

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 21
Blue-White Tailgate and Dinner

April 29
Philadelphia Phillies Game

June
Golf Outing in State College

June 23
Jimmy Buffet Concert in Pittsburgh

July 4
Fourth Fest Family Picnic, State College

July 14
Arts Fest – Picnic and Dinner

August 4
Church Brewery in Pittsburgh

October 12-14
Homecoming vs Wisconsin

Mark your calendar for these exciting events.

Boston and Harrisburg Events are being planned.

Please let us know if you would like to host an event in your area.

Visit www.sigmanu-psu.org for full details.

ON THE WEB

Visit www.sigmanu-psu.org for a Q&A interview with undergraduate member **Aviel Braunstein**, as well as other active bios!

IN MEMORIAM

Since publication of our last issue, we have learned of the deaths of:

Benjamin F. Willams DD696
Gerald F. Murphy DD780 (12/22/99)

Sigma Nu mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.

The Delta Delta



April 2007 — Sigma Nu Fraternity at The Pennsylvania State University — State College, Pa.

www.greeks.psu.edu/ifc/sn

www.sigmanu-psu.org

PROPERTY ASSOCIATION REPORT

House Improvements Completed Ahead of Schedule

Visiting the House? Call Ahead to Obtain Combination of Door Locks

By Robert A. (Nellie) Nelson '72, President

I'm very pleased to report that the installation of our sprinkler system has been completed, tested, and accepted by the Borough. This significant project was completed ahead of schedule with most of the installation performed over the semester break. Soffit and ceiling beam modifications have been installed to hide the piping on the main floor. Installation of soffit on the second & third floors will be delayed until additional funds are available. A closet was installed in the basement to protect the inlet manifold. The sprinkler is now connected to our alarm system and the undergraduates have been trained on how to secure the system in the event of an inadvertent activation.

The cost of the project to date has been approximately \$85,000. The project was funded using an equity line of credit. In addition to the obvious safety improvements that this system provides, we will receive a 50% first-year discount on our fire insurance. This first-year discount equates to about \$5,000. A discount of 30% will apply to future years. I'm very grateful to **Ed Sidwell '72** for coordinating with the contractors and monitoring the project. Pictures of the project are available on our website at www.sigmanu-psu.org. Because of the cost of this project, no additional capital improvements are planned for this year. However, we do have sufficient operating funds to cover the demands of normal maintenance and repair.

We had a very productive planning and budgeting meeting with the active Chapter on February 3rd. This annual meeting is held to review the fall operating results, revise the spring budget, as necessary, develop the budget for the next academic year, and plan for activities involving the alumni. As a result of increased house occupancy projected for next year and

excellent fiscal management, an increase in the house bill will not be necessary for next year, although the rent that the Association charges the active Chapter will increase. That evening, I prepared dinner for the Chapter. A total of 28 undergraduates and alumni attended. By all reports, I did a fine job with our aging kitchen.

Many of you have complained about not being able to get into the House because of locked doors. Unfortunately, vandalism and theft require such security. We are investigating the feasibility and cost of an intercom or doorbell that would connect the front door with the second and third floors. Until we have this situation resolved, please contact Ed Sidwell, **Doug Kosydar '94**, or me if you plan to visit the House and we'll provide the combination for the door locks. Our contact information is available on our website under "Directory."

We are planning some new and expanded events for alumni this year, including a catered dinner following the Blue-White Game on April 21st and regional receptions. Please consult our website for details.

As always, please feel free to contact me regarding any questions, comments, and/or concerns that you may have. I am most easily reached via email at nelsonnittany@aol.com.



Identify Your Big Brother or Little Brother in the Family Tree when You Come Home for "Snakes in the Sand"

Philanthropy Chosen for New Brothers' Pledge Project

Sigma Nu Penn State initiated 14 candidates this semester and these new Brothers decided to create a philanthropy of their own known as their "pledge project." The project is designed to improve the house as a whole. It's used to show the new Brothers that they are capable of making the house a better place. In previous years, classes have made picnic tables

for the house, as well as added an additional parking space to cover what would otherwise be wasted space. This project is still in its early planning phase, check back on the website in the future to see what they have decided to do!

Sigma Nu welcomed alumni back for Homecoming and plan on having them again

for "Snakes in the Sand" during the weekend of April 21. "Snakes in the Sand" is Sigma Nu's version of spring homecoming. The Brothers have started a family tree project where they are asking alumni for help with identifying their big and little Brothers in order to trace some of the active Brothers' roots back to members in the early 1980s! Sigma Nu said farewell to three Brothers who graduated this past semester. They finished 3rd overall in Homecoming and the house GPA was a 3.16. And finally, the new sprinkler system is now up and running, making the house much safer.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Andy Hackett '05 Seeks out the Advice and Values of His Fraternity Brothers

The Values and Ethics Learned at Sigma Nu Inspires Him to be a Valued Team Member

Why did you join Sigma Nu?

I looked at both Sigma Nu and Beta Theta



Pi as my primary interests because I'm a legacy at both. The men of Sigma Nu cared about each other and were interested in me as a valued addition to their Brotherhood and I just didn't feel that from

the men at Beta. Sigma Nu sold me on their down-to-earth sensibility and tight-knit Chapter. I am completely happy to have made this choice.

What kind of influence has this had on your life?

Being a member of Sigma Nu led to many opportunities, both personally and professionally, that I would have missed otherwise. Leadership is not just something we say to sell the Chapter, but something that is truly exercised within our Chapter. I firmly believe I am a better person for having joined Sigma Nu. I live a life inspired by the values and ethics that Sigma Nu teaches, primarily Love, Honor, Truth, and Brotherhood. This has been coveted by my employer, as I am a dependable and talented team member.

What is your favorite memory of the Fraternity?

My first Grand Chapter was in 2002 in Toronto. **Adam Krugh** and I represented Delta Delta's collegiate Chapter. At Grand Chapter, all of the Pennsylvania chapters started hanging out and I began to realize just how magnificent a choice it was to join Sigma Nu. Further, coming from the Delta Delta Chapter from where Mr. Sigma Nu, **Dick Fletcher '28**, hails was rewarding. He is not only a legend among our Chapter, but internationally.

How has being part of Sigma Nu helped you develop your leadership skills?

I learned leadership first in the LEAD classes, but then by practicing it in many roles, primarily as Eminent Commander. The Chapter taught me how to best interact with people. I continue to learn how to lead by following the examples of my fraternal superiors. The Division Commander for Southern New England is a close friend of mine and someone I admire deeply for his work ethic and ability to motivate others. Brother **Bob Nelson's '72** perseverance and dedication is something I admire and try to match. I continue to learn additional leadership skills by seeking out the advice and example of my Brothers.

Why do you continue to support Sigma Nu?

I support Sigma Nu because it supports me and is my family. If I fall from grace, my fraternity Brothers will be there to pick me up. Although I give financially, I know my time is even more valuable and I volunteer. The best example was when the alumni planned the spring budgeting and planning meeting on the same weekend as my 21st birthday, so that they could celebrate it with me. **Mike Sweeney '92**, Natalie and **Doug Kosydar '94** and several others showed me a great time and then the next morning, they and **Bob Nelson '72** spent their valuable time teaching us about budgeting and reviewing our plans. They continued to exude Brotherhood well beyond their years living at the House and I now strive to mirror their efforts.

How would you like to see your Brothers support Sigma Nu?

I would love to see Brothers support Sigma Nu as best they can. Not everyone needs to choose Sigma Nu as their primary philanthropy, but I hope they will keep it as one of them. Whether it be to facilitate a LEAD session for Delta Delta or another chapter, or to support our annual fund, or to encourage a nephew to join Sigma Nu, I just hope my Brothers will continue to support Sigma Nu the best they can. Beyond direct support, by living the values and not shying from letting others know you are a Sigma Nu, can help reverse the negative stereotypes we face as Greeks. Simply wearing my alumni pin on a blazer has given me the opportunity to talk to others about my fraternity and I hope that my Brothers would do the same.

Sigma Nu Provided Bill Hoffman '73 with Lessons that He Could Not Learn in the Classroom

Now Bill Wants to Give Back by Becoming More Involved at Sigma Nu

Bill's memories of Sigma Nu are all about the ties that bind him to Penn State. The reason that Bill



tells everyone that he rushed Sigma Nu was "because it was close to campus and cheap." This may be so, but it was the instant bond and friendship that Bill felt with his

Brothers at the house that really made him feel right at home. Bill joined Sigma Nu with several hometown buddies and friends from the dorms including **Don Gutwald '73**, **Bob Mirro '73** (who died tragically at a young age from a heart attack), and **Tony "Smokey" Chiumento '73** (deceased). By the way, Tony is the talented Brother who painted the fraternity crest that was at the bottom of the stairs – which Bill understands is still adorning Sigma Nu.

All of the memories that Bill has from Sigma Nu had one thing in common - fun. One of his favorite memories is thinking about his first few years where the fraternity couldn't afford a cook. Just imagine yourself at 18 or 19 years old, planning and cooking

dinner for about 30 people. You can only imagine the meals that were served at the house.

Life was not complete at Sigma Nu without Bill's wife Linda. Bill and Linda met at Penn State and have been together ever since. They have been married for 32 years and have three children. Two who have followed the family tradition by attending Penn State and one who went his own way. Their daughter Amy will be graduating from Penn State this year and their son Rob graduated in 2004. Bill's son Will graduated from Pitt and as Bill jokes, "is written out of the will."

Bill started his own small business 33 years ago and feels that his experiences at Sigma Nu have helped him to become the success

"...it is the job of every Sigma Nu Brother to provide this experience for those to come in the future."

that he is today. As President of the house, Bill essentially ran a small business – paying the bills, cleaning, keeping the house in good repair, and making sure that everyone behaved and made grades. He believes that he may have learned more by those experiences than

in some of the classes that he took. Not only did Bill learn about running a business, he really learned to care about his Brothers. This is evident in the excellent customer service that Bill provides for his clients even today.

With two children attending Penn State, it is very difficult for Bill to spend a lot of time at the house. His children are his first priority. Bill is also an avid football fan and returns for football weekends too. Although he doesn't have the time to stop in very often, Bill always drives by the house when he is in town and remembers what fun he had. He even has a picture of the house in his office to help keep the memories alive.

Some time ago, Bill was on the Alumni Property Board and very involved at Sigma Nu. Times changed and he became very busy with his family and career, and was not able to be quite as involved. Bill wants this to change. He wants to become more active in the upcoming capital campaign. He knows that the one common bond that he will always have with Penn State is Sigma Nu and he doesn't want this to go away. The Greek system serves a very good purpose on campus and "it was also a good place to get a cold beer – in my day." Bill wants you to look back and remember all of the fun and experiences at Sigma Nu that have helped you become the success that you are today. His passion is evident when he said, "it is the job of every Sigma Nu Brother to provide this experience for those to come in the future."

OLD PHOTO ALBUM

Why let great Sigma Nu photos collect dust in your attic when you can share them with the brotherhood online?

Upload your best shots and browse the submissions of others at www.sigmanu-psu.org!

In this picture: "Beauty and the Beasts" – In 1964 Sigma Nu Brother **Ted Ehrlich '66** (left) and **Bob Niznik '68** (right) with two friends. Bob was a pledge in this photo taken before a Penn State football game.

Thank you to Bob Niznik for submitting this photo!



Dedicated Leaders put Sigma Nu in a Position to Succeed in the Future

Capital Campaign Will be a Success with Your Support and Commitment

By Doug Kosydar '94, Alumni Commander

Over the past two and a half years serving as the Alumni Commander for the Delta Delta Chapter, I have seen tremendous growth as well as begun to truly realize the potential of our brotherhood as a whole.

The active Chapter has become more accountable for their actions and the current "attitude" is to leave the house better than you found it. This current mindset has recently helped to increase the number of active Brothers to over 30 as well as significantly raise the house GPA. The Alumni Association has held multiple events, including reunions, golf invitationals, and regional receptions. We will continue to reconnect our brotherhood throughout the upcoming year culminating with our Centennial Celebration in 2009.

This positive momentum of our entire organization has been conceived through

the efforts of a dedicated leadership and sustained by the Brothers that have volunteered their time and efforts to serve our organization. We must continue to utilize a broader vision, one that is not hindered by our concerns for the present or memories of the past, but a vision

"The active Chapter has become more accountable for their actions and the current 'attitude' is to leave the house better than you found it."

to continue to offer an opportunity for young men to join us in walking down the pathway of the Legion of Honor for many years to come at The Pennsylvania State University. We must be able to adapt to

the changing times and the current lifestyle and environment of the University.

In the coming months, each of you will be contacted by a fellow Brother or by our Lead Gift Officer who is working hand in hand with our organization, asking for your support of our "Building a New Legacy" capital campaign. Through this campaign, we will be able to significantly upgrade our property and keep it competitive with University housing for the next 40 years as well as to continue to provide a place for alumni to meet in State College.

It is our goal to obtain 100% participation from the brotherhood. I would like to personally thank those Brothers who have already given above their means to make sure our campaign will be a success as well as challenge the rest of you, to think about what Sigma Nu has given you, and to make a significant contribution to this worthy cause.

I hope to see each of you at one of our upcoming events to share in this special time of our lives. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions or concerns that you have regarding the Alumni Association.



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SIGMA NU FRATERNITY



***House Improvements Completed,
Alumni Giving Back to the Chapter,
Details Inside!***

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