Of the hundreds of campus activities college students can participate in, fraternities remain the only student organization to offer meaningful cross-generational relationships. No one exemplified this unique attribute of the fraternity movement better than Tom Lofton (Butler/Indiana).
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Features

Sigma Nu Athletes
A look back at 2015’s top performers, and who to look for in 2016.

08 Chapter Eternal: Tom Lofton
Remembering a brother whose lifetime commitment to Sigma Nu transformed the identities for two of our most formidable chapters.

12 College of Chapters 2016
Candid images capture the Fraternity’s premiere leadership development experience.

22 The Pathway to Valor
Tom Lockhart left his home state of West Virginia to pursue the life of an Air Force pilot right as the Vietnam War was breaking out. He earned the Silver Star and later joined the Air Force flight school faculty where he would counsel a future U.S. president.

48 2015 Award Winners
Recognizing the men and women who go above and beyond to bring distinction to Sigma Nu and their campus community.
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.

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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 nathaniel.clarkson@sigmanu.org or PO Box 1869, Lexington, VA, 24450.
From the Editor

Mentoring the Next Generation

In the latest issue of The Delta we chronicle the life of one brother whose legacy of service illustrates the relevance of fraternity for future generations. Despite the myriad activities available to college students today, fraternities remain the only student organization in a position to foster mentoring relationships that span multiple generations.

Brother Tom Lofton (Butler/Indiana), who entered Chapter Eternal last summer, devoted his life to helping collegiate brothers develop into ethical leaders prepared to transform their communities. An attorney by trade, Br. Lofton [Fig. 1] also played an integral role in establishing the framework for charitable organizations, including the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation, which provides scholarships and grants to support the fraternity’s educational programs.

Our second feature story highlights the distinguished career of an Air Force pilot recognized with the Silver Star for his service during the Vietnam War. Between flying hundreds of missions in Southeast Asia, Brother Tom Lockhart (West Virginia) also spent time as a flight instructor where he would befriend a future U.S. president. Now retired in Sedona, Ariz., Brother Lockhart [Fig. 2] volunteers to teach kids about the importance of learning history and practicing good citizenship.

Inside the latest issue you’ll also find a showcase of the 2014-15 award winners along with a photo essay capturing the 2016 College of Chapter experience in Lexington and Roanoke, Va. [Fig. 3] If you haven’t already screened our mini-documentary chronicling the College of Chapters experience of two collegiate commanders, we encourage you to visit our YouTube page at youtube.com/sigmanuhq.

We hope you enjoy these stories and the rest of the Spring 2016 issue. We welcome your feedback and suggestions for stories we should consider in a future issue. Comments, questions, and letters to the editor can be sent to news@sigmanu.org.

Yours in Sigma Nu,

NATHANIEL CLARKSON (James Madison)
Managing Editor
History from THE DELTA

100 Years Ago
In August of 1915 Sigma Nu Fraternity held its 17th Grand Chapter in Denver, Colo. with a very important initiation occurring during the event. Governor Carlson had been elected as Governor of Colorado the year prior but his involvement with Sigma Nu began during his undergraduate years at the University of Colorado where he graduated in 1902. Governor Carlson was a member of the local organization that petitioned for a charter but “for personal reasons Bro. Carlson found it impossible to be initiated at the time the chapter was installed.” This was rectified at the 17th Grand Chapter where Governor Carlson, with the concurrence of Gamma Kappa Chapter and the Grand Chapter, was initiated into Sigma Nu Fraternity by the Grand Officers.

50 Years Ago
In the summer of 1965 over 400 collegians descended upon Lexington, Va. for College of Chapters at Washington and Lee University and Virginia Military Institute. A special groundbreaking ceremony was also held for the new Headquarters wings. The shovels served as a good symbol for College of Chapters with Grand Councilman Lester Newkirk (Colorado) sharing his advice to those present, “I hope each of you who came to this College of Chapters with problems have been doing some digging. In fact I hope that you kept digging until you feel that you can now go back to your chapters you’ll have some of the answers. And, I hope you’ll continue to dig deeper until you get all of the answers.”

15 Years Ago
The Fall issue of The Delta in 2000 featured Sigma Nu’s All-Century football team. The selection committee was made up of Detroit Lions defensive coordinator Larry Peccatiello (William and Mary), former Denver Broncos head coach and College Football Hall of Famer John Ralston (California), Regent Dan Rodriguez (Arizona State), Seattle Seahawks trainer Jim Whitesel (Washington), former Regent and Rose Bowl player E.G. White (Indiana), and legendary broadcaster Bob Wolff (Duke). Their choice for quarterback was Archie Manning (Mississippi) and leading the defensive All-Century team at linebacker was Professional Football Hall of Famer Mel Hein (Washington State).
“Savvy administrators have also been enlisting influential student organizations to boost graduation initiatives. Fraternities in particular are in prime position to help their institutions achieve more respectable graduation rates.” // Read more on page 70.

“Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do.”

“By suppressing intimate relationships as adolescents grow up, they can become depressed, distrustful, lose friendships, and feel isolated and alone, right at the moment in development that the rates of suicide among boys in the United States jumps up to become four times the rate of girls.” // Read more on page 64.

“He was one of the most remarkable men I have ever met.” // Indiana University President Michael McRobbie speaking about Tom Lofton’s legacy. Read more on page 8.
DURING A BEAUTIFUL weekend in August, Sigma Nu Headquarters was proud to host the 2nd Sigma Nu Staff Reunion which brought together past and current members of the Sigma Nu Staff, along with their families, to share stories, memories, and fellowship at a place so many have called home. The attendees ranged from those who had worked for Sigma Nu upon its original move to Lexington, Va., to our most current group of Leadership Consultants.

The weekend kicked off on August 7th with a meet-and-greet reception on the patio of the Headquarters property where attendees were greeted by Staff Reunion Committee members Grand Historian Bob McCully (San Diego State), David Glassman (Eastern Michigan), Chris Healy (Fresno State), and Executive Director Brad Beacham (Texas Christian). As a capstone to the evening, an impromptu rendition of “White Star of Sigma Nu” was sung.

Saturday morning kicked off with a golf scramble at the Lexington Golf and Country Club followed by tours of the Headquarters property led by Sigma Nu Educational Foundation President Brad Hastings (West Georgia) as well as Virginia Military Institute, Washington and Lee University, and the town of Lexington. An afternoon lunch, catered by one of Lexington’s well known restaurants, Southern Inn, was hosted on the back lawn of Headquarters. Saturday afternoon included additional tours but was also a time for past and present staff to enjoy longtime favorite summer activities in Lexington such as a trip to the Maury River at Goshen Pass or a cruise down Lee Highway to take in the beauty of the Shenandoah Valley.

The weekend’s formal festivities were capped off on Sunday night with a closing banquet in the prestigious Hall of Valor located in Marshall Hall at VMI. The shared commitment to serving our proud Fraternity rooted in Honor was a perfect fit for the Hall of Valor where Director of the VMI Museum System Colonel Keith Gibson spoke to the group about the walls of the Hall of Valor which are adorned with medals donated by VMI Cadets who served as citizen soldiers. The banquet was emceed by Lexington local and past Vice Regent James Owens (Charleston) who shared some notable stories of past staff teams and presented a gift to the Reunion Committee members to thank them for their hard work in organizing a memorable weekend.

As dinner ended, handshakes, laughs, smiles, and hugs were shared among the men and women who served and continue to serve the Fraternity with distinction and honor with many remaining for hours to soak in every last drop of the fellowship that bonded them together years ago and continue to do so today.
31

Wins by Stevens men’s volleyball in the 2015 season. Stevens men’s volleyball, led by Sigma Nu Athlete of the Year David Evans and several other Sigma Nus, earned the school’s first NCAA national championship.

2,355

Hours of community service logged by Delta Alpha Chapter at Case Western Reserve in the 2014-15 academic year. Delta Alpha Chapter was awarded with the Social Change award for their support of the Students Against Sexual Assault Program.

125

Missions Tom Lockhart flew over North Vietnam during his second tour of duty.

50

Public four-year institutions with on-time graduation rates at or above 50 percent for full-time students, out of 580 possible schools.
Mentoring the Next Generation

Despite the proliferation of campus activities college students can participate in, fraternities remain the only student organization to offer meaningful cross-generational relationships. No one exemplified this unique attribute of the fraternity movement better than Tom Lofton (Butler/Indiana).

By Merritt Onsa

ON JUNE 19, 2015, DEVOTED BROTHER

Thomas M. Lofton (Butler/Indiana), entered the Chapter Eternal; he was 86 years old. Tom lived an extraordinary life dedicated to caring for the needs of others, advancing the mission of charitable organizations and mentoring individuals toward success in their own lives.

E.G. White (Indiana), Hall of Honor member and past Regent, was a longtime friend and colleague of Tom’s. He says, “Tom exemplified for me what the Creed of our Fraternity is all about. He believed in the Life of Love, walked in the Way of Honor, served in the Light of Truth. That’s who Tom Lofton was, and I hold him in the utmost highest regard.”

At his death, Tom was chairman of the Lilly Endowment, one of the largest private foundations in the country. In this role, he oversaw the distribution of more than $7 billion in grants to support education, community development and religious organizations, mostly in Indiana. Tom was first hired by the Lilly Endowment as chief legal counsel in 1970. He personally knew two of the founders (J.K. Lilly, Jr. and Eli Lilly). He went on to serve as vice chairman, as president for a short time and finally, chairman for the past 22 years.

In a recent statement, Endowment President and CEO N. Clay Robbins said about Tom, “His unrivaled intellect, wisdom and profound sense of loyalty to the values of the Endowment’s founders at all times were evident in his guidance of the Endowment’s affairs. A man of deep Christian faith, it was important to him that each year a significant portion of the Endowment’s grants supported people in need, and he personally mentored and helped countless individuals facing challenges in their lives. He is irreplaceable, and he will be greatly missed.”

His life impacted countless organizations. Prior to joining the Lilly Endowment, Tom freely gave his time to serve on the boards of Indiana University Foundation, Sigma Nu Fraternity, Sigma Nu Educational...

This remarkable man began his college career at Butler University where he first joined Sigma Nu. Richard “Dick” Thompson (Butler) became a close friend after they met in August 1947 at a Sigma Nu recruitment event. Once they became candidate brothers, their friendship was instantaneous. He gives Tom credit for being a leader, scholar and friend unlike the rest. “He was a teetotaler who never missed a Sigma Nu function, a scholar who used his scholarship to help brothers pass courses that they were in danger of failing and a ‘townie’ who spent more time in the fraternity house than just about anyone else,” says Dick.

Even as a collegian, Tom was a leader. Dick called him “the voice of reason” in the chapter. He listened intently during meetings and presented his well-crafted remarks so persuasively that everyone went along with his suggestions. “He cared about the issues and wanted to help resolve differences,” says Dick, who is now Epsilon Mu’s chapter advisor emeritus.

Tom ultimately transferred to Indiana University, where he affiliated with Sigma Nu’s Beta Eta Chapter; he graduated with distinction in 1951. He then attended the Indiana University School of Law, graduated with distinction in 1954 and was honored with membership in Beta Gamma Sigma and the Order of the Coif.

Tom began his career in 1954 as a law clerk to United States Supreme Court Justice Sherman Minton. In 1955, he joined the Indianapolis law firm of Baker & Daniels (now Faegre Baker Daniels) where he worked for more than three-and-a-half decades. There he became an expert on tax-exempt organizations and devoted much of his career to serving nonprofit organizations, not the least of which were national and international fraternities, sororities and other societies.

Since his graduation, Indiana University has recognized Tom with an honorary Doctor of Laws degree (2000), the Distinguished Alumni Service Award (1979) and the Thomas Hart Benton Medallion (1992), which acknowledges those who have provided outstanding service and support to the university and who can be commended for sharing its values and goals. (Tom also received honorary degrees from Butler in 2010 and Ball State in 2014.) An article published by IU shortly after Tom’s death, called him “one of IU’s most active alumni.”

In the same publication, IU President Michael A. McRobbie said of Tom, “He was one of the most remarkable men I have ever met. He had a razor-sharp forensic intelligence, great clarity of expression and was formidable in his ability to penetrate to the heart of any matter ... mixed with the kindest and most solicitous manner, an enviable courtly bearing and a deep and abiding humanity. We have lost a unique man.”

When Tom’s grandson, Matt Lees, decided to transfer to Butler his sophomore year, he got a phone call from his grandfather about a special project they were working on at the university. Brother Lofton and his fellow volunteers had recruited 12 exceptional students to recolonize the Epsilon Mu Chapter, and they wanted Matt to be part of it. “This chapter would be unlike any other,” Matt remembers his grandfather telling him. “They would have a focus on academics, friendship and leadership, all supported by an academic scholarship system,” he said.

“By the time I arrived on Butler’s campus in January 2002, I was welcomed into a group of brothers who would strive to continue the mission of my grandfather and Sigma Nu.”

One of the traits Matt says he will remember most about his grandfather is the interest he took in supporting the people around him. “Growing up, every family visit started with him asking how we were, what we were doing, what we were enjoying, and what we hoped to do—and typically ended with, ‘How can I help?’ I think the extent of his genuine interest and genuine caring for others is a trait we would all benefit from emulating.”

Brother Lofton leaves a legacy as a visionary leader and an advocate for education—all qualities that have impacted Sigma Nu and its members. “He was thoughtful, encouraging and always thinking about helping young people.

Even as a collegian, Tom was a leader. Dick called him “the voice of reason” in the chapter. He listened intently during meetings and presented his well-crafted remarks so persuasively that everyone went along with his suggestions.
The value of education was very important to him. He was a mighty oak of Sigma Nu, a kind, humble giant-of-a-man whose shadow was immense on the landscape of higher education and men’s fraternities, especially Sigma Nu. His loss will be felt for a long time,” says E.G.

As an alumnus of Epsilon Mu and Beta Eta Chapters, Tom was equally devoted to advancing the cause of both. In a 2003 interview with The Delta, Tom said he felt gratified by the opportunity to have friendships among alumni of both chapters. “I feel like I’m doubly blessed,” he said.

In the late 1970s, Tom provided the legal expertise needed to create the White Star Endowment, Inc., a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization designed to receive charitable gifts that would support the educational interests of Indiana University’s Beta Eta Chapter. He also helped endow a scholarship for the Beta Eta Chapter named for former Regent Herman B Wells. The funds are used today to recognize academic achievement by members of the chapter, starting with those achieving a 3.25 and granting increasingly higher amounts for grade points up to 4.0. In 2010, he was also the catalyst for a challenge grant to Beta Eta for a substantial renovation to the chapter home.

In 2002, Tom joined Epsilon Mu Brothers Fred Gronau and Dick Thompson to champion the recolonization of the Sigma Nu chapter at Butler. Although the university had its doubts, the effort was a huge success.

In part to support Epsilon Mu’s recolonization, Tom and his wife Betty (Pi Beta Phi) made a significant gift to the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation to establish the Epsilon Mu Chapter Educational Fund and endow a scholarship for members and candidates based on individual academic success.

“They did it right,” says E.G., referring to the recolonization. “They [Tom, Fred and Dick] emblazoned the importance of academics, and you can see the fruits of that in what the chapter has become.”

At the time, the Lofton’s donation to the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation was the largest single gift in the organization’s history. It was a gift that then-Foundation President Jim Cherry (Hampden-Sydney) said gave “immediate credibility to the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation.”

In 2002, the Loftons received the Outstanding Philanthropist Award from the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) in recognition of their significant support of the Greek community.

In a 2003 article in The Delta, Tom shared about his motivation to support young people and their educational aspirations. “My family did not have assets to waste and therefore I took very seriously from the very beginning my responsibility to take full advantage of the educational opportunities being provided for me,” he said.

“If we can provide some inspiration, if we can motivate people, if we could reward academic accomplishment and help people achieve some notoriety for what they have been able to accomplish, then I think we are obligated to do that,” he said about the decision to fund the Epsilon Mu Chapter Educational Fund.

Upon Tom’s passing, Epsilon Mu Chapter posted a message on Facebook honoring our fallen brother. In part, it reads:

“Brother Tom Lofton was among these incredible men that took their lifelong commitment to Sigma Nu to heart. The benefits from Brother Lofton’s scholarship program have multiplied in ways that he probably could not have imagined at the time of its establishment. Every semester since the chapter returned to campus, Sigma Nu has ranked either 1st or 2nd in GPA among all fraternities at Butler University.

“I think the extent of his genuine interest and genuine caring for others is a trait we would all benefit from emulating.”

— MATT LEES, GRANDSON
Thanks to men like Brother Thomas Lofton, the Epsilon Mu Chapter of Sigma Nu truly is a ‘different kind of fraternity.”

Epsilon Mu continues to stand out among Sigma Nu chapters earning four consecutive Rock Chapter Awards (2008, 2010, 2012 and 2014), Man of the Year (2015), Talent of the Year (2010), the Regent’s Award for Academic Excellence (2014) as well as being honored with members who have become Alpha Chapter Affiliates (two in 2014) and Collegiate Grand Councilmen.

“Tom’s contributions to our fraternity are endless, but his biggest achievement will probably always be those scholarships which helped keep many young men in school and which so many other fraternities have since copied,” says Dick.

In addition to supporting his local chapters, Brother Lofton was also devoted in service to the General Fraternity and Educational Foundation. He served as a Director and legal counsel for the Foundation and as a Trustee for the Fraternity. In 1994, he was inducted into the Sigma Nu Hall of Honor, the highest award bestowed by Sigma Nu.

E.G. recalls a story Tom told him about his transfer from Butler to Indiana University in the late 1940s. Tom drove to the Sigma Nu house in Bloomington, Ind. and walked in the front door with his suitcase. One of the brothers walked up to him; Tom introduced himself as a Sigma Nu from Epsilon Mu Chapter and said he was transferring to IU. The brother said, “Put your suitcase down, we’re going to lunch and you can move in afterwards.” Years later, as Tom recounted the story, he remembered his mother was pleased to know her son had a place to stay.

Following Tom’s death, former Regent and member of the Hall of Honor, Don Densborn (Indiana) offered a few thoughts about Tom’s character and his priceless service to Sigma Nu:

“Tom was a gifted, yet modest, man. He lived a purposeful life, filled with charity and grace and ever moved by the hope that future generations, lifted by their scholarly pursuits, would carry on meaningfully and well. He was, as much as any man, after the image of the great Dr. Herman B Wells, but he would shun any such comparison.

He was serious, thoughtful, insightful. At Foundation Board meetings, he was known as ‘E.F. Hutton,’ because when he spoke people listened. With Betty’s unflinching support, he gave incomparably of himself and his fortune to the various auspices of Sigma Nu, locally and nationally, many of which he initiated. They tried to be anonymous about their giving, but their gifts were just so smart, we all knew it was them. (Even more remarkable is that whatever they did for Sigma Nu, they also did for Pi Beta Phi.) He was the epitome of a Knight.”

E.G. recounts something he heard Tom say many times in the decades they worked together through Sigma Nu and the Lilly Endowment: “The judge [Sherman Minton] always said, ‘You can’t have enough friends because you never know when you’re going to need that friend to get something done.’”

Tom lived out this statement—making friends and being a friend to countless individuals and organizations over his 86 years. He leaves behind a legacy few men can match, and the impact of his having walked with us for a time will live on in the hearts of all he touched.

Brother Lofton leaves a legacy as a visionary leader and an advocate for education—all qualities that have impacted Sigma Nu and its members.
Turning Strategy
After the 3-day intensive leadership training conference, these student leaders will return to their chapters better prepared to lead their peers in support of Sigma Nu’s mission and strategic goals.
Day One

1. Regent Joe Francis calls outgoing Collegiate Grand Councilmen to the stage to thank them for a year of service representing the collegiate voice on the fraternity’s national board of directors.

2. Members of the General Fraternity staff greet participants at the registration table.

3. Student attendees listen to opening remarks before breaking into small chapter groups.

4. Faculty members participate in a training session before students arrive.

5. Select Commanders stand to be recognized by Regent Joe Francis during the opening ceremony.
Day Two

6. Students touring VMI cross the Limits Gate that marks the beginning of the VMI grounds. 7. Leadership Consultant Alex Retzloff (Washington and Lee) gives a tour of the VMI Parade Ground, home to the dedication marker that commemorates the Legion of Honor’s founding site. 8. Students congregate in VMI’s Jackson Memorial Hall to hear a keynote address on the topic of honor. 9. Pilgrims in a holy land: Student participants walk from Sigma Nu’s founding site on the VMI Parade Ground towards Old Barracks where Founder Hopkins resided in 1869. 10. Back at VMI, Regent Joe Francis (Oklahoma State) delivers remarks inside the historic Jackson Memorial Hall.
11. Instagram-worthy: Students pose with their chapter burgee in the Alpha Room at Headquarters. Throughout the year chapters visit Lexington to perform ritual ceremonies in the Alpha Room that includes the original Alpha Chest. 12. The Headquarters museum offers visitors a chance to learn about Sigma Nu’s history through iconic paintings and significant artifacts. 13. Today’s student leaders are well aware of the importance of learning to work alongside people of different backgrounds. Here College of Chapters participants listen intently to Dr. Maria Dixon Hall’s keynote on pragmatic reasons to seek cultural intelligence. 14. Portraits of the Founders serve as a reminder to remain steadfast in commitment to Sigma Nu’s founding purpose. 15. Commanders from around the country gather at the steps surround an original piece of the Rock that rests outside the Headquarters Office. 16. Students gather around map in the Hall of Fame that offers a spatial view of Sigma Nu’s wide reach across North America. 17. Dr. Maria Dixon Hall, professor of communication at Southern Methodist University, delivers a keynote address to emphasize the importance of cultural intelligence.
Day Three

18. “Are you running a social club or are you running The Legion of Honor? We need leaders, not club managers.” Bill Courtney (Mississippi), featured in the Academy Award-winning documentary Undefeated, delivers a powerful keynote address on the final night of College of Chapters. 19. and 20. The culmination of the College of Chapters curriculum walks Commanders through the process of developing an action plan that turns leadership lessons into actionable goals.

18

19
NO ONE EVER SUGGESTED TOM LOCKHART (West Virginia) was dumb—not even when he graduated very near the bottom of his class at St. Albans High School in St. Albans, W. Va. But graduating from a public school guaranteed acceptance in West Virginia University for one year, so Tom's father agreed to send him—for one year—with the advice that, after he flunked out, Tom stop by the Island Creek Coal Company, as they were always hiring miners. With his father's admonition, Tom began to truly consider his future, and spending his life underground digging coal didn't appeal to fun-loving Tom in the slightest.

Realizing a drastic change was in order, Lockhart actually buckled down and learned to study. His freshman roommate, valedictorian of Bluefield, W. Va. High School, helped him catch up on four years of high school in addition to his first year of college in an engineering curriculum. Tom actually made the dean's list for the following three semesters and was asked to give a motivational talk to high school students back in St. Albans.

He joined the Gamma Pi Chapter of Sigma Nu in his sophomore year. Scholastic standing was an important part of fraternity life, so Tom continued to do well with his grades. Requirements for in-house...
Tom Lockhart left his home state of West Virginia to pursue the life of an Air Force pilot right as the Vietnam War was breaking out. He earned the Silver Star and later joined the Air Force flight school faculty where he would counsel a future U.S. president.

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Lockhart on his first combat tour with his favorite unit, the 44th Tactical Fighter Squadron, and his favorite airplane, the F-105 Thunderchief.
The Delta of Sigma Nu residence included a respectable GPA, and tutoring help was always available from upper classmen as well as graduate students living in the Sigma Nu house. The social aspects, another big part of being a Sigma Nu, enabled Tom to meet young men and women from all over West Virginia and beyond. His experiences at WVU and Sigma Nu enabled Tom to make lifelong friends and to watch many of them go on to succeed in their careers, businesses, and life experiences.

One of Tom’s chapter brothers, Fred Lugar, reiterated how much the fraternity meant to Tom, then and today. “The fraternity helped Tom academically and socially, and Tom contributed to the chapter in the same way,” Lugar says.

Having elected Air Force ROTC, Tom was given a thorough physical by the military and qualified for pilot training following his graduation. Assigned to initial pilot training in Big Springs, Tex., he returned to Morgantown in his brand new 1961 Chevy convertible for a last goodbye to his college days and his fraternity brothers.

The Air Force was beginning to build up for the impending war in Southeast Asia, and started pilot trainees in jet aircraft, the T-37, as opposed to reciprocating engines that had been the norm. Early training was fun and exciting, but as more and more was demanded from these trainees, crashes and even deaths, became more frequent. Tom realized that he would live longer and stay healthier if he learned and experienced as much as possible in this training. His final grades were near the top of his class, and he was able to select the F-100 jet fighter, the front line fighter for the US Air Force and continue his training at Luke Air Force Base in Phoenix, Ariz.

The F-105 Thunderchief [above] … could accomplish every mission tasked to jet fighters—air-to-air combat, low level nuclear strikes, and a host of air-to-ground conventional deliveries. [It] was given the moniker, “The Thud,” as that was the sound—or so detractors claimed—it made hitting the ground.

The fatality rate for F-100 training was very high, once again providing motivation to do well, as many of the training classes lost more than half of their pilots. Immediately following his graduation from F-100s, Tom was one of a select few chosen to train in the newest, fastest jet in the USAF inventory, the F-105 Thunderchief. This aircraft could accomplish every mission tasked to jet fighters—air-to-air combat, low level nuclear strikes, and a host of air-to-ground conventional deliveries. This airplane was given the moniker, “The Thud,” as that was the sound—or so detractors claimed—it made hitting the ground.

First Lieutenant Lockhart arrived at the 44th Tactical Fighter Squadron in Okinawa, on the very day of the Gulf of Tonkin Incident, which is credited with beginning the war in Vietnam. Senior pilots were well aware that this squadron would be one of the first deployed when war did break out, and were justifiably concerned that this green, young pilot needed a great deal of help if he were to live through the coming combat tour. The squadron’s Operations Officer put Tom through an accelerated practical flying program in order to get him up to speed with the operational missions.

Requirements for completion of a tour was 100 missions over North Vietnam. Lockhart completed this milestone, but not before enduring treacherous missions through dangerous combat zones.

Tom’s next assignment was to Moody Air Force Base, Valdosta, Ga., to be a flight instructor in the undergraduate pilot training program. He was furious to have been given this assignment, as he wanted to be assigned to another fighter unit. He had argued that he couldn’t teach anybody to fly, but was promised another fighter assignment if he proved himself in this capacity. As Lockhart looks back on his career and his life, he chuckles at the funny little tricks life can play. As much as he resented this assignment to the training command, it proved to be one of the best of his career and provided memories and friends to last a lifetime.

On one pretty routine day while he was at Moody, Lockhart received a message there was to be an awards ceremony in the afternoon and for him to wear a Class A...
uniform. Assuming he would be receiving a unit citation or an air medal, Tom was astounded to be awarded the Silver Star, the third highest medal for valor. This made him quite a celebrity for the student pilots. One of the young pilots attending these fetes was a 2nd Lieutenant from the Texas Air National Guard named George W. Bush.

These two young men became friends; and many years later, after George W. Bush was elected President of the United States, Tom and his wife Jan were invited to the White House a number of times. Lockhart is often asked about Bush as a young man and as a pilot, and Tom remembers him as a natural leader of his class, a position not usually assumed by members of the Guard. He was a serious student, and in a private conversation, Tom recalls telling him that the F-102, the jet fighter Bush would be flying with the Texas Guard, had a way of “weeding out” poor pilots with a big, black hole in the ground. “It is an old, “squirrely” and unforgiving airplane and learn to fly it well,” was Tom’s advice to young Bush.

It seems as though Lockhart’s words were heeded, as George W. became a good student in ground school and a fine pilot. Deciding to make the Air Force a career, and as a warrior would, Lockhart requested re-assignment back to the war, this time in an F-4E, the Phantom II. With a little help from his friends, he went back to Korat RTAFB for a second combat tour of one year, during which Tom flew 125 missions over North Vietnam.

After the war ended, Lockhart went to PACAF in Hawaii with the Inspector General’s staff working on F-4 maintenance and safety issues. A very memorable assignment followed as the Air Force officer attending the Marine Corps Command and Staff College at Quantico, Va. (Tom credits this assignment for teaching him to run in combat boots carrying a full pack.) Lockhart attended USC learning to investigate aircraft accidents and completed his MBA at Pepperdine University. His tours included Homestead AFB, Fla., (flying F-4s) and Langley, Va., (flying the F-4G).

In 1980, Tom was assigned back to Nellis Air Force Base, where his operational unit was the first to be trained in the brand new F-16. He was also tasked with flying as an aggressor in the famed Red Flag operations which are conducted at Nellis to train fighter pilots from all over the world. At Nellis, Lockhart was promoted to full Colonel and then given an assignment in Vicenza, Italy, as Chief of Tactical Evaluation for NATO flying units in the southern region. His final two years were served as Inspector General Chief of Operations, United States Air Force.

Lockhart retired from the Air Force in 1988. During his outstanding career as an aviator, he was one of very few pilots who flew the T-37, the T-38, the F-100, the F-105, the F-4, and the F-16 jet fighters.

As Lockhart reminisces on his career and his life, the positive and negative motivations that directed his life journey become quite clear. Recognizing their importance, Tom has made it a priority to pass along as best he can, motivations for others. He works with the Joe Foss Institute teaching school children the importance of the United States Constitution and the Bill of Rights. Tom regularly speaks for the VFW and the American Legion at patriotic holiday ceremonies and to schools about choosing the military as a career. He has mentored several students, including a local young man through the Air Force Academy and into a career as a pilot.

The Lockharts moved to Sedona, Ariz., in 1993, and they enjoy traveling in their motor home and regularly attend air shows, such as AirVenture in Oshkosh, Wis. Tom (at left) still rides his Harley Davidson, and is very active in veterans’ issues. He is a proud member of the Quiet Birdmen, an organization of aviators and is considered an honorary member of the Sedona Chapter of the Marine Corps League.
Brothers of Delta Omicron Chapter gather for a group photo in front of the chapter home in Moscow, Idaho.

100 Years at Idaho

By Ty Popplewell (Idaho)

The Delta Omicron Chapter celebrated their centennial this past May with a weekend full of brotherhood events at the chapter home in Moscow.

OVER 100 BROTHERS GATHERED ON the campus in Moscow over three days from May 1-3 to celebrate one hundred years at the University of Idaho. Some of the activities for the weekend included golf, campus tours, house tours, a barbeque, a social meet and greet gathering, and a formal dinner on Saturday evening.

The formal dinner on Saturday evening was the showcase of the weekend. Delta Omicron’s own Carl Berry was awarded the Jim Lyle Award, one of the highest honors awarded to University of Idaho alumni. This award recognizes the outstanding contributions of an individual who has shown long-term dedication and service to the University of Idaho through volunteerism.

Representatives from the General Fraternity were also on hand. Brad Hastings, Sigma Nu Educational Foundation president, commended the chapter on the celebration of the centennial and all of their accomplishments. Regent Joe Francis presented the chapter with their 100-year certificate and touched on the importance of the chapter continuing to be a leader in the Greek community.
Notable Delta Omicron Chapter alumni include Jerry Cramer, a member of the Green Bay Packers early Super Bowl teams; U.S. Senators Jim McClure and Steve Symms; two members of the Alpha Affiliate program; and one inductee into Sigma Nu Fraternity’s national Hall of Honor. Many other Delta Omicron brothers have gone on to successful careers in business, finance, agriculture, insurance, politics, and coaching. The chapter boasts over 1,700 initiated members.

The chapter was one of the first on campus to pursue and complete an extensive fundraising campaign and remodel of the chapter house. The fundraising campaign has served as a model for other groups and organizations to follow since the remodel took place back in 2005.

Just recently, the chapter was the first fraternity on campus to create an alumni advisory board to assist the chapter officers and leadership. The board meets semiannually with the officers to discuss a wide variety of topics, including but not limited to, house finances, scholarship, campus leadership, and recruitment. Other chapters on campus have followed the Delta Omicron lead and created similar alumni volunteer boards.

Although Delta Omicron took time to reflect and celebrate on the past hundred years, the chapter is also looking ahead to the next 100 years. As one of the oldest colonized chapters on campus, and known for its history of campus leadership, the Delta Omicron Chapter is committed to providing a fraternity experience that prepares young men to be ethical leaders in their communities.

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From left to right: Phil Reberger, Gary Mahn, Gary Morgan, and Don Lopez, all candidate brothers from the same class.
This summer we have brothers participating in prestigious internships throughout the country. Brother Daniel Schwartz, who is pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering, is attending an internship at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, TX. He is working on projects that include designing the power electronics for a solar charger, a maximum point tracking algorithm, and a way to simulate the power output of a solar panel on the moon so as to test these projects. Brother Andrew Haught, who is pursuing a degree in Finance, interned with Arkansas Congressman Steve Womack in his Washington, DC office.

The Nu Alpha Chapter’s 8th Annual St. Jude Breakaway 5k was held on April 4th this year. The chapter had over 160 runners participate, bringing together groups from faculty members, the community, and alumni. The chapter was able to exceed the previous year’s results, raising over $3,600 for St. Jude Children’s Hospital.
Bradley Brothers Brad Bocketti, Jake Brackman, and Dylan Montgomery in London, England, as part of Butler University’s Leadership London study abroad experience.

BROTHERS BRAD BOCKETTI (Eminent Commander), Jake Brackman (Recorder), and Dylan Montgomery (initiated this Spring) spent three weeks in London, England through Butler University’s Leadership London study abroad experience. During their time in Europe, our Brothers were able to enjoy excursions to Spain and Ireland, while developing leadership skills.

Brother Matt Brooks is an emerging senior, triple majoring in Recording Industries Studies, Strategic Communications, and Spanish. Matt spent the first part of his summer studying abroad, taking courses toward his Spanish major in Costa Rica. After his classes ended, Matt explored solo through Nicaragua, as he has past experience traveling through the Americas. Matt has now been to Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Peru, Mexico, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua.

Brother Jack Murphy graduated from Butler University and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps all in a matter of months.

Brothers Mark Meredith, Dylan Menefee, Luke Gallion, and Caleb Schmicker spent the beginning of their summer taking a real-world application course in Renewable Energy through Butler’s Chemistry Department. They were able to get hands-on experience in furthering their chemistry careers, while touring Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.

On April 14th, Epsilon Mu was awarded the designation of 5 Star Chapter by Butler University for the third consecutive year. Butler administration only bestows this honor to a Greek House when a chapter demonstrates superior performance in the categories of Campus Leadership, Educational Programming, New Member Programming, Philanthropy and Service, and Scholarship. For yet another year, Epsilon Mu was the only house on campus to receive this award. The 5 Star Chapter designation is the highest honor a Butler Greek House can receive.

The week of October 25th, Epsilon Mu will be hosting “Voodoo” our annual fundraiser to benefit the Indianapolis Dream Academy. The Dream Academy operates in the urban Indianapolis public school district and provides guidance and support for impoverished middle school students. Throughout the school year, our organization works with Dream Academy providing tutors and playmates to the children on a weekly basis, but this is our one opportunity to provide the monetary support they need to operate. This fundraiser consists of corporate sponsors, a benefit dinner, a silent auction, restaurant givebacks, and activities across campus.
The Kappa Pi Chapter took home the Homecoming. Looking forward to eating members and arechapter's undergradu-ship fund to assist theestablished a scholar-

The Theta Nu Chapter It was an award win-

Greek Awards. award at the 2015 Chapter of the Year

This year also saw the chapter contribute 2,355 hours of community service and being awarded the 2014 Social Change award for their Students Against Sexual Assault Program.

This past May, the brothers of Delta Alpha opened a time capsule in the house. Inside was a 3’ by 30’ big–little family tree dating to 1975, before the chapter’s reorganization. Chapter Historian Lucas Flowers (1352) added its contents to the modern tree, which was previously rooted at the 1980 candidate class of refounders. With some further additions from alumni and old minute books, the full tree now goes all the way back to the 1950 class of initiates—and no brother is missing from 1973 on. The Delta Alpha family tree currently includes around 750 brothers out of 1409 total Delta Alpha initiates. The tradition of big brothers first began here in 1923, though the current system dates to 1947. The printed version of the tree has been a fantastic conversation piece for potential new members, as well as alumni; this latest incarnation version will be better still.

Alumnus James Paxton (1082) was one of a select group of physicians asked to rewrite the American Heart Association’s Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) guidelines, which will be released internationally in November 2015. Brother Paxton is also the primary investigator on a $450,000 industry-funded research study being conducted in Michigan, Kansas, and Florida. This study evaluates the effect of early vascular access and fluid resuscitation on sepsis survival.

After many hours and months of long hard efforts, by several of our Sigma Nu Gamma Kappa alumni and undergraduate members (including Randy Rowland - GK#1152, Phil Caragol - GK#1171, Chris Bianco - GK#1683, Josh Lindsay - GK#2058, Matt Lonner - GK#2081) we are very pleased to announce that our website (www.sigmanuboulder.com) has been completely revised, updated and is now live.

One last request, please review the alumni composites gallery at the www.sigmanuboulder.com website and look for those composites that reflect your personal class years at the EN-GK chapter. We have tried our very best to include each and every class composite. However, some of our composites illustrated are unfortunately of poorer picture quality and some are missing. If you have personal access to any of the “mini composite”

Ball State
The Theta Nu Chapter alumni recently established a scholarship fund to assist the chapter’s undergraduate members and are looking forward to a great turnout for Homecoming.

Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
The Kappa Pi Chapter took home the Chapter of the Year award at the 2015 Greek Awards.

Case Western Reserve
It was an award winning year for Delta Alpha Chapter at Case Western Reserve with Jack Borsi being awarded the Glenn Nicholls Character of Distinction award and Drew Blasius being awarded the Outstanding New Member award. The chapter also received Excellence in the Pytte Cup Chapter Development awards for Ritual and Leadership, Distinction in Citizenship, and Honor in Scholarship.

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Central Arkansas
Brother Tanner Scheuerman became the 500th initiate of the Lambda Phi Chapter on May 1st.

Clemson
At this year’s annual Fraternity and Sorority Life Awards Banquet, recent alumnus Hubert Smith (923) was awarded the Personal Academic Achievement Award, which is granted to one male and female in Clemson’s Greek community who exhibit academic ex-

Colorado
After many hours and months of long hard efforts, by several of our Sigma Nu Gamma Kappa alumni and undergraduate members (including Randy Rowland - GK#1152, Phil Caragol - GK#1171, Chris Bianco - GK#1683, Josh Lindsay - GK#2058, Matt Lonner - GK#2081) we are very pleased to announce that our website (www.sigmanuboulder.com) has been completely revised, updated and is now live.

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Fresno State
Brother Cooper Couchman crosses Colby Pass in Sequoia National Park in California.
sheets that have been distributed or provided to our members since the early 1970s, please determine if the quality of your mini composite is better than the one we have displayed on the website (or if you have one that we are missing). We have already successfully updated our alumni composite gallery by scanning copies of these mini composites and then replacing some of the missing, poor quality photos that we have. We also welcome any alumni photos, memorabilia, etc. that you would like to submit for inclusion on the website, or permanent installation on the chapter walls. We appreciate everyone’s help!

We hope you are as pleased with the revised website as we are. We look forward to seeing you in Boulder to visit the Sigma Nu property compound and of course your personal inspection of all the new renovations and updates to our ever improving Gamma Kappa Chapter compound.

Georgia State

On April 24th, 2015, the Eta Gamma Chapter held its 5th Annual Sigma Nu Smoke Out benefiting St. Jude Children’s Hospital. The chapter raised over $5,000 with the help of Eta Gamma alumni, brothers, fellow Greeks, and nearly 60 sponsoring businesses from metro-Atlanta. This has put the total amount raised from the Smoke Out to approximately $30,000 since it was started by Brother Chris Pena in 2010. At the halfway point of the fall semester, the active chapter and candidates collectively achieved a total of approximately 1,000 hours of community service for organizations such as Trees Atlanta, Mad Housers, The Atlanta Neighborhood Charter School, and the St. Jude Children’s Hospital.

Along with this, the Eta Gamma Chapter surpassed expectations for recruitment by increasing its chapter size by nearly 60%, initiating 11 members last Fall and 8 members in the Spring, bringing the active chapter to a total size of 60 members. Along with the addition of our new members, 98% of active members are involved in another student organization on campus besides Sigma Nu ranging from honor societies to sports clubs.

We are pleased to announce that the Eta Gamma Chapter has been awarded the Most Philanthropic Chapter of the IFC as well as the IFC Chapter of the Year! This marks our sixth philanthropic accolade in the past three years, as well as our second year as IFC Chapter of the Year in the past three years!

During the past year, the chapter won several social awards as well. Brother Kevin Hahn won Zeta Tau Alpha’s Think Pink competition! Brothers Nabeel Musa, Andrew Hoffritz and Justin Cochran were elected on the GSU Interfraternal Council for the positions of Secretary, Vice President of Recruitment, and Vice President of Internal Affairs, respectively.

The Eta Gamma Chapter had a huge
honor of having one of the three founding members of the Eta Gamma Chapter come and speak before some members of the active chapter. Brother Ronald K. Hill (HG’3) spoke to the active chapter on June 26, 2015, regarding the completion of his book “The History of Eta Gamma.”

The Eta Gamma Chapter is also proud to showcase the achievements of Brother Nolan Herelebs (HG’1225) for his dedication to being a campus leader and having the will and determination to found a leadership organization for Georgia State University. Brother Nolan founded the Society for Collegiate Leadership & Achievement to help any individual hoping to get involved on campus and shaping the lives of students for success. Brother Nolan founded this organization because he was never involved on campus until Sigma Nu, but realized the importance and achievement gained when students are involved in their institutions. A quote from Brother Nolan, “The reason I have so much passion toward being involved and dominant in what I do is because of Sigma Nu. It carved me into being this leader by the expectations all the brothers had towards each other.”

Georgia Southern

Thanks to the continued involvement and support of many chapter alumni and friends, the Theta Kappa chapter home is currently undergoing a major renovation. The updates will reflect the gold-standard that the chapter alumni have come to expect of the collegiate men. The active members are eternally grateful for the incessant dedication that the Theta Kappa Housing Corporation, Alumni Advisory Board, donors, and others have shown on the way to making this goal a reality.

Brother Archie Manning paid a visit to the campus of Georgia Southern University in March to take part in the University’s ongoing “Leadership Speaker Series.” Nearly all Theta Kappa Brothers attended the event, which was also utilized as a LEAD session. At a welcome
Adam Clay presented Brother Manning with a small alumni badge as a token of appreciation for coming to share his thoughts on leadership with the students of Georgia Southern University.

Houston

The Alumni Chapter has lost several members this year, including Judge Tom Sullivan and Sam P. Douglass, both of whom were some of the first initiates of Zeta Chi. Brother Douglass was a very successful businessman and Tom Sullivan served as Harris County Civil Court Judge until his retirement in 1998.

On a brighter note, the Alumni Chapter is making preparations for our 60th anniversary celebration in April 2016. We anticipate a large turnout, especially since the active chapter will soon initiate badge number 1000!

The active chapter’s Commander, Sebastian Agudelo, and Lieutenant Commander, Randall Williams, are the Vice President and President, respectively, of the IFC at the University of Houston. This is an outstanding example for Zeta Chi’s prominence and leadership at the University of Houston.

Iowa

By far the most important thing our chapter has done is our spring philanthropy dedicated to our two brothers, Andrew Mogni and Rodric Jackson. Andrew Mogni passed away this spring after a horrific accident while studying abroad in Italy. After this accident he remained in a coma for many months and was transferred to his hometown Chicago where he passed away due to infections. All of the Beta Mu Brothers were in attendance at his wake, supporting his family in every way possible and a true display of brotherhood of coming together and taking care of one another after this heart-breaking loss.

The other knight we dedicated our philanthropy to was Rodric Jackson. Rodric Jackson was diagnosed with brain cancer this winter break while living in the house and has been fighting bravely since. He was unable to attend school this spring, but was visited often by brothers both in and out of the hospital. Luckily he will return to living in the chapter house this fall with his brothers. Our philanthropy, “Kickin’ It For a Cure” enjoyed TV coverage, newspaper articles, and the largest attendance at our philanthropy in the history of Beta Mu. Our profits were given to both families, with our Go Fund Me account alone raising over 7 thousand for them. These events were publicized by the Iowa Press Citizen and Iowa news channel KCRG.

While this remains our strongest example of the brotherhood at Beta Mu, we have even more accomplishments from the men of Sigma Nu. Sigma Nu Beta Mu chapter won Student Organization of the month at the University of Iowa in April/May. Former Eminent Commander and Current Inter-Frateranal President AJ Garcia won President of the Year. Lastly, Sigma Nu and Kappa Alpha Psi put on another philanthropy with proceeds also going to the two aforementioned knights.

Maryland

The Delta Phi Chapter is excited to announce that they began a major renovation of their chapter house in June of this year. The house, originally built in 1953, is located on Norwich Road in the Old Town Historic District of College Park, just a few blocks away from the University’s scenic campus. With about a third of the brotherhood calling 4617 Norwich Road their home it’s easy to see why the chapter house is so vital to the Delta Phi chapter. Not only is the chapter house vital to daily fraternity operations, it also serves as a significant tool for recruitment. Additionally, the chapter house serves as the traditional meeting place for the homecoming tailgate and other alumni-related events.

The housing corporation of Delta Phi chapter has been working to secure the financing needed to begin the project for some time. The $550,000 renovation will include a remodeling of the interior of the house and bring modern amenities like central heating and air conditioning. The renovation is the result of the tireless efforts of devoted brotherhood alumni Robert Becker and Jordan Blaker, two new members of the housing corporation advisory board that aims to revitalize the alumni association’s engagement with the active chapter.

Missouri

Rho Chapter alumnus Jonah Javad is in his third year as a sports reporter and weekend sports anchor for WGRZ-TV, the NBC affiliate in Buffalo. He covers the Buffalo Bills and Buffalo Sabres on a near-daily basis. Jonah recently received his second New York Emmy Nomination, a competition which includes entries from local and cable stations from NYC. In 2014, Jonah’s sports reporting earned him a New York Emmy Award and a Regional Murrow Award.

Missouri Tech

Gamma Xi Chapter earned a 3.258 spring semester GPA tying us for third best GPA on campus. Adam
MU CHAPTER AT THE UNIVERSITY OF
Georgia, would like to congratulate
Wesley Roberts (M 2504) on being
named the Terry College of Business
2015 Student of the Year. Wes is a 2015
graduate from Peachtree City, GA, and
joined Mu Chapter in 2011. Throughout
his time at the University of Georgia,
Wes compiled quite the list of accom-
plishments. On top of Terry Student
of the Year, Wes was named one of “10
Undergrads Ready to Revolutionize the
Finance Industry” by Badcredit.org.
Wes has been selected for Beta Gamma
Sigma (top 10% of senior students se-
lected), Order of Omega (top 3% of Greek
students selected), and Phi Kappa Phi
(top 10% of students selected) for his
exemplary leadership and dedication to
excellence.

This past October Wes was honored
with the Richard B. Russell Student
Leadership Award, of which past recipi-
ents include former Mu Commander
Wells Ellenberg (M 2400). Wes was
President of the UGA Blue Key Na-
tional Honor Society as well as the UGA
Student Managed Investment Fund
(SMIF). He was also elected by his peers
as the Head of Investment Banking for
UGA’s Corsair Society, and was chosen
as a Leonard Leadership Scholar by the
Institute for Leadership Advancement.

According to Wes, he attributes much
of his success to Mu Chapter, saying
“From the very beginning of my college
career, my experience as a Sigma Nu
gave me phenomenal opportunities to
get involved both on campus and within
the fraternity. Mu Chapter is known for
its long history of campus leaders, and
the leaders of the chapter were more
than willing to put their time and effort
into providing me with mentorship and
encouraging me to take advantage of
the opportunities available.” Wes also
wanted to extend a huge thank you to
Robert Durham (M 1650) for his “role in
facilitating goal achievement.”

Wes will be joining Robert Durham at
Credit Suisse this summer, assuming
a full-time position as an In-vestment
Banker in New York. Congratulations on
all of your success Wes, job well done!

This past spring, the brothers of Mu
Chapter went all in for a new philan-
thropic event that will surely set the
benchmark in Athens for years to
come. The inaugural Classic City Bowl,
organized by co-philanthropy chair-
men Alex Croy (M 2480) and Connor
Beecham (M 2552), pit the snakes of Mu
Chapter against the brothers of Pi Kappa
Phi in a full-contact high school style
football game.

Prospective players were subject to
a mandatory tryout, which proved to be
equal parts informative and entertain-
ing. The coaching staff for Mu Chapter,
which has been described as the great-
est assembly of football minds since the
‘85 Bears, featured Offensive Coordina-
tor RJ Parrino (M 2549) and Defensive
Coordinator John Huffines (M 2472).
The team practiced for over a month in
preparation for the big game, leaving no
stone unturned and no limb un-bruised.

On Friday April 24th, the stands of
Clarke Central High School’s football
stadium were filled with over 1,000
spectators anxiously watching as the
Classic City Bowl was hashed out on
the gridiron. When it was all said and
done, over $17,000 was raised to support
local Athens charities! Mu Chapter fully
anticipates this event to grow into the
largest philanthropy event in UGA’s
history. Mu Chapter would like to thank
all of those who supported this year’s
Classic City Bowl.

The Chapter would also like to con-
gratulate recent Mu Alumnus, Adam
McDonald (M 2291) who was recently
selected to become a Navy Pilot. Recent
graduate, Nick Hendricks (M 2298) was
recently selected as a member of the
UGA Terry School of Business Young
Alumni Board. ✨
McMikle (Gamma Xi 1470) was elected Student President. The chapter also finished in first place in intramural sports.

North Dakota State
Brother Arvin Hagen, the first Commander of the Eta Theta Chapter, entered Chapter Eternal on May 8, 2015. Brother Hagen was 80 and passed away peacefully at home in Fargo, N.D. Hagen spent his entire career with John Deere where he retired in 1992 after 32 years of service. A note from Hagen's obituary read, “Most importantly, Arvin actively lived the Sigma Nu Creed of Love, Honor, and Truth.”

Speaking about Brother Hagen, Greg Heller said, “Arvin was a guiding light and a beacon of what a true brother and what every Sigma Nu should strive for. Up until his last days Arvin remained active within our chapter. He truly knew what it meant to be a Sigma Nu.”

Northern Illinois
Theta Eta received awards for academics and alumni relations at its Greek life awards banquet this spring. Scott Friedman, Commander during 2014, was named President of the Year. Current Commander Nathan Lupstein was elected Student Body President, as well as being awarded the Outstanding Student Leader award from NIU’s Student Government. Matthew Holmes was elected Vice President of Finance for NIU’s Campus Activities Board. Kevin Hannon was personally selected by the President of NIU to serve on the Presidential Commission on Persons with Disabilities at NIU. Jack Swick was accepted into an exceptionally selective fellowship program offered by the University where he will research dual credit courses offered by local high schools in an effort to help increase college readiness for incoming students.

The chapter also won the Outstanding Scholarship and Outstanding Alumni Relations awards at the Greek Awards Ceremony.

Gettysburg
Brother Jon Danchik standing in front of Appomattox Courthouse during his internship this summer for Appomattox Court House National Historical Park.

Northwestern
It has been only three years since Gamma Beta Chapter’s return to campus and they received the Chapter of the Year award at Northwestern University. This comes alongside receiving awards in sustainability, campus involvement, community service, as well as an individual award for President of the Year for former Eminent Commander and current Interfraternity Council President, Mark Nelson.

Oklahoma
Stanton L. Young (AE 654) died on March 15, 2015, after a lengthy illness.

Northwestern
Brother Young was a very prominent philanthropist in Oklahoma. He was a driving force in the creation of the Health Sciences Center and campus of the University of Oklahoma in Oklahoma City. In fact, the street that runs along the south side of Presbyterian and Children’s Hospitals, which are now a part of the OU Medical Center, is named Stanton L. Young Boulevard in his honor.

Central Oklahoma
In May, Bob Grant became the oldest graduate in University of Central Oklahoma’s 125-year history, breaking the record he set when he earned his bachelor’s degree at the age of 78 in 2011. Brother Grant graduated from UCO’s Jackson College of Graduate Studies with a master’s degree in gerontology.

Grant, who lives in Edmond, said he was just a semester short of a college degree in 1954, but after four and a half years at the University of Oklahoma — plus two summer terms — the real world called.

He left school and joined the U.S. Army, serving in the 13th Signal Corps as a motion picture photographer. In 1955 he married Joan, and in 1956 they welcomed their first son. They had another son, then
and many will serve in leadership roles within the chapter in the fall.

Additionally, many improvements are being done to the chapter house. These include the addition of study and recreation space, renovations to numerous bedrooms and re-carpeting of common areas. The alumni-run property company and the active brothers have put a significant amount of time and effort into planning the improvements for these spaces. While renovations are ongoing, the brotherhood looks forward to taking full advantage of the improvements in the fall semester.

Brother Nick Guth was recognized by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life as an outstanding Greek leader for his contributions over the past year. Guth served as the chapter’s parking lot and house manager for the past year and will serve as Lt. Commander in the fall.

Beta Rho would also like to recognize its spring graduating class for all of its achievements over the past four years and wish luck to them as they face life’s next challenges, whether it be continuing on to graduate school or entering the work force.

Finally, the brothers of Beta Rho have pioneered a meal plan for the next academic year. This will be the first full meal plan in many years for the chapter, thanks in large part to recent graduate and 2015 Brother of the Year Dinesh Chugani, who headed the discussions with the cooking company. Beta Rho is very excited to make better use of the chapter house’s dining facilities and foster brotherhood through the pairing of good friends and good food around the dinner table.

Penn State
This year Delta Delta Chapter raised $32,872.29 for the Penn State IFC/Pan-Hellenic Dance Marathon. Brothers Jon Trexler and Dan Hamm stood for 46 hours in support of children battling pediatric cancer. Delta Delta also continued to excel academically and athletically, finishing 4th out of 49 fraternities in overall GPA and 5th out of 49 fraternities in intramural sports.

Rhodes
The Sigma Nu House Corporation of Memphis, legal owner of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter house located on Rhodes College grounds, was reinstated with the State of Tennessee in September 2014, after a 20-year period of inactivity. The Sigma Nu House Corporation of Memphis is working with the collegiate brothers of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter to develop a house improvement plan that includes repairs, renovations, and long-term maintenance.

In the spring of 2015, the Epsilon Sigma Chapter hosted the first annual Luau Fest for St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. This all-day event, co-hosted by the Tri Delta Sorority chapter at Rhodes College, helped Tri Delta in reaching their $10,000 benchmark to donate to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital, one of Sigma Nu’s Helping Hand Partners.

Sewanee
Beta Omicron had a great spring semester. We received several awards, including the Dean’s Cup Award for the second year in a row (Best Chapter), the Chapter Adviser of the Year, and former Commander Evan Haire was named Fraternity President of the Year.

South Florida
Current Chaplain Evan Wallster spent five days at Indiana University attending the Undergraduate Inter-Fraternity Institute, a conference attended by fraternity and sorority members from all over the country. The experience is meant to enhance leadership skills, further instill the values of each member’s organization, and meet people from all different walks of life with different and refreshing ideas on how to improve individually and in turn, help improve their chapters. Wallster said of his time spent at the summit, “The experiences that I’ve taken back from UIFI are immeasurable. It has reaffirmed my faith that fraternities build values-based leaders for the future.” He even got a chance to stop by and check a daughter. Life took off, and Grant, providing for a family of five, didn’t have time to look back.

“I tell everyone I can that I’m the oldest — and second-oldest graduate — UCO has ever had,” Grant said.

And then he tells them, degree-holding or not, that it isn’t too late. It’s never, ever too late to go back to the education you want or need, it’s never, ever too late to go back to school. I’m proof.”

Pennsylvania
Beta Rho Chapter looks forward to its fall semester, and they have plenty of reasons to celebrate. The chapter brought in one of its largest pledge classes in recent memory in the spring, welcoming 21 brothers. The new class has already shown themselves to be a passionate and productive group. Last semester, they spent time contributing to local schools and charities such as Philabundance and Alumni and collegians from Zeta Chi Chapter (Houston) gather for their annual softball game.
Idaho

Brother Adam Niemet in Malta during a summer trip.
Kansas

Brother Zach Miller diving at Roatan, Honduras.
out the Beta Eta house while he was there.

Wade Simon, a mechanical engineering major entering his senior year, interned with Lockheed Martin in Orlando. Lockheed Martin is the world’s largest military defense contracting company. Simon worked in the Missiles and Fire Control Factory. His main responsibility in that department was to manufacture and inspect different parts so they can be sent to another location for final assembly, then, shipped to locations all across the globe.

Matthew Infield is broadcast news major and was lucky enough to have the opportunity to intern at CBS News in New York. He interned in the News Marketing department, which focuses on creating exciting promos and teases for pretty much every CBS program. His favorite lecture so far has been from Scott Pelley, CBS Evening News anchor and 60 Minutes correspondent.

Last, but definitely not least, our executive board held a retreat at the Rock in Lexington, Va. We used this time for goal-setting and further self-examination of our chapter. We are a devoted group of men that will gain great insight into how to make the Theta Alpha chapter better through learning more about our roots and values. Our collective determination as a chapter is what keeps our members so active in so many different aspects over the summer. At the end of the day, living a life of love, truth, and honor, never stops.

Texas A&M

Jose Laurel (Kappa Sigma 499) was admitted to the University of Texas Austin on a full ride scholarship to attend their law school. While very eager to accept this offer, the Aggie in him told him to wait and hear from other universities. He heard from Georgetown law: He had been admitted. Jose Laurel will be attending Georgetown Law in Washington D.C. this fall and the Kappa Sigma Chapter is very excited to see our beloved Rush Chairman do great things up North. We wish him all the luck from College Station.

Washington

Gamma Chi Chapter lost a great brother recently. Brother Ralph Cole Saxton III passed away suddenly June 3, 2015. He was a member of class of 1963. He will be greatly missed by his many friends and family.

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June 10th was the date of our first annual “Gamma Chi Senior Supper”, a celebratory get-together for our seniors. Taking over a private room at Morton’s Steakhouse, the Alumni Advisor Board and all graduating seniors had great food and conversation capped off by a formal biographical introduction of each senior and some succinct snippets of advice from our alumni advisors, since that’s what they do! This was one of those events that got everyone excited enough to start planning the same event for next year’s seniors!

Hartford

Brother Ahmad Arabiyat visited Headquarters this summer.
**OREGON MOVES INTO NEW HOME**

**GAMMA ZETA REJOICED IN AN AWARD-FILLED SPRING QUARTER**

As it was generously recognized by the school’s IFC as Chapter of the Year in addition to five other Greek community awards including: Outstanding Chapter Advisor, Young Leader of the Year, Outstanding Chapter Philanthropy, Outstanding Leadership Development, and Outstanding Values Integration.

In addition to these accomplishments, our chapter was extremely honored to have been given the opportunity to move into its first fraternity house since the chapter’s re-chartering in 2010. This has been a long awaited moment for Gamma Zeta and it would not have been possible without the dedicated and diligent work by our founding fathers and all of those who came before us to get us to where we are now. Although we have been fortunate enough to have a successful 2015, Gamma Zeta doesn’t plan on slowing down anytime soon as we have a busy fall term planned with hopes of achieving even more in the coming school year.

Over the summer, our officers were hard at work to be prepared for the fall quarter ahead and to make sure Gamma Zeta could meet its goals and its chapter planned with hopes of achieving even more in the coming school year. Leadership Development, and Outstanding Values Integration.

**West Virginia**

Gamma Pi is at an interesting point in its history after reclamation in 2012. A bubble of brothers have recently graduated since then and are excelling in the workforce. Max Stanisic oversees $400 million worth of major construction, including a corporation worth 4.7 billion dollars. Brandon Robert is a reporter for FOX19 in Cincinnati, and is a campus reporter for ESPNU. Jeff Fuss is attempting to qualify for the Men’s USA Olympic boxing team. Bobby Dini took over as head of an international project at Westinghouse for one of the largest power plants in Europe, he will be the full time lead engineer in further international and domestic projects. Casey Henderson just commissioned as an officer in the Air Force as a pilot and will be getting married July 18th. Chris Seal works as a business analyst in NYC. Steve Drolowski now works full time with the Pirates as an inside sales rep and has ranked second in his class over the last few months. Gamma Pi’s active brothers are also displaying excellence. Tyler Miller works with STEM programs across West Virginia to teach underserved regions in the state. Jacob Wood became the CFO for a non-profit company in Martinsburg. Austin Arnold got a job as a GIS analyst for National Right of Way. Sean Nicholson landed an engineering internship at the company that makes Mike & Ike’s. Evan McIntyre

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**Washington and Lee**

How’s this for a proposal? Robert Uhlm llen, a 2012 graduate of Washington and Lee University, asked his girlfriend, Samantha, to marry him in a production worthy of a Broadway show.

He uploaded his flash mob proposal (in Times Square) to YouTube and wrote, “An amazing amount of legwork and the help of many people combined to make this proposal a reality, and she said yes!”

Robert, who is an account executive at the Practicing Law Institute in New York City, also had the support of classmate John Grigsby ’12, who “jumps in near the final chorus to dance a bit with me before stepping back.”

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**West Georgia**

For four months earlier this year, Rodney Davis was at the center of what he calls “an intense fundraising experience.”

A 1974 graduate of West Georgia College and charter member of the Theta Pi chapter, he was part of a four-person steering committee hoping to raise $100,000 among the chapter’s alumni.

As a result, the Theta Pi chapter is donating the $100,000 to the University of West Georgia athletics department, becoming members of the department’s Champions Council. Daryl Dickey, athletic director at UWG, said members of the Champions Council are supporters of “transformational change.”

“We are very proud of Sigma Nu for their significant contribution and for becoming a member of this council,” Dickey said. “We are working to grow the size of the group, and we’re appreciative of the fraternity alumni’s efforts to move our department forward.”

Davis said the idea for raising money came during a reunion at a charter member’s lake house last summer.

“With all the negative publicity about Greek organizations in the news and elsewhere, we wanted to give back to the university in a way that would really move it forward,” Davis said.

“We started off with our charter members and then got other Sigma Nu alumni to push us over the hump.”

The group will be recognized July 11 at the home of David Knight, one of the four steering committee members for the chapter. University President Dr. Kyle Marrero and Daryl Dickey are expected to attend the recognition.

“We are very proud of what Sigma Nu has done to become the first group to be part of the Champions Council, as the council is mostly made up of individuals and businesses,” Dickey said.

“We’ve gotten more interest from other groups now, and that’s an amazing sign of support to our program.”
San Jose State

Brother John Geoghegan at the summit of Flattop Mountain in Alaska.
is on his second co-op with Accenture. Michael Kelley graduate from Army ROTC CLC at Ft. Knox and is on track to commission next spring. Jon Salazar won outstanding Greek Man of the Year for WVU and will be commissioning as an officer in the Army in December.

Last year several brothers of Gamma Pi were struck with cancer. Over the past few months all brothers have miraculously overcome their sickness. Jared Bartee was cleared to return to school in the Fall and Jordan Demaske graduated in the Spring despite being under heavy chemotherapy. Both are expected to have a full recovery, along with the other two brothers who were also diagnosed with cancer.

Western Kentucky

Ted Williams, a senior majoring in Biology and Psychology, traveled to Canada recently for school work. While in Canada, Brother Williams toured Canadian Parliament and other government buildings. He ended up getting to volunteer inside the government building by helping research and write portions of speeches. He also, edited for one of the offices. He attended several receptions and actually attended the Canadian Question Period. It was quite an exciting week. Williams also, was initiated as the 1000th member to join the Legion of Honor at WKU since the founding of Eta Rho in 1965.

Jane Tichenor, Director of Buddy House, recognized Sigma Nu for our devoted effort to help The Buddy House raise funds to expand their programs. Even though our main philanthropy event for Buddy House has not been executed yet, she wanted to thank us for our continuous hard work for the benefit of Down Syndrome of South-Central Kentucky. In her experience with The Buddy House, it’s very rare for a WKU Greek organization, especially a fraternity, to reach out and offer to lend a hand. Jane, the staff that runs DSSKY, and the families and individuals they work with are very thankful for our assistance. Buddy House, is a regional education and activities center for Down Syndrome from prenatal diagnosis thru adulthood. They support families, inform the community, and help all individuals with Down Syndrome reach their maximum potential in South-Central Kentucky.

The chapter also recently honored the lifelong service of Brother Tom Hart, who has been an essential part of the Eta Rho Chapter since joining in 1965. He has been involved with day to day operations from becoming an active brother, to becoming a very involved alumnus. From 1970 to 2007 as part of Blake, Hart, Taylor and Wise Insurance, he still found time to lead the chapter in the right direction. In the mid 2000’s when the chapter along with alumni decided to build a new house, Tom led the way in raising funds and moving the chapter house from 1311 College Street to where we stand today at 311 Alumni Ave. Tom, also has been there for counseling during the difficult times as in 2011 in the passing of brother Garic.
TO KICK OFF THE SUMMER, GAMMA
Delta Chapter hosted an alumni weekend. Over 50 alumni, ranging from recent graduates to graduates of the class of 1974, came by the fraternity house to reminisce and share stories of their experiences. It was especially interesting seeing one of our own professors, Professor Rugulo, outside of the classroom environment and sharing his personal stories. It was a wonderful experience for both active brothers and alumni alike, and provided an environment that we seek to emulate for our semesterly alumni barbecue events.

Current Brother Etan Bennett is enjoying his summer abroad. Etan obtained an internship for the summer and fall semesters in Rastatt, Germany, working at Maquet’s Cardiopulmonary division. His current task is to design, develop, and build a functional prototype of a wireless temperature sensor. In his spare time, Etan is playing competitive volleyball as he did for the Stevens team that won the NCAA Division III title this year. He won a C-Level beach doubles tournament during his fifth week, a B-Level tournament the following week, and he is now competing at the A-Level. Etan is making the most of his time abroad by traveling and seeing all the world has to offer. He has been to Luxembourg and Switzerland, and plans on visiting family, as well as alumnus Benjamin Huss in Israel.

Recent graduate Michael Cahill was awarded Fraternity Man of the Year for his volunteer work at the Safe Zone training program which is instrumental in making the Stevens campus more inclusive to the LGBTQ community. Michael was also recognized for his assistance with the undergraduate admissions.

Another recent graduate, David Evans, racked in a plethora of athletic and academic awards for his dedication on the volleyball court as well as in the classroom. These include: 1st Team Academic All-District, 1st Team Academic All American, AVCA D3 National Player of the Year, AVCA 1st Team All American, UVC Player of the Year, UVC 1st Team, Irvin “Buzz” Seymour Athlete of the Year, ECAC Player of the Year, Power Award, and Stevens Men’s Volleyball Team MVP. Dave is playing competitive volleyball this summer and is considering playing professionally.

Another recent graduate, Tyler Mackanin, was awarded the prestigious Maritime Systems Master’s Degree Fellowship at Stevens through the Department of Homeland Security. He is currently working on an emergency response chemical spill model to ensure the timely cleanup of dangerous oil spills.

To top things off, Sigma Nu dominated in the annual senior design competition. Every year the seniors at Stevens participate in a design competition where teams must design something pertinent to their field of study. Brother Daniel Smith came in first place in the overall project pitch. Also accompanied with this task is the elevator pitch competition. Brother Dylan Schlosser won first place, Brothers Chris Coyle and Mark Scalzo claimed second, and Brother Anthony Montufar won third place.
The spring semester of 2015 proved to be productive for the Gamma Omicron chapter and saw considerable strides for the brotherhood. The chapter took 15 new candidates who have assimilated in stride and validated themselves as men of strong character and continue to contribute favorably to the chapter.

The chapter participated heavily in Greek Week philanthropy and continued to make a strong presence in other organizations’ philanthropic events as the chapter itself plans and gears up for its primary events scheduled for the fall.

The chapter will miss the departure of its senior class. The now alumni are on to follow their post-graduation plans some of which include medical and law school, consulting with Bain and Company, graphic design in NYC, and working for other large corporations such as Citi Bank and Wells Fargo.

One such graduate, Henry Ellison, has left an indelible mark upon this Fraternity – both locally and nationally – serving as chapter commander and as a collegiate grand councilman. He plans to attend medical school at the University of Virginia. His and the rest of the seniors’ leadership and example will continue to serve the brotherhood in the years to come.

Alumni relations experienced a recent high following Ellison’s successful event that brought 40+ alumni back to the house to reconvene with the brotherhood, of which favorable outcomes included some summer internships at a local engineering firm – ERSD – for several brothers. Other arranged summer internships for brothers include the Italian Space Agency, several engineering and architectural firms, Bain Capital and other financial institutions across the country.

The brothers look forward to the upcoming academic year and all that it might prove to hold.

Alumni Networking Initiative Flourishes at Washington University in St. Louis

After 60 years, Wofford College in Spartanburg, SC, is building a new fraternity row set to open spring semester of the upcoming school year. Like the other fraternities on campus, Eta Omicron Chapter was tasked with raising a minimum of $400,000 in a few months to be able to have access to the new house when it is completed. Raising this amount of money in such a short amount of time was only possible with the help of the alumni.

At first Eta Omicron Chapter was off to a slow start raising the money and compared to the other fraternities on campus was last in terms of the amount of money raised. To combat this issue, Eta Omicron Chapter’s Alumni Chair, sophomore Connor Callais, worked...
diligently to reach out to all of the alumni of Eta Omicron Chapter. With the daunting task of calling all of the alumni to help spread the word about the new house, Brother Callais employed many brothers to help with the task of calling the alumni. Under the guidance and help of Eta Omicron alumnus Jim Yarbrough with calling the alumni, the Chapter was able to not only raise the minimum $400,000 but according to Wofford College’s website, the Chapter was able to raise $518,060 as of June 18th with the help of the alumni.

An unofficial count of the Chapter’s total, according to Mr. Callais, is at just under $550,000.

The only way Eta Omicron Chapter could have raised this amount of money in just a short time was due to the Chapter’s alumni. The Chapter was awarded with enough money for the new house, and strengthened ties and facilitated communication with alumni. To send the old house off, give the Chapter’s alumni one more night at the old house, and to say thank you to the Chapter’s alumni, the Chapter hosted an alumni event at the house. The Chapter provided food, music and a good time for the alumni. Eta Omicron Chapter hopes to further strengthen their relationship with their alumni, but more importantly the Eta Omicron Chapter would like to thank the alumni for all they have done for the Chapter over the years.
New alumni club aims to keep alumni connected.

The Riley Society

THE RILEY SOCIETY WAS FOUNDED BY RECENT GRADUATES
Joe Gammie (Georgia Tech), Tyler Elvin (West Virginia), and Tom Bymark (Minnesota). They conceived the idea after serving on the High Council as Collegiate Grand Councilmen. As they reflected on the relationships that were fostered while serving the Fraternity, the cohort wanted to create a channel for highly-engaged leaders like themselves to network with each other, remain connected to the Fraternity at the national level and provide support to the Fraternity. This idea, paired with a healthy dose of ambition, led them to establish the framework for the Riley Society for presentation to the High Council.
Upon the chartering of the Riley Society in September of 2014, Joe Gammie assumed the chairmanship, and Tyler Elvin and Tom Bymark took over as vice chairmen. The three brothers constructed the Riley Society to meet the needs of alumni across the nation and established three main objectives:

1. To establish a permanent medium of connection between alumni committed to service, development, and leadership in the Fraternity
2. To sustain and strengthen Society members’ connection with and commitment to the Fraternity and its founding principles
3. To support the achievement of the Fraternity and Foundation's strategic goals and imperatives

The application for membership can be found on sigmanu.org and will open this spring to interested graduates. Once the application has been completed, it is reviewed by General Fraternity staff and Riley Society leadership to confirm satisfaction of the membership requirements. Upon acceptance of the application, each brother will receive an orientation into the Riley Society.

An alumnus might ask, “Why should I get involved with The Riley Society?” There are numerous opportunities presented through Riley Society membership: networking, new business development, transferring of ideas, the opportunity to stay connected with the Fraternity as well as the chance to create lifelong bonds with brothers from across the country. “Think of it as a chapter without physical borders,” says Tyler Elvin. “The chance to interact with highly-engaged brothers of Sigma Nu in multiple industries is invaluable. As a group, we believe The Riley Society could set a precedent for other organizations to follow; it will strengthen engagement of alumni with each other and the national organization.”

Networking is an essential tool and is often times overlooked as a valuable asset. Within the Riley Society, members will have the opportunity to not only network with each other, but also leverage the proven leadership and success of our alumni base through access to the Society’s quarterly mentor programming. By introducing members of the Society to proven Sigma Nu alumni, new doors could be opened. “While serving on the High Council, we were lucky to learn from some of the top performers across all of Sigma Nu. It’s our hope that we can bring that opportunity to other Sigma Nu brothers in order to help unleash their potential,” said Gammie.

Tyler recently moved to a new area of the country and thought having a network of like-minded individuals would help to ease the transition of the move. “It’s always nice to know a few people in the area,” says Elvin, “If there are brothers in the area who are accessible through the Riley Society, you can quickly immerse yourself into the culture and gain some helpful tips in navigating your new home. It’s something so small yet can prove to be a difference maker in the grand scheme of things, especially if that one brother knows someone that can provide some benefit to your own career.”

The Society’s social media presence will serve as a catalyst to these processes. Tom discussed some of the logistics in terms of social media: “We plan on having a variety of ways members can connect. This includes all the typical social media platforms.

As The Riley Society serves alumni, it will also serve as a way for alumni to continue improving the strength of Sigma Nu’s collegiate chapters. “We hope that by connecting a diverse group of people within the Riley Society that the membership will communicate their best practices and experiences between their chapters and the national fraternity and continue to improve our leadership in the Greek community,” says Gammie.

In an ever-changing culture like Greek life, the Riley Society will serve as a constant support network and conduit for positive growth.

“While serving on the High Council, we were lucky to learn from some of the top performers across all of the Sigma Nu alumni. It’s our hope that we can bring that opportunity to other Sigma Nu brothers in order to help unleash their potential.”

— Joe Gammie, Riley Society Chairman
Celebrating the brothers whose extraordinary accomplishments and dedication to Love, Honor and Truth brought distinction to The Legion of Honor this year.

Photos by Jeff Hoffmann
IN 1962, THE GRAND CHAPTER ADOPTED A PROPOSAL by Brother Ora Baldinger, an initiate of the Alpha Chapter at VMI, to create the Alpha Affiliate Awards. Brother Baldinger made the proposal based on a conversation he had with Founder Hopkins in 1909, on the occasion of Alpha Chapter’s second installation. Hopkins’ request of Baldinger was, “Don’t ever let Alpha Chapter die, don’t ever let it die.” Regrettably, not many years later, VMI abolished fraternities permanently. Baldinger conceived of the Alpha Affiliate Award as a means of symbolically meeting Founder Hopkins’ request. The program was designed to award an Alpha Chapter initiate number to the Fraternity’s most outstanding graduating seniors in recognition of their achievements.

**ALPHA #610**

**Marc A. Caputo (Oregon)**

Marc Caputo double majored in Business Administration and Digital Art, earning a 3.53 cumulative GPA as a member of the Robert D. Clark Honors College. During his tenure as an undergraduate member of Gamma Zeta Chapter, he served as Lt. Commander, Recorder, Public Relations Chairman, and was a member of several committees including the chapter’s Honor Board.

Within the interfraternal community Marc served as IFC Vice President of Civic Engagement and member of the Greek Week committee. He was acknowledged for his involvement and achievements in 2014 by receiving the Fraternity Man of the Year award from the University of Oregon. Marc also served as an Orientation Leader for the University of Oregon and his academic advisor, Jamie Hoag Barnett, said, “He possesses many of the qualities I consider representative of the best of University of Oregon students.”

Marc plans on seeking a position for Nike’s Human Resources department and eventually returning to school for his MBA.

“He possesses many of the qualities I consider representative of the best of University of Oregon students.”

—Jamie Hoag Barnett

**ALPHA #611**

**Adam J. Croissant (Washington)**

Adam Croissant is a graduate of the University of Washington’s prestigious Computer Science department earning a 3.52 cumulative GPA while also double majoring in History. Despite the workload that comes from being a student in his chosen field he remained engaged in Gamma Chi Chapter operations by holding numerous positions including Lt. Commander, LEAD Chairman, and Risk Reduction Chairman.

Outside of his excellent academic performance and chapter involvement Adam was also a member of the men’s club soccer team for two years and ultimate frisbee team for four years, serving as team captain for a year. Professionally, Adam worked as a Software Engineer intern for Carbonite in Sunnyvale, Calif., for nine months. “His character, values-based leadership and commitment to the greater fraternal movement made him an ideal candidate for this distinction,” said James Ehrmann (Beta Mu), Assistant Director of Fraternity & Sorority Life. Adam is currently a Software Development Engineer for Dell in Texas.

“His character, values-based leadership and commitment to the greater fraternal movement made him an ideal candidate for this distinction.”

—James Ehrmann (Beta Mu)
ALPHA #612
Henry D. Ellison
(Washington in St. Louis)

“Henry strikes a rare balance between confidence and humility; intelligence and personality; fairness and integrity,” said fellow Alpha Affiliate Wells Ellenberg (Georgia) of Henry Ellison who graduated with a cumulative GPA of 3.77 in Biochemistry. Henry’s focus on academics and admittance to medical school did not detract from his involvement within Gamma Omicron Chapter, evidenced by his service as Commander, Recruitment Chairman, and Alumni Relations Chairman. Perhaps most impressive of these commitments to Sigma Nu was Henry’s term as a Collegiate Grand Councilman on the High Council.

“You never know if that one piece of work is all a person will know you by.”
—Alpha Affiliate Nicholas Frost

On campus Henry was a member of Order of Omega, club golf team and Dr. Jason Woods’ Pulmonary Imaging Lab. As someone aspiring for medical school Henry spent a whole summer studying for the MCAT and scored in the top half of a percentile. He also took summer classes to graduate a semester early. As a current student in University of Virginia’s School of Medicine, Henry’s goal of becoming a medical doctor is coming to fruition.

ALPHA #613
Nicholas A. Frost
(Duquesne)

Nicholas Frost served as Commander for Kappa Delta Chapter while achieving a 3.74 cumulative GPA with a double major in Journalism and Political Science. His other chapter involvement includes Service & Philanthropy Chairman, Alumni Relations Chairman and member on several committees critical to chapter operations. In addition to this, Nicholas served the Duquesne Greek community as IFC Executive Vice President and was President of GAMMA.

“In my opinion, he is the perfect model for student engagement and involvement within our community,”
—Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life Meredith Bielaska

Nicholas’ campus achievements include anchor, producer and technical director for DUQ-TV News, practice player for the Duquesne University basketball team, and recipient of several the Rev. Sean Hogan C.S.Sp. Leadership Award. Nicholas credits his achievements to a phrase his father told him, “You never know if that one piece of work is all a person will know you by.” Nicholas is currently a student at Duquesne University’s School of Law.

ALPHA #614
Mark P. Gockowski
(Kent State)

While earning a cumulative GPA of 3.16 in a Sports Administration and Broadcast Journalism double major, Mark Gockowski served Zeta Gamma Chapter as Commander, Recorder and Alumni Relations Chair. Mark’s involvement also includes tenures on the chapter’s Ritual and LEAD committees. His involvement in the Greek community included IFC Vice President of Member Education and two terms as Vice President of Public & Alumni Relations. Mark was also integral in utilizing social media to reengage with alumni, resulting in a sizeable increase in alumni involvement with the LEAD Program.

“Mark’s campus involvement includes serving as a sports reporter for Blue Squirrel Radio and assistant producer for TV2 Kent State. “In my opinion, he is the perfect model for student engagement and involvement within our community,” said Assistant Director for Fraternity and Sorority Life Meredith Bielaska. Mark is currently a Leadership Consultant for Sigma Nu Fraternity Headquarters.
ALPHA #615
James A. House
(UC Santa Barbara)
James served Kappa Eta Chapter as Commander and Philanthropy Chairman while maintaining a 3.2 GPA in Political Science. He was also a member of several committees including the chapter’s Honor Council and LEAD committee. James’ interfraternal work includes two terms on UC Santa Barbara’s Greek Week committee, serving as chairman in 2014.

“James lives and breathes Sigma Nu, not only as a founding father and not just as a legacy to his brother’s founding at UC Davis, but as an everyday person.”
— Fellow re-founding father Sean Malone

As one of the re-founding fathers for Kappa Eta Chapter, James played an integral role in drafting the then-colony’s 350 page chartering petition. James’ goal of eventually pursuing law school was echoed in his membership in the Mock Trial team for two years. Fellow re-founding father Sean Malone had this to say about James, “James lives and breathes Sigma Nu, not only as a founding father and not just as a legacy to his brother’s founding at UC Davis, but as an everyday person.” James is currently a Leadership Consultant for Sigma Nu Fraternity Headquarters.

ALPHA #616
Davis L. Rogers
(Mississippi)
Davis Rogers graduated from the University of Mississippi with a 4.0 GPA in Physics. He served Epsilon Xi Chapter as Marshal, Scholarship Chairman, and Assistant LEAD Chairman. Davis’ involvement however was not limited to his chapter as he served in the Associated Student Body as Residential Senator, Director of Academic Affairs, and President. His additional memberships include Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa, Gamma Beta Phi, and Ambassador for the University of Mississippi Sally McDonnel Barksdale Honors College for all four years.

“I am impressed by his dedication, self-discipline, and ability to balance a rigorous academic schedule with a wide variety of extracurricular activities.”
— Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Morris Stocks

In 2012 Davis worked as an assistant to the Mayor of Oxford and a ropes course facilitator at the Ole Miss Outdoors Rebel Challenge Course from 2012 to 2014. “I am impressed by his dedication, self-discipline, and ability to balance a rigorous academic schedule with a wide variety of extracurricular activities. We are proud that Davis is a part of the Ole Miss family,” said Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Morris Stocks. Davis is currently attending Johns Hopkins University’s School of Medicine.

ALPHA #617
Mark L. Scalzo (Stevens)
Graduating with a 3.79 GPA in Biomedical Engineering, Mark Scalzo served his chapter as candidate class Commander, Recruitment Chairman, Commander, and IFC representative. In the Greek community Mark was a member of the Greek Week committee and the IFC bylaws committee. On campus, he was a member of Student Government Association for four years including roles as Vice President and Speaker of the Senate.

“He is what I called the ‘whole man’—a multi-dimensional person of honor, integrity, and intelligence and in touch with what it really means to be a leader.”
— Dr. Robert Cloutier

Every semester Mark was the recipient of the Edwin A. Stevens Scholarship named in honor of the founder of Stevens Institute of Technology. Additionally, Mark was awarded the Emerging Leader Award and acknowledged as a Greek Leader of Distinction during his time in school. “I expect great things from Mark in the future. I am confident he will be among the captains of industry in the future. He is what I called the ‘whole man’—a multi-dimensional person of honor, integrity, and intelligence and in touch with what it really means to be a leader,” said Dr. Robert Cloutier. Mark is currently on the Technical Services team for the medical software company Epic.
Joseph (Joey) Thomas graduated from Butler University with a 3.93 GPA in Chemistry. Joey served Epsilon Mu Chapter as Commander, LEAD Phase II Chairman, Alumni and Parent Relations Chairman, and Co-Housing Manager. Joey also held the distinction of serving as a Collegiate Grand Councilman on the High Council, as well as an active participant on the Fraternal Government Relations Coalition in 2015.

In 2014, Joey was a recipient of the Kemar Bailey Award, awarded by the Intercollegiate YMCA to a student that demonstrates the four core values of the YMCA: caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. He was also awarded the Outstanding Senior Chemistry Award for showing outstanding academic performance in the field of chemistry throughout his tenure at Butler University. Chapter Advisor Adam Novotney said of him, “Those who can excel in this realm are those who can reach a balance of academic achievement, campus and community service, and social development and I can say that Joey Thomas is a model of excellence in these areas.” Joey is currently attending Indiana University’s School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

During Dakota Watson’s collegiate tenure, he served Beta Beta Chapter as Commander, Recorder, Chaplain, Recruitment Chairman, Scholarship Chairman, and Alumni Chairman while earning a 3.28 GPA with a double major in Computer Science and History. Adding to his extensive chapter involvement, Dakota was the Vice President of Operations and Vice President of Recruitment for DePauw University’s IFC.

Within the greater campus community, Dakota was Student Body President and Vice president of Academic Life for DePauw Student Government. He also was a member of the Soccer Club for four years, including a year and a half as president. During his Junior year, he was awarded the Randal L. Wilson Memorial Union Board Award presented to a Junior whom the administration has determined to have contributed the most to DePauw in their first three years at DePauw. “Cody’s work ethic, his character, his generous spirit, and his natural leadership will take him far. Over the course of his life, I have no doubt that he will be one of those alumni whose reflected glow will be a benefit to both DePauw and Sigma Nu,” said Vice President of Student Life Christopher Wells. Dakota is currently working for the Technology Services Group in Chicago. ★
## SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

These awards recognize the chapters with the highest GPA over the course of the 2014 calendar year nationwide in ranking order.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>GPA</th>
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<tr>
<td>Gallaher Cup</td>
<td>Duke</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bronze Plaque Cup</td>
<td>Pennsylvania</td>
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<td>Certificate of Commendation</td>
<td>Penn College</td>
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<tr>
<td>Certificate of Merit</td>
<td>Washington and Lee</td>
<td>3.49</td>
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## LEAD AWARDS

### Lead Chairman of the Year
This award recognizes that collegiate Brother who has, along with his chapter, implemented an outstanding program for his chapter.

Robert M. Arostigue
(Cal State Fullerton)

### Lead Chapter of the Year
This award recognizes the chapter that best represents an ideal application of the LEAD Program at the local level.

Minnesota

### Innovation in Lead Programming
This award goes to those chapters that have found new, exciting, and creative ways to engage their Brothers in the LEAD Program.

Washington

## MANPOWER AWARDS

Manpower awards recognize those chapters that demonstrate strength in numbers, proving that quality and quantity can increase together when recruitment is done the right way.

### 100+ Members

- Indiana
- Iowa
- North Carolina State
- South Carolina
- Oklahoma State
- Butler
- Southern California
- UCLA
- Michigan State
- Mississippi
- Western Kentucky
- Northwestern
- Colorado
- Arkansas
- James Madison
- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- UC San Diego
- Georgia
- Louisiana State
- Missouri
- Alabama
- Texas Tech

### 80+ Members

- Washington State
- Delaware
- Nevada
- Tennessee
- Florida
- Duke
- Illinois
- Minnesota
- Oregon
- Appalachian State
- Kansas
- Clemson
- San Jose State
- UC Davis
- 25% Increase in Manpower
- Indiana
- California
- North Carolina State
- Stetson
- George Washington
- Wyoming
- Tennessee
- UCLA
- Old Dominion
- West Texas A&M
- Kettering
- Western Kentucky

### Colorado School of Mines
- Kentucky
- Colorado
- Montana
- Jacksonville State
- North Georgia
- Furman
- Appalachian State
- UC Santa Barbara
- Dayton
- UC San Diego
- Washington and Lee
- Minnesota State
- Rochester
- Eastern Michigan
- Birmingham-Southern
- Hartford
- Southern Mississippi
- Georgia Southern
- Missouri State
- Houston
- Kent State
- Montana State
- North Texas
- Texas Tech
- Lamar
This category recognizes high-achieving chapters based on the Pursuit of Excellence Program (PEP), the fraternity’s chapter assessment, standards, and improvement program.

**Pursuit of Excellence Program Award in Values-Based Leadership**
- Stanford
- Appalachian State
- Cal Poly San Luis Obispo
- Washington and Lee
- Southeast Missouri State
- Arkansas at Fort Smith
- Texas Tech

**Pursuit of Excellence Program Award in Personal Development and Membership Value**
- North Carolina State
- Case Western Reserve
- Columbia
- Oklahoma State
- Butler
- Rhodes
- Louisiana Tech
- Duke
- Stevens
- James Madison
- Washington and Lee
- Georgia
- Georgia Southern

**Pursuit of Excellence Program Award in Operational Excellence**
- Columbia
- Colorado State
- Butler
- Georgia Tech
- Northwestern
- Stevens
- Albion
- Minnesota
- Appalachian State
- Washington and Lee
- Georgia
- Georgia Southern

*Epsilon Xi Chapter (Mississippi) was recognized with the Philanthropy Contribution Award as the chapter with the highest per member philanthropic contribution at an average of $576 per member.*

**Community Service & Philanthropic Achievement**

Two new awards for this year recognize chapters for their significant contributions to community service and philanthropic organizations and for having the highest per member average contributions in either service hours or philanthropic dollars.

Lambda Chapter (Washington and Lee) received the Community Service Contribution Award with a per member average of nearly 90 hours served over the course of the academic year to causes such as Habitat for Humanity; tutoring at local schools; a nursing home; and an outreach organization dedicated to reducing date, domestic, and sexual violence.

Epsilon Xi Chapter (Mississippi) was recognized with the Philanthropy Contribution Award as the chapter with the highest per member philanthropic contribution at an average of $576 per member. Epsilon Xi Chapter raised and donated approximately $130,000 this year, with $55,000 going to support the Blair E. Batson Children's Hospital and another $75,000 given to this year's Charity Bowl recipient, Marcus Banks, who suffered a paralyzing spinal cord injury in 2014.
MAN OF THE YEAR
Joseph C. Thomas (Butler)
Joseph (Joey) Thomas graduated from Butler University with a 3.93 GPA in Chemistry. Joey served Epsilon Mu Chapter as Commander, LEAD Phase II Chairman, Alumni and Parent Relations Chairman, and Co-Housing Manager. Joey also held the distinction of serving as a Collegiate Grand Councilman on the High Council as well as an active participant on the Fraternal Government Relations Coalition in 2015.

In 2014 Joey was a recipient of the Kemar Bailey Award, awarded by the Intercollegiate YMCA to a student that demonstrates the four core values of the YMCA: caring, honesty, respect, and responsibility. He was also awarded the Outstanding Senior Chemistry Award for showing outstanding academic performance in the field of chemistry throughout his tenure at Butler University.

Chapter Advisor Adam Novotney said of him, “Those who can excel in this realm are those who can reach a balance of academic achievement, campus and community service, and social development and I can say that Joey Thomas is a model of excellence in these areas.” Joey is currently attending Indiana University’s School of Medicine in Indianapolis.

SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR
Davis L. Rogers (Mississippi)
Davis Rogers graduated from the University of Mississippi with a 4.0 GPA in Physics. He served Epsilon Xi Chapter as Marshal, Scholarship Chairman, and Assistant LEAD Chairman. Davis’ involvement however was not limited to his chapter as he served in the Associated Student Body as Residential Senator, Director of Academic Affairs, and President.

His additional memberships include Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa, Gamma Beta Phi, and Ambassador for the University of Mississippi Sally McDonnel Barksdale Honors College for all four years. In 2012 Davis worked as an assistant to the Mayor of Oxford and a ropes course facilitator at the Ole Miss Outdoors Rebel Challenge Course from 2012 to 2014.

He was awarded the University’s oldest and one of its most prestigious awards, the Carrier Scholarship, in addition to being one of the 25 seniors at Mississippi to be recognized with the Distinguished Senior Scholarship.

“I am impressed by his dedication, self-discipline, and ability to balance a rigorous academic schedule with a wide variety of extracurricular activities. We are proud that Davis is a part of the Ole Miss family,” said Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Morris Stocks. Davis is currently attending Johns Hopkins University’s School of Medicine.

ATHLETE OF THE YEAR
David J. Evans (Stevens)
David Evans graduated from Stevens Institute of Technology with a 3.8 GPA majoring in Electrical Engineering. During his time as an undergraduate member of the Gamma Delta Chapter he served as Scholarship Chairman, Risk Reduction Chairman, Chaplain, and Reporter.

On campus, David was a peer mentor for incoming freshmen, Order of Omega member, Vice President of the engineering honor society Tau Beta Pi, and President of the electrical engineering honor society Eta Kappa Nu. In addition to his academic and fraternity involvement, Evans interned for three summers at Delphi and UBS.

Perhaps the most impressive of David’s achievements however is his role as a member and team captain of Stevens’ men’s volleyball team. During his time on the team David assisted in leading his team to win the 2015 NCAA Division III National Championship, the first ever NCAA team national title in school history. Evans was also awarded Player of the Year in the conference, a First Team All-American, and the National Player of the Year.

He was also acknowledged with the Irvin “Buzz” Seymour Athlete of the Year award which is awarded to the most outstanding student-athlete at Stevens Institute of Technology.

“He has an ever present smile on his face, looks you in the eye when he is speaking to you and truly cares about others. I will miss him tremendously and always be forever grateful for what this special young man has done for our institution and athletic program,” said Director of Physical Education, Athletics & Recreation Russell Rogers.

David is currently pursuing a professional volleyball career in Europe.
CHAPTER ADVISOR OF THE YEAR
Dr. Robert A. Linden (Cornell)

Dr. Robert “Bob” Linden began serving as Gamma Theta’s Chapter Advisor in 2013 and has been a key individual in guiding the chapter’s success over the past several years. When Dr. Linden took over the role of advisor, the chapter was struggling financially and alumni engagement had dwindled. However, in a short amount of time he has increased involvement of the chapter’s alumni, guided the chapter back to financial success, and has served as a key role model and source of advice and counsel to the chapter’s officers.

As a testament to his commitment and level of involvement, Dr. Linden visits the chapter several times a year to meet with students, alumni, facilitate LEAD sessions, and oversee the chapter property despite living over 300 miles away. Dr. Linden also maintains regular contact with the Assistant and Associate Deans of Students. In addition to this he has regular conference calls with both the Alumni Advisory Board and the chapter’s Executive Board. “Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do,” is the mantra he has instilled at Gamma Theta Chapter.

Division Commander Jason Lyons (Philadelphia) said of Dr. Linden’s efforts, “Seldom have I seen the actions of one man completely change the course of a Sigma Nu Chapter. If you had mentioned Gamma Theta and Rock Chapter in the same sentence to me before Bob’s involvement, I would have thought you were joking ... not anymore.”

Dr. Linden is currently a retired physician in Connecticut.

DIVISION COMMANDER OF THE YEAR
Dr. Jason M. Lyons (Philadelphia)

Dr. Jason Lyons has served as Division Commander since 2005 in the Northeast region. It would be incredibly difficult to find a gap in time when Dr. Lyons has not served Sigma Nu in some way going all the way back to his first chapter officer position as Chaplain in 1997. From there he served as Lt. Commander, Commander, Worthy Commander, and Chapter Advisor. He is also an Alpha Affiliate and past Alumni Chapter Officer of the Year award recipient.

In 2009 Dr. Lyons joined the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation Board of Directors where he currently serves as Secretary and Chairman of the Headquarters Commission. Additionally, if you had attended a Grand Chapter or College of Chapters in the last decade you have more than likely seen Dr. Lyons where he served as a facilitator and member of several key committees.

Fellow Division Commander Sean Killion said of Dr. Lyons’ role, “Jason actively communicates with his collegiate and alumni leaders, attempts to schedule calls and meetings to engage his chapters, works tirelessly to establish Alumni Advisory Boards, and most importantly makes meaningful connections with the brothers in his Division.”

Dr. Lyons is currently the Principal Scientist and R&D Manager of Polymer Additives for Arkema, Inc.
James “Jim” Harvey has served on the Theta Alpha House Corporation since its inception over 22 years ago. During that time, he served twice as President, Vice President, Fundraising Chairman, and Scholarship Chairman. Harvey was a driving force in bringing Greek housing to the University of South Florida since 1992 and was involved closely in developing the lease, architectural plans, site selection, fundraising, construction, and grand opening. In 2005, he made a large donation to initially fund the house corporation’s scholarship to award $1,200 annually to any qualifying collegian who lived in the house. That initial donation has resulted in over $25,000 in scholarships being awarded to members living in the house over the years.

In 2011, Jim initiated the “50-50-50 Campaign” to fund major renovations to the house and chapter room by raising $50,000 through a minimum $50 donation from each alumnus to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the founding of the precursor colony of the Theta Alpha Chapter. The goal was met; and, in 2012, a significant remodel took place with Jim personally designing the kitchen and recruiting contractors from the alumni ranks so that all work was performed by alumni.

Speaking to Jim’s dedication, current House Corporation President Jim Crotty said, “Jim lives the creed of Love, Honor and Truth in his personal and professional life and sets the highest standards of service to the Fraternity and the active and alumni members of the Theta Alpha Chapter.”

Lindsay Sell earned her Bachelor of Arts in Speech Communication at Colorado State University, where she held the position of President of the Panhellenic Council and was a member of Kappa Alpha Theta. Lindsay also earned her Master of Science degree in the Student Affairs in Higher Education program at Colorado State University. Prior to her professional work at Colorado State, she served as Assistant Director for Fraternity & Sorority Life at the University of Connecticut. In 2011, she returned to Colorado State to work as the Assistant Director for Student Advancement Program in the Office of Events & Constituent Engagement. In 2013, she joined the Office of Fraternity & Sorority Life as its Director.

Speaking about her impact on the community, Delta Rho Chapter member Tyler Kliedon stated, “Lindsay is always looking to help any chapter in their goal to grow and succeed as a chapter on campus. Her goal is to do what’s best for any chapter and what is best for the community. While it is a tough task to be in her role, it is obvious to see that her love for her job and the fraternities and sororities on our campus is what motivates her to be such a great advisor.”

“Jim lives the creed of Love, Honor and Truth in his personal and professional life and sets the highest standards of service to the Fraternity and the active and alumni members of the Theta Alpha Chapter.”
—Current House Corporation President Jim Crotty

“While it is a tough task to be in her role, it is obvious to see that her love for her job and the fraternities and sororities on our campus is what motivates her to be such a great advisor.”
—Delta Rho Chapter member Tyler Kliedon
The Fraternity’s top college baseball player in 2015 was two year outfield regular Christoph Bono of the 45-16 UCLA squad.

The Bottom Line: David Evans led 31-4 Stevens Tech’s volleyball team to the NCAA Division III championship, the school’s first title in any sport.

SportsReview

by Jay Langhammer

DURING 2014-2015, THERE have been outstanding Sigma Nu undergraduate athletes who have made major contributions at their schools. Beginning with athletes in last winter’s sports, here is a review of our talented brothers.

David Evans led 31-4 Stevens Tech’s volleyball team to the NCAA Division III championship, the school’s first title in any sport. A first team All-American, he was also named Sigma Nu Athlete of the Year in September. Other teammates who contributed to Stevens Tech’s great season were All-UVC second teamer Ryan Seifert (team high 332 kills); Dylan Schlosser (team high 233 digs); Gabe Shankweller (407.5 points); Etan Bennett (128 points); and Ryan Brandon.

Three Sigma Nu swimmers were good competitors on the Rhodes team. Max Miller placed sixth in two events (1650 freestyle, 200 medley relay) at the Southern Athletic Association meet. Spencer Regelson was on two sixth place SAA relays (200 freestyle, 200 medley). He and Miller were also on the school’s record-setting 800 freestyle relay team. Bakari Williams was named to the SAA All-Sportsmanship Team and was on the sixth place 200 freestyle relay at the SAA meet. Nathan Levengood of Mount Union was named Ohio Athletic Conference Diver of the Year at the OAC meet. He earned 20 points for the Raiders and won both the one meter and three meter events. Competing in basketball were forward/center Alex Peters of Samford and forward Jason Zahaan of Albion. Wrestling competitors during the winter included Connor Kim of

The Delta of Sigma Nu
Cal-Poly SLO and Mark Allen of Mount Union.

The Fraternity’s top college baseball player in 2015 was two year outfield regular Christoph Bono of the 45-16 UCLA squad. He started 58 contests and batted .241 (48 of 199) with a Pac-12 high six triples, 13 doubles, 33 runs scored and 30 runs batted in. Catcher Elijah Ontiveros played in 12 games for the 30-26-1 Cal-Davis team and catcher Ben Carrick was a member of the 32-26 Samford squad. Pitcher Dylan Stoskus appeared in 12 games for the 19-14 Virginia Wesleyan team and pitcher Steven Scott was on the 22-14 Mount Union squad. Members of the 34-16 Washington-St. Louis team were infielders Matt Roffe and Brennan Morell. Jonathan Grainger was a catcher on the University of the South squad.

Louisiana Tech javelin thrower Joshua Cox, who earned All-American second team honors in 2014, competed at the NCAA outdoor meet and placed 15th with a throw of 213’4”. At the Conference USA outdoor meet, he placed seventh with a 212’4” toss and placed fourth (212’4”) at the NCAA East prelim meet. Samford pole vaulter Chris Thrasher did well at two meets, placing third (15’1”) at the Southern Conference meet and seventh at the Samford Invitational (15’5”). Steeplechase runner Taylor Buzzard of Alabama-Huntsville, the school record holder at 3200 meters, had a third place finish in the event at the Tiger Classic. He also ran an 8K time of 28:00.98 at the Gulf South meet and was 12th (26:39.3) at the Choctaw DII Challenge meet. Teammates Tripp Maloy and Danny Collins were also on the squad.

Four track & field athletes at Washington-St. Louis were key members of their team. Nick Alaniva won the indoor UAA 60 (7.05), placed second in the indoor UAA long jump (21’8”) and was 12th in the pole vault (15’10”) at the NCAA indoor meet. He also earned All-UAA outdoor honors in the long jump and pole vault. Andy Manzanares had a best outdoor pole vault of 14’6”. Jackson Smith had a best outdoor javelin throw of 153’11” while teammate Kyle Martin-Patterson had a best outdoor throw of 149’3”.

Ben Zelker of Case Western Reserve competed at four outdoor meets and five indoor meets. His best 100 meter time was 12.16. Distance runners Taylor Jemundson and Mark McAlister of University of the South competed at the SAA outdoor meet.

The Duke tennis squad featured three key Sigma Nu players. Josh Levine, who played in the NCAA tournament, had records of 19-14 in singles and 25-9 in doubles. T.J. Pura was 22-10 in singles and 17-7 in doubles while teammate Dan McCall had records of 9-6 in singles and 11-5 in doubles. Both Pura and McCall were on the Atlantic Coast Conference Academic Honor Roll. Seven brothers were members of the Yale squad. Tyler Lu was named to the All-Ivy
League first team as a singles player and Photos Photiades had a 17-9 singles record. Other Yale standouts were Jason Brown (9-2 in doubles), James Ratchford and Martin Svenning. A leading player for Butler was Alex Wodmoe (14-10 in singles, 11-5 in doubles). Connor Winkler of University of the South gained All-SAA honorable mention and played in the NCAA Division III tournament. Kenneth Downing of Virginia Wesleyan had records of 10-7 in singles and 10-6 in doubles.

The second-leading golfer on the Delaware team was Kieron Purcell, who averaged 74.63 over 30 rounds. He was second (219, including a 69) at the Cornell Invitational and tied for sixth (221) at the Cape Fear Intercollegiate. Joe Willis of Yale tied for 16th (229) at the Ivy League meet and was elected captain for the 2016 season. Also on the Yale squad were John McNiff, Matt McNiff and James Park. Brigham Stewart saw action for Butler, averaging 76.9 (low of 70) for 23 rounds and tied for 21st at the Big East meet. Seeing action for Rhodes was Bailey Kimmitt while Connor Maddalena of Albion averaged 80.6 (low of 73) over 10 rounds. Other golfers included Guy Cheatham of Hampden-Sydney and Dominick Schumacher of Rochester.

Lacrosse standout Will Hendrickson saw action in five contests as a member of the 12-6 Duke squad which won its first NCAA title. Ten Sigma Nu players were on the 11-4 University of the South lacrosse squad. Chosen for the All-Southern Athletic Association second team were defensemen Matt McJunkin (24 ground balls) and Jake Rubenstein (25 ground balls). Other key Sewanee lacrosse players included Browning Alhizer, Tyler Calnan, Jake Chintz, Peter Eisenbrandt, Wil Friedman, Joe Randazzo and C.J. Richardson. The top fencer at Stanford last spring was epee specialist Harrison McRea, who competed at the NCAA West Regional meet. He led the squad in wins with his regular season record of 38-13. Other spring athletes at Stanford were heavyweight crew members John Cirenza and Max Kohrman. Competing on the Yale heavyweight crew, who played tennis in the NCAA tournament, had records of 19-14 in singles and 25-9 in doubles. T.J. Pura (Duke) was 22-10 in tennis.
squad were David DeVries and Jack McGinn. At Kansas, Sam Turner was a member of the rugby team.

This fall, the sport with the most Sigma Nu intercollegiate athletes is football. As we go to press, several NCAA Division I schools feature standout players. After starting 12 games at center for Mississippi in 2014, Ben Still opened the 2015 season as the Rebels starter again. Also on the depth chart is second team offensive tackle Sean Rawlings. Quarterback Jerry Neuheisel has seen action for high-ranked UCLA and has been the holder on field goals and extra points for two seasons. Former UCLA starter at offensive tackle Torian White is now starting for Hampton University. Brian Akalias is Butler’s punter for the fourth season after earning All-Pioneer second team honors the last two seasons. Also seeing regular duty again for Butler is linebacker David Starkey, who posted 55 tackles in 2014. Seeing his first action this fall for Cornell include nose guard Mike Staples, fullback Julian Gallo and offensive guards John Foster and Dan Morin. The Samford squad, with 11 Sigma Nu players, has several returning standouts from last year, including kicker Warren Handrahan (50 points in 2014), linebacker Josh Killett (54 stops) and quarterback Devlin Hodges. Playing again for Western Kentucky is defensive lineman Kalin Robinson. Through the first four contests, kicker Frank Raggo leads Delaware in scoring with 24 points (six field goals, six extra points). Back on the Stetson squad are offensive linemen Sean singles and 17-7 in doubles while teammate Dan McCall (Duke) had records of 9-6 in singles and 11-5 in doubles. // The second-leading golfer on
The football team with the most Sigma Nu players (17) this fall is Cornell, whose top player, Luke Hagy, rushed for 754 yards and earned All-Ivy League second team honors in 2014.

Gannon and John Post, both of whom started games in 2014. All-Southern Athletic Association first team punter Patrick Knight is the leading returnee on the 2015 Rhodes Division III team and was named to the Division III pre-season All-American second team. Teammates who have seen action are offensive linemen Sean O’Brien and Nick Weng. Returning All-Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference second team offensive tackle T.J. Demos leads a group of five Sigma Nu players on the Rose-Hulman squad. Also seeing action this fall are linebacker Mike Henry, running back Michael Iacono, offensive lineman Doug Bickel and defensive back D.S. Turner-Smith. Members of the Washington-St. Louis team this fall are offensive lineman Brock Workman and kicker-punter Alex Ury. Offensive tackle Andy Rieman saw playing time in two of the first three Mount Union games this fall.

Two schools have key Sigma Mu players on their soccer teams this fall. Yale defensemen Philip Piper is team captain and a candidate for the 2015 Senior CLASS Award in collegiate
Yale defenseman Philip Piper is team captain and a candidate for the 2015 Senior CLASS Award in collegiate soccer. Last year’s team MVP Henry Flugstad-Clarke won All-Ivy League second team honors and is back this season. Other returnees to the Yale squad are Henry Albrecht, Max Cook, Lukas Czinger, Tyler Detorie, Cameron Kirdzik and Avery Schwartz. The top returning player at Hampden-Sydney is forward Ryan Turner, the 2014 Old Dominion Athletic Conference Rookie of the Year and an All-ODAC second teamer. Other Sigma Nu teammates are midfielder Grant Van Gorder, defensemen Josiah Fleming and defenseman Landon Moss.
By Patrick Wu (UC Irvine)

IN HER 2011 BOOK Deep Secrets: Boys’ Friendships and the Crisis of Connection, Dr. Niobe Way, professor of applied psychology at New York University, explores the maturation of friendships in adolescent boys. Compiled from interviews over the course of 20 years with black, Latino, white, and Asian American urban high school students, the interviewees reveal their deepest feelings towards their friends, and through their responses expose how social stereotypes have had a detrimental impact on these relationships.

Dr. Way’s book brings to light the existence of toxic gender stereotypes of boys as being stoic, independent, autonomous, physically tough, emotionless cave-men; to have an emotional connection with another male would be seen as “gay” or “girly.” Call it what you want, but society expects a certain code of conduct from us men: a “boy code” (from psychologist William Pollock), a “guy code” (from sociologist Michael Kimmel), or a “bro code” (from fictional pick-up-artist Barney Stinson). These codes demand that we shut down emotionally, act aggressive and invulnerable in life. Dr. Way explains that these antiquated stereotypes have truly dangerous implications in our development from boys to men.

Men actually do have a desire for emotional connections traditionally entrusted to the female gender. The interviewees in Dr. Way’s book expressed that they intensely care about their friends, and describe their best friends as “someone you share secrets with, someone you can rely on to understand and support you, someone you do not have to conceal your vulnerability from.”

Neuroscientists have found girls are actually not naturally more empathic than boys; they’re just allowed to express it more. The gender gap then is a product of the socialization a child receives as they mature.

As boys grow into men, the desire for emotional connection is suppressed: they have to “man up.” Many of the interviewees were contacted 2-3 years later and revealed their cherished friendships had ended, for various superficial reasons like long-distance or changed schools. They expressed feeling lonely and said they needed and missed their friends, but had to quickly qualify these feelings with “no homo.” By suppressing these intimate relationships as adolescents grow up, they can become depressed, distrustful, lose friendships, and feel isolated and alone, right at the moment in development that the rates of suicide among boys in the United States jumps up.

There is a great opportunity before us to usher in the next generation of mature gentlemen — men who know how to build mutually supportive, intimate, and deeply empathic relationships.
Dr. Way believes this loss of intimate same-sex relationships is the result of a “crisis of connection”: a cultural tendency to identify universal human traits such as empathy and the desire for intimacy as “feminine.” Human needs and desires for connection and intimacy are given a gender (feminine) and their expression among males will be interpreted as gender-deviant or “gay.” As a result, men end up giving up relationships with men for relationships with women. However, these relationships with women can only partially fill the void created from the loss of their male best friends.

While Dr. Way’s book does draw some important conclusions, there may be some over-reaching assumptions made. Chloe Darracott-Cankovic from Times Higher Education argues that Way seems to want to make a correlation between the emphasis a society places on male-to-male relationships and their overall progressiveness of gender and sexual politics. Yet those societies she cites, like the Middle East and Latin America, are not necessarily known for their gender equality leadership. Another point that Dr. Way does not address adequately is that there are benefits to the social stereotypes given to men: a sense of power and privilege that men derive from their supposed position of dominance over women. It may be this sense of dominance that causes the young teenage boys in Dr. Way’s study to ultimately embrace the “bro code,” for better or worse.

So how does this book relate to our lives in Sigma Nu, whether we are just starting candidate education or attending our last alumni networking event? Above all else, Dr. Way’s book reveals the importance of building meaningful relationships, and fortunately for us this is a main focus of Sigma Nu. Dr. Way’s book brings to light some important points and offers a solution to the “crisis of connection” us men face as we transition into adulthood. The solution lies in “exposing inaccuracies of our gender stereotypes and fostering critical relationships and fundamental human skills”. As leaders of our respective academic communities, there is great opportunity for us as a fraternity to usher in the next generation of mature gentlemen – men who know how to have and to relish our mutually supportive, intimate, and deeply empathic relationships. We must at one moment be the super-human, and at others be a shoulder to cry on. We must exemplify that the needs, desires and feelings of men and women are at their core far more similar than they are different.

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 Sigma Nu Authors

**We Send Our Love To All: Life, Business, and Adventure while Living Abroad**

Author: Lemuel Vance Clement Jr. (Arkansas)
ISBN: 978-1484195369
Publisher: CreateSpace Independent Publishing Platform

Vance Clement and his wife, Sherrill, took a two and a half year European assignment, where he worked out of his company’s office in Brussels, Belgium. His weekly update to family and friends turned into a humorous collection of stories that highlight the trials, tribulations, successes, and failures that occur when a family lives and works abroad. It is an upbeat, weekly account of the Clement’s attempts to assimilate to the culture of their host country. There are many hysterical business and personal faux pas that will leave you laughing out loud. It is chocked full of over 100 color photos and international travel experiences to the most important business cities and tourist sites of Europe. If you love international travel, have ever thought of working abroad, or dreamed of living in another country, this book will transport you to your destination.

Reprinted from Amazon.com.
WHEN CONSIDERING A TOPIC TO discuss in this issue of The Delta, many possibilities came to mind. However, instead of focusing on one subject, I decided to touch on three related to our historical collection in Lexington. It’s been a marvelous summer for donations of items to the archives and furthering projects on the drawing board for a while.

To start out, I will talk about several donations we recently received—all of them photos around 100 years old. They provide a glimpse into a time when political events half-a-world away would soon engulf fraternity men and send them off to World War I.

Second, I’ll discuss one of the most significant items in our museum—one owned by James Frank Hopkins while he attended VMI.

Finally, I want to thank some brothers who have been a tremendous help in preserving our history through their recent volunteer efforts.

Right: With a little bit of sleuthing, and good luck, Grand Historian Bob McCully was able to determine the source of this 1918 composite, now one of the oldest composites in the fraternity’s archives. The men pictured are from the Beta Nu Chapter on the eve of the 50th Anniversary of Sigma Nu’s founding in 1869.
Above: A group photo of the Delta Lambda Chapter (Brown) a year after their founding on February 12, 1912.

RECENT DONATIONS TO OUR HISTORICAL COLLECTION

To preserve our history for future generations, I’m always reaching out to alumni, chapters and heirs to donate items to our archives in Lexington. Here are some recent donations of photos added to our historical collection. Each one has a tale to tell; although, as I write this column, not all have fully disclosed their stories.

1918 Sigma Nu Composite

We received this item with little identifying information. It consisted of a composite of 28 photos (without names), with only the identifying marks “Sigma Nu” and “Nineteen-Eighteen.” This dearth of information made it difficult to connect to a particular chapter or individuals—especially since there were 86 active chapters in existence in 1918.

A previous owner stored the composite rolled up in a container tube; and it was very fragile and in poor shape. Due to the thinness of the paper and its long-term storage, any attempt to flatten it out could cause further irreparable damage to the item.

I could do little to identify the print further until it could go through a several month process involving increasing the humidity around it and gradually flattening it out. When this process was complete, I took a closer look for identifying clues. I found one small hint—a tiny cartouche at the bottom with a symbol and a few words, “Orr-Kiefer” and “Columbus, O.” At last, I finally had more to work with than unidentified photos!

An internet search identified an Orr-Kiefer Studio Co., located in downtown Columbus, Ohio, operated from 1906 until 1952. However, I was unable to find out who purchased the studio after 1952 and might still have information on their photos and negatives.

So, when all else failed, I started over with what I knew. I knew it was a print of a Sigma Nu chapter, dated 1918 and likely in the Columbus, Ohio area. From that information, the obvious place to start was with the chapter located in Columbus; our Beta Nu Chapter at Ohio State University. Unfortunately, Sigma Nu closed the Beta Nu Chapter in 1991, making the chapter no further help.

Fortunately for those of us in the archival world, many universities have now digitized parts of their historical collection and put them online. I located an Ohio State 1918 yearbook (the “Makio”) and searched for Sigma Nu. Imagine the thrill I felt when one page was the same print I had in our archives, but with the addition of the names of those pictured. As a result, we can now identify all 28 men who appear on the composite.

A little bit of sleuthing, and good luck, means our historical collection now contains this 1918 composite (one of the oldest composites we have). The men pictured formed our Beta Nu Chapter on the eve of the 50th Anniversary of Sigma Nu’s founding in 1869.

1913 Delta Lambda Chapter (Brown University) Photo

Another marvelous photo donated recently is a 1913 group photo of our chapter at Brown University. What makes this photo important is that it was taken only a year after the chapter received its charter on February 12, 1912.

Sigma Nu entered Brown University through a predecessor local chapter—Sigma Delta Kappa. Several Sigma Nu alumni from other chapters established the local fraternity in 1907. Their intention was to have it eventually petition to become a chapter of Sigma Nu—with the hoped for designation of “Delta Kappa Chapter”, thus, the name—Sigma Delta Kappa.

However, the process to get final approval for a charter took longer than expected; and the High Council installed the University of Delaware Chapter as Delta Kappa Chapter, ahead of the Brown Chapter. Thus, the High Council gave the Brown Chapter the next designation in order—Delta Lambda Chapter.

Unfortunately, only two of the eighteen individuals in the photo are identified on the back. However, both are original charter members of the chapter. They are in the second row: Earl W. Harrington (second from the left) and Thomas H. Roberts (fourth from the left). Earl Harrington (Delta Lambda 12) also had a son initiated into the chapter in 1938, Earl W. Harrington, Jr., (Delta Lambda 294.) Thomas Roberts (Delta Lambda 13) was also a member of Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest honorary society.

I expect future developments in facial software recognition may help identify others in the photo. Once that happens, I’m sure there will be other charter members pictured as well. The Delta Lambda Chapter went inactive in 1964.

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Sigma Nu’s 17th Grand Chapter at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colo., was the first national convention held in the western U.S.

1915 Grand Chapter
(Denver, Colorado) Photo

One hundred years ago in August, Sigma Nu’s 17th Grand Chapter met at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver, Colorado. Another recent donation to the archives, is a photo of the delegates and guests in attendance. The photographer took it in front of the Brown Palace.

This Grand Chapter was the first one held in the western United States. It was also the first in many years held in summer rather than winter. One of the most significant items approved at this Grand Chapter was the reorganization of the High Council and administrative functions of the fraternity—including setting up a centralized office for the first time in Indianapolis. Walter J. Sears, the author of The Creed, was elected Regent.

James Frank Hopkins’ VMI Sword

On my most recent trip to Lexington, I spent time in the Sigma Nu museum. I paused before the display case housing the VMI sword used by Cadet James Frank Hopkins during his time at VMI from 1866-1870. It is in a display case that also contains a sword that belonged to Greenfield Quarles and the Bible that General Francis H. Smith gave the two cadets at their commencement on July 4, 1870.

I was specifically interested in finding additional information on Hopkins’ sword. William T. “Terry” Feild, the first initiate of our Arkansas Chapter, donated the sword to the museum.

He first met Brother Hopkins in 1903. Feild was working with a group of petitioners at Arkansas seeking a charter from Sigma Nu. Unfortunately, they were denied. Feild, never one to give up, found that two of the Founders still lived in Arkansas. He made it his purpose to visit them to obtain their endorsement on the group’s petition. He made his initial visit on a Sunday and spent the entire afternoon with Hopkins. After that first visit, he made several trips to Mabelvale, where Hopkins lived, and they remained good friends for the rest of the Founder’s life. Upon his death, Founder Hopkins left several of his Sigma Nu related items to Feild to preserve.

In the 1950’s, Terry Feild donated his Hopkins’ memorabilia to Sigma Nu headquarters. The fraternity placed these items on display in the newly completed museum wing in 1969.

Being curious about the background of the sword, I took it to a local expert—Colonel Keith Gibson. Colonel Gibson is Executive Director of the VMI museum system and is a recognized authority on matters relating to the Civil War and VMI, including armaments.

Based on his inspection, he feels confident the sword is an 1850 model mounted officer’s sword and dates to around 1860. The manufacturer, Ames Manufacturing Company of Chicopee, Massachusetts, is clearly etched on the reverse ricasso of the blade. Ames was the most famous of the 19th-century sword makers, starting with its first contract with the U.S. in 1832. It was the preferred supplier for the U.S. Government, state militias, foreign governments and many private purchasers.

A “mounted” officer or soldier was different from a cavalryman. While they rode horses between the various engagements, once the battle began, they dismounted and fought on foot. Typically the cavalry would enter the battle mounted and stayed that way as long as possible. Soldiers mainly used the 1850 model until the early 1870’s.

Shark or ray skin covers the grip (handle), and is held on by brass wire winding around the hilt thirteen times. The blade is etched on one side by a panoply of arms with “US” (although no date), and the other with “E Pluribus Unum” in ribbon. This sword was commercially purchased, since there was no date of manufacture or U.S. inspector’s markings on it. Since the Union troops destroyed VMI during the war, and there was little in available resources to provide proper uniforms for the cadets, it’s logical that each cadet would have to procure his own sword.

As a Captain of the Corps of VMI cadets in his senior year, I’m sure Hopkins would have worn and displayed this sword proudly at every dress parade and ceremonial event. Since he was the original author of Sigma Nu’s first ritual, it is likely he used this sword in many of the very first initiations into the Legion of Honor.

When he returned to Arkansas after graduating, my guess is he hung it in a very special place in his house. There it served as a constant reminder of his youth at VMI and in Sigma Nu. We are fortunate to have
this beautiful sword in our historical collection and on display in our museum for all visitors to see.

**VOLUNTEER EFFORTS**

I’ve been fortunate during my time as Grand Historian to have tremendous help in arranging, processing and cataloging items in our historical collection. There are two groups I’d like to single out in this column for particular recognition.

Our Lambda Chapter is at Washington & Lee University, right here in Lexington. I connected with them several years ago when I saw an online tour of Sigma Nu historical sites in Lexington. The chapter’s candidate class produced the video, and they did an excellent job of creatively scripting and filming it. Impressed, I went to the chapter house to congratulate them on an outstanding job.

That started a marvelous relationship with the young men at Lambda that I’m still enjoying. When I’m in Lexington, members constantly volunteer to come to headquarters in the evening to help me on different projects in the archives. Not only do I welcome their assistance and comradery while we work, but it always helps me gain perspective as to how important our history is to those who follow us. I salute each of them for their kindness to me over the years, as well as their friendship—particularly, Alex Retzloff, Paul Reilly, Zach Howard, Austin Peterson and Ryan Scott, among others.

Volunteers gathered in Lexington recently for a coordinated effort to provide upkeep of the fraternity’s historical collection.

Earlier this summer, I planned an alumni volunteer weekend in Lexington. The idea was to attract a small group of alumni who were interested in preserving our history. Not only did they pay for their own transportation and lodging in Lexington (we provided the meals), but the weekend coincided with Father’s Day on June 21st. Despite those hurdles and a limited amount of working space, seven alumni volunteered to spend the entire three-day weekend working in the archives—including one all the way from San Diego. We spent the whole time sorting, cataloging, processing and preparing files for digitization—as well as just discussing our rich history and enjoying one another’s company.

Four of the volunteers were from our Mu Kappa Chapter at Southeast Missouri State University (Chris Foeste, Chad Peck, John Baltz and Kris Oliveira). We also had one from our Theta Tau Chapter at Morehead State University (Mike Esposito) and another from our Gamma Delta Chapter at Stevens Institute of Technology (Matthew Smith). The final and seventh member was from my Eta Kappa Chapter at San Diego State (Jim Stark). The feedback I received was that everyone thoroughly enjoyed the weekend and spending time at headquarters to learn more about Sigma Nu’s rich history. Based on the positive responses, I plan to hold future annual alumni volunteer weekends.

Additionally, the following weekend, two members of the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation Board of Directors helped me out. Jason Lyons (Philadelphia College of Textiles & Sciences) and Joe Gilman (Morehead State and Georgia), and his wife Susan, assisted in various projects. These two brothers have a long-time passionate interest in our history and have always been extremely supportive of our preservation efforts.

Thanks to all of you volunteers and the many members of our full-time staff who are always willing to pitch in to help us preserve our almost 150-year old history. Since it’s our history, traditions and heroes that bind us together as a fraternity, it is incumbent upon us to make sure we never lose that knowledge through neglect or indifference.
Flagging graduation rates have left administrators and higher education stakeholders searching for solutions.
Fraternities assist higher education institutions with retention and allow for students to feel at home while they are pursuing their undergraduate degree.

Various theories and models have been served up to encourage on-time graduation. One method called Guided Pathway to Success (GPS), created by Complete College America, uses six key strategies to ensure higher education institutions are better serving their students by emphasizing the institution’s mission and goals. Another emerging strategy institutions have been promoting is a four-year graduation guarantee. The premise of these four–year graduation guarantees is to prioritize the students’ academic goals to graduate in the appropriate time through an honored contract by the institution. And, if for any reason the institution does not meet its part of the four year contract, the university will compensate the student for the additional course(s). The University of The Pacific and University at Buffalo, have been a few of many institutions to implement this strategy.

Savvy administrators have also been enlisting influential student organizations to boost graduation initiatives. Fraternities in particular are in prime position to help their institutions achieve more respectable graduation rates. Fraternities assist higher education institutions with retention and allow for students to feel at home while they are pursuing their undergraduate degree. Fraternities have structures in place to require study hours on-campus, G.P.A. requirements to enable social privileges, peer counseling, membership qualification that facilitate academic achievement, educational/vocational workshops, and scholarships. At the University of Georgia, for instance, the Interfraternity Council (IFC) has organized a scholarship committee to ensure academic excellence is met by all the collegiate fraternities on campus. The same student-run governance council requires fraternities to achieve a 3.00 chapter GPA each semester to allow for social privileges. Another great example of how to improve on-time graduation could be found at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette where fraternity members came up with 100 ideas for scholarship programming. Fraternities, IFCs, and alumni advisory boards have a major role to play in building academic support frameworks to encourage on-time graduation becomes a priority for every host institution.

It’s vital for colleges to deliver on their commitment to every student. To make a difference going forward, it will take a campus community working together to solve issues that arise so that the experiences can be mutually beneficial. Fraternities can continue to provide for the well-being of their members during their collegiate endeavors by enabling academic resources to optimize the four-year college experience.
“Do the right thing because it is the right thing to do” is the mantra Bob Linden instills at Gamma Theta Chapter (Cornell). Here the 2015 Chapter Advisor of the Year shares wisdom on turning around a struggling chapter and how fraternities can be the antidote to the rising rates of mental health problems among today’s college students.

1. **Why do you think fraternities are vital for a well-rounded college experience?**

I feel fraternities are so important on the Cornell campus because they serve as fantastic safety nets. We had a very dark year in 2009 with six student suicides in one year. All were engineers, none were Greek. It’s important to note that the Cornell campus was founded on European system: study on campus, live off campus, with no dorms. Which makes fraternity houses so much more important as vital learning and development communities. The fraternity is a place to come back to when you’re having a rough time.

2. **What was your biggest challenge after taking over the Chapter Advisor Role?**

Getting alumni on board. They were scared of students, scared of being sued. They felt too exposed. Students have to understand that they can’t feel invincible. They have to understand that their behavior exposes alumni volunteers to lawsuits. We worked with the dean of students to reassure the alumni how their impact would improve the chapter operations. We had our work cut out for us. The finances were in disarray and we hadn’t filed paperwork in years. The house had been mismanaged for years. Alumni are now getting back on board after feeling alienated for the past decade. Working with kids keeps you young.

3. **How would you describe the chapter at the time?**

They were really upset with alumni leadership and anything associated with property management. The officers, and the treasurer in particular, weren’t getting much out of the experience because the alumni officers were doing all the work. Part of the reason for becoming an officer was to learn, but they barely had anything to do with regards to chapter finances. Fast forward a few years and alumni are now paying for officers to attend Cornell Greek leadership conference. The chapter is getting involved with a suicide prevention program and they’ve appointed a new officer position to monitor and improve the health and well-being of all brothers. We send a letter to parents explaining the governance structure of the chapter and national organization. Then we invite them to join a conference call with officers and alumni volunteers. We take discipline seriously. We’re a safety net for the students. Our chapter is now emerging as respected leaders on campus.

4. **What advice would you offer to collegiate members at other chapters?**

I give a talk to students every year and emphasize three key messages: One, be your own person. Try to be a leader, not a follower. But it’s okay to be a follower. Two, say no to risky behavior. Speak up and say what you think. Third, I tell them to do the right thing because it’s the right thing to do. Surround yourself with people like you. We need to think before we act.
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