



The Bicentennial Finale

July 25-27, 2025

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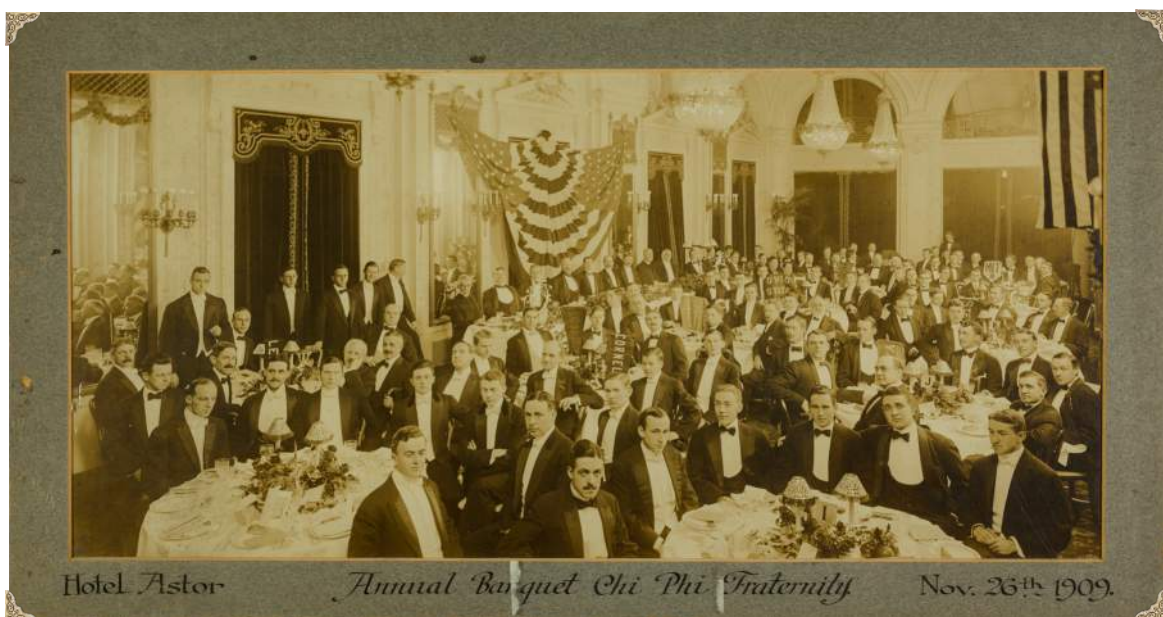
A Special Bicentennial Congress

Brothers, we are ecstatic to announce our once-in-a-Chi Phi-lifetime celebration: the 159th Special Bicentennial Congress in Washington, D.C. This Congress is “Special” because instead of conducting the usual programming of Congressional sessions and associated business, we will be focused on celebrating 200 years of Brotherhood, as the first social Fraternity to reach this landmark achievement.

The 159th Special Congress weekend is the finale of our yearlong Bicentennial Celebration that began in San Francisco in July 2024 for the 158th Congress, and continued with events in New York City, Chicago, Austin, Atlanta, and Tampa.

The decision to hold the 159th Special Congress in Washington, D.C., was to pay homage to one of the most important moments in our history. In 1874, when the Northern Order officially merged with the Southern Order, it occurred in D.C. at the Willard Hotel, the same hotel as our main event on Saturday July 26: the Bicentennial Ball.

Enclosed in this packet is information about the Special Congress. We will kick off with a party at a revered music venue, then experience Washington, D.C.’s oldest continuously existing masonic lodge, and conclude with a black tie affair in the Grand Ballroom at the Willard Hotel. It is a wonderful privilege to be a Chi Phi at such a momentous time in our history and to be afforded the opportunity to experience this upcoming Congress.



The Events

FRIDAY - JULY 25

2:00-4:00pm

U.S. CAPITOL BUILDING TOUR

Limited to the first 50 guests to sign up!

An exclusive 90-minute tour of the historic Capitol Building, featuring a visit to the House Floor, Speaker's balcony, the Crypt, the Rotunda, the Old Supreme Court, and the Old House Chamber which is now known as Statuary Hall.



4:30-5:30pm

ALUMNI APPRECIATION SOCIAL

Venue: The Hamilton Live

Hosted by former Grand Alpha Ron Frank *Nu Delta* 1983, *Iota Zeta* 1989, *Delta Zeta* 2000, this is a special event for alumni only to provide an intimate opportunity for alumni connection and networking. Appetizers and a cash bar will be available.

6:00-10:00pm

SCARLET AND BLUE SPECTACULAR

Venue: The Hamilton Live

We begin our weekend with the Scarlet and Blue Spectacular, featuring a live band, undergraduate awards and gifts, a guest speaker, cocktails, and dinner. Expect to be blown away with a magical evening of fun and entertainment.



SATURDAY - JULY 26

10:00-11:30am

BICENTENNIAL CONGRESSIONAL SESSION

Venue: Naval Lodge No. 4

We will formally kick off the 159th Special Congress with a Congressional Session where we roll call the Chapters, announce the Alpha of Congress, install the new Grand Council, hear a brief history of the Naval Lodge from their historian, and a few very special surprises.

11:30am-12:30pm

LUNCH BREAK

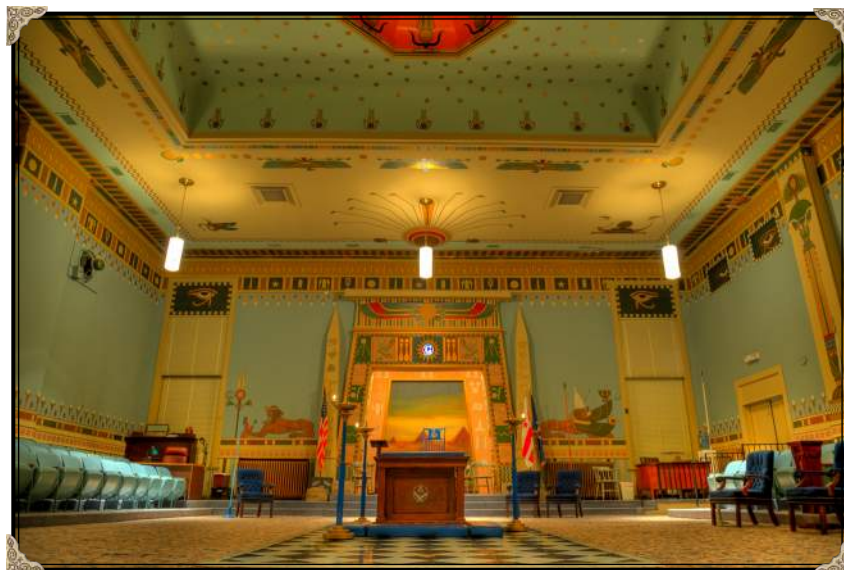
Venue: Naval Lodge No. 4

12:30-3:00pm

RITUAL OF THE BICENTENNIAL

Venue: Naval Lodge No. 4

For this unique occasion, a special Ritual to honor all of the Ritual of our Fraternity has been created; Ritual of the Bicentennial. This will be the only time it will ever be performed, and it is guaranteed to be a memorable experience in D.C.'s longest continuously existing Masonic Lodge.



(Saturday cont.)

5:30pm-10:00pm

BICENTENNIAL BALL

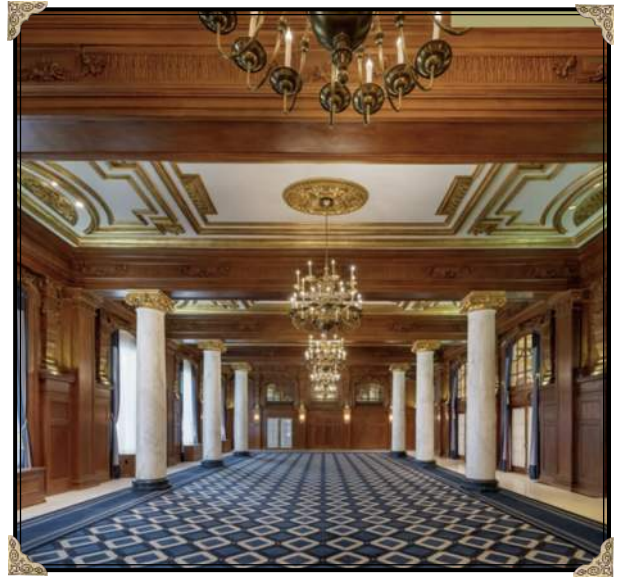
Venue: The Willard Hotel

Cocktails in the Willard Room

Banquet in the Grand Ballroom

The Bicentennial Ball will be the biggest Chi Phi event in our 200-year history. The event begins with cocktails, light jazz, and hors d'oeuvres in the Willard Room, whose intricate design and exquisite oak paneling, brass and bronze chandeliers, and grey columns reflects the craftsmanship of a bygone era.

We then move to the historic Grand Ballroom, where few venues in D.C. rival the beauty and prestige of this space. Recently renovated, it is adorned with beveled mirrors, crystal chandeliers, and custom carpet. Featuring 4,736 square feet, with an additional 2,176 square feet in the ballroom's separate entrance foyer, the Grand Ballroom is one of Washington's most notable venues for receptions and galas. In the ballroom we will have our formal banquet featuring a four-course plated feast with special guest speakers, awards, singing, and merriment. Featured will be a renown 8-piece civil-war era band, replete with period instruments and attire. Guests will receive commemorative gifts only available at the banquet. We will be showcasing a never before seen display of history, curated by HistoryIT, our archival partner in Maine. For the first time in 100 years, we will also be recording our brotherhood singing a few Chi Phi classics. The entire event will be memorialized with a videographer.



Willard Room



Grand Ballroom





The Willard Hotel lobby

SUNDAY - JULY 27

10:00am-12:00pm

FAREWELL DEAREST BROTHER: A GOODBYE BRUNCH

Venue: Old Ebbitt Grill - Cabinet Room

With only 50 spots available, for those brothers still standing, we are offering one last chance for brotherhood and to reflect on a memorable weekend. The Old Ebbitt Grill, Washington's oldest saloon, was founded in 1856 when, according to legend, innkeeper William E. Ebbitt bought a boarding house. We will serve a Brunch Buffet and offer a cash bar in their beautifully cladded Cabinet Room. (Note: This room is accessed by stairs only and limited to 50 guests.)



The Venues



THE HAMILTON LIVE

600 14th St NW
Washington, DC 20005

The Hamilton Live is Washington, D.C.'s premier music venue. Located just steps from The White House and around the corner from the Willard Hotel, it is an award-winning restaurant and concert hall, providing an intimate setting for both established and emerging artists. From Grammy-winning legends to local talents, their stage has hosted an impressive array of performers including Chubby Checker, Ed Sheeran, and Megan Moroney. Whether you're a fan of rock, jazz, blues, country, or beyond, The Hamilton Live offers an unparalleled live music experience.



NAVAL LODGE NO. 4

330 Pennsylvania Ave SE Ste 400
Washington, DC 20003

Naval Lodge No. 4 was originally chartered as Washington Naval Lodge No. 41 by the Grand Lodge of Maryland in 1805. It is the oldest continually operating Masonic Lodge in Washington D.C., and one of the most active. The building itself dates back to 1895!



THE WILLARD HOTEL

1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC, 20004

The Willard Hotel has as its origin a rowhome boarding houses run by Mr. Joshua Tennison in 1818. In 1847, Mr. Henry Willard took over the hotel and expanded it into one of the most luxurious hotels in the country. The hotel officially took on the name the Willard Hotel in 1853, and it became the center of Washington D.C. political and social life. Chaired by former President John Tyler, the historic failed Peace Convention of 1860 was held at the Willard as a final attempt to avoid a civil war. Abraham Lincoln stayed at the hotel before his first inauguration in 1861. He used



the hotel as a makeshift White House to meet with advisors and political allies, finalizing his cabinet appointments at the hotel. During the Civil War, generals and politicians used the Willard as a meeting place for the Union. The term “lobbyist” was coined by then General Ulysses S. Grant to describe the influence used in the lobby of the Willard. The tradition of Memorial Day began by an order from General John A. Logan, while staying at the Willard May 13, 1868

Its importance continued to modern day. Calvin Coolidge resided at the Willard Hotel during his entire tenure of Vice-Presidency. During this time, the presidential flag was flown outside of the hotel. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. sat in the hotel lobby with his closest advisors to make final edits to his *I Have a Dream* speech, a few hours before delivering it on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. The Round Robin Bar at the Willard Hotel is credited with the creation of the Mint Julep, further adding to the hotel’s historic significance.

The Willard Hotel has long been a witness to history. The hotel has served as both a sanctuary and a stage for leaders navigating moments of great consequence. Its legacy as a hub for political influence, high-stakes negotiations, and historic traditions endures, cementing its place in the fabric of American history. Most importantly, however, is that the Willard is where the United Order of Chi Phi was consummated.



OLD EBBITT GRILL

675 15th St NW

Washington, DC 20005

The Old Ebbitt Grill, Washington’s oldest saloon, was founded in 1856 when, according to legend, innkeeper William E. Ebbitt bought a boarding house. The Ebbitt guest list read like a Who’s Who of American History. President McKinley is said to have lived there during his tenure in Congress, and Presidents Ulysses S. Grant, Andrew Johnson, Grover Cleveland, Theodore Roosevelt and Warren Harding supposedly refreshed themselves at its stand-around bar.

Each table in the Ebbitt was graced by a blue history card that read: “Many other famous statesmen, naval and military heroes, too numerous to mention here, have been guests of the house.”

Old Ebbitt became Washington’s first known saloon. As the years passed, it moved to a number of new locations. By the early 20th Century, the Ebbitt had relocated to what is now the National Press Building at 14th and F Streets NW. Two saloons coexisted there, a Dutch room and an Old English room. In the 1920s, when the Ebbitt moved to a converted haberdashery at 1427 F Street NW, they were combined into a single Old Ebbitt Grill.



Hotel Information

Hotel Options

THE WILLARD HOTEL

1401 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington D.C. 20004
\$299/night

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE A ROOM](#)

If preferred, you may contact the Reservations Department at (800) 424- 6835 or (202) 628-9100 and identify yourself as guests of the Chi Phi Congress in order to receive the group rate or provide the Group Code: CHP.

Please note: The group rate will only populate for the contracted dates and only on the exact dates with available rooms within your room block (7/24-7/28). When booking a reservation outside these parameters, the selling rates will automatically populate for the entire length of your stay stay.



THE HAMILTON HOTEL

1001 14th Street NW, Washington D.C. 20004
\$169/night

For a more economical option, this is the choice, and it is only a short walk from the Willard Hotel.

[CLICK HERE TO RESERVE A ROOM](#)



Admission Fee

Fees to Attend

FULL PACKAGE (Delegate Fee)

\$795

UNDERGRADUATE REGISTRATION

ALUMNI REGISTRATION

Access to:

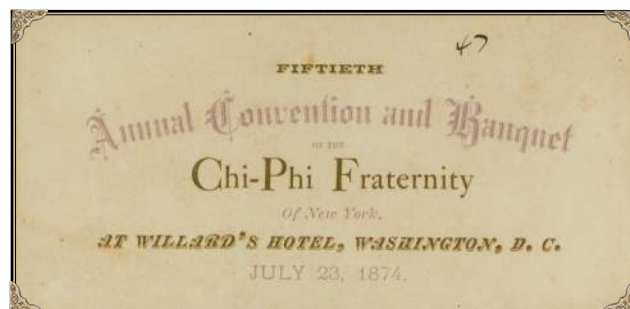
- Capitol Tour
- Alumni Appreciation Social
- Scarlet and Blue Spectacular
- Bicentennial Congressional Session
- Ritual of the Bicentennial
- Bicentennial Ball

A LA CARTE

- | | |
|---------|--|
| • FREE | Capitol Building Tour (limited to 50 guests) |
| • FREE | Alumni Appreciation Social |
| • \$125 | Scarlet and Blue Spectacular |
| • \$199 | Bicentennial Ball |
| • \$45 | Farewell Dearest Brother: A Goodbye Brunch |

REGISTRATION

Note: The events at the Naval Lodge No. 4 (Bicentennial Congressional Session and the Ritual of the Bicentennial) are only available by purchasing the delegate fee.





Dress Code:

SCARLET AND BLUE SPECTACULAR | THE HAMILTON LIVE

Business Casual (minimum requirements)

- » Pants: khaki pants, dress slacks
- » Shirt: polo, button down shirt
- » Footwear: dress shoes (no sneakers)

BICENTENNIAL BALL | THE WILLARD HOTEL

Black Tie Attire (recommended attire)

- » Tuxedo: black or dark blue with a satin lapel and matching trousers
- » Neckwear: bowtie, ideally black or a Chi Phi branded piece
- » Vest or Cummerbund optional
- » Footwear: polished dress shoes in patent leather



*Don't have a Tuxedo? No worries, rentals are available. Please see below.**

Formal Attire (minimum requirements)

- » Suit: black, navy, or charcoal suit
- » Dress Shirt: white shirt
- » Neckwear: dark tie or Chi Phi tie
- » Footwear: Black or brown dress shoes (no sneakers)

CONGRESSIONAL SESSION / RITUAL OF THE BICENTENNIAL | NAVAL LODGE No. 4

Badge Attire

- » Suit Jacket & dress pants
- » Neckwear: tie or bowtie
- » Footwear: dress shoes
- » Chi Phi Badge

**Tuxedo Rentals: Via Men's Wearhouse, rental tuxes will be delivered to the Hamilton Hotel on Friday and picked back up on Sunday. Visit a Men's Wearhouse location for measurements. Rentals start at \$99.99 after a \$60 group discount for a 6-piece tuxedo. For the discount, use the Group #13245220. Additionally, a special 10% OFF retail promo for attendees who choose to purchase a tuxedo. The retail promo code is BANQ4312225.*

Men's Wearhouse location finder: [CLICK HERE](#) Don't have a location nearby? Contact us at: throop@chphi.org



Event Merchandise

Limited Edition 159th Special Congress T-Shirt

Available in Black or White through the Event Registration links

\$30 Each

\$50 for Both



Limited Edition Bicentennial Glassware Collection

The Bicentennial Glassware Collection is a limited edition offering. This collection includes rocks glasses representing our founding Orders. The glasses of each order were only available to Brothers at the regional events. Included in the collection are six glasses, one for the Princeton Order, Southern Order, Hobart Order, Northern Order, United Order, and the Bicentennial Celebration. Also included are eight stickers, one for each event and both Congresses, as well as a commemorative insert card. The glasses come in a walnut stained wooden box, detailed with a branding on the lid, black velvet lining, and branded scarlet leather straps.



Only 50 sets available!
\$97 each at Congress or \$117 to ship

[ORDER HERE](#)

