

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Snakes in the Sand/  
Blue White Weekend**  
April 24-26

**Alumni & Family Centennial  
Picnic/Delta Delta Invitational**  
June 12-13

**Arts Fest BBQ**  
July 11

**Homecoming**  
October 16

Visit [www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org)  
and stay tuned to our monthly  
e-Letters for full details!

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

**Commander**  
**Mark (Mack) Mixon**

**Lt. Commander**  
**Jesse Stewart**

**Chaplain**  
**Kyle Poor**

**Spring '09 Marshal**  
**Brent Potter**

**Treasurer**  
**Stephen Frankola**

**Recorder**  
**Blake Bonnewell**

**Sentinel**  
**Chase Hughey**

**Social**  
**Steve Wesolowski**

## ON THE WEB

We're Missing Email Addresses  
for Nearly 400 Alumni Brothers!

If you're not receiving our  
e-communications, go to  
[www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org)  
to update your contact  
information. Your Member ID  
for first-time login can be found  
above your name and address  
on this newsletter.

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

**Stanley Roseberry '56** passed  
into the Chapter Eternal in  
April 2008.

# The Delta Delta



**March 2009** Sigma Nu Fraternity at The Pennsylvania State University — State College, Pa.

[www.greeks.psu.edu/ifc/sn](http://www.greeks.psu.edu/ifc/sn)

[www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org)

## PROPERTY ASSOCIATION UPDATE

### Top Campaign Donors Recognized on Foyer Plaque Interim Capital Improvement Plan Approved to Restore Parts of House

By **Robert A. (Nellie) Nelson '72 (ΔΔ916), President**

In recognition of our donors who pledged \$5,000 or more to the *Building a New Legacy* Capital Campaign, we purchased a plaque with the donors' names and amount pledged/donated. The plaque has been mounted in the foyer. The names of these principal donors and their pledge/gift levels follow. \$30,000: **Charles E. Rolling (ΔΔ 738)**. \$10,000: A brother who wishes to remain anonymous, **Robert J. Chaney (ΔΔ 798)**, **William F. Hoffman, Jr. (ΔΔ 933)**, **David A. Miller (ΔΔ 1103)**, **Robert A. Nelson (ΔΔ 916)**, and **Steven Rodrigo (ΔΔ 1160)**; \$5,000: **John F. Bott (ΔΔ 724)**, **William Coale (ΔΔ 695)**, **Robert W. Comfort (ΔΔ 713)**, **David L. Cotterill (ΔΔ 739)**, **Charles G. Haugh (ΔΔ 862)**, **Andrew B. Hibler (ΔΔ 688)**, **Eric T. Hennenhoefer (ΔΔ 1237)**, **Ray E. Myers (ΔΔ 689)**, **Tyler W. Newcombe (1433)** and **Lance I. Solomon (ΔΔ 1219)**.

We concluded our capital campaign on January 31, 2008. A total of \$299,403 was pledged and \$123,868 has been donated as a result of these pledges. Some of the donated funds were spent to cover campaign expenses. Because we did not achieve our goal of \$600,000, some planned improvements will need to be delayed or dropped from our plans. The Board of Directors recently approved an interim capital improvement plan. This plan calls for replacement of the hardwood floors in the dining room, foyer, and library as the initial project. This project was selected because the floors can not be refinished and the highly visible nature of this improvement. We are in the process of soliciting bids for this project. I know that many of you have been expecting some noticeable and immediate improvements as a result of your financial support for the campaign. Please bear with us as we plan for the most effective use of the limited funds available.



*It's almost time for Blue/White! Join us on April 25th.*

Since my last report, we completed a number of improvements funded from our operating budget including a new water softening system to help preserve the condition of our piping and hot water heat exchanger. In addition, we've replaced all of the toilets to improve "flushability." Brother **Chester Reed (ΔΔ 605)**, provided the toilets at a significantly reduced cost.

As discussed in the fall newsletter, we implemented "bursar billing" for the first time during the fall 2008 semester. Under this system, the university bills the brothers for house bills, security deposits, and out-of-house fees at no direct cost to the Association or the Active Chapter. We experienced improved cash flow, reduction of delinquent accounts, and reduced accounting costs.

We held our annual Homecoming meeting on October 18 and a budgeting and planning meeting with the Active Chapter on January 31 in conjunction with a leadership retreat. We plan to hold a short meeting with the Active Chapter on Saturday of Blue/White weekend. The Association plans to host a buffet-style dinner following the Blue/White game on April 25 and a cookout on Saturday of Arts Fest (July 11, 2009).

If you have any questions regarding the Property Association or if you want a copy of our annual report or capital improvement plan, please send an email to [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com).

## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

### Join Your Sigma Nu Brothers as We Celebrate 100 Years of Delta Delta

*“The Chapter has Raised More than 1,400 Boys into Men of Honor”*

By Andy Hackett (ΔΔ 1361)

At the beginning of this academic year the Delta Delta chapter began its 100th year as a chartered member of Sigma Nu. Many of you were able to attend the first major celebration on Homecoming weekend, at which there was a great collection of photo albums and artifacts from our history, the Centennial Paddle for all who visit the chapter this year to sign, and several other activities to bring us together in memory of a rich history. More so than looking to the past, we want to embrace the future and the memories we will make there.

In just a few short months we will be at the culminating weekend for our celebration, held June 12-14. If you have not yet put this on your calendar I urge you to go do so right away and to visit our website to register. This is not an event to miss! Before we get into the details of this event let's first remember where this chapter has been.

Founded in 1908, the chapter officially gained recognition in early 1909 as the 74th chapter of Sigma Nu when the High Council approved the chapter's charter. Since then the chapter has raised more than 1,400 boys into men of honor, with over 600 of these men still alive today. It is these men, you included, that are the ingredient

to our success. Many war heroes, business leaders, an Executive Director of all Sigma Nu chapters worldwide, and many other great men have walked through the doors of Delta Delta. Beyond the business acumen taught to our Brothers, concern for others has been taught as well. The chapter has consistently participated in THON, raising money for pediatric cancer; as well as hosting its own philanthropies such as Grilled Cheese for Cheese.

It is a celebration of these men, you included, which has brought us to this 100th birthday.

**The Centennial Celebration spring weekend scheduled for June 12-14 will include:**

- Friday night get-together at the chapter house. This will be a low key evening for those getting in Friday to meet and mingle. After a drive back to Happy Valley, we want to make it easy for you to find your Brothers and their families, so let's all meet at the chapter house
- Golf outing. One of our most successful annual events, the golf outing will have the first tee time at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday and promises

to be a great day on the links

- Centennial/Brotherhood Family picnic. A day at the park for the entire family, we will have games for kids of all ages and also will be catering lunch. Sunset Park includes a collection of slides, swings and other equipment, as well as a basketball court and baseball field, grills, pavilions, and trails for hiking.
- Banquet Dinner. This culminating event will include a buffet dinner with a program including awards, speeches from both Penn State President Spanier and Sigma Nu Regent Gilman. There will be baby-sitting services available for children.

This is our centennial year. It only comes around once and so we're making the most of it. We hope you will also be able to join in the fun and be in State College for this fabulous event. If you have any questions about the event please feel free to contact me at [ddcentennial@gmail.com](mailto:ddcentennial@gmail.com) or 814-880-7239 for additional information.

**You can register and pay for the Centennial event online at [www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org).**

## CHAPTER UPDATE

### Sigma Nu and Phi Sigma Rho Raise \$26,150 “For the Kids”

Congratulations to our Sigma Nu dancers **Rick Denne** and **Brent Potter**, who danced for our Brotherhood, which raised \$13,275 for Thon 2009. We partnered with Phi Sigma Rho and raised a combined \$26,150 “for the kids.” Thon 2009 was another record-breaking year, raising a total \$7,490,133.87 for the Four Diamonds Fund.

*In this photo (Left to right): Aimee Miller (our Thon child), Kali Miller (Aimee's sister), **Rick Denne**, **Brent Potter**, Allison Harter and Jane Murphy.*



## A Century of Memories

### Looking Back at Sigma Nu Through the Decades



Viking Fest 1964

*This year marks the 100-year anniversary of the Delta Delta Chapter at Penn State. In honor of the Centennial Celebration, we decided to take a look back at Sigma Nu's history, through the eyes of 11 Brothers. While some favorites and traditions have changed over the years, many have stayed the same through the decades; most importantly, the lifelong bond of Brotherhood.*

Every Brother has his own memories as a Sigma Nu. **Jim MacLaughlin '56** (ΔΔ 714) remembers formal family dinners each evening with all the Brothers and the housemother, and on occasion, outside guests in coat and tie. "It was a time of discussing experiences of the day, learning and practicing table etiquette, and developing social and interactive skills," he said.

**Jim Shincovich '65** (ΔΔ 860) also enjoyed eating evening meals together in the '60s, as well as sitting in the formal living room with a date in front of the fire, singing songs in the party room and dancing at large parties with live bands.

**Brandon Peterson '96** (ΔΔ 1306) said moving back into the house each fall was always a great day for him. "There's nothing like making the drive to campus, pulling into the parking lot behind the house, unloading, and catching up with the brothers about their summer," he remembers.

#### Activities and Events

Throughout the decades Sigma Nu's participation in Homecoming was very memorable. Brothers took pride in seeing their float coming down College Avenue.

"Homecoming was always a great time," said **Steve Rodrigo '85** (ΔΔ 1160).

"[There was] great camaraderie among the brotherhood as we attempted to get the float completed and out of the lot by 6 a.m.," he said.

Other brothers believe that The Penn State Dance Marathon (Thon), which got its start in 1972, was the top campus event.

"My best memory is dancing in Thon," said **Mark McAndrew '01** (ΔΔ 1365). "It was an incredible experience. I am very proud that Sigma Nu has been active in Thon and continues to support this great cause."

As far as parties go, two stood out above the rest from the '40s through the '60s: the Dock Party and the Viking Party.

"After the war, brothers dressed up in pirate and sailor outfits for the Dock Party, and their dates dressed up too," said **Jim Etter '42** (ΔΔ 489). "There was dancing and cookouts and some of the sororities would stop by."

#### The Delta Delta House/ Sigma Nu Reputation

Many Brothers said their favorite building on campus was the Delta Delta House. "We had a nice group of fellas; everybody took care of everybody else and looked out for each other," said Etter '49.

***"While some favorites and traditions have changed over the years, many have stayed the same through the decades; most importantly, the lifelong bond of Brotherhood."***

For those brothers who experienced the house fire in 1966, life changed dramatically. **John O'Donnell '65** (ΔΔ 869) said that prior to the fire, he and others led very carefree student lives and enjoyed parties and normal student activities. After the fire, however, he said the chapter struggled financially and the temporary and uncertain housing situation made it difficult to attract new brothers for quite some time.

In later decades, many of us probably



Greek Week 1988

agree with **Mike Harrell '89** (ΔΔ 1228), who said the residence halls were institutional; the fraternity was "home."

"What I value most was the acceptance," he said. "I believe that I was the first black member of the fraternity,

but it simply was never an issue. I was completely comfortable there, and we all supported each other."

#### Rival Fraternities

According to the Brothers who were interviewed, we have had one consistent rival over the years: Phi Gamma Delta (Fiji).

**Shawn Kelly '82** (ΔΔ 1107) said he recalls some skirmishes with the neighboring fraternity. "One night I bounced a Fiji for kicking Eric Hoffmann's girlfriend's (I mean wife's...) bike over. I guess that put him in a bad mood as he was leaving, and he made a really unfortunate error in judgment by picking a fight with the first brother he ran into on the lawn – Jim Andrews – returning from a bar. The fight ended 1.2 seconds later with him body-slammed straight into 3rd grade on the front sidewalk."

**Bob Niznik '65** (ΔΔ 855) recalls borrowing a keg of beer from Phi Gamma Delta across the street, late on a Friday night. "I think we forgot to ask if we could. Anyway, it was the best beer we ever had at the house."

"Awesome." "Memorable." "Educational." "Incredible." "Fun." "Enlightening." "Rewarding." "Forever!" Only a few of the words that describe the experiences we shared at Sigma Nu and the bonds that will always remain as brothers of Delta Delta.

*To read the full article or to share some of your own memories, log onto [www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org).*

# ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT

## Building our Network

### Centennial Celebration Brings Us Closer Together

By Doug Kosydar (ΔΔ1249), Alumni Commander

I am proud to report that our Alumni Association is strong and that plans for our upcoming Centennial Celebration are coming together nicely thanks to those Brothers and our Sweetheart who have volunteered their time to organize this historic event for us.

As I was recently working on sending out invitations for Brothers to join our Centennial Event through Facebook, I began to think about how fortunate we are to have such a powerful network of our own through our membership in not only our Chapter but in the entire Sigma Nu Fraternity.

The only way to benefit from a network is to gain access to it, and then expend some energy in nurturing and growing the connections. Creating this connection, or in most cases creating a reconnection to our Brotherhood, has been an ongoing goal of mine since I decided to

serve as our Alumni Commander. We have each spent time as an Active Brother, and even though the year might have been different we have all been given the same key to the network

In my attempt to reach this goal I have met and talked with numerous Brothers who lived in our house throughout the past six decades. My contact list in both my phone and email has grown with numerous contacts that I know that I can count on for advice, a place to spend a night, or even just share a simple laugh.

I have realized that achieving this goal of mine will never be completed by my efforts alone, but will be accomplished by having you take ownership of your piece of our network. Together we can strengthen our network, but it will take some effort. I am confident that you will get back more than you put into it.

Our Centennial Celebration is the perfect catalyst to build our network together and you can help by doing several simple yet powerful things. To start, join us the weekend of June 13th, 2009 for the Centennial Celebration. A registration form will be arriving via US Mail.

The second, and most powerful, is to simply reach out to the Brothers that you have stayed in touch with to inform them of this event. Even if you haven't stayed connected, reach out to a Brother you'd like to rekindle your friendship with, and make plans to meet in State College in June! Search for contact information of your Brothers at [www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org).

I truly hope that you will attend our Celebration and continue to build our network.

*Come to the Delta Delta Centennial June 12-13 to see many great authentic pieces of our chapter's history, including this photo from Dock Party in 1950! Thanks to Robert Free (ΔΔ 0586) for submitting this photo.*



*Delta Delta Celebrates 100 Years...  
and 11 Brothers Tell Us Their  
Experiences from Their Time at  
the Chapter...Read Inside!*

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