

# SAGA

SIGMA TAU GAMMA FRATERNITY



VOL. 101 | ISSUE 1



BUILDING **NOBLE GENERATIONS** OF MEN SINCE 1920

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keeping the spirit of the Centennial celebration.

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**ON THE COVER**  
*The cover depicts our year of ZOOM during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Designed by Jeremy Harrington, Central Missouri.*

**WHO RECEIVES THE SAGA?**  
*Upon initiation, each member is guaranteed a lifetime subscription to the SAGA Magazine. That commitment by Sigma Tau Gamma remains, though, for several reasons some may no longer receive a copy. If you would like to specify that you receive a printed version of the next issue of the SAGA Magazine, please contact headquarters at 317-644-1920, or at [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org).*

**HOW DOES ONE GET PUBLISHED?**  
*Content submissions for the magazine are always encouraged. While space constraints naturally make it difficult for the editorial staff to include every idea presented, a fair evaluation process is exercised to publish the greatest variety of chapters, generations, geographical regions, events, and unique member achievements and stories. Pictures should be submitted in high resolution at [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org).*



## EDITOR'S NOTE

**GREG W. WARD, ALABAMA**  
Director of Communications  
& SAGA Magazine Editor

We knew year 100 would look different, but we never anticipated our Centennial year would look like it has. I remember visiting Kansas City two years ago, discussing branding ideas, putting initial plans together for what audio and visual options would look like, and being a part of the team to plan a few once-in-a-lifetime moments for brothers to experience in June of 2020.

### THAT MOMENT WAS SUPPOSED TO BE THE KICKOFF TO ONE OF THE MOST REMARKABLE YEARS OF SIGMA TAU GAMMA'S HISTORY.

Instead, Zoom has been our best friend, and every brother has felt the impact of COVID-19. This year, Sig Tau has faced challenges at every level – locally, regionally, and nationally.

While the current challenges feel daunting, we are no stranger to facing adversity. If we look back to our Founding, that was a challenge in itself. Having men from all aspects of life come together to find comradery in brotherhood on a campus where literary societies dominated, and there was no such thing as a “Fraternity” at Central Missouri State Teachers College – that was a challenge. Deciding to expand and create a “national fraternity” and having the first national conclave in 1925 was a challenge.

Sigma Tau Gamma was less than a decade old when the Great Depression hit, forcing two chapters (Lambda and Gamma) to close before really getting started. There were no national meetings of any kind from 1932 – 1933, with Grand Conclave not being held for five years (1930-1935).

We felt a strain during World War II. It was reported in 1942 that over half of the undergraduate brothers were in the service. Once again, national meetings were canceled, with the 1946 Grand Conclave titled the “Victory Conclave” to celebrate the end of World War II and ending three years of no national conferences.

Trial after trial, we have endured. We are the noble men of Sig Tau, and we must endeavor forward. We must endeavor forward for those who have come before us, those who worked tirelessly to keep the chapter afloat, those who spent countless nights crunching numbers to ensure financially sound operations, and those dreaming about what the future could hold.

Brothers, future generations depend on our actions and how we carry ourselves in this season, and we must do everything we can so that your son, or even grandson, can sign their bid and be counted as a noble man of Sigma Tau Gamma!

# ENDEAVOR FORWARD.

# SAGA

Founded as The Signet of Sigma Tau Gamma in April 1925, by Grand Editor Ellsworth C. Dent, Emporia State in Lawrence, Kansas.

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[Sigtau.org](http://Sigtau.org)

    /sigmataugamma

Archive issues of the SAGA Magazine of Sigma Tau Gamma are available in electronic form at [sigtau.org](http://sigtau.org)





# NATIONAL NEWS

## TOP SIG TAU HIGHLIGHTS

1

### MCCUNE ANNUAL REPORT TRANSITIONS TO CHAPTER STANDARDS

The Fraternity's first annual report, the McCune, was created in 1966 and provided a standard for achievement and recognition for Sigma Tau Gamma's chapters. For years, the McCune Annual Report served as Sig Tau's way of collecting information to better tell the Fraternity's story and determine areas of excellence and areas of need for chapters.

This past academic year, the McCune Annual Report transitioned to the Chapter Standards Report. This updated evaluation method used the best of the McCune Annual Report and paired it with metrics needed today to analyze a chapter's health.

The Chapter Standards allows chapters to focus on 18 key operational objectives in seven functional areas instead of over 70 objectives that were not pertinent to chapter operations. The new standards act as a road map to support the ideals and goals of chapters and incorporate the Principles set by our Fraternity: Learning, Integrity, Excellence, Leadership, Citizenship, and Brotherhood.

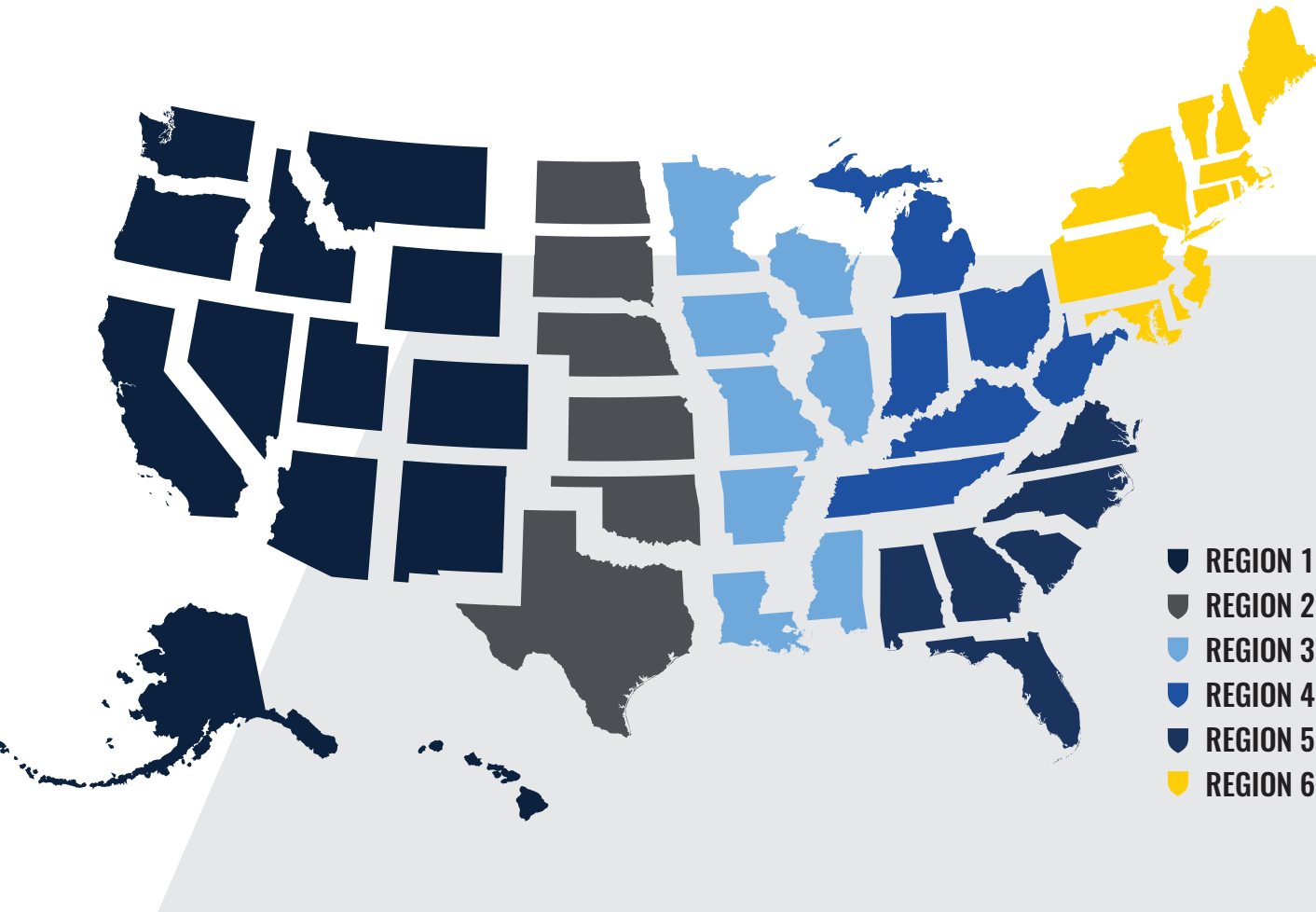
2

### REGIONAL STRUCTURE ANNOUNCED

This spring, a new regional structure was unveiled to enhance the brotherhood experience and create an additional layer of support for undergraduate chapters. The new design will support chapters and local advisors and allows for new opportunities to engage alumni across the country who may have taken some time away from the Fraternity. The composition of each regional volunteer team is as follows:

- Regional Director
- Regional Diversity & Inclusion Officer
- Regional Foundation Officer
- Regional Chapter Coach (one coach per five chapters)

The structure consists of six (6) regions and has been aligned based on geography. As the organization grows and expands to new campuses, regions will be reviewed and realigned as needed. Regional structure positions continue to be filled, with officer training through the summer. The new regional structure will be fully operational by this fall.



3

### #GIVINGTUESDAY SUCCESS

Two nonprofit organizations created #GivingTuesday to respond to the consumer craze of Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, and Cyber Monday. #GivingTuesday focuses on philanthropic and charitable organizations, and after almost a decade, it has grown to a worldwide day of giving. In 2020, the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation partnered with CrowdChange and raised \$31,406 from 76 donors in a single day of giving. The generosity of so many created the opportunity for 77 additional scholarships for undergraduate brothers.

4

### CHAPTERS FOUND DURING ARCHIVE PROCESS

Through the continued process of organizing 100 years of Sigma Tau Gamma history, closed chapters and colonies were found that Headquarters had no modern records for. In total, 16 chapters were found that never received their charter. The process of recognizing a chapter has changed throughout our history, and brothers who proudly wore Sigma Tau Gamma's letters on campus deserve their place in history. With the addition of these lost chapters, Sig Tau has now been on 197 campuses. Although the chapters listed below are inactive, they will forever be a part of the history of Sigma Tau Gamma. If you were a part of any of these newfound chapters or know brothers who are, please contact Headquarters at [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org).

Eta Xi – St. John's University

Eta Omicron – Southern Oregon University

Eta Pi – Wright State University

Eta Rho – Florida State University

Eta Sigma – University of Florida

Eta Tau – West Virginia State University

Eta Upsilon – Francis Marion University

Eta Phi – Averett University

Eta Chi – Boise State University

Eta Psi – Eastern Oregon University

Eta Omega – Northern State University

Theta Alpha – Southern Utah University

Theta Beta – Eastern Washington University

Theta Gamma – University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

Theta Delta – Texas A&M University

Theta Epsilon – Creighton University

5

### ELLIOT BECK, ARIZONA RECOGNIZED AS NIC AWARD OF DISTINCTION RECIPIENT

Revered as one of the most prestigious undergraduate awards in the Greek community, Brother Elliot Beck from the Zeta Pi Chapter at the University of Arizona was named a 2020 NIC Undergraduate Award of Distinction. This award honors an undergraduate fraternity man whose leadership has shaped the future of their organization, their peers, and the campus community; models and teaches ethical servant leadership and elevates their fraternity principles and is deeply committed to the advancement of the fraternal experience.

6

### PARTNERSHIP WITH CROWDCHANGE SEES SUCCESS

A partner of Sigma Tau Gamma since 2017, CrowdChange has helped chapters raise over \$84,000 dollars for Special Olympics. CrowdChange is a virtual fundraising platform that will help you host virtual events and online fundraisers. In 2020, the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation began hosting national fundraising efforts on CrowdChange. Since the transition of hosting national campaigns on CrowdChange, the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation has met and exceeded every fundraising goal to date. Not only has the Foundation seen success, but chapters have been highly successful. With CrowdChange, chapters see an average increase of 235% of what they raised the previous year for similar or identical events, not on CrowdChange.

7

### CHAPTERS APPROVED TO CHARTER

Few things are as monumental as the chartering of a chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma. Whether it be a chapter returning to campus or an entirely new group of men, the road to chartering is often as challenging as it is rewarding.

Upon completing an expansion project, Headquarters staff leaves the new associate chapter with trained executive cabinet officers to lead the charge forward. With ongoing support, coaching, and advisement, the associate chapter works to complete various tasks, known as chartering benchmarks. Focusing on their academics, finances, recruitment, service and philanthropy events, brotherhood-building, and other operational benchmarks, the associate chapter grows and develops, all the while they prepare their chartering petition for the Board of Directors.

The chartering petition summarizes the associate chapter's progress and history and is submitted to the Fraternity Board of Directors when the associate chapter has completed each chartering benchmark.

Scheduled for fall 2021, the Fraternity Board of Directors has approved the chartering petitions for the *Zeta Psi Chapter at Colorado*, the *Delta Psi Chapter at Robert Morris*, and the *Zeta Chapter at Northeastern State*. Congratulations to these deserving brothers for their hard work and accomplishments!

### ARCHIVES EXCITEMENT

Pictured: Undergraduates viewing historic archives at Sig Tau Headquarters





2025 STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED

This year marks Sigma Tau Gamma’s centennial anniversary and a year for the organization to endeavor toward new goals. During the 2020 – 2021 academic year, the Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity Board of Directors approved the 2025 Strategic Plan. This plan encompasses seven focus areas of growth, alumni and parent engagement, membership development, member safety & wellness, operations, Foundation, and WPN Housing Company.

The Purpose of Sigma Tau Gamma is to be a Fraternity of Courageous and Noble Gentlemen who Always Endeavor Forward, and the Vision is building noble generations of men. Focusing on these specific areas will allow us to fulfill our vision and purpose and enhance the experience for anyone who calls themselves a brother of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity. Listed below are just a few highlighted objectives Sigma Tau Gamma will be striving to achieve over the next five years. For the complete 2025 Strategic Plan, please visit sigtau.org.

- *Expand fraternity membership by achieving an average undergraduate size of at least 35 members.*
- *Provide access to each chapter and associate chapter of recruitment resources designed to support our purpose and contribute toward reaching our vision.*
- *Expand and implement efforts to recruit alumni for volunteer positions and increased involvement at organization-sponsored events.*
- *Create a digital, holistic member-development program to be utilized by all chapters and associate chapters.*
- *Achieve zero incidences of hazing violations annually.*
- *Achieve zero incidences of violations of university policies related to alcohol and chapter activities annually.*
- *Achieve collection rate of at least 95% of current year chapter debt.*
- *Grant funds to support Fraternity staff responsible for education and wellness and professional development opportunities.*
- *Fully fund all Noble Man Institute sites and all eligible expenses for the Earl A. Webb Academy of Principled Leaders, Endeavor Conference, and Grand Conclave.*
- *Create a WPN expansion plan based on Fraternity expansion and support of current chapters.*

COMMUNICATIONS AWARD NAMESAKE TRANSITIONS TO HONOR BERNIER FAMILY LEGACY

Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters is excited to announce the namesake of the national communication award is evolving. The E. Kennedy Whitesitt Communication Award, beginning in 2021, will now be the Bernier Family Communication Award.

The Bernier family has cemented a legacy that will forever have an impact on Sig Tau.

Robert “Bob” Bernier, Kent State, was a Refounding Father of the Iota Chapter at Kent State University in 1970 and served as Iota Chapter President. Upon graduation, he joined the Fraternity Staff as Assistant Executive Director and served in this role for two years. Bob also served as the Volunteer Editor of the SAGA Magazine from 1973 - 1984. During this time, he became the first member of Sigma Tau Gamma to lead an inter-fraternal organization when he was elected President of the College Fraternity Editors Association in 1980. Bob was the 1976 recipient of the Winebrenner Distinguished Fraternity Service Award, served on the Foundation Board of Trustees, and was inducted into the Society of the Seventeen in 2002.

William “Bill” Bernier, Kent State, was also initiated in 1970 into the Iota Chapter at Kent State and attended his first national conference that same year. Three short years later, in 1973, Bill was named Executive Director (now Chief Executive Officer) of Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity and Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation and faithfully served in that position for 42 years. Retiring as Sig Tau’s fifth Chief Executive Officer in 2014, 51 new chapters were installed during his tenure, and 35,000 new brothers were initiated.

He is a past president of the Fraternity Executives Association, recipient of the Marvin Millsap Distinguished Foundation Service Medal in 1982, recipient of the Winebrenner Distinguished Fraternity Service Award in 1994 and was inducted into the Society of the Seventeen in 1995. He was also recognized by the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) with the NIC Gold Medal.

“We feel privileged to have our name connected to the fraternity communications award,” Bill said. “We know from our labors that success in communications is the result of skill and hard work by dedicated brothers who care about the success of Sig Tau. It is our honor to be connected to an award that recognizes their efforts.”

Since its inception in 1966 at the 22nd Grand Conclave in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the communication award has been consistently given to chapters. In its inaugural year, the Beta Chapter at Truman State received the E.K. Whitesitt Chapter Newsletter Award. Then, the award recognized the best chapter newsletter. Today, the Bernier Family Communication Award recognizes chapters with the most impressive communication strategy, including using the Sig Tau brand and utilizing printed materials and social media pages to positively tell their chapter’s story to the community at large.

SUMMER 2020 AWARDS RECAP

While Grand Conclave Kansas City was postponed until 2022, noble and deserving brothers still received high praise and recognition with the annual awards presentation. The awards were announced throughout June, with the final award recipients unveiled on Founders Day.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

**Ellsworth C. Dent “Man of the Year”**  
Paul J. Hawron, Henderson State

**Noble Man Hall of Fame**  
Andrey Archer, Central Arkansas  
Elliot Beck, Arizona  
Seth Boschert, Lindenwood – Belleville  
Dallas Butler, Cincinnati  
Jarrett Brown, Robert Morris  
Pablo Coria, UNC Charlotte  
Lukas Dietzen, Carroll  
Paul Hawron, Henderson State  
Rom Profesorsky, UNC Charlotte  
Aaron Ward, Henderson State

**Principle of Learning Award**  
Zach W. Hanson, UW – La Crosse

**Principle of Integrity Award**  
Caleb T. Liles, Northwest Missouri

**Principle of Excellence Award**  
Nicholas A. Gangwer, Alabama

**Principle of Leadership Award**  
Thomas N. Torres, Emporia State

**Principle of Citizenship Award**  
Brian G. Winkelmann, William Woods

**Principle of Brotherhood Award**  
Matthew C. Abel, UNC Charlotte

**National White Rose**  
Stormy Stacks, Central Arkansas

**Distinguished Interfraternal Leadership Award**  
Laura Bates, Director of the Student Union and Campus Activities

**Professor O.F. Grubbs Advisor of the Year Award**  
Michael E. Matznick, Illinois State

**Stan Musial and Eric Hillman Sportsmanship Award**  
Matthew J. Quint, Carroll

**Michael J. Steinbeck Graduate Fellowship**  
Dean A. Anderson, Purdue

**Ted and Theresa Priem Undergraduate Scholarship**  
Ryan T. Jobman, Alabama

**Distinguished Alumnus Award**  
Frederick P. McKenna Jr., UNC Greensboro

**Young Distinguished Alumnus Award**  
Michael S. McCarty, Florida Tech.

**Marvin Millsap Distinguished Foundation Service Medal**  
Paul S. Motin, Winona State

**Winebrenner Distinguished Fraternity Service Award**  
W.P. “Buz” Barlow Jr., JD, UW – Oshkosh

CHAPTER AWARDS

**Earl A. Webb Most Improved Chapter Award**  
Black Hills State University, Small IFC Community

Stephen F. Austin State University, Medium IFC Community

Pennsylvania State University, Large IFC Community

**Dr. Emmett Ellis Chapter Scholarship Award**  
Carroll University, Small IFC Community

Northwest Missouri State University, Medium IFC Community

University of Colorado Boulder, Large IFC Community

**W.T. Bill Hembree Campus Leadership Award**  
Emporia State University, Small IFC Community

University of Central Missouri, Medium IFC Community

Michigan State University, Large IFC Community

**E. Kennedy Whitesitt Communication Award**  
Youngstown State University, Small IFC Community

Michigan Technological University, Medium IFC Community

Kansas State University, Large IFC Community

**Thomas M. Hutsell Chapter Efficiency Award**  
Salisbury University, Small IFC Community

University of Arizona, Medium IFC Community

University of Colorado Boulder, Large IFC Community

**J. Gregory Rumpf Recruitment & Growth Award**  
Carroll University, Small IFC Community

University of Wisconsin – Whitewater, Medium IFC Community

Arizona State University, Large IFC Community

**Robert N. Jones Charitable Projects Award**  
Emporia State University, Small IFC Community

University of North Carolina at Charlotte, Medium IFC Community

Kansas State University, Large IFC Community

**Michael Schermer & Doug Lichtenberger Foundation Advocate Award**  
Robert Morris University, Small IFC Community

Henderson State University, Medium IFC Community

University of Kansas, Large IFC Community

**Edward H. McCune Distinguished Chapter Award**  
Carroll University, Small IFC Community

Michigan Technological University, Medium IFC Community

University of Colorado Boulder, Large IFC Community

DO YOU KNOW A BROTHER WHO DESERVES RECOGNITION?  
Let us know by emailing [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org)



# WPN UPDATE

WPN National Housing Company wanted to keep the spirit of the Centennial celebration of Sigma Tau Gamma in the hearts and minds of brothers across the country. To do so, each WPN property received an exclusive Centennial flag. This gift from WPN marks a special time when chapter housing is more crucial than ever. Director of WPN Housing Operations Kayla Hagerty was incredibly excited to extend this gift to all 14 WPN properties.

ZΠ



Arizona

Brothers enjoying time together in their chapter house living room

EX



Auburn

Chapter officers enjoying a game of pool in their chapter house living room at 941 Lem Morrison Ave.

Ψ



Central Michigan

Brothers fly the Centennial flag in the front of their chapter house.

A



Central Missouri

The chapter enjoys a warm Spring day at 708 S. Holden.

AO



Missouri S&T

Centennial year with the 113th Best Saint Pat's Celebration week.

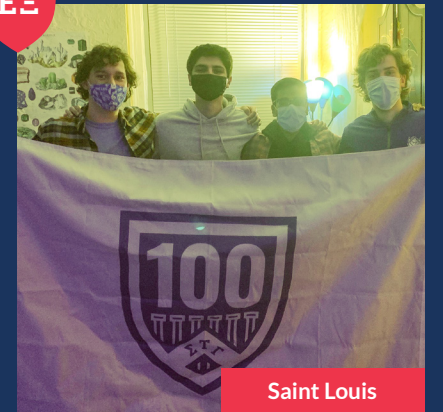
BO



Purdue

Brothers gather outside their chapter apartments in West Lafayette.

EE



Saint Louis

Taking a break from studying with the Centennial flag.

BX



Nebraska Kearney

An associate member poses with the Centennial flag as he accepts his bid to Sigma Tau Gamma.

X



Western Michigan

Brothers gather in their new chapter house entry way with their armored knight statue and Centennial flag.

AX



Illinois

The chapter flies their Centennial flag celebrating 100 years as an organization.

“

As a premier housing company supported by the national organization, it means a great deal for us to give this gift to the chapters and have them display it with pride,” Hagerty said. “I hope it reminds them of where they have come from and what the future holds in the next 100 years and that Sigma Tau Gamma will always endeavor forward.

”

100 YEARS





BA

## HOUSE SECURED FOR BETA ALPHA CHAPTER AT MISSOURI

**After a yearlong process, the Beta Alpha Chapter will be moving into their new on-campus location in the fall of 2021. The facility is one of the newest Greek houses at Missouri, being constructed in 2015 on Rollins Street in Columbia, Missouri.**

The first floor is equipped with multiple bedrooms, private bathrooms and a kitchenette and living area. The second floor is a communal space with multiple bedrooms and bathrooms and the third and final floor is also communal space. In total, the facility will sleep 28 and is situated in a prime location in "Greek town."

Beta Alpha Chapter President Grant Mertz, Missouri was elected in November and knew this was something they did not want to lose momentum on.

"We are incredibly excited to be moving into the new location this August. We have been IFC recognized for years and building those relationships and building the chapter the right way has led to this opportunity," Mertz said.

Since re-chartering in 2017, the chapter has made sound decisions with many of the re-founding fathers sacrificing to ensure this future success of the chapter.

"The brothers that came before us set us up for success. The foundation they built was stable and we have been able to continue to build the culture of what they started. Step by step, each year we have grown stronger and wiser, and we are incredibly excited to take this next step for the Beta Alpha Chapter."

 **SIG TAU**  
MARKETPLACE

B.



### Centennial Pint Glasses

A. Enjoy a beverage out of the Sig Tau Centennial exclusive 16 oz pint glasses

### Croakies

B. Croakies® eyewear retainers featuring the Greek Letters Sigma, Tau, and Gamma

### Alumni Pin

C. This pin is outlined with a silver chain and navy-blue background. It proudly displays the three Greek letters, Sigma, Tau, and Gamma.

C.



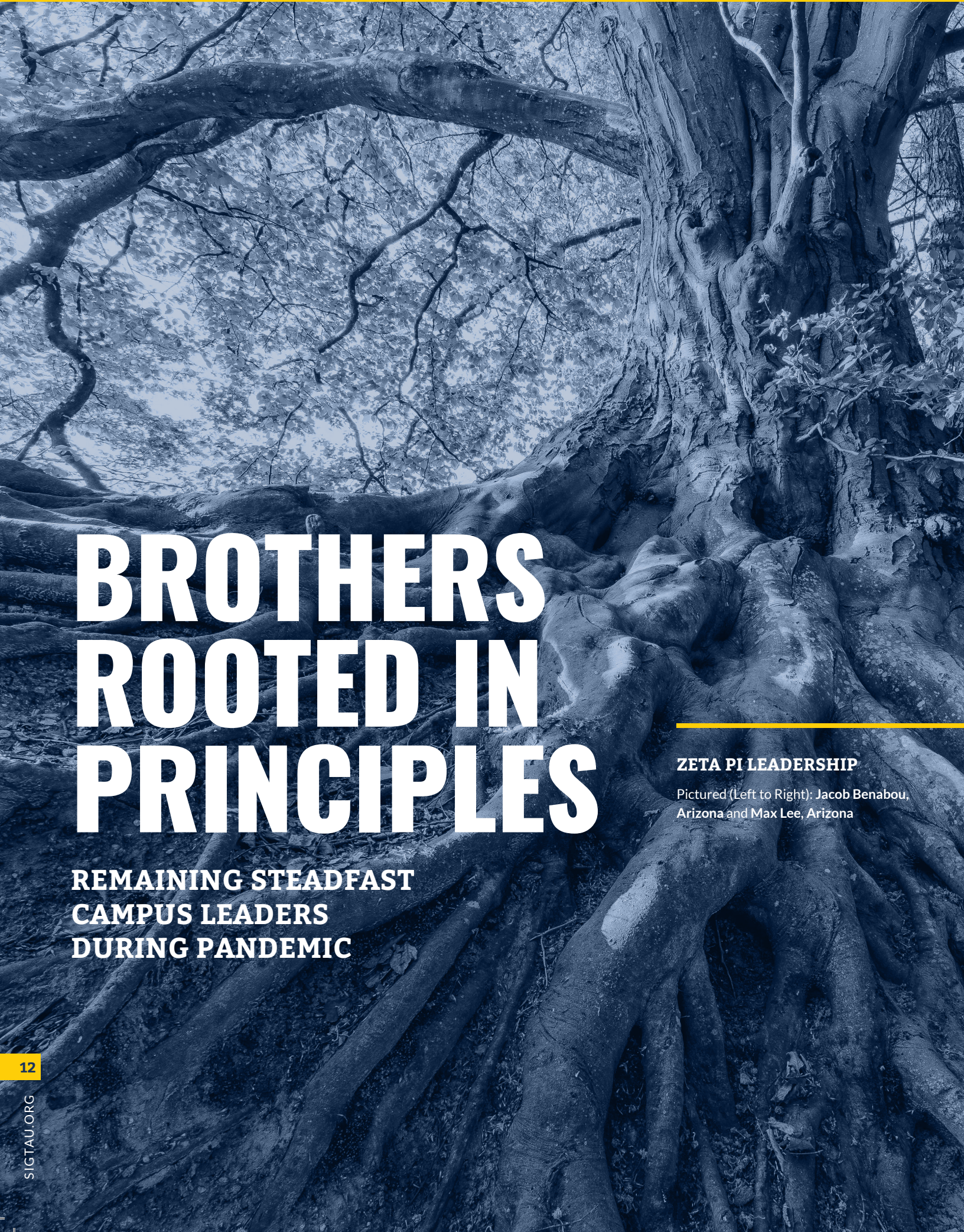
A.



## DISCOUNT FOR SAGA MAGAZINE READERS

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# BROTHERS ROOTED IN PRINCIPLES

REMAINING STEADFAST  
CAMPUS LEADERS  
DURING PANDEMIC

## ZETA PI LEADERSHIP

Pictured (Left to Right): Jacob Benabou, Arizona and Max Lee, Arizona

*The definition of the word steadfast is resolutely or dutifully firm and unwavering. Synonyms for steadfast are loyal, devoted, dependable, reliable, steady, and committed.*

Most of these words are not words associated with what has transpired the last year, but these words can describe brothers **Kirayle Jones**, Northwest Missouri; **Jacob Benabou**, Arizona; **Max Lee**, Arizona; and **Arman Sheffield**, Alabama. These four brothers stood resolute in the Principles of Sigma Tau Gamma and led their campus communities in one of the most challenging years in the last century.

**Benabou** and **Lee**, both leaders of the Zeta Pi Chapter at the University of Arizona, serve on the Arizona Interfraternity Council (IFC). Jacob serves as Arizona IFC President, and Max serves as Arizona IFC Vice President of Membership. Together with the Arizona IFC Executive Board, they are responsible for setting the standard for how a Greek man should act; and have to answer to the thousands of men that are a part of the 19 recognized IFC fraternities on campus. Before serving as IFC President, **Benabou** served as Zeta Pi Chapter President. Three months into his chapter presidency, COVID forever altered how he and the chapter would see things. Feeling exhausted from

spending almost an entire calendar year adjusting the way the chapter operates, he did not want to run for IFC president.

"When I was first thinking about running for IFC president, I was so burned-out from being chapter president. I had many conversations with brothers and those who had come before me. Somehow it ended up working, and the cards fell the right way, making it impossible for me to say no."

---

**HE LEARNED AS CHAPTER  
PRESIDENT THAT  
RELATIONSHIPS ARE  
CRUCIAL, AND TO BE A  
GREAT LEADER, YOU HAVE  
TO BE HELD ACCOUNTABLE.**

---

"My transition from chapter president to IFC took place over winter break, so I had a month to train and I hit the ground running immediately. Being chapter president during COVID, I understood where chapter leaders are coming from. Building relationships with

fraternity leaders is essential and is how we can continue to grow the community."

The Vice President of Membership on Arizona IFC is a two-year term, so **Lee** is going into his second year of serving the campus community.

"Last spring, recruitment was a whirlwind. We had prepared so much, and our plans had to be drastically altered," **Lee** said.

"Spring and fall recruitment looked vastly different, and we had to adapt to trying to have a hybrid recruitment experience. I've learned to take it day by day and that the best traits a leader can have during a situation like the last year are patience and the willingness to learn and try new things."

**Lee** says the chapter must set the standard for campus leadership. Since 2018, the Zeta Pi Chapter has had a brother serve on the IFC executive board.

"As a chapter, having brothers serve on IFC executive board is a way to hold us accountable. We know what we want as a chapter and want a Sig Tau to be seen in every leadership position on campus. We aim to recruit guys who care about grades and who aspire to not only be in the chapter but to be a part of something bigger."







## OUTSTANDING FRATERNITY AWARD

Pictured (Above): Arman Sheffield, Alabama

Sheffield is out to prove incoming students wrong about their preconceived notions about Greek life at Alabama, and he says **Sig Tau** is helping him do that.

One thousand five hundred miles east, the Epsilon Phi Chapter also makes waves on campus at the University of Alabama. Brother **Arman Sheffield**, Alabama, serves the chapter as the director of community engagement and is breaking barriers on campus. The sophomore from Troy, Alabama, is serving as the first-ever Alabama IFC Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion.

Joining Sig Tau was not always a plan for **Sheffield**, as he was looking at joining a National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) organization.

“Alabama was my dream school, and when I came to campus, I planned on joining a NPHC fraternity. I had a friend tell me about Sig Tau, and all of the guys were so welcoming and made me feel wanted. It was hard to say no to the brotherhood aspect everyone offered from the beginning.”

The director of diversity, equity, and inclusion position is less than a year old, and when **Sheffield** learned the position was being created, it was the furthest thing from his mind. Not only did he run and was elected, but he also helps shape what the position looks like and the future impact it will have on Greek life at Alabama.

“Another brother was serving on IFC and told me the position was being created. I actually said no four or five times before I finally said yes,” **Sheffield** said. “I ran on a platform of minority peer connections, creating a space for minorities going through the same experience in fraternity life to connect with one another. This position was uncharted territory, and I want students to have an open mindset and think about the future of IFC fraternities on campus, not the past.”

“I had some fears about IFC fraternities, and Sig Tau proved me wrong within two weeks of being on campus. Those who want to join a fraternity need to have an open mindset. I am incredibly proud that Sig Tau has never cared about what you look like or where you come from and that we break the typical stereotypes of Greek life.”

Senior **Kirayle Jones**, Northwest Missouri, was responsible for leading an entire student body through the past school year. From Omaha, Nebraska, and coming from a family of 13 kids, **Jones** served over 7,000 students as the Northwest Missouri State Student Senate President. **Jones** announced his candidacy for student senate president in February of 2020 and was elected in April. Little did he know the impact he would have and how vital his role would be to the student body. Sworn in over a Zoom call, **Jones** immediately began working with school administrators to serve the campus community best. He served on the university’s recovery phasing team, a group of faculty, staff, and students representing campus spending late spring and summer ensuring Northwest Missouri was ready to welcome back students in the fall.

“It all happened so fast. I went from not knowing what Zoom was to being sworn in as president on it in weeks. The entire first semester as president we had to hold cabinet meetings on Zoom. We did the best we could but navigating 80-90 student leaders who are all passionate and want what is best for the campus was a challenge.”

One area **Jones** wanted to address as president was to take care of those students who could not return home and had to stay on campus. They delivered gift cards and continuously checked in on those students, making sure they had everything they needed on campus. Another priority was the importance of mental health during a time of crisis.

“During a time when people are isolated, their campus experience has been altered, and they have to switch to complete remote learning is a lot for a student to adjust to in a short period. We ran multiple mental health campaigns on social media, supplied cards, and made phone calls just to make sure people were ok. I wanted students to know we were here for them and that we are all in this together.”

Since his freshmen year, **Jones** has been involved in both campus and Theta Chapter leadership. He started with the student senate as a freshman and also served as Theta Chapter Standards Board Chairman.

“Since my freshmen year, Sig Tau has always made me feel welcomed and helped me with the adjustment to college quickly,” **Jones** said.

**“We put our nose to the ground and are hard workers. We get good grades and we hold each other accountable. That piece of Sig Tau and this brotherhood is something that cannot be replaced.”**

– Kirayle Jones, Northwest Missouri



Throughout his collegiate experience, he says the brothers of the **Theta Chapter** have always had his back.



# FOUNDATION UPDATE

The Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation continues on its mission to provide support for our undergraduate members to have transformative experiences through scholarships and grants. In the 2020-2021 academic year, the Foundation awarded more than \$35,000 in scholarships to Sig Tau brothers. This continued focus on scholarship and support lead to the launch of new campaigns and programs for the Sig Tau Foundation.



## FOUNDATION AWARDS 52 EMERGENCY RELIEF GRANTS IN FALL 2020

In fall 2020, the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation recognized an immediate need among undergraduate members as they began their return to campus. For the first time, the Foundation would offer Emergency Relief Grants. This was an opportunity to support members through a difficult period of financial uncertainty and help offset the costs of tuition, educational supplies, and living expenses. \$13,000 was awarded in total, between 52 grants to brothers in need across the country. These Emergency Relief Grants in the amount of \$250 helped make an impact in the lives of young collegiate brothers.

While the Foundation is not currently able to sustain awarding 50 or more Emergency Relief Grants annually, the goal is to continue building the Emergency Relief Fund for future use. Grants will be available and awarded on an as-needed basis to maintain our support of brothers in need. Brotherhood doesn't just exist during the good times – members should know that the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation supports them through the hard times as well.

“I received an Emergency Relief Grant to assist me financially during a difficult semester. I am now able to focus more on my academics and mental health.”

– Carroll University Grant Recipient

“Without this financial assistance, many brothers like myself would not have the opportunity to continue their education during these troubled times. I am truly grateful to Sig Tau for the generous funds and the direct impact it makes on my future!”

– Henderson State Grant Recipient

“I received an Emergency Relief Grant. This financial support allows me to pay for tuition and finish my undergraduate journey! I have recently been accepted into medical school as well! To me, Sigma Tau Gamma has not only given me tools to grow into a truly Noble man, but also a very supportive brotherhood.”

– Northwest Missouri Grant Recipient



### Grand Prize Winners

Sigma- Michigan Tech  
Most Dollars Raised &  
Most Overall Donors

Tau- Marshall  
Most Dollars Raised &  
Most Overall Donors

Gamma- Plymouth State  
Most Dollars Raised &  
Most Overall Donor

### Entry Round Winners

Sigma- Michigan Tech  
Tau- UNC Charlotte  
Gamma- Plymouth State

### Round 1 Winners

Sigma- Cleveland State  
Tau- Southern Indiana  
Gamma- Black Hills State

### Round 2 Winners

Sigma- Southeastern Oklahoma  
Tau- Purdue  
Gamma- Texas Tech

### Round 3 Winners

Sigma- Southeastern Oklahoma  
Tau- Marshall  
Gamma- Plymouth State

## FIRST NOBLE KNIGHT CHAPTER CHALLENGE SUPPORTS 44 CHAPTERS

This spring, the Sig Tau Foundation launched the first Noble Knight Chapter Challenge in an effort to raise support for chapter funds. This tournament-style giving challenge involved brotherly competition and head-to-head matchups between our 75 active chapters separated into three divisions. After four rounds of competition, the campaign raised \$16,403 for 44 chapters, including the creation of nine new chapter funds.

Prizes were awarded after each round including items like Sig Tau branded yard games, flying chapter flags at Headquarters, and free shirts for winning chapters. Grand prizes were awarded to chapters with the most dollars raised and most overall donors in each division. These chapters received an additional \$1,000 awarded to their chapter fund.

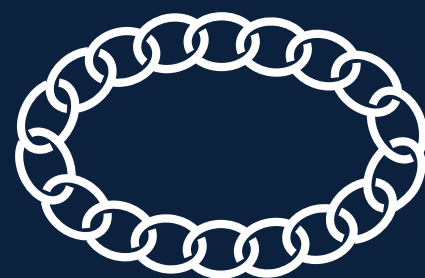
All funds raised are in direct support of our members with all donations going to their chapter funds. A chapter fund is a restricted account in the Foundation that is designated to and may only be used by a specific chapter. This campaign was a great way to increase the amount of money chapters have available for educational purposes like awarding scholarships, offering tuition assistance, or attending national leadership programs.

The Sig Tau Foundation hopes to continue hosting this campaign annually to increase support at the local level for chapter funds. Congratulations to all Noble Knight Chapter Challenge winners.



# THE LASTING LEGACY AND THE NEW BEGINNING

## A TALE OF HONOR



➤ Saturday, August 29, 2020, will long be remembered by the men of the Delta Chapter. Harry 'Doc' Stephens, Emporia State, an Emporia State University faculty member and proud brother of the Delta Chapter, and chapter advisor for 56 years, entered into Chapter Eternal.

His impact on hundreds of men who have journeyed through the Delta Chapter will not be forgotten. Stephens legacy is one that the newest Delta Chapter Lead Advisor, Josiah D'Albini, Emporia State, and the first to succeed Harry in nearly six decades will ensure lives forever.

Stephens was initiated into the Delta Chapter in 1961 and, after earning his degree in biology, took the reigns as the chapter advisor in 1965.

His tenure started while staying at Emporia State to pursue his master's degree in counseling. From that time, Harry would remain in the Emporia area for the rest of his life, except for a few years he spent

at the University of Northern Colorado earning his doctorate. After earning his doctorate, he would return to work at Emporia State University, holding various positions, the most notable being the Dean of Students and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Stephens was determined to make a positive impact on campus and the brotherhood of Sig Tau. He knew what it meant to be a noble gentleman, and he wanted to make sure that the men of Delta Chapter learned that at some point during their time on campus. He was often heard saying, "We

don't call our members boys because we want our chapter to be comprised of men, so we address each other as men. Just like a chapter is not referred to as a house." That was the standard he set, and he expected it to be maintained.

If you were a student at Emporia State, and you were unsure what your next step in life would be or how to get there, Harry was the constant.

### HE KNEW WHAT IT MEANT TO BE A NOBLE GENTLEMAN



"Doc was good at helping people find their place...whether it was a job on campus or an organization to get involved with, he helped students realize how great they would be in those opportunities. And then he sent the email or made the phone call [that often you didn't know about] to get you connected," said D'Albini.

"That will be Harry's legacy - leadership and the tenets of being a great leader. Leadership was Harry's largest area of impact within Delta Chapter and Emporia State. Because of him, university engagement [over the years] at the undergraduate and alumni level has been largely Sigma Tau Gamma."

D'Albini was appointed as the Delta Chapter Lead Advisor on February 4, 2021, a role that

he eagerly accepted. When he accepted the role, he knew the shoes he was trying to fill and thought supporting the chapter in this way would be a way to honor Stephens.

"Doc's impact on my life, not only as a mentor but also as a friend, was so profound. I knew I had to step up to support the chapter," D'Albini said. "We have a team of seven alumni supporting the chapter and managing the chapter house, most of which Doc used to do on his own."

While D'Albini is indeed not far from the undergraduate experience, earning his bachelor's degree in sociology from Emporia State in 2014, his involvement within Sigma Tau Gamma creates a footprint for himself, one that Harry would be proud of.

As an undergraduate, Josiah served the chapter as the vice president of public relations, vice president of finance and management, and president, earning him an induction into Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity's Noble Man Hall of Fame, an honor earmarked for those who qualify as finalists for the Ellsworth C. Dent Man of the Year Award.

His involvement did not stop at the undergraduate level, as he has served as an Earl A. Webb Academy of Principled Leaders and Grand Conclave facilitator, a member of the Fraternity's National Alumni Advisory Council (NAAC), and a member of the Path of Principles Education Committee.

D'Albini knows the weight his new position carries, not just because it is a tremendous responsibility to mentor and positively impact the lives of young men, but to do so after someone like Stephens had done for as long as he did.

"It isn't lost on me that the Delta Chapter will celebrate our 100-year anniversary this coming academic year. It also isn't lost on me that only three [most recent] associate member classes in the history of Delta Chapter, leading up to our centennial, will not have met Doc. We plan to honor him when we have our chapter celebrations next year, ensuring that he is remembered on campus and within Sigma Tau Gamma."



CHAPTER ADVISOR  
Harry 'Doc' Stephens, Emporia State



CHAPTER ADVISOR  
Josiah D'Albini, Emporia State



# CHAPTER NEWS



## KANSAS STATE

Prepares Wellness Kits for Students on Campus

Glenn Kinley, Kansas State, president of the Zeta Kappa Chapter, wanted the chapter to serve the campus community immediately returning from their extended summer break. In August, as students returned to campus, the chapter visited the campus health center and asked how they could help. They spent almost an entire day packing wellness kits for on-campus students. Each wellness kit contained hand sanitizer, masks, and other health-related items.

In total, the chapter packed over 5,000 wellness kits. The on-campus population of Kansas State is 20,000, so the men of the Zeta Kappa Chapter

filled 25 percent of the campus's wellness kits. Each student in the dorms received one, and anyone who visited the health and wellness center also received a wellness kit.

To Kinley, having the chapter serve the campus upon returning in August was something everyone was excited about.

"The chapter had not been together since March. We all went home for spring break and never returned to campus. For us, there is nothing better than building brotherhood and helping others. We are a family here at Kansas State, and we do what we can to make an impact."



**WANT TO SEE YOUR CHAPTER IN THE SAGA?**  
Submit your chapter news for the magazine! Send a write-up and photo to [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org), and your chapter could be included in the next SAGA Monthly or SAGA Magazine.



## STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

Hundreds of Toys Donated to Toys for Tots

The Gamma Pi Chapter at Stephen F. Austin decided to give back to the local community in a different way this year. Typically the chapter hosts a haunted house as a philanthropy event, but due to COVID-19 this year, the chapter transitioned to hosting a socially distant Toys for Tots drive in December. Cam Lowry, Stephen F. Austin, felt a piece was missing from their fall semester and pitched the idea to the chapter and alumni in October, and by November, the drive had begun.

The chapter decorated the house and set up a donation staging area on the front porch of the chapter house. People who wanted to donate could drop toys on the front porch in a socially distant environment. Toys

were collected from November 16 through December 16, with multiple organizations helping collect. Pi Kappa Alpha, Phi Kappa Psi, Theta Chi, and Alpha Chi Omega all contributed, with donation totals reaching 400 toys.

Lowry said it was amazing to see how everyone can rally together even during difficult times to help kids have a great Christmas.

"It meant the world to me to see alumni and other chapters support our efforts this fall. We asked our parents and campus professionals too, and everyone donated. This was a way to keep brothers busy and interact in a socially distant way with other Greek organizations. This is by far one of the most fulfilling things I've ever done."



## SOUTHERN INDIANA

Chapter Raises \$1,350 for Special Olympics

When the new executive cabinet was elected in December, they knew they wanted to participate in the Polar Plunge, even during COVID-19. On February 6, 16 brothers and the chapter white rose traveled to Boonville, Indiana, and jumped into the freezing Scale Lake for Special Olympics. The chapter had a specific time for them to plunge and ended up being the final group of the day. The Gamma Phi Chapter was the only fraternity from Southern Indiana to participate and was the second-highest scoring team. They had more brothers participate this year than last, and Gamma Phi Chapter President Hairo Rivas, Southern Indiana, was very proud of the chapter and knew

their efforts would be more impactful this year.

"COVID has affected us in so many ways, and often philanthropic organizations have been hit the hardest," Rivas said.

"Giving back is what is needed right now. We pride ourselves on being noble men and putting others first, and this was just one small way we can put others first. We want to continue growing our chapter and our efforts to have more of an impact on those around us."

In total, \$1,350 was raised for Special Olympics, and the chapter hopes to double its efforts next year.



## MICHIGAN TECH.

Chapter Wows with Winter Carnival Statue

A long-standing tradition of the Michigan Tech. community, Winter Carnival is something thousands look forward to each spring. Winter Carnival is a multi-day festival filled with games and competitions, including the coveted and most time-consuming aspect in the statue competition.

Many competitions migrated to a virtual environment this year for Winter Carnival, but the statue competition was one of the few that remained in person. This year's theme was cartoon-inspired, and the Gamma Chi Chapter went the nostalgic route, channeling Mickey and Minnie Mouse with a Steamboat Willie statue.

The chapter knew brother's safety was of the utmost importance this year. Signing up in shifts, brothers took turns doing their part in sculpting the statue. The first day of the competition began on January 11, with the final touches being added on February 4. The chapter could have 20 brothers working at a single time on the statue while wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and maintaining social distance.

This year, the chapter paired with the women of Alpha Gamma Delta and took home first place in the co-ed division, competing with over 30 statues across multiple divisions.

Gamma Chi Chapter Vice President AJ Alexa, Michigan Tech., said this year the competition felt different, but that made the statue portion so much more special.

"Because almost everything was moved online except for statue, it made the competition even more of a big deal this year. This was the first time things were somewhat normal in the last year. It was good to keep this tradition, and being able to work with brothers and everyone from Alpha Gamma Delta allowed us to socialize and enjoy the beginning of the spring semester."



## CINCINNATI

Zeta Beta Chapter Raises Over \$2,000 for Special Olympics

Zeta Beta Chapter at Cincinnati demonstrated their commitment to the Principle of Citizenship by braving the freezing water in their annual Polar Plunge event hosted by Special Olympics Kentucky. The Sig Tau Polar Plunge team was formed in January by Zeta Beta Director of Community & Member Engagement, Caleb Ponting, Cincinnati. A total of 29 participants joined the team including 14 brothers who made the plunge on Saturday, February 20 in Bellevue, Kentucky.

Many brothers wrote our Greek letters on their chest, while others wore improvised togas to show their Greek pride. Zeta Beta's White Rose, Karis Kist was there to document the chapters efforts as they plunged.

To start the day, Special Olympics volunteers had to break a half inch of ice off the top of the water so people could make the plunge.

While this event was not new to Zeta Beta Chapter, COVID-19 caused the event to look different than it had in previous years.

In total, the Polar Plunge event raised \$75,416 for Special Olympics. Zeta Beta Chapter contributed \$2,439 to that total by collecting a total amount of 54 donations. Next year, Ponting and his fellow Zeta Beta brothers aim to break the \$3,000 mark with 100% chapter participation to support Special Olympics.



## VIRGINIA TECH.

Epsilon Upsilon Chapter Recruits 12 Noble Men This Spring

Epsilon Upsilon Chapter at Virginia Tech benefited from an outstanding semester of recruitment this spring. Epsilon Upsilon recruited 12 men, tying them for the 5th largest associate class across Sig Tau's 75 active chapters. Director of Recruitment, Derek White, Virginia Tech., knew that when he was elected in November, he needed to begin immediately on spring recruitment efforts. Previously serving as recruitment coordinator, White knew how important it was to start planning and executing the recruitment plan well before the actual recruiting semester.

Despite virtual limitations, Epsilon Upsilon Chapter made it a point to be different and have fun with their recruitment opportunities.

Relying heavily on Zoom, brothers volunteered to participate in virtual activities that served as an opportunity to attract potential new members with something special. Some examples included brothers dressing up as sumo wrestlers and battling it out, hosting a pizza eating contest, and conducting a virtual trivia highlighting brothers and the chapter's history.

White credits the recruitment success to the chapter's strong brotherhood and the ability to foster authentic connections through such an uncertain time. Along with a strong brotherhood, he credits the brother's sincerity and diversity among interests, passions, and cultures for the ability to create the most genuine brotherhood on campus.





## AUBURN

### Epsilon Chi Chapter Sees Recruitment Success

Epsilon Chi Chapter at Auburn demonstrated adaptability and growth by recruiting 12 men this spring. Immediately following the conclusion of summer, Director of Recruitment **Landon Eustace**, Auburn, turned the chapter's attention to this spring, knowing it was imperative to plan and execute early to be successful.

Epsilon Chi is no stranger to digital recruitment, as this was their third semester utilizing digital recruitment platforms. The chapter found that Zoom was most successful as their main digital platform, using breakout rooms to pair current brothers with potential new members. This small group setting allowed for an emphasis on interpersonal communication and building authentic relationships, two crucial keys to recruitment.

Auburn University did permit small in-person recruitment events, as long

as the chapters adhered to campus and state COVID-19 guidelines.

Upon arrival to in-person events, brothers asked a series of questions to screen potential symptoms and illness. Along with a screening, they used some of their chapter funds to provide masks and hand sanitizer to all attendees.

**Eustace** is extremely proud of his brothers for their willingness to adapt and persevere during an unprecedented academic year. He believes it shows the strong brotherhood and bond between the Epsilon Chi brothers to rally behind a common goal and help the chapter endeavor forward. He cites the brothers' genuine personalities, southern hospitality, and willingness to connect as the reasons why they stand out at Auburn.



## FITCHBURG STATE

### Standing in Silence

On any given day of the week, you can find many Sigma Tau Gamma members on campuses across the country supporting multiple causes and volunteering for numerous philanthropic efforts.

Several members of the Delta Phi Chapter at Fitchburg State University participated in an event hosted by Alpha Sigma Tau Sorority called "Standing in Silence." This event, hosted in conjunction with Rape, Abuse, & Incest National Network (RAINN), consisted of supporters from all walks of life and the campus community

standing on the "quad" at the center of campus - with signs and facts to educate campus-goers and raise awareness surrounding sexual violence.

One Sig Tau brother who participated was **Conlon Hickey**, Fitchburg State. **Hickey** joined the Delta Phi Chapter in 2020 and saw the importance of standing with those affected by sexual violence. He said that the Principles of Sig Tau call us to be noble men, and that noble men support worthy causes and organizations like the partnership of the local Alpha Sigma Tau and RAINN.



## ROBERT MORRIS

### Chapter Finds Success with Motivational Mondays on Social Media

In the COVID-19 environment of 2020, chapters' ability to host in-person events was vastly limited, making the ability to connect with others via social media an even more critical piece of operations. Many chapters took advantage of the opportunity to explore new ways of interacting with their peers through social media.

For instance, the Delta Psi Associate Chapter at Robert Morris University created a "Motivational Monday" Instagram campaign that helped the chapter recruit and share positive messages to students on their campus. Each weekly post, a different member of the chapter shared a short video with a few words of inspiration and positive thoughts for viewers to reflect on.

As **Tayvel Hutchinson**, Robert Morris, the director of recruitment for the chapter explained, he thought it was an excellent way to engage with potential new members and maintain their social media presence while giving followers something to help them through the week.

The chapter's first Motivational Monday post was in mid-December and was intended to help keep students' spirits high during midterms and the COVID-19 slump. **Hutchinson** said they put a Sig Tau twist on things, allowing every brother to share what keeps them motivated.



## ALABAMA

### Epsilon Phi Takes Home Chapter of the Year Campus Award

For the first time in the chapter's history, the Epsilon Phi Chapter at the University of Alabama has won chapter of the year. The annual award presented from the Order of Omega is the highest honor a chapter can receive on campus. A panel of undergraduate leaders in Greek life and professionals from the Fraternity/Sorority Life Office at the University of Alabama selects the recipient based on criteria including academics, philanthropic efforts, recruitment and retention, and campus involvement.

Epsilon Phi Chapter President **Nathan Yamaguchi**, Alabama, was shocked when they received the honor. He did not know they were being discussed as a chapter of the year candidate, much less winning the award.

The chapter plans on turning their efforts from this past year into momentum for summer and fall recruitment. **Yamaguchi** said that current students looking to join Greek life next semester contacted him asking about Sig Tau - mainly due to the campus publicity of winning chapter of the year.

What is more important to the Epsilon Phi Chapter is not that they earned chapter of the year, but that they continue to be campus leaders. **Yamaguchi** said many brothers are involved with Blackburn Institute (a division of student affairs at the University of Alabama, operating as its own department of student leaders), university ambassadors, and the highest levels of the student senate and student government.



## PLYMOUTH STATE

### Epsilon Theta Chapter Shines in Recruitment

For many chapters - any given year can be full of ups and downs. The process of maintaining, leading, and growing a chapter is both challenging and rewarding. In what is being referred to frequently as an "unprecedented year," some chapters have not only been able to find the silver lining but have found ways to improve their operations exponentially.

The Epsilon Theta Chapter at Plymouth State has done just that. Doubling in size, winning the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation's first-ever Noble Knight Chapter Challenge and the Foundation Advocate Award, as well as securing shared housing on campus, and having members serving on the campus's Greek Council, the chapter is - more than ever - focused

on their development and working hard to accomplish all their goals.

When asked about what has contributed to their recent success and what advice he would give other chapters, current chapter president **David Hammond** shared they strive to pursue dedication and persistence each day. He wanted to re-build the chapter focusing on one day at a time and one member at a time.

**Hammond** also shared he is optimistic and has big expectations for the Epsilon Theta Chapter's future. He remains very excited about the newest members the chapter has recruited and says they have the same passion and drive to ensure the chapter continues to thrive.





ALUMNI NEWS



1955 Alpha Phi

ALPHA PHI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Brothers Unite for a Stronger Future

In early December, a call for alumni support resulted in a unified effort that could not have been predicted. The Alpha Phi Chapter at Southeast Missouri State University (SEMO) has struggled to maintain an active undergraduate presence on campus and, unfortunately, will not have sustainable chapter membership going into the fall 2021 semester. When a group of alumni were asked to help with the outreach to the remaining undergraduate members, the Principle of Brotherhood was on full display.

Michael Dittrich, Southeast Missouri, answered the call to action by organizing a fundraising campaign that would last from March 3 to March 31. The campaign’s goal was to raise funds to support recruitment services and rebuild the Alpha Phi Chapter within the next two years. Over the month, Michael and other engaged alumni met regularly to drive fundraising and engagement efforts. When it was all said and done, the alumni stepped up in a significant way.

The campaign was nothing short of a major success. In 28 days of the active campaign, a total of \$35,002 was raised. While that is certainly an impressive number, the stats behind the campaign are even more special.

Smallest donation: \$5      Donations made on behalf of Chapter Eternal members: 13

Largest donation: \$1,500      Friends of Sig Tau donors: 2

Total donors: 290

While donating treasure to support an undergraduate chapter can go a long way, the mentorship and guidance of engaged alumni who donate their time to serve as chapter advisors can prove even more beneficial to the success and longevity of an active chapter. This campaign raised dollars and identified members who want to give back to the chapter in the way that advisors like Larry Hamilton, Pittsburg State, did for decades.

While the alumni and Headquarters Staff are still collaborating with the university on the best time to restart the chapter, the future of the Alpha Phi Chapter will certainly be filled with support from men and women who Sigma Tau Gamma has positively impacted.

DO YOU HAVE AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STORY TO SHARE?

Send a write-up and photo to [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org), and your alumni association could be included in the next SAGA Monthly or SAGA Magazine.



1961 Beta Upsilon

BETA UPSILON ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Zoom Through COVID

When a chapter founded in 1961 is presented with a global pandemic, what are the 538 alumni supposed to do if they cannot share fellowship in person? Like many people in the world, they downloaded Zoom and found ways to keep in touch so the spirit of the Beta Upsilon would live on. But what made the efforts of Beta Upsilon alumni so special is not that they gathered for the occasional happy hour but that they met consistently each month to strengthen an already cohesive brotherhood that has formed friendships across seven decades.

Organized by Ron Wilinski, Cleveland State, and Isaac Yomtoob, Cleveland State, the calls were designed for members to see their brothers.

“While a lot of our alumni membership lives in Ohio, we have brothers who span the country from Washington to Nevada and Florida to Connecticut, who don’t always get the chance to make it back. Our brotherhood has something special, and members make an effort to stay engaged no matter where life takes us.”

The calls weren’t only about the surprise factor of “I wonder who will be on the call tonight.” It is more about the opportunity to re-engage with one another and the undergraduate chapter, remember brothers they have lost, and support a brand-new generation of active members whose college experience is a bit different from those who started the chapter in 1961.

The group looks forward as they plan new opportunities for the men of Beta Upsilon to gather, share, remember, and reflect on all that it means to be a noble gentleman of Sigma Tau Gamma.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

The Chapter Eternal list represents deceased members reported to Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters between June 2020 – May 2021.

To report a deceased member, send the brother’s name, chapter, address of closest living relative, and obituary (if applicable) to Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters at [noblemen@sigtau.org](mailto:noblemen@sigtau.org).

Anthony M. Amato,  
Cal U, 1963  
  
Cameron B. Barr,  
Southeastern Louisiana, 1966

John A. Barris,  
UW - La Crosse, 1966

Thomas V. Boma,  
SIU Carbondale, 1973

Richard W. Borio,  
Penn State, 1960

Michael Hughes Brooks,  
Northeastern State, 1977

Larry L. Brown,  
Northwest Missouri, 1961

Frankling R. Brubaker,  
Purdue, 1959

Clyde D. Bunner,  
Fairmont State, 1971

Frank W. Burrus,  
Northeastern State, 1964

Jess T. Casey,  
Southeastern Louisiana, 1945

Timothy A. Cerutti,  
Harris-Stowe, 1970

Willie C. Click,  
Henderson State, 1953

John E. Darmer,  
Ball State, 1967

Alex R. Dixon,  
Cal U, 1974

Eric Jermaine Dugger,  
Cameron, 1997

David P. Dumestre,  
Southeastern Louisiana, 2020

Byron A. Eggemeyer,  
Illinois, 1956

Robert Daryl Elmore,  
Northeastern State, 1977

Bernie Erickson,  
Former First Lady of Sig Tau,

Douglas F. Ernst,  
Seton Hall, 1972

Donald C. Evans,  
Cleveland State, 1962

Daniel C. Gidick,  
Cal U, 1970

George D. Gillis,  
Cal U, 1970

Marvin W. Hanson,  
Northwestern State, 1945

Herb K. Harjes,  
Valparaiso, 1991

John F. Hawk,  
Kent State, 1945

Paul David Hinrichs,  
Valparaiso, 1982

Stephen Jeselnik,  
Pittsburg State, 1964

Peter J. Jushka,  
UW - Stevens Point, 1965

Joseph Anthony Karpa,  
Cal U, 1979

Stephen B. Kirven,  
Southeastern Oklahoma, 1976

Donald S. Lauritsen,  
Eastern Michigan, 1969

Harry P. Lehning,  
Western Illinois, 1953

Stanley N. Lueck,  
UW - Stout, 1961

Donald E. Malcom,  
Eastern Illinois, 1959

Jack I. Martin,  
SIU Carbondale, 1973

Donald J. Matchinski  
Michigan Tech., 1975

David E. McClure,  
Cal U, 1974

Michael W. Meyer,  
Cleveland State, 1979

J. Timothy Mero,  
UW - Stout, 1961

Thomas J. Milleman, Ph.D.,  
Northern Iowa, 1960

Brian J. Murphy,  
Missouri S&T, 1970

Paul M. Paulson Jr.,  
UW - Stout, 1955

A. Dean Pickett,  
Northern Arizona, 1969

Jerome E. Polasky,  
UW - Eau Claire, 1967

John Rieber,  
Frostberg State, 1981

John R. Riopelle,  
St. Norbert, 1965

Robert E. Scarcelli,  
Frostburg State, 1962

Gerald J. Schemansky,  
UW - Stout, 1951

Robert D. Schinderle,  
Western Michigan, 1961

Keith R. Schmitt,  
Illinois State, 1989

Martin P. Schutte,  
Missouri - St. Louis, 1991

George F. Schwebel,  
Southeastern Louisiana, 1973

Thomas L. Shilling,  
Kent State, 1971

Harry M. Shimada,  
UW - Stout, 1957

Harley R. Smith,  
Pittsburg State, 1952

David Joseph Sniader,  
Missouri S&T, 1986

Harry L. Stephens,  
Ph.D., Emporia State, 1961

Louis Stivers Jr.,  
Eastern Illinois, 1947

Donald Stolz,  
UW - Stout, 1963

Robert S. Swanson,  
Ph.D., UW - Stout, 1948

Arthur J. Tesi,  
UW - Stout, 1960

Lucas Traverse,  
Duquesne, 2020

Fred J. Vasquez Jr.,  
Harris-Stowe, 1959

Steven V. Weger,  
SIU Carbondale, 1972

Benjamin Younglao,  
Michigan Tech., 2018

Arnold S. Zarit,  
SIU Carbondale, 1970





1923-25			
✓ Adams, Homer, '19,	5/10/24	19	
✓ Anthony, J. B., '19,		34	
✓ Brown, Cecil, '26, Tahlequah	5/10/24	85	
✓ Carlile, Olyn, '26, Tahlequah	5/10/24	104	
✓ Conner, G. Lee, '27, Hulbert, Okla.	5/10/24	126	
✓ Conner, J. Carl, '24,		125	
✓ Cox, R. D., '19,	5/10/24	140	
✓ Dalton, Glen, '19, (Stigler, Okla.)	5/10/24	149	
✓ Davis, Dan, '19, Tahlequah, Okla.		155	
✓ Dickenson, E. O., '19,	5/10/24	169	
✓ Douglas, Fred, '19,	5/10/24	179	
✓ Forrest, Charles, '19, Tahlequah, Ok	5/10/24	212	
✓ Forrest, William, '19,	5/10/24	213	
✓ Ghormley, Maurice, '27, Tahlequah		235	
✓ Ghormley, Roger, '28,		234	
✓ Gray, J. Carlton, '19,			
✓ Guthrie, Troy, '28, Marshall, Ark.	25		
✓ Holcomb, A. Max, '27, Marble City			
✓ Hollabaugh, Glyn L., '27, Keota	5/10/24		

1924

Pictured (Above): Chapter Roll from the Zeta Chapter, Northeastern State

1917

Pictured (Right): Edward G. Grannert, Founder



# What Is A Fraternity?

By MARK MOREY  
St. Norbert '67

What is the role or purpose of a fraternity? Why should fraternities exist? These questions are often asked by professors, non-Greeks, administrators, and even by the more reflective fraternity man himself. I've heard the questions, but to my dismay the typical answer is a defensive outcry of disbelief and dismissal that anyone would question the worth of fraternities. I believe that the answers to such questions must be found, but they must certainly be cleansed (as far as possible) of subjective emotionalism if one is to make any objective sense.

Certainly a man should evaluate the worth of a fraternity before he joins, but I feel that such an evaluation is often clouded by being too near to the experience. Having been in the fraternity for four years and as a graduating senior, I would like to take this opportunity to present a few of my observations concerning the worth of fraternities and therefore to answer in some partial way the initial question.

On our campus and on other campuses, large and small, fraternities are the center of social life. This fact is most often called to the fore in the justification of fraternities. However, social life in and of itself is probably least valuable of the assets of a fraternity. Any group of friends can arrange and enjoy parties by pooling their funds.

"Look at all that the fraternities do for the college!" is an oft-heard pro-fraternity comment. I agree; and I feel that fraternities should do even more than they do for the college and the community. Fraternity services are called upon more and more, and it is to the fraternities' credit that their previous efforts have caused increased demands. However, it is true that the service functions performed by the fraternities could be done as effectively by non-Greek service groups. Service functions are a valuable, but not discriminable fraternity asset.

Often it is posed that fraternities offer the opportunity for development of leadership qualities. This is indeed true, but again we have no differential evidence. Fraternities are selective and in their admission of new members actively search for men who have exhibited leadership ability. Therefore, it is no surprise to find the majority of campus leaders are fraternity men, and while we can say that the fraternity offered the opportunity for the development of leadership qualities, such qualities might well have been realized in other facets of campus life and in the absence of fraternity influence. Again we have not been able to discern a fraternity advantage.

"But," we fraternity men say, "the real advantage of a fraternity is the experience of working together and accomplishing a great deal through collective effort." This is an advantage, but any cooperative group has the same advantage. Fraternities do offer the opportunity of making and working with life-long friends, but the fraternity man also has many good friends who are not brothers.

Taken singly, all of the abovementioned qualities have failed to define the role of fraternities, but if we now notice that as one organization of the fraternity offers *all* of those advantages we begin to see the true picture. The role of a fraternity is defined by a great number of opportunities and advantages. The fraternity offers social events, opportunities for development of leadership, a chance to serve the college and the community, and provides the experience of working together with close friends to realize the fruits of collective accomplishment. However, there is more.

There is a spirit, a spirit that transcends all that a fraternity does and is. It is a spirit that goes beyond the winning of a homecoming campaign, the intramural championship, and even the deepest individual friendship. This spirit is Brotherhood. Brotherhood is the intangible feeling that to my mind truly defines the role of a fraternity. In today's world filled with war, strife, and misunderstandings, fraternities offer the unique and most valuable opportunity of learning and enjoying the experience of fraternal love, Brotherhood.

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

WHAT IS A FRATERNITY? | Mark Morey, St. Norbert





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