



Putting
Honors
into Action

Visionary

PHI THETA KAPPA

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Putting Honors into Action

Dr. Rod A. Risley

Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director

Mission: The purpose of Phi Theta Kappa shall be to recognize and encourage scholarship among two-year college students. To achieve this purpose, Phi Theta Kappa shall provide opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.

An organization's Mission Statement reveals a great deal about the kind of people within it, and the language in Phi Theta Kappa's is very telling. If you look closely, our Society's Mission Statement promotes two concepts – one in particular that sets Phi Theta Kappa apart from all other honor societies and has been fundamental to our unparalleled growth and success as an organization.

The first component of our Mission Statement emphasizes the encouragement and recognition of academic excellence, which is true for most academic honoraries. What sets Phi Theta Kappa apart is the second component of the mission – “Phi Theta Kappa shall provide opportunity for the development of leadership and service, for an intellectual climate for exchange of ideas and ideals, for lively fellowship for scholars, and for stimulation of interest in continuing academic excellence.”

I believe this second feature of our mission reveals Phi Theta Kappa's integral role in developing scholars. What does it mean to be a “scholar?” In 1912, two years following the founding of the organization that would become Phi Theta Kappa, Theodore Roosevelt captured the essence of this unique component of our mission. He said, “...scholarship is of worth chiefly when it is productive, when the scholar not merely receives or acquires, but gives.” His words reveal the purpose and value of providing opportunities for our members to grow intellectually and as leaders. Those few words broadened our mission from simply recognizing scholars

for their academic achievements to calling our members to action. Thus, Phi Theta Kappa members are intended to be scholarly leaders – serving their communities and their world.

Recently we announced and adopted a new strategic direction for Phi Theta Kappa chapters described as “Honors in Action.” This initiative integrates the tenets of scholarship, leadership and service – rather than addressing them as separate concepts. First, students engage in scholarly examination of timely issues in their community or beyond. Through research, they engage as leaders in the development of strategies and action plans for implementing solutions. Finally, they take their acquired knowledge and put it to work in the community by providing service that results in positive change and scholarly fellowship of members. Honors In Action provides an integrated approach to developing scholars and, as a result, will encourage chapters to engage in fewer projects of quality with more depth and impact.

Both faculty advisors and members have embraced Honors in Action as a model that teaches valuable skills and lightens the workload of chapters that previously tried to plan numerous projects in the areas of scholarship, leadership and service. Now they can effectively address all of these Hallmarks in just a few carefully planned projects.

In preparing this issue of *Visionary*, Honors in Action became evident. The idea has been with us all along, evident in the lives of our members, advisors and alumni.

When you look at this magazine you will not see individuals content to rest on their laurels. Instead you will see those who live Honors in Action. People like Dr. Humphrey Lee, who believes the best way to engage students in academic excellence is to get directly involved – as the only college president in the nation to serve as both a college president and Phi Theta Kappa

“We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit.”

– Aristotle

Regional Coordinator. Like Dr. Christine Case, a Society advisor who teaches students the value of scholarly research – to the extent that they have gone on to win national awards, earn research grants and transfer to prestigious universities. Like Phi Theta Kappa Board member Dan Bailey – who, because of a Mosal Scholarship, can now take his passion for scholarly inquiry beyond the classroom and across the world. Each of these individuals has conducted their research and identified a need which speaks to them, developed a plan, and are engaged in making a positive difference in the lives of others.

You’ll also read about alumni in Missouri and New York who continue to work to improve the membership experience for today’s members, students who benefit from Phi Theta Kappa scholarships and donors who give to programs in which they believe. They are people of action, who put their ideals into practice in everyday life.

When a student is inducted into Phi Theta Kappa, we recognize their human potential. By engaging them – as called for in the second part of our mission – we contribute to the development of the whole student. Our hope is that one day they will understand and value the role and responsibilities inherent with being a scholar - and that they will eagerly embrace this habit of excellence for a lifetime.





“I support
Phi Theta Kappa
and the Foundation.

I especially love that donating to the Hites
Scholarship Challenge turns my \$1 into
almost \$3 – that’s a plus in my book!”
– Dr. Christine Case

Phi Theta Kappa Foundation Supports Opportunities for Excellence at Community Colleges

Dr. Christine Case is an award-winning chapter advisor at Skyline College in California, a former Honors Institute and Faculty Scholar Conference presenter, a respected scholar and a textbook author.

She also regularly contributes to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation.

“I believe in community colleges,” said Dr. Case. “I have spent most of my working career in community colleges.” “Community colleges still slip through the cracks – they don’t get the same attention as high schools and universities,” she said. “Sometimes I think people seem to be in a time warp, still think of community colleges as vocational schools, and they are much more.”

“I support the mission of Phi Theta Kappa, so I believe in supporting the Foundation financially.”

An advisor for 10 years and a 2004 Mosal Award winner, Dr. Case encourages her chapter to participate in Phi Theta Kappa’s Honors Case Study Challenge. The chapter has won multiple Case Study Challenge awards, but Dr. Case believes that entering is as important as winning. “What I like about the Case Study Challenge, the Honors Institute and Honors in Action is the opportunity to do research – to address a topic. In my chapter’s study of the Paradox of Affluence (Phi Theta Kappa’s 2008-2010 Honors Study Topic) we concentrated on the geographic issue – everything we looked at was geographically related, from our county to worldwide.”

“Research tells us how we can be a part of the solution. If you don’t use your knowledge, it is meaningless.”

Dr. Case also praises Phi Theta Kappa’s efforts to develop scholarships and encourage servant leadership.

“Scholarships can be finite in any economy. I love the list of scholarships we isolate and provide to chapters and advisors. Some career counselors say this is not the time to graduate, due to the economy and job situation, but this can be a time to get hands-on experience, such as through campus leadership – clearly Phi Theta Kappa is an example of an opportunity to become a campus leader.”

“Some experiences for a student, like feeding the homeless, could get them involved in public policy. There is no better time for students than now to help their communities and develop their resumes.”

She would like to see Phi Theta Kappa provide a database of internships for community college students – and more opportunities to learn about technology. “I don’t mean Facebook – but energy conservation and food sources, and how science and technology affect these basic needs.”

Dr. Case was working with the U.S. Department of Agriculture when she was asked to fill in for a semester at Skyline College, then a brand-new school. That led to a full-time teaching position as a professor of biology. Her textbook, *Microbiology: An Introduction*, is in its 10th edition. She has received numerous awards and honors for her classroom teaching. “Teaching is such a fantastic career – one of the few places you can impact the future. The biggest reward is student success.”

Leave a Legacy to Phi Theta Kappa. Many people in this issue of *Visionary* have made contributions to Phi Theta Kappa during their lifetimes, but did you realize that you can easily make arrangements to give to Phi Theta Kappa after your lifetime? Phi Theta Kappa staff members have become some of the first to designate Phi Theta Kappa as a full or partial beneficiary on their employee life insurance policies. It is common for persons to stipulate that a percentage of a life insurance policy be designated to a nonprofit like Phi Theta Kappa upon their deaths. **For more information on how you can support Phi Theta Kappa in the future, contact Dr. Nancy Rieves, Executive Director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation, at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 3537, or nancy.rieves@ptk.org.**

Mosal Award Allows Faculty Advisor to Retrace Wartime

Footsteps of his Father

Advisors are the heart of Phi Theta Kappa, providing continuity and leadership for chapters and acting as mentors to members. Benefits available to advisors include the Mosal Awards, \$5,000 stipends to fund professional development projects.

Dan Bailey's 2009 Mosal Award will take him to the World War II sites of Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa and Nagasaki, where he will study the battles' history and culture.

Dan has always been interested in military history, and during his 31 years in the Army Reserve he taught seminars on great battles. He also pursued a career in education, eventually becoming a professor and Phi Theta Kappa advisor at Ashland Community and Technical College in Kentucky, and Advisor Representative on the Board of Directors.

For Bailey, traveling to the South Pacific will be a sentimental as well as a historic journey – he will be following in the footsteps of his father Lowell, a former U.S. Marine. The elder Bailey rarely mentioned the war, until Easter morning, 1995.

“While preparing to go to church, my dad stood over a washbasin with shaving lather on his face and said, ‘Fifty years ago this morning we hit the beaches in Okinawa.’ That was a defining moment for Dan, but “It was through Phi Theta Kappa that I got the idea for my project, ‘Closing the Circle: Tracing the Footsteps of My Father during World War II,’” he said.

As an Educational Forum presenter at the 2004 Convention, Dan was paired with Eric Chong, advisor at Guam Community College. “I had never met Eric before

but when I told him my dad was in Guam with the Marines in World War II, Eric immediately gave me a salute, and said ‘The people of Guam thank your father.’”

Then, when facilitating at a chapter officer academy, Dan met a student from Saipan, and told her that his father had fought in the battle. They kept in touch, and she sent him information about the local celebrations marking Liberation Day.

Dan discussed his ideas with a fellow advisor, Jeff Edwards, also a Mosal Scholar. “Jeff encouraged me to develop a proposal and apply,” he said. “Finally everything fell into place.”

“It’s amazing how much attention this project has received,” says Dan, “beginning with when my Mosal Award was announced at the Convention and then in my community. Many, many people have come forward with their own stories, many more have emailed me.”

Lowell Bailey became part of the occupying force in Nagasaki, entering the devastated city in September 1945 and remaining until April 1946. He returned home to Kentucky, having survived major battles and kamikaze attacks, and now is sharing memories with his son.

Dan hopes to visit the South Pacific in the summer of 2010, to celebrate the 66th anniversary of Liberation Day on Guam with his friend Eric Chong, and for the 65th anniversary of the Battle of Okinawa.

“I always had such great admiration and respect for all that the Greatest Generation did,” he said. “The more I learn, the greater my respect becomes.”

The Mosal Award was established in 1984 to recognize and encourage scholarship among Phi Theta Kappa advisors. The award bears the name of long-time Phi Theta Kappa Executive Director Dr. Margaret Mosal. The Mosal Award Program rewards professional growth by awarding \$5,000 stipends to applicants based on project proposals and the potential for professional growth through completion of projects as evidenced by applications. [For more information on how you can support this program, contact Dr. Nancy Rieves, Executive Director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation, at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 3537, or \[nancy.rieves@ptk.org\]\(mailto:nancy.rieves@ptk.org\).](#)

“Everyday we lose more members of the Greatest Generation. But we can preserve their stories, and

I am very thankful

the Mosal Award has given me the opportunity to do that.”

– Dan Bailey, 2009 Mosal Scholar



“If I could communicate one thing
to my fellow college presidents,

it would be the difference that Phi Theta Kappa can make
to students. That’s why Nora and I believe so strongly in
this organization and make involvement a priority.”

– Dr. Humphrey Lee



Alabama Couple Give **Time, Talents and Resources** To Phi Theta Kappa and the Foundation

Nora and Humphrey Lee understand the power of giving. The Lees are creating a better future for community college students through their professional lives, their participation in Phi Theta Kappa and through their donations to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation.

Dr. Humphrey Lee, president of Northwest Shoals Community College in Alabama, is one of the few college presidents to serve as a Phi Theta Kappa chapter advisor - and the only college president ever to serve as a Regional Coordinator - roles he is currently filling simultaneously.

Mrs. Nora Lee is manager of the Athens State University/ Northwest Shoals Center, a partnership between the two institutions that allows students to enroll in university baccalaureate courses while attending the community college. A former Faculty Scholar, she is advisor for the Phi Theta Kappa chapters at both campuses of Northwest Shoals Community College, and is Alabama's Regional Officer Coordinator. She is also advisor of the Phi Theta Kappa alumni association at Athens State University.

The Lees' association with Phi Theta Kappa began at Shelton State Community College in Alabama. Mrs. Lee was a chapter advisor, and Dr. Lee was Dean of Students. Then, as now, Dr. Lee was determined to maintain close contact with students, and thus became actively involved in student activities.

Dr. Lee remains committed to keeping in touch with his students, which he admits has become more of a challenge. Northwest Shoals Community College's two campuses serve five counties in northwest Alabama. Despite the many

demands on his time, Dr. Lee considers Phi Theta Kappa a top priority.

"My reason for staying personally involved with Phi Theta Kappa is to keep a close contact with the students," he said. "It's not just the satisfaction of seeing them grow and develop, but to me the 'mantra' and rhetoric of college presidents is to stay involved with the students."

Mrs. Lee finds the interaction with students beyond the classroom as a rewarding part of her Phi Theta Kappa experience.

"I incorporated service learning into my classroom when I saw, through Phi Theta Kappa, how students could develop a passion for civic engagement and understand the relationship between scholarship and commitment," she said.

"If you have the Phi Theta Kappa structure in place on your campus, especially with the Honors in Action component, you have a student development program - you don't have to reinvent the wheel," said Dr. Lee.

The Lees also believe in the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation. "Students sometimes would not have the opportunity to develop their potential without financial support," Nora Lee said.

Dr. Lee agrees. "Nora and I have chosen to donate to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation because we know what this organization can do. We believe in leaving something for future students."

The Phi Theta Kappa Foundation offers an easy and meaningful way to recognize members, advisors, chapters, and regions, as well as friends and family throughout the year. Gifts can be given to honor and celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, weddings and other occasions. Unless otherwise directed, recognition and memorial gifts will support the Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarship Endowment Fund. Letters of acknowledgement will be sent to you and the recipient. For more information visit www.ptkfoundation.org, or contact Karri Chatham, Administrative & Gift Records Specialist at karri.chatham@ptk.org or at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 5507.

Arkansas Member

Seizes Opportunities

Made Available To Him Through Phi Theta Kappa

Some choices are harder to make than others. For Phi Theta Kappa member Zafer Ceto, who attends the Mountain Home campus of Arkansas State University, two were not difficult. One decision was whether or not to attend college. "Education is everything as far as determining one's future," Ceto said.

The other was whether to accept his invitation to Phi Theta Kappa. "I have never seen an honor society in my life like Phi Theta Kappa. It's a great opportunity to be a member," Ceto said. "My college advisor told me all about Phi Theta Kappa and I was so fascinated that I wanted to become a member right away."

Ceto was elected as a regional officer for the Oklahoma/Arkansas Region, and began to put Honors in Action into practice by becoming engaged in his community.

He explained that one of his personal commitments is to show responsibility for the environment. "Mohandas Gandhi encouraged individuals to take action to demonstrate a commitment to their priorities," Ceto said.

He noticed that the main highway in the area where he lived was getting dirtier every day. "It was so dirty that I couldn't stand watching it as I was driving on the highway," Ceto said.

He tried stopping by City Hall to talk with the mayor and wrote a letter. When two weeks passed with no results he began to clean the highway by himself. Realizing he would

have little impact alone, he enlisted three friends, and the four of them began to clear the highway area of litter and debris. The first day it took them eight hours to clean just one mile. By the next day, city officials joined them in the clean-up.

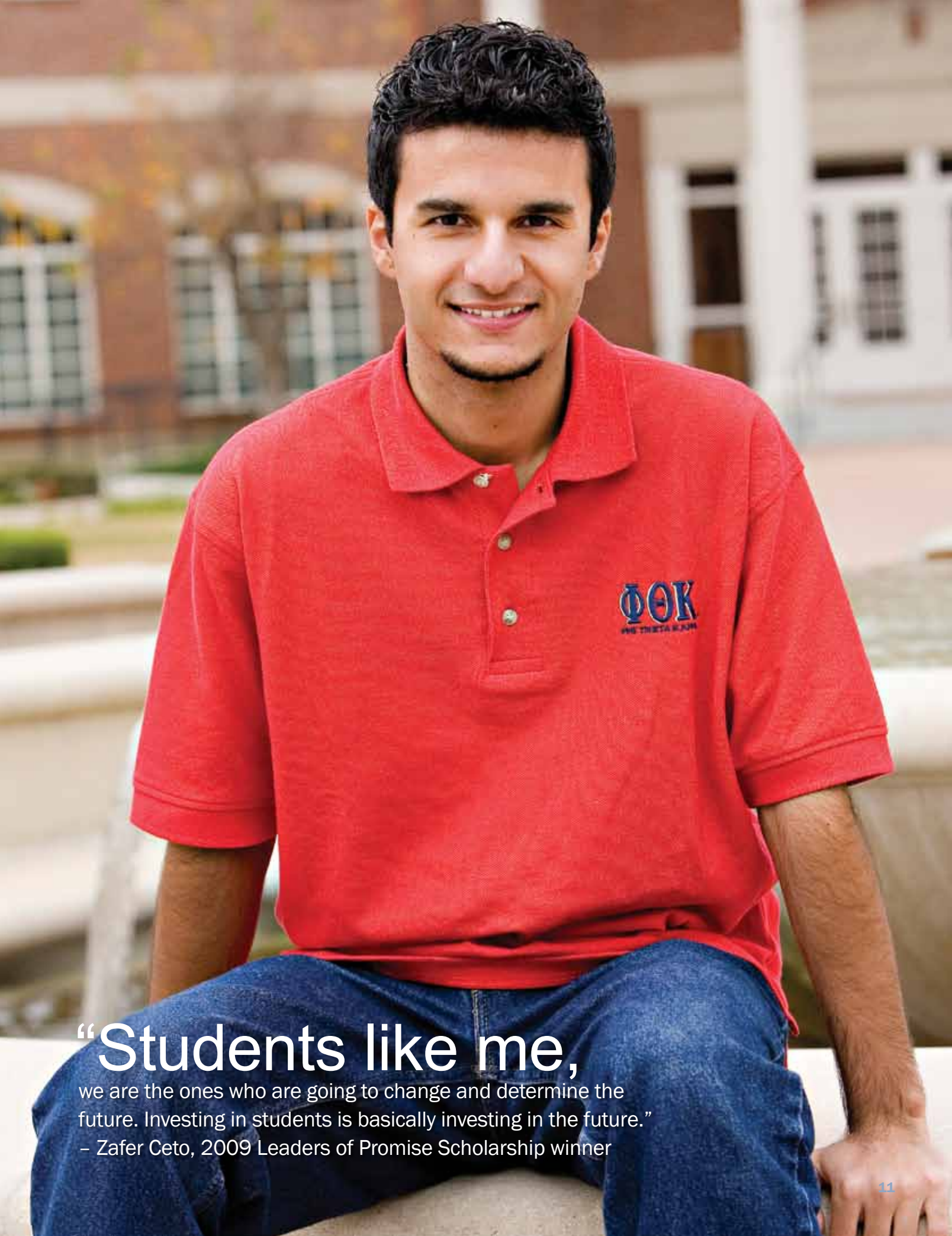
"I think people should notify authorities about problems, but, more importantly, all of us should be responsible for our own communities to make sure they stay clean all the time," Ceto said.

Ceto said receiving the Leaders of Promise Scholarship brought him one step closer to his educational goals. "With the scholarship, I was able to pay for the essential classes I needed that I couldn't afford before. Now I can graduate and transfer to a university on time."

Ceto explained that membership in Phi Theta Kappa has also opened the door to additional transfer scholarships available to him at universities. He is planning to transfer to the University of Arkansas to major in computer engineering and eventually work toward a master's degree in computer science.

"We are the ones who are going to be the future doctors, engineers, lawyers and teachers," Ceto said. "That's why it is important to make sure that today's students get the education they deserve – without financial burdens – in order to see brighter futures in this country and in this world."

Donors can make [Leaders of Promise Scholarships possible](#). Phi Theta Kappa's Leaders of Promise Scholarship Program was developed to provide members with funds to complete their associate degrees while encouraging participation in chapter activities. Thirty members from 21 states were named recipients of 2009 Phi Theta Kappa Leaders of Promise Scholarships, for a total of \$30,000 in scholarships. [For more information on how you can support this program, contact Dr. Nancy Rieves, Executive Director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation, at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 3537, or \[nancy.rieves@ptk.org\]\(mailto:nancy.rieves@ptk.org\).](#)



“Students like me,

we are the ones who are going to change and determine the future. Investing in students is basically investing in the future.”

– Zafer Ceto, 2009 Leaders of Promise Scholarship winner



“I think of the scholarships as

‘Doors of Opportunity.’

I thank, from the bottom of my heart, the supporters of the Phi Theta Kappa scholarships, and the Guistwhites for establishing this scholarship.”

– Rafael Juliano, 2009 Guistwhite Scholar

Guistwhite Scholar Rides

Tide of Success

All the Way to the Ivy Leagues

Now attending Brown University, Phi Theta Kappa alumnus Rafael Juliano is amazed when he looks back at the impact Phi Theta Kappa has had on his life. “The Guistwhite Scholarship and the other Phi Theta Kappa scholarships I have received have changed my life in ways I could not even begin to predict. I am sure these honors helped me get into the Ivy Leagues,” Juliano said. “I carry my life now as if I have a duty, not only to myself, but to Phi Theta Kappa. I feel I must do the best I can to honor this vote of confidence that was given to me.”

Before enrolling in New Jersey’s Bergen Community College Juliano confessed that he had read their catalog from cover to cover. “Of all clubs and associations, the one I had my eyes on was Phi Theta Kappa. I worked hard and when I was finally invited to the Society, I accepted without delay.”

“Once in Phi Theta Kappa, I realized how essential a role the Society played. For the first time in my life I was going out of my way to help people and give back to the community. I felt so alive – from then on I began seeing the world differently,” he said. “I immediately understood the purpose behind non-profit organizations – the Red Cross, United Nations, etc. The change in my life was apparent: the more active a role I took in the Society, the more I realized there was nothing I couldn’t do,” Juliano explained.

“When I started applying to schools as a transfer student, I had an idea of how much more I’d have to sacrifice in order to be able to continue my education. I’m talking about rationed food, demanding work hours, and bills piling up,” he said. “When I received notice that I had been awarded some of the most prestigious and generous awards in Phi Theta Kappa I felt a heavy burden lifting from my shoulders. Tears came to my eyes when I realized my life as a student would be blessed to this extent.”

Juliano is now using his Phi Theta Kappa scholarships to seek a double major in Philosophy of Logic and Brazilian-Portuguese Studies at Brown University. His career goals include working with UNESCO (the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization), and he hopes to continue his education by earning a law degree or a Ph.D. after completing his undergraduate studies.

He encourages those who are able to support Phi Theta Kappa scholarship programs. “Phi Theta Kappans are students who have proven themselves to be capable leaders. Most importantly, these students are the ones who need the most financial help – not because they are entitled to it – but because making such help available to them would in fact benefit future generations to come,” he said. “Supporting these scholarships is akin to providing tools to responsible, capable, intellectually-gifted, kind-hearted people who have as their purpose a brighter future for all of humanity.”

The Guistwhite Scholar Program was founded to enhance Phi Theta Kappa members’ attainment of baccalaureate degrees and recognize their scholarly achievements. In 2009, 20 Guistwhite Scholars were selected from nearly 400 applicants to receive scholarships of \$5,000 each for baccalaureate studies. For more information about how you may help fund Guistwhite Scholarships and other programs, please contact the Foundation’s Executive Director, Dr. Nancy Rieves at nancy.rieves@ptk.org or 1.800.946.9995, ext.3537.

New York Alumni Establish Scholarship Endowment for

The Next Generation

of Society Members

To put it simply, members of the Zeta of New York alumni association are hooked on Phi Theta Kappa – so much so that they want to make sure future Society members have all the opportunities they did, and then some.

“My Phi Theta Kappa Experience opened my eyes to both the world in general and myself. I had been an average student in high school, and had never considered myself ‘honor society material.’ That invitation letter made me eligible for leadership, fellowship and service opportunities available nowhere else – including the university level,” said Scott Transue, an alumnus who currently serves as Zeta of New York Treasurer.

“I believe everyone should continue to stay involved as an alumni member,” Transue said. “The ideals of leadership, scholarship, service and fellowship are just as valid in the professional world as they are during the community college years.”

And the Zeta members have put honors into action by volunteering their time on the regional and international levels to assist current Phi Theta Kappa members.

“As alumni, we have an array of knowledge and experiences that we can pass on to current Phi Theta Kappa students,” said Becky Catlin, another Phi Theta Kappa alumna who serves as one of the advisors to the alumni association. “By staying involved, we can also continue to grow in our own lives, whether it is gaining satisfaction in helping others, further developing our leadership skills or networking and building new friendships.”

“Serving as an alumni volunteer is far different than being a member,” said Chris Strang, who serves as Chair of the Advisory Council for Zeta of New York and Alumni Council Representative for the New York Regional Officer Team. “Our role now is to enhance the benefits of membership and our reward is the opportunity to see the current members soar to greater heights than ever before.”

And that is what alumni association members are now trying to do – by taking their commitment a step further. This year they completed the necessary legal paperwork to establish an endowment that will fund scholarships for members of the New York Region. While currently the association has not raised the amount necessary to begin funding scholarships right away, it is a hope they have for the near future.

“The scholarship endowment is all about making Phi Theta Kappa better than when we were first involved. Zeta of New York is more than 10 years old. It has grown remarkably during the years, as has Phi Theta Kappa,” Transue said. “It is my firm belief that no Phi Theta Kappa member should have to pay one cent to obtain their four-year degree, and the endowment is a step forward in that direction.”

“I believe that if you derived some benefit from being a member, then you have a moral obligation to give back to the organization,” said Strang. “The ways to do that are diverse and many – including mentoring current members, assisting with events and providing financial support.”

[Alumni Associations provide scholarships/support at local and international levels.](#) Zeta of New York advisor Amy Flagler said the alumni association provides a variety of resources to the New York Region and on the international level such as funding annual scholarships of \$100 each to the Distinguished Regional Officer, Chapter President, Chapter Officer and Chapter Member; hosting fellowship events at Regional Conferences; presenting addresses and workshops at regional events; presenting educational forums and volunteering at Alumni and Foundation booths at the Annual Convention. [For more information on how you can start a similar endowment on a chapter, regional or international level, contact Dr. Nancy Rieves, Executive Director of the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation at \[nancy.rieves@ptk.org\]\(mailto:nancy.rieves@ptk.org\) or 1.800.946.9995, ext. 3537.](#)



“What inspired me,

to stay involved as an alumni member is the fact that Phi Theta Kappa is not simply an honor society, but a lifelong professional organization.”

– Scott Transue, Treasurer, Zeta of New York Alumni Association

Front row, left to right: Scott Transue, Jamaine Howard Cripe, Anna Puleo, Daniel Feldman. Back Row: Michael O'Connor, Edgar Romero



“Your own

Phi Theta Kappa Experience

will be even more rewarding when you give something back – share your experience and knowledge with other members, encourage them to take advantage of the many benefits and opportunities Phi Theta Kappa has to offer, be a mentor, and offer guidance and support in any way you can.”

– Shirley Scarbrough, Facilitator, Missouri Alumni Association

Alumni Association Lends **Ongoing Support** to Missouri Region

“I am living proof that Phi Theta Kappa can be a life-changing experience. I reached higher goals and achieved more than I ever thought possible before I became a member,” said Phi Theta Kappa alumna Shirley Scarbrough. “Staying involved as an alumni association member was the logical choice for me because I wanted to give something back for the many opportunities that changed my life.”

Scarbrough serves as Facilitator for the Missouri Alumni Association, Chairman of the Society’s Alumni Advisory Council, and is a former recipient of the Board of Directors Alumni Achievement Award. “As an alumna, I share my Phi Theta Kappa experience with new members to encourage them to seek new possibilities for themselves in the same way my chapter advisors inspired me,” she said.

“It has been an honor working with the Missouri Region, both as a member and as an alumnus,” said Chriss Nold, Secretary/Treasurer of the Missouri Alumni Association. “The Missouri Alumni Association truly cares about helping the members succeed, and they offer a number of great programs to aid the members and the region as a whole.”

Scarbrough explained that alumni can help their local chapters with projects, mentor members in their career fields, provide monetary support for scholarships, donations of supplies, or serve on committees. “I am so proud of the support the Missouri Alumni provide to the

Missouri Region,” she said. “Collectively, members of the MAA contribute to the region, give others the benefit of their experiences, encourage and motivate others, offer advice and guidance when called upon, and enhance the Phi Theta Kappa Experience for all members of the region.”

Kathy Wilhelm, who serves as Vice President of the Missouri Alumni Association, said she had many memorable experiences as a member/officer of her own Phi Theta Kappa chapter. “As an officer of the Missouri Alumni Association I want today’s members to have every opportunity to continue their education and help them achieve their goals and dreams. I want to be a part of that journey.”

“Phi Theta Kappa has been an important part of my life for nearly 24 years. I cannot imagine what my life would be like had I not stayed involved. It is a tremendous honor to serve Phi Theta Kappa on the international level, and I feel blessed to be given the opportunity.” Scarbrough said. “I continue to serve the Society at the international level because I share the vision of distinguished Society leaders who guided Phi Theta Kappa to be the most prestigious honor society in higher education: Dr. Margaret Mosal, Dr. Shirley B. Gordon and Dr. Rod Risley. They have been the role models whose dedication and hard work inspired me to take an active role and to continue their dreams of making the Society even better for future generations of Phi Theta Kappans.”

Strong Alumni Associations can lead to strong chapters. Missouri Regional Coordinator Ann Parks said the Missouri Regional Alumni Association assists the region by administering the Missouri Leaders of Promise Scholarship, organizing college fairs at regional conventions, offering “Good as Gold” scholarships for regional conferences that can be used by chapters to defray regional convention costs, and presenting breakout sessions at regional conferences. “Their support to the region and to me as a Regional Coordinator is invaluable.” Parks said. **For more information about regional alumni associations and how you can become more involved, contact Courtney Taylor, Alumni Relations Coordinator at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 3577, or courtney.taylor@ptk.org.**

From Washington State to Washington, D.C., and the World – Ambassador David Shinn’s

Incredible Journey

Ambassador David Shinn has seen history in the making. In his 37 years with the Foreign Service, the Phi Theta Kappa Distinguished Alumnus and Foundation Trustee has served as Ambassador to the African nations of Ethiopia and Burkina Faso and held posts at embassies in Lebanon, Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritania, Cameroon and Sudan.

In Ethiopia, he worked with national and church leaders to launch a campaign against HIV/AIDS. He spent one week a month in the field, traveling to the most remote areas, to meet local leaders and learn about existing conditions. In Sudan, he coped with famine, terrorists and government upheavals. In Mauritania rebels attacked the capital city and the president’s home, adjacent to the American Embassy compound.

One of his most poignant, and yet most positive memories, is of a Christmas spent in Sudan. A famine in Ethiopia brought huge numbers of refugees across the border. “Senator Ted Kennedy and some of his family arrived to visit the refugee camps,” Dr. Shinn recalls. “We watched people cross the border, some so emaciated that they died on the spot. The sheer numbers were staggering. But Senator Kennedy, his son and daughter, walked through the camps and their presence helped.” Later, due in part to Kennedy’s efforts to raise awareness about conditions he saw, the U.S. increased their aid to Africa.

Now retired, Dr. Shinn is back at his alma mater, The George Washington University. He transferred there after graduating from Yakima Valley Community College in Washington, where he was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. He was named the Society’s Distinguished Alumnus in 1996, and was also honored as a Distinguished Alumnus by the American Association of Community Colleges.

Dr. Shinn received his bachelor’s, master’s and Ph.D. degrees from The George Washington University and now is an adjunct professor at GWU’s Elliott School of International Affairs.

Many of the students in his African affairs and political analysis courses are planning diplomatic careers, and in some ways Dr. Shinn feels they are better prepared. “Students today are more worldly – they have traveled more than when I was a student, and many of them have held internships at embassies.”

What qualities are needed by today’s aspirants to the Foreign Service? “Tolerance, patience and the ability to be a good listener – and to be well-organized personally and professionally. And understanding you may not always agree with U.S. foreign policy.”

The changing political climate has caused some downsides to a Foreign Service career. “Security is an issue – and the fact that families can’t always go where you might be assigned.” Dr. Shinn’s family could be with him at most of his diplomatic posts, and his two sons grew up all over the world.

One of the most rewarding aspects of his work with the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation has been its potential to provide transfer scholarships.

“When I attended Yakima Valley Community College its primary mission was preparatory for transfer,” he says. “I see the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation as an important tool to help qualified community college graduates complete their baccalaureate degrees and even graduate school.”

Online donations are accepted at www.ptkfoundation.org. If you want to make a contribution to Phi Theta Kappa Foundation, donating online is easy, convenient and safe. You may designate your contribution to any Phi Theta Kappa program you choose – scholarships, Honors Institute or a particular chosen endowment. If you would like to make a gift other than by credit card or have any questions, please contact Karri Chatham at 1.800.946.9995, ext. 5507 or at karri.chatham@ptk.org.



“I never felt disadvantaged

by attending a two-year college first. I found that the better community college faculty were just as good as the faculty at The George Washington University.”

– Dr. David Shinn

Alumni Associations Encourage **Continued Involvement**

Three types of Alumni Associations provide alumni with opportunities to continue The Phi Theta Kappa Experience after chapter membership. Regional, Community/Chapter-based and University-based Associations create a 110-chapter strong body of support for current Phi Theta Kappa members.

Regional and Community-based Associations are similar, as they support the local chapters of Phi Theta Kappa. Regional Associations provide a broader scale of participation as alumni within an entire region are invited to join. Additionally, the Regional Associations often play a role in such regional events as Conventions, Honors Institutes and other regional activities.

Community-based Associations also work within a geographic area to support chapters. Their range of focus could be directed toward a specific chapter or college and its campuses. Community Associations also operate within a metro area that might have multiple colleges, campuses and chapters represented. These associations support chapters with membership drives, induction needs and guidance.

University-based Alumni Associations make up more than half of the Society's 110 alumni associations. These organizations are well-suited to assist Phi Theta Kappa members with the transition from community college to university life. They are also helpful to the host universities as Phi Theta Kappa alumni members can serve as ambassadors in recruiting and outreach efforts to potential students.

The following Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Associations have been chartered since 2008 –

University-Based: Columbia University, New York; Millsaps College, Mississippi; East Central University, Oklahoma; St. Mary's University, Texas; University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee, Florida; University of Texas – Tyler, Texas. **Community-Based:** Sigma Zeta Chapter at Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon; Alpha Xi Mu Alumni Association at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Michigan; Beta Zeta Mu Alumni Association at Western Iowa Tech Community College in Sioux City, Iowa. **Regional Alumni Associations:** Iowa Regional Alumni Association.

For more information on how you can become involved in an alumni chapter in your area, or how to charter an alumni association, contact Alumni Relations Coordinator Courtney Taylor at courtney.taylor@ptk.org or 601.984.3577.





Former National/International Officers attended an alumni reception held at the 2009 Annual Convention in Grapevine, Texas. Pictured from left to right are: (pictured on page 20) Ulugbek (Bek) Baymuradov, Deeneas Polk; Front Row: Casey Maliszewski, Connie Myers Kerr, Mike Sherman, Carlos Acevedo, Ric Hicks, Tycia Foster and Ari Disraelly. Second Row: David Kerr, Kevin Braden and Mike Sager. Back row: Kim Richardson, J.T. Bullock, Fran Manwaring and Arthur Vargas.

An Open Letter

to Friends of Phi Theta Kappa

The financial support provided by our donors helped deliver The Phi Theta Kappa Experience to more members than ever before! Your contributions ensure that deserving students will continue to receive opportunities that expand their academic horizons and prepare them to become engaged community leaders.

Dear Friends,

Thank you for a record-breaking year. Other organizations may have experienced a decline in donations, but Phi Theta Kappa's constituencies continue to support our mission. And our support is universal! Our Donor List includes gifts from individuals like those profiled in these pages – alumnus Dr. David Shinn, advisor Dr. Christine Case, college administrators Dr. Humphrey and Nora Lee, and Zeta of New York alumni, all of whom have personally witnessed the benefits of The Phi Theta Kappa Experience – and from organizations, like the Hites Family Community College Scholarship Foundation.

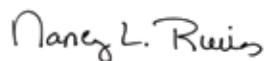
Last year the Hites Foundation matched Phi Theta Kappa contributions of \$350,000 to create our first-ever \$1 million scholarship endowment – then issued a second challenge. As of this writing, we are approximately \$20,000 shy of raising \$350,000 to meet our second Hites Challenge, which would increase the endowment to \$2 million.

To quote our Executive Director, Dr. Rod A. Riskey: “This is the largest scholarship endowment in Phi Theta Kappa's history. And it could not have come at a better time. When the Hites Foundation first approached us, no one could have predicted the economic challenges now facing both students and colleges. The Hites Scholarships will help meet a need that becomes more crucial every day. Now generations of Phi Theta Kappa members will be able to pursue their educational goals and achieve their dreams.” The first Hites Transfer Scholarships will be awarded this year.

Phi Theta Kappa also continues to benefit from the legacy of our beloved Dr. Shirley Gordon. Dr. Gordon's two loves were community college students and Phi Theta Kappa. In her last months she knew that we were very close to meeting the first Challenge, and she was confident a second Challenge would be issued. Altogether Dr. Gordon contributed more than \$100,000 to both Hites Challenges. Dr. Gordon also supported the operational needs of Phi Theta Kappa through the Endowment for Excellence, which she established in 1998 with an initial gift of \$5,000. Her gift to the Foundation upon her death increased the Endowment for Excellence to almost \$500,000.

The vision and generosity of these individuals, organizations, foundations and corporations, and many more, makes it possible for the Foundation to ensure Phi Theta Kappa's future. The Foundation's focus is to ensure long-term financial stability for Phi Theta Kappa by securing enough funding so that a significant portion of the programming and operational needs of the programs of the Society can be supported in perpetuity. Thanks to you, every year we are closer to achieving our goal.

All the best,



Nancy L. Rieves, Ed.D

Phi Theta Kappa Foundation Executive Director



Dr. Matthew J. Quinn
Chair



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Dr. Jo Marshall
Vice Chair/Treasurer



Dr. Rod A. Risley
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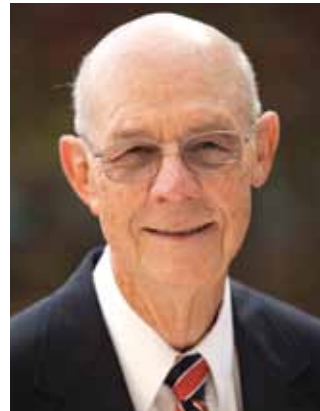
Dr. Douglas W. Foard



Dr. Janice R. Freeman



Dr. Joyce F. Freeman



Raymond D. Hites



Dr. E. Ann McGee



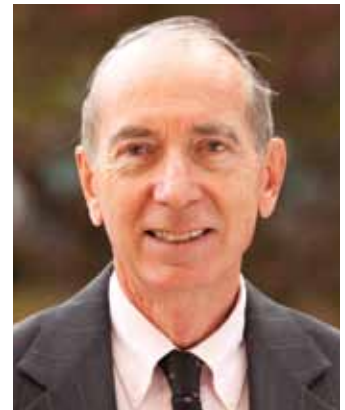
Westley Moore



Mirta Ojito



Dr. Nancy L. Rieves



Dr. David H. Shinn

Honor Roll of Donors

Athena Legacy Society

The Athena Society is designed to provide permanent recognition to those individuals who have made the thoughtful decision to leave a gift to the Phi Theta Kappa Foundation in their estate planning, regardless of the amount or the type of fund intended. Planned gifts include bequests, trusts, life insurance and other deferred giving options that allow individuals to support Phi Theta Kappa while making plans beneficial to their individual financial circumstances. The individuals listed here represent many, but not all of those who have chosen to contribute to the future of Phi Theta Kappa in this manner.

- Anonymous
- Phyllis and Harvey Cooke
- June Cordier*
- Laura Dupree
- Nell Ewing
- Shirley B. Gordon*
- Margaret and Jack Guistwhite
- Larry Horn
- Leanne Jardine
- Ruth B. Matthews*
- Barb Murray
- Nancy L. Rieves
- Rod A. Risley
- Jeannette and James Sasmor
- Virginia Stahl
- Terri Williamson
- Billy Wilson

* deceased

Oak Leaf Society

The Oak Leaf Society consists of donors who have chosen to establish a named endowment or contribute to an existing endowment supporting Phi Theta Kappa. Endowment gifts strengthen the long-term financial security that is required to ensure quality programs and member scholarships year after year.

Donors can establish a named endowment starting at \$25,000. Donations to existing endowment funds can be made at any time and in any amount. Contributions are tax-deductible and can be for general support or designated to a specific program. Immediate and long-term needs include funds to support Faculty Scholar Conferences, Honors Institute/programming, Convention, scholarships, and general operations. The Foundation works with donors to find the area of support that is the best fit for their philanthropic wishes.

The Phi Theta Kappa Foundation is grateful for the following individuals and organizations that have established endowments.

- Anonymous
- Robert C. Blank
- Christopher A. Calhoun
- Marian Combs
- June Cordier*
- Melanie and Michael Dowell
- Essex Community College Scholarship
- Joan and Robert* Fedor
- Janice Freeman and Joyce Freeman
- Shirley B. Gordon*
- Hites Family Community College
Scholarship Foundation
- Leanne W. Jardine
- Richard Jardine
- Judy and John* Kesler
- Jo and Scott Marshall
- John C. Modschiedler
- New York Region
- Mu Epsilon Chapter
- Mary Anne Player
- Donald W. Reynolds Foundation
- Gayle Wyatt

* deceased

Jefferson Society

\$25,000+

Individuals:

- Shirley B. Gordon*

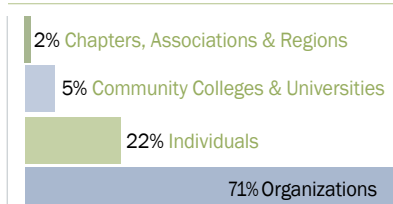
Organizations:

- American Association of Community
Colleges
- Bank of America
- Coca-Cola Foundation
- Coca-Cola Scholars Foundation
- Envision
- GEICO
- Hites Family Community College
Scholarship Foundation

* deceased

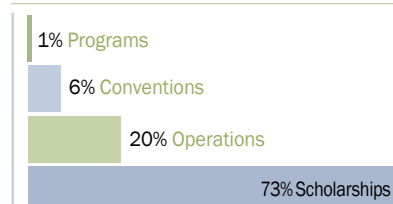
Donor Giving:

Where does the money come from?



Foundation Spending:

How is the money invested?



Anonymous Donors: In addition to the donors listed here, our thanks and appreciation go also to our anonymous donors and those who support other special events held by the Society and the Foundation.

Founders Society
\$10,000 - \$24,999

Individuals:

Margaret and Jack Guistwhite

Organizations:

American Cancer Society

Mosal Society
\$5,000 - \$9,999

Individuals:

Christopher A. Calhoun

Melanie W. and Michael E. Dowell

Joan Fedor

Organizations:

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Mississippi College

New York Region

Savannah College of Art and Design

Texas A&M University-Commerce

Texas Region

T-Mobile

University of North Alabama

University of North Texas

USA TODAY

VALIC

Directors Society
\$2,500 to \$4,999

Individuals:

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Organizations:

Austin Community College District

Birmingham-Southern College

Collin County Community College

Dallas County Community College
 District

Mississippi Delta Community College

Mississippi University for Women

Missouri Region

National Awards

New Mexico Institute of Mining &
 Technology

North Lake College

Northwood University

QSP, Time Inc.

Rockhurst University

Southwest Mississippi Community
 College

University of Texas

University of Texas System

Verizon Communications

Phi Theta Kappa
Member Profile 2009



Average Age
 at Induction 27.8 Years

Gender 32.6 Male
 67.4 Female

Average GPA 3.75

Attend School 56.5% Full-Time
 43.35% Part-Time

Top Academic Fields	5. Liberal Arts
1. Nursing	6. Accounting
2. Business	7. Psychology
3. Education/Teaching	8. Biological Science
4. Health Related Professions	9. Computer Science
	10. Criminal Justice

Presidents Society
\$1,000 to \$2,499

Individuals:

Kathy and Raymond L. Kerlagon

Jo and Scott Marshall

Christa and John C. Modschiedler

Flo E. Potts

Stephanie and Don Supalla

Linda L. Tetzlaff

Organizations:

Alliant Data Systems

AT&T Mississippi

Atmos Energy

BancorpSouth

BankPlus

Coahoma Community College

Colorado State University

Copiah-Lincoln Community College
 Foundation, Inc.

Copiah-Lincoln Community College

East Central Community College

East Mississippi Community College

Entergy

Gaylord Entertainment

Hinds Community College

Holmes Community College

Illinois Region

Itawamba Community College

Johnson Controls

Jones County Junior College

Jones County Junior College Foundation

Lone Star College - CyFair

Lone Star College - Montgomery

Lone Star College - North Harris

Lone Star College - Tomball

Michigan Region

Mississippi Gulf Coast Community
 College Foundation

Mississippi State University

Northeast Mississippi Community
 College Foundation

Northern Arizona University

Northwest Mississippi Community
 College

Ohio Region

Pearl River Community College
 SODEXHO

St. Philips College

Tarrant County College District

Trustmark National Bank

Tulsa Community College

University of Texas - Pan American

Webster University

Scholars Society
\$500 to \$999

Individuals:

Susan H. and Jeff Edwards

Wilson A. Long

Maureen and David R. Pierce

Nancy Rieves

Karen J. Roush

Tommy Thompson

Organizations:

Blinn College

Burlington County College

Catfish Farmers of America

Central Florida Community College

Colorado Region

Florida State College at Jacksonville

Grayson County College

IKON Business Services

Indian River State College

Lake City Community College

Missouri Region Alumni Association

North Central Texas College

Palm Beach Community College

Paris Junior College

Pasco-Hernando Community College

Polk State College

Santa Fe College

St. Johns River Community College

State College of Florida,
 Manatee-Sarasota

Tyler Junior College

University of Texas - Pan American Phi
 Theta Kappa Alumni

Weatherford College

Western Texas College

Golden Key Society

\$250 to \$499

Individuals:

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Miri L. Atkinson
William Bezouska
Monika S. Byrd
Christine L. Case and Donald Bierderman
Josephine Q. and Eric Chong
Jeannette Honeysucker
Nora and Humphrey Lee
Dana M. and Michael Masuda
Shamil Mirzoev
Barbara Murray
D. René and Bill R. Plummer
Saralyn S. Quinn
Kenneth W. Ruemke
Shirley G. Scarbrough
Jennifer E. Stanford
M. Dean Stewart
Carolyn C. and Brady Surles
Courtney Taylor

Organizations:

Athens State University
Bomgar Corporation
Carolinas Region
Columbus State Community College
Houston Community College
Indiana Region Alumni Association
Kansas Region
Middle States Region Alumni Association
Minn-Wi-Kota Region
Mississippi State Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Association
New England Region
University of Mississippi Alumni Association
Virginia Region
Wirt A. Yerger, Jr. Foundation

Hallmark Society

\$90 to \$249

Individuals:

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Trevor J. Andrews
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Deena Bisig
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Marilyn A. Burns
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Lucretia and Ed Coulter
John S. Czuba
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Joseph A. Denman
Shirley R. DeVore
Laura and Mark D. Dupree
Don Ecklund
Vickie L. Embry
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Myra Hafer
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Brian Hughes
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Joseph Shaw
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Holly A. Smith
Scott Taylor
Wendy Taylor
Patricia A. Van Atter
West M. Williamson
Victoria S. Wolf
Beverly R. and Jon Wunderlich

Organizations:

Allied Pilots Association
Alpha of Michigan
Alpha of North Harris Alumni Association
Auxiliary Services of MVCC
Brookhaven College
Bryant & Stratton College
Carolinas Region Alumni Association
Collins Realty Group Inc.
Corning Community College
El Paso Community College
Florida Region
Greater Northwest Region
Indiana Region
Kilgore College
Lone Star College - Kingwood
Macomb Community College
Michigan Region Alumni Association
Mississippi Department of Health - Office of Tobacco Control
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Nevada/California Region Alumni Association
New Mexico Region
Northern Arizona Alumni Association
Oklahoma/Arkansas Region Alumni Association
Pacific Region
Richland College
SimplexGrinnell
South Texas College
St. Mary's Phi Theta Kappa Alumni Association
Stark State College
Tarrant County College
Texas Division II
Texas Region Alumni Association
The Rotoract Club of Bristol Community College
Trinity Valley Community College
University of Houston
University of South Florida, Sarasota/Manatee

Honors Institute Experience:

If you designate to this program, how will your donation be spent?



\$875
covers full tuition costs for one member to attend Honors Institute



\$438
covers partial tuition costs for one member to attend Honors Institute



\$146
covers the cost for one day for one member to attend Honors Institute

Tuition fees, based on 2009, include room, board and registration for the six-day conference

Blue & G.O.L.D. Society

\$19.18 to \$89

Individuals:

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Traci D. Adame
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James K. Adams
Jan Akehurst
Tariq B. Alabbassi
Douglas S. Albert
Barbara R. Alcamo
James S. Alcorn
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Manchester Community College
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Virginia Region Alumni Association
Wallace Community College

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Nancy Rieves
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by Dawn Griffin
by Sarah Kappel

Comment on Accuracy: This Honor Roll of Donors is compiled by Foundation staff and is based on giving for Fiscal Year 2009. Every effort has been made to ensure that this list is complete and accurate. However, if we inadvertently emitted, misspelled or otherwise improperly reported your name, please accept our sincerest apologies and contact the Foundation office at 1.800.946.9995, ext 5507.

■ Phi Theta Kappa Courtyard brick

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Every Dollar Makes a Difference Participants for 2009

Alpha Alpha Rho Chapter - Lone Star College-North Harris (TX)
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Alpha Alpha Upsilon Chapter - Fulton-Montgomery Community College (NY)
Alpha Delta Mu Chapter - Atlantic Cape Community College (NJ)
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Alpha Delta Rho Chapter - Broward College (FL)
Alpha Epsilon Chi Chapter - SUNY Finger Lakes Community College (NY)
Alpha Gamma Alpha Chapter - Pikes Peak Community College (CO)
Alpha Gamma Nu Chapter - Tompkins Cortland Community College (NY)
Alpha Gamma Omega Chapter - Valencia Community College (FL)
Alpha Gamma Pi Chapter - Austin Community College (TX)
Alpha Iota Upsilon Chapter - Genesee Community College (NY)
Alpha Kappa Alpha Chapter - Normandale Community College (MN)
Alpha Kappa Chapter - Borough of Manhattan Community College (NY)
Alpha Kappa Eta Chapter - Wenatchee Valley College (WA)
Alpha Lambda Psi Chapter - Germanna Community College (VA)
Alpha Lambda Rho Chapter - Lamar State College (TX)
Alpha Lambda Xi Chapter - Lone Star College-Kingwood (TX)
Alpha Mu Beta Chapter - Holmes Community College (MS)
Alpha Nu Mu Chapter - Camden County College (NJ)
Alpha Nu Omicron Chapter - Wor-Wic Community College (MD)
Alpha Omega Rho Chapter - Palomar College (CA)
Alpha Omicron Omicron Chapter - Mid Michigan Community College (MI)
Alpha Phi Lambda Chapter - Blinn College (TX)
Alpha Phi Theta Chapter - Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana (IN)
Alpha Pi Theta Chapter - Brookdale Community College (NJ)
Alpha Psi Tau Chapter - Ozarks Technical Community College (MO)
Alpha Rho Iota Chapter - Williston State College (ND)
Alpha Sigma Zeta Chapter - SUNY Onondaga Community College (NY)
Alpha Tau Chapter - Moberly Area Community College (MO)

Alpha Tau Kappa Chapter - Front Range Community College (CO)
Alpha Theta Omicron Chapter - Rio Salado College (AZ)
Alpha Theta Theta Chapter - Essex County College (NJ)
Alpha Upsilon Omicron Chapter - NHTI - Concord's Community College (NH)
Alpha Xi Chi Chapter - St. Charles Community College (MO)
Alpha Xi Mu Chapter - Henry Ford Community College (MI)
Alpha Zeta Delta Chapter - Cuyahoga Community College (OH)
Beta Alpha Rho Chapter - Maysville Community & Technical College (KY)
Beta Beta Zeta Chapter - Corning Community College (NY)
Beta Gamma Epsilon Chapter - Stark State College (OH)
Beta Gamma Gamma Chapter - McIntosh College (NH)
Beta Kappa Lambda Chapter - Aims Community College (CO)
Beta Mu Nu Chapter - Luna Community College (NM)
Beta Nu Chapter - San Antonio College (TX)
Beta Omicron Phi Chapter - East Central College (MO)
Beta Theta Eta Chapter - North Central State College (OH)
Beta Xi Tau Chapter - Savannah Technical College (GA)
Chi Delta Chapter - East Central College (MO)
Chi Omega Chapter - Cuyahoga Community College (OH)
Chi Upsilon Chapter - McHenry County College (IL)
Eta Nu Chapter - St. Petersburg College (FL)
Lambda Beta Chapter - Mohawk Valley Community College (NY)
Nu Iota Chapter - Indian River State College (FL)
Omicron Chapter - Rochester Community & Technical College (MN)
Psi Psi Chapter - Brazosport College (TX)
Psi Upsilon Chapter - Tidewater Community College (VA)
Rho Zeta Chapter - Big Bend Community College (WA)
Sigma Delta Chapter - College of the Mainland (TX)
Tau Theta Chapter - Labette Community College (KS)
Upsilon Epsilon Chapter - Herkimer County Community College (NY)
Upsilon Phi Chapter - Danville Community College (VA)
Xi Epsilon Chapter - St. Louis Community College (MO)
Xi Kappa Chapter - Kingsborough Community College/CUNY (NY)
Xi Lambda Chapter - St. Louis Community College (MO)



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FOUNDATION

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