

# THE Ψ PSI

PHI KAPPA PSI ♦ THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

INSIDE

Alabama Alpha  
Celebrates 50 Years ~ p. 2

Thank You, Loyal Donors ~ p. 3

Alumnus Q&A ~ p. 4

FALL 2013



## Momentum Builds for Change for the Future, Opportunity of a Lifetime Campaign *\$815,500 Committed, Your Help Needed to Reach \$1.25 Million Goal*

### Architectural Plans Progress

Momentum is building for the new Phi Psi house at the University of Alabama. More than \$815,000 has been pledged toward the \$1.25 million fundraising goal. Our architect, Evan Fitts, is working with the University Facilities Department on architectural plans. We hope for final approval of the project by the University's Board of Trustees in the spring of 2014 and to start construction in the summer of 2014. This is an aggressive plan, but preliminary approval has already been received and we are on track for success.

### Prime Location on Campus

The new house will be at one of the best locations on University Boulevard, between the new Alpha Tau Omega house and the Kappa Alpha house. **Our house will be built where the Pi Kappa Phi house currently sits—a location much sought after by a number of fraternities because of its closeness to the central Quadrangle. The University has said there is no more available land for fraternity houses on University Boulevard, even at a distant location.** We were fortunate to be selected for this location. Initially, the House Corporation investigated a major remodel of the old Pi Kappa Phi house, but when it was found that the cost of a remodel approached the cost of building a whole new house, the House Corporation approached the University about financial support for this plan. The University agreed with the new house approach.

### Chapter House Overview

Preliminary drawings are in the works for a new three-story house, competitive in appearance with the best new fraternity houses on University Boulevard and reminiscent in appearance to the old Phi Psi house we all loved but must leave behind. Current plans include approximately 35 private bedrooms with semi-private baths and a large multi-purpose room that will serve as a dining room, study room, Chapter room, and game-day gathering room with flat screen TVs. The room will be designed to seat 125 for dining. The house will, of course, have all the new safety, media, and security features of the new houses. The \$6.2 million budget is in line with other new fraternity houses on University Boulevard, which are ranging in cost between \$6 and \$7 million dollars.

### Raising Our Status

We believe the new house will enable Phi Psi to be competitive in the top tier of fraternities at the University of Alabama for the foreseeable future. Since the University now has the largest and finest Greek system in the country, our new house will place us in a position to compete with the best in the country.

### How You Can Help

We are all pleased with the \$815,500 in pledges. This is an outstanding start. However, we need \$434,500 more in pledges to reach our \$1.25 million goal. Please reflect on the difference this project can make to

(Continued on page 2)



# Alabama Alpha Celebrates 50 Years

## March 7-9, 2014

**Tryon Hubbard '64** and **James Newman '88** are co-chairing the celebration and have some great plans for you. They are going to recognize and celebrate the contribution that each of you has made to the Chapter over the years. The best part, though, will be your opportunity to reunite with your pledge brothers, big brothers, and little brothers as we celebrate the Alabama Alpha family.

### Don't Forget to RSVP

The cost for the entire weekend of events is \$75. Please e-mail [tryon@jehubbard.com](mailto:tryon@jehubbard.com) or [james296@yahoo.com](mailto:james296@yahoo.com) to RSVP or if you have questions. Make sure you make hotel reservations as soon as possible. To contact Hotel Capstone, call (205) 752-3200 and tell them you want the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity group rate.

### Other recommended nearby hotels are:

Holiday Inn Express,  
1120 Veterans Memorial Parkway, (800) 315-2621

Microtel Inn and Suites,  
1417 Veterans Memorial Parkway, (205) 553-4095

Home-Towne Suites,  
1650 Veterans Memorial Parkway, (877) 876-9487

There is also a Hampton Inn just off McFarland Boulevard, but it is reportedly a bit difficult to enter and exit. It is located at 600 Harper Lee Drive, (205) 553-9800.

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### Friday, March 7

6-8 p.m.: Reception at Chapter House

### Saturday, March 8

#### Canterbury Student Center – Brothers Only

9-10 a.m.: Initiation Ceremony

10-10:30 a.m.: Memorial Service

10:30-11:30 a.m.: Campaign for Alabama Alpha Update

12-1:30 p.m.: Lunch at the Chapter House

12-12:45 p.m.: Stadium Tour

2 p.m.: Campus Tour and Career Panel

5-6 p.m.: Happy Hour at Hotel Capstone

6-8 p.m.: 50th Anniversary Banquet at Hotel Capstone

8-9 p.m.: Informal Group Gatherings

9 p.m.-12 a.m.: Dance at Hotel Capstone  
The band will play your favorites from throughout the years.

### Sunday, March 9

9:30 a.m.: Farley's Farm

# Momentum Builds for Campaign

*(Continued from page 1)*

Phi Psi at Alabama and contribute generously to this campaign. Because funds are being raised through the University's Foundation, all contributions are 100% tax deductible. **Commitments spread over five years are normal, but we need \$300,000 of the \$1.25 million in a reserve account as soon as possible to satisfy certain University liquidity requirements; therefore, front loading your five-year pledge would help us with immediate funds.** Please add your name to the growing list of donors on page 3. Contact any member of the campaign board to make your pledge.

In the Bond,

**Jay Masingill '68**

Co-Chairman  
(205) 792-0599

**D. Frank Davis '66**

Co-Chairman  
(205) 930-9900

**Tryon Hubbard '64**

Honorary Co-Chairman  
(256) 417-7266

**Fred Clay '67**

Honorary Co-Chairman  
(205) 335-3546

## CAMPAIGN LEADERSHIP

**Tryon Hubbard '64**

(256) 539-5347  
[tryon@jehubbard.com](mailto:tryon@jehubbard.com)

**Larry W. Harper '69**

(205) 956-6634  
[lwh@phm-law.com](mailto:lwh@phm-law.com)

**Bradley E. Gray '83**

(404) 370-1501  
[bgray52@bellsouth.net](mailto:bgray52@bellsouth.net)

**Shannon Price '88**

(205) 421-1020  
[price291@hotmail.com](mailto:price291@hotmail.com)

**D. Frank Davis '66**

(205) 305-1612  
[fdavis@davisnorris.com](mailto:fdavis@davisnorris.com)

**John W. Harris Jr. '71**

(256) 332-2838  
[legolfcoach@aol.com](mailto:legolfcoach@aol.com)

**Ronald E. Abernathy '85**

(334) 585-5585  
[ron.abernathy.lxml@statefarm.com](mailto:ron.abernathy.lxml@statefarm.com)

**Marcus F. Woolf '90**

(256) 539-6976  
[marcuswrites@yahoo.com](mailto:marcuswrites@yahoo.com)

**J. Freddie Stakes '66**

(205) 879-4346  
[jfs11647@bellsouth.net](mailto:jfs11647@bellsouth.net)

**Gordon T. Carter '75**

(334) 279-1213  
[gordontcarter@yahoo.com](mailto:gordontcarter@yahoo.com)

**J. Scott Huffman '85**

(205) 987-2904  
[shuffman@uab.edu](mailto:shuffman@uab.edu)

**Mark W. Carlisle '92**

(205) 908-8698  
[mark@megaagentrealestate.com](mailto:mark@megaagentrealestate.com)

**Fred H. Clay Jr. '67**

(205) 822-3990  
[fhclay@aol.com](mailto:fhclay@aol.com)

**John L. Ellis Jr. '81**

(256) 927-5664  
[CVCA@tds.net](mailto:CVCA@tds.net)

**David T. Miller '87**

(443) 223-2803  
[dtbh@me.com](mailto:dtbh@me.com)

**James R. Sims III '04**

(205) 559-1251  
[sims047@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:sims047@crimson.ua.edu)

**Jay Masingill '68**

(205) 752-3369  
[jay.masingill@gmail.com](mailto:jay.masingill@gmail.com)

**Phil Cook '82**

(405) 796-7167  
[phil.cook@dvn.com](mailto:phil.cook@dvn.com)

**James A. Newman Jr. '88**

(256) 762-7430  
[james296@yahoo.com](mailto:james296@yahoo.com)



## Help Us Map the Alabama Alpha Family Tree

As we approach our 50th anniversary celebration, we are trying to create a family tree for our Chapter. Two of our actives, **Chris Erwin '12** and **Levi Seifert '12**, are leading this project.

To help in this endeavor, please e-mail the following information to Chris at [cmerwin@crimson.ua.edu](mailto:cmerwin@crimson.ua.edu).

1. Your name, badge number, and birthday
2. Your big brother's name
3. Your little brother's name

(Please list all names and years if you had more than one.)



## THANK YOU, LOYAL DONORS

We are truly grateful to the following brothers who have committed \$815,500 to Alabama Alpha's *Change for the Future, Opportunity of a Lifetime* campaign. Through alumni support, we can help ensure Phi Kappa Psi prospers for many years on the University of Alabama campus. Join your brothers in securing our future. Gifts of any amount are truly appreciated.

Any donor who contributes \$2,500 or more will have their name listed on a plaque in a prominent area of the new Chapter House. Donors \$25,000 and

above will receive a commemorative plaque. Donors \$50,000 and above will receive a framed picture, rendering, or painting of the Chapter House.

Alumni are listed by initiation year in their appropriate giving levels. If you feel an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 with any corrections. Thank you for your support!

### John Fraser Ramsey Society (\$100,000 and above)

Alabama Alpha  
Undergraduate Chapter  
John A. Carey '71

### 1964 Founders Society (\$75,000 to \$99,999)

### 312 University Boulevard Society (\$50,000 to \$74,999)

D. Frank Davis '66  
In memory of  
Kirby Freehling '68  
Jay Masingill '68  
In memory of  
John F. Ramsey and  
James H. "Jim" Webb '70  
G. Phillip Cook '82

### 965 University Boulevard Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Jon C. Gornstein '63  
In honor of  
Herbert Gornstein, M.D.  
John Tryon Hubbard Jr. '64  
H. Troy Nagle Jr. '64  
Kenneth E. Mahan '65

J. Freddie Stakes '66  
In memory of  
Benjamin D. Dennis '69  
Fred H. Clay Jr. '67  
Shannon Price '88  
Anne and David Moyer '91

### 3 Marrs Spring Road Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Woolf Family Gift  
Lee Woolf '64  
Ben Woolf '88  
Marcus Woolf '90  
Eugene Glass '67  
Larry W. Harper '69  
Jackie F. Keel '71  
Susan and Denton Copeland '72  
John Ellis '81  
James Newman '88

### Alabama Alpha Heritage Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

Ken Damsgard '64  
Farley M. Snow '64  
Gordon T. Carter '75  
Bradley E. Gray '83  
Michael W. Payton '87

### Shield Society (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Anonymous  
Daniel B. Banks Jr. '62  
Thomas E. Clyce Jr. '63  
Walter G. Hopkins III '64  
Jo and Andy Dillon '66  
In memory of  
Miss Maude Curry  
Ron E. Abernathy '85  
J. Scott Huffman '85  
In honor of  
Phillip "Alexander" Huffman '10  
John C. Cochran '03  
In memory of  
Timothy Baites '03  
James R. Sims III '04

### Cardinal Red & Hunter Green Society (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Theron F. Taylor '64  
C. Martin Bradford '73  
Harris Family Gift  
John W. Harris '71  
Peyton B. Harris '07  
Phillip B. Whiteman '76  
Gary L. Ely '77

### Brotherhood Society (Up to \$2,499)

G. Stanley Brock '64  
W. Howard Gillum '64  
Albert L. Pardue Jr. '64  
Daniel E. Jones '66  
Jason W. Frye '85  
Steve A. Harris '85  
William Helmstadter '87  
David T. Miller '87  
In memory of  
Evan Davis '90  
Patrick B. Adcock '04

## Campaign Status At-a-Glance

As of November 12, 2013

\$1.25 Million Goal  
\$815,500 Total Commitments  
48 Contributors  
477 Active Alumni

**CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE, OPPORTUNITY OF A LIFETIME**  
*The Campaign for Alabama Alpha*



# Alumnus Reminisces about Chapter Experiences

## Q&A with Phil Cook '82

### Why did you join Phi Kappa Psi?

My story is a bit different from most brothers. I did not join until I was 20 and had already been at the University for a couple of years. I paid my way through school and did so by creating my own version of a “co-op” program. I was enrolled during the fall semesters and worked on an oil exploration crew on the North Slope of Alaska during the spring. I entered the University in 1978, which made me class of '82, but I graduated in 1984. During my first two years, we were national champions. I hung around four more hoping to experience another one. Enjoy it while it is here, guys!

I knew a few of the members, including my roommate, **Doug Canida '81**. I started hanging around the brothers more and Phi Psi just seemed to be a good fit for me. We had (and have) some great guys, many of whom I still keep in contact with.

### What is your overall impression of the Chapter?

I think that our mission statement of developing men of excellence and men of integrity resonated with me then and still does. We were a small Chapter struggling to establish ourselves and perhaps struggling to survive. When I joined, the Chapter House was uninhabitable. It was refurbished allowing me to live on the second floor during my last semester. I look back on that group of people—at what we achieved in keeping the Chapter a viable entity—with much pride and sense of accomplishment. We had good leadership at the Chapter level and from our alumni, notably **Fred Clay '67** and **Jay Masingill '68**, among others.

I am pleased with the direction and progress the capital campaign has made and pleased with support from the alumni. There's still room for more of you to commit! I am also pleased with the status and support from the Chapter. It is in a unique position, at a unique time, because of the new house on the horizon and the rapidly changing dynamics in the Greek system on campus. I encourage you all to be leaders, to make the most of these opportunities, and most of all, to be true to you.

### What career did you pursue after graduation?

My brother-in-law pointed me toward an oil exploration crew as a summer job after my freshman year. I loved everything about the industry: the technical challenges, outdoors environment, hard work but rewarding results. I received a bachelor's degree in mineral engineering (petroleum) from Alabama, which unfortunately is no longer offered. Later I received an MBA-finance from the University of Houston. I now work for Devon Energy Corp., a large independent oil and gas exploration and production company based in Oklahoma City. I hold the position of vice president of strategic integration.

### What did you learn from being in Alabama Alpha?

I took away several valuable lessons from my time in Phi Psi, including working with others in a group environment and leadership skills as a designated leader and how to lead by influencing others. I serve on a few boards, both industry and non-profits, and support them by volunteering time and money.

I have never been afraid to stand up for what I believe in or to work hard for what I want or think is right. I have little regard to what others think of me and focus on being true to myself. I had the option to pledge other more established fraternities, which would have been an easier path. I chose to join Phi Psi, which had its share of issues: small size, an uninhabitable house, and money issues. I liked the brothers of Alabama Alpha and what Phi Psi offered. I thought we could find success, so I accepted all the challenges that joining brought. Perhaps my time with Phi Psi helped to form and reinforce those characteristics, which I think are some of my best ones.

Phil lives in Edmond, Oklahoma, and can be contacted at [phil.cook@dvn.com](mailto:phil.cook@dvn.com).



*Phil Cook '82 and his wife, Rhonda, have been married for 22 years and have two sons, Zac and Bennett.*

# PHI KAPPA PSI AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA

## BROTHERS WELCOME 22 NEW MEMBERS Alabama Alpha Sets Goals

All is going well here in Tuscaloosa. We had a very successful summer recruitment, welcoming 22 new members, seven of whom are in the Honors College. **Lucas Lourenco '11** and his committee worked incredibly hard to get the best quality group of guys. They have met and exceeded any expectations I had for them.

### Undergraduates Raise GPA to 2.88

Last semester we were able to raise our Chapter GPA from a 2.69 to a 2.88. We increased our rank



*Alabama Alpha participates in the fall 2012 Christmas party.*

on campus from 28th to 19th in one semester. We are confident that with our new members we will continue to improve. **Mark Hoppes '11** led the scholarship committee and continues to do so this fall. We are excited to see his committee take steps forward.

### Brothers Involved on Campus

Our main goal is to raise our GPA and ultimately be in the top half on campus. We also want our brothers to be more involved on campus. This University offers an ample amount of extra-curricular clubs and activities. Finally, we want our brothers to give back to the community. Our philanthropy, led by **Jorge De La Hoz '12**, has always been one of the best on campus, and we're very proud of it. I believe that if we are able to meet these three goals, we will be one of the top fraternities on campus.



Fraternally,  
**Grayson Parker '12**  
Chapter President  
gsparker@crimson.ua.edu



*Brothers bond at a football game.*

## Welcome, New Members

**William Beckett**  
Summit, N.J.

**Robert Brennan**  
Trumbull, Conn.

**Matthew Brown**  
Tuscaloosa, Ala.

**Evan Butters**  
Miami, Fla.

**Joseph Coppel**  
Louisville, Ky.

**Nicholas D'Angelo**  
Paducah, Ky.

**Caleb Dixon**  
Birmingham, Ala.

**Patrick Froula**  
Louisville, Ky.

**Jeffrey Goens**  
Lexington, Ky.

**Tommy Gray**  
Canberra, Australia

**Matthew Greenhut**  
Fairfield, Conn.

**Quinn Grimes**  
Leonardtown, Md.

**Ryan King**  
Fairfield, Conn.

**Ezra Laemmle**  
Los Angeles, Calif.

**Ben Lewis**  
Anchorage, Ala.

**Garreth Lovejoy**  
McLean, Va.

**Peter Medick**  
Hinsdale, Ill.

**Timothy Saunders**  
Atlanta, Ga.

**Harry Sullivan**  
Franklin Lakes, N.J.

**Spencer Szaloky**  
Wilmington, N.C.

**Matthew Waldo**  
Ridgefield, Conn.

**Austin Wasyliw**  
Nashville, Tenn.

# THE Ψ PSI

Phi Kappa Psi  
Alabama Alpha Chapter  
P.O. Box 19144  
Birmingham, AL 35219

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## JOIN US ONLINE

### Facebook

50th Anniversary Alabama Alpha  
Phi Kappa Psi

### Twitter

@alabamaalpha50

### Alabama Alpha Chapter

[www.phipsiala.com](http://www.phipsiala.com)

### Phi Kappa Psi National

[www.phikappapsi.com](http://www.phikappapsi.com)

### The University of Alabama

[www.ua.edu](http://www.ua.edu)

## Join the Video Project for the 50th Anniversary

Usually when you go to a banquet, there is a keynote speaker. It's normally someone you don't know who drones on for 20 minutes about things that don't interest you. Well, the 50th anniversary banquet is going to be different. The keynote is going to be all about you! The video will feature everyone who participates. We hope you'll want to be a part of it.

### Here's what you do:

1. Find the best video recording device you can.
2. Record yourself answering the questions below.
3. E-mail the video to [alapk50@gmail.com](mailto:alapk50@gmail.com).

Not everything you say will be included in the final video. We'll be editing for interest and time, keeping the most meaningful comments to create a video no more than 15 minutes long.

Feel free to answer the following or include something else you would like to express to the brothers. **Please send your recordings no later than January 15.**

1. If you knew Dr. Ramsey, please tell us something about him and your relationship with him.
2. Why did you join Alabama Alpha?
3. Tell us about your experience with the fraternity since you graduated.
4. What is your greatest memory from being an active member?
5. What does Phi Kappa Psi mean to you?
6. What was your nickname? How did you get it?
7. Tell us one funny thing that happened while you were an active.