

FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



FALL 2010



ALUMNI PARTICIPATION FORTIFIES INDIANA ALPHA BOND

Join the Volunteer Corporation to Shape SigEp's Future

It was great to see many old friends and new faces at the Homecoming festivities October 15-16. The golf outing was a lot of fun, and hopefully more of you will be able to make it next year. It is tough to schedule events at a time when everyone can participate.

We have a good group of guys living in the house right now. The house currently holds 52 live-in members. These numbers may seem low to many of you; anybody who was there in the late 1990s remembers packing 95 guys into the house. Although our numbers reflect the campus-wide drop in

Greek participation, they remain strong in comparison to other fraternities. We have 39 new members in the fall class. I met some of them the Saturday of Homecoming when they helped me prepare the house for your arrival.

I have also had a chance to spend time with the undergraduates and some of the recent graduates. They are a great group of young men. If you haven't had an opportunity to meet them and talk to them on a personal level, I urge you to take the time to do so. What is so great about Sigma Phi Epsilon and Indiana Alpha is that we get to mentor and help mold the future leaders of America.

One of my many goals as a member of the alumni board is to create a stronger connection between alumni and undergraduates. This endeavor takes a little effort on the part of both alumni and undergraduates but will be well worth the work in the long run. Although it is easier for the alumni living nearby to get involved, we can all help strengthen the bond that makes us Indiana Alpha.

If you would like to join the alumni board or play a role in shaping the future of these young men, please contact me. Your input is welcome.

HFF,

Jay Bilunas '99

V.P. Alumni Relations

Alumni Volunteer Corporation



Billy '12, Bob '06, Kristen, and Tom '09 LaRue

CALL FOR ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS

Brothers of Indiana Alpha: We have always had a tradition of a strong alumni board. As members of the board, we provide guidance to keep the chapter on course and to help develop the young men of Indiana Alpha into the leaders of tomorrow. We are lacking a few key board positions and would like to follow through with our plans to expand. We need your help to rebuild the board to its former strength.

We are thankful for any help offered, but your service is especially beneficial if you live near Lafayette or Indianapolis. We know everyone is busy these days. It is for this reason we want to recruit as many board members as possible, so we can spread out the responsibilities and avoid overburdening anyone. For more information about joining the board, please contact **Jay Bilunas '99** at (317) 409-6070 or jay@angry-ape.com or **Steve Bryan '05** at (317) 627-9319 or stephenm.bryan@gmail.com.



SIGEP BROTHERS HIT THE LINKS

Despite a stormy-looking start to the Friday leading up to Homecoming, the clouds parted, the sun shone through, and it was a perfect day for the alumni golf outing. We had a total of 19 golfers, with a mix of alumni, undergraduates, and family members participating. The team of **James Cassell '73**, **J. D. Gaylor '12**, **Tom Coyne '12** and his father, Steve Coyne, took first place, scoring 11 under par. The Morkel family walked away with a couple of long-distance prizes; **Ben Morkel '05** had the longest drive, and his father, **Keith Morkel '72**, had the longest putt. **Ted Hazledine '65** took away the prize for closest to the pin.

After a day of golf, we reconvened at the chapter house and enjoyed a cookout prepared by the house cook. We passed out prizes and shared stories of our years in the house. It was a great time for the alumni and undergraduates to get to know each other on a more personal level. Indiana Alpha has always been Indiana Alpha—the times may change, but at the heart of it all, the true character of an Indiana Alpha SigEp remains the same.

We hope to have an even bigger turnout next year, so we can continue to share stories from years past.



Jim Guidos '02, Keith Morkel '72, Ben Morkel '05, and Annie Morkel at the alumni golf outing



Indiana Alpha Garners Largest New Member Class on Campus

SigEps Find Success in Service and Sports

I would like to thank all of those who made the trip for Homecoming weekend. We were excited to see the continued support and interest shown by our great alumni.

This semester has marked a productive one for the brothers of Indiana Alpha. Our most recent philanthropy, Turtle Tug, held in association with Delta Zeta sorority, raised more than \$1,500 toward chronic diseases research. On October 19 our sand volleyball team, led by high school All-American **Matt Caputo '11**, won the inter-fraternity championship. And, most notably, Indiana Alpha recruited the largest class of any Greek organization on campus this fall, distributing 44 bids with 39 final acceptances.

As I approach the end of my term as the president of Indiana Alpha, I look back upon my previous four years with an extreme appreciation for what the Fraternity has done for me. I am currently serving concurrent terms as president and student director of College Mentors for Kids and as president of Gimlet Leadership Honorary. I note these positions as evidence of the profound impact that Indiana Alpha has had upon my personal development as a leader and student. I sincerely look forward to the opportunity to repay our Fraternity for all it has done for my brothers and me.



Fraternally,
K.C. Sands '11, Chapter President
kcsands@purdue.edu | (765) 418-6188

EARMARK YOUR NATIONAL GIFTS TO INDIANA ALPHA'S SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENTS

Indiana Alpha alumni have a rich history of giving financially to Sigma Phi Epsilon's national Educational Foundation. Each year the foundation's annual report states Indiana Alpha alumni lead the way in giving back to our national Fraternity.

Over the years, your donations to the Fraternity have gone directly to the general fund for educational purposes at the national level. To benefit our local chapter, your tax-deductible gifts can be designated to existing Indiana Alpha scholarship funds to be awarded to Purdue undergraduates through the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation. Your designated

gifts will then assist our Indiana Alpha brothers in offsetting their educational expenses. So please consider making your next donation to one of the following Indiana Alpha funds:

- Karl Kettlehut Memorial Endowment
- Karl Kettlehut Fund (Senior Scholarship)
- George Selke Fund (Junior Scholarship)
- David S. Clark Fund (Sophomore Scholarship)
- Thomas Nelson Memorial Fund
- Norm Nabhan Fund—Balanced Man Scholarship Fund



BROTHERHOOD PROVIDES FOUNDATION FOR LIFE'S LESSONS

Wally Brant '71 Reflects on Wisdom Gained

If there's one memory that has stayed with **Wally Brant '71** from his Purdue SigEp days, it's that "the pledgship was *hard!*" Fortunately, it's not the discomfort Wally holds onto, but rather the lessons he learned from the episode.

Granted, many things have changed since the earlier days of fraternity pranks and nonsensical pledge stunts. Today, brotherhood and respect are mandates from the beginning of the journey to wearing the heart pin of Sigma Phi Epsilon. But decades ago, although Wally emphasizes that hazing was never part of the routine, the initiation process sometimes included tests of endurance and determination to prove a pledge's true desire to gain membership into SigEp.

"I recall that our pledgship lasted way beyond the time that my pledge brothers and I felt was necessary." When the day of initiation finally arrived, however, the pride and feelings of accomplishment and teamwork among Wally and his brothers were more than worth the effort.

Pledgship challenges: just fraternity pranks? "Not so," Wally says. "I had plenty of time to discover how much my brothers and this Fraternity meant to me." The lessons of perseverance also proved valuable during

Wally's Air Force survival training en route to the Vietnam War. "One of the mandatory training exercises we had to pass was a simulated Vietcong concentration camp. Believe it or not, the lessons of endurance and focus upon the goal learned at Purdue stayed with me." Wally chose Sigma Phi Epsilon over all other Purdue fraternities because of its ideology, campus leadership, and sense of adventure.

After initiation, Wally became heavily involved in the Fraternity. Although his baseball duties kept him from seeking any executive positions in the chapter, Wally served two years as the athletic manager and in his second term led SigEp to the Inter-fraternity All-Sports Championship—the first such championship in their tenure at Purdue. "The All-Sports Championship was my greatest satisfaction and was a major unifying event for our house!"

(Continued on page 4)



Welcome, Fall 2010 New Members

Sergio Arguelles '13
Monterrey, Mexico
Industrial Engineering

Bradley Kalina '13
Munster, Ind.
Accounting

Justin Baghai '14
Sammamish, Wash.
Management

Pasha Borovikov '14
Wood-Ridge, N. J.
Undecided

Billy Brown '14
Lindenhurst, Ill.
Pharmacy

Logan Calder '14
Fortville, Ind.
Chemistry

Mike Coyne '14*
Carmel, Ind.
Mechanical Engineering
(Brother **Tom Coyne '12**)

Michael Daniels '14
St. John, Ind.
Undecided

Alvaro Uriel Davalos '14
Highland, Ind.
Building Construction
Management

Adam Day '14*
Dover, N. H.
Mechanical Engineering
(Father **Franklin Day '83**
and Uncle
David Miskus '82)

Chris DeGraff '14
Milwaukee, Wis.
Spanish/Political Science

Eric Elpers '13
Anderson, Ind.
Engineering

Drew Ficken '14
Valparaiso, Ind.
Engineering

Juan Carlos Garza '14
Monterrey, Mexico
Engineering

George Georgos '14
Hobart, Ind.
Undecided

Andrew Gerig '14
Indianapolis, Ind.
Management

Ethan Gromet '14
Laguna Beach, Calif.
Management

Kyle Hanley '14
Lisle, Ill.
Engineering

Bryce Kruger '14
Noblesville, Ind.
Horticulture and Design

Mike Kruse '14
Naperville, Ill.
Undecided

Carter Lundy '14
Fishers, Ind.
Undergraduate Studies
Program

Chris Mannion '14
Westfield, Ind.
Undecided

Jimmy Martin '14
Fishers, Ind.
Environmental Science

Alex May '14
Lindenhurst, Ill.
Undergraduate Studies
Program

Tanner McKinley '14
Mooresville, Ind.
Pharmacy

Saran Mishra '14
Chicago, Ill.
Undecided

Jacob Neary '14*
Cleveland, Ohio
Biology
(Father **John Neary '82**
and Brother
John Neary '05)

Tommy Payne '14*
Indianapolis, Ind.
Political Science
(Father **Steve Payne '82**)

Quinn Phalen '14
St. John, Ind.
Liberal Arts

James Pinelli '14
Freehold, N. J.
Management

Alex Porucznic '14
Valparaiso, Ind.
Biology

Bob Santarossa '14*
Unionville, Ind.
Undergraduate Studies
Program
(Brother **Dominic
Santarossa '09**)

Trent Schaffer '14
Danville, Ind.
Undergraduate Studies
Program

Bryan Schmidt '14
Wabash, Ind.
Undergraduate Studies
Program

Steve Schnell '14
Valparaiso, Ind.
Accounting

Jake Sobek '14
Dyer, Ind.
Accounting

Christian Struck '14
Fishers, Ind.
Agricultural Finance

Nate Tubbs '14
Indianapolis, Ind.
Organizational Leadership
and Supervision

Jimmy White '14
Carmel, Ind.
Building Construction
Management

Batu Yalcin '14
Carmel, Ind.
Business

*Legacy,
relative in parentheses



BROTHERHOOD PROVIDES FOUNDATION

(Continued from page 3)

Having served two terms on the Alumni Volunteer Council, Wally remarks that his most recent tenure, ending in June, reflected the progress of the Fraternity. “Most of the other AVC members were in their 20s. Their youth produced enthusiasm and empathy that was missing from the first time I served on the AVC. I learned a lot from those bright young men, and I was proud to be a member of that council.”

Today, Wally is CEO of Indiana Oxygen, a company that manufactures and distributes industrial, laboratory, and medical gases. To find success in the business world, he advises recent graduates to distinguish themselves from the pack. Employers look for applicants with former work experience—even mowing lawns in the summer shows initiative, Wally says—and extracurricular involvement. The Fraternity is a great place to get a step up on other job hunters in that regard. “Competition [for jobs today] is rough. That is where your Fraternity and your great education from a fine school like Purdue come in.”

In every young person’s life, the collegiate experiences in life situations, decisions, new freedoms, and academic challenges are monumental. I wish I could say I met all of those challenges with total success, but that never happens. In fact, we often learn more from those failures than we do the successes.

Wally and his wife, Kathy (Worster), have two grown children, both of whom are employed at Indiana Oxygen. Despite being a “senior,” Wally still pitches in a competitive adult baseball league in Indianapolis. He enjoys stopping by the chapter house every chance he gets. “In every young person’s life, the collegiate experiences in life situations, decisions, new freedoms, and academic challenges are monumental. I wish I could say I met all of those challenges with total success, but that never happens. In fact, we often learn more from those failures than we do the successes.” To contact Wally, e-mail him at wallygatoratioc@aol.com.



Lifelong Benefits of Fraternity Leadership

My dad speaks in truisms. One of his favorites is “You get out of it what you put into it.” My dad was a leader in his fraternity. Although his leadership responsibilities took considerable effort and time, he gained a lot from those opportunities. For example, his fraternity leadership experiences helped him transition easily into his leadership roles in the military and later in business. More importantly, his experiences gave him something more unexpected—lifelong friends. Recently, he spoke of visiting with some of his fraternity brothers, nearly sixty years after graduating from college.

My son, who got his name from my dad, appears to take after him in many respects, including assuming leadership roles in Indiana Alpha. He has served on the social committee and the recruitment committee and has held the positions of risk manager, senior marshal, house manager, vice president of programming, and chapter president. Each of these leadership roles has required considerable effort and time, but his experiences provided important lessons he has used in his other leadership roles on campus, as well as in his summer job and intern experiences.

Sigma Phi Epsilon teaches young men how to be leaders in a supportive environment. Throughout my son’s work with the Fraternity, his brothers guided him by reflecting on their own experiences in the roles he assumed, gave feedback about ideas and outcomes, and were forgiving when things didn’t go according to plans. In short, the brothers were instrumental in teaching him the skills he needed to be an effective leader.

Sixty years from now, my son may not remember the specifics of how his brothers contributed to his leadership skills, but he will remember their invaluable support. Like my dad, he will agree he got a lot out of his dedication to Sigma Phi Epsilon, most importantly lifelong friends.

Sincerely,
Laura Sands
Mother of **Kenneth “K.C.” Sands ’11**



ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Harvie M. Merrill '43 of Winter Park, Fla., entered Chapter Eternal on February 19 at the age of 88. Born in Detroit, Mich., he graduated at the top his class with a degree in chemical engineering. He was a member of Scabbard & Blade and Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honor Society. He did graduate work at Yale University and served in World War II as a captain in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He had a long career at Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company. Later, he became vice president of Stauffer Chemical Company before becoming president of Hexcel Corp. in San Francisco. As chairman and CEO there, he initiated international divisions of the company in Paris, London, and Brussels and brought the company to listing on the New York Stock Exchange. He is survived by his wife, Mardelle, daughters, and a grandson and great-granddaughter.

John E. Scoggan '43 entered Chapter Eternal on May 30 at the age of 89. After graduating with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1943, he served in the Army Air Corps as a pilot in World War II, flying a C-46 over the Burma Hump. He retired from the Army as first lieutenant. He worked at C. Lee Cook Company as an original equipment manufacturer sales manager for 39 years. John was an avid swimmer, diver, boater, tennis player, and golfer. He is survived by his children: Kathleen, John, and Robert.

Arthur W. Newett '48 entered Chapter Eternal on August 23.

Clifton H. Grassly '51 of Mechanicsburg, Pa., entered Chapter Eternal on May 23 at the age of 84. Clifton was a retired employee of AMP Inc. and a WWII Navy veteran. He is survived by his children: Janet, Beth, and Clifton Jr.

ALUMNI NEWS

Roger W. Sheridan '45 holds two world records in *The Guinness Book of Bridges, Dams, and Structures*. He retired as a professor of engineering and land surveying, having worked in 32 countries. He and his wife, Shirley, live in Newborn, Ga. They have six grown children: Kathleen, Richard, Margaret, Susan, Sherrif, and Larry.

Lloyd M. Townley '53 retired in 1990 after working at the Aluminum Company of America for 37 years. He lives in Pebble Beach, Calif. E-mail: 356LT@aol.com

Robert F. Kroeger '58 keeps busy during retirement with model railroading, fly fishing, general house maintenance, and traveling. He and his wife, Joyce, visit their children in Michigan, California, and Hawaii, and they often take river cruises and land tours in Europe. E-mail: rkroeger@columbus.rr.com

William V. Dohr '59 sings with a church choir, CenterStage Band, and show choir. He enjoys sailing and power boating and holds a 50-ton boat captain license with the U.S. Coast Guard. William also enjoys skiing in Colorado. He volunteers at hospitals by installing lifeline autodialing units. William and his wife, Bernadette, live in Wausau, Wis. They have four grown children: Leslie, Mary, Robert, and Susan. E-mail: billdohr@charter.net

Carl R. Willis '61 recently took a trip through several national parks: Arches, Canyon Lands, Painted Desert, Petrified Forest, Canyon

De Chelly, and Joshua Tree. He and his wife, Candace, live in Falmouth Airpark on Cape Cod. He has four grown children: Bryan, Lexi, Heather, and Shannon. E-mail: raewillis@verizon.net

Gerhard N. Bolen '65 works for the fiberglass division of PPG Industries. He divides his time between houses in Nashville, Tenn., and Port Charlotte, Fla. Gerhard plays trombone in the Nashville Shriners Dance Band and the Nashville Jazz Alliance and enjoys boating and fishing. E-mail: bolen@ppg.com

James S. Keller '69 says hello to all his late '60s and early '70s brothers. He has many fond memories of 690 Waldron and enjoys stopping by the house to talk to the current brothers. He and his wife, Linda, have two daughters, Katelin and Allison. Katelin is a junior at Purdue and is a Kappa Alpha Theta. Allison is a senior in high school. Jim works at Firestone Building Products Company as the division inventory control manager in Indianapolis. He and his family reside in Carmel, Ind. E-mail: kellerjim@firestonebp.com

Michael E. Nocton '71 owns and operates a 1,000-acre farm in Richmond, Ind. He is a retired Navy captain, A-6 instructor commanding officer, and test and instructor pilot. Mike and his wife, Sandra, have two sons and six grandchildren. They live in Richmond, Ind. E-mail: captnoco@hotmail.com

Ralph M. Holmes '72 retired on June 2, 2009, as a financial manager with Weyerhaeuser Company, where he worked for 35 years. Now Mike works part-time for the Tacoma Rainiers, the AAA baseball team affiliated with the Seattle Mariners. He says it's the "best gig ever." Mike has a 2-year-old granddaughter and a 1-year-old grandson. E-mail: rmike050@yahoo.com

Shawn R. Salge '77 is a Boeing project engineer manager at the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala. He and his wife, Teresa, watched their two daughters marry in 2006 and 2008. They live in Huntsville. E-mail: srtjs@comcast.net

Mike F. Olsen '82 has three children: Tyler, Graham, and Hannah. Tyler and Graham are SigEps at Truman State University in Kirksville, Mo. Mike is an account manager at Pico Chicago and lives with his wife, Vanessa, in Naperville, Ill.

Gregory E. Schiffli '91 founded his own registered investment advisory firm, On Target Wealth Partners, in late 2008. His business is located in Greenwood, Ind., and provides fee-only investment management and financial planning to individuals and families throughout the country. Check out his firm at www.ontargetwealth.com. He lives in Indianapolis with his wife, Kristen. They have three children: Rachel, Regan, and Brooklyn. E-mail: gschiffli@comcast.net

John C. Vas '91 left the corporate world in 2007 for a career in teaching. He is in his fourth year of teaching mathematics at Lakewood High School and serves as department chair. John and his wife, Rinda, spend all of their free time with their sons: Sam, Zach, and Thomas. They enjoy watching them play baseball, basketball, and football. They reside in Olmsted Falls, Ohio. E-mail: vasjc@ameritech.net

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ALUMNI UPDATE

(Continued from page 5)

Andrius J. Galinis '98 and his family moved from Indiana to Gulf Breeze, Fla., two years ago. He is board certified in anesthesia and is a partner at Panhandle Anesthesiology. He and his wife, Kathleen, have two daughters, Ava and Isabella. E-mail: andriusgalinis@hotmail.com

Jonathan Greenberg '04 is a supervisor in lease accounting at Simon Property Group. He lives in Indianapolis, Ind. E-mail: greenbej@gmail.com

Christopher C. Welch '05 is a field sales engineer at Bear VAI Technology in Fishers, Ind. He lives in Indianapolis and is engaged to Amber Schrock. E-mail: chris.c.welch@gmail.com

Jason A. Wertz '08 moved to Pennsylvania in December 2008 to work at Lutron Electronics Co. as an applications engineer. He and his fiancée, Heather Brock, plan to wed on May 21, 2011. E-mail: jwertz25@gmail.com



Keith Morkel '72 and Tommy King '71 show their SigEp pride at the Scrub Bucket game in 1970.

FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



Indiana Alpha Chapter of SPE Alumni Corporation

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Attention: This newsletter is intended for Indiana Alpha alumni and parents.

If your son is still attending Purdue University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he is no longer in school, please send his permanent address to avavra@penningtonco.com.

THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI

We thank all the alumni below for their support of our first annual campaign appeal. The success and achievements of Indiana Alpha Chapter are directly attributed to the support and involvement of its members. The active brothers are grateful and proud of the support they receive from alumni. Our first appeal resulted in \$6,995 from 58

contributors. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift, or if we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving record are needed, please send them to avavra@penningtonco.com. Your generosity is making a difference!

Balanced Man Society (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Walter L. Brant '71

Brotherhood Society (\$500 to \$999)

Frank E. Ruehling '56

Golden Heart Society (\$100 to \$499)

Robert L. Mannfeld '47
Jack V. Skillman '48
Jerome M. Matosec '45
Richard C. Anderson '49
Thomas R. Sutter '48
Fred L. Geyer '51
Andrew G. Forrest '52

John C. Miller '58
Frank R. Snyder '58
Ryan E. Steele '58
Robert J. Sullivan '59
John F. Derr '58
John R. Schiffer '61
Robert L. Flint '64
George Pappas '65
John L. Knochel '65
Roger C. Heider '65
John K. Oelslager '66
Rodney J. Henderson '68
Roger H. Day '69
James J. Kuhle '71
James M. Cassell '73
John R. Fields '72
James M. Lindsey, D.D.S. '74
Douglas M. Nabhan '77

Scott R. Swisher '79
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Andrew J. Kofoid '88
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Chad B. Ciesil '93
James M. Anderson '95
Matthew R. Foster '94
Adam M. Lyons '96
Andrius J. Galinis '98
Jacob D. Williams '08

Donor Society (Up to \$99)

Robert A. Von Behren '43
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