



Delta Delta Data

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FALL/WINTER 2025

Purdue Celebrates 150 Years of Greek Life

The Fraternity, Sorority and Cooperative Life community at Purdue (FSCL) celebrated 150 Years of Legacy at Purdue University on September 26 – 27, 2025, in West Lafayette. The weekend schedule of events included hosting an opening reception at the Sigma Chi chapter house Friday evening, September 26. With a number of distinguished guests and members of FSCL in attendance, it was a great way to highlight Delta Delta's early history and struggles to become Purdue's first fraternity founded on March 3, 1875, as well as host the event in our historic chapter house.

Brandon Cutler, Associate Dean of Students/Director of Fraternity, Sorority and Cooperative Life, thanked the Sigs for making their home available for this event. He also highlighted that total FSCL membership was 7,278 with 3,684 being in fraternities. That academically FSCL semester average grades were higher than the all-undergraduate average, and that FSCL members had higher retention and graduation rates than the overall Purdue undergraduate rates.

As part of this celebration FSCL solicited nominations from all its members and compiled a list of its 150 Most Influential Alumni based on their contributions and achievements since leaving Purdue. Sigma Chi was well represented as part of this illustrious group. Twenty-one Sigs were named as Most Influential Alumni giving Sigma Chi the most alumni of any fraternity or sorority to be recognized by FSCL.



Present at the unveiling of the George Ade Memorial plaque at Hazelden were (L-R) Tom Leslie '68, Brian Dawson '77, Bob Kaley '68 and Phil Steele '77.

Sigs Unveil George Ade Memorial Plaque

At the ribbon cutting ceremony held for the restored gardens at George Ade's Hazelden home in Brook, IN, held on October 12, 2025, a group of Delta Delta alumni unveiled a plaque highlighting Ade's contributions to Sigma Chi Fraternity. Bob Kaley '68, who led the effort to obtain the plaque, made the presentation. He was joined by Tom Leslie '68, Brian Dawson '77 and Phil Steele '77. Brother Kaley remarked on Ade's life-long involvement with Sigma Chi and spoke about Ade's thoughts as he wrote the Sigma Chi Creed that was adopted by the Fraternity in 1929.

The Sigma Chi plaque was set near the bronze statue of George Ade in

the newly recreated Hazelden garden. The Indiana-shaped garden, a unique and symbolic feature of the original Hazelden landscape, has been carefully restored with support from community donors, a number of Delta Delta brothers, and a grant from the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority. The restoration marks the first completed phase in a broader effort to return the estate to its former grandeur. Hazelden has been recognized as a Sigma Chi National Historic Site.

Honorary Sweetheart Recognized
The Class of '68 took this opportunity to recognize Krissy Wright, President of the George Ade Historic Preservation Commission, as an See Ade Memorial 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 Preston Bunch
PRO CONSUL ... Hayden Garten
ANNOTATOR Brady Cavanaugh
QUEASTOR Shemaya Magatti
MAGISTER Nathan Blied
RUSH CHRM Richard Obert
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 Rob Tully
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You may contact any of the officers by going to the chapter's website: www.thesighouse.com.

Consul's Corner Owen Coleman '27

This year marked a significant turning point for the chapter, as we completed it without any sanctions or violations for the first time in the past several years! The chapter has an energy that is seen in the many activities the chapter is engaged in.

Delta Delta hosted the university's FSCL 150th Celebration opening reception where 20 of our alumni from Chase Osborn '1880 to Drew Brees '01 were selected as one of Purdue's 150 Most Influential Alumni. We are proud of our rich history and our outstanding brothers! We also had the honor of hosting Old Master John Pierce '80, a Delta Delta alumnus, back to the house along with his Old Masters host group. John is a former Federal prosecutor and a current trial attorney based in Washington, D.C.

Led by Magister Michael LaRocca we initiated a great group of 33 pledges on October 18, 2025. At Blue Formal this past December, Margaret Boysen, a junior in Phi Mu, majoring in Marketing, was selected our new Sweetheart.

The Sigs have also been busy taking part in 15 different philanthropic events including Phi Mu's Miracle Mania Dance Competition, Zeta Tau Alpha's Run For A Cure 5K, Tri Delta's rally for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Kappa Kappa Gamma's Kappaolym-pics. Our efforts have raised \$8000 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute. The chapter has also hosted campus wide Greek InterVarsity events at 202 Littleton. This organization is working with Delta Delta to expand their reach to more students and increase its focus on service and volunteering.

This semester, the chapter has 15 brothers volunteering with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater

Lafayette where they will be paired up with children ages 12 to 14. A group of 15 undergrads just returned from a mission trip to Guatemala held over winter break. Nathan Blied '27 coordinated this adventure with Phillip Lamport '97 (who lives in Guatemala) and Jay Andrew '98.

I am excited to pass the torch to Preston Bunch '28, who will serve as Delta Delta's Consul in 2026. Preston is from Fishers, IN, double-majoring in Finance and Accounting. Our new Pro Consul is Hayden Garten '28, from Charlestown, IN. He is studying General Management with a minor in Construction Management.

I also want to express my gratitude to our alumni for their tireless support throughout my term. It is an essential part of our chapter's achievements.



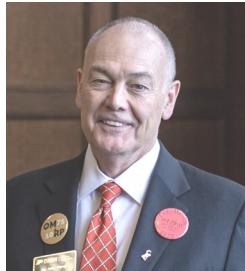
Sweetheart Margaret Boysen with Emerson Foote '27

Finally, a special thanks to our Chapter Advisor, Nate Gustus '05. He has helped the chapter prosper through challenging periods and has been a steady hand during my term as Consul. Overall, every officer, along with the rest of the brothers, played a crucial role in fostering a culture of excellence and commitment. Their leadership and hard work have been instrumental in shaping the Delta Delta chapter and setting a high bar for the semesters ahead. We look forward to seeing many of our alumni return in 2026.

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

Pierce '80 Returns To Delta Delta As Old Master

John Pierce '80 was one of five Old Masters who took part in the 2025 anniversary program celebrating the 75th year of Old Masters (OM) and the 10th anniversary of the Rising Professionals (RP) program held November 9 – 12, 2025. Old



John Pierce '80

Masters engage with the Purdue student body by guest-speaking in classrooms, personally meeting with student organizations, and sharing some of their most valuable experiences in the campus-wide panel called *Echos of Excellence*.

As part of the 75th anniversary celebration, the committee invited back all former OMs. One of those who returned was Greg Harbaugh '78, a 2004 Old Master. John noted, "It was nice having some quality time with one of my mentors, Greg Harbaugh, along with our wives. Both John and Greg, as undergrads, had been OM hosts and on the OM central committee.

John earned his B.S. in Economics from Purdue in 1980, followed by a J.D. from the University of Texas

School of Law in 1984. He is currently a white-collar criminal defense attorney at Liles Parker in Washington, D.C. John began his career in federal criminal law as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, serving for fourteen years across three offices: San Diego, Washington, D.C., and Alexandria, Virginia. For the first eleven years, he primarily prosecuted violent and organized crime, later shifting his focus to health care fraud during his final three years in public service.

In private practice for the last 25 years, John's focus is on defending doctors and other professionals in fraud investigations and prosecutions, although he occasionally represents those being prosecuted for violent or organized crimes.

John remarked, "Being selected as an OM was a real honor. Delta Delta has such a rich tradition of contributing to the success of OM. For



John Pierce '80 (center) celebrates his return to Purdue with his Old Masters' hosts.

this year's program, I spoke in my three classroom sessions about the student's role in leadership. I used the values-based leadership taught at the Krach Transformational Leadership Training as the basis of my talks.

Wednesday afternoon included a visit to 202 where John answered the brother's questions, discussed his career, and took the time to extol the virtues of the leadership training available through Sigma Chi and the importance of taking full advantage of these opportunities.

Ade Memorial continued ...

honorary Sweetheart of Sigma Chi. Krissy has been actively engaged in supporting several Sigma Chi alumni in their endeavors to preserve and restore Hazelden as part of George Ade's legacy. She also helped coordinate at least seven reunion dinners held at Hazelden by the Class of '68. Bob Kaley in presenting this award thanked Krissy for being so gracious to all Sigma Chis and leading the restoration effort.

At the 2nd Hazelden Festival, the Preservation Commission shared its plans to fully renovate Ade's home as an historic museum, transform the west wing of the home into a Newton County Visitor's Center, and renovate



Bob Kaley '68 with honorary Sweetheart Krissy Wright.

the Carriage House into a flexible indoor/outdoor event venue suitable for weddings, reunions, and community functions.

House Corporation Receives Gold Award

The Outstanding House Corporation Award recognizes the Fraternity's house corporations that best serve its undergraduate chapters, while adhering to best management practices. Each year Sigma Chi's Board of Trustees designates select chapters for their Gold and Blue level awards.

The Delta Delta House Corporation once again received the Outstanding House Corporation Gold Award for demonstrating superior business practices in 2025. House Corp President Tom Hall '81 thanked all the board members for their contributions to maintaining our historic home.

Sigs Serve Others in Highlands of Guatemala

Fifteen undergraduate brothers took part in a mission trip over winter break to Antigua, Guatemala. Partnering with the International Esperanza Project the Sigs performed service work for families in the community of Chimaltenango, Guatemala. The six-day trip included multiple days of hands-on mission work, as well as opportunities for team building, Bible study, personal growth, and a climb of Volcán San Pedro, a nearly 10,000-foot stratovolcano in Southern Guatemala.

The group was hosted by Phil Lamport '97 and Manny Ayau '02, who both live in Guatemala, and accompanied by Jay Andrew '98. Led by Nathan Blied '27 the undergrads spent the first day learning how to put together stoves that ran off of wood and were much more efficient than cooking over an open flame. Over the next two days they assembled and installed 48 stoves and 30+ water filters in two separate communities. In these communities, homes were without plumbing, HVAC, and often did not have electricity. Some of the homes were constructed of mud and sticks and the majority had dirt floors. Despite this, the group witnessed the immense joy of the locals who were grateful for everything and had a strong faith in God.



Front Row L-R: Tobey Uhm, Nathan Blied, Austin Brooks, Patrick McFerson, Josh Zhang, and Jack Steadham Back Row L-R: Jay Andrew '98, Phillip Lamport '97, Daniel Queroz, Owen Smith, Jack Shertzer, Peyton Ford, Jacob Kleeman, James Neff, Rob Tully, Hayden Garten, and Dillon Glass.

Phil Lamport remarked, "I believe that building high-efficiency wood-burning stoves for families in the highlands of Guatemala carries significant and lasting benefits. The families who receive the stoves no longer have to spend as much time gathering firewood, and their homes are no longer filled with smoke from open fires, which has a real impact on their health. At the same time, the undergrads get to see firsthand what life is like in rural Guatemala—places with dirt roads and no running water—yet places where people go about their day with dignity and warmth. Personally, visiting these communities gives me a profound sense of grati-

tude and reinforces how meaningful it can be to apply our time and effort in a way that genuinely improves someone else's daily life."

"Looking back on the experience," noted Phil, "I am convinced that trips like this can play a meaningful role in the life of the chapter. They are not meant to replace any part of the active experience, but rather to complement it by offering a shared challenge, a broader perspective, and time together away from campus. If this trip helped strengthen bonds among the actives and left them with a deeper sense of gratitude and responsibility, then it accomplished exactly what I had hoped for."



Thirty three new brothers comprising the Class of 2029 entered the ranks of Sigma Chi on October 18, 2025, under the guidance of Magister Michael LaRocca '26.

ALUMNI NEWS ALUMNI NEWS ALUMNI NEWS

Krach To Lead Nation's 250th Birthday Celebration

Keith Krach '79 was named the CEO of Freedom 250, a national, non-partisan organization launched by President Trump to lead the celebration of the 250th anniversary of American Independence.



Keith Krach '79

The Freedom 250 Network is celebrating the Nation's 250th

birthday with events that honor our history, showcase the beauty of the United States, ignite innovation, and strengthen the faith that will carry our

Nation forward for the next 250 years.

Already, the celebration is underway, and you can join in! As Keith says, "This is a moment for all Americans." Throughout the anniversary year, Freedom 250 will bring Americans together through historic moments and events that showcase our nation at its best.

From the lighting of the Washington Monument... to the Great American State Fair on the National Mall... to the first-ever Patriot Games... and a powerful Salute to America on the Fourth of July—this will be a celebration that reaches every corner of our country. For a schedule of events go to <https://freedom250.org/>.

9th Gathering of the Class of 1963



L-R: Bill Weigel, Nick Fritsch, Bill Frey, Eric Helt, Mike Smith, Jim Lopeman, Bill Vahle, Jim Latham, Jim Ritchie, Doug Wilton and Ralph Kuhnert

Although the rain and lightning may have disrupted the plans for the Purdue football game, they did not dampen the spirits of those returning for the ninth reunion gathering of the Class of '63 on September 13 at the Quality Inn. This remarkable group of brothers was led by Bill Vahle and Doug Wilton. Nick Fritsch '63 wrote to all the returnees, "I am very grateful to each of you for your priceless gifts to your pledge brothers for all of our "Gatherings" over the past five decades. You have retained and enhanced the spirit, values and love we shared from 1959-1963. Life doesn't get any better than this." Each brother received a copy of the 1962 *Boilermaker Sig* from Nick.



Bob Kaley '68 and Jim Chapin '68 located Bob's 1968 senior cords on display at a Lafayette vintage clothing store.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

35th Annual Delta Delta Alumni Golf Outing
Saturday, June 13th
Purdue Golf Courses

Chapter Eternal *"All honor to their names"*

Charles T. Van Dusen '45,
 Evergreen, CO 10-2025

Robert L. Kistler '51, Fredericksburg, TX 10-2025

John Crowl '59, State College, PA 2-2025

Richard Weiss '60, Raleigh, NC 10-2025

Gerald Shelton, New Castle, IN 10-2025

Douglas Widell '68, Johnson City, TX 7-11-25

Edward Frickey, Jr. '72, Shelbyville KY 11-6-2025

Sigs Share Spirit of the Season



Delta Delta brothers from the late '70s to 2018 gathered for the annual Holiday Get Together held in Indianapolis.

Thirty Delta Delta brothers gathered on December 18 at the Arni's location in Indianapolis to share a little holiday cheer. Sigs from classes from the late seventies to 2018 took part and enjoyed the chance to catch up with those in attendance. Preston Cobb '77, who resides in the Chicago area, traveled the furthest to see several of his PBs who were present.

Again, we'd like to thank Tom Hall '81 for making the arrangements for this event and Jeff McKean '86 for promoting this gathering to the Sigs in the Indy area. Our goal each year is to have brothers attend from all eras to share in the true spirit of the holidays. We look forward to seeing more of you next year, especially from the younger classes.

Alumni Mentors Needed

What better way to give back to Delta Delta than to be a mentor to an undergraduate brother. Whether you live far or near, you can take part and be a positive influence in a young man's life. We need 30 alumni to sign up to be mentors to our newest members. To learn more, please reach out to Steve Smith '97 at scsmith97@yahoo.com.

World's Largest Paddle On Display at Sig House

Thanks to the Class of '73 the world's largest paddle is now on permanent display at the chapter house. It stands just over 9 feet tall and records the signatures of all those who returned in June for Detta Delta's 150th Anniversary celebration.



Harold Force '73 next to the 9' paddle with all the signatures of the attendees to the 150th Anniversary Celebration.