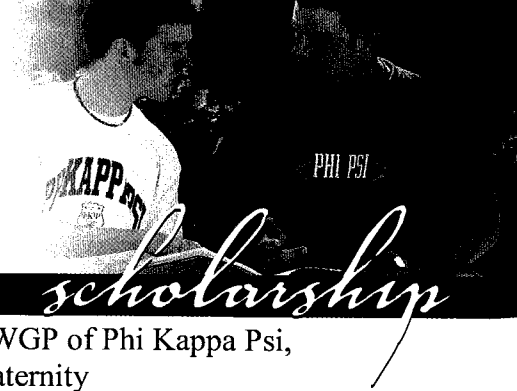


PHI KAPPA PSI FRATERNITY



MEN OF EXCELLENCE SINCE 1852

From: Steve R. O'Rourke, *Missouri Alpha (Missouri) '74*, 60th SWGP of Phi Kappa Psi, on behalf of the Executive Council of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity

To: The Pennsylvania Theta Chapter undergraduates, alumni and guests on the occasion of the reopening of the "Old Grey Barn"

Brothers and Friends,

As President of Phi Kappa Psi, it is always a pleasure to honor a chapter for promoting the ideals of our Fraternity. And what a rare achievement we celebrate today. Since its founding in 1869 by Clarence G. Voris, *Pennsylvania Gamma (Bucknell) 1868*, and Dr. Edwin L. Evans, *Pennsylvania Zeta (Dickinson) 1865*, the Pennsylvania Theta Chapter has brought over 1,500 brothers into Our Strong Band.

In 1878, Pennsylvania Theta was installed as the Grand Chapter of the Fraternity under the pre-1886 Phi Psi Constitution. Even 130 years ago, your brothers exhibited a keen sense of finance as they exposed the shoddy record keeping of the Fraternity's prior seats of power and worked to improve the ledgers and accounts of Phi Kappa Psi. This responsible act laid a foundation that the Fraternity has continued to build upon.

Of course, no one in attendance should be surprised that Pennsylvania Thetas exercised sound judgment. The Old Grey Barn renovation project is a wonderful example of what is possible when educated men of means are motivated by duty and the promise of the future. The Greek community is seeing a nationwide decline in independent chapter housing, often because the issues surrounding traditional chapter houses are seen as negatives or liabilities. Here, many of those issues are viewed as areas of opportunity backed by the commitment of Lafayette College to be a first class liberal arts institution.

In keeping with the goals of Lafayette College, our host and partner for nearly 140 years, the renovation of the Old Grey Barn stands as a testament to the strength of community, the necessity of leadership, the power of service and the complementary nature of fraternity to education. It is hard to imagine a better environment for these lofty aims to succeed. Lafayette's Greek and student organizations are growing, and President Dan Weiss champions the importance of academic excellence, mentor relationships and campus involvement – all of which are cornerstones of the Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity and our Pennsylvania Theta Chapter.

Welcome back to the Old Grey Barn, brothers. May it serve as a center of campus and fraternity life for another 140 years.

In The Bond,

Steve R. O'Rourke, *Missouri Alpha (Missouri) '74*, 60th SWGP of Phi Kappa Psi