

## RECENT EVENT

### FAUX FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION 2019



On February 28, 2019, a collection of Beta Pi Pike alumni gathered at the Redemption Sports Lounge in New York City to celebrate brotherhood and the 151<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the founding of the Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Thanks to organizer **Parker Weil, Beta Pi '85**, this event has become an annual tradition, drawing a good group of graduates from 1983 to 1992. This year's turnout was strong with approximately 40 brothers in attendance, mostly from the NY/NJ/CT/PA area, including esteemed Beta Pi Alumni Association President **Ross Weiner, Beta Pi '80**. Of special note, there were attendees from Illinois, **Jay Weitzman '83**, and North Carolina, **Rob Heffes, Beta Pi '83**. The long-distance award for most man miles travelled went to **Robert Katz, Beta Pi '85**, from Colorado. The initiation years 1983 and 1985 tied for most brothers in attendance.

It is hoped to have an even larger turnout next year. Next year's celebration is presently scheduled for March 5, 2020. If you are interested in being on the email chain for this event, please reach out to **Parker Weil** at [parkerandersweil5@gmail.com](mailto:parkerandersweil5@gmail.com)

March 2019

# Slices of Beta Pi

[www.pika-upenn.org](http://www.pika-upenn.org)

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

## CHAPTER EVENT RECAP

### Third Annual NYC Beta Pi Dinner a Huge Success

On Wednesday, December 12, 2018, the third annual NYC Beta Pi dinner, organized by Jeff Kaufman, and hosted by Adam "Murray" Amsterdam, was held at the Penn Club, 30 W.44th St., New York City.

A loud and spirited cocktail hour was held prior to dinner as 43 Beta Pi Alumni, primarily from the initiation years '80 to '85, renewed old acquaintances. This year also brought a large contingent of Beta Pi alumni initiated in the late 70's.

As the crowd broke off into groups of two, three, and four, brothers could be seen moving from one group to another. It certainly seemed that the 70's and 80's were being fondly remembered, as well as the manner of drinking beer: straight from the bottle. As the brothers circulated throughout the room, the energy and vibrancy of that era was apparent. As expected, it was a lively and fun evening. The Smythe winning chapters of this generation are the epitome of Pi Kappa Alpha's purpose for existence: "For the establishment of friendship on a firmer and more lasting basis". The life-long friendships that were formed approximately 40 years ago still exist to this very day.

After a buffet style dinner, very short speeches were made. Jeff Kaufman thanked all who came and made special mention of Bruce Wolfson '71 having been presented the International Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity's highest achievement award, the Loyalty Award. Jeff's question to the gathering, whether scheduling the dinner only two weeks prior to Christmas was the right time, brought an enthusiastic positive response. Expect the next dinner to be scheduled similarly.

As President of the Beta Pi Alumni Association, Ross Weiner spoke to the importance of keeping all Beta Pi alumni



aware and involved with the fraternity and the necessity of having sufficient funds to continue the monthly newsletters and Slices. The event

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## RECAP

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continued long after the speeches. A good time was had by all.

Below is a list of all those who attended:

Jeff Abramowitz	Adam Hodes
Jim Adelsheim	Dave Horing
Buddy Altus	John Joseph
Adam Amsterdam	Larry Israeloff
Tony Auteri	Mitch Karig
Tom Brodie	Jeff Kaufman
Rich Buchwald	Steve Kreichman
Mark Cohen	Jeff Lehman
Morty Cohen	Michael Monheit
Rob Epstein	Eric Morgenstern
John Feder	Lawrence Orans
Tom Fogarty	Rob Oringer
Pete Gordon	Ron Perilstein
Michael Halpern	Ron Pillar
Jeff Himeles	Jimmy Post



Steve Potter	Lee Weiner
Paul Reszutek	Ross Weiner
Fred Rubin	Sam Weinstein
Greg Sembler	Steve Winston
Michael Shein	Bruce Wolfson
Bora Silva	Ken Wyman
Rob Stavis	

## NYCAA 2<sup>ND</sup> MEETING

### NYC Alumni Association to Recharter

The NYC Alumni Association is being re-chartered. The second organizational meeting took place on November 26, 2018. As a prelude to actual scheduling of activities, a survey is being sent, to all PiKA alumni in the New York City metropolitan area, to ascertain which activities/events are most likely to be of interest to local alumni. If you receive this survey and possibly have an interest in participating in an organization that will be responsive to your interests, please complete and return the survey. We want your input.

If you are new to this area, or graduating this year and intend to be moving to the NYC



area to start careers, or your address is not on our database, the NYCAA is looking for you. Events will be scheduled combining social activity and the opportunity to network with successful PiKA alumni in this area.

Just as your chapter house serves as a meeting point for PiKA alumni returning to campus, the NYCAA hopes to serve as a common ground. Follow the thread of friendship that links PiKAs of all chapters and provides benefits beyond your college years. Any person who is interested in participating in the NYCAA in any capacity, now or in the future, as an officer, as a committee chairman or member, or attending any of the events or get-togethers that will be scheduled, is urged to contact Josh Fensterstock at [josh@fensterstocklaw.com](mailto:josh@fensterstocklaw.com)

## ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

### Eugenia Melian Debuts “Wildchilds” at NYC Book Signing

Recently, **Paul Zaentz, Beta Pi '69**, invited all interested Beta Pi brothers to a book signing event held on December 6, 2018, at the Bookmarc bookstore located in New York City's Greenwich Village. The feature presentation of the book signing was the release of the novel *Wildchilds*, authored by Paul's significant other, Eugenia Melian.

As noted on Goodreads, “Eugenia Melian has worked as a model, agent, producer, and music supervisor in Milan, Paris, London, New York and Los Angeles. She has discovered, managed, art directed and produced some of the most talented artists of our time ... that include ...Catherine Deneuve, ...Faye Dunaway, Marlon



Brando, (and) Prince.” Eugenia is also fluent in four languages, meaning she can curse at Paul in three different languages and Paul would not know it.

*Wildchilds* is her debut novel. Kindle describes the book as “... a suspenseful journey through the closed world of the fashion industry, where the beautiful people do ugly things.”

The book is presently available in paperback and e-book formats on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and wherever books are sold. Not to be outdone, after careful negotiations, Paul has secured the movie rights to *Wildchilds*.

### United States Supreme Court Hears Beta Pi Alumnus Lawsuit

On October 6, 2018, Brett Kavanaugh was sworn in as the newest member of the United States Supreme Court. His first day sitting with the Court was October 9, 2018. The next day, October 10, he will have heard, and perhaps participated, in the oral argument of *Air & Liquid Systems et al. v. DeVries et al.*, a lawsuit filed by **Richard Myers, Beta Pi '69**.

As an attorney, brother Myers' specialty is bringing lawsuits for damages on behalf of persons who have suffered from exposure to asbestos and other contaminants. In

this case, the defendant in the lawsuit was Air & Liquid Systems, a company that made machinery to be used by the United States Navy. Although the machinery as manufactured by the company contained no asbestos, it was designed in a manner that it would not function properly unless it was used with asbestos insulation. The manufacturer knew and intended that asbestos would be applied to the machinery. It is further alleged by DeVries et al. that the company knew of the debilitating effects of asbestos exposure, manufactured and sold

this machinery to the U.S. Navy, and should have warned users of this danger.

This matter was brought to the attention of the U.S. Supreme Court by the manufacturers after having lost the case in the lower courts. Arguing the case before the court, in place of brother Myers, was Tom Goldstein, an experienced U.S. Supreme Court advocate. Mr. Goldstein is one of the founders of SCOTUSblog, has argued many cases before the Court, is known to the members of the Court, and provides instant credibility for any position he supports.

## SHIELD AND DIAMOND HIGHLIGHT

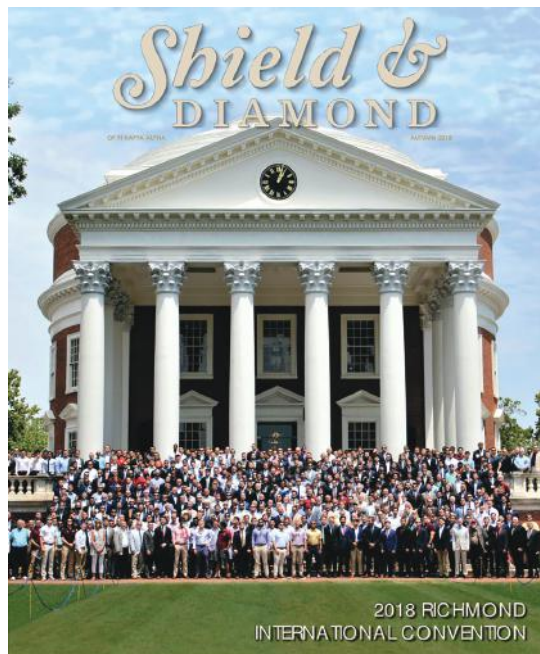
### Pi Kappa Alpha International Honors Beta Pi

The Autumn 2018 issue of the *Shield and Diamond* magazine, honors Beta Pi, its active members, and alumni.

Bruce Wolfson, Beta Pi '71, was again recognized by PiKA for the Loyalty Award bestowed on him at the Sesquicentennial Convention this past summer in Richmond, Virginia. On the International level, Bruce has served as the PIKE Foundation president, PiKA Int'l vice president, and PiKA Int'l grand treasurer. He presently serves as a Foundation trustee. On the local level, Bruce has served as chapter advisor to Beta Pi, Iota Lambda (Columbia University), and Gamma Rho (Northwestern University). He was the founding president of the Chicago Area Alumni Association, and a founding member of the New York City and Beta Pi Alumni Associations. Presently, he is vice president of the Beta Pi Alumni Association. Once again, congratulations to brother Wolfson for being given one of the highest accolades PiKA Int'l awards.

On the local level, Beta Pi undergraduate members were presented a Level II Recruitment Award for having achieved a 50% or more increase in initiates over the 2017 total.

The Pi Kappa Alpha Chapter and Colony Directory once again shows Beta Pi to have the largest CEF (Chapter Endowment Fund) of all PiKA chapters and colonies: \$210,207. Each chapter's CEF is administered by PiKA Int'l to cover certain expenses relating to undergraduate attendance at PIKE University and the annual convention. This past year, the CEF, in conjunction with the Gregg J. Ormond Memorial Fund, provided scholarships to the following Beta Pi active members: Ernesto Alcantar '17, Miguelangel De Armas '17, Sam Eichenwald '17, Ari Levine '17, Jason Pak '17, and Nicholas Parkes '17.



Other Beta Pi scholarship winners for the academic year 2017-18, are Daniel Maldonado '15, from the Dave Herman Memorial Scholarship fund, and Nicolas DeLuna '15 from the Scott A. Mackler, MD, PhD, True Grit Scholarship Fund. A separate scholarship fund, administered by PiKA Int'l and available to all Pikes, is the Scott Mackler, MD, PhD, Medical School Memorial Scholarship, established by the Joseph Alexander Foundation, at the request of Harvey Mackler, Beta Pi '72, to honor the legacy of Dr. Mackler, Beta Pi '77. The 2018 recipient of this scholarship was Alex Satoski (Virginia Commonwealth University, Lambda Chi '13).

PiKA Int'l thanks volunteers for the fraternity by recognizing them for reaching 5, 10, 15, 20, and 25 years of continuous service. This year, Volunteer Recognition Milestones were met by the following Beta Pi alumni: Joel Catania (15 years), Rich Epstein (15 years), and Morty Cohen (5 years).

As previously reported in a Beta Pi newsletter, the passing of Alberto Chamorro, Beta Pi '47, has now been recognized by Pi Kappa Alpha International, in the Autumn 2018 issue of the *Shield and Diamond* magazine, in a manner that PiKA Int'l uses to distinguish their most renowned and successful alumni. This tribute to brother Chamorro contained quotes from his son, Alberto J. Chamorro, Beta Pi '75, a member of the Penn Board of Trustees and is also on the Board of Overseers of Penn's School of Nursing, and Don Schreiber, Beta Pi '47, a life-long friend since their initiation into Beta Pi in 1947.

The Beta Pi Alumni Association is proud and expresses their appreciation for all those who have received individual recognition and to those who contributed time and effort on behalf of Beta Pi and PiKA Int'l to achieve group recognition in this issue of *Shield and Diamond*.

## SCOTT A. MACKLER MD PHD 5K

### Beta Pi's Take Prominent Role in the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Scott Mackler 5k Run/Walk

On October 22, 2018, the Scott A. Mackler MD PhD 5K run/walk (Mackler 5K) took place at Temple Beth El in Newark, Delaware. This event was created through the impetus of Harvey Mackler, Beta Pi '72, and the Mackler family, to honor the legacy of **Scott A. Mackler, Beta Pi '77**. Since the beginning, Harvey has organized and managed the event that has been run annually for 19 years.

This event has been a successful fundraiser for the benefit of the ALS Association of Greater Philadelphia (ALS Philadelphia). Through the years, well over \$1,000,000 has been raised allowing ALS Philadelphia to provide technology and equipment to any person in the Philadelphia area who suffers from the debilitating effects of ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig's disease, to make their lives easier. All money raised by this event is given to ALS Philadelphia. The various costs and expenses of the Mackler 5K are paid by the Mackler family and the various sponsors of the Mackler 5K.

Since the beginning, Pi Kappa Alpha has always supported



From left to right: Alex Schoeny '18, Nick Youssef '18, and Daniel Acosta '18. Daniel came in first, Nick in second, and Alex in third.

the venture by participation and

fund raising. This year, a large contingent of Beta Pi active members came to run in the event and offer their support for the Mackler family. The Beta Pi undergraduate members were able to donate \$650. Although the Mackler 5K takes place only one day of the year, the needs of those stricken by ALS exist every day of the year. It is never too late to donate to a worthy cause. Donations can be sent to ALS Philadelphia at: [www.ScottMackler5k.com](http://www.ScottMackler5k.com).

In the race to determine the fastest Beta Pi brothers, Daniel Acosta '18 won the event. Nick Youssef '18 took second. Alex Schoeny '18 placed third. Congratulations to these three brothers on their accomplishments.

The Beta Pi Alumni Association is proud of the current undergraduates for their dedication and efforts on behalf of this charitable endeavor that is so close to our hearts.

## CHAPTER HOUSE EVENTS

### Halloween Party



On Saturday, October 27, 2018, Pi Kappa Alpha undergraduates held a registered (University approved and regulated) Halloween party at the Chapter House. The event was very successful and had great attendance, as you can imagine from the photo.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Founders Day

The Beta Pi Alumni Association is having its annual Founders Day dinner on Saturday, March 30, 2019, at the Inn at Penn on Penn's campus. If you are interested in attending this function, that will be celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the opening of the Chapter House at 3916 Spruce Street, please contact **Joel Catania** at [jlclii@aol.com](mailto:jlclii@aol.com)

## PHILANTHROPY FLASHBACK

### Pi Kappa Alpha Leads in War Effort

**Greeks in Contributions Pi Kappa Alpha Leads**  
Thursday, January 14, has been set aside as Feather Day on the campus. At this time the War Chest Committee will place Penn men and co-eds at War Chest booths in all buildings on the campus to enable students to contribute at their convenience.  
"While money has been slow in coming in," stated Tom O'Conner, publicity director of the drive, "we expect to see a campus covered with green feathers on Friday.  
Fraternity contributions are being paced by the donations of Pi Kappa Alpha, which has turned in its full quota. "This, however, is not indicative of houses as a whole. Fraternity money has not been coming in fast enough, although the Inter-Fraternity Council has already contributed \$400.

During World War II, the Daily Pennsylvanian makes special recognition of Pi Kappa Alpha as the leader in contributions for the war effort amongst all fraternities on campus. The Daily Pennsylvanian of January 12, 1943 notes, according to the campus War Chest Committee, Pi Kappa Alpha had already "turned in its full quota" of contributions although, as a whole, "Fraternity money has not been coming in fast enough."