

Psidelights



Penn State Skull House

Est. 1890

April 2004

Fraternal Walk — Spring Update

The Fraternal Walk will be completed this April, with the planting of two more oak trees and several more hemlocks. Many thanks to **James Kerrigan '78** for his recent donation. We also thank the following brothers for their



The final phase of the Fraternal Walk will soon be completed. Thank you to those brothers who helped make this a reality.

donations: **John Goldham '46, Thomas Hebel '77, Michael Rycheck '87, Erick Chizmar '88, Marti Pulli '91 and Brett Pulli '93.**

The donors and honored brothers will be recognized on the bronze plaque that will be placed in the foyer. Photos of the completed Fraternal Walk will be in the fall issue of Psidelights as well on our Web site, www.psuskull.com.

We hope that on your next visit to PSU, you will visit the house and enjoy the Fraternal Walk.

Get NEWS FROM THE BONE Every Month

Make sure that you are receiving the monthly Penn State Skull House e-letter update. If you aren't getting this e-mail update, please send your name and e-mail address to psuskulls@hotmail.com. You'll receive the latest Skull House news — including reunion updates, notification of the latest editions to the Web site and the Skull photo of the month.



Skull House alumnus makes it to the top of the New Age music charts ... see page 2 for his story.

Philadelphia Get-together — Organizers Requested

We would like to hold another Philadelphia Skull House Get-together this May or June. We need a brother or two living in Philadelphia to help organize the event (basically coordinating the time and location). The Alumni Association will handle all of the promotions, including e-mails, mailings and the reservations. We just need a local Philadelphian to get it rolling. From the number of requests, this should be a good turn out.

If you would like to volunteer to help, please send an e-mail to psuskulls@hotmail.com.

To All Southern California Skull House Alumni

It's time that we all get together. There are several alumni between L.A. and San Diego. If anyone would like to help pull something together, please contact **Ty Torres '91** at ty-torres@cox.net.



Snow and fun in 1990



Party Room 1960

Alumni Profile with Eric McCarl '76

A Chart-topping New Year for This Skull House Alum

It's a February 2004 Monday morning — a rather groggy Monday morning following a night of GRAMMY Awards, a few post-



Eric "Babyface" McCarl during his days at the Skull House.

ceremony parties ... maybe even a few martinis. The phone in a room of the downtown Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel rings. The hand of a very tired musician reaches around, finds the phone and answers. "Hello?" At the other end of the phone, a small voice can't

wait. "Daddy! You're number one!"

Now, to most fathers, a "You're number one!" statement may be one of endearment seen on a Father's Day card or on a picture from a kindergarten art class. But to **Eric McCarl '81**, this statement meant a little more. It meant that he had reached the number-one position on the New Age music charts for January 2004 (see www.newagereporter.com/charts/top100.asp). And what better way to learn of this moment than from his daughter, Erin (age 5).

"This process has been a fantastic realization of a long term dream that I nearly gave up," said this emerging solo pianist and producer, "and I am overwhelmed by the response."

The son of a Penn State Professor and four-year occupant of the Skull House, McCarl graduated with a degree in computer science, along with several credits in music composition. "I was on the five-year plan! The hardest part was making it to my Thursday, 8:00 a.m. class at the music building after a Wednesday-night rush party. But the music was important. I hoped one day that this would be my profession."

It was this spirit of creativity that began to fuel McCarl's inspiration through music, whether it be playing in rock 'n' roll bands or leading a group of misfits in the annual Greek Sing. "I had heard about the Alpha Chi Omega Greek Sing, so I just grabbed a bunch of guys — **George Bodenger '79**, **Dave Budney '79**, **Bob Kane '82** and **Dan Bosin '82**," said McCarl. "We ended up getting together in the bathroom of the fraternity where the acoustics were good." Rousing the crowds over the coming years with their renditions of "Take You Back" (from the original "Rocky" movie), "Brown Eyed Girl" and "Twist and Shout," this Skull House doo-wop group brought Phi Kappa Sigma a new respect on the Penn State campus.

And while all music continually influences McCarl's work, his personal and spiritual journey has resulted in a composition of New Age music that has reached the top of a music chart representing artists such as Enya, George Winston and Yo-Yo Ma. "I look back at the boy I was at Penn State and the person I am today. What I hold most dearly is the relationships and learning to live with people from all walks of life. Phi Kappa Sigma was truly a melting pot of personalities. It taught me to respect others, a lesson that I continue to reap benefits from to this very day."

Eric McCarl and wife, Julie, live in California with daughters Erin Aja and Amanda Paige. Brothers can reach him at eric.mccarl@verizon.net. For more information on the music of Eric McCarl, go to www.ericmccarl.com.



Alumni Q&A with Ken Dolman '94

Taking No North Somewhere

"An intellectual is a man who says a simple thing in a difficult way; an artist is a man who says a difficult thing in a simple way." Charles Bukowski

It's the beatnik way: to find meaning in the unconventional, the experience. And while Brother **Ken Dolman '94** is far removed from the Beat generation (by almost 40 years), this former Skull House pledge trainer has taken his band on a journey of discovery, releasing three CDs over the past four years.

His band, No North, whose name was inspired by the writings of Beat poet Charles Bukowski, has had music licensed for radio and television. Turning their focus from acoustic music to rock and roll, No North has recently released their latest CD, "88." To find out more about No North, log on to www.nonorth.com.

We hope you enjoy this alumni profile.

Why did you join Skull House?

I grew up in Connecticut, but both of my parents went to Penn State. I hadn't necessarily planned to pledge a fraternity, but I met some friends who were rushing—friends like **Lincoln Taylor '93** and **Keith Hancock '92**. I liked the mix of people, and it just seemed like

the unfraternity fraternity — a very diverse brotherhood.

What influence has the Skull House had on your life since graduation?

I have a lot of friends I still keep in touch with — brothers like **Jim Hartman '92**, **Gavin Haney '93**, **Chris Zuniga '91**, **Linc Taylor**, **Steve Jurczak '93**, **Jon Cramer '94**, **Bill Snyder '93** in California, **Gordy Kauffman '95**, **Mike Rycheck '87**, **Ryan Woodring '94**, **Roger Kacin '94** and **Ty Torres '91**—

everyone who came to Chris Zuniga's bachelor party. I keep in touch with them, but over the years there have been many that I have bumped into. If one of us hasn't been in touch for a long time, it is so easy to call and have that common bond re-established very easily.

Go to www.psuskull.com to read Ken's complete profile.



Ken Dolman '94 and No North release their third CD, "88."

— 2003 Honor Roll —

Thank YOU for making 2003 the best year yet for our Penn State Skull House Alumni Association.

We are extremely pleased to announce that we broke last year's record of alumni dues and donations. Your donations are allowing us to continue to update and

expand our alumni program of the Psidelights, e-letters, reunions, alumni database updates and our Web site.

We are proud to recognize the following brothers for donating to the Penn State Skull House Alumni Association in 2003.

1890 Club (\$890+)

John B. Goldham 1946

Stellis Aequos Durando Club (\$500-\$889)

Otto Grupp 1951
Paul J. McCartney 1969
Thomas L. Hebel 1977

Psi Club (\$250-\$499)

Richard S. Schweiker 1950
Thomas P. Woolaway 1954
Graham W. Hume 1955
Harold E. Pellow 1958
William F. Gaul 1969
John A. Lapinski 1969
David Edward Beck 1977
Michael C. Friel 1977
Christopher J. McKown 1977
John DiDonato 1983

Club Skull (\$100-\$249)

George W. Blakslee 1942
Charles W. Daiker 1948
John R. Schubert 1948
Henry E. Rea 1949
Richard L. James 1950

Hobart D. Pollard 1950
David W. Christopher 1951
James W. Davis 1952
John S. Wylie 1952
William F. Bauer 1955
Robert B. Mowery 1955
John C. Molloy 1956
Fred W. Montanari 1956
James H. Bissett 1957
Gregory S. Bean 1960
Alan J. Davidson 1960
James B. Mason 1960
William T. Euwer 1961
Henry J. Oppermann 1961
William H. Swisshelm 1961
David T. Allison 1962
Donald M. Barnes 1965
Robert F. Then 1965
Thomas A. Getz 1966
Joseph W. Koletar 1966
Anthony Perricelli 1967
James B. Clark 1968
Thomas W. Salinsky 1969
Gregory L. Peterson 1972
Joseph W. Ush 1975
Joseph P. Patonetz 1976
Mark R. Denkowski 1977

Paul A. McGeehan 1977
Russell C. Hatton 1978
Patrick J. Mitchell 1980
Andrew J. Kuncas 1981
Donald A. Adam 1987
Michael P. Rycheck 1987
Michael S. Cardonick 1990
Brian S. Oswald 1990
Bradley L. Ottinger 1991
Ty A. Torres 1991
Donald John Pohland 1992
Mark Jones 1993
Grady J. Goodwin 1994
Anne M. Burns

Dues Giver (\$1-\$99)

Harold E. Muncaster 1934
Henry S. McFall 1936
Robert M. Jameson 1942
Charles C. Mathews 1942
Walter E. Lewis 1949
John W. Mitchell 1949
W. T. Salom 1949
Fred H. Shihadeh 1950
Ronald T. Coder 1951
C. Nat Netscher 1951
Thomas L. Davies 1954

Frederick P. Le Van 1954
R. Nevin Rupp 1954
Theodore S. Klein 1956
Noel B. DeCavalcante 1959
Jack R. Javens 1959
Samuel B. Curry 1962
John B. Haberlen 1962
Guy Randall Askley 1971
Mark J. Nowakowski 1973
James C. Pfahl 1973
Dennis A. Douvanis 1974
James A. Gaspari 1978
Jeffrey C. Long 1980
Eric P. Johnston 1981
R. Eric McCarl 1981
Daniel E. Bosin 1982
Jeffrey Brightman 1982
Stephen T. Cramer 1982
Robert J. Salvatora 1982
Christopher T. Genovese 1987
Brett R. Wenger 1988
Jeffrey D. Derr 1993
Steve G. Capezzuti 1994
Doug J. Hubert 1994
Benjamin S. Lewis 1994
Ryan J. McMinn 2000

— 2004 Donations to Alumni Association off to a Strong Start —

Please join the following brothers in supporting Your Alumni Association. Donating is so easy. Just call 1-800-975-6699 and put your donation on your credit card.

1890 Club (\$890+)

Eric C. Friberg 1991

Psi Club (\$250-\$499)

James M. Kerrigan 1978
Michael P. Rycheck 1987
Lincoln M. Taylor 1993
Ryan P. Woodring 1994

Club Skull (\$100-\$249)

Jacob C. Forney 1935

Charles W. Daiker 1948
William T. Stout 1949
James W. Davis 1952
Noel B. DeCavalcante 1959
Nicholas S. Molloy 1959
Alan J. Davidson 1960
Kenneth C. Louis 1961
William H. Swisshelm 1961
James C. Craft 1963
Jon P. Hoffman 1963

Patrick J. Mitchell 1980
David R. Sieling 1993

Dues Giver (\$1-\$99)

Charles C. Mathews 1942
Edward W. Horn 1949
John W. Mitchell 1949
Frederick P. Le Van 1954
William F. Moses 1963
James A. Gaspari 1978

You can also donate from the secure location of the Web site, www.psuskull.com, or use the enclosed form and envelope.

All brothers supporting the Alumni Association will be recognized on the Honor Roll of our Web page as well as next spring's Psidelights. And, as an added bonus, ALL brothers who donate will receive a Penn State Skull House koozie. These koozies keep your

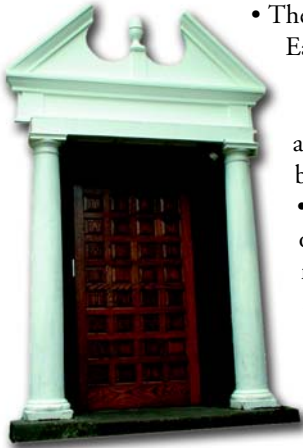
favorite beverages chilled.

*We want to send a special thanks to Brothers **Chris DePeppe '88** and **Lou Matlow '88** for supplying the koozies. Chris and Lou are owners of Full Force Promotions, 1-800-832-2436.*



House Update

We continue to make some changes and improvements to the house. These include:



- The cook has returned to 234 East Beaver Ave. No, Grace has not returned, but we are happy to say the caterer is out and home-cooked meals are back again.
- We hope to have the railing on the Brotherhood Stairs repaired by the end of the semester.
- This spring, we will complete the Fraternal Walk.
- The bar in the party room has been refurbished.

We also again thank Kappa Alpha fraternity for maintaining the house and keeping the numbers up. We currently have 40 brothers living in the house this semester, and KA has recruited almost 20 pledges this past school year. KA also has several brothers serving as officers in the IFC.

Congrats also to the KA brothers for raising over \$80,000 for Dance Marathon this semester.

I Remember When ...



Please help us identify these brothers, as well as the year, so that we can include this photo in the photo gallery of our Web page. Please send information to psuskulls@hotmail.com.

Party Room Update and Thank You

We continue to make good progress on completing the renovation of the party room by the end of this semester. We want to send a special thank you to **Andy Friberg '93**, **Eric Friberg '91** and **Spectra Wood Furniture of State College** (www.spectrawood.com) for their generous donation of the Pennsylvania cherry wood that is being used for the renovation in the party room.

Photos of the completed party room will be available on the Web site and in the next issue of Psidelights.

www.psuskull.com Update

Your Skull House Web site continues to grow. Following your requests, we have updated our links pages and added SONGS to our menu list. Highlights of www.psuskull.com include:

- **SONGS** — Before you go to that next wedding or Skull House reunion, be sure to visit SONGS and print out the words to “PHI KAP GIRLS,” “WE ARE THE MEN OF THE SKULL” and many other late night favorites.
- **SKULL CAM** — Just click on the SKULLCAM menu option and see a live picture of the HUB lawn and our house. Relive the joy with the click of the refresh key.
- **LINKS** — We have added several new links to alumni-owned businesses and projects. We have also added the College Avenue CAM, which allows you to see live shots of State College.
- **PSU WEATHER** — Think it is cold where you are? Check out this menu item for the latest temps before you head back to PSU.
- **NEW PHOTOS** — Peruse the photo gallery to see the latest photo additions including SAMURAI, TOGA, and THE PARTY ROOM.
- **E-MAIL ADDRESS UPDATES** — Just click on VIEW MY RECORD, add your e-mail address and click submit.



Gordy Kauffman '95 and Gavin Haney '93 hitting the waves in Cali last month.

Best Years Reunion Photo Gallery

Attention all brothers who attended the Best Years Reunion. You now have your own photo gallery located at www.psuskull.com. Just click on the menu item Photo Gallery. Then, click on the Best Years Reunion at the top of the page.

If you still have some photos that you would like to include in this gallery, please e-mail them to psuskulls@hotmail.com.





News From the Bone

Jacob C. Forney '35

(690 Chandler Rd., Apt. 206, Gurnee, IL 60031-3181; fjrjcf@aol.com) Afraid to retire, but have cut back to only five- or six-hour days per week.

Charles W. Daiker '48

(240 Lion's Hill Rd., Apt. E-305, State College, PA 16803) I moved to The Village at Penn State in August 2003.

Norm Marlin '48 and Ron Coder '51

moved here in November. Stop in and see us when you're up this way.

Ronald T. Coder '51

(300 Lion's Hill Rd., W303, State College, PA 16803; ronald.coder@verizon.net) On Oct. 29, 2003, we moved to The Village at Penn State and look forward to an exciting time on the campus. This retirement community will provide us with an active lifestyle and give us long-term care security. We will also have a branch of the Penn State Creamery on site.

T. H. Brasher '55

(17 Riverwind Dr., Port Royal, SC 29935) Sold our house in the Caribbean in 1999 and are now living full time in South Carolina. I was glad to learn that the house finances are back in good standing and hope some day it will again be occupied by Phi Kaps! The only brother I have any contact with these days is my brother, Larry '59. My best to all.

William O. Rother '55

(68 River Rd., Weston, CT 06883; rother1@webtv.net) After 40 years as vice president of Tauck Tours, which included visits to over 100 countries, I retired to become the tour manager for world-famous guitar player Jose Feliciano. I'm also the enrichment lecturer for Celebrity Cruise Lines to Alaska and Hawaii. I still live in Westport, Conn. and have a winter home in Sebastian, Fla., where I will be swimming in the Senior Olympics. I've been in touch with **Elmer Strauss '57, Dick Vogel**

'54, **Jim Harter**

'55, **George**

Crouse '55, Harry

Solomon '54 and

Fred Montanari

'56. For any Phi Kaps who remember me (Otto), send an e-mail to rother1@webtv.net.

Nicholas S. Molloy '59

(100 East Road, Doylestown, PA 18901; jcmolloy@comcat.com) I enjoyed the reunion at Curry's New Bern, N.C., for classes '58-'63. I believe we had the most attendees (nine from the class of '59). I received the April 2003 Business Achievement Award from Central Bucks Co. Chamber of Commerce. Married to Roberta Gbur (PSU '60), and we have four grandsons.

Kenneth C. Louis '61

(830 Cambrian Ct., Lincoln, NE 68510; kenlouis@alltel.net) I retired in April 2003. In October 2003, I attended the Phi Kap reunion hosted by **Sam Curry '62**. It was great to see how little each of us changes.

Jon P. Hoffman '63

(107 Goya Dr., Blowing Rock, NC 28605-0918; jphoff@aol.com) When I retired in 2000, we moved to the mountains of western North Carolina near Boone. In 2001, my brother-in-law, along with Brother **Richard Lindfors '55** and I, took a road trip west to Utah and then up the backbone of the Rockies through the



Brother Jon P. Hoffman '63 presents Brother Richard Lindfors '55 with "the badger" at the Artic Circle (taken in 2001).

Arches, Grand Tetons, Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks. At Jasper, Alberta, we hung a left and picked up the Alaska ferry at Prince Rupert. The ferry dumped us in Haines, Alaska, and we drove on into Denali for a week of incredible hiking and camping. Then it was on to Fairbanks and a quick trip to The Artic Circle where I presented Brother Lindfors with "the badger." Some of you will recall the saga of the badger which resided in the party room showcase for several years. We ran out of gas on the Dalton Highway coming back and had to limp into Fairbanks running on Coleman fuel. It was a wonderful trip (two months and 15,000 miles). Bear count: nine (five grizzlies and four black).

James S. Broadhurst '65

(1336 Bennington Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15217-1137; jimbroadhurst@eatnpark.com) Congratulations to Brother Broadhurst on his selection as the new vice chair of Penn State's Board of Trustees.

Robert F. Then '65

(15 Glen Erin Lane, Campobello, SC 29322; rftskt@alltel.net) Had a great visit last week from Joanne and **Winni Nussbaumer '63** along with Winni's wonderful 90-year-young mother! They arrived in beautiful 60-degree weather with their big RV pulling their two-horse trailer with their two Tennessee Walkers. They were on their way to a month of riding with friends in the Florida panhandle and had planned to ride with us for a few days. Unfortunately, the next day we had a snow/ice storm that curtailed our riding and extended their visit to almost a week — which was most enjoyable. We did get to finally ride twice the day before they left. Really got to know each other all over again, and the four of us plan on an Equitour vacation this fall in Germany. I want to thank the Phi Kap Web site for hooking us up after all these years. Keep up the good work.

Jack R. Beighley '73

(83 Lisa Drive, Chatham, NJ 07928; jrbeighley@hotmail.com) All is well. My son,
(Continued on Page 6)

PSIDELIGHTS is published for the members and friends of Psi Chapter of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, 234 E. Beaver Ave., State College, PA 16801. Address changes, news items, photos and contributions are always welcome and may be mailed to Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Alumni Relations Office, P.O. Box 296, State College, PA 16804-0296 or log on to www.psuskill.com.



News From the Bone

... continued

Matt, is a sophomore at Brown, and Grant is a junior in high school. I would love to hear from any late '60s or early '70s Psi Skulls.

James C. Pfahl '73

(117 Link Ln., Slippery Rock, PA 16057; kittysue73@hotmail.com) After 29 years, I am still with the same employer and have been married to the same wife, Kitty Sue, for 30 years. We have two daughters (28 and 23) and a son (17). We're hoping he will attend PSU next year. Favorite memories: hoops in the parking lot, parties in the basement and the fire of 1972. I'm happy to have survived the '70s! Hello to Odie, Vano, Rupie, **Denny Green '73** and Barry.

Sean M. Lacey '78

(3032 Investors Rd., Washington, PA 15301-9230; nittanylion15301@hotmail.com) After six years in Pittsburgh, the opportunity to get back to Central Pennsylvania was just too much to pass up. Still with the Postal Service, I'm now the senior plant manager in Harrisburg, responsible for all mail distribution in

Central Pennsylvania. Meghan is now a sophomore at Penn State — Capitol Campus. If you're coming through Harrisburg, give me a call.

John R. Stuart '85

(4832 Green Heather Ct., Doylestown, PA 18901; john_stuart@irco.com) Congratulations to Brother Stuart and his wife, Carine, on the birth of their son, Jackson.

Michael P. Rycheck '87

(112 Willow St., Apt. 5B, Brooklyn, NY 11201; mrycheck@aol.com) It was great



Viewing art at Jonathan Cramer's Soho Studio in February 2004: Donnie Pohland '92, Ryan '94 and Dania Woodring, Gordy '95 and Lara Kauffman, Michael Rycheck '87, Doug Hubert '94 and the artist Jonathan Cramer '94.

getting together recently at **Jonathan Cramer's** ('94) artist studio in NYC. Got

to catch up with **Donnie Pohland '92** (in from Alaska), **Ryan Woodring '94**, **Doug Hubert '94** and **Gordy Kauffman '95** (in from State College).

Lincoln M. Taylor '93

(2411 Freetown Drive, Reston, VA 20191; krislinc@aol.com) To answer Kandler's question about the social calendar picture in the photo gallery ... Was it Hartzel or Sully that created it? The answer is neither. I did it. It was about the only productive thing I did all semester. Some of you may have remembered that I had quite a bit of time on my hands the spring of 1990.

We regret to inform you of the death of

George V. Hunt '43 (5/25/03)
John F. McBrearty '49 (5/25/03)
Harold A. Johnson '50 (10/21/02)
Edgar M. Raffensperger '51 (5/2/03)
Michael A. Giglotti '67 (9/9/03)

Skull House mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.

Donate with your
credit card by calling
1-800-975-6699.

Profiles, photos, news ...
all in the latest *Psidights*

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