



The IUP Sig



Newsletter of the Sigma Chi Delta House Corporation and the Sigma Chi Alumni Association

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Workshop keeps Sigs moving forward

By RYAN GUNTHER

As the days approached to Balfour Leadership Training Workshop at Purdue University, I was reminded of my times while I was an undergraduate going to these BLTWs. Excitement ran through my body as the thought of spending an extended weekend with more than 2,000 Sigs came to mind. My job here at BLTW is to help our chapter prosper and give us ideas moving forward in order to keep Eta Omicron at the top of the chart at IUP. I have kept a diary with pictures of each day during my trip so I can let you in on the inter workings of Sigma Chi. I hope you enjoy.

Day 1: My flight coming out of Philadelphia was delayed due to weather and I found myself sitting in the plane for more than two hours. During this time I wanted to reflect on exactly what I got out of my time as an undergrad at BLTW and how I can make the best of my time here, not only for myself but for our chapter. I came to the conclusion that if I speak with chapters that are similar in size and ask questions that pertain to our chapter — what works and what doesn't — we can learn a lot from our fellow undergrad and alumni brothers.

As we were approaching the terminal into Cleveland, where I had my layover, I knew I was under the gun being that my plane left in less than 10 minutes. Needless to say, I am almost certain that I saw my plane leave the terminal as my plane was going in. I had to spend the night in lovely Cleveland (I'm sure all you Pittsburgh guys appreciate that) at the Days Inn. All in all it could have been worse.

Day 2: As I woke up to catch the first flight out of Cleveland, I sat at the gate waiting for my flight and I was pleasantly surprised to see a flood of Sigma Chi undergraduates from the West Coast. Some of them were from Stanford and others were from USC. I would estimate that my flight was 30 to 40 percent Sigs. I sat next to a brother from Stanford and we had a talk about our ritual and different ways they conduct their ceremonies. It was a very interesting conversation and really brought me back to the days during I-Week as a pledge and as a brother.

After the bus ride I was about to catch the



Ryan with Sydney Binnington, the Sigma Chi international sweetheart.



The 2012 Balfour Leadership Training Workshop was hosted by the Delta Delta Chapter at Perdue University.

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Workshop keeps Sigs moving forward

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end of the opening ceremonies. After the ceremony I walked out of the meeting hall only to walk right into our international sweetheart, Sydney Binnington. Not only is she a complete babe but she is also really down to earth and has some really great ideas for philanthropy for Sigma Chi on the national level. After meeting Sydney I had my first session.

Day 3: This day was, in my opinion, the most important of all. I learned a lot of things about our housing corporation, the resources that we can use to better ourselves and a lot of suggestions I plan on implementing for our chapter. A Grand Trustee that is a plaintiff lawyer in Virginia gave a lecture on different ways our board can cover ourselves with just simple changes of our lease and bylaws. These ideas will be discussed shortly after my trip and I feel will put us in a good situation moving forward.

The following discussion was more or less a Q&A session to talk among other board members at other chapters. The discussion focused on what we did well and things we needed to improve on.

This was very beneficial and I got some good ideas about how we can get more brothers living in the house, the ability to collect parlor fees as well as keeping our house in the best possible shape and staying proactive.

Day 4: The group of housing corporation members was invited to the chapter house for a breakfast and tour of the house during this morning. The chapter recently renovated its house with a \$7.4 million addition and restoration. All in all I was very impressed with the house. In my opinion, as well as the opinions of many in my group, this chapter house has the richest history of all. They have a lot of displays featuring the Sigma Chi Creed, written by George Ade in that very chapter house, as well as some very notable Sigs throughout the years. I was very impressed.

All in all I was very pleased with my trip to BLTW at Purdue University. The things that I learned I plan to implement for our chapter so we can strive for greatness. I look forward to serving on the board for many years to come and to use these ideas to continue to help make our chapter one of the best of Sigma Chi's 240 chapters.

A Message from the President

This is the year for planning for two major events: the golf outing and the 40th anniversary banquet. It feels like a daunting task planning these two gatherings. The good news is we have two dedicated Sigma Chi's working diligently getting the details ironed out. Johnny Brennan is chairman of the 2013 Golf Outing, and Ryan Gunther is chairman for the 40th Anniversary.

Johnny has the luxury of three years of successful golf outings to draw from. The winning golf outing formula will not change. Johnny soon will begin renting out the rooms in the fraternity house for the weekend of Aug. 16 and 17. I fully anticipate the rooms to sell out in two weeks or less this year. Many brothers who rented rooms in the house last year said they will back again for 2013.

My advice is finding a roommate and making your reservations via the web site as soon as they go on sale. Last year, all beds in the house were spoken for three weeks after they went up for sale. We had a waiting list of five brothers who had to find lodging elsewhere. We have a group rate already set up the Holiday Inn for those who can't get into the house. The Holiday Inn seems to be a Sigma Chi magnet whenever alumni hit Indiana.

Having your foursome set up before the event takes the chaos out of the last-second additions and subtractions at the golf course. Have your roommate set for the fraternity house. Have your roommate set up at the hotel so you can split costs. The event is for anyone to attend, so think of friends and family to join us for the IUP Sigma Chi golf weekend. Anyone who has attended the event in the past can say it's a blast! Contact Johnny if you have questions at johnnyboy@fasttimes7.com.

Ryan Gunther is planning a big shindig come Nov. 2. The event is at the Holiday Inn (aka: Sig magnet), and the plan is for food, drink and Sigma Chi fun. On the agenda already are talks from Bud Shuster, former U.S. Congressman and Pitt '54 Sigma Chi who attended the IUP chapter inauguration in 1973. Michael Driscoll, the recently inaugurated IUP president, and Bruce Casner, George Washington '71 and Sigma Chi Board of Grand Trustees member, are also slated to address our group.

Ryan has grand plans for the silent auction, but we need your

help. Can anyone help with donating the following items for the silent auction:

1. Sports memorabilia
2. Sports tickets
3. Art
4. Trip
5. Theme baskets (booze, wine, crafts, coffee, auto, fishing, hunting, computer, golf)
6. Donate professional services (taxes, painting, printing, etc.)
7. Cool new clothing or cool anything new
8. A weekend getaway at your cabin, condo or timeshare
9. Other

The baskets are always a hit! Who can sign up for a particular theme and come to the event with a basket full of goodies ready for auction? I know Matt Chatlak is storing Anheuser-Busch swag away for us, but between the golf event and 40th anniversary, we can't count on Matt for all the items at the silent auction. Please contact Ryan with your ideas at gunther719@yahoo.com.

Lastly, I wanted to make a comment about our fallen brothers, John McNabb and Jim Smith. We are all connected because of IUP and Sigma Chi. While I did not know John and Jim, I felt the outpouring of emotion with the brothers who knew them. John touched many with his trips to Myrtle Beach and Jim through his art.

Please consider including the Sigma Chi Delta House Corp in your will. Your gift will be a lasting legacy to you and the Eta Omicron. Planned estate gifts can come in many forms from life insurance, bequests and charitable gifts. Your gift will have a meaningful impact on our mission, beyond your lifetime and far into the future.

In hoc,
 Jeff Bird
 Fall '81
 Jbirdx11@comcast.net
 (253) 297-1463



A group of 1990s Sigs made it back for last year's golf outing. From left are Mike Clark, Jim Talarico, Mark Ray, Eric Monaco, Bruce Vernet and Tim O'Donohue.



Adam Porter handles the house corporations's financial affairs, which means you can't get into this, the golf outing beer wagon, until you pay him.

Save the Date

40th Anniversary Gala

Eta Omicron

November 2nd 2013

For Reservations: www.HIIndiana.com

Group Code: SCD

Proceeds benefit Camp Orenda & the Sigma Chi Delta Housing Corporation

4th Annual Sigma Chi Alumni Association Golf Outing

ETA OMICRON
August 16 & 17

Meadow Lane Golf Course
590 Hamill Road, Indiana, PA 15701
Register at: www.sigmachieo.com

2012 Champions

For additional information contact: johnnyboy@fasttimes7.com

SIGMA CHI DELTA HOUSE CORPORATION 4TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

- When:** Friday & Saturday, Aug. 16 & 17
- Where:** Meadow Lane Golf Course, Indiana
- Tee time:** Noon (check-in at 11 a.m., with putting contest to follow)
- Format:** Four-man scramble
- Win 5-Grand:** There is a hole-in-one contest, with \$5,000 going to the winner and another \$5,000 going to the house corporation.
- Prizes:** TBA
- Sponsor a Hole:** You, your company or your pledge class are invited to sponsor a hole by making a minimum \$100 donation. Premium sponsorship is \$250.
- Friday night reception:** At the Sig House, 6 pm
- Post-party:** A pig roast and picnic at the Sig House will follow golf at 5 p.m.
- Cost:** \$75 for golf
\$60 for pig roast
\$30 for Friday reception
\$150 for all three
\$300 for all three plus 2 nights' in the Sig House
- To register or for information:** Visit www.sigmachieo.com
- For information:** E-mail JohnnyBoy@Fasttimes7.com

2012 RECAP

A special thanks to the corporate sponsors who helped make the inaugural golf outing a success

Two Men And A Truck, Chad Arnold and Mark Snyder; Dr. Ralph Feather; Sun Harvest Citrus, Dave Nicely; The Technology Group, Knute Binde; Wayne Bank, Kelley Lalley; Randy Seymour; Robroy Industries, Michael Deane; Siteworx, Inc., Gregg Wyland; Salzmann Hughes, PC, Scott Wyland; Mattress & More, Stephen Goodwill; Atlantic Construction Co., Steve Guntang; H&S Promotions, Ian Welby & Johnny Brennan; Rammath Realty, Ed Ramrath; Marketing Strategies, Paul Cimino; Filtech, Harry Elinsky; Anheuser-Busch, Matt Chatlak; Aaron Smith; Luke Hingson Colliers Intl., Greg Broujos; Mongo Fall 78 Alive and Kicking, Steve Ersek; Tom "A200" Sinclair, Ken Dorn; Butchley's Micro Penis Inc., Ken Dorn; Fall 83 — Jim Price, Adam Porter, John O'Toole, Ken Dorn and Andy Kalafaitis; Thomas Clark; Dan Kusnier

Last summer we had 78 golfers, 20 others and a full house of 20 brothers.

Toby Micklow, Jim Price, John O'Toole and Andy Kalafaitis won with a 10 under par.

Special thanks to Chris Karg for donating his 50/50 winnings of \$490 back to the house corp.



First row, from left: John McNabb, Mike Basca, and Dick Clawson.
Second row: John Ort, Rick Swivel, Carl Bullers, Greg Sipos, Barry Hice, Al Maciejewski and Fess Parker.

Sigs enjoy their time in the Myrtle Beach sun

A group of Eta Omicron Sigs gather annually in May in Myrtle Beach, N.C. One of them, Carl Bullers, gives some of the highlights of the trips.

By CARL BULLERS

The idea was formulated in the 1970s and early '80s during trips to Wildwood and other spots on the Atlantic Ocean. The first Myrtle Beach Sigma Chi/Sigma Chi Delta trip was in March 1985 with Mike Basca, Richard Swivel, John McNabb, Rafe Lozada and some others. They stayed at Condotels in North Myrtle Beach. In 1986, the group moved the date to May and met at the Ocean Dunes in Myrtle Beach. In the last 27 years, the trip has grown from a weekend to a 7- to 10-day excursion. These original brothers were joined by Carl Bullers, Dick Clawson, "Ahab" Hurt, Rich Ingram, Fess Parker, Bob Meyer, John Ort, Barry Hice, Denny Morgan, Wayne Logue, Rich Navalance, Gary Sipos, Greg Sipos, Jeff Kroberger, Joe George, Rick Byerly, Jim Wiley, Don Thomson, Al Maciejewski, George McCullom and possibly others that I may have forgotten.

Oh the stories we could tell! Unfortu-

nately, some of these stories are sworn to secrets only to be told in Myrtle. (What happens in Myrtle, stays in Myrtle). I can tell you that we have visited about a hundred fine eating establishments and also that many less-respectable locations. For years, we regularly attended Studabakers Nightclub and I almost won the Hairy Chest Contest after several attempts, but as anyone will tell you, I was beaten by an ape.

Rick Swivel once climbed up on a corner platform and was almost selected to Dance with the Stars. We even invented "Horizontal Dancing" for those who could no longer dance standing up.

Golf was the game of the day, but those of us who could not play with the big boys played many of the miniature golf courses and actually had yearly tournaments, won almost exclusively by Swiv, McNabb or Clawson. The rest of us won a game or two, but only by distracting the "pros" by showing them members of the opposite sex on the course. In the big boys golf, we have had many others come and accept the challenges of OJ and some others. If anyone would like to join in playing, Mike has at least one set of bent golf clubs that probably could be

straightened and used.

Most of the bigger courses also have Sigma Chi clubs that were found near the course in the woods or fished out of the water traps.

Along with kite-flying, pier-fishing, Lazy River floating, beach walks and other activities, we did have an occasional beer or Alabama Slammer to help support the locals.

One other thing we did was play Pinochle, a card game that we learned at IUP before, during and after classes. Someone once said that if you divide the number of hours playing "Nucks" by 471, you will have the average amount of sleep that we usually got on our trips.

To learn more about the great times at Myrtle Beach, contact Mike Basca at mjb2beach@aol.com. This year's dates are approximately May 4 to 12, and you can stay for a day or come for the extended 8- to 10-day stay for \$35 to \$50 a night depending on number of guests. Oh, yes, be prepared to hear some stories, play some golf, play some cards, drink some beverages and have the most wonderful time of your life with other Eta Omicron Sigma Chis and Sigma Chi Deltas.

John K. McNabb: 1949-2012

The following is based on the memory of Mike Basca and the eulogy he delivered at John McNabb's funeral. All honor to his name.

John King McNabb was born in 1949 in Phoenixville, Pa, the oldest of seven children. John first became friends with Mike Basca in 1965 when he would circle the streets of Phoenixville in a green station wagon/babe magnet. He was then known as John "Demolition Derby" McNabb. John once missed his own curfew by insisting that Phoenixville was east of Philly and almost became a New Jersey resident. John had a dog named Sparky or Skippy, depending on his memory. John was a great Ping-Pong player and also bowled and played golf, baseball and pool. John was by far the best unorthodox pinochle player that I ever met.

John started college at IUP in 1967 and met Mary Lou Kline, who he later married and spent 45 years with. John claimed that his boyhood friend, Mike Basca, came to IUP because he was there, but when Mike pledged Sigma Chi Delta in

1969, John soon followed suit and became a Sigma Chi Delta as Mike's little brother in 1970. That is when I met John. We became very competitive friends. John had many nicknames, including McShreek, Melrose, Mellow Yellow, Joech, Joe ROTC, and a few that are not suitable for print. Of all of these, he was probably best known to his brethren as McStroke. John was treasurer of Sigma Chi Delta in his senior year and put us on course to be solvent enough to join Sigma Chi National Fraternity.

In 1976, John and Mary Lou moved to St. Louis, where their daughter Mindy came into their lives. I have never heard of a father more proud, and he even mentioned that a time or two. John had a heart of gold, and after he retired and moved about 10 miles from Myrtle Beach, he often invited brothers and their friends to stay at his house. John ran bingo games for the Elks club he joined and raised a lot of money for charity. John also ran a complimentary taxi service to and from the airport and hotel for the out-of-towners that flew in every May. One year he felt so bad about saying

goodbye to all of us that he spent the last night with some law enforcement officers so he would not have to see us leave. John lived on Budweiser and coffee during our visits to Myrtle Beach and joined many of the golf clubs so that other brothers would get a discount for their rounds.

For those of us who knew John, we will miss his smiling face, even when he spent an evening walking around Studebakers with an extra "head" designed on a helium-filled balloon tied on his back. I don't know who Swivel will "short-sheet" this year at Myrtle or who will use my closet as a restroom.

I will miss John, but I will always be honored with the privilege to have known him and see the true meaning of brotherhood that he showed all so often.



John McNabb

James P. Smith: 1951-2012

Rick Schultz compiled the following after the passing of Jim Smith. All honor to his name.

James Patrick Smith was born July 23, 1951. He has at least two brothers and a sister (maybe more.) He graduated from Ambridge High School before attending IUP. He was a Sigma Chi Delta and pledged in Spring '70. I have his Sigma Chi pledge pin.

After working as a lifeguard in Stone Harbor through college summers, he moved to Globe, Ariz., for a short time after graduation. He returned to Indiana in the mid-'70's and worked for Bill Stump, a chapter founder, at Maple Shade Pottery. Under the cover of darkness he

escaped in 1980 and returned to Arizona permanently.

His artwork included jewelry, particularly silver with various stone pottery, painting and stone crafting. He made some excellent pipes and stone boxes. He also worked as a mailman for a short time and finally a high school art teacher, first in a private school on an Indian reservation and then at Rio Rico High School. He retired last year and was still peddling artwork throughout the Southwest.

He holds the world record for having the most disgusting bathroom you ever saw in your life while living in Globe.

And he was a good friend and brother who will be missed."

Jim died on either Dec. 25 or 26. He was

61 years old. The coroner's official date was the Dec. 26. The family had Jim cremated and brought back to Pittsburgh. They are going to have a memorial service for him, probably in July when his entire family will be in town. He will be buried alongside his parents. Once we have received information on his memorial this summer, we will pass along the details.



Jim Smith

The Chapter Eternal

Nineteen of our brothers have entered the Chapter Eternal. All honor to their names:

Mark S. Belis
Kerry D. Casner
Thomas L. Collier
Jeffrey P. Fleming
Richard J. Gordon
Richard G. Ingram
William J. Kennedy

Jeffrey S. Knapp
Robert J. Kochinsky
James R. Leader
Ronald Markus
John K. McNabb
Robert A. Meyer
David P. Munley

David D. Poskus
John C. Rector
James P. Smith
Louis J. Strugala
David Yancy

Fraternity connection takes brother to New York City

By **BEN SAXTON**

My senior year — OK, make that my super-senior year — was coming to a close at IUP. I did not have much lined up in terms of a serious job or future for that matter until my good friend and even better brother Zach Lavin (Spring '11) told me about an internship opening with his aunt's company.

His aunt is the president of Screen Media Ventures, a independent film distributor based in New York City.

I was practically handed the internship thanks to my fraternity connection (it isn't always what you know, but who you know). I was excited and terrified at the same time. I had grown up in the small town of Bolivar, a town with one main road passing through it and no stoplights. Going to school in the big town of Indiana also didn't help prepare me for the Big Apple.

In my mind there was only one place that had opportunity for me, and that was NYC, so like many other fools before me, I left for New York City in search of something new.

While I was interning I was living in a converted factory apartment with about 10 other people in Hoboken, N.J.. Gone was the simplicity of IUP, where I could walk anywhere of importance within 15 minutes. Gone were IUP's God-forsaken campus busses that never ran on time

and made me late to countless classes. I had traded that in for 23 square miles of Manhattan and over 700 miles of subway track.

While many of my IUP experiences did not really prepare me for the crazy, controlled chaos that is New York City, my experience living in the fraternity house did. I was living with 10 other people in Hoboken; many of them worked in either film or photography in the city so it was a good fit. But not one of my Hoboken roommates matched up to the craziness of the brothers I had lived with for the three years I had lived in the house. I can assure you that the brothers that were in the house were and still are some of the rowdiest gentlemen I have met. I am sure any brother reading this that has lived in the house (pre-fire or post-fire) can say the same thing about the group that lived with him during his time at IUP. The house prepared me for the sleepless nights that often happen in the city as well as how to deal with some of the strange characters that are out at that time at night.

My internship came to a close at the end of the summer, Screen Media Ventures offered me a job in their digital department. I am now in charge of managing the free movie streaming website Popcornflix.com and assisting in developing applications for the site as well. I have



Ben and Nicole in New York City.

also since moved into the upper east side of Manhattan with my girlfriend and Spring 2011 Sigma Chi Sweetheart, Nicole.

I could not have made it this far in NYC without my experiences at IUP and especially without my experiences as a Sigma Chi.

Derby Days set for April 15-20

It's time for the Eta Omicron Chapter's annual Derby Days!

Derby Day will be held April 15 to 20.

This year promises to be our most successful ever! On behalf of the undergraduate brothers of Eta Omicron, would like to take this opportunity to invite you to participate in this year's exciting event.

As you may recall from your undergraduate days, Derby Days is a three-day philanthropic event aimed to raise money for worthy causes while promoting campus spirit and unity through social, athletic and service-oriented events.

For a \$25 donation we will put your business card in the Derby Days brochure, which is a contribution to a great cause. We would certainly also appreciate any donation you can afford to help make this year's Derby Days a success.

There will be a Saturday evening cookout to wrap up this year's celebration. We encourage you, if possible, to stop by campus or the house and participate in the activities of the week and help us make this Derby Days the most successful ever.

The Children's Miracle Network is a worthy cause that touches us all, and Derby Days is a proud Sigma Chi tradition.

To make a donation, visit <http://derbydays.sigmachio.com/wp/>. This link is accessible on the sigmachio.com website.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to seeing you during Derby Days!

Tyler Wilmot
t.s.wilmot@iup.edu
Derby Days Chairman

Save the Date
Derby Days - April 15-20, 2013

Sigma Chi Delta House Corp & Alumni Association

Mail your gift to:

Sigma Chi Delta House Corp & Alumni Association
c/o Adam Porter, 5258 Karrington Drive, Gibsonsia, PA 15044
or give at www.sigmachieo.com

I would like to give to:* (please check one choice)

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Credit Card (please enter information below)

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Credit Card Number _____ Exp. Date _____

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Thank you for your gift!