

# Generations

The Newsletter of the Pi Alpha Phi Alumni Association

### Mark Your Calendars!

- The 38th annual picnic will be hosted by the Pi Alpha Phi Alumni Association and the Sacramento Alumni on Saturday, October 16, 1999, at William Land Park in Sacramento.
- A tailgate BBQ will be held at the fraternity house prior to the Cal-USC football game on October 30, 1999. Current active members and alumni are encouraged to attend. Please plan to arrive by 11AM.

## A Family Legacy

Last year the Fraternity suffered a heartfelt loss with the passing of fellow alumni Joseph Gee. Joe, still in his prime, had staged a valiant but losing fight against cancer. Before his untimely death, Joe was very active on the Alumni Board of Directors, serving thrice as President of the Board. He had also been managing the Edward Gee Memorial scholarship funds and, in addition, he had been allocating income to the Fraternity from an apartment house in which Joe's mother had donated a one half part ownership to the Pi Alpha Phi fraternity in memory of her late husband.

Pi Alpha Phi fraternity had always been a significant part of Joe's life. His late father, Edward Gee, and his uncle, Herbert Gee, were both early members that had been responsible for the founding of the Fraternity. In addition, they

were part of the core group of Alumni who had worked hard not only to secure funding for the procurement of the current fraternity house, but also to actively continue in its management as perennially board members to help in perpetuating the Fraternity.

Joe was the third son of Edward and Mabel Gee. He had two older brothers, Tim and Sherman, and a younger sister, Gloria. Tim and Sherman both had also attended UC Berkeley and both were very active in the Fraternity during their attendance there. However, both had careers that led them away to the East Coast. Joe's career had settled him in the Bay Area and he had remained active in the Fraternity serving on the Alumni Board of Directors alongside his father and uncle. Even after his father's passing, Joe had continued to remain and work on

the Board of Directors, and to establish a legacy, as mentioned earlier, in memory of his father.

In Joe's passing, his commitment of service to the Fraternity will be surely missed. Joe is survived by his wife, Gloria, daughter, Julie Ann, son, Michael (a Pi Alpha Phi brother at UC Davis), brothers Tim and Sherman, plus sister, Gloria. Joe's mother, Mabel had also passed away shortly after his death. The surviving family understands the passion that Joe and his parents had for the Fraternity. Thus, they have set up a \$50,000 Gee Family Memorial Fund, whereby the proceeds have been designated to be used for maintenance and improvement of the fraternity house. This Gee Family legacy continues to portray the spirit in which they have worked for perpetuating the Fraternity.

### Inside this issue:

President's Address	2
Upcoming Events	3
Chapter Reports	4
Alumni Reports	5
About the Alumni Association	6
The 80/20 Initiative	7
The Back Page	8

### The Joseph Gee Memorial Fund

The fraternity would like to acknowledge the following people for their donations to the Joseph Gee Memorial Fund. Their contributions are greatly appreciated. If you would also like to make a donation, please send a check to:

Pi Alpha Phi  
2534 Warring St  
Berkeley, CA 94704

- Herbert and Ada Gee
- Gaing Chan
- Patrick and Claribel Dare
- Randall and Anna Kwok
- Aileen Yamate
- Marie Hall

## President's Address

Greetings Brother,



As the incoming President of the Pi Alpha Phi Berkeley Alumni Association, it is my pleasure to inform you of the status of our fraternity. Much has happened within our fraternity since the last newsletter came out. The year was filled with many highs and lows. We suffered the loss of Joe Gee, one of our most influential and active alumni. We also started a new charter (our sixth) of Pi Alpha Phi at the University of California, Irvine.

We successfully launched our web site at [www.pialphaphi.com](http://www.pialphaphi.com). It has been a great success, fulfilling its promise of building the online community of Pi Alpha Phi, while also increasing the name recognition of our organization.

We are currently charting out a long-term plans for our fraternity. Much progress has been made in our ongoing alumni retention project; we've made great strides in updating and revising our alumni database. There is an infusion of younger faces on the Alumni Board. Most of the new Board members are under the age of thirty. We are developing a new core of the alumni board, who will take the fraternity into the next century.

We have developed a five year plan for preventive maintenance, upkeep, and improvement to the fraternity house. The fraternity is currently paying off the last of the bonds due from the 1984 renovation project of the fraternity house. If all goes as planned, we will be out of debt by the year 2001.

Over the last few years, we have spent over \$20,000 to upkeep the fraternity house. For our students' safety, we have added a fire alarm and sprinkler system. We have worked on all the bathrooms, as well as repaired numerous water leaks and damage from the roof to the basement. A new concrete porch was also installed in the front of the house.

This year, to ensure the financial and physical well-being of the fraternity, we have instituted some new measures. Each live-in student now signs a rental agreement (basically a lease). A "House Rules and Regulations" document was also drawn up, detailing the responsibilities of the students, including the cleaning of common areas, disposal of garbage, etc. These measures have been a great success and the house looks better than it has in years.

Even with the strides we've made, I want to make it clear that we still need your help and input. If you are interested in donating either your time, effort, or financial support, please contact us. We very much appreciate your help and understanding.

Many thanks to Dave Wong and Cliff Lin for their help above and beyond the call of duty. Dave has worked tirelessly on our web site and has done a great job on the newsletter, while Cliff undertook the massive project of re-building our membership database.

This is a time of great change. I truly believe we are on the cusp of a new era for our fraternity. We'd like you to be a part of it. I encourage you to enjoy reading the newsletter. Log into the web site. Take a moment to think about what this fraternity means to you. Take a moment to think about what this fraternity means to the incoming generations. Please help us shape the next generation of Pi Alpha Phi into men you can be proud of. Contact us.

Respectfully,

Brian Gee

**“Take a moment to think about what this fraternity means to you. Take a moment to think about what this fraternity means to the incoming generations.”**

# Upcoming Events

## 1999 Sacramento Picnic

The 38th annual picnic will be hosted by the Pi Alpha Phi Alumni Association and the Sacramento Alumni on Saturday, October 16, 1999. The picnic will take place 12 noon to 4PM.

The event will feature BBQ chicken, hot dogs, games, etc.

### Directions from Bay Area

- I-80 East to I-5 South in Sacramento
- Exit Sutterville Rd, go left (east) off freeway
- Pass South Land Park Drive and the picnic grounds will be on your left at William Land Park. (Look for the signs indicating the ΠΑΦ picnic.)



## Active/Alumni BBQ

A tailgate BBQ will be held at the fraternity house prior to the Cal-USC football game on October 30, 1999. Current active members and alumni are encouraged to attend. Please plan to arrive by 11AM.

Address:

## Berkeley Chapter Report

The Alpha chapter of Pi Alpha Phi Fraternity continued its tradition of community service in 1998-1999 with several philanthropic events. The first was an on-campus canned food drive; the brothers collected over 100 cans to give the homeless in Berkeley a little something on Thanksgiving. The second event was a volunteer effort for the Chinese New Year Parade in San Francisco Chinatown. The fraternity was well represented in the parade itself as well as on local TV. Our last philanthropic event was "Eggster," allowing us the opportunity to interact with local Berkeley youngsters.

The Alpha Chapter organized fraternal events during the past year that strengthened not only the brotherhood of the Alpha Chapter but also between all six chapters of Pi Alpha Phi. One of the high points of the semester was the annual road trip down south to LA, where we played paintball, had exchanges with local sororities, and most important of all, met all the brothers from Irvine and Riverside chapters. At the Pi Alpha Phi Sports Day, Northern California chapters got together in Davis to play football, basketball, and put on a barbecue. The night ended with a party at the Davis house.

During the past year, Pi Alpha Phi threw some of the best parties and elegant formals on campus. Our signature party, KAMIKAZE, was held in the Concourse Exhibition Center in San Francisco on March 13, 1999. It was a complete success, with all the chapters working together and drawing over 3500 people. Every semester ends with the Pi Alpha Phi Formal, where the new class gets installed. For the Fall 1998 semester, 11 new actives were installed, and 5 for Spring 1999. That brings the total number of actives in the house to around 40.



## Pi Alpha Phi Davis Alumni Golf Classic

The event was held at Laguna Seca Golf Course, near Seaside, CA. We had a total of 27 players ranging in skill level from an 8.0 handicap to a 31.2. The tournament was open to all current and alumni members of Pi Alpha Phi and their guests.

The tournament format was individual handicap play with three divisions: a men's flight, a women's flight, and a Calloway flight for those players who did not have official handicap indices. After a round of cool skies and pleasant weather, the players were treated to an awards banquet above the 18th green in Laguna Seca's fine clubhouse. Dinner was served and every 20 minutes the players raffled for cash prizes.

U.C. Davis alumnus and member of the Gamma Chapter's Founding Class, James Kim took home the Calloway flight trophy, as well as a cash prize for a low gross score of 78. Kim also won prizes for two C.T.P.s (Closest To the Pin). Alumni Mike Tanamachi and Lawrence Mui followed in second and third place in the Calloway flight. Another Davis alumnus, Eddie Hsia won the Men's Handicap flight with a net 76. Lynn Nakano won the Women's flight. And for the record, alumnus Albert Oh won the Longest Drive Contest on Hole #9.

Thank yous to co-host Albert Oh for organizing the tournament banquet and getting the award trophies. Also, thank you to Seigo and Keiko Hanamoto for donating prizes. And a big thank you to all the players for coming out.

## Irvine Chapter Report

The Eta Chapter at UC Irvine has done numerous activities to strengthen our brotherhood and relations with other organizations. Throughout the year, we have had numerous brotherhood trips. In our first trip, during winter break, we went camping at Joshua Tree National Park near Palm Springs. For our second trip, we went skiing at Bear Mountain. And during Memorial Day weekend, we rented a cabin at Lake Arrowhead.

After our first quarter, the social aspect of the fraternity started to kick in. We have exchanges with alpha Kappa Delta Phi from UC Irvine and UC Riverside, Phi Zeta Tau from UC Irvine, Sigma Phi Omega from San Diego and USC, and Northern California Sigma Omicron Pi.

For the upcoming year, we are planning to set up more exchanges with sororities in the Asian Greek

Council of Southern California. Philanthropy is also a big aspect of the fraternity, the Eta Chapter has worked with various clubs in philanthropic events, such as beach clean ups and soup kitchens. Hopefully, in the near future, we will participate in philanthropic events, like breast cancer, AIDS walk, bone marrow, or blood donation.

## 1999 Alumni Banquet and Scholarship Awards

This year's annual banquet was held at the Silver Dragon Restaurant in Oakland Chinatown on April 17, 1999. The proprietor, an alumni of the fraternity, mentioned that he was very excited to provide the location for this year's banquet.

The fraternity offers three scholarships every year. This year featured an extremely competitive field of qualified applicants competing for three scholarship awards.

The Edward W. Gee Memorial Scholarship (\$400) was named for one of the most influential members of the fraternity. Edward was a driving force in the purchase of the Berkeley fraternity house. He served on the alumni board for many years and in his heart, he was true Pi Alpha Phi. All three sons, Tim, Sherman, and Joe all joined the fraternity when they were of age.

This year's winner of the Edward W. Gee Memorial Scholarship is Albert Chang. He is dedicated to all aspects of the fraternity. As an active member of the fraternity, he has held eight positions in five semesters. This past year, he worked for six weeks to ensure the success of Kamikaze, the semi-annual fundraiser for the frater-

nity. He was heavily involved in recruitment efforts this past year and is the incoming president of the Berkeley Chapter for Fall 1999.

The Oroville Chan Brothers Service Scholarship is named after the Chan Brothers, who came from the town of Oroville, CA. It was set up by the five Chan Brothers: Wing Cheong Chan, Wing Chack Chan (both charter members), Wing Yee Chan, Wing Fee Chan, and Wing Gaing Chan. This year, Gaing Chan generously doubled the amount of this award to \$250.00.

This year the scholarship was awarded to Charles Lee. He has been active in the house for 3 years and has held many distinguished positions in this organization, beginning with Philanthropy Chair, progressing to Pledgmaster, to Vice-President, and finally President for the Fall 1998 semester. His GPA was 3.77 (out of 4.0). In receiving this award, Charles stated, "I have done my utmost to give back to this House in return for all that it has given me."

The Herbert W. Gee Scholarship/Service Award is given out annually to a deserving student. It is based on 50% scholarship and 50% service to the fraternity. The scholarship carries a cash value of

\$500.00. Herb Gee has been one of the most active members of the fraternity, ever since he joined in 1933. Along with his brother Edward, he helped secure the fraternity house in 1955. Since its inception, Herb had served over 30 years on the alumni board before retiring to pursue other interests. He still participates in fraternity matters and helps sponsor the Sacramento picnic every year.

This year's Herbert W. Gee Scholarship was awarded to Francis Tran. Francis has been an active member of the fraternity. As Pledge Educator for the Epsilon Sigma class, he crossed the largest pledge class (11 members) in many years. His goal was to mold a class consisting of strong actives that would contribute to the house long after his active tenure with the fraternity is over. Francis has maintained a GPA of 3.5, while double majoring in Economics and Molecular and Cell Biology.

The Alumni Board would like to congratulate all of this year's winners. We wish them all success in their future endeavors. We hope to see everyone again at next year's banquet.



In receiving this award, Charles Lee stated, "I have done my utmost to give back to this House in return for all that it has given me."

### Treasurer's Report by Jon Lee '81

Since 1995, the Alumni Association's annual budget has been running at a slight deficit, thus depleting any available reserves. The deficits were caused primarily by house maintenance expenses that were not part of the budget.

During 1995-96, the board moved ahead to comply with the city ordinance to install a fire sprinkler system at a cost of \$20,000. About \$4,300 was donated by alumni for that project. Another \$1,700 of interest to be paid to the 10 year note holders was donated also. Since 1997, the frequency and urgency of house repairs have exceeded our budget. Repairs have included several bathrooms and showers, roof repairs, leak damage, new water heater, and damage from the break-in. Maintenance expenses totaled \$795 in 1997, \$9,741 in 1998, and \$5,300 so far in 1999. We were gifted in 1998 with the Edward W. Gee & Family Building Fund to use accrued interest for these kinds of expenses.

The Association still has an outstanding loan amount of \$25,000 for the house renovation from 1984. There is a great need to build-up a fund to meet future house needs from repairs to necessary maintenance to house improvements. Currently, we are running from semester to semester meeting our expenses and commitments with a very small reserve cushion. Our major expenses include the repaying of the 10 year notes, liability and fire insurance, and the house repair projects.

The students have been current on their payments to us over the past 2 years.



**“Everyone should see it prosper in their heart, and share their time, talent and treasure to help nurture the next generation of students and leaders to help make a difference.”**

## About the Alumni Association by Yale Yee '59

The long-established history of Pi Alpha Phi began at the University of California at Berkeley in 1926. It was the brainchild of three students -- D. Wing Tom, Wing Chan, and Elmer Leong -- to form a fraternity of Asian students, free of the discrimination they encountered at the “traditional” fraternity system. This brotherhood was based on the bonds of friendship, mutual experience, and academic excellence. They were soon joined by Chack Chan, Tim Jang, and George Lee, and thus Pi Alpha Phi was born.

In 1956, a small group led by Edward Gee, George Woo, and Herbert Gee, brought together the fraternity's alumni and raised enough capital to purchase a fraternity house. They wanted to give our younger generations all the benefits of having a house near campus; which they were unable to have during their own tenure at Berkeley.

They fulfilled their dream and purchased the house at 2534 Warring St in Berkeley. The fraternity finally had a house to provide a congenial environment and atmosphere for meetings and living accommodations, as well as offering a location for social activities. More importantly, it was also a small haven away from the racial discrimination that existed in that era.

The Pi Alpha Phi Alumni Association was officially formed to handle the details of financing and maintaining the house (the physical structure), as well as providing leadership to the fraternity. The initial Board of Directors of the Alumni Association were: Edward Gee, George Woo, Ralph Fong, Harry Choi, Hiram Lee, Gaing Chan, Roland Jang, Herbert Gee, and Bill Fong.

The Board members meet bi-monthly to conduct and transact the necessary business for the operation of the fraternity house. Rents from the student actives are collected by the student treasurer and deposited with the Alumni Treasurer and used for loan repayment, taxes, insurance, and other incidental expenses involved in running the fraternity.

The meetings serve as a clearing post for problems that may arise during occupancy of the house by the students. Periodic maintenance and repairs are undertaken by the Board to insure a safe and secure environment for the students. Alumni advice is offered to the students on management of the finances, collection of rent, drafting of rules of conduct for live in students, housekeeping and care of property.

The Association has served in the past as career guidance and counseling purposes during joint meetings with the students. This is an area that the Alumni, with the multitude of experience and knowledge can be helpful to the students.

As an incentive for the students in the area of scholastics, the Alumni Association members have funded three scholarships annually to be awarded to the deserving students. These scholarships are awarded at the Annual Actives and Alumni Dinner held in the Spring. The Dinner allows the Alumni to welcome the new pledges and to meet the student actives. As more Alumni realize the importance and need for such scholarships, we hope that the number of awards will increase.

An Annual Alumni picnic in October is hosted by the Alumni members in the Sacramento area. Annual attendance has increased to approximately 200 people. The picnic serves the useful purpose for the student actives to meet the Alumni members and for the Alumni members to rekindle old relationships.

The Alumni can form the foundation for a network system that can be mutually beneficial to the students and Alumni. All Pi Alpha Phi Alumni are urged to remember those that have worked and contributed to the ongoing, successful operation of the Fraternity House. Everyone should see it prosper in their heart, share their time, talent and treasure to help nurture the next generation of students and leaders to help make a difference.

## APA Topics

# The 80-20 Initiative

What kind of organization is "The 80-20 Initiative?"

The 80-20 Initiative is a national, non-partisan project devised by a group of concerned Chinese Americans but envisioned for all Asian Americans. The basic idea is to urge the Asian Americans to form a block-vote so that we become a vital political force in affecting the outcome of the year 2000 Presidential Election. Purpose? To induce both major political parties to take our community's interests seriously and help us achieve equal opportunity. Don't we enjoy equal opportunity already? No. This project's popular appeal has been field tested in the Chinese American community. More than 90% of a random sample of Chinese Americans, having received 6 recruiting e-mails, become strong or moderate supporters for forming a block-vote.

How does the 80-20 idea work?

Here's how it works. Its goal is to win equal opportunity for us and our children. That mean equal chance to get good jobs, high salary increments and significant promotions.

AAs voted slightly in favor of Bush in 1992 and slightly in favor of Clinton in 1996. So long as an immigrant "underclass" votes roughly 50-50, no politician will bother to help the group win equal opportunity. To politicians, paying attention to a small constituent group that votes roughly 50-50 is like entering a small business deal with a puny margin of profit. On the other hand, courting a small immigrant group capable of delivering 80-20 is like chasing a small business deal with a huge profit margin of 60%. (The 80% vote

obtained by the courting politician minus the 20% vote taken by the opponent yields a net gain of 60% of votes of our community.) Hence, if we united to vote 80-20, a very different picture would emerge.

AAs are strategically located. AAs represent 6.5% of the voters in CA -- the state with the largest electoral college votes and early primary in the presidential election of 2000. CA is a must for any presidential candidate in year 2000. Winning the March, 2000 CA primary creates so much momentum that it may be tantamount to winning the party nomination. Furthermore, CA has 54 electoral votes - 20% of what's needed to be the next president.

If we'll unite to SWING to either political party at an 8 to 2 ratio in year 2000, our block-vote will represent not only a business deal with a huge profit margin but also the deal that gives the winner a 51% controlling interest of the entire market. Our block-vote shall be courted by politicians of both parties IMMEDIATELY, and with that we can win EQUAL OPPORTUNITY for us and our children! American immigrants have traditionally relied on the political process to win equal opportunity. That was how the Irish did it. That was how the Polish, Italians and Jewish Americans did it. Recently, women and blacks flexed their political muscles and won their rights to good jobs.

Tactically, a two-step process is envisioned to gain political clout. First, a political unity is forged within the Chinese American community, since we have to start somewhere. Next, all other AA communities form, as EQUAL partners, a Pan Asian Political Coalition.

As individual communities, our voices have not been heard. Together we shall overcome. We and our children will benefit. America, our beloved nation, becomes "a more perfect Union." The 80-20 Organization

We have a Steering Committee whose members are:

- Kenneth Fong, C.E.O., Clontech Laboratories,
- Yu-Chi Ho, Harvard Univ., member of Nat'l Acad. of Engineering,
- Stephen S. Ko, MD, Founder of Asian Am. Political Coalition N.J.
- Michael Lin, former Nat'l President, Org. of Ch-Ams (1994-98),
- Henry Tang, Chair, Committee of 100,
- Chang-Lin Tien, Chancellor, Univ. of Calif., Berkeley (1991-97),
- Dennis Wong, former Chair, San Francisco-Taipei Sister City Comm.,
- Charles Woo, President, Magatoy, and
- S. B. Woo, Lieutenant Governor of Delaware (1985-89)

80-20 is registered with the Federal Election Commission as a Political Action Committee.

So what can you do?

Register to Vote.  
Vote in Elections  
Get on the 80-20 Volunteer List  
Write to Government Officials  
Volunteer to help APA Candidates  
Support the 80-20 Initiative

Contacts:  
Political Issues: S. B. Woo  
sbw@udel.edu  
Treasurer: Y. C. Ho ho@arcadia.harvard.edu  
E-Communications: S. Zhang  
szhang@udel.edu  
Volunteering and Web C. W. Wong  
cwong@physics.ucla.edu  
www.80-20.net

# The Back Page

## Seen on the Net

### **www.pialphaphi.com**

We'll soon have version 2.0 of the site up. Only 6 months late. Hey, what do you want for a volunteer web site? We've added a more comprehensive history, a membership roster, a features section (everything that doesn't fit into any of the other categories goes here), and many, many more links. If you have any suggestions, comments, or submissions that you would like to see on the site, just email any files and graphics to [brian@pialphaphi.com](mailto:brian@pialphaphi.com) and we'll do our best to put them up.

### **www.philyeh.com**

Phil Yeh is a 22 year old Marketing student at SJSU, graduating in Fall '99. He created this web site as his hands-on attempt at gaining a better understanding of Internet Marketing. This site has developed into a dedication to all GenXers who wish to defeat the stereotypes that the media has created for them. Feel free to help out the bro: check out the site and provide comments and suggestions.

### **www.autoinnovations.com**

Need new rims for your import car? How about a new muffler? Surf no further. Auto Innovations was established in 1992 by fellow San Jose brothers Steve and Orlando.

### **www.80-20.net**

Homepage for the 80-20 Initiative. For more info, check the article on page 7.

## CONTACT US

Got a gripe? Bored with life? Need to reach us? Here's how:

For diplomatic issues and all that mundane stuff, contact Brian Gee at 510-231-0496 or by e-mail at [brian@pialphaphi.com](mailto:brian@pialphaphi.com).

To update the alumni database, contact Cliff Lin by email at [cliff@integration.com](mailto:cliff@integration.com).

You may direct your unrelenting praise regarding the newsletter/website to Dave Wong at [dave@hmw.com](mailto:dave@hmw.com).

## WHERE ARE THEY NOW?



Chris Nip '93 - finally married his college sweetheart Ann Lung on July 31st, 1999. It's about time. The newlyweds recently returned from their honeymoon in Europe.

Brandt Koo '95- left Ecuador under mysterious circumstances. Recently surfaced in Korea, where he submits his monthly newsletter/website column.

Dave Wong '94 - Got married to Tina Hamada on August 1st, 1998. This year, joined the Pi Alpha Phi Alumni Board.

Alvin Lau '92 - Turned to the dark side and graduated from Stanford Business School. He claims he always sits on the Cal side during the Big Game. He's 0-6 as a student for Cal Big Game wins.



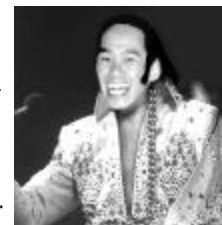
Atwood Cheung '95 - currently attending Boston University for his PHD in Chemistry. Married Nancy Chew on July 24th, 1999.

Tien Truong '88 - Has worked on such blockbusters as Terminator 2, Jurassic Park, and Toy Story. Tien's latest achievements can be seen in Pixar's A Bug's Life.



Loc Vo '93 - went to grad school at UC Davis. Got married to Judy Wong on April 3rd, 1999.

Mike Jung '94 - moved to New York to work at Ernst and Young. He plans to marry his fiance Jadine Lee in January 2000.



Ed Labao '94 - after school, he became a software programmer for a visual effects house and worked on the movies Space Jam, Air Force One, and Sphere. He recently quit his job and became a lounge singer in Las Vegas. He is beginning to look startlingly like his idol . . .

We'd love to know what you, the alumni have been up to lately. Please - drop off your newsworthy information to us and we'll include it on the website and in the next newsletter.

