

# FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON ♦ FALL 2014

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## INDIANA ALPHA SEES CHANGE IN ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

*Undergraduates Overcome Challenges, Implement Fresh New Ideas*

### GREETINGS FROM NEW AVC PRESIDENT BRIAN RODELL '99

I graduated in '98 with a B.S. in industrial engineering, am married with two children (17 and 12), live in Crown Point, Indiana, and have been a SigEp alumni volunteer for the last three years.

My volunteer work started in 2011, when I partnered with alumni (Indiana Alpha and National) and undergraduates to develop a new member program/calendar that aligned with the Balance Man Program (BMP) in a new attempt to migrate our chapter toward the BMP. After the chapter underwent a member review at the end of last year, I stepped up to chair the Alumni Advisory Committee in order to ensure alumni oversight of chapter operations and coordination with the Alumni Volunteer Corporation (AVC). If you would like more information on the sanctions and the details of the situation, please e-mail **Jay Bilunas '99** at [avc-alumnirelations@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:avc-alumnirelations@purdue-sigeps.com) or call him at (317) 409-6070. He can add you to the list of e-mail newsletters we are sending out.

At Homecoming this year, I was elected president of the AVC. I am excited for the opportunity to help the chapter move forward as Jarod focuses on his service to our country. I, and the rest of the alumni board, can't express enough appreciation for Jarod's time and effort to both our great country and the chapter. I look forward to continuing to work with him in a lesser capacity on alumni communications.

### ACTIVE MEMBERS TURN A NEW LEAF

There are many challenges that we face in our work to move our fraternity forward: poor undergraduate engagement and follow-through; house occupancy at four undergraduates; poor general campus image due to the publicity received from the recent University sanctions; undergraduates have retained little of the BMP training and guidance that they have received; and poor recruitment skills (prefer to wait and let potential new members come to them).

Much work has already been done to overcome these challenges, but more is needed to make gains and sustain successes. More details will be provided but to name a few: successfully executed the Balanced Man Scholarship at the beginning of the semester; recruited 12 new members since the start of the fall semester, and continue to recruit in a year-round fashion. **Keith Baker '75** and other alumni and undergraduate volunteers have started a multi-phase deep cleaning/refinishing of unoccupied rooms, significantly reducing facility costs.

### AVC TAKES ACTION

Conversely, there are still areas in which work is needed. To address undergraduate engagement, commitment, and follow-through, I will be sending out membership expulsion letters in November to those undergraduates who are unwilling to fulfill their out-of-house brother financial responsibility. Multiple communication points have been sent and a full 60 days has been allotted to provide these young men with enough time to either pay or arrange a payment plan. Unfortunately, it looks as though we may see 30+ brothers on campus removed.

In closing, I see many things that indicate that our chapter will return to the campus example that it once was. I think with the help of the great men we have engaged and those of you willing to step forward, we will achieve great things.

Fraternally,  
**Brian Rodell '99**  
Alumni Volunteer Corporation President  
[avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com)

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stories visit  
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## GRATEFUL FOR THE UPS AND DOWNS

### *Chapter Provides Tommy Payne '14 Advantageous Life Lessons*

The best role models bring light into the world and shine when it is dark. Although many go through life without admiring the determination and humility of others, **Tommy Payne '14** feels fortunate that one of his role models was always right there beside him. When Tommy arrived at Purdue in 2010, his father, **Steve Payne '82**, became not only his role model and father, but his Indiana Alpha brother as well.

While Steve encouraged Tommy to check out SigEp, Tommy attributes his decision to join the chapter to his wonderful recruitment experience and instant connection he made with active members. "It always felt like home to me." While Tommy cherishes a multitude of fond memories made in the chapter house, he says the day-to-day hilarity of living with 60 of his closest friends was one of his favorite parts about being a SigEp. "I developed lifelong relationships with my fraternity brothers. There was never a dull moment."

Looking back at his decision to join SigEp, Tommy is grateful now more than ever for both the ups and the downs he experienced. "The valuable lessons I gained mean a lot to me, and I'm not sure I would have received them someplace else," he says. "I learned from wonderful mentors like our advisor **Dick Blum '64**, who taught me invaluable life lessons." He insists that, although at times tumultuous, his experience as an Indiana Alpha taught him life skills that have resonated with him ever since.



*Tommy Payne '14 with former  
Senator Richard Lugar*

Without the tough decisions Tommy had to make as an executive member, he says he would be ill prepared to take on challenging situations. "It helped me learn how to manage my time, how to deal with stress and authority, how to deal with people different from myself, and how to work hard for both personal and collective goals." He adds, "I also credit SigEp for being a big part in my success in going to law school; the chapter provided me with many leadership and scholarship opportunities that distinguished myself as a law school applicant." Tommy beams with confidence knowing his time as an Indiana Alpha, although tough, gave him

the tools to be successful both at the Indiana Maurer School of Law and in life.

Aside from his father, whose actions serve as a constant everyday force in Tommy's life, New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter has been Tommy's role model throughout his youth. "Jeter leads by example. I admire the humble way he goes about his life. I admire his charitable efforts, and I admire his determination and work ethic." Derek Jeter is the reason Tommy strives to emulate a life infused with humility and honesty, because these qualities, Tommy says, lead to success.

As an alumnus, Tommy is eager to stay involved in the chapter. He especially looks forward to participating in football Sundays and the alumni golf outing. Tommy is a role model himself, as his steadfast dedication to help strengthen Indiana Alpha and reestablish the chapter's merit serves as a light for alumni who may still see the dark. E-mail: [tcpayne2@gmail.com](mailto:tcpayne2@gmail.com)

## Active Members Dedicated to Rebuilding Reputation

Our beloved Indiana Alpha Chapter, throughout history, has been one of the most involved and powerful branches of SigEp, as well as one of the most influential fraternities on Purdue's campus. We have always had strong numbers and, for the last four years, have been a top contender for best fraternity grades, placing first at the end of last semester.

What makes our fraternity so great, so unique, is the range of backgrounds and plausible futures that each brother has. Indiana Alphas come from all over the world, and each one of us brings a new perspective to the table when evaluating aspects of life. This diversity enables our members to think more universally when it comes to important choices and as a result broaden their horizons, preparing them for life after college. Cultural intelligence, matched with ambition to do great, is what keeps this chapter strong, even in its darker days.

Since 1905, this brotherhood has truly been put to the test. Last year, our chapter went through extensive membership review and was put on probation due to the poor decisions of a few brothers. Unfortunately, our brothers were under the impression that our house was going to end its

109-year run on campus and close down for good. A chapter of over 120 men has been stripped down to 30, with only four living in the house this year. These are the lowest numbers our chapter has ever seen. However, from following the principles of the Balanced Man Program, we were able to draw in 11 new members who are more than enthused about helping the transformation of our chapter.

Thankfully, we are still up and running, with more national and alumni support than ever. The principles of this program are being put into place, and our chapter is taking some major steps toward rebuilding its reputation with a clean slate. It is a grand opportunity for all of us involved; as we will be able to, once again, prove how great Indiana Alpha can be when we are determined.

Fraternally,  
**Ian Bannon '17**  
Chapter President  
[president@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:president@purdue-sigeps.com)  
(847) 997-8055





## WELCOME, FALL 2014 NEW MEMBERS

**Adi Banerjee '18**  
Perth, Wash.

**Jake Minich '18**  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Nick Burgess '17**  
Cincinnati, Ohio

**Will Pictor '17**  
Westfield, Ind.

**Joseph Chow '18**  
Dallas, Texas

**Joe Rocchio '18**  
Westfield, Ind.

**Preston Fernandez '16**  
Bangkok

**Christian Vetter '18**  
Lombard, Ill.

**Joey Iantorno '18**  
Burr Ridge, Ill.

**Ted Young '18**  
San Jose, Calif.

**Matthew Leitz '18**  
Knoxville, Tenn.

**Ameen Zarabadi '17**  
Kokomo, Ind.

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

President  
**Ian Bannon '17**  
president@purdue-sigeps.com  
(847) 997-8055

V.P. Recruitment  
**Connor Zehak '16**  
recruitment@purdue-sigeps.com  
(630) 291-1577

V.P. Finance  
**Troy Cutler '15**

House Manager  
**Greg Timm '15**

V.P. Development  
**Matt Pfister '15**

V.P. Communications  
**Joseph Chow '18**

V.P. Philanthropy  
**Brett Fitzpatrick '16**

## SIGEP BROTHERHOOD—AS TOLD BY ALUMNI INITIATE LARRY CHAMPION '73

This is a story of a brother who truly embodies the spirit of brotherhood. This is a story that should have been told many, many years ago.

I am Larry Champion. I came to the Purdue campus in West Lafayette in September 1965. I pledged Indiana Alpha in the spring of 1966 largely due to the friendliness of former Chapter President **Dave Gootee '67** and the camaraderie of a great many truly fine actives. I was delighted!

At the time, I had developed a very close friendship with a fellow who lived in my dorm. His name is **Dennis Schultz '68**, aka "Schultz." I told Dave Gootee about Dennis and asked Dave if I could bring Schultz to the house for a visit. Long story short, Dennis was well received and was asked to pledge. Schultz received his B.S. in industrial management in 1968 and went on to become an Army officer for a period of time, later earning his MBA.

In late November 1966, my father became ill and was hospitalized. For economic reasons, I had to drop out of school and go home in the middle of the school year. I enrolled in the Purdue extension in Indianapolis in the spring semester 1967 and worked while attending classes. My goal was to return to West Lafayette that fall, finish my pledge period, and be initiated.

Unfortunately, I could only take 11 hours with my work schedule. This was at a time when the war in Vietnam was escalating rapidly. Twelve hours was required to maintain a draft deferment. Long story short again, I was drafted before I could get back to West Lafayette. So, I was still a pledge out in the world without my brothers.

I came home in June 1969, returned to school and married. I essentially started over in a new major. I was working full time at Eli Lilly and attending school full time, so I didn't have much free time for a social life. During this time, Schultz and I stayed in touch and maintained our friendship as well as we could with my schedule and the distance between us. He had returned to his home town of Detroit. I graduated in June 1973.

Scroll forward to Homecoming weekend, November 1973. I am now a graduate student at the Krannert Graduate School. Schultz and another  
(Continued on page 4)



(Left) Alumni, family, and friends get together for Purdue's 2014 Homecoming celebrations. (Right) Undergraduates participate in fall 2014 recruitment.



Indiana Alpha hosts Delta Zeta's annual Turtle Tug philanthropy where undergraduates compete in tug-of-war on our volleyball court.



Sorority women participate in our Sink-a-SigEp philanthropy.



Undergraduates enjoy philanthropic barbecue on front lawn.





## SIGEP BROTHERHOOD

(Continued from page 3)

SigEp brother and good friend, **Greg "Riney" Rinehart '68**, and their future wives came to Purdue for the Homecoming weekend and stayed with me and my wife. It had the makings of a great weekend, except that on Friday night, I had my first graduate school mid-term exam from 7 to 9 p.m. Not what one wants to do to kick off Homecoming weekend. So I trundled off to Krannert at 6:30 while everyone else was celebrating.

I returned home around 9:30, mentally whipped. I was ready for a little celebration. But, before I could even get a drink, Schultz said that he and Riney had to run by the house to pick something up and that I should ride with them. Fine with me; a little guy time with two great friends. We parked behind the house where, surprisingly, there was an empty parking spot in an otherwise packed parking area. The house was completely dark and empty, in spite of all those cars in back. We went inside through the back door and stopped at the top of the stairs. Schultz told me he had to get something downstairs and just to wait by the stairs, that he and Riney would be right back.

Friday night, Homecoming weekend, and the house was dark and completely quiet. I had never seen the house like that on a Homecoming weekend. A few minutes later, a young fellow came up the stairs and asked my name. I responded and he told me to turn around. I was blindfolded and he gently led me downstairs. Long story short again, I received the biggest surprise of my life that night!

I was initiated. I was brought into the fold of SigEp brothers by a brother who truly embodies the spirit of brotherhood. I was initiated, thanks to my friend, and brother, Dennis Schultz. Thanks to his many months of concentrated effort—getting permission from nationals, coordinating with the chapter, and planning the surprise. Just imagine what a feat of communication and coordination it took to make my initiation happen! This was before e-mail. And, on top of all Schultz's hard work, think of what the brothers of Indiana Alpha did that night. It was Homecoming weekend and the entire active chapter gave up that Friday night to come together for a guy who was a pledge from back in 1966. I have never in my life been so overwhelmed!

I have never known how to really thank Schultz for what he did. I thanked him; we remain great friends; we see each other when we can. And, over the years, I have tried to think of a fitting way to say thanks. I opened my SigEp journal this spring and, after 40 years, finally got an idea of how to say thank you in a special way. And how to tell a story that should have been told more than 40 years ago.

A contribution to the house maintenance fund has been made in Dennis' name. And a plaque will be hung in the great hall in his honor that will appear and read:

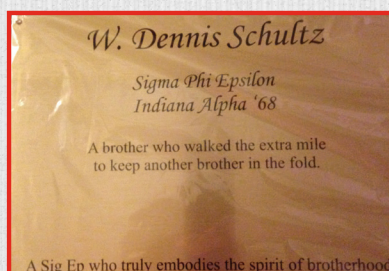
*W. Dennis Schultz  
Sigma Phi Epsilon  
Indiana Alpha '68*

*A brother who walked the extra mile to keep another brother in the fold.*

*A Sig Ep who truly embodies the spirit of brotherhood.*

Dennis Schultz is the embodiment of the spirit of SigEp brotherly love. I hope that his story brings a smile to every SigEp face, and a firm nod of the head.

Fraternally,  
**Larry Champion '73**



## Alumni Reunite for Golf Outing



*Golfers at the 2014 outing, from left: Mike Perkins '66, Keith Reisinger '82, Jim Mosch '79, Mary Mosch, Paul Frey '98, Ted Hazledine '65, and Jim Cassell '73.*



*Keith Reisinger '82*



*Jim Mosch '79*



*Jim Cassell '73*

*Join us next  
year for the 2015  
golf outing.  
Details  
coming soon.*



*Paul Frey '98, Ted Hazledine '65, Jim Cassell '73, and Mike Perkins '66.*





# THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI, FOR CONTRIBUTING TO INDIANA ALPHA'S ANNUAL CAMPAIGN

We thank all the alumni below for their support of our spring 2014 annual campaign appeal. The success and achievements of Indiana Alpha Chapter are directly attributed to the support and involvement of its members. The active brothers are grateful for and proud of the support they receive from alumni. Our spring 2014 annual appeal resulted in \$12,050

from the contributors listed below. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift(s), or if we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving record are needed, please send them to [acromer@penningtonco.com](mailto:acromer@penningtonco.com). Your generosity is making a difference!

## Founder's Society

(\$2,500 and above)

John R. Grayson '46

## Balanced Man Society

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

John C. Weydert '48

Frank E. Ruehling '56

Robert F. Kroeger '58

W. Dennis Schultz '68

Rodney J. Henderson '68

Scott R. Swisher '79

Mark S. Meyer '92

## Brotherhood Society

(\$500 to \$999)

William L. Reel '52

David S. McMichael '59

Frank R. Snyder '58

John F. Derr '58

John R. Treat '66

John K. Oelslager '66

James M. Cassell '73

James M. Lindsey, DDS '74

Fred H. Beckman '82

## Golden Heart Society

(\$100 to \$499)

Dr. George J. Kottemann

(Initiated 1950)

Robert A. Von Behren '43

Martin D. Hecht '48

John W. Hoskins '48

Edward R. Hyde '49

Raymond S. Stephens '49

Robert G. Coleman '50

Lee E. Gase '50

David B. Meinhardt '54

Jean C. Evans '56

W. Graham Duncan '57

Howard P. Chamberlain '57

James D. Borrowman '58

William V. Dohr '59

Richard F. Trowbridge '59

Robert E. Hormann '61

Robert H. Sheridan '62

Larry R. Horton '62

Donald G. Hoffman '62

Kurt F. Meier '63

James H. Muehlbauer '63

Byron H. White '64

David D. Schoeff '64

Gilbert J. Frey '66

Charles M. Leedom '66

Fred C. Lash '66

Gary L. Evans '67

Logan F. Wernz '67

Gregory L. Rinehart '68

Charles R. Deible '68

August G. Voelkel '68

David A. Sappenfield '69

William J. Fockele '69

Patrick J. Woodring '69

James R. Brown '73

Dennis C. Lange '74

Thomas E. Everly '75

Douglas M. Nabhan '77

Christopher D. Kelly '80

Michael G. Ellis '84

Sven M. Soedel '84

David J. St. Claire '86

Brett Shopsin '90

James R. Aigner '92

Philip J. Pescarino '95

Ryan R. Gilbert '97

Neal F. Voorde '00

John B. Folta '01

John D. Weir '01

Grant R. Lohse '02

Wade H. Miller '02

Matthew S. Fletcher '05

Robert R. Vrabell '06

Brian D. Liotti '12

## JIM BORROWMAN '58 DONATES FRATERNITY PIN TO INDIANA ALPHA

The Sigma Phi Epsilon pin is a symbol of the fraternity and the basic principles for which it stands for. The pin is worn with pride as a comprehensive symbol of what Sigma Phi Epsilon means as a national fraternity, but it is equally representative of each brother's individual experience. For **Jim Borrowman '58** the fraternity pin not only serves as a reminder of the values and history of SigEp but also of the memories and life lessons the Indiana Alpha provided.

Jim credits the opportunity to join the Sigma Phi Epsilon brotherhood to **John Miller '58**. Jim and John were rooming in Cary Hall when John suggested they should rush. John's encouragement along with meeting many quality men through recruitment led Jim to realize Indiana Alpha was the right choice.

When Jim looks at his fraternity pin he is reminded of the social events, singing in the SigEp choir, and, of course, friendships. "One of my favorite memories as an undergraduate was the times we spent at Wildcat Creek. We would drive down a gravel road and open a gate to a farmer's property, which included a beach alongside the creek,"



*For Jim Borrowman '58 the SigEp pin serves as a reminder that he is part of a bigger brotherhood.*

recalls Jim. He laughs when remembering the time they tried to roast a pig for a party with the Chi Omega sorority. "Our chef, Oscar, knew we wouldn't be able to do it but we tried anyways. Nothing like raw pork!" Jim also remembers his pledge class being the first to eliminate hazing and to start Help Week, a week dedicated to serving and helping the community.

To Jim, the fraternity pin is a reminder that he is a part of a bigger brotherhood. All men who wear the SigEp pin over

their hearts share similar experiences and bonds with each and every person who has pledged and been initiated into the fraternity. Knowing that Jim does not have a son to pass his badge down to, he knew the best place for it would be at 690 Waldron on a deserving fraternity brother.

*Jim earned a B.S. in psychology, as well as an M.S. in industrial relations from Purdue, and an M.A. in educational systems development from Michigan State. Jim and his wife, Ann, live in Norton Shores, Michigan. The couple has three children and nine grandchildren. E-mail: [jdb836@gmail.com](mailto:jdb836@gmail.com)*

## Alumni Update

### CHAPTER ETERNAL

**Harry M. Rogers '44** entered Chapter Eternal on May 18 with family at his side. He led a wonderfully, exciting, productive, and long life. He was injured at U.S. Naval Academy Columbarium in the class of 1946, but always talked about good ol' Purdue and SigEp.

**Jack V. Skillman '48** entered Chapter Eternal on January 21. He is survived by his wife of 64 years, Ruth, and their children and grandchildren. He was a member of the President's Council at Purdue, Bethlehem Lutheran Church, and the Eagle Society of Eiteljorg Museum.

**David M. Parker '59** entered Chapter Eternal on April 29. He served in the United States Army for two years and was honorably discharged at the rank of corporal. He is survived by his beloved wife, Joan; three children, four grandchildren, and two great-granddaughters.

### ALUMNI NEWS

**John C. Weydert '48** often wonders about the whereabouts of his 1948 brothers. He says he remembers his great bunch of brothers fondly.

*(Continued on page 6)*

# INDIANA ALPHA IS A FULL BALANCED MAN CHAPTER

As part of our rebuilding process we have fully adopted the Balanced Man Program. This concept may be foreign to some of our alumni, but is the best way to ensure we will be around for another 100 years. We will have more in-depth information on our website, as well as the SigEp National website.

In 1901, SigEp's founding fathers set out to provide an unparalleled fraternity experience. Those 12 young men recognized the need for personal growth during the most crucial years in a man's life. They dreamed of a supportive experience with a brotherhood of high achievers. Ninety years later, the Balanced Man Program was created to meet this goal.

The Balanced Man Program, at its core, is designed to provide a holistic development experience for college men that not only challenges them to grow as leaders, but challenges the concept of fraternity on a much larger scale. The Balanced Man Program is a continuous development program that matches different areas of development with different stages of a college man's time in the chapter.

The program, born out of a need to provide a more relevant fraternity experience throughout the college career, was built from the best practices of exemplary SigEp chapters in the late '80s and early '90s. Those best practices are captured in the core philosophical tenets of the Balanced Man Program:

- Equal rights and responsibilities
- Continuous development
- Accountability
- Living the Ritual
- Mentoring

These concepts are the key to operating a successful program, building balanced men, and gaining success on both a chapter and national level. Our highest performing chapters around the country exemplify these five core tenets in their operations.

Since its ideation, the Balanced Man Program has been celebrated by the academic and fraternity worlds for its innovation and application to the collegiate experience. Featured on a national stage in such outlets as National Public Radio and *The New York Times*, SigEp and the Balanced Man Program receive acclaim for providing more relevance to the fraternity experience, and challenging the stereotypes that too often plague Greek organizations. To learn more about the Balanced Man Program, its history and its implementation, please visit the BMP Implementation Page on the SigEp website: <http://www.sigep.org/resources/chapteroperations/balancedmanprogram>. To view our 2014 Balanced Man Scholarship finalists and winners, visit [www.purduesigeps.com](http://www.purduesigeps.com).

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A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



## Indiana Alpha Chapter of SPE Alumni Corporation

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## Alumni Update

*(Continued from page 5)*

He and **Kenneth Weidner '48** both live in Albuquerque, N.M.

**Raymond S. Stephens '49** still rides his motorcycle, plays the piano, and surfs the Web. His brother, **Dick Stephens '48**, is living in the New York State Veteran's home and is affected by Alzheimer's. E-mail: [julieanray@sbcglobal.net](mailto:julieanray@sbcglobal.net)

**William W. Welch '54** spent 21 years in the USAF, 20 years in marketing at Harris Corp., and three years teaching at the Florida Institute of Technology.

**William V. Dohr '59** sings tenor with Center Stage Band and Show Choir in Wausau, and holds a 50-ton U.S. Coast Guard captain's license. He also volunteers at Wausau Hospital, installing medical alert systems in the community. "Hello to the 1950s to 1960s brothers from Indiana Alpha!" E-mail: [billdohr@charter.net](mailto:billdohr@charter.net)



*Kevin Morkel '74 and  
Keith Morkel '72*

**Andrew R. Ceperley '65** volunteers as the president of a nonprofit corporation that provides subsidized housing for 300 low income families. This year he served as the general contractor, renovating one of three facilities for \$1.5 million. Andrew spends time with his grandchildren and travels in his free time. He and his wife, Becky, spent two weeks vacationing on the Greek

island Kefalonia last summer. E-mail: [ceperlar@gmail.com](mailto:ceperlar@gmail.com)

**Larry D. Morelock '71** is the chairman of Merced regional airport authority, vice chairman of Castle Air Museum Foundation Inc., commissioner on Merced County Airport land use commission, and still flying for pleasure in a Cessna 170B. E-mail: [kctoad@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kctoad@sbcglobal.net)

**Kevin E. Morkel '74** was diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia and large bcell lymphoma in June. He is being treated at the Ohio State University James Cancer Center. He has gone through six rounds of chemotherapy and is awaiting a stem cell/bone marrow transplant. This is the same procedure his brother, **Keith Morkel '72**, had for prolymphocytic leukemia in October 2012. To contact Keith e-mail [kmorkel@woh.rr.com](mailto:kmorkel@woh.rr.com), and to contact Kevin e-mail [kmorkel@yahoo.com](mailto:kmorkel@yahoo.com).

**Philip J. Pescarino '95** has been busy. P.J. got engaged to Monica Johnson in February 2013, they were married in September 2013, moved to a new home in May 2014, and welcomed their first child, Anthony Rico, on June 25. "Other than that, nothing new here!" E-mail: [smodog1@gmail.com](mailto:smodog1@gmail.com)