



# Delta Delta Data

Published by Delta Delta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity at Purdue University.

PAGE 1

DELTA DELTA DATA

FALL/WINTER 2020



Brothers honored at the Significant Sig Honors Dinner (L-R) Bill Townsend '75, Bob Kaley '68, David Craig '69, Steve Cosler '77 and Mic Mead '52, on behalf of David Mead '52.

## Delta Delta Significant Sigs Honored

*"The Significant Sig dinner was an outstanding milestone for Delta Delta, five recipients in one year. It was inspiring to see attendees from 19 years old to 80. There was a beautiful mix of inspiration, laughter and a true feeling of Sigma Chi brotherhood," remarked Don Palmer '76.*

Delta Delta's five newest recipients of the Significant Sig award were recognized at a dinner held in their honor on October 11<sup>th</sup> at the Delta Delta chapter house. This honor is presented to brothers who have excelled in their chosen fields of endeavor.

This year's group of inductees included David Mead '52, Robert Kaley

'68, David Craig '69, William Townsend '75 and Steven Cosler '77. Delta Delta now has 56 Significant Sigs – the most of any chapter in the Fraternity. It is also the largest group of brothers (5) to receive this award at one time.

### Reflections on a Great Evening

Bernie Sergesketter '58 and his wife, Mary, reflected on the dinner on their way back to Chicago and came to the same conclusion that it was the best event they had ever attended at dear old Delta Delta. All the honorees gave inspirational commentaries, and you could feel the love throughout the room.

*See Sig Honors Dinner .... Page 3*

## Reunion Classes Enjoy Great Day

Several Delta Delta pledge classes gathered at Homecoming this year to celebrate milestone reunions. This included the Class of '79 (40<sup>th</sup>), Class of '89 (30<sup>th</sup>) and Class of '94 (25<sup>th</sup>). Each class spent time at Delta Delta and enjoying the memories our grand ol' chapter house conjures up.

### Class of 1979 Reunion

Forty years had not dimmed the enthusiasm of the brothers of the Class of '79. Following the Significant Sig Honors Dinner held Friday evening, they made their way to Whiskey Bob's Saloon in Lafayette and took advantage of its extremely generous closing time of 3 am.

While an early wake-up call the next morning evoked foggy memories of a 3XSSNC in the cold-air dorm, the effort was rewarded when the class rendezvoused at Mackey Arena at 8:30 am where Roscoe Holloway had arranged a behind the scenes tour of the Purdue athletic facilities.

Following the victorious Homecoming game, a happy bunch of Sigs and Sweethearts headed for Nine Irish Brothers pub in Lafayette where Keith Holcomb summoned his photographic memory to replay humorous events which had occurred at the Sig House over four decades ago.

In attendance from the Class of '79 were: Roscoe Holloway, Corby Bain, Glenn Weckerlin, Ken Long, Godfrey Mackenzie, Guy Marr, Keith Krach, *See Reunion Classes ..... Page 3*



## THE SIGMA CHI CREED

I believe in fairness, decency, and good manners. I will endeavor to retain the spirit of youth. I will try to make my college, the Sigma Chi Fraternity, and my own chapter more honored by all men and women and more beloved and honestly respected by our own brothers. I say these words in all sincerity that Sigma Chi has given me favor and distinction: that I will endeavor to so build myself and so conduct myself that I will ever be a credit to our Fraternity.

George Ade ΔΔ 1887

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

CONSUL .....	David Kratzman
PRO CONSUL ...	Tyler Skiles
ANNOTATOR ....	David Preuss
QUAESTOR .....	Owen Sackmaster
MAGISTER .....	Alex Trachtman
RUSH CHRM ....	Luke Diener
	Cray Cordero
	Chad Ransburg
EDITOR .....	Max Gibbs
SCHOLARSHIP..	Brandt Burgdorf
RISK MGR .....	Caleb Holland
HOUSE MGRS ....	Grant Vogt
	Brandt Burgdorf
ALUMNI REL. ...	Wesley Middleton
SOCIAL CHRM ...	Cray Cordero
	Jack Cerria
PUBLIC REL ...	Sam Rudder
	David Preuss
WEBMASTER .....	Josh Bohne

You may contact any of the officers by going to the chapter's website: [www.thesighouse.com](http://www.thesighouse.com).

## Consul's Corner ..... David Kratzman '21

The second semester is underway here in West Lafayette! This winter, Purdue students were given four weeks of winter break, and I think it is safe to say that the undergrads were ready to be back in West Lafayette and get off to a great start to the spring semester.

This past fall semester we were pleased to initiate 33 new outstanding members into Sigma Chi after their 5-week pledgship. This is the second year Sigma Chi Nationals has implemented the new five week pledgship program, and thanks to the hard work and preparation of our Magister Alexander Trachtman '20 and Assistant Magister John Hokanson '21, the shortened pledgship worked well for the Class of '24.

Over the second half the fall semester, Alex, John, Wesley Middleton and I worked with the new initiates on the first phase of post-initiation training (PIT) that we put together. The first phase included Sigma Chi National information such as The Jordan Standard, The Founding of Sigma Chi, The Sigma Chi Creed, and other information. With the second semester underway, we have begun phase two of PIT with some Delta Delta history, house facts, The Purdue Case and campus info.

On the philanthropy side of things, I am proud to report that the undergraduates completed nearly 500 service hours throughout the Lafayette area in the fall semester! Some notable events included hosting Red Cross Blood drives, working with College Mentors for Kids, and co-hosting our first ever "Paint Swap" philanthropy event, raising over \$700 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

Additionally, over the past two years, the Delta Delta Chapter has raised nearly \$45,000 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute. This year, our Derby Days Chairmen Jared Reutebuch '22 and James Ray '20 have set a goal for our chapter to raise \$50,000 for Derby Days 2020. Planning and preparation for events have already begun, and Derby Days will be taking place the week of April 6th-10th, 2019.

We also want to thank our House Corp and Butch Brose for completing two projects over the winter break. Moving the bar in the Activity Room will allow us to use this area for more functions and the restored floor in the Game Room looks great.

I am excited to serve as the next Consul of the Delta Delta, and I look forward to working with alumni and the undergraduates to have another successful semester. I am very thankful for all the time and hard work our alumni, House Corp, and undergraduates have put into the house. We are excited to see what the Spring semester has in store for Delta Delta.



Sigma Chi and Alpha Xi had fun together raising funds at the first Paint Swap.

## Follow Delta Delta on Facebook and Instagram

For chapter updates go to [www.facebook.com/sigmachideltadelta](https://www.facebook.com/sigmachideltadelta) and <https://www.instagram.com/sigmachideltadelta/>.



## Sig Honors Dinner continued

"It was an inspiring evening with over 100 brothers attending spanning over 65 years. You can't help but be very proud that there are more Delta Delta Significant Sigs than any other chapter in Sigma Chi," noted Steve Cosler '77.

John Buckingham '75 served as MC and with the help of former Grand Consul's Richard Hester and Keith Krach '79 presented each of the recipients their plaque, certificate and medal. Each honoree was introduced by the brother who nominated them and then had the opportunity to speak to the gathering of over 100 alumni brothers and guests.

Robert Kaley '68 commented, "I thought this evening had to be one of the standout events in dear old 202's history. It truly speaks of the brotherhood of this chapter that so many brothers from so many places would return to 202 to celebrate the new Significant Sigs and all those who have previously been so honored."

"What a great event, so grateful to receive the honor at 202 Littleton with 100+ people celebrating. I am very honored to be a Delta Delta Sigma Chi and most honored to be a significant Delta Delta Sigma Chi," wrote Dave Craig '69.

Mic Mead '55 concluded, "Delta Delta Sigma Chi alums out did themselves as did the active members. The meal was beautifully served and being among such accomplished people with my brother's (Dave Mead '52, who I spoke for) family was amazing."

Consul Wes Middleton '20 did the honors of welcoming our guests and leading the group in the *Sigma Chi Grace*. Wes, along with a number of undergraduates, also helped end the evening with the singing of the "*Sweetheart of Sigma Chi*" and a rousing rendition of "*My Name is Sigma Chi*". I'm not sure the Great Hall has heard over 100 Sigs belt out these songs with such gusto in quite a while.

## Reunion Classes Return to Delta Delta

### Reunion Classes continued

Gary Thoe, Greg Gilmore, Keith Holcomb, Bill Koss, Clarke McAllister, Steve Schleiffarth and Steve Ulbrich.

### Class of 1989 Reunion

Six brothers from the Class of '89 returned for Homecoming to celebrate our 30th reunion. Ted Lorts, Eric Westergren, Mike Martin, George Konoval, John Salsberry and Tony D'Eramo made it back to catch up on old times. Between Teays River Brewing on Friday and Saturday evening and the tailgate / football game Saturday we shared many memories from pledgship and living at 202 Littleton. We also spent several hours at the house chatting with the active brothers and hearing their (very familiar) stories.

### Class of 1994 Reunion

We had a great time Homecoming weekend. We met at 9 Irish Brothers on the Levee for dinner Friday night then ended up over at the house to spend time with the current brothers and their guests and even danced to some old 80's songs. Saturday morning we met at Delta Delta for group photos and then headed to Ross Ade for some tailgating. We cheered the Boilers on to victory over Maryland, tailgated some more and then met at Town and Gown Bistro for dinner Saturday night.

We all agreed on 3 things: 1. We were amazed at how fast 25 years flew by. 2. We all felt as though we were coming home and that when we walked into the chap-

ter house, it was as though we never left. 3. We will work to do a better job of staying in touch with each other.



**Class of '79:** Clockwise from top left: Roscoe Holloway, Corby Bain, Glenn Weckerlin, Ken Long, Godfrey Mackenzie, Guy Marr, Keith Krach and Gary Thoe



**Class of '89 (L-R)** George Konoval, Mike Martin, Tony D'Eramo, Eric Westergren and Ted Lorts. John Salsberry missed the photo op.



**Class of '94 (L-R)** Steve Foote, Scott Shelton, Scott Cramer, Jeff Hackleman, David Nuhfer and John Allen.

## Jacob Thieneman '19 Super Bowl Bound

Jacob Thieneman '19, was one of two Boilermakers to make the trip to Miami as members of the San Francisco 49er Super Bowl team. Running back Raheem Mostert was the other. Jake is a member of the 49er practice squad so he didn't get to suit up, but was on the sidelines in an exciting game that had the 49ers come up short.

In an interview with Gold and Black Associate Editor Tom Dienhart, Jake stated, "This is so far and above what I thought was possible. It's something you dream about as a kid. You take one step after another. And the next thing you know, you are days away from boarding a flight for the Super Bowl."

During his time at Purdue, Jake became a captain and a key member of the Purdue secondary. The 6-1, 215-pound Noblesville, IN, native left

campus with 170 career tackles and three interceptions along with seven sacks and 12 TFLs in 24 starts. Best of all: Thieneman departed with a degree in engineering.

Jake went undrafted in 2019 but signed a free-agent contract with the Giants where he suffered a meniscus tear in a knee during their May mini-camp and subsequently was released. Jake got healthy and joined the Colts late in camp, taking part in Indianapolis' final preseason game, before being released. During the season Jake worked out for the Browns and 49ers, and ultimately was signed by San Francisco in Week 13.

Regardless of how long his stay is with San Francisco, Jake is learning from and enjoying his time with his fellow teammates. Being part of a Super Bowl team just adds to his



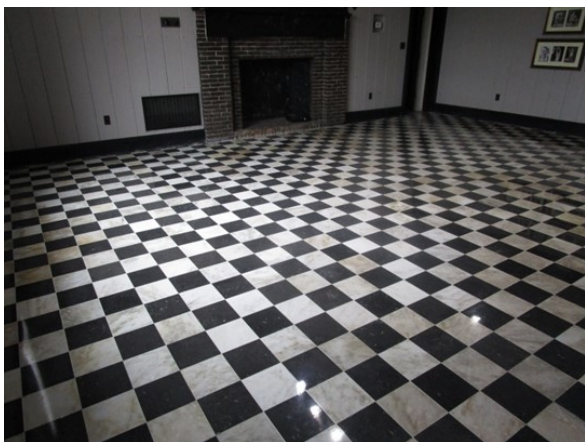
**Jacob Thieneman '19 is a member of the San Francisco 49ers Super Bowl team.**

overall experience. For trivia buffs: Purdue at 21 consecutive years now has the longest streak of any college whose former players are part of a Super Bowl team.

## Chapter House Updates with Historical Connotations

Over the semester break Butch Brose '09 was busy tackling a couple of projects with historical connotations. These projects included refurbishing the Game Room marble floor and relocating the original Rolling Peanut Pub bar within the basement Activity Room.

From the earliest photographs of the Chapter House the checkerboard floor design in the Game Room has



**The refurbished Game Room floor has regained its luster.**

made a distinct impression. The black and white checkered design has stood the test of time although some of the floor's original luster had become discolored and faded.

With the generous support of Mike Campbell '68 the Game Room floor was refurbished over the recent semester break. A restoration specialist diligently removed the top 1/16 inch of the marble tiles and then honed, repaired, polished and sealed the marble surface. Having this work done will also preserve the marble and help keep it looking this way longer.

The Rolling Peanut Pub, Delta Delta's in-house bar, once resided in what is now the Eldridge Room. It served as a gathering place for the brothers for almost two decades. During the 2006-2007 renovation of the chapter house the Roll-



**The bar in the Activity Room was relocated to open up the room.**

ing Peanut Pub was relocated to the new Activity Room in the basement.

Based on recent input from the active chapter, the bar itself has been moved from the middle of the room to the east end of the Activity Room. The goal is to open the room up more so it can be used to host smaller social events and pledge class gatherings. Holding more functions in the Activity Room will take some of the wear and tear off the Great Hall where most of the chapter's social functions are currently held.



## ALUMNI IN THE NEWS ..... ALUMNI IN THE NEWS .....

### Purdue/Michigan Great Bump Elliott Enters Chapter Eternal

Significant Sig Chalmers "Bump" Elliott '47 entered Chapter Eternal at the age of 94 on December 7, 2019.

Bump was a former Purdue football halfback, basketball guard and baseball shortstop/outfielder.



**Chalmers "Bump" Elliott**

He earned a pair of varsity letters in football at Purdue (1943-44), including playing for the undefeated 1943 squad that finished the season 9-0 and tied for the league championship.

Brother Elliott entered the Marine Corp and served in the Pacific during WWII. He returned to the University of Michigan where he was an All-American two-way halfback on Michigan's 1947 Rose Bowl and national champion team, the Big Nine's most valuable player and captain of the College All-Star football team.

Elliott would go on to serve as the head football coach at Michigan from 1959-68, after stints as an assistant coach with the Wolverines, Oregon State and Iowa. He led Michigan to the 1961 Big Ten championship and Rose Bowl victory. In 1970 Bump became the University of Iowa's athletics director until retiring in 1991. Brother Elliott is a member of the College Football and Rose Bowl Hall of Fames.

James "Nick" Spencer '56 grew up in West Lafayette and received his chemistry degree from Purdue in 1956. Nick ran the hurdles on the Purdue track team.

Upon graduating he joined the Army and was stationed at Dugway Proving Grounds in Utah where he met his future wife, Ruthanne, and they married in 1960. Nick started his career at Hercules Inc. in their Missile and Rocket Division. He later helped start their Advanced Composites Division. Nick was considered an expert in the industry and later created his own consulting firm, Pan American Composites.

Brother Spencer enjoyed horseback riding and hunting at the family ranch, skiing, soccer and golf.



He also looked forward to his pledge classes every five year get-togethers where they renewed old friendships and spoke of their days at Purdue and Delta Delta. One of their more memorable reunions was attending their pledge brother's, Mississippi Governor Curt Fordice, inauguration and staying in the Governor's mansion.

**Your Alumni Brothers  
Want News From You**

### Keith Krach '79 Sworn In



With his family and a large contingent of Sigma Chi brothers present Keith Krach '79 was sworn in on September 16, 2019, as Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy and the Environment.

### Chapter Eternal *"All honor to their names"*

**Chalmers W. Elliott '47**, Iowa City, IA 12-7-19

**Robert Hall, Jr. '49**, Indianapolis, IN 11-19

**Franklin Hankins '53**, Overland Park, KS 8-19

**William Bolles II '56**, Milwaukee, WI 10-14-19

**Lee Schuster '56**, Gower Grove, MO 8-19

**James "Nick" Spencer '56**, Mission Viejo, CA 1-7-20

**Clark T. Rollins '60**, Keego Harbor, MI 11-19

**Gordon "Kim" Compton '67**, Elkhart, IN 8-21-19

**Jason Exmeyer '01**, Redwood City, CA 11-19

### YOUR CLASSMATES WANT NEWS FROM YOU!

Engagements, Weddings, Births, Deaths, New Jobs, New Homes, Promotions, Fraternity functions. Send details and photos to be included in the Delta Delta Data.

Include your name, class year, email address and details and photos of your event or activity.

Email News Notes to Phil Steele at [steele202@comcast.net](mailto:steele202@comcast.net)

**ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATE UPDATES AT [WWW.THESIGHOUSE.COM](http://WWW.THESIGHOUSE.COM)**

## Annual Fund Reaches Significant Milestone

Tempus fugit. (Translation: time passes quickly) It has been 16 years since we recognized the need to renovate our beloved Chapter House and 12.5 years since the construction work was completed.

It was an historic undertaking as we decided to renovate our 95 year old chapter house. At \$7.4 million this was the most ambitious building and fundraising campaign to date in the Greek world. We are happy to report that the Delta Delta Chapter House

looks as good as it did when the undergraduates moved back in in August 2007.

One of the challenges of any organization is to fund ongoing, major ticket repairs and maintenance for a place like Delta Delta. Through the dedicated efforts of Bernie Sergesketter '58 and Jim Dora '58 and the support of hundreds of alumni brothers, the House Corporation's long



**The chapter house under renovation in 2006/2007.**

term maintenance fund has now reached \$1,059,464. To date we have spent \$200,000 from these reserves on major items that needed attention.

To continue to build our reserves the Annual Fund has an objective to raise \$80,000 each year. This annual sum allows the House Corp to have funds available when major repairs, i.e. roofs, boilers, kitchen equipment, etc. require replacement. This past year we raised \$77,777 toward our goal.

Bart Burrell '81, who served as House Corporation President from 2009 to 2015, remarked, "It is truly an honor to be associated with so many great men. 202 owes you all, not only for the chapter house but for the reputation and values you have left for Delta Delta and those brothers that follow. Think of the lives that will continue to be changed and shaped and the leaders developed because of your efforts. Amazing and inspiring!"

## Brothers Gather to Share Spirit of the Season

Delta Delta Sigs from Tom Jenkins '64 to CJ Johnson '17 and all the years in between gathered to spread a little holiday cheer at the annual Delta Delta Holiday Get Together held on December 19 at MacKenzie River Pizza, Grill & Pub.

Over 25 Sigs stopped by to "raise a jolly bumper" to the brothers and to wish them a Merry Christmas. Catching up was the main topic of conversation as everyone enjoyed hearing what was going on in each other's lives. There was also the occasional reminiscing of our days at Delta Delta and inquiring about pledge brothers who were not present.



**A number of the Sigs who gathered at the annual Delta Delta Get Together posed for the camera.**

The annual event hosted by the House Corporation gives Indianapolis area Delta Delta Sigs a chance to reconnect and enjoy the spirit of the season.