



## "Building Your Future" - eEdNews

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### At the Mid-Point...The Future Looks Bright!

The Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation is starting to reap the rewards from the investments we have made in "Building the Future" of Phi Chi Theta – a future that looks bright. Our donations have increased over 50% from the same time last year. This is attributed to the increased awareness of the Foundation and its programs through our consistent and timely outreach campaigns. As well as through specialized fundraisers including the Auction at the 2006 National Meeting, Macy's Charity Day, and our most recent fundraiser the **Phi Chi Theta Alumni Cruise**. You can read more about the exciting alumni cruise in this issue of [eEdNews](#).

The future looks bright as we launch two new year-long fundraising campaigns to support the Foundation's scholarship and educational programs.

In January, we launched our "**\$207 in 2007**" campaign, where we are asking our members and chapters to commit to making a pledge of **\$17.25/month** to the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation by giving up one less Starbucks per week. That savings over the course of a year translates into a donation to the Foundation of \$207. Representing over **20% of a \$1,000 scholarship** that we can award to members of Phi Chi Theta. Who wouldn't be willing to go with one less Starbucks a week for a year, knowing that it is going towards a great cause?



This month, we launch the "**Searching for Pennies**" campaign. It's simple and **FREE**. All it takes is click of the mouse, a web browser, and something you want to search for on the Internet. You use GoodSearch.com like any other search engine — the site is powered by Yahoo! — but each time you search, you are raising money, a penny at a time, for the Foundation. You can access GoodSearch at <http://www.goodsearch.com/?charityid=832889>; just enter your search criteria and go. Please bookmark this site, and **tell your friends, family, and colleagues** to use GoodSearch.com to find resources on the Net and raise money for the Foundation.

Through your continued generosity and support of our programs the Foundation has been able to start planning for **future scholarships and educational opportunities** that we will be able to offer our members beginning in 2008. Remember every donation, large or small, counts. So as you are "**Searching for Pennies**" or looking to give up that one Starbucks a week in our "**\$207 in 2007**" campaign you are getting us another step closer to "Building the Future" of Phi Chi Theta.

Volume 1, Issue 4, Feb. 2007

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#### Scholarships Are Available Start Applying TODAY!

\$2,500 worth of scholarships is up for grabs this year. Download the [Microsoft Word](#) or [Adobe Acrobat PDF](#) application and apply today.



#### A Donation of \$200 Provides the Foundation With...

- **20% of a \$1,000 scholarship** that we can award to members of Phi Chi Theta; or
- **Covers the cost of postage** for one of our outreach campaigns; or
- **Over 10% of a \$1,500 grant** to Phi Chi Theta Fraternity for the educational and leadership programs.

Make a Pledge Today to Give  
"**\$207 in 2007**"

click here to  
**DONATE**  
using [Just Give.org](#)

### Take a Lesson from the Pros—Filling Out the Scholarship Application

The Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation is very proud of its scholarship program. Last August, at the 2006 National Chapter in Richmond, VA, the Foundation and the Fraternity **awarded \$4,000** in scholarships to **six distinguished women and men** of Phi Chi Theta who exemplify scholastic achievement, leadership, and commitment to the ideals of the organization. For this issue of eEd

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*“Winning the Helen D. Snow Memorial Scholarship was an honor. I am so proud to represent my chapter, Zeta Gamma, and the University of Illinois as a national scholarship winner. Winning the scholarship was another reassurance that hard work does pay off.”*

Tips on filling out the scholarship application:

- Start early! The process is time consuming!
- Make sure you ask people that know you well for your recommendations. Always give them a short note that includes some of the things you have accomplished in college and specifically in PCT. Include your goals and aspirations too. Lastly, follow up to make sure the letter was sent. Provide the writer with an addressed and stamped envelope!!!
- Have someone else read your essays for spelling, grammar and coherence!
- Check the application over, and over! Make sure that there are no errors and that all parts are included before you mail it.

**Elise Marie Kidd**, Zeta Gamma, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign – Phi Chi Theta Fraternity’s Helen D. Snow Scholarship.



*“The scholarship meant that Phi Chi Theta not only fulfilled all of my social, professional and philanthropic needs, but it also supported me financially. It showed me that the fraternity cares about helping me with my education and pursuit of a future career.”*

Tips on filling out the scholarship application:

- Be honest and write from the heart. PCT was a huge part of my life at school and was the best decision I made at PSU so I made sure that message was clear.
- Find someone to write you a recommendation who knows how much the fraternity meant to you.

**Rachel Nedelman**, Alpha Iota, Pennsylvania State University – Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation’s Satterfield Memorial scholarship.



My advice to future applicants for a PCT scholarship would be to just be truthful and honest, and show how you have contributed to the development of Phi Chi Theta, as well as your community. A misconception that I perceive about the scholarship is that you have to be on the executive board in your chapter to apply; however, this is not the case since every active member has the opportunity to create great strides in Phi Chi Theta and their communities.

**Max Snitkovsky**, Epsilon, University of Pittsburgh – Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation’s Lester F. Richardson’s Memorial Scholarship.



*“The Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation gave me the opportunity to pursue greater educational experiences, studying business at a University in Spain.”*

Tips on filling out the scholarship application:

- Be honest and open about your goals and aspirations for the future. Keep a running list of your activities, roles and responsibilities at work and in student organizations.

**Sara Swanson**, Alpha Upsilon, Bradley University, Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation’s

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**Sara Swanson**, Alpha Upsilon, Bradley University - Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation's Satterfield Memorial scholarship.



*“Winning the Anna E. Hall scholarship was very rewarding. Not only was I elated that the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation found me to be worthy, but I was even more excited to receive the award in memory of one of our founders, Anna E. Hall. Mrs. Hall, who led the convention in 1924, resulting in the creation of Phi Chi Theta, was clearly very goal-oriented as well as a great leader. I would like to think that I have a similar spirit which is why it is such an honor to receive the Anna E. Hall Memorial Scholarship.”*

Tips on filling out the scholarship application:

- Don't wait until the last minute.
- Take your time! Don't fill it out in one sitting.
- Go over it several times to make sure it says exactly what you want to say.

**Stephanie Zvonkovich**, Alpha Iota, Pennsylvania State University - Phi Chi Theta Fraternity's Anna E. Hall Scholarship.

**Tips from Your Scholarship Committee Chair:**

The Foundation and the Fraternity want **YOU** to apply for the 2007 scholarships. There will be four scholarships awarded this summer, at a value of \$2,500. [Microsoft Word](#) and [Adobe Acrobat PDF](#) versions of the application can be found on the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation's [web site](#).

- Mention the scholarship program at EVERY meeting
- Start NOW. You should begin filling out the application no later than March 1
- Letters of recommendation and transcript are to be sent separately from the application to deem them official.
- Feel free to ask questions as you go along. Please contact Mary Ellen Lewis, Chair at [PCTEd-Scholarship@aol.com](mailto:PCTEd-Scholarship@aol.com) or 303-757-2535
- Application deadline is **May 1, 2007**. Late submissions will not be accepted.

— Mary Ellen Lewis

**“Get to Know Us” - An Interview with Silvia Picon, Trustee—Part 2**

Silvia Picon, a new Trustee who joined the Board in August and is chair of our Fundraising programs recently sat down with Frances Spencer, Secretary for an interview about her own Phi Chi Theta and professional experiences and what she hopes to gain and contribute to the Foundation as a board member. Here is part 2 of the interview.

**Fran: How do you think PCT members can best help the Foundation meet its goals?**

**Silvia:** PCT members can best help the foundation meet its goals by doing simple everyday things, such as, donating the cost of one Starbucks cup of coffee, or donating loose change obtained at the end of a day, or by simply letting someone know what the Foundation is all about.

**Fran: What about the personal "you"....hobbies, pets, best movie, favorite book, special interests?**

**Silvia:** My hobbies include traveling to different countries and learning about different cultures, as well as, trying out different restaurants in NYC. Currently I have a pet turtle "Squeakers" who keeps me company, but my ideal pet is a brown chow dog. (Don't tell Squeakers I said that.) My favorite book of all time is "The Diary of Anne Frank" - uninhibited, personal, about a girl in love during a horrific war.

**Fran: If you could have dinner with anyone who ever lived, whether they are now dead or alive, who would it be?**

**Silvia:** This is an easy one. Madonna. I have idolized, followed, and listened to Madonna ever since I was 12 years old. Her story is one from rags to riches, and I would like to ask her how she did it, and what her next move will be. She is an inspiration to all who come to New York in search of the American dream.

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**Fran:** As a new Trustee, what do you hope to see the Foundation accomplish in the years ahead?

**Silvia:** I hope to see the Foundation give out more scholarships to the collegiate chapters, as well as offer scholarships to alumni seeking higher education.

**Fran:** Thank you Silvia for taking the time out of your busy schedule to let our members “Get to Know You.” We look forward to the contributions and impact that your service to the Foundation will bring in “Building the Future” of Phi Chi Theta

— Frances Spencer

### The “LUCKY THIRTEEN” and Lady Luck

What is your idea of a “fun” long weekend? Lazing around an azure blue pool? Exploring ancient ruins of a lost civilization? Shopping for the ideal Christmas gift at a unique, local retailer? Snorkeling in crystal clear waters? Well, if you had joined the “Lucky 13” on the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation cruise to Cozumel on December 7-11, you would have experienced all of these events plus gourmet food, the sinful pleasures of the ship’s spa and a chance to outwit Lady Luck at the ship’s casino.

Thirteen PCT members, friends and family cruised together on Carnival’s Fantasy from New Orleans to Cozumel, enjoying “all of the above” and some relaxing hours at sea to unwind before the start of the 2006 holiday season. Other activities included a delicious lunch at Pancho’s Back Yard – a misnamed very nice Olocal Mexican restaurant, and watching Mary Ellen Lewis use all of those years of University experience teaching Sandra’s mother the fine art of the “one armed bandit” in the Casino. One of the highlights of the cruise was the opportunity to celebrate Sandra Finley’s (PCT Executive Director) birthday with a special cake and a very off-tune rendition of Happy Birthday by all. Sandra’s mother, brother and sister-in-law were on the cruise as well, so for them it was truly a “family affair”. PCT members included representatives from the Washington, DC, Dallas, Chicago and Denver areas.

Believe it or not, all of this fun was a successful fund raiser for the Phi Chi Theta Educational Foundation as well. Through her special bargaining powers, Sandra was able to obtain special rates for this cruise and receive a contribution of \$500 to the Foundation from Carnival. Watch upcoming e-newsletters for an announcement of the next available PCT cruise dates and alumni adventure trips. It’s a whole new way to “play and pay” to the Foundation.



*Top Row (Left to Right) - Sandra Finley (Executive Director & Dallas Alumni Chapter) Erin Milanovich (alumni-at-large), Fran Spencer (Chicago Alumni & Foundation Trustee), Mary Ellen Lewis (Denver Alumni & Foundation Trustee), David Durham (Vice-President of Alumni Affairs and Foundation Trustee), and Abby Lieberman (Central Regional Director).*

*Bottom Row (Left to Right) - Mary Dvorak (guest), Marcia Milanovich (guest), Stacey Counce (Dallas Alumni Chapter) and Dave Counce (Dallas Alumni Chapter)*

— Frances Spencer



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