NO ONE SAW IT COMING.
HE NEVER SHOWED SIGNS OF
DEPRESSION. IN THE MIDST OF
TRAGEDY, HIS BROTHERS BONDED
IN THEIR GRIEF. NOW THEY’RE
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A Culture Built on Ethics

Software entrepreneur Les Muma (South Florida) is spreading a message of sound business ethics.

10 Bound by Honor
After announcing a new theme for the biennium, Regent Joe Francis (Oklahoma State) talks about the High Council’s ambitious agenda, including what fraternities must do to remain relevant over the next five years.

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How Gamma Chapter’s loss provided the motivation the brothers needed to begin shifting the culture and attitudes in the brotherhood.

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28 Welcome Home
Beta Tau Chapter cuts the ribbon on a new 24,500-square-foot home that’s built to match their legacy as the first fraternity at North Carolina State.

60 Second Act
How Gerry Zimmerman (Virginia) parlayed a successful career in sales to writing books about historical fiction.
The Delta of Sigma Nu, the Legion of Honor's official magazine, has been printed since 1883 when founding editor John Alexander Howard (North Georgia) published the first issue in Philadelphia (before returning to a local printer in Dahlonega, Ga.).

Through the years The Delta has remained committed to its original purpose to "cultivate a love of our Fraternity," in the words of John Alexander Howard. In the process of telling the story of Sigma Nu, The Delta seeks to challenge, entertain, and inspire our members to rededicate their lives to Love, Honor and Truth with every issue.

Receive The Delta

In 2006 the print edition moved to an opt-in only subscription service, meaning any member can still receive every issue – they just need to notify us using the web form at www.sigmanu.org/publications. (All members with a good email address will continue receiving the digital version.)

Collegiate chapters still receive bundles of 15 for each issue. Collegians who wish to receive their own copy of the print edition are encouraged to opt-in at the web form mentioned above.

Change your address

Email headquarters@sigmanu.org (subject line: Change of Address) or visit www.sigmanu.org/change_of_address.php to update contact information.

Get published in The Delta

Collegiate chapters and alumni are urged to submit timely chapter news by emailing news@sigmanu.org or using the web form at www.sigmanu.org/news/tell_us_your_news.php. All members are encouraged to submit news stories and potential features along with high-resolution photographs.

Photographs should be taken with a 3.2 or greater megapixel camera. Do not downsize original file size or download from websites like Facebook or Flickr. Original photographs are more likely to get published.

Send a letter to the editor

Letters to the editor and other forms of feedback are always welcome and should be sent to nathanial.clarkson@sigmanu.org or P.O. Box 1869, Lexington, VA 24450.
From the Editor

Bonding in their Grief

The numbers surrounding mental health in our country are staggering. Nearly 20% of all adults in the U.S. experience mental illness in any given year, according to the National Institute of Mental Health. The numbers are similar for young adults, with approximately one in five 13-18-year-olds experiencing a severe mental disorder each year.

The mental health statistics for college students are even more alarming. A study by the Archives of General Psychiatry found that 75% of chronic mental illness begins by age 24. Young adults have unusually high rates of diagnosable mental illness, and even more troubling, they are the demographic least likely to seek professional help.

What’s more, the growing mental health problem among college students has worsened in the past decade. The American College Counseling Association found in 2012 that more than 37% of students seeking treatment are suffering from severe psychological problems — double the percentage in 2000. Prescriptions for antidepressants have increased along with the rise in mental illness.

Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death for the general population in the U.S. For college students, it’s the second leading cause of death. In 2007 these statistics became all too real for the brothers of our Gamma Chapter at Duke University. A popular and highly regarded student, Stewie never showed signs of depression or intent to take his own life. Following the tragedy, the brothers grew closer and began to look inward, searching for answers to what they could have done differently. Their efforts became increasingly focused and eventually organized to become Face Your Challenges, a program that encourages students to be comfortable seeking help with mental health problems.

We want to thank the brothers of Gamma Chapter, along with the Sanders family, for their willingness to share this difficult story. Our hope is that this story will spread awareness about mental health issues, with the ultimate goal of preventing future tragedies.

Yours in Sigma Nu,

Nathaniel Clarkson (James Madison)
Managing Editor
Thanks for getting me back on the list.

I haven’t seen the Delta it was much better than I remembered.

You’re our guide for our entire family.

The Creed has been a meaningful thirty years as chapter advisor.

Alumni activities including almost Commander and in numerous experience as Beta Iota uncle, cousin and brother.

I have had a meaningful experience as Beta Iota Commander and in numerous alumni activities including almost thirty years as chapter advisor. The Creed has been a meaningful guide for our entire family.

Thank you for the fine message your Delta article provided.

---

Pledge Father’s-Father’s-Father.

Excellent story on Curt Menefee. Curt is my pledge father’s father’s father, but I haven’t seen him in 20 years and he was fresh out of school at that time. Everybody thought a lot of him, a very highly respected guy in our chapter.

— Mark Zalesky (Coe)

Honor

Absolutely loved the issue sent to me for September. The contents and presentation was outstanding. I am so proud to be a Sigma Nu for life. Honor was and is my “mantra” of life. I learned this from the get go upon pledging.

— David Mitzman (Fresno State)

Thanks

I somehow received the latest Delta, it was much better than I remembered. I haven’t seen the Delta for years. Thanks for getting me back on the list.

— Richard McLaughlin (UCLA)

Family Values

I have so much enjoyed your letter of September 25 and the print version of the Delta that you sent. [Chapter Advisor] Dr. Mark Himmelman’s well-deserved recognition [4 Questions] was especially good news.

Sigma Nu has been a very important part of our family. A printed and framed Creed of Sigma Nu was a gift to my father from Beta Iota founder Bert Wilson and has been on our family’s walls until 1992 when I gave it to Brother Bill Becker for his outstanding service to Mount Union College and to our Beta Iota Chapter. Bert Wilson encouraged my dad to attend Mount Union and to pledge Beta Iota. That was the beginning of a special Sigma Nu relationship with my family — my uncle, cousin and brother.

I have had a meaningful experience as Beta Iota Commander and in numerous alumni activities including almost thirty years as chapter advisor. The Creed has been a meaningful guide for our entire family.

Thank you for the fine message your Delta article provided.

— George K. Weimer Jr. (Mount Union)

Association Recognizes Fraternity’s LEAD Program

Sigma Nu Fraternity was presented with the 2014 Power of A Silver Award for its LEAD Program, the organization’s comprehensive ethical leadership development program.

The Power of A Silver Award is presented by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). ASAE honored Sigma Nu Fraternity’s commitment to instilling in its members the knowledge and skills needed to be an effective ethical leader in life.

“Congratulations to Sigma Nu Fraternity for benefitting not just their own industry, but society at large,” said Paul Pomerantz, CAE, CEO of the American Society of Anesthesiologists and chair of the Power of A Awards Judging Committee.

Over the years, the LEAD Program has adapted to meet the changing demographics of Sigma Nu’s collegiate membership. This effort to make the LEAD Program even better led to the determination that scientific evaluations conducted by a third-party research institution were needed.

Sigma Nu Fraternity subsequently partnered with George Mason University’s Center for the Advancement of Public Health to develop and implement the evaluative component. The conclusions from the evaluation speak to the benefits of the LEAD Program, but also help the fraternity identify the changing needs of today’s student leaders. The fraternity has used these findings to let the program evolve to provide relevant training to prepare ethical leaders for society.

“Recognizing how important it is for students to develop useful skills before entering the job market, Sigma Nu Fraternity has vowed to be a pioneer in providing relevant leadership programs for the fraternal movement,” said Scott Smith, Sigma Nu Fraternity’s director of leadership development.

ASAE’s Power of A (association) Awards, the industry’s highest honor, recognize the association community’s valuable contributions on the local, national, and global level. The Power of A Awards reward outstanding accomplishments of associations and industry professionals for their efforts to enrich lives, create a competitive workforce, prepare society for the future, drive innovation and make a better world.
“I didn’t know who I was. For whatever reason, Sigma Nu crossed my path, and I attribute a lot of who I am today to the values and skills I learned there.”

Adrian House (UC Davis). Read more on page 28.

“The willingness to continually reinvent yourself is especially important for technology companies, but it’s true for any organization.”

Read more about software entrepreneur Les Muma (South Florida) on page 14.

“The best chapter officers all have a strong sense of personal ethics. They have clear and inherent understanding of right from wrong and they are willing to act courageously if the situation arises.”

Read more from Joe Francis’ interview on page 10.

“We wanted all the guys to know that in the darkest hour of the day that their best friends were there to help them out and stand for them.”

Read more about Gamma Chapter’s suicide-prevention program on page 22.

“People are at the house a lot more than before. As a result, we’ve gotten a lot closer as a brotherhood.”

Read more about the new North Carolina State chapter home page 30.
On Knighthood

By Drew Logsdon (Western Kentucky)

There is one particular facet of our great Fraternity’s Ritual that I have always loved. Unfortunately, it is not something I often see discussed. This might be because the term itself, “Knight,” harkens back to a much different era than the world we live in today. Our members, Knights of the Legion of Honor, do not go riding around on horses brandishing swords or serving noble lieges.

Today our world has no need for the knights of a bygone era. However, it is in desperate need of the modern embodiment of knighthood.

Today our world has no need for the knights of a bygone era. However, it is in desperate need of the modern embodiment of knighthood.

Our Fraternity dictates that those who sully the values they swore to uphold have their knighthood removed. As was discussed at the recent College of Chapters, honor that is guaranteed is not honor at all. We, as Knights, hold ourselves to our oath and strive daily to exemplify our values; for this great privilege is not guaranteed.

As previously stated, we do not serve a liege in the traditional sense. However, we do serve each other. I carry my knighthood for my brothers today, those before me, and those yet to come. We are required by oath to serve our Legion of Honor and to never besmirch its honor or glory. This goes far beyond the typical example of “My brother, right or wrong.” It means that I am committed to conduct myself as my fellow knights would expect me.

But what does all of this have to do with the need for knights today? Look around us. Intolerance of minds, shallowness of soul, a gaping abscess of buffoonery, and a lack of care for the world we live in continue to plague our society. Our Legion of Honor is not the only solution. To believe it is would be to ignore the size of our problems. But our Legion of Honor is most assuredly a part of the solution.

My fellow Knights will become doctors, aid workers, teachers, professors, nurses, soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, policemen, volunteers, pastors, priests, entrepreneurs, husbands, and fathers. They will be clad in the heavy commitment of our common oath and guarded against the ills around them by the strength of our values. They will carry the sword of action and compassion to not stand idly by as those around them suffer against injustice or warrantless transgressions.

We do not ride around on horses. We don’t wear armor into work. Nor do we rest comfortably in a falsely guaranteed notion of honor.

We are Knights of the Legion of Honor and we will honor our commitment every day.

And upon our final days we will let them say that we ever bore without abuse, the grand old name of gentleman with the assurance that those ahead of us will honor our mighty Legion of Honor.

Visit sigmanu.org/blog to read more posts like this one. Interested in writing for the blog? Email news@sigmanu.org for more info.
Dr. William S. Spears Pledges $1.5 Million for Leadership Training Facilities

The Spears Family Epsilon Epsilon Center of Excellence will house classrooms, a climate-controlled archives room, and lodging for up to 75 for visiting chapters from around the country.

The founding principles of Sigma Nu are of particular importance to Brother Bill, as they align closely with the values his family taught him. “As the first Honor fraternity, Sigma Nu has a set of values that I embraced,” he continued. “They were the same values I was taught in my early years. So the gift honors both the fraternity and my family.”

Past Regent and SNEF chairman Joe Gilman (Morehead State/Georgia) is among the many longtime alumni volunteers to understand the significance of this pledged gift. “I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Brother Spears for his transformational gift supporting the ideal of ethical leadership,” said Gilman. “We are proud to have one of the most visited headquarters of all national fraternities,” Gilman continued. “This gift will enhance the experience of tens of thousands of collegiate and alumni brothers who will visit the Headquarters Shrine for decades to come.”

“In recent years we have witnessed a positive trend of local chapters forging stronger partnerships with the General Fraternity,” Gilman observed. This relationship with Lexington has long been a priority for Brother Bill and the Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, as illustrated by the chapter’s annual bus trip to visit VMI and the Headquarters Shrine. “Knowing the ties our chapter has to Lexington,” Brother Bill said, “the annual trip serves to ensure that Epsilon Epsilon is always tightly connected to its Sigma Nu roots.”

Neil Gilpin, longtime advisor for the Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, was also quick to recognize the impact this investment will have on the fraternity’s budding leaders. “This will be a place where brothers will learn and develop the skills to become ethical leaders and embrace the ideals of Sigma Nu while at the birthplace of our great fraternity,” he said. Gilpin also reiterated Dr. Spears’ goal for this matching gift to spur other chapters to host similar fundraising competitions that support programs and scholarships coordinated through the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation.

“This kind of engagement simply confirms what I believe about the lasting positive influence that a fraternity provides,” Dr. Spears added. “Our members are truly part of a brotherhood; these gifts are tangible evidence that brotherhood lasts.”

Dr. Spears (right) became inspired to make this gift after reflecting on the experiences he gained in his own chapter. “I feel indebted to Sigma Nu for the leadership capabilities I developed during my time with the chapter,” he said. “I believe my time with Epsilon Epsilon Chapter shaped me in ways that are still bearing fruit to this day.”

The Spears Family Epsilon Epsilon Center of Excellence will house classrooms, a climate-controlled archives room, and lodging for up to 75 for visiting chapters from around the country.
History from THE DELTA

100 Years Ago...
A Convention Worthy of the Founders
The moral atmosphere of a Sigma Nu convention should possess the very finest quality that self-respecting, high-thinking men can give it. Such an atmosphere will be in accordance with the purposes and ideals of our founders and true to those splendid principles to which each of us took oath when we adopted the five armed badge as our guiding star.

50 Years Ago...
Two Gifts to the Headquarters
Hardly a day goes by that some member somewhere doesn’t send along or bring some memento or keepsake for the Sigma Nu Museum, Library (both to be completed), or for the current central Headquarters building. The items range from out of print bound copies of The Delta to prized treasures from the Fraternity’s historical past. Among the recent gifts there were two…

each with a story to tell, and each highly prized for what it will add in the completion of Sigma Nu’s dream. The first was a crewel-work copy of the Coat of Arms given by Brother Lamar DeuPree (Texas) on behalf of his chapter. The second gift was the original prayerbook used by Founder James Frank Hopkins while a cadet at VMI, presented by Gamma Upsilon Chapter at the University of Arkansas.

25 Years Ago...
Commemorating the Mills Brothers
A plaque soon to be presented at the Center will be inscribed with the names of the five Mills Brothers of Epsilon Omicron Chapter. With it will begin an annual observance marked by a bouquet of five white roses, one for each brother, in commemoration of a great American and Sigma Nu family — who believed in the Life of Love, walked in the Way of Honor, and served in the Light of Truth. 🌸

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Heard on Twitter

@ChrisWinn211: This weekend 5 years ago my pledge class was pinned, little did I know that my experience would change my life @SigmaNu_UHart @SigmaNuHQ

@NicholasBoksa: Officially been an active member of Sigma Nu for a year, and it has been a great one! @BSUSigmaNu @SigmaNuHQ

@brismith6: Shout out to brother Eli Manning for beating Tom Brady, Twice @SigmaNuHQ @Giants #WhyDidYouThrowIt

@MuXi162: On this day 5 years ago, I accepted my bid from @SigmaNuMuXi to begin my lifelong journey with Sigma Nu. LHT brothers! @SigmaNuHQ #Rush

@RadioMadison: Paul Rudd is my favorite human

@glock_11: Big 5/0 to @KentSigmaNu for beating our GPA average of 3.0 from last spring and placing top 4 in fraternity grades at KSU this fall!

@KoryReed: Being able to visit Sigma Nu headquarters and tour VMI has been one of my favorite collegiate experiences thus far. #CofC2015

@SigmaNuWLU: We welcome all @SigmaNuHQ College of Chapter participants to beautiful Lexington! Hope you enjoy your visit

@Nealburt: I know today is a great day for all the Knights making the trip “home” to The Rock. Soak it in gentlemen! #CofC2015 @SigmaNuHQ

The original prayerbook used by Founder James Frank Hopkins while a cadet at VMI.
**DELTA NUMBERS**

$25k

Amount donated by Epsilon Xi Chapter (Mississippi) to Friends of Children’s Hospital in honor of Olivia Manning.

$10k

Amount raised by Kappa Pi Chapter (Cal Poly San Luis Obispo) as part of their Ducky Derby — an event featuring a rubber ducky race that raises funds for American Cancer Society.

24.5k

Square feet of space in the new Beta Tau Chapter home at North Carolina State.

Students in attendance at University of North Dakota’s Sigma Nu vs. Sigma Alpha Epsilon Winter Classic, a philanthropy hockey game organized to raise awareness about hazing prevention in all organizations.

Miles the brothers of Zeta Xi Chapter (UC Davis) walked as part of their “Trekking for Troops” program that supports veterans after returning from deployment.
After announcing a new theme for the biennium, Regent Joe Francis (Oklahoma State) talks about the High Council’s ambitious agenda, including what fraternities must do to remain relevant over the next five years.

Interview by Nathaniel Clarkson (James Madison)

Photos for Sigma Nu by John Gentry
Your inauguration speech in Nashville referenced a walk you took with some fellow volunteers during the 2007 College of Chapters in Lexington. What has been the significance of this walk in setting the course of the fraternity since then?

That walk proved to be a turning point in my willingness to serve at this level. That walk was impromptu and developed without plan. In hindsight it’s interesting how all three of us — Robert Durham, Lee Perrett, and me — have or will serve in the role as Regent. It’s significant to note that we started out by talking about our vision for what the fraternity could be. It was on that walk that we realized a like-mindedness that we all wanted our fraternity to be committed to having the strongest chapters on every campus where we operate. Our strength as a national organization, we all agreed, relies on the strength of the collegiate chapters.

During this walk around the Washington and Lee campus we ended up verbalizing what I had felt for a number of years on the local level. I thought that if there is this focus on chapter strength then I might be able to offer valuable service to the fraternity because we followed this same mindset at the local level with my own chapter. The message of chapter excellence started with Robert’s term as Regent, and the focus gained momentum through Charlie’s term and continues today.

How would you describe the Bound by Honor theme for those not in attendance in Nashville?

The chapter excellence mindset focuses on what excellence looks like at the local chapter level. The concepts of bound for excellence and bound by honor are not mutually exclusive — those commitments are intertwined. Within the excellence imperative is an inherent sense of honor. If we provide an ethical chapter environment it must be based on our core values. Given all that’s going on with higher education and in society, bound by honor and the work of the Due North Task Force are critical. Our values of Love, Honor, and Truth must guide everything we do.

What about the officer of a Rock Chapter? How does he inspire his chapter to avoid complacency?

Every chapter can improve — whether a new colony, a struggling chapter, or a perennial Rock Chapter. That’s always been my mode of operation — raising the bar. An additional GPA point, stronger philanthropy, a better advisory board. Every chapter has a chance to be better no matter how good they are now. I always ask chapter officers, How will you do this job better than it’s ever been done? I challenge chapter officers to do something that will forever change their chapter in a positive way. The best chapter officers make it their own and raise the bar for that position. Then, you evaluate performance at the end of their term to see how they did.

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Your speech made reference to this idea at the national level. Could you talk more about your pivot from expecting excellence to sustaining excellence? What does that look like at the national level?

Just as the collegiate chapters should evaluate their performance each year, so must the national organization — from the board level to the staff level. If you don’t constantly evaluate your programs you’re going to miss opportunities to improve or to remediate deficiencies. Strategic planning is a must. There needs to be transparency and dialogue. Reporting on milestones and exceptions is critical.

How can we reassure chapters that their performance will be judged fairly and appropriately?

Looking backwards often gives a clear vision for explaining current success.
I’m proud of the process we go through with historical data to assess our chapters’ performance and identifying the underlying factors in their success. If you look back at Robert’s vision, the process for identifying, measuring, and remediating deficiencies — each stage followed a logical progression. There was never an intention or a desire to close deficient chapters. It was an opportunity to measure and remediate. When you do that you give them a chance to tell us how they are performing. If this process reveals areas of concern, the logical next step is to explain. We offer counseling and feedback, remediation and action plans. These are all consistent with a plan to improve and make chapters stronger, not plans to close small or struggling chapters. Look at the record number of Rock Chapters. And look at the very small number of chapters that have not turned the corner. That’s the message: until you have been handed a mandate to improve, you’re not going to see movement in the right direction. There was a concern that all chapters needed to fit a certain mold and look a certain uniform way. But that concern was unfounded. The focus has been on chapter strength and that mindset has now been institutionalized in our fraternity’s DNA. Each chapter is expected to be strong or on a path to reach that status.

From your observations, what characteristics do the best chapter officers all have in common? The best chapter officers all have a strong sense of personal ethics. They have clear and inherent understanding of right from wrong and they are willing to act courageously if the situation arises.

How did Tom Mason become a mentor and hero to you? What has he taught you? He modeled alumni service in the best possible way. There was nothing beneath him. He is the type to roll up his sleeves and do whatever it takes to make the chapter as good as it could possibly be. When I was a young alumni advisor I didn’t know what that level of service was supposed to look like. In hindsight, I realize now how much his example influenced me. I’ve tried to mirror him, the way he conducts himself. As a fellow attorney, I’ve also admired his commitment to ethics and integrity. He is the true definition of a mentor for his ability to bring out the best in the people around him.

Above it all, Tom instilled in me a sense of obligation to serve the fraternity in whatever role I was called on to fill. This sense of obligation was the impetus behind the current High Council’s push to get outstanding alumni leaders to serve in leadership positions where they can really make a difference.

What must fraternities do to stay relevant in the next 3-5 years and beyond? What higher education looks like, and what it could look like in the future, will be totally different than what I experienced as an undergrad. As long as we focus our programs on living our values and teaching ethical leadership then we will be providing a positive, out-of-classroom experience for the young men who seek to join our brotherhood. Given all the scrutiny Greek organi-
zations are under now, we have a unique opportunity to demonstrate what we stand for and provide an experience that is unsurpassed by other groups. When you look at lifelong brotherhood and ethical leadership growth experiences, those are very powerful opportunities. That experience can be powerful in a young man’s life. We want to develop ethical leaders who in turn become better elected officials, citizens, husbands, fathers, etc.

We'll be offering something that's not only relevant but also positive and powerful. As the classroom experience continues to evolve in the direction of online remote learning, face-to-face interaction will become increasingly important for developing young leaders who can be effective in the real world. Our LEAD Program needs to be mindful of these changes and visionary in our approach to providing this opportunity to interact with other students.

What are the most critical issues facing higher education right now? How can fraternities be the driving force behind solving these problems?

Higher education has come under increasing scrutiny lately for a number of reasons, including safe environments, pressure to control ballooning costs, foster an environment of inclusion, and comply with accreditation standards. If we're going to continue as a leading fraternity we need to step out in these arenas and be proactive. But these are complex problems and finding a solution to each one will require considerable resources, patience and resolve. At the board level, we are taking steps to do what we can to make sure we're providing an environment conducive to a positive learning experience. The thing we battle in fraternities is the behavioral issues of a minority of our members. People always shrug their shoulders and say “Boys will be boys.” But we can't settle for lazy excuses like that. Once we step foot into the world of Sigma Nu we are expected to conduct ourselves as men.

What steps is the High Council taking to execute upon these goals?

Part of the Due North Task Force will be refocusing our chapters’ attention on the fraternity ritual. We will focus on the role the Chaplain can play as the gatekeeper of ritual. It all goes back to my time working with past Regent Robert Maddox and focus on ritual. Show me a chapter that’s casual about ritual and I’ll show you a chapter that’s struggling with focus on our values. Ritual is a great tool that will return us to focus on our founding values. ✡
Starting a company from the ground up gave Les Muma (South Florida) the opportunity to create the organizational culture he wanted — a culture built around sound business ethics.

STUDENT LEADERS AND YOUNG professionals have much to learn from Brother Les Muma’s career experience. A good leader is visionary, he says, and he doesn’t shy away from reinventing himself or the company when necessary. “The willingness to continually reinvent yourself is especially important for technology companies, but it’s true for any organization,” he says. In addition to the ability to see what’s around the corner, Muma says excellent leaders have the ability to build teams who buy into an organization’s core purpose.

Focusing on people is a major theme that underscores every organization and company Muma has been involved with. The company he founded, Fiserv, grew from nothing to a $4 billion company thanks in large part to investing heavily in a sound and thorough hiring process. But it’s not enough to merely hire the right people, he cautions. You have to make sure the right people are placed in the position where they are most likely to succeed, and you have to take care of them all along. “People have to have skin in the game — they have to have some kind of ownership in the company. Fiserv was generous with handing out stock options, not only to management but all the way down through.” Muma credits this approach with helping to facilitate the company’s impressive growth since its inception.
Muma looks for employees who care deeply about the company’s purpose, but he also cautions against the cult of personality taking over. “So often we see an organization struggle after a strong leader retires. The reason that leader has trouble letting go is because the company has become him, and he has become the company. They can’t function without him.”

While he’s learned a great deal from the journey that comes from growing a successful company, Muma can recall things he wishes he had known at the outset. “I could have known a lot more about the stock market, about investing, about capital raising, before I got in because I had to scramble to learn that as we were growing.” From the beginning Muma and his business partners learned to run a company one step at a time. They expected the company to grow, but to build a company with a $10 billion market cap wasn’t even considered, he says.

Building a Strong Company Culture
Starting a company from the ground up gave Brother Muma the opportunity to create the organizational culture he wanted. “When we started Fiserv there were 12 employees in Tampa and 28 in Milwaukee. When we merged the two companies together we were careful to maintain our culture as a big company that operated like a family-run organization. That’s how we built the company.”

“You do this by demonstrating your culture through your actions,” he continues. “You have to show them what your culture looks like.”

Another tenet of Muma’s organizational culture is an unequivocal commitment to sound ethics. “If you run a company that cuts corners with ethics then eventually it’s going to catch up to you. You just can’t operate that way,” he says.

Muma knows firsthand how prevalent the temptation to be is. Fiserv has conducted substantial business in foreign countries where bribes and kickbacks are often considered an accepted part of doing business. “We lost some business by not agreeing to those terms,” he recalls. “I’d have to call people in my office and say, ‘Yeah, you’re not going to get that commission. We’re not going to conduct business like that.’”

Muma’s experience as a founder and CEO hasn’t been without setbacks. He says that failures in the tech industry tend to surround ill-fated acquisitions or implementing new software before it was ready. “We had some of both,” he says, but each one was followed by an in-depth review of everything that went right or wrong. “Our focus was is not making the same mistakes twice.” He’s never fired anyone for making a mistake — only for making the same mistake multiple times.

Hiring the Right People
After spending 20+ years with involvement in the hiring of new employees, Muma is in a good position to identify what qualities are attractive to hiring managers. First and foremost, he urges recent college graduates to find an industry that they love. ”Don’t get yourself in a position where you hate going to work.”

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going to work,” he says. Muma also advises college students and young graduates to be well-rounded. “I would much rather hire a B-student who held leadership positions in his fraternity, and has played intramural sports, than a straight-A student who is only book smart. Of course a well-rounded, straight A student would be the best, but they are rare. Overall, a can-do attitude with a diverse experience in leadership is the best predictor of how successful a new employee will be.”

At a minimum, Muma expects all employees — particularly those trying to make a strong first impression — to commit themselves to good old-fashioned hard work. But he also cautions those just starting out to temper their expectations of how quickly they’ll reach the top. “You have to work your way to the top of a company,” he says. “So many of today’s
Moez clearly has one. Ever since Muma’s lead gift was announced the momentum has only increased, with new donors stepping up to join the campaign. People want to be part of a winning team, it turns out, and the Muma’s gift was just the momentum they needed. The Muma gift will go towards non-capital needs like scholarships and endowed professorships and towards programs that are directed towards student success and student employment upon graduation.

“People don’t achieve success in a vacuum. Success results from building and operating within a community that facilitates achievement. So that’s why we have such a firm belief in supporting the communities that helped us get where we are today.”

“The foundation we got from our education at University of South Florida helped us build our career and our lives.”

Muma’s support of his alma mater is only one part of his larger commitment to improving the organizations and communities that helped him along the way. “I think all of us, especially as Americans, have a moral obligation to give back. I don’t care if you give back time or talent or treasure, or all three, or two of them. I don’t care whether your treasure is a youth get hired and expect to rise to the top very rapidly.”

When hiring, Muma also looks for good communicators — both written and oral. “The written communication is starting to be a lost art with kids today.”

But the most important trait of all? Muma says it’s having a positive, winning attitude. “That’s a trait that was part of Fiserv’s culture. If you as a leader or you as an employee have a defeatist attitude, that’s contagious. If you as a leader or employee have a positive attitude, that’s also contagious. And that’s good contagious. So that’s one thing I always look for.”

Muma and his wife, Pam, have been incredibly generous with their success. While they’ve supported an array of organizations and causes, their focus has been on kids and education especially for kids who have been less fortunate. These kids will soon inherit our communities and institutions, he reasons, and we need to make sure they are prepared to lead effectively and ethically.

Muma’s degree was in business with a focus on theoretical mathematics, which he credits with preparing him to launch a successful business career and ultimately become a CEO. “I felt I owed something to the business school. I learned an awful lot there in accounting and economics and business management while I was playing with theoretical mathematics.”

There was one other factor that drove Muma and Pam to make this transformational gift to the USF business school, and it goes back to having the right leaders in the right positions. The USF business school had recently hired a new dean, Moez Limayem, with unique leadership traits that caught Muma’s attention (Muma was on the search committee). “Coming from Tunisia, he has the international experience, which I think is important in today’s business world. He’s taught internationally, he has climbed up the ladder, and he has fire in the belly and a strong can-do attitude. He’s also got a vision of where this business school is going.”

**Building a Community that Values Achievement**

Muma and Pam had talked before about leaving a transformational gift, and the hiring of Dean Limayem was what pushed them over the top towards making a legacy-type gift. “We didn’t want to commit this money without a 3 to 5-year plan and Moez clearly has one.” Ever since Muma’s lead gift was announced the momentum has only increased, with new donors stepping up to join the campaign. People want to be part of a winning team, it turns out, and the Muma’s gift was just the momentum they needed. The Muma gift will go towards non-capital needs like scholarships and endowed professorships and towards programs that are directed towards student success and student employment upon graduation.

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$1,000 gift or a $10 million gift — we all have an obligation to do what we can.”

A Fabric Woven from Sound Ethics

Muma has also donated his time to serving Junior Achievement (JA), an organization that helps students develop the skills they’ll need to find meaningful careers after school. One of his primary goals with JA has been to change how people think about “CEO” as a pejorative. “Back before the economic downturn we had all these companies like Enron and Arthur Anderson get in trouble for a wide variety of unethical behavior. That tended to make everyone, including young people, think CEOs were bandits — they associate ‘wealth’ these people created with ‘bad behavior.’”

Muma scheduled a meeting with the local JA leader to propose a program that would get CEOs in front of young kids to talk about ethics in high schools. “It was amazing — these kids became wide-eyed when they realized that most of the companies in the world do operate ethically. It’s part of the business world — if you’re not ethical you will not be successful in the long run, that was the core message we wanted to deliver.”

Muma has similar advice tailored for his fellow Sigma Nu brothers. “We have to make ethics an obvious part of the fabric of a Sigma Nu. Morality and ethics. Do things the right way. You don’t cheat to get ahead. You don’t discredit someone to make yourself look better. All the things that we know are the right way to run your life.”

Muma’s penchant for entrepreneurialism can be traced all the way back to a time before Sigma Nu began at USF. Muma matriculated at USF in 1962. At the time there were only four or five fraternities on campus, all local groups with no national affiliation. “A few of my friends and I looked around during recruitment and didn’t like what we saw,” Muma recalls. “‘Why don’t we start our own fraternity,’ we asked ourselves.”

Muma and the rest of the group went through the proper channels at the student activities office, completed the paperwork, and local fraternity Cratos was born. The group became a thriving local chapter that excelled in athletics and community service — a profile that continued through affiliation with Sigma Nu.

This experience would prove to be formative for Muma’s budding business career. “When you build anything — whether a fraternity or a company — you attract people like you. Our brothers had the same beliefs we had. If prospective members didn’t share our values then we weren’t interested, and they weren’t attracted to us either.”

“The willingness to continually reinvent yourself is especially important for technology companies, but it’s true for any organization.”

Muma had graduated by the time Cratos affiliated with a national organization, eventually becoming Sigma Nu’s Theta Alpha Chapter in 1967. Though he wasn’t involved with the chapter gaining national affiliation, he applauded the move and later returned to campus to officially become a Sigma Nu. Ever since then he has tried to return to campus for recruitment each year to participate in Theta Alpha’s Traditions Night in which alumni brothers return to talk about their Sigma Nu experience.

Muma has a key message he delivers to the chapter and potential members each year when he visits for formal recruitment: “Be the guy who tries the hardest. Keep a positive attitude. If you can’t do it right and ethically then don’t do it at all. Be a Sigma Nu.”

“The values of Sigma Nu are the core values I’ve always believed in.”
Mentoring the Next Generation

Edward Forester (Northwestern) 1926-2014

A longtime volunteer at Gamma Beta Chapter, Brother Ed Forester (Northwestern) used his trademark leadership style to pioneer national alumni programs, all the while mentoring multiple generations of young Sigma Nu brothers.

IN 1965, BROTHER EDWARD FORESTER (Northwestern) was among a core group of Gamma Beta alumni who accepted the difficult challenge of rebuilding their chapter from the ground up. He would go on to serve as president of the Northwestern alumni interfraternity council for six consecutive terms. In the 1970s, he was the only non-faculty member to serve on Northwestern’s presidential advisory commission, a role he held for seven years.

Ed was a guiding force at Gamma Beta Chapter, through the best of times when the chapter was thriving and at the worst of times when alumni were forced to close the house in 1967. “The decision to again suspend the charter in 2004 was probably the most difficult thing for Ed to endure,” recalls Ben Buetell, president of the Gamma Beta Alumni Chapter. But Ed never wavered in his commitment to Sigma Nu and his desire to see Gamma Beta return to Northwestern.

As a member of the High Council, Forester pushed to get collegiate representation on the High Council, and was later instrumental in developing early versions of the fraternity’s national alumni volunteer program.

Brother Forester served as president of the Gamma Beta House Corporation and remained on the board for over 30 years up until his passing. Brother Forester played an instrumental role in the refurbishment of the Gamma Beta chapter home leading up to the chapter’s centennial celebration in 1998. His role in securing substantial resources in support of the chapter continued through the recent recolonization and up to his passing.

As a member of the High Council, Brother Forester was tasked in 1973 by then Executive Secretary William Amiott to study the existing alumni relations programs in place at the time. The findings of this study were presented to the High Council, upon which two plans were recommended for further study. The High Council proceeded with plans to establish a network of alumni organized into 53 divisions, which would become a foundation for the alumni volunteer program we have today.

Brother James Truesdale, speaking at the 1972 Grand Chapter in Dallas, spoke on Ed’s behalf before High Council elections. “Ed has served diligently his Fraternity since he was active in the collegiate chapter and then on into his alumni chapter,” he said.

“Ed has served many years with great distinction as a Division Commander in the Midwest,” Truesdale continued. “Ed

The ability to listen, combined with resolute decisiveness, were signature traits of Brother Forester’s leadership style.
has served as unselfishly and as devotedly as any man that I know in many, many happy experiences and friendships through Sigma Nu Fraternity. Ed is a devoted husband, father, and a very accomplished businessman.”

Brother Forester’s contributions to Sigma Nu are perhaps best summarized by one collegiate delegate speaking on his behalf during High Council elections in 1976. Brother Lee Stetson: “He has done a fine job in developing a program for us to use nationally to salvage chapters that are in deep trouble, and I think this is something that we all feel is an important aspect of development of our Fraternity.”

Brother Stetson continued: “Secondly, Brother Forester strongly supported the idea of adding Collegiate Grand Councilmen to the High Council so that we have input from the undergraduates during the various meetings of the High Council.”

What Brother Stetson said next again highlighted Ed Forester’s visionary thinking, in this case foreseeing the need to develop educational programs that would become the early stages of Sigma Nu’s award-winning leadership development programs. “He’s also been involved actively with the more recent trend toward educational effort of our Fraternity,” Stetson observed. “Specifically, he’s been a member of our mini-university faculty since its inception.”

Brother Forester became known as someone who would listen carefully, particularly during challenging debates for the fraternity. He reiterated this commitment during one of his speeches for High Council positions. “One of the first things my father said to me that I can recall is that you never learn by talking; only by listening,” he explained during the 1972 Grand Chapter in Dallas. “This has been my philosophy of life. I hope to be able to listen, to interpret, and to act upon your wishes in the best way I can.”

This ability to listen, combined with resolute decisiveness, were signature traits of Brother Forester’s leadership style. “He would listen and make up his mind,” recalls Jeff Forester, Ed’s son and fellow Sigma Nu. “When he made up his mind he had a motivating personality. He did what he thought was right and he avoided playing politics. He was a plotter, always moving ahead.”

Brother Forester was also quick to remind the Grand Chapter of the High Council’s priority to serve the collegiate members of Sigma Nu. “The High Council serves the undergraduates,” he said during a speech at the 1976 Grand Chapter in Nashville. “I promised the undergraduates I would remain as close to them as I possibly could. I would listen to them. I would weigh the various factors. I would look at the directions they wanted us to take, and I would attempt to the best of my ability to carry them through.”

The words he offered in Nashville would prove to be as relevant in 2015 as they were in 1976. “Years ago the Grand Chaplain spoke of Sigma Nu as though it were perfect and composed only of scholars and true gentlemen,” he recalled. “Now, we know that we are a community constantly in need of reform. How often have people rushed in with ill-conceived ideas of what we ought to be?”

From the time he accepted his bid and up until his last days Brother Forester kept a focus on helping his fraternity brothers reach their full potential. He leaves a legacy of incredible generosity, one who embodies the spirit of a humble leader. “The foster child my parents adopted was one of many young people who rolled through our house when I was growing up,” Jeff remembers. “There was a constant influx of young people — some needed a place to stay as they passed through town, others a reference for a job. My dad liked to build personal relationships with people and help them. But he didn’t talk about it much – he was quiet about it. Both of my parents were non-judgmental and open to people of all backgrounds. Sigma Nus of all ages sensed this and they would seek my parents’ counsel on all sorts of questions.”

Ed’s love for the fraternal movement trickled down to his whole family. Lynn, one of three daughters, got involved with Tri Delta because of the example her parents set. (Ed’s wife, also a Tri Delta, was Gamma Beta Chapter’s White Rose Sweetheart.) “They were so involved, both of them,” Lynn says. “They had such love for their fraternity and sorority.” Lynn has served as a national volunteer and president to several Tri Delta alumnai groups since becoming an alumna. “Because of my father’s involvement with Sigma Nu, I could see how the fraternity formed meaningful connections that continued later in life. It’s so important for college students to form these relationships and get leadership experience. You don’t get any of that living in a dorm room.”

“I see my role as continuing to listen,” Ed once told the Grand Chapter, “but also to attempt to have the wisdom to show all of you the way to seize your special talents, your special graces, while you still have the opportunity.”

Brother Forester entered Chapter Eternal on July 31, 2014, with three generations of family members at his bedside. They told stories and listened to big band tunes — Ed’s favorite music. He had particular fondness for Glenn Miller, a fellow Sigma Nu brother. ★
Leading Without a Title

Judge George Hearn (Georgia) 1934-2014

Judge Hearn’s legacy is proof that you don’t need an official title to transform an organization.

THE STORY OF JUDGE GEORGE HEARN
(Georgia) is a modern history of the Mu Chapter itself. It’s a story of resurgence, peaks and valleys, and earning influence the right way. It’s a story about lowercase “l” leadership — proof that you don’t need a title to transform an organization.

IMPACT ON MU
Judge Hearn’s fraternity experience began with a phone call from a certain Mu Chapter alumnus who convinced him to become a Sigma Nu. “If Sigma Nu is good enough for me, I hope it’ll be good enough for you,” he told him. The caller was Senator Herman Talmadge.

From that moment forward Judge Hearn’s Sigma Nu career would span six decades, during which time he played a key role in at least two resurgences of his own Mu Chapter at University of Georgia. The Judge and his contemporaries were not happy with the way things were going with the chapter post-Vietnam. The chapter had little interest in engaging with alumni – not even to tailgate on football game days.

During the Fall 1975 semester the chapter started experiencing positive change. “The chapter leadership wanted to make it more like a true fraternity than a club,” recalls Robert Durham, past Regent of Sigma Nu. “We would go out and engage with alumni at tailgates. All of a sudden more of these alumni would show up. By bringing his contemporaries back to the house he showed us he was proud of us.”

The chapter eventually reached a manpower just shy of 80, one of the largest chapters on the University of Georgia campus. This is when Judge Hearn gave Robert the now famous ‘Obligation to Excellence’ message that would guide the national fraternity’s strategic goals beginning with Robert’s term as Regent.

Some struggles returned in the mid-2000s when the chapter experienced a rare low point in performance and membership. Low manpower, no house, no reputation, no money, and no alumni support. When many asked what the chapter was doing there at all, Judge Hearn’s wise counsel once again helped the group stay on track. Focus on what you can control, he always said. “Those who can, do; and those who can’t should get out of the way.”

When the chapter reorganized and started an Alumni Advisory Board in the 2004-05 academic year, Chapter Advisor Michael Barry knew Judge Hearn would be involved. “Everyone else wanted to be on the board to just hear what he would say,” Michael says. “He attracted other leaders.”

The Judge was known for his quotes and one-liners, and one in particular stuck with the newly reorganized chapter: Vires Acquirit Eundo (“It gains strength by continuing”), a motto he coined for the collegians who committed themselves to reviving the chapter in 2005.

From that moment forward the Mu Chapter’s resurgence would barrel ahead and never look back. Manpower surged while chapter members earned top campus leadership positions. Years of hard work resulted in three consecutive Rock Chapter awards and recognition by the North American Interfraternity Conference as one of the top fraternity chapters in the entire nation.

LEADERSHIP STYLE
The Judge had a unique leadership style that would tacitly expect the officers to strive for excellence. Hearn would ask the chapter officers questions about the chapter — whether they were using the

“Keep a positive outlook, tell the truth, do what’s right. Those are the key messages I’ll always remember from the Judge.”

– Michael Barry (Georgia)
Ritual and countless other questions about the operations of the chapter. "He had that influence on the chapter officers. He gave us confidence to do our own first capital campaign," Robert recalls. "His influence was to tell alumni to start going back to the house. 'You'll be proud of the chapter,' he would tell them."

Judge Hearn’s leadership also illuminated the importance of campus involvement, once urging the officers to run for IFC so they could positively influence the direction of student governance. "UGA believes in student self-governance. You need to be part of that governance if you want to excel," he told them. This advice would eventually help brothers of Mu Chapter earn spots in UGA’s Gridiron Secret Society, an achievement previously unrealistic given the chapter’s lack of influence in campus affairs.

Judge Hearn’s personal career success contributed to the rapport he had with the chapter officers, as Michael remembers: "We looked up to him. The word 'can’t' wasn’t in his vocabulary. He would help you understand how you get around the mental block. He wouldn’t do it for you. He was quick to praise you, quick to correct when you needed it. He was always there to support as long as you did the right thing."

The more the chapter improved the more passion he would get, and the more passionate the chapter would get in return. It created this positive cycle that reinforced itself.

LEAVING A MARK ON THE NATIONAL FRATERNITY
Judge Hearn was a local chapter leader first. He had an impact nationally because his local chapter was successful, as Robert points out: "National involvement gave us a chance to spread his message. Few would be willing to listen to these ideas had Mu Chapter not excelled locally."

"This whole 'Obligation to Excellence' idea can be traced back to him," Robert says. "We moved College of Chapters to January and changed the location back to Virginia because we weren't satisfied. The curriculum was revised to focus on collegiate Commanders, with emphasis on equipping our best leaders to hold their peers accountable. We created the Best Practices Library so chapters could learn from each other. Anyone who's used the BPL was influenced by Judge Hearn."

Other chapters experiencing a low point have much to learn from the Judge's wisdom. "He wasn't going to hear about how we couldn't do something, how we weren't big enough, etc. He wanted to know what you were going to do about it," Michael says.

Robert echoed a similar sentiment: "If your chapter is in bad shape and you haven't engaged with Rock Chapter delegates at convention, then you're missing a major opportunity to improve."

Judge Hearn’s affinity for Sigma Nu as a national brotherhood culminated with his attendance at the 66th Grand Chapter in Nashville last summer — only a few weeks before his passing. "I am going to Nashville in a passenger seat or a pine box, but I am going to Grand Chapter."

The Judge expected excellence from the chapter and he made sure they knew it. He never hid being a fraternity man; he was first to tell everyone how proud he was. And the chapter shared a mutual respect, as demonstrated by all the brothers who lined the aisles at Judge Hearn’s memorial service in Monroe, Ga. Attendees at the graveside service locked hands and recited the short Creed.

Judge Hearn entered Chapter Eternal on September 5, 2014, at the age of 80. His funeral services were attended by hundreds of friends, family, and Sigma Nu brothers, all of whom recounted lessons they learned from the Judge.

"Keep a positive outlook, tell the truth, do what's right. Those are the key messages I'll always remember from the Judge," Michael says.

Robert says he will remember the Judge as a wise man who freely dispensed his wisdom. "After he died we would hear more stories from people in his Monroe community," Robert says, reflecting on the memorial service. "We heard story after story about Hearn counseling young men in his community — Sigma Nu or not." Judge Hearn went out of his way to support young people his entire career — from Lt. Col. in the military to football coach to a judge in the family and juvenile court system. He closed his living will with a fitting quote — another one of his favorite sayings: Sic Vos Non Vobis ("Not for ourselves but for others").

"If you believe in the concept of excellence then you need to be willing to go out and find help from others. This is a concept Judge Hearn imparted in us," Robert says. "Whether he had a title or not, people knew he cared. He wanted to help these young men develop into better leaders."

– Robert Durham, past Regent of Sigma Nu.
LEARNING TO FACE THEIR CHALLENGES TOGETHER

BY MERRITT ONSA

On April 3, 2007, tragedy struck the Gamma Chapter at Duke University. Suddenly, a brother was gone. Chris ‘Stewie’ Sanders took his life, and his death shook the chapter to its core. Stewie’s decision surprised everyone including his girlfriend, his parents, and the men who called him their brother.
AN INCREDIBLY POPULAR AND well-liked guy, Stewie never gave any signs that he was depressed or considering taking his life. He was an accomplished diver on the Duke men’s swimming team, active in his Sigma Nu chapter—serving as Marshal at the time of his death—and elsewhere in leadership roles on campus.

Brothers remember his kindness and enthusiasm for Sigma Nu. “He was one of those guys with the gravitas to pull you one way or another,” says former Commander Teddy Jones about meeting Stewie during rush. Doug Lawson, who was Stewie’s roommate and close friend at the time of his death, says, “You couldn’t ask for a better friend or a better brother.”

Stewie was one of the reasons Doug wanted to join Sigma Nu in the first place. “He made me feel really welcome. He was always looking for ways to make sure you were doing well,” he says.

As devastating as Stewie’s death was for the chapter, their loss cut even deeper as the brothers wondered how they could have had no inkling about his later-discovered mental health issues.

Doug recalls feeling deeply impacted by the loss for a long time. “It was hard to be in a good mood. I thought, ‘How can I really enjoy anything when Stewie was going through so much pain and we didn’t even know about it.’”

However, in the midst of tragedy, the brothers bonded together in their grief, first, to support one another and, later, to try to figure out what they could have done differently.

DECIDING TO LIVE DIFFERENTLY Several months after Stewie’s death, brothers began discussing how they might honor his memory and hopefully prevent something like this from happening again. Dave Mainella, alumni advisor, gathered a group to talk it out, including the Commander (Teddy Jones), former Commander (Michael McHugh), and Dr. Gary Glass, from Duke’s Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Dr. Glass had been Duke’s counselor on duty in the days immediately following Stewie’s death.

The first challenge they identified was the self-described “alpha-male” culture of the chapter. Teddy describes it this way: “Alpha males don’t need help with things; they don’t need to talk to a therapist because of image problems, or because they feel fat or depressed, or worry that they are bordering on alcoholism, or aren’t as good as their peers, or because they can’t keep up with social and academic expectations set for them.”

But that culture wasn’t unique to Sigma Nu. Duke’s current Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life, Clarybel Peguero, says it’s prevalent across campus. “There’s a strong sense of perfectionism that exists in the community—a belief that you can work hard and party hard and that the stress is not getting to you. You don’t show it; you work through it by partying. The students do both at such extremes,” she says.

In addition, competition at Duke is thick. Students strive for the best internships, top spots in high-ranking graduate schools, or high-paying jobs after college. “There tends to be an emphasis placed on succeeding in every facet of your life. Everyone is pushing to succeed, and it’s frowned upon to admit defeat, that you want to stay in tonight, or that you are burned out,” says Kraig Knas, who was a freshman in the chapter at the time of Stewie’s death.

At the time, Teddy says he believes Sigma Nu didn’t have the culture in place to empower someone like Stewie to seek the help he needed. “There was this façade that people would put on that [I believe] contributed to their reluctance to deal with problems if they had them, whether they were image problems or mental health problems, like Stewie dealt with,” he says.

LEARNING TO FACE THEIR CHALLENGES Gamma Chapter’s loss provided the motivation the brothers needed to begin to shift the culture and attitudes in the chapter. They started by learning how to deal with grief. Instead of avoiding difficult topics, brothers began to share their feelings with one another; and several went to CAPS to talk things out.

They implemented additional brotherhood building activities and sessions throughout the LEAD Program to help members learn to open up more. “The tools in the LEAD toolbox really helped continue the conversation,” says Dave.

To reinforce opportunities for more vulnerable conversations amongst the brothers, they also implemented a peer coaching program—modeled after a session Dave led at College of Chapters. It’s still a part of chapter life today, giving brothers an outlet to talk about real issues instead of pretending everything is

“It makes no sense that people treat disorders of the mind completely different from disorders of the body.”
– Doug Lawson
okay or talking about superficial topics.

Plus, that initial meeting with Dave and Dr. Glass inspired a larger movement called Face Your Challenges (FYC)—a campaign to help college students deal with life challenges. The taglines they came up with for the program were a direct result of those early conversations.

Today, FYC’s marketing materials include statements like, “Let yourself be who you actually are,” and “It’s okay to admit that you don’t have all the answers,” and “One phrase can change your life, if you let it: ‘I need to talk.’” That kind of dialogue was what Gamma brothers hoped would permeate their chapter.

“We wanted FYC to bring awareness of everyone else’s feelings and how certain people handle stress in different ways. We wanted all the guys to know that in the darkest hour of the day that their best friends were there to help them out and stand for them,” says Kraig.

In addition, the brothers created an FYC to serve as a hub of resources for people outside of Sigma Nu. There they posted “Stewie Stories” written by a few members shortly after Stewie’s death. A group of brothers also began visiting the other campus fraternities to share those stories, talk about their experience, and suggest students seek help if they or a brother are struggling.

Teddy recounts visiting other fraternities with the FYC program while he was still at Duke. “I would talk about how, if someone were there or we’d had programming or an organizational attitude in place that made it easier for someone like Stewie to seek help, his death might have been prevented,” he says.

One time, a friend approached Teddy after his talk and admitted to feeling depressed. As a result of what Teddy shared, this friend said he’d try to set up a meeting with Dr. Glass the next day. “It was one of those experiences that made everything worth it,” Teddy says.

Since her arrival at Duke in 2008, Clarybel says she’s seen the impact of these efforts on the chapter. “While Sigma Nu understood their social capital before, they didn’t know how to use it for good. Today they are the highest functioning fraternity in every aspect. They have become an overall great organization. I have seen their connectivity become more and more strengthened,” she says.

Clarybel confirms a rise in mental health issues on college campuses in the last twenty years and says men in particular tend to have more difficulty seeking help. “But when a group like Sigma Nu says, ‘Hey, it’s okay to go to CAPS. It’s okay to talk about how hard this is.’ I think it really sets a tone for people to say, ‘If they went, I’m going to go too,’” she explains.

**WHAT STEWIE TAUGHT US**

After Stewie’s death, Doug went on to study psychology and then the law, both of which afforded him a growing base of knowledge about mental health issues. Teddy went to medical school where he gained an understanding of psychological issues like bipolar disorder. Personal experience and their educational pursuits have inspired both Doug and Teddy to fight against the stigma attached to mental health issues.

“It makes no sense that people treat disorders of the mind completely different from disorders of the body. Both of them need to be addressed as serious issues. If you broke your ankle, of course you’d go to the doctor. If you have a chemical imbalance in your brain, of course you’d go to the doctor. It makes no logical sense that there would be a stigma for one and not the other,” says Doug.

Jack Riker, who served as Commander in 2012-2013, says if there was one piece of advice he would offer to Sigma Nu brothers it would be to open up. “Remember that people are people, and people aren’t perfect. It’s tough to talk about what you’re struggling with, but it’s also kind of unhealthy not to. Don’t be afraid to speak out. Once I open up to someone, I’m amazed at how much easier it is for the other person to reach out. It just takes one person to break the ice first,” he says.

While it was born out of great pain, the implementation of FYC and the change in culture has been extremely positive for the chapter. “Stewie’s death was incomprehensible. That’s why I think FYC is such a great initiative. If there’d been any sign, or he had spoken up at all, or even if we were more aware
of what to look for when someone is struggling with mental health issues, something could’ve been done,” says Doug.

As chapter advisor, Dave has had the benefit of watching the chapter morph over time. “I’ve seen a new level of comfort, especially in the seniors who graduated in 2013 and 2014. They are willing to share and ask for support, and they are able to talk about their challenges in a completely different way than what I saw five or six years earlier.”

He believes other Sigma Nu chapters can learn from Gamma’s experience. “This program has allowed brothers to feel comfortable saying they have an issue and that they need some help. I hope other chapters will consider bringing it to their campus because I think it is very valuable for the fraternal movement as a whole,” Dave explains.

THE LEGACY LIVES ON

Now that seven years have passed since Stewie’s death, all the brothers who knew him have long since graduated, but the culture established by those deeply affected by this loss still lingers. And his legacy lives on in FYC.

Every year, during rush, the brothers make a formal presentation about FYC. Then, on the anniversary of Stewie’s death in April, they hold a ceremony in his memory. The brothers read Stewie Stories and the newest initiates and candidates get a better glimpse of the wake-up call that shaped their brotherhood.

He may be gone, but Stewie’s memory is still attracting new brothers. Jack says it was the openness of the members to talk about their struggles that drew him to Sigma Nu. “It made me feel comfortable to know that everyone is cognizant of the fact that people need to get their feelings out,” he says.

The effort to promote awareness, beyond the walls of Gamma Chapter, continues. Over the last three years, they co-sponsored a Break The Silence benefit concert with To Write Love on Her Arms, a national nonprofit dedicated to hope and help for people struggling with depression, addiction, self-injury, and suicide. Fifty-percent of the concert’s proceeds are invested in the local community for mental health awareness, education, and care.

In addition, at least one other Sigma Nu chapter has expressed interest in the Face Your Challenges program. Jack was approached at College of Chapters by a Commander whose chapter was dealing with a similar incident. With the assistance of Gamma Chapter, the Delta Phi Chapter is launching a Face Your Challenges program at the University of Maryland.

While he wouldn’t wish it on any chapter, Dave describes the experience of going through this tragedy, helping the chapter learn from it, and coming out on the other side as incredibly powerful and extremely impactful for the brotherhood. “Stewie has been gone for a while now, but I have to think that his parents would get some comfort by knowing what has transpired since we lost him,” he says. 🖤

Currently, Gamma Chapter is working to get FYC registered as an official student organization in an effort to impact the greater Duke community with mental health awareness programming.
DURING HIS SENIOR YEAR AT AUBURN, Cody Sanders served as board chairman of a Student Government Association committee that was responsible for reviewing registered student organizations and administering funds for educational grants. It was during this time that Cody became aware of Active Minds, a national nonprofit devoted to educating students about mental health issues.

According to its website, Active Minds “develops and supports student-run chapters on colleges and university campuses that promote a dialogue around issues of mental health and educate the entire student body about available resources in and around the campus community.”

“When Active Minds first approached us seeking a funding grant I was really amazed to learn we didn’t have a campus organization devoted to mental health awareness among the 300 recognized student organizations on campus,” he says. “We didn’t have a student organization that could address the subject in a way that encouraged college students to identify mental health issues and ultimately save a peer or friend’s life.”

Not long after Active Minds started at Auburn tragedy struck the close-knit campus community when a well-known student took his own life. As is often the case, the sudden death shocked Cody and the rest of the campus. “This individual had previously taken part in LeaderShape the year before I attended the program,” Cody recalls. “He was known to have an active social life. He would’ve been one of the last kids you would have thought would have committed suicide.”

“As a member of the Greek community, it really shocked other fraternity men to learn that a respected and connected member of the community was suffering with mental wellness issues.”

Shortly after this a mutual friend of Cody’s took his own life at University of Alabama. “These were both students no one would have expected to be suffering from such intense levels of severe mental health issues/depression,” Cody says.

This made Cody and others even more thankful to have discovered the arrival of groups like Active Minds that provide an environment for students to talk about mental health issues. As of the Fall 2014 semester, the Active Minds chapter at Auburn has grown to nearly 200 members, an achievement for which Cody says he is proud to have played a role.

“WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO AVOID AMBUSHING SOMEONE WE THINK MIGHT BE SUFFERING FROM MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES. SURPRISE CONFRONTATIONS CAN ADD ANXIETY, OR EVEN WORSE, MAKE THE PERSON FEEL GUILTY FOR WHAT THEY ARE EXPERIENCING.”

— Cody Sanders 
(Auburn)
LAST SEPTEMBER, AUBURN’S ACTIVE Minds chapter hosted a 5k to benefit the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. The group plans to make this an annual event to continue raising awareness about mental health issues affecting students. In the short interview below, Cody answers questions related to helping those suffering from mental health issues.

What are some of the key things people need to know about suicide prevention and mental health?
The first thing people need to know is that it can affect anyone. Whether that is your fraternity brother, sorority sister, family member, or simply a friend you have met on campus. Specifically related to fraternities, I think we experience so many good times at mixers, football games, formals, and other social events, that we sometimes do not see our brothers at times in which they are vulnerable or struggling with issues in their lives they do not feel comfortable sharing. By recognizing signs of mental health we can take the proper steps to ensure those who we know and care about never get to a stage where they are considering harming themselves or others.

What are some of the myths most people believe about mental health?
There’s a common stigma with mental health that associates victims with being “crazy.” This is not only false but also insulting to those suffering from mental health or anyone who knows something with mental health issues.

The stigma is one of the key factors that prevents friends and family from recognizing early warning signs before it’s too late. By removing that stigma we can prevent future tragic events from happening in the future.

What is the best way to help someone who might be suffering from mental health issues?
We should be careful to avoid ambushes anyone we think might be suffering from mental health issues. Surprise confrontations can add anxiety, or even worse, make the person feel guilty for what they are experiencing. Try to open the conversation in a way that makes them feel comfortable talking about the issues that might be bothering them.

If you sense that their condition is serious enough to warrant professional help, seek advice from student counseling services on campus. If anyone is at the point where they might harm themselves or others, call a suicide hotline or emergency personnel for assistance.

The first step is always creating a comfortable dialogue.

Do you think it’s a growing problem? If so, what do you think is contributing to the increase?
Unfortunately, yes, I do believe it is a growing problem. There are so many factors that contribute to this. Many families are still recovering from the economic downturn and some students have seen their parents endure difficult times financially.

We also live in a society dominated by social media (whether that is good or bad) and people suffering from depression and mental health issues can be exposed to the wrong material at the wrong time at any second simply by scrolling through a Twitter timeline or Facebook wall.

And then there’s always the pressure of academics and education. College is tough and the demands can often lead to mental health issues.
Although five years apart in age, James (UC Santa Barbara) and Adrian House (UC Davis) are as close as brothers can be. Both men were Founding Fathers of their respective chapters, served as Eminent Commanders, and in January 2014, Adrian finally got to pin a Sigma Nu badge on his younger brother at UCSB’s chartering.
SHORTLY AFTER ADRIAN HOUSE

enrolled at UC Davis, Sigma Nu began re-colonizing Zeta Xi following a 17-year absence from campus. He had lots of friends joining fraternities that year, but none of them stood out to Adrian. That is until he bumped into a high school friend who encouraged him to come to a colonization meeting for Sigma Nu.

There, alumnus Mike Wheeler (UC Davis) shared the values of the Fraternity and the opportunity to create something from the ground up. Adrian was sold.

But his parents weren’t so sure. Neither had gone to college, and a fraternity was not what they had in mind for their son. Adrian shared the LEAD binder with his dad, including examples of all the things he wouldn’t learn in the classroom but would learn at Sigma Nu—things like how to write a speech, time management, conflict resolution, how to motivate people, and especially the values of the Fraternity. Adrian says it was those values that helped him convince his parents to let him join.

Adrian's parents weren’t so sure. Neither had gone to college, and a fraternity was not what they had in mind for their son.

Like any Founding Father, Adrian was involved in all aspects of the colonization process. Just two months in, he decided to run for Eminent Commander and, to his surprise, was elected. Adrian says it was a scary time, since he knew nothing about starting a fraternity from scratch. But he felt tremendous support from Headquarters staff members Chris Healy (Fresno State), Jake Welshans (Indiana), and Andrew Meeks (Kent State) as well as alumnus Mike Wheeler. “I feel like I couldn’t have done it without them,” says Adrian.

Director of Expansion and Recruitment at the time, Andrew Meeks recognized Adrian’s leadership potential from the start. “He always focused on the legacy of the group over his own legacy. As Commander he gave individual committees freedom and ownership. ‘I’m relying on you as leaders to build these plans,’ Adrian would say. That made everyone in the chapter buy into the effort. He’s a very thoughtful and quiet leader, but when he had to speak he made the words count,” says Andrew.

Adrian flew out from Boston, where he is attending medical school, to finally pin a Sigma Nu badge on his brother.

Brian Woodall (Virginia) served on the advisory board during Adrian's tenure at UCD. "I was impressed with Adrian the first time I met him. He's a really sharp young man. All of the guys who were part of the colony gravitated towards him,” he says.

After 13 months of hard work and a 398-page application, Zeta Xi was chartered in May 2009. That summer Adrian was selected to serve as a Collegiate Grand Councilman. The chapter went on to earn Rock Awards in 2012 and 2014.

"With Adrian's leadership and the dedication of all of the guys there, you really couldn't have asked for a better result. What they've done over the last five years—becoming a Rock Chapter that quickly—it's just really impressive. It goes back to the foundation that those first brothers laid. It was really all built around integrity and doing the right thing," says Brian.

Adrian says his Sigma Nu experience changed him. “I feel like I really grew into my role as a man. I graduated high school at 17 and came to Davis. I didn’t know who I was. For whatever reason, Sigma Nu crossed my path, and I attribute a lot of who I am today to the values and skills I learned there,” he says.

The impact of Sigma Nu on Adrian also touched his younger brother, James. “When I left for school, it was hard for me and for him. We are very close, almost like twins. But now I was in a new place and didn’t have my best friend. He came out and visited me all the time,” says Adrian.

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Excerpts of an email from Adrian to James, following chartering weekend:

Dear Br. James A. House, KH672,

Wow. Just wow. You did it, man! Since the day I accepted my bid from Chris Healy in March 2008, initiating you into this unbelievably special organization has been a huge dream of mine. And I’m sure of yours, too.

I can’t even put into words the emotion I feel right now. I’m sitting on the plane, watery-eyed, in awe at what happened this weekend. I am so incredibly proud of you. I wish there was another word I could use, since everyone has been saying that nonstop. But they don’t feel what I do. Not a single person in the universe feels what I feel right now. Yes, Gilman, Eitel, Moody, Adam, etc. are all proud and happy in their own ways. Mom and Dad are ecstatic and overwhelmed with emotion for the incredible man your youngest son has become. But no one is as proud as me. I’ve waited what seems like eons to badge you, but I never in my wildest dreams knew it would be like this.

You have built a solid organization in Santa Barbara that will be a beacon of honor and integrity for hundreds, if not thousands of future men who will walk through your halls as Candidates and Knights. You have started something that will change lives. Be proud of that.

Congratulations on your incredible achievements and welcome, finally, to this beloved organization I call home. It’s a better place now because of you. I challenge you to keep this ball rolling and to further better yourself and your chapter. Never give up. Never stop improving. And more importantly, always be yourself. Be the person you really, truly are. The person I have looked up to for my entire life.

I love you, James. And I’m proud to call you my brother.

LHT,
Adrian
ZXi 643
EIGHT YEARS AGO, THE ALUMNI OF Beta Tau Chapter at North Carolina State University formed a committee to pursue new house construction in the university’s redeveloped Greek Village. The goal was to design and construct a grand chapter house that would exemplify Sigma Nu’s legacy as the oldest fraternity on campus.

Brother Randall Ward pledged the initial one million dollars to kick start the campaign in 2007. Howard Pickett, Richard Vaughn, and Johnny Mack Alexander also made additional financial commitments that year. However, the U.S. economy faltered shortly after early fundraising efforts began, which hindered the expected progress of the campaign intended to fund the $4.6 million home.

Finally, in 2011, with $2.3 million in pledges, the committee began searching for bank financing to get the project started. For 18 months there was no progress. That’s when Steve Ratterman (Indiana) referred Howard to Jennifer Henson of Residential Capital for help in sourcing a bank loan.

A member of Alpha Xi Delta and former President of the organization’s national housing corporation, Jennifer is skilled at helping Greek organizations navigate the complexities of securing financing for the acquisition or renovation of their chapter houses.

Jennifer has focused her career to this end. She endeavors to translate the Greek experience to bank officials whose only perspective on the topic may have come from watching Animal House. “Unfortunately, a lot of loan officers don’t understand how the Greek system not only strengthens college campuses but also that the chapter house living experience is critical to the development of our young men and women,” she says.

She understands the value of a chapter being able to provide a suitable living environment for its members. “Whether through CHIA (the Collegiate Housing Infrastructure Act) or other initiatives, we have to keep providing safe, affordable housing that our alumni

The new Beta Tau chapter home was a project of over eight years in the making.

The House that Beta Tau Built

By Merritt Onsa
can be proud of visiting. In this day and age, with millennials having a different opinion of housing than I did when I graduated in 1976, we have to keep it fresh and new in order to keep our chapters strong,” she says.

When Jennifer brings together the university, the lenders and the Greek chapters who wish to build new housing, she focuses on alleviating concerns for all parties involved. “It’s just a matter of bringing everyone together to figure out how we can accomplish this,” she says.

Assembling the Team
In the case of Beta Tau, once Jennifer gathered all the interested parties in a room, including university representatives Dr. Luckadoo, Vice Provost for Campus Life; Mary Peloquin-Dodd, CFO; Laura Ratchford, General Counsel, it took only two hours for the lender to agree to go forward on Beta Tau’s loan.

Afterwards, the committee went right to work and hired Omega Construction and Gontram Architecture to proceed with the project. Sigma Nu was the first to select its plot of land and begin construction in Phase I of the Greek Village. As a result of their experience, Sigma Nu paved the way for the other Greek organizations to follow in their footsteps with their own housing projects in the Village.

Beta Tau’s house is one of two newly completed Greek houses at NC State. The undergraduate members moved in last January to the new house, located on two-thirds of the original lot where the previous Sigma Nu house was positioned, at the highest point on the campus.

The House Tour
The facility is only one of four in the Greek Village with a basement and two stories. At 24,500-square-feet, it is the largest house that can be built on campus. Inside there’s a full commercial kitchen, an elevator, chandeliers in the dining hall and a four-story high open staircase that, when lit at night, can be seen all across campus.

Downstairs, the brothers have access to a classroom, designated for LEAD events, chapter meetings and studying, when not otherwise in use. There are two 65” televisions that work simultaneously for viewing meeting agendas or Power Point presentations.

The house also boasts an activity room with a home theater set-up and a 70” television as well as a beautifully furnished Alumni Library, which is used for Alumni Advisory Board meetings and other alumni gatherings.

Recognizing Those Who Made it Possible
Every room in the house is named for an alumnus based on amount he pledged in the 1970s. The bricks were salvaged from the Inn and used in the hearth at Beta Tau’s previous house. “Now, any brother who enters the new house will walk a pathway of where Beta Tau was founded,” says Howard.

This ADA compliant facility sleeps 37 of the current 89 initiated brothers. The rooms have double sound-proofing between the walls, a speaker system and surround-sound in every room. Bedrooms also provide one electrical receptacle per student where they can quick-charge an iPhone, iPad or laptop computer. Most of the rooms are doubles, except for seven singles reserved for officers and corner rooms that house three men each. Bathrooms are shared by just two brothers. While the rooms are priced differently based on size and accommodations, rent is comparable to what the university charges.
Jennifer Henson, Residential Capital, shares her tips for chapters, alumni or house corporations interested in pursuing funding for new house construction or renovations:

**Plan, plan, plan.**
All too often the house corporation thinks something can get done in an unrealistic timeframe. You must allow enough time for loan committees to meet, potential rejections and fulfilling all the other requirements that come from the lender.

**Paperwork Preparation**
Have all required documents prepared in advance, whether that’s the 501c letter, financial statements from your accountant or having your 990 form submitted in a timely manner. Delays can occur if documents aren’t ready when they are needed.

**Lawyers**
Secure legal counsel. It’s worth it to hire an attorney to review and bless every document you are given.

In addition, Howard asked Richard Vaughn to consult on the project throughout the design, fundraising and construction phases because of his 45-years of experience in commercial construction. Richard was involved in every aspect, including negotiating the contract with the builder and overseeing the quality of their work.

“In my opinion, there won’t be another fraternity house built on the campus that is any nicer or has finer amenities than the Sigma Nu house. I’m quite proud of it whenever I go there. The current brothers are bound to be proud of it as well as all the guys who contributed money to build it,” says Richard.

**New Home Make Bonds of Brotherhood Stronger**
There’s no question, the brotherhood has benefited from the new house. Eminent Commander Connor Pilgrim says the members enjoy eating two meals a day together at the house; the entire membership is on the full meal plan. “People are at the house a lot more than before. As a result, we’ve gotten a lot closer as a brotherhood,” he says.

The house has also been a selling point in recruitment. The most recent candidate class drew 31 men. “I’m excited because Sigma Nu at NC State has never been over 100. These young men have done a great job recruiting a variety of men who are now involved in the student senate, IFC and elsewhere on campus,” says Howard. The chapter also excels at philanthropy, raising $40,000 last year for St. Baldrick’s to fund childhood cancer research at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Finally, this housing project was successful in bringing alumni and collegiate members together to work toward a common cause. Unlike any other organization on campus, fraternities and sororities offer an opportunity for cross-generational involvement. Alumni, like those from Richard Vaughn’s era, have a chance to give back in a meaningful way; and collegians witness the longevity of the brotherhood through those supportive alumni.

Connor summarized it well. “Seeing this house built and getting to live here cements the idea that this is a lifelong commitment and not something we’re doing for just four years.”

One hundred twenty-five Beta Tau alumni made financial commitments to bring this project to fruition. Of those, the following men also served on the original fundraising committee: Eddie Sontram, Daniel Gunter, Dr. Gerald Hawkins, John O’Keefe, Howard Pickett, Matt Skidmore, Braxton Smith, Rick Tate, Reece Walter, and Doug Yopp.
Akron

Leadership Akron has selected a class of 34 leaders for its 2014-2015 Signature program including Shon Christy of Focal Point Social Media. With an impressive application field of over 80 qualified applicants, the selection process was especially competitive for Class 31.

Christy brings a strong background in social media and marketing with credits including Inside Business, Smart Business, Akron Beacon Journal and the Young Professional Roadmap promoting major brands. His recent launch of a new company, Focal Point Social Media, brings a focus on social media and current marketing techniques to businesses throughout the Greater Akron area and the United States.

“I have always believed with the right people working together, anything is possible,” said Christy. “It is the opportunity to work with people of this caliber to make our region stronger and more competitive that makes Leadership Akron such an exciting opportunity.”

Tuscaloosa tornado, Calderone was a member of the Mayor’s Incident Command team where he assisted in coordinating the volunteer relief efforts and aided in managing the distribution of essential items to citizens in need.

In 2013, Calderone was elected to represent district 4 on the Tuscaloosa city council and has also served as a member on the citizen’s advisory committee. Currently, Calderone works for the University of Alabama as assistant to the vice chancellor for government relations and economic development.

Alabama in Huntsville

The chapter is participating in the national It’s on Us campaign against sexual assault, which is coordinated through the White House. The chapter attended a speaker event and signed the pledge – “We will not tolerate sexual assault; it’s on us to take a stand and be part of the solution.”

Brother Austin Finley (Mu Beta 310), who holds positions with both IFC and SGA – the event’s co-sponsors – is the head coordinator of the campaign. His hard work has helped generate local and regional attention.

Mu Beta also finished second in the university’s homecoming week competition.

Albion

Brothers Landon Lefler and Christian Schubert were selected as two of the five male representatives of the Albion homecoming court. Also, on homecoming weekend, Brother Dominic Bona was named MIAA offensive player of the week after the quarterback completed 81% of his passes in Albion’s victory over Hope College.

Kevin Newcomb (Beta Theta 2796) spent the summer at Lockheed Martin working as a college student technical specialist. Newcomb worked in the company’s ballistic missile defense department. “Enemy intercontinental ballistic missiles can reach speeds of more than 5,000 m/s; so, in a sense, we are trying to shoot and hit a bullet with another bullet,” explained Newcomb.

Past Commander Tucker Osborne spent the spring and summer volunteering as an assistant coach with the Auburn High School boys’ basketball teams. “It’s a great feeling to see that light bulb go off in someone’s head when they understand something you are teaching them,” said Osborne.

Lt. Commander Nic Dahlgren and Harrison Hill traveled on a month-long medical volunteer trip to Africa this summer. During the trip they worked with the Blue-Med Africa Organization in the Volta Region of Ghana. They volunteered at the local hospital, setup community outreach clinics, played with children at an orphanage, did school health outreach, tended cured leprosy victims, and toured Ghana.

Butler

In the spring, alumnus Dane Suarez was named a national semi-finalist of the Metropolitan Opera National Council, a program designed to discover promising young opera singers and assist in the development of their careers. This season, Suarez has appeared
On May 10, hundreds of rubber ducks filled San Luis Obispo Creek for Kappa Pi’s Ducky Derby. The chapter’s goal: “duck” cancer.

The money raised went to the American Cancer Society. Participants bought numbered rubber ducks for $5.00 each to take part in the derby. Once participants purchased a duck, each was entered into the derby. Once all the ducks had been assembled, they were released and raced to the bottom of the creek. The winning duck came to take part in the derby. The chapter also hosted a face painting booth, an inflatable jumping gym, and a “Pie a Sigma Nu” booth. The goal was to raise $10,000 which the chapter nearly met.

On April 19th, the chapter held its first Carnival for the Cure to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. The chapter teamed up with TKE and Delta Delta Delta to co-host the event. The day was filled with games, cotton candy, performances by student groups like the Cal band, and a raffle. Berkeley police officers even joined in on the fun and volunteered to go into the dunk tank!

It was a great event, and over $2,000 was raised for cancer research. Beta Psi hopes to sponsor more events like this in the future and possibly make the carnival an annual event.

On September 30th, Iota Upsilon co-hosted Breaking Plastic, a campus-wide push to encourage environmental sustainability. Award winning director/producer, Angela Sun was the keynote speaker, and those in attendance were informed about the amount of plastic pollution via her award winning documentary, Plastic Paradise: The Great Pacific Garbage Patch.

City of Los Angeles Councilman Mitch Englander made an appearance, awarding Angela Sun an accolade for her commitment to the initiative, and, Sigma Nu put in a good word in order for Diane Harrison, CSUN president, to receive an additional award for her perseverance. The chapter also had the pleasure of meeting Assembly Member Matt Dababneh, who was more than happy to share his current projects in the community, and announce that Gov. Jerry Brown had passed the single use plastic bag ban that night, making California the first to do so statewide.

This event gave Iota Upsilon the opportunity to show the campus, fellow college peers and community that fraternities can assist in large scale movements for the betterment of society. CSUN Fraternities were receiving a lot of negative attention, which made the timing of this event crucial. The event was featured briefly on KTLA, and the chapter made many connections in associated students (the student project development office), raising about $8,000 dollars from various offices on campus for additional funding for the event.

The event continued late into the night, retaining many students and faculty for a private Q&A where students could win reusable water bottles from Klean Kanteen, and bamboo straws from Brush with Bamboo.

Case Western

Congratulations to Brother Anton Spencer and Erika Brentar for being crowned the 2014 homecoming king and queen on October 18th at the homecoming football game!

Central Arkansas

Dr. Chadwin Sandifer has been named a winner in the 2014 NJBIZ Forty Under 40 awards program. The awards program, produced by NJBIZ, is New Jersey’s premier business news publication.

The Forty Under 40 awards program honors men and women under the age of 40 who have been making headlines in their field and who share a commitment to business growth, professional excellence and to the community.

Sandifer is a 2013 graduate of St. John’s University where he received his doctorate in educational administration and supervision. Dr. Sandifer also holds an advanced certificate in instructional leadership from St. John’s University, which he received in 2009. In 2002, Sandifer completed a Master of Science degree in college student personnel from the University of Central Missouri and received a Bachelor of Science in psychology from the University of Central Arkansas in 1989.

Dr. Sandifer is both an Alpha Affiliate and former leadership consultant. Sandifer currently serves as the assistant dean for student affairs & programmatic effectiveness for Fairleigh Dickinson University’s school of pharmacy.

Central Florida

Mu Psi is pleased to report that its fall candidate class (23 men) is the largest recruited by the chapter in four years. In addition, the chapter was presented the Highest Retention Rate Award from the UCF IFC.

Clemson

In April, Theta Zeta was named IFC Chapter of the Year at Clemson University among 24 other fraternities. Theta Zeta has many members involved in different organizations at Clemson including IFC, Greek programming board, student government, Order of Omega, the football team, and others. This past spring, members of Theta Zeta were named to various leadership positions in Clemson organizations. Recruitment Chairman Thomas Johnston was voted IFC VP of finance, Lieutenant Commander Matthew Corbett was voted to be on the IFC honor court, and Curtis Wallace was appointed on the executive board of the Greek programming board. Thomas Johnston, Jonathan Schwartz, Coleman Hellyer, Hugh Smith, and Commander Kyle Kennedy were accepted into Order of Omega, an academic organization comprised of the top 3% of the Greek community.

In the fall, Theta Zeta teamed up with the sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma to compete in the annual homecoming float building competition for Clemson University. With the theme of “Hear Our Roar” Sigma Nu and Kappa Kappa Gamma won first place overall in the competition. Each year Theta Zeta enters this competition in the “movements” category.

Colorado State

The chapter is excited about winning Rock Chapter this summer and has been hard at work avoiding complacency. The chapter is currently planning its first philanthropy soccer tournament and has been working with several organizations in community service. Service events have included coaching Fort Collins youth sport leagues, the university’s Cans Around the Oval, Northern Colorado’s largest food drive, and the annual fall cleanup day. Alumni relations are at their strongest since rechartering.
in 2012. On homecoming weekend, the chapter had its second annual White Rose Formal for alumni and parents as well as the biggest tailgate since chartering.

Columbia

The Delta Gamma Chapter is proud to have hosted its Columbia Faculty Colloquia, a series of thought-provoking lectures and discussions led by distinguished members of Columbia’s faculty featured at the chapter’s brownstone. For three consecutive weeks beginning on Monday, April 7th and concluding on Monday, April 21st, the chapter had Professor Aaron Johnson (music humanities), Dr. Roosevelt Montas (director of core curriculum), and Dr. Shamus Khan (associate professor of sociology) join in the chapter’s continued commitment to actively fostering enrichment and engagement.

These accomplished faculty members covered topics ranging from the history of jazz music in New York, to the distinction between knowledge and awareness, to current trends in income inequality involving gender and race. Thank you to Professor Aaron Johnson, Dr. Roosevelt Montas, and Dr. Shamus Khan for speaking on their own academic passions and thank you to all members of the community who attended.

Columbus State

On Saturday, October 19, Mu Xi held its second GlowK run to benefit the Wounded Warrior Project. This year’s run included 250 participants and raised over $3,000. GlowK is a glow-in-the-dark 5k run that winds through the Columbus State campus and surrounding neighborhood.

The Mu Xi Alumni Chapter at Columbus State University (Columbus, Ga.) held its first Commander’s Dinner on June 28, 2014, at Meriwether Steak Company in Warm Springs, Ga. The invitation only dinner was an opportunity for former Commanders and their guests to share their experiences and advice to the incoming Commander of Mu Xi.

Drury

On June 21st, the Epsilon Beta alumni teamed up with the collegiate chapter’s executive council for a work day on the chapter house. The day was spent working on the grounds, painting, cleaning, and enjoying each other’s company and a BBQ dinner. The day was a success and the house looks as good as when it opened in 2001.

Eastern Kentucky

Theta Theta held its first Jail N’ Bail, a philanthropy event that raised $2,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Theta Theta is also continuing its partnership with Relay for Life in Richmond, Ky. Theta Theta is proud to show leadership in the community as well as on campus and looks forward to building on its proud tradition this year.

Georgia

On September 5th, 2014, Mu Chapter lost Alumnus Judge George J. “Generalissimo” Hearn (Mu 1048) to a hard fought battle with pancreatic cancer. During his funeral service in his hometown of Monroe, Ga. Mu brothers lined the outer isles of the church in respect to a great Sigma Nu brother. Judge Hearn was a very active alumnus of the Mu Chapter. Judge Hearn attended Grand Chapter in Nashville, Tenn., over the summer. His presence at Mu initiation ceremonies was always special. He always closed his remarks to the chapter with the same statement, “The three most important things in my life are God, my family, and Sigma Nu!” The legacy he left on the chapter is embodied by one of his quotes, “S.T.E., Set The Example.” Judge Hearn truly set the example that brotherhood is for life.

Mu Chapter rolled into the fall 2014 semester excited by the success of summer recruitment and by its third consecutive Rock Award earned in Nashville. The chapter welcomed its new candidate class by bringing them to the chapter’s annual retreat at the Jerles Pond Cabin. Mu Alumnus Billy Jerles (Mu 1713) opened his family’s hunting property to the chapter, which includes his two sons, active Brother Hudson Jerles (Mu 2488) and alumnus Brother Row Jerles (Mu 2429) for a weekend of shooting, camping, and planning for the semester ahead. The weekend concluded with a hike to the highest point on the property where the brothers took some time to hold a “White Roses and Thorns” session to discuss the successes and failures of the previous semester.

The start of October proved to be a very
NEWS 12 LONG ISLAND RECENTLY announced that award-winning sportscaster Bob Wolff (Duke) has been recognized by Guinness World Records for having the “longest career as a sportscaster and broadcaster.” Currently enjoying his 75th year in broadcasting, with more than 68 of those in television, Wolff is still going strong. Guinness World Records presented Wolff with the 75 year certificate at the New York Knicks game at Madison Square Garden Wednesday, November 12th.

Patrick Dolan, president of News 12 Networks and News 12 Long Island news director, noted, “For more than 28 years, we’ve been thrilled and honored to count Bob Wolff as a member of the News 12 family. Bob is more than a sportscaster – he’s a broadcast legend. His genius and relentless work ethic have been an inspiration for scores of young sport professionals at News 12 and elsewhere. We couldn’t be happier to be a part of his legacy.”

“This has been a wonderful journey and I’m still enjoying every moment,” said Bob Wolff. “I’ve been privileged to work with some of the best professionals in the business and for that I am truly grateful. I feel enormously lucky that I have been a professional sports broadcaster in nine decades, beginning on CBS in 1939, providing play-by-play of some of the most memorable games in sports history. To be honored at Madison Square Garden, where I’ve called so many memorable events, and made so many friends, is something I’ll always cherish, and I look forward to continuing to cover sports well into the future.”

Wolff began his professional career in 1939.
I’ve been privileged to work with some of the best professionals in the business and for that I am truly grateful."

Wolff has been behind the microphone for many sporting firsts. In 1956, he was selected to cover Mutual Broadcasting System’s broadcast of the 1956 World Series between the New York Yankees and the Brooklyn Dodgers. He had a sportscasting first in Game 5 when he called Don Larsen’s perfect game — the only one in World Series history. He also called the Baltimore Colts 1958 victory over the New York Giants at Yankee Stadium in the first overtime NFL Championship that has been called “the greatest game ever played.” In 1960, Wolff teamed with Canadian TV hockey great Foster Hewitt to call television’s first-ever pay-per-view game, Toronto against the Rangers at Madison Square Garden. In 1961, Wolff followed the Senators to Minnesota to become the first local broadcasting legend. He was the television voice of the Washington Senators beginning in 1947 and, in addition to calling games, he also handled the team’s pre-game and post-game TV and radio shows.

A New York native, Wolff resides in Rockland County, N.Y., with his wife Jane. They have two sons and a daughter. The "Wolffpack" now includes nine grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

The chapter opened its doors to welcome all the parents for parent’s weekend 2014. Friday night the chapter held a Cocktails and Coattails reception in downtown Athens where the mothers taught their sons to dance. At the Friday night event a silent auction was held benefitting the chapter’s philanthropy, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Donations from the families of Mu and from Sigma Nu alumni such as Bob Barker and Archie Manning were auctioned and a total of over $9,000 was raised for the Society. The weekend continued with a tailgate for the parents immediately followed by the Bulldogs prevailing over Vanderbilt.

The chapter also initiated 37 new brothers into the arms of Mother Mu with many prominent alumni in attendance. One such alumnus, Dr. Vernor Chaffin (Mu 621) knighted the man receiving the 2000th Mu badge numbers after his. Wyatt Cotter, from Bedford, N.Y., was knighted as Mu 2621. Mu Chapter continues to have the best social calendar on the UGA campus. This semester marked its second The Big Lebowksi, a date night where the chapter rents a local bowling alley and everyone dresses as a character from the movie “The Big Lebowski.” Year two proved to be better than year one in what is sure to become an annual tradition for the chapter.

Mu looks forward to the Friday before the UGA vs. Georgia Tech football game, a philanthropy event also benefitting the National MS Society. For the event Mu Chapter will pair with the Gamma Alpha Chapter from Georgia Tech. The brothers from Gamma Alpha will run the ball to a halfway point between Atlanta and Athens. After meeting withGamma Alpha the brothers from Mu will run the ball the rest of the way into Athens. This event is a great way to bring the two Rock Chapters together and contribute to a common cause.

Alumnus Myron Christopher Grant
of the Eta Gamma Chapter at Georgia State University was chosen to attend the Democratic National Committee’s Hope Institute in Washington, D.C. The Hope Institute provides the tools and training necessary to enter careers in political fundraising, nation- and statewide campaigns, and politically minded organizations.

While studying political science and international affairs at Georgia State University, Grant served as Social Chairman of Sigma Nu, a senator for student government association, and was a member of the mock trial team. In 2012, Grant studied European business and law in London, England. He is currently attending law school. After obtaining his law degree, Brother
Grant wants to work for a political campaign and eventually run for public office.

Hampden-Sydney

With fuel from an overturned semi-truck spilling all around him, Brother Worth Osgood pulled the driver of an overturned truck to safety.

Witnessing the semi-truck flip over after colliding with another truck on I-95 near Richmond, Va., Osgood was the first bystander on the scene to help and he had to break the truck’s windshield to ensure the driver was pulled to safety.

Brother Worth Osgood pulled the driver of an overturned truck to safety

“I knew from the severity of that accident that guy was in potential peril. I had to jump over a guard rail to get to him and at that point I had no idea what was waiting for me,” Osgood told Richmond CBS affiliate WTVR. “When someone is in potential peril, you have to do something.”

Hartford

October 17-19, 2014, was Mu Iota’s annual Hawktober weekend. Hawktober weekend is organized by the university and is both homecoming and parent’s weekend. For the alumni of Mu Iota, the weekend consisted of meetings, social activities, and reconnecting with brothers.

This year, the chapter had a large number of alumni attending events throughout the weekend. Initiates as low as badge number 24, and as recent as number 247 were in attendance during the weekend. On Friday night, the alumni chapter hosted a brewery tour at the local Hooker Brewery which included beer samples and a pint glass.

Saturday morning, the collegiate chapter hosted alumni for breakfast in The Commons, the newly rebuilt dining hall on campus. The alumni enjoyed seeing transformations the building had undergone in just a few months’ time. Following the breakfast, the newly reformed alumni chapter met to discuss plans and conduct business. After the meeting, the collegiate chapter hosted an alumni barbecue at alumnus Ed Park’s house which brought brothers old and new together to socialize, play football, and enjoy each other’s company.

Sunday was the annual fall fest carnival and the weekend finally came to a close with a collegiate chapter meeting that alumni were invited to attend. “It’s always great to see so many old and new brothers of Sigma Nu at alumni weekend. It gives us a chance to reminisce and relive our college years. The alumni BBQ was especially nice; it gave us a chance to mingle, eat, play sports, and just chill out with our brothers,” said alumnus Brother Mike Hass.

Jacksonville

Kappa Theta sought to re-invent itself to improve student and organizational involvement on campus this semester and has big plans for the upcoming spring semester. This semester, the chapter donated over 20 man-hours to the Jacksonville Quiltfest and received outstanding community support for its efforts. On October, 25th, the chapter volunteered with The Color Run 5k benefiting the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

James Madison

The Iota Delta Chapter is excited to host the first annual Rock Week philanthropy week raising money and awareness for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This event has been in the works since the first Sporting Clays Classic philanthropy event held last school year. Brothers Matt Goodie and Kyle Jenkins spearheaded this successful event.

Kent State

This semester, Zeta Gamma hosted philanthropies for the American Heart Association and for The Up Side of Downs. On October 12th, Sigma Nu partnered with Alpha Phi at Kent State to host the first event with the Delta Delta Delta sorority on campus called the Tri and Get Even event, benefitting the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Georgia

Mu Chapter’s Fall 2014 candidate class.
The Delta of Sigma Nu

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Eat Your Heart Out for the American Heart Association. With a $5 all-you-can-eat buffet and hot dog eating contest, the event raised $1,650 for the American Heart Association.

On November 8th, Sigma Nu hosted its yearly philanthropy with Alpha Tau Omega, the Blackfeet vs. Whitetails charity football game for The Up Side of Downs. The game was played at Dix Stadium, home of the Kent State Golden Flashes. With a $5 charge at the door to watch the game, the event raised over $4,000 for the Up Side of Downs.

The chapter was honored to invite Major League Baseball World Series Champion and future Hall of Fame Manager Jim Leyland to Kent State to host a LEAD session on stress management and motivation. Leyland managed the Pittsburgh Pirates, Florida Marlins, Colorado Rockies, and the Detroit Tigers over his managerial career while winning a World Series Championship with the Florida Marlins.

**Eta Mu (A)**

Eta Mu (A) Chapter extended 14 bids and had 7 returned. Those who returned bids will be going through the candidate ceremony next term (January-March). This is one of the largest groups the chapter has returned in quite a while and all are proud of the effort put forward during the term. Even though brothers are not currently at school, the chapter remains in contact with those who returned a bid and are striving to excel in year-round recruitment.

At Kettering University’s Greek semi-formal this year Brother Rich VanElls was nominated for the Golden Principles award while Alumnus Joel Hudson was the recipient of the Chapter Advisor of the Year. Also, the chapter raised $2,572 for the American Cancer Society through Relay for Life on September 13th and hosted a LEAD session on personal finance and budgeting led by Professor Williams of the business department.

**The chapter was honored to invite Major League Baseball World Series Champion and future Hall of Fame Manager Jim Leyland to Kent State to host a LEAD session**

Finally, the chapter is pleased to report that all repairs and improvements to the chapter house were completed in August after a pipe burst approximately one year ago. The flood ruined the foyer, entranceway, and one of the bathrooms, and caused the basement to be troubled with mold and mildew. The house in Flushing, Mich., is looking better than ever.

**Lamar**

The Zeta Psi Chapter kicked off its first rock, paper, scissors tournament benefiting St. Jude’s Children’s Research Hospital. 150 students, faculty, alumni, and staff participated in this year’s rock, paper, scissors tournament, including the university president, and fellow brother, Dr. Kenneth Evans (Zeta Xi 303). In addition to Zeta Psi’s love for service, a few members of the chapter have family who have battled cancer. This personal tie encouraged the brothers to host this event honoring cancer survivors and further advance research in finding a cure.

Five months prior to the tournament, Zeta Psi contacted St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital looking to set up an event benefiting the hospital. The chapter contacted local businesses to find sponsors and procured donations from Best Buy, Texas Roadhouse, Cotton Cargo, and Kampus Korner. Each helped in various ways, including t-shirts, publicity, and prizes.

After procuring sponsors, Zeta Psi contacted fellow Greeks asking for support in getting the event publicized. With the help of Facebook, Twitter, and even Yik Yak, the chapter blasted this event all over campus.

One of the milestones that made this event so successful was the grant that was awarded to the chapter through the Gay D. and William F. Scott Foundation by Brother Bill Scott (Zeta Psi 211). Originally, Zeta Psi Chapter had a goal of $3,000; however, the original goal was surpassed with a net of over $7,000 that will be donated to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This success has the Zeta Psi Chapter raising their goals for next year’s event, with hopes to raise $10,000 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

**Mercer**

Eta Chapter worked hard on a successful recruitment this semester. With all the brothers living across the southeast, it was hard for sophomore Brother Kevin Bourne to quickly and efficiently develop a successful recruitment schedule. This didn’t stop him from planning a great schedule filled with different activities for the brothers and the potential new members. Carlos Laguardia, another sophomore brother, was also hard at work. He was steadily working with alumnus Chris Albrecht to reach out to Eta Chapter’s alumni base.

With the support of alumni and approval of the chapter, Eta extended 18 bids and received 18 new candidates on August 30th, 2014. This was a major success for the chapter as it was the largest candidate class since the early 2000s. With this sudden increase in chapter size, the Eta Chapter membership went from 12 to 30 in a matter of hours. The brothers were more than proud. Kevin Bourne was “more than ecstatic” about the new members and “couldn’t find words” for how happy he was. Eta Chapter would like to thank the alumni who helped with recruitment and who have helped the chapter for many years.

**Miami**

Epsilon Nu has had a busy fall with several events on campus. The chapter enjoyed Miami University’s designated family weekend by hosting mother’s weekend on October, 25th. Several events were held to allow brothers to spend time with family members. Brothers also participated in Greek week which led up to homecoming on Halloween weekend. The chapter hosted a cookout with alumni before the football game. The alumni board has been very generous and active in improving the house, including a new basketball hoop and a theatre room.

**Midwestern State**

Brother Luis Lopez was elected president of IFC and, for the second consecutive semester, devised the formal rush schedule for IFC fraternities.

Alumni support for the chapter continues to grow. Chapter alumni held a reunion on October 17-19 with participation from the collegiate chapter. Alumni Kevin Small and Chip Lloyd planned the events and Brother Zane Pollock coordinated efforts of the initiates and candidates in making local arrangements. Alumni came from around the country to attend, and Svein Omdal won the prize for travelling the greatest distance.
AS THE FIRST ASIAN-AMERICAN judge in Gwinnett County, Ga., the Honorable Chung Hun (Larry) Lee (Illinois) has led a life of service to his community, state, and nation. Coming to the United States as a youth following the death of his father in the Korean War, Lee and his family relocated to a small Illinois town near St. Louis. To support Chung and his sisters, his mother took two jobs. As an immigrant, Lee had to learn a totally new language and transition to life in the states. “It was very tough,” said Lee reflecting on his early years in the United States. When Lee’s sister entered the University of Illinois, the rest of the family followed her to Urbana, Ill. where Lee would graduate high school.

Lee entered the University of Illinois where he earned his B.A. and there joined Sigma Nu. Lee’s Sigma Nu story began when he met several of the Gamma Mu chapter brothers to whom he taught martial arts. Through these connections, Lee began to meet more of the brothers and eventually pledged the chapter. “I thought joining the Greek system would give me a sense of camaraderie and allow me to grow together with a group of guys,” said Lee, who broke the racial barrier when he joined. “I’m doing what I’m doing now because of the opportunities that I was able to have through the brothers in Sigma Nu. My Sigma Nu brothers were fantastic.”

Joining Sigma Nu Fraternity allowed Lee to have a rich social life and also play intramural sports. In fact, Brother Lee enjoyed playing intramural sports so much that he became an Illini cheerleader to watch the football games free from the sideline.

Brother Lee attended the graduate school at University of Missouri where he also became the first Asian-American Tiger Mascot. His membership with Sigma Nu assisted him in becoming a house father for the FIJI fraternity at University of Missouri in Columbia, Mo.

Lee moved to Atlanta in 1979 where he began law school at Atlanta Law School. Graduating in 1982, Lee began private law practice in 1983 as a first Korean American attorney where his practice focused on litigation, criminal, civil, family, immigration and business law.

Beginning in 1999, Lee began his service as a Judge in the Magistrate Court of Gwinnett County. Lee’s service as a Magistrate Judge continued until 2004 when he ran as the first Korean American candidate for State Court Judge receiving 39% of votes out of seven candidates. Brother Lee lost in the run-off election and resigned as a Magistrate Court Judge. Lee resumed with his service as pro ad hoc judge in DeKalb County (beginning 2012) and as associate judge in the Municipal Court of Duluth (2011).

Lee’s service in these roles is significant as Lee became the first Asian-American to serve as a judge in Gwinnett County, a county which has approximately 800,000 people. Brother Lee has served on the boards of directors on over 15 different organizations including the Gwinnett County American Cancer Society, United Way, and Gwinnett Hospital/Health System and the Korean American Scholarship Foundation as a national chairman. Lee has also served as pro bono counsel for numerous organizations including American Immigration Lawyers Association, the Korean American Association of Greater Atlanta, Korean Chamber of Commerce, and Gwinnett Philharmonic Association.

Additionally, Brother Lee has attained the rank of sixth degree Black Belt in Tae Kwon Do, has won numerous black belt competitions throughout the United States, and in September 1979, the Official Karate magazine wrote an article entitled “The Practical Tae Kwon Do of Chung Hun Lee.” Brother Lee has traveled to various countries to serve as a judge...
missionary and is an elder at the Korean First Presbyterian Church in Tucker, Ga. Among 80 awards, Brother Lee has received, Lee is very proud and humbled by receiving three special awards, the Korean American Family Service Award, the “Vision in Action” Award in 2011 and the Chief Justice Robert Benham Community Service Award. In particular, the Chief Justice Benham Community Service Award is presented annually to an attorney or judge in the state of Georgia who has shown an exemplary record of community service. Lee was a 2012 recipient of the award. In October of 2014, Lee received a gold medal from Georgia Institute of Continuing Judicial Education as a lecturer teaching Immigration Consequence of Criminal Activity to Georgia Superior, State, and Municipal Court Judges.

Reflecting on his life experience and career Lee said, “I’m the little boy from Urbana who made it to the pinnacle of his profession and achieved the American dream as an immigrant. Sigma Nu played a major role in my life and gave me a chance.”

“I want to contribute to the growth of Gamma Nu Chapter and give back as I have gotten older. It’s a permanent brotherhood as I proudly wear my university class ring with the Sigma Nu insignia and the Sigma Nu Foundation will be remembered in my will as a small token for the friendship and the good old memories I had from when I became a Sigma Nu brother. It would be nice to have Sigma Nu brothers from Illinois to say ‘Hey, I know he is not Harrison Ford but I remember that guy! We are proud that he has achieved an American dream and made our fraternity proud and well known in Georgia.”

Svein Omdal won the prize for travelling the greatest distance: he came from his home in Norway for the weekend

Eta Upsilon again participated in the Safe Halloween project sponsored by local organizations. The chapter members dressed in costumes, had games for the kids to play and passed out candy. One of the favorites from last year, Dolores (the football player in a tutu), appeared again this year.

The sisters of Alpha Phi Sorority challenged the chapter to a contest to see which group will get the higher grade point average this semester. The losers will cook a meal for the winners. Each group is deciding what it wants the other to serve.

Gamma Tau Chapter has seen numerous strides over the past academic year and is very excited about this upcoming year. Building the framework to become a large chapter on campus, Gamma Tau has increased its size since last fall by over 30 members. With a 28-man fall candidate class, and, now, an 87-man chapter, Gamma Tau is incredibly excited not only for this year, but the future of the chapter. Gamma Tau has not just grown in numbers but has also grown operationally. Gamma Tau is particularly proud of its LEAD program. Winning LEAD Chapter of the Year, Committee of the Year, LEAD Chairman of the Year, Excellence in Programming of all Phases, and Innovation in LEAD, the chapter has gone above and beyond the bounds of the LEAD Program, developing candidates and members to be better brothers, students, and professionals.

Also, Gamma Tau’s spring GPA was a 3.3, which was an improvement from last semester and was also the second best GPA of any fraternity on campus. The chapter won its 5th consecutive Rock Chapter Award at Grand Chapter this summer, giving the chapter a decade of excellence. A banquet will be held in late March to commemorate the chapter’s success over the past 10 years. More details will come on that event. The chapter is proud of its success and is eager to continue this tradition of excellence, Love, Honor, and Truth.

Minnesota

Gamma Tau Chapter

Minnesota

Epsilon Xi presented a $25,000 check to Friends of Children’s Hospital in honor of Olivia Manning during the Auburn football game on November 1st. The presentation occurred on the field between the first and second quarter.

The money was raised from donations of the annual Sigma Nu Charity Bowl game played last March at Vaught Hemmingway Stadi- um. The money raised in the game goes to a paralysis victim but proceeds from the last year’s game also went to the Children’s Hospital in honor of Olivia Manning.

The 26th annual Sigma Nu Charity Bowl will be played in March and part of the proceeds will go to Friends of Children’s Hospital at UMMC in honor of Olivia Manning. Since its inception, the Sigma Nu Charity Bowl has raised over $1.3 million, making it the largest Greek fundraiser in the country.

Thanks to all alumni, parents and friends for supporting the Charity Bowl through the purchase of advertisements, via donations and by volunteering at the gate, in the concession or elsewhere on game day.
Sports Announcer Recognized

Judge David Holton (Morehead State) has received significant media attention lately for his work as a sportscaster. Brother Holton’s sports casting is especially noteworthy as he lost his eyesight at the age of ten due to a brain tumor near his optic nerve. Holton uses friend Thomas Patterson as a spotter and relayer allowing Holton to make play-by-play calls through the public address system. Holton has received recognition on WDRB Louisville, a local news station, and on Time magazine’s website.

“I couldn’t believe all the publicity,” Holton told Morehead State’s alumni magazine. “It’s crazy the amount of attention this silly thing’s gotten. I’m just calling a football game.”

and accountability to improve academic performance. The chapter looks to continued success by working closely with its alumni and faculty advisors to develop personalized academic plans for struggling brothers.

Montana

Gamma Phi’s heavy emphasis on recruitment and expansion has paid off this semester. The chapter recruited 18 members this fall, up from 13 last year and seven the year before. The chapter also has legacies for the first time in recent memory — one is a double legacy of the chapter and the other has a brother who just graduated from the Ole Miss chapter. From day one, all have lived up to Love, Truth, and Honor that is held sacred throughout the Fraternity. Collectively, the candidates have contributed $1,650 to overhaul the chapter’s library. The time and effort they have devoted epitomizes the qualities looked for in candidates and they show early signs that they will be prepared for prominent leadership roles in the chapter and to further expand Gamma Phi.

Over the summer, Lieutenant Commander Ryan Mitchell restructured and refined the chapter’s bylaws. With a long chapter meeting at the beginning of the semester, the brothers of Gamma Phi passed and have begun to implement new policies to enforce a higher standard of accountability and compliance with Sigma Nu’s Risk Reduction Policy and Guidelines.

Finally, the implementation of an effective strategic plan has guided all operations in an organized method and has corrected flaws that have held the chapter back in the past. The chapter’s performance on Pursuit of Excellence last year is a black mark and Gamma Phi is using this as a lesson to drastically improve standards and devotion to national values and expectations.

North Dakota

Epsilon Kappa had a successful homecoming in October. The chapter is always trying to improve its relationship with alumni, and this year’s homecoming was proof that relations are headed in the right direction. Several alumni came back for homecoming who had not seen the chapter house since they graduated in the early 1990s. Alumni loved seeing their old rooms and several times throughout the night, alumni were found reminiscing in the lounge about time they spent together over 20 years ago. They appreciated the hospitality shown by the collegiate members and promised to bring even more of their brothers for next year’s homecoming. Seeing alumni was a great reward for the hard work the chapter has put in to form stronger relationships.

This fall, Epsilon Kappa held its inaugural Sigma Alpha Epsilon vs. Sigma Nu Winter Classic. This philanthropy hockey game was held to raise awareness against hazing and put in to form stronger relationships.

Community Service and Philanthropy Chairman Kyle Szucs held a committee meeting in the summer to plan the event and reserve ice time. The chapter plans for this event to continue in the upcoming years and eventually turn it into a community-wide tournament within the next five years. Lastly, the chapter would like to congratulate several brothers on their academic and professional accomplishments. Jeremiah Enright was accepted into law school at DePaul University in Chicago, one of the top law schools in the Midwest. Brandon Voung, a junior this year, was accepted into the graduate nursing program at UND. Brandon frequently tells the chapter that he has always wanted to be a pediatric nurse, and he has now made a great step in accomplishing this dream.

Kyler Nathe, a senior, recently acquired his helicopter license from the John D. Odgad School.
of Aviation, one of the most prestigious programs in the world. Ever since his early years growing up in a small Montana town, he has wanted to follow in his father and grandfather’s footsteps of becoming a helicopter pilot and serving America overseas. Knowing Kyler received his helicopter license here at UND made his Fraternity brothers and his family very proud.

Eminent Commander Zack Worthy will graduate this December. His commitment and leadership will be missed. Zack paved the way for the chapter by pointing it in the right direction for future endeavors in philanthropy, the community, and on campus. He will graduate with a bachelor’s degree in communications and a minor in sociology, and will pursue a career in television production in Minnesota.

**North Dakota State**

Eta Theta Chapter hosted their 2nd annual haunted house to benefit the American Heart Association on October 30th and 31st. This is the chapter’s second year hosting the haunted house and it raised $2,811 for the American Heart Association – up from the $2,253 raised last year.

The chapter house was especially scary this year as the chapter put much more time into the details. The chapter had a variety of guests attend including: children from the community, students, and campus staff. All guests commented on how impressed they were by the event and many went through the house both days.

The idea was sparked in spring 2013 after a discussion involving several members. The chapter wanted a unique philanthropic event that had never been done at NDSU. This small idea eventually lead to a passion that all the chapter members shared. A lot of time was put into ensuring that the event would be fun and safe for all. The house tour was timed to see how long it would take groups to get through and props and actors were placed in precise locations to ensure an optimized experience.

“North Dakota State photo caption”: Eta Theta brothers made a special composite with their haunted house costumes and masks. The haunted house philanthropy put on by the brothers raised $2,811 for the American Heart Association.

**North Georgia**

Felipe Friedrich (K1036) who graduated in December 2013 and moved back to his home country of Brazil. Friedrich pledged Kappa Chapter in fall 2011, while simultaneously earning Division II All-American team for his outstanding tennis season.

Friedrich was called to a surprise ceremony at the Delta marker on campus where he received a framed plaque and picture, which was paid for and signed by each brother of the chapter. At the Delta marker, the chapter linked arms in a circle each saying their own goodbye.

**North Texas**

Zeta Omicron Colony has moved back into its house. The house, built in 1990, was the first house built on Greek row at the University of North Texas. This past summer was spent refurbishing the interior and back yard, including several colony workdays under the supervision of Zeta Omicron Alumni House Board Association.

With its first semester back in the house, the colony more than doubled with its fall recruitment class. The colony intends to use this larger member base to build on past success, including best grades on campus and most improved scholarship last fall, and second overall academics in the spring.

Zeta Omicron is currently preparing for two important events. This year’s homecoming will be the first where the colony can host the alumni at the house after the game. The colony is also bringing back an old Zeta Omicron philanthropy event, the Snake Pull, a series of team competitions.

**Mississippi**

Epsilon Xi Chapter presents a $25,000 check to Friends of Children’s Hospital in honor of Olivia Manning at halftime of the Auburn at Ole Miss football game.
that culminates in a Greek-wide tug-of-war tournament.

Finally, Zeta Omicron would like to thank its Alumni Association Board, which has been incredibly active and critical to the continued success of the colony.

Northern Illinois

The Theta Eta Chapter hosted an on-campus LEAD session with Mayor John Rey of DeKalb and Northern Illinois Vice President of Operations and Community Relations, Bill Nicklas. These two gentlemen presented on leadership in the community and how college students can enhance the campus and surrounding environment.

Oklahoma

This past year, Delta Epsilon has started to see its first success in campus events. In the Sooner Scandals show, a musical revue composed of the OU Greek community, the chapter’s Sherlock Holmes themed performance took second place. Delta Epsilon’s first University-Sing show has already made the finals.

Delta Epsilon is once again participating in the annual St. Jude walk benefiting St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital on November 22, 2014. Last year, Delta Epsilon was among the ten largest donors to the Oklahoma City walk. In addition to the walk, the chapter also hopes to work with a sorority on campus to host a multi-day Christmas themed event for the Oklahoma City children benefited by the work of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Penn State

Delta Delta is pleased to say it had 18 bids accepted this fall. The chapter also had a philanthropy called Doans Bones BBQ in which all the proceeds were donated to Wounded Warrior Project. Delta Delta has been involved with numerous camp-
AFTER A VERY LONG JOURNEY, GAMMA KAPPA IS extremely pleased and proud to announce that “Sluggo” — the bronze buffalo sculpture, commissioned by over 80 Gamma Kappa alumni donors for the Buffalo Brothers Memorial, has arrived and is now installed in front of the Gamma Kappa chapter house at 1043 Pleasant St.

The delivery and installation occurred on Thursday, September, 11, on a cool, rainy morning in Boulder. A very large “boom truck” was secured to hoist the 750 lb. sculpture and its 2,500 lb. limestone pedestal about 40 feet into the air. This strategy allowed the sculpture to move from the “boom truck” (which shut down Pleasant Street for a couple of hours) over cars, trees and the hedge that surrounds the Gamma Kappa compound and into the chapter’s front yard. It turned out to be quite an event, attended by a majority of our chapter members, alumni officers, and interested neighbors and friends.

The memorial buffalo statue was officially dedicated on October 25th with over 300 alumni, collegiate brothers, family, and friends in attendance. Several family members of deceased alumni who were honored through the memorial statue were also in attendance.

More than 80 Gamma Kappa alumni, spanning five decades of chapter membership, generously contributed over $27,000 to commission and install this magnificent memorial. 🎨

Top: Over 300 alumni, collegiate members, family, and friends gathered for the dedication of the alumni memorial statue on October 25th. Above: “Sluggo” the alumni memorial statue is lowered into place in front of the Gamma Kappa chapter home.
NEW YORK GIANTS QUARTERBACK
Eli Manning (Mississippi) is a two-time Super Bowl winning quarterback. He is also a Redditor.

On August 29th, 2014, the Super Bowl champion took to the widely used Internet website Reddit where he participated in an Ask Me Anything (AMA). The AMA is a popular avenue for everyday Internet users to ask public figures questions during a set period of time.

Brother Manning got to show off his lighter side by responding to several interesting questions posed by fans.

On the worst prank that was ever pulled on him:
“Jeff Feagles (former Giants punter) removed all the air out of my tires one year at training camp and left me a bike pump so I could pump up my tires just enough to get to a gas station.”

On his favorite video game:
“Zelda, on original Nintendo.”

On competitiveness with his brother Peyton:
“We’re probably not as competitive now as when we were both teenagers, we had some pretty physical basketball matches back in the day. I guess so much that my dad ended up removing the basketball goal.”

On the dreaminess of Tom Brady:
“He’s pretty good lookin’.”

On being able to do a back-flip from a standing position on solid ground:
“Negative.”

Of course, not every question and answer were as zany. Manning answered several questions about his personal life where his responses indicated that he prioritizes spending time with his wife and two young children.

Another topic for many questioners was Manning’s relationship with his brother Peyton and father Archie. While there were several examples of their competitiveness, Eli also spoke of the respect that exists between he and his brother — and the occasional goofiness that they get to have together.

“Anytime I get to see my big brother and spend some time with him while also making a fool of ourselves is enjoyable,” said Manning speaking about the rap that he and Peyton performed for a DirecTV commercial that aired last August.

In several answers, Manning provided insight into his approach to the quarterback position where he focuses on knowing the playbook and being aware of opposing defenses. Manning also spoke about what keeps him motivated to improve, “You know, just to get better. To know that we have a full team of guys who are working hard to win each game, to ultimately win a championship, and I don’t want to let these guys down.”

In responding to a question about his career after playing football, Manning indicated that he might coach youth football. For now though, Manning appears to be happy just where he is, “I couldn’t ask for a better job than the one I have right now.”

Brother Eli Manning’s Ask Me Anything is still available on reddit.com.
pus blood drives and Mt. Nittany clean ups.

Also, Delta Delta has started its fund-raising efforts for THON by canning for money at various brother's homes.

In the spring Delta Delta finished 4th out of 54 fraternities in intramural sports and also had the second highest GPA out of 54 fraternities. On top of this, Property Association President Bob Nelson won the House Corporation Officer of the Year Award at this summer's Grand Chapter.

Rochester

Lambda Eta Chapter hosted its annual hot wing eating contest on Friday, September 12, in the student union. This year’s contest was cosponsored by the Rochester Delta Gamma Chapter with proceeds benefiting the St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

This was the chapter’s fifth annual contest, and beat last year’s record setting fundraising numbers, raising approximately $1,215, with $650 being donated to the Hospital. 45 students participated, including 10 brothers, and over 250 people attended the event.

Philanthropy Chair Daniel Parker (Lambda Eta 358) and last fall’s Philanthropy Chair, Jordan Schilling (Lambda Eta 348), worked closely together for several months to organize the event.

For the first time in this contest’s history, separate prizes for the top male and female were offered. For the second year in a row, the chapter offered a prize for the contest’s top fundraiser. This year's top fundraiser raised $242.

Samford

At the end of the spring semester, Iota Chapter won the Most Outstanding Campus and Chapter Involvement Award, the Administrative Chapter Operations Awards, as well as its 4th consecutive Intramural Fraternity Sports Championship at Samford’s Greek awards banquet.

The Intramural Sports Award includes winning two of the last three flag football championships, as well as five consecutive basketball championships. Iota continues to have a high emphasis on athletics as 11 brothers and five candidates play on the football team, five of whom start for the Bulldogs. Brothers Hogan Whitmire, Josh Baker, Matt Reid, and Chase Owen were named to the first ever Samford University Women’s Basketball Practice Team.

Also, in a span of about four weeks, led by Brother Matt Arnwine the Iota Chapter raised nearly $7,000 to help provide shoes for the nation of Dominica. Brother Jake Moore was named IFC president for the year 2014.

Southeast Missouri

In December 2012, Brother Dana Whittle (Iota Pi 19) lost his beautiful wife Kathryn of 33 years after a long battle with ovarian cancer. The passing of Brother Whitlow’s wife prompted the chapter to seek ways to assist Brother Whitlow and have an impact on those fighting ovarian cancer. The results of the chapter’s search resulted in the idea to host a golf tournament benefiting the Ovarian Cancer Research Institute.

Iota Pi hosted the second annual Kathryn Whitlow Memorial Golf Tournament on October 27th at the Indian Hills Country Club in Marietta, Ga. A total of 96 golfers participated in this year’s tournament and with the combined efforts of the collegiate and alumni chapters of Iota Pi, the event has raised over $25,000 in only two years.

In attendance were members from the Ovarian Cancer Research Institute and Dana Whitlow’s daughters Stephanie Whittle and Elizabeth Farrell.

Many collegiate
cancer.

The Delta of Sigma Nu

Spring 2015 # page 47
Celebrating 100 Years at Idaho

Delta Omicron will celebrate its 100th anniversary since chartering in 1915 on May 1-3, 2015, in Moscow, Idaho. A full weekend of activities are planned, beginning Friday May 1st with afternoon golf, registration and a social gathering, leaving plenty of time for candidate class gatherings afterwards. Saturday’s events will include morning golf, campus tours to include walking and trolley tours of the campus and a tour of the newly updated Kibbie Dome. The chapter house will be open all day and will be hosting a BBQ lunch with plenty of time to catch up on all that is going on with the chapter members.

A 100 year celebration dinner will kick off at 5:30 Saturday evening with a reception at the University Inn, followed by dinner at 6:30. Mark your calendars for May 1-3, 2015 and plan on celebrating 100 years of brotherhood with old and new brothers. Spouses are welcome and encouraged to attend. Call a brother today and encourage him to attend – special recognition will be given to the candidate class with the highest percentage of returning brothers.

All event times except the banquet are tentative at this time. The University of Idaho Alumni Relations office will send official invitations and registration forms to all Sigma Nu Delta Omicron alumni, and these forms will be returned to and tracked by the office.

For additional information, please email Brad Wing at bwing@gsstrategygroup.com or Ben Rae at brae@idfbins.com.

Moving forward, the chapter would like to host similar LEAD Days once a semester to provide other chapters the opportunity to participate and collaborate in the pursuit of excellence.

Other notable accomplishments include: Brother David-Luc Graap (Iota Pi 480) being elected IFC president for a second term, Brother Alex Harrington (Iota Pi 479) being elected SGA president, and Brother Robert Bailey (Iota Pi 486) being elected vice president of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers at Southern Polytechnic State University.

Stephen F. Austin

It has been another busy and eventful fall semester in the Piney Woods and Stephen F. Austin State University. This October marked 15 years that Sigma Nu has been on the campus of SFASU, with the colonization beginning in October 1999.

The chapter has recommitted to sponsoring a 2-mile stretch of highway to maintain and keep clean. The candidate class took a hit when it lost half its numbers. The remaining candidates have rallied and launched a large fund-raising effort.

In conjunction with the alumni chapter, Mu Upsilon has planned the third annual Keith Beall Memorial Golf Tournament, being held at the Woodland Hills golf course. The tournament is held in memory of Keith Beall (Mu Upsilon 3) with proceeds going to...
Davis Inducted Into Ole Miss Hall of Fame

Dr. James Davis (Mississippi) was recently inducted into the Ole Miss Alumni Hall of Fame. Davis, who has taught accounting at the University of Mississippi since 1965, has served as the faculty advisor for Epsilon Xi Chapter for many years.

Named Outstanding Teacher in 1985, Dr. Davis served as dean of the Patterson School of Accountancy from 1993-2002. While Davis officially retired in 2009, he has continued to teach part-time and retains the title of Peery Professor of Accounting Emeritus.

Above: Dr. James Davis (center) is flanked by prominent Epsilon Xi alumni including Senator Roger Wicker (immediate left of Davis) and past Senator Trent Lott (left of Wicker) at the Alumni Hall of Fame induction.

to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This event coincides with homecoming weekend each year.

Stetson

Delta Mu is pleased to announce and congratulate its 33 new candidates, one of the chapter’s largest classes in history. The chapter is excited to report that it will be initiating these candidates at Sigma Nu Headquarters in Lexington, Va. This is sure to make one of the best memories in a Sigma Nu brother’s life even more memorable than before!

Stevens

Gamma Delta set a new standard for its philanthropy and community service with the new War of the Roses event. This event raised a total of $3,200 for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Gamma Delta also made over 400 cards for children and cleaned up the Hoboken community.

During the spring 2014 semester, Gamma Delta Chapter continued to uphold its high standards for academics with 48 brothers on the Dean’s List. Furthermore, 18 brothers excelled academically to the standard of receiving scholarship keys. Thirteen knights achieved a gold key with a semester GPA above 3.75 - one of which is a varsity athlete and thus earned President’s Cup Recognition. Additionally, five brothers performed well enough to earn themselves a silver key designation: GPA between 3.5-3.74.

In conclusion, the chapter continues to work to further raise the bar in terms of academic standards each and every semester. The brotherhood also has grown closer together by attending events such as bowling trips, paintballing, and trips to the movies.

Texas State

Eta Tau is proud to report that it received first place for Texas State University’s IFC event Letters in the Library as the chapter had the most members present in the library among all Greek organizations during the spring semester. That same semester, the chapter also won first place for Texas State’s Bobcat Build for the most members participating among all Greek organizations.

This semester, the candidate class of Alpha Iota along with new members from Delta Gamma Sorority placed second at Anchor Splash (Delta Gamma’s annual fundraiser). Also, the Eta Tau Chapter would like to acknowledge the academic achievements of Giuseppe Cilona (HT 888) who made a 4.0 on a 4.0 scale in the spring semester of 2014.

Texas Tech

Zeta Pi has had a more than successful fall semester. After winning Rock Chapter...
On April 16th, Dr. **Thomas Panko** (Southern Mississippi/Louisiana State) was inducted into the Southern Mississippi Greek Life Hall of Fame. Panko, an alumnum of both the Theta Gamma and Phi Chapters is an influential Sigma Nu having served as Associate Executive Director, Division Commander, and Vice Regent of Sigma Nu Fraternity. Dr. Panko is also a consistent contributor to the community of Hattiesburg and USM. His dedication and service truly display a high sense of honor.

Dr. Panko was initiated into Theta Gamma as the 200th member in 1982. He later served nine years as both a faculty and chapter advisor to Theta Gamma, and he also functioned as the house corporation president for a number of years. Through his work with the General Fraternity, Dr. Panko has collected a variety of historical items and donated them to the local chapter ranging from original copies of *The Delta* to a miniature knight for the mantle. Having vast amounts of knowledge and experience, Panko is always available to advise the chapter. A majority of his profound understanding on fraternities and Sigma Nu stems from his impressive background while volunteering and working for the General Fraternity. Dr. Panko was a Division Commander for six years and was a two term Vice Regent on the High Council. Panko was later appointed Grand Sentinel. In addition to these positions, he served as the Associate Executive Director of the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation. Dr. Panko was part of the committee that...
this past summer at Grand Chapter, the chapter is pleased to welcome 69 new candidates. So far, the chapter has participated in community service activities, and hosted its own philanthropic event, Sigma Nu Bowl. Sigma Nu Bowl is a flag football competition hosted by Zeta Pi and is made of teams of the campus’ sorority members. All proceeds benefit the Beyond Batten’s Disease Foundation.

For the past five years, he has functioned as a Criminal Justice Liaison to the Schafer Center for Crisis Intervention located in Hattiesburg. The Schafer Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to serving victims of sexual assault and co-victims of homicide and suicide. In 2009, Dr. Panko received the Amy Clayton Volunteer Service Award, the highest local victim’s advocate contribution, especially in assisting victims of crime.

In the community, Dr. Panko has exceeded normal contributions, especially in assisting victims of crime.

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CINCINNATI ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

Eta Lambda alumni gathered for a golf outing at the California Golf Course in Cincinnati, Ohio, on Saturday, August 23rd.

Despite one of the hottest days of the summer, 21 Eta Lambda alumni brothers showed up for the first of what they hope to be many alumni events to gain support for a return to Cincinnati. There was a wide spectrum of alumni ranging from the late 1980s to 2011. Alumni enjoyed a great time hearing stories and getting up-to-date on the current status of the Eta Lambda Chapter.

All golfers teed off in the early afternoon and finished just in time to avoid an end-of-the-day rainstorm. A special thanks to Brother Paul Rieder who organized the event which ran smoothly and had some great prizes for the winners of the day.

If any Eta Lambda alumni would like to connect, participate in future events, or receive the Eta Lambda alumni newsletter, email sigmanucincy@gmail.com.

that are changing for the better. The Greek man today, and indeed the Sigma Nu today, is a different man than he was decades ago. Therefore, the Vanderbilt IFC has aimed to use this agreement to reaffirm commitment to creating cultures of inclusion, openness, and love, for potential new members, candidates, and brothers. The IFC has aimed to put the spotlight on itself so that it might be able to prove that fraternity truly means for the men of today.

The agreement also establishes a Greek Allies Program, which will include several brothers of every chapter going through appropriate training to become Greek Allies. These allies will be considered a resource to be used, behind closed doors, for any potential member, candidate, or brother that needs help in some way. Maybe he feels excluded from the rush process because of his sexual orientation, or perhaps he is a brother who cannot pay his dues, and does not know how to raise the question with his president. These allies will create safe spaces for tough conversations, and they will help drive forward the ideals of a community based in love.

The agreement is already receiving positive attention. Thank yous and congratulatory remarks are pouring in from deans all over campus, and administrators in the Office of Greek Life have been busy sharing the IFC’s work with eager colleagues. Sigma Chapter is proud to have played a major role in the development of this agreement. Countless Sigma Nus, in fact more than the program can support, have already stepped forward asking to be Greek Allies. The chapter will undoubtedly be leaders in the Greek community here at Vanderbilt in demonstrating what it means to believe in the life of love.

Virginia Tech

The Theta Xi Chapter at Virginia Tech is proud to announce that it has rededicated itself to giving back to the community in Southwestern Virginia. The chapter held a canned food drive that helped feed hundreds of families in the New River Valley region that the chapter calls home. In addition to cans and boxed items, monetary donations were collected from the Greek organizations at Virginia Tech and local community. The chapter has also volunteered time with Habitat for Humanity that the chapter calls home. In addition to cans and boxed items, monetary donations were collected from the Greek organizations at Virginia Tech and local community. The chapter has also volunteered time with Habitat for Humanity where the entire chapter was able to assist in building a home for those less fortunate. The chapter is looking forward to making a difference in Southwestern Virginia and the Virginia Tech community.

Theta Xi also wants to thank its alumni organization, Progress Properties Inc. and all alumni for amazing participation during several events including homecoming, initiation of members of the preceding local chapter, and the alumni weekend, during which actives participated in an alumni golf tournament that helped to raise $1,300 for house restoration.

Washington

The Gamma Chi Chapter participated in the Seattle Brain Cancer Walk on September 20th in honor of Brother Colin Carty, who succumbed to brain cancer in 2008 at the age of twenty-two. The chapter participates annually in the walk with Carty’s parents.

On October 10th the Gamma Chi Chapter held its first ever glow run. Participants ran a 5km course around the UW campus at night covered in glow sticks and finished the run at a concert with three DJs. The event raised money for the Ben and Catherine Ivy Center for Advanced Brain Tumor Treatment.

"The run was a big success"

The philanthropy chairs were thrilled with the event saying, “The run was a big success, not only did we raise over $1,200, but everyone looked like they were having fun! We hope that this is something that could turn into an annual event for our house.”

West Virginia

Brian Westfall (Gamma Pi 1160) was appointed district deputy grand exalted ruler for the Maryland west district of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, for the 2014-2015 fraternal year. He is a past exalted ruler of...
TULSA Alumni Reunion

THE ZETA LAMBDA ALUMNI
Chapter hosted their seventh annual reunion and tailgate on October 18, 2014. The annual reunion was held on the campus of the University of Tulsa after the TU vs USF football game. The reunion started as a fairly small backyard BBQ and has evolved into a successful event aimed at mobilizing alumni and fundraising to support an ongoing recolonization effort.

This year’s reunion saw over 100 alumni members and their families attend. The wife of the late C.A. Towne, a Zeta Lambda founding father, presented the alumni chapter some documents related to the 1951 founding of the chapter, specifically its transformation from Beta Tau (a small, local organization) into Sigma Nu. These documents will be put on display in the University of Tulsa’s Heritage Collection. Mrs. Towne even wore her husband’s original Sigma Nu badge.

Zeta Lambda has been participating in an ongoing recolonization effort since its dormancy in 2004. At the event, the chapter announced that the university has confirmed their support of its recolonization effort. Future events such as this are sure to generate more interest and support from the alumni base.

The reunion started as a fairly small backyard BBQ and has evolved into a successful event aimed at mobilizing alumni and fundraising.
THE MU KAPPA ALUMNI CHAPTER
(Southeast Missouri State University) is proud to have celebrated the 20th anniversary of its founding. A weekend celebration was held October 24th and 25th in Cape Girardeau, Mo., with over 175 Mu Kappa brothers (more than half of all initiates), the university president, and past Regent Joe Gilman (Morehead State/Georgia) present for the events.

The weekend included the first use of the newly created Alumni Rededication to Honor Ceremony and a formal dinner celebration. At the dinner, Joe Gilman presented the chapter with its original charter which had been missing for many years.

University President Dr. Kenneth Dobbins spoke at length of the contributions Mu Kappa has made to the university and also announced the university’s plans to begin a Greek village in the near future. Mu Kappa will have a prominent place on Southeast Missouri State’s campus for years to come as the chapter is a leading
Frostburg, Md., Lodge #470, and a past vice president of the Maryland, Delaware, and District of Columbia Elks Association. He currently serves the association as scouting coordinator.

The West Virginia University community and Gamma Pi Chapter have teamed up with friends and family of Brother Jordan DeMaske to raise more than $17,000 to help combat DeMaske’s medical bills. DeMaske was recently diagnosed with sarcoma cancer that metastasized into his bone marrow and lymphatic system. He was treated by Pittsburgh UPMC but was able to go home to his family in Morgantown. He will start chemotherapy treatments within nine months.

DeMaske was merely months short of graduating and will have to wait to continue his collegiate studies. The Gamma Pi brothers have stood behind DeMaske and are helping support him. “We’ve always been close, but this brought us closer as friends,” said Brother Michael Summers. “We all went to see him and just the will power he has is amazing. He just kept telling us to calm down and stop worrying.”

DeMaske’s sister, Lauren, helps to communicate to friends and family about Jordan’s updates through her family’s GoFundMe site. The site is easy to use, and people are able to make donations for Jordan’s medical expenses. To donate to DeMaske’s medical bills, check out his page gofundme.com/DonationsForJordan.

Wyoming

This fall at Epsilon Delta, Brother Randy Elledge became the IFC president. The colony’s homecoming float was recognized as the Best Use of Theme in this year’s parade and it helped Chi Omega to win homecoming overall. Paired with the sorority, Chi Omega and the fraternity Lambda Chi Alpha, the Epsilon Delta Colony won the University of Wyoming’s Homecoming Parade Float Contest for the second year in a row on Saturday, October 18.

With help from ARCON Inc. who supplied the trailer, truck and tools to build the float, the men of Epsilon Delta, crafted the float, which included a steam-powered oil rig, and hand cut wooden representations of the Grand Tetons and Devil’s Tower, both Wyoming landmarks. In the center of the float was a cutout of Wyoming’s most notable mascot, the Bucking Horse and Rider.

Working long nights with the men and women of Lambda Chi Alpha and Chi Omega, Sigma Nu was able to establish their dominance on the University of Wyoming campus, much like they did last year.

Following the parade was Epsilon Delta’s open house for homecoming alumni. After four years of being closed, the fraternity house is again being repopulated.

TOP: Over 175 Mu Kappa brothers attended the chapter’s 20th anniversary celebration on October 24th and 25th. The weekend was highlighted by the first use of the Alumni Rededication to Honor Ceremony and speeches by both past Regent Joe Gilman and university president Dr. Kenneth Dobbs.

Above: (From left to right) Joe Gilman, John Loesel, and Travis Haberstroh pose with a plaque recognizing Mu Kappa for its 20th anniversary.

fraternity when it comes to donations to the Southeast Missouri Foundation, with five scholarships fully endowed for Sigma Nu undergraduates.

The highlight of the night was the re-presentation of the chapter’s original charter. Shortly after Mu Kappa’s founding, the charter mysteriously disappeared. This past August, it was found at the home of a chapter alumnus. Only four individuals knew that the charter had been found and it was a great surprise when Brother Gilman presented the charter back to the chapter’s founding fathers.

It was a great event and the alumni were proud to celebrate the chapter’s third Rock Award and 20 years at Southeast Missouri. ✹
Northwestern Celebrates Rededication of House

On October 19, 2014, the Gamma Beta Chapter celebrated the rededication of their house with an open-house brunch for alumni, university officials and key construction workers. Notable attendees included Regent Joe Francis, Sigma Nu Fraternity Executive Director Brad Beacham, and Sigma Nu Educational Foundation President Brad Hastings. The event was filled with joy, laughs, and tears as over 50 Sigma Nu alumni and their families took tours of the newly remodeled house while sharing stories and memories of the past.

During the event, attendees had an opportunity to see pictures of what the house looked like before and after the remodeling. The house is now adorned with a display case full of items from Gamma Beta’s past, including composites of some of the original Gamma Beta members, antique Sigma Nu badges/pins and a plaque to commemorate Brother Ed Forester. The appearance of the house truly calls to mind Gamma Beta’s rich history and shows signs of its promising future.

Founding father and Commander Mark Nelson gave a speech about his personal journey as a Sigma Nu. Ben Buettell, who was essential in the re-chartering process of the Gamma Beta Chapter, read the minutes from one of the first chapter meetings of Gamma Beta as well as spoke about how far the house has come and the meaning the house holds for all those involved in its grand reopening.

After rousing speeches from Brad Beacham and Joe Francis, the event closed with a Sigma Nu tailgate outside the Gamma Beta house to prepare for the Northwestern University homecoming football game against Nebraska.

After a rousing speech from Regent Joe Francis, the event closed with a Sigma Nu tailgate outside the Gamma Beta chapter home.
Colonel Roosevelt:
A Guide for the Modern Man

A review of Edmund Morris’ *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* By Drew Logsdon (Western Kentucky)

There are few men in American history who have broken so many constraints and categorizations like President Theodore Roosevelt. A quick review of some of his accomplishments illustrates the point. An asthmatic child, he none-the-less devoted himself to such strenuous physical activity as hiking trips to the Italian Alps and boxing lessons to ward off would-be bullies. He became a US Army colonel after serving as assistant secretary of the Navy. A statesman frequently at odds with his own party, he could be boisterous but also delicate and at ease in dealing with kings, barons, counts, and a Kaiser.

These personal ironies should come as no surprise from the child of a Southern belle and a New York Knickerbocker who came of age during the Civil War. But very few know “Colonel Roosevelt” (as he preferred to be called in his later years) outside of the usual stories. More-so, very few know about his life prior to his Presidency. It is fitting, then, that Edmund Morris had to tackle his biography of Roosevelt in three separate books with the first *The Rise of Theodore Roosevelt* focusing on his life before the Presidency.

Like any good writer of history, and especially of key figures of history, Morris lets his subject do the talking. In this, Roosevelt does not disappoint. An avid writer, his works included extensive personal correspondence and scholarly books still referenced at the US Naval Academy. He was also a committed diarist (for which we are thankful) and kept very astute records and observations. As the reader grasps the breadth of Roosevelt’s accomplishments and tribulations before his Presidency, it becomes obvious why the biography was best broken into three volumes.

It’s important to realize that Roosevelt was not inherently impetuous, as he is sometimes portrayed. In fact, he moved through life with great deliberation – aside from his personal finances – and took great pains before coming to a decision. His personality had brash qualities but this was not reflected in his deliberations or actions. Even in moments of intense action, he operated within a strict code of conduct and behaved accordingly.

Through Morris’ painstaking detail, the reader is privy to the crucible moments of Roosevelt’s early life that would frame his worldview for years to come. For example, his Presidency is well remembered for his conservation efforts that resulted in greatly expanded National Parks and Forests. Morris shows the conservationist’s spirit firmly grounded in Roosevelt’s childhood affinity for natural history where he took great interest in cataloguing the natural environment.

Roosevelt’s deeds and accomplishments are meticulously recounted in Morris’ work, so much so, that to attempt to list them...
all would not be feasible. Let the reader instead draw attention to the great wealth of wisdom we can take from Roosevelt, especially concerning pitfalls of modern manhood.

The Mind and The Body: A Life of Activity

At an early age, Roosevelt’s father told him, “Theodore you have the mind but you have not the body, and without the help of the body the mind cannot go as far as it should. I am giving you the tools, but it is up to you to make your body.” Roosevelt took this counsel to heart and worked hard to stay active, one of his best known qualities. He felt that a keen mind was only fostered by a healthy body and that both should receive regular attention and exercise.

Today this work remains a keystone piece of any naval historian’s library and is standard reading material at the United States Naval Academy.

As a student at Harvard, he began writing The Naval War of 1812 and completed it after graduation. The Naval War of 1812 was received with immediate recognition and no doubt eventually played some part in his appointment as Assistant Secretary of the Navy. Today this work remains a keystone piece of any naval historian’s library and is standard reading material at the United States Naval Academy.

Roosevelt exercised frequently and as a college student in Boston was an avid rower. He records on at least one occasion being drunk after one of Porcellian Club’s (the final club he joined in addition to being a member of Delta Kappa Epsilon Fraternity) events.

However, Roosevelt was not someone who chased women. If anything, he negatively viewed those who succumbed to indulgences and thus marred their character and responsibilities. His own brother, Elliott Roosevelt, succumbed to alcoholism at an early age and allegedly fathered a child out of wedlock, which resulted in his exile by the family to a farm in Virginia.

By all accounts Elliott was more academically minded than his brother but was eclipsed by him due to his addiction. Roosevelt called his own brother “flagrant man-swine” and advised that for Elliott’s wife to continue to be with him given his behavior was “little short of criminal.”

Elliott Roosevelt died at the age of 34 from injuries sustained during an attempted suicide. Despite Theodore’s strong disapproval of his brother’s conduct, he was none-the-less deeply moved at Elliott’s death. “Theodore was more overcome than I have ever seen him and cried like a little child for a long time,” wrote one observer.

Loss was not new to Roosevelt. His first wife, Alice Lee Hathaway, died days after the birth of their first child. Hours before, in the same house, Roosevelt’s mother had died of typhoid fever. Years prior, also in the same house, his father died of stomach cancer at the age of 46 while Roosevelt was still a student at Harvard. Following the death of Alice and his mother there is a solitary but poignant note in his diary, “The light has gone out of my life.”

Before reaching a mature age and long before most of his greatest accomplishments, Roosevelt had lost those closest to him. This cascade of tragedies might send a normal man into a tailspin of personal chaos; but, Roosevelt, while grieving deeply, would continue to great personal triumph.

Great men are truly measured not solely by their success but also by the adversity they overcome to reach their accomplishments. Roosevelt is a great example for the modern man to emulate in overcoming intense personal tragedy.

Roosevelt and Fraternity: The Way Forward

Our world and society today are different from when Roosevelt lived. Today we have become enamored with commercialism and the attainment of things to validate who and what we are. Our fraternity system is under near constant criticism. Websites style themselves as humorous and propagate ideas that all fraternity men should be homogenized into buffoonish satires of themselves. They would take no greater delight than the continuation of “man-swine” who have broken their fraternal vows and glorify hazing, misogyny, and ignorance.

For that disease, thankfully Roosevelt’s words from his Nobel Lecture speak across generations for others to listen to and heed. “We despise and abhor the bully, the brawler, the oppressor, whether in private or public life, but we despise no less the coward and the voluptuary. No man is worth calling a man who will not fight rather than submit to infamy or see those that are dear to him suffer wrong. No nation deserves to exist if it permits itself to lose the stern and virile virtues; and this without regard to whether the loss is due to the growth of a heartless and all-absorbing commercialism, or prolonged indulgence in luxury and soft, effortless ease, or to the deification of a warped and twisted sentimentality.”

Roosevelt’s message to the fraternity man of today would no doubt be stern. But, he would also encourage him. “A man’s usefulness depends upon his living up to his ideals in so far as he can,” he wrote to a friend in 1898. His message would undoubtedly be the same to young men of our generation. A firm commitment to the ideals that the fraternity man has pledged himself is the only way to secure a prosperous and honorable life.
The Campaign Within: A Mayor’s Private Journey to Public Leadership

Author: Neil Giuliano (Arizona State)
Publisher: Magnus Books
ISBN: 978-1-936833-26-9

In The Campaign Within, Neil Giuliano shares in candid and revealing detail his long private journey from growing up a shy, self-doubting kid with a secret in an Italian-American Catholic family to making history as the first openly gay mayor of a U.S. city over 150,000 in population.

In addition to his deeply personal story, Neil takes us behind the scenes of local and national politics, including his elections and involvement with Senator John McCain’s 2000 presidential primary campaign, the anti-gay mayoral recall vote that threatened to oust him from office, co-chairing a 2004 presidential debate, his decision to leave the Republican Party as it tilted further right, becoming a Democrat, and his considering a return to public office.

Neil also chronicles his national social justice work and celebrity-filled tenure as president of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and executive producer of the GLAAD Media Awards on the Bravo TV network with behind the scenes stories that surprise and inspire.

Brave and compelling, The Campaign Within demonstrates that the greatest campaigns are not the ones taking place within the public realms of electoral politics but the personal ones inside each and every one of us.

Currently CEO at San Francisco AIDS Foundation and a leadership consultant, speaker and coach, Giuliano resides in Tempe and San Francisco.

Reprinted from Amazon.com.

Beyond the Dream: Bandon Dunes

Author: Bruce Johnson (Oregon State)
Publisher: Johnson Street Publishing
ISBN: 9-780692-232828

Beyond the Dream is a memoir of place and time. These are the recollections of a landscape architect whose professional career spanned four decades, half of which was spent from the inception of a special destination golf resort built near Bandon, Ore., to near completion of the project. While golf development is the central theme at the resort, natural resource conservation and preservation of the genius loci of the place was pivotal in how the resort master plan was formed and built out. The writer’s insider view of the planning, permitting, facility design and construction of the resort’s infrastructure and architectural features takes the reader deeper into the past and further into the future.

Reprinted from cover.

Razz Ma Tazz

Author: Stan Zabka (DePauw)
Publisher: Big Island Music, Inc.
ISBN: 978-0-615-68640-0

From a Depression era home with a rich family heritage emerges a man whose music career, though interrupted by service in two wars, is seasoned to serve in the entertainment industry. His successes and failures, ups and downs, take him from obscurity to the limelight. His music and recordings still captivates millions.

“In Razz Ma Tazz, Stan Zabka gives us a glimpse into a very specialized corner of the greatest generation’s journey. Surviving the Great Depression and WWII, Stan immersed himself in the fragile fields of broadcasting popular music, and movies — seemingly all at the same time. Never a star but always a player, Stan shows us a world few have seen and adds the perspective of an ultimate insider.”

Reprinted from Amazon.com.

Solid State Radio Engineering

Authors: Herbert L. Krauss, Charles W. Bostian, Frederick H. Raab (Iowa State)
Publisher: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
ISBN: 0-471-03018-x

Solid State Radio Engineering is unique because of its broad coverage of both receiver and transmitter circuits and its illustration of theoretical concepts with numerical examples from real circuits. Design that uses practical circuit elements instead of idealized mathematical models is emphasized. The letter symbols used for semiconductor device currents and voltages conform for the most part with IEEE Standard notation.

Reprinted from Amazon.com.
Second Act

From business sales manager to published author.

By Nathaniel Clarkson (James Madison)
SECOND ACTS ARE ONE
of those things everyone
dreams of but few actually
pursue. Discovering a new
hobby or learning a new skill
after a successful career is
one of the things many look
forward to in retirement. And
it’s never been easier thanks
to all the resources available
on the Web, with everything
from learning to play a new
Navy for 20 years with four
years serving on active duty
and the balance in the active
reserves before retiring as a
Commander. He had job of-
fers to remain in Hawaii after
he completed his tour but
opted to be closer to his fam-
ily back in Virginia. “I had a
case of ‘Rock Fever,’ as it’s
known there — a reference to
the feeling of missing out on
Legacy of the Gray Ghost won the
Gold Medal for Southern Fiction
in 2011 and was named the best
Historical Fiction book of that
time as well.

Author Gerry Zimmerman
(Virginia)
consideration he decided to decline the DC post opportunity since it seemed foolish to move back for a pay cut.

Management in the home office in Hartford began to suffer after they hired a new executive with no experience in the field to be the senior VP of sales and agencies.

“He was never an agent and never had any experience leading other people in management,” Gerry recalls. He could sense things were not headed in the right direction with the new management, and after feeling a lack of appreciation for the job he and his team had done, he decided to leave the company — a difficult decision given his role in doubling production for that office from year to year on several occasions.

“When it comes to sales, dealing with people who can’t make decisions is not a great use of time.”

Moving to cable TV sales Right about this time Gerry had a fortuitous meeting with an old acquaintance — one of those chance meetings that comes right at the perfect time. “He told me about a guy in Denver, Bill Daniels, who had introduced major cable companies to the business, many of which had set up headquarters in the Denver area.” Gerry took him up on his offer to introduce him to Daniels. Even better for Gerry, this man had been a Navy pilot in Korea and later with the Blue Angels. They connected instantly thanks to the shared background. Bill Daniels, who was known as the father of cable television, saw a need for investment banking and brokerage in the cable TV business. His company, Daniels and Associates, became the leading financial services company in cable TV. The company was growing and needed another guy to handle brokerage — the sales and acquisition of cable companies.

“I think you can do this,” he told Gerry, “but nobody’s ever closed a deal their first year.” He offered Gerry half of what he was making at the time, as an advance against possible commissions.

As Gerry recalls, it was a risk, but with great potential. He walked away from a lucrative career for a great unknown.

“It proved to be an unbelievable thing,” he says now. “The cable business was putting programming on satellites which expanded the opportunities. I travelled all over the country working cable deals.”

Gerry did seven deals — the second largest in the history of the business in his first nine months in the business. After it was all said and done, Gerry sold over a billion dollars’ worth of cable properties, and in the process connected with early pioneers of the telecommunications industry.

Gerry travelled all the time, an experience he remembers as both exciting and stressful. He always had a goal to retire by 50, and his hard work made that a reality. Gerry’s family had built a second home in Vail, Colo., and they found themselves spending more and more time there, eventually building a larger home where they became full-time residents in 1994.

In 2003 Gerry’s wife suffered a major brain aneurysm where doctors gave a 1% chance of survival. She would make a miraculous recovery, but still lives with balance issues that prevent her from skiing.

“We’d been coming down to Scottsdale after ski season,” Gerry says. “We decided this would be a better place to live given my wife’s lingering health issues.” They sold the Vail house and found a beautiful home in Scottsdale where they live now.

What does it take to be successful in sales?

After school Gerry was supposed to play semi-pro baseball in New England until the team failed to provide transportation. Gerry ended up selling pots and pans door-to-door in a commission-only sales job. “I was selling these items so single women who lived in apartments in the Washington, D.C., suburbs.” Gerry discovered he could buy aluminum pie pans from the same company for five cents apiece; the same pans sold in stores for a dollar.

“When you’re trying to build relationships — whether in sales or in life — you have to give people a reason to talk to you. So I gave away the pie pan.”

Gerry liked financial sales because he could deal with people who had the authority to make decisions. “When it comes to sales, dealing with people who can’t make decisions is not a great use of time.” Instead, Gerry focused on working with people who were dynamic, bold, and willing to take risks. “That’s a common characteristic of successful people — they analyze what’s involved and take intelligent risks.”

“You have to be aware of what’s changing around
near his home. Gerry brought along a notebook and absorbed all the advice he could about getting his book published. Four months later Gerry was a published author. His book, *Legacy of the Gray Ghost*, won the Gold Medal for Southern Fiction in 2011 and was named the best Historical Fiction book of that year as well.

In 2013 Gerry decided to write the sequel, *Mosby’s Raiders Return*. It was named the Silver Medalist in that year for Sports Fiction. The original book, *Legacy of the Gray Ghost*, tells the story about Mosby’s upbringing in Virginia with the prologue coinciding with Lee’s surrender. From there the main character moves forward in his life, attending University of Virginia to study engineering. He starts a family and goes on to become very successful. As a tribute to his former leader, Mosby, they found a men’s university in Virginia’s horse country. From there the tale becomes Mosby University with focus on its struggling football program. On the verge of being shutdown, the program is resuscitated by a new coach who employs Mosby’s tactics.

The story is set in the late 50’s and the star player is African American, which would have been controversial during a period of integration that was tumultuous at times. Picking up where *Legacy left off, Mosby’s Raiders Return* describes the events during 1959 and the challenges Coach Willie Hairston and his Mosby University football team face due to graduations and injuries.

Although school integration had been mandated by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1954, many politicians and influential citizens in Virginia were still resisting. When the president of Mosby University decides to offer young men of color the opportunity to attend this prestigious, formerly all-white men’s university, he faces much criticism. While the story is fiction, many of the feelings and attitudes described were reflective of that era.

“*The friendships I made as a Sigma Nu have been the best over the years and, unlike many others, have not faded with time.*”

Gerry has plans to continue writing additional books, following the concept of prolific authors like Vince Flynn. “I like to write about heroes who did extraordinary things, but I am thinking about writing a humorous book about golf as my next endeavor and I guarantee that it will have some amazing characters in the tale. I think the chief joy in writing is to enable readers to relate to the characters and relate to an interesting story. Some people are old at age 40, but I think age is a matter of attitude. Why not live it up? Your time on earth is really not that long in the grand scheme of things, so why not reach out and enjoy the blessings you have received and try to make others feel better as a result of your connection with them. The friendships I made as a Sigma Nu have been the best over the years and, unlike many others, have not faded with time.”

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**Becoming an author**

The story of how Gerry became an author began with a visit to Mount Rushmore. Gerry and his wife had been visiting their son in Denver and decided to drive to South Dakota, previously the only state he had never visited despite the extensive travel required of his sales career. They heard about a nighttime lighting ceremony at Mount Rushmore and decided to attend. The event also showcased a film about construction of the iconic granite carving. With the monument lit under the night, he joined veterans in singing *God Bless America*.

“I went to bed that night with this image in my mind. The monument, the lights, the patriotic music.” Gerry had a dream that night that inspired the idea for his first book, *Legacy of the Gray Ghost* — the nickname for John Mosby, a Confederate cavalry able to penetrate deep behind enemy lines who always managed to escape.

Gerry was familiar with the story form history classes, but it all came back to him in that dream. He started writing promptly upon returning home. He spent weeks writing with no sign of writer’s block. Shortly after, Gerry was introduced to a book publisher through a mutual friend. The timing couldn’t have been more perfect.

**You,** he observes. “Look at Blockbuster Video. They said, ‘We’re doing ok so why would we change?’ They wouldn’t change and they became irrelevant. Successful people are aware of what’s changing and they take appropriate action.”

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**The Delta of Sigma Nu**

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Though he was still in high school, James was enthralled with his brother’s Sigma Nu experience. “Ever since Adrian was Commander, I always knew it was the fraternity for me,” says James. As a high school sophomore, James even approached then-Regent Joe Gilman (Morehead State) at Zeta Xi’s chartering ceremony and asked when he could join.

From that point on, James was determined to go to Davis and become a Sigma Nu. Unfortunately, he didn’t get accepted to UCD. He was put on the waiting list and was required to select another UC school. James reluctantly selected UC Santa Barbara and eventually received an email saying he wouldn’t be accepted from Davis’ waitlist.

“That’s when he learned UCSB didn’t have a Sigma Nu chapter. I was pretty down about that. My brother always said he’d fly back from med school to pin me at my initiation. Knowing I was going to a campus that didn’t even have a Sigma Nu chapter meant that was never going to happen,” says James.

Little did he know the Sigma Nu expansion team would be at UCSB that spring, recruiting men for the re-colonization of Kappa Eta.

When James arrived at UCSB in the fall of 2011, he saw “Sigma Nu” penciled onto the fraternity rush schedule, so he went to check it out. The interest group was small — maybe 10 men at the time — without a house. James consulted his brother who encouraged him to consider the opportunity to be a Founding Father. “Not everyone gets that chance,” Adrian told him.

James decided to give it a try. The fall quarter was unremarkable in terms of the colony’s progress, but James says it was clear things were faltering when he returned from Christmas break in January 2012.

Meetings were cancelled. Momentum waned. Nothing happened with the colony. Not willing to let it fall apart, James posted on the group’s Facebook page asking to meet with anyone still willing to be involved. Eight guys showed up.

That night James learned about a several-weeks-old email from Headquarters expressing concern about the lack of response from the group. James reached out immediately to Josh Green (Arizona), Sigma Nu’s Director of Expansion and Recruitment at the time. A week later, the colony elected James to serve as Commander. “That was the beginning of Kappa Eta in my mind,” he says.

The group got permission to continue and went into spring quarter with just 10 guys — four of whom would graduate at the end of the term. Over the next year, the six who remained slowly began to build interest on campus about the opportunity to build a fraternity from the ground up.

In talking to prospective members, they focused on friendship, brotherhood, and the idea of being part of something new and different from any other fraternity on campus. They even spent a weekend calling 150 guys who had gone through formal recruitment but didn’t end up joining a fraternity. “We knew we didn’t have to sell Greek life to them. They’d already signed up for recruitment but, for whatever reason, didn’t join,” he says.

A year later, in spring 2013, they had 33 guys on their rolls. “That was a make-or-break year for us. There were times when we felt like it wasn’t going to happen. It was really hard not to give up, but in the long run it paid off. It was the greatest achievement of our lives,” says James. And their success with recruitment helped build momentum, courage, and motivation within the group.

In November 2013, James was elected to a second term as Commander. That same month Kappa Eta got the call saying their petition to charter was accepted.

“When we got our charter in January 2014, it was the single greatest weekend of my life,” says James. There were 200 people at the chartering ceremony, including representatives from Sigma Nu Headquarters and local Division Commanders. Adrian flew out from Boston, where he is attending medical school, to finally pin a Sigma Nu badge on his brother.

“There is no doubt; Adrian is proud of what his younger brother has accomplished. “He had a rough time. I feel like I had it easy recolonizing at Davis. There was work to do, but the infrastructure was there. When James started out, it was just him and a handful of others. I’m surprised they got it rolling. I give him a lot of credit for being able to stick it out,” says Adrian.

Today, the House brothers are relishing the success and momentum of their respective chapters—both at California schools, both of which closed for various reasons but are now thriving. Today, Kappa Eta has 70 members.

Adrian says, “It’s incredible that our chapters have taken off. A lot of who I am is because of that experience—the failure, the success and the emotions that are at play. I feel fortunate and blessed to share that with my brother and for him to have this opportunity as well—it’ll radically change the trajectory of his life.”

Adrian is in his third year of medical school at Boston University. James has concluded two terms as Commander. He’ll finish out his senior year at UCSB with aspirations to go to law school, but first he hopes to serve Sigma Nu as a Leadership Consultant.

Do you know of a great legacy story we should share in The Delta? Email news@sigmanu.org.
Law School Faculty Raise Objections to Sexual Harassment Policy

ON OCTOBER 15TH, 28 MEMBERS of the Harvard Law School faculty released a statement in The Boston Globe strongly objecting to Harvard University’s new sexual harassment policy. The Harvard faculty’s open letter reflects growing concerns among many commentators about new laws, federal guidance, and campus policies that sacrifice due process and constitutional values like “innocent until proven guilty” in order to address sexual misconduct on campus.

“We are gratified to see so many Harvard Law faculty members speak out against Harvard University’s participation in what is a continued and inexcusable disregard for student and faculty due process rights,” said Foundation for Individual Rights in Education (FIRE) President Greg Lukianoff. “This should serve as a desperately needed wake-up call for those who have ignored or dismissed the fact that fundamental fairness is being unnecessarily jettisoned in the otherwise laudable quest to tackle campus sexual misconduct.”

The Harvard faculty statement, signed by some of the nation’s top legal scholars, expresses grave concerns about the process Harvard recently adopted to handle sexual misconduct, including both sexual harassment and sexual assault. Among their complaints are that accused students and faculty are denied a meaningful opportunity to present a defense or even confront the witnesses against them, and that students are not ensured adequate representation. Further, practically all functions from investigation to appeal are run not by an impartial entity but by the Title IX compliance office, a step signatory Professor Janet Halley told The New Republic was “fundamentally not due process.”

The professors also note that the definition of sexual harassment adopted by Harvard goes far beyond Title IX requirements and is especially one-sided in its treatment of students who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs, and that Harvard adopted these policies without sufficient faculty input in an apparent rush to placate federal officials.

Harvard Law faculty are weighing in on what’s become a fierce national debate about sexual misconduct on campus, most recently spurred by the state of California’s adoption of an “affirmative consent” law requiring continuous affirmations of consent throughout any sexual interaction between college students. Ezra Klein, co-founder of news website Vox.com, recently poured gas on the fire in an op-ed where he declared the bill “terrible” but nonetheless affirmed his strong support of it, saying that “To work, [the law] needs to create a world where men are afraid,” and that unfair findings that students are rapists are “necessary for the law’s success.” Affirmative consent policies similar to California’s law have spread to the State University of New York System and are being proposed by lawmakers in other states.

The fight for due process on campus is not going unremarked upon by those outside FIRE and the Harvard Law faculty. Politically and intellectually diverse commentators across the country have been pointing out the many pitfalls of institutionalizing unfair and biased procedures on our nation’s college campuses.

“Policies that essentially presume guilty anyone who is accused of a crime are an affront to our constitutional values and to the idea of justice more generally,” said FIRE’s Lukianoff. “No matter how severe the social evil we are fighting, a free society’s answer cannot be to turn every student and faculty member into a criminal and then require them to somehow prove their innocence when accused.”

FIRE is a non-profit educational foundation that unites civil rights and civil liberties leaders, scholars, journalists, and public intellectuals from across the political and ideological spectrum on behalf of individual rights, freedom of expression, academic freedom, due process, and freedom of conscience at our nation’s colleges and universities. FIRE’s efforts to preserve liberty on campuses across America can be viewed at thefire.org.
THE CURIOUS CASE OF

ROBERT SEMPLE
ROBERT SEMPLE WAS AMONG THE very first to take the oath of membership in the Legion of Honor. He was also the first member to be expelled, and for a reason not even against the Constitution of Sigma Nu at the time. Although his expulsion was little more than a year after the Fraternity’s founding, at the time he had already graduated from VMI. Yet 35 years later, the High Council asked the three Founders whether he should be reinstated.

What caused this curious set of events? What was his offense? Was he a traitor or merely an opportunist? Why so many years later was a case made for his reinstatement? How did Hopkins, Quarles and Riley respond regarding a reinstatement? Unfortunately, most of the early Alpha Chapter records were either not recorded or have been lost due to time or fires. John Scott mentions in *The Story of Sigma Nu* that fires at the homes of John Alexander Howard and Grant Woodbury Harrington resulted in the loss of many of the original Alpha Chapter records they had been gathering.

Thus, it’s difficult to piece together the exact set of events that took place. Memories are often inaccurate and fade over time. However, Semple’s letter to the original members of Alpha Chapter after their action to expel him, perhaps the first correspondence ever received by Sigma Nu, has survived and is preserved in our archives in Lexington — although at some point in the past it was torn into pieces. Through this document and other materials, I’ll attempt to put this matter in perspective.

Robert Semple

So what do we know about Robert Semple? He was born on November 12, 1848, in Wilkinson County, Miss., to Robert Semple and his second wife, Francina Rosaltha Wade. His grandfather, Colonel Robert Semple, owned Desert Plantation in St. Francisville, La. It was a 1500 acre cotton plantation. His father moved to Wilkinson County, Miss., owned Wyoming Plantation, and was a planter. His father fought for the Confederate side in the Civil War and was issued a pardon after the war by President Andrew Johnson, dated August 21, 1865.

Robert Semple enrolled at VMI on October 17, 1865, and graduated on July 2, 1869, just six months after Sigma Nu’s official birth. After graduation, he remained in Lexington to attend law school at Washington College (now Washington & Lee University). While attending law school, he also served as an assistant professor of languages at VMI. He received his law degree with the class of 1870 and returned to Mississippi to practice law.

Soon after, he relocated to northern Louisiana and the town of Harrisonburg. After two years in Harrisonburg, he moved to Pointe Coupee Parish, La., and practiced law there for the rest of his life. On September 11, 1872, he married Sarah Louise Burress and they had six children.

In 1877, he was elected to the parish Police Jury and served two terms as president. In most of the parishes in Louisiana, the Police Jury is the elected governing body.
handling both the legislative and executive functions of the parish. He was elected district attorney in 1879 and in 1888 was elected district judge of the Fifteenth judicial district. He resided on a 240 acre plantation on the Mississippi River. He was a well-respected attorney and judge and a prominent citizen of the area.

He died on May 22, 1905, in New Orleans and is buried in Woodville, Miss. He was 56 years old.

**His Offense**

So, what did he do to justify being brought to trial by Alpha Chapter? The April 1883 issue of *The Delta* contained a couple of extracts from the early minutes including the following note by J. P. Arthur (Alpha 39) dated February 10th, 1871.

“Mr. R. E. Semple, of Mississippi, having joined another secret society, it was decided at the meeting before the last recorded, that although he had not acted contrary to the old Constitution, that the choice should be given him of leaving it, and remaining with the Legion of Honor, or of leaving the latter entirely. He said that he was sorry he had acted so, but could not honorably leave the one he had lately joined. He was dismissed.”

His offense — joining another secret society: but which one and why? A historical note in early copies of *The Liturgy* states:

“At some time in the following year Mr. Semple joined another society, which was not Alpha Tau Omega, which had a brief existence, and whose very name is not certainly recorded.”

This provides a further clue towards identifying the organization he joined. My assumption is that the reference to “the following year” refers to an academic year. This means 1869-1870, when Robert Semple was attending law school at Washington College right next door to VMI. Further research shows that a chapter of Delta Psi Fraternity was started at Washington College on November 27th 1869. In the June 1889 catalogue of members of Delta Psi, Robert Semple of Mississippi, a law student, is listed as being initiated in 1869 by the Washington College chapter.

What would cause him to join another secret society? At this point, we do have a clue in the letter written on this case many years later by James Frank
Hopkins. He stated, “he [Semple] connected himself with another fraternity, because…it had more members, and influence than we had.”

From the evidence we have, Robert Semple was an ambitious young man seeking a professional career in law. The Legion of Honor at that time was an organization of approximately 50 men with only one local chapter — at VMI. In 1869, after graduating from VMI, he was offered the chance to join a much larger national fraternity. Delta Psi was founded on the same day (January 17, 1847) at two institutions — Columbia University and New York University. By the time Robert Semple was initiated, chapters at fifteen additional institutions had been installed, although only eight were still active. Clearly, Robert Semple was motivated by his future professional aspirations more than his estrangement from his colleagues at Alpha Chapter.

Of the actual trial conducted by the members of Alpha Chapter, we have no further record than the note I provided earlier. We know that Semple did not attend the trial. After hearing whatever arguments were presented, the chapter voted to expel him. Greenfield Quarles communicated the results to Semple.

**Semple’s Response**

Semple sent a written response to Alpha Chapter regarding the trial and decision. It is housed in our archives in Lexington. It was a long letter and throughout reflects no desire to impugn the integrity of the Order, its men or their future success.

“Though the last link of friendship’s golden chain is ever shattered — though the fire of love that had burned so brightly through the lapse of many months is extinguished — still will the embers in the smoldering ashes reflect back the Pallid Image as the mind worships a happy past it never more can welcome. Though the hand that once clasped hand in the mystic grasp of friendly brotherhood is chilled by this tempest of separation, still shall it greet you kindly while the heart from out its innermost shrine shall bid you onward! onward! to a glorious destiny!”
However, it is clear from its tone that he did not feel he had done anything wrong or dishonorable.

“My sincerest wish shall ever be
Heaven knows my motives free
find comfort and consolation in
circumstances of his expulsion.
dishonorable.
did not feel he had done anything wrong or
in unison to the laudable senti-
ment: Exegi monumentum aere
around your “Holy Shrine” may
each and every noble heart throb
in unison to the laudable senti-
ment: Exegi monumentum aere
perennins Regalique Situ pyra-
midum altius. [I have erected a
monument more lasting than
brons, built higher than the
pyramids of the kings.]”

He ends his letter with a wish for the
Legion of Honor’s future success,

“My sincerest wish shall ever be
for your prosperity and success
in this the loftiest aim of your
collegiate life. And when the work
begun is finished and ye kneel
around your “Holy Shrine” may
each and every noble heart throb
in unison to the laudable senti-
ment: Exegi monumentum aere
perennins Regalique Situ pyra-
mum altius. [I have erected a
monument more lasting than
brons, built higher than the
pyramids of the kings.]”

The Expulsion Revisited
Over his professional career in Pointe
Coupee Parish, La., Robert Semple became
friends with Dr. Abram Feltus Barrow, an
ever initiate of our chapter at Louisiana
State University. During that friendship,
the subject of Sigma Nu came up and
Barrow became aware from Semple of the
circumstances of his expulsion.

Nothing came of the matter until 1905,
when Clarence Woods, Sigma Nu’s Grand
Recorder and Editor of The Delta, was
in New Orleans and visited with Barrow.
Barrow raised the issue and indicated he
thought it would be proper for the fra-
ternity to revisit the expulsion and reinstate
Robert Semple.

On May 1st, 1905, Clarence Woods sent
a letter to the three Founders and four of
the leaders of the fraternity including mem-
bers of the High Council and the Grand
Historian. He included a copy of Semple’s
original letter to Alpha and solicited the
opinion of the addressees as to the propri-
ety of reinstating Semple. Coincidentally,
Robert Semple passed away later that
same month.

For some unknown reason, there is no
record of any response to Woods’ request
for input on the subject of reinstatement.
However, a year later a similar request must
have been sent out because almost all finally
responded. The tone of Semple’s original
letter had made a positive impact on most
of them.

Grand Historian Walter James Sears was
the first to respond. He heartily approved
the suggestion to reinstate. However, he
readily deferred to the opinion of the
three Founders, indicating they were more
familiar with the events surrounding the
expulsion. If they agreed to reinstatement,
then Sears stated he was in total agreement.
Regent Isadore Dyer agreed with Sears
that the decision should ultimately be left
up to Hopkins, Quarles and Riley. If it was
okay with them, no time should be wasted
in making it happen.

Grand Counselor A. Miller Belfield
took, not surprisingly, a legalistic ap-
proach to the matter. He stated that the
materials presented to him did not provide
enough information on the facts and the
circumstances of the expulsion to make
an informed decision as to whether it was
justified or not. However, based on the tone
of Semple’s original letter to Alpha and the
conduct of his professional career and per-
sonal life, he was willing to go along with
reinstatement providing it was agreeable
to the three Founders.

Those who responded completely
defered to the views of the three Founders
on this matter since they had been a part
of the original trial and expulsion. If the
three Founders felt it appropriate, then they
would support it wholeheartedly. If not,
then the matter should be dropped.

The Founders’ Position
There is no copy in the file of any response
from Founder Riley. However, it would not
be unusual at this late stage in his life for
him not to respond on matters like this —
instead deferring to Hopkins and Quarles.

The response from Greenfield Quarles
was entirely supportive of reinstating
Semple after all these years.

“I have so often wished when I
would read over our catalogue
and note the word “Expelled” set
at his name and my heart would
cry out that it might be taken
away. With all my heart and soul
I say restore him, and let it be
done quickly.

You must remember that we had
been soldiers and were young
and may be too strict in
our construction of the intention
of the law.

Until now no opportunity has
been offered to rescind the ac-
tion then taken. I thank God that
I have lived to be able to make
the earnest request that Brother

Archives Weekend
We are currently cataloguing,
photographing and rehousing our
historical collection in Lexington.
There are thousands of documents,
photographs, audio tapes and
other memorabilia that need to be
processed and digitized so they can
be made available to our chapters
and alumni.

To assist in this process, we
will conduct our second annual
volunteer weekend on June 19-21,
2015, in Lexington. The goal is to
get a small number of volunteers
to spend a full two days working in
the archives on various projects.
Due to budget constraints we
are unable to pay the costs of
transportation and housing for
volunteers, but we will provide
the meals. If you’re interested
in helping out, please send me
an email at news@sigmanu.org
indicating your interest.
Robert Semple be fully reinstated with all honors due him.”

James Frank Hopkins, on the other hand, felt very differently about the action taken by Alpha Chapter so many, many years before. He did not feel they had done Semple a wrong and had provided him ample opportunity to resign from his other secret organization and remain in the Legion of Honor. He saw no reason or basis to overturn that decision.

“I can not admit that we did Mr. Semple a wrong, for those men who took that action expelling Mr. S- were above doing any man a wrong. Their organization was for the purpose of righting the wrongs to which they had been and were then suffering. The fact Mr. S- wrote an appealing letter or statement to the chapter, cuts no figure in the case, or if so, it simply increases the gulf which separated, and still separates him from the ‘Knights of the Legion of Honor’. He never wavered from his allegiance to his second love, but sought to retain his first, and we who were with him at the time, daily, almost hourly, tried to reclaim him, but to no avail… After more than a generation has passed, I do not know of a single reason why the whole fraternity even; should undo, what the whole fraternity (every member included) with all the evidence, only a few days old, before it; deliberately did, under the law for the good of the order. The question of justice to Mr. Semple does not enter, he received that at the time. It is a question of justice to the Sigma Nu fraternity…

Alpha’s work was well done, let it alone.”

As you can imagine, once Founder Hopkins wrote so strongly on the matter of reinstatement, it was dropped, never to surface again. Thus, the curious case of Robert Semple (Alpha 4) came to a close. From beginning to end, it took place over almost a 35-year period.

Sigma Nu underwent tremendous changes during that 35-year time period.

At the time of Semple’s death in 1905, Sigma Nu had grown from a single chapter at VMI to a total of 54 active chapters with over 5,300 initiates. Since its beginning in 1847 until the time of his death, Delta Psi Fraternity had initiated less than 3,000 initiates and only 8 chapters remained active. Perhaps if Robert Semple had been a more patient young man, he would have enjoyed being hailed as one of the very first initiates of the Legion of Honor. Instead he will always remain as an anomaly in our early history.

Remembrance: Honoring Heroes of our Recent Wars

In the fall 2013 issue of The Delta, I discussed an effort currently underway to identify all initiates who served in the military and gave their lives to protect our freedoms during one of the wars the United States and Canada fought in. Their names will be added to the Flag Pavilion at our headquarters in Lexington to appropriately honor and remember them for their courage and ultimate sacrifice. To make sure they are all recognized, I asked our readers to send in the names of those they are aware of who died.

In the last edition of The Delta, I listed brothers killed in the Vietnam War. Listed below, are the names of those brothers we have identified killed in the post-Vietnam Wars. In future editions of The Delta, we will list the names of those who died in other wars.

- Cory William Brooks (South Dakota)
- Christopher James Holland (Valdosta State)
- Paul Singh Pabla (Ball State)
- Eric Byron Shaw (Southern Maine)
- Jacques Juies Fontan (Montana State)

Please let us know if we’ve missed anyone who should be included on this list by sending an email to news@sigmanu.org.
Alumnus William B. “Bill” Geddy has held a variety of roles within Sigma Nu. Currently serving as a Division Commander and the Chairman of the Theta Kappa Alumni Advisory Board, he has also served as a member of the Theta Kappa House Corporation. Brother Geddy was named Sigma Nu’s Alumnus of the Biennium and Chapter Advisor of the Year at the 66th Grand Chapter in Nashville, Tenn.

1. How have you structured Theta Kappa’s AAB?
   There are 15 people on Theta Kappa’s AAB. As chairman, I’m a facilitator and coordinator for the group. We have advisors for every major office and those that request one. While I helped structure this, we are truly a team of advisors and I give credit to my peers who actively contribute and hold each other accountable — I am just at the helm right now. The chapter is engaged as well — we are always looking for ways to improve our engagement model. In January 2014, we added the outgoing Commander as he graduated. Finding advisors for the board is like recruitment; and, recruitment is 365 days of the year, you’ve got to go out and find people.

2. What would you say to a collegiate member who doesn’t take advantage of all that Sigma Nu has to offer?
   Becoming engaged, stretching yourself and your skills, and becoming an officer — then participating in regional convocations, school opportunities, and Grand Chapter is a great opportunity. One of my peer Division Commanders in Atlanta, Jason Dooley, has volunteered as an alumnus and attended every Grand Chapter since he graduated. There are many dedicated alumni volunteers out there. Unfortunately, not everybody takes advantage of this and some people come to our collegiate chapters for the wrong reasons and others never think outside their own chapter. Not every chapter member is going to get this right away and you can’t lose sleep over the minority that don’t figure it out. Some of these guys are just going to take a longer time to develop.

3. What’s your advice for working with chapters that can be difficult?
   No advisor can be there 24/7, and that’s not their role. We are not there to be policemen, rather it is to provide good, common sense advice and mentoring. When issues are encountered, confront them.

   We want Sigma Nu leaders to make good decisions, sometimes that means they are hard and may not be popular, but they are right — we support leaders who make good decisions. But no one is perfect — leaders make mistakes — advisors are there to help developing leaders not make the same mistakes others made.

   The goal of a chapter or alumni leader is to have the right programs and structures in place so even the brothers that join for questionable motives have an environment where they too can grow, develop, and flourish.

5 QUESTIONS

with Alumnus Bill Geddy (Georgia Southern)

We’ve also instituted a policy that alumni volunteers have to sign an alumni code of conduct. It’s basically the same code of conduct that the chapter officers sign, minus a few items that are specific to students. It adds to the importance of the advisor and helps set the right example.

1. How have you structured Theta Kappa’s AAB?
2. What would you say to a collegiate member who doesn’t take advantage of all that Sigma Nu has to offer?
3. What’s your advice for working with chapters that can be difficult?
Remember

ONLY YOU CAN PREVENT WILDFIRES.

smokeybear.com
As close as brothers can be, both of these men were Founding Fathers of their respective chapters, served as Eminent Commanders, and in January 2014, Adrian (on right) got to pin a Sigma Nu badge on his younger brother James (on left) at UCSB’s chartering.

Read more on page 28.