



# ALPHA RHO ALUMNI CHAPTER NEWSLETTER

Featured in this Issue  
Alumni Spotlight!



Stay updated at [www.wvupikapp.org](http://www.wvupikapp.org)

## SPRING ALUMNI WEEKEND

APRIL 20 & 21, 2018

Make plans to join us in  
Morgantown this April.

January 22, 2018/Issue 11  
A Monthly Newsletter

Published by the  
Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter  
of Pi Kappa Phi

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained herein. The Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter of Pi Kappa Phi, nor Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity is liable for errors or omissions.  
© 2018

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - CHARLIE FRANCIS, AP 81

For our next alumni spotlight, we recently caught up with Brother Charlie Francis, AP 81 who took some time from his busy work and holiday schedule in Nebraska to let us know about him and his family.

**Alpha Rho (AP): Tell us a little bit about you.**

**Charlie (CF):** My wife Karen and I have been married for 27 years and have two daughters: Jessica (26), graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) and now lives in Chicago and works for the Great Central Brewing Company. Amanda (22), just finished her degree in Early Childhood Education at UNL. Amanda's plan is to teach either in a town nearby or abroad. She will take spring semester to explore her options. We have lived in Lincoln, Nebraska for 12 and a half years. Karen, works for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and manages campus



recruitment visits for the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.

**AP: Tell us about your career and what you do for a living.**

**CF:** Currently, I am the Director of the Nebraska Unions at UNL, and am responsible for three Unions (Student Centers) and a Children's Center (Day Care). I am blessed to have worked in higher education my entire career and love that my position gives me the opportunity to continue working with students.

While at WVU I worked at the Mountainlair as a Student Manager. During graduate school I worked with Student Organizations. I had no idea at the time that it would become the doorway to my career. In addition to WVU and UNL I have worked at five other institutions in higher education: Plymouth State College (NH), the University of Denver (CO), the University of Notre Dame (IN), Emporia State University (KS), and the University of Wyoming.

A side note is that I served as Chapter Advisor of the NU Chapter (UNL) for five years. This was when the chapter was being re-chartered.

**AP: What are the things you do to enjoy life away from the responsibilities of your career?**

**CF:** I love spending time with my family. In fact, recently, we celebrated Jessica's birthday on Dec. 28 where we also went to see the new Star Wars movie. I enjoy reading, travel and music. I am also very involved with my church, Southwood Lutheran. Karen and I both sing in the choir and I sing in a Men's Chorus. When possible I love to spend time in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia. I have a goal of hiking all 500 miles of the Appalachian Trail in VA.

**AP: What, if anything, did you learn from being a member of Pi Kappa Phi that helped you in your career thus far?**

**CF:** Membership in Pi Kappa Phi gave me the foundation for service in my life. PUSH America was getting started and the chapter planned two large events to raise funds for the project. The first event we pushed a wheelchair around the WVU Coliseum and the next year we pushed a wheelchair from Morgantown to the Parkersburg area to a place that was going to receive one of the Play Units. At that time PUSH stood for Play Units for Severely Handicapped. Being a member allowed me the opportunity to lead. I served as Philanthropy Chair, Warden and Archon. I learned more about working with people during (see Charlie Francis on page 2)



Charlie Francis, AP 81 with his wife and daughters during the holidays

### Stay Connected

Keep up to day for future events: Follow, Like and Share via Facebook (Pi Kappa Phi - Alpha Rho Alumni), Instagram (@wvupikapp) or Twitter (@wvupikapp) & [wvupikapp.org](http://wvupikapp.org).



Let Us Know

### LET US KNOW

Did you recently get married or have a child? Did you get a promotion at work or new job? If you have anything you wish to share, we want to know.

Visit <http://wvupikapp.org/letusknow> to submit your news.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring Alumni Weekend (April 20-21, 2018)

### RECENT AND UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

- William Fuchs, AP 75 - January 16

### CHARLIE FRANCIS (continued from page 1)

my time as an undergraduate member than at any other time in my life.

**AP: What do you consider your best memories from your time as a Student Member of Pi Kappa Phi and Alpha Rho?**

CF: Spending time with other Pi Kapps. I had a wonderful fraternity experience. We did so many things together - planned retreats, philanthropy events, went to Mario's Fish Bowl, and attended wine and cheese parties at the home of our Chapter Advisor, Dean John Brisbane. Dean Brisbane always said that a Fraternity should teach men the social graces. I believe he modeled that for our chapter.

**AP: You are still in contact with some of your Brothers from your time as an undergraduate. What do these relationships mean to you now?**

CF: Although many years have passed since I left Morgantown in 1984, and I don't get back there since I live so far away, I have many fond memories of my brothers. When we do get together, I love the shared history we have and always enjoy the telling and re-telling of old stories.

**AP: What are your observations of the work the Alumni Chapter is doing and why is it important for you to be a part of it?**

CF: I am pleased that we have men working to bring Pi Kapp back to campus. As a re-charting member, I want to think that something I played a small part in will continue into the future.

**AP: Soon we'll be celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Re-chartering of Alpha Rho in 1978 and the Reorganization of the Alpha Rho Student Chapter. What does this mean to you and what do you want our Chapter to look like in the future?**

CF: I look forward to the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and hope to attend the events. My hope for Alpha Rho would be that the new members would take the Creed to heart and live by it daily.

### The Creed of Pi Kappa Phi

I believe that the ideal chapter is made up of men

Who are bound together in a common loyalty which transcends any personal selfishness;

Who realize that membership means personal responsibility in bearing their share of the financial burden of the chapter and the national organization;

Who bring credit to the fraternity by striving to attain the highest possible standards of scholarship;

Who safeguard the reputation of their chapter by keeping careful watch over their personal conduct;

Who uphold faithfully the traditions and activities of their college;

Who prepare themselves diligently to shoulder their full responsibility as citizens.

I believe that my chapter can become an ideal chapter, and I shall do my share to make it so.

---

**Show your support!** Now more than ever, your financial support is needed to ensure resources our available to the Alpha Rho Student and Alumni Chapters. We ask you to consider a contribution today. It's easy! Simply visit [wvupikapp.org](http://wvupikapp.org) and click 'Contribute' then view the membership levels. You may make a full payment or set-up monthly installments. If you have any questions, please send them to [apalumnichapter@gmail.com](mailto:apalumnichapter@gmail.com).

AP

Alpha Rho Alumni Chapter  
PO Box 1601  
Morgantown, WV 26507

[apalumnichapter@gmail.com](mailto:apalumnichapter@gmail.com) | [www.wvupikapp.org](http://www.wvupikapp.org)