

PHI DELTA CHI®

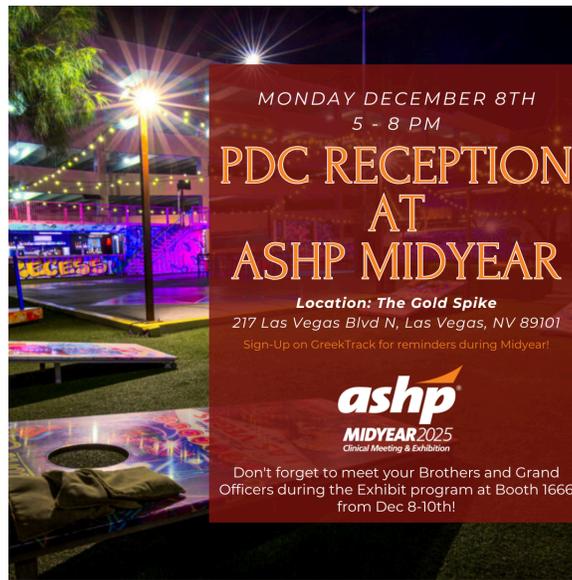


# THE e-COMMUNICATOR

OF THE PHI DELTA CHI FRATERNITY

DECEMBER 2025 [VOL 16; ISSUE 12]

## PHI DELTA CHI AT ASHP MIDYEAR



Join us at [ASHP Midyear](#) at the Exhibit Program Booth 1666 (December 8-10) and the reception at Gold Spike (December 8 from 5-8pm)! For questions, please contact Executive Director, Kenny Walkup ([execdir@phideltachi.org](mailto:execdir@phideltachi.org)). Don't forget to sign up using [this link](#) to receive reminders and updates throughout the conference — including booth details, reception information, and more for your convenience.

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### OPPORTUNITY TO PUBLISH

Are you interested in contributing to the *e-Communicator* or *The Communicator*? We're seeking Brothers who want to share their insight, experience, and expertise with the Fraternity. Articles and features on Fraternity life (recruitment, engagement, leadership), pharmacy practice (clinical pearls, study strategies), or professional development (interview tips, career growth) are all welcomed.

We also encourage **Brother Spotlights** — an opportunity to highlight your journey in Phi Delta Chi, share tips and tricks, offer advice, and help inspire Brothers across the nation. Your story and perspective can help educate, connect, and strengthen our Brotherhood.

If you're interested, please fill out [this google form](#). If you have any questions, reach out to Grand Vice President for Communications, Samantha Marion ([gvpc@phideltachi.org](mailto:gvpc@phideltachi.org)), Project Director for the *The Communicator*, Adrian Gonzalez ([pdtc@phideltachi.org](mailto:pdtc@phideltachi.org)), or Project Director for the *e-Communicator*, Kam Lee ([pdec@phideltachi.org](mailto:pdec@phideltachi.org)) and help us continue to grow together through shared knowledge and experience!

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## NOMINATIONS FOR OUTSTANDING CHAPTER ADVISOR AWARD



Would you like your Chapter Advisor to be recognized at Grand Council? Do they go above and beyond for your local chapter? Nominations are now being accepted for the **2025-2026 Outstanding Chapter Advisor Award**. Click [this link](#) to nominate your Chapter Advisor. It's a quick and easy way to recognize your advisor for the work they do!

**Applications are due January 31, 2026** and the winner of the award will be recognized at Grand Council this summer in Louisville, KY.

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## Hanging with F/N Ron – Episode 2: Choosing the Right Financial Adviser

In this episode of the *Phi Delta Chi "Hanging with F/N Ron"* Podcast, Ron sits down with pharmacist, entrepreneur, and Your Financial Pharmacist (YFP) founder Tim Ulbrich to unpack one of the most commonly misunderstood areas of personal finance: how to work with a financial adviser — and how to choose the right one.

Tim shares his journey from managing student debt to leading a national fee-only fiduciary financial planning firm dedicated to supporting pharmacists and their families. Together, Ron and Tim debunk myths about who “needs” a financial adviser, explore what a trustworthy planner actually looks like, and outline the key questions every Brother should ask before selecting one.

Whether you’re navigating loans, building long-term goals, or just want more confidence in your financial decisions, this episode offers practical guidance to help you create a support team that aligns with your values and empowers you to live well today *and* in the future.

[Tune in](#) and level up your financial wellness! 

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# GRAND COUNCIL 2026 IN LOUISVILLE

As we prepare for [Grand Council 2026](#), we're thrilled to spotlight our host city—Louisville, Kentucky. Nestled in the heart of downtown, the Galt House Hotel places Brothers just moments away from some of Louisville's most iconic attractions, including the Louisville Slugger Museum & Factory and the Louisville Zoo. With a lively riverfront, rich cultural scene, and welcoming Southern charm, Louisville offers the perfect backdrop for the *ultimate fraternal experience*.



To make this Grand Council truly memorable, we're exploring a wide variety of programming and activities that cater to every Brother—whether you're looking for professional growth, alumni engagement, family-friendly fun, or the chance to discover the unique spirit of Louisville. From exciting local excursions to meaningful opportunities for connection and leadership, there will be countless ways to make the most of your time at Grand Council.

Don't miss the 77th Grand Council—an unforgettable gathering you'll want to experience firsthand. More details will be shared in the coming months as we continue building toward an extraordinary event!



## Continuing the Legacy: Founders' Day Fundraiser Extended Through the Holiday Season 🎄 ✨ 🎁

Each year on Founders' Day, we pause to honor the vision, courage, and Brotherhood that have defined Phi Delta Chi since 1883. Our Founders built more than a Fraternity; they built a living legacy of leadership, service, and lifelong fellowship that continues to guide us more than 140 years later.

This year, we launched our Founders' Day fundraiser to support the Leader Legacy Fund, which provides leadership development, mentorship experiences, and growth opportunities for Brothers across the country. These programs ensure that future generations of Phi Delta Chi leaders continue to serve their patients, communities, and the profession of pharmacy with integrity.

Thanks to the generosity of Brothers and friends, we have already seen incredible momentum, yet there is still

more work to do. To give more Brothers the opportunity to participate and to build on the energy of the season, we are extending the fundraiser through the holidays. Whether you made a gift on Founders' Day or are planning to contribute for the first time, your support helps strengthen the legacy we share.

Every dollar invested in the Leader Legacy Fund directly supports the leadership journeys of Brothers nationwide. Your impact today empowers tomorrow's leaders, those who will advance the profession and carry forward the spirit of Phi Delta Chi for years to come.

Make your holiday season gift: <https://pdcfounders2025.raiselysite.com/>

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## Call for CE Speakers & Student Researchers

We are offering exciting new continuing education opportunities this year! In addition to Grand Council programming, we are offering continuing education via live webinar throughout the year. We are seeking presenters who would like to share their expertise with our Brothers. In addition, we are seeking student researchers to share their projects at Grand Council; each student will have 10-15 minutes to share their project, plus 5 minutes for Q&A. If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please fill out the Call for Speakers form [here](#).

Please direct any questions to the Continuing Education Coordinator, Jennifer Polyniak ([ce@phideltachi.org](mailto:ce@phideltachi.org)).

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## NATIONAL ALUMNI DUES



Brotherhood doesn't end with graduation—it grows stronger through the support of our alumni. By paying your [National Alumni Dues](#), you play a direct role in driving our Fraternity forward and ensuring future generations of Brothers have the same opportunities to learn, grow, and lead.

Your contribution helps fund innovative programming, chapter resources, leadership development, and educational opportunities that strengthen our Brotherhood nationwide.

2025–2026 National Alumni Dues cover October 1, 2025 – September 30, 2026.

- \$150/year standard rate
- \$80/year reduced rate for recent graduates (Classes of 2023, 2024, and 2025)

Invoices are conveniently available in GreekTrack.

For questions, reach out to Grand Vice President for Alumni Affairs, Jennifer Polyniak ([gvpaa@phideltachi.org](mailto:gvpaa@phideltachi.org)), or your [Regional Director for Alumni Affairs](#).

Join us in giving back—because the greatest way to honor our Brotherhood is to invest in its future. ✨

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## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PROGRAM (AAP) AND CHEQ REMINDER

**Worthy Correspondents** - The **Grabenstein Leadership Report is due December 31**. Instructions and grading rubric can be found [here](#). Please contact Grand Vice President for Student Affairs Whitney French ([gvpsa@phideltachi.org](mailto:gvpsa@phideltachi.org)) or your [Regional Correspondent](#) with any questions. AAP results from the 2024-2025 cycle can be found on GreekTrack (**Sign In > More... > Files > Shared by National Office > Achievement Award Program**).

**All Worthy Officers** - The Chapter Excellence and Quality (ChEQ) program is live. All Worthy Officers are required to complete their monthly ChEQ form via GreekTrack. Reports open on the 27th of each month and close on the 7th of the following month (i.e. September forms open on September 27 and close on October 7). For questions, please contact Grand Vice President for Collegiate Affairs, Dimitri Savva ([gvpca@phideltachi.org](mailto:gvpca@phideltachi.org)), or your [Regional Director for Collegiate Affairs](#).

### LOOKING AHEAD

[Brotherhood Report due February 28, 2026](#)

[Professional and Service Projects Report due April 30, 2026](#)

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## GLIMMERS



This month, we are proud to highlight Brother Gabriel Beltran of the Beta Lambda Chapter, whose academic achievements, leadership, and dedication to the profession of pharmacy continue to exemplify the values of Phi Delta Chi.

## Academic & Professional Achievements

Brother Beltran recently presented a Peer-Reviewed Contributed Paper at Harvard Medical School and Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center's international conference, *Signal Through The Noise: What Works, What Lasts, And What Matters In Healthcare AI*, in Boston, MA. Representing Nova Southeastern University College of Pharmacy, he showcased his work on implementing AI-based initiatives in diabetic retinopathy detection, highlighting how FDA-cleared autonomous AI can improve screening rates and expand access to care.

Gabriel also earned a student scholarship through NCODA to attend and present at the 2025 NCODA International Fall Summit in Orlando, Florida. His research, *The Pharmacist's Role in Cancer Risk Reduction Through Diabetes Management and Obesity-Modifying Therapies*, examined metabolic and inflammatory mechanisms that contribute to cancer risk in patients with type 2 diabetes and obesity, as well as the potential role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in reducing obesity-related cancer incidence.

Among his recent recognitions, Gabriel was honored as NSU's Student of the Month for October, celebrating his research excellence, leadership, and academic accomplishments—including winning first place at the Florida Pharmacy Association Annual Convention Poster Competition.

## The Impact of Phi Delta Chi

When reflecting on his journey, Brother Beltran shared heartfelt thoughts on the role Phi Delta Chi has played in his growth:

“Phi Delta Chi has been one of the most meaningful parts of my journey at NSU.”

“Being part of the Beta Lambda Chapter has taught me the true meaning of brotherhood, leadership, and service.”

He credits his mentors for shaping his experience, especially the profound influence of Dr. Devada Singh-Franco:

“Dr. Singh has always encouraged me to tell a story with everything that I do, and that simple lesson has shaped the way I express my ideas, my research, and my identity as a developing professional. Her guidance continues to inspire the way I grow as a student pharmacist and as a Brother.”

Gabriel also reflected on the significance of attending the **76th Grand Council in St. Louis**, an experience that deeply strengthened his connection to the Fraternity:

“Attending Grand Council as a delegate made me feel connected to Phi Delta Chi beyond the chapter level. I walked into a room full of Brothers I had never met and immediately felt at home. The experience connected me to the legacy built by those who came before us and reminded me that what we contribute today becomes part of the foundation for future Brothers in the most meaningful way.”

He summarizes the impact of the Fraternity beautifully:

“To me, Phi Delta Chi is more than an organization; it is a family that encourages growth, compassion, and excellence.”

“Being part of Beta Lambda has deepened my sense of purpose and reminded me that true leadership comes from serving others with integrity and heart.”

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## HISTORY CORNER - IN MEMORIAM

### Tony Chaffee (Delta #212)

Phi Delta Chi mourns the loss of Tony D. Chaffee (Delta #212) who died on September 12, 2025, at age 62. Brothers gathered in Augusta, Georgia, on October 23, 2025, to attend a Mass of the Resurrection with Tony's children. Tony's remains will rest permanently in Racine, Wisconsin.

Anthony Donald Chaffee was born in Racine and initiated into Delta Chapter at the University of Wisconsin–Madison on our Fraternity's centennial, November 2, 1983. Two of Tony's siblings followed him in joining Phi Delta Chi.

Tony was the consummate road-tripper, driving great distances without a second thought. He used chapter composites to memorize names and faces before arriving at chapter events. Tony had a remarkable ability to quickly gain trust, learn important details about Brothers, and apply them to personal, professional, and career counseling.

On reflection, we confidently state that Tony Chaffee conducted more chapter visits than any other Brother in our Grand Fraternity's 140+ year history.

Tony was appointed Midwestern Regional Director for Collegiate Affairs in 1989, serving until he was elected Grand Vice President for Collegiate Affairs (GVPCA) in 1993 and reelected in 1995. In 1993, Tony observed that this was the only election he had ever won. After the office of Executive Director abruptly was vacated in May 1996, Tony stepped up to get the Fraternity's operations back on an even keel. He served as the Fraternity's Executive Director from June 1996 through June 2002 and again from December 2005 through December 2008. During each period, he served *ex officio* on the Board of Directors of the Pharmacy Leadership & Education Institute (PLEI). In total, he served 4 years as a Regional Officer and 12 years as a Grand Officer and PLEI Director.

Tony was widely known for his “countdown,” asking Brothers at each Grand Council banquet to stand. Then he would instruct Brothers to sit down, iteratively, “if this was your first Grand Council ... your second Grand Council ... your third Grand Council ... your fourth Grand Council ...” to show younger Brothers how many alumni Brothers returned, time after time. Tony himself attended 22 Grand Councils, an uninterrupted string from 1985 through 2025.

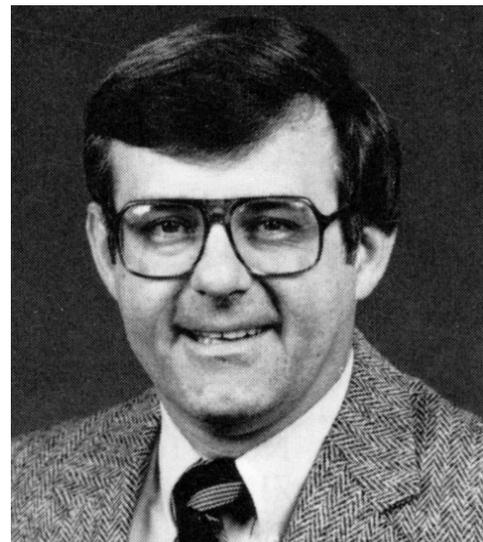
Tony championed the “I Am Phi Delta Chi” campaign, the meaning within the Fraternity Ritual, and our place among pharmacy fraternities. Tony was president of the Professional Fraternity Association (PFA) from 2020-22 and served on their executive committee for many years.

One Grand Officer reminisced: “I had the privilege of watching Tony grow into a role that I knew he was destined for—Vice President for Collegiate Affairs. In that position, he poured himself into the work of developing and supporting our student Brothers, ensuring the vitality of Phi Delta Chi's future. He traveled to almost every Chapter and memorized student faces and names so he could address everyone personally. He was a force of brotherly commitment. ... His life reminds us that true fraternity is not bound by Chapters or titles—it is bound by heart, by service, and by the friendships we nurture along the way.



**Jean Paul Gannon (Alpha Lambda #142)**

Phi Delta Chi remembers Jean Paul Gannon, who died November 1, 2025. Jean earned his BS and MS degrees in pharmacy from the University of Connecticut, and his PhD in Pharmacy Administration from Ohio State University. He was a professor of pharmacy administration at the University of Iowa and later at the University of North Carolina. He went on to hold leadership roles in the pharmaceutical industry, directing the pharmacoeconomic groups at Marion Laboratories, Aventis, and Sanofi-Aventis. He was a respected leader within pharmacy, serving as president of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP, 1985), president of the International Society of Pharmacoeconomics & Outcomes Research, treasurer and board member of the American Pharmaceutical Association and also the United States Pharmacopeia, and as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow on the House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee. He was honored with APhA's Hugo Schaefer Award in 2002 and as APhA honorary president in 2015. Within Phi Delta Chi, he brought his counsel to the Fraternity as a member throughout the term of the Phi Delta Chi Board of Counsellors, 1984-1999.



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