



Phi Sigma Epsilon Delta Alumni Association



Vol 28. No. 1

Gary Brinkmeyer – Editor psebrink@mchsi.com

Spring 2018

PSE Student Award Application Time is Here Again

In the Fall of 1991, the PSE Alumni Assn. began awarding financial-based “Student Awards” to any EIU student applying for it, whose Dad had been a Phi Sig at EIU. In the summer of 2016 we presented the last Student Award to Michelle Fechner. Since then, there have been no new applications. But, in the hope that there might still be children of our younger Phi Sig alumni out there, we will again open up the application process to qualifying EIU students. If you know of an EIU student who meets the criteria, pass

on the information to them or contact me through the Newsletter, so that I can establish a contact. With the issuance of this Spring 2018 PSE Newsletter online, the window of time to apply for the financial Student Award assistance is hereby open to those eligible. The application for this monetary award is at the end of this Newsletter. The deadline for submittal of this application is July 15, 2018.

Final Update for the June 22-24, 2018 PSE Alumni Assn. Reunion

On the 21st of December, the Reunion Information Newsletter was sent out to 544 PSE Brothers that we had an address for. Sixty-one of those were returned to me. Fifty-one had no forwarding address update, meaning those Brothers are essentially lost to us now, while ten were returned with a corrected address sticker on them. Using that information, I re-mailed the Newsletter to those ten at the new address. That means that approximately five hundred Newsletters reached the targeted Phi Sigs, located across the country. And that means that five hundred Brothers know that Dave Carrell, the overall Reunion chairman, is doing a commendable job of getting all the elements of organization for this Reunion in place. He can be contacted at: davewcarrell@gmail.com if there are any needs of discussion with him.

From those distributed Reunion Edition Newsletters and the expanded online version of the PSE Fall 2017 Newsletter, the

pertinent details of the upcoming June Reunion have been made widely available. Therefore, I am not going to repeat all that information. I am going to update you though, with information you still need to be aware of. Reunion Central, of course, is the U-Hotel on the western edge of the City. At present, there are 40 rooms that have been reserved by PSE alumni. We have been guaranteed a block of 51 rooms that will be held until **May 22, 2018**, at which point they go back into the regular pool of rooms available to anyone else requesting a room. Do not forget, **you MUST state your affiliation with the PSE Alumni Assn. to get our special rates.** You can still get a room after the May 22nd date for our special rate, but they also could be taken by others too, who are not affiliated with our group. Book early!! And don't forget, with your room booking, you also get the free, hot buffet breakfast each morning.

Friday Evening - June 22nd - 6 PM-?

The weekend begins with the Friday evening get-together at Roc's, in what for many will probably be a flashback to the reminiscing days as students, and especially the 4 O'clock Club celebration. We are again guaranteed the Roc's upstairs facilities for our exclusive use. There will be two (and maybe sometimes three) bartenders acceding to our requests for liquid refreshments during the whole evening. The PSE Alumni Assn. will be providing some appetizers during the evening (not right away), so it is recommended that you partake of some meal at any of the

restaurants, fast food places or pizzerias located around town before heading upstairs. Sorry, you cannot bring any outside purchased food into the premises. You can even eat at the Roc's downstairs restaurant, which offers a nice selection of meals. We have the upstairs facilities for the whole evening or 1 AM, whichever comes first. The PSE Alumni Assn. will also have the Hospitality suite at the U-Hotel open before the Roc's escapade begins and maybe even after, depending on the time.

Saturday Morning - June 23rd

On Saturday morning, after having rested up from the Friday evening Roc's soiree and had some free breakfast, the beginnings of the days activities will ensue. There are three main choices. Those are (1) the PSE Golf Outing at the Mattoon Golf & Country Club, (2) the Ladies Broadway show program at the Little Theatre on the Square in Sullivan, IL and (3) staying behind in the Charleston area to visit with old friends at the hotel or pool, meet at the Phi Sig Hospitality Room and reminisce or just partake in whatever you choose, while awaiting the evening PSE Banquet & Program.

If your choice is to play in the PSE Golf Outing, here is some information you need to be aware of, beyond what is stated in the Information Sheet below, compiled by Bob Kovack. Bob is the new golf arrangements chairman, and it is through his generous efforts that we are playing at the Mattoon Golf & Country Club this year. He can be reached at: snowbirdrk@aol.com. Because it is a Country Club, you should dress accordingly-collared/polo shirt & dress slacks/shorts. No blue jeans or t-shirts. We have also had requests to allow a number of foursomes of golfers that have already assembled their members. We have always allowed this in the past and therefore we will continue to allow it. You do need to let us know about new pairings as soon as possible though. If you have no preference, you will be paired up by Bob according to the Information Sheet below. Golf checks should be made payable to the PSE Alumni Assn. and sent to Gary Brinkmeyer at 910 Tenth St., Charleston, IL 61920. The Golf fee of \$40 includes 18 holes, golf cart and a light BBQ lunch at the Clubhouse after play is completed. And beginning this year, at least one foursome of women have expressed a desire to play, to which we gladly acquiesced. In fact, if there are additional women who would like to play, they are welcome to do so-depending on the number though, they may have to be part of a guys group. The Information/Welcome Sheet assembled by Bob is shown below:

Mattoon Golf & Country Club

Welcomes the

Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association Golf Outing
Saturday, June 23rd - 8AM Shotgun Start

TEES

- Play will be from the **WHITE TEE MARKERS**.
- **"RULE OF 80"**: Players who are a minimum of 65 years old, whose age when combined with their handicap equals 80, may play from the **GOLD TEES**.
- **"RULE OF 90"**: Players who are a minimum of 75 years old, whose age when combined with their handicap equals 90, may play from the **ORANGE TEES**.

FORMAT

- Today's event will be a **FOUR PERSON SCRAMBLE**.
- Each member of the team will tee from the teeing ground and the best ball will be chosen. Each member will then hit from that spot. This process will continue until the ball is holed.
- Please return scorecards to the golf shop at the conclusion of play.
- If there are only 3 people on the team, the fourth shot shall be rotated within the group. On a three person team for instance, on the first hole Player A will hit two tee shots, Player B will hit two second shots and so on. On the second hole Player B will hit two tee shots, Player C will hit two second shots, and so on.

INDIVIDUAL CONTESTS

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| - Closest to Pin #3 | Ball must be on the green |
| - Longest Drive #7 | Ball must be in the fairway |
| - Longest Putt #9 | Putt must be from the green |
| - Closest to the Pin #11 | Ball must be on the green |
| - Longest Putt #18 | Putt must be from the green |

A BBQ Buffet (included with the entry fee) will be served & prizes awarded on the patio after play is completed. A cash bar will also be available on the patio.

NOTE: If you would like to donate anything that can be used for team or individual prizes, let us know. You can bring them to the golf outing. **The address and phone for the Mattoon Golf & Country Club is:**
6700 N. Country Club Rd. - Mattoon, IL 61938 (217) 234-7735 (Pro Shop).

Ladies, if your choice is to attend the Women's program on Saturday, June 23rd, here are some details that you need to be aware of. As noted in the earlier mailed Reunion Edition PSE Newsletter, Dick and Barb Swing have volunteered to organize the travel and tickets for the Broadway show "Hello Dolly" at the renowned Little Theatre in Sullivan, IL. **This presentation and travel is FREE to all Phi Sig Ladies.** The large, luxury bus will be at the hotel at approximately 11:45 AM to take you to the Little Theatre. Once you arrive there, you will be treated to an in-depth behind-the-scenes tour of all that goes on to put on the quality shows they are famous for. Your actual performance of "Hello Dolly" will start at approximately 2:15 PM and will last about two hours, including intermission. You will then be whisked back home in the same luxury bus, arriving at about 5 PM. We're moving the Cash Bar ahead to 6 PM, Opening Remarks at 6:30 PM, and the Banquet to follow at 6:45 PM. This should allow ample time for everyone to ready themselves for the special evening ahead. Please RSVP to Dick or Barb Swing at: rswing@sbcglobal.net to guarantee your reservation for this event. We need to hear from you by June 1st for our best-price tickets & June 9th as a cutoff date for show tickets. Please note-there will be no PSE-provided lunches or snacks served before or after the show.

For those of you, both Brothers and spouses/significant others, who chose not to participate in either the golf or theatre activities, there are still numerous things to do to while away some time on Saturday. The PSE Hospitality Room will be open the whole time, but maybe the pool or your own room-to-room visiting with old friends is more desirable. Shopping for some of you may be on your radar (outlet mall in Tuscola, IL), while sightseeing around town, at EIU or in the local area would be more appealing. The Hospitality Room will afford a look at many old remembrances of days gone by, from fraternity photo composites to old yearbooks, from sports clothing to daily wear t-shirts/sweatshirts and from numerous mementos and souvenirs of Formals and other social events. Since it is the Hospitality Room, it will I'm sure, also provide some refreshments, both liquid and snack related, to whet your whistle or satiate your snack cravings.

Saturday Evening - June 23rd

With all the earlier Saturday activities completed for both Brothers and PSE Ladies (hope you had a good time), it is time to get ready for a special evening of celebration. As noted above, the prelude-to-dinner Cash Bar will start at 6 PM, Opening Remarks at 6:30 PM and the Buffet Banquet to begin at about 6:45 PM. If you attended the Banquet three years ago, you will remember the quality meal we had (I can still remember the melt-in-your mouth roast beef). The same group will be providing this year's buffet choices. **And once again, the PSE Alumni Assn. has decided to provide this meal FREE to all Brothers and spouses/significant others who are in attendance, whether for the whole weekend of activities or the Banquet meal only. You will have to be registered ahead of time, so we can properly account for the meal numbers. Send in your registration from the earlier Newsletter or this one or contact me at the email address listed on this Newsletter front page.**

Following the meal, we will proceed into the evening program, which promises to be a memorable occasion. A number of speakers will enlighten our gathering with special reminisces from their years within the PSE Fraternity. The Golf prizes were handed out earlier at the culmination of golf activities, but their recognition could still be announced. Several other pronouncements are also being planned as part of the program, but we will save that for the evening gala. The final homage following the program, is the traditional singing of our fraternity song, as we form a continuous around-the-room loop of Brothers (arm-in-arm) and begin **"Sing to our fraternity"...** and finish **"We sing to P.S.E."** It probably looks

and sounds like a presidential news conference going on with all the cameras responding to our voices, but it still feels good to sing together as a fraternity of Brothers.

The completion of the formal program blends into the presentation of an assemblage of old pictures from days gone by, but still fondly remembered by those present. This photo collage has been assembled by Jeff "Friskie" Estes and developed into a continuous loop feed that is projected onto a 70-inch TV screen within the Banquet room. Faraway table guests typically move into a better and closer viewing area to catch the memories that are released when the old pictures of Brothers or situations are remembered. The laughter and teasing follows, when it becomes obvious that there is often more hair and less weight in some of the pictures in the loop. You are transported, at least for the moment, back in time as you recognize those who are in the pictures and sometimes remember those who were. It is a fun time for about 10-15 minutes as you progress through the loop-then it starts over again. There are many who will stick around for two or three cycles through the photo collage loop. It is a transitory way to complete the evening's activities-but many still haven't gotten their fill! Later on into the evening, small groups are still reveling about and laughing about the shared memories they have recalled. Small groups stand around in the parking lot or sit around in the Hospitality Room, or maybe head into the Hotel Bar and adjacent seating areas that abound within. Another celebration of the spirit of Phi Sig Brotherhood is almost behind us-and kind of like the Olympics, we will gather again in another three years to renew that same spirit.

A Fond Memory is Lost

As we look forward to the PSE Reunion, with its beginnings at the Friday night Roc's (aka Black Front) gathering, I need to share with you a tragic loss for our community. On Friday, February 16, 2018, a massive fire consumed the entire building that was Mother's Bar, which was right next to a current bar called Mike & Stan's (formerly known as Chink's). The Mother's building was a bar that was only periodically open, but it also housed apartments on the second floor level. Eight people called those apartments "home", but they lost everything when the intense fire collapsed the second floor housing into the lower bar area. Literally nothing was saved! Some of you may recall, these were the same second-story apartments where Phi Sig intramural football coach and legend Marv Randolph ("Steer") used to live, both before and after his marriage to Kathy. I always remember that he was so proud that he was only paying \$75 a month for that apartment. As I recall, Tim Mash (of EIU football fame) also lived in those apartments, before moving to the "Blue Beacon" house near the high school. The old Chink's Bar building was miraculously saved, albeit sustaining extensive smoke and water damage. The fire wall separating Mother's from Chink's is credited with saving the smaller bar.

If you were thinking that the fire was probably just an overdue blaze common in these old buildings that can go up for no apparent reason, you would be wrong. This conflagration was an absolute "arson". There is even video evidence from a gas station a block away, that shows an individual purchasing and transporting the fuel to the bar just prior to the fire. In addition, it was reported in the

newspaper that there was some argumentative "bad blood" between the fuel purchaser and one of the tenants in the second-floor apartments. Bad blood is one thing, but to intentionally torch a



Extent of damage to Mother's Bar prior to being totally razed

building with children living in it is a dastardly act of cowardice. They know who the arsonist is, but he has slipped out of the Charleston area and lost himself within the city of Chicago. Nobody was severely injured in the blaze, but three people had to be rescued by the fire department. As stated, the building was a total loss and at the end of March, for the period of a couple weeks, it was leveled and hauled away. It had to be done carefully though. There was a great deal of concern that the wall that now serves as the exterior

wall for the Chink's building could have been compromised by the heat and stresses of the fire. So far, it seems to be okay and interior restoration work is now ongoing at the Chink's building. I think I'll go over and have a "celebratory" drink when they are fully open again.

Brothers Eternal

The Phi Sigma Epsilon Alumni Association is once again saddened to report to you the death of a number of Brothers of the Heart from over the years. Let us however, take solace in the fact that we are better for having known them.

Rick Schwebke



The wall that saved the old 'Chink's' building from fire loss

Registration for PSE Reunion Banquet

I/we will attend the PSE Reunion Banquet on June 23, 2018 at the U-Hotel in Charleston, IL.

Name: _____ PSE - Year(s): _____

Spouse/Signif. Other _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Mail or e-mail this information to:

PSE Alumni Assn.
Gary Brinkmeyer
910 Tenth St.
Charleston, IL 61920
(217) 549-4684
or psebrink@mchsi.com

STUDENT AWARDS INFORMATION

ALUMNUS INFO.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Telephone (____) _____

E-mail Address: _____

Year Graduated from EIU _____

Years Attended EIU - 19__ to 19__

PHI SIGMA EPSILON INFO.

Pledge Class Year _____

Active Member-19__ to 19__

STUDENT INFO.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone (____) _____ SSN. _____

Projected EIU Start Date (Semester) _____

Projected EIU Graduation _____