May, Puls said that during his first day of combat "my troop and I were right up front with the tanks watching all hell break loose. Tank combat is so very fast and violent - just destroying everything in sight." He added, "Seeing the movie *Saving Private Ryan* was nothing compared to the real thing."



Top to Bottom 1Lt Jeff Shirland '99, Cpt. Eric Puls '94, and Cpt. Kyle Fox '98

Brother Puls, a Bangor, ME native who has a wife and two daughters awaiting his return in Texas, saw intense action during the war with Iraq. He was witness to a lot of the harsh realities of war, including severely wounded Iraqi soldiers who died in front of him. Puls has kept a positive attitude throughout his deployment, though he under-

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A Message From Skullumni:

Happy holidays fellow Phi Kaps! Since our last newsletter, the Alumni Chapter has seen a great deal of success, made possible only with the generous donation of time & money from our many wonderful alumni. While looking ahead to 2004, we would like to reflect on all that was accomplished in 2003:

- Increased membership to 107 (started with 3!) making us the largest alumni group of Phi Kappa Sigma
- Raised over \$1,000 for the Ferris Children's Fund, which was established for 3 boys from Swanzey, NH who survived a plane crash but lost both parents and two brothers in the accident
- Along with the International Fraternity, co-funded an Educational Consultant who spent a weekend with the undergraduates presenting on topics such as recruitment, the ritual, and substance-free housing
- Initiated a letter-writing campaign to the 3 Phi Kaps serving overseas and sent them "care packages"
- Established the Stephen Ward Memorial Fund & purchased a plaque for Brother Ward '91 who was lost in the 9-11-01 World Trade Center attacks; the fund pays for an undergrad to attend Grand Chapter or a conference
- With the undergrads, planned a successful Homecoming which over 40 alumni attended

With your continued support, we hope to carry this success into the new year and expand the services that Skullumni provides to its alumni members and the undergraduate chapter. Already, Skullumni has enlisted the help of numerous alumni from various decades to help with involving more alumni, working on a house renovations campaign, and planning more alumni social events, to name a few.

We'd like you to become involved! Whether is it making a donation or helping with a specific project, we would appreciate your time and expertise. Thank you for your time and again, happy holidays to you!

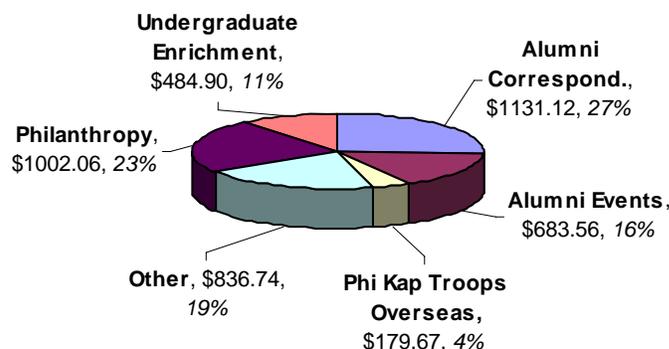
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Where Does Your Skullumni Dollar Go?

In 2003, Skullumni spent 79% of its \$4,646.19 budget. When including unbudgeted money, the Alumni Chapter rolled-over nearly \$1,600 to the 2004 budget, which was \$300 more than anticipated. Because of generous donations from over 100 Alpha Delta alumni this past year, Skullumni was able to fund many great projects. From supporting the troops overseas to planning a successful Homecoming to enriching the undergraduate chapter, we accomplished a great deal in 2003 – and in a relatively economical manner. We spent \$5.94 for every alumni member (approx. 620) to support the events in the categories listed below. Thanks to those of you donors who made the following possible! *Please note that the \$1,002.06 for "Philanthropy" did not come from alumni dues.*

Skullumni's 2003 Expenditures



Skullumni Officers 2003-04

President (Alpha)

Jerome Graffam '03

Vice President (Beta)

Scott Morelli '99

Treasurer (Tau)

Matthew Martin '03

Secretary (Sigma)

Anthony Kvedar '00

Member Relations (Upsilon)

Daniel Stiehl '96

Decade Representatives (Chi)

1940s: Benjamin Graham '43

1950s: Robert Chase '59

1960s: Jay Smith '67*

1970s: Chip Stephens '77*

1980s: Sam Civiello '85*

1990s: Pat Penley '91*

2000s: Edward Regan '02

*pending official approval

Undergraduate Chapter Update

From info compiled by undergraduate Alumni Chair Daniel Bowe '06

The Alpha Delta Chapter was awarded the "Chapter Excellence" distinction for the 2002-03 school year by the Phi Kappa Sigma International Fraternity – they were one of only nine chapters to earn this distinction. The award means they are one of Phi Kap's better chapters and they will receive a plaque commemorating their achievement at next year's Grand Chapter in Chicago. The levels above "Chapter Excellence" are "Distinguished Chapter" (which only three chapters received) and the prestigious "Outstanding Chapter" (which only two chapters received). There are approx. 60 Phi Kap chapters in the U.S. & Canada and this distinction places Alpha Delta in the top 10, or at least within the top 15, of these chapters. The awards are based on scores obtained from the Mitchell Chapter Standards program which grants points for things like community service, GPA, and upholding risk management policies, among others. On behalf of your alumni, congratulations undergrads & keep up the good work in 2003-04!

In other news, the chapter recently hosted their 8th annual haunted house benefiting the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They raised \$2,300 – their highest amount ever! This event has been key in helping the chapter win community service awards from the university and Phi Kap over the past decade. The chapter has also volunteered at Manna Soup Kitchen, is participating in blood drives throughout the year, and will be BBQ'ing at the Ronald McDonald House.

The chapter also received a good visit from Hamilton "Toby" Smith, Executive VP of Phi Kappa Sigma. He talked about the direction of Alpha Delta and explained that Nationals is attempting to increase the communication with all Phi Kap chapters.

Lastly, the chapter did well with fall rush as they will be initiating 10 new Brothers this January and currently there are a total of 38 Mem-

MISCELLANEOUS ... Zach Longley '67 said that there is a group of 10 alumni planning another **Phi Kap reunion for the classes of '65 - '69** to be held in September '05. The event will again be at Sebasco Estates in Bath, ME. An announcement and "save the date" will be going to all Phi Kaps '65-'69 in January. He promises it will be a rare event that you won't want to miss! ... Contact Brother Bill Bodwell '50, owner of **Bodwell Motors**, at 1-800-339-BILL – he promises to save all Phi Kaps "lots of money" on a vehicle ... Are you on **Skullumni's email list**? We send out monthly emails to 200 Phi Kaps – email us at skullumni@yahoo.com so that you are kept in the loop! ... Skullumni is still organizing a fundraiser to perform **major chapter house renovations**. If you are interested in serving on the Fundraiser Committee, please contact us ASAP! ... Are you interested in attending **Grand Chapter** in July 2004? Visit www.grandchapter.com to register!

News, photos & a message board at:
www.pksalumni.org

Wayne Johnson's Inspiring Story

Excerpts taken from O&P Almanac article by C. Parsons

At the young age of 18, Brother Wayne Johnson '65 had his right leg amputated above the knee due to cancer. Since then, he has spent the better part of four decades wearing a series of very uncomfortable and poor fitting prosthetic legs. But what happened in 1998 changed his life forever.

Johnson sought the help of Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics and after a few fittings he received a leg that virtually erased nearly 40 years of pain. With a new lease on life, Johnson learned about the DS/USA's 1999 National Summer Games in Fairfax, VA. It would take only two years for the man who doctors once told would never walk again without crutches to become a world champion athlete.

"Whatever is hardest and most painful and puts the most pressure on the individual, I'd like to be [there]," said Johnson, a lawyer living in Yarmouth, ME with wife Ginny.

Despite finishing last in the shot-put, javelin, and discus in the '99 games, Johnson didn't lose the fight inside him. To the contrary, he had taken his first running steps in decades and was determined to get better. No wonder Johnson is often fond of saying, "The impossible does not exist." So after the games, he hooked up with Dan Dors, a retired track & field coach, and sought the help of Hanger in finding him a better prosthetic.

"We began to brainstorm, and we decided to just throw away the book and do what we were thinking," said Johnson. "And that was to eliminate the hydraulics, to eliminate all the safety, to eliminate the knee joint, and make it as light as possible."

It took Johnson nearly a year to learn how to run with the new leg but once he did, the sky was the limit. He placed first in the three events he finished last in only 2 years earlier at the National Sports Festival for the Disabled. The icing on the cake came in 2001 when he set the 100M world record which enabled him to keep a promise to his late wife, Janet, as a tribute to her battle with cancer. In 2002, Johnson set another world record in the 200M race. Currently, Johnson is training harder than ever to earn a trip to Athens as a member of the 2004 U.S. Paralympic team.

Johnson, who currently works for MBNA, is also a champion off the field as he continually seeks to secure funding for disabled athletes to compete. For more info on how you can help Johnson do this, please contact him at 207.846.6007 or via email at wj3000@maine.rr.com. Congratulations & best wishes, Brother



Brother Wayne Johnson '65 sets the 200M world record at the 2002 National Sports Festival. Photo by Powell & Associates

HOMECOMING 2003: MANY ERAS, MANY STORIES

At least 40 Alpha Delta alumni returned to Orono for Homecoming weekend 2003 – double the amount from the previous year! Alumni from 1944 – 2003 enjoyed tours of the chapter house, participated in Skullumni’s Annual Meeting, sat in 60 reserved groups seats at the Homecoming football game (along with family and friends), and socialized in a private room at the Bear Brew Pub after the game. For many, Homecoming 2003 marked their first return to Orono since their own graduation and alumni of all eras agreed that it was a great time. “Thank you for all the effort you put into making a great Homecoming for all the alumni,” said Gil Leslie ‘56. Added Zach Longley ‘67, “The hospitality at the house and Bear Brew were great. Made us old ‘skulls’ feel right at home.” And Rafael Ozdenirer ‘01 said, “You guys did an incredible job getting us all together and hell yeah I had a blast, man!” Skullumni would like to thank the undergraduates for their efforts as well as all of the alumni who attended Homecoming 2003. We would also like to thank our Decade Representatives who helped get alumni from their era to attend and Brother Tom Bartlett ‘65 for lending us the tents for the front-lawn BBQ. We will continue to update you throughout 2004 as to when next year’s Homecoming will be – we are hoping for an even larger turnout next October! Below are photos which captured the weekend’s festivities.



▲ Walter Anderson ‘50, Kenneth Marden ‘50, and Gilbert Leslie ‘56



▲ David Schlieper ‘56 with wife Nancy



▲ Zachary Longley ‘67, Robert Kiah ‘64, and Dennis Kiah ‘70



▲ Wayne Johnson ‘65 with wife Ginny



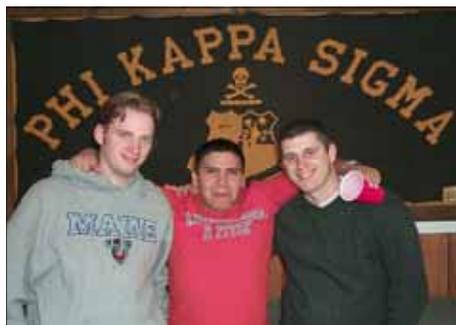
▲ James Kinne ‘03 and Dan Ludden ‘92



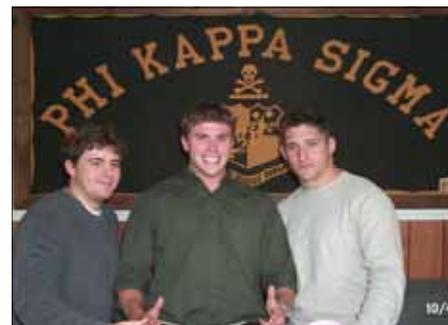
▲ Daniel Stiehl ‘96, Tim Johnson ‘97, and Derrick Slowikowski ‘97



▲ Robert Williams ‘00, Jerome Graffam ‘03, Anthony Kvedar ‘00, and Scott Morelli ‘99



▲ Michael Murphy ‘02, Rafael Ozdemirer ‘01, and Edward Regan ‘02



▲ Brad Worcester ‘02, Jeffery LaChance ‘03, and Timothy Gallant ‘03



▲Phi

“If it weren’t for Skullumni, I wouldn’t have participated in my first Homecoming since graduation. Thank you!”

-Robert Kiah ‘64



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▲“Brother Bill” Bodwell ‘50

PHOTOS FROM THE BEAR BREW PUB ...



▲Russell Bodwell ‘44 and wife



▲James Kinne ‘03 & Jerry Graffam ‘03 with undergrads Tim Pike, Scott Nichols, & Dylan Reburn



▲Rick Malinowski ‘91, Pat Penley ‘91, Glade Taylor (TKE), Shawn Harris ‘91, and Chris Hopper ‘95



▲Dan Stiehl ‘96, Scott Morelli ‘99, Bob Kvedar ‘00, Derrick Slowikowski ‘97, Tim Johnson ‘97, Kurt Feeley ‘99



▲Rob Kiah III (TEII), Zach Longley ‘67, Bob Kvedar ‘00, Scott Morelli ‘99, Rob Kiah ‘64, Dennis Kiah ‘70

Not Pictured:
Allan Smith ‘53, Richard Addition ‘89, Thomas Palmer ‘92, Jeffery Miller ‘93, John Chretien ‘97, Jason Thurlow ‘02, James Flagg ‘03, and Matthew Martin ‘03



▲Steve Kneeland ‘03, Nick Raymond ‘03, and undergrad Scott Reynolds

Our thanks to those who attended and we hope to see the rest of you in 2004!

Skullumni's 107 Voting Members

With 107-dues paying members, Skullumni is the largest Alumni Chapter of the entire Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity - a testament to both our great alumni and their love of Phi Kap! Incredibly, Skullumni began 2 years ago with only three members and our roster has steadily increased as word has spread about the Alumni Chapter. Below is a listing of our 107 Voting Members (as of 11/21/03) and updates on what they've been up (if provided to us). Skullumni's diverse membership spans 65 years from 1938-2003 and represents 41 unique years of graduation. Our members live in 24 different states across the U.S. from California to Maine. We offer a sincere thank you to our current Voting Members – you have made many things possible for both the undergraduate and alumni chapters and for this we are grateful. We hope you choose to renew your membership in 2004. We also hope those of you who have yet to join Skullumni do so soon. A membership slip has been enclosed with this newsletter should you wish to renew or join for the first time. *Once a Phi Kap, Always a Phi Kap!*

1930s (1): Arthur Smith '38 *Topsham, ME*

1940s (6): Alfred Mann '41 *St. Cloud, FL* all 7 children obtained a degree from UM system. This is "considerable progress in two generations because neither of my parents graduated from high school." Uncle, Alfred C. Jordan '04, also a Phi Kap. Has 17 grandchildren & 9 greats ... Benjamin Graham, Jr. '43 *Grinnell, IA* is



Members of Alpha Delta (1939-40) featuring Arthur Smith '38 and Alfred Mann '41 (2nd row, 3rd & 5th from L); Albert Ehrenfried '44 (3rd row, 8th from L); and Benjamin Graham '43 (5th row, 2nd from L). Thanks to Brother Graham for the photo!

Skullumni's '40s Decade Rep ... Albert Ehrenfried '44 *Acton, MA* ... Richard Fuller '44 *Cumberland, ME* ... Russell Bodwell '44 *Glen Head, NY* is still contributing to UM – Bear's Den is the latest project ... Dr. John Marriott '45 *Peoria, AZ*

1950s (26): Walter Anderson Jr. '50 *Rocky Mountain, NC* ... William Bodwell '50 *Brunswick, ME* ... Kenneth Chatto '50 *Lugoff, SC* ... Kenneth Marden '50 *Whitefield, ME* is a retired president & board member of the American Kennel Club in NYC. Longtime breeder, trainer/competitor of German Shorthaired Pointers & a licensed bird dog field trial judge. Active in opposing anti-dog legislation, locally & nationally. Resides on the Sheepscot River with wife Judy. Hobbies are birdhunting & fly fishing. ... Robert Eastman '51 *Center Lovell, ME* ... Alan Pease '52 *Tenants Harbor, ME* ... Paul Remick, Jr. '53 *Wells, ME* ... Donald LaRochelle '53 *Wells, ME* worked as field rep on the new Wells Elem. School ... Allan Smith '53 *Farmington, ME* ... Kendall Lund '55 *Fallbrook, CA* ... Richard Herrin '55 *East Hampton, NY* is not yet retired. Takes time to go to FL & live on his boat. Does a lot of traveling/boating & has a 50 foot post sport fishing boat in St. Augustine. Goes to Block Island every weekend in summer. Served as Town Board Member & still on Board of Assessment. Retired after 30 years as Chairman of Board of Commissioners. Has 7 grandkids, still having fun, & enjoys hearing from old Phi Kaps ... Gilbert Leslie, Jr. '56 *Belfast, ME* ... John Hodgkins '56 *Yarmouth, ME* retired in '99 after 43+ years w/ ME Dept. of Transp. Is a part-time farmer (maple-syrup & Christmas trees). He & wife Beth have 3 kids (civil eng., architect, constr. inspector) & 6 grandkids, all within 2 hours ... Foster Shibles '56 *Harrison, ME* retired from ME Dept. of Educ. in '95 & is a Board of Directors member for the Boothbay Railway Village, a museum depicting ME rural life (1850-1950). Serves as a substitute school & YMCA bus driver in Boothbay. He & wife Mickie enjoy family (including spoiling 9 grandkids), boating in the summer, & snowmobiling &

cross country skiing in the winter. Have traveled to England, Chile, and west to Coco Rado where oldest son lives. "Keep us this good work." ... Norman Fuller '56 *Catskill, NY* ... Richard Bennett '56 *Denver, CO* "enjoys the work so much that I haven't even thought about retiring!" ... Robert Fuehrer '57 *Peacham, VT* is busier than ever - traveling the world, enjoying grandkids, summer place on Orr's Island, & hockey games w/ Dick & Martha Dudley ... Robert Hutchinson '57 *Brunswick, ME* "It's a great thing you're doing" ... Dr. Richard Secord '57 *Sanbornton, NH* practiced dentistry for 37 years before retiring 4 years ago. Has 3 children & 6 grandkids & is the past Pres. of the Rotary Club & Dist. Governor. Also a certified Fly Fishing Instructor ... Alden Small '57 *Winthrop, ME* retired from ME Dept. of Transp., was Deputy Commissioner. Enjoying retirement & 6 grandkids ... Robert McKown '58 *Wayland, MA* ... Robert Pearson '58 *Waldoboro, ME* ... Robert Munson '59 *Palm Beach Gardens, FL* ... Robert Chase '59 *Naples, ME* is Skullumni's '50s Decade Rep ... James York II '59 *Gaylordsville, CT* ... S. Clyde Ross '59 *Farmington, ME* retired from SAD #9. Is a Deputy Fire Chief & a Fire Fighter I at Mt Blue High School. Enjoys hunting, fishing, yard work & is a Mason. "Please note my appreciation and your hard work is recognized."

1960s (31): Gary Auclair '60 *Saratoga, CA* ... Rev. Arthur Wells '60 *Delmar, NY* has



Members of the Class of '59: (L to R) Bruce Probert, Nancy Roberts Munson, Bob Munson, Sayward (Kikie) Ross, & John Day at a 1953-65 reunion brunch at the Augusta Country Club on Aug 26, 2003. Thanks to Brother Munson!

5 children & 7 grandkids ... David Gagnon '60 *Falmouth, ME* has "many fond memories at the house. My time working with O'Neal Carol as house steward helped me get through college but it was great getting kitchen skills from the best." ... Stephen Howe '60 *No. Brookfield, MA* ... Richard Dudley '60 *Falmouth, ME* retired in '02 after 41 years with Fairbanks Morse. Wife Martha retired in '01 after 12 years with LL Bean ... Frank Antonucci, Jr. '60 *Winthrop, ME* retired in '00, was a consultant for ME Dept. of Educ. He and wife Megan are active in UMA's Senior College ... M.G. Peter Berry '61 *Roque Bluffs, ME* retired from Army & is serving on the UM Alumni Board. "Being a Phi Kap was a wonderful time in my life" ... Paul Kiah '62 *Meredith, NH* is a Vietnam Veteran, business entrepreneur, semi-retired, & enjoying the great outdoors & his children & grandkids w/ wife Jane (UM grad). ... Dr. Robert Bogdan '62 *Syracuse, NY* ... Col. F. William Smullen III '62 *Fayetteville, NY* ... James Vamvakias '62 *Falmouth, ME* ... Willard Bishop, Jr. '63 *Barrington, IL* founded WBC in '76, "it has been a great place to work." Today, sons Steve & David & wife Cathy (UM '65) are part of their 25 person team. Has 4 grandkids & a dog named Bear (which he notes is a little ironic) ... LeRoy Bingham II '63 *Surry, ME* ... Bruce Wentworth '63 *Warwick, RI* is still

running. Placed 2nd in the over-60 group at the RI Breast Cancer 5K. Wife Rosemary is an artist & poet who has published 700+ poems & drawings in various small publications in US & 5 foreign countries ... **Avard Walker III '64 San Francisco, CA** ... **Lloyd Weaver '64 Harpswell, ME** ... **Lt. Col. Robert Kiah, Jr. '64 Dumfries, VA** is a Vietnam Veteran & retired from the Marines. Is a partner & VP for Computing Technologies, Inc. He & wife Kuniko are looking forward to semi-retirement at the end of one of Rob's "5-year plans" - whenever that might be. They visit ME as often as possible for gatherings with family & friends ... **Leonard DiCarlo '65 Laurel, MD** keeps busy with work, family (new granddaughter, Claire) & "lots of golf!" ... **Kenneth Howe '65 San Bernardino, CA** ... **Wayne Johnson '65 Yarmouth, ME** ... **Brian Bicknell '66 Yarmouth, ME** is a sr. account executive with Alcoa Consumer Products. Recently elected to Yarmouth Town Council where he also served in the '80s. Spent 9 years on the school committee ... **Paul Sullivan '66 Dallas, TX** ... **Col. Robert Michaud '66 Sun Valley, ID** is currently a real estate broker ... **Charles Bonney '66 Wayne, ME** ... **Jay Smith '67 Ogunquit, ME** is Skullumni's '60s Decade Rep. Retired from the Navy in '92 & currently is the New England Business Development Manager for the company he started with 10 years ago, which was recently acquired by multi-national CACI Inc of Arlington, VA. Visit www.caci.com & see if you can find him ... **Zachary Longley '67 W Newbury, MA** ... **Thomas Dwyer '67 Manchester, ME** is "mostly retired" ... **Jeff Hengsbach '68 Mukwonago, WI** ... **Gordon Erikson, Jr. '68 Cumberland Foreside, ME** ... **James Butler '68 Carmel, CA** enjoys "a lot" of golf. Makes occasional trips to ME in summer & also has a home in FL ... **Colin Leonard '69 Harwich, MA** has operated his own construction co. for 20+ years doing residential work. He & wife Jane have 4 children: Chip, Kevin, Alyson, & Jeff. Trustee with the Harwich Conservation Trust & VP for Compact (the County Conservation Cooperative)

1970s (10): Gary Ackendorf '70 Winslow, ME ... **William Stevens '70 Isle Au Haut, ME** recently traveled to Italy: visit www.maine.net/stevens. Wife Peggi is on an art sabbatical from teaching. Daughter Jess is on Monhegan Island & son Dave is at Colorado College. Says hello to 70's Brothers who "remember me. Best to you all!" ... **Dennis Kiah '70 Brewer, ME** is the Athletic Director at Brewer High School, former coach (3 sports) & a past 'ME Coach of the Year - Baseball.' Supposed to be semi-retired but still a work-a-holic. Somehow finds time to accompany wife Betty Ellen (UM grad) in visiting his son & daughter-in-law (Webber College Athletic Dept., Sparta, SC) & daughter (US Army Ctr. For Museums & History, Fort Benning, GA) & son-in-law (Army Ranger, currently overseas) ... **Jonathan Young '71 Portland, ME** ... **Michael Carney '71 Lincoln, ME** has 30 years in restaurant business & currently is working for Governor's Restaurants as director of operations. Daughter is a sr. accounting major at UM & son is studying Hospitality Management at the Univ. of Central FL. Wife resumed her career as a teacher after taking 20 years off to "raise the offspring." "Life has slowed down a lot & the pace finally seems more manageable. Sorry I missed Homecoming, I will plan to be there next year & hope many of the late '60's & early '70's alumni will do the same." ... **John LeShane '72 Portland, CT** retired this year "at the tender age of 52! (golden handshake from the State of CT)." Now managing Meshomasic Hiking Club, which he founded in '98. The club has 300 members & focuses on hiking in CT & New England. "We support Open Space acquisition and have given almost \$10,000 to the cause." ... **H. Ray Graham '73 Lamoine, ME** retired in '02 following the sale of his retail business but remains involved in commercial property development & real estate activities. Enjoys backpack trips & kayaking & is currently building a new home on Flanders Pond ... **Larry LaPlante '73 Presque Isle, ME** daughter Jennifer (UM '03) degree in communication disorders & son Stephen (UM '06) civil engineering major ... **Chip Stephens '77 Westport, CT** is Skullumni's '70s Decade Rep ... **Frederick Morton, Jr. '79 Lewiston, ME**

1990s (17): Patrick Penley '91 Auburn, ME is Skullumni's '90s Decade Rep ... **Richard Malinowski '91 Gardiner, ME** returned to ME in '99 w/ wife Michele & 3 children after 7.5 years in PA. Keeps in touch with Brothers Pat Penley, Shawn Harris, & John Begin.

Still active with UM through the Pulp & Paper Foundation & recruiting for Procter & Gamble at UM. "You do a great service for the UMaine Phi Kap Alumni. Keep up the good work!" ... **Shawn Harris '91 Camden, ME** ... **Daniel Ludden '92 Hermon, ME** is a housing corp trustee ... **Eric Puls '94 Killeen, TX** is serving overseas in Iraq ... **Matthew Stafford '95 Winslow, ME** ... **Daniel Stiehl '96 Old Town, ME** is Skullumni's Member Relations Officer ... **Matthew Rocca '96 Pasadena, CA** "Back in school: UCLA-Anderson School of Management Class of '06. Woo Hoo! Go Bruins! Still married to a Rocket Scientist! Still working for Nalco (7+ years, holy crap!) Happy Holidays to all!" ... **John Chretien '97 Livermore Falls, ME** ... **Pete Ruggiero '97 Lowell, MA** is still busy w/ construction despite the cold setting in. Two boys (Christian & Rowan) are getting big & take up a lot of time. He, wife, & the boys "are doing well." ... **Derrick Slowikowski '97 Hookset, NH** ... **Nathan McLaughlin '98 Hollis, ME** & wife Kelley are proud parents of Amelia. Working at Woodard & Curran ... **Kurt Feeley '99 Portland, ME** ... **Jeffery Shirland '99 Old Town, ME** is serving overseas in Kuwait ... **Scott Morelli '99 Windham, ME** is Skullumni's VP, after 2 years as President. He & fiancée Beth are enjoying time w/ their 2-year old daughter, Olivia. Works for Portland's rape crisis center & is in the Master of Public Management program at USM's Muskie School ... **Christopher Labbe '99 Rome, ME** ... **William Lewellen '99 Clementon, NJ**



Rowan and Christian Ruggiero, sons of "Pistol" Pete Ruggiero '97

2000s (16): Anthony Kvedar '00 Windham, ME is Skullumni's Secretary. Is a trainer at Anthem BC/BS & is a Mason ... **Robert Williams '00 Dover, NH** married wife Jen in August '03 - they are currently building a house in No. Berwick, ME. Is a sales manager at Bayring Communications & is in the MBA program at UNH ... **Timothy Gallant '02 Rumford, ME** ... **Jeremy Thiele '02 Orono, ME** in grad school at UM for engineering ... **Edward Regan '02 Portland, ME** is Skullumni's 2000s Decade Rep & is an English teacher at Lisbon High School. Is a 7th grade girls hoops coach & co-advisor for LHS drama club. Enjoys carpentry, fishing, the gym, & "praying for the Red Sox to go to the World Series." Wishes all "a safe & happy holiday season" ... **Brad Worcester '02 Belfast, ME** ... **Jason Thurlow '02 Canaan, ME** graduated w/ a Computer Engineering degree ... **James Flagg '03 Gorham, NH** graduated w/ a Chemical Eng. degree & working at Nexfor Fraser Papers as a Process Engineer at the mill. Will coach JV baseball at the local high school this spring ... **Stephen Kneeland '03 Bucksport, ME** graduated w/ a Biology degree ... **Nicholas Raymond '03 Hampden, ME** graduated w/ a Secondary Mathematics Education degree & is currently a teacher ... **James Briggs II '03 So. Portland, ME** graduated w/ a Chemical Engineering degree ... **Jeffrey LaChance '03 Portland, ME** graduated w/ an Education degree & is currently a teacher in Sanford ... **Thomas Pollard '03 Orono, ME** graduated w/ a Computer Engineering degree & is in grad school at UM ... **James Kinne '03 No. Yarmouth, ME** graduated w/ a degree in Business Admin. w/ a concentration in mgt. ... **Jerome Graffam '03 So. Portland, ME** is Skullumni's President & graduated w/ an English degree. Working on getting his novels published & is an Asst. Grand Delta for Phi Kap ... **Matthew Martin '03 Orono, ME** is currently Skullumni's Treasurer & also the live-in house advisor. Graduated w/ a History degree.

Skulls Overseas, Cont'd ...

(Continued from page 1)

stands the perils of his duties. Puls described Iraq as "very dangerous" in a letter this past summer and added, "The whole country is covered with fighting positions and tanks and guns and ammo every place." He has kept his sense of humor throughout the war, however. "This whole experience would be a lot easier with a stiff drink before bed," he quipped and then added that during his first 30 days there, he was afforded the luxury of one 3 gallon shower. All that has changed as of late, as Puls now has access to email and "hot chow and hot water." He currently is still running missions in Iraq and said, "Don't let the news fool you, we are still kicking ass over here."

Brother Shirland said that for him, business has been slow of late but that his unit does "short haul missions around Kuwait and provides security force at guard stations." His company is assigned to a Quartermaster Battalion that oversees a customs clearance wash rack. His personal duties have been to "oversee the wash rack when my platoon rotated through supervisors."

For their sacrifice and bravery, Skullumni awarded these three men the first-ever "Alumni of the Year" award at Homecoming. "It means a lot to know people recognize what we are doing over here," said Shirland. "I only wish I could have been there to share it with everyone during Homecoming." Brother Fox said he was honored to receive the recognition. "I was completely surprised when I got the message, knowing there are a lot of very successful Phi Kap alumni that have done great and important things," he said. "I appreciate the recognition and will remember this for the rest of my life."

All three alumni said they appreciated the "care packages" and letters sent by Skullumni and also indicated that several alumni had individually written to them, something the Alumni Chapter has been encouraging alumni to do since January 2003 when we first learned of their deployment.

"Being a Phi Kap has always been about Brotherhood but this

"Seeing the movie *Saving Private Ryan* was nothing compared to the real thing."

-Cpt. Eric Puls '94

tour in Korea has helped me realize just how large the Brotherhood is," said Fox. "I received many letters from Brothers I have never met and they were sincerely concerned with my life and well-being." Said Shirland, "Although I haven't had the interaction since school, the meaning [of Brotherhood] is still the same but for different reasons. I knew I always had someone I could count on to be there ...

I know that is truer now, especially when it matters the most being overseas."

All men agreed that while "major combat" is over in Iraq, it is still very dangerous and the troops need support now more than ever. "Keep supporting the troops overseas," said Fox. "The letters and care packages boost morale tremendously."

Skullumni considers these Brothers heroes but trying to get one of them to call themselves that is not as simple. "The definition of a hero is a matter of perspective," said Shirland. "When I feel I have met my belief of that definition, I can answer then." He added,

"The simple fact that Skullumni is there and recognizes our efforts tells me, you are the heroes to help support something that you may not even believe in."

Skullumni recognizes that these three Brothers, and the men and women they serve



The 2003 "Alumni of the Year" plaque

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Send your donation (payable to "Skullumni") before January 1, 2004 to: Skullumni, P.O. Box

Please Write to Phi Kap Troops!

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