

## VOLUNTEERS

Bob Nelson, ΔΔ916,  
Association President  
Alumni Chapter Commander  
and Recorder

Ernest Russom, ΔΔ1104,  
Chairman of the Board  
of Directors  
Association Director

Nick Bucci, ΔΔ1510,  
Association Director

Darren Crisman, ΔΔ1475,  
Association Director

Pat Thompson, ΔΔ1400,  
Association Director

Doug Kosydar, ΔΔ1249,  
Association Director

Jon Vinas, ΔΔ1473,  
Association Director

Chris Dorian, ΔΔ1483,  
Association Treasurer

Gary Gleason, ΔΔ1247,  
Alumni Chapter  
Lt. Commander

John Forstmeier, ΔΔ1499,  
Property Association Director

Edwin Sidwell, ΔΔ879,  
Association Vice President,  
LFAA Secretary

James Wyland, ΔΔ 1273,  
Chapter Advisor,  
University Advisor,  
Alumni Advisory Board Chair

George Bonnewell, ΔΔ1490,  
Alumni Chapter Treasurer

Lane Kintigh, ΔΔ1156,  
Association Director

Steven Rodrigo, ΔΔ1160,  
Association Director

Cam Sabatini, ΔΔ1534,  
Alumni Chapter Recorder



# The Delta Delta

Sigma Nu Fraternity at The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA • Spring 2021

[www.sigmanupennstate.org](http://www.sigmanupennstate.org)

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

## HONOR ROLL

We extend a special thank-you, to Mrs. Joyce Gilbert Sipple for her recent donation of \$1000.00 in memory of her father, H.R. "Ike" Gilbert, ΔΔ206.

The following brothers have donated to the Re-Colonization Fund since the publication of our fall 2020 newsletter:

Robert Free, ΔΔ586, Founder

Robert Brunner, ΔΔ1077, Legion of Honor

Robert Nelson, ΔΔ916, Legion of Honor

Robert Federoff, ΔΔ749, Knight

Kent Kirby, ΔΔ840, Knight

Daniel Land, ΔΔ678, Knight

Dane Swenson, ΔΔ947, Knight

David Wittman, ΔΔ1026, Knight

Thomas Armstrong, ΔΔ1041, Rock Club

Jerry Hogg, ΔΔ922, Rock Club

Robert Kellagher, ΔΔ917 (In honor of Jerry Hogg), Rock Club

William Reilly, ΔΔ845, Rock Club

Tom Reilly, ΔΔ1097, Rock Club

Due to the generous support of our alumni and friends, the Re-Colonization Fund now stands at \$17,414. We estimate a need for approximately \$150,000 by the end of our lease with the Evans Scholars Foundation. Of this amount, we hope to raise \$30,000 through donations, leaving \$120,000 to fund through our annual operating budgets and savings. A capital improvement plan has been prepared and is available upon request from [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com).

Yes, meeting this fundraising goal will be a challenge. But since when do Sigma Nu brothers shy away from a challenge? We don't. We meet challenges head-on, together.

So step up. Be a leader for your pledge class. Be the first guy from your grad year to add your name to the honor roll of donors. Be the alumnus who calls the brothers he knew at the house to give as well. The future of our chapter relies on our support. Don't miss the chance to give back to the organization that defined our Penn State experience. Even if it's just \$10—just \$10 to let your alumni brothers know you're out there and you still care. Help us make this giving year the strongest one yet for Sigma Nu PSU.

Using the form at the end of this newsletter, please send your donations to

Delta Delta Property Association  
19 Colonnade Way, Suite 117, #239  
State College, PA 16803

Unless the donors directs otherwise, all donations will be set aside to support the successful re-colonization of Delta Delta Chapter of Sigma Nu at Penn State.

## HOUSE MOTHER'S SUITE PROJECT

The project to convert the HMS to an uncovered patio is underway. The Centre Region Code Agency (CRCA) recently issued the building permit and at “press time” the construction contract (\$153K) was under review by the Association and the Evans Scholars Foundation. Construction is expected to begin in mid-May.

This project has had a long history dating to the mid-nineties when **Brother Dave Parker, ΔΔ1206**, an architect, prepared preliminary drawings for a variety of potential uses. The Association chose to restore the HMS to its rebuilt configuration (a living area, small bedroom, and full bath). To financially support this effort, then Association President **Robert Leyburn, ΔΔ597**, (since deceased) raised approximately \$15,000. In 2003, the roof was replaced for a cost of approximately \$9,000 using funds raised by Brother Leyburn. The HMS fund was later replenished with a gift from the estate of **Joseph Colone, ΔΔ530**.

In 2005, design specifications for this configuration were prepared with renovation consisting of three phases: roof replacement (which had recently been completed); exterior weatherproofing; and interior renovation. In support of Phase II, a scoping estimate was obtained to repair the deteriorating brick and mortar on the north exterior wall. This estimate was more than \$20,000. With the east and west walls in similar condition, it was clear that insufficient funds were available to even

complete Phase II. The project was tabled.

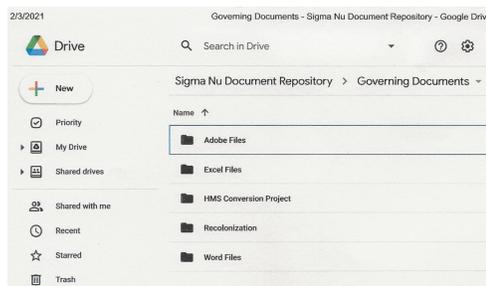
In 2015, the Association sent an assessment of the physical condition of the HMS to all alumni for which we had either an email or snail mail address. In addition to an assessment, we included comments on renovation alternatives (including the plans previously approved by the Association's Board of Directors (BOD)), possible sources of funds for these alternatives, and recommendations for moving forward. Seventeen alums responded and opinions varied. Most agreed with demolishing the HMS and replacing it with a patio when funds became available. The BOD approved this approach and authorized funds to obtain design drawings from an architect. By 2016, an architect had been selected, design drawings were prepared and then reviewed and approved by the CRCA. Bids were solicited and received ranging from \$88,000 to \$130,000. This wide variation was not explored because the project was placed on hold (again) by the BOD in response to impending financial difficulties resulting from the mass move-out that occurred in the spring of 2017. As a condition of extending its lease by five years to 2028, our tenant, the Evans Scholars Foundation (ESF), agreed to convert the HMS to an uncovered patio at its expense, covering all administrative costs and all construction costs up to \$150,000. Above this \$150K cap, construction costs will be evenly split between ESF and the Association.

Using the 2016 plans and using the same architect, the plans were updated in the summer of 2020 and again submitted to CRCA for a building permit. The 2016 plans had been approved by CRCA as a “repair.” This time, CRCA (a new reviewer) categorized the repair as an “improvement.” As such, CRCA requires 20% of the project cost to involve improvements under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This required numerous changes to the plans including a ramp (rather than steps) for access to the patio from the outside, a concrete sidewalk leading to this ramp, and modifications to the door from the living room to the patio. Approval from the Borough's zoning office was also required. Anticipating approval, asbestos removal was completed during the summer at ESF's expense. This process involved the removal of the flooring, flooring adhesive, and the two custom windows. All approvals were finally received in January 2021 after a long and frustrating process complicated by the pandemic.

The new (uncovered) patio will feature a new metal fire escape, a new concrete slab with drain, three-foot brick walls with capstones (using the lower portion of the existing walls), metal railing at each of the four current archways, a new door from the living room with emergency exit bar and push-button combination lock, and emergency lighting, in addition to the ADA additions mentioned above.

## NEW GOOGLE BUSINESS SUITE

With the assistance of the Nittany Cooperative, we've established an on-line Google Business Suite that serves as the designated repository for critical documents needed



for officer and director turnover. These documents include, but are not limited to, our deed and other legal documents (e.g., contracts and lease), our bylaws and other organizational governing documents, a president/commander turnover guide, our house operations guide, financial records, Property Association and Alumni Chapter budgets, and Word and Excel templates for routine administration. The suite will also include sample documents, as they are developed, for consideration by the new colony (e.g., sample bylaws).

## NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

At our annual meeting held on September 20, 2020, the following new volunteers were elected:

**Gary Gleason, ΔΔ1247**, as Alumni Chapter Lt Commander (replacing Jim Shincovich, ΔΔ860);

**Cam Sabatini, ΔΔ1534**, Alumni Chapter Recorder (previously vacant); and

**John Forstmeier, ΔΔ1499**, Property Association Director (replacing **Jim Shincovich, ΔΔ860**, who stepped down after many years of service.)

In addition, **Brother Ernie Russom, ΔΔ1104**, has been assigned to the new position of Chairman of the Board of Directors (COBD). Until our bylaws are changed, the COBD will have no unique authority but will serve as one of the administrators of the Google Business Suite and has the responsibility to call meetings of the Board if the Association President is unable to do so.

## Little Sisters

Source: January 1971 Delta Delta; author unknown; EC – **Michael Meehan, ΔΔ919**; LC – **Robert (Kell) Kellagher, ΔΔ917**

“Little Sisters Add Beauty to Sigma Nu – In order to improve the physical appearance of the house, a “Little Sister” program was initiated at the start of the fall term. Friendly female faces offset stubbly chins and pimply mugs to provide a happy medium.

The main purpose of the program was two-fold. First, the “Little Sisters” are expected to be a tremendous asset in rush. Also, the Sigma Nu chapter house can

provide a genuine home for a lady who wishes to help us perpetuate the Legion of Honor. The eleven ladies who were chosen to inaugurate the program served meals and kept in contact with prospective rushees. A “Little Sister” ritual was written, and initiation commenced with their receiving a paddle signed by all brothers in the house and receiving a white rose pendant.

Chapter Advisor Ed Sidwell’s only comment upon meeting one of the lovely “Little Sisters” was “WOW!”

*Editor’s Notes: The names of the 11 ladies were not included in the article and*

*my attempts to identify all of them were unsuccessful. I know that my wife, Becky (Hall) Nelson, was one of them. Her paddle hangs in our Man Cave next to mine. Based on her recollection, other inaugural Little Sisters were her roommate, Jackie Depp (lost contact in the summer of ’71), and dorm mate Theresa Gillett (deceased). Another member may have been Kell’s pin mate, Natalie Amato. Several years later, the program was discontinued as directed by National. Anyone knowing the identity of the class members is encouraged to contact me at [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com) and we’ll include an update in a future newsletter. **R. Nelson, ΔΔ916***

## 1948 Cotton Bowl

Excerpts from *Nittany Lions Handbook*, Ron Bracken, Wichita Eagle and Beacon Publishing Co., 1996.

“...the Lions had posted an 8-0 record and set three NCAA defensive records including fewest yards per rush (0.64), fewest rushing yards per game (17), and fewest yards allowed in a game (minus 17 against Syracuse).

Because all of the major bowls to which they could have received an invitation were held in the South, there were some questions as to whether or not the Lions would be selected. But the Cotton Bowl stepped up and said it would become the first major bowl in the South to break the racial barrier and invited Penn State to meet SMU, which was led by All-American halfback Doak Walker.

Despite the Cotton Bowl’s best intentions, the presence of black players on the Penn State squad prevented it from being able to stay in hotels in Dallas or eat as a group in most restaurants.

As a result, the team was quartered at a Naval air station 14 miles beyond the city limits.”

### DELTA DELTA NEWS



L. to R.: Harold Saunders, Joe Colone, John Potskian.

*Editor’s Notes: The game ended in a 13 – 13 tie after Penn State missed a game-winning extra point. Besides the amazing NCAA defensive records, this team outscored their opponents during the regular season 319 – 27 with six shutouts (including Pitt). The following article reports that **Brother Colone** was a kicker. However, it was Ed Czekaj who missed the extra point.*

From the May 1948 *Delta Delta News*.

“**Sigma Nu Goes to the Cotton Bowl** – When Penn State invaded Texas on New Year’s Day to meet Southern Methodist in the Cotton Bowl Classic, Sigma Nu was well represented by three brothers star-studding the first team and another acting as first manager.

**John Potskian, ΔΔ524**, left end and co-captain, led the way for the pigskin carriers **Joe Colone, ΔΔ530**, and **Larry Joe, ΔΔ540**. As for 60 minute men, “Potsy” is hard to beat. ... Joe Colone will be long remembered for his exceptional kicking and his steamroller plunges through the line. ... Larry Joe, the fleet-footed tailback who runs the hundred yard dash in 9.9 seconds, sparked the team with his end-around sprints. ... One happy boy in the Sigma Nu house is **Harold Saunders (ΔΔ493)**. The work and tiresome effort he has put forth as first manager may be considered well spent since Hal has been elected head manager of the State football team for the 1948 season.”

**Yes! I want to support Delta Delta’s Recolonization!**



## LOST BROTHERS MAILING LIST – PLEASE HELP

We do not have a current USPS mailing address for the following brothers. If you have contact information for any of these, please help: (1) Go to [www.sigmanu-psu.org](http://www.sigmanu-psu.org); (2) in the lower portion of the Home Page, find “Lost Lists”; (3) click on “View Lost Mailing List”; (4) find the “lost” brother on the list and click on his name – this

creates an email to the maintainer of our database; (5) enter all contact information (e.g., USPS address, email address, phone numbers) that you have in the text portion of the email; (6) click “Send”. Pretty simple. Alternatively, you can email the update(s) to [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com) or send a snail mail to our donation address. Thanks!

- |                              |                         |                         |                              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Dave Cinque ΔΔ1498           | John Rudisill ΔΔ1128    | Frank Pascarell ΔΔ1012  | John Steimer ΔΔ0532          |
| Gabe Adorno ΔΔ1426           | George Albert ΔΔ1130    | Kevin Hand ΔΔ0993       | Lawrence Mitcheltree ΔΔ0544  |
| Jim Perez ΔΔ1415             | Richard Lindsey ΔΔ1101  | Kenneth Krumholz ΔΔ0878 | Jeffrey Womer ΔΔ1207         |
| Mauricio Pichardo ΔΔ1435     | Ralph Watson ΔΔ1082     | Harold Ofstie ΔΔ0823    | Roberto Baldizon Diaz ΔΔ1503 |
| Daniel Hellmann ΔΔ1364       | David Nace ΔΔ1037       | Conrad Kulik ΔΔ0801     | Michael Burdette ΔΔ1450      |
| Kenneth Lebofsky ΔΔ1287      | James Fortney ΔΔ1051    | Thomas Law ΔΔ0681       | Lewis Davey ΔΔ1540           |
| Christopher Kaisinger ΔΔ1232 | Stanley Stroup ΔΔ1028   | William Camp ΔΔ0651     | Daniel Reynolds ΔΔ1548       |
| Rick Kumpson ΔΔ1139          | George Evancheck ΔΔ1011 | John Ward ΔΔ0588        |                              |

## HAPPY VALLEY COVID UPDATE

As with the rest of the country, COVID cases and related deaths continue to rise unabated in Centre County. Vaccinations are available, in limited amounts, for category 1A with

on-line scheduling at both Geisinger and Mount Nittany Health. Mandatory masking ordinances in local jurisdictions remain in effect (also enforced by PSU) along with state-imposed occupancy restrictions on bars and restaurants. Thus, many businesses remain closed and downtown State College has been ghostly quiet.

The University has not announced its plans for the Blue-White game nor its plans/schedule for fall 2021 football ticketing. This author expects the Blue-White game to be held but without tailgating and limited, if any, public attendance.

### IN MEMORIAM



The “In Memoriam” section of recent *Penn Stater* magazines listed Brothers **James Barr, ΔΔ606**, and **James MacLaughlin, ΔΔ714**, passing to the Chapter Eternal. In addition, we were informed of the passing of **Brother Michael Kalas, ΔΔ1282**.

Effective February 15, in-person instruction resumed at PSU and all students at all campus locations were reminded that they must have a negative COVID-19 test result from a University-provided test on file prior to, and within 72 hours of, their return to their campus community.

**PSU Reports:** On Jan. 22, PSU suspended Sigma Chi through summer 2024 for significant violations of COVID-19 policies. The suspension is in response to the fraternity hosting a large gathering where COVID-19 protocols, such as masking and social distancing, were not followed. It also takes into account the fraternity’s conduct history. Over the last two years, there have been multiple violations of University regulations as well as violations regarding alcohol and/or drugs. This brings to four the number of fraternities suspended by PSU, for various reasons, this academic year.

As for our tenant, the Evans Scholars Foundation, 29 scholars and two RAs are scheduled to return to the house with 15 electing not to return.

Winter sports continue and spring sports are planned, both without fans



546-270

## Yes! I want to support Delta Delta’s Recolonization!

Please accept my contribution of:

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Founder (\$500 and above) | <input type="checkbox"/> Legion of Honor (\$250–\$499.99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Knights (\$100–\$249.99) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> White Rose (\$75–\$99.99) | <input type="checkbox"/> Rock Club (\$50–\$74.99)         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Up to \$49.99)    |

Total amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Gifts are not tax-deductible

My check is enclosed payable to **Delta Delta Property Association.**

Mail to:

Delta Delta Property Association  
19 Colonnade Way, Suite 117, #239  
State College, PA 16803