

The Link

Spring 2019

Periodic Bulletin of Rhode Island Beta alumni, Phi Kappa Psi



Br. Manni Leads RISP

Copy Courtesy Rhode Island State Police

Col. James M. Manni was appointed by Governor Gina M. Raimondo on December 27, 2018 to serve as the 14th Superintendent of the Rhode Island State Police and as the Director of the Rhode Island Department of Public Safety.

At the time of his appointment, Col. Manni was employed as town manager of Narragansett.

Colonel Manni's long and respected career in public service includes 25 years as a member of the Rhode Island State Police, retiring in 2015 as Major, the fifth highest-ranking member of the command staff, responsible for Inspectional Services. He was then appointed as Director of Operations, Safety and Security for the Rhode Island Turnpike and Bridge Authority before being selected as Town Manager for the Town of Narragansett in 2016. Prior to join-

ing the Rhode Island State Police as a Trooper in 1990, he served as a Special Agent with both the United States Secret Service and the Internal Revenue Service.

Throughout his career with the Rhode Island State Police, Colonel Manni held a variety of administrative and investigative roles. He was promoted to the rank of Corporal in 1999; Sergeant in 2003; Lieutenant in 2008; and both Captain and Major in 2013. During his distinguished tenure, he earned numerous commendations, including, in 1991, the Rhode Island State Police Department Service Ribbon – the highest award that can be bestowed upon a trooper – for demonstrating exceptional courage while under fire by three armed assailants.

During his 25 years of service Colonel Manni was assigned to the Chepachet, Hope Valley, Lincoln Woods, Portsmouth and Wickford

Continued on page 2

My Turn by Rick Booth



Remember Jim McKay's wonderfully distinctive voice introducing ABC's wide-ranging TV show *Wide World of Sports*? "The thrill of victory," he'd intone, and I can't remember the image. But then he'd say, "... and the agony of defeat," and we'd see a skier wipe out on a steep mountain, rolling over and over and pummeled by the frozen earth?

That's been me lately.

First, was the distinct thrill of victory. I found myself at retirement age, and owing to my health (diabetes) I grabbed it when I could. We sold our house in Norwood, MA for a killer buck, but got snafued buying our planned retirement home—and there followed a vagabond 18 months without a home of our own. Brrrrr.

We pulled her out of the flat spin, and found our dream house, at 74 Palmer Street in Pawcatuck, Connecticut, cheek-by-jowel to my native Westerly, RI. Okay so far. But we wanted to renovate the house, and despite my cautions—nay, alarm!—we over-extended ourselves and find ourselves the victims of sticker shock.

So we've got the house, and it's wonderful, but what price victory? Good thing I paid cash for my new ham radio equipment. Radio is, essentially, my life. And I see a lot of Br. Chris Bowne, who also lives in Pawcatuck.

But my old Blazer blew up, and we can't afford to replace it. My wife is still working (until May), so I don't have access to our one car, and can't visit campus as much as I'm obliged. Though I'd like to retain my seat as an Alumni Advisor.

But I won't see y'all at Founders. Sorry.



Colonel Manni Returns to SP At Top Position

Continued from page 1

Barracks, as well as the Block Island Detail and the Governor's Security Detail. A firearms expert, he served as the Division Range Officer and as Commander of both the State Police SWAT Team and the Rhode Island Weapons of Mass Destruction Tactical Team. In addition, he held the role of Training Officer and Acting Commandant of the State Police Training Academy.

As a ranking officer, Colonel Manni served as Patrol Commander, Operations Officer, District "A" Commander and, most recently, as Major, overseeing the Inspectional Services Unit. In that role, he led the Rhode Island State Police toward attaining national re-accreditation and garnering the "Accreditation with Excellence - Gold Standard Assessment" award from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). He served in that capacity, as well as serving as the Community Outreach Liaison, until his mandatory retirement in 2015 after 25 years of service.

Colonel Manni also has served on a number of task forces and commissions over the years, including the Rhode Island Emergency Management Advisory Council; the Commission to Arm Campus Police Officers; the Statewide School Safety Task Force; the Marijuana Task Force; and the Behavioral Gun Safety Legislative Task force. In 2018, he was appointed as co-chair of the Governor's Gun Safety Working Group, which was formed following the massacre at a high school in Parkland, Florida, to recommend legislative strategies to counteract the epidemic of gun violence in Rhode Island.

Colonel Manni holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Rhode Island and a Master of Business Administration from Bryant University (formerly Bryant College).



mangia!

Founders Day Meeting

Friday 05 April

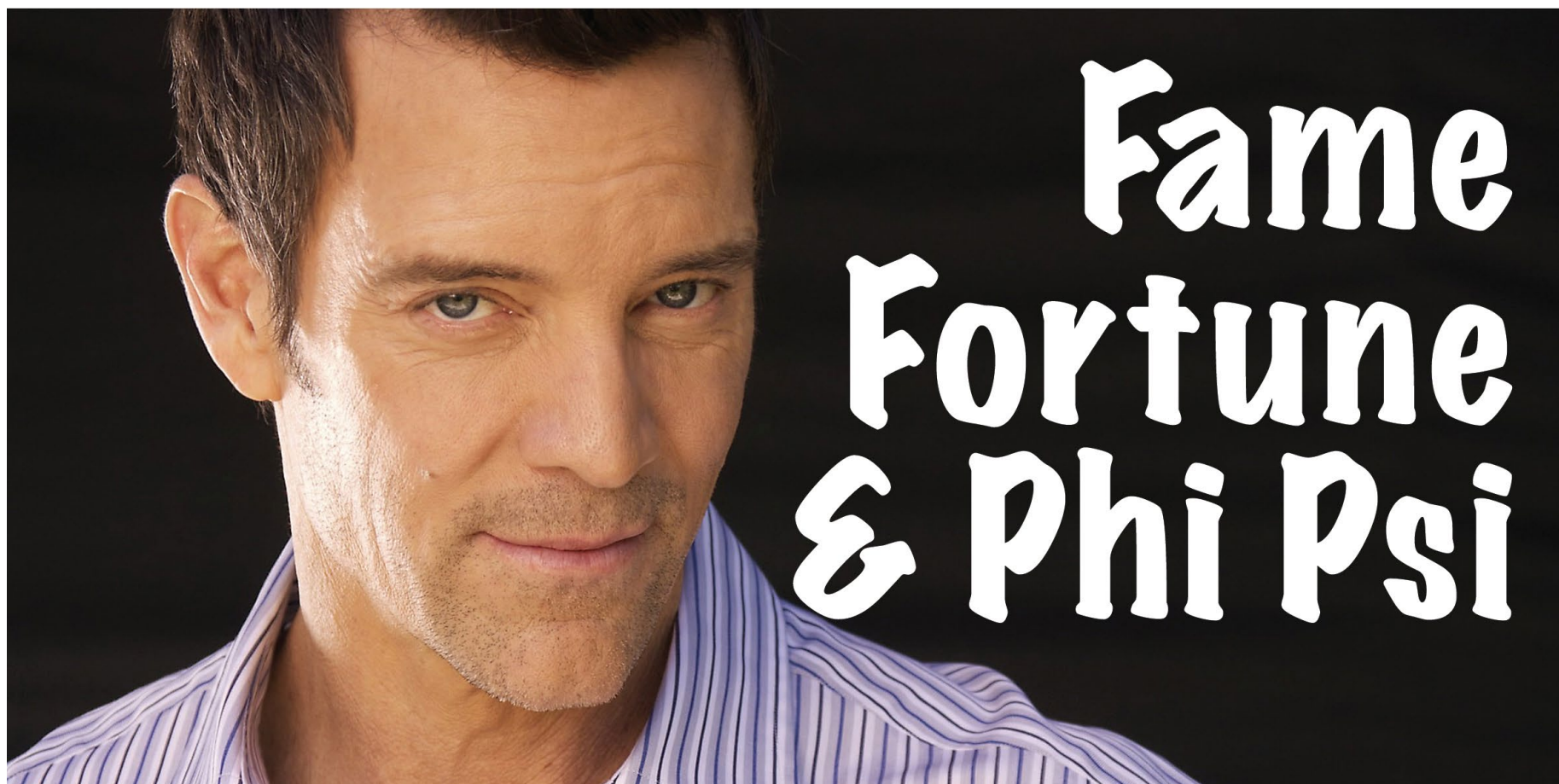
Cocktails 6 p.m.

Italian Buffet by Ralph's Catering

New Location

Prata Club

29 Walnut Grove, Cranston



Tony Horton, Phone Home!

by Rick Booth #206

During my last stint at your editor, we ran a story on Brother Anthony Horton. For once, in those days, I had a terrific picture, a classic eight-by-ten glossy Tony used to audition for acting jobs. So, I ran it as my cover photo.

Later, I found out all the Phi Psi wives were reading the issue, to find out who the gorgeous hunk was!

Well, as you can see (assuming you have some female imagination), Tony is still pretty good looking—and I didn't dare use the shirtless picture I have, or it would cause a riot in 2018.

But I thought a revisit with Tony might be in order, to get the latest. However, I don't have contact informa-

tion for him. So, clever lad that I am, I'm just publishing this story on the man who is probably the biggest Rhode Island Beta national celebrity, in hopes he'll contact the Alumni Association (which is to say me!) through the e-mail address I've made plain on these pages. Or just plain, "phone home" to New England from his adopted state of California, assuming he still resides there.

So for the benefit of much younger initiates, what's Tony's claim to fame? As usual, you can Google him for niggling details, which is what I did, and which are included here. I did happen to know most of the salient details, however.

Tony was making a living as a personal trainer for some pretty notable names (stand by) when he invented

the now-famous exercise regimen known as P90X, or as we said at the Coast Guard, "Papa Nine-Zero X-ray." Don't ask me details; it's gotta be on the Web, doesn't it?

Anyway, after the P90X zoomed, Tony sold a hell of a lot of them, and made infomercials, becoming a sought-after fitness guru and motivational speaker. As mentioned, he's also done some acting.

His associations and promotions have not been limited to the P90X, either. Research Tony's biography online for all the crisp details about that. They're impressive.

One last thing: who were some of his fitness clients? Ohhhh, Bruce Springsteen, Usher, the late Tom Petty, Billy Idol, Annie Lennox and Stevie Nix. *Yikes!*

And how about you? But e-mail better!

Once more, from the top: if you're having as much fun with this newsletter as I am, though I doubt it, here's your chance!

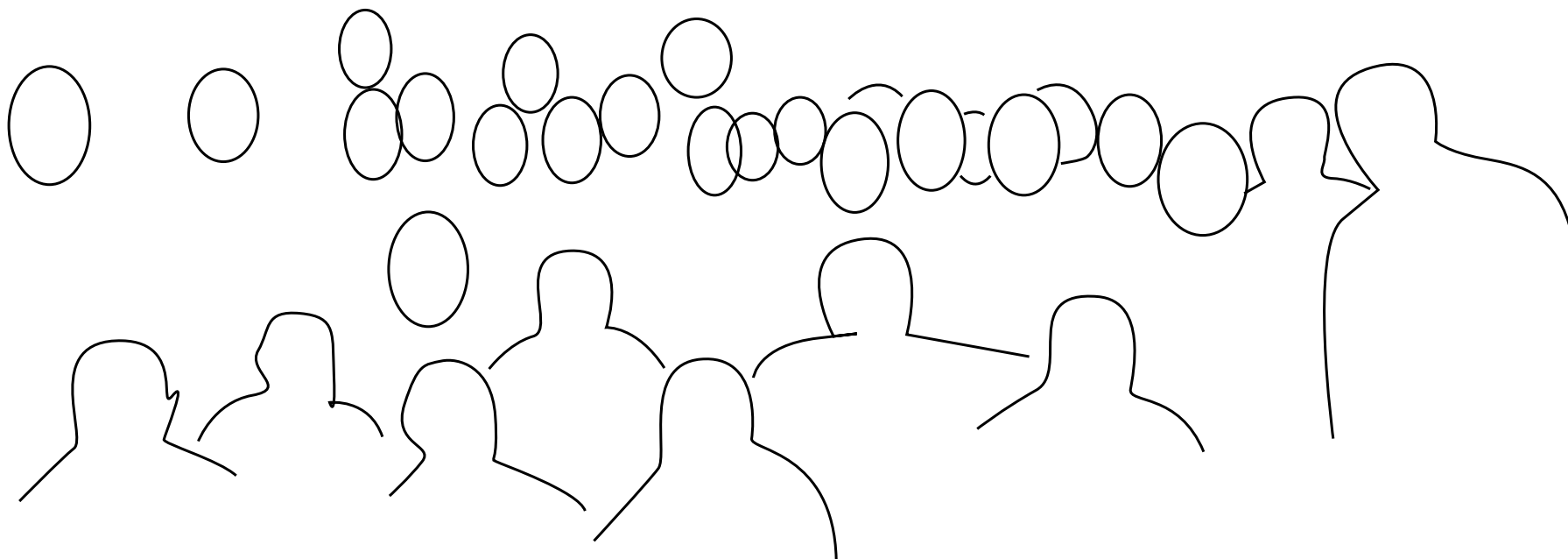
What's been going on in your life? Proud papa? Successful children? Dare I even say grandchildren? Please don't make me publish pictures of my own grandchildren—but I will if I have to!

Better I should hear from you. You can dial 781-762-8371, but it's possible I moved, so e-mailing is better and safer, anyway.

74 Palmer Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379.

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A Guide to Phi Psi Fossils Past and Present

Here's a game you might like. At top is an image I shot some ten years ago with a lower-resolution digital camera, at the club in Providence where we used to have Founders Day. It contains many of us—including some who are sadly across the bar, as mariners say. Others we may not have seen in some time, especially then-undergraduates. Underneath is a kind of crude digitized template for the faces. What's the game? Simple—and not. Take a pen and number the lower image; then list the numbers on a slip of paper (computer printouts are perfect), and mail them to me at 74 Palmer Street, Pawcatuck, CT 06379. If you can engineer an e-mail (e.g. scanning the lower image, so I can match your numbers), send it to: ka1hbh@gmail.com. Be advised, my residence may change during this evolution, so you might mark snail mail “forwarding requested.” The e-mail to ka1hbh@gmail.com should go through no matter what. For you digital aficionados, PDF files are perfect for this job.

—O'Booth #206