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REUNION

Save The Date!



Founder's Day has been set for **Saturday, March 25, 2017!** Watch our monthly email communications which

will have the up-to-the-minute details.

If you don't receive email from us and would like to, let our editor know by emailing alumninews@affinityconnection.com so we can add you to our list.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Alumnus' Son Weds in NYC



Congratulations to **Jeffrey Chodorow, Beta Pi '69**, on the marriage of their son, Zachary, to Brittany Marom of New York City on September 24, 2016. As reported in the New York Times on September 25, 2016, Zachary is a graduate of Penn and Brittany graduated from the University of Vermont. Presently, Jeffrey owns China Grill Management, a company that manages restaurants and bars.

October 2016

Slices of Beta Pi

www.pika-upenn.org

The Alumni Newsletter of the Beta Pi Chapter of
Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity

FEATURE STORY

A Look Back at the PIKA Experience 70 Years Ago

Don Schreiber Shares his Lifelong Experience with Beta Pi Chapter

In 2017, Brother **Don Schreiber '47** will celebrate 70 years of being a member of Pi Kappa Alpha.

Don describes his membership simply. "My experience at Beta Pi gave me a bunch of true friendships that I've maintained a long time," he says.

That couldn't be more true. Don, who will turn 88 in September, attends Founders' Day each year. He's also been a regular attendee at a couple smaller reunions.

"At one point, we had about 25 Alumni Brothers who met once a year on the second Friday in December for lunch," he explains. "We bounced around different hotels until 1985. Then we settled on the Union League. It was held there for many years, but 11 years ago, we moved to Merion Cricket Club. Last year (2015) was the first year in many that the event didn't take place."

Don feels confident that it will recommence this year. The event was originally mostly for 1950s era graduates, but over the years, younger alumni have joined the group.

Don is also part of a smaller group of brothers, along with spouses, who hold an annual meal.

"We started to have dinner from house to house which included spouses and that's continued for a lot of years," he says. "I was the host last year. I'm a widower, so it was not held at my house. We met at my club for a luncheon instead of dinner because too many people attending don't drive at night now."



During Don's time, the makeup of the house was quite different from what brothers of other decades may have experienced.

"I started at Penn in the fall of 1946," he explains. "It was a very different situation then. The war had

ended in August of 1945, and this was the first class nationally benefiting from the GI Bill. The majority of people entering Penn were returning veterans, so many of the brothers were married and had children."

During that time, all meals were available at the house, and the brothers—both boarders and commuters—usually ate there.

Don remembers his time there fondly, and he makes a point to support the organization to ensure the vitality of the chapter.

"I donate to a lot of organizations, including my church, my prep school, hospitals, Penn, and other charities each year," he says. "Beta Pi Chapter is one of many because I think it is the right thing to do."

"My predecessors at Penn were contributors, so I felt I should give back as well," he continued. "I know the founders of the chapter were very active as far as being there on Founders' Day. They were successful people—attorneys, bank presidents, and such—and they certainly made it clear that it was important to give back. Many of the brothers from my era have been big contributors—they have given back to fraternity and the house. In fact,

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FEATURE STORY

Don Schreiber Shares his Lifelong Experience with Beta Pi Chapter



Left to right: Andrew Rubin (Undergraduate), John Allen (deceased), Joe Livezey, Jack Walden, Frank Bates (Deceased), Don Schreiber, and Eric Hoffman (Undergraduate).



Left around to right: Tom James (deceased), Joe Hess(deceased), Dick Sheridan, Bruce Wolfson, Al Ford, Harry Schaub



Left to right: Rich Myers, Nick Chimicles, Stan Serocca, Ed Laquer(deceased), Ray Kaelin (deceased), Justin Levine, and Dave Edman.

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without a couple of them, the house wouldn't be there today. When the university, in its expansion, took over our house and tore it down, Joseph P. Moore Jr. '45 found the new location and architects, negotiated with Penn, and sought contributions to re-establish it. It would never have happened without him and others."

After graduating from Penn, Don spent two years in the Army. Following, he was married to his late wife Betty Anne in 1954. Don dated her through college, and though she didn't study at Penn, she attended many events on campus and was named Beta Pi's PiKA Dream Girl during Don's senior year.

After his two-year stint in the Army, Don went to work for Philco, an electronics and appliance manufacturer. He spent 11 years with the company in sales, and he was transferred many times, living and working in the Midwest.

Living in Indiana, Don then worked for the Norge Appliance Division of Borg-Warner Corporation, which was later purchased by Fedders Corporation. He declined a promotion to Chicago and resigned to move back to the Philadelphia area where he became a life insurance agent in 1969 and still continues that work today.

"I'm in business for myself, I'm not an employee," he says. "As an agent, you can

work as hard as you want to work and you can keep working. I enjoy coming to the office and I enjoy my clients. I have a lot who are really friends and I know their families. Why stop? It keeps me out of trouble and my health is reasonably good. I play golf and enjoy my sailboat and my little Boston Whaler."

Don has three sons, a daughter, and seven grandchildren. His oldest son, Rick, graduated from Penn and Beta Pi in 1977. His father graduated from Wharton/Penn and his grandfather from Penn Medicine.

"I certainly enjoy anything to do with Penn and have enjoyed my longtime relationship with Beta Pi and Pi Kappa Alpha," Don says.

REUNION

Strengthening Our Bonds

Class of 1986 Holds 30th Reunion Weekend

In May, the class of 1986 held their 30-year reunion at Penn. About 17 PiKA brothers from the pledge class attended some portion of the reunion. Brothers came from Chicago, Florida, California, North Carolina, New York, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

The group enjoyed two days of golf, dinner in Atlantic City, and lunch at Pat's King of Steaks. They also attended the Penn 30th Reunion function, gathered to play beer pong, and finished the reunion off with more cheese steaks from Pat's.



Also attending the weekend but not pictured were Jeff Spear, Barry Steiner & Larry Mendelsohn, Larry Israeloff, Keith Gottlieb, Ken Esterow, Gary Survis and Andy Oshrin. An unprecedented over 60 percent of the initiation class attended our 30th Penn Reunion!

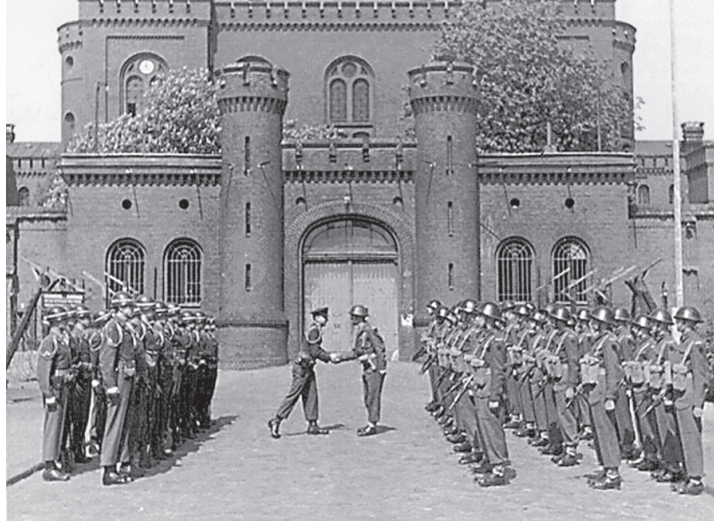


PIKA Has Its Place In History

John Eldred '66 — *Guard of Rudolf Hess, the Last Nazi Prisoner* *From The Post — WWII Nuremberg Trials*

“The irony of being an Ivy-League graduate Platoon Sergeant, meant I didn’t fit in anywhere,” laughs Pike Brother **John Eldred**. “I think there was a sample of two of us in the entire army.

We had various duties, we had to be there when every politician flew in, and I was in charge of a platoon when Nixon came over. Twice a year we drove 110 miles to West Germany for training, we had to be combat ready and we were also in charge of security at Spandau Prison. We were not allowed to have any ammunition, which caused a bit of concern.”



The changing of the guard

other officers to prove they had been communicating between prisoner and guard. He got my guy busted, which just confirmed what we all thought of Hess anyway. He was the last evil, son of a gun and the sooner we could get rid of him, the better. Of course we weren’t allowed to do anything about that.

“We would do shifts for a month and then hand it over to the British, the British to the French, and then the French to the Russians, he recalled.

Every time there was a changing of the guard ceremony,

all the generals from all four major powers would show up,” says Eldred. This was usually a chance for them to get together and have coffee and drink Vodka. They would all watch the ceremony, we would march in to the courtyard and we would take over for whoever had been on guard before us. We



John Eldred

Rewind a few years. Brother Eldred began his journey into the history books as a young man at Penn and was commuting from home. PIKA was the only fraternity that recruited commuters and was the only fraternity that accepted both Christian and Jewish members.

“PIKA taught me to understand the centrality of comradeship,” said Eldred. “It was these values that propelled the young man to his role in history.

At the time, this was when there were a lot of student protests happening in Berlin and one of our jobs was to provide backup for the Berlin Police in terms of riot duty.”

In October of 1946, Rudolf Hess, who

was appointed Deputy to Adolf Hitler in 1933, was convicted and sentenced to life in prison for crimes against peace.

Hess served his life sentence at Spandau Prison and in 1968, remained the “last mad symbol,” of the men who ran Nazi Germany.

“He was the only one left and we were told that the Russians refused to release him,” recalls Eldred. “We were not allowed to talk to him or shine any search lights in his cell, so even then, we were concerned about being politically correct.

The only time you saw Hess was when he came out for his exercise. One of the standing orders was you were not allowed to talk to the prisoners. Hess used to go in this circuit with his head down and on the back of his jacket was the number 7 - that was his prisoner number. He had worn a path about six inches deep going around and around in a circle with his head down. One day he looked up at one of the GI’s in the tower and flipped him the bird!”

Eldred recalls that Hess did talk to one of the young guards once, asking him for a cigarette and the kid, who was about 17, threw a cigarette down to him. Hess was cackling and took the cigarette to one of the



Rudolph Hess

were told that if we showed up the Russian Honor Guard, we would get a three-day pass!

You have to understand, that was a big deal, so we always found ways to show up the Honor Guard.

I was in Berlin for 19 months and there was a lot of “What are we doing here?” The Chicago riots were happening and Bobby Kennedy was killed and we felt like we were needed elsewhere.”

We’re always on the lookout for great alumni news, stories, memories and photos! Share yours today at www.pika-upenn.org or by mailing them along with your gift.



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ALUMNI PROFILE

"Beta Pi Selected Me, And I Selected Them"

Admittedly, Brother **Scott Rothbort '79** rushed and received bids from other fraternities' chapters upon arriving at the University of Pennsylvania.

Rothbort, now President of Lake View Asset Management, LLC. in Henderson, NV, chose Pika and Beta Pi for several reasons.

"A few random things came together when I joined," Rothbort revealed. "My family was family friends with the Mackler family, who had two boys, Scott and Harvey, in Pika. My freshmen RA, **Lenny Mongiello '76** was also a Brother. So that was just a natural way for me to visit and rush the fraternity."

Over time, Rothbort met other Brothers and he enjoyed Beta Pi chapter and its people.

"They selected me and I selected them," he said.

"I also arrived at the University of Pennsylvania right after the release of Animal House and fraternities were in vogue," he said. "That really helped to sell the fraternity system."

Of the many memories he gained as a Pika Brother, Rothbort cited two in particular, the first of those lighthearted, the second, a bit more serious.

"We enjoyed Monday Night Football when it was really a big deal," Rothbort said. "We would boil hot dogs, serve beer, and watch the game. It was always enjoyable."

Another memory, though much more



"It's important as you proceed in life to maintain friendships"

serious, also stands out to Rothbort.

"We were at Penn when the Iranian Consulate was taken over and we really banded together, to help support the hostages," he says. "Brother **John Woodward '81** held a rally for the hostages."

These lasting memories were not lost on Rothbort's sons, two of which are in fraternities. One of those two is also the IFC President at UNLV.

"I loved the environment," he says. "You had guys who were pre-med and the Wharton Business School guys, who would later go on to become very successful on Wall Street. We subscribed to the Wall Street Journal and would sit around talking about

stocks. It was a great environment."

That environment led to Brother Rothbort's passion for staying in touch with many of his Brothers to this day. Those in his class, after, and before it.

"It's important as you proceed in life to maintain friendships," he says. "We all have a commonality amongst us. I am just one of those people that like to keep up with family, friends, etc.

We meet up in many places such as Yonkers Raceway, Las Vegas, and Manhattan. We make sure we do it."

MAKE A GIFT

Each gift to PiKA makes a difference. You can make your gift in three ways:

- Log on to www.pika-upenn.org
- Call 800-975-6699
- Mail a check payable to "Beta Pi Alumni Association" to:

**Pi Kappa Alpha/Penn
Alumni Relations Office
P.O. Box 7007
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007**