



SIGMA NEWS

A PUBLICATION OF THE ZETA PHI CHAPTER OF SIGMA NU

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY ▲ Spring 2023

Zeta Phi Makes a Difference

Undergraduates and Alumni Cooperate on House Updates, Philanthropy

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Brothers, welcome to the spring 2023 edition of *Sigma News*. Inside, you will find our Building Corporation and youngest members hard at work displaying the characteristics of model Sigma Nus.

As officers of the Zeta Phi Sigma Nu Building Corporation, we are responsible for the oversight and maintenance of the chapter house. We also strive to make sure that the undergraduates have the most up-to-date amenities. You are all aware of the renovations we have made over the past two summers to bring our house into the 21st century. Last semester, we moved our focus to improving the internet in the house. Upgrades included a new commercial battery backup, new router and ethernet switches, and new wireless access points throughout the house to keep us up to speed for the next 10 years.

Financially, the Building Corporation has worked diligently to maintain its wealth over this past year's inflation surge. With our diversified portfolio, we have kept our losses to a minimum while still building an emergency fund. We could not have done this without the punctual dues payments from our actives.

Being one of the few Building Corporation members who live in the Peoria area, I have the privilege of visiting the chapter house regularly. It has been a pleasure to get to know these young men over the years.

Communication with the commander and/or house managers when service appointments are made or when routine maintenance is required is always very effective. It is also the role of a Building Corporation officer to be a positive role model.

As a fraternity, we are defined by what we do for the school and the community. Game Ball Run is one of those aspects that defines Zeta Phi. This philanthropy

event would not be successful without the dedication of our members or the support we gain from our alumni each year. For every mile a brother runs, we are making a difference in the lives of many central Illinois families.

Zeta Phi Sigma Nu has what is now one of the most successful philanthropies at Bradley University. I am proud to announce that this year the actives raised over \$21,000 for OSF Children's Hospital of Illinois! If you are interested in supporting Game Ball Run, please contact me!

For more information on the activities of our on-campus members, please visit our website at bradleysigmanu.org.

Fraternally,
Wes Zobrist '06 (ZΦ1023)

President
Peoria, Illinois Sigma Nu Building Corporation
(309) 696-1389
wes@zobristconstruction.com

RAISING THE BAR AT BRADLEY Zeta Phi Breaks Chapter Philanthropy Record

Zeta Phi has had many great accomplishments and events this semester. This includes exceeding the previous year's amount raised for Game Ball Run, our alumni golf outing in April, and the establishment of a new alumni program: the Zeta Phi Hall of Honor.

Academics

Our chapter once again exceeded the all-men's and IFC GPAs. In addition, a new mentor program has been established by Scholarship Chairman **Nathan Lobb '24 (ZΦ1309)**; by pairing an active member mentor with an active member mentee (who have similar or adjacent majors for individualized tutoring and mentorship), mentees are further developing lasting relationships and are more poised to tackle undergraduate life.

Philanthropy

This year, Zeta Phi broke our fundraising record for Game Ball Run, surpassing the goal of \$20,000 and reaching \$21,275 for Almost Home Kids at OSF Children's Hospital. Nearly

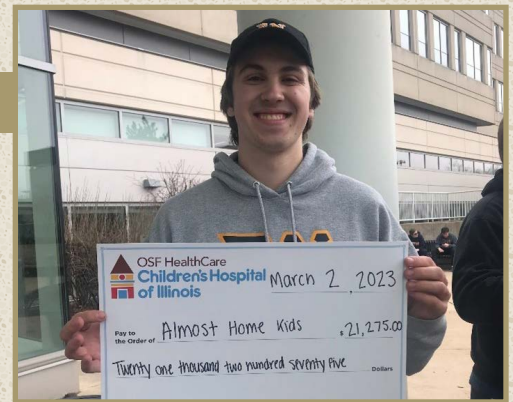
the entire chapter participated in our great tradition this year as we ran from Illinois State University to OSF Children's Hospital.

"It's easily been one of the most rewarding experiences," said **Dylan Makare '25 (ZΦ1311)**, this year's event chairman. "This is the part of being in a fraternity people don't usually talk about, and it needs to be shared and discussed more."

Membership

Zeta Phi recruited a class of 12; seven were initiated. Our recruitment program is fundamentally the same regarding events and expectations. Some of the minor tweaks included adding a committee to help the Marshal position transition smoothly year to year as well as the implementation of S.M.A.R.T goals (aside from the normal expectations) for new members, helping develop skills for the classroom and as men of Sigma Nu.

(Continued on page 3)



Philanthropy Chairman Dylan Makare '25 (ZΦ1311) proudly presents a check for \$21,275 to OSF Children's Hospital the day of the annual Game Ball Run.



Almost all our brothers participating in this year's Game Ball Run!

THE VALUE OF BROTHERHOOD

Why Sigma Nu Matters to George Schmid '75 (ZΦ428)

“The brothers were driven to be champions at everything they did,” **George Schmid '75 (ZΦ428)** said of his first interactions with Zeta Phi. “I was raised the same way, so it was a natural fit for me; it helped define my character even further.”

Every brother George met was first class and genuine. Throughout his college years, Sigma Nu faced any problem with wisdom and intellect. George was honored to work with his brothers on the pledge board and as assistant social chairman; Zeta Phi approached every project, event, or challenge as a team.

George even owes an early professional success to Sigma Nu! In the years after college, George and some brothers would go tubing on Labor Day. He couldn't hold on very well, so he invented “TUBE-N-IT,” the first commercial tow-behind sport tube; it became an overnight international hit. To George, the best part was the design, marketing, and legal advice he received from several brothers: **Mike Norris '74 (ZΦ421)**, **Gary Blazek '74 (ZΦ409)**, **Tom Smith '74 (ZΦ408)**, **Chip Donahue '76 (ZΦ447)**, and **Al Ahrens '74 (ZΦ420)**.

In the late 1980s, George accepted an invitation to the Housing Corporation Board, where he worked with Zeta Phi for three years. “They asked me for help, and I was honored to serve.” He's also pleased to support *The Campaign for Sigma Nu* and join the many alumni who have given their time, talent, and dollars to the renovation effort.

Fifteen years after graduating, George realized that his group of college brothers had gradually lost touch with one another. He started an email list to reconnect that group of '70 to '80s alumni—and it worked! Years of experience promoting concerts and large events also prompted George to organize reunions with the group every five years. “The next one will be in Chicago this August, hosted by a former Commander.”

George is CEO of The Schmid Group and founder of Progressive Artist Management, which works with artists in the music and film industries. He lives with his wife in Laguna Niguel, California, where they enjoy scuba diving, golf, and travel. They keep busy with six adult children and seven grandchildren.

YOU CAN REACH GEORGE AT GEORGECSCHMID@COX.NET.

Chapter Officers

Executive Board

Commander

Alexander Ortega '25 (ZΦ1314)

aortega@mail.bradley.edu

(312) 912-2874

Lieutenant Commander

Dylan Makare '25 (ZΦ1311)

Treasurer

Isaac Custer '25 (ZΦ1321)

Recorder

Joshua Dunn '26 (ZΦ1324)

Marshall

Alex Hamilton '24 (ZΦ1302)

LEAD Chairman

Miguel Smith '25 (ZΦ1310)

Recruitment Chairmen

Josh Beckman '25 (ZΦ1312)

Luke Hubble '25 (ZΦ1313)

Gameball Chairman

Sean Coen '26 (ZΦ1326)

Alumni Relations Chairman

Christian Avila '24 (ZΦ1317)

Scholarship Chairman

Tyler Piester '24 (ZΦ1323)



From Our Chapter Advisor

The men of Sigma Nu continue to be amazing leaders and gentlemen on campus. **Dylan Makare '25 (ZΦ1311)** is the new director of philanthropy and community service for IFC. As a chapter, the men have increased their community service dedication with many spring activities.

The brothers continue to be well-rounded by adding basic cooking lessons to the mix of life on Bradley's campus. What guy doesn't want to know their way around a kitchen? We had an Italian lesson in the fall, for instance, complete with lasagna and spaghetti. Super Bowl Sunday featured a lesson in various appetizers and great munchies for the game. We had additional lessons for different cuisines throughout the spring.

As a chapter advisor with deep Southern roots, I want to take little steps to make sure the men are prepared for life after college. So much can be conveyed to others about who they are as men in just being gentlemen and being comfortable regardless of the situation.

Studying, house-wide cleaning, and laughter-filled shenanigans (of course) continue at 1300 W. Fredonia Avenue. It has been an honor to work with these men throughout the academic year.

Love, honor, truth,
Colleen Splitter
Chapter Advisor



The junior class won the Etiquette Relay Race for spring 2023.

RAISING THE BAR AT BRADLEY

(Continued from page 1)

Keeping Active

On March 3, several men volunteered at the Midwest Food Bank in Peoria, helping pack food, break down boxes, and other tasks that the Food Bank needed help completing.

Later in March, brothers made tie blankets with the sisters of Pi Beta Phi to donate to a local hospital. Zeta Phi ran six community events this school year. This semester, Dylan Makare has taken over as Bradley's IFC Director of Philanthropy and Community Service.

Parent's Weekend

A massive success once again, nearly all our parents attended the January 21 event at the chapter house, which consisted of a wonderful presentation about the Game Ball Run and Almost Home Kids as well as a silent auction where the proceeds were donated to our philanthropy. We raised a little over \$3,500 from the event before capping the night with a delicious dinner at Alexander's.

I want to thank our generous alumni who continue to support us in our progress on the chapter house. We're all excited to see the progress continue and to further expand alumni involvement.

Fraternally,
Alexander Ortega '25 (ZΦ1314)
Commander
aortega@mail.bradley.edu | (312) 912-2874



Sigma Nu collaborates with Delta Upsilon and Gamma Phi Beta for Greek Week.



The men of Sigma Nu enjoy the annual White Rose Formal.



ALUMNI GOLF OUTING

Spring 2023

Thank you to all who attended our alumni golf outing. We are looking forward to continuing this tradition again next year.



Sigma Nu partnered with Sigma Kappa to serve at the local Dream Center in downtown Peoria. Volunteers painted and helped tear up the flooring to prep space for a new indoor playground!



Zeta Phi raked up over 30 bags of leaves for a local veteran, Reverend Julius DeLoatche.



In This Issue

The Campaign for Sigma Nu

Phase III has begun! More funds needed for further expansion work.

New Philanthropy Record

Brothers raised over \$21,000 for OSF Children's Hospital in annual Game Ball Run.

More details inside!

SIGMA NEWS

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Sigma Nu Campaign Enters Phase III

The Campaign for Sigma Nu is now in its third and final phase. To date, some \$1.25 million has been donated by 82 alumni. These funds have been fully utilized for major renovations to the inside and outside of the chapter house.

Phase III requires some \$800,000 in additional funds and will fully enclose the back "pit area," providing two stories of badly needed additional space. Anyone wishing to make a gift (first-time or additional) may do so by sending funds directly to Bradley University; you will receive a full tax-donation receipt.

For questions, contact Campaign Chairman **Gary Bergman (ZΦ340)** at gbergman1@gmail.com or call (631) 335-7050.

THANK YOU, GENEROUS BROTHERS

We are truly thankful to all our donors to the *Campaign for Sigma Nu* for supporting our chapter house expansion. The full list of donors (as of May 5, 2023) is below. If your name is missing or you believe an error has been made in your listing, please contact **Gary Bergman (ZΦ340)** at gbergman1@gmail.com or call (631) 335-7050.

\$100,000 to \$249,999

Gary Bergman (ZΦ340)
Joe Palumbo (ZΦ418)
Sam Palumbo (ZΦ446)
Mike Romano (ZΦ389)
Gerry Shaheen (ZΦ264)
Charles Weyhenmeyer (ZΦ322)

Dave Hardt (ZΦ372)
Phillip Lattanzio (ZΦ626)
James Mally (ZΦ231)
James Rasmussen (ZΦ395)
Rick Renner (ZΦ359)
John Rowe (ZΦ195)
Mark Schuler (ZΦ615)
Wes Zobrist (ZΦ1023)

Ted Evans (ZΦ246)
Tom Gau (ZΦ829)
Walter Gross (ZΦ151)
Trevor Hart (ZΦ759)
Bob Kolpin (ZΦ374)
Robert O'Hanlon (ZΦ213)
Scott Hughes (ZΦ579)
Robert Schofield (ZΦ272)
Brandon Sumner (ZΦ773)

Brewster Johnson (ZΦ230)
David Kegel (ZΦ457)
John Kouns (ZΦ419)
Albert Lauth (ZΦ216)
Charles Lewis (ZΦ270)
Bruce McNeil (ZΦ241)
Marty Morris (ZΦ455)
Jason Nolan (ZΦ807)
Thomas Peterson (ZΦ153)
Brian Polakowski (ZΦ994)
Tracy Predmore (ZΦ746)
George Schmid (ZΦ428)
Thomas Simpson (ZΦ260)
Richard Siok (ZΦ971)
Shawn Whittaker (ZΦ690)

\$100 to \$499

Alex Bennett (ZΦ879)
Craig Dixon (ZΦ664)
Dale Geyer (ZΦ381)
Eric Gunderson (ZΦ774)
Nick Jannes (ZΦ17)
George Nicholaou (ZΦ182)
Don Wayman (ZΦ235)
(Deceased)

\$50,000 to \$99,999

Tod Althoff (ZΦ442)
Allan Bartel (ZΦ337)
George Shaheen (ZΦ265)

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Ray Bales (ZΦ907)
Max Brittain (ZΦ320)
Dale Cooper (ZΦ263)
Jim Dague (ZΦ306)
Richard Heneberry (ZΦ345)
William Mattson (ZΦ304)
Larry King (ZΦ266)

\$1,000 to \$2,499

Phillip Adamski (ZΦ430)
Barry Bassier (ZΦ786)
AJ Brown (ZΦ1012)
Marty Ceranec (ZΦ387)
Joseph Chambers (ZΦ1033)
Gerry Dillashaw (Faculty)
Floyd Foster (ZΦ242)
Paul Friener (ZΦ1079)
Boyd Geary (ZΦ549)
Joshua Guinn (ZΦ1031)
Charles Jackson (ZΦ332)

Up to \$100

Lance Bauman (ZΦ449)
Richard Dhabalt (ZΦ140)
John Heneberry (ZΦ1091)
Bradley Marshall (ZΦ888)
Ted Radkiewicz (ZΦ300)
John Setnicka (ZΦ1)
Steve Thomas (ZΦ378)
David Voight (ZΦ219)
Mat Zurek (ZΦ1015)

\$25,000 to \$49,999

James Mally (ZΦ231)
Dick Nitto (ZΦ262)

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Jim Bixby (ZΦ254)
Ken Gardstrom (ZΦ249)

\$2,500 to \$4,999
Tony Colletti (ZΦ1279)
Karl Dobrinich (ZΦ370)

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