

# BETA ALPHA PARTICLES

AMERICA'S LEADING FRATERNITY—SINCE 1904

FALL 2004

## SUPREME CHAPTER REPORT

By Pat Guerra BA 629

A note about this year's Supreme Chapter:

Brothers,

What a glorious time to be a brother of Pi Kappa Phi... To be able to experience our Fraternities 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary words can not do it justice.

The Experience:

Supreme Chapter weekend (Aug 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>) started with a huge feeling of the unknown. Not knowing what to expect from the weather, Hurricane Charley, Not knowing what to expect of old friends revisited, not knowing what to expect from our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Supreme Chapter.

On my way to the airport early Friday morning I checked the weather report and by the meteorologists statements or should I say assumptions I could not tell if I was even going to be able to land in Charleston. After boarding and taking off on time I figured that at least at this point Charley was not affecting landing times, However, I did realize that Charleston was in

the path of what was now a category 4 hurricane. For sure our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Supreme Chapter would be affected. On the way to the baggage claim I noticed 2 things. One that the airport had only 2 baggage carousels compared to Newark Terminal C's 10 or so and that I shared that plane ride with 2 other Beta Alpha's, Sean Fahey and Mike Schulzki. Glade to see some familiar faces, we shared a cab ride to the hotel Renaissance in downtown Charleston.

Home sweet Home. Walking into the lobby and checking my bags in with the desk, since it was too early to check in, we run into John Lee and his wife Bobby and daughter Christine. After a bit of catching up, in walks John Pugliesi and his wife Phyllis. Hunger calling... We decide to walk around the corner to the local Irish Pub, O'Rileys, and continue our conversations over some food and libation. Later we were joined by Ken Scheck and later then by phone a few other alums, Brandon Sorensen & Brian DeCastro



Bell Tower presented as the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift

who were trying still to get to Charleston via air travel. We realize that the contingent was a few short, Dave White and his Fiancée Paula, Steve DePalma & Jim Krucher were among the missing. With That Dave & Paula walk in on queue as if it was prearranged. For us the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Supreme Chapter was in Session.

Oh yeah the affects of Charley were starting to rear their ugly head. Outside the windows of the pub you could see the sky opening up and unleashing a deluge of water that we would become all too familiar with during the rest of the convention.

Since no one had heard from Jim or Steve it was feared that they might reside in lockup somewhere between New Jersey and South Carolina. Steve and Jim were transporting a truckload of wine to the convention, a 12-hour drive. It was a gift from Steve to the Centennial Commission to be given out at the commission's banquet. It was whine that was homemade and labeled appropriately with the Letters of the fraternity. As the story developed and the

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SUPREME CHAPTER REPORT *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**FOUR GIFTS:*

GATE—25TH

CLOCK—50TH

ROSE GARDEN—75TH

BELL TOWER—100TH



beer flowed we pictured them being pulled over by a Carolina State Trooper and having to try to explain, in their best Jersey Accents, that the truckload of unstamped, homemade wine that they were transporting over state lines was for personal consumption.

As it turns out both Steve and Jim arrived the night before under the stealth of darkness with the contraband shipment of wine. Sixteen cases were delivered for the Friday Night Celebration. It turns out that both Steve and Jim were at various meetings doing Fraternity business. Therefore we excused them from the preliminary meeting at the Irish Pub.

The first Supreme Chapter Session yielded the theme of the weekend and our new vision for the next century of brotherhood. By the end of the Convention the ideas put forth were embraced by all in attendance. Our Mission "We Will Lead" Our Vision "Pi Kappa Phi will redefine fraternity as a lifelong brotherhood of leaders." A large Part of the convention was also spent on paying homage to our 3 founders.

At one point or another we all found time to take a stroll through campus. It was a remarkable experience to be walking the ground our founders did a hundred years before. Of course the main points of interest were the Pi Kappa Phi gifts to the college for our 25<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> & 75<sup>th</sup> anni-

versaries. The clock, the gate, and the rose garden things that we are all familiar with but hardly if ever see in person. Of those three my favorite was the gate. I wondered what it would be like to be an undergrad and pass through the stoic gate everyday on the way to class which displayed our letters, legally without them being spray painted or scratched into a hunk of wood. (Hey, it kept the NJIT maint. crew busy with work.) Of course let's not forget about the Alpha Chapter House. It had the Greek letters of the fraternity proudly displayed with the word ALPHA underneath representing the chapter. It also came complete with 2 broken windows and peeling paint. (Somehow I know anyone who lived in 249 MLK Blvd must be smiling after that last statement.)

The 505 club. Every Supreme Chapter since Virginia Beach 1968 a meeting of the movers and shakers of the fraternity was held after the day's events. The purpose originally was to lobby for votes for Psi Chapter, Cornell. Bill Nooel, Bob Wilcox, and John Kirk all founding members of the 505 club held the first meeting in room 505 at their hotel in 1968. Psi Chapter needed an exception from the 100% blackball vote. It seemed that their campus would only allow them to exist if they had a piece of paper from Pi Kappa Phi stating that Psi Chapter did not have to use the 100%

blackball rule that they could use the campus's rule of 90%. Well enough votes were bought, persuaded, or lent through the diligence of the 505 club that Psi Chapter's exception passed. Since then Sessions of the 505 Club were held at every Supreme Chapter sometimes still lobbying for votes for one thing or another but mostly supplying a forum for discussion on all sorts of topics. Sometimes the meetings get so involved that the 505 club must keep its bar, I mean door open till 5am or better. This Supreme Chapter Brother Wilcox was kept home on business and the other founding members' wives vetoed the idea of their hotel room being the meeting place for 505. Having the closest ties to Psi Chapter The next logical chapter to host the 505 would be Beta Alpha. There was a brief moment in time, however, in which we all thought that the 505 might have to skip our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary Supreme Chapter when Pugs and JL's wives also vetoed the motion of hosting 505. Understandable so who would want a room full of loudmouthed fraternity guys till all ours of the morning. At that point I heard a knock on the door. It was Brother DePalma and Brother Krucher. They had about a case of beer and some wine in their hands. Krucher leading the way made hast into our room. Seeing the puzzled look on my face Brother Krucher said "here this is for you guys put it on ice". With

that statement I realized that Ken and I were elected to host 505 not because we had the largest room, not because we had a large stash of booze, but because there were no women in the room to veto it! We were happy to do our duty to keep on the tradition well into the wee hours of the morning each night. And to the wee hours they did go.

The Supreme Banquet had a definite Northern Flavor. Two of the presenters were Steve DePalma and Jim Krucher. Steve presented the volunteer of the year award to his younger brother Lenny DePalma. Jim Krucher presented the Re-

gional Governor of the year award to our very own David White Region Governor for Region 1.

At the Third and final session of Supreme Chapter Jim Krucher was presented a Plaque for his work in the Area of Expansion. Jim is one of only 3 people ever to receive the Beta Circle Award. The Plaque was awarded to recognize him for his past efforts.

Monday morning brought a memoable dedication of the fraternity's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary gift to the College. A bell Tower. After the proper dignitaries spoke Durwood Owen, Members of Alpha

Chapter, the College's President and others the bell tower was dedicated with 3 loud tolls. I must add what a great sounding bell.

All in all it was a great time had by all. If you couldn't make it this year realize this I left out tons and tons of things that went on. The Supreme Chapter experience is truly for everyone. Make it a point to try to make the next one.

PS Congratulations to Ken Scheck and Dave White for becoming members of Nu Phi Society.



## SUPREME CHAPTER

By Ryan Fregans BA 741

Supreme Chapter was such a new experience. I had no clue what to expect or what I would see. The only thing that was going through my head on the car ride to Charleston, South Carolina was what I should expect. What made me even more enthusiastic was the fact that I was going to Supreme Chapter with my two brothers that I pledged with, Pete and Fred. I knew I was not the only one excited because it was the first Supreme Chapter for all of us. We were told by brothers who had gone in past years that we would have fun and they gave us some pointers on what to do and how to act, which

helped out a lot.

After a 12 hour drive we had finally hit Charleston. After waiting in a long line of fellow brothers from across the nation we got our hotel keys. The room was just like the events to come, magnificent. That night we had a huge dinner with all of the brothers, alumni, and associate chapters. The food was amazing and just being able to talk with the alumni and get to know them better was memorable.

There were better festivities to come in the next few days. One of the best event was the unveiling of the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary gift, the bell tower. They had a couple of great speakers which spoke

very highly of the fraternity. Of course they had to ring it 3 times. The tower was placed on the walkway to get to the College of Charleston library so the students there could admire it every day as they pass it.

On the same day I got to see a lot of other great sight such as 90 Broad Street. I felt amazed to be able to gaze about where our fraternity was founded. That was not all, I also had the pleasure of seeing the rose garden (which only had one rose), the bell tower, and the gateway. Next to the dining room, national set up a display of historical items that were just spectacular. My favorite piece would have to be the

CONGRATULATIONS  
TO DAVE WHITE ON  
WINNING THE  
REGIONAL  
GOVERNOR OF THE  
YEAR AWARD AND  
TO DAVE WHITE  
AND KEN SCHECK  
FOR BECOMING  
MEMBERS OF THE NU  
PHI SOCIETY.

## SUPREME CHAPTER *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3*



first membership card.

Another event that made the supreme chapter was the centennial ride along of the Journey of Hope. Which, might I add, had two people from our chapter participating which made me very proud. These

two people were Brother Ben Lurch and Brother Dave White; also know as Governor of the year.

They had the Supreme Chapter meeting 3 times which of course I can not talk about. These meeting taught me a

lot about how our fraternity runs and also how important national is to our survival. All in all this was one of the best times of my life and I will definitely be going again in 2 years.

## RECHARTERING PSI CHAPTER

By Joe Sinclair BA 736

When I first heard about the rechartering of Psi chapter I was unsure what to expect, but relishing new experiences I volunteered to help. We along with Alpha Xi and Alpha Tau chapters and representatives from National worked from Friday afternoon straight though Saturday morning preparing for and initiating the new members of Psi chapter.

Our day started at about 10 AM on Friday when we left for Cornell. After about six

hours of driving we finally arrived in Ithaca and immediately began to work at setting up for the initiation ritual. This involved moving a lot of furniture around, taping sheets up over the windows, getting other ritual specific preparations ready, and deciding who was doing which parts.

Once we began initiating them it took a total of about 10 hours to get through everyone. Then we were off until that night when we had the chartering banquet. At the banquet it was clear how

important Beta Alpha has become, not only did we bring eleven guys to the rechartering but Jim Krucher was the Chartering Officer and Dave White was the Assistant Chartering Officer.

Overall this was a very rewarding experience. Not only did I get to really see all of the inner workings of the ritual for the first time but we were able to help shape the chapter. This is something I would definitely do again and I hope to have the opportunity to do so in the future.



## WORK WEEKEND

By Joe Sinclair BA 736

On the weekend of August 28<sup>th</sup> active brothers along with many alumni collaborated in an effort to repair many problems with the house. Among the projects worked on were: rebuilding the back deck, replacing ceiling tiles throughout the house, repairing and painting

the walls, and various other items.

Over the years the existing deck had fallen into disrepair and was, in fact, becoming dangerous because of rotting boards and missing railing parts. The initial phase of construction required tearing down the majority of the old deck and removing the debris

to the parking lot. The task of rebuilding the deck, which was no small feat, could now begin. Thanks to the tools and expertise of the alumni we once again have a safe deck.

Painting and repair of the walls, though not structurally necessary, was also a very important project this week-

WORK WEEKEND *CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4*

end. Many of the walls in the house had holes and the paint was chipped in numerous places. After the walls were sanded, minor holes were filled with spackle and the walls painted a light gray

while the paneling was painted a dark blue. Some may question the importance of painting, but the house now presents a much more respectable image to guests and alumni who visit. Along

the same lines as painting, replacing the ceiling tiles also greatly improved the image of the house.

Without the help of the alumni none of this work

would have been able to be completed. Thanks again to the alumni for their time, tools and expertise and especially for keeping everyone motivated to complete their tasks.





PI KAPPA PHI

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## NORTH JERSEY ALUMNI CHAPTER 2005 MEETING SCHEDULE

January 5, 2005	Sport Sexy Sport's Bar, Route 46 East, Totowa, NJ
February 2, 2005	Tiger's Tail, Rt. 206 South, Montgomery Twp, NJ, near intersection of county road 518
March 2, 2005	Bennigan's, Route 46 East, Parsipanny, NJ
April 6, 2005	Chimney Rock Inn, Thomson Ave., Bridgewater (Bound Brook Mailing Address), NJ
May 4, 2005	Famished Frog, 14 Washington St., Morristown, NJ (973) 540-9601 (Located right off the Green in Central Morristown)
June 1, 2005	Patrick's Pub, 711 Main St., Belmar, NJ (732) 280-2220
July 6, 2005	No meeting, 4th of July Holiday
August 3, 2005	Old Man Rafferty's, Route 206 South, Hillsborough, NJ, across from Lowe's
September 7, 2005	Outback Steakhouse, Rt. 22 West, Green Brook, NJ
October 5, 2005	Jose Tejas Restaurant, 700 US Highway 1, Iselin (Woodbridge), NJ 08830 732-283-3883
November 13, 2005	Founder's Day, 1:00pm - 5:00pm, Location To Be Determined
December 7, 2005	Outback Steakhouse, Rt 22 West, Green Brook, NJ

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