



2018-19 Penn State Basketball

Big 10 Schedule Announced

Home games are in bold caps.

January

Thursday, Jan. 3 – at Michigan
Sunday, Jan. 6 – WISCONSIN
Thursday, Jan. 10 – at Nebraska
Sunday, Jan. 13 – MICHIGAN ST
Wednesday, Jan. 16 – IOWA
Saturday, Jan. 19 – at Minnesota
Saturday, Jan. 26 – RUTGERS
Thursday, Jan. 31 – PURDUE

February

Monday, Feb. 4 – at Northwestern
Thursday, Feb. 7 – at Ohio State
Tuesday, Feb. 12 – MICHIGAN
Saturday, Feb. 16 – at Purdue
Tuesday, Feb. 19 – NEBRASKA
Saturday, Feb. 23 – at Illinois
Wednesday, Feb. 27 – MARYLAND

March

Saturday, March 2 – at Wisconsin
Wednesday, March 6 – at Rutgers
Sunday, March 10 – ILLINOIS

Home single play

Indiana – Tuesday, Dec. 4
Michigan State – Sunday, Jan. 13
Iowa – Wednesday, Jan. 16

For Non-Conference games, visit gopsports.com

Announcement

The **29th Annual Sigma Chi Golf Classic** will be held 6/7-6/8, 2019. Stay tuned for further details.



1906-1972

www.pennstatesig.org



A Peterson Significant Chapter

State College, Pa. • The Alpha Chi Chapter of Sigma Chi at The Pennsylvania State University • December 2018

Chapter Advisor Corner

By *Byron Woodrum '79*

As the new Chapter Advisor, I've got some rather big shoes to fill after the very successful tenures of **Dave Kline '64** and, more recently, his son **Greg '98**. That said, there are challenges that our chapter has before us that are in many ways, unprecedented.

First, the University is determined to reduce the liability it sees from risks posed by fraternities and sororities through intensive regulation and stern disciplinary measures. Second, the culture appears to me to have changed at all fraternities, and the level of interest in Fraternities during rush is immense compared with what I saw as an undergrad. This means that while houses can become larger in membership than I ever dared imagine when I lived at 400 E. Prospect, it also means that smaller percentages of members of large chapters are actually in residence at any given time. I think that this produces challenges for the leaders of the active chapter that they fully appreciate, but need help with, and I believe it introduces sustainability issues with which we must concern ourselves as alumni. Will this environment continue to produce dedicated alumni who are willing to serve on the House Corporation Board, or as advisers and mentors as it has to date? Will there

be donors whose vital contributions ultimately ensure that our chapter survives at Penn State?

One of my goals in working with our active brothers is to help them understand that our house is and should always be a home—a domicile—that is more to its alumni than any clubhouse could ever be. This is so because they lived there together for more than some minimum time requirement and as a result, grew as young men and as friends, even across multiple class years. And because in so doing, their college experiences include rich friendships that independents never develop, and fraternity-related experiences they'll never forget - and still love to laugh about.

This is where and how I believe our chapter needs to grow today. I am fortunate to have a strong Board behind me, along with the committed support of our National Fraternity. Our active members have strong leaders among them and we are looking forward to hosting gatherings around events such as Homecoming and the Blue-White Game, to which alumni will be more than welcome. There will be news about these events in upcoming newsletters and emails. If you're in town, please plan to stop by.

UNDERGRADUATE CORNER

Welcome Our Fall 2018 Initiates

Aidan Wilmoth '21, Arlington, VA
Ryle Heraghty '21, Mendham, NJ
Ben Haslett '21, Pittsburgh, PA
Duncan Campbell '21, Norwalk, CT
Jack Kairys '21, Pittsburgh, PA

(continued on pg. 3)

Achieving Operational Excellence

By *Jim Lundy '82*



After a year of officer changes, I ended up taking over as House Corporation President for my second time (last time was 1997). I'd also note that two other past House Corp Presidents have stepped up in our time of need. Byron Woodrum has stepped in as Chapter Advisor and Andy Guildersleeve is now the Alumni House Manager.

Board and Advisor Changes

Running a Non-Profit House Corporation is a lot of work and it is an all volunteer group. I'd like to thank Eugene Eignor and Bobby Peterson for their ten year run on House Corporation and Joe Tenaglia, who did a ton of work during his 6 month tenure to get things grounded.

On top of that, I'd also want to thank Dave Kline for all his years of Service as Chapter Advisor and Greg Kline for stepping in over the last year. As the new Advisor, Brother Woodrum is building out his team – and we need many volunteers to work with the Chapter.

Brother Scott Fozard, who has done an amazing job as HC Treasurer, has handed over the checkbook to Bruce Karper. Scott will continue to serve on the Board and he is still our Golf Weekend Tournament Director. The complete list of HC Board is listed below.

Finances

Bruce Karper has done a ton of work to ensure that the chapter has a new billing system in place, since PSU is no longer doing bill collections for fraternities. The chapter operated within their budget and we got our full rent payment.

Since doing our \$2.4 Million fundraiser over 11 years ago, we currently owe about \$89,000 on our Mortgage. We have a solid cash position, but any failure of our heating system (furnace failure) would deplete it. More on this during our meeting at the Blue White game.

Chapter House Status

Continuing on the Chapter House, we have been working with the Active Chapter to have them focus on taking better care of the house. For the spring, part of the budget will be used to hire a cleaning service to help offset that the chapter cannot have pledges do cleaning (house cleaning is considered hazing).

Chris Schultz the undergraduate House Manager has done a solid job this fall in working with the Consul Brendan Granahan

and new Consul Ryan Gist to have Sunday cleanups of the house. Chris has recently asked for us to supply paint so the chapter can work on a number of painting projects at the house.

Overall, we all must realize that our house was built in 1928 and it is approaching 90 years of age. It cannot take the pounding it has gotten over the last 30 years. Also, realize that we have deferred maintenance on a number of items that can no longer be delayed. For example, we are now replacing several steel doors to bedrooms, given that they have aged and do not meet code.

We are currently making a list of all the projects that we will need to complete on the house. Your donations are appreciated, and we will have a list of some of those projects in the Spring Newsletter.

The Chapter is very active and has big plans for the Spring. That said, they are on probation with Penn State over one social incident. The probation handed down was deemed punitive and is being challenged. Either way, Penn State is coming down hard on Fraternities over any social infractions. For their formal that was just held, the Chapter agreed and we hired a Security firm to help ensure there were no infractions that would hurt them with Penn State.

For the spring, we will be working with the chapter to ensure that our basement is used more effectively for events and that taking care of the house is a top priority.

Alumni Events – Blue White and Golf Weekend

While Homecoming was a bust (similar to Homecoming in 1997), we are going to hold two spring events – an HC Meeting and a Family Brunch at the April 13th Blue White Game. Finally, mark your calendars for June 7th-9th the 29th annual PSU Sigma Chi Golf Classic weekend. This year, our Event will be dedicated to Brother Paul McKeon, who passed away suddenly. Paul founded the event and we plan to remember him during that weekend (see other article).

So the bottom line is that we are tightening

up our operations and we are already seeing results. We will be sharing regular updates in our monthly e-letters.

In Hoc,

Jim Lundy '82

AX House Corporation President
Order of Constantine

Introducing the New Alpha Chi Housing Corp.

President

Jim Lundy '82

Vice President

Rich Hantke '78

Treasurer

Bruce Karper '75

Chapter Advisor

Byron Woodrum '79

Board Members:

Jim Lundy - President

Rich Hantke - Vice President

Bruce Carper - Treasurer

Scott Fozard - Golf Tournament Director

Art Weber - Community Relations

Mark Sixour

Mike Nanz

Eugene Eignor

Bill Wells

Rob Ball

Matt Siekman

Patrick Bradshaw

Non-Board Members:

Bob Shuster - House Corp. General Counsel

Byron Woodrum - Chapter Advisor

Andy Guildersleeve - Alumni House Manager

Reframing the New Member Experience

Alpha Chi Chapter Officers

Consul: **Ryan Gist '21**, Pittsburgh, PA
 Pro Consul: **Nick Vittorio '21**, Denville, NJ
 House Manager: **Chris Schultz '20**, Phillipsburg, NJ
 Quaestor: **Jason O'Gara '21**, Fort Washington, PA
 Annotator: **Dean Posner '21**, Freehold, NJ
 Magister: **Mike Wells '21**, North Wales, PA
 Assistant Magister: **Ryan Gist '21**, Pittsburgh, PA
 Philanthropy Chair: **Jordan Macci '21**, Wayne, NJ
 Kitchen Manager: **Austin Prime '20**, Jamison, PA
 Scholarship Chair: **Ryan Gist '21**, Pittsburgh, PA
 Athletic Chair: **Max Berman '21**, Norwalk, CT
 Social Chairs: **Dan Johnson '21**, Pittsburgh, PA
Nick Cilea '21, Colts Neck, NJ
Connor Higginson '21, North Wales, PA
 Rush Chairs: **Max Berman '21**, Norwalk, CT
Nick Vittorio '21, Denville, NJ
Ryan Gist '21, Pittsburgh, PA
Taylor Twamley '21, Robbinsville, NJ
 Homecoming Chair: **Connor Lynch '20**, Furlong, PA
 Formal Chair: **Zack Kearney '21**, Essex Fells, NJ
 THON Chairs: **Jack Delaney '20**, Pittsburgh, PA, **Andrew Stuardi '20**, Furlong, PA;
Ryan Gist '21, Pittsburgh, PA; **Nick Giorgi '20**, Chalfont, PA; **Mike Wells '21**, North Wales, PA
Greek Sing Chair: Max Berman '21, Norwalk, CT

Our Chance to Make a Difference

By **John (Jack) C. Delaney '20**,
 Head THON Chair

The Alpha Chi chapter of Sigma Chi has set out this year to set a fundraising record for Penn State's Panhellenic Dance Marathon (THON). Penn State's THON is the largest student-run philanthropy event in the world and consists of Penn State students and alumni raising money for the Four Diamond's Foundation and their mission to find a cure for pediatric cancer. The event is a 46 hour, no-sitting, no sleeping celebration of the University's efforts for the past year. Although Sigma Chi's efforts to raise philanthropic funding for the Huntsman Cancer Institute are well documented, the Chapter's commitment to THON and its mission are unrivaled. Last year, as a joint pairing with our THON sorority, Alpha Phi, we managed to raise over \$150,000 to support the cause (enough to support a Four Diamonds research lab for 60 weeks).

This coming year, our chapter has three volunteers that displayed an incredible commitment and passion to THON and our chapter and will be on the floor dancing proudly wearing out letters. Ryder Dobrzynski

(former ritual chair, current assistant THON chair), Ryan Jones (former THON chair), and Jon Hansan (former Quaestor) will be representing our chapter.

The Alpha Chi chapter welcomes donations from any alumni or their corporation and would be very grateful for any contribution. For further questions about donations, please feel free to contact me at delaney.johnconnor@gmail.com or at (469) 952-7516.

Alpha Chi Chapter Update

By **Ryan W. Gist '21**, Consul

This is my first newsletter as a member of Sigma Chi, specifically as acting Consul of the Alpha Chi chapter. My name is Ryan Gist and I'm a sophomore studying electrical engineering and finance. I'm from Mt. Lebanon, PA, just outside downtown Pittsburgh. In my free time I golf as often as possible and invest in penny stocks. Since becoming a member of Sigma Chi I've held eleven positions in the house and have dedicated all my time and energy into bettering the chapter.

As a chapter we have a new focus on community engagement. The new executive board has gone door to door in the neighborhood introducing themselves in an effort to put a face on our house. Moreover, brothers have started to volunteer their time helping out neighbors to establish better relations and bring luster to the White Cross. For Halloween we participated in Greek-Or-Treat where we decorated the house and invited trick or treaters in to see the Great Hall, meet brothers, and of course, get some candy. Additionally, we housed the annual IFC THON Carnival in the side yard of the house. At this event, THON families got to meet up with their paired fraternities and sororities while playing fun games like kickball and enjoying snacks. Through the THON carnival and Greek-Or-Treat, we were able to show our community the chapter's dedication to community and the betterment of our campus. We recently initiated five new brothers into the Alpha Chi chapter, as well as three Bucknell University brothers who were unable to attend their own initiation ceremony due to an away water-polo match. The rush chairs (Zack Kearney '21, Nick Vittorio '21, and Taylor Twamley '21) deserve great praise for their efforts. Our newest pledge class represents a diverse group of men who will certainly make a great addition to the chapter. The initiation ceremony went well; with great turnout from all brothers and alumni.

Currently, we are preparing for our annual Winter Formal. We came in 3rd place in the Holiday Show Lights competition, which is a competition where all fraternities extravagantly decorate their houses with lights and holiday decorations. The top five houses are all given

recognition by the IFC and the winner of the competition is rewarded \$5,000 toward their THON fundraising total. Additionally, all brothers have been working tirelessly to decorate the inside of the house with lights and setting up for the special event where we reveal the Sigma Chi Sweetheart. Though always a great honor, this year's Sweetheart will be even more special as she will receive a scholarship in Sandy Kline's name (former Sweetheart winner and wife of former Chapter Advisor Dave Kline '63). The brothers of Alpha Chi voted on this scholarship decision to recognize Sandy's contributions to the chapter of the years.

With so much energy surrounding our chapter and the semester drawing to a rapid end, we are all looking forward to a successful spring semester. Unfortunately, we say goodbye to seventeen juniors who will all be studying overseas in different cities such as Barcelona, Prague and London. In these brothers' absence we intend to take one of the biggest pledge classes in Alpha Chi history. We sincerely hope that recruiting such a high number of men that encompass the seven qualities of the Jordan Standard will continue our brotherhood's legacy for years to come, and put the chapter in a promising situation with Penn State's current standing on fraternities.

Furthermore, for the spring semester the chapter hopes to renew alumni relations and bring back our once great Homecoming Alumni weekend. House Corporation kindly set up a BBQ event on move-in-weekend to introduce our Housing Director, brothers, alumni, and parents to one another. The event was successful and has us planning an exciting Alumni weekend for the Blue and White football game.

Our undergraduate brotherhood continues to be involved in the Penn State community. We would like to acknowledge our Former Consul, Jackson Fitzgerald '19 for his efforts in the community as he recently completed his two-year tenure as Executive Vice President of IFC. Additionally, our commitment to THON is off to a great start; we've already raised approximately \$12,000 for Four Diamond's Foundation. The chapter has housed fundraising events such as spaghetti dinners and spike-ball tournaments to achieve this total.

We are looking forward to having another great semester at Penn State, and would like to thank you all once again for your endless support and encouragement. Together we can continue to bring luster to the White Cross, and take the chapter to even greater heights.

IH,
Ryan Gist



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ALPHA CHI CHAPTER

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Inside:

- *Introducing The New House Corp.*
- *Actives Shining at Alpha Chi!*
- *Remembering Paul McKeon '79*

THE SPORTING LIFE

Active Play Hard In Tough Conditions

Brothers,

As you know Alpha Chi takes part in many Brotherhood activities on campus. And one of those activities our young men take part in is the Penn States intramural Flag Football club and Alpha Chi made it to the Championship game.

Our chapter was there to “Represent” and WIN! It was FREEZING cold that night, the field was muddy and wet. There was

off and on snow with freezing rain. Dave Kline brought his trusted golden retriever, Molly, to help root them on too. It was a very exciting and nail biting event. Our guys played HARD! And though they come in second place, what they took away was a bond to last a lifetime, what they built together they will have forever. And though they didn’t clinch the “W,” they played their hearts out! All semester these

young men worked, trained, practiced and played as one. They busted their butts, figuratively and literally. It was awesome to watch and I’m proud of each of them. In my book that is a “W.” It was truly a Brotherhood bonding event. Congratulations to Alpha Chi!!!!

IHSV,

Greg Kline '98



Top Row (Left to Right): Taylor Twamley, James (Bubba) White (league leader in touchdown receptions), Dean Posner, Nick Vittorio (Quarterback, Pro Consul for 2019), Jack Swart, Zack Kearney, Wes Alexander, Sam Connors, Jon Hansan (Captain and former Pro Consul), Eric Morin. Bottom (Left to Right): Matt Toolijan, Pat Reilly, Jake Zoffer (tied the IM league record with 29 sacks in 6 games), Jackson Fitzgerald.

REMEMBERING PAUL MCKEON

We regret to inform everyone that **Paul K. McKeon, AX '79**, passed away last month after an extended illness. Paul was a larger-than-life character who dominated Sigma Chi in the late '70's as an active and in the '80's as an alumni. He single-handedly forced the house to rewrite the rules when, as House Manager, he declared, as a “permanent

improvement,” a loft that he built and bolted to the floor in his first floor single. He drove around campus and parked where he pleased in his pickup truck with “E=MC2” painted on the side - it sure looked like he was a contractor! He graduated in August 1979, after spending a last summer in the house dominating the competition in side-yard

wiffleball, when he likely could have graduated in the spring with everyone else (but why do that?). He was the mouth that never stopped, and he was color in a sea of black and white. Those of us who knew him are in shock and will miss him terribly. He leaves behind three children and a lifetime of memories.