

SAGA

SIGMA TAU GAMMA FRATERNITY



VOL. 103 | ISSUE 1

BUILDING NOBLE GENERATIONS OF MEN SINCE 1920

CONTENTS



20

Generations of Gratitude

The value of human connection, drawing parallels between philosophy and the impact of brotherhood.

FEATURES

8

A Strong Tide Rolls In

A University of Alabama alumnus delivers a heartfelt charge with empowering words to inspire newly elected undergraduate chapter leaders.

12

Finding Purpose: The Journey of Greg Brown

How a successful entrepreneur living a life of principles revolutionized an industry and created a lasting impact far beyond the business world.

- 3 Editor's Note
- 4 National News
- 7 Endeavor Recap
- 10 Awards
- 16 Foundation Update
- 18 WPN Update
- 22 Chapter News
- 26 Alumni News
- 28 Alumni Engagement
- 29 From the Archives
- 30 Chapter Eternal

ON THE COVER

The cover features a photo of brothers on the University of Maryland's Challenge Course at the 2023 Endeavor Conference in Maryland.

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.

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.

EDITOR'S NOTE

JEREMY HARRINGTON, CENTRAL MISSOURI

Strategic Brand Manager



Located on the east side of the University of Central Missouri's campus is Ellis dormitory. Also known as the Emmett Ellis Complex. This dorm was named in honor of one of Sigma Tau Gamma's founding fathers, Professor Emmett Ellis. This building and campus were unknowingly where my journey with Sig Tau began.

Emmit Ellis, alongside Leland Thornton Hoback, Edward George Grannert, and William Glenn Parsons served the United States in Ambulance Company 355 in the First World War. They served together on the front lines in France and redefined their brotherhood through the call of duty. After the war, these men recruited thirteen more students back on campus and signed a petition to start the university's first fraternity, Sigma Tau Gamma.

I was housed on the third floor of East Ellis. Less than half a mile away was the Marvin Millsap national headquarters building of Sigma Tau Gamma. This was where the old Trotter Rooming House stood, at 101 Ming Street.

Little did I know, I would be working in this building a few short years later. I joined the fraternity as a young and naive undergraduate in the spring of 2013. Missing the camaraderie of sports, I was in search of joining something bigger than myself.

Alpha Chapter was the best fraternity on campus. They had a significant history on campus and awards to back up their achievements. We excelled both in intramurals and in the classroom. Winning Five Star, and being labeled the best fraternity on campus was an annual collective goal.

In the spring of 2016, I took an internship at headquarters to receive college credit toward my degree. It was this internship that led to a job offer after graduation. I write to you now as a not so young, and still somewhat naive alumnus and editor of the SAGA Magazine. I have a responsibility now to the men who served before me in this role.

We must continue the legacy of this great fraternity as we face new challenges in this next century.

Noble men are needed now more than ever. We will make it better for the next guy.

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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EDITOR & CREATIVE DIRECTOR

Jeremy Harrington, Central Missouri

CONTRIBUTING EDITORS

Buz Barlow, UW Oshkosh
Angel Gonzales, Washington State
Madison Hobson, Alpha Delta Pi
Adam Kowalski, Alpha Sigma Phi

EDITOR EMERITUS

Robert Bernier, Kent State
William Bernier, Kent State

PUBLICATION PRINTER

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NATIONAL NEWS

TOP SIG TAU HIGHLIGHTS

1

PAUL PHILLIPS, PHI CHAPTER AT SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA UNIVERSITY, IS THE RECIPIENT OF THE 2023 SIGMA TAU GAMMA DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD; THE HIGHEST HONOR AWARDED TO AN ALUMNUS OF THE FRATERNITY.

An experienced executive with a multitude of oversight responsibilities. World class competitor as an Obstacle Course Racer and internationally ranked Spartan Age Group athlete. Cajun heritage. Proud father of three remarkable daughters. Paul earned an MBA from the Ohio State University Fisher College of Business, his MS in taxation from DePaul University in Chicago and his BS in accounting from Southeastern Louisiana University where he was initiated into the Phi Chapter.

Paul is truly unique among us as he could be considered the poster boy for the Sig Tau definition of a Noble Man. His dedication to the Fraternity as both a Trustee of its Foundation and member of its Board of Directors further exemplifies his commitment to a lifetime of service to our brotherhood as well as his longtime willingness to provide generous gifts of time, talent and treasure to a broad range of other charitable organizations.

Acknowledged worldwide for his professional expertise as a top tier partner of Earnst & Young, a 150 year old multi-national professional services company headquartered in London and recognized as one of the “Big Four” accountancy firms, he currently serves as the Chief of Operations for its FSO Tax Americas practice while continuing to lead EY’s Global Captive Insurance Network. Most recently Paul has been recognized as one of the Top 50 Global professionals in his field, ranking as high as 4th in the World. A 12 page Vitae speaks volumes of his accomplishments in leading broad and diverse teams spanning a vast geographic footprint..

Brother Phillips is the embodiment of everything Sigma Tau Gamma professes to be and he does not hesitate to acknowledge the profound influence many Brothers, especially Past National President Chris Mauer, have had on his lifetime of accomplishments. He attributes our Principles for his determination to build a better working world by executing servant leadership.



ENDEAVOR 2023

Pictured (Right):
Paul H. Phillips, Southeastern Louisiana



2

ALPHA PHI CHAPTER IS BACK ON CAMPUS AT SOUTHEAST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

When it comes to passion, the Alpha Phi Alumni Association knows a thing or two about it. They helped fund the re-establishment of the Alpha Phi Chapter at Southeast Missouri State University. Fraternity Headquarters Staff were on location in September and October of 2022 working to recruit the next group of Noble men. 25 outstanding men were initiated into the chapter with the support of the following alumni and headquarters staff: Robert Bullock 91, Angel Gonzales, Washington State 15, Wayne House 93, Michael Dittrich 94, Ryan Dillick 08, Scott Drury 94, Michael Smith 77, Tony Roy 94, and Greg Rush, Phi Delta Theta. When we asked the Chapter Advisor, brother Michael Dittrich, about taking on the role here is what he had to say:

“Stepping into the role of Chapter Adviser for the Alpha Phi chapter fills me with boundless excitement and deep gratitude. In the lineage of advisors, names like Roy, Hamilton, Clement, and Hill shine bright, and it’s a profound honor to have my name etched alongside these distinguished brothers. This opportunity allows me to stand at the forefront, to guide and inspire the next generation of noble men, and to bridge the past with the future. Serving as a liaison between our remarkable alumni association and the vibrant chapter is my humble way of repaying the immeasurable lessons Sigma Tau Gamma has bestowed upon me. After helping lead the charge to raise money to reestablish the chapter, the best role for me was to work with the Noble Men we have on campus to rebuild a foundation for many years to come. We are where we are today because of the commitment and collaboration between our alumni chapter, the university, and our headquarters.”

Since their short time back on campus, the Alpha Phi Chapter has already accomplished so much. Undergraduate brothers have already been active with roles spanning from the Greek Judicial Board, track, golf, water polo, Iota Chi (an organization dedicated to the prevention of sexual violence and educating safe practices) just to name a few. The chapter also received the Robert N. Jones Charitable Projects Award for a small IFC community this past summer at Endeavor Maryland 2023. The chapter will work to achieve benchmarks that will lead to them receiving a re-issued charter for the newest class of Founding Fathers, while also continuing to hold the original charter from December 06, 1952.

3

KEYNOTE SPEAKER SETH BUTLER TALKS MENTAL HEALTH AT WEBB ACADEMY

A keynote speaker at this year’s Webb Academy in Kansas City, Seth Butler gave an unforgettable presentation acknowledging and responding to mental health issues confronting our undergraduate members in a post Covid higher education world. In the months that followed, he inspired many thoughtful and spirited discussions among our professional staff and key alumni throughout the organization, all of which became an essential component of the “Re-Imagine Sig Tau” Endeavor Conference in late June.

Seth was an elite D-1 competitor at Colorado State where he also served in several leadership roles, mentored at risk youth and identified service opportunities for the University’s student athlete population. He earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development and Family Studies and later a Masters degree in Student Affairs in Higher Education. Seth is now a full-time public speaker and spoken word artist using his gifts and passions to motivate others to build deep relationships, grow in humanity and cultivate their faith.

The following is a narrative of the Webb experience through his eyes:

“In our current digital era, I believe we are in a society that is more disconnected than ever, despite the unlimited opportunities to connect through social media and technological advancements. In a culture where it is effortless to click a “like” button to show support and appreciation of those around, it has become nearly impossible to experience that same level of love and support through non-digital outlets, resulting in the most superficial relationships we’ve seen to date.

As a result, we’ve lost the ability to truly connect at a deep level with those around us which has increased our rates of loneliness, depression, isolation and suicide. I believe the way to curb these rates is through deep and meaningful relationships, not through a large social media following or perfect “on-line” presence. It is for this very reason that I choose to stay off social media, because it forces me to actually engage with others in a vulnerable way, to look them in the eye, to shake their hand, to hear the inflection in their voice and to share a physical space with them- all of these opening the door to create strong, unbreakable bonds through human connection.

I thank God for Sigma Tau Gamma and the Webb Academy event for leading the conversation on how we are to strive for more. How we are to fight for REAL relationships that go beyond the screens of our devices that far too often serve as a barrier to our hearts.

Being invited to participate in this conversation and to challenge other young men to begin the life-long journey of creating and sustaining deep relationships was incredibly humbling. I cannot in good conscience call this an “event.” This was an experience and one I am forever grateful to have been blessed to be a part of.”

WEBB 2023

Pictured (Below):
Seth Butler, Keynote Speaker





NOTE FROM THE NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Looking back and looking forward...

The time we have in Sigma Tau Gamma as undergraduates is short and intense. From recruitment, to initiation, to classes/homework, to Brotherhood events, to countless chapter meetings, to socials, to e-board elections, to holding a job, to Webb Academy, to more classes/homework, to Student Government, to everything...there's A LOT to being a Noble Man. The intensity you feel on a daily basis is (using my father's word), "all part of the experience."

Here's a horribly kept secret...it only gets more intense from here. BUT...there's a caveat that you all have, and that is the Brotherhood of Sigma Tau Gamma. These men you meet who also have the same kind of intense experience you do you'll bond with in a way that most college-aged men will not. We are all LUCKY to have had this experience.

In October, I spent the weekend with a few chapter brothers (shout out to Gamma Nu) and from the moment we got in the car and throughout the weekend we laughed and had fun just like we did as undergraduates. The intensity we shared together as young men bonded us together so now that we're older men, we have one another to make the intensity of being a full-fledged adult more tolerable. As we have begun to lose some Brothers to Chapter Eternal and all the stresses and challenges of being an older man, just knowing they're there for me and my family gives me comfort and the safety net I need. My history with them and the bond we have helps me look forward they're good More poignantly, they're good for my mental health. I hope and pray all of you enjoy the same kind of Brotherhood I am LUCKY to have.

As we look to the future, Sigma Tau Gamma is focused on a few things. First, we've laid out strategic priorities for the CEO and Headquarters Staff that focus on providing better services and programs to our undergrads. We've also given them the expectation that they should find new ways to engage alumni so we can continue to develop those bonds of Brotherhood with one another. We've also asked them to put a focus on mental health of our undergraduates, because we should all be looking out for one another and helping one another when we need a hand-up. We also have asked them to ensure your member fees go as far as they can, but ensuring that those dollars are spent wisely.

I'd be remiss, if I didn't put in a plug that I hope to see as many of you as possible for our Grand Conclave in Houston this summer. Please keep an eye on Sigma Tau Gamma's social media and website for registration details. The more men we have at this event, alumni and undergraduates, the better. Please consider attending...I promise you, you will walk about having your "cup" refilled.

May God watch between thee and me, while we are absent one from the other.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeremy Daus".

41st National President
Jeremy Daus, UW - River Falls

ENDEAVOR RECAP

Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters held an Endeavor conference unlike any we've held before. Over the past few years, the landscape of higher education has been ever changing. While education does have its ups and downs in trends, the 2020 Covid Pandemic has continued to change the landscape in unprecedented ways. That created a space for Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters Staff and Fraternity Board of Directors to take advantage of diving deep into the fraternal experience to "Reimagine Sig Tau."

The staff created a brand new curriculum which would be facilitated by alumni, and designed to solicit feedback from students that will help shape the current and future landscape of the Sig Tau experience.

No questions were off the table, and the Fraternity Headquarters Staff were simply in the room to take notes and listen. Through this insightful weekend, the goal was to use the valuable information learned to help



guide the decisions and projects that the Board and staff continue to work on. We took some time post conference to ask some of the participants about the experience. Below is what they had to say!

How do you feel about Sigma Tau Gamma organizing a weekend event with the purpose to "Reimagine Sig Tau," influencing the organization's future direction?

"Sigma Tau Gamma is a fraternity dedicated to building Noble Men. In today's world, many young men lack essential life skills. By adhering to our principles and code of conduct, Sig Tau provides an environment for college men to develop into better men. Some people might not have had the opportunity to receive proper education in values such as respect, integrity, and leadership. Sig Tau serves as a platform for these young men to acquire these essential skills, preparing them to become the next generation of leaders. The continued relevance of Sig Tau lies in our commitment to instilling the values of Noble Men in a rapidly evolving society."

- Matthew Burns, Michigan Tech.

What were some of your biggest takeaways from attending Endeavor?

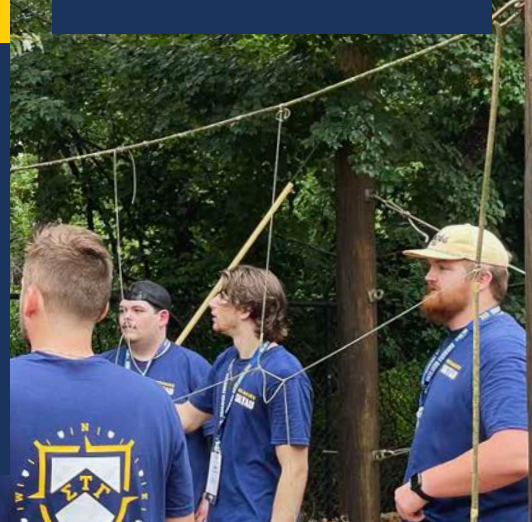
"I think the two biggest takeaways were engaging in meaningful conversations with fellow brothers about their chapters and the challenges they face. Secondly, the camaraderie that emerged among undergraduates, alumni, the board, and HQ staff was strong. Building these relationships not only fostered lasting friendships but also made it more comfortable to seek advice and guidance when necessary."

- Trace Eike, Pittsburg State

Why does Sig Tau still matter in today's college experience?

"Sig Tau holds significance both on a national and chapter level, but for distinct reasons. On a chapter level, Sig Tau fosters brotherhood among individuals who may have initially pursued college solely for their degrees. Many of these students may not have considered joining a fraternity until they witnessed the strong bonds within their individual chapter. On a national level, Sig Tau's importance lies in providing individual chapters with the resources necessary to cultivate noble men, be it in the form of a Noble Man Institute, Webb Academy, or Endeavor Conference. It brings chapters together, enabling them to address any challenges they may be facing and facilitating the exchange of valuable insights among brothers who have effectively navigated similar issues."

- Colby Gass, Missouri S&T



A STRONG TIDE ROLLS IN

Nathan Yamaguchi is a Brother of the Epsilon Phi chapter at the University of Alabama. Having been selected as the 2022 Ellsworth C. Dent Man of the Year Award, Nathan was invited to deliver the charge to the newly elected undergraduate chapter leaders at the 2023 Earl A. Webb Academy of Principled Leaders - a training program for newly elected chapter officers. Drawing on experiences as a new member, active member, and an alumnus, Nathan emphasized the vital role of chapter leaders to live Sigma Tau Gamma's Mission of 'creating noble generations of men.' The program didn't end with a farewell from the Fraternity Headquarters Staff, or with words of wisdom from a national officer. It ended with Nathan's words; the undergraduate man of the year's words, to help inspired the newest leaders of Sigma Tau Gamma.



For my very last 20 minutes as a high school student, I was slotted to give a presentation to a room of my classmates who all probably had beach towels in their backpacks and didn't have much interest in hearing what I was presenting with the high school finish line visible from the clock hands. This feels like a similar situation, but my hope is to share my perspective on the fraternity and your leadership roles as someone who was recently in your shoes. Before even becoming a Brother of Sig Tau, I was skeptical of Greek life. I never pictured myself as a member of a fraternity. It seemed dangerous to go through a fraternity pledge-ship. It didn't seem worth such a financial investment from my parents, albeit from me. But when I met the members of our Epsilon Phi chapter in 2018, there was a level of authenticity from the guys I encountered which surpassed my other experiences: It was the way they shook my hand, the way they looked at me, and the way they looked at each other.

At the University of Alabama, my journey to Greek life is unique, but if you've met even a handful of other Sig Taus from other chapters, you'll know that this experience is a thematic mark of our membership. While my perception of many fraternities has not changed broadly after four years, my appreciation has greatly grown in understanding what fraternity can be and— more

importantly – what fraternity should be. When I was invited to give the send-off, I came to three qualities I think are instrumental to your success as chapter leaders: Salesmanship, vulnerability, and brotherhood.

The past two days we've discussed strategies and tactics to lead in your chapters successfully, but what does success really look like? We're inclined to look to how our GPAs and social stature stack up against other organizations, or how well safety and program policies are adhered to, or how well our savings and operating budgets are maintained, or how engaged our alumni are with their time and resources. While these are positive targets to aim for, they are simply byproducts of more fundamental results. The most meaningful results all of you will cause are those which are not easily visible. It's not easy to see when a new member becomes genuinely convicted by the principles of the fraternity; it's not easy to see when a university becomes acutely aware of the impact of a chapter's engagement in the campus and surrounding community; it's not easy to see when you, yourself, become better prepared for the responsibility of fatherhood or career in industry. These are results we should set our eyes on.

We live in a world of opt-out culture. We live in a world of record loneliness. We live in a world detached from reality. And we live in a

world that does not like fraternities... When the parents of my friends had heard I was elected as our chapter's president, I remember hearing the commentary: "I cannot imagine being in fraternity leadership today"... "You couldn't pay me to do that job in 2021." The reality is: You all petitioned to have, perhaps, the least desirable job description in the United States! Then I remember that I did the exact same thing, too. This should strike all of us with curiosity. I've been thinking about this all weekend, considering why all of us decided to be here. What we desire is not easy... What we desire requires discipline... What we desire is intangible.

We are here to set the standard and example for a culture of Greek life that has been distorted and scandalized. The brutal realities that exist in so many Greek organizations— including our own – are not obstacles to concede but cancers to confront and irradiate. Sigma Tau Gamma will be a lighthouse as the dominos continue to fall for organizations and for chapters unable to adapt, and the roles your brothers have elected you to are the most influential platforms you can have in showing the way forward— showing what the fraternity is designed to do. Learning, integrity, excellence, leadership, citizenship, brotherhood. Our principles are not lip-service. The world needs these principles. Men need these ideals. And Sig Tau is a vessel.

Coming back to salesmanship, vulnerability, and brotherhood... Whether you recognize it or not, part of your responsibility is to be a great salesman. There will be many times when you will have to wield your influence to convince someone of something. When I served as president, our chapter was finishing a three-year lease in a house on campus, so I was responsible for transitioning our membership of a hundred guys from a house on campus to an off-campus situation. We didn't have a single active member who had experienced being off-campus without a house. I remember seeing the faces of our brothers having to move every last possession out of the house, to paint over our temporary crest, and come to terms with not having a chapter house; we weren't being punished, and yet that frustrated guys even more so. At one chapter meeting, I presented a slideshow on our future housing outlook. When I explained how close to no one would see a house while an active member, I felt the weight from my brothers' faces. Everyone was confronted with questions that a big, shiny house would normally have dismissed: "What does our brotherhood really look like without a house? What am I gaining from my membership? What are my dues getting me?" Sigma Tau Gamma is successful because its founders and its current leaders understand what we are selling. My number one job function was reminding and selling to every member of our chapter that we existed to become more virtuous men; and if we were to try to sell guys on just a good time, we would fail. We would fail in our efforts but also in our purpose. So, what exactly do I mean by selling? I'm sure every single one of us can think of a brother we sincerely admire—someone who you've looked at and say "I want to be like that guy. There are certain things this guy says and does..." For me, it was a brother named Quinn Parlier. When I was a new member, I was doing everything I needed to check all the boxes as a pledge to be initiated. One week, my pledge class failed a new member test on some of our history. Quinn's on education staff. He gets up in front of our whole class, and Quinn is big with this booming, deep voice. He looks at all of us with an intense scowl, not with anger but with concern: "Guys, this is the fraternity."

Quinn's sincerity fundamentally changed my desire to appreciate and truly understand Sig Tau rather than do the minimum to get by. Each one of you is now that guy. It's the little things that you say and do that have profound impacts on how the brothers respect the fraternity and those it's made up of. It's going to be hard. This is why you have to be vulnerable. People don't like sales because it opens the opportunity for resistance and rejection. Many times you're going to have to be vulnerable to make a good decision, sometimes even just a decision. Sometimes you won't even have a choice. We had a guy my sophomore year who quietly accumulated ten thousand dollars of debt to the chapter. Of course, everyone can encounter financial challenges, but it was slowly revealed that it was well within his means to pay off the debt. Our Standards Board finally addressed the situation when the executive team prompted the Standards Board Chairman to act, and he was expelled. And you might be thinking, 'Right. that makes sense.' Half of our chapter at the next meeting was infuriated. It was the angriest I've seen any of my brothers before, and the reason they were so aggravated was because he was living in the house, so his expulsion meant that he was evicted. He had no bed for the foreseeable future. It was crazy... The point of the story is not to ask whether this was the right decision. The point is that in your positions you are going to be forced to make a decision. To not do anything is to decide not to do anything. It's not fun having to make unpopular decisions, but if we really consider how we're going to make our fellow brothers into beSer men, we have to make the effort to see the bigger picture. Often times we disregard nuclear options because of the immediate consequences which follow.

It takes vulnerability to defend our decisions, and Seth Butler showed us that it is opening up about our struggles that sets us free. There is no greater testament to this aspect of our brotherhood than how I've seen our alumni embrace this. Six months ago, at this very podium right here, I saw Jim Johnston break down as he finished his time as national president, sharing the meaning our fraternity has brought him. I saw Alyx Parker upon his exit as senior past president open up about his struggles with mental health. With his wife and kids by side, he urged the Grand Chapter to face dark moments vulnerably with our fellow brothers and to ask for help. I saw grown men with tears in their eyes in front of other grown men with tears in their eyes. Why do I tell you this? All of you are going to go back to your chapters and see your brothers, many of which have never met a Sig Tau alumnus or even one from another chapter. I did not truly understand that our brotherhood was lifelong until six months ago when I came to our biennial meeting. Maybe some of you experienced this over the weekend, but it's as if before knowing you're meeting a Sig Tau from around the country, they don't quite feel like a stranger. And maybe this weekend hasn't dramatically changed your perspective in this way, but if you're like me, you'll see the importance of bringing this vantage point back to your chapters and communicating that our brotherhood is exponentially more than our own individual chapters. We are called to be noble men, to experience happiness, and to share that happiness with our brothers. Thank you.

2022-2023 AWARD WINNERS



Pictured (Left to Right):
Jeffrey S. Russo, Carnegie Mellon
Kevin J. Kolter, UW – Whitewater

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

**Winebrenner
Distinguished Fraternity Service Award**
Kevin J. Kolter, UW – Whitewater

Distinguished Alumnus Award
Paul H. Phillips, Southeastern Louisiana

**Barlow Medal for Distinguished Service
to the WPN Housing Corporation**
Janet Barlow

**Stan Musial and Eric Hillman
Sportsmanship Award**
Sean C. McDevitt, Arizona State

**Distinguished Interfraternal
Leadership Award**
Madeline Stine, Cincinnati

**Michael J. Steinbeck
Graduate Fellowship**
Zachary R. Racy, Central Missouri

CHAPTER AWARDS

**Edward H. McCune
Distinguished Chapter Award**
Epsilon Phi Chapter, Alabama
Epsilon Tau Chapter, UNC Charlotte
Gamma Phi Chapter, Southern Indiana

**Earl A. Webb
Most Improved Chapter**
Epsilon Upsilon Chapter, Virginia Tech.
Beta Chapter, Truman State
Delta Pi Chapter, Pitt–Johnstown

**Dr. Emmett Ellis
Chapter Scholarship Award**
Zeta Psi Chapter, Colorado
Zeta Pi Chapter, Arizona
Zeta Chapter, Northeastern State

**W.T. “Bill” Hembree
Campus Leadership Award**
Zeta Beta Chapter, Cincinnati
Gamma Chi Chapter, Michigan Tech.
Gamma Beta Chapter, UW – Stevens Point

**Professor O.F. Grubbs
Advisor of the Year Award**
Aron McManus, UW – La Crosse

Principle of Learning Award
Nick J. Meyer, Saint Louis

Principle of Integrity Award
Brett C. Hays, UNC Charlotte

Principle of Excellence Award
Landon T. Hill, Central Arkansas

Principle of Leadership Award
Ethan N. Murray, Northeastern State

Principle of Citizenship Award
Dalton D. Miller, Cincinnati

Principle of Brotherhood Award
Hunter R. Hull, Central Arkansas

**Robert N. Jones
Charitable Projects Award**
Epsilon Phi Chapter, Alabama
Epsilon Tau Chapter, UNC Charlotte
Alpha Phi Chapter, Southeast Missouri

**Bernier Family
Communication Award**
Zeta Alpha Chapter, Arizona State
Epsilon Tau Chapter, UNC Charlotte
Zeta Chapter, Northeastern State

**Thomas M. Hutsell
Chapter Efficiency Award**
Zeta Beta Chapter, Cincinnati
Gamma Chi Chapter, Michigan Tech.
Delta Chapter, Emporia State

Ellsworth C. Dent Man of the Year
Clay J. Miller, Youngstown State

Noble Man Hall of Fame
Clay J. Miller, Youngstown State
George E. Ashmore, Robert Morris
Jack J. McMillen, Emporia State
Matthew T. Howk, Northeastern State
Kyzer J. Johnston, Central Arkansas
Quentin A. Clark, Southern Indiana
Jacob N. Owczarzak, UNC Charlotte
Jared R. Jess, SIU Edwardsville
Ronald M. Gates, UNC Charlotte
Wesley C. Beene, Central Arkansas

National White Rose
Ashley Burton, Northeastern State

National White Rose Scholarship
Camryn Ausbrooks, Central Arkansas
Ashley Burton, Northeastern State
Mekenzie Cruz, Southeastern Oklahoma

**J. Gregory Rumpf
Recruitment and Growth Award**
Zeta Alpha Chapter, Arizona State
Epsilon Tau Chapter, UNC Charlotte
Zeta Chapter, Northeastern State

**Michael Schermer & Doug Lichtenberger
Foundation Advocate Award**
Zeta Beta Chapter, Cincinnati
Gamma Chi Chapter, Michigan Tech.
Beta Upsilon Chapter, Cleveland State

**Ronald W. Erickson
Alumni Engagement Award**
Epsilon Phi Chapter, Alabama
Epsilon Tau Chapter, UNC Charlotte
Delta Chapter, Emporia State

DO YOU KNOW OF A CHAPTER OR BROTHER THAT DESERVES RECOGNITION?
Let us know by emailing noblemen@sigtau.org



2023 Official Recruitment Shirt
Winning design submission by Delta Alpha brother:
Andrew Cook, East Carolina

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Now through January 31, 2024, use discount code SAGA10 to receive 10% off your total order.

🔍 order online at

www.sigtaumarketplace.com

FINDING PURPOSE: THE JOURNEY OF GREG BROWN



Pictured (Left):
Greg Brown, Truman State



“My Sig Tau journey changed the trajectory of my life. Beyond developing my faith walk, which is ongoing, few things, if any, have had a greater influence on me than my fraternity experience. I met my wife during that time, gained critical leadership skills, and it provided valuable insights into organizational dynamics. Best of all, it led to lifelong friendships. I credit that transformative path to helping prepare me for a long and wonderfully fulfilling career. I owe so much to my Sig Tau membership. It truly altered my life and for that, I’m extremely grateful.”

In the world of business and entrepreneurship, success is often measured in terms of profit margins, market dominance, and financial achievements. However, there are individuals whose success transcends these conventional metrics, driven by a deeper sense of purpose. Greg Brown is one such individual whose journey is not just a story of corporate success but also a testament to the pursuit of purpose.

Greg’s path to becoming a trailblazer in collegiate sports media, technology, and marketing businesses began with humble origins. Greg is an alumnus of the Beta Chapter at Truman State University, formerly known as Northeast Missouri State University. His initiation into the fraternity occurred in the fall of 1981, and he proudly graduated in 1984 with a major in Political Science, and an emphasis on Public Administration.

Before becoming a Bulldog at Truman, he was a Freshman at Iowa State University. However,

Greg soon realized that a larger campus did not fulfill his aspirations, prompting his transfer as a Sophomore. It was at this point that his involvement with Sigma Tau Gamma became a pivotal part of his life. The influence and guidance provided by his Sig Tau brothers directed him toward active participation on campus and helped bridge the void he had previously experienced.

Greg’s early involvement in Beta Chapter’s Executive Cabinet started in 1982 in the role of Chapter President. During this time, Chapter success and alumni engagement became focal points. He spearheaded a fundraising campaign for the student government, named “Tell Alumni,” which achieved record-breaking results. The chapter flourished under his leadership, consistently achieving national recognition for its alumni programs which included a newsletter and local Foundation that became the benchmark by which others were measured.

Beta Chapter won many awards in the 80s, like the E. Kennedy Whitesitt Communication Award, now known as the Bernier Family Communication Award, and the Edward H. McCune Distinguished Chapter Award, which only showcases the premier chapters of Sigma Tau Gamma. Greg’s exceptional contributions earned him the Ellsworth C. Dent Man of the Year Award in 1984, and more recently, he was honored with the Distinguished Alumnus Award in 2019, becoming only the second Brother in our 103-year history to achieve both. The success of Beta Chapter was the result of the combined efforts of many dedicated brothers. As the saying goes, ‘Many hands make light work.’ It was the chapter brothers, who remained actively engaged, that created an environment conducive to learning, and their ambition and drive propelled them to excellence.

One of Greg's cherished memories from his college days revolved around his student government election campaign. During election week, his fraternity brothers rallied together, working tirelessly into the late hours with little sleep, creating posters and crafting speeches. The camaraderie and unity of the brotherhood were strong during these moments, as they worked collaboratively in pursuit of a shared objective.

secured internships at the Attorney General's Office. Greg's talent and work ethic caught the attention of Learfield, an emerging presence in the broadcast industry that was headquartered in Jefferson City at that time. Remarkably, Greg managed to balance his Chapter leadership obligations, internship with General Ashcroft, academic commitments as a student, and the beginning of a career at Learfield simultaneously. All a precursor of what was to come.

on which he would build a remarkable career. His time at Learfield was not just about climbing the corporate ladder; it was about learning and understanding the industry from the grassroots, the very essence of sports marketing which he would dramatically change in the years ahead.

In 2009, Greg was named President and CEO of Learfield, a position that he would hold for 11 years. This was a pivotal moment in his career and a turning point for the company. Under his leadership, Learfield evolved from a small regional broadcast company into the leading collegiate sports marketing firm in the nation. The journey had its challenges, but Greg's leadership and commitment to the company's vision helped them endeavor forward.

A significant achievement of Greg Brown's tenure at Learfield was the merger between Learfield and IMG College in December 2018. This merger was not just a corporate move but the realization of the vision to create a sports marketing powerhouse that could redefine the industry. Under Greg's leadership, Learfield was able to successfully navigate this complex merger, bringing together two major players in collegiate sports marketing.



INITIATION 1982

Pictured (Fourth and Fifth from Right in the Front Row):
John D. Ashcroft, Truman State
Marvin Millsap, Central Missouri

A historic moment during Greg's presidency was the initiation of the Attorney General of Missouri, John D. Ashcroft, as a Sig Tau brother and honorary member. As a result of the relationship they developed, Greg, and a few Beta Chapter brothers before him, successfully

Instead of going to law school as he'd planned, Greg joined Learfield full-time. His initial role was selling sponsorships for the Iowa State Cyclone Radio Network. This was the kind of job that could be considered an entry point for many, but for Greg, it was the foundation

"I didn't build this company on my own. I had a remarkable mentor, Clyde Lear, who founded the company and guided me until his retirement in 2009. I collaborated with 2,600 incredibly talented individuals and was fortunate to have an exceptional executive team. Together, we built not only a successful company but also fostered a remarkable 'people-first' culture. Our success wasn't about me; it was about taking care of and serving our people, partners, and clients."



LETTER TO CLYDE LEAR

Follow-up is a valuable skill that is often overlooked. People's time is precious, and expressing gratitude can have a lasting impact. Demonstrating common courtesy and maintaining regular communication will convey your commitment and engagement.

February 21, 1984

Dear Clyde,

Let me start by saying thanks!!

I greatly appreciated the opportunity to speak with you about the exciting growth of Learfield Communications.

I commend you and all those involved for your excellent efforts in obtaining the broadcasting rights for the Iowa State Cyclones.

The Iowa Net is a tremendous opportunity for your company, and I would consider it a great honor to be a part of the team.

Your outstanding work and success is truly an inspiration to me. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Most sincerely,

Greg Brown

Mr. Clyde Lear
Learfield Communications, Inc.
216 East McCarty
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101

Greg has been honored with numerous awards and distinctions, such as being named to The Sports Business Journal's prestigious list of the "50 Most Influential People in Sports Business" for three consecutive years. In 2017, he secured the Southwest Region EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award in the Technology and Media Services category, a clear testament to his remarkable accomplishments in the field. His dedication to fostering entrepreneurship and innovation is further evident through the role he played as a national judge for EY's Entrepreneur of the Year Awards, where he was dedicated to motivating and acknowledging the accomplishments of others.

In addition, Greg serves on the boards of two non-profit organizations: The National Football Foundation Board of Directors and the Love for Malawi Board which provides much-needed support for people in that impoverished area of Africa. These roles exemplify his commitment

not only to the sports industry but also to citizenship and philanthropic endeavors aimed at making a positive impact on the lives of others.

After retiring from his role as President and CEO of Learfield IMG College in April 2020, Brown took a brief hiatus for six months, but he didn't stop there. He discovered a new path for purpose and impact by collaborating with two private equity firms and a venture capital firm. He was appointed as the Operating Partner for Providence Equity Partners, Senior Advisor to Coral Tree Partners, and Senior Advisor to KB Partners. Furthermore, Greg currently sits on five private corporate boards. These decisions weren't primarily aimed at securing corporate or senior executive positions. They were driven by his desire to align himself with firms and people he had longstanding relationships with who shared his values and vision, allowing him to make meaningful contributions.

Greg's journey is a testament to the heart of an entrepreneur. It's a journey marked by resilience, vision, and a relentless pursuit of purpose. His story encompasses much more than just corporate success. It highlights how one individual can influence an industry and create a significant impact. It's an example of how one brother's vision can change the course of an entire chapter and ultimately an entire industry.

Purpose-driven leadership can redefine and elevate the experiences of everyone it touches. Greg Brown found his purpose not just in business success but in the lives of his Sig Tau Brothers, sports fans, athletes, and communities across the nation. His legacy is measured in more than numbers on a balance sheet, but in the noble spirit of purpose, firmly grounded in the principles of Sigma Tau Gamma—**Learning, Integrity, Excellence, Leadership, Citizenship, and Brotherhood.**

FOUNDATION UPDATE

FOUNDATION CHAIRMAN

Pictured (Right):
Jeff Russo, Carnegie Mellon

**"If not you, then who?
If not now, when?"**

– Hillel the Elder,
Jewish Rabbi, Scholar, & Teacher



I want to share with you a powerful story about a Sig Tau and the example he set for me, some thirty years ago. It's powerful for me because I followed his lead, knowingly, willingly, and continue to do so to this day.

I met Jeff Dittenhafer when we shared a car with two other chapter presidents en route to the January 1987 edition of the Chapter President's Boot Camp. We pledged to become Wilson C Morris fellows within ten years of graduation. We shared the stage for a brief moment in 1988 in Pittsburgh as finalists for the Dent Man of The Year Award. (We also shared the runners-up spot, no match for Delta Chapter's Mark Biberstein.) We volunteered together under Charlie Marr and Tom Janicki in the East Region. We preached "You can make a difference" at the tops of our lungs with guys like Scott Yoder, one of Ditt's chapter brothers from Gamma Tau at Millersville.

In a world where the already obvious is overblown anyway, and subtlety is a lost art, it is an understated, unspoken gesture of kindness to Sigma Tau Gamma that speaks volumes about his principles, loyalty, and dedication to Sigma Tau Gamma. He had just been recognized for one of the lifetime giving levels to the Foundation, and I asked him how he had managed to be so generous, so soon after college graduation.

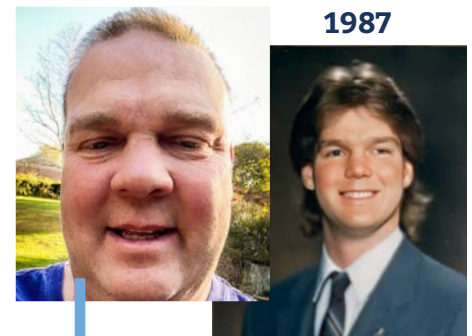
"It's easy", he said. "I just gave Sue Kay my credit card number and told her to run twenty-five bucks a month for the Foundation. I don't even notice it, and it adds up over time." So simple. So true. I checked with Sue the next time I was in Warrensburg. "Can I do this, too?" "Sure", she said, "just write the card number on a slip of paper for me and an amount per month." Ah, the 1980's.... Fast forward to 2023. You won't find us at 101 Ming.

Sue is our sweetheart in chapter eternal. You won't find credit card numbers in drawers. You won't even find them on our server. But if you were to look, you would find Jeff Dittenhafer still donating to the foundation on a rhythmic basis (don't quote me, but I think it's quarterly now, instead of monthly) for thirty-five years.

Little by little, month by month, quarter by quarter, year by year, brick by brick, foundations are laid. No wonder, that metaphor. The idea is as old as civilization - that robust and durable institutions are the sum of countless "bricks", purposefully conceived and placed in a predictable, mutually reinforcing

arrangement. You can't not run into the concept nowadays. It's a business truism. It's the bedrock of relationships. It guides parenting, self-improvement, sports, music lessons, and rehabilitation. The list goes on and on, to environmental impact, financial planning, nutrition, organization, spirituality, and beyond.

Monthly, Jeff Dittenhafer rises and answers Marvin's charge in the affirmative. It's time for all of us to do the same. I'm calling for all initiated members of Sigma Tau Gamma to follow Jeff's example, and make a regular, even if modest, contribution to the fraternity's Foundation.



1987

Pictured (Above):
Jeff Dittenhafer, Millersville

Let me share another story. This one's from my chapter, Delta Xi at Carnegie Mellon. Chartered 1987. Closed in 2016.

In 1987, my chapter, just over a year after re-organizing, "came out of nowhere" to win the Chairman's Choice trophy in the Greek Sing Competition. Lacking experience, size, and the requisite talent for the traditional arrangement of a Broadway show tune, we instead cobbled together a ten-minute rendition of The Muppet Show that was so homely you couldn't help but love it.

The "Chairman's Choice" trophy wasn't for excellence (if there was any doubt about that, we removed it), it was for purity of heart and spirit. You would have thought we'd won first, second and third. We went wild. It affirmed our vision and created a foundation

for our chapter's brand on campus. A couple of months passed, still riding high and with everyone in the chapter contributing in some way, we won third place in the Spring Carnival Booth competition with an off-the-wall construction that emulated a toll booth on the New Jersey Turnpike, built with repurposed material for a fraction of the budget the bigger, older fraternities had. The following semester, with that fire still burning, we doubled our chapter size with fall recruitment and began a three-year run as finalists for McCune Chapter-of-The-Year, which we won twice.

In short, we had a vision that was uniquely ours and everyone pitched in, which brought a little success, which then spiraled upward, and more and more great things happened. Two things about this Delta Xi story are relevant here.

First, about "coming out of nowhere" - it's an oversimplification. Really what happens is that often invisibly and without fanfare, teams, companies, and organizations start stacking bricks, one at a time, and build the foundation for success, and it snowballs. Delta Xi started with a damn fine advisor and seventeen members who each contributed what they could to realize a vision that was uniquely theirs, and it took off on a beautiful, upward trajectory, with the entire chapter united by a collective sense of purpose.

Second, if you reverse the "everyone contributes" ethic, the "spiral" is downward. Figuring that others would "pick up the slack", the members stopped contributing their time, talent, and treasure (ie, paying dues) and the chapter closed in 2016. It's a painful, but poignant thought.

ALL BROTHERS, PLEASE RISE.

This magazine is in thousands of mailboxes, plus five to ten thousand more digitally. What would Sigma Tau Gamma look like if we all donated \$20 a month?

- 1 100% new member attendance at five Regional Noble Man Institutes. Today, ten percent of our new members attend, and there's only one location. Did you know that, after attending Noble Man Institute, new members can: Describe their personal values and the six Principles of Sigma Tau Gamma. Explain the Five Practices of Exemplary Leadership and identify their highest practice. Compare and contrast the difference between fraternal ideals and behaviors. Articulate ways to make a difference in their chapter and community. Describe a growth mindset and employ strategies to bounce back from failure. Recognize the importance that Fraternity membership plays on personal development and lifelong success. Create a vision for themselves and their chapter to move towards the fraternal ideal.
- 2 An Awards and Scholarships program that could guarantee that no member would have to choose between remaining in school and paying the bills. Currently, the Foundation is able to grant around \$6000 for these two items. We'd like for it to be ten times that amount.
- 3 A mental health program that can make a difference in our members' lives by encouraging them to be open about their needs and get appropriate help.
- 4 A mentorship program that introduced brothers to alumni in their fields of interest who might provide advice, and professional connections to jump-start their careers and build upon the power of brotherhood.

What happens if we all pitch in a little?

This is big stuff, all within reach if we all pitch in. Not by being a Sig Tau for Four years; rather, by living as a "Sig Tau for Life". As in Jeff Dittenhafer.

In that spirit, I'm calling on each of us to pitch in a little. Become a regular donor to the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation. Make a small, incremental monthly investment in future generations of Noble Men, and the programs and experiences that make a difference in their lives. And if you can, think about volunteering as a chapter advisor - the best chapters are the ones with at least one committed, active advisor.

If you're a regular donor, thank you! And if you're not, join Jeff, me, and other alumni and friends in supporting Sig Tau now, Sig Tau for life!

DO YOU ENJOY THESE STORIES?

Please share your thoughts with us by emailing noblemen@sigtau.org. If you have a personal Sig Tau story that has greatly influenced the person you've become today, we'd love to hear from you!



WPN UPDATE



When our Epsilon Phi Chapter was Chartered at the University of Alabama in 2013 the Founders had a clear vision of what they wanted to bring to an SEC campus known for its abundance of established old line Greek letter organizations. They envisioned a niche among the stereotypical “Frat Boys” that were already embedded in the University’s culture. A true brotherhood experience that would appeal to a different type of student, young men they believed would be drawn to and uphold the Principles of Sigma Tau Gamma.

Current Chapter President Clay Bruce cautions that several factors come into play to obtain, maintain and grow a successful house operation:

- 1 Utilize the WPN resource and its expertise from the beginning.**
- 2 Work with your University to gather information regarding policies and restrictions that might apply.**
- 3 Talk to alumni who might have experience in real estate development and finance.**
- 4 Get full Chapter buy-in for the project based on realistic estimates of the cost in money, time and effort that will be necessary for each member to commit through move-in.**

“There is no instant gratification, you can’t expect visible results in recruitment and retention right away; all this requires patience and building for the long term. This is where a lifetime commitment to Sigma Tau Gamma begins.”

- Nathan Yamaguchi, Alabama

The Epsilon Phi Founders were right and quickly attracted new members who were active in all aspects of student life, who were respectful of each other and demonstrated a commitment to a high GPA and a strong positive work ethic while still allowing for the fun and fellowship that is an essential element of any social fraternity. This became their brand and identity to Administrators, Faculty and Undergraduate Students throughout Tuscaloosa. They were unique and everybody knew it.

With ever increasing growth, it soon became believed that a house would be needed to sustain and nurture the organization. That meant money and with no alumni base for a new Chapter to lean on that meant funding


the enterprise themselves. They turned to WPN for guidance and support, both short and long term. Quickly realizing that they needed a plan, a budget and “skin in the game” (investment capital), they set upon building up a Chapter fund through a designated portion of their dues.

As good fortune would have it, in 2018 another Fraternity was shuttered for violations of UA policy and Epsilon Phi was granted a three year lease for that property. Now housed together, it was soon realized this was not all that they believed it would be. Recruiting declined, irresponsible behavior appeared as never before and adherence to who they were was lost in the shuffle. They had to conclude that in many instances the house hurt more than helped.

In 2021 when the original Lease ended, moving out with no central location to go to, the Brothers realized they’d taken too much for granted and were facing an uncertain future. They argued among themselves and were confused but didn’t give up as they continued to save money for a new house and built on their unrivaled reputation as a top tier student organization. Former Chapter President Nathan Yamaguchi became aware of a potential new home that could be coming available; with the help of WPN, working behind the scenes, leveraging Epsilon Phi’s strong reputation and relationships, the house pictured left became theirs on a lease basis.

Most importantly, **“You need to run the entire Chapter operation like a business,”** Chapter President Clay Bruce states.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO GET STARTED?
Let us know by emailing noblemen@sigtau.org or get in contact with the WPN Housing Company.



Pictured (Right):
Marcus Aurelius, Roman Emperor

GENERATIONS OF GRATITUDE

I'll admit it and will eagerly confess that I am a Bibliophile... a lover of books. Big books or little books, works of fiction or deep thought, those filled with art or music, it makes no difference. One caveat to this is that they must be real books and their electronic counterparts will never do. My books must be held, nurtured, and revered for what they are... the clearest window to the world and all that we are as human occupants of planet Earth.

Among the most important works in print for many centuries and one I refer to most every day is titled "Meditations" and can be simply defined as a series of short philosophical reflections written by the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius. Private thoughts on the meaning of life and the value of people, this diary of sorts has influenced generations and has provided a lasting cultural legacy on Western history and thought.

Divided into a series of internal books, the first consists of a list of all the people that Marcus is thankful for. He compiled a gratitude list of the important people he had encountered throughout his life. He mentions the persons who have shaped and molded him into the man he has become, for many that means the greatest King in the history of the Roman empire. The most powerful figure in the whole of the ancient world.

Yet instead of focusing on his unimaginable power, position, or wealth, he writes about the people throughout his life who have sculpted his character, who have made him truly a man living every day a life of wisdom, purpose, and nobility. It demonstrates how highly he valued the men and women around him. He unabashedly recognizes that the most important value in life is human connection.

Where better to experience that value than in the brotherhood of Sigma Tau Gamma? I'm inspired to remember and appreciate those within our body of men who shaped and molded me, and who taught me lessons I might never have otherwise known. You've heard some of their names... Founders Ellsworth, Dent, and Edward McCune modeled a humble demeanor, Past National President Earl Webb often put the Fraternity above his own best financial interests, former CEO Keith Dinsmore dreamed the biggest of dreams, Bill Bernier whose more than four decades of professional leadership set a standard for executives of all Greek organizations to continue to marvel, past President Pat Phelps who mentored me as a young lawyer and continues to set the gold standard today for anyone laboring in a courthouse and Norbert Hill, our Distinguished Alumnus recipient and my Chapter brother who has touched my heart forever with a painful awareness of the oppression and horrific treatment of Native American people from sea to shining sea while continuing to this moment in time.

I ask you to think about these things too. Which of your Sig Tau brothers forever changed your life? Who motivated, encouraged, and stood by you in the dark days? What would have been said about the man you are today if you had not been linked together by our special bond? Who are those men? Have you told them what they mean to you? Have you ever thanked them? Do you really have a good excuse for not doing that today?



W.P. "Buz" Barlow, Jr., JD
Beta Mu '64
Chief Executive Officer
Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity, Foundation and Housing Company

CHAPTER NEWS



ROBERT MORRIS

Delta Psi Chapter's Haunted Mini Golf Tradition

Each year, Delta Psi, eagerly anticipates the Haunted Mini Golf volunteer experience. This event is no ordinary volunteering opportunity. It's a chance for the brothers to get creative, put on spooky costumes, and scare participants as they navigate the eerie mini-golf course.

Delta Psi brothers become monsters, clowns, and restless spirits, ready to jump out and provide spine-tingling scares. The thrill of watching participants jump, scream, and laugh is an unforgettable bonding experience for the brothers and a unique way to decompress from the demands of college life.



While having a blast and scaring people silly, Delta Psi takes pride in their positive impact on the community. The event is a highlight on their calendar and a testament to their commitment to creating lasting memories for all involved. It's a tradition that embodies their brotherhood and the principle of citizenship every year.



UMASS LOWELL

Epsilon Delta Chapter

The brothers of Epsilon Delta chapter actively engaged in the institution's 6th annual Days of Giving campaign, a philanthropic initiative that went beyond mere fundraising. Their mission was to create a substantial and meaningful impact on campus, supporting various areas and initiatives, such as sports teams and student-led organizations.

The dedicated brothers embarked on an ambitious journey, reaching out to a wide range of supporters, including alumni, friends, family, and the Greek community on campus. They fostered unity by collaborating with fellow fraternities and sororities that shared the vision of enhancing the university's vibrant atmosphere. Beyond their campus borders, they rallied support for the cause from Sig Tau brothers in other chapters.

Their hard work, determination, and collective passion paid off, securing a spot in the campaign's top 10. This achievement was a testament to their ability to mobilize a broad support network. The impact of their campaign was substantial, generating an impressive \$5,000 for the chapter. This contribution enriched various special impact areas on campus, enhancing the university experience for all students.

Their successful campaign reflected the character of the Epsilon Delta chapter and showcased the power of collective action. Their legacy in the 'Days of Giving' campaign stands as a reminder that united in a common cause, they can create a lasting impact that extends well beyond their chapter into the broader campus community.



SOUTHERN INDIANA

Gamma Phi Chapter

Each autumn, the Gamma Phi chapter at Southern Indiana eagerly engages in a cherished tradition: supporting Smile Mile, a local non-profit organization dedicated to spreading joy and making a positive community impact. This annual event is an opportunity for the chapter to come together, create lasting memories, and make a meaningful contribution.

Their unique approach to philanthropy adds an exciting twist to their mission. For each dollar donated, the chapter commits to riding a bicycle for one mile. This not only encourages giving but also adds a physical endurance element to their efforts, symbolizing their dedication to the cause.

In the weeks leading up to Smile Mile, the brothers rally supporters, reaching out to alumni, friends, family, and fellow students. They build a network of believers in the cause, inspiring others to contribute. Last year, their dedication paid off with an impressive sum of over \$2,000 raised for Smile Mile, supporting its mission to spread happiness and aid the local community.

The Smile Mile initiative has become integral to the chapter's identity, fostering unity, and community engagement. Their commitment shines a light of hope and joy enriching the lives of the men in the chapter and the lives of those they touch, one mile at a time.



ARIZONA

Zeta Pi Chapter

Over the past year, the Zeta Alpha chapter left an indelible mark on campus and the community through their philanthropic efforts. Their strong commitment to making a positive impact led to a series of impactful events.

One highlight was their 'Car Smash Fundraiser,' an inventive and exhilarating event that allowed participants to release pent-up energy by smashing a car. This unconventional fundraiser brought people together for a good cause and raised approximately \$750 for the chapter, supporting their philanthropic initiatives.

The chapter's dedication extended beyond the fundraiser. They actively

participated in various campus-wide philanthropic events, volunteering at local shelters, participating in charity runs, and organizing food drives. Their efforts fostered unity and community engagement, leaving a lasting impact on both members and the community.

As they look ahead, the Zeta Alpha chapter remains committed to their philanthropic mission, knowing that their innovative approach to fundraising will continue to resonate with their members and the community they serve.

Through their dedication, they exemplify the power of philanthropy and the difference it makes when the chapter works together.



CENTRAL MISSOURI

Alpha Chapter

At the University of Central Missouri, Alpha chapter has been leading a year marked by dedication, success, and a profound commitment to the fraternity's core values. This past year, they excelled both on and off the intramurals field, showcasing their remarkable versatility and unity.

On the intramurals field, Alpha chapter was nothing short of impressive. They clinched victory in multiple seasons of intramural sports, proving their athleticism and determination. These wins not only added accolades to their name but also strengthened the bond of brotherhood as they celebrated their victories together.

Beyond their athletic achievements, the brothers of Alpha chapter took a well-deserved brotherhood trip to the beach. This experience allowed them to unwind, relax, and create lasting memories. The trip was more than just a vacation; it

was an opportunity to strengthen their connections, share stories, and rejuvenate their spirits.

Amidst their busy schedules, the Alpha chapter made sure to continue their tradition of giving back to the community through philanthropic endeavors. They collaborated with their local community to donate clothes to the on-campus clothing department. This act of kindness not only benefited those in need but also reinforced the chapter's commitment to making a positive impact on others.

Looking forward, the Alpha chapter remains determined to build on their successes and create an even more remarkable year ahead. Their dedication to intramurals, brotherhood, and philanthropy is a shining example of how Sigma Tau Gamma's principles can be woven into every aspect of life, enriching not only their college experience but also the lives of others.

COLORADO STATE

Zeta Sigma Chapter

Each winter, the Zeta Sigma chapter takes on a frigid challenge with warm hearts. They participate in the annual Polar Plunge, an event that extends beyond braving icy waters—it's a mission to support and fundraise for the Special Olympics.

Diving into the frigid waters is a testament to their unwavering philanthropic commitment.

The chapter launches an extensive fundraising campaign, rallying friends, family, alumni, and their local community to share the cause and inspire contributions.

Their collective efforts led to an impressive achievement in their last endeavor, raising over \$9,000 for the Special Olympics.

This substantial contribution bolsters the organization, providing resources, opportunities, and support to athletes, nurturing their growth and well-being.

The Polar Plunge raises money for others but more importantly it brings people together to support a cause that transcends themselves.



WANT TO SEE YOUR CHAPTER IN THE SAGA?

Submit your chapter news for the magazine! Send a write-up and photo to noblemen@sigtaw.org, and your chapter could be included in the next SAGA Monthly or SAGA Magazine.



SALISBURY

Epsilon Rho Chapter

Every winter, the Epsilon Rho chapter upholds their commitment to community and philanthropy with the annual Polar Bear Plunge.

Preparations for this extraordinary event begin months in advance, with efforts to raise awareness, organize logistics, and rally support from their campus and community. The mission is twofold: to raise essential funds and create an inclusive and memorable experience for participants.

One remarkable aspect of the latest Polar Bear Plunge was the increase in participants, including chapter

members, campus and community members. Their enthusiastic response demonstrated the growing awareness and enthusiasm for this exceptional cause.

The event raised an impressive \$11,000, a testament to the chapter's commitment and the generosity of their supporters. The funds directly empowered the Special Olympics to continue its mission of helping others.

Beyond fundraising, the Polar Bear Plunge serves as a symbol of unity for the chapter as they give back to the community while having fun.

1989 PENN STATE BEHREND

Pictured (Below):
Delta Upsilon Chapter brothers
pose for a retreat picture.



CLEVELAND STATE

Beta Upsilon Chapter

An opportunity for camaraderie and the strengthening of fraternal bonds arose as the brothers of the Beta Upsilon chapter joined their counterparts from the Beta Gamma chapter at Youngstown State.

This meeting of two chapters not only demonstrated the unifying spirit of brotherhood but also presented a valuable occasion for shared experiences and collaboration.

The gathering provided a platform for the exchange of ideas, traditions, and experiences. It allowed the brothers from both chapters to learn from each other, sharing insights and strategies.

Amidst shared laughter and stories, the members of the Beta Upsilon and Beta Gamma chapters found common ground and uncovered the

ties that bind all fraternity brothers. It was a reminder that the bond of brotherhood extends beyond individual chapters and serves as a source of strength and support throughout their collegiate years and beyond as Sig Tau's for life..

As they parted ways, the brothers took back with them not only cherished memories but also a reinforced commitment to the principles of the fraternity.

The meeting between the Beta Upsilon chapter and the Beta Gamma chapter was a testament to the enduring significance of fraternal brotherhood and the limitless potential that arises when like-minded individuals come together intending to help each other better their chapter and college experience.



UW – STEVENS POINT

Gamma Beta Chapter

The Gamma Beta chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma prioritized the principle of Brotherhood, organizing a significant brotherhood retreat to fortify their unity and commitment to the fraternity's values.

This retreat wasn't just an ordinary gathering; it was a deliberate and meaningful endeavor designed to deepen their understanding of Sigma Tau Gamma principles, with a specific focus on Brotherhood.

The retreat revolved around activities and discussions to enrich their comprehension of the fraternity's principles. A primary emphasis was placed on goal setting and planning for the upcoming semester.

The chapter recognized the importance of clear objectives for individual and collective growth, delving into personal development,

academic excellence, and community involvement through guided workshops and discussions.

Team-building activities, personal storytelling, and open dialogues brought the brothers closer together, fostering a deeper connection.

The experiences and lessons from the retreat reaffirmed their dedication to Sigma Tau Gamma and instilled a sense of purpose and unity within the chapter, emphasizing that Brotherhood goes beyond words and requires genuine connections and active collaboration.

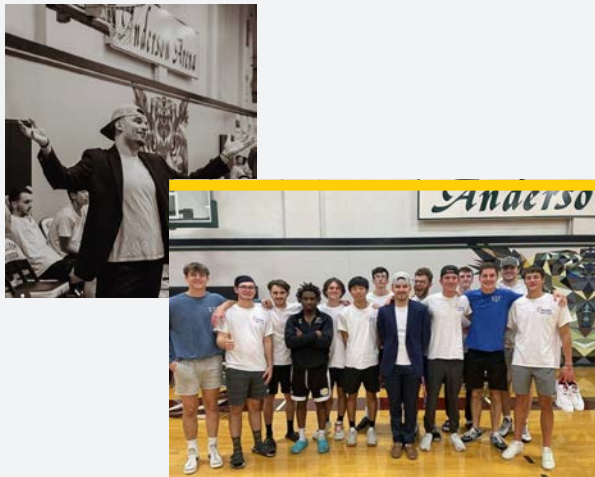
With the strengthened bond and clear vision they gained from the retreat, the Gamma Beta chapter returned to campus equipped with the tools and motivation to set and achieve their goals, a guiding force in their path of principles.



WILLIAM WOODS

Zeta Mu Chapter

The Zeta Mu chapter at William Woods University took their philanthropic commitment to new heights by hosting their inaugural charity basketball tournament. This event was a dynamic showcase of unity, community engagement, and giving back, embodying the chapter's determination to make a meaningful impact.



They invited various Greek organizations on campus to participate, fostering camaraderie and inclusivity. The tournament format brought together teams from different chapters, showcasing their basketball skills while supporting the charitable cause. The electrifying dunk contest was a fan favorite, adding to the event's excitement.

The tournament exceeded expectations, raising over a thousand dollars. Beyond the financial success, it highlighted the importance of community engagement, unity, and the power of collective action for a common cause. The Zeta Mu chapter plans to make this charity basketball tournament an enduring tradition, furthering their commitment to philanthropy and leaving a lasting legacy in the Greek community at William Woods University.



FITCHBURG STATE

Delta Phi Chapter

The Delta Phi chapter's philanthropic Bike-a-thon exemplified their dedication to making a positive impact in their community. It was a well-planned initiative where brothers collectively biked an impressive 469.4 miles, pledging \$1 for every half mile ridden. Their commitment extended beyond the physical challenge; it was an opportunity to raise substantial funds for a meaningful cause.

Their chosen cause was the Special Olympics, aligning with Sigma Tau Gamma's national philanthropic partner in supporting individuals with intellectual disabilities through sports and programs. As they pedaled tirelessly, the chapter connected not only with their

community but with potential new members and like-minded individuals passionate about philanthropy.

The Bike-a-thon resulted in an astonishing contribution of over \$1,300 to the Special Olympics. Beyond the financial success, it showcased the power of unity and determination within the chapter.

As they look back on the Bike-a-thon's success, the members of the Delta Phi chapter remain dedicated to philanthropy and service. They understand that their impact goes beyond the funds raised. They were embodying the enduring spirit of Sigma Tau Gamma, where Brotherhood and service are intertwined.



STEPHEN F. AUSTIN

Gamma Pi Chapter

The Gamma Pi chapter in Appleby, Texas, demonstrated their commitment to community service by dedicating a memorable day to support Mr. Brian, the owner of a local community farm. This farm is a vital source of fresh produce for the local farmers market and a symbol of community unity.

Upon arriving at the farm, the chapter members embraced the warm atmosphere and rolled up their sleeves to contribute. They began by planting new crops, including onions and tomatoes, guided by Mr. Brian's expertise. This experience allowed them to connect with the earth and appreciate the work behind providing locally grown produce to the community.

In addition to planting, they focused on tidying and organizing the farm, lightening Mr. Brian's workload and demonstrating their commitment, inspiring others to make a difference.

The day with Mr. Brian was a reflection of the chapter's broader mission—a commitment to service, unity, and community connections. Their involvement not only taught them valuable skills but also strengthened their bonds with the local farmers market and the people it serves.

Moving forward, they remain dedicated to supporting those who make their community a better place, showcasing the power of unity and the principle of citizenship.

ALUMNI NEWS

In the heart of Hammond, Indiana, Mike Van Camp, Indiana State's custom metal fabrication shop has quietly transformed the way Sigma Tau Gamma celebrates its milestones. Van's Industrial, founded by Mike's grandfather, Donald, is an embodiment of hard work, dedication, and craftsmanship. Donald's journey to becoming a skilled metalworker began during his service in the Navy during the Korean War, where he honed his craft. Six decades later, the company continues to flourish, specializing in custom projects of varying scales. What sets Van's apart is its commitment to turnkey projects, handling everything from design to installation with precision and care. Mike, who has been an integral part of the company's success for almost 23 years, assumed the role of Vice President in 2017, taking on responsibilities go beyond the shop floor. But it was a moment in 2019 that would spark a unique connection between Van's Industrial and Sigma Tau Gamma.



In 2019, Mike volunteered to be a part of one of the Centennial Celebration Committees for Sigma Tau Gamma, a fraternity that he holds dear. The committee's task was to create and produce commemorative gifts for the fraternity's chapters in honor of the centennial year in 2020. However, an unexpected challenge arose as budget constraints threatened to hinder the production of these gifts.

Unfazed by the budget limitations, Mike took it upon himself to turn the situation around. Collaborating with Jeremy Harrington, Central Missouri, he designed and fabricated a remarkable 100th Anniversary Stainless Steel Shield, financing the project with his own resources. The dedication and love for the fraternity motivated him to create enough shields for all the existing chapters. In an extraordinary gesture, he personally delivered them to Webb Academy in Indianapolis in January of 2020.

The response was overwhelming. As Mike brought boxes of the shields into Webb Academy, alumni present immediately

expressed their desire to possess these exquisite creations. With the help of the fraternity's staff, more shields were generated for the alumni, and the sales proceeds went to support the Foundation.

The impact of this generous act extended far beyond mere gifts; it resonated with the spirit of brotherhood that Sigma Tau Gamma embodies. Even as the dark clouds of the impending pandemic gathered, the Webb Academy event became the last major gathering for Sigma Tau Gamma before the pandemic-induced lockdowns.

Mike's commitment to Sigma Tau Gamma didn't stop with the 100th Anniversary Stainless Steel Shield project. He has continued to contribute his skills and creativity to further enhance the fraternity's heritage. His generosity has extended to the design and production of a stainless-steel coat of arms, proudly displayed in the atrium of the fraternity's headquarters building. He has also designed a fire pit, which has been produced for the Noble Man Institute, and centennial pits for the Alpha, Beta, and Delta chapters.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Pictured (Third From Right):
Mike Van Camp, Indiana State

The satisfaction that Mike derives from these contributions is evident in his words:

"It has been a pleasure to create these donated items. I love our Fraternity, and all I am trying to do is make it better for the next generation."

Mike has not only left an indelible mark on Sigma Tau Gamma but has also set an inspiring example for all of us. As we reflect on his journey, we are reminded of the importance of passion, innovation, and the spirit of giving back to the communities and organizations we hold dear. The legacy he is building is one of enduring impact, and it serves as a beacon for future generations to follow.

In the midst of metal and fire, Mike has crafted brotherhood, and in doing so, has created a legacy that will shine bright for years to come.



EPSILON TAU CHAPTER CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

Dedication of a Decade

Charlotte, NC (March 17, 2023) – The Epsilon Tau Chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma at UNC-Charlotte marked a monumental milestone as they joyously celebrated their 10th anniversary of chartering at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. This remarkable occasion was commemorated in grand style with a splendid gala that brought together the active chapter members, as well as over 80 enthusiastic alumni and cherished guests, totaling an impressive turnout of over 130 attendees.

The evening was nothing short of memorable. Brother Dylan Rhodes, Epsilon Tau alumnus and member of the 2018 Undergraduate Hall of Fame, served as the Master of Ceremonies for the evening. Under his guidance, the event shone brilliantly, echoing the camaraderie and brotherhood the chapter has upheld for a decade.

The gala featured a lineup of distinguished speakers, each of whom had played a pivotal role in the chapter’s journey. Mohit Nigam, the founding Chapter president, regaled the audience with stories of the chapter’s inception and early triumphs. Mike Matznick, Chapter Advisor and esteemed member of the Society of Seventeen, shared his wisdom and guidance, emphasizing the continued growth and development of the Epsilon Tau Chapter. Finally, Past National President Jeff Russo added a touch of prestige and legacy, delivering the keynote address for the evening. Beaming with passion, his words encapsulated both the proud history and promising future of Sigma Tau Gamma.

The 10th-anniversary celebration of the Epsilon Tau Chapter was an evening filled with nostalgia, reflection, and excitement for the future. It served as a testament to the enduring bond that unites its members, past and present, and underscored the unwavering commitment to the values and principles that Sigma Tau Gamma represents.

DO YOU HAVE AN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION STORY TO SHARE?

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



50 YEARS OF GAMMA PHI CHAPTER

Golf at the Golden Jubilee

Evansville, IN (June 10-11, 2023) – The Gamma Phi Chapter at the University of Southern Indiana celebrated the 50th anniversary of the chapter’s original chartering ceremony. The weekend saw the return of over 130 alumni and undergraduate members. Members enjoyed a golf outing, brunch and campus tour, pig roast, and certainly, an abundance of brotherhood.

Since the start of Gamma Phi, the chapter has amassed over 590 members who have contributed to a culture that the current chapter continues to exemplify. As one of the defending Edward H. McCune Chapters of the Year, Gamma Phi will seek to strengthen their brotherhood and remain a staple of leadership and excellence at the University of Southern Indiana.

MIND IF WE BORROW YOUR TIME?

Think about your college experience. The drinking age might have been lower. You were facing bigger concerns in the country besides who was touring in concert. You were fortunate if you had a vehicle with you on campus. You might have been the first person in your family to go to college. But most importantly, you most likely didn't have social media.

Can you imagine what your chapter experience would have been if you had social media? Actually, maybe you shouldn't, **BUT**, because current undergraduates were born with technology in their hands, it has changed the landscape of the fraternity experience. Growing up for roughly 18 years with a cell phone in their hands, our members are the product of widespread technology and parents who have paved the way for virtually every experience they have had in life. Cell phones + organized playdates and readymade communities = college men who are going to want to feel accepted right away. Queue Sig Tau.

Our men are truly talented. Sig Tau offers some of the most considerate, unique, and accepting leaders on our campuses; but even the best chapters need some guidance every now and then. This is where you come in. Our men have asked to connect with more alumni, even alumni from other chapters. We need to borrow your time. Our men need you.

You don't have to be an expert in fraternity to be a good advisor, you just have to care. Sig Tau has been fortunate over the years to have several individuals serve in the advisor ranks.

Lt. Col. Irwin L. Graves, UW – Whitewater '40
Christopher Miofsky, Delta Lambda Phi
Dr. Harry Stephens, Emporia State '61
Doug Haman, Miami '92
AJ Wurtz, Arizona '16
Joy Helsel, Sigma Kappa
Dickie Whitson, Southeastern Louisiana '69
Paul Szczesny, Michigan Tech. '79
Paul Griffin, Arkansas Monticello '91
Kurt Jackson, Northwest Missouri '85

You don't have to be nationally recognized to be a good advisor, you just have to donate your time.

You are a valued brother. Give us a call.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

“Coming up on a reunion and I would like to get three of the Sig Tau blazer patches. I can’t find it in your catalog of accessories.”

- Bill Buttrill, Frostburg

A PATCH REBORN

Sigma Tau Gamma headquarters sprang into action when Bill Buttrill, a Beta Pi chapter alumnus from Frostburg State College, was gearing up for an approaching reunion. Unfortunately, the historical navy blue Coat of Arms embroidered patch was no longer available at the Sig Tau Marketplace. Headquarters partnered with a local custom embroiderer to reproduce it for this special event. You can purchase one today on the Sig Tau Marketplace website. Each patch is a custom order, so please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery.



SIG TAU
MARKETPLACE

PATCH

Pictured (Left to Right):
The original embroidered
Coat of Arms patch and
the custom recreation

Visit sigtaumarketplace.com to order yours today.



CHAPTER ETERNAL

The Chapter Eternal list represents deceased members reported to Sigma Tau Gamma Headquarters between June 2022 – June 2023. The list is in alphabetical order by first name.

Abdul Nur Hakim, Jr.,
Beta Omega, 1986

Andrew J. Turocy,
Beta Omega, 1968

Anthony C. Curcio,
Beta Omega, 1973

Arthur G. Myers,
Upsilon, 1973

Barron C. Burton,
Beta Iota, 2004

Bradley Nelson Johnson,
Phi, 1977

Carl F. Bohman,
Alpha Kappa, 1962

Charles Richard Tennant, Jr.,
Beta Omega, 1984

Daryl D. Thornburg,
Beta Theta, 1959

David George Braverman,
Beta Alpha, 1981

Dennis R. Whetstone,
Alpha Sigma, 1973

Edward Duke Tweed,
Alpha Omega, 1978

Eugene E. Hatfield, Jr.,
Alpha Gamma, 1955

Gary D. Borchardt,
Alpha Phi, 1967

Gene M. Hunt,
Alpha Phi, 1959

Jacob Wayne Taylor,
Delta Epsilon, 2006

James D. Watkins,
Upsilon, 1976

James M. Borgen,
Alpha Kappa, 1962

Jayden Kwame Harrison,
Delta Alpha, 2019

Joel F. Foster,
Upsilon, 1974

John B. Hines,
Omicron, 1958

John C. Sasala,
Beta Omega, 1969

John Raymond Roemen,
Delta Theta, 1988

Kenneth R. Mathis,
Alpha Psi, 1969

Kenny Marshall Townsend,
Epsilon Mu, 2013

Kevin McGrain,
Gamma Eta, 1975

Kioke J. Ringo,
Phi, 1969

Kirk Wayne Knight,
Gamma Phi, 1989

Kurtis Leroy Ahrens,
Alpha Kappa, 1959

Michael Anthony Triebsch,
Beta Iota, 1980

Patrick Charles Hardy,
Alpha Omega, 2006

Paul Andrew Vitale,
Sigma, 1991

Paul Michael Jud,
Beta Lambda, 1984

Randolph Michael Howes,
Phi, 1963

Richard E. Anderson,
Alpha Kappa, 1958

Robert J. Wortock,
Alpha Kappa, 1962

Ronald H. Ezell,
Phi, 1963

Scott D. Sergeant,
Beta, 1973

Stanley J. Skavery,
Psi, 1964

Stephen Wade McDonald,
Upsilon, 1994

Steven Michael Carb,
Beta Omega, 1977

Thomas C. Smith,
Beta Rho, 1960

Tyler Burd,
Gamma Pi, 2022

Warren A. Louque,
Phi, 1958



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.



SCHOLARSHIP



LEADERSHIP



CITIZENSHIP



Help make an impact
this #GivingTuesday

SCAN THE QR CODE



SIG TAU
FOUNDATION

Your support of the
Foundation contributes to
the growth of **Scholarship,**
Leadership, and **Citizenship**
in all of our chapters
throughout the country.