

UPCOMING EVENTS

Blue-White Weekend
April 17-19, 2015

**25th Annual Sigma Chi
Golf and Alumni Weekend**
June 5-7, 2015

OFFICERS

Alpha Chi House Corporation

President
Eugene Eignor '98
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Jim Lundy '82
Tom Giacalone '88
Tim Stem '99
David Kuhn '98
Josh Zech '99
Robert Peruzzi '00
Ryan Touchton '01
Matt Siekman '03
Neil Campbell '04
Matt Slocum '08
Steve Warden '09

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Since the publication of our last newsletter, we have learned of the passing of **Greg Lyons '75** and **Tom Rice '89**. We extend our condolences to their families.



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www.pennstatesig.org



A Peterson Significant Chapter

State College, Pa. • The Alpha Chi Chapter of Sigma Chi at The Pennsylvania State University • November 2014

SIGMA CHI LEADERSHIP

It's a Good Time to Be the President!

By Eugene Eignor '98, President, Alpha Chi House Corporation

For those of you who don't know me, I am the new Alpha Chi House Corporation president. Currently, I am a regional vice president for a mutual fund company that is based in Kansas City, Kansas. I live in Centreville, Va., with my wife and three children. I have been an active alum and member of the board for eight years.

First, I want to thank **Bobby Peterson '99**, our outgoing president. Bobby, we appreciate your dedication and commitment to Sigma Chi at Penn State and look forward to your continued contributions as you remain on the house corporation board. I also want to thank **Dave Kline '64**, our chapter advisor. Dave, I look forward to working with you in the coming years. Dave, who was recently inducted into the Order of Constantine, has shown himself to be invaluable to the success of the active chapter (see more on Page 3).

The fall semester got off to a quick start with rush and an earlier than usual Homecoming week. Penn State football is in full swing, and I hope you have been enjoying Coach Franklin's first season. As a season ticket holder, I make it up to a few games a season and would love to see you at our tailgate, as we are always flying a flag of the Sigma Chi Cross.

At the chapter house, the board continues

to strengthen its ties with the actives, and we look forward to their continued success in 2014-2015. With 10 brothers attending Balfour Leadership Training over the summer — *and winning a Peterson Significant Chapter Award* — the chapter remains prominent on campus and is performing well academically. I had the pleasure of sitting down with the executive team and several active undergraduates to discuss their efforts. I believe that we are truly aiding in their development into future leaders.

As always, the board is currently reviewing ideas to continue to maintain and upgrade the chapter house. We completed the first basement renovation and have several other ideas in mind to maximize the space. The Great Hall and dining room are in need of attention as well, and we hope to address them in the near future. We recently had another code inspection and with only a few minor issues identified, we are very pleased with the results and the current condition of the chapter house.

We appreciate the continued support and donations from our strong alumni base and look forward to a very productive future for the active chapter at Penn State. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to reach me at eignor98@yahoo.com or 703-629-8346.

Alpha Chi Wins Peterson Significant Chapter Award!



Congratulations to our undergraduates for bringing home "the highest honor that the Fraternity bestows upon an undergraduate chapter" this past summer during the 2014 Balfour Leadership Training Workshop at Ball State University in Muncie, Ind.

SIGMA CHI GOLF 2014

So Who Won the Tacky Jacket This Year?

The 2014 Sigma Chi Golf Classic showed us that some newer grads have what it takes. We welcome the foursome of **Matt Daniels**,



Matt Davis '08, Pat Robertson '08 and Steve Warden '08 to the Tacky Jacket Club! Go to www.pennstatesig.org for the link

to more photos. And, mark your calendar for next year's 25th Annual Golf Outing scheduled for June 5-6, 2015. To track progress of the planning for this milestone event, search for our tournament page on Facebook at *25th PSU Sigma Chi Golf Classic and Steak Bake*.

Congratulations, Ryan Touchton '01

Please join with us in congratulating Brother **Ryan Touchton '01**.

This summer, Ryan was the recipient of the William T. Bringham Outstanding Chapter Officer Award.



CHAPTER UPDATE

On the Heels of the Peterson Award, Chapter Adds 28 New Members

By William Bensus '17, Undergraduate Alumni Relations Chairman

We are well underway into our fall semester here at Penn State; 90 brothers returned for this school year with 39 moving into the chapter house last August. This has been very memorable and eventful semester within the Alpha Chi chapter thus far.

As you have read, we were pleased to accept the Peterson Significant Chapter Award this summer. Now, we are extremely pleased to welcome 28 new members to our chapter. Our rush committee did an excellent job selecting new members and extended 34 invitations to join with 28 accepting (82%).

"I was excited to pin in the fall 2014 pledge class following a successful rush

process," says Magister Matthew Kutz '17. "Our head rush chair, senior JP Caroll '15 (supply chain management), rushed potential new members based on the Jordan Standard and organized rush events that revealed who best fit the character of a Sigma Chi. As our pledge process continues, I am excited to see how much these young men will grow in character and intellect. I look forward to their initiation as well as their contributions to the Alpha Chi Chapter."

With THON quickly approaching, we have begun our fundraising efforts. "Over the weekend of October 18 and October 19, several canning trips were held in conjunction

with the sisters of Alpha Omicron Pi," explains Head THON Chairman Matthew Minetola '16. "We had a very successful weekend, exceeding our total from any canning weekend last year during our most recent trip. Preparation for THON 2015 is well underway, and we are looking forward to great year of fundraising."

Thank you to all of the alumni who continue to support our chapter through donations, time and your talents. We are looking forward to the rest of the fall semester and what's left to come. Please feel free to stop by the house the next time you are in town.

Meet Our Fall 2014 Pledge Class ...

Jacob D. Kleindl
Arch. Eng. – Pittsburgh, Pa.

Kyle F. Goodrich
Finance – West Chester, Pa.

Christopher J. Johnson
Undecided – Latrobe, Pa.

Evan R. Miller
Business – Harleysville, Pa.

John T. Daniele
Supply Chain – Jamison, Pa.

Camilo F. Vives
Undecided – Houston, Texas

Thijs P. Everts
ERM – Utigeest, Netherlands

Tyler W. Stark
Undecided – Wayne, Pa.

Nicholas S. DeCamp
Undecided – Pittsburgh, Pa.

James M. Chagula
Finance – Riverdale, N.Y.

Paul A. Austi
Finance – Bronxville, N.Y.

Kyle W. Salvitti
Finance – Doylestown, Pa.

Stephen C. Chuirazzi
Pre-Med – Pittsburgh, Pa.

Peter T. Bellwoar, Jr.
Finance – Devon, Pa.

Jared D. Kelly
Chem. Eng. – Chalfont, Pa.

Thomas J. Lindsay
Comm. – Darien, Conn.

Gregory J. Bresnan
Undecided – Oaks, Pa.

Lance F. Chambers
Ind. Eng. – Huntingdon, Pa.

Sean C. MacCarrick
Undecided – Malvern, Pa.

John D. Wegmann
Supply Chain – Mequon, Wis.

Caleb K. Cheng
Accounting – Palm Beach, Fla.

Colton M. Richards
Undecided – Glen Mills, Pa.

Luke D. Wilkens
Mech. Eng. – Carlsbad, Calif.

Maxwell C. Miller
Undecided – Falls Church, Va.

Brian T. Cherewka
Ind. Eng. – Harrisburg, Pa.

Anthony J. Unker
Undecided – Fairfield, Conn.

Austin B. Redding
Arch. Eng. – Bethlehem, Pa.

Christian J. Cochran
Undecided – Darien, Conn.

ALUMNI PROFILE

He's Leading the Charge for the 25th Annual Sigma Chi Golf Outing Meet House Corp. Board Member Tom Giacalone '88

Following in the footsteps of the original eight golf tournament organizers and **Joe Conaty '82** (who chaired the tournament for 15 years), Brother **Tom Giacalone '88** has begun his 11th year as chair of the annual Alpha Chi golf tournament. This next year marks the 25th year of the event — something very special to both alumni and undergraduate brothers.

“The true spirit part of the weekend is that we have the opportunity to rekindle old friendships as well as build new friendships across generations of Alpha Chi Sigma Chi brothers,” Tom explains. “Whether it is catching up with someone you haven't seen in 10 years in the Picnic Grove on Friday



Tom and family

afternoon or meeting new friends at the Steak Bake, friendship is what it is really all about.

Besides, it's the best steak dinner you will ever get in State College! An event like this certainly doesn't happen because of one person; we have the full support of the House Corporation, the Penn State Golf Course staff and the numerous volunteers and 'friends of the Committee' who give of their time — without hesitation — to make this a growing success every year. We look forward to welcoming you 'home' for our 25th annual event on June 5-7, 2015!”

Tom, a former Derby Dash chairman, Derby Days chairman and social chair, knew even before rush began that Sigma Chi was the place for him. “**Dave Wells '85**, my closest friend from high school, and I spent our first night prior to freshman move-in day at Sigma Chi where Dave's brother **Bill ('79)** was a brother. Our rent to stay there that night was a case of random beers that Dave's dad had pulled together for us. Only a few brothers had arrived at that point for the semester, but we were unconditionally welcomed by **Steve Maczuga '81**. We spent the evening talking with Steve and **Kirk Seagers '84**. I realized that this was a place I wanted to call 'home' at Penn State.”

A liberal arts graduate who has seen more than 25 years of success in retail and

eCommerce with companies such as Sears and OfficeMax, Tom is currently the vice president of eCommerce for Vera Bradley. He also has played an active role in shop.org, the eCommerce industry's largest community, and has a U.S. patent in the eCommerce space. He and wife Wendy (Timpe, former Little Sister) have two daughters (Marisa, 17; Kendall, 14). And don't forget the family dog, Maxie.

“My life as a Sigma Chi certainly has given me the things I am the proudest of over the last 30 years — my wife, my daughters and the enduring friendships I still have today. The daily lessons of living in a house with brothers from different walks of life and personalities were invaluable. We live in a world today where you have to recognize how to accept and respect diverse temperaments, talents and convictions in order to succeed, in both business and personal relationships.”

You can read Tom's full profile at www.pennstatesig.org. Look for future communications from him as the golf tournament approaches. Brothers who would like to reach Tom directly can email him at thomas.giacalone@comcast.net.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

Why I Like Being Chapter Advisor

By David Cline '64, Alpha Chi Chapter Advisor

Sandy and I were invited to attend **Daryn Bergey's ('09)** wedding to Rebecca Schaad on Oct. 11 in southwestern Pennsylvania. Daryn's brother, **Justin**, the best man, is also a Sigma Chi ('04). There were six Sigs in attendance, including past consul, **Josh Yanek '08**.

At the reception, six Sigs gathered on the dance floor and sang the “Sweetheart of Sigma Chi” song to the bride. Needless to say, the bride's the entire wedding party and guests were duly impressed. At that point, I realized that my position had added to the brotherhood and friendship. After all, it's not “I was a Sigma Chi.” It's “always a Sigma Chi.” And this concept was clearly on display during this event.

When I see that almost every Penn State Sigma Chi graduate lands a job, I feel an accomplishment. When they return as productive leaders in their field and

community, I get a small smile, and I am very happy for their successes. When active brothers raise a quarter million dollars for THON, decorate the fraternity for Christmas, win a Greek Week award, come in first place in an intramural sport, construct a Homecoming float, receive a coveted Sigma Chi Peterson Award, send members to leadership seminars like the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop or send a member to the Sigma Chi Horizons program, I know that I have been successful in leading and providing mentorship, if only in a small way, to these future young leaders.

Yes, there will be setbacks; there will be some discouragement along the way. But that isn't justification to drop out or quit when there is a need for our adult guidance.

I call on all Sigma Chi alumni to reach out to your our chapter; be as active as you

can. Offer some young brother the benefit of your experience. Believe me, they want your involvement. Lastly, I encourage you to



Daryn and Rebecca Bergey (center) with Justin and Christine Bergey and their two-year-old son

become involved during the “good” times so there will be fewer “bad” times in our fraternity.

To read Brother Cline's full article, go to our website, www.pennstatesig.org.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

Can You Put a Price Tag on Belonging?

Do you remember those commercials done by Visa which pointed out things in life that are priceless? Our version would go something like this: Four-year degree at Penn State: \$50,000. Cost of living at Sigma Chi: \$300/month. Value of having one of my fraternity brothers introduce me to my wife and the mother of my three children: priceless.

How can you ever replicate the experiences and environment of Alpha Chi Chapter?



There are things that have happened at 400 E. Prospect Avenue that could not have happened anywhere else. Belonging to Sigma Chi at Penn State means being related to something that is beyond other relationships or affiliations.

So, here are a few things you can do today to make sure that time doesn't run out before you let your brothers know what Alpha Chi Chapter means to you:

- Send us an update to post on our website and in *The Penn State Sig*. Send your email to content@affinityconnection.com.
- Help us financially support our ability to keep the house running and our alumni returning for events. We have set a goal of 150 donors for our 2014-15 Annual Fund giving year which began on October 1. Thank you to the 3 donors who have given this year. Please join them on our Honor Roll by going to www.pennstatesig.org and clicking on "Donate" in the upper right-hand corner.

RETURNING ALUMNI

Homecoming 2014: Loss Doesn't Dampen Celebration

Homecoming featured a pristine, sun-filled early fall weekend in Happy Valley. Our undergraduates, along with the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha, created a float resembling a Rubik's Cube for Friday night's parade. Unfortunately, James Franklin's Nittany Lions fell for the first time in 2014, 29-6, to the Northwestern Wildcats. Although the football team's loss put a damper on the overall mood Saturday, Alpha Chi brothers young and old gathered at the house to share good times and memories. Over 40 alums returned and shared in the postgame festivities, which featured light dinner affair, cocktails and other refreshments. Several alums also partook in the annual tailgate graciously hosted by brother Tim Stem. *Going forward, if you're in town for a game or an event any time later this fall, please feel welcome to drop by the house and meet the actives. And stay tuned for details regarding next year's Homecoming, the weekend of October 2-4, 2015, when our Lions will battle the Indiana Hoosiers.*



Mark Your Calendars!

Blue-White Weekend 2015
April 17-19, 2015

25th Annual Sigma Chi Golf Outing and Alumni Weekend
June 5-7, 2015

Homecoming 2015
October 2-4, 2015

*Inside:
- Welcome to Our New Alumni Board Members!
- Chapter Wins Highly Coveted Peterson Award!
- Which Alum Was Named Outstanding Chapter Officer?
- Mark Your Calendars for Our 25th Annual Golf Outing!*

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