



# SIGMA NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZETA PHI CHAPTER OF SIGMA NU

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY ▲ Spring 2022



Brothers promote the Sigma Nu Game Ball Run philanthropy event on the local news, shouting the event catchphrase: "For the kids!"

## The Campaign for Sigma Nu Advances External Renovations Planned for Summer

Our active chapter's perseverance over the last two years has only made Zeta Phi stronger. Once again, Sigma Nu leads Bradley fraternities in recruitment and holds a GPA above the all-men's campus average. The brothers also led a successful Game Ball Run philanthropy event in March. It is heartening to see our brothers excel while tough times improve.

The Building Corporation stays involved with the active chapter, and a number of us are able to visit the chapter house on a regular basis; the house itself continues to look immaculate. Along with the academic advisory board and the chapter advisor, we continue to serve as a resource for the chapter—not only academically and financially, but also as real-life mentors.

### CAMPAIGN UPDATE AND NEXT STEPS

The Campaign for Sigma Nu has met its Phase I goal of \$1 million! The Building Corporation

is now working to **secure an additional \$180,000 by this summer** to complete work for the new and expanded front entry to the house.

Once completed, the new entry will make Sigma Nu the most recognized, modern, and desired fraternity on Fredonia Avenue. We have approved exceptional plans and details to start and finish the project in time for the fall 2022 semester.

Alumni wishing to **donate to the next phase** will be recognized by Bradley University, be eligible for a charitable tax donation, and have their name permanently inscribed on a plaque within the house if they do so **by May 1**.

For more information, please contact Campaign Chairmen **Gary Bergman '69 (ZΦ340)**, **Sam Palumbo '76 (ZΦ446)**, or **Gerry Shaheen '66 (ZΦ264)**. Calls can be directed to (631) 335-7050.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

The 70th Grand Chapter will be held next year from June 28 to July 2 at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort and Spa in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. More information will be shared as Grand Chapter approaches. If you have any questions in the meantime, please email [gc.info@sigmanu.org](mailto:gc.info@sigmanu.org).

We look forward to seeing you at our **golf outing on April 23!** For more information on the undergraduate chapter, please visit our website: [bradleysigmanu.org](http://bradleysigmanu.org).

Thank you for staying connected to Zeta Phi.

Fraternally,

**Wes Zobrist '06 (ZΦ1023)**

President | Peoria, Illinois,  
Sigma Nu Building Corporation  
(309) 696-1389

[wes@zobristconstruction.com](mailto:wes@zobristconstruction.com)

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

### Fall 2021

**Christian Avila '24**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Josh Beckman '25**  
St. Charles, Ill.

**Aren Eckberg '25**  
Normal, Ill.

**Tyler Hagenauer '25**  
Peoria, Ill.

**Luke Hubble '25**  
West Des Moines, Iowa

**Dylan Makare '25**  
St. Charles, Ill.

**Riley Manthy '25**  
Arlington Heights, Ill.

**Alex Ortega '25**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Miguel Smith '25**  
Greendale, Wis.

**Spring 2022**  
**Conner Levine '25**  
St. Louis, Mo.

**Alex Meza '25**  
Chicago, Ill.

## GRADUATING SENIORS

### Wesley Diaz '22 (ZΦ1307)

Wesley is a senior from Morris, Illinois, and will graduate in the spring with a civil engineering degree. Wes's main focus is in transportation with the hopes to be a transportation engineer or project engineer.

### Jake Fitch '22 (ZΦ1282)

Jake is a senior from Morris, Illinois, and will graduate in the spring with a civil engineering degree. Jake plans to get a job with a civil engineering firm that concentrates on transportation engineering and roadway design.

### Lewayne Frierson '22 (ZΦ1279)

Lewayne is a senior from Chicago, Illinois, and will graduate this spring with a sports journalism degree. His plans are to move back to Chicago and work for the local news.

### Corey Novander '22 (ZΦ1283)

Corey is a senior from Mundelein, Illinois, and will be graduating in the spring with a management and leadership degree. After college, he wants to work for a big company in the Chicago area and surround himself with great people.



Zeta Phi presenting the check to OSF Children's Hospital after the Game Ball Run.

## Sigma Nu Stays on Track Brothers Make Strides in Spring Philanthropy

Zeta Phi Chapter of Sigma Nu has been busy with a rewarding school year. We recently held an exceptional Game Ball Run philanthropy event! Last fall, the brothers earned an all-house GPA of 3.21, which was above the Interfraternal Council average. We also held our first in-person recruitment since the pandemic began, welcoming nine new members into the brotherhood; we have two more candidates we hope to welcome this spring.

### RUNNING TO HELP KIDS

The Game Ball Run event took place on March 3; brothers ran over 42 miles from the Illinois State Redbird arena in Bloomington, Illinois, to the OSF Children's Hospital in downtown Peoria. This was a huge fundraising success thanks to the leadership of Philanthropy Chairman **Wes Diaz '22 (ZΦ1307)**, with \$21,000 raised for the OSF Almost Home Kids organization. Wes, along with the entire chapter, presented a check to OSF during halftime at the Bradley vs. Illinois State basketball game

in February. The run even made the news, including coverage of the whole run and several interviews with active members.

### CELEBRATING WITH FAMILY

Our Parent's Weekend at the end of January was wonderful as well. We hosted our parents at the chapter house for a meet and greet, followed by a silent auction organized by Lieutenant Commander **Tristan Vidican '23 (ZΦ1292)** that raised over \$3,500 for OSF! Afterward, everyone went to Alexander's Steakhouse in Peoria for an amazing dinner and more fun.

I'd like to thank our alumni for all your support, especially in recent years. We can't wait for you to visit the chapter house again—especially after the upcoming renovations!

Fraternally,  
**Alex Hamilton '24 (ZΦ1302)**  
Commander  
(406) 697-6530  
abhamilton@mail.bradley.edu



The entire Zeta Phi Chapter (and Advisor Shelley Peters) presenting a \$21,000 check to OSF Children's Hospital at halftime during the Bradley vs. ISU "War on I-74" basketball game.



# Helping Brothers Lead Good Lives

## Sam Palumbo '76 (ZΦ446) Shares Successes with Sigma Nu



**F**or Sam Palumbo '76 (ZΦ446), Sigma Nu began with family. His older brother, **Joe Palumbo '74 (ZΦ418)**, was a member of Zeta Phi, and Sam met several of Joe's friends and brothers. Those

young men inspired Sam to join Sigma Nu as well, where he formed lifelong relationships and developed the tools for a prosperous and generous life.

Sam held the position of treasurer in his college years, followed by two semesters as Commander. His fondest memories include fraternity intramurals and social events with alumni as well as serious and productive discussions among brothers (some of which would go late into the night). Sam went on to marry a Pi Phi from Bradley University, and some of their closest friends are fellow alumni of Sigma Nu and Pi Beta Phi.

"Sigma Nu molded my life and my character, [creating] a work ethic that I still follow today," Sam said. "It taught me responsibility—not only to myself, but also to others. Being a member of Sigma Nu implanted in me the desire to be successful and taught me to work with different personalities."

Those values gave Sam the foundation for a fruitful professional life. He has served as a successful CEO and owner of several companies,

and the average length that employees have worked for him is over 25 years. In 2007, Sam and his wife, Mary, started the Sam and Mary Palumbo Family Foundation to share their success with the community. The foundation helps young people achieve their dream of attending college and helps local charities fund support programs for medically and physically challenged children. Several Sigma Nu brothers have attended fundraisers and contributed over the years, and Sam is truly thankful for their support.

Sam proudly joined the *Campaign for Sigma Nu* as thanks for all the brotherhood has given him—and because he believes in the fraternity's code and values. "I want to ensure that future generations have the same guidance I received from Sigma Nu."

He encourages alumni to look back on how those same values have impacted their lives and defined who they are today. "I am not sure you can put a price tag on that."

Sam and Mary live in Oak Brook, Illinois, and they enjoy traveling and spending time with their family and grandchildren. Sam currently owns and manages Orange Crush LLC, which provides road construction services and materials in the Chicagoland area. He stays in touch with several close friends from the brotherhood and with many other alumni through an email chain.

If you'd like to connect with Sam, he can be reached at [sam@orangecrushllc.com](mailto:sam@orangecrushllc.com).

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Sid Fey '61 (ZΦ194)** shares that, after 50 years of being an owner and executive of several companies, he and his wife, Kathy, created a non-profit organization with the mission to create a decade of healing and kindness. At LoveIsARose Not-For-Profit, their goal is to donate one million roses to health care workers and first responders and create a world that works for everyone. Sid lives in Carol Stream, Ill. Email: [mail@loveisarose.com](mailto:mail@loveisarose.com)

**Joseph E. Zgonina '65 (ZΦ284)** merged his firm with Haeger Engineering after 40 years of professional engineering practice. He is now semi-retired and only works on engineering litigation matters. Joseph played football at Bradley, and as a Sigma Nu brother, he won the Greek God contest. He also served on Bradley's University Council. Joseph lives in Inverness, Ill., and spends time in Florida as well. Email: [jez@marchris.net](mailto:jez@marchris.net)

**William R. Mattson Jr. '68 (ZΦ304)** is retired and moving to a new home in Galveston, Texas, after 16 years of part-time life. "We will miss our friends in the Midwest, but not the winters. Blessings to y'all!" Email: [bill.mattson@outlook.com](mailto:bill.mattson@outlook.com)

**Dean B. Englund '68 (ZΦ354)** transferred to the University of Illinois for the 1968-69 school year. He won the Vietnam draft lottery in 1969 and was stationed at Ft. Polk, followed by Louisiana in 1970 and Long Binh, Vietnam, in 1972. He then graduated from U of I in 1974. Dean lives in Chicago, Ill. Email: [englunddb@prodigy.net](mailto:englunddb@prodigy.net)

## CHAPTER OFFICERS

### Executive Board

Commander

**Alex Hamilton '24 (ZΦ1302)**  
(406) 697-6530  
[abhamilton@mil.bradley.edu](mailto:abhamilton@mil.bradley.edu)

Lieutenant Commander

**Tristan Vidican '23 (ZΦ1292)**

Treasurer

**Jackson Pirowski '23 (ZΦ1294)**

Recorder

**Ryan Newstrom '23 (ZΦ1290)**

Recruitment Chairmen

**Andrew Pellettire '23 (ZΦ1288)**  
(708) 870-1308  
[apellettire@mail.bradley.edu](mailto:apellettire@mail.bradley.edu)

**Jacob Peters '23 (ZΦ1289)**

(309) 369-8775

[jpeters@mail.bradley.edu](mailto:jpeters@mail.bradley.edu)

Marshall

**Jake Fitch '22 (ZΦ1282)**

Philanthropy Chairman

**Wes Diaz '22 (ZΦ1307)**

Alumni Relations Chairman

**Joshua Kennedy '24 (ZΦ1303)**

LEAD Chairman

**Ben Westerkamm '23 (ZΦ1297)**

Scholarship Chairman

**Micheal Finder '23 (ZΦ1301)**

### Major Positions

House Manager

**Tim Johnson '23 (ZΦ1296)**

Commissary

**Ryan Newstrom '23 (ZΦ1290)**

Social Chairman

**Sean McManis '24 (ZΦ1305)**

Community Service Chairman

**Nathan Sachtleben '23 (ZΦ1306)**

Brotherhood Chairman

**Ben Westerkamm '23 (ZΦ1297)**

Risk Management Chairman

**Nathan Sachtleben '24 (ZΦ1306)**

Chaplain

**Jackson Pirowski '23 (ZΦ1294)**

Sentinel

**Andrew Pellettire '23 (ZΦ1288)**

### Minor Positions

Reporter

**Tim Johnson '23 (ZΦ1296)**

Sports Chairman

**Josh Manning '23 (ZΦ1291)**

Public Relations Chairman

**Jack Settle '24 (ZΦ1304)**

Historian

**Jack Settle '24 (ZΦ1304)**

Greek Week Chairman

**Paul Crosson '23 (ZΦ1300)**

Fundraiser

**Colin Whitehouse '24 (ZΦ1308)**

## IN THIS ISSUE

### The Campaign for Sigma Nu

Phase I is complete!  
More work to be done  
this summer.

### Game Ball Run

Brothers raise \$21,000 for  
OSF Children's Hospital in  
special philanthropy event.

More details  
inside!

# SIGMA NEWS

SIGMA NU FRATERNITY  
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66044  
PERMIT #570

**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.

## PARENTS WEEKEND 2022



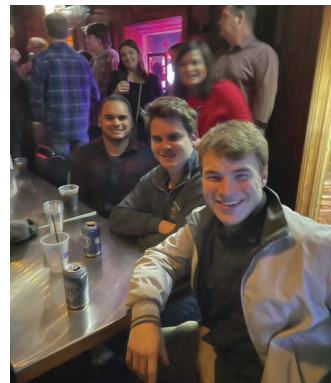
*Zeta Phi brothers and their parents at Alexander's Steakhouse in Peoria.*



*Before dinner, Lieutenant Commander Tristan Vidican '23 (ZΦ1292) organized a silent auction, with proceeds going to OSF Children's Hospital.*



*Tristan Vidican '23 (ZΦ1292) and his parents.*



*Back to front: Josh Manning '23 (ZΦ1291), Jacob Peters '23 (ZΦ1289), and Andrew Pelletier '23 (ZΦ1288).*



*Back to front: Josh Manning '23 (ZΦ1291) and Jacob Peters '23 (ZΦ1289) with their moms.*