

# Substantial donation establishes Norm Ehmann Perpetual Scholarship



## Pi Chi Omega News



May 2021

At the 2019 Pi Chi Omega membership meeting in San Diego, a question was raised about how we could expand our reach and support more students. The answer was simple, we'd need to raise more funds. Without a second thought, immediately after that meeting a Pi Chi Omega member who wanted to remain anonymous at that time, made a \$20,000 donation in Norm Ehmann's name.

That first donation allowed Pi Chi Omega to increase the number of annual scholarships we award from 4 to 5 for the next 10 years. In 2020, Rajani Sapkota, who is pursuing her Ph.D. in Entomology at Purdue University, was the first student to benefit from this newly created scholarship.

Two years later, that same generous donor has recently made an additional \$30,000 contribution that will allow Pi Chi Omega to solidify the Norm Ehmann Scholarship as a perpetual scholarship. The donor has allowed us to share his identity, if we promise to keep the focus of his gift on Norm, who he said, "had a real passion for Pi Chi Omega and it is not before time that he should be recognized with a scholarship in his name."

We are so very grateful to share that John Adams, formerly the owner Adams Pest Control Pty Ltd in South Melbourne, Australia, is the man behind these two significant donations.

Now retired, John originally joined Pi Chi Omega in 1997 at the invitation of Norm Ehmann. Although living in the "land down under", John always made it a point to seek out Pi Chi Omega over his 24 years of membership whenever attending NPMA Conferences. In an interview at one of those conferences, John agreed with Kim Kelley-Tunis' remarks, that "Pi Chi Omega can be a gateway for careers and networking with great people." He was especially moved by the impact the fraternity made on the Industry by funding students, whose research and knowledge of entomology expands the ability of our Industry to manage pest insects.

Still, today John's focus is on the students and he is always eager to learn who has received the Norm Ehmann scholarship and what that student is studying and researching. This year, we were please to let him know that the student who received the scholar-



Norm Ehmann  
(Photo credit PCT Online)

### Mission of Pi Chi Omega:

To connect and enrich the urban pest management community.

### Vision of Pi Chi Omega:

A collaborative environment in which technical knowledge is shared by engaged members, elevating the professionalism of the urban pest management community.

### Strategic Activities of Pi Chi Omega:

- Networking
- Mentoring
- Recognition
- Scholarships & Grants

## Ehmann Scholarship...

*continued from cover*

ship in Norm's name was Christopher Hayes who started working as a pest control technician in 2017 and is now a Ph.D. student under the mentorship of Dr. Coby Schal at North Carolina State University. Christopher was inspired to pursue a degree in entomology after realizing that his ability to solve his customer's pest issues hinged on his own understanding of insect behavior and ecology.

It is just this kind of spark and enthusiasm that Christopher portrays that Norm inspired in PMPs during his 50-year career in the pest control industry. Ehmann achieved business success at VW&R, but he also had an industry-wide impact through his efforts to raise the industry's level of professionalism through education and training. Ehmann developed a system of educational seminars to train the pest control industry, creating more than 8,000 insect slides and specimens in the process. Shortly before he died,

Norm's book "[Adventures Through the World of Entomology](#)" was published. He described it as a chronicle of "his 50 years observing urban pests".

Dr. John Osmun, former head of the Department of Entomology at Purdue University, and another Industry giant who also has a perpetual Pi Chi Omega scholarship in his name, recognized that, "Norm had a great appreciation for professional quality and he advocated that strongly in the pest control

industry. He's a man who had a lot of drive and strong goals for the industry and he was able to convince others to work for these goals. He was a great contributor to the industry." John Adams' contribution, now totaling \$50,000, allows us to remember Norm's impact, drive and commitment to our Industry. It couldn't be more fitting that moving forward, one deserving student each year will receive the Norm Ehmann Scholarship from Pi Chi Omega.

If you would like to follow John's example and make a donation to the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship fund, we welcome all contributions, no matter the size. Your contribution will enable our fraternity to continue to support students pursuing a degree in entomology, or some closely related field that impacts the structural urban pest management industry. You can make [contributions online](#), or reach out to Pi Chi Omega staff at [office@pichiomega.org](mailto:office@pichiomega.org).

*Excerpts taken from [PCT Online article by Brad Harbison, February 5, 2009](#).*



*John Adams, Pi Chi Omega Member & Donor*

## 2020-2021 Pi Chi Omega Board

### President

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### President-Elect

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# President's Message: Shep

Good morning, it's May and the flowers are blooming and the trees are leafing out and everything seems a bit brighter. Spring has always been a time for optimists. And for Pi Chi Omega, we're about to experience the real confluence of 2020 and 2021.

Confluence. CON-fluence. It's a word we all should know and use regularly. It is especially true now considering the circumstances of 2021. Confluence means a coming together. From its Latin roots, it refers to the result of two or more streams flowing together.

The best time to use the word is when there is an additive effect of two or more components. Here in 2021 for Pi Chi Omega, the stream of increased enthusiasm and willing participants is about to flow into the stream of relaxed travel restrictions and face-to-face meetings. This confluence of willingness and opportunity will shape our year in direct proportion to our level of engagement. We'll need to get going while the going is good, make the most of opportunities, "carpe diem" and all that.

We are extremely excited about the potential to see many of our members at PestWorld. Pi Chi Omega will hold our Membership Meeting and a Raise the Bar event at the Las Vegas-based meeting - so put us on your Pest World agenda (*see page 10 for details*)!

We have two major challenges that arose from our year of living digitally. We weren't able to raise all the funds needed to make the

Norm Ehman scholarship perpetual and, with the discontinuation of the Copesan Conference, we need to replace a large annual donation. For more on the amazing solution to the Norm Ehman Scholarship, see the article on the cover page.

To replace the annual donation from Copesan and the partners, we have some ideas that may get us there, but it will require deliberate action on our part. This is going to require determination, preparation, and imagination. Fortunately, Pi Chi Omega has all of that in abundance.

One of our large Industry friends has offered to commit funds on an annual basis but is hoping other large corporations can join in to share the load of replacing the \$8,000. If your company is so inclined to help in this way, please reach out to me or to our Executive Staff.

Of course, individual donations are welcome as well. Not all donations need to be the size of John Adams'! Any amount will help. [Consider clicking here to make an online donation today.](#) Membership dues invoices will also be going out later this month and there will be a line to add an additional voluntary contribution. If that's something you can do - great! If not, we're just happy to keep you as a member of our fraternity - so please get that invoice paid quickly.

Let's combine our collective optimism and make hay while the iron is hot.



President Mark "Shep" Sheperdigian

And now for some original verse....

*COVID has somewhat abated  
but our freedom must be reinstated  
if we're to get by  
we may have to try  
and get ourselves ...emancipated  
So how can we be extricated  
without getting too addlepatated  
to make matters worse  
in none of this verse  
was the word ...that we anticipated!*

# Pi Chi Omega Scholarship Recipients: The List Expands!

The list of Pi Chi Omega scholarship recipients is long. Since awarding our first scholarship to Dr. Bobby Corrigan in 1976, Pi Chi Omega has provided more than \$230,000 in financial support to entomology students. We are happy to announce, the list just grew!

If you take a minute to review the [list of Pi Chi Omega scholarship recipients](#) you will recognize countless names.

Tenured professors at the leading universities with powerhouse urban entomology departments, who are grooming their students to be the next generation of entomologists to advance our industry, got the support of Pi Chi Omega when they were just students themselves.

Technical gurus at some of the largest pest management chemical and manufacturing companies, many holding patents for products and formulations we depend on today, received Pi Chi Omega scholarships.

Industry leaders who guide some of the most successful pest management businesses in the country, credit the support they received from Pi Chi Omega for their industry success.

Current Pi Chi Omega president, Mark Sheperdigian (Shep), explains “Our Industry is enriched by the knowledge gained and research con-  
Pi Chi Omega News

ducted by each of the students we support, and many remain connected to Pi Chi Omega by becoming professors or industry professionals.” Through the scholarship program, we ensure pest management practices continue to evolve and keep pace with the ever changing structural and urban pest management landscape. And, as a bonus, the students we support now, in turn, become the supporting pillars of our Industry of the future.

This year, the committee had 13 applications, all from well-qualified individuals at various stages of their academic journey. Desiree Straubinger, the Chair of the Scholarship Committee, said, ““The 2021 scholarship applicants were high caliber, making the scholarship committee’s decision extremely difficult! All of the students who applied will make a huge impact on the future of the pest control industry.”

It was difficult to select just 5 candidates from the applicant pool. The committee urges those who did not receive a scholarship this year, to apply again in 2022. The five students who were awarded scholarships in 2021 are as follows:

- **John Osmun Scholarship** awarded to Madison Gits, Purdue University for \$3,000
- **Founders Endowment Scholarship** awarded to Mor-

gan Wilson, Virginia Tech for \$2,000

- **Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship** awarded to Johnalyn Gordon, University of Kentucky for \$2000

- **Austin Frishman Scholarship** awarded to Maria Gonzalez-Morales, North Carolina State University for \$2,000

- **Norm Ehmman Scholarship** awarded to Christopher Hayes, North Carolina State University for \$2,000

Pi Chi Omega has supported one of the current recipients throughout her academic journey. In 2016, Johnalyn Gordon was awarded the Jon Osmun Scholarship as an undergrad at the University of Florida under Dr. Koehler. In 2018, Johnalyn was the inaugural recipient of the Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship as a Master’s student under Dr. Thomas Chouvinc, also at UFL. Now, as Johnalyn enters her first year as a doctoral candidate under Dr. Zachary DeVries, she once again receives the Alain VanRyckeghem scholarship.

While the list of scholarship recipients expanded, Pi Chi Omega has lost the longstanding support of a significant contributor. Copesan and its partners consistently donated funds each year that enabled us to pay out the scholarship awards using operating funds received within each fiscal year.

This year, with the exception of the generous donation of John Adams which funded the Norm Ehmann Scholarship, the contributions are off pace. Looking forward, we will need to replace the contributions of approximately \$8,000 to avoid having to dip into reserved funds each time we award scholarships. Don't get the wrong idea, past contributions have allowed us to build an in-

vestment portfolio that ensures continuation of our scholarship program for years to come. But to preserve those funds, we are looking for annual contributors to help close the gap between what we receive each year and what we award each year.

We have already received an informal commitment for an annual donation of \$2,500 from a large industry partner and we are looking for similar pledges

from several more corporations.

Of course, any amount helps, so if you would like to make a contribution to the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship program to support and encourage students to pursue a career in our industry, you can [make an online donation at pichiomega.org](https://pichiomega.org), or contact the Pi Chi Omega staff at [office@pichiomega.org](mailto:office@pichiomega.org) or 540/376-3617.



MADISON GITTS  
RECIPIENT OF THE  
OSMUN \$3,000  
SCHOLARSHIP



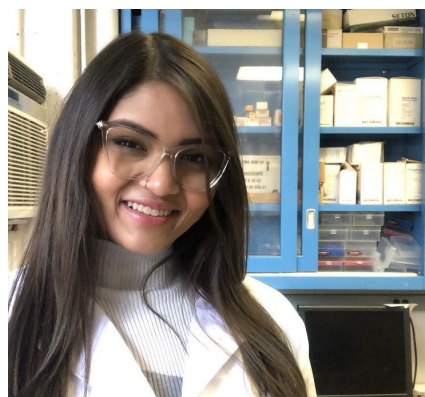
JOHNALYN GORDON  
RECIPIENT OF THE  
VANRYCKEGHEM \$2,000  
SCHOLARSHIP



MORGAN WILSON  
RECIPIENT OF THE  
FOUNDERS \$2,000  
SCHOLARSHIP



CHRISTOPHER HAYES  
EHMANN \$2,000  
SCHOLARSHIP



MARIA GONZALEZ-MORALES  
FRISHMAN \$2,000  
SCHOLARSHIP

## 2020 Scholarship Recipient Updates

Each year Pi Chi Omega awards scholarships to full-time students majoring in urban and industrial pest management, or some closely related program.

The objective of the scholarship program is to keep science at the forefront of research that affects pest control product development and treatment methods. We also hope to attract

graduates to seek careers in the pest management industry.

When Pi Chi Omega awards a student a scholarship the only strings attached are: 1. They maintain a 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale. and 2. they provide us with an update on their academic and/or research activities over the past year and let us know

how the scholarship has helped them in their endeavors.

We're happy to report all five students have exceeded the minimum GPA! Please enjoy the updates each student has provided below. They give us a glimpse of what may be coming down the pike in terms of product development and treatment methods.

## Tiana Molitor - 2020 Osmun Scholarship

I am a Master of Science student at the University of Minnesota and the recipient of the 2020 Pi Chi Omega John Osmun scholarship. I am so thankful to have received the scholarship. It has assisted me tremendously with pursuing academic success at the University of Minnesota during this unique year.

The objective of my M.S. research project is to create and implement an integrated pest management program into public housing apartment complexes throughout Minneapolis, MN. I am comparing two new monitoring techniques against the traditional method of monitoring pests within an apartment complex. I will be evaluating the two methods of pest detection to determine if results are representative of the source pest population within the building. Additionally, I will be analyzing the cost and payoff ratio to determine if the new methods are worthwhile.

Along with a M.S. in entomology, I am pursuing a gradu-

ate minor in public health. In order to simultaneously study the disciplines, another component of my research is evaluating the health implications of pest infestations. Many times, pest infestations can have just as big of an impact on a person's mental health as their physical health. When a person lives in an environment with a chronic pest infestation, often there is a low sense of security and well-being.

Additionally, I enjoy sharing and presenting my research at public outreach events. I am an active member of the University of Minnesota entomology department's student club, where I volunteer to work the entomology booth at various school and public events.

Thank you again Pi Chi Omega for awarding me the 2020 John Osmun scholarship!



# Fabian List - 2020 Founder's Endowment Scholarship

2020 was a year like no other in my life, and probably most readers will feel the same looking back now. It was a year colored by a global pandemic and many other obstacles people had to deal with. I am no exception to this. Being an international student, among other things I found myself stranded in the United States, technically able to leave, but not allowed to enter again if I went and visited my family and friends in Germany. I had actually planned and booked a trip to a big conference in Finland, followed by a stay in Germany. Obviously, both got cancelled.

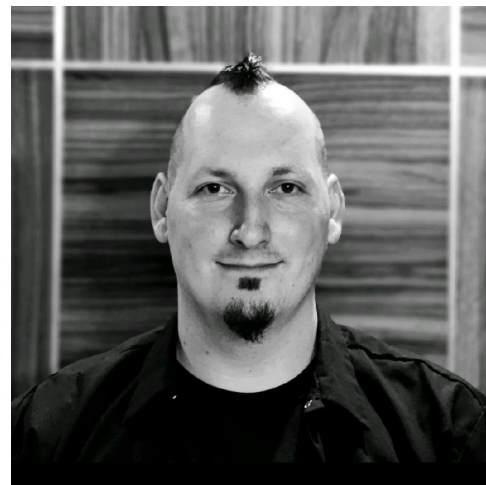
With multiple family members being at risk for severe covid infections, including my younger brother, it was reassuring to



have the funds from the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship. These funds ensured that, if I would need to go to Germany on a moments' notice, I would be able to afford a ticket. This gave a sense of security, even in these turbulent times and I am more than thankful for that.

With everything that has unfolding in terms of the university response and regulations regarding the availability to enter labs, or travel to collect ants from the field as chaotic as they were, I still managed to further my research on developing an RNAi treatment for Tawny crazy ants (*Nylanderia fulva*). We are now in the phase of dsRNA production for multiple RNAi targets, and I am excited to test these soon.

Additionally, I used this opportunity to train a lab assistant in basic molecular techniques.



During the fall semester 2020 and spring 2021 I used part of the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship to provide supplies for an honor student's project that I have the pleasure to mentor. We are deeply indebted and grateful for the support of the Pi Chi Omega fraternity and I feel very honored for the trust and expectation that has been shown to me with this scholarship. I will further strive to improve my research and myself and I'm excited to have Pi Chi Omega at my side and to be a part of this community.

# Aaron Rodrigues - 2020 Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship

Since receiving the Pi Chi Omega Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship in 2020 I have been developing a new manuscript titled "Expression profiles of an inactive aspartic protease (Bla g 2 allergen) in different life stages and body

tissues of the German cockroach (*Blattella germanica*)



L.)." This manuscript contains novel research on the mRNA and protein expression of the German cockroach allergen Bla g 2 in the tissues of German cockroach adult males, adult females, and nymphs. I have been collaborating with my doctoral committee on my manuscript and I will be submitting it this month for publication. I am also developing a second manuscript titled "Proteomic analysis

of protein variants and interacting proteins in the tergal glands of the German cockroach (*Blattella germanica* L.)," which I will also be submitting for publication this year. This paper discusses my research on the



multitude of proteins that can be found in the male tergal glands of the German cockroach. Lastly, I have assisted in German cockroach field research in Danville, Indiana with Corteva Agriscience.

Since receiving the Pi Chi Omega Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship in 2020,

I have presented my new research at two different conferences; the Entomological Society of America's 2020 virtual annual meeting and the 12th Annual Midwest Graduate Research Symposium. This year I was also a recipient of Purdue University's Covid Scholarship in the amount of \$1000.

In addition to my new research developments and scholarship, I have also been selected to teach Forensic Investigation and Forensic Analysis labs for Purdue University's Forensics department. I have successfully taught four labs since receiving the Pi Chi Omega Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship in 2020.

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## Amanda Penicks - 2020

### Austin Frishman Scholarship

The Dr. Austin Frishman scholarship award has provided me with financial support in my academic career as well as my professional career. It has supplied me with all of the necessities for college: paying for the units in each term, application fee for graduation, textbooks, and supplemental supplies. The funds also aided me in surviving financially during the beginning of the COVID pandemic as I was on furlough and temporary leave from both of my occupations earlier this year.

During the 2020 Fall term, I expanded my skillset by participating in a virtual poster competition for the California Weed Science Society (CWSS); my submission pertained to public health implications of Aquatic Weeds.

At both of my occupations I assisted with various components of research projects; some of the projects have been halted or altered due to the current pandemic. As a Laboratory Field Intern for

the Orange County Mosquito and Vector Control District, I continue to aid the facility with performing necropsies and ectoparasite collection for zoonotic disease surveillance in birds and mammals. This year, we were performing different types of West Nile Virus sampling to determine the most effective method-tissue sampling, Lysis Buffer, and RNA card sampling. I also had the opportunity to gain experience working in the insectary at the facility where mosquito populations are reared for analysis and for various research projects performed by the Vector Ecologists. At the beginning of August, I began an additional occupation as a Staff Research Associate for the UCANR extension SCREC located in Irvine, CA. The position entails aiding with various research projects on and off the UCANR facility; from assisting with plant development in varying conditions to aiding the Department of Pesticide Regulation with water quality

monitoring, field inspections, water sampling, servicing of equipment, as well as data management for the southern areas of Orange County.





# Rajani Sapkota - 2020 Norm Ehmman Scholarship



I am Rajani Sapkota, a third year PhD student in the Department of Entomology in Dr. Michael Scharf's lab at Purdue University. I was awarded with 2020 Pi Chi Omega Norm Ehmman Scholarship which I feel is an honor that encouraged me to advance my research in the field of urban and structural pest management.

During this academic year, I attended the virtual conference of Entomological Society of America, where I presented a poster on some of my dissertation work. I also continued to collect the termite colonies and rear them in the lab. I have completed my work on identification of key symbionts associated with the termite worker-soldier molting phenomenon, which is the first chapter of my dissertation. Currently, I am working on the manuscript for my first chapter publication.

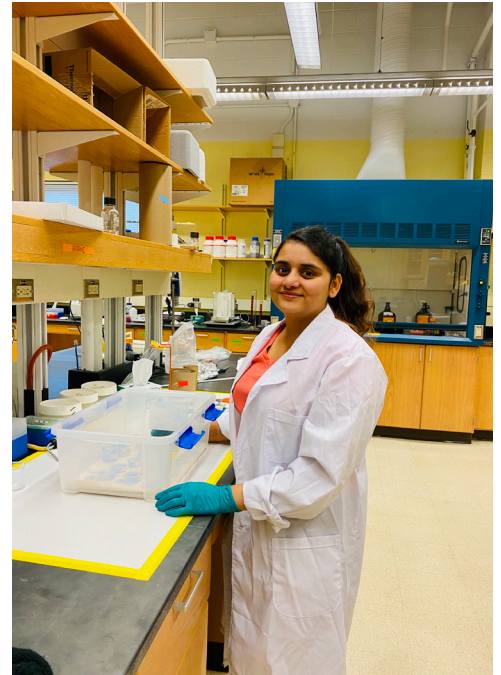
This year I am looking at the impact of season on

the gut microbial community of termites. The results from this experiment will help us understand if temperature or season can influence and change the microbial community that resides within the hindgut of termites.

The year 2020 was full of challenges due to the global pandemic, which heavily impacted almost every sector. Despite the chaos and mental stress brought by the global pandemic, I am grateful for the award I received from Pi Chi Omega. This award helped me to manage my finances and focus on my research and academic activities.

This year I will continue to study other aspects of termites and their association with gut symbionts. I hope 2021 will be productive and less chaotic, and I look forward to completing, writing and publishing my projects.

After working with termites for almost five years, I have



developed a passion to work within the pest management industry. I plan to continue and engage myself in the annual Purdue Pest Management Conference, as well as other conferences that might help me to find potential career opportunities and bring more relevance to my research.

## Pi Chi Omega at Pest World 2021



We can't wait to connect with our members, in-person at PestWorld in Las Vegas! Remember how fun and how busy that event is? Be sure to put us on your Pest World Agenda!

**Membership Meeting -**  
November 2, 2021, 10:00 am  
**Raise the Bar**  
November 4, 2021, 9:00 pm

# Pi Chi Omega Member Recognized as a Leader in Pest Management

Frank Meek, Rollins Technical Services Manager, recently received the International IPM Award of Excellence (IPM Practitioner – Non-Academic), for his outstanding work in developing and implementing novel IPM-based strategies of controlling pests in the urban environment. The 2021 International IPM Achievement Awards recognize individuals who have made exceptional achievements in IPM adoption, implementation and sustainability.

Frank has spent his entire career in the urban pest management industry. He has worked with manufacturers to help research new ways of controlling pests, specifically German cockroaches in the urban environment. Frank has written protocols that emphasize

the importance of inspection, monitoring, and physical controls and cultural controls within a program where cockroach gel bait was necessary. His work on the introduction of cockroach gel bait into an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan to Orkin was a game changer in the 1990's. Frank is known for his excellent communication skills, which led him to over 60 different countries, providing initial training and orientation to local staff.

"It is truly an honor to receive this recognition. However, this is not my recognition alone, but also to the many coworkers and teammates across the company and industry who have been a part of advancing our work and industry," said Frank.



*Frank Meek, Rollins Technical Services Manager*

## Welcome New Members



Approved March 2021

**Richard Blauvelt**  
Activ Pest Solutions

**Mark Ebner**  
Woodstream

**Angele Sierras. Ph.D.**  
University of Kentucky

**Student Member**  
**Isabelle Lucero**  
University of Kentucky

The next deadline to submit Nominations for Membership is June 1st. Share this [nomination form](#) with a colleague and sponsor them!

# Pi Chi Omega Awards: Think! Who Do You Know Deserving of Recognition?

Think about who you know among our membership that is deserving of recognition. Pi Chi Omega has 3 awards.

1. An award that recognizes authors of significant publications through the **Publications of Professional Services Award**;

2. An award to recognize individuals who give above and beyond to help Pi Chi Omega meet its mission through the **Generosity Award**, and

3. An award to credit individuals for outstanding commitment and dedication to Pi Chi Omega for 10+ years of service through the **Award of Achievement**.

The Award Committee reviews all nominations received by June 30th. Approved candidates are presented their award at the Pi Chi Omega membership meeting held during Pest World. If no nominations are received, or a nominee does not meet the guidelines of an award, then an award may not be given. The committee knows our membership is already composed of high-caliber professionals, but seeks to recognize those who not only meet the high bar our membership upholds, but surpasses it. Individuals who are given a Pi Chi Omega award have truly earned it.

Similarly, the committee doesn't want to pass over a nominee just because several nominations were made in a given year for the same award. If a nominee meets the stan-

Pi Chi Omega News

dards of an award - they should be recognized. It is not unheard of that several individuals are presented with the same award in the same year, or for one individual to accept multiple awards.

In 2020, the Awards Committee, chaired by Karen Furguele, selected [Dr. Phil Koehler to receive the Award of Achievement](#). Not only has Dr. Koehler's knowledge and research expanded our industry's ability to manage pests but he has reared 83 students, all of whom are either employees of the pest management industry, NPMA, the chemical manufacturing industry or professors at land-grant universities.

Since we were virtual for Pest World, we had to present awards virtually as well. Dr. Miller, Dr. Pereira and Dr. Baldwin did an excellent job recognizing Phil's accomplishments and impact on Pi Chi Omega.

[Cassie Krejci presented James Miller](#) with the generosity award and even successfully handed off his plaque to him through cyber-space! If you've come by the Pi Chi Omega booth at any meeting, then you've definitely met James. He gives freely of his time and spends hours representing our fraternity at Raise the Bar events, hospitality gatherings, bowling parties and tradeshow booths. He's always the first to volunteer his wide arm span to help us generate 50/50 raffle sales and is quick to open his own wallet to support fundraisers and events alike. James is a guy with a big heart and gives freely and often.

Take a minute to think about who you know that deserves to be considered for an award in 2021. We bet it won't take you long to come up with a name or two of one of outstanding members. Then [click here](#) or use the form on the next 2 pages to submit a nomination!



*Pi Chi Omega Members Wish Dr. Koehler a Happy Retirement in the video above! Give it a watch.*



# Pi Chi Omega

## AWARD NOMINATION FORM

To nominate a deserving individual for a Pi Chi Omega (PCO) Award, please use this form.  
Please review qualifications for Awards below prior to completing application.

### Section I. Nominee Information (Required for all nominees)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominee: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last
First
Middle Initial

Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_ Pi Chi Member in Good Standing?  Yes

Position(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address (Business  Home ): \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Proposer Name & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Seconder Name & Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature of Seconder: \_\_\_\_\_

### Section II. General Award Policies

- Awards will be given at PestWorld at our mandatory, annual membership meeting.
- An award will only be given if a qualified candidate is approved by the committee.
- An award can be given to more than one qualified candidate – if two individuals are deemed worthy of being recognized with an award, we don't want to be untimely in recognizing one or the other by only presenting one award each year.
- Nominations are due no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year.
- Nominations **must** include a written paragraph (Section IV) that specifies the individual's contribution or impact on Pi Chi Omega and/or the Urban and Structural Entomology Industry or field (hereafter referred to as Industry). Nominations received without documentation will not be considered.

### Section III. Award Descriptions and Qualifications (select one award per nomination form)

**Pi Chi Omega – Publications of Professional Services**

This award recognizes distinguished service to our Industry, Profession, and Fraternity, in particular through scientific publication of a significant work. Publication examples include, but are not limited to; books, industry journal articles, scientific journal articles, etc. In publications with multiple authors, all authors who are *Pi Chi Omega* members would be included in the presentation of the award. *Qualifications: at least one author must be a Pi Chi Omega member in good standing, the publication must be scientific in nature and should have a direct, positive impact on the Industry.*

**Pi Chi Omega – Award of Achievement**

An award to be presented to individuals who have served the organization for 10 or more years and during that time have made contributions that are outside of the normal expectations of their Board or membership role(s) and/or made a significant, positive impact on the Industry. These nominees are being recognized not just for their long service, but also for their exceptional dedication and significant accomplishments that have had a positive impact. *Qualifications: must have served Pi Chi Omega for a 10-year period (not necessarily as a Board member), must be a Pi Chi Omega member in good standing, must have been instrumental in furthering the growth and/or mission of Pi Chi Omega and/or made a significant, positive impact on the Industry.*

**Pi Chi Omega – Generosity Award**

An award to be presented to individuals who exhibit a genuine desire to better the organization and who act upon that compunction by completing an honorable or selfless deed for the benefit of Pi Chi Omega. The contribution may be made in the form of hard work, financial contributions or creative strategic visionary work that goes above and beyond their membership and/or Board role and is not necessarily tied to an amount of time of service. *Qualifications: individual must be a Pi Chi Omega member in good standing, must have made a significant impact on the financial stability of Pi Chi Omega or a positive impact on the organization that enables Pi Chi Omega to reach our mission.*

Pi Chi Omega - P.O. Box 187, Fredericksburg, VA 22404 - [office@pichiomega.org](mailto:office@pichiomega.org) – 540-376-3617

v. September 2020

**Section IV. Nomination Details**

Nominations must include a written paragraph that specifies the individual’s contribution or impact on Pi Chi Omega and/or the Industry. Nominations received without written documentation will not be considered. Be specific and detailed. The Selection Committee will use this information exclusively in making its final decision.

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**Section V: Selection Process (informational purposes only)**

The selection committee will be composed of an odd number of members composed of the following; at least 3 committee members, the executive director or executive team member, and one person from the Pi Chi Omega Executive Board. The selection committee will verify each nominee meets the eligibility requirements and determine the action/contribution of each nominee to be significant to helping Pi Chi Omega grow or meet its mission and/or to have made a positive, significant impact on Industry. For a nominee to be approved for an award, a majority (3/5) of the selection committee must support the nomination. The selection committee’s selections will be final. Board approval will not be sought since often a Board member is a candidate and we want the process to be secretive until the award is presented.

**Section VI: For use by Selection Committee Only**

[ ] This Candidate has been approved for the following award:

- Book of Professional Services
- Award of Achievement
- Generosity Award

[ ] Date notification given to Proposer: \_\_\_\_\_

Notes:

Return all nomination forms to:

Pi Chi Omega, P.O. Box 187, Fredericksburg, VA 22404 [office@pichiomega.com](mailto:office@pichiomega.com) (electronic submission is preferred).

*Pi Chi Omega is a 501(c) 7 organization under the code of the Internal Revenue Service. Accordingly, your membership dues and your donations to the Pi Chi Omega Scholarship Fund are not considered a tax deductible charitable donation. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.*

# Exterminating Trafficking

The Pest Management Industry is the latest industry to join in the fight against sex trafficking in America. FORSHAW has teamed up with Safe House Project, a national leader in the fight against trafficking, to provide training to Pest Management Professionals to learn how to Spot, Report, and Prevent Trafficking. The free, 30-minute training is available at [Forshaw.com/EyesAndEars](https://forshaw.com/EyesAndEars). According to a June report from Polaris Project, hundreds of thousands of children are trafficked each year in the United States, with trafficking reports increasing by over 40 percent during COVID-19. Unfortunately, victim identification is only at 1 percent.

Safe House Project states that more than 40 percent of trafficking is done by a family member, often from the home. On the front lines of public health, pest technicians and are in a unique position to spot indicators of child trafficking. Tom Forshaw IV, President of FORSHAW, leads the initiative to take a stand against trafficking. "Every day, Pest Management Professionals service millions of homes and businesses. We are the eyes and ears of the community," Forshaw said. "At FORSHAW, we immediately realized that we could do more than donate to the cause. We could be part of the solution by

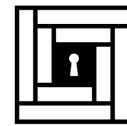
educating and empowering our Partners to know the signs of trafficking and speak out. Saving just one child would be a victory."

The training videos were written specifically for the Pest Management Industry by survivors who saw in-home service providers during their time being trafficked. Those survivors shared their stories and the signs and indicators that were present, had the individuals only know what to look for.



*Ria Story, a trafficking survivor, was a consultant in the development of the training.*

Trafficking survivor Ria Story consulted on the training and emphasized the importance of educating everyone about the signs and stories of trafficking. "Since 2013 when I started publicly sharing my story of sexual abuse, and later trafficking, by my father, I've realized many people don't know what trafficking looks like. It doesn't always



## SAFE HOUSE PROJECT

look like what we expect," said Story. "In my case, I wish someone had gotten involved sooner, asked questions, and reported some of the symptoms that the situation wasn't normal. Child sex trafficking is an enormous problem leaving behind a trail of brokenness for millions. But even one is too many and not getting involved is not an option. That's why I'm excited about increasing awareness for thousands of people and equipping them to help put a stop to the evil of trafficking."

By equipping the Pest Management Industry to Spot, Report, and Prevent Trafficking as they work in areas where they will intersect victims, we are empowering a volunteer army to be part of the solution to a complex problem.

Become a Partner in Freedom by taking and sharing the free 30-minute, 5 module training at [Forshaw.com/EyesAndEars](https://forshaw.com/EyesAndEars). Let's join together and break the cycle of exploitation! Together, we can make a difference and save lives!



**Every day, PMPs service millions of homes and businesses.  
YOU are the eyes and ears of the community.  
YOU can make a difference!**

**Visit: <https://www.forshaw.com/eyesandears>**