

PHI ALPHA SIGMA



FRATERNITY

February, 2006

Dear Alumni,

The brothers of Phi Alpha Sigma extend our warmest greetings and hope that this letter finds you and yours in the best of health and happiness. I am happy to announce that the 2005/2006 academic year has been progressing successfully and rapidly. With much pride, we will soon be offering four more fine physicians to the world, yet their presence and inspiration at Phi Alpha Sigma will surely be missed. Two of our seniors successfully completed the military match in December, receiving their first choice postings; Army Second Lieutenant Todd Feathers matched in orthopedics at Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, and Naval Ensign Jim Frederick matched in emergency medicine at Naval Medical Center San Diego. Alan Riley (pediatrics) and Nathaniel Boyer (internal medicine) are still awaiting the results of the March match, and we are all hopeful and confident that they will continue the great success the house has always been fortunate to enjoy. This year has also seen the addition of five new members to the house: Brian Newbrough '08, Chris Mingrone '09, Bill Parkes '09, Steve Schaeffer '09, and myself, Rob Olszewski '09.

From all of the current brothers, we would like to offer our sincere gratitude to all of the generous alumni for your past contributions. With great thanks, we are happy to share that 15 names were added to the list of Phi Alpha Sigma Fellows (donations of \$250+) in the past year. Additionally, we feel that one alumnus in particular garners special recognition, Dr. Thomas Griffin '80, our financial and general advisor, whose commitment and dedication to Phi Alpha Sigma has made our continued existence possible. While much of his work is behind the scenes, Dr. Griffin manages our capital fund, insurance, taxes, housing licensing, and countless other essential aspects inherent to an organization of our nature. Thank you, Dr. Griffin.

As is always the case, the house demanded a considerable amount of maintenance attention this past year, and thanks to your contributions many areas of need have been addressed. Recently, the roof was refinished to stop a myriad of leaks. We have also had a threatening dead tree removed from the side yard, and the other living trees professionally trimmed. Now that the roof has been repaired and the cause of the damage alleviated, we are in the process of replacing an old, rotted wooden support beam in the second floor. These improvements bring us much closer to approaching some of the other major structural issues that have developed. As last year's update discussed, our main stairwell, built by the class of '79, is in need of reinforcement. Additionally, we are hoping to gather advice from a structural engineer to determine how best to treat the house's continued settling. On a much simpler note, we would also like to re-hang the window shutters some time this spring.

With these projects in mind, we began the Phi Alpha Sigma Capital Fund Raising Drive with a goal of raising \$25,000 over a period of two years. As we enter the second year of this drive, I must once again humbly extend our plea for help to you, our alumni, to aid us in making these projects a success. Last year we raised \$14,000 from a total of 96 donations. We are hopeful that we can reach our two year target with your help. It pains me to have to ask for your financial assistance, but we live in an old and storied house that requires constant care and renovation to keep it well and to keep the legacy of Phi Alpha Sigma alive.

In closing, I must share that the spirit of Phi Alpha Sigma lives on as strong as ever. As a freshman myself, I can not imagine life at medical school without the support and encouragement of my brothers. Phi Alpha Sigma is a unique experience combining opportunities for academics as well as social engagement that are an essential part of our development. Undoubtedly, a major component of this is our extensive alumni network. We enthusiastically encourage all of our alumni to stay in touch with the house, and to stop by whenever you are in the area. Nothing is more rewarding than the opportunity to interact with alumni and learn about our history, as well as our future in medicine. To this end, I would like to take the opportunity to cordially invite you to a night of food, spirits, and fun at our annual **Concilium Magnum on Friday April 28th at 7PM**. The current brothers look forward to the opportunity to share beer and great stories with our alumni! If you are able to attend, or if you have any questions at all, **please RSVP to Robert.Olszewski@jefferson.edu or 610-247-7860**. For those unable to join us, we encourage you to keep in touch and to visit our website at www.phialphasigma.org. Please check up on the house and learn a little about the members.

Once again I'd like to extend our most sincere and heartfelt thanks for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing many of you at Concilium Magnum.

Yours in Phi Alpha Sigma,

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