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... AND MORE!

# Black & Old Gold

THE NEWSLETTER OF SKULLUMNI:  
THE ALPHA DELTA ALUMNI CHAPTER  
OF PHI KAPPA SIGMA

*From the hilarious to the ludicrous to the dangerous, we recap some of the 'Hell Week' activities that have occurred at AΔ across the decades*

## Remembering the Days of Haze

*Disclaimer: Events depicted in this article are not intended to represent the experience of each alumnus from any era. Names of contributing alumni have been withheld. Thanks to the alumni who provided us with stories!*

Although hazing is prohibited by Phi Kappa Sigma national policy and has been eliminated from the Alpha Delta Chapter's new member program since "The Purge" in the late 1980s, our chapter has a long and colorful history of hazing. Here's a light-hearted look at some of the more memorable rites of passage that Alpha Delta pledges have had to endure.

### Hell Week

Many alumni recall with a grimace and a chuckle the days leading up to their eventual initiation, a time known as "Hell Week." As you can imagine, while this "week" brought delight to the Brotherhood, it was not a period of enjoyment for the new members as they were subjected to numerous unpleasant physical and mental rigors. For example, during Hell Week, many pledge classes were not

*(Continued on page 7)*



**GOOD EATS!** Pledges in this class from the 1960s-era "enjoy" a traditional Hell Week dinner. At top, Br. Wayne Cobb '64 instructs a wayward pledge to "pay attention" (i.e. "You're Next!"). Below, pledge Bob Butler experiments with how to clean a tabletop with his skivvies.



## Tidbits from the Beginnings of AΔ

*"We, the undersigned students of the Maine State College, in order to promote our mutual welfare socially, intellectually, and morally, do agree to form ourselves into an organization which shall be known as the OEHPI Society, and do ordain and establish the following Constitution for the governance of the same."*

And so it was that in early November 1894, a group of students at the Maine State College

*(Continued on page 6)*

# President's Message: Seven Year Itch

Its hard to believe that six years have already passed since Skullumni was formed in November 2001. At that time, the country was still reeling from the newness of the September 11th attacks, the New England Patriots had yet to win a Super Bowl while the Boston Red Sox were still years away from breaking their 86-year curse, and gas sold for \$1.66 per gallon. So much has happened and yet in some ways it feels like the time has flown by.

In January 2008 Skullumni will enter its 7th year of existence. With this new year will come many changes to the Alumni Chapter, both cosmetic and substantive. Many of these changes have already occurred, such as the newly redesigned newsletter that you're reading right now. This is one of a handful of changes that are part of our "Year Seven Initiative" and we hope you enjoy it.

Other changes include a complete redesign of the look and content of our website (see article on pg. 3), the creation of our first official logo (see article on pg. 8), streamlined web and email addresses, & redesigned monthly eNewsletters and correspondence.

All of this is done for you, the throng of Alpha Delta alumni who have generously and consistently supported Skullumni since

our inception. These changes certainly aren't all we are engaged in but we believe they have and will continue to improve what Skullumni can offer to the alumni it represents. We mention it every year but it can't be said enough: thank you for your support! A record number of alumni donated to Skullumni in 2007 and this has further enabled us to produce newsletters, maintain a web site, plan Homecoming events with the undergraduates, fund undergraduates to attend leadership conferences, and assist with the capital campaign for chapter house repairs/renovations, among others.

We will continue with these efforts in 2008, hoping as we do every year to improve upon what we have done previously. We are still actively seeking volunteers for Skullumni, the Housing Corporation, the House Renovations Committee, and for the undergraduates as an advisor and these will again be priorities for us in 2008.

We hope you enjoy the articles in this newsletter and that you'll continue your support of Skullumni in 2008. Please let us know how we can be of service to you (info@skullumni.org or call me at 508-736-4708). And of course, may you and your family have a joyful holiday season! -Scott Morelli '99

## Thanks to the 'Founders Club'

**Skullumni would like to thank the following 34 alumni for their financial support in each of our 6 years of existence:** Albert Ehrenfried '44, Robert Eastman '51, Alan Pease '52, Paul Remick, Jr. '53, Donald LaRoche '53, Norman Fuller '56, Foster Shibles '56, Gilbert Leslie, Jr. '56, S. Clyde Ross '59, Robert Munson '59, James York II '59, Frank Antonucci, Jr. '60, Col. F. William Smullen III '62, LeRoy Bingham II '63, Avard Walker III '64, Leonard DiCarlo '65, Brian Bicknell '66, Paul Sullivan '66, Zachary Longley '67, Jay Smith '67, Thomas Dwyer '67, Michael Carney '71, Jonathan Young '71, Larry LaPlante '73, Chip Stephens '77, Patrick Penley '91, Matthew Rocca '96, Peter Ruggiero '97, Nathan McLaughlin '98, Scott Morelli '99, Robert Williams '00, Anthony Kvedar '00, Jeremy Thiele '02, & Edward Regan '02

## Harris Named 2007 Alumnus of the Year

Skullumni has selected Br. Shawn Harris '91 as the 2007 recipient of the Omicron Epsilon Eta Pi Society award for Alumnus of the Year. Br. Harris' tireless efforts toward the house renovations project as chair of the Chapter House Renovations Committee earned him this year's distinction.

"Even though a nail has yet to be hammered, Shawn is already very deserving of this distinction for his hard work on this endeavor," said Skullumni president Scott Morelli '99. "Shawn is the epitome of what an alumni volunteer should look like: he has a love of Phi Kap, does what he thinks is in the best interests of the chapter, and he gets results."

Harris has been leading the renovations effort since he became chairman in 2004 (see article on page 3). He has also been instrumental in helping to reinvigorate the Housing Corporation, an entity to which he was recently elected Vice President. Harris has done a great job in creating positive relationships and communication between the university, the undergraduates, the Corporation, and alumni. Harris has received high praise from alumni and undergraduates alike.

"Shawn has been a great influence for all brothers and alumni in the past year," said current undergraduate Alpha Sean Theriault '09. "Even though he lives very far from this house, he has

done everything he can to help the efforts of the renovations committee and housing corp. Without Shawn's hard work and dedication the renovations effort would not be happening. He is already very busy with work and a family, but has still found spare time to put back into Phi Kap to make sure it stays around for many years to come."

Harris received a B.A. in Economics and B.S. in Business Admin./Finance in 1991 (with "a minor in foosball", he adds) and went on to earn an MBA from UM in 2003. He said he was both "surprised and humbled" to be selected as the alumnus of the year given the quality of Alpha Delta alumni.

"I encourage everyone to think about what a difference being a Phi Kap made for them and consider how they can give back to our undergraduate chapter and Skullumni in whatever way their time and resources allow," said Harris, who was also a Senior Skull at UM. "It's the only way we can continue to pass along the strong bond of Brotherhood so that new generations can appreciate what it means to be a Phi Kap at UMaine."

Harris' family includes wife Maria and two daughters Sophia (7) and Genevieve (5). They live in So. Carolina and Harris works across the border in No. Carolina for Bank of America as a Finance Strategist (Small Business Banking).

Congratulations and thank you to Br. Harris!

## CONTACT US

**Skullumni**  
**PO Box 3093**  
**Portland, ME 04104**  
**info@skullumni.org**  
**www.skullumni.org**

### Executive Officers 2007-2008

**President**  
Scott Morelli '99

**Vice President**  
Robert Williams '00

**Treasurer**  
Vacant

**Secretary**  
Anthony Kvedar '00

**Member Relations**  
Dan Ludden '92\*

\*Pending Appointment

# Renovations Update

The effort to repair and renovate the Alpha Delta chapter house enters its fourth year with some major hurdles behind it. As noted in previous articles about the effort, the status of the land lease was difficult to determine. After several productive conversations with the university, the Housing Corporation is in the final stages of negotiating a lease for the Skull House to remain in its current location. The imminent lease signing will provide a critical foundation to build on with the rest of the renovation effort.

A second critical milestone this year has been the active engagement of the Housing Corporation. With the resignation of long-time president Sam Civiello '85, the corp recently met and elected new officers, with Dan Ludden '92 assuming the presidency. Members of the corp have been actively involved with the renovations committee. With a reinvigorated corp has come strengthened communication with the undergraduates and improved financial management. In addition to work on the lease, the corp recently approved a contract for much needed roof work to get us through the near term until more permanent work can be completed and tied into plans around renovations.

The committee has also begun compiling data on the minimum number of live-in members and rent due to the corp. This information was used to build pro forma financial statements of several possible scenarios to ensure the viability of the chapter and the corp and to confirm that renovations would be financially feasible. With these obstacles nearly cleared, the committee will focus its attention on a comprehensive plan and define "critical milestones" that need to be attacked. This will include surveying alumni for priorities, developing a formal renovations plan and securing more initial donations from key alumni.

"The building is 50 years older than it was when the last renovation work was carried out," said committee member David Gates '54, who was instrumental in the last major renovations to the chapter house in 1953. "The house can be classified as being in a tired condition. There are signs of deferred maintenance issues that need to be addressed to stabilize the physical character of the building and restore additional useful life to it."

Gates and other committee members believe it is imperative to determine how the chapter will function on a continuing basis before coming up with a final architectural plan. This includes questions about the living environment and conversion of the Ram into

study/sleeping quarters as well as reinstating a cook. Gates also listed a "pie-in-the-sky" possibility of a "partial demolition of the existing building." In a letter to renovations committee chairman Shawn Harris '91 this past March, Gates suggested that "a larger ell could be constructed in the pace of what is there now to provide a more functional addition, provide more study rooms through a wider-than-existing footprint, provide improved sanitary facilities, and provide an adequate arrangement for second and third floor egress." These are issues that can be more carefully delved into now that headway has been made other obstacles.

Harris notes that he has been contacted by thoughtful brothers who have expressed their support, financially and emotionally, as well as their recommendations and concerns.

"Of course, it's been great to have brothers reach out and express their willingness to contribute financially because we will need that," he said. "We have also had some great ideas and have been able to gauge alumni concerns. While we have acted on a lot of the feedback, we recognize that we won't come up with a perfect plan or plan that pleases everyone perfectly. We'll have a very good, practical approach that will significantly enhance the house. But in the end, the plan will be just that – a plan. We all will need to take the same leap of faith that was made in the 50's when the house was expanded and at the turn of the last century when the chapter was established and the Phi Kap house first built. We have to have that same sense of belief, trust and confidence in ourselves and future Phi Kaps."

Current undergraduate Alpha Sean Theriault '09, who is also a member of the renovations committee, summed up the essence of why the renovation effort is needed. "It will help all aspects of the fraternity," said Theriault. "No question that rush will improve ten-fold when the renovation occurs. This will also encourage the out of house brothers to live in when they have a brand new house to move into. It will also instill more pride in current members."



The Oct. 1952 'Alpha Deltan', outlining the proposed wings

# Skullumni Website Redesigned, New Features Added

Skullumni's website has undergone a significant overhaul in the past five months. The site still contains important info like Homecoming updates and a listing of deceased alumni but there are also some new and exciting features that we are proud to share with you:

- **Class Pages:** Contains the names of alumni from each decade between the 1930s—2000s. Also indicates what type of contact information is available for each alumnus.
- **House Renovations:** Contains up-to-date info and documents related to the current chapter house renovation effort.
- **Event Calendar:** Contains important dates in Phi Kap history along with dates of upcoming Skullumni events.
- **Chapter Room:** This password-protected section contains content *exclusively* for Skullumni's Voting members, such as a searchable database of contact info for all Alpha Delta alumni and a message board for discussion. More features will be added to the Chapter Room in the coming months.



Visit [www.skullumni.org](http://www.skullumni.org)

# Skullumni's 146 Voting Members

Skullumni's membership again reached record proportions in 2007, with 146 alumni paying dues to become Voting Members (as of November 20, 2007). These alumni represent 46 unique classes from 1944 to 2007 and live in 26 different states and provinces in North America. Listed below you will find the names of all 146 Voting Members, broken out by donation amount. You will see their class year, the number of years they have been a Voting Member (indicated in parenthesis), along with an update about what they've been up to (if provided). Thank you Alpha Delta alumni for your support!

## DIAMOND SKULL CLUB (\$250-\$499) (5 members)

Leonard DiCarlo '65 (6): "Keep up the great work!" | Paul Sullivan '66 (6) | Zachary Longley '67 (6) | Jeff Hengsbach '68 (4) | Matthew Rocca '96 (6)



*Brother Matt Rocca '96 with wife Jenn and newborn daughter Lorelei Elizabeth. Lorelei was born on July 26, 2007 and weighed in at 6 pounds, 4 ounces. Congrats "Team Rocca"!*

## CENTURY SKULL CLUB (\$100-\$249) (29 members)

Russell Bodwell '44 (4) | Paul Remick, Jr. '53 (6) | Donald LaRochelle '53 (6): "Authored a manual titled, 'Construction Inspection Manual for Clerk of the Works and Owner's Representatives, Quality Management for the Construction Project', which will be distributed nationally by the Phoenix, AZ-based company The Association of Construction Inspectors. Currently sole proprietor of Construction Inspection Services in Wells, ME (www.clerkoftheworks.com)." | Allan Smith '53 (4) | Richard Herrlin '55 (4) | John Hodgkins '56 (5) | Robert Fuehrer '57 (5): "Keep it up - a great service to the Chapter and the Fraternity!" | David Ober '58 (2) | James Scott '58 (1) | Richard Dudley '60 (5) | J. Bruce Johnson '60 (2) | Ewen MacKinnon '61 (2) | James Vamvakias '62 (5) | Dr. Douglas Allen '62 (4) | LeRoy Bingham II '63 (6) | William Hanson '63 (3): "I especially recall Pizzie Pelletier playing the piano, even while it was being carried up and down the stairs. Please help me to remember the other piano player, from Brewer I think, who would entertain us all during lunch and at other times with his jazz. I am retired from the Air Force and now serve as

the Public Works Director for the town of Dixfield, Maine." | Willard Bishop, Jr. '63 (4) | Dr. William Gould '65 (4) | Kenneth Howe '65 (5) | Thomas Hardcastle '65 (2) | Col. Robert Michaud '66 (5) | Colin Leonard '69 (5) | Jonathan Young '71 (6) | Richard York '71 (1): "I work at the family owned Ford-Chevy-Toyota store in Houlton. I also own an organic farm which produces potatoes, vegetables, and grain for distribution throughout the northeast. I live in Houlton with my wife, a retired ballet dancer turned farmer, and two step-children." | Robert Whittier '73 (2) | Chip Stephens '77 (6) | Daniel Ludden '92 (4) | Thomas Palmer '92 (3) | Jeremy Thiele '02 (6)

## GOLDEN SKULL CLUB (\$50-\$99) (54 members)

Hugh Brownlee '44 (2) | Bertram Thorne '48 (3) | Robert Bleakney, Jr. '49 (3) | Walter Anderson Jr. '50 (4) | William Bodwell '50 (4) | Kenneth Chatto '50 (5) | Dana Davis '50 (2) | Stanley Christianson '51 (1): "Re-married after Peg (Knight) passed away in Oct. 2005 to Helen Howland, with whom I graduated So. Portland High in 1947 and met at the 50th high school reunion. Married on the beach at Megan's Bay (St. Thomas) in Feb. 2000 and cruise at least once a year since. No strangers to Las Vegas either." | Alan Pease '52 (6) | Gerald Beach '53 (4) | Richard Gray '54 (5) | Frank Fenno, Jr. '55 (2) | Kendall Lund '55 (5) | Dr. George Palmer '55 (1): "Retired in 1994 after practicing dentistry for 35 years. (Still didn't get it right!) Now living in the HURRICANE CAPITAL OF THE WORLD! Come on down and enjoy the weather. We've got lots of it. Gotta go: I hear thunder..." | Foster Shibles '56 (6) | Edric Starbird '56 (2) | Earle Gowell, Jr. '56 (2) | John Buzzell '57 (4) | Dr. Richard Secord '57 (5): "I have been retired for nine years. I am a certified fly casting instructor and teach fly fishing casting using both since and two-handed (Spey) rods. Hobbies include fishing, hunting, skiing, music, and gardening. I have three children, two step children and nine grandchildren." | Leslie Whitham '57 (1) | James Callan, Jr. '58 (2) | S. Clyde Ross '59 (6): "Things have been very busy with spring work, garden, woodlot, lawns and of course the fishing trips. Am still very much involved with the Farmington Fire Rescue Dept. and the Franklin Cty, EMA as Public Information Official. I work closely with the Franklin County Agricultural Soc. with the Sept. Fair (16-21) as Security Coordinator. Haven't traveled much the past year but look forward to Florida and South Dakota in '08. Do see brothers from time to time and

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(Continued from page 4)

have breakfast with Bing Etzel on Sat. mornings. I enjoy reading the Newsletter and hearing about the Chapter, keep up the good work." | James York II '59 (6) | Douglas Champeon '59 (4) | Frank Antonucci, Jr. '60 (6) | Gary Auclair '60 (5) | David Gagnon '60 (5) | Jonathan Ord '60 (2) | Robert Sterritt '60 (1) | Paul Kiah '62 (5) | Rev. Thomas Chittick '63 (3) | Dr. Edward Higgins '63 (2) | Bruce Wentworth '63 (5) | Robert Kiah, Jr. '64 (5) | Dennis Vogel '64 (4) | Willard Flynt '66 (4): "Annette and I are grandparents--Dylan Scott Flynt: healthy. For those who remember the camp--it fell into disrepair and I rebuilt it. I should be there most of next summer. Feel free to drop by. E-mail me at willard.flynt@verizon.net. Lots of room to crash--space for tents and campers, too." | Charles Bonney '66 (5) | David Kerrigan '66 (4) | Jay Smith '67 (6) | Stephen Watts '67 (2) | Samuel Pickering '68 (2) | William Roberts '68 (1): "Married Mariana Garvie in 2001. Retired Captain US Navy Reserve 2004. Two daughters Beth Rayburn and Kelly Flores living in California with two grandchildren." | Dennis Kiah '70 (4) | George Campbell, Jr. '71 (4) | Larry LaPlante '73 (6) | Alan Van Wert '84 (1) | Tim Fredheim '89 (1) | Andrew Morse '93 (4) | Daniel Stiehl '97 (3) | John Chretien '97 (5) | Robert Williams '00 (6) | Rafael Ozdemirer '01 (2) | Dylan Reburn '04 (3) | Scott Nichols '05 (2)

### SKULL CLUB (\$25-\$49) (58 members)

Albert Ehrenfried '44 (6) | George Thompson, Jr. '44 (2) | Robert Eastman '51 (6) | Theodore Littlefield '51 (4) | David Gates '54 (2) | Norman Fuller '56 (6) | Gilbert Leslie, Jr. '56 (6) | Richard Bennett '56 (5) | David Foster '56 (1) | Kenneth Henrikson '56 (1) | Col. David Schlieper '56 (1) | Wilson Dyer '57 (2) | Robert Hutchinson '57 (5) | Alden Small '57 (4) | Dr. Jerry Vincent '57 (2) | David Wolfert '57 (1) | Robert Gibbs '57 (1): "1. Appointed to the Scientific Staff at Brookhaven National Labs. Work there for 33 years. 2. Traveled to the USSR (Moscow) with a U.S. delegation to exchange ideas on super conducting transmission lines. 3. Went on a B-50 bomber aircraft to drop an A-Bomb at the Yucca Flats testing grounds. P.S. Interesting stuff for a Univ. of Maine grad." | James Dunlap '58 (3) | Robert Munson '59 (6) | William Hutchinson '59 (1) | Stanley Chenoweth '60 (4) | Dr. Charles Heath, Jr. '60 (1) | Stephen Howe '60 (5) | Col. Jerry Lambert '60 (3) | Peter Berry '61 (5) | Col. F. William Smullen III '62 (6) | Alvin Ahlers '62 (4) | Dr. Robert Bogdan '62 (2): "My wife Janet and I have retired and moved to a farm we have owned for 25 years in a small town in Vermont. After graduation from Maine I got a Masters at Syracuse U., was in the Peace Corps in Nigeria for 2 years, got a Ph.D. at Syracuse University and taught there for 35 years before retiring a year ago. I have been married to Janet for 43 years, have 4 grown children and 4 grandchildren." | Lawrence Libby '62 (1): "Lois (UMaine '63) and I retain a home in Columbus, Ohio and have a year round lease in Lamoine, Maine. My last assignment at Ohio State University was Interim Director of the John Glenn School of

Public Affairs. We are in Maine May to November and would like to see Phi Kaps in the mid-coast area. I have had a 36 year academic career at Michigan State University, the University of Florida, and Ohio State University." | Stephen DeWick '62 (3) | Avard Walker III '64 (6) | Brian Bicknell '66 (6) | Thomas Dwyer '67 (6) | Paul Herer '67 (3) | Gordon Erikson, Jr. '68 (3) | Richard Armstrong '69 (2) | Gary Ackendorf '70 (2) | Michael Carney '71 (6) | David Pullen '73 (4) | Kevin Stephens '83 (2) | Paul Walsh '86 (1): "Moved to Austin in early 2004 with my wife, Jane and four children. Still get up to New England every summer for vacation." | Patrick Penley '91 (6) | Shawn Harris '91 (3) | Elliot Mitchell '92 (3) | Peter Ruggiero '97 (6) | Nathan McLaughlin '98 (6): "Third child, Zachary, born last February. Still living in Presque Isle and everyone is doing well. Keep up the good work!" | Scott Morelli '99 (6) | Anthony Kvedar '00 (6) | Edward Regan '02 (6) | James Flagg '03 (5) | Casey Kennedy '05 (2) | Danny Guzman '06 (2) | Benjamin Sweeney '07 (1) | Stephen Raggiani '07 (1) | Kyle Perry '07 (1) | Robert Williams '07 (1) | Keith Flagg '07 (1) | Christopher Warren '07 (1)

### Join Skullumni Today!

Help Skullumni fulfill its missions: join or renew your membership dues today! Nearly one-quarter (25%) of all living alumni donated to the Alumni Chapter in 2007. Your gift ensures you Voting Member status through December 2008. This means that you will:

- Receive **updated contact information for all alumni** from your era, including exclusive access to a searchable online database of all alumni via our website
- Receive **discounts on alumni social events** such as free Homecoming football game tickets and discounted Homecoming banquet tickets
- Be **recognized** for your donation in our annual newsletter

In turn, your donation will enable Skullumni to:

- Keep **alumni connected** through newsletters, emails, and our website ([www.skullumni.org](http://www.skullumni.org))
- Fund undergraduate attendance at **important leadership conferences**, such as Grand Chapter and Men of Honor
- Plan **fun alumni social events**, such as Homecoming and class reunions

So **donate today** via the enclosed personalized membership form and return it to us with the included postage paid envelope. Or visit our website to pay immediately with PayPal. But hurry! We ask that you renew or join before January 1, 2008. Thank you!

## Historical Tidbits *Continued*

(Continued from page 1)

(now the University of Maine) formed the society that would eventually become the Alpha Delta Chapter of Phi Kappa Sigma. The group's name—Omicron Epsilon Eta Pi Society—was chosen to signify the motto “find a way or make one.”

Early meetings of this society focused on which men to invite as members, the election of officers, and the drafting of a Constitution and Bylaws. As spelled out in their Constitution, prospective members needed to be men of “good moral standing” but no one would be denied admission “on account of their political or religious views.” In fact, the society's Constitution expressly forbade conversations on such topics.

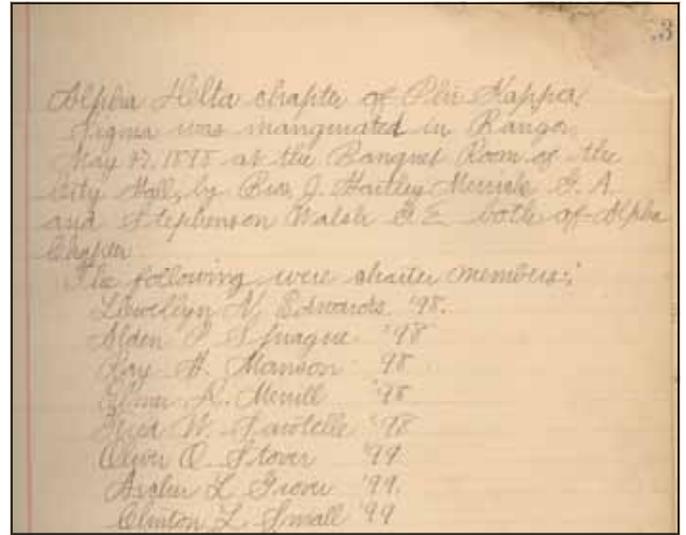
At most of their regular meetings, members would share essays and selected published readings on a variety of topics. Members would also engage in debate on questions raised at the previous meeting. During these debates, two previously selected members would speak in the affirmative and two previously selected members would speak in the negative on the question/statement at hand. Examples of such topics included:

- “The Electric R.R. between Bangor and Orono will be a benefit to the Maine State College.”
- “The movement toward settling all disputes between Great Britain and U. States by arbitration is a benefit to them and also a wise example for other nations”
- “The Indians have suffered more than the negroes from the people of the U.S.”
- “Alcohol does more damage than tobacco.”
- “Has the invention of gun powder been a benefit to mankind?”
- “A horse is of greater benefit to the people than a cow.”

Members also voted to create an initiation ceremony, along with a sign of recognition, a sign of warning, and an official grip. While the descriptions of these three secret signs remain in the society's minutes, all other written secrets and initiation descriptions were presumably erased or destroyed after a December 1895 vote of the society required such.

On several occasions in 1895 members discussed the possibility of becoming incorporated into a Fraternity. In April of 1896, members voted to petition Delta Tau Delta for colonization. After being turned down by the Delts in June of that year, members petitioned Phi Delta Theta for colonization, but that also did not materialize. Eventually, Phi Kappa Sigma was petitioned and on May 27, 1898 at the Bangor City Hall, 22 members of the OEHP Society were initiated as charter members of the Alpha Delta Chapter.

Fast-forward to 2007: The above information was gleaned from hand-written minutes of the society. Our chapter is fortunate to be in possession of many precious historical documents such as these minutes books and one of Skullumni's goals this year is to 1) protect and preserve these documents, and 2) have these documents electronically transcribed and shared amongst alumni. While we plan to continually add tidbits such as the above to our annual newsletters and on our website, eventually we would like compile a complete history of the Alpha Delta chapter and put it into book format. Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.



Hand-written minutes from the chartering of ΑΔ on 5/27/1898

## Undergrad Update

“The Alpha Delta Chapter continues to improve its image on campus this year. Our numbers have stayed steady over the past couple years at approximately 30 members. There are currently 20 members living in the house. This semester's Haunted House was a great success with a total donation of \$1852 over three nights. Greek Week was another fun week for the brothers this year. We did not win the overall competition but did enjoy many of the activities that were held for the Greek community. The dynasty of talent shows was cut short as this year we came in 2<sup>nd</sup> place in that part of the competition. This semester the student senate created a Greek grant program to help the image of all Greek organizations on campus. They split \$15,000 among the fraternities and sororities at UMaine. The money Phi Kap received from this program went to improving the vinyl siding, new railings on the deck, and a new brick mailbox. These projects are all underway and have really helped to improve the appearance of the exterior of our house. Our semester is winding down, with only a few weeks remaining before Christmas break for us. This past semester has been very busy for all of us with house improvements, brother retreats, haunted house, Greek week, intramurals, and many other activities both on and off campus.”

-Sean Theriault '09, Alpha

### A HALF DECADE OF THANKS

Skullumni would like to thank the following 23 alumni for donating to Skullumni in 5 of our first 6 years:

Kenneth Chatto '50, Richard Gray '54, Kendall Lund '55, Richard Bennett '56, John Hodgkins '56, Robert Fuehrer '57, Robert Hutchinson '57, Dr. Richard Secord '57, Gary Auclair '60, Richard Dudley '60, David Gagnon '60, Stephen Howe '60, Peter Berry '61, James Vamvakias '62, Paul Kiah '62, Bruce Wentworth '63, Robert Kiah, Jr. '64, Kenneth Howe '65, Charles Bonney '66, Col. Robert Michaud '66, Colin Leonard '69, John Chretien '97, & James Flagg '03

# Hazing Continued

(Continued from page 1)

allowed to either exit or enter the house through a door, were forced to wear burlap underwear, ate an uncooked baked bean supper with their hands tied to a plank so the pledge class would have to eat in unison, and slept in various “odd” places around the house. There were many tests given as well, though grades were normally poor due to sleep deprivation.

“We had some brothers who had returned from the Korean War,” said a 1960s alumnus. “A lot of what we went through was a junior version of ‘Boot Camp’.” He added that each pledge in his class had a phrase that needed to be repeated every ten steps they took. “Mine was ‘everywhere I step, everywhere I go, bung plugs, buffalo balls, bullshit and barbed wire,’” he said.

Listed below are some events that occurred during Hell Week:



**PRAISE BE!** Br. Al Pease '52 (far left) instructs pledges Dick Miller '53 (L) and Al Smith '53 (R) to bow to “Allah” in the fall of 1950. Paul Remick, Jr. '53 and Don LaRochelle '53 admire from the background.

## The Fire Drill

In this event, Brothers set a fire in a bucket or pan and the job of the pledge was to put it out. Sounds simple, right? Not so fast.

“Each pledge had to get a mouthful of liquid,” recalled an alumnus from the 1950s. “In the liquid was floating all kinds of strange stuff and you put your face in it and took a mouthful of a disgusting-tasting liquid.”

After running through the basement, up the ramp and outside with the liquid still in his mouth, the pledge was then instructed to lay on his back in front of the burning bucket. “A strange position,” said the ‘50s alumnus. “On your back and trying to spit up over your forehead into the bucket. We didn’t do a very good job of this.” In the end, pledges would wind up “very wet and stinky,” with their only reprieve a cold shower to clean themselves off.

## The Egg Drop

Then came the infamous “egg drop” where an unsuspecting pledge would be led to the center of the Ram face-up and placed underneath the passageway to the roof. From there, his ability to “catch” eggs with his face and person was put to the test.

“We had one pledge who was allergic to raw eggs,” recalled a 1960s alumnus. “He ended up in a Bangor hospital. Some of us ended up in the Dean’s office.”

## Themed Meals

Meals during Hell Week all had a theme. As recalled by a 1960s alumnus, “Pledges were expected to absorb the food by osmosis through their skin. Wanting to be helpful, the brothers applied the food liberally to various and all parts of the body, usually by tossing it from the other side of the room.” (see photos pg. 1)

## The Date Race

Those with a weak stomach should skip past this topic. As recalled by a 1980s alumnus, the date race involved the ability to tightly clench a piece of fruit (a date) while running from the basement to the Ram without dropping said fruit. Once in the Ram, the date had to be dropped perfectly into a small cup. The catch? The date wasn’t being clenched by one’s hands ... if you get our drift.

“I actually did it, I got it in the cup” said the ‘80s alumnus. “The funny thing was I thought the Brother in the Ram would congratulate me. Instead he took out a hockey stick, smacked the cup across the floor, and told me to get out of his sight. Even now I can’t believe I actually did it. I’m not sure what I learned that night.”

File this one under, “They made them do WHAT?!?”

## Revenge

Not all of the hazing incidents at Alpha Delta ended up with the hazers laughing. An alumnus from the 1940s recalls an incident early in that decade where ten sophomore inductees were blindfolded, driven deep into the Maine woods on a cool moon-lit night, and left in a clearing with instructions to not remove the blindfolds until the cars had driven away. After removing their blindfolds and walking for some while they came upon a fork in the road. As the class could not agree on which way to go, half headed one way and half headed the other.

“The group I was in finally saw lights ahead and stumbled into the Phi Kap house as the sun was starting to rise,” said the ‘40s alumnus. “All the next day went by and the other group did not show up. Another day passed and still no sign of them. Hazing came to a halt as the Brothers were too worried about the fate of the other pledges.

“Just as the Brothers were about to notify the police, the remaining pledges returned to the house in remarkably good shape. They were welcomed like Prodigal Sons.”

Apparently, this group of pledges happened upon a hunting lodge that they found to be comfortable and stocked with food. Rather than subject themselves to more hazing, they decided to lay low and make up for lost sleep.

“So the pledges took life easy and it was the hazers who sweated out the ordeal,” said the ‘40s alumnus. “And the Brothers were so glad to see their lost sheep that hazing essentially came to an end!”

These are but a small sample of hazing activities that pledges of Phi Kappa Sigma at the University of Maine have endured over the years. From the mundane, to the gross, to the hysterical, the chapter has seen its share.

**We had some brothers who had returned from the Korean War. A lot of what we went through was a junior version of ‘Boot Camp’.**

**-1960s ALUMNUS**

**Have a Hazing Story You Want to Share?**  
Voting Members can log onto the Chapter Room section of our website and post their stories to our message board. Visit [www.skullumni.org](http://www.skullumni.org).

# Homecoming 2007

**At least 34 alumni from 1953 to 2007 return to the Skull House for Homecoming 2007 weekend**

Alpha Delta alumni spanning half a century returned to Orono, Maine for Homecoming weekend on October 12—14, 2007 and participated in the most alumni events since Skullumni began assisting with the planning of the festivities in 2002. Thirty-four alumni representing 18 different classes from 1953 to 2007 participated in events ranging from tailgating and group seats at the football game to a special presentation on the secrets of the Phi Kappa Sigma ritual. From the masses gathered in the Morse Field parking lot enjoying food and drink before and during the game to alumni being “re-initiated” and seeing the ritual for the first time in over 50 years in some cases, alumni and undergraduates had another fun-filled weekend. Alumni and undergraduates also enjoyed dinner, drink, and conversation in a reserved room at the Bear Brew Pub. Quite a bit of business was tended to as well, as the Housing Corporation met to elect new officers for the first time in several years and held a meeting with members of the Chapter House Renovations Committee to discuss the impending work to be done to the Skull House (see article on pg. 3). Skullumni also held its Annual Meeting where alumni approved the dues and budget for fiscal year 2008 and Br. Shawn Harris '91 was presented with the Alumnus of the Year award for his tireless efforts on behalf of the renovations committee and Housing Corporation (see article on pg. 2). Skullumni would like to thank both the undergraduates for being hospitable hosts and the alumni who re-

turned and took part in the events of the weekend. Homecoming is a special chance to not only reconnect with the Brothers from your era but it is also a great way to meet alumni from many different eras and to see the current status of the Alpha Delta Chapter. That is why we are committed to annually assisting with the planning of Homecoming weekend and that is why we hope to see you there next year!



## Homecoming 2007 Known Alumni Attendees

Allan Smith '53, David Gates '54, Foster Shibles '56, Gil Leslie '56, John Wade '78, Stephen Young '79, Pat Penley '91, Shawn Harris '91, Dan Ludden '92, Rick Malinowski '93, Preston Maheu '97, Nate McLaughlin '98, Scott Morelli '99, Antony Kvedar '00, Robert Williams '00, Ed Regan '02, Michael Murphy '02, Jeff LaChance '03, Stephen Kneeland '03, Nicholas Raymond '03, Matt Martin '03, Dan Kinne '03, Thomas Pollard '03, Dylan Reburn '04, Scott Nichols '05, Alex Kuehling '05, Dan Bowe '06, Ryan Lane '06, Danny Guzman '06, Keith Trask '06, Chris Warren '07, Benjamin Sweeney '07, James Hamlin '07, & Stephen Raggiani '07

*Alex Kuehling '05, undergraduate Ryan Bourque '10, and Scott Nichols '05 tailgating before the football game →*



*← Alumni and guests enjoy group seats at the Homecoming football game*

## New Look. Same Great Taste.

*Skullumni unveiled its first official logo—shown at right—this fall.*



*New web and email addresses were also announced.*

**New E-Mail:** [info@skullumni.org](mailto:info@skullumni.org)  
**New Web:** [www.skullumni.org](http://www.skullumni.org)

**ADD US TO YOUR "SAFE SENDERS" LIST!**