



SIGMA NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZETA PHI CHAPTER OF SIGMA NU

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY ▲ Spring 2020

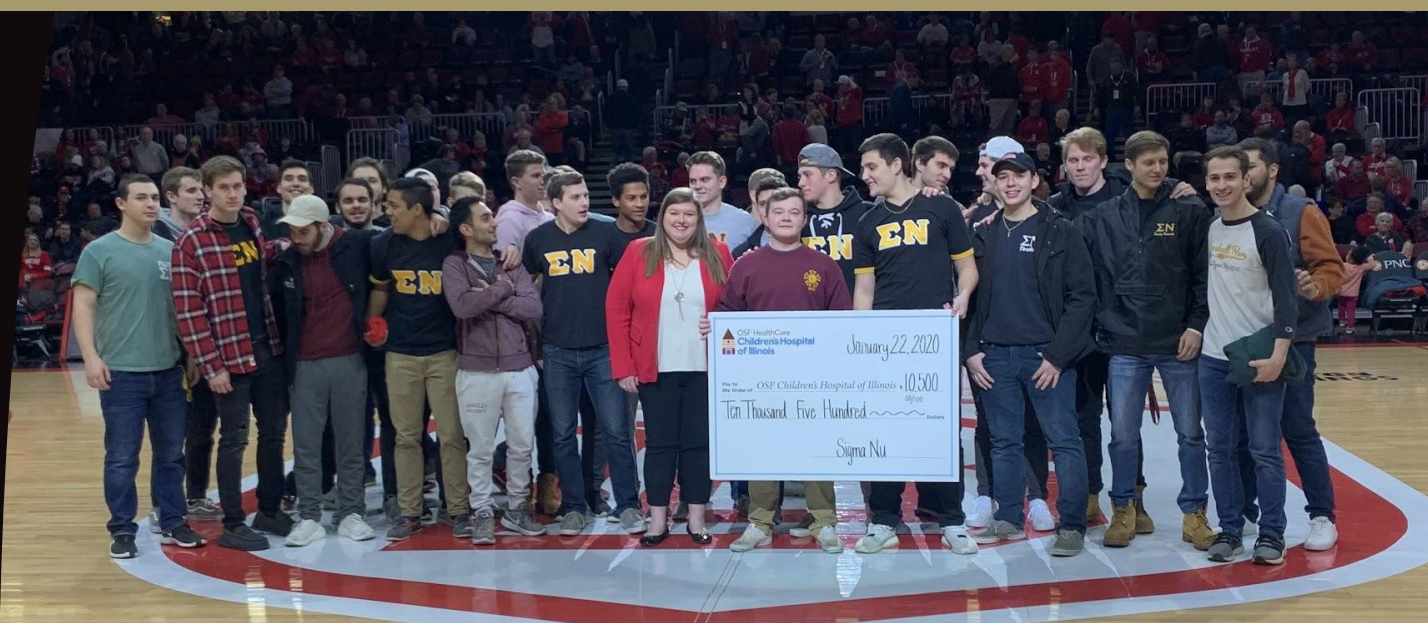
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Brothers present the Gameball check just a few hours after running from ISU to the Children's Hospital in Peoria.
Photo taken on January 22 at the Peoria Civic Center during the Bradley versus ISU basketball game.

TIMES OF CHANGE

House Corporation Addresses Current Challenges and Prepares for New Normal

Welcome to the spring 2020 edition of *Sigma News*! These are definitely troubling times amidst the COVID-19 pandemic that has affected each of us in its own way.

The House Corporation is doing everything possible to ensure the safety of our active brothers, as well as our alumni and their families. In March, Bradley University suspended on-campus classes and asked all students to return to their permanent residence. The university implemented an online program to ensure students complete the spring semester. The university also canceled all campus meetings and events for the remainder of the spring semester.

On a bright note, this year's Gameball Run was a great success. The active brothers presented a check for \$10,500 to the Children's Hospital of Illinois at the Bradley vs. Illinois State home game in January. Additionally, Bradley's men's basketball team was crowned champions of the Missouri Valley Conference Tournament for the second straight year.

With the chapter house closed until further notice, active members are being allowed back to the house over the month of May in small groups

to collect personal belongings and ensure the house is in tip-top shape. The House Corporation will then coordinate a deep cleaning of the house to have it ready for the fall semester.

Active members are still hard at work performing chapter duties via email and video conferencing. Chapter elections were held and the executive board is preparing this year's Pursuit of Excellence. Additionally, they are gearing up for fall recruitment.

The House Corporation wants to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude toward all Sigma Nus and their families for their continued efforts to support the Zeta Phi Chapter. Please remember to look out for others as we move forward during these challenging times. Take the precautions seriously and follow the CDC guidelines so you can do your part to protect those around you.

We look forward to getting through this time as quickly as possible and returning to life as we knew it. See you at our fall alumni events!

Fraternally,
Wes Zobrist '06 (ZΦ1023)
House Corporation President
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Stronger Together at Sigma Nu

The Shaheen Brothers Reflect on Lessons of Leadership



George Shaheen '66 (ZΦ265)

George '66 (ZΦ265) and Gerry Shaheen '66 (ZΦ264) are often asked what it's like being a twin, but that's difficult to answer—after all, they don't know what it's like *not* to have one. "When you have a twin, that's just your normal," George said of the brothers' relationship. "It does give you a leg up to have someone you know and trust throughout your shared experiences. Being together made us stronger as individuals."

The Shaheen brothers continued their strong bond in college when they both decided to join Sigma Nu, where Gerry feels they proved to be born with leadership capabilities. "Having a twin is like having an extension of my moral compass," he added. "I can't imagine not having a twin and all that comes with it."

DEVELOPING AS LEADERS

George and Gerry grew up in a small farm town in Illinois, where they knew very little about fraternities before attending Bradley. They decided to go through recruitment, where they recognized several floormates from their dorm; the whole group decided on Sigma Nu. The brothers were intrigued by the fraternity's history and values, as well as the quality of the active brothers. "It was a fraternity of substance, not just a social group," Gerry recalls. Their pledge class had the honor of being the first initiated class to join the new chapter house.

The two both held leadership roles as Zeta Phi undergraduates, including Commander and treasurer for Gerry and Lieutenant Commander for George. While Gerry focused on Sigma Nu leadership, George was more involved in other campus roles. Their college years coincided with major world events, such as the

Kennedy assassination and the Vietnam War. Both have fond memories of the group's social events, as well as chapter camaraderie and interfraternal activities, especially sports. Gerry recalls when some of the musically inclined brothers entered and dominated a fraternity choir competition on campus. "My college experience was significantly enhanced by Sigma Nu, no question," George says.

MAINTAINING THE BROTHERHOOD

"I think they're still one of the top fraternities at Bradley, and much of that emerged with our class and older actives who shared that vision," Gerry added. The brothers may not be heavily involved in Zeta Phi's operations anymore—they leave that to the actives and capable alumni leaders like **Jim Bixby '64 (ZΦ254)**—but they have supported it financially over the years. "We may not go or live in the house anymore, so why [do we] support it?" George asks. "Because it is worthy, and we can help make it better than it is before."

George and Gerry both retired from successful corporate careers. George was the CEO of Andersen Consulting, now known as Accenture. He also was the CEO of Webvan and CEO of Siebel Systems. Gerry was the Group President of Caterpillar for Construction, Global Mining and the Tech Center. Now they serve on various corporate boards. Both credit Sigma Nu with teaching them to work hard in a dynamic group setting, which served them well in their careers. "It made a major contribution in my life, and I would do it all again," says George. They each enjoy golfing and spending time with their families and grandchildren. To connect with the brothers, you can reach George at george@gtshaheen.com and Gerry at gerry@glshaheen.com.



Gerry Shaheen '66 (ZΦ264)

The Shaheen Brothers' Advice to Zeta Phi

George: "When you are part of an organization, leave it better than it was when you joined it. Think of Sigma Nu as an organization worthy of that stewardship."

Gerry: "If you work hard at whatever you do, do the best job possible, and take it seriously, the rest will take care of itself."

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

What keeps you connected to Sigma Nu? Have you spoken to your Zeta Phi brothers lately? How do you lend a hand in your community? Got a favorite memory from your time in the Zeta Phi chapter house? What's your biggest accomplishment since graduating from Bradley University? By sharing what you've been up to, you can be featured in an upcoming issue of *Sigma News*.

Do you have photos from your "wonder years" to share? We'd love to include throwback photos in future newsletters. Be sure to provide a caption and names of those pictured when submitting photos.

Submissions may be sent to **Wes Zobrist '06 (ZΦ1023)** at wes@zobristconstruction.com.

Chapter Officers

Commander

Brian Leonard '21 (ZΦ1284)

Lieutenant Commander

Corey Novander '22 (ZΦ1283)

Treasurer

Jake Breitenreiter '20 (ZΦ1257)

Recorder

Jayson Podschweit '21 (ZΦ1273)

Marshal

Noah Ryan '20 (ZΦ1263)

Recruitment Chairmen

CJ Johnston '21 (ZΦ1271)

Anthony Ryan '21 (ZΦ1272)

Alumni Relations

Dylan Beccue '20 (ZΦ1263)

LEAD Chairman

Adam Duvendack '19 (ZΦ1259)

Gameball Chairman

Jake Fitch '22 (ZΦ1282)

Scholarship Chairman

Joshua Rodriguez '20 (ZΦ1269)

Welcome, New Members

Michael Finder '23

Plainfield, Ill.

Caleb Nico '23

Kirkwood, Ill.

Henry Panek '23

Westchester, Ill.

Braden Schneider '23

Brookfield, Ill.



Brian Leonard '21 (ZΦ1284), Jacob Beaty '21 (ZΦ1285), Leo Ng '21 (ZΦ1286), and Chris Chaidez '20 (ZΦ1246) complete an escape room together at Escapetown Peoria.



Sigma Nu men talk about the next play in our intramural football game against the Deltas. Photo taken November 2019 at Meinin Field.

CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Zeta Phi Actives Remain Optimistic Amidst COVID-19 Pandemic

Though our semester was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and we weren't able to finish our planned social events such as Dad's Weekend, formal, or Bradley University's annual Greek Week competition, there are still several successes for Zeta Phi brothers to be proud of.

We successfully recruited four new members during the spring semester. These brothers are going through a partially digital candidate program until we return to campus in the fall. **Brandon Schneider '23** is majoring in actuarial science, **Caleb Nico '23** is undecided but leaning toward history education, **Henry Panek '23** is majoring in accounting, and **Mike Finder '23** is majoring in civil engineering. We are all excited to see what these brothers accomplish during their time with Zeta Phi Chapter.

Congratulations to our seniors who are graduating in May! Though you won't have the same graduation experience as we are used to here at Bradley, we are extremely proud of the impact you had on our brotherhood. Candidate Marshal **Noah Ryan '20 (ZΦ1267)** majored in finance and is pursuing law school. **Joshua Rodriguez '20 (ZΦ1269)**, former scholarship chairman, majored in civil engineering and will

return to his hometown and work for BLA Inc. as a transportation design engineer.

Jake Breitenreiter '20 (ZΦ1257), former treasurer, majored in marketing and is looking for a position with a market research firm in the Chicago area.

On behalf of all the active brothers of Zeta Phi Chapter, I want to thank our alumni for their continued support of the brotherhood. We look forward to seeing you at alumni events in the fall!

Fraternally,

Brian Leonard '21 (ZΦ1284)
Chapter President



Brandon Vasquez '20 (ZΦ1265), Noah Ryan '20 (ZΦ1267), and Joshua Rodriguez '20 (ZΦ1269) make pancakes during our Lumberjack brotherhood event at the chapter house.

SIGMA NEWS

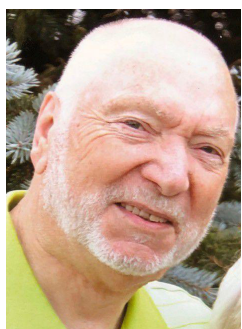
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Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending Bradley University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address. Thank you.

Chapter Eternal



Roy Olson Jr. '59 (ZΦ0113) passed on to Chapter Eternal on April 6, 2020. He graduated from Bradley University with a bachelor of science in business administration and economics and went on to earn master's degrees

in clinical psychology and guidance and counseling in education. Roy was active on the fraternity council during his time as an active member of Sigma Nu. He and his wife, Marilyn Joyce Ewing, met while they were students at Bradley. They were married on August 25, 1962, and had two children together. Roy was a professor of psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire for 29 years, and upon his retirement he enjoyed 12 winters in Naples, Florida. Roy will be missed by his friends, family, and Sigma Nu brothers.

LOVE, HONOR, AND TRUTH

Share Stories of Brothers Living Our Creed

Sigma Nu needs your help spotlighting brothers in future issues of *Sigma News*. Do you know a brother who is making a difference in the world during the coronavirus pandemic? Are you one of them? We want to hear from you!

Tell us stories about healthcare heroes, men handling crisis management, brothers who are involved with nonprofit or volunteer organizations that are community lifelines—any brothers with purpose who we should feature in a future newsletter.

Let's shine some light on our courageous brothers. Used the enclosed bio update form to share your suggestions or email me at wes@zobristconstruction.com.

Thank you for staying connected with Zeta Phi Chapter of Sigma Nu. We appreciate your support and encourage you to reach out to your brothers during this time of uncertainty.

Fraternally,

Wes Zobrist '06 (ZΦ1023)
Building Corporation President

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