

THE DAILY DAWG

A publication of the Indiana Zeta Chapter of Phi Kappa Psi at Butler University | Spring 2026

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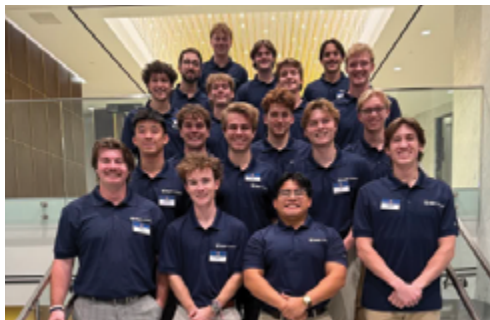
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Group photo with Brother Abbagnaro (top left) at Explore.



Brothers Bratsch (left) and Abbagnaro (right) at Explore.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Nic Abbagnaro's Explore Experience

My name is Nic Abbagnaro '24, and I attended *Explore* in 2025.

I wanted to join the chapter because it was the one place on campus where I felt I could truly be accepted for who I was, and it has also allowed me to grow as a person. To me, the Brotherhood always means being able to push and support one another to strive for better, and I find that through giving back to my brothers in the work I do for them.

Right now, I'm a Junior accounting major with hopes of graduating and obtaining my CPA to pursue a career in public accounting, focusing on tax. However, this felt a bit limiting, and the *Explore* program was one opportunity to see what more I could do after college.

I first learned about the *Explore* program from Matthew Bratsch '24 (Rowan '11), who mentioned it to me every time we talked, at least a year before I participated in it. The program is mainly designed for finance majors, yet I felt it would give me a chance to see what else is out there and how I can "explore" my options within my career that I hadn't considered before. Made up of guest speakers, alumni dinners, and opportunities to connect with brothers from other chapters, *Explore* gave me and others a chance to learn how we can shape our careers with the many options available within the finance field.

Going to *Explore* allowed me to better understand my career. Firstly, I understood a lot more of what wouldn't fit me, with fields such as investment banking or wealth management. Alongside that, I took the time to gather general skills that can help with my career, such as making connections with the other brothers or speakers present or understanding how to properly present myself to employers and what they need. It gave me a narrower idea of my path, but let me know that I made the right choice for my career in accounting.

As it stands, I am nearly two years into being a brother, and I can't imagine what college would be like without it. I've met friends I hope to stay in touch with for decades after graduating. I have gained leadership skills I didn't know I had, and it has allowed me to truly feel free and happy with myself. As the current vice president of the chapter, I've learned about the struggles and hardships of being in charge, but also how rewarding it is to see the chapter grow because of it. Not every day has been easy, but the days after big events have always been incredibly rewarding. I hope that before I finish my time at the chapter and at college, it continues to be a fraternity where anyone can feel comfortable and safe, just as it was what motivated me to join in the first place.

This chapter means a lot to me, and I hope more people will follow in my footsteps by attending incredible programs like *Explore*.

NEWS FROM INDIANA ZETA

CHAPTER HEALTH

Brotherhood by the Books

This section provides a snapshot of Indiana Zeta's current standing, undergraduate membership, academic performance, recruitment efforts, and financial resources. It also highlights donor recognition and memorial listings.

21

CHAPTER TOTAL

21 brothers are a part of the band of brotherhood.

3.509

FALL '25 CHAPTER GPA

The chapter's average GPA for the fall semester was 3.509.

862

LIVING ALUMNI

862 alumni now share the bond and band of brotherhood as of this spring 2026 semester.



FUNDS WITH THE FOUNDATION

Balances as of March 1, 2026

IN ZETA ENDOWED CHAPTER ONEFUND

Net Assets: \$140,957.03
Available Assets: \$3,880.51

IN ZETA CHAPTER ONEFUND

Net Assets: \$8,087.65
Available Assets: \$769.72

IN ZETA CHAPTER HOUSING FUND

Net Assets: \$821.06
Available Assets: \$821.06



CHAPTER ETERNAL

We mourn our brothers who have entered Chapter Eternal and extend heartfelt condolences to their families and friends.

James McKinley '97

HONORING OUR DONORS

Thank you to the brothers and friends who invested in Indiana Zeta in 2025

FOUNDERS LEAGUE

ANNUAL FOUNDATION GIVING
TOTALING \$1,000 AND ABOVE

David W. Womer '71
David A. Creighton '87

PHI PSI 500

ANNUAL FOUNDATION GIVING
TOTALING \$500 TO \$999

Ralph J. Berry '76
Charles O. Shirley '76
John D. Currier Jr. '89
Jerry D. Perron '90
Nicholas T. Anderson '99
Charlie R. Wroblewski '08

BRIDGE BUILDER SOCIETY

ANNUAL FOUNDATION GIVING
TOTALING \$250 TO \$499

Mark G. Kopetsky '82
Scott E. Thompson '84
Michael R. Hostetler '92

FUTURE BUILDERS

ANNUAL FOUNDATION GIVING
TOTALING \$1 TO \$249

Daniel L. Brewer '71
Edward N. Plavchak '71
Stanley W. Wachel '72
David W. Buck '73
Peter D. Sims '73

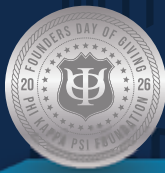
Henry P. Isenberg '75
David J. Bramley '78
Brian E. Lundeen '78
Jeffrey S. Holdeman '87
Michael C. Cassidy '90
Steven J. Olson '91
Chad M. Stegemiller '98
Jason A. Strachman '98
Daniel E. Walter '99
Nathan R. Goldberg '00
Ronald K. Ransom II '00
Clifford J. Lanning III '03
Douglas W. Fredbeck '06
Nathan P. Carpenter '22
Jake A. Johnson '22
Ryan B. Parker '22
Harrison F. Williams '22

Jack Puricelli '23
Brady Stinson '23
Andrew C. Studebaker '24
Kelby C. Tarter '24
Michael Barclay
Cassie Royal
Shelley Savchuk

If your name is incorrect, you're listed in the wrong giving level, or you're missing from the 2025 donor list, please contact Foundation staff at info@pkpfoundation.org.

NEWS FROM INDIANA ZETA

2026 RESULTS CHAPTER CHALLENGE WINNERS



**Georgia
Alpha**
42 donors



**Ohio
Epsilon**
69 donors



**Indiana
Zeta**
34 donors

MOST DONORS

FINDING THE PODIUM

Indiana Zeta Brings Home Bronze

This year's Founders Day of Giving was one for the books for Indiana Zeta. Thanks to the incredible generosity of Brothers Ralph Berry '76, Charley Shirley '76, and Charlie Wroblewski '08, who offered a \$1,500 dollar-for-dollar match to the Chapter OneFund, our alumni community rose to the challenge and then some. With 34 donors participating in this year's Chapter Challenge, Indiana Zeta earned 3rd place in the Most Donors category, taking home an additional \$2,500 to our Chapter OneFund.

What a way to kick off 2026! The energy and generosity shown during this year's Founders Day campaign is a strong signal of what's ahead, and the combined impact of these gifts to the Chapter OneFund will directly support Indiana Zeta's programs and initiatives throughout the spring semester and beyond. From chapter operations to brotherhood programming, these dollars stay close to home and go to work for the brothers of Indiana Zeta right away.

Indiana Zeta's success was part of a remarkable day for Phi Psi as a whole. Across all chapters, 616 donors came together to raise over \$143,300 in support of the Phi Kappa Psi mission — a testament to the strength and generosity of our Brotherhood nationwide. In all, six chapters took home top honors across the Most Donors and Most Dollars categories. You can view the full results from the 2026 Chapter Challenge by visiting bit.ly/FDoG26!

A heartfelt thank you to Brothers Berry, Shirley, and Wroblewski for their leadership gift and their belief in the future of Indiana Zeta, and to every brother and friend who made a gift this Founders Day. Your support makes a lasting difference for the brothers of today and for generations to come.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2026 FOUNDERS DAY OF GIVING DONORS

William R. Groth '71
Edward N. Plavchak '71
David W. Womer '71
Stanley W. Wachel '72
Ralph J. Berry '76
Charles O. Shirley '76
Brian E. Lundeen '78
Raymond E. Volpe '78
Mark W. Johnson '80
Mark G. Kopetsky '82
Thomas R. Goodwin '84
Scott E. Thompson '84
David A. Creighton '87
Jeffrey S. Holdeman '87
John D. Currier Jr. '89
Ryan C. Eldridge '95
Chad M. Stegemiller '98
Jason A. Strachman '98
Daniel E. Walter '99
Ronald K. Ransom II '00
Douglas W. Fredbeck '06
Charlie R. Wroblewski '08
Rusty Day '22
Jake A. Johnson '22
Ryan B. Parker '22
Anthony W. Signorelli '22
Noah M. Malina '25
Anonymous Donor
Cristina Abbagnaro
Michael Barclay
Kristen Johnson
Jane McCollum
Wendi Raker
Lynn E. Saylor

Make Your Mark on INDIANA ZETA'S FUTURE

Interested in creating a matching gift opportunity for next year's Founders Day of Giving Chapter Challenge? Or exploring other ways to invest in Indiana Zeta throughout the year?

Reach out to Lee Fuller, Vice President of Development for the Foundation, at lgf@pkpfoundation.org to learn how you can make an even greater impact for our chapter.

NEWS FROM INDIANA ZETA

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT**Ralph Berry on Finding His Brotherhood at Butler****Ralph Berry '76****What made you want to join Phi Psi?**

I knew when I came to Butler University that I wanted to join a fraternity. After doing the full circuit of all the houses, I had settled on one, but discovered I had missed Phi Psi because we did not have a house at that time. I then went to meet the brothers and quickly discovered that these were my type of people. I found the guys more open, intelligent, unpretentious and just generally more real than those anywhere else. I was drawn to the combination of guys from every area of the school; musicians, pharmacists, radio/TV majors, business majors, English majors, basketball players, you name it. I was also extremely attracted to the idea that Phi Psi had no hazing of any kind for pledges.

What are some of your cherished Phi Psi memories?

My best memories are all of the group moments when the guys are just being the guys. We participated in every campus event. We had great socials and parties, particularly with the sororities and out little sister group. Just time in the house (we got a small one my sophomore year) and on our floor at Ross Hall when we would play cards, listen to music or just hang out. I loved it when we returned from a break and everyone would have the latest album each of us had discovered during the break and shared the music with each other. Phi Psis were also the house guys at the Alpha Chi Omega

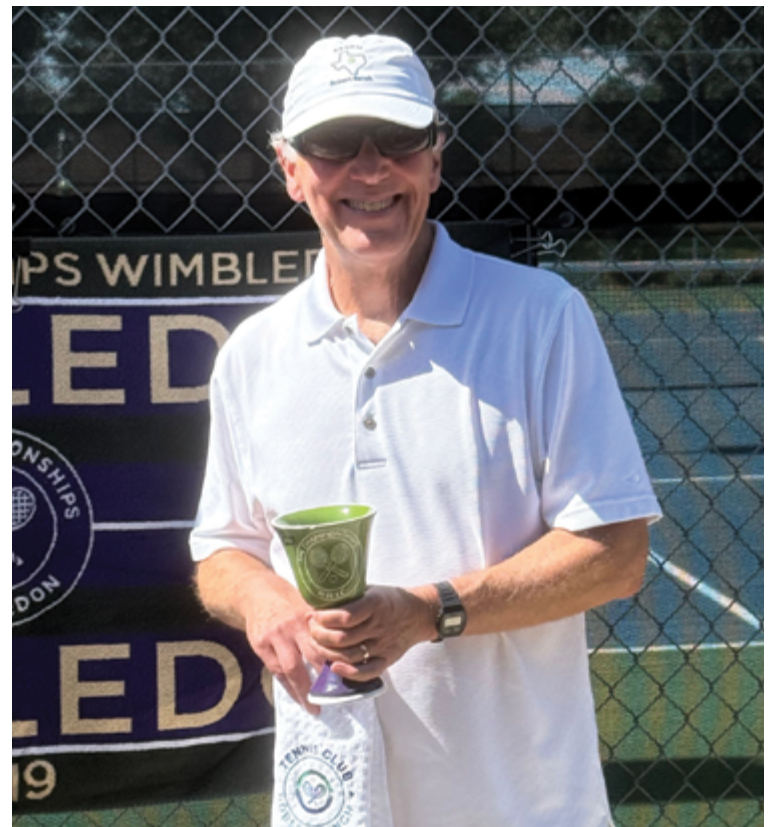
house, serving meals to the girls. That group of four guys each year, plus our subs when someone couldn't make it, ended up being my best friends. That is even how I met my wife of 45 years, Sue Morey. I also really enjoyed our time doing Geneva Stunts and Spring Sing every year.

Are there specific skills or experiences you use from your time in the Fraternity today?

The greatest of these is leadership and the responsibility of leadership. I have applied those skills, especially my time as chapter president, to my work life and to my numerous roles on boards of not-for-profit organizations.

Since graduating, how have you stayed connected or involved with Phi Psi or brothers?

I have not kept up as much as I wish I had. Moving away from Indianapolis as soon as I graduated to begin my career caused many connections to fade. In the pre social media and internet world, staying in touch was more difficult. Recently though, I have enjoyed occasional Zoom gatherings with brothers, ready housing update emails and reconnecting with some guys again on social media.



NEWS FROM INDIANA ZETA

Since graduating, how has your career evolved? What industries have you worked in, and what are your current responsibilities?

I began doing what my degree was in, working as an editor and reporter in radio and television, first in St. Louis and then in Dallas. I then switched to corporate public relations, first at Frito Lay in Dallas and then at a series of versions of the same hospitality company in Memphis as it changed names and brands. First as Holiday Corporation with Holiday Inn and Perkins Restaurants. Then as Promus Companies with Holiday Inn, Embassy Suites, Hampton Inn, Homewood Suites and Harrah's Casinos. Then spinning off as just Harrah's Casinos where I ended my corporate career as Vice President of Communications. From there I opened my own public relations firm in Memphis, Thompson and Berry, with a partner. That firm eventually merged with another and became Sullivan Branding where I still consult.

Outside of work, what passions or volunteer work do you pursue?

I now live in an Active Adult Community in Denton, Texas (moved to be close to our one son and his wife and now two grandsons). There I play tennis multiple times a week as well as bocce, cornhole, bowling, poker, wine club and regular running. I am an active reader and chairman of the library in our community. I love travel, especially locations around the world famous for their wine.

What advice would you give current undergraduate brothers about maximizing their Fraternity experience?

Do everything you can. Each experience has the opportunity to be a once-in-a-lifetime day. And, take advantage of the unique knowledge that every brother possesses. Everyone has something worth sharing.

What would you say to a potential new member about Phi Psi? What makes our house different from others in your mind?

It has now been 50 years since my initiation, so it is difficult to put myself in the current Phi Psi world. But, if we are still living up to our Creed as Phi Psis, then this chapter will have more meaning in your life than anything else you will do beyond your spouse, children, and grandchildren.

**STAY CONNECTED****Chapter Website**

www.butlerhipsi.org

Chapter Facebook

Phi Kappa Psi - Butler University

Chapter Instagram

@phisibutler

National Website

www.phikappapsi.com

Foundation Website

www.pkpfoundation.org

Update Your Information

Make sure you stay up-to-date on what is happening within the chapter and organization. Complete the form on the back of this newsletter, place it in a stamped envelope and mail it to the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation. You can also use the link at the bottom of the form to submit your information electronically.

Support Indiana Zeta

Gifts to the Indiana Zeta Chapter OneFund can be made by check, credit card and/or appreciated securities. These gifts are 100% tax deductible through the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation.

You can give online at

pkpfoundation.org/give/in-zeta



or by mailing a check to:
Phi Kappa Psi Foundation
5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226

Checks should be made payable to the Phi Kappa Psi Foundation and note Indiana Zeta Chapter OneFund on the memo line.



PHI KAPPA PSI

INDIANA ZETA
5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226

KEEP YOUR INFORMATION UP-TO-DATE!

Place this form in a stamped envelope and send to:

Phi Kappa Psi Foundation

5395 Emerson Way
Indianapolis, IN 46226-1415

Name _____

Initiate Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone (H) _____

Phone (W) _____

Email _____

Save a stamp and update your information online at
portal.phikapppsi.com

TAKE A LOOK INSIDE

In This Edition of *The Daily Dawg*

- Undergraduate Spotlight on Nic Abbagnaro '24
- Chapter Health Update
- Alumni Spotlight on Ralph Berry '76
- 2026 Founders Day of Giving Results



*Would you like to be featured in a future issue of *The Daily Dawg*?*

Or do you know a brother who should be featured? Email to let us know at srp@pkpfoundation.org.

Check butlerhipsi.org/events for all upcoming alumni events.

