

UPCOMING EVENTS

Send Us Pictures From Pig Dinner

Lambda Iota Chapter's annual **Frank Norris Pig Dinner** will be **Feb. 4**. This huge event — featuring a night of reunion and camaraderie for graduate brothers — will no doubt be a great time. So please send us some pictures of the festivities! Go to www.purduefiji.org and submit photos and stories of the big night. We may just use them in a future eLetter or newsletter.

Boilermaker Ball set for Feb. 25

The 10th annual **Boilermaker Ball** is fast approaching. The date this year is **Feb. 25** at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown.

It's a great night of dining, dancing and reminiscing with your friends. Grab a table with some brothers and make a night of it!

LOOKING BACK

Tell Us About Your Service Memories

Martin Luther King Day was Monday, Jan. 16. The holiday also doubles as a national day of service.

Service is a big part of the purpose of any fraternity, particularly Phi Gamma Delta. Fijis at chapters throughout the country perform numerous service projects every year.

Do you have a service memory from your Phi Gam days? Maybe a mission project or volunteer effort that inspired you? If so, send us your stories by going to www.purduefiji.org and we may use them in a future eLetter or newsletter.

THE BOILERMAKER FIJI

www.purduefiji.org • January 2017



LAMBDA IOTA ♦ THE FRATERNITY OF PHI GAMMA DELTA ♦ PURDUE UNIVERSITY ♦ WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

GRADUATE PROFILE

From Fiji To D.C.: Brother Parkhurst Uses Engineering Degree as a Stepping Stone to Practicing Law

Brother **Roger W. Parkhurst '65** was the first member of Phi Gamma Delta in his family. He made sure he wasn't the last.

Parkhurst's brother Bruce and Bruce's son Bradley also became Fijis, and his father was initiated as a faculty brother.

Parkhurst created quite a legacy at Lambda Iota Chapter.

"When I went there to rush (in 1963)," Parkhurst says of the Fijis, "I found them to be a solid group."

Not only did Parkhurst start the trend of Parkhurst men joining Lambda Iota, he also came back to campus to see Bruce and their father's initiation ceremony — which was the same night.

"I had the honor of pinning my badge on my dad at his initiation," Parkhurst says with pride.

Following college, Parkhurst headed to D.C. to study law at George Washington University. He then worked as an attorney for a few years at Xerox Corporation before returning to Washington to enter private practice. Today, he's a senior partner at Steptoe & Johnson, LLP.

Although few lawyers begin their academic careers as engineers, Parkhurst explains why he changed his direction after four years at Purdue: "I didn't want to spend my career in a laboratory," he says.

Parkhurst has never strayed far from Phi Gamma Delta. For the past 10 years, he's been a member of the board of directors of the Phi Gamma Delta Educational Foundation.

A native of West Lafayette, where his father



was the registrar at Purdue, Parkhurst made a concerted effort to become involved on campus his junior year. He first joined the glee club, and soon after he was pledging the Fijis.

"In my first two years, I had lived at home," Parkhurst says. "After glee club, I became more involved in campus life. And joining the fraternity was an extension of that.

"They had pretty good standards," Parkhurst

continues, "and I just wanted to be more integrated on campus."

In addition to gaining a group of brothers, Parkhurst also benefitted from the life lessons he picked up at Lambda Iota, among them the idea that "Membership is not for college days alone."

"In your pledge class, you learn to work together as a group," he says. "You see the conflicts that occur among people from time to time and learn to resolve them so everyone can go forward together."

Indeed, all these years later, Parkhurst continues to see the value in being a committed brother in Phi Gamma Delta.

"You meet these people (from Fiji) from time to time," he says, "and you immediately have a basis of conversation and communication and comfort. And a confidence that this person has some real substance."

"I had the honor of pinning my badge on my dad at his initiation"

Lambda Iota expands down Russell Street



December 8, 2016

Dear Lambda Iota Brother,

It is our privilege today to write you about an exciting undertaking with regard to our chapter house at 640 Russell Street. About three years ago, a brother offered a substantial pledge to the Chapter to renovate the house. For the last three years, a small group of brothers has been working quietly to procure additional land to the south of 640 Russell from Purdue University; they've also been working with architects to design an addition and renovation to our existing house. We now have signed contracts with Purdue to purchase the two adjacent lots to the immediate south of our property, as well as a lease for 15 additional parking spaces nearby on university property. With this purchase, we will own the entire Russell Street frontage of the 600 block, except for the corner lot to the south. Purdue wants to retain that lot at least for the time being. Having reached this milestone, we want to inform all Lambda Iota graduates of the plans.

Our Chapter continues to be one of the top fraternities at Purdue by the usual measurements: leadership positions on campus, scholarship, intramural athletics, number of pledges and overall recognition by other fraternities and sororities. Our physical house in terms of condition, square footage per person and amenities would, however, be in the bottom third. The goal of this project is to renovate and upgrade the existing house and add on to the south to be able to expand capacity from 60 to 75, while at the same time bringing the historic house up to the expectations of today's students. The new addition will nearly double the square footage, and renovations will provide an improved environment for study.

With this letter are several separate pages labeled Exhibit A through D. We want to walk you through each of these in order that you can become as excited about this project as we are. Your support is necessary to implement the plan.

Exhibit A is in effect a list of current accomplishments of the Chapter. I think it is important that we all know that the chapter is doing well DESPITE the condition of the house itself. Clearly this is a group of young Fijis that deserve our support!

Exhibits B1 and B2 are perspectives from the northwest corner and southwest corner, respectively. The brick color will match the existing house and shows up to light in these exhibits. We determined early on that our location on campus is one of the best and we should remain at this location. We also decided after a third-party survey of the present house that the "bones" and condition was such that renovation was practical, versus demolishing and building an entirely new structure. We think the architects have done a great job of designing an addition that blends well with the historic house. We will put new windows and doors in the historic house and visually match with the addition. With the new addition and a larger landscaped property, we will have a very impressive chapter house in a great location.

Exhibit C is the ground floor plan. The layout of the historic house is essentially unchanged, except for major improvements in the kitchen and the ladies powder room near the entry. Also, the interface between the kitchen and dining room has been improved, as now most meals are served buffet style. The new addition is connected at ground, 2nd and 3rd floor levels to the back stairs that currently exits to the parking lot; this integrates the addition to the historic house for good

traffic flow on all floors. You can also enter the house from the porch at the SW corner and walk through the new brotherhood lounge and access the new stairway or elevator. The elevator is required by code. The dining room has been expanded to serve a larger capacity house and an apartment added towards the back. We believe that in the near future it may be prudent to have a graduate student in residence to assure conformance with university rules. Rules regarding noise and alcohol have been a problem for many fraternities and we would prefer to take actions that reduce that risk.

A plan of the entire property showing parking and landscaping is not included but we have on-site parking for 41 and an additional 15 spots on university property west of (behind) the Theta parking lot across Russell Street. With no parking variance, we can have a capacity of 75. We also were able to save the sand volleyball court, which is a high priority for the undergrads.

Exhibit D is typical of the 2nd and 3rd floors, which are nearly identical. A survey of the current undergrads confirmed their desire to keep cold air dorms with study rooms just like all of us experienced. In the new addition, however, the configuration changes to two- and three-man suites. This is done to retain seniors who in recent years have not remained in the house. In the historic house, several walls will be removed and the capacity reduced from 60 to 50 to give more space per person. The design capacity of the addition is 24.

In the historic house, the bathrooms will be completely renovated, including all plumbing and the entire house will be air-conditioned. There will be a number of other improvements with regard to current building codes and security.

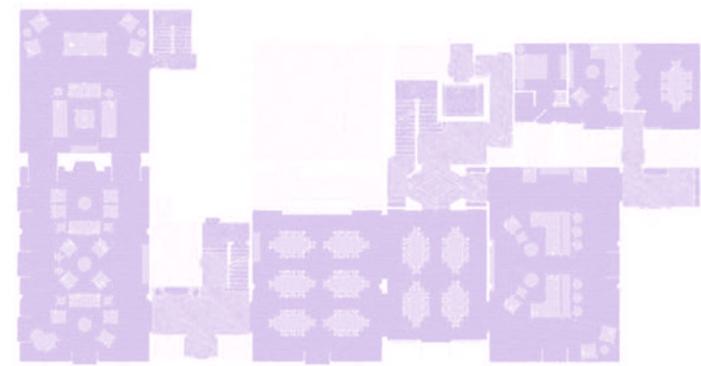


FIGURE 1

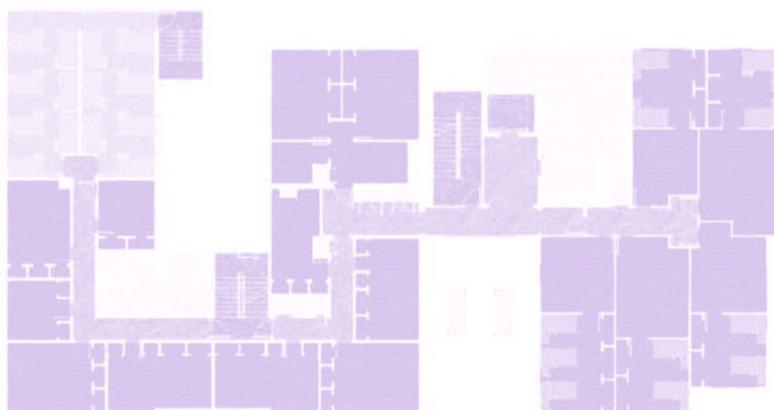


FIGURE 2

A basement floor plan is not included, but the new addition will have a full lower level with over 50 percent of the space used for a new event/all purpose room. It will connect to the current “bum room,” but have higher ceilings. This will triple the square footage for parties and dances and eliminate the need to use the living room for parties. The current practice is to remove furniture from the dining and living rooms and use that space if hosting a dance. Consequently, the furniture gets nicked up and the floors subjected to wear and tear beyond their design capability. With a bullet proof party room in the lower level, the entire ground floor of the house will look better and last longer. Furthermore, by having it below ground, noise will be contained in the house.

The overall design of the renovated and expanded house provides many spaces for either individual or group study. Every occupant has his own one-, two- or three-man room for individual study, and there are even more spaces for group study. The Doc Crowder room on the 3rd floor will remain and a new group study room is in the SE corner of the new addition. Also, it is common today to see students using the living room and dining room for study. And with the new addition, the Brotherhood lounge and basement area can be used as well.

Preliminary estimates place the cost at approximately \$8 million. Drawings are currently in review to determine

the tax deductibility of contributions to the project. The IRS only allows tax deductibility to the extent that monies are used for educational purposes. As an example, if our consultant determines 25 percent of our project is education related, then 25 percent of a contribution will be tax deductible. STAY TUNED!

Once we determine the level of tax deductibility, and firm up project costs, we will initiate a fund drive. That should be only weeks away, as we need funds immediately for architectural fees and land purchase. Our goal is to avoid vacating the house and to spread the project over a couple of years, but a definitive work plan has not yet been developed.

The next communication that you receive from us will be a request for financial support. We realize you are asked often to support worthwhile projects, but it is our hope that you will remember Phi Gamma Delta’s impact on your own life and make a meaningful contribution to support this project.

Fraternally,

Chris

Chris Burke (1977)
President, Lambda Iota Graduate
cburke@cbbel.com

Bob

Bob Swinehart (1965)
Corporation Project Lead
reswinehart@comcast.net

EXHIBIT A

Lambda Iota Chapter: Near Term Accomplishments

- Current semester GPA is a 3.17 / GPA in the top 10 now for over 40 semesters
- 35 brothers have semester or Dean’s honors / 5 had a 4.0 last semester
- 11 brothers studied abroad in the past year
- 3 brothers are active in Old Masters
- Nine brothers are in Gimlet and one the current President
- A brother was selected as the Most Outstanding Sophomore in the College of Science
- A brother just completed his term as President of Purdue University Dance Marathon, the largest student organization on campus
- A brother is Secretary of the Golden Key Honor Society
- A brother is on support council for Campus-House / two others founded Project Kids Network
- A brother is V. P. of RISE (Representatives for Inter-Fraternal Social Education)
- The Chapter hosted the Theta – Fiji Grill Off philanthropy for Autism Speaks
- A brother was selected to participate in the first Rising Professionals Program, a spin off from Old Masters
- There is a weekly in-house Bible Study for all brothers and pledges
- Three brothers are core members of Purdue’s Campus Outreach Ministry
- Many brothers volunteer time to local charities such as tutoring at the Boys and Girls Club, Home Winterization, projects at West Lafayette Parks

Clearly this is an outstanding Phi Gam Chapter that deserves alumni support.



Phi Gamma Delta PURDUE

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- *Parkhurst goes from Fiji to D.C.*
- *Astronaut Gene Cernan passes into Chapter Eternal*

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Fiji Brother and Astronaut Cernan Dies at 82

Gene Cernan was the last man to walk on the moon



Known throughout the world as the last man to walk on the moon, Cernan made his famous voyage in December 1972; it was his third trip to space. The 1972 mission to the moon was the last Apollo lunar landing, and it remains the final time man has stepped foot on the moon.

Cernan was the commander of that mission, called Apollo 17. In fact, Cernan turned down the opportunity to become part of Apollo 16 because he wanted to be in charge of his own mission.

Cernan left the space program in 1976, but he was far from retired. In addition to working for different businesses – including his own endeavor, The Cernan Corporation, which was founded in 1981 – he appeared on ABC's "Good Morning

America" as a regular contributor beginning in 1987.

Cernan later published a memoir, called "The Last Man on the Moon," published in 1999. In 2016, that book was turned into a documentary of the same name by director Mark Craig.

A Chicago native, Cernan studied electrical engineering at Purdue, where he became a Phi Gamma Delta Brother. In addition to his studies and his commitment to Purdue Fiji, Cernan also found time to join the ROTC while in college. Following graduation, he went to flight school to become an aviator. In addition to logging over 5,000 hours of flight time, he also earned his M.S. in aeronautical engineering at the Naval Postgraduate School.

GRADUATE UPDATE

Brother Lyles '64 Becomes President of Own Company

For **Gerald Lyles '64**, the philosophy of Fiji fit his style perfectly, making it a great match for him. Even though it's been more than 50 years since he graduated from Purdue, he keeps in touch with several brothers. Now, he has several hobbies and community-service projects to keep him busy.

Q: Why did you join Lambda Iota in the first place?

A: The conservative philosophy of Phi Gama Delta fit my style. I enjoyed the balance of personalities from scholars, to athletes and campus leaders.

Q: What is your favorite memory from the chapter?

A: The creation and experience of participating in two Fiji Islands.

Q: Which of your brothers do you still keep in touch with?

Brothers from graduating year. Primarily **Bob Swinehart '65**, **Bob Stephens '64**, **Fred Schramm '64**, **Chuck Armstrong '64** and **Jerry Bean '64**.



Q: Tell us about your career.

A: From 1964-1966, I was with the U.S. Navy Civil Engineer Corp Public Works; Sangley Point, Philippines. Then, from 1966-1970 I was Construction project manager in Visalia, California—bridges, sewage treatment plant, irrigation structures. I was in the Purdue Krannert Graduate Program from 1970-71.

Following that, I was the Johns-Manville Corporation Division Assistant to Construction Product Manager for eight manufacturing plants for six products from 1971 to 1973. In 1973 I joined Lyles Diversified, Inc. and am now Senior Vice President there, as well as President of Lyles United, LLC, with management responsibilities for agriculture, property development and multi-family rental housing projects.

Q: What have you been up to since graduation?

A: Hobbies: World travel (most recently to Southeast Asia and the British Isles), numismatics, study of Spanish language and photography.