

## VOLUNTEERS

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

Ernest Russom, ΔΔ1014,  
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,  
Association Director

John Forstmeier, ΔΔ1499,  
Association Director

Edwin Sidwell, ΔΔ879,  
Association Vice President,  
LFAA Secretary

Tom Will, ΔΔ891  
Treasurer, Alumni Chapter

Rich Feimster, ΔΔ1000, Lt  
Commander, Alumni Chapter

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

Lane Kintigh, ΔΔ1156,  
Association Director

Cam Sabatini, ΔΔ1534,  
Alumni Chapter Recorder



# The Delta Delta

Sigma Nu Fraternity at The Pennsylvania State University, State College, PA • Spring 2023

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

## HONOR ROLL

The following brothers have donated to the Re-Colonization Fund since the publication of our fall 2022 *Delta Delta*.

**Founder:** David Cotterill, ΔΔ739

**Legion of Honor:** Robert Free, ΔΔ586  
Robert Nelson, ΔΔ916  
Carl Schaaf, ΔΔ1227

**Knights:** Thomas Gaffney, ΔΔ707  
Earl Harner, ΔΔ942  
William Hibler, ΔΔ721  
Kent Kirby, ΔΔ840  
Edward Kmit, ΔΔ816  
Daniel Land, ΔΔ678  
Donald Link, ΔΔ755

**Jonathan Thompson,**  
ΔΔ1135

**Fred Wolff, ΔΔ729**

**Rock Club** Michael Green, ΔΔ960

**Other** Daniel Shoffner,  
ΔΔ1035

So far this fiscal year, \$2,270 has been donated from 15 brothers.

Due to the generous support of our alumni and friends, the Re-Colonization Fund now stands at \$29,546. Many thanks to all for their continuing support.

## RE-COLONIZATION

### RE-COLONIZATION PLANS FOR DELTA DELTA

We recently submitted a detailed Re-Colonization Plan with a Timeline/Schedule to the General Fraternity for review and comment. Upon receipt of comments and the resolution thereof, the Plan will be finalized, implemented, and made available to our alumni.

### RE-COLONIZATION PLANS – OTHER PSU FRATERNITIES

SAE has successfully engineered a return to “The Ranch,” the property at 200 E. Beaver Ave. Through a sometimes-painful process of alumni re-engagement, a successful capital fundraising campaign to revitalize the house, and leasing space to Phi Sigma Sigma sorority to stabilize revenue, alumni leaders at SAE brought their chapter back from the dead.

In the Spring of 2018, Pi Kappa Phi became the first Penn State fraternity to recolonize following the death of Michael

Piazza, an inflection point in the history of Greek Life at PSU and nationwide. Their alumni took a three-year journey from the 2015 revocation of status by their national organization (following a suspension in December of the previous year) to reestablishment with the blessing and support of the University. The path back from the wilderness always involves such a multi-year process, often with even longer periods of dormancy before restoration efforts begin.

Both now boast thriving undergraduate chapters; the most recently-available data published by the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life (Spring ‘22) showed both with strong and growing membership and a house-wide GPA over 3.2, ranking them among the best.

We have heard that several other fraternities are making plans to return to PSU. These include Phi Delta Theta (our former neighbor on Burrowes Road), Kappa Delta Rho, Delta Tau Delta, and Kappa Sigma. As plans are made known, we’ll contact the associated alumni leaders and begin networking so we can learn from them.

## HOMECOMING FLOATS

Delta Delta had a long reputation of imaginative and creative homecoming floats. One such float, from October 2012, is pictured here along with the construction team.

If you have photos of other floats, please send them to **Brother**



**Nelson** at [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com), along with any details or related info, for inclusion in our Fall 2023 Delta Delta and addition to our web site.



## ANNUAL ALUMNI MEETING

The joint annual meeting of the Property Association and Alumni Chapter, required by our bylaws, was held by telephone conference and Zoom™ beginning at 7:00 PM EDT on October 9. Actions included a ceremonial “burning” of the mortgage,

adoption of a change to the Association’s bylaws, officer and director elections (see the list of volunteers on the first page of this newsletter), financial status, plans for the year, and a brief report by **Brother Nelson**. A meeting report was prepared

and distributed. You can view the report at our web site: [www.sigma-nu-psi.org](http://www.sigma-nu-psi.org), select News and Events; then go to “Popular Posts.” The report is the last post listed.

## DEBT FREE!!!!



**For only the second time since the fire, we are completely debt free!**

## BLUE-WHITE GAME APRIL 15TH

**Brother Nelson**, ΔΔ916, will host a tailgate in the grass lot adjacent to the north end zone (Parking Lot 17) beginning when the lots open at 9:00 AM. Kick-off is at 2:00 PM. Please contact him at [nelsonnittany@aol.com](mailto:nelsonnittany@aol.com) if you want to attend.



## ZOOMING WITH YOUR CLASSMATES



If you'd like to have a Zoom™ reunion with your class mates, Brother Nelson, can arrange at no cost to the participants. All he needs to know are names and e-mail addresses. Contact him to discuss and schedule.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT – GEORGE RICHARDS



In 2002, **Brother George T. Richards** ( $\Delta\Delta 625$ )

and his wife Ann made a spectacular contribution not only to Penn State and the Civil

War Era Center, but also to Civil War era scholarship itself. Their gift of \$3 million provided the Center with a permanent source of income that helps to fund graduate and faculty research, as well as outreach programs that influence students and educators around the country. Because of the magnitude of the Richards' gift, the University elected to name the Center in their honor. Together the Richards shared a dedication to education and philanthropy, and George Richards has been an active friend of the Center, particularly as a member of its board of visitors.

The Richards Civil War Era Center ([richardscenter.la.psu.edu](http://richardscenter.la.psu.edu)), located at 108 Weaver Building, a scholarly home dedicated to the idea that the Civil War was fundamentally a struggle over the intersections of race, slavery, and democracy. The Center embraces an expansive view of this crucial struggle in American history, encompassing

the earliest histories of slavery to the modern struggle for civil rights. Its mission is to center these issues in academic and public understandings of the war, from its causes and conduct to its long-enduring consequences. Recognizing that this is a collective endeavor, the Center's programming – from fellowships to events series to various publications – is dedicated to supporting scholars who share these commitments and to fostering the community that makes scholarly work possible.

George Richards graduated from Penn State in 1954 with a major in Commerce. He served in the U.S. Army before attending Harvard Business School. Ann Richards grew up in Manhasset on Long Island and attended Colby College in Maine, where she was a member of Sigma Kappa sorority and Cap and Gown. After graduation in 1956, she was employed as a dress buyer for Filene's in Boston.

Brother Richards eventually became the owner and CEO of Vitex Packaging, a manufacturer of materials for the tea industry. His company had several plants in the United States and penetrated the Asian markets which helped to make tea the world's most popular beverage. He sold Vitex in 1998. More recently, Brother Richards has been a member of the Board of Directors of Stoffel Seals Corp.

The Richards have long been known for their philanthropy. In 1994, they endowed the Bart Richards Award in Media Criticism in the Penn State College of Communications to honor Mr. Richards' father. The Richards' gift to the Civil War Era Center stems from a commitment to liberal arts education and from Brother Richards' family history. Both of George's great-grandfathers served in the Union Army during the Civil War, one in the California Volunteer Infantry and the other in the First Missouri Light Artillery. For his and Ann's longtime support of Penn State, George received the Distinguished Alumni Award in 2011, one of the most prestigious awards granted by the university.

### RECENT IMPROVEMENTS AND MAJOR MAINTENANCE

- ESF completed painting stripes in the parking lot at its expense. We now have 26 unobstructed parking spaces.
- The roofing materials over the kitchen porch were replaced.
- Major sections of drain piping from the kitchen bathroom were replaced.

## WHAT'S HAPNIN? – SUBMIT YOUR ALUMNI NEWS

Please submit your update/news using the attached form or at the redesigned web site: [sigma-nu-psu.org](http://sigma-nu-psu.org) >> News and Events >> Share Alumni News.

**Share your story!**



*Tell us and your brothers about what's new in your life? Job? Children? Grandchildren? Fantastic voyage or vacation? We'd all love to hear about it! If you need more space, include a separate sheet with your donation and return it in the enclosed #9 envelope.*

## IN MEMORIAM

We mourn the passing to the Chapter Eternal of the following Knights of the Legion of Honor.

The most recent issue of *the Penn Stater* reports the passing of **Brother John (Jack) F. Maher, III, ΔΔ644**, on August 1, 2022. Jack graduated from Penn State University with a Business Degree, was a proud Sigma Nu, served our country in the US Army, and settled into a very successful career as an Executive Vice President with LeFebure in bank equipment sales and banking consulting. It was at Penn State where he met Lou Ann and from there they spent the next 67 years together. His career advancements took his family from PA to CA to MI to TX and finally into retirement in both FL and KS where he spent time with all his family. Jack always said that while he lived in many states during his life, he was really a proud Texan at heart!



This issue also reports the passing of **Brother John (Jack) W. Miller, Jr, MD, ΔΔ666**, on February 26, 2022. Jack graduated from Penn State in 1957 and Thomas Jefferson University Medical School in 1962. He completed his residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota in 1969. The draft interrupted Jack's training. Jack completed his military service serving as an Army physician before returning to the Mayo Clinic to complete his residency. Committed to the community that was so dear to him, he served in numerous volunteer capacities. He was a committed family man who went to great lengths to express his dedication and love of family. Beyond family, Jack was passionate about golf. He was blessed and grateful to play some of the world's most beautiful courses.

We are saddened to report the passing of **Brother Robert C. (Bob) ("Papa Nu") Baessler, ΔΔ928**, to the Chapter Eternal on June 30, 2022. You may recall that Bob crafted the framed leather rendering of our creed that hung above the dining room fireplace for 40+ years. The framed creed will return to its place of honor when

the chapter/colony returns in 2028. He was one of two Vietnam vets in the chapter during his undergraduate years. The other was William Hildebrant, ΔΔ931.

**Brother William C. Cave, ΔΔ732**, age 84, passed away peacefully on December 6. He graduated from Penn State with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering in 1960. He also received an MS in Electrical Engineering from New York University in 1963.

He completed course requirements toward a PhD in Electrical Engineering in 1966 at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, New York. He also did graduate work in Optimal and Stochastic Control Theory, 1967-1968 at Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. Bill was an internationally recognized expert in computer, circuit, communication and control system design; modeling, simulation, and development of CAD systems. He had 60 years of experience developing large computer, communication and control systems. He directed development of state-of-the-art software systems, computer and communications network modeling systems, and CAD systems for building parallel processor software.

**Brother Ralph J. Steigerwald, Jr., ΔΔ849**, affectionately known as "Bubba," passed away on April 14, 2022, after a courageous battle with pancreatic cancer. He fought with such strength, and he was such a hero to his family. He was a 1966 graduate of Penn State with a BS degree in secondary education. He married the love of his life, Suzanne, in 1967, which would have been 55 years in August. Bubba enjoyed golfing with his family and many golf buddies. He enjoyed floating in his pool with his family, and most of all, being with his beloved wife, Suzanne. He retired from the North Allegheny School District in 1999 after 30+ years and then worked part time at Manheim Auto Auction.



546-42526

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

Please accept my contribution of:

Gifts are not tax-deductible

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ 526AF2901

Pay on line at [sigma-nu-psu.org](http://sigma-nu-psu.org) >> donate;  
or Call the donation hotline at **1-800-975-6699**; or

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

Mail to: Delta Delta Property Association  
Penn State University  
Alumni Relations Processing Center  
P.o. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, Mn 56007-8007

Please note **546AF2901** in memo line