

# FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON ♦ FALL 2011

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## OFFER YOUR TIME AND TALENT TO THE INDIANA ALPHA AVC

This past September, several new faces were added to the Indiana Alpha Alumni Volunteer Corporation (AVC), including my own. As a board, we are all very excited about the future of Indiana Alpha, both from an alumni and undergraduate point of view.

We are very fortunate to have had committed volunteers in the past that have kept our chapter charter active for over 105 years, which is impressive. Indiana Alpha was the 17th chartered chapter for Sigma Phi Epsilon and we now have the fifth longest standing charter. Putting that into perspective, we've endured the loss of our own chapter house to a fire, The Great Depression, World War I, World War II, Vietnam, and now the Great Recession. Through the toughest times, Indiana Alpha continues to persevere!

To set us up for continued success, the AVC is actively recruiting additional volunteers as well as implementing a committee structure to work in smaller groups outside of our monthly meetings. With technology, alumni location is no longer an obstacle to volunteering.

If you have a desire to become involved with the AVC and guide the future direction of the chapter, our current committee needs are as follows:

- V.P. of Facilities (sits on the board and ensures our facility is in shape. This position works with the undergraduate house manager and Ralph Moorehouse, the facilities manager, to ensure all repairs and improvements of the house are up to date.)
- Recruitment (assists the chapter with goal setting, recruitment strategies, sales skills, etc.)
- Member Development (Indiana Alpha is working towards a four-year development program to promote personal growth

throughout the college experience)

- Academics (standards, time management, positive study habits, etc.)
- Scholarships (develop, implement, and maintain an active scholarship program)
- Finance/Housing (annual budgeting, meal plan management, managing accounts receivable, leases, capital planning, etc.)

If you are interested in offering your time or talent in any aspect, would like to become involved with the chapter, or just want to offer a comment, please contact me at [avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com).

A number of alumni have noted 690 Waldron has the need for some improvements. As with any older structure, especially our 95-year-old chapter house, on-going maintenance is necessary. In the near future we plan to make immediate improvements to the flooring and paint as well as determine a plan for our long-term housing needs.

I'd like to give thanks to all members of the AVC who volunteer their time and give so much back to our great chapter. As a Board, we are committed to providing a positive living/learning environment now and in the future.

Fraternally,

**John D. Weir '01**

(312) 560-4099

[avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:avc-president@purdue-sigeps.com)

*(Above) Mike Perkins '66, Ted Hazledine '65, Dave Schoeff '64, Dana Smith '66, and Dan Matis '65 secured the 2nd place ranking at the annual golf outing.*





Undergraduate brothers in front of the Chapter House, during Homecoming celebrations, October 21-22.

## Indiana Alpha Boasts Largest New Member Class of All Purdue Fraternities

As a member of Indiana Alpha, there is never a dull moment. There are good times and there are bad times, brilliant ideas, and stupid mistakes. But no matter what the situation may be, there is always a brother to pick you up or congratulate you on a job well done. It never ceases to amaze me how guys so drastically different, get along so well.

Our fall recruitment yielded one of the largest new member classes of all 40 fraternities on campus. We value alumni referrals, so please send any recruitment recommendations to **Nate Tubbs '14** at [recruitment@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:recruitment@purdue-sigeps.com).

This year we co-hosted a philanthropy with Delta Zeta to benefit children with hearing disabilities. The event received extraordinary support from the entire Greek community.

Our brothers continue to impress me through their dedication and hard work towards academics. Last fall SigEp tied with FIJI for third place academically out of all fraternities on campus, and we plan to continue this success.

I am proud to be a SigEp and the house at 690 Waldron is truly filled with balanced men. I invite all alumni to visit and relive our rich tradition.

Fraternally,  
**Ryan Rittenhouse '13**  
 Chapter President  
 (610) 739-8833  
[president@purdue-sigeps.com](mailto:president@purdue-sigeps.com)

## Brothers Gather at Ackerman Hills for Annual Golf Outing

Years of SigEp brotherhood combined with an unexpected Purdue victory made for a spectacular Homecoming weekend, October 21-22. Brothers traveled from all over the country to come back and share memories and exciting times at 690 Waldron. Many expected to return from the stadium during third quarter, however, all were astonished when the Boilermakers defeated no. 23 Illinois, 21-14.

On Friday, brothers gathered at the Ackerman Golf Course at the Birk Boilermaker Golf Complex to kick off Homecoming weekend with the annual golf tournament. Alumni and undergraduates teamed up in foursomes for the event. Teams traveled to the course for some practice on the driving range before their 1 p.m. tee-off.

Alumni Volunteer Board member **Jarod Overton '00** says, "We had a record number sign up for the golf outing this year. The AVC worked well together to put on a successful event. As with any event, there are areas we could improve on to make next year even better."



- 1st Place: Steve Coyne, **Mike Coyne '14**, **Tom Coyne '12**, and **J.D. Gaylor '12**. (shown above)
- 2nd Place: **David Schoeff '64**, **Dana Smith '66**, **Mike Perkins '66**, **Ted Hazeldine '65**, and **Dan Matis '65**.
- Longest Drive: **Mike Coyne '14**
- Longest Putt: **Jared Kenard '04**
- Closest to hole: **Jacob Williams '08**





## HOMECOMING GATHERING ALLOWS BROTHERS TO RECONNECT AND REMINISCE ABOUT INDIANA ALPHA

The following are highlights of alumni’s memories of their days at Indiana Alpha.

**Ed McDonald '65** from Seattle, Wash., has traveled back to West Lafayette every year since 2005, when SPE celebrated its 100th anniversary. Ed recalls having a white, two-seater Triumph TR3 back at Indiana Alpha. “My brothers called me ‘Breezy Ed,’ because I drove this little sports car with the top down.” Only juniors and seniors were to have cars on campus but, as a sophomore, Ed escaped the rules by showing up at the infirmary exhibiting asthma symptoms. Brothers had fun pulling pranks on Ed and his TR3. They once buried his car under piles of leaves, which took Ed hours to uncover. Another time, they moved the TR3 into the Great Hall without Ed having a clue. Ed recalls when he and **Lawrence “Lorrie” Volland '63** took over the Go Cart program. “We were in charge and became co-drivers. We won the Grand Prix that year!” A picture of the victory can be found in the trophy case on the main floor of the house.

**David Schoeff '64** remembers operating concessions, including approximately five cigarette machines placed in sorority houses. “Every week, I’d collect money from these machines and go to Lafayette and restock the machines. This was the only legitimate license to get on the second floor of the sorority house.” There was also the university sing **Jim Long '63** organized. David remembers being part of the Glee Club, which is still active today.

**Byron White '64** has returned to Purdue every year since the fraternity celebrated its 100th anniversary. He recalls driving the milk truck around campus for short trips. He also chuckles over a headline that appeared in *The Exponent* after Ed McDonald and Lorrie Volland won the Grand Prix that same year. The caption under the picture

indicated that Lorrie was prom queen, NOT the driver of the go cart. After that, the brothers fondly referred to Lorrie as “Queenie.”

**Roger Blocks '62** traveled from Racine, Wis., to attend this year’s Homecoming. He recalls painting SigEp’s Greek letters on the side of the milk truck and heavily padding the inside so that it was like a “rolling bed.” He also recalls the chapter having four Iron Key students at the time, out of the nine on campus. The house had a resident dog, Sam, a Belgian shepherd.

There was also the time when brothers conducted a mock political convention, where they ran A.B. “Happy” Chandler for president. Chandler was the 44th and 49th governor of Kentucky.

**Tim Downing '90** states “All of us look the same. There hasn’t been much change.” He and **Steve Pushka '91** recall sharing the house with around 90 brothers, adding that the relationships they formed resulted in a long-lasting bond. “They’re good, high-caliber people,” says Steve, who traveled from Park City, Utah, for Homecoming. Steve says that every one of his brothers has been successful in both their careers and family life.

**Jared Kennard '04** remembers sharing the fraternity house with 80 brothers and never having a dull moment. He recalls visiting each fraternity house during recruitment week. However, Sigma Phi Epsilon had a respect factor that impressed him.

Living in the area as county commissioner for the Tippecanoe County Board of Commissioners, **John Knochel '65** stopped by to reminisce. John credits the relationships formed at Sigma Phi Epsilon for developing skills necessary to relate to the many types of people he’s encountered in his political career over the last 20 years.



*Evan Huffman '12, his father, Gary, and Brian McCall, father of Zach '14 form one of the foursomes during Indiana Alpha’s annual golf tournament.*



*Jason Hebert '00 tees off.*



## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

**Billy Ambry**  
*Hammond, Ind.*

**Tanner Bennett**  
*Scottsdale, Ariz.*

**Peter Brehm**  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**Justin Cerutti**  
*Naperville, Ill.*

**Chad Cole\***  
*Fort Wayne, Ind.*  
(Father **Bruce '82**)

**Troy Cutler**  
*Fishers, Ind.*

**Brendan Davis**  
*Fishers, Ind.*

**Andrew Enright**  
*Carmel, Ind.*

**Ryan Grunewald**  
*Dyer, Ind.*

**Jack Helton**  
*Danville, Ind.*

**Julian Jimenez**  
*West Lafayette, Ind.*

**Charlie Johnson**  
*Valparaiso, Ind.*

**Steve Krause**  
*St. John, Ind.*

**Jeff Lawler**  
*Munster, Ind.*

**David Lesniak**  
*West Lafayette, Ind.*

**Mitch McCarthy\***  
*Lisle, Ill.*  
(Brother **Joe '12**)

**Drew McDonald**  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**Tyler Monger\***  
*Loveland, Ohio*  
(Brother **Pete '10**)

**Joe Murty**  
*Whiting, Ind.*

**Paul Mysak**  
*Tampa, Fla.*

**Kramer Phalen\***  
*St. John, Ind.*  
(Brother **Quinlan '14**)

**Michael Prusiecki\***  
*Hobart, Ind.*  
(Brother **John '12**)

**Jose Rodriguez**  
*Wheatfield, Ind.*

**Brandon Thomas**  
*Randaberg, Norway*

**Greg Timm**  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**Ben Trapp**  
*Lafayette, Ind.*

**Brayton Tressler**  
*Connersville, Ind.*

**Dustin Trieb**  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**Ryan Ullrich**  
*Indianapolis, Ind.*

**Andrew Wagner**  
*Woodridge, Ill.*

**James Wallace\***  
*Aurora, Ohio*  
(Brother **Andrew '13**)

**Josh Withers**  
*Lafayette, Ind.*

\*Legacy, relative in parentheses

## Thank You, Loyal Alumni

We thank all the alumni below for their support of our spring 2011 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 spring 2011

annual appeal resulted in \$35,250 from 94 contributors. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift(s), or if we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving record are needed, please send them to tarar@penningtonco.com. Your generosity is making a difference!

**Founder's Society**  
*(\$5,000 and above)*  
John R. Grayson '46

**Indiana Alpha Society**  
*(\$2,500 to \$4,999)*  
Your Name Here

**Balanced Man Society**  
*(\$1,000 to \$2,499)*  
Walter L. Brant '71

**Brotherhood Society**  
*(\$500 to \$999)*

Robert F. Kroeger '58  
David T. Strother '71  
Mark S. Meyer '92  
Mark A. Napier '92

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

Robert A. Von Behren '43  
Robert L. Mannfeld '47  
Jack V. Skillman '48  
Jerome M. Matosec '45  
Donald F. Smith '48  
Thomas R. Sutter '48  
Richard C. Anderson '49

Dr. George J. Kottemann '51  
Frederick L. Schindler '51  
Andrew G. Forrest '52  
William L. Reel '52  
Robert C. Foster '54  
Monte G. Goodwin '55  
Jean C. Evans '56  
Frank E. Ruehling '56  
Harold Shevers Jr. '57  
Frank R. Snyder '58  
Ryan E. Steele '59  
David B. Evans '61  
Donald G. Hoffman '62  
Larry R. Horton '62  
Robert H. Sheridan '62  
John R. Treat '62  
James H. Muehlbauer '63  
Byron H. White '64  
Edward T. Hazledine '65  
Roger C. Heider '65  
John L. Knochel '65  
Thomas W. Wolff '65  
Lawrence B. Heitz '66  
Fred C. Lash '66  
John K. Oelslager '66  
Michael R. Perkins '66  
Lynn M. Carley '68  
Rodney J. Henderson '68

Wendell D. Schultz '68  
August G. Voelkel '68  
James S. Keller '69  
William T. Rice '70  
John L. Fox '71  
Christian S. Hankins '72  
James M. Cassell '73  
James M. Lindsey, DDS '74  
Chuck L. Traviolia '74  
Thomas E. Everly '75  
Jerrold L. Ulrey '75  
Daryl R. Martz '76  
Douglas M. Nabhan '77  
David M. Andrews '78  
Don R. Schlegelmilch '78  
Christopher D. Kelly '80  
Ross A. Richards '80  
Fred H. Beckman '82  
John M. Bellamy '85  
Michael C. Turner '87  
Andrew J. Kofoid '88  
James C. Soderling '90  
Eric D. Dodd '91  
Scott L. Robinson '92  
Daniel J. Sopczak '94  
James M. Anderson '95  
Mark W. Lawson '96  
Adam M. Lyons '96

Kristopher D. Zambo '97  
Jeffrey A. Anderson '98  
Jesse E. Byrer '99  
Capt. Jarod N. Overton '00  
John D. Weir '01  
J. Matthew Brill '02

**Donor Society**  
*(Up to \$99)*

Edward R. Hyde '49  
Lloyd M. Townley '53  
John C. Adams '54  
Larry E. Close '57  
Dale C. Hiler '59  
Lawrence K. Volland '63  
David D. Schoeff '64  
Frederick W. Forward '65  
Gary L. Evans '67  
Dennis C. Lange '74  
Mark W. Haberstroh '75  
Daniel R. Tom '86  
Gregory A. Byrd '89  
Jason R. Cosgrove '93  
Ryan R. Gilbert '97  
Matthew J. Zaremba '01  
Craig S. Lill '02  
Grant R. Lohse '02  
Tony A. Thier '03



## MIKE BILDER '98 CONTINUES TO STRENGTHEN BONDS BUILT AT INDIANA ALPHA

As an Illinois native, **Mike Bilder '98** was intrigued by the Greek system and the opportunity it provided to form friendships away from home. "Purdue is a big school and most of my high school friends stayed in Illinois, so I looked to the Greek system as a way to make new friends. I became a SigEp because they were the most well-rounded group and I had a great connection with the brothers."



Joining SigEp provided Mike a place to gain valuable leadership skills while serving as chapter president. "I encourage undergraduates to get involved with the chapter. There are great opportunities to learn, to grow, and to lead. After graduation use your network of fraternity brothers—both your immediate pledge brothers as well as older alumni. Tap these social networks and make contact with a variety of alumni. They can be a great resource to further your career opportunities. College is an important part of your life and it goes by quickly; make sure you work hard, but it's important to have fun too. SigEp and Purdue offer great opportunities for both."

"Fortunately, in addition to the time spent together at social events at the house, I shared classes with a number of brothers; so, not only did we have fun together, but we also advanced academically together." Themed parties at the chapter house, Grand Prix, and numerous philanthropic events are among Mike's favorite memories from Purdue. Living in the Chicago area has allowed Mike to continue building memories. "A large number of my fraternity brothers live in the area and we still get together on a regular basis. I'm fortunate to see **Jesse Byrer '99**, **Jonas Byrer '99**, **Randy Wolf '99**, **Reid Snellenbarger '98**, **Tim Mattix '96**, **Ryan Hartley '95**, **Brian Rodell '99**, **Shaun Weyer '97**, and **Josh Fenton '98** on a regular basis. They have become lifelong friends."

A video game enthusiast, Mike combines one of his favorite hobbies with his career, working as general manager of Jellyvision Games, a video game development company in Chicago. When he's not playing video games, Mike enjoys running, playing racquetball, and spending time with his wife, Neda, and their two children, Stella (7) and Michael (5). To contact Mike, e-mail him at [mjbilder@gmail.com](mailto:mjbilder@gmail.com).

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### CHAPTER ETERNAL

**Barney A. Fielden '44** entered Chapter Eternal.

**Fred L. Geyer '51** entered Chapter Eternal on September 7, 2011. He is survived by his wife, Pauline; children, Alan and Marcia; and granddaughters, Jessica and Valerie.

### ALUMNI NEWS

**Robert G. Coleman '50** and his wife, Maxine, reside in Turnberry, one of a number of housing communities in World Golf Village in St. Augustine, Fla. Robert is treasurer of the World Golf Village social committee and Friends of Northeast Florida State Hospital. He is also a member of the oldest Catholic parish in the U.S., Cathedral Basilica of St. Augustine. E-mail: [agspert@aol.com](mailto:agspert@aol.com)

**Fred L. Geyer '51** taught math and science for 16 years. He is now in his 51st year as president of Geyer Instructional Aids Co. Inc., a math and science supply catalog business he established in 1960. He sends a catalog to every junior and senior high school in the U.S. yearly. Fred and his wife, Pauline, live in Ft. Wayne, Ind. E-mail: [info@geyerinstructional.com](mailto:info@geyerinstructional.com)

**Jerry L. Sokol '53** retired in 2009. He and his wife, Christine, reside in Squaw Valley, Calif. Jerry enjoys raising and training Paso Fino horses. He would love to hear from his Indiana Alpha brothers. E-mail: [pasofinojls@wildblue.net](mailto:pasofinojls@wildblue.net)

**John F. Derr '58** serves on 10 government committees representing long-term and post-acute care technology. He became a distinguished Purdue alumnus in 2006. John lives with his wife, Polly, in Anacortes, Wash. E-mail: [captainjohn181@mac.com](mailto:captainjohn181@mac.com)

**John R. Treat '66** semi-retired when his largest client, Chrysler, went bankrupt in April 2009. He and his wife moved from Ann Arbor, Mich., to Galesburg, Ill., where they have a place at Lake Bracken and are close to their son and three grandchildren. John works part-time with his son raising corn, soybeans, and feeder calves. He joined the flying club at Galesburg Airport and flies a Cherokee 180. He would love to hear from his old SigEp brothers. E-mail: [jrtreat@aol.com](mailto:jrtreat@aol.com)

**Keith G. Morkel '72** lives in Kettering, Ohio, and has three children: **Benjamin '05**, Rachel, and Anne. Benjamin is engaged to Holly Hacker and will be married on April 21, 2012. E-mail: [kmorkel@woh.rr.com](mailto:kmorkel@woh.rr.com)

**David J. St. Claire '85** has lived in the northern Chicago suburbs for the past 25 years. He and his wife of 20 years have two children, a 16-year-old son and a 13-year-old daughter. E-mail: [yellowhook@comcast.com](mailto:yellowhook@comcast.com)

**Jeffrey A. Anderson '98**, his wife, Amy, and his children, Madeline and Rylan, moved to Virginia at the end of 2009 after completing a three-sea tour as the engineer officer on the *Seawolf*. He has been commissioned as a submarine officer for 12 years and

*(Continued on page 6)*



## SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendars for **Indiana Alpha's 2012 Mom's Weekend**, to be held April 13 and 14. Dinner will be served at the house on Saturday, April 14. More details coming soon; we look forward to seeing you there!

Make plans to attend the **2012 Boilermaker Homecoming weekend and Golf Outing on October 12-13**.

Reconnect with brothers while sharing your favorite SigEp memories and playing 18 holes. More details to come, but mark your calendars for the annual event.

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## Indiana Alpha Chapter of SPE Alumni Corporation

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## ALUMNI UPDATE

*(Continued from page 5)*

served in the Navy since graduating from Purdue. Jeff still cherishes memories of the chapter and keeps in contact with many SigEps. E-mail: [jeff@navyandersons.com](mailto:jeff@navyandersons.com)

**John M. Guidos '01** and his wife, Elizabeth, reside in Granger, Ind. John works in Chicago as a litigation attorney. E-mail: [john.guidos@gmail.com](mailto:john.guidos@gmail.com)

**Adam J. Kramer '03** is a regional sales manager for a company that sells web design and online marketing to HVAC dealers throughout the U.S. and Canada. He lives in Indianapolis, Ind. E-mail: [akramer23@hotmail.com](mailto:akramer23@hotmail.com)

*(Right) Admiring a well placed putt, from left: Jared Kennard '04, Brice Clinton '03, and Luke Gorski '04.*

*(Below) From left: Miles Wagoner '00, Jason Herbert '00, Jarod Overton '00, and RJ Burton '99 at the annual golf outing.*



## Brothers Reunite for Purdue Homecoming and the Indiana Alpha Annual Golf Outing