



► DENNIS SHEA '84 IS
ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
FOR 20253



► SKULLUMNI'S 96 VOTING
MEMBERS4-5



► UNDERGRADUATE CHAP-
TER UPDATE 6



○ ISSUE 26 | ○ WINTER 2025-26

Black & Old Gold

THE ANNUAL NEWSLETTER OF
SKULLUMNI: THE ALPHA DELTA
ALUMNI CHAPTER OF PHI KAPPA SIGMA

Decision on Fate of Skull House to be Made Within Next Few Months

Future of Chapter House Still in Question

As the undergraduate chapter is nearing the end of their second semester back from suspension, the Housing Corporation continues to explore options for the future of the chapter house, with time growing short on making a decision.

Three options remain, each with varying levels of viability: 1) Repair the house and return the undergraduates, likely in time for 2027, 2) Sell or lease the house long-term to the university, or 3) Sell or lease the house to another organization.

Repair the House/Return the Undergraduates

This option is the preferred solution amongst alumni, but also the most difficult. There are over half a million dollars in repairs needed to make the house code compliant and livable, and there is not the financial ability amongst alumni for that much in donations. An attorney recently advised the Corps that approx. \$280,000 in chapter scholarship funds held by the UMaine Foundation cannot instead go toward Corp debts and house repairs. The Corps had hoped to use these funds to eliminate debt such as two years of back property taxes, debt owed to the university, past bills due to utilities, etc – and having funds to continue to cover costs like insurance and the security system, etc. while they wait for rent revenues to once again come in. This would have made the Corps much more attractive to potential lenders for a mortgage. Right now, obtaining a mortgage with two years of back taxes is essentially impossible.

Without being able to access these funds, it is highly unlikely the Corps can get a loan or keep the house in Phi Kap hands. Even if they could, a loan of \$350,000 or more would



Alumni and undergraduates hear an update on the status of the chapter house from Corps members at Homecoming in October

still be necessary for a bulk of the house repairs/renovations. Even with some alumni donations and alumni work weekends aimed at lowering the cost of construction, the Corps would need to be sure they had the capacity in the house to not only make monthly debt service payments, but also to pay other bills and have some money to save up in a reserve for future, unanticipated repairs. It is estimated that 20 members are needed to live in to meet this need, with anything above that adding additional funds to a reserve or paying off the mortgage sooner.

The chapter's successful return to campus has seen them

grow to 34 members, so this could be possible.

Despite the bad news about the scholarship fund, Corps members are working with alumnus George Campbell '71 on some possible creative financing solutions.

Sell or Lease the House to the University

Given all the things that have to fall into place in the prior scenario, the most likely option is for the house to be sold or leased long-term to the university. The Corps is currently engaged in talks with the university about these possibilities. It is more likely the university would want to buy the house outright, essentially meaning the end of Phi Kap at 89 College Avenue forever. Depending on how much the university would be willing to pay – likely not much considering the significant repairs needed – there could be some funds to purchase a smaller chapter house but only after paying off other outstanding debts.

(Continued on page 2)

'Founders Club'

Skullumni offers thanks the following 15 alumni for donating to the Alumni Chapter in each of our 24 years of existence (since 2001):

Donald LaRochelle '53

Gilbert Leslie, Jr. '56

Foster Shibles '56

S. Clyde Ross '59

Brian Bicknell '66

Paul Sullivan '66

Thomas Dwyer '67

Jay Smith '67

Jonathan Young '71

Larry LaPlante '73

Matthew Rocca '96

Peter Ruggiero '97

Scott Morelli '99

Anthony Kvedar '00

Jeremy Thiele '02

Stay Connected!

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Web: www.skullumni.org

2025-26 OFFICERS

A: Scott Morelli '99
B: Benjamin Fournier '13
T: Anthony Kvedar '00
Σ: Joshua Moody '09
Y: Robert Williams '00



Status of Chapter House (Cont'd)

(Continued from page 1)

The university has hinted at creating a Greek area on campus where all fraternities and sororities would be located and share common spaces, allowing them to reclaim the waterfront areas currently dominated by Greek housing. But that is not final or even in the works as yet, and the Town of Orono also has a moratorium on the creation of any new Greek houses, so its possible the chapter never has a house again if the university purchases the existing house.

Less possible is a long-term lease to the university, where they repair the house, use it for their purposes for a long period (20-30 years?), and then give the Corps the option to buy it back in the future at an amount determined by a formula. In order to buy the house back in the future, alumni would need to commit to a capital campaign over time to help amass the funding needed to repurchase the house, and then pay for repairs/renovations after decades of use by the university, so a lease is probably a long shot.

Sell/Lease House to Another Organization

Currently, there are no unhoused Greek organizations that are willing to repair our house, enter into a long-term lease, and then eventually return the house to Phi Kap. They

either do not have the financial ability to do so, or are not interested in making such an investment only to return the house back to us after 20 or so years. There is some but limited interest in purchasing the house and having it permanently be under the control of another Greek organization, effectively ending Phi Kap at this location for good.

What's Next

With back debt and new debt accruing every month without a revenue stream, a final decision will need to be made in short order. The Corps anticipates choosing an option in the coming few months.

The best chance the house has to remain in Phi Kap hands is for more alumni to get involved, donating their time, expertise, and/or money. Here's how you can help:

Get Involved/Stay Up To Date

Web: www.skullumni.org/pkshc

Facebook Group: search "Phi Kappa Sigma Alumni (AD Chapter/UMaine)"

Email: phikappasigmahc@gmail.com

Phone: 207-716-6652 (Chris Hopper '95, President)

Thanks to the Following 72 Alumni for Donating to Help the Housing Corporation Keep the House Afloat During this Transition Period

Foster Shibles '56 * James Scott '58 * John Sears '61 * Avard Walker '64 * Axel Larson '65 * James Henneberry '66 * Tom Dwyer '67 * Jay Smith '67 * Gary Ackendorf '70 * George Campbell '71 * Jonathan Young '71 * Lynn Johnston '72 * David Pullen '73 * Michael Fayer '76 * John Wade '78 * Frederick Morton '79 * Wayne Penley '79 * Steven Young '79 * Russell Sturgeon '80 * Sam Civiello '85 * Ray Watts '89 * Rick Malinowski '91 * Patrick Penley '91 * Charles Campbell '93 * Scott Cummings '93 * Robert Goodwin '93 * Mike Karagiannes '93 * Andrew Morse '93 * William Wotton '93 * Matt Begin '94 * Eric Field '94 * Todd Mercer '94 * Edward St. Charles '94 * Chris Hopper '95 * Jon Roy '95 * Bert Kiesow '96 * Matthew Rocca '96 * Dan Stiehl '96 * Tim Johnson '97 * Derrick Slowikowski '97 * Geoff Bosse '98 * Kyle Fox '98 * Scott Morelli '99 * Matt Palmer '99 * DJ Whitmore '00 * Robert Williams '00 * Jeremy Thiele '02 * Jerry Graffam '03 * James Kinne '03 * Dylan Reburn '04 * Daniel Bowe '06 * Danny Guzman '06 * James Hamlin '06 * Steve Raggiani '07 * Sean Vaillancourt '08 * Matt Dalton '09 * Joshua Moody '09 * Derek Jones '11 * Justin Gamache '12 * William Hughes '12 * Jody Conant '13 * Marcus Desveaux '13 * Ben Fournier '13 * Michael Peasley '13 * Nickolas Brown '14 * Joe Howard '14 * Justin Davis '15 * William Bell * Jonathan Cairns * Dean Heistand * Rob Spreng * David West

As of November 16, 2025. Does not include in-kind donations. Donations accepted via Skullumni by check (note "house donation" in memo field) or by credit/debit card via the Housing Corps page on our website: www.skullumni.org/pkshc. Venmo to @skullumni.

Shea '84 is Alumnus of the Year

Dennis Patrick Shea '84 was presented with the 2025 "Omicron Epsilon Beta Pi Society" award for Alumnus of the Year at Homecoming.

Skullumni selected Brother Shea for this award due to his support of the Alpha Delta Chapter, both financially where he has made significant donations to Skullumni and the House Renovations effort, but also with his time, helping to mentor undergraduates and also paying for the popular local band 12/OC to come to Homecoming 2023 as part of the chapter's 125th anniversary celebration. He also has decades of involvement at the national fraternity level.

Shea is currently the Executive Director of Development for the Phi Kappa Sigma Educational Fund. He is responsible for alumni relations and fundraising for the fraternity. The Ed Fund is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization that raises money for and provides over \$100,000+ in annual scholarships to undergraduate Phi Kaps.

Shea grew up in East Millinocket, Maine and excelled at sports and academics at Schenk High School. After graduation in 1980, he and his best friends Chris Cote, Sam Civiello, Mark Moscone, and others joined fellow Schenk grads Scott McAvoy and Nolan Tanous at UMaine. He reunited with his high school teammates and pledged Phi Kap and helped lead them to intramural championships in basketball and soccer from 1980-1984. They formed a lifelong bond which Shea said includes daily/weekly contact for the past 40 years, including many annual gatherings for March Madness, golf trips, sporting events, family functions and summer trips to Ambajesus Lake to all meet at Camp Civiello Island.

After graduating in 1984 with B.A. in Speech Communication and Public Relations (cum laude), he was recruited by Alpha Delta's Glenn Welch '75, then Phi Kappa Sigma's Executive Director, to become Senior Assistant Director & Editor.

After leaving his Phi Kap job he followed his passion for sports and entertainment to a dream job with Comcast Spectacor – owners of 76ers/Flyers in Philadelphia, PA. He was



L to R: Undergrad President Griffin Donnelly, Dennis Shea '84, & Skullumni VP Ben Fournier '13

promoted from 76ers Corporate Sales Manager to Premium Seating Sales (76ers & Flyers) in 2001 to Premium Seating Corporate Sales Manager in 2003 to Senior Director of 76ers Ticket Sales in 2005 and then to Vice President of Premium Seating for all teams in 2005.

Shea's work experience also includes roles with Live Nation Entertainment, Southern Entertainment's Barefoot Country Music Festivals, LSA Suites, Valhalla Ventures LLC, etc.

Shea also followed his passion for entertainment/movies into a bucket list check-off when he became Co-Executive Producer of the movie "Once Upon a Time in Brooklyn" - a 2013 Lionsgate Entertainment release featuring Armand Asante, Ice-T, Vincent Pastore, Ja Rule and Cathy Moriarty. He secured funding for over 40% of the movie.

Shea has served many volunteer roles over the years. He was on the Board of Directors for Phi Kappa Sigma Educational Fund before being named Executive Director of Development in 2021. He has also worked with professional athletes on their charitable causes such as The Believe & Achieve Foundation and the Herremans Foundation.

Shea has over 40+ years of experiences of building a book of business by relentless networking in the sports, entertainment and fraternal worlds. This includes a storybook life of thousands of major sporting events, concerts, private planes, rock start tour buses, etc. "It has been quite a 'route' for a small town paperboy from the backwoods of Maine," said Shea.

Shea added there is nothing more special than being able to travel the country now and aiding undergraduates by providing scholarships to help them have the same lifelong experiences and bonds of friendship. Helping reunite alumni across the country is an incredibly rewarding experience and the reason he loves doing what he does.

Shea resides in Springfield, PA. He is married with 5 daughters and has 2 granddaughters and 1 grandson (with 2 more due in next few months). This, he said, outshines any other accomplishment in his lifetime.

Congrats and thank you Brother Shea!

A Special Thank You

Thanks to these alumni for reaching milestone donation years in 2025:

20 YEARS (4):

Jerry Lambert '60
Jonathan Ord '60
Paul Herer '68
Danny Guzman '06

15 YEARS (4):

Alton Cole '52
John Sebelius '68
George Campbell '71
Ed St. Charles '94

10 YEARS (4):

Frederick Morton, Jr. '79
Justin Gamache '12
Ben Fournier '13
Jay Knowlton '15

5 YEARS (6):

Steven Dice '60
Wayne Penley '79
Steven Young '79
Rick Smart '84
Richard Theriault '87
Benjamin Denison '14

1ST YEAR (2):

Rob Spreng '96
Harold Russell '97



Skullumni's 96 Voting Members

Skullumni had 96 members in 2025, down from 118 in 2024. These alumni represent 49 unique classes spanning 72 years from 1952 to 2024. Below you will find the names of these Voting Members, their year of graduation, the number of years they have been a Voting Member (indicated in parenthesis), and an update about what they've been up to (if provided). THANK YOU Alpha Delta alumni for your support!

Titanium Skull Club (\$750+) (4)

Dennis Shea '84 (2) | Alan Van Wert '84 (7) | Matthew Rocca '96 (24) | Harold Russell '97 (1)

Platinum Skull Club (\$500-\$749) (3)

Jay Smith '67 (24) | Ryan Demeny '01 (2) | Alexander Kuehling '05 (6)

Diamond Skull Club (\$250-\$499) (15)

Robert Hutchinson '57 (22) | Charles Bonney '66 (22) | Paul Sullivan '66 (24) | Thomas Dwyer '67 (24) | Zachary Longley '67 (23) | Jonathan Young '71 (24) | Lynn Johnston '72 (13) | David Pullen '73 (22) | Tom Saucier '83 (4) | Andrew Morse '93 (18) | Denis Elie '94 (14) | Jeremy Thiele '02 (24) | Derek Jones '11 (7) | Justin Gamache '12 (10) | William Hughes '12 (8)

Century Skull Club (\$100-\$249) (45)

Alan Pease '52 (23) | Donald LaRochelle '53 (24) | Gilbert Leslie '56 (24) | Foster Shibles '56 (24) | William Hutchinson '59 (19) | Steven Dice '60 (5) | Richard Dudley '60 (23) | Jerry Lambert '60 (20) | Jonathan Ord '60 (20) | James Vamvakias '62 (21) | William Potter '64 (14) | Avard Walker '64 (19) | Axel Larson '65 (17) | Brian Bicknell '66 (24) "Brian died suddenly in May of 2024. We met at UMaine in June of 1966 - I was a member of Tri Delta - we were truly a Bear Pair! Brian was a member of Phi Kap for the two years

he was at UMaine. He loved being a Phi Kap brother." | Willard Flynt '66 (14) | James Henneberry '66 (4) "I retired 20 years ago. Spend time fishing with my grandchildren who live within 7 miles of us. We spend time in the winter in FL, I play a lot of golf and skied up until a few years ago. Otherwise I just enjoy retirement and staying in touch with old friends!" | Edward Farwell '68 (2) | Theodore Pettengill '68 (3) "Retired Physician Assistant, 46 years. Married 54 years. 3 children, 6 grandchildren, and 2 greatgrandchildren." | William Stevens '70 (11) "I continue to plug away on building projects, oil painting, bird sculpture, and a few other interests. Rod O'Keefe (1970) is the only Phi Kap that keeps in touch!" | George Campbell '71 (15) | Larry LaPlante '73 (24) | Michael Fayer '76 (12) | Walter Jones '77 (4) | John Wade '78 (2) | Frederick Morton '79 (10) | Wayne Penley '79 (5) | Steven Young '79 (5) | Rich Ruhlin '85 (17) | Richard Theriault '87 (5) | Patrick Penley '91 (23) | Daniel Ludden '92 (22) | Scott Cummings '93 (2) | Christopher Hopper '95 (4) | Rob Spreng '96 (1) | Matt Redding '97 (2) | Peter Ruggiero '97 (24) | Derrick Slowikowski '97 (7) | Scott Morelli '99 (24) "Oldest daughter Olivia got married and bought a house in the same cul-de-sac as my wife and I this past summer. Middle daughter Isabelle scored over 1,000 points to wrap up her high school basketball career and was class valedictorian. She's now playing hoops for USM & studying law/political science. Youngest daughter Amelia is following in her older sister's footsteps for basketball." | Rob Williams '00 (23) | Dylan Reburn '04 (8) | Joshua Moody

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LARRY HECK
TREASURER

PETE CUMMINGS
1ST. VICE PRESIDENT

BILL FLYNT
PRESIDENT

RON POITF
2ND. VICE PRES



BOB MICHAUD

Phi Kappa Sigma



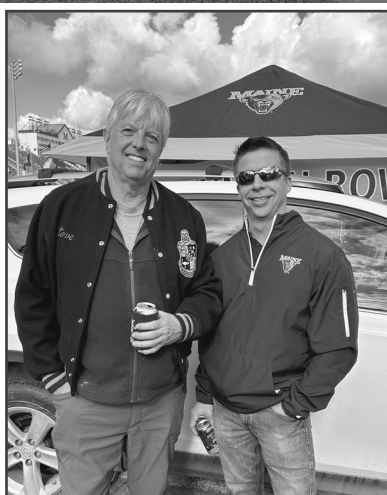
19

61

'09 (17) | Sean Theriault '10 (9) | Jeffrey Gerry '11 (4) | Charles Hastings '11 (7) | Ethan Hoffman '15 (8)

Golden Skull Club (\$50-\$99) (19)

Alton Cole '52 (15) | David Foster '56 (19) | S. Clyde Ross '59 (24) | Ewen MacKinnon '61 (19) | Alvin Ahlers '62 (22) | Lawrence Libby '62 (17) | Fred Wildes '65 (18) | Paul Herer '68 (20) | John Dorsey '69 (6) | Gary Ackendorf '70 (14) | Chip Stephens '77 (18) | Gregory Dumas '81 (2) | Kevin Stephens '83 (19) | Rick Smart '84 (5) |



L to R: Steve Young '79 & Dan Stiehl '97 at Homecoming

Edward St. Charles '94 (15) | Danny Guzman '06 (20) | Daniel Mackenzie '13 (9) | Benjamin Denison '14 (5) | Jay Knowlton '15 (10)

Skull Club (\$25-\$49) (10)

David Gagnon '60 (23) | Stephen DeWick '62 (21) | Paul Kiah '62 (22) | John Sebelius '68 (15) | Robert St. Pierre '73 (11) | Anthony Kvedar '00 (24) | James Flagg '03 (23) | Daniel Kinne '04 (19) | Ben Fournier '13 (10) | Terence Olds '24 (2)

Renew Your Membership Dues/Join Skullumni Today!

Help Skullumni fulfill its missions: join or renew your membership dues today! Your gift ensures you Voting Member status through December 2026. This means that you will:

- Receive **updated contact information for all alumni** from your era, including exclusive access to our online database of all alumni via our website
- **Receive discounts** on alumni social events
- **Be recognized** for your donation on our website and in our annual newsletter

In turn, your donation will enable Skullumni to:

- **Keep alumni connected** through newsletters, emails, and various social media
- Fund undergraduate attendance at **leadership conferences**, such as Grand Chapter
- Plan **alumni social events**, such as Homecoming

So **donate today** via the enclosed personalized membership form and return it to us in the included postage-paid envelope. Or visit our website to pay immediately. But hurry! **We ask that you renew/join before January 1, 2026.** Thank you!

Undergraduate Chapter Continues Progress After Return

Chapter welcomes 18 new members, bringing membership up to 34, while finishing 3rd in GPA

Update from Undergraduate Secretary Casey Gorhan

“Greetings from the Undergraduates of the Alpha Delta Chapter of Phi Kappa Sigma — and Happy Holidays!

This semester has been one of tremendous growth and achievement for our chapter. We're proud to share that the brothers earned a 3.06 GPA, ranking third among all Greek organizations on campus — a milestone that reflects our renewed focus on academics. We also welcomed 18 new brothers, bringing our active membership to 34 strong.

Our annual Lawn Games for Celso raised over \$1,000 for the family of our late brother. We also volunteered at the Bangor Homeless Shelter and held a bake sale with Alpha Phi benefiting Blood Cancer United.



Members of the Alpha Delta Chapter

In intramurals, Phi Kap made the flag football playoffs and continues to compete in basketball and Lug hockey, a chapter favorite. We hosted several socials, enjoyed a successful spring formal, and look forward to another this December.

Beyond campus, seven brothers traveled to Punta Cana this past spring break, and three attended Grand Chapter in Philadelphia in August, where they helped elect a new grand executive board and visited the graves of our Founding Fathers. We also had the pleasure of reconnecting with alumni like Dennis Shea, who visited both early in the semester and during Homecoming.

We're proud of the momentum we've built and grateful for the continued support of our alumni.”

Three Undergrads Attend Grand Chapter 2025 in Philly

Every other year, Skullumni funds at least one undergraduate to attend Grand Chapter. In 2025, Skullumni paid for the registration and hotel costs for two members to attend Phi Kap's biennial convention in Philadelphia, PA.

In addition to President Griffin Donnelly, whose attendance was paid for by the Chapter, Alpha Delta sent Michael Mihalchik and Casey Gorhan thanks to scholarships from Skullumni. They joined alumnus Dennis Shea '84 as representatives from our chapter.

Members attended informational sessions, networked with undergraduates and alumni from other chapters across the country, and toured historical landmarks in the city in which Phi Kap was founded.

“I learned a lot about our fraternity's history. Having Grand Chapter in the city where we were founded was a pretty cool experience,” said Mihalchik, a then-sophomore finance major from Boxford, MA. “We got to see the Alpha Chapter house and I got to learn more about our founding fathers than what I learned as a new member after visiting the cemetery where most of them were buried.”

Gorhan, a then-sophomore marketing major from Mansfield, MA, also had a memorable experience.

“Going to Grand Chapter was both fun and informative,” he said. “I learned a lot, met a ton of great people, and I'd definitely



Alpha Deltans at Grand Chapter (L to R): Griffin Donnelly, Dennis Shea '84, Michael Mihalchik, and Casey Gorhan

want to go again in the future.”

In addition to being a rewarding event, the attendees will also bring back practical ideas to help improve the chapter.

“One of my biggest takeaways was the importance of strengthening alumni relations and building consistent communication within the chapter,” said Mihalchik. “Additionally, the conversations I had with other chapters gave me ideas for events that could boost both brotherhood and campus presence.”

Mihalchik added, “Thank you so much for making this opportunity possible, it was one of the best experiences I've had while being a Phi Kap.”

Skullumni offers our own thanks to Alpha Delta alumni for your financial support, which makes scholarships for undergraduates to attend Grand Chapter possible.

