

April 2024



Sig-Nificant News

Monthly Newsletter - April 2024
Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno

FEATURED

***POTENTIAL SCHOOL NAMING IN
HONOR OF AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ***

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

4-STORY HOUSING PROPOSED

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

***MEMORIES OF THE
1961 CHRISTMAS PARTY***

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events>

ALUMNI DUES/DONATIONS

July 1 2023 to June 30, 2024

www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership

President's Message

Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)

My Brothers,

A very special thank you to Mark Scott (69-F), Bill Robinson (70-F) and Brady McGuinness (86-F) for their tremendous efforts. They are guiding the other Greek Housing groups at Fresno State to prevent another landowner from building a 4-story housing project on lot next to the chapter house. See the article below for details.

On Saturday April 6, 2024 we welcomed 8 new brothers to the Epsilon Eta Chapter of Sigma Chi. Bob Koligian (69-F) placed the White Cross on Max Hairabedian (24-S). Max is the son of Chapter Eternal Lance Hairabedian (82-F).

Let the White Cross be your guide in times of challenges and times of success!

In Hoc Signo Vincas,

Brad

**Brad S. Fischer (78-S)
Significant Sig
Cal State - Fresno 1981
President**

(559) 287-1392

**fresnosigs1952@gmail.com
<http://fresnosigsalumni.org>**

"Character without action has little meaning in this world. But leadership—acting in accordance with your character—can change

the world."

Bill George, **GEORGIA TECH 1964**

www.sigmachi.org/history

Housing Corporation Update

Contributed by John Ballinger (65-S)

April is the time things start to move. A few actives are preparing to move out, and a few others moving in. With a spring pledge class numbering eight, several have showed interest in living in. Hopefully we can continue to average 16 or more brothers in the house.



Once again, we were forced to make major repairs to our roof drains, which also resulted in replacing some interior wall supports, hand new sheetrock, and apply fresh paint. The new drainage system handled recent rainstorms with flying colors!

Damages have ben minimal and the property is in good shape. Once again...if you have any interest in contributing to our chapter.... how about joining our house corporation board? The pay is great, vacation days are awesome, and we have a great time together!

It's great to be a Sig!

John Ballinger ('65-S)

Housing Corporation President

ACTIVE CHAPTER UPDATE

By Harrison Alessini, Chapter Editor

April has been a busy month for the Epsilon Eta

Chapter and we are looking to finish this semester out strong. Parents Day was a huge success, thanks to Logan Mann (F '20) and Noah Hornburg (F'21), and all who attended!

We have been active in many philanthropies the past few months and we are currently participating in Delta Zeta's "DZ Rosebowl" philanthropy and have high hopes of winning it. We are looking forward to Derby Days next week and are continuing our efforts to raise money for Valley Children's Hospital.

On another note, we are very excited to elect a new Top 5 this coming week and a new Sweetheart very soon! Epsilon Eta is also looking forward to hopefully sending a few brothers to the Krach Transformational Leaders' workshop in late summer!

In Hoc Signo Vincas,
Harrison Alessini - Chapter Editor

1460 E BULLDOG LANE FOUR-STORY HOUSING PROJECT

A local family submitted plans to the City of Fresno in 2023 to construct a 4-story housing project on the lot east of the Chapter House. We learned of this project earlier this year.

A call for help was issued and Brothers McGuinness, Robinson and Scott sprang into action. Fresno State parties were also engaged and have been holding bi-weekly meetings with the Greek Housing representatives on Fraternity & Sorority Malls. Brady, Bill, and Mark provide detailed updates at each session.

Call to Action. Connected with your Fresno City Council Representative, Mayor or others to share our concerns. We support student housing if it is compatible with the neighborhood.

Suggested statement to use in conversations (customize to make it your own):

“I would like to discuss a proposed 4 story 33-unit apartment building being processed by the Planning Department for a vacant .78-acre lot at 1460 East Bulldog Lane which is part of a 12-lot unique neighborhood subdivision of 2 story fraternity and sorority houses developed by Fresno State in the 1960s.”

“The subdivision has CC&Rs that restrict height, ground floor minimum square footage, parking, setbacks, etc., which have not been incorporated into the project design. The developer has not engaged the other property owners in the subdivision about the design. Fresno State is holding meetings with the property owners to determine what course action can be taken. The Planning Director and City Attorney’s office have been notified of the surrounding property owner’s concerns via a letter from legal counsel.”

BROTHER PHILLIP SANCHEZ TO BE CONSIDERED BY CUSD FOR NAME OF SCHOOL

Order of Constantine, Significant Sig and Ambassador **Phillip V Sanchez** (52-T) is one of the names being considered for a new Clovis Unified School District school. The new intermediate school

is planned at the Bradley Educational Center next to future Clovis South High School at Leonard and McKinley Avenue in Fresno.

The CUSD Governing Board is to act on the new school naming at its April or May session. If you are in contact with a board member, reach out to them and share your support of the naming in honor of Chapter Eternal Brother Sanchez.

ANOTHER BLAST FROM THE PAST

From Ron LaRocca (61-F)

Ron LaRocca Former Consul Ron LaRocca (61-F) again has entered the “way back machine” to give us another reminder of what Sig life was in the 60s at Fresno State. Somehow he saved a treasure that the chapter had made especially for the party favor for the 1961 Sigma Chi Christmas party. This was quite common in those days with items like blankets that could be used at football games, and other cool collectables.



If Ron's memory is correct, brother Warren William (61-S) came up with the design and had the glasses made. They were a big hit at the party

2022-23 DUES & DONATIONS

Contributed by Mark Scott (69-F)

Dues are \$50.00 and donations for 07/01/23 to 06/30/24 are being accepted.

Online payments can be accepted today at:

www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership

Checks payable to the Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno can be mailed to PO Box 7803, Fresno, CA 93747-7803.

[Download 2023-2024 Dues Appeal Form Here](#)

Note: This chart shows the names of all Brothers

who have paid dues received during the last 12 months, as of April 20, 2024.

1950's

Homer Potts 52-T; *Bob Buckenberger*, Butch Charlebois, **Tony Flores*****, **Jim Green*****, Rodger Jensen***, Byron Justus, Joe Monachello, *Frank Small**, Ron Weiner, **Leo Wilson***, & Norm Winslow.

1960's

Mike Alaga*, Alex Audelo, John Ballinger***, Dave Barnes, Don Beauregard, Tom Beggs, Dale Blickenstaff, John Borasi, *Richard Bratz*, Lindsay Brehm, Marv Broderson, Jim Calandra, Larry Calvino*@, *Joe Chappell*, Steve Crawford, Rob Crossland, Larry Dorsey, **Tom Downing^*****, Michael Elliott, Elwood Enns, John Garcia, Dexter Hardcastle, **Colin Kelly*****, Bob Koligian*, *Ron LaRocca*, Jeff Linder, *John Marinovich***, **Bill Matesso**, Dan Mueller, Ed Musolff*, Rick Nelson*, Ron Nelson, Jim Norquist, Dan O'Brien, *Steve Pallios*, **Mike Patton***@**, Wes Qualls**, *Art Renney*, **Dave Reuland**, Don Ruiz, Dennis Schmal, Mark Scott@***, Brian Stout, Jack Tacchino, James Tatum, **Tim Vaux*****, Jerry Waters^***, Don Witzansky.

1970's

David Arakelian**, *Dick Arakelian*, Bill Arnold***, Steve Bachand, Amos Bagdasarian, Pat Beggs, *Norm Bishop*, Peter Britton, *Mike Chin*, Gerald Chooljian, Steve Coleman, Mike Crowley, Mark

Ducas, Kenny Duncan, Russ Efirid**, Bruce Ekmanian**, Ken Esraelian*, **Brad Fischer**, **Jon Gallinetti*****, **Mike Gallo**, Bob Garavello, *Rodney Gavroian*, Tony Guerriero, Doug Haas, Rob Hauser*, Wade Hedrick, *Marv Helon**, Jon Hollenbeck, Darryl Horowitt, *Jim Hutton**, Larry Johnson, Kenny Jelacich*, Dave Kandarian, *Rich Klopstein*, Tom Kusaka, Tom Licouris, *Michael Lynch**, *George Matoian*, *Mark Pasculli*, Paul Porter, Bruce Quan, **Bill Robinson**, Don Ruiz, Mark Sanchez***, Jim Sandrini, Glenn Scott, **Bill Smittcamp*****, Bob Soligian**, Larry Spikes, Kyle Stephenson, Serge Tomassian, Gary Trembley, Walt Trembley, Bill Van Skike, Chris Visser***, Steve Vucovich, Kirk Wethey, Kevin Wren, Richard Wright, Wayne Yamagiwa & *Chris Yocum*.

1980's

Joel Armstrong, Richard Bambauer, Randy Garabedian, Marc Graham, Mike Green, Alan Hansen, T.A. Heckel, John Hughes, *Marc Jason*, Jeff Little, Brian Lockhart, Chris Morse, Mike Price, Mike Riggs, Matthew Rowan, Mike Rush, Doug Sampson & Darin Tockey.

1990's

Rob Bell, Kenneth Eynaud, David Folly, Donny Gill, *Nathan Labiak*, Preet Purewal & Jason Weiner.

2000's

Chad Calhoun, Matt Helon

2010's

Mike Colgate, Tyler Davies, Dusty Lacefield,
Donnie Mayjoffo & Scott Moore.

Welcome our one-year complimentary membership,
Fresno State Class of 2023 – Trent Benevedes,
Christian Cruz, Travis Hansen, Tyler Hansen,
Bassel Khoury, Luke Karagozian, Adam Peters,
Seth Preheim, Victor Rosas, Christopher Sousa,
Matthew Tatum & Jordan Vasquez.

**Order of Constantine, Significant Sig
Headquarters Award**

Consuls who served Epsilon Eta

+ Chapter Eternal

* Plus \$0-\$50, donation Alumni Chapter

**Plus \$51 -\$150 donation Alumni Chapter

***Plus \$151 or more donation Alumni Chapter

^ Donation Endowment Fund or White Rose Memorial Scholarship

@ Donation to the Housing Corporation

SAVE THE DATE

2024 Alumni Chapter Dinner Meetings **Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno**

No-host cocktails followed by dinner.

Thursday, May 16, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Thursday, August 15, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Visit our events calendar for other upcoming

activities:

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events>

PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED FROM EPSILON ETA COLLECTION AT FRESNO STATE

Memorial Project to honor Phillip V. Sanchez (52-T)

The final phase has begun for the manufacture and installation of the memorial bridge sign on Highway 41 at Alluvial Avenue to honor Order of Constantine, Significant Sig, first Epsilon Eta Consul, Ambassador **Phillip V Sanchez (52-T)**.

Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez MEMORIAL BRIDGE

Donations over \$10,000 were received from Headquarters Award recipients and others to make this memorial possible. Also, the largest donor was the Amb. Sanchez Charter High School II in Fresno and operated by Learn4Life.

Thank you to the following donors: **Rodger Jensen (52-T)**; Order of Constantine & Significant Sig **Tony Flores (56-S)**; Order of Constantine & Significant Sig **Mike Patton (63-S)**; Order of Constantine **Tom Downing (62-F)**; Significant Sig **Colin Kelly (62-F)**; Significant Sig **Jim Green (58-S)**; Significant Sig **Tim Vaux (66-F)**; Significant Sig **Jon Gallinetti (70-**

F); Significant Sig **Bill Smittcamp** (73-S); Significant Sig **Brad Fischer** (78-S); Seven Lights Alumni Award **Jerry Waters** (62-F); William T Bringham House Corporation Officer Award **John Ballinger** (65-S); **Mark Sanchez** (70-F), Significant Sig **Mike Gallo** (70-F) and Alumni Chapter Treasurer **Mark Scott** (69-F).

Epsilon Eta Collection at Fresno State

We have recharged our efforts to build a collection of Sigma Chi Epsilon Eta materials at the Special Collections Department at the Fresno State Library. The following is a partial list of items:

Three Sigma Tau pledge paddles (Order of Constantine **Oran McNeil** 52-T & **Dick Beers** 52-T)

Archive items from Gene Andrade 56-F, Order of Constantine Bill Matesso 63-F, Order of Constantine Chuck Sant'Agata 56-S and Order of Constantine Glenn Sheets 52-T

First Outstanding Pledge Award paddle 1952-1961 (donor Warren Williams 61-S donor and last brother listed)

70th Epsilon Eta & 100th Sigma Tau Anniversary items

Your Alumni Chapter donated on your behalf to cover the cost of archival storage containers and fees for these items. A fund has been established at the Fresno State Foundation for the Sigma Chi Collection at the Fresno State Library. You can donate at:

<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1692/lg23/form.aspx?sid=1692&gid=2&pgid=2469&cid=4681&amount=>

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

07/01/2023- 06/30/2024

(Click the Name with links for Obituary Information)

Steven Miller, MD (65-S) March 1, 2024
Lambda Chapter, University of Indiana, Bloomington

Doug Munday (65-F) January 13, 2024
Service April 22, 2024 - Gig Harbor, WA - 10:30 a.m.

Harvey Casey (57-S) December 21, 2023

John Hovannisian (73-F) December 6, 2023

Chris Yocum (74-S) November 27, 2023

Donald Michael Davis (65-F) August 7, 2023

Gary Zarounian (75-S) July 12, 2023

Paul Hokokian (73-S) June 27, 2023

Robert D. Smith (54-F) June 21, 2023

Bryce Carey (57-S) February 4, 2023

Edward "Steve" Zucker (56-S) 2023

Joe G Farias (70-F) March 2, 2021

Rich Church (62-S) January 14, 2020

Gary R. Millier (75-S) February 1, 2018

Jeffrey Perenon (66-F) August 3, 2018

Don Berg (67-F) December 10, 2017

Jim Irick (68-F) April 5, 2016

Bob Kerley (61-S) July 2016



Thank you to Brother Patton for researching archives and located brothers who entered the Chapter Eternal in the past.

**WHITE ROSE SCHOLARSHIP FUND:
PAYABLE TO THE FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
2625 E MATOIAN WAY M/S SH124
FRESNO CA 93740-8000**

NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE

FACEBOOK – SIGMA CHI ALUMNI – FRESNO STATE
<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/newsletter-archive>

SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

FACEBOOK – SIGMA CHI ALUMNI – FRESNO STATE
<https://www.facebook.com/FresnoStateSigmaChi>

LINKEDIN – FRESNO STATE SIGMA CHI PROFESSIONAL NETWORK
<https://linkedin.com/groups/13688055>

SIGMA CHI REACH OUT App

Sigma Chi has created a mobile device App for Active and Alumni members. Topic include Get Help Now; Law Enforcement & First Responders; Alcohol and Drugs; Prevention Education and many others. Look in your mobile device store for the following App.



For those iPhone users:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sigma-chi-reach-out/id1472427192>

Sigma Chi Scholarship & House Corporation Donations

You can now make scholarship donations using our website.

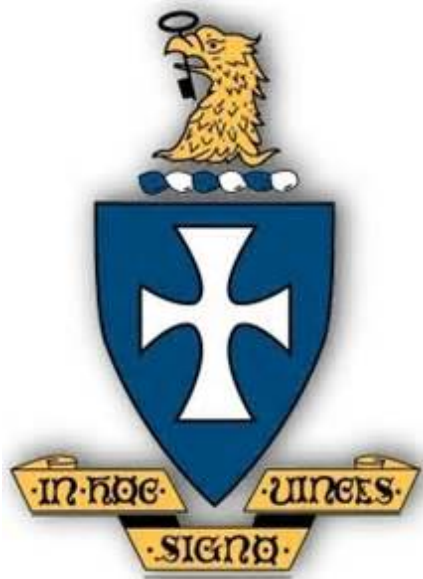
<https://fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership>

Sigma Chi's Highest Honor

Visit our website to view the list of honorees of the Order of Constantine, Significant Sig and Seven Lights Alumni Award.

<https://fresnosigsalumni.org>





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