

FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON



SUMMER 2011

NEW FACES GRACE AVC Chapter Strengthens Brotherhood Development, Balanced Man Programming

In response to our call for alumni volunteers in the last issue of *From the Heart*, the Alumni Volunteer Corporation expanded this spring. We welcome **Matt Weaver '99** and **Brian Rodell '98**, who are serving as vice president of facilities and vice president of brotherhood development, respectively.

Join Us on the AVC

Despite our new additions, we are still seeking more volunteers. The vice president of finance, secretary, and alumni relations positions are open, and we welcome any volunteers who can contribute in any way possible. A larger board allows the opportunity to spread the responsibilities among members, enabling more alumni to connect with the undergraduates and lightening the load of officers. While we appreciate the support of anyone who is interested in getting involved, Indianapolis-area residents are more easily able to attend our meetings. Please contact me at jay@angry-ape.com if you are interested in bulding a legacy at SigEp by joining the AVC board.

Chapter to Fully Embrace Balanced Man Program

With the addition of Brian to the board, we are pushing our brotherhood development program to a new level. He is developing a plan to connect undergraduates with alumni to find jobs and internships. We are also pushing to better implement the Balanced Man Program in our chapter. The initiative was introduced by SigEp in 1993 to place “opportunities in front of each man to further his own personal development, not just for a few months, but for his entire college career. The cornerstones of the Balanced Man program are a non-pledging model for operating the chapter, an emphasis on service learning, brotherhood, goal setting, and experiential learning through a series of personal development challenges that align with each year of college.”

We have been practicing a hybrid of the Balanced Man Program thus far. It is now time to begin fully implementing the program into Indiana Alpha. This does not mean we are abandoning any of our traditions that make Indiana Alpha such a great chapter; we are just adding a focus for the future to the tradition we already have. We have a long, storied history that will always be part of Indiana Alpha. Now we are looking to the future so we can remain one of the premier fraternities on the Purdue campus for another 100+ years.

HFF,

Jay Bilunas '99, V.P. Alumni Relations
Alumni Volunteer Corporation



Last year's golf outing was a great success. Join us this year for even more food and fun.



Indiana Alpha Moves Up in Academic, Athletic Rankings

Strong Spring Recruitment, Philanthropy Highlight Spring Semester

What a year it has been for the men of Indiana Alpha. We excelled in the areas that continually make us one of the stronger chapters not only at Purdue but also around the nation. With an improved showing in academics, athletics, and membership, Indiana Alpha overall had a solid 2010-11 school year.

Chapter Moves Up Six Spots in Greek Grade Ranking

In the fall, SigEp attained a 2.99 G.P.A., coming in third among fraternities and behind Evan's Scholars and FarmHouse, making Indiana Alpha the number one in grades among social fraternities. What is more impressive is the 3.14 G.P.A. earned by our fall new member class. The chapter G.P.A. surpasses the all-campus G.P.A. and elevates us six spots from our previous spring 2010 ranking.

Philanthropy Success

Over the course of the year, we hosted two philanthropy events, the Turtle Tug and Sandy Slam, and one of our members participated in Zeta Tau Alpha's Big Man on Campus event, which raises money for breast cancer. All of the events went extremely well as we worked with members of the Greek community to raise money for breast cancer and testicular cancer research, and children with chronic and terminal illnesses. Additionally, new members participated in Dance Marathon, which is a fundraiser for Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

Indiana Alpha Garners 22 Spring New Members

Our recruitment efforts for the entire year were superb. For the fall semester, we recruited more new members than any other organization (Greek or otherwise) on campus, with 40 new members. Though we've had challenges recruiting in the spring, we doubled our usual recruitment number and garnered 22 new members. The chapter has worked to bolster our membership program with workshops on topics such as time management and financial planning to better prepare our members for college and the real world. We hope to implement those programs within the next year.

SigEp Strengthens Brotherhood and Leadership

Throughout the year we hosted our annual Heaven and Hell Party, our Love Boat formal in the fall, and paired with Chi Omega for the football season. In the spring, we attended our formal in downtown Chicago and paired with Zeta Tau Alpha for Grand Prix. We also strengthened our brotherhood by engaging in several local chapter rituals and other membership-only functions. Our new members attended the nationally sponsored SigEp orientation and healthy living program, EDGE, and our executive board attended the Carlson Leadership Academy in Chicago.



MEMORY OF KYLE RHODES '05 LIVES ON AT INDIANA ALPHA

On behalf of the undergraduate brothers of Indiana Alpha, I would like to say how deeply saddened we are to hear about the passing of Brother **Kyle Rhodes '05** in Lafayette, Indiana, on May 19. We undergraduate brothers did not have the pleasure of knowing Kyle, we are nevertheless appreciative of the bond he had with all of us beyond our red doors. It takes a certain type of person to be a part of Indiana Alpha, and while we are all unique in our own ways like Kyle was in his, we are all very much the same after our experiences together in our home at 690 Waldron Street. It is because of this, I am confident that Kyle was not only a good man, but a good father, husband, son, and brother. Brother Rhodes will be missed, but he will never leave us. He is forever a part of us and he is forever a part of Indiana Alpha. As we reflect on the life of Kyle Rhodes, let us always remember our brothers, past and present, and the positive influence they have had on us to make us better people.

Those we have loved and lost never really leave us they live on deep within the heart.

Fraternally,
Mike Cunningham '12
Chapter President

Chapter Reaches New Heights in Intramurals

Perhaps our most impressive feat this year comes from our intramurals. Last year, we were ranked 20 out of 40 fraternities in intramural athletics, probably the lowest ranking ever in Indiana Alpha history. We took that as a challenge this year. In the fall, we won two volleyball championships and reached the finals in flag football. This spring, we won the dodgeball championship and reached the final game in softball, improving overall to 10th place in the fraternity intramural league for the 2010-11 school year.

As you can see, the brothers of Indiana Alpha have worked hard this year to make our fraternity one of the best on Purdue's campus. Third in grades, three intramural championships, 62 new members, and extensive campus and philanthropic involvement—we have put together a good resume for this year, and we hope to build on that success in the future. I would like to thank all of our friends and alumni for your support. Without you, none of this is possible, and pride in our fraternity would cease to exist. Please stop by any time and share your time and stories with your brothers. We would love to have you!

Fraternally,
Mike Cunningham '12, Chapter President
mccunnin@purdue.edu



Indiana Alpha Alumnus Takes Clean Water to Nations in Need

Nearly 4,000 children die every day from waterborne diseases, and 1.1 billion people live without clean drinking water, according to the World Water Council and the World Health Organization. To help curb these alarming statistics, **Bill Farrar '82** established Fountains of Hope, a non-profit, faith-based organization that installs, integrates, and teaches safe water solutions to the poorest and most marginalized populations, particularly in times of disaster or emergency. Bill employs his aviation technical and engineering background to take safe water to third-world countries. The water purifiers distributed by Fountains of Hope use a 12-volt industrial battery, table salt, and water to create chlorine to kill harmful bacteria in the water. These purifiers treat up to 55 gallons of water every minute.

Bill has led several disaster relief teams to assist in recoveries due to Hurricane Katrina, flooding in Mexico, Africa, and Pakistan, post-election violence in Kenya, a typhoid outbreak in Ghana, and Haiti's earthquake and cholera outbreak. In total, Fountains of Hope has installed more than 60 water purifier systems worldwide in schools, medical facilities, orphanages, Internally Displaced Person camps, and churches. To support Bill and donate to Fountains of Hope, visit www.fountainsofhope.org.

Welcome, Spring 2011 New Members

Matt O'Brien '14

Bridgewater, N.J.

John

Thompson-Hall '14
Valparaiso, Ind.

Grady Ludeke '14

Cincinnati, Ohio

Zach McCall '14

Indianapolis, Ind.

Blake Anderson '14
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Andrew Linfoot '14

Lafayette, Calif.

Riley Warwick '14

Franklin, Ind.

Eric Nebelung '14
Westport, Conn.

Steve Fusak '14

Hammond, Ind.

Dustin Mobley '14

Noblesville, Ind.

Sam Lopez '14
Hammond, Ind.

Steven Kime '14

Elkart, Ind.

Will Payne '14

Noblesville, Ind.

Christian
Zimmerman '14
Lebanon, Ind.

Kyle Lisek '14

St. John, Ind.

Brandon Burdick '14

Decatur, Ill.

Jim Schopmeyer '14

Evansville, Ind.

Sam Shoaf '14

Newtown, Ind.

Jose Gonzalez '14

Miami, Fla.

Tom Pagnotta '14

Westport, Conn.

Chester Sikora '14

Hammond, Ind.

Nick Bartlett '14

Indianapolis, Ind.



Brothers geared up for the 2010 golf outing event.

Join Us October 21 for Our Annual Golf Outing

Gather your foursome and kick off Homecoming weekend with us on the green. The annual Indiana Alpha golf outing will be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, October 21, at Ackerman Hills Golf Course at the Birck Boilermaker Golf Complex (1300 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette). If you don't have a foursome, just send in your registration and we'll assign you to a team. Prizes will be awarded for closest to pin, longest drive, and longest putt, and we'll celebrate with a cookout at the chapter house following the match. Price is \$75 per person (\$60 for Indiana Alpha undergraduates) and includes golf fees, bag drop service, tee gift voucher in the pro shop, T-shirt, golf cart sign, custom scorecard, custom rules and event sheet, post-outing cookout, and Saturday brunch at the house. The driving range will be available one hour prior to the match. To RSVP, complete and return the form below with payment to: Sigma Phi Epsilon Indiana Alpha, 1075 Broad Ripple Ave., Suite 302, Indianapolis, IN 46220. For more information, contact **Jay Bilunas '99** at jay@angry-ape.com or (317) 409-6070.

Name: _____

E-mail: _____

Team: _____

T-shirt size: _____

Return to: SPE Indiana Alpha, 1075 Broad Ripple Ave., Suite 302, Indianapolis, IN 46220



Alumnus' Dedication to SigEp Brotherhood Lasts Beyond Graduation

Spotlight on Norman E. Nabhan '71

As a freshman living in the dorms, **Norman E. Nabhan '71** submitted Purdue's fraternity population to scrupulous examination before pledging. "There was a big snowfall, so all of Cary Quad went outside," the Gary, Indiana, native recalls. "The Fijis wouldn't engage in a snowball fight, but the SigEps took on all of Cary Quad." In all seriousness, Norm was impressed with the character of the Indiana Alpha men. "A guy I knew from the dorm took me over one day, and I met the guys. It was a good chapter with a good reputation," he says. "Meeting the guys sealed the deal."



"SigEp gave me a lot. It created an experience where I gained self-confidence, leadership skills, and skills to use in my career. It is because of SigEp I have had these experiences, and I want to create the opportunity for others to have those experiences."

Those introductions would be the beginning of lifelong friendships for Norm and his brothers. "We had great times. One year we took a riverboat on the Ohio River with five other SigEp chapters," Norm recalls. Beyond the social benefits, he acquired the savvy to take on the challenges that would await him in the professional world. "I gained a lot of leadership skills, knowledge of the world beyond Gary, Indiana. I came into my own."

Graduating with a bachelor of arts degree and a business minor, Norm built upon his undergraduate experience as recruitment chairman, chapter president, and IFC president by working on the SigEp National staff. Elected to the national board in 1981, Norm followed his roles as district governor for Wisconsin and Minnesota and president of the Purdue alumni board by serving as 16-year grand treasurer and Second year national president for SigEp. "Like many organizations," he says, "the more you give to it, the more you get back. Many of my best friends today, including my best man at my wedding, are SigEps I have met who didn't go to Purdue."

Still, Norm's fellow Indiana Alphas hold a special place in his SigEp heart. Working out of Houston, Texas, as managing director for Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Norm travels frequently on business. Whenever his journeys land him near the stomping grounds of a SigEp brother, he makes sure to pay him a visit. Most recently, Boulder, Colorado, has been added to Norm's SigEp network.

"Last fall, my son, Matthew, called from Colorado Alpha. He told me he had just been elected president of the chapter," Norm says. "The legacy means a lot. Over the last 25 years, I have worked very hard to improve SigEp, to develop the Balanced Man Program and enrich young people's experience. I think it's wonderful all the young people who have a chance to experience SigEp. It's particularly flattering when your own flesh and blood has a chance to partake in it and tells you it's a great experience."

Just as Norm's dedication to the fraternity has shaped his son's future, so has his longtime service impacted thousands of his younger SigEp brothers who have passed through red doors across the nation. "SigEp gave me a lot. It created an experience where I gained self-confidence, leadership skills, and skills to use in my career," he remarks. "It is because of SigEp I have

had these experiences, and I want to create the opportunity for others to have those experiences."

To contact Norm, e-mail him at norman.e.nabhan@mssb.com.

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 earmarking your next national 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



THANK YOU, LOYAL ALUMNI

We thank all the alumni below for their support of our 2010 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 2010 appeal resulted in \$15,900 from 58

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!

Balanced Man Society (*\$1,000 and above*)

John R. Grayson '46
Walter L. Brant '71

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

Frank E. Ruehling '56
John R. Fields '72
Scott R. Swisher '79

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

Jerome M. Matosec '45
Robert L. Mannfeld '47
Jack V. Skillman '48
Thomas R. Sutter '48
John C. Weydert '48
Thomas A. Wiley Jr. '48
Walter E. Wright '48
Richard C. Anderson '49
James J. Portteus '50
Fred L. Geyer '51
Andrew G. Forrest '52
John F. Derr '58
Robert F. Kroeger '58
David S. McMichael '58
John C. Miller '58

Frank R. Snyder '58
Ryan E. Steele '58
Charles F. Christman Jr. '59
David M. Parker '59
Robert J. Sullivan '59
William M. Reid '60
David B. Evans '61
Robert E. Hormann '61
John R. Schiffer '61
Carl R. Willis '61
Robert L. Flint '64
Roger C. Heider '65
George Pappas '65
John L. Knochel '65
Charles M. Leedom Jr. '66
John K. Oelslager '66
John R. Treat '66
Rodney J. Henderson '68
Jeffery V. Conopask '69
Roger H. Day '69
James J. Kuhle '71
David T. Strother '71
Patrick K. Gantert '72
James H. Ham III '72
James M. Cassell '73
James M. Lindsey, DDS '74
Charles L. Traviola '74
Douglas M. Nabhan '77

Don R. Schlegelmilch '78
Ross A. Richards '80
Fred H. Beckman '82
Gregory M. Hague '82
Bret T. Rush '82
Loren C. Bunnell '85
Bradley S. Vice '85
Scott L. Doelling '87
Michael C. Turner '87
Andrew J. Kofoid '88
Andrew J. Feustel '89
Shane K. Platt '90
Mark S. Meyer '92
Mark A. Napier '92
Scott L. Robinson '92
Chad B. Ciesil '93
Matthew R. Foster '94
Zachary D. McCoy '94
James M. Anderson '95
Adam M. Lyons '96
Brian P. Hughes '97
Kristopher D. Zambo '97
Andrius J. Galinis '98
Zachary R. Neff '98
Jarod N. Overton '00
Paul J. Feldmann '07
Jacob D. Williams '08

Donor Society (*Up to \$99*)

Robert A. Von Behren '43
Edward R. Hyde '49
Raymond S. Stephens '49
Lee E. Gase '50
Robert G. Coleman '50
George J. Kottemann '53
Monte G. Goodwin '55
Leonard V. Pantaleo '55
Jean C. Evans '56
Alex J. Bajusz '57
Larry E. Close '57
Richard F. Trowbridge '59
Frank L. Wellwerts '61
Larry R. Horton '62
Robert H. Sheridan '62
James H. Muehlbauer '63
Lawrence K. Volland '63
Kenneth A. Campbell '64
David D. Schoeff '64
Byron H. White '64
Frederick W. Forward '65
Fred C. Lash '66
Michael R. Perkins '66
Gary L. Evans '67
Richard T. Friestadt '67
Logan F. Wernz '67

Ronald L. Downing '68
Ronald L. Faris '68
Michael A. Gilbert '68
Michael B. Hammer '68
Gregory L. Rinehart '68
Stephen J. Zimmerly '69
Donovan A. Langford III '72
Thomas B. Foust '72
Thomas E. Everly '75
Mark W. Haberstroh '75
William K. McClure '75
Stephen P. Skillman '75
Douglas D. Samuels '76
Drew J. Briscoe '84
Sven M. Soedel '84
John D. Arvin '86
James G. Annis '87
James C. Soderling '90
John C. Vas '91
D. Eric Fry '00
Craig S. Lill '02

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Stephen M. Grate '80 entered Chapter Eternal on August 6, 2010, after suffering an injury in a hiking accident in Washington state.

Kyle M. Rhodes '05 of West Lafayette, entered Chapter Eternal May 19 from a work-related accident in Lafayette. He was an avid Purdue fan, enjoyed playing Little League baseball in Otterbein, basketball while at Harrison High School, playing golf and spending time at his family's lake home. He is survived by his wife, Jill Ann Bennett, and their daughter, Elizabeth June Rhodes.

ALUMNI NEWS

John C. Weydert '48 and his wife, Anne, live in Albuquerque, N.M. John retired from Sandia National Laboratories after 39 years as a mechanical design engineer. He has enjoyed many cruises and a fabulous trip to Kenya and Tanzania. Now he says he's keeping up with house and yard maintenance, a never-ending task!

David B. Meinhardt '54 and his wife, Erika, enjoy traveling and recently returned home to Palo Alto, Calif., from a five-week trip in Europe, where they went skiing in Switzerland and Bulgaria. David still flies his own airplane, a Grumman-American Tiger. E-mail: davidmeinhardt@sbcglobal.net

Frank L. Wellwerts '61 and his wife, Jeanne, spend their summers in Illinois and their winters in Arizona so Frank can golf and Jeanne can garden and bird watch year-round. They have four children, 11 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild. Their oldest son, Gregory, is a SigEp from the University of Illinois. E-mail: golferfrank@att.net

C. Michael Gillam '77 and his wife, Beverly, moved back to the U.S. after 11 years in Asia and settled in Los Angeles. Michael works on the California high-speed rail project as the deputy program director for Southern California. He is responsible for the planning,

environmental documentation, and preliminary engineering for the project from Bakersfield to San Diego. E-mail: heymikey12@fastmail.fm

Eric L. Rine '90 just passed his 20-year mark as an active duty Marine. Lt. Col. Rine has served as an F/A-18 weapons and sensors officer, graduating from Top Gun and Naval test pilot school, during which time he was deployed to combat zones in Europe and Iraq. He and his wife, Dana, live in Oviedo, Fla. E-mail: rine_el@yahoo.com

J. Matthew Brill '02 and his wife, Erin, were blessed with twin boys, Jay Parker and Chase Alexander, on March 8. Matt reports both boys and mom are doing great. The Brill family resides in Chicago, Ill. E-mail: jbrill2009@kellogg.northwestern.edu

Save the Date

Indiana Alpha Summer Cleaning/Repair Session

July 23 • 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Join us July 23 to assist with chapter house cleaning and repair. All alumni, undergraduates, and parents are welcome. Please contact **Matt Weaver '99** at mweaver@2x4technologies.net or (317) 557-4700 or Mary Williams, Parent's Club president, at zoey97@comcast.net or (317) 823-4618 with any questions.

Alumni Golf Outing

October 21

Mark your calendars to join us for our annual golf outing to be held at 1 p.m. on Friday, October 21, at Ackerman Hills Golf Course at the Birk Boilermaker Golf Complex (1300 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette). To RSVP, please complete and return the form on page 3. For more information, contact **Jay Bilunas '99** at jay@angry-ape.com or (317) 409-6070.

Homecoming

October 21-23

Remember to join your Indiana Alpha brothers for Homecoming celebrations. More information to follow. Please contact **Jay Bilunas '99** at jay@angry-ape.com or (317) 409-6070 with any questions.

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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 tarar@penningtonco.com.

Blast from the Past



Bill "Baldy" Baldauf '50 and Dick "Benny" Gregory '51 in the alley behind the SigEp house.



Leland "Stan" Goldner '52 and DOE in the SigEp front yard.