Over the past decade, the physical condition of the Alpha chapter house has deteriorated beyond the ability of the undergraduate brothers to maintain it. The house, now in its 87th year, needs extensive repairs in order for it to meet local and state building codes.

Recently, Alpha alumni, undergraduate brothers, and the Grand Chapter have come together to make a vigorous effort to save Alpha Chapter.

**Summary of Recent Events**

**Summer of 2000**—the poor physical condition of the house threatened the opening for the Fall 2000 semester. Many Alpha Chapter alumni sent contributions to try and help with the immediate situation. Unfortunately, numerous repairs and a lack of steady revenue forced a delay in the opening.

**October 2000**—property manager Jean Harlow resigned, effectively ending any hope of opening the house for the fall.

**January 2001**—The Grand Chapter began discussions with Alpha Chapter on getting the house reopened.

**Alumni Meeting**

On February 17th, 2001 the Alpha alumni meeting was held at the Omicron chapter house in Boston. Thanks to the following Alpha alumni for attending this important event:

- Jeff Connors '93
- Kent Wrobleski '93
- Dennis Cremin '93
- Tim Cahill '81
- Mark Vassalotti '80
- Richard Pepi '80
- Jeff Jenkinson '80
- Tim Cahill '81
- Frank Puopolo '78
- Rich Wellen '78
- Bill Rose '77
- Dennis Hoffman '76
- Stephen Hurley '93
- George Smith '93
- Mark Depoto '94
- Eric Goldberg '93
- Jeff Goldberg '96
- Michael Bita '96

Thanks also go out to the undergraduate members of Alpha Chapter who attended. At the meeting, Grand President Jim Schmitz spoke to the group and made the following points:

- The Grand Chapter’s goal is to ensure the long-term future of Alpha Chapter and is committed to working with the Alpha alumni to accomplish this.
- The Grand Chapter paid $11,200 to Fleet Bank to prevent the foreclosure of the Alpha chapter house.
- The Grand Chapter began obtaining estimates to begin the process of obtaining a loan to repair and renovate the chapter house.
- The Grand Chapter hopes to have a renovated house ready for members of Alpha Chapter to move into for the fall 2001 semester.

The alumni expressed their ideas and concerns on several issues, including the details of the financing and the state of the relationship between Alpha Chapter and the Grand Chapter.

The meeting eventually split into two groups: one group examined forming an active alumni club to improve communication.

Alumni attend a meeting in Boston last February.

(cont. on pg. 2)
Get Involved!

The Alpha House has been home to the founding chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa since 1914. Since that time, the house and brotherhood have stood through the difficulties of the Great Depression, two World Wars, the Cold War, and other important events. Well over a thousand men have called Alpha Chapter home.

Today, however, Alpha Chapter faces one of its greatest challenges. The continued well-being of Alpha Chapter depends on a great extent on the involvement of the alumni. It is going to take strong alumni effort to bring to fruition the complete restoration of the Alpha chapter house. All alumni are encouraged to become involved in this effort.

This is an opportunity for all brothers to remember what the Fraternity meant to them during their years at UMASS. It is also a great chance to rekindle friendships that may have faded over the years and to attend some great events! We look forward to your help and interest in helping with the effort to restore the house. Please contact a member of the Housing Corporation with any suggestions or offers of assistance in this project.

Current Situation
It appears that after several months of negotiation and legal research, agreements have been put in place that will allow the Grand Chapter to take possession of Alpha Chapter’s house. The intent of this move is to use the Grand Chapter’s financial strength to obtain the financing necessary to restore the house to a habitable condition and allow the active brotherhood to return to the house.

The terms of the agreement involve the Housing Corporation entering into a long-term lease/purchase arrangement with the Grand Chapter with a clause enabling the Housing Corporation to buy the house back when they are able to rehabilitate its credit rating.

Under this agreement, the Housing Corporation will pay the Grand Chapter rent sufficient for the Grand Chapter to cover all costs associated with acting as landlord. These costs will include mortgage payment, insurance, administrative, etc.

The Housing Corporation will collect housing fees from the active brotherhood and the surplus will remain with the Housing Corporation. This will allow the Housing Corporation to rebuild its financial strength and eventually purchase the house back from Grand Chapter. The Housing Corporation and the Grand Chapter are currently working out the actual costs and final details.

We have a commitment from 26 current brothers for the fall semester. Based on current projections, this should result in a sizable surplus for the first year. The purchase price will be sufficient to pay off the existing mortgage and any administrative expenses. The Housing Corporation will make a contribution to the Grand Chapter to thank them for their assistance in the matter.

The Grand Chapter has obtained a commitment letter from a local bank to provide the necessary financing. Ownership of the house will be transferred simultaneously with the closing on the new mortgage. All debts incurred by Housing Corporation will be paid out of the borrowed funds as will the cost of restoring the house.

Looking Ahead
This is just the first step in what promises to be a long process. The restoration project currently agreed to will only serve to “spurce” the house up and take care of some necessary repairs. The long-term plan involves an actual restoration with quality materials that will return the house to its original splendor. The improvements already agreed to will cost around $70,000 and involve installing new floors on all levels, replacing ceilings, removal of asbestos tiles, gutting and rebuilding the kitchen area, improvements to bathrooms, upgrading the fire alarm system, and repairs to the electrical and plumbing systems. Long term plans include upgrading floors, replacing stairways, painting and repairing walls, installing quality millwork such as doors and windows and a complete restoration of the Chapter Room with quality cabinets, doors, windows, flooring and ceilings.

Homecoming Events

The Alumni Club is planning a Homecoming event to celebrate the reopening of the Alpha chapter house and to kick off the alumni organization. Another idea in the works is setting up an alumni golf tournament. Details coming soon!

Mark Your Calendars!
UMass Homecoming Saturday, Oct. 13, 2001
UMass vs. New Hampshire
Help Us Find “Lost” Brothers

Below is a listing for whom we have no address. If you have information on any of the following brothers, please contact National Headquarters by phone at (317) 573-5420; email Shawn McDaniel at shawn@phisigmakappa.org.

Hrayn C Tamzanian
Richard H Harraghy
Steven Godfrey
David M Casperowhitz
Mark J Kreutler
Scott Alexander
William Leary
Andrew Divoll
Edward J McCabe Jr
Jack Heslin
Michael J Fadelerin
Scott M Storey
David M Hancock
William J McEnroe
Francis S Pycko Jr.
Mike A Marino
Joseph M Dionne
Louis W Mead Jr.
Thomas C King
Douglas F Bennett
Richard A Gross
Kirk Simon
David Minnelli
Peyton Chou
Pasquale J Teti
Robert J Racicot
Matthew Cahillane
Kevin Orach
Thomas A Schortmann
Kevin S Plunkett
Matt Horn
Matt Pegan
James J David
Robert E Primmer
Frederick J Connor III
Eric Stout
Allen G Chandler
Joseph Wolf
Scott A Cooper
Michael V Macomber
Richard Jones
Frank M Marshall
Eric A Schwartz
Norman Brzuski
John P Russo
Christopher Collins
Randy J Zucco
John Molrey
Steven J Williams
Kevin Bloomer
James A Balcius
Steven D Montalto
Winchester Woollard
David Faucher
Michael Higgins
Dan G Farley
James M Proctor
Phillip Golden
Darrin Alves
Mark Hernandez
Steven B Friedman
Matt Price
Brett Goldenberg
Alan C Wolfe
David M Irwin
Tom Broom
Joe Nelson
Walter J Mathews
Peter C Mosro
Bill Murphy
Daniel C Michaud
Michael Bergstrom
Allen W Himmelberger
Michael Gordon
Shad Tesser
Francis A Kniff Jr
William Duraney
Carl Peterson
Robert V Palombo
Scott Siemen
Peter DeCaro
Terry E Grijgs
Bryan Sherman
David Smith
Edward Sawin
John McGonagle
Derrick Baillargeon
Barry S Sherman
Wayne Hart
Thomas Collupy
Stephen M Macaulay
Mike Garafoli
David Spirito
Peter D Hoffman
Geoff Fielder
Chris Puchswitz
Christopher Crown
Michael B Perry
Paul Lechiara
Peter L Losius
Paul R Farnsworth
Andon Andonov
Randy McIntyre
Francis Pruyn
Richard Sommer
Richard S Tophram
Gerry Conover
Pete Bacun
Gary A McKenna
Mike Favreau
Mark C Waters
John D Stevens
Alan Taupier
Scott Ferguson
Calvin P Rogers
James F Paul
Steven L Becker
Richard F Proctor
John Herter
John Emanuelli
Joseph M Simpson
Robert Montalto
Ken Kail
Thomas C Brause
Steven L Hasse
Nicholas F Leary
Michael Donovan
James Durfer
James Hanright
David Rosenblatt
Paul Pendleton
Allen C Doumit
Norman H Schmidt
Mark Coolige
James C Frank
Robert La Freniere
Joe Benidetti
James E Berube
Michael E Parsons
Brian Hyde
Michael E Zwerner
Rick Goldstein
Steven Gallagher
David M Shump
Donald B Kerr
Paul C Derrane
Michael S Donaghey
Kevin Woods
Glenn D Dooling
Gary Pucciarilli
Jeffrey P Weber
Adam Caccivio
Matthew Alves
Christopher Kurtz
Adam Markell
Edward J Haggerty

The Herkimer Club

The Herkimer Club is the name of the new Alpha Chapter Alumni Club. We are currently working on publishing a biannual newsletter and planning alumni events. The Herkimer Club is currently headed by Dennis Cremin ’93. If you would like to get involved with the alumni club, please email him with your questions and/or ideas at dpcremin@erols.com.

Several other brothers have already volunteered to help get the Herkimer Club off the ground!

* Kent Wrobleski ’93
* Rich Wellen ’78
* Mark Vassalotti ’80
* Rich Pepi ’81
* Jim Breen ’81
* Mike Bita ’96

Undergraduate
Head Table Officers

Steve Brugge, President
Matt Young, Vice President
Justin Davis, Secretary
Jon Kench, Treasurer
Keith Ouellette, Sentinel
Bryan Cohen, Alumni Chair
Sasanka Atapattu, Rush Chair
Tim Kujawski, Social Chair

Phi Sigma Kappa
Alpha Chapter
now has a website!
Visit www.umass.edu/rso/phisig/ for information about the house and alumni events!
Contributing Brothers, Summer 2000

Thanks to the following alumni for contributing to the effort to repair the chapter house:

Dave Casperowitz
Greg Weil
Steve Calick
Chris Massucci
Mike Milanoski
Kethe Cicconi
Pat McGowan
Jeff Connors
Steve Hurley
George Smith
Mike Higgins
Carl Peterson
Michael Bita
Steve Hutchinson
Michael McDade
Mike Sutton
Jeff Goldberg
Paul Penti
Dennis Cremin
Walter Matthews
Paul Rasmussen
Joe Zahtila
Todd Cooper
Rick Kendall
Pete Roberts
Marc Depoto
Eric Goldberg
Fred Cronin
Steve Luhan
Doug Saulnier
Jeff Beck
Yuri Rozenvayn
Scott Lundin
Dave Celano

Housing Corporation . . .

A group of five alumni make up the Housing Corporation Board. This board will work with the Fraternity to help them develop budgets, collect bills, keep track of financial records, pay bills and any other matters concerned with running the Fraternity.

The Housing Corporation will also cultivate the new working relationship with the Grand Chapter to ensure a lasting and productive working relationship.

Alumni currently heading the effort to establish the Housing Corporation:

* Jeff Goldberg '96
  jgoldberg@statestreet.com

* Bill Rose '77

* Frank Puopolo '78
  frankp@salvagepro.com

* Bryan Cohen '01

There are still positions open and available to any alumnus interested in helping with the effort to restore the house.

Please contact a member of the Housing Corporation with any suggestions or offers of assistance in this project.

Basic Training

Pledges from across the years have experienced different initiation experiences, but for all the purpose to generate a sense of pride in Alpha Chapter.

This ongoing section of our newsletter will present some of the different bits of arcane knowledge we all learned as initiates.

All alumni are invited to contribute items they remember from their own personal experiences.

The Creed

Saying the Creed was a common experience for all pledges, no matter what year you were inducted. Some of us may even remember all the words, but did you know that the Creed has:

- 7 commas
- 4 semi-colons
- 4 periods
- 1 exclamation point
- 22 underlined words

Submitted by Dennis Cremin '93

The Triple T's
Alpha Chapter Alumni Newsletter

Phi Sigma Kappa
2925 E. 96th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46240

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED