NOW & EVER

Phi Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau Bethany College

January 2011Bethany, West Virginia

PHI Chapter of PHI KAPPA TAU BETHANY COLLEGE

Dick Meess Memorial Fund Surpasses Goals

Dedication Scheduled For April 30 in Bethany

HROG Meeting, Ceremony & Luncheon Planned

National President Heilmeier to Speak

Mark Your Calendar! You did it! The Dick Meess Memorial Fund has achieved and exceeded its \$7,000 goal. As promised, we will honor beloved brother Dick Meess '50 in two ways: in a memorial at the Centennial Gardens at the National Headquarters of Phi Kappa Tau in Oxford, Ohio, birthplace of Phi Kappa Tau; and on the campus of his alma mater, Bethany College, where he spent so many happy hours as a student and as one of its most loyal alumni.

Come join Dick's friends and family at Bethany College on Saturday, April 30 (Bethany Alumni Weekend) for a series of special events honoring Dick. First, the Harvard Red & Old Gold Club, Phi Chapter's unique educational foundation which Dick helped lead and drive for so many years, will hold its annual meeting at 10 a.m.

Then, at 11:45 a.m., we will assemble at the site where Bethany College will have a memorial tree planted with an engraved stone to memorialize and honor Dick, in the same manner as the famous stone that reads "Pearl Mahaffey Dares You to Love This Place As She Does." We will remember Dick in a brief dedication ceremony.

Afterwards, we will adjourn for a special **Phi Tau Brotherhood Luncheon**, where we shall remember Dick Meess, honor National Phi Tau President **Greg Heilmeier** '89 and recognize the Class of 2011 graduating seniors. Details and reservation information for the Luncheon will be coming soon in another mailing. **But please mark April 30 on your calendars now and play on returning to Bethany this spring for this special event!**

Resident Council Update

New chapter officers for the coming year include **Rob Christiansen**, President; **Joey Greshner**, VP; **Daniel Zinn**, Treasurer; **Ben Lighter**, VP/Alumni Relations; **Alex Lucas**, Secretary; **Anthony Palus**, Social Chair; and **Richard Shaver**, Sgt-at-Arms.

Board of Governors Chair **Charles Drubel** '05 has the following report: "The chapter is doing well and has recovered from a dip in membership from 12 (two years ago) to 24 (today), with four of those men being from a Fall rush class. They are looking forward to a strong spring rush as well, with recruitment being encouraged in the Greek system as a whole by the college administration." **Good news indeed!**

Charles is joined on his Board by **Scott Berg** '05, **Dan Fox** '07, **Jon Hays** (*Gamma Tau Chapter, Old Dominion University*), **Thomas Velto** '07; **Chad Shepherd** '06, and ex officio member **Shawn Brown** '97, who all meet with the students on the first Saturday of each month at 11 a.m. For more information, contact Charles at cwdrubel@pobox.com.

Graduate Council News & Dues

New Social, Communications Efforts

Updated Web Site in the Works

Pay Your Dues!

At last October's Homecoming, the following Graduate Council officers were elected: **Shawn Brown** '97, President; **John Sayers** '81, Vice President; **Scott Berg** '07, Treasurer; and **John Faber** '77, Secretary. (Board of Governors chair **Charles Drubel** '05 serves as an ex officio member.)

From Brother Brown: "Through the years, Phi Chapter's alumni organization has been nationally recognized for its outstanding work, and it is our job to earn and improve that reputation. To do this, we'll need your help. We'll be calling on you to help make Phi Kappa Tau strong through your time and your treasure. We hope you can participate as a volunteer, a donor, an attendee at events, as a provider of advice—any way you can.

"Grad Council officers will be making a strong commitment to strengthen our social, communications and fundraising programs. To that end, **Curtis Wadsworth** '96 and **Doug Sicchitano** '00 have been named social chairs to plan events through the year to join our Homecoming Tailgate. The first new event was a holiday get-together in Pittsburgh.

"In addition, we will be gearing up communications, not only in time-tested manners but also using new social media. Under the guidance of **Jon Bernard** '08, we will be creating an improved chapter website, where you will be able to update your information and connect with your brothers."

Finally, since we can't grow and thrive without regular fundraising efforts, so we will once again be asking for support for the chapter via Graduate Council dues. **Please fill out the enclosed card and return with your payment today!**

The Word from Harvard Red & Old Gold

Annual Meeting April 30 From HROG President **Mike Holzworth** '99: "As you know, the main focus of our three alumni organizations (Graduate Council, the Board of Governors and the Harvard Red and Old Gold Club) is to maintain the vitality of our chapter. The best way to do this is to make sure that the Resident Council members get the support they need to recruit good men into the fraternity—then help those good men become better.

"HROG serves a special role here as the funder for the educational development of our chapter. From sending student brothers to Leadership Academy, hosting oncampus leadership weekends and funding academic scholarships, HROG is vital in the development of our chapter. If you were a student in the last 20 years, chances are very good that you directly benefited from the opportunities that HROG provides.

"Make no mistake. Those opportunities were only available because a group of forward-thinking brothers cared enough to make it happen. If you are already a member of HROG, thank you. Your commitment to the chapter is appreciated and your investment is doing good work for our chapter and the broader Bethany community. If you are not already a member, you are in luck, because good seats are still available!

"Soon we will send out a mailing with details on joining the club, plus info on our annual meeting April 30. I hope you'll join me and the HROG officers there— VP **Jon Vogel** '95, newly-appointed Treasurer **Tom Skena** '85 and Secretary **Charles Drubel** '05—as we celebrate the memory of longtime HROG officer Dick Meess."

Phi Chapter of Phi Kappa Tau on Facebook: http://tinyurl.com/6defbw5

Wanted: Alumni Editor(s)

As your Phi Tau volunteers work to revitalize Phi Chapter alumni programming, we recognize the importance of communications in keeping the bonds of fellowship and fraternity strong. While we'll be using both new and traditional media to get out the word and stay connected, we are in dire need of one or more graduates to step forward and be responsible for gathering alumni and student news for the Now & Ever newsletter, which we hope to publish quarterly. Can you help? Old Washed Up Editor John Sayers '81 will gladly assist. Contact him at jhsayers@mac.com today!