

JOHN CHURCHILL, Ph.D.

John Churchill is secretary of the Phi Beta Kappa Society, the nation's oldest academic honorary society. Founded in 1776 at the College of William and Mary, Phi Beta Kappa has 276 chapters on college and university campuses and well over a half -million living members. Its purpose is to advocate and recognize excellence in the study of the liberal arts and sciences. As secretary, Churchill is the Society's chief executive officer and the head of its national office.

Churchill was born in Hector, Arkansas, and was reared in Little Rock. He was educated at Rhodes College, where he was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, at Oxford University, where he studied as a Rhodes Scholar, and at Yale University, where he was awarded the Ph.D. in 1978.

Churchill was formerly vice president for academic affairs and dean of the college at Hendrix College, where he also served as professor of philosophy and twice as interim president. In the 1970s, he served as assistant American secretary to the Rhodes Scholarship Trust, and has been active since that time in the selection of Rhodes Scholars.

His scholarly interests include the philosophers Ludwig Wittgenstein and David Hume, as well as topics in the history of philosophy, the philosophy of religion and the philosophy of liberal education.

His publications include several dozen articles in these and related fields in journals in the U.S. and the U.K., book chapters in the U.S. and Germany, several dozen reviews and critical notes, as well as essays and stories in the popular press and college magazines. He writes a regular column, "From the Secretary," for Phi Beta Kappa's quarterly for members, *The Key Reporter*.

He has taught courses in the history of philosophy, philosophy of religion, logic, ethics, Wittgenstein, Hume and interdisciplinary topics involving texts from philosophy, literature, religion, history and the classics.

Churchill's professional activities have included membership on the Board of Directors of the American Conference of Academic Deans and the Arkansas Endowment for the Humanities, founding head of the Arkansas Governor's School's Area II, service as chair of the Council of Deans of the Associated Colleges of the South, and editorial work for *The Thomist*, *The Southern Journal of Philosophy*, *The International Philosophical Quarterly*, and *Choice* magazine. He was a Danforth Foundation associate, a program review panelist for the National Endowment for the Humanities, and for thirteen years a North Central Association consultant/evaluator and team chair. He is president of the National Humanities Alliance and a member of the Cosmos Club of Washington, D.C. Churchill has been married since 1972 to Jean Hill Churchill, and they have three children: Will (b. 1977), Mary Katherine (b.1980), and Hugh (b. 1982).