

June 2024



Sig-Nificant News

Monthly Newsletter - June 2024
Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno

FEATURED

TREASURER'S REPORT

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

1961 FALL PLEDGE CLASS - BAND OF BROTHERS

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

HAPPY 75TH ANNIVERSARY TO US

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

JOHN WAYNE BIRTHPLACE AND

President's Message

Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)

My Brothers,

We have much to be proud of. An outstanding Active Chapter; a dedicated House Corporation and an Alumni Chapter that has achieved its 75th Anniversary. Thank you to all those who have made our Alumni Chapter in Fresno the strongest at Fresno State and a shining star in the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Special thank you to Significant Sig Jim Green (58-S) for collecting stories from the Fall 1961 Pledge Class alumni. He then created a booklet of these stories. See the article below. Which pledge will be next?

Guard well the White Cross and continue to reach out to those brothers who are experiencing health setbacks. Show them that the bonds of brotherhood are for a lifetime!

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>

"I'm not the sort to back away from a fight. I don't believe in shrinking from anything. It's not my speed; I'm a guy who meets adversities head on". *Marion Robert Morrison/ Significant Sig John Wayne, Alpha Upsilon, Southern California 1929*

www.sigmachi.org/history

Treasurer's Report

By Mark Scott (69-F), Treasurer

We want to thank all Brothers who support of the Alumni Chapter through your annual \$50 dues payments. A special thank you to those who add an additional donation. For those who have used the online dues portal, you likely received a reminder recently that our new Alumni Chapter dues year (our fiscal year) begins July 1, 2024. A good number of you have already responded by making an online \$50 payment.

About 75% of the dues paying brothers pay during this time period. The rest of you pay throughout the year, and that is perfectly fine! On the monthly "Dues & Donations" chart in the newsletter, we list all those who have paid during the preceding 12 months. Dues can be paid online through the Alumni Chapter website (fresnosigsalumni.org) or by mail (P.O. Box 7803, Fresno, CA 93727).

As always, our policy is that dues are voluntary. We appreciate them, but we welcome any Brother at any time with or without. One might say, "You will always find it here!"

The dues support our regular alumni chapter activity. We use them for such things as Active Chapter support, Derby Day fundraising ads, 50-year member pins, graduation stoles for graduating seniors, alumni dinner costs for speakers and active brothers in attendance, our alumni chapter mini-storage rental, an annual national fraternity affiliation fee, website and dues portal costs, etc.

As of May 31, the Alumni Chapter checking and money market accounts have a total balance of \$26,593.93. This is inflated by \$11,450 which is being held for the Philip V. Sanchez Memorial Bridge signage. Our Fresno Sigma Chi Foundation and White Rose Scholarship funds are much more substantial, but they are held separately and administered by a separate board and treasurer.

Our Fresno State Sigma Chi Active Chapter is the best on campus due to the quality and character of the active members. Our Alumni Chapter is one of the best in the nation because of your participation (and the outstanding leadership of Brad Fischer). Thank you for your support and brotherhood.

Housing Corporation Update

Contributed by John Ballenger (65-S)

Since the end of the spring semester we still have 18 actives living in the house. Some split their time between home, vacations, work, and hanging at the house.

We project that there will be 20 brothers living in for the next school year.



This month's shout out goes to brother Bill Robinson. Bill is closing down his downtown engineering office to move home and do consulting projects. Bill and his partner are donating some of their office furniture to our house! Kudos to brother Bill!

Last week we added much needed insulation and several solar fans to our attic. The boys have noticed a little relief. We also had some ducting repaired to assist the airflow.

Once again, we are reaching out to anyone of you that might wish to join our house corporation board. It truly is rewarding and not a huge commitment. We meet about every 6 weeks or so. We are searching for someone to take over as our secretary, and we can always use a brother with accounting skills.

In Hoc,

**John Ballinger ('65-S)
Housing Corporation President**

HAPPY 75th ANNIVERSARY!

By Brad Fischer, (78-S)

Significant Sig & President of the Fresno Alumni Chapter

bsfischer937@gmail.com

Many of us learned in the Spring 2024 issue of The Magazine of Sigma Chi that our Fresno Chapter celebrated 75 years on May 18, 2024. The chapter

was founded on May 18, 1949. The Fraternity Grand Council approved the chapter at its meeting on June 11, 1950.

Neither Headquarters or us have archives that tell the story of our founding and any details of the years that followed. We thank our founding brothers and the brothers of the Sigma Tau Fraternity to the establishment of our Epsilon Eta Chapter on February 23, 1952.

From the Installation Program February 22 and 23, 1952

Arrangements for the installation have been under the direction of the Fresno Alumni Chapter:

EVERETT L. GOODALE, Beta Mu '35, General Chairman
BERT H. HUNTER, Beta Xi '16, President
ROBERT BOURNE, Alpha Omega '37, Secretary
CHALMERS LONES, Alpha Upsilon '36
ARTHUR DREW, Alpha Omega '10
PAUL STANIFORD, Alpha Omega '16
HON. GEORGE HUFFMAN, Beta Delta '35
JOSEPH JOY, Alpha Upsilon '37
COL. CLUDE KELLY, Beta Xi '13
ELIF RUE, Beta Zeta '13

If you have any details of our early history, you can email us at fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

BROTHER MCMANUS SIGNIFICANT SIG PRESENTATION

By Mike Patton, (63-S) Order of Constantine, Significant Sig & President of the Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment.

mike@rmpatton.com



Brother McManus to be Inducted as Significant Sig at November Alumni Dinner. Please put Thursday, November 21, 2024 on your calendars. At this alumni dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory, we will induct Brother **Dana McManus** as the 3rd Significant Sig in his fall 1970 pledge class. Both Significant Sigs **Jon Gallinetti** and **Mike Gallo** pledged with Dana.

1961 FALL PLEDGE CLASS - BAND OF BROTHERS

*By Jim Green, (58-S) Significant Sig
1231jimg@gmail.com*

A booklet was created of stories of the 1961 Fall Pledge Class of Epsilon Eta. The material was collected by their Magister, Significant Sig Jim Green and then distributed. We challenge other pledge classes to replicate this effort. A copy will be placed in the Epsilon Eta Collection at the Fresno State Library.

[Click Here for Band of Brother Booklet](#)

1460 E. BULLDOG LANE 4 STORY BUILDING

UPDATE

The owner plans to conform to the CC&Rs that restrict height, ground floor minimum square footage, parking, setbacks, etc. He will restrict the height to two stories.

A few of the Fraternity and Sorority property owners met with the owner on June 4th. He is dedicated to the need for student housing as an alum of Fresno State. He received input on design and property scope. He plans to work with his designer and return to the group with revised plans for a two-story housing unit that also complies with the feedback he received from the City of Fresno Planning Department.

The Fresno Sigma Chi Wine Tasting Committee Says Thanks to Donors

As noted last month, the 2024 Wine Tasting raised \$40,911 for our endowment. We would like to thank our brothers who donated items to the silent auction which accounted for \$35,245 of the total raised:

John Ballinger (65-S), Rich Barsanti (67-F), Greg Baxter (67-S), Larry Calvino (69-S), Steve Coleman (78-F), Mike Elliott (68-F), Brad Fischer (78-S), Mike

Gallo (70-F), T.A. Heckel (82-F), Sergio Ilic (87-F), Kenny Jelacich (70-F), Tom Licouris (70-F), Randy Masada (77-F), Jim Norquist (69-F), Mike Patton (63-S), Mark Sanchez (70-F), Harvey Singh (78-F), Bill Smittcamp (73-S), Mark Springer (09-F) and Warren Williams (61-S).

Mike Elliott's donation was a little out of the ordinary. He had a few of us take a group photo at the photo booth, commandeered a silent auction bid sheet, filled it out and placed it on the auction table, then his wife, Debbie, bought the photo for \$100. Pretty smooth, Don Miguel.

LOCAL ALUMNI AWARDS COMMITTEE

Our local Alumni Awards Committee is looking for recommendations for International and Fresno Chapter award candidates.

Fraternity Alumni Excellence Awards:

<https://sigmachi.secure-platform.com/a/page/Awards/Annual-Alumni-Excellence-Awards>

Fresno Chapter Alumni Awards:

www.fresnosigs1952.org

Send your recommendations and a brief statement of qualification to:

fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

JOHN WAYNE BIRTHPLACE AND MUSEUM

By Jim Shields, Founder William Lewis Lockwood Level Donor

THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI



Photo – THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI / Summer Issue – 2009

The Magazine of Sigma Chi – Special Issue (2024)

As a headline announcement, The Magazine of Sigma Chi publicized its *Monuments and Memorials Commission* voted the *John Wayne Birthplace Home and Museum* to be a Memorial Monument on the Sigma Chi trail of history.

April 14, 2022 our Southwest Florida alumni chapters submitted application for the Birthplace Museum to be a Sigma Chi Memorial Monument. In less than ninety days we received unanimous approval.

We then launched an Alumni Chapter Project for Sigma Chi to own *in-perpetuity naming rights* at the Museum. Presently, there is *absolutely nothing* about Duke being a member of Sigma Chi at this well patronized Museum. The archives of photos and memorabilia are solely dedicated to the life and legend of John Wayne - *an authentic*

American Icon.

The response by the Brotherhood has been gratifying. A significant number of Golden State alumni have joined the Campaign. We were also inspired to launch this journey because of Duke's everlasting loyalty to Sigma Chi.

As John Wayne generously gave of his time and treasure to Sigma Chi, we kindly ask you to please invite your members to join us and donate to the Campaign. Together, we will make a difference *for time immemorial* for the Good of Sigma Chi.

On behalf of our alumni chapter, I am most willing to answer any inquiries about this *Memorial Campaign for Brother John Wayne*.

In hoc,

Jim Shields

Founder William Lewis Lockwood Level Donor

jimshields@fl-office.com

cell: (239) 877-1749

LEARN MORE: [John Wayne Birthplace Museum](#)

2023-2024 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.

Note: Dues Appeal Form for 2024-2025 is now available:

[Download 2024-2025 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 June 8, 2024.

1950's

Homer Potts 52-T; *Bob Buckenberger*, Butch Charlebois, **Tony Flores*****, **Jim Green*****, Rodger Jensen***, Byron Justus, Joe Monachello, Dante Simi***, *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, Bruce Berger, *Norm Bishop*, Peter Britton, *Mike Chin*, Gerald Chooljian, Steve Coleman, Mike Crowley, Mark Ducas, Kenny Duncan, Russ Efird**, 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

Greg Anderson, Joel Armstrong, Richard Bambauer, Randy Garabedian, Marc Graham, Mike Green, Alan Hansen, T.A. Heckel, John Hughes, Sergio Ilic, *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, & Frank Puccio.

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, August 15, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Thursday, September 19, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Speaker: Kent Willis, VP Student Affairs

Thursday, October 17, 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

Dana McManus Named Significant Sig

By Mike Patton, (63-S) Order of Constantine, Significant Sig & President of the Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment.

mike@rmpatton.com



Brother **Dana McManus** (70-F) served as Quaestor of Epsilon Eta in 1971 while attending CSU-Fresno as a business major. He graduated in 1972 with a BS in Business Administration, completed an MBA in 1973 and subsequently earned an MS in Taxation from Golden State University.

While attending CSU-Fresno he worked for the

family business, McManus Construction. He became a CPA and managed McManus Construction for several years. Dana became Owner and CEO of Amoroso Construction in 1995.

To read how Dana earned Significant Sig status, please click on the link below:

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/dana-mcmanus-named-significant-sig>

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)

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=>

Select University Library and note Sigma Chi Collection

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

07/01/2023- 06/30/2024

(Click the Name with links for Obituary Information)

[John C. Mitchell](#) (62-F) April 30, 2024

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

[Doug Munday](#) (65-F) January 13, 2024

[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

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>



Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno | P.O. Box 7803 | Fresno, CA 93727 US

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