# FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA ♦ SIGMA PHI EPSILON ♦ SPRING 2024
PURDUESIGEP.ORG



# Indiana Alpha's Bright "New Beginning"

### CELEBRATING CHAPTER HOUSE CAMPAIGN SUCCESS

It is hard to believe we are in year five of our fundraising campaign! The pandemic, inflation, and interest rates extended our renovation timeline and, therefore, the capital campaign. All things must end, however, and on August 31 we will finalize names for the prominently displayed donor plaque at 690 Waldron.

Will your name be on it?

### A GREAT SUCCESS

Many have been working to revitalize and rebuild Indiana Alpha, and no one more than our new brothers. As they moved back into 690 Waldron this fall, they got busy. Our member count is currently at 50, and we expect additions through summer recruiting. Academically, Indiana Alpha earned the top GPA among all Greek chapters. SigEp is active in organizations, in community services, in sports, and socially on the Purdue campus. The chapter received accolades from the Dean of Students for their commitment to the Balanced Man Program and brotherhood. In every respect, SigEp is back!

### RENOVATION UPDATE

Our renovation team (Dave Andrews '79, Ted Hazeldine '65, Scott Swisher '79, Tim Larson '77, and Terry Larson '80) continues to move forward aggressively. The new roof is completed, the new windows are installed, the third-floor renovation is nearly complete, and as the brothers exit for the summer, the second-floor renovation will begin. We are confident the completed renovation will distinguish 690 Waldron on campus!

### **FUNDRAISING CHALLENGES**

We achieved our first level goal of \$1.75 million, but with the challenge of inflation and interest rates, our stretch goal became \$2 million. I am pleased to announce we are currently at \$1.9 million! Thank you to all our donors for their extraordinary support of Indiana Alpha.

Earlier this year, we announced the *Chairmen's Challenge*. Five brothers—Nick Harris '79 (+\$50,000), Scott Swisher '79 (+\$25,000), Ted Hazeldine '65 (+\$15,000), Jim Mosch '80 (\$25,000), and Doug Bowen '93 (+\$10,000)—have increased their already generous gifts to create a \$1 for \$1 matching challenge gift. We would like to thank them for their commitment to Indiana Alpha, as this has been a true catalyst to achieving our fundraising goal.

Concurrently, **Kris Zambo '97** reinitiated the *Mom Nonnie Challenge*, which has raised 50% of its \$50,000 goal. The challenge recognizes Mom Nonnie, housemother from 1992-2001, for her financial and personal contributions to the chapter. Thanks to this effort, we will name the House Director Suite in her honor.

### NAME A ROOM!

Finally, with the renovation now underway, we have completed house plans for a 62-man occupancy. As a result, we have updated the *Naming Rights* program and have defined donation values for various areas of the house. Naming rights are a great opportunity for donors or donor groups to honor a brother or group, commemorate an event, or provide a memorial to a friend.

Brothers, we encourage you to visit **purduesigep.org** today and click on "Capital Campaign." A drop-down menu will provide details on the above programs as well as general campaign information and instructions on how to donate. **In five years we have accomplished so much, but getting to our goal (or exceeding our goal!) will ensure the legacy of SigEp at Purdue and our legacy as brothers of Indiana Alpha.** 

Fraternally,

Jim Mosch '80

Campaign Co-Chairman moschig@gmail.com

FINAL CHANCE! On August 31, we will finalize the donor plaque and the campaign will end. We'll hope you'll stick with us as we cross the finish line!

Will you see your name on the plaque during your next visit to the chapter house? If not, consider making a gift today! Scan the QR code to visit purduesigep.org and make your mark on Indiana Alpha.



GIVE NOW! UPDATE MY INFO AT Mysigep.org!



# THE CAMPAIGN FOR INDIANA ALPHA —

# A New Beginning

# THANK YOU, CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTORS

Add Your Name Before It's Too Late

hank you to the following donors who have given to *The Campaign* for Indiana Alpha—A New Beginning. All donors making gifts of \$2,500 or more to this campaign will be recognized on a permanently displayed plaque in the renovated chapter house.

If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator at alehr@penningtonco.com. Thank you!

### Indiana Alpha Circle (\$100,000 and above)

Bequest from John R. Grayson '46 Hal Shevers '57 Norman E. Nabhan '71 Nick D. Harris '79 James G. Mosch '80 Doug Bowen '93

### 690 Waldron Society (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Anonymous Scott R. Swisher '79 Michael G. Ellis '84 Mark A. Napier '92

### 1905 League (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Anonymous Carl R. Willis '61 James H. Muehlbauer '63 Edward T. Hazledine '65 Walter L. Brant '71 William J. Wallace '79 Dwight Denham '82 Michael A. Seldowitz '86

**Phoenix Guild** (\$10,000 to \$24,999) Roger G. Blocks '62 E. Dana Smith '66 Kenneth K. Wolff '68 John L. Fox '71 David T. Strother '71 In memory of Rick Ekstrom '72, Jim Suchomel '72, Doug Molls '73, and Ted Tedesco '73 Patrick Gantert '72 Douglas M. Nabhan '77 In honor of Norm Nabhan '71 David M. Andrews '79 George B. White '79 Ross A. Richards '80 Fred H. Beckman '82 Gregory M. Hague '82 John P. Neary '82 James P. Quinn '83 David E. Duba '84 Edward W. Heathorn '87 David E. Hetrick '90 In memory of Olav Jon "Shooter" Espenes John A. Rittenhouse '93\* Brian R. Rodell '98

### Red Door Club (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Renee Atkinson In memory of Jeff Atkinson '63 Nancy Friedersdorf, Ph.D.

Ruth C. Skillman In memory of Jack V. Skillman '48 John F. Derr '58 Donald M. Mitchell '58 Sanford v. H. Olson '59 Gerald L. Young '59 Richard R. Mitchell '60 Gregor D. Edwards '66 John K. Oelslager '66 Richard A. Peacock '66 John R. Treat '66 In memory of Craig A. Beam '66 and John D. Popovich '66 Gary L. Evans '67 James S. Keller '69 Kenneth D. MacLean '70 James H. Ham III '72 Edward G. Gehlhausen '74 Thomas E. Everly '75 In memory of G & O Daryl R. Martz '76 Gary L. Kotterman '78 Lloyd "Mac" McGlincy '78 David R. Ehler '79 James M. Keefe '79 George F. Plesac '79 Christopher D. Kelly '80 Kevin J. Spurlock '80 In honor of the Fall '76 Pledge Class Gregory A. Hartman '81 In memory of Steve Grate '80, Bret Harrison '80, and Bill Mullins '81 Scott M. McCain '82 Richard C. Schroeder '82 Glade T. Montgomery '83 Martin P. Weissburg '84 Tim Dickson '86 Beau Graham '88 Robert E. Pritchard '89 Mark S. Meyer '93 Keith A. Rintamaa '93 James M. Anderson '95 Jack N. Donohew '95 Matthew D. Bennett '00

### **Founders Club**

Benjamin R. Miller '01

Jacob G. Plesac '12

(\$2,500 to \$4,999) John C. Miller '58 John R. Schiffer '61 Lawrence K. Volland '63 G. Scott Dixon '64 Thomas W. Wolff '65 Steven D. Derrick '66 Fred C. Lash '66 Gregory L. Rinehart '68 Wendell D. Schultz '68 David A. Sappenfield '69 John R. Fields '72 In memory of Carl A. Carr '72 Herbert K. Streich '73 Todd W. B. Gehr '76 Kevin R. Smith '77 Mark R. Easley '78 In memory of Stephen Easley '74 Steven E. Wilson '78 Thomas R. Orton '79 Timothy J. Kelly '80 Steve Morgan '81 Michael L. Sheward '81 In memory of Steve Grate '80. Bret Harrison '80, and Bill Mullins '81 William D. Farrar '82 In memory of Clayton "Bud" Farrar '54 James D. Farley '86 In memory of Thomas C. Nelson '86 David J. St. Claire '85 David S. Griffith '88 In memory of Lt. Col R. F. Brereton '89 Shane K. Platt '90 Eric D. Dodd '91 Chad B. Ciesil '93 Kristopher D. Zambo '97\* J. Matthew Brill '02 Grant R. Lohse '02 Wade H. Miller '02 Dustin R. Longest '04 Andrew M. Dec '05

#### **Brotherhood Club** (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Anonymous Nonnie Owens, House Mom 1992-2001 **Bradford Taylor** In memory of David G. Guinnup '75 Steven Wong William R. Redlich '42 Theodore J. Lanham '49 Raymond G. Keller '57 William V. Dohr '59 David S. McMichael '59 Richard F. Trowbridge '59 Robert F. Kroeger '60 Bill M. Reid '60 Robert T. Thorson '61 Robert H. Sheridan '62 Kenneth A. Campbell '64 Robert L. Flint '64 David D. Schoeff '64 Byron H. White '64 Andrew R. Ceperlev '65 John Park Hunter '66 Gilbert J. Frey '66

Lawrence B. Heitz '66

Kenneth G. Miller '66 Michael A. Burdick '67 Richard T. Friestadt '67 Jack Kacsur '67\* Logan F. Wernz '67 Michael A. Gilbert '68 Steve R. Simmons '68 August G. Voelkel '68 Jeffrey V. Conopask '69 C. Kelley Davidson '69 Louis B. Astbury '72 Donovan A. Langford III '72 Keith D. Baker '75 Dale J. Giolas '75 Jerrold L. Ulrey '75 Anthony P. Bowman '78 Warren W. Browning '78 Kerry A. Prielipp '79 John R. Esgate '80 Albert P. D'Andrea '81 John W. Mac Gregor '82 Barry L. Olson '82 J.D. Landgrebe '84 Peter N. Peregrine '84 In memory of Christopher R. Peregrine '82 Scott L. Uebele '85 Thomas P. Andrews '86 William J. Needham '86

Scott L. Doelling '87 William M. Brunette '90 Gregory E. Schiffli '91 Douglas M. Melton '97 Zachary R. Neff '98 Craig S. Lill '02 Michael K. Phillips '02\* Patrick K. Crawford '03 Paul J. Feldmann '07

### Donor (Up to \$999)

The Hoke Family Robert M. Skallerup Jr. In memory of Robert M. Skallerup '42 Raymond S. Stephens '49 Stephen R. Long '55 Jean C. Evans '56 David S. Ehrman '59 Frank L. Wellwerts '61 Donald G. Hoffman '62 Larry R. Horton '62 In memory of George A. Horton '64 Roger W. Wheatley '62 Frederick W. Forward '65 John L. Knochel '65 In memory of James Geisel '64 Thomas H. Bryan '66 Daniel J. Carrithers '68 Charles R. Deible '68 Roger H. Day '69 Patrick J. Woodring '69

Stephen J. Zimmerly '69

William T. Rice '70 J. Michael Volpp, DVM '70 David Woods '71 Wayne R. Frazier '72 Larry M. Champion '73 David New '73 Mark W. Haberstroh '75 Brian D. Crum '76 Paul J. Mathison '81 Bret T. Rush '82 Art M. Weisman '82 Jeffrey D. Redman '83 Kevin S. Beck '85 Scott A. Brunton '85 Bradley S. Vice '85 Troy J. Chapman '91 In memory of Annette Bauer Warren S. Randolph '92 Kurt S. Schmiegel '92 Aram J. Pehlivanian '96 Ryan R. Gilbert '97 Andrius J. Galinis, M.D. '98 J. Greg Kelley '01 Matthew J. Zaremba '01 Robert R. Vrabel '06

\*Participant in Mom Nonnie Challenge





# UNEQUIVOCAL SUCCESS

### Undergraduates Exceed All Expectations for Fall Semester

Indiana Alpha Chapter has continued to demonstrate our commitment to building Balanced Men. Undergraduates achieved the secondhighest semester GPA and maintained the highest cumulative GPA amongst all fraternities on campus. This feat shows the diligence of the chapter and the effectiveness of our Learning Community initiatives.

Beyond success in the classroom, members also found success in the professional realm, as brothers secured internships at prestigious companies such as JP Morgan, Northrup Grumman, and more. Such accomplishments allow Indiana Chapter to build a culture of success, which will surely continue in the semesters to come.

This semester included our formal and a joint philanthropy with Phi Rho sorority, which raised more than \$500 for Big Brothers Big Sisters of America. These events bolstered the Chapter's reputation on campus, further reaffirming SigEp's return to Purdue. By way of members-only events, the Chapter hosted weekly self-development workshops, a ski trip, and other programming offerings during the year. This strong calendar of events ensured brothers reaped valuable experiences from their time with SigEp!

One of the biggest areas of targeted growth this semester was the chapter's campus presence and relationships with the Interfraternity Council. This turned out to be an extraordinary triumph, as the chapter was nominated by IFC for the Chapter of the Year award. Only five fraternities were nominated for the award, so it was an immense honor for Indiana Alpha to be considered among that echelon. This nomination shows our youngest brothers are on the right track and are dedicated to being a strong, positive influence in the community. Next semester, Indiana Alpha is primed to continue and bolster its brotherhood of Balanced Men.

Fraternally, Alexander Derbyshire '25 President



Brothers escort their chosen guests to a formal dinner provided by the chapter.



Our GPA champions enjoy the fruit of their labor at the Academic Draft Dinner. Pictured: Mark Monie '27, Jack Slater '26, Anthony Mendoza '26, Colvin Timmons '26, Pranav Singh '25, Jack Willard '26, and Josh Mansky '26.



Brothers enjoy a ski trip at Bittersweet Mountain in Michigan. Attendees spent the night in an Airbnb together and skied the following day.

# IRTUE, DILIGENCE AND BROTHERLY LOVE

Members of the executive board represent the chapter at Carlson Leadership Academy. Pictured: Alexander Derbyshire '25, Colvin Timmons '26, Anthony Mendoza '26, Jack Slater '26, and Josh Mansky '26.

# CHAPTER OFFICERS

Alexander Derbyshire '25

VP of Operations/Recruitment Chairman Joshua Mansky '26 jmansky@purdue.edu

VP of Finance Aadit Kumar '27

VP of Programming Parker Smith '26

VP of Balanced Man Scholarship **Colvin Timmons '26** 

VP of Member Development **Jordan Hindes '26** 

VP of Learning Community Anthony Mendoza '26

VP of Communications Jack Slater '26

Chaplain JJ Herro '27

# A Leaf Pile Perfect for **Jumping**

### INDIANA ALPHA 60TH REUNION RECAP

Valking north on Waldron on Homecoming Day in October, the piles of leaves reminded me of the fun of childhood. I recalled memories of raking leaves with my kids and planting trees for my grandkids as I looked up at the stairs of 690 Waldron, wondering whether it had changed much. I certainly had.

A winter theme party came to mind as I noted the big, stately oak that once stood to the right of the stairs was now gone. It served as the base for a 'chair lift' that ran to the cold dorm and dropped couples off on the balcony. There, a sheet metal slide wound its way to the basement where a dance and party ensued. Well-engineered fun for all! Hail, Caesar (a.k.a. Jim).

Homecoming 2023 was a special one. My roommate, Ben Blood '62, along with his son, Ben, and caregiver, Anita, made the trip from Florida. Scot Dixon '64 traveled from California, while Bob Sheridan '62 and Carolyn came from the east coast. We, like the leaves, had once scattered, but now formed a nice pile perfect for having fun in. We exceeded my expectations, as more than 30 brothers and spouses gathered.

Pleased is too small a word to describe how we feel about our pledge class and those a few years our junior. They are proving again that grades are worth the effort. The vast majority of our fold made it to the finish line, and we appear to have left a positive mark on our scorecards. I'm hoping we can do a follow-up with equal vigor this fall. Raking takes effort; I'm excited to see you join the pile at 690.

Sincerely yours in brotherhood, Roger G. Blocks '62

### Indiana Alpha Takes Phoenix, Arizona 2024 BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL

urdue reached the NCAA basketball final for the first time in 55 years! Indiana Alpha represented well at this exciting event, as nine brothers, along with wives, family members, and friends, gathered at the Wicked Wolf to support the Boilers before the big game. We came from different locations, including Hawaii, Iowa, Chicago, North Carolina, and of course, Indiana.

While the outcome didn't go our way, the event was a "once-in-a-lifetime" occurrence, and everyone enjoyed seeing each other again. This gathering proves that bonds created at 690 Waldron, even 44+ years ago, will endure for a lifetime!

Boiler Up! Chris Kelly '80 Indiana Alpha Alumni Relations Director







# WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS -

**Brandon Chang '26** San Ramon, Calif.

Zachary Ehmann '27 North Granby, Conn.

Maximous Masih '27 Sparta, N.J.

Shiven Rao '27 West Lafayette, Ind. **Andrew Sippel '27** Schererville, Ind.

**Connor Stone '27** San Jose, Calif.



# ALUMNI NEWS

Frank L. Wellwerts '61 shares, "My wife and I enjoy living in Sun Lakes, an over 55 community in Chandler, Ariz. We stay very active between walking, the gym, golf, and swimming. We just had our first great grandchild and are expecting our second in September 2023. By the way, I was one of the original co-op engineering students sponsored by the U.S. Navy (civil service)." Email: golferfrank80@gmail.com

Roger G. Blocks '62 lives in Three Lakes, Wis., and teaches aerospace topics to Air Force AOX cadets, CAP, pilots, civic, and air control. He's given 534 kids their first flights. Email: rgblocks@icloud.com

Robert J. Gumaer '64 moved back to Walnut Creek, Calif., after the loss of his wife, Paula, to breast cancer. "In 2022, I had an opportunity to teach computer science at a high school in Georgia, so I had to learn JavaScript, having not programmed since learning COBOL at Purdue in 1962. Tough!" Email: bob.gumaer@gmail.com

Gary N. Bolen '65 moved from Nashville and now resides with his wife, Julie, in Port Charlotte, Fla. "We keep ourselves active doing ballroom dancing three nights per week and cruising on our boat, 'Blue Tango,' in Charlotte Harbor. I enjoy playing trombone in three bands during winter season. Julie and I love to travel through Europe over the summer months." Email: bolen.gary@yahoo.com

Fred "Flash" Lash '66 uses his military background and years of public relations experience to assist many military-related associations with

their communication needs. He is also the PR director for The Little Theatere of Alexandria, a job that keeps him closely connected to his true calling, community theater. He lives in Springfield, Va. Email: fredanddonnalash@verizon.net

Larry D. Morelock '71 retired from the Air Force and American Airlines and volunteers at Vets Helping Vets Anderson and Wild Hearts Equine Therapy. He and his wife have been married for over 50 years and live in Seneca, S.C. Email: kctoad135@gmail.com

Larry M. Champion '73 shares, "I am a semi-retired attorney in Klein, Texas, with my own law practice. I remain close with brothers Dennis Schultz '68 and Greg Rinehart '68. We are in different states and try to get together at least once yearly." Email: lchampion@sbcglobal.net

C. Michael Gillam '77 and his wife, Beverly, sold their longtime Orlando, Fla., home and moved to Franklin, Tenn., where they own a second home. They love traveling to visit their four kids and eight grandchildren in four states. Email: michaelgillam55@gmail.com

Randy C. Lewis '80 recently retired and bought a ranch in West Chazy, N.Y. "Working harder than ever and loving every minute of it!" Email: rclewis213@gmail.com

Todd A. Anderson '93 is entering a new stage of life as an empty nester and grandfather in Brownsburg, Ind. "My last two graduated high school in 2023. One will be attending Purdue and the other will be at Vincennes." Email: pegis99@gmail.com

Samuel Siwy '22 recently relocated to Indianapolis for the final year of clinicals. "My intention is to work in the city throughout this year while actively seeking post-graduation opportunities in the pharmaceutical industry. Apart my studies, I explore Indy!" Email: siwy.samuel@gmail.com

Billy Mathias '78

Lloyd McGlincy '78

Madison, Wis.

Carmel, Ind. Tom Shaw

### Brotherhood Is Its Own Reward

### LITTLE KINGS OPEN RECAP

Brothers from all over the country converged on West Lafayette recently to "compete" in the 40th (or so) Little Kings Open, an event that began in 1979. The late David Guinnup '75 and William "Billy" Mathias '78 conceived the idea upon discovering that seven-ounce bottles of Little Kings Cream Ale fit nicely in a golf bag without drawing the attention of the golf starter. It was also a great excuse for an annual reunion to enjoy the fellowship that began in the Ep Lodge.

Since then, the tournament has moved to locations around the country, including Arizona, Florida, North Carolina, and Milwaukee, with occasional visits to Purdue. This year, the brothers made the half-hour drive south to Harrison Hills Country Club in Attica, Indiana, to wage the battle for the highly coveted crown and scepter prize.

Sadly, the crown and scepter have been lost; we now earn participation points that are rewarded in the form of good times and memories that began many years ago. Some of the brothers stayed for Homecoming and the historic reopening of the SigEp house. Everyone was gratified by seeing the Sigma Phi Epsilon heart restored to its rightful location on the front of the house, beckoning us toward the red door and another era of brotherhood for generations to come.

Participating golfers included:

Dean Behnke '77 Owensboro, Ky.

Gary Kotterman '78

Columbus, Ind.

Don Landwirth '79 Redwood City, Calif.

Avid spectators included:

Mike Downham '75 Indianapolis, Ind.

Mark Easley '78 and Marita Cary, N.C.

Tom Everly '75 Cary, N.C.

Cottonwood, Ariz.

Dale Giolas '75 Chicago, Ill.

Steve Lapp '75 Indianapolis, Ind. **Dexter Skidmore '78** 

and Debbie Mt. Pleasant, S.C.

Craig Wallace '75 Sheridan, Ind.

Charlie Workman '75 Pittsboro, Ind.



# The Campaign for Indiana Alpha— A New Beginning

# is coming to a close August 31.

ook inside for where our campaign stands (there's still time to get your name on the plaque and help us reach our challenge and fundraising goals).

Also in this issue is a glimpse at how our brothers are back and better than ever on Purdue's campus and recaps of recent alumni events.

Don't wait—check it out now!

# **Campaign Status**

As of May 13, 2024

# FROM THE HEART

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF INDIANA ALPHA • SIGMA PHI EPSILON



PRSRT STD U.S. POSTAGE PAID MAILED FROM ZIP CODE 66044

### Sigma Phi Epsilon-Indiana Alpha **Purdue University**

P.O. Box 442100 Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

Address Service Requested

# at a Glance

Stretch Goal: \$2 Million

Total Commitments: \$1.9 Million

Total Contributors: 211

Do you need to update or confirm your contact information? Visit mysigep.org!



# DO IT FOR MOM NONNIE!

### FUNDRAISING CHALLENGE UPDATE

arlier this spring, all brothers from the "Mom Nonnie era" have received a letter from me encouraging a donation to the Mom Nonnie Challenge. To honor Mom Nonnie's commitment to and impact on the chapter, we created a challenge gift with the goal to raise \$50,000 in generous donations to renovate and designate the House Directors Suite in her honor. Not only is this a well-deserved tribute to Mom Nonnie and her Indiana Alpha legacy, but it's also a final push in our effort to close the gap and meet the chapter's \$2 million fundraising goal!

Mom Nonnie has great memories of her time at the house and even greater memories of her time spent with all of us. When she heard about the fundraising campaign, she was so moved and motivated that she donated \$2,000. She has also made two recent visits to speak to the new brotherhood! Those interactions had a similar impact to the one she always had while living in the house. Nonnie's efforts have been remarkable and, we hope, a great example for the 1,000+ of our alumni brothers yet to give. Please consider making Nonnie proud with your donation today!

I want to emphasize that the Mom Nonnie Challenge is a great investment in the continued momentum of the efforts of so many at 690 Waldron. As you read through this newsletter, you will see that in every aspect, including academics, campus involvement, recruiting, fundraising, and renovations, we are meeting and exceeding our objectives. We want this initiative to have similar success!

So where are we in this challenge? I am pleased to announce that since our outreach. we are currently at 50% of the \$50,000 goal. However, time is of the essence in our efforts to raise another \$25,000—the campaign closes on August 31! On behalf of our great Indiana Alpha Chapter, thank you for your consideration as we seek to achieve this meaningful milestone.

Kris Zambo '97 kris.zambo@veolia.com (773) 343-9493

If you need further motivation, please scan the QR code to view a personal message from Mom Nonnie!



