

The Newsletter of Delta Alpha Alumni Chapter at Case Western

VOLUME 36, ISSUE 2

Spring Break 2006: Brothers Make a Pilgrimage



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- James Gero $\Delta A 0930$
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- Jeffrey Schwarz ΔA 1089
- Jack Mack ΔA 1179

Newsletter Editor

• Henry Smith ΔA 1218



Above left: the Rock of Sigma Nu in Lexington, Virginia. The Rock was one of the destinations on a spring break trip for brothers Matt Gardner and John Hill, pic-tured above right holding Delta Alpha's flag in the Alpha Room.

While many brothers headed to the beaches and mountains over the recent spring break period, two of Delta Alpha's newest Knights, John Hill (ΔA 1227) and Matthew Gardner (ΔA 1235) journeyed on the winding roads of rural Virginia to visit Sigma Nu's headquarters. While in Lexington, the two Knights took a tour of headquarters and visited the Virginia Military Institute as well as the Washington and Lee University campus.

Delegates Selected for Summer 2006

Grand Chapter

Senior Nathan Shaman (Δ A1184) freshman Nicholas Sachanda (Δ A1234) were elected by the chapter as delegates to the 62nd Grand Chapter. The event will be held from July 15th-19th in Indianapolis, IN at the Downtown Indianapolis Marriott. Zachary Fredin (Δ A1207), Evan Heiser (Δ A1217), and Matthew Gardner (Δ A1235) will also be registered at the convention. The main purposes of Grand Chapter are to serve as Sigma Nu's bi-annual legislative session, elect Grand Officers, and allow undergraduates and alumni from across the country to learn about the fraternity and share ideas for improving our chapters – and hopefully bring home some more awards. This is the first time in recent memory that the Active Chapter has sent five Brothers to Grand Chapter and we are very hopeful that all of our attendees will learn from the experience and improve Delta Alpha Chapter upon their return.

28 April 2006

100th Anniversary White Rose Formal — Spring 2007



The Delta Alpha Chapter's 100th Anniversary White Rose Formal is coming in Spring 2007!!! The Formal Committee has tentatively chosen to design the event as a night out at a 1920's Speakeasy, black tie preferred. We would appreciate any feedback or other ideas that you may have for the main event and other events that you would like included for the weekend. Cleveland weather may not cooperate with a golf outing in April, but let us know if you're interested. The Formal Committee will begin actively meeting to further plan the event and finalize the date as soon as possible.

Fast Times at Case Western

Reserve

This school year has marked many changes some expected and others surprising—at Case Western Reserve University. As an influential body representing the male Greek community, the Interfraternity Congress has had its fair share of involvement.

With the opening of the Village at 115 last August, excitement has built for the future development of the Case campus. One of the upcoming projects that IFC has advocated is the advancement of the planned Greek village on the north side of campus. The Greek village, to be as equally impressive as the Village at 115, is an attempt to unify the Greek community by consolidating the location of housing for Greeks at Case. However, given the current financial shortfall of the school, the project has been pushed back further than any Greeks would like to see. The resignation of President Hundert, moreover, has added uncertainty and apprehension about the development timeline of the Greek village.

The Interfraternity Congress has also been involved with the dialogue on President Hundert's resignation. President Hundert and Provost Anderson were scheduled to speak to the IFC general body the week after spring break about their plans to solve the university's problems and push ahead with the advancement of the university. Over spring break, however, the Case community learned of Hundert's resignation and so the purpose of their appearance at IFC became to explain Hundert's change of heart and, more importantly, the administration's commitment to the successful Greek life system at Case. Pictured Below: the "Village at 115" residence halls, which were serving as a model for the projected Greek community, and President Edward Hundert, who resigned in March after pressure from the faculty of the college of arts and sciences.





IFC/Panhel Honored at Regional Conference

In mid-February, a delegation of eight members of Case's Interfraternity Congress and Panhellenic Council attended the Mid-American Greek Council conference.

The conference focused on many topics of Greek Life including ritual, hazing, and member responsibilities. At the end of the conference, Case's Greek Life won the Jellison award for overall best IFC in the division and the Sutherland award for overall best Panhel. The awards were based on academic achievement, council management, philanthropy and community service, leadership and educational development, membership recruitment, public relations, risk reduction and management, and self governance and judicial affairs.

Brother Matt Hurley, the former IFC VP of Service, was responsible for compiling IFC's report on Philanthropy and Community Service. Brother Evan Heiser, the current IFC VP of Recruitment attended the conference. "Case's Greek Life really was showcased as being the best of the best, throughout the conference it was Case that was helping to educate other Councils on proper strategies," Heiser said upon returning.

Case's Greek Life also won the Linda A. Wardhammar Kaleidoscope Award for distinguished Greek Life program for the 365 Days of Service program, started in 1993. In that program Sigma Nu is responsible for 480 hours this academic year, but already has completed 603 hours, exceeding our goal by 26 percent with more projects remaining before the end of this semester.



Greek Week

Sigma Nu has been consistently at the top of the final Greek Week standings for the past several years. This past spring Sigma Nu finished third overall in Greek Week, taking first place in variety show and banner, second in pyramid, and third in Greek Sing.



Sigma Nu's Pyramid at Greek Week 2006. Sigma Nu hosted the event, as well as taking home second place.

Get your Picture on the New Website

The Active chapter unveiled a new website in fall 2005. After several months of continued work we are now hoping Alumni will be a part of it. Please e-mail Evan Heiser, assistant webmaster, at <u>erh5@case.edu</u> to get your picture and name on the website under the alumni section. You can also get a password to go with your badge number to have access to the private side of the website. Here you can see pictures from parties and have access to even more in-depth information. Currently there are over 4000 pictures on the website dating back to 1990. Please check them out and show how proud you are to be a Sigma Nu by becoming part of the website yourself.

Alumni News:

David L Parham ΔA 651

Turned 60 on January 1, 2005 and retired after 30+ years of practicing law with the Thompson Hine Firm's Cleveland office. We sold our (too large) Shaker Heights house and moved to a cottage on the shore of Atwood Lake in East Central Ohio. Now have more time to focus on our 3 grandchildren, soon to be 4.

William G Messenger **AA** 902 A303

Recently, I became the founder of a new Church in Boston called Charles River Church (see <u>www.charlesriverchurch.com</u>). We're trying to be meaningful and practical to people who don't usually go to Church, with a focus on how walking in Jesus's way can help people be powered for life at work, home, etc. It's not easy, but I'm having the time of my life. Best to all my brothers. –Will Messenger

Philip S. Heisner ΔA 503

Retired in 2001 from Acme Engineering. Moved to Sun City, Arizona in 2005.

Dr. Val Veirs ΔA 607

Dr. Veirs will be retiring from the physics department of Colorado College after thirty-four years. He currently has taken up residence on an island north of Seattle where he has continued studies concerning the acoustics of killer whales (orcas).





Alumni, if you have news that you would like for us to include in the newsletter (and we know you do) then send it in, either with the attached form (under the comments/news section), or send an e-mail to the editor (dasigmanunewsletter@gmail.co m). This could be anything: personal/ career accomplishment or messages to other brothers.

From the President's Desk

Greetings, Alumni!

As we close this spring semester at the Delta Alpha Chapter, we look forward to the summer and fall semester that lie ahead. Greek week has just come to an end, and we received third place overall.

I hope that this newsletter is received by all of you in good spirits, and helps you keep your connection with the active and alumni chapters. Our brotherhood continues to stay strong, as we received 14 new candidates this academic year. All of our new members are of the highest quality, and bring with them the ideals of Love, Truth, and Honor. We continue to keep an active membership of approximately 50 members.

Sigma Nu continues to be one of the best chapters at Case, as well as in the nation. Currently, we have completed the most community service hours out of all Greek organizations, and we still have two large service events before the end of the semester.

As my predecessor stated in the last newsletter, the university is planning to move all fraternities and sororities to the north side of campus. Unfortunately, due to the financial troubles here at Case, this may not happen for years to come. I encourage all of you to take an active role in telling the administration here, that Greek housing needs to be a priority.

As our hundredth anniversary here at Case is approaching, I hope that many of you that are nearby, or far away, and have not visited in a long time to come back and see the active chapter. Our brothers always enjoy meeting alumni, which we only know from looking at old composites. Please keep in touch, and I hope to see you all at the hundredth anniversary celebration next year.

Fraternally,

Jacob Crandall (ΔA 1213)

Eminent Commander, Active Chapter





Alumni Website: <u>http://www.deltaalphaalumni.com</u>—Newsletter Available In Color! Active Website: <u>http://sigmanu.case.edu</u>—Check Pictures, Calendar and Updates! National Website: <u>http://www.sigmanu.org</u>

<u>The LEAD Program</u>

For more info on the LEAD Program, go to www.sigmanu.org/lead

Delta Alpha Excels in LEAD

As many of you know Delta Alpha has been using the LEAD program developed by the Educational Foundation to educate our new members. This has been done through LEAD Phase I, that emphasizes the ideals and history of Sigma Nu, and LEAD Phase II which begins to develop leadership skills. This past semester the LEAD Phase II class has focused on getting more out of the program than ever before. The modules, that directly focus on specific leadership skills, the class has been focusing on how they can use them as it directly pertains to the chapter. This includes things like writing visions for the chapter, discussing how to deal with controversy with civility inside the chapter, and how the seven habits of highly effective people can make them more effective chapter officers. This class will also be the pilot class for LEAD Phase III starting in the fall. LEAD Phase III will focus on discussions about issues everyone in the chapter should talk about every once in a while. The LEAD Phase III that this class will pilot was adapted by LEAD Chair Evan Heiser from the nationals All-Chapter LEAD program, and their LEAD Phase III program. A new program was created to better suit the needs of Delta Alpha, by focusing the LEAD lessons directly on the chapter and allowing participants to adapt what they have learned to the outside world once they have tried it once in the chapter first. The Delta Alpha LEAD Phase III program consists of 4 separate semester of 5 meetings each. Once it is fully implemented along with Phase IV, members of Delta Alpha will be active participants in some form of LEAD every semester they are an active member. Also starting in the Fall will be LEAD Phase IV, designed to help senior transition out of college, in which all graduating seniors will participate. Any alumni wishing to help facilitate any LEAD sessions please contact Evan Heiser at erh5@case.edu.

A Report on the Pledge Class

This semester brought in four great new additions to Delta Alpha. Though small, this class has proven to be just as driven and excited about their new spot in this fraternity. The class consists of Brothers Geoff Peyton, Michael Petrick, John Blasko, and Eric Diller. All have gone through the Brothering Ceremony thus far and have gone far beyond the requirements of a brother. They all exhibit the values of Love, Truth and Honor just as the most veteran Knight and have taken on an ambitious vision for the future of the house. Delta Alpha has seen some very cohesive and ambitious pledge classes in the past year and this one proves to be right up there with the others. They are taking on a Pledge Project that involves revamping the basement and turning it into a more inviting area. Thus far in LEAD Phase I, we have gotten through about half of the sessions and they new brothers have shown their vigor and readiness to learn. LEAD is going extremely well for them and I can't see that momentum shift away. We talked at length about the values of Sigma Nu in one of the sessions and they were taught about Love, Truth and Honor and shown that their personal values reflect that of the fraternity and paralleled LTH perfectly. As Delta Alpha's Pledge Marshal, I am extremely proud of this semester's pledge class and I am convinced that they will carry on the ideals and the name of Sigma Nu and raise our fraternity to levels never achieved before.

> LTH, Donald W. Anderson ΔA 1216



Recent Pledges Fall 2005 Spring 2006

Chuck Becker Mark Cochrane Drew Crabb Matt Gardner Artur Grabowski Jeff Greenstein John Hill Pat Richardson Nick Sachanda John Blasko Eric Diller Michael Petrick Geoffrey Peyton

Total # of Members in the Active Chapter: 58

ACTIVE NEWS

Page 7

Scholarship

Scholarship is a very important part of Sigma Nu at Case Western Reserve University. We pride ourselves on our high scholastic achievement, and our programs that encourage academic success. We have consistently been above the all-undergraduate average GPA, and achieved the highest GPA among fraternities for two of the last four semesters. These grades would not have been possible without one of the things we offer in the house to all the brothers: the scholarship room. The scholarship room gives brothers a place to study in the house, as well as providing them with reference books for their classes. Last semester we also re-instituted a program in the house with regard to studying. Older brothers have begun to lead review sessions for tests for the younger brothers in the house in an effort to improve our GPA further. In continuation of a newer tradition, we are having a faculty luncheon this semester with the sisters of Sigma Psi. The faculty luncheon provides brothers with the opportunity to interact with their professors outside of the classroom. Brothers can see what kind of research their professors are working on, as well as make contacts for the future when they need recommendations for grad school, research postions, or even jobs. As shown in the chart to the right, our chapter has been doing very well in their academic work, and will continue to do so in the future.

Social Events

Over the past year, the Sigma Nu social scene has been as active as ever. In the fall, we helped welcome Delta Gamma to the Murray Hill complex by constructing a homecoming float with them for the parade, which our combined team ended up winning. The float was a result of a joint brainstorming effort between the two houses, and consisted of a huge snow-globe mounted on the back of a flatbed truck. Inside the globe, a scale model of the Case quad was watched over by members of both houses. The weeks of work leading up to the parade helped many members of Sigma Nu get to know our new neighbors, whom had moved to their current location in Fall 2005.

Later on in the fall semester, Sigma Nu once again held the famous campus-wide MAZE party. The maze was built using approximately 250 cardboard boxes and several thousand zip ties; the structure covered the entire living room, and for the first time featured a third floor area. As it has been in the past, the party was a huge success, drawing at least five hundred Case students over the course of the evening. The event remains one of the most talked-about and anticipated campus wide parties, and never fails to impress the new students.



In the spring, Sigma Nu had the 99th annual White Rose Formal at Windows on the River. The set-up was similar to last year, featuring round-trip transportation for brothers and their dates as well as a full meal. Everyone involved had a wonderful time, and looks forward to the 100th anniversary formal this coming year.



Intramural Sports



Sigma Nu has improved in the all-fraternity standings over the past year. Despite a rank of 7 overall, we've placed high in many events and continue to play well and keep up good sportsmanship. As the new IM season approaches, we plan on making at least the top 5 overall. Many of the actives participate in some manner, either playing, managing, or coming out to support the teams in full force. We bring the biggest crowd of fans to IM football, deafening the players on the field. In short, IM sports for Delta Alpha remains a fun and involving activity for the Sigma Nu brothers.

On the Phone this Fall

In an effort to update our databases and re-establish contact with many alumni, the active chapter will be pursuing a large-scale phone drive this fall. We had the first phase of this during the spring semester and it was an extremely positive event—don't be surprised when you receive a call this fall!

Alumni are welcome and encouraged to attend all events, doubly so for all ritual events (Pledging, Brothering, Knighting). For dates, consult the calendar on the active website.



A group shot from AAC in fall of 2005. AAC will take place the weekend before Thanksgiving this fall. More details in the next newsletter.

A Letter from the Editor:

Members of the Alumni Chapter,

My name is Henry Smith, and I am the editor of the newsletter. Let me first thank you for reading—this is the first step towards the kind of alumni involvement that we need and would love to have.

As our president, Jake Crandall, mentioned in his letter, Case is undergoing a period of great change. This change is evident in all aspects of campus life, from our transition to a new president, to the planning and construction of new housing, to the unprecedented size of incoming classes. It is an exciting time for the University, and an exciting time to be a Sigma Nu, as our chapter represents the best of what has been and contains the facilitators of what is to come.

During this time, more than any other, it is important for the Delta Alpha active chapter to strengthen its bond with its alumni—after all, you are the key to maintaining our great tradition, while other things at Case may come and go. Ideals unwavering such as Love, Truth, and Honor will see Case on to greatness, and ensure that Sigma Nu remains the force on campus that it is now and was in your time here.

So what am I asking of you? That you remember your time with Sigma Nu and what it meant to you then. That you keep an active interest now in the chapter and the university. And moreover, that you stop by the house, meet the brothers and share stories and experiences. I guarantee that if you make the time to visit, all will be enriched by the experience, as we have 58 active brothers who would love to have you around, even just for a little while.

LTH,

Henry Smith $\Delta\!A$ 1218

Feel free to contact me-

E-mail: <u>hes5@case.edu</u>

ALUMNI DUES

Insert Page 1

Alumni Dues Paid

Thank you for your recent donations! Please send '05 - '06 Alumni dues before June 30th

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SIGMA NU NEWS Alumni Info, Dues, and News

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