



► UPDATE ON UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER 2



► VOTING MEMBER ROSTER & UPDATES 4-5



► COLE '77 NAMED ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR 6

... AND MORE!

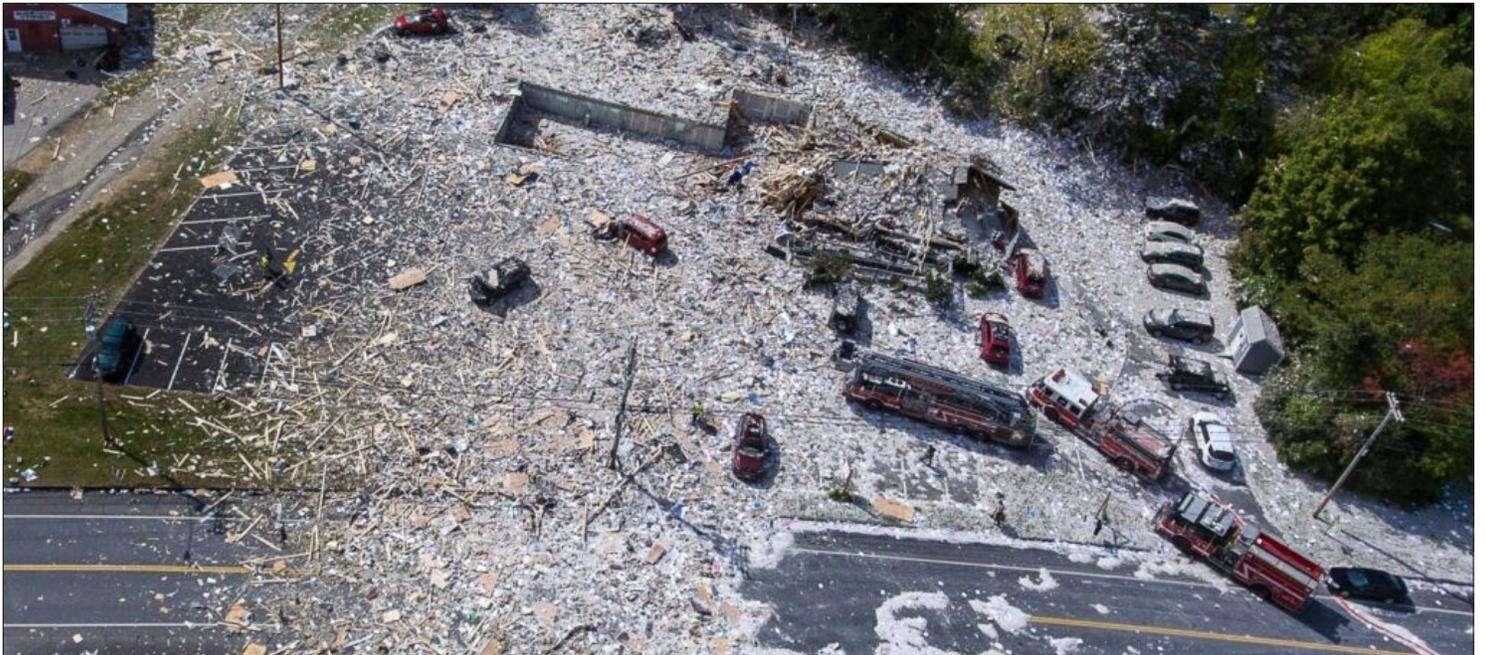
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Black & Old Gold

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

Clyde Ross '59 survives blast that killed a fellow firefighter, injured 6 others

Alumnus Injured but OK After Propane Explosion



Aerial view of the destruction caused by an explosion in Farmington, Maine last September that injured alumnus and Deputy Fire Chief S. Clyde Ross '59. Photo courtesy of Russ Dillingham/Sun Journal.

A propane gas explosion so powerful that it blew a vehicle across an intersection, was heard 30 miles away, and left a brand new building in tatters also left an alumnus of the Alpha Delta Chapter injured. On September 16, 2019, alumnus S. Clyde “Kiki” Ross ‘59 and other members of the Farmington, Maine Fire Department responded to the smell of a gas leak at a recently constructed building. Ross, a Deputy Fire Chief with the department, was on Engine 2 with two other firefighters. On scene, he and another firefighter “sized-up” the building’s exterior while other firefighters entered the facility.

“I never heard the explosion, just a big whoosh,” said Ross, who is 82 years old. “I was unconscious and blown several feet east off of the parking lot.”

When he came to, Ross assisted a more seriously injured firefighter until medics arrived. Ross was then transported to the local hospital, where he was diagnosed with a concussion. He was also treated for several cuts and abrasions before being released that same day.

(Continued on page 3)

Thanks to Our Founders' Club

Skullumni offers thanks the following 18 alumni for donating to the Alumni Chapter in each of our first 18 years of existence (since 2001):

- Albert Ehrenfried '44
- Donald LaRoche '53
- Gilbert Leslie, Jr. '56
- Foster Shibles '56
- S. Clyde Ross '59
- F. William Smullen III '62
- Leonard DiCarlo '65
- Brian Bicknell '66
- Paul Sullivan '66
- Thomas Dwyer '67
- Jay Smith '67
- Jonathan Young '71
- Larry LaPlante '73
- Matthew Rocca '96
- Peter Ruggiero '97
- Scott Morelli '99
- Anthony Kvedar '00
- Jeremy Thiele '02



Undergraduate Chapter Update

By Nicholas Martin, Alpha

Our chapter has been excelling this year through the addition of members and academic success. We added 15 new members during rush week and “brothered up” the 5 members of last year’s spring rush class. We have the sixth highest GPA among fraternities here at UMaine (2.826), a huge improvement from the past when we used to coast around a 2.5. Mitchell Chapter Standards completion is at 100% thus far and we plan to send members to Men of Honor and Grand Chapter as usual.

This year’s **philanthropy** chairs have been doing a fantastic job giving the brotherhood many opportunities to work with the community. Some of the brothers participated in “Take Pride in Acadia” day. These brothers traveled to Acadia in the early morning to assist the group with cleaning up trails and updating signs. Another event we participated in was DPhiE’s “Capture the Cure” philanthropy event which was held on the campus mall. This was a capture the flag tournament where all of the proceeds went to funding breast cancer research.

Phi Kaps here at Alpha Delta have truly made a statement in **intramurals** this year. In the early fall we participated in flag football and soccer. In flag football, we had an impressive season finishing with a 10-1 record, stomping on the competition. Unfortunately, we got bested by Pi Kappa Phi in the championship game following a tough injury to our starting quarterback. We also had an impressive season in soccer, gaining a 7-2 record but falling short in the championship game to Sig Ep. Now we are in the second half of the semester and we are off to a great start so far in floor hockey, beating Beta 5-1 and Theta 4-2. In basketball, we lost our first game by one point to Fiji (because of poor officiating). All in all big things to come from our

brotherhood in intramurals.

Finally, I would like to mention some more about our brother **Celso Silva**. Celso was involved in a severe motorcycle accident this past summer. He suffered devastating injuries to his body and head. He has been in the hospital ever since and is still undergoing surgeries. Celso was one of the hardest working brothers that I have ever seen here at Alpha Delta. He was an exec board member and put his heart and soul into

this house and brotherhood. This fall we ran a philanthropy event for Celso to help him and his family with their medical costs. We have chosen to keep donations open through the holidays. We are accepting money in the form of Venmo, checks, or cash if you wish to donate to Brother Celso. Our Venmo user name is “PhikapAD”, any checks can be written out to Phi Kappa Sigma, and cash can be sent to 89 College Ave, Orono, ME. These funds will be used to supplement the successful GoFundMe campaign held earlier this year for Celso, which raised over \$27,500 for expenses. We appreciate all your support in these times and our brotherhood is grateful to have such a presence of alumni who are willing to have our backs every year.

In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you guys for all you do. We here at Alpha Delta are continuing to do our best day in and day out and hope to hear from you soon. **S**



Undergrads at the “Take Pride in Acadia” community service event



Brother Celso Silva

Br. Ross '59 Survives Explosion (cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

An employee of the company that owned the building shredded in the explosion still remains hospitalized as of mid-November. Larry Lord, the maintenance manager for LEAP Inc., was last known to be in fair condition at Mass General in Boston. He was



Members of the Farmington, ME Fire Department. Brother Clyde Ross '59, who serves as Deputy Chief, is seated in front, second from right. Photo courtesy Town of Farmington.

credited by many as a hero for helping to get numerous employees safely out of the building and was in the basement with three of the firefighters when the explosion occurred. Five firefighters in total were injured as a result of the explosion. The last of the injured firefighters was released on October 13, nearly one month after the blast. A sixth firefighter, Capt. Michael Bell, tragically died in the blast.

Ross said that while some firefighters are slowly returning to work, it likely will not be until next year before the chief and one of the captains will be ready for active duty. As for Ross himself, he seems to be taking things one day at a time.

"I have my days," said Ross. "Some depression, anxiety. I have visited several medical people but am doing much better, thanks."

The Maine State Fire Marshal's Office said that three days before the explosion, the LEAP Inc. building had its heating system filled with 400 gallons of propane. Shortly before the explosion, however, the tank was almost empty due to a leak from a line buried under the parking lot. The blast tore the two-story building off its foundation and sent debris 200 feet into the air. It also

destroyed 11 mobile homes in an adjacent trailer park. Investigators are still unsure what caused the leak or triggered the explosion and the investigation remains open.

Ross noted support from over 75 different fire departments across the state for a six week period to help ensure

Farmington had 24/7 coverage in the aftermath.

"Our department is back to the new normal and making strides each day," said Ross. "Will it be the same? Never. We have to move on even in this difficult time, but we have a job to do and it will get done."

Ross has been a member of the department for 48 years, serving as a chief officer since 1978 and as deputy chief since 1993. Despite this incident, he has no plans to retire any time soon.

"I'm 82 years old and am still very intent on staying here a few more years, God willing", said Ross. "Some people have said it is time to go but it hasn't reached me yet. As long as my health stays good I'll be answering calls as directed. I still have work to do with the department."

Ross noted the importance of younger firefighters having mentors, a role he has provided in the department for many years and hopes to provide for a few more.

On behalf of all Phi Kap alumni, thank you for your public service Brother Ross and best wishes to you, your firefighter peers, and the Town of Farmington! **S**

A Special Thank You

Skullumni offers thanks to the following alumni for reaching milestone donation years:

15 YEARS (3)

- Kendall Lund '55
- Stephen DeWick '62
- James Vamvakias '62

10 YEARS (4)

- Robert McKown '58
- J. Bruce Probert '59
- John Sebelius '68
- Robert Whittier '73

5 YEARS (1)

- Eric Conrad '02

1ST YEAR (5)

- Richard LaPointe '53
- John Dorsey, Jr. '69
- Daniel Michaud '89
- Walter Kiesow '96
- Jody Conant '13

Stay Connected!

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Officers Elected at Annual Meeting:

President (A):	Robert Williams '00
Vice President (B):	Justin Davis '15
Treasurer (T):	Scott Morelli '99
Secretary (Σ):	Joshua Moody '09
Member Relations (Υ):	Anthony "Bob" Kvedar '00

Skullumni's 101 Voting Members

For the first time since 2016, Skullumni's Voting Membership made it into the triple digits! We were fortunate to have 101 dues-paying members in 2019, up from 92 in 2018 and 70 in 2017. These alumni represent 48 unique classes spanning 72 years from 1944 to 2016.

Listed below you will find the names of all 101 Voting Members, broken out by donation amount. You will see their class year and 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.

Titanium Skull Club (\$750+) (1) ***NEW!***

Matthew Rocca '96 (18)

Platinum Skull Club (\$500-\$749) (2)

Paul Sullivan '66 (18) | Eric Sandman '87 (2)

Diamond Skull Club (\$250-\$499) (9)

Kendall Lund '55 (15) | Alden Small '57 (16) | Douglas Allen '62 (14) | Zachary Longley '67 (17) | Jonathan Young '71 (18) | David Pullen '73 (16) | Robert Whittier '73 (10) | Daniel Stiehl '96 (7) | Jeremy Thiele '02 (18)

Century Skull Club (\$100-\$249) (35)

James D'Angelo '51 (3) | Alan Pease '52 (17) | Donald LaRochelle '53 (18) | Gilbert Leslie Jr. '56 (18) | Foster Shibles '56 (18) | Richard Bryant '58 (8) "Sad to report the death of my UMaine brother, Gordon Bryant '57. He passed in a Scarborough, Maine hospice on July 13, 2019 at the age of 83. Funeral was held in Kittery, Maine. Gordon leaves 1 son, 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren and 1 great grand-daughter. Phi Kaps Foster Shibles and Dick Bryant attended his funeral. Gordon's UM grad wife, Beverly, passed in January, 2014 while they were living in Cape Elizabeth. Gordon had 2 younger UMaine grad brothers: Now, Dick is in Kansas and Wayne is in Florida." | Robert McKown '58 (10) | James Scott '58 (7) | William Hutchinson '59 (13) "1. Tutoring one-on-one ESL students from the Middle East with the Literacy Volunteers. 2. Volunteer at a soup kitchen one day each week. 3. Have given talks on China for the Great Discussions group and at the International Club." | Richard Dudley '60 (17) | Jerry Lambert '60 (14) | Lawrence Libby '62 (11) | F.

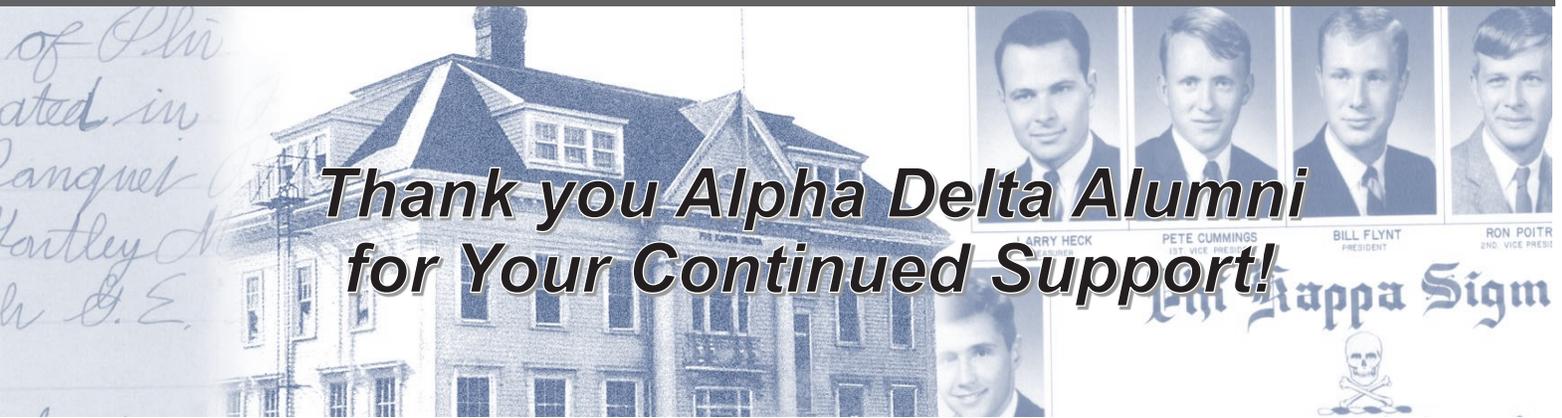
William Smullen III '62 (18) | James Vamvakias '62 (15) | Bruce Wentworth '63 (17) | Bill Potter '64 (8) | Leonard DiCarlo '65 (18) | William Gould '65 (12) | Thomas Hardcastle '65 (8) | Brian Bicknell '66 (18) | Charles Bonney '66 (16) | Willard Flynt '66 (8) "My wife died August 22, 2018. Cherish the days you have and cherish those you love. Do not waste a day." | Thomas Dwyer '67 (18) | Jay Smith '67 (18) | John Dorsey Jr. '69 (1) | Lynn Johnston '72 (7) | Michael Fayer '76 (7) | Rick Malinowski '91 (6) | Daniel Ludden '92 (16) | Denis Elie '94 (8) | Walter Kiesow '96 (1) | Peter Ruggiero '97 (18) | Robert Williams '00 (17) | Dylan Reburn '04 (7) | Ethan Hoffman '15 (2)

Golden Skull Club (\$50-\$99) (26)

Kenneth Chatto '50 (16) | Dana Davis '50 (14) | Stanley Christianson '51 (6) | David Gates '54 (14) | John Hodgkins '56 (17) | Gordon Bryant '57 (9) | James Dunlap '58 (14) | J. Bruce Probert '59 (10) "Small world! While downing pints of Guinness at Kevin Berry's Pub in Savannah, GA 12-29-18 I met Brother Peter Veilleux, AD '99. 40 years difference so we had many stories to compare." | S. Clyde Ross '59 (18) | David Gagnon '60 (17) | Alvin Ahlers '62 (16) | Stephen DeWick '62 (15) | Axel Larson '65 (11) "Here is my check for 2019 dues, fee; (as last year) my age. Trust all is well with you and



Brother Danny Guzman '06 and expectant wife, Brigid McCarthy



the House. Got to Orono last summer with 2 sons and grandson. Visited the Emera planetarium." | **Fred Wildes '65** (12) | **Larry LaPlante '73** (18) | **Kevin Stephens '83** (13) | **Rich Ruhlin '85** (11) | **Daniel Michaud '89** (1) | **Patrick Penley '91** (17) | **Scott Morelli '99** (18) | **Danny Guzman '06** (14) "My wife Brighid McCarthy and I are expecting our first child, his arrival date is Sunday, November 10th. We are anxiously waiting the arrival of our little blessing." | **Justin Gamache '12** (4) | **William Hughes '12** (2) | **Ben Fournier '13** (4) | **Justin Davis '15** (3) | **Jay Knowlton '15** (4)

Skull Club (\$25-\$49) (28)

Albert Ehrenfried '44 (18) | **Richard LaPointe '53** (1) "[Note from spouse] Dick passed away 2/5/18 after a long battle

with Parkinson's." | **David Foster '56** (13) | **Kenneth Henrikson '56** (12) | **Wilson Dyer '57** (6) | **Robert Hutchinson '57** (16) "Got married to Carol J. Blake in August 2018! Still working with the apartments and bought new (to me) boat where we hope to spend next winter in the Bahamas." | **Leslie Whitham '57** (11) | **Charles Heath Jr. '60** (3) | **Jonathan Ord '60** (14) | **Peter Berry '61** (17) | **Ewen I.S. MacKinnon '61** (13) | **Paul Kiah '62** (16) | **John Sebelius '68** (10) | **Paul Herer '69** (14) | **Robert St Pierre '73** (6) | **Tim Fredheim '89** (4) | **Edward St. Charles '94** (11) | **Anthony Kvedar '00** (18) | **Eric Conrad '02** (5) | **James Flagg '03** (17) | **Daniel Kinne '04** (13) | **Keith Flagg '07** (12) | **James Baum '09** (2) | **Joshua Moody '09** (11) | **Sean Theriault '10** (3) | **Derek Jones '11** (3) | **Jody Conant '13** (1) | **Dan Mackenzie '13** (3) S

Renew Your Membership Dues/Join Skullumni Today!

Help Skullumni fulfill its missions: join or renew your membership dues today! Your gift ensures you Voting Member status through December 2020. This means that you will:

- Receive **updated contact information for all alumni** from your era, including exclusive access to our online database of all alumni via our website (or receive this via mail if you do not have internet)
- **Receive discounts on alumni social events**, such as a free Homecoming football game ticket (\$15 value)
- **Be recognized** for your donation on our website and in our annual newsletter

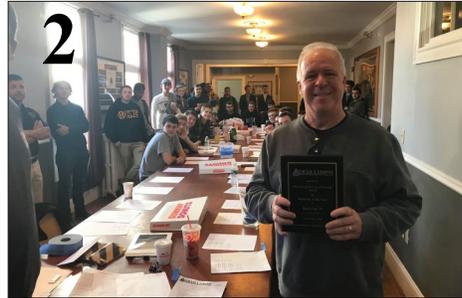
In turn, your donation will enable Skullumni to:

- **Keep alumni connected** through newsletters, emails, and various social media
- Fund undergraduate attendance at **important leadership conferences**, such as Grand Chapter
- Plan **alumni social events**, such as Homecoming

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. But hurry! **We ask that you renew/join before January 1, 2020.** Thank you!

Homecoming 2019 Recap

Another great homecoming is in the books at 89 College Ave. Generations of Phi Kaps returned to the house to reminisce on their days in Orono, share stories about the good-old-days, and pass on traditions to the undergraduates. The morning kicked off with the annual Skullumni meeting, which included some great updates from the undergrads about the accomplishments they've made over the past year. From improving grades, to rebuilding the chapter after the membership review, and philanthropy efforts, it is clear that the undergrads are back on track and poised for success. Skullumni's report included updates on alumni chapter finances and budget, but most importantly recognized David Cole '77 as Alumnus of the Year (see story below). After the meeting adjourned, undergrads gave tours of the house and the great renovations they completed over the past year, while others headed to the tailgate to enjoy cold drinks and good food in preparation for the Black Bears' beat down of William and Mary. As the temperatures dropped and the sun set on another homecoming in Orono, generations of Phi Kaps stumbled out of Alford Stadium and back to the house to close out the day. (Except for Brother Kvedar, who went to bed early.) We hope to see you all next year! **S**



1: Homecoming cookout and lawn games
2: Dave Cole '77 accepting the Alumnus of the Year award at Skullumni's Annual Meeting
3: (L to R) Bob Kvedar '00, Shawn Harris '91, and Chris Hopper '95 at tailgating
4: Various brothers enjoying a beautiful day for football tailgating

Dave Cole '77 Named Alumnus of the Year

For the second time in his life, David Cole has been named Phi Kappa Sigma's Alumnus of the Year. The first time was in 1998 when Cole was given this recognition by the undergraduate chapter. The second came 21 years later, when Skullumni selected him for our annual award.

Cole—a member of the Class of 1977—was selected for a variety of reasons: his 15 years of service on the Housing Corporation; as well as success in his professional career, where he worked for Eastern Maine Development Corporation for 24 years, including as President and CEO from 1995-2003; was appointed Commissioner of the Maine Department of Transportation for eight years in the 2000s by then-Governor John Baldacci; and serving as City Manager in Ellsworth, Maine for the past 4 years.

"Without question, my time at Phi Kap played a pivotal role in shaping my career," said Cole, who is from Lincoln, Maine. "During my two terms as Alpha I learned a great deal about the importance of leadership, goal-setting, teamwork, problem-solving, and community relationship building."

Cole said the network of Phi Kap alumni helped him during his career, including "landing that all important first job out of school."

Cole is quick to point out that his fondest memory from Phi Kap was meeting his future wife, Karen, and their first date at



Brother Dave Cole '77. Photo courtesy City of Ellsworth, Maine.

Homecoming 1979 ("And she still went out with me again!") Other fond memories include pledge orientation; the Hells Angels parade and party; listening to Hard Road, Phi Kap's own "house band"; the Phi Kap bar; the Phi Kap roof; the sauna; living at the house during the summer; spring break trips; road trips; concerts ("particularly when Kiss came to town!"); and attending Grand Chapter in New Orleans, especially since Cole "had never been south of Portland at the time."

Cole—who received both a B.A. in Public Management and a Masters in Public Administration from UMaine—was presented with a plaque at Homecoming recognizing him as the 2019 award recipient. He spoke about the importance of giving back to the fraternity and community, as well as how rewarding staying involved can be.

"It's been forty years since I left Phi Kap, but in some ways it still seems like yesterday," said Cole. "Facebook has reconnected many of us, and it often feels like our conversations are picking up right where we left off all those years ago. I can still see the faces. It truly is a lifetime bond. And I can't imagine my time at UMaine without Phi Kap."

The Coles currently live in Brewer. They have two sons. **S**