

December 2025



Sigma Chi

FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER

SIG-NIFICANT NEWS

FEATURED

**ACTIVE CHAPTER LEADERSHIP
TRAINING**

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

**SAVE THE DATE
9TH ANNUAL WINETASTING**

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

SIG NEWS

***DALTON DEFENDIS (13-F) IOTA CHI CHAPTER
WELCOMES ROWAN MATTHEW***

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

**NEW FISCAL YEAR ANNUAL
DUES/DONATIONS**

July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026 – Annual \$60.00

See listing below

ALL HONOR TO THEIR NAME

JULY 1, 2025 – JUNE 30, 2026- SEE BELOW

GARY HICKOK – November 22, 2025

PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

LOBSTERFEST

LITTLE SIGMA

PROTECTING HISTORY OF EPSILON ETA

NEW RENO UNDERGRADUATE CHAPTER

MORE

President's Message

Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)



Worthy Brothers:

As we close the final chapter of 2025, we can look back and say with pride that we have fought the good fight—and the White Cross shines with renewed luster because of the faithful actions of our alumni chapter.

We accomplished this through the continued support of your dues and generous donations. A special thank you to those who went the extra mile to support our Alumni Chapter, the Epsilon Eta Bell Chapter, the Housing Corporation, and the Scholarship Endowment.

For those who are local or visiting, our first Spring Alumni Chapter event will take place on Thursday, January 15th. Full details can be found in the Calendar of Events below.

As we prepare for 2026, the White Cross continues to shine brightly in our local communities because of you. We are truly blessed by the many who give of their time, resources, and heart to make a lasting difference.

Wishing you all the very best in 2026!

Friendship, Justice, and Learning

In Hoc Signo Vincas,

Brad

Brad S. Fischer (78-S)
Order of Constantine & Significant Sig
Cal State - Fresno 1981
President

(559) 287-1392

fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

<http://fresnosigsalumni.org>

"You have to be honest, have integrity, be able to cooperate and get along with other people. Sigma Chi is a great place to learn that and that's why it's a great thing to join this fraternity." -- ***Jim Palmer, Significant Sig, Arizona State, Epsilon Upsilon 1967***

www.sigmachi.org/history

SIG NEWS!

Dalton DeFendis (13-F) Iota Chi Chapter, UC San Diego and Devon DeFendis welcomed Rowan

Matthew DeFendis on August 20, 2025. 7lbs 10 ounces.

Send any Sig news to fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP TRAINING COMES TO EPSILON ETA ACTIVE CHAPTER

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



Facilitator Joseph Cruz (21-S), Zeta Phi, Texas A & M, Kingsville 2024

After qualifying for platinum level Bell Chapter status which qualifies us for leadership training for the entire undergraduate chapter, the first trainer came to Fresno on December 6, 2025. The workshop topic was Navigating Conflict.

The certificates earned will give our brothers a critical edge in gaining employment after graduation.

[Click Here to see Photo and Details](#)

SAVE THE DATE

9TH ANNUAL WINE TASTING

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



*Consul Julian Narvaiz and Sweetheart Kat - 2024
8th Annual Wine Tasting Event*

Date: April 25, 2026

Time: 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Location:

John & Susan Ballinger's Home

9846 N Yorktown Drive, Fresno, CA 93720

Dress code: Casual

Entrance Fee: \$60/person (limited to 125 participants).

Details & Invitation to follow.

HOUSING CORPORATION ARTICLE

Contributed by John Ballinger (65-S)

Ho-Ho-Happy Holidays!!! As the fall semester comes to an end, we wish all of our brothers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!! My Christmas wish is that we will be able to meet our \$50,000 goal for our house renovation a repair project!!

Just an end of the year reminder that your contributions are the only way we can make this work. **Will you be a Secret Santa for us?** If you have any thoughts or questions, please give me a call.



**John Ballinger (S '65)
House Corp President**

2025-2026 DUES & DONATIONS

Contributed by Mark Scott (69-F)

Dues are **\$60.00** and donations for 07/01/25 to 06/30/26 are being accepted.

Online payments can be accepted today:

[Click Here for Membership Information](#)

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 2025-2026 is now available:

[Download 2025-2026 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 October 31, 2025.

1950's

Jerry Bender, *Bob Buckenberger*, Butch Charlebois, ***Tony Flores******, ***Jim Green******, Rodger Jensen***, Byron Justus, Joe Monachello, Homer Potts, Rich Rose, Dante Simi***, *Frank Small**, Ron Weiner, ***Leo Wilson****, & Norm Winslow

1960's

Mike Alaga, John Ballinger***@, Dave Barnes, *Greg Baxter*, Don Beauregard, Tom Beggs, Dale Blickenstaff, *Richard Bratz*, Lindsay Brehm, Marv Broderson***@, Jim Calandra, Larry Calvino*@, *Joe Chappell*, Steve Crawford, Rob Crossland, Larry Dorsey*, ***Tom Downing******, Pete Eliopulos, Michael Elliott**@, Elwood Enns, Richard Fox, John Garcia, Dexter Hardcastle,

*Richard Harris, Greg Johnson, **Colin Kelly*****, Bob Koligian*, Ron LaRocca, Jeff Linder, John Marinovich**@, Bill Matesso, Fred McPherson, Dan Mueller, Ed Musolff**@, Ron Nelson, Jim Norquist, Dan O'Brien, Steve Pallios, **Mike Patton*****@, Wes Qualls**@, Gary Renner, Art Renney@, **Dave Reuland**, Don Ruiz@, Dennis Schmal***@, Mark Scott***@, Brian Stout***@, Jack Tacchino, James Tatum, James Underhill, **Tim Vaux*****@, Jerry Waters^***, Matt Wittkins**, Don Witzansky.*

1970's

*David Arakelian***, Dick Arakelian, Bill Arnold***, Steve Bachand, Amos Bagdasarian, Bruce Berger, Norm Bishop, Peter Britton, Mike Chin, Gerald Chooljian, Mike, Chooljian, Steve Coleman, Mike Crowley**@, Mark Ducas, Kenny Duncan, Bruce Ekmanian, Ken Esraelian*, **Brad Fischer*****, **Jon Gallinetti*****, Bob Garavello, Rod Gavroian, Tony Guerriero*, Doug Haas, Rob Hauser, Wade Hedrick, *Marv Helon***@, Jon Hollenbeck, Darryl Horowitt, *Jim Hutton**, Kenny Jelacich**, Dave Kandarian, *Rich Klopstein*, Tom Kusaka, Tom Licouris, Mitch Long, Mike Lorenzen, *Michael Lynch**, *George Matoian*, **Dana McManus**, *Robert Morrow*, *Mark Pasculli*, Paul Porter***@, Bruce Quan, **Bill Robinson**, Mark Sanchez***, Jim Sandrini, Glenn Scott, **Bill Smittcamp*****, Larry Spikes, Kyle Stephenson, Mark Talens, Serge Tomassian, Gary Trembley, Walt Trembley, Bill Van Skike, Chris Visser***, Steve Vuovich, Kirk Wethey, Kevin Wren, Richard Wright & Wayne Yamagiwa.*

1980's

Greg Anderson, Joel Armstrong, Chris Cole, Mike Falgo, Barry Foley, Randy Garabedian, Mike Green, T.A. Heckel, Don Heckman, John Hughes, Frank Huttlinger (S.D. St.), Sergio Ilic, *Marc Jason*, Justin Kempton, Kenneth Lehman, Jeff Little, Brian Lockhart, James McCorkle, Bill Miller, Chris Morse, Mike Price, Mike Riggs, Matthew Rowan, Mike Rush, Doug Sampson, Matthew Simonian & *Steve Smith*.

1990's

Rob Bell, Brandon Cohrs, Kenneth Eynaud, David Folly, Marc Forth, Donny Gill, *Nathan Labiak*, Davindar Mahil, Sam Mann, James McCann, Robert Paley, Preet Purewal & Jason Weiner.

2000's

Chad Calhoun, *Aaron Encinias*, Joe Hart, Matt Helon, Frank Puccio & *Mike Sandrini*.

2010's

Mike Colgate, Christian DeFendis, Zachary Gavroian, Dusty Lacefield, Scott Moore & Samuel Slosman.

Welcome our one-year complimentary membership, Fresno State Class of 2025 – Eric Barrera, Caleb Gretlein, Jordan Martinez, Anthony Reynoso, Andy Stewart, Austin Tuell, William Ventura-Hernandez.

Order of Constantine, Significant Sig, Headquarters Award

Consuls who served Epsilon Eta

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

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

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

@ Donation to the Housing Corporation

SAVE THE DATE

2026 Alumni Chapter Dinner Events

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

No-host cocktails followed by dinner.

Thursday, January 15, 2026

6:00 PM PT – First Spring Alumni Dinner Event

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

Thursday, February 19, 2026

6:00 PM PT – First Spring Alumni Dinner Event

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

Thursday, March 19, 2026

6:00 PM PT – First Spring Alumni Dinner Event

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

Thursday, April 16, 2026

6:00 PM PT – First Spring Alumni Dinner Event

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

Saturday, April 25, 2026

3:00 - 6:00 PM PT

9th Annual Wine Tasting Event

Ballinger Residence

9846 N. Yorktown Drive

Fresno CA 93720

Visit our events calendar for other upcoming activities:

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

ALL HONOR TO THEIR NAME

07/01/2025 - 06/30/2026

DENNIS SHAVES (62-F) June 15, 2025

WILLIAM C. (BILL) DONAGHY (60-F) June 17, 2025

JIM NASH (54-F) July 3, 2025

BUCK LEVIS (60-F) August 3, 2025

JOHN TULLY (96-S) Delta Xi Chapter - July 27, 2025

(*) GARY HICKOK (71-F) November 22, 2025

JOHN S. MILLER (62-S) Date Unknown
(reported on Sigma Chi portal)

ZETH THORNING II (65-F) May 5, 2024

(*) Notes those added this month.

Names underlined are links to obituaries on memorial sites



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

HEADQUARTER NEWS

Sigma Chi International Fraternity
1714 Hinman Ave. Evanston, IL 60201
(847) 869-3655 | sigmachi.org

PARTNERSHIP WITH BIRCHES HEALTH



Sigma Chi International Fraternity is proud to announce our new partnership with **Birches Health**, the nationwide leader in behavioral addiction treatment, specializing in virtual counseling for compulsive behaviors that can include:

Gambling

Sports Betting

Video Gaming

Day Trading / Stocks / Crypto

Technology & Social Media

Sex & Pornography

The Birches Health difference:

Covered by insurance and state funding for eligible residents

Comfort of home - specialized counseling available virtually

Confidential, discreet and secure

As online sports betting and gambling products become more widely accessible across the country, it is critically important to be aware that resources and support are available in case issues ever arise.

This partnership with Birches is another significant step in providing new forms of care that are needed in today's evolving world.

If you or someone you know may be struggling with gambling or any of the challenges above, taking the first step confidentially with Birches is just a click, phone call or email away:

Visit Sigma Chi's dedicated page by [Clicking Here](#)

Call Birches' secure helpline: (833) 483-3838

Email the Birches support team by [Clicking Here](#)

The mental wellbeing of all Sigma Chi members is paramount, so we strongly encourage you to familiarize yourselves with the resources and support that Birches Health offers. You are never alone. There are always strong arms around you with Sigma Chi.

In Hoc Signo Vinces,

Sigma Chi International Fraternity

Exciting improvements are coming soon to your Sigma Chi member experience!

We are working hard to launch an improved member hub to get you connected with your fellow brothers and centralize fraternity events, resources and initiatives. Plus, we'll be rolling out Sigma Chi+, a modern and innovative approach to accessing lifelong brotherhood your own way built on tradition and designed for today.

Make sure you don't miss anything by claiming your account today if you have not done so already!

[Login](#)

Need further assistance? Click [here](#)

PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

Chris Morse (83-F) and Michelle Morse support the Marjaree Mason Center

Marjaree Mason Center Facebook - November 10, 2025

As the year comes to a close, we're reminded of the incredible power of generosity — and the lives it can change.

Your generosity can go twice as far. Every donation made now through December 31 will be matched up to \$250,000 thanks to the generosity of Chris and Michelle Morse.

Everyone deserves a safe place to call home. Your doubled impact will help provide immediate safety and hope for adults and children impacted by domestic violence – 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

Give now at <https://mmcenter.org/partner-with-us/donate>

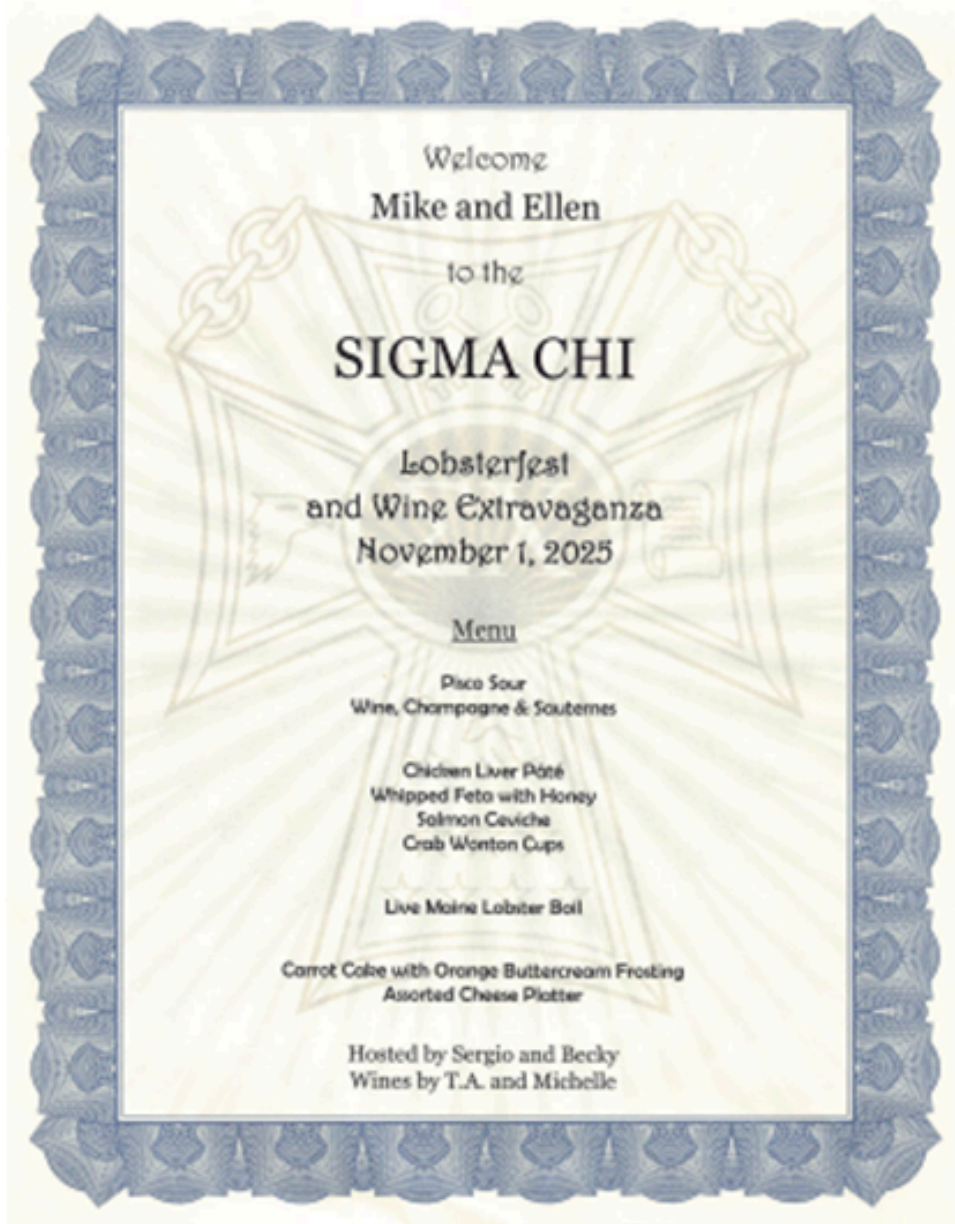
If you're interested in donating stock or other appreciated assets, or if you'd like to discuss a legacy gift, please contact Ashlee Wolf, Director of

THE 2025 LOBSTERFEST: PRICELESS

By Order of Constantine & Significant Sig Mike Patton (63-S)



The largest silent auction at our 8th annual wine tasting was The Lobsterfest and Wine Extravaganza. It was the brainchild of brothers Sergio Ilic and T.A. Heckel. Ten paying guests were treated to a once-in-a-lifetime experience. Here is the menu:



[Click here](#) to see photos of the event

Fall 2025 – Welcome Brothers

Celebrate our brothers who completed Initiation on November 2, 2025 at the Epsilon Eta Chapter.

Welcome Preston Bisla, Camden Estrada, Talan Franco, Noah Kattelman, Avery Leach, Cyrus Mackie, Ryan Marini, Brody Mason, Caleb Matthews, Cooper Rodger and Moses Uribe.

NEW RENO ACTIVE CHAPTER IN FORMATION

**By Order of Constantine & Significant Sig Brad S Fischer (78-S)
& Richard Egan (77-F) Epsilon Eta**

Sigma Chi is expanding with a new chapter at the University of Nevada, Reno. Do you know any alumni brothers who live in the area and can offer to help with this new chapter?

We have a local connection. Sean Egan, son of Richard Egan (77-F) is a freshman at UNR and will be a member of the inaugural Charter Initiation in Spring 2026.

Reach out to that brother and contact Chapter Advisor and UNR Faculty member Chris Wilbus at chris.wilbus@gmail.com. His mobile number is (702) 738-3555.

A LITTLE SIGMA

By Art Renney (64-S)

The following poem from an unnamed Little Sigma from the past was uncovered. The words of the past ring true to today!

Twelve Sig pledges as tired as can be,
Sitting in the library with a look of misery.
This is the week you've heard about--
The one which decides if you're in or if
you're out!

From Alpha to Omega in three seconds flat,
To the Norman Shield Manual, learned forward
and back---
From memories of the ditch, to the shaking of
a hand,
Only a true Sig could ever understand.

Just twenty-four more hours and "Hell Week"
will be through,
Then the high ideals of Sigma Chi will become s
ever true.

The pledge pin worn just one more day,
The White Cross then-----forever to stay.

So long all you pledges, I bid you a brief good
bye,

For the next time I see you
There'll be twelve more SIGMA CHI'S!!!

A LITTLE SIGMA

PROTECTING THE HISTORY OF EPSILON ETA

By Order of Constantine & Significant Sig Brad S Fischer (78-S)

Sigma Chi continues to have the most extensive collection of materials at the Fresno State Library Special Collections Department. What are you doing to save material from Epsilon Eta? Here are some ideas while you hold the items until you are ready to save them in perpetuity at the library.

Items can include, photographs, invitations, programs, clothing, jewelry, award certificates, trophy's, scrapbooks, etc.

Keep materials in a dry and temperature-controlled environment

Avoid folding any materials

Write the names of people featured in photographs on the back using a #2 pencil

Write an explanation of people, events, places, etc. to accompany your items

Place like materials in a box, folder, envelope or Ziplock

SUPPORT THE ONLY GREEK ARCHIVE AT FRESNO STATE

Funds are needed 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

Mail your check to the Fresno State Foundation, Fresno State Advancement Services, 5244 N Jackson Ave., KC45, Fresno CA 93740-8023. Note University Library/Sigma Chi Collection

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 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>

Alumni Chapter Charter

Sigma Chi Fraternity



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come
Greeting

Know Ye

that the Sigma Chi Fraternity has granted and by these presents does grant to the Brothers whose names are listed below and to their duly initiated associates and successors this charter, fully constituting them an

Alumni Chapter

of the Fraternity under the name and title of

Fresno, California Alumni Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity

vested with all the powers and privileges given to and subject to the obligations required of such chapters in the Ritual, Constitution and Statutes of the Fraternity.

Dated this eleventh day of June, 1950

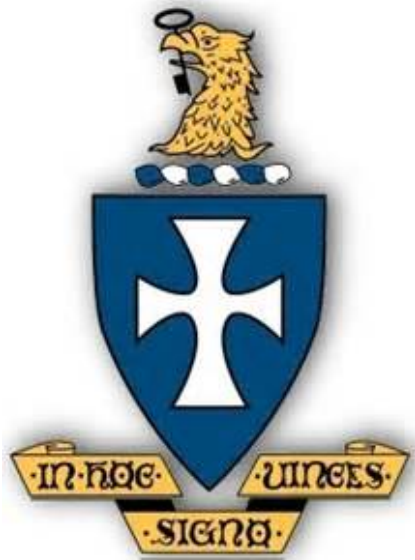


John Neal Campbell
GRAND CONSUL
Alvin Easton
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Robert L. Bourne, AΩ'37
Sewell D. Collins, Ω'14
Sabriel Penn Cummings, AT'14
Arthur H. Drew, AΩ'10
Everett H. Goodale, BM'35
Allan F. Hurton, AΨ'07
George W. Huffnagle, BΔ'35 AT'37

Bertram H. Hunter, BΞ'16
Joseph L. Joy, AT'37
Clyde Kelly, BΞ'13
Chalmers S. Loues, Jr., AT'36
Carlton Ould, T'31
Stief Rue, BZ'14
Paul Staniford, AΩ'16





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

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