

HAWKEYE

A Publication of the Iowa Alpha Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi

363 N. Riverside Dr., Iowa City, IA 52246

University of Iowa

iowaalpha.org

Fall 2015

Retaining Wall and Driveway Renovation Completed





Before

After

"Back to Basics" Brings Work Week Success

"Back to basics" has become a cliché used by sports teams and companies that have gone astray from their original strategy or lost focus on what is most important. While the saying can be little more than an empty talking point if not backed by action, it can also become a rallying cry for success. Enter Iowa Alpha 2015. In what is a long-held tradition, the undergraduate Iowa Alpha brothers returned to campus this fall one week prior to classes starting. Work Week is basically a "spring cleaning" for the fraternity house. Sometimes, the brothers can squeeze in one or two small projects that can be completed alongside the deep clean, as needed. In recent years, the brothers had noticed the development of some complacency around Work Week, as some brothers put in as little as two hours per day. Determined to change the tone for 2015, planning of defined tasks began in June as the 2014-15 school year ended. By the time Work Week 2015 arrived, a full work plan had been developed, including:

- Assigned tasks, with check-in and check-out
- Clearly defined goals and renderings
- Oversight by House Corporation President, John Greenwood (2000)

The brothers separated into work groups and started outside, clearing the ravine, installing a new retaining wall in the backyard, laying new stones for the patio on the south end of the house, and planting new plants.

"A number of guys stepped up and took responsibility for different projects," said Jason Woodruff, Chapter GP. "Most notably, Pierce Lohman and Dan Wetzel headed up building the retaining wall by the basketball court, and it looks great. I think we all had a big sense of accomplishment because we tackled some major jobs, like building a retaining wall and laying brick, instead of just cleaning windows. The outside of the house looks different because of what was done during Work Week, and that is exciting."

When rain pushed the guys inside, house cleaning and indoor improvements waited. Brother Woodruff added, "We gave the inside of the house a much

needed bath. The sophomores really stepped up and took some pride in what the house looked like. It is pretty amazing what 80 guys can accomplish with a week of work."

The overall result was a much improved property brought about by better planning and more commitment — four 6-hour days for the brothers.

This year Work Week was finally taken seriously, mostly by necessity. House Corporation President John Greenwood ('00-1613) had a lot of things he hoped to accomplish, and the guys really rose to the challenge. It helped to have the construction crew building the retaining wall and steps because the guys saw what it means to work hard. We hope the much more productive work week can be a renewed tradition for the future, with a blueprint in place to replicate the success of 2015.

— Brand Newland ('00-1607)

Save the Dates! October 22, 2016:

Alumni Reunion Weekend (Iowa vs. Wisconsin)

April 2017:

Iowa Alpha 150th Anniversary Celebration, Iowa City

Chapter Pledges 37 New Members

Brothers,

I am happy to say that 2015 has been a good year for Iowa Alpha. We remain the largest chapter on campus with 104 returning members and 37 new members. In spring of 2015, we had the highest average GPA (3.198) of the fraternities on campus, a title we have held 17 of the last 20 semesters.

It was another successful year for the Kinnick Scholarship. This year we had applications from almost 1,000 incoming freshman men, we interviewed over 350, and awarded \$15,000 to the 14 we thought best exemplified what it means to be a man. At the award banquet, we were honored to have University of Iowa Interim President Jean Robillard, former Hawkeye and NFL kicker Nate Kaeding, and Alumnus Michael Doty as guest speakers. Many of our New Members came through the Nile C. Kinnick Scholarship program. We have given \$90,000 of our \$100,000 pledge to the Nile C. Kinnick Scholarship endowment at the University of Iowa Foundation and plan to finish that out later this year. The undergraduate brothers did a lot of work on the physical structure during Work Week, and the house looks great. We are grateful for the help and involvement of our alumni on that project. — Jason Woodruff, GP

Iowa Alpha History Lesson: *The Chapter Houses*

lowa Alpha has called 363 North Riverside Drive home for many decades. But where were we before that? The answer: 830 North Dubuque Street.

As I understand the fate of the North Dubuque Street house, property owners who lived behind the house were unhappy because this new Phi Kappa Psi house obstructed their view of the Iowa River below. The group of neighbors somehow managed to purchase the property out from under the brothers, and promptly tore the place down. All that remains today is a set of cement stairs that curves up the bank from the street and ends near what would have been the front of the house. Contrary to popular belief, the vacant lot next door, immediately north of the Beta house on North Dubuque, is NOT the old Phi Kappa Psi property; that is the footprint of another fraternity that burned down in the late '60s or early '70s. The old Phi Psi property is the next lot north of that, where one sees stairs going up the hill. This is essentially the land you see straight ahead of you while sitting at the traffic light on Park Road pointed east, waiting to turn left or right onto Dubuque Street (a T-intersection).

So Iowa Alpha moved — either voluntarily or by force — to its current location in 1940. The prior inhabitants of what became the Phi Psi house were members of a medical fraternity. My dad, Evan E. Smith ('47-774), was in the house then, and I have a photo or two of him from that time hanging around the house. There once were many photos from the early days at the 363 N. Riverside Drive house, but only a few of them from my dad's era, the 1940s, survived the fire in 1993. The last I saw of them, they were just sitting in a box at the chapter house.

The chapter's move to 830 North Dubuque Street occurred in 1917. My grandfather — Fred C. Gilchrist, Jr., (1917-290) — was in the house at that time. Many years ago, he told me about the house lowa Alpha occupied prior to the house on Dubuque Street. That early house was at 725 East College Street. My grandfather said the College Street property was in need of some pretty serious repairs. — *Elliott Smith ('78-1297)*

Building the Former Retaining Wall at 363 N. Riverside Drive.

Were you there? Share your story about it — or any other memories or photos you might have from your days at the house!

Contact brandnewland@ gmail.com, or submit with the enclosed Alumni News form.



We Welcome Our Recently Pledged Members

House Corporation Officers



PresidentJohn Greenwood, '00-1613 johnfgreenwood@gmail.com

Vice PresidentEric Parker, '00-1611 ericrparker@gmail.com

Co-TreasurerBrad Bleeker, '10-1857 brad.bleeker@gmail.com

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DirectorDave Hansen, '79-1323 davidhansen-dds@mchsi.com

DirectorAdam Parker, '09-1831 adam-parker@uiowa.edu

Brothers Remember Work Weeks Through the Years

Work Week is hardly a new tradition at Iowa Alpha. Some alumni memories of Work Weeks gone by:

"I vividly remember freshman year painting the front of the house. No power washers so we pledges had to scrub down the front and paint. Usually around 3:00 our pledge leader would say the hell with it and we would go down to Hancher and play football. Remember, no air conditioning in the house so it was always hot as hell after work. Nine times out of ten, we would go downtown to eat and then go to the usual suspects — Airliner, Joe's, and Fieldhouse. Other Work Week items were scrub the kitchen and bathrooms, so you can imagine the conditions of those. But we survived!!"

- Todd Schoell, 1975

"Getting to go back to school a few days early was always fun. I remember after-hours parties and lots of work getting things back in shape. I also recall meeting a lot of the parents and families of the incoming house residents. We would all pitch in, getting the rooms ready and building racks. Lots of guys in the house had bunk waterbeds, if you can believe it. I lived in the room off the kitchen and we had both waterbeds elevated with our living room area beneath it!" — *Mark Easler, 1986*

"I do recall once, in the hour approaching midnight, a group of about 12 of us put on our swimsuits and executed an assault of the City Park pool. It was closed, of course, so we had to climb the 12' high chain link fence to get in. We tried to remain quiet at first, but eventually the whooping and hollering and bouncing boards while doing can-openers off the high dives made no secret of the fact that we had busted in. How we did not caught - either by an annoyed neighbor or a cop on patrol - is due solely to the benevolence and mercy of the Almighty. By all rights, I should have an IC police record listing 'breaking and entering; public disturbance' in my permanent file." — Elliott Smith, 1978

Share YOUR Work Week memories! Use the Alumni Notes form enclosed, and we will run your stories in a future edition of *The Hawkeye*.

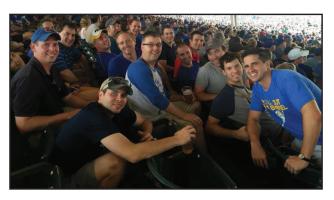
Save the Dates!

Alumni Reunion Weekend October 22, 2016

Iowa Alpha 150th Anniversary Iowa City, April 2017

20 Brothers Gather for Alumni Event at Wrigley Field

Brothers in attendance for a pregame tailgate and Cubs vs. Giants game on August 8, 2015, included: Cory Cozad '04, Blair Schoell '03, Brian Casaletto '02, Tim Evans '98, John Greenwood '00, Bryson



Lang '00, Jesse Keig '00, Brand Newland '00, Nick Koehn '13, Grant Purdy '13, Max Parsons '08, Spencer Anderson '06, Jason Parker '06, and JP Cadorin '05.

From a Letter by Donald Risk ('47-770)

(Received after publication of the Spring 2015 Hawkeye)

Pledge Class 1946-47

There were 27 pledges — 23 were World War II veterans and four were just out of high school and "legacies." This was probably one of the smaller pledge classes on campus, with all the returning veterans to pick from, and finances not a big problem with the G.I. Bill. SAE pledged well over 100.

That first semester was like "boot camp" with Sid Craiger, a former Navy Chief "Boats" as our pledge trainer. No leaving the house weekday evenings unless signed out to go to the library, and in by 10:00 on the weekends. A large man, and a former member of the swim team, Sid could wield a mean paddle on our Monday night lineups when we had received too many "black marks" during the previous week from the "actives."

While we envied a lot of the other fraternity pledge classes, we were glad later. That first semester, although Iowa Alpha was always at or near the top of all intramural sports, the "actives" were close to the bottom in scholarship — not dumb, just having too good a time, after, in many cases, four years of war. They even built a bar and game room in the basement, which was off limits to the pledges except for co-ed events. (And a big secret from the college administration.) Our pledge class was so far ahead of the other classes, that we brought the total chapter up to No. 1 or 2. It didn't hurt that one of our "legacies" dropped out, and we worked very hard with the other three to get them a "C" average so they could be initiated. Even though three came from large high schools, the transition to college was a lot tougher than for veterans.

Iowa City Remembrances

While [pledge brother, George McBurney ('47-766)] was at the Iowa City railroad depot, I believe waiting for the train from Indiana carrying his future wife, another train pulled in, and since there would be a couple hours wait, three black, young men from Canton, Ohio, got off to stretch their legs. Being his usual curious self, George struck up a conversation with them, found out they were on their way to Lincoln to see about football scholarships from the University of Nebraska. George talked them into coming with him to see Dr. Eddie Anderson about an Iowa scholarship. The result of George's work was they didn't get back on the train and stayed in Iowa City. Of those three, Calvin Jones was an All-American tackle, and Eddie Vincent and Junior Gilliam were All-Big Ten halfback and end.

Nile Kinnick Story

My discipline was BSC (Bachelor of Science-Commerce), which designation I don't think they use any more. Part of the requirements was two semesters of a foreign language, and I picked Spanish. I'm terrible with languages. I was struggling and looking at probably a "D" going into the final, which accounted for 35% of the semester grade. One of my pledge brothers, Charles Larrabee ('47-764), took pity on me and spent the night before the final drilling me. "Chuck" had grown up in Uruguay where his father was head of Standard Oil's operation there. As the basis for the drill, "Chuck" used a pilfered (which we were encouraged to do if we could get away with it) final exam from the chapter files Nile Kinnick had walked off with in 1937. Whoever made out the final exam this year was evidently lazy, and had used the identical 1937 exam. I, of course, was almost perfect, which brought me to a low "B" for the semester. They dropped the language requirement the next semester, much to my relief. Although he was dead, I nevertheless thanked Nile from the bottom of my heart. Without his help, I have no doubt that I would not have made "Summa."

Richard S. Hoak, '36-528, of Sioux City, Iowa, died February 1, 2014, at age 97. While attending the University of Iowa, he was captain of the golf team. He went on to become a founding member and promoter of the Iowa

Golf Association. He also promoted all amateur golf tournaments in lowa while he himself played in two national amateur tournaments — one in 1954, which Arnold Palmer won, and another in 1956. Later



he served on the board of directors of the Trans Mississippi Golf Association for eight years. The love of golf is a Hoak family tradition. Dick's brother, James Hoak ['37-540] (featured in the Spring 2015 Hawkeye), also served as captain of the UI golf team. In 2014, the university named the new varsity golf complex after the Hoak family. Dick established Hoak Motors in Sioux City, a business that became a staple in the community. Dick's wife, Maxine, is deceased. He leaves behind three daughters. Cynthia Hoak, Susan Wood, and Becky Hood; a son, Rick Hoak; 10 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Bradford D. Finch, '37-585, of Cokato, Minnesota, died January 5, 2014, at age 96. He attended both Luther College and the University of Iowa, where he graduated with a law degree. He served in the Navy during World War II, and became a Lieutenant Commander in the U.S. Naval Air Corps. He owned an insurance business, VIP, and worked



into his 90s. He was a Chartered Life Underwriter and lifetime member of the Million Dollar Round Table. Brad was also a Little League coach, Scout-

master, and Dale Carnegie instructor. His wife, Frankie, is deceased. Survivors include his daughter, Cathie; son, John; and six grandchildren.

Russell W. Conkling, '40-598, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, died November 9, 2014, at age 93. He grew up in Des Moines and served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. Russ served as Assistant Chief of Surgical Service, 1952-1955, at the U.S.V.A. Hospital in Iowa City. He was in private practice in general surgery for many years, until he retired in January 1995. His special interests included breeding and sales of Thoroughbred horses. He was preceded in death by his wife, Claris. Survivors include his sons, William, James, and Jeffrey; and three granddaughters.

Richard G. Bowers, '40-614, of Keokuk, Iowa, died July 17, 2014, at age 94. He served as a First Lieutenant in



In Memoriam

the 41st Armored Infantry Regiment in World War II, entering Europe with the Normandy invasion at Omaha Beach. He received a Purple Heart, a Bronze Star, and other commendations. After the war, Dick joined his father in the men's clothing business. He moved to Keokuk in 1946, and subsequently established several men's clothing stores in southeastern Iowa. In 1953, he sold the clothing stores and went into the life insurance business with New York Life. During the next 50 years, he became the leading agent nationally for New York Life and was president of the Million Dollar Round Table, the MDRT Foundation, and the Board of Trustees of the American College. He was one of the giants of the industry. Dick had a keen sense of humor. He and his wife, Alice Rohm, were married 67 years, until she passed away in 2009. He is survived by his three children: Rick Bowers, Catherine Rocca, and Sarah Bowers; 10 grandchildren; and 16 great-grandchildren.

Walter Byers, '41-617, died May 26, 2015, at his ranch near Emmett, Kansas. He was 93. He was the first executive director of the National Col-



legiate Athletic Association, and became the most powerful figure in college sports while leading and shaping his organization for 36 years. Current NCAA president Mark Emmert said in a statement: "Walter Byers

had a lasting impact on college sports. from those who compete on the field to the educators who support them. He shepherded the growing Association by encouraging academic excellence as a central part of college sports." When he started as NCAA executive director in 1951, Walter's focus was on helping the schools maintain strict control of all revenues the athletes generated. At that time, the figures were not too impressive. Today, the deals for football and basketball rights are worth billions. Tom Jernstedt, an NCAA executive for almost 40 years, said, "Walter was remarkable, Brilliant. A very creative individual, but very strong and demanding. His employees all had the utmost respect for him because of his work ethic and leadership values."Walter was married and divorced three times. He is survived by two sons, Fritz and Ward; a daughter, Ellen; six grandchildren; and two greatgrandchildren.

John C. Hunter, '41-624, died April 16, 2015, in Des Moines, Iowa, at age 92. He enlisted in the Navy in his sopho-

more year at the university, and started Naval Training School at Harvard University, finishing at Lawrence College in Wisconsin. Serving as a Lieutenant Commander in Communications aboard the mine sweeper USS Execute, he participated in the infiltration into Tokyo harbor at the end of World War II. Armed with a BA in economics that he eventually attained at lowa, he and his younger brother, Edwin, joined their father in the E.B. Hunter Insurance and Iowa Investment, Mortgage and Loan Company, The brothers invested and developed many interests in downtown Des Moines and elsewhere. John's wife, Ellen Montgomery Hunter, passed away less than two months after her husband, on June 8, 2015. Their children, John M. Hunter, Phoebe R. Hunter, and Thomas C. Hunter, survive; as well as two grandchildren.

Donald R. Campbell, '42-638, died September 2, 2013, in Arcadia, Oklahoma. After serving as an Army medic in Europe during World War II, Don gradu-

ated from the university with a business degree. He married Bonnie Mae Beckman, and moved to Omaha to start a career with General Motors. Upon retirement in 1979, Don and



Bonnie moved to Escondido, California. In 1985, they founded Heart to Heart Volunteers. For 15 years, this incredible and dedicated group of volunteers provided support and education to North County heart patients, their families, and the medical community. Don's humor was legendary, and his love of family and friends was first, foremost, and endless. His wife, Bonnie, preceded him in death. Survivors include their four sons: Ron, Don, Bob, and John; 13 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

John F. Davie, '43-685, died in La Jolla, California, on February 19, 2015—the birthday of his wife, Alice Lee, who passed away 26 years ago. John was

89. He served in the Army Air Corps during World War II, and later had a long career with Crown Zellerbach Paper Company in sales, marketing, and management. With their growing



family, John and Alice lived in Iowa, Utah, Oregon, Washington, New York, and Missouri. They lived in Jamul, California, before moving to La Jolla almost 30 years ago. John had a great zeal for life, joy, and laughter. He never knew a stranger. His kind and generous spirit and quick wit will be missed by all who knew him. He leaves behind his son, Alex, and daughter, Diane; five grand-children; and one great-granddaughter.

Continued on page 5



In Memoriam

Continued

Paul F. "Fred" Eno, '43-697, of Shenandoah, Iowa, died March 8, 2014, at age 89. He played on the football and basketball teams at UI, but was drafted into the Army during his first year of college. He spent two and a half years serving in World War II in the European Theater, and was awarded the Bronze Star.



After the war, Fred joined his father's business, Eno Furniture, and he ran the business until it closed in 1986, and he and his wife, Arlene, retired to Bella Vista, Arkansas. After Ar-

lene's death, Fred moved to Shenandoah in November 2012 to be close to family. He is survived by one son, Mark; two grandsons; and four great-grand-children. In addition to the loss of his wife, Fred was preceded in death by his son, Kurt, and grandson, Layne Eno.

J. Patrick Callaghan, '44-707, of Williamsburg, Virginia, died September 17, 2013, at age 86. He played right halfback on the UI football team and was a Marine Sergeant during World War II. His career after the war began in the stock room at F.W. Woolworth in Denver, Colorado. He worked his way up to the New York Headquarters as an executive in the Woolco/Woolworth division. Pat is survived by his wife, Judy; two daughters, Shawn and Reagan; and four grandchildren. He will be remembered for his love of gardening, golf, and football, but mostly for the laughter and light he brought into many people's lives.

John H. Criss, '46-722, died in Sac City, Iowa, on May 28, 2015. John graduated in 1949 with a BA in economics. Following graduation, he was employed by Washington Manufacturing Co., a clothing manufacturer, as a salesman in northern Illinois. Drafted into the Army in 1950, he served in Japan and Korea. He returned to Sac City in 1952



and joined his father in Chief Clothing Company, a prominent men's clothier in Sac City since 1929. John remained with Chief Clothing until 1997, when he sold the business and re-

tired. In memory of his great-grandfather, Judge Eugene Criss, founding father of Sac City, John purchased land on main street near the bridge, contracted to have a beautiful gazebo designed and meticulously constructed there, and upon its completion presented it to the city. He enjoyed tree planting and conservation work on his 42-acre tree farm, owning a show horse, and working in his fantastic vegetable garden. Survi-

vors include his only brother, Eugene; his niece, Jana; and nephews, Kurt and Erik. Other survivors include John's special friends, Dewey Reece, Renae and Joe Jacobsen, and countless other long-time friends.

Howard M. Madole, '46-744, of Prescott and Sedona, Arizona, died January 29, 2015, in Prescott. He was 91, and was known as Sedona's first architect. He moved to Arizona as a 25-year-old University of Iowa graduate with a bachelor's degree in science and commerce. His parents had purchased 10 acres of land in West Sedona and built a small road to their property, which is known as Madole Drive to this day. With no formal training or experience, How-

ard designed and built his first house with his family. The kind of improvisation he applied to the house, which still stands on its original site, stayed with him throughout his



career. By 1952, he owned the largest construction business in northern Arizona. He was active at Taliesin West in the mid 1950s, when Frank Lloyd Wright was on the scene. Howard Madole built the award-winning Usonian design house that still stands at Taliesin West. A replica of the design Wright built in Chicago, the house comes apart in four-foot sections and was displayed in Dallas, Chicago, and the Smithsonian during a national tour. He designed hundreds of residential and commercial buildings all over Arizona. At 82 years old, he was still a working architect with a full plate of projects. He was preceded in death by his wife, Gay. He is survived by his daughters, Merideth and Andrea; two nephews; and a niece.

James A. Sangster, '48-792, died at his home in Iowa City on March 21, 2015. He was a Nile Kinnick scholarship recipient. Jim played quarterback

and safety for UI, and he was president of the Intercollegiate Iowa Lettermen's Club. He and his wife, Jackie, were married in 1951, and Jim graduated from the university in 1952. He



served two years in the U.S. Air Force as a Lieutenant. In 1954, he and Jackie returned to Iowa City, and Jim started his long career with First National Bank. He retired in 1994 as senior vice president. He served as president of several community organizations, and was the founder and first president of the City High Alumni Association. He was on the original board of the Iowa Transfer System, which developed the statewide ATM system, and he was a member of the University of Iowa Presidents Club. Jim was a strong high school athlete

before he entered the university, and his love of athletics continued throughout his life. He coached numerous Little League and Babe Ruth teams, and served as a volunteer football coach at City High. Jim leaves behind his wife, Jackie; daughter, Patty; two sons, Jim and Bob; five grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

John L. Bunce, '48-798, died at his home in Carmel Valley, California, on March 4, 2014. He was 84. He graduated from the university with BA and JD degrees in 1953. John joined the Army one year later and served as a Lieutenant, stationed in Germany in the JAG Corps. He met Betty Bailey while stationed at Fort Ord in Monterey, California, and they were married in 1957. After his discharge from the Army in 1958, he moved to Atlantic, Iowa, where he was the treasurer and a member of the Board of Directors of Walnut Grove, Inc. He later worked for W.R. Grace in New York City. In 1963, he joined First Mid America in Omaha, where he was First Vice President. After 20 years with First Mid America, he became an entrepreneur involved in a variety of new business ventures. John will be remembered for his irrepressible optimism, quick wit, and deep curiosity. Survivors include his wife, Betty; children, Jack, Kate Duhamel, and Bill; and 12 grandchildren.

Richard H. "Dick" Gerdes, '49-805, died at his home in Minneapolis on February 3, 2015, at age 85. Dick graduated with a BA in 1950. For several

years, he sold advertising for WHO-TV and Radio in Des Moines, and served as a loan officer and in-house advertising director for Home Federal Savings



and Loan. In 1969, he started his own advertising agency, producing creative work for which he received national and local awards. After moving to Minneapolis in the mid-1980s, Dick started his own executive recruiting firm, specializing in art directors and copywriters working in the advertising industry. In Des Moines, Dick served on the Des Moines Planning and Zoning Commission for nine years - seven as chairman. He contributed untold hours at Drake University, where he taught advanced copywriting classes for 16 years. In Minneapolis, Dick also served on the Minneapolis Charter Commission. He will be remembered for his dry sense of humor and his love of contemporary art and mid-century furniture. He had a keen eye for all creative efforts and a "never give up" attitude about life. He was preceded in death by two daughters, Christine and Alison. He is survived by his wife, Carolyn; daughter, Leslie Johnston; and son, Scott.