

# SAGA

of Sigma Tau Gamma

Summer 2012

## WELCOME EPSILON SIGMA CHAPTER



# EXPANSION

## Dateline – Summer 1967

### Keith Dinsmore Named Executive Director

**Keith C. Dinsmore**, Northeast Missouri '65, was named executive director of Sigma Tau Gamma at a meeting of the council on June 24. The appointment, effective July 1, was announced by Dr. **William A. Cornell**, '44 Phi, president of the fraternity.

Brother Dinsmore, who joined the headquarters staff in 1965 as an executive assistant, has served as the executive officer in an interim capacity during the past year. He succeeds **E. Kennedy Whitesitt**, Epsilon, '26, who served the fraternity as executive secretary since 1954.

As executive director, Brother Dinsmore is responsible to the council for planning, direction, supervision and administration for the fraternity's operations and programs. He will continue to edit *The Saga* and other publications and assume responsibility for fiscal operations of the fraternity.

"These are exciting times and challenging times for everyone involved in higher education," said Dinsmore following his appointment. "As our colleges and universities increase in size and numbers, the opportunities fraternities provide become increasingly evident. I am proud to be closely associated with Sigma Tau Gamma during this important period of development."

*Note: Read about the life and accomplishments of Brother Keith Dinsmore on page 15.*



Keith C. Dinsmore at age 22.

## SAGA

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#### STAFF

Editor: William P. Bernier  
Assistant Editor: Brenna Seger  
Designer: Gail Greble  
Editor Emeritus: Robert E. Bernier

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Contact Us: Alumni and undergraduates are encouraged to submit news, stories and photos for publication in The SAGA. Submissions may be mailed to: Editor, P. O. Box 54, Warrensburg, MO 64093-0054, or may be submitted electronically to: [editor@sigmataugamma.org](mailto:editor@sigmataugamma.org).

Phone: 660-747-2222

Mail: P. O. Box 54

Warrensburg, MO 64093-0054

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FRATERNITY  
COMMUNICATIONS  
ASSOCIATION



## Respect and Brotherhood

*By Thomas Morgan, Esq., President-elect*

It is appropriate that we meet for the 45th Grand Chapter in Washington, D.C., our nation's capital, in 2012. This is the year when we elect our president and congress. It is a very politically charged time. Unfortunately, the political discourse in our country has never been nastier. If someone disagrees with you, the typical response is to demonize them and attack them personally. We seem to thrive on the politics of hate and personal destruction. That is something that has no place in the brotherhood of Sigma Tau Gamma. We must treat each other with respect and civility. We must be able to disagree and have differing opinions and beliefs and not view the other as an enemy. We should not attack each other's motives or character just because we have different views. We should not label them as bad people because they have different beliefs or values. We should celebrate our diversity. We should appreciate the fact we all come at things from different places and perspectives and are not a bunch of cookie-cutter clones. We must be able to say hard things to each other and not take it personally.

There are brothers with whom I have very different political views or religious beliefs. And yet we are still able to maintain our friendship and have deep respect for one another. For example, I am proud to work together with brothers of diverse opinions on board of directors projects for the common good of the fraternity. We can talk about hard things and not hate each other. We can take joy in the vibrancy of spirited debate while respecting differing positions and views. We should be committed to each other as brothers first, focusing on the common brotherhood we share, wanting only good things for each other as people, and place any differences as secondary or inconsequential.

This is how it should be. This is how fraternity brothers should treat each other. And, maybe, this is the opportunity for Sig Tau brothers to be good citizens and show leadership in our communities and country. As men of Sigma Tau Gamma, we should help set a new tone in our great and special country. We should welcome and engage in the freedom of our political dialog, but do so without disrespect and rancor. We should be the leaders we purport to be by setting the good example and treating others in the same way we treat our brothers. We should be the men and leaders who help raise the political tone and discourse in our great republic.

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### On the Cover:

The Epsilon Sigma Chapter at Southern Illinois University - Edwardsville with their Charter on March 30, 2012. The Chapter is pictured with several prominent members of the fraternity including: board of directors members **Richard Harguindeguy, Tom Morgan, D. W. Cole, Alyx Parker, Mike Ray, Jonathan Proehl** and **Jeff Russo**; Great Plains Regional Vice President **Jeremiah King**; Sigma Tau Gamma Executive Vice President **Bill Bernier**; Director of Expansion **Michael Smoll**; Alpha Chapter Alumni Association President **Sean Owens**; Mississippi Valley District Director **Bobby Slator**; Lakeland District Director **Erik Kahl**; Faculty Advisor **Bill Searcy** and **Chandler Vandenburg**.



## Alpha (University of Central Missouri)

Not only did the Alpha Chapter win Greek Week, they also were presented with the University of Central Missouri's 5-Star Award. This award is given to the most prestigious sorority and fraternity on campus and is the highest honor a chapter can receive on campus.

## Beta (Truman State University)

The Beta Chapter partnered with Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority for Truman State's Olympic-themed Greek Week. Beta took first place overall. **Brent Wildhaber**, '13, won Greek Week King, while the Sigma Sigma Sigma representative, Danielle West, won Greek Week Queen. They are both pictured holding the overall first place trophy. **3**

During Greek Week, the chapter raised more than \$1,100 for philanthropy, which was the most of any other team in the competition. Pictured is the Beta Chapter presenting a \$1,200 check to the Northeast Missouri Association for Citizens with Disabilities (NACD). For their efforts, the brothers of Beta received the NACD 2011-2012 Top Fund Raiser award. **2**

## Gamma Pi (Stephen F. Austin State University)

Gamma Pi hosted the first Sigma Tau Gamma and Stephen F. Austin Faculty Meet and Greet Banquet. Numerous administrators and faculty members attend the banquet hosted at the Sig Tau house. After a homemade meal prepared by one of the brothers, Gamma Pi gave a presentation on their achievements and future goals as a Sigma Tau Gamma Chapter. They also allowed time to chat with one another in order to build personal relationships between faculty and chapter members. **4 5**

## Gamma Phi PC (University of Southern Indiana)

The men of the Gamma Phi PC took part in community service as they cleaned up the city of Evansville, Ind. with Mayor Lloyd Winnecke. During Greek Week 2012, they took second place overall. The Gamma Phi PC earned the top GPA of all of the fraternities on campus this semester.

## Delta Pi (University Pittsburgh at Johnstown)

For the first time in Delta Pi history, Sig Tau was crowned the champions of Greek Week at the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown while placing within the top three in many events.

During the 2011-2012 Pitt-Johnstown Organizational Awards Ceremony, **Christian Woo**, '13, current executive vice president, won the Elite Mountain Car Award, which is given to an officer who shows unparalleled dedication and service to his organization. Also, former president, **Matt Ziance**, '13, was honored with the Junior Class Real World Action Program Award, which is the highest honor that any student can be

awarded at the university. Last year Matt won the award for the Sophomore class and followed it up this year by being the second student to win multiple times. **1**

## Delta Upsilon (Penn State Erie-The Behrend College)

Delta Upsilon organized a community service project to clean up a two-mile section of Station Road in Erie, Pa. that they adopted and have maintained for almost 20 years.

Delta Upsilon also hosted its annual "Undie Run" to support the United Way Foundation. This project won Delta Upsilon the Outstanding Individual Philanthropy Project in 2011. They were also awarded Most Improved Chapter of the Year (2011) and the 2011 Brotherhood Award.

## Epsilon Pi (The University at Buffalo-SUNY)

To help local charities in Buffalo, N.Y., Epsilon Pi participated in the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Buffalo News Kids' Day charity newspaper sale. Their volunteering efforts along with other University at Buffalo students helped raise \$4,745. The Epsilon Pi chapter stayed in the Buffalo area this summer to volunteer with the Special Olympics.

## Epsilon Rho (Salisbury University)

The Epsilon Rho chapter took top honors during Salisbury University's Greek Week by placing first overall. In the past three years, Epsilon Rho has placed first once and second twice during Greek Week.

## Epsilon Zeta (Embry Riddle Aeronautical University)

Brothers of the Epsilon Zeta Chapter volunteered at the Northern Arizona Special Olympics Area Games, a large scale event where athletes participated in running, javelin throw, shot put, and other events. An impressive 95 percent of Epsilon Zeta Chapter helped set up the arena, support the athletes, keep time and scores, and afterward, doing clean up. They also volunteered at the Wounded Warrior 5k run.



Brothers of the Epsilon Zeta Chapter take a break from volunteer work.



**1** Delta Pi celebrates being crowned the champions of Greek Week at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. **2** Beta Chapter presents a \$1,200 check to the Northeast Missouri Association for Citizens with Disabilities (NACD). **3** **Brent Wildhaber**, Beta '13, won Greek Week King, while the Sigma Sigma Sigma representative, **Danielle West**, won Greek Week Queen at Truman State. **4** Gamma Pi members with SFA faculty chatting after the meal. **5** Gamma Pi members and newly appointed faculty advisor, Dr. Joe Ballenger.





# EXPANSION

## FIVE NEW PROVISIONAL CHAPTERS ADDED DURING THE 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR



*The Sigma Tau Gamma Expansion Counselors, Derek Kaimann (left) and Paul Manly (right), finished a year of visiting provisional chapters around the country to provide resources, tools, and leadership. Of nine current provisional chapters, five were opened during the past school year: University of North Carolina-Charlotte, Winona State University, Purdue University, Florida Institute of Technology and University of Illinois. Each of the five new provisional chapters has had a successful start and are looking forward to the 2012-2013 school year.*

### UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA-CHARLOTTE

In August of 2011, the expansion counselors arrived in Charlotte, North Carolina to begin the team's first expansion project of the school year. UNC-Charlotte is a growing campus with approximately 20,000 undergraduate students. With their excitement for growing the Greek community, UNC-Charlotte serves as an excellent host campus to a new provisional chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma. By October, the provisional chapter was 38 members strong. Since its beginning, the provisional chapter has participated in Delta Zeta's Most Eligible Bachelor Contest, 49ers for Life Blood Drive, St. Peter's Soup Kitchen and Habitat for Humanity. Summer recruitment efforts are already underway as Recruitment Chairman **Conley Hicks**, '14, prepares this provisional chapter for a successful fall semester and earning its charter.

### PURDUE UNIVERSITY

This past spring semester at Purdue University, the expansion counselors recruited 62 founding fathers in seven weeks. The founding fathers hold leadership positions on campus such as Boiler Gold Rush orientation leaders and supervisors, club sports athletes, a Big 10 sports announcer and the Purdue mascot, as well as members of musical performance clubs and National Honor Societies. Since its beginning, Beta Theta provisional

chapter has participated in a campus blood drive, a stuffed animal drive and Alpha Phi Sorority's A-Phiesta, an event that supports the American Heart Foundation. The provisional chapter at Purdue University is primed and ready for fall recruitment with over 100 new names added to their names list.

### FLORIDA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Sigma Tau Gamma made waves in Florida this fall at the Florida Institute of Technology, where 22 founding fathers joined the Greek community to become the eighth fraternity on the campus. Active on the FIT campus, the founding fathers are also leaders on campus. The brothers are involved in many areas of campus leadership including service organizations, ROTC, academic societies, and varsity athletics. One of the founding fathers, **Victor Calderon**, '13, was also selected to participate in a summer internship at M.I.T., studying astrophysics. Victor is a triple major from Guatemala, studying math, physics, and astrophysics. This past spring, the provisional chapter has been hosting regular beach cleanups as volunteer work. They also competed in their first Greek Week as a member of the FIT Greek community.

### UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Alpha Chi returned to the University of Illinois this spring with a re-organization project led by the expansion counselors. Thirty-eight emerging campus leaders received the opportunity to become re-founding fathers of Alpha Chi. The founding fathers are made of a group of individuals that includes students from a wide array of academic disciplines and backgrounds. President **Bryan Foland**, '13, is excited to lead the provisional chapter in its first recruitment this fall. The Alpha Chi men had a summer retreat, which primarily focused on recruitment training and brotherhood development. The retreat helped prepare Alpha Chi for the upcoming school year.

### WINONA STATE UNIVERSITY

Sigma Tau Gamma returned to Winona State University in Winona, Minn. Originally chartered on May 7, 1960, Beta Xi was part of the Winona State fraternity and sorority community for 25 years. Last fall, student **Tim Comes**, '13, was interested in reopening Beta Xi on campus. Since its provisional chapter Installation Ceremony in February, the Beta Xi provisional chapter has grown tremendously this spring. This group of brothers has shown a tremendous appetite for excellence, and is eager to grow as leaders on their campus. The chapter already has over 20 members and is continuing to grow through their summer recruitment efforts as they work to re-charter Beta Xi.

*The Sigma Tau Gamma Staff has traveled to over 50 chapters during the 2012-2013 school year. To request a staff visit your chapter, contact the Fraternity Headquarters.*

Alpha	University of Central Missouri
Beta	Truman State University
Delta	Emporia State University
Epsilon	Pittsburg State University
Theta	Northwest Missouri State University
Iota	Kent State University
Sigma	University of Central Arkansas
Phi	Southeastern Louisiana University
Alpha Lambda	Concord University
Alpha Chi	University of Illinois
Alpha Psi	Pennsylvania State University
Beta Alpha	University of Missouri
Beta Gamma	Youngstown State University
Beta Iota	California University of Pennsylvania
Beta Kappa	University of Wisconsin-La Crosse
Beta Lambda	Valparaiso University
Beta Tau	Slippery Rock University
Beta Upsilon	Cleveland State University
Beta Chi	University of Nebraska at Kearney
Beta Omega	Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Gamma Theta	University of Missouri-St. Louis
Gamma Pi	Stephen F. Austin State University
Gamma Psi	Illinois State University
Delta Alpha	East Carolina University
Delta Epsilon	Texas State University- San Marcos
Delta Omicron	Christopher Newport University
Delta Pi	University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown
Delta Rho	Miami University
Delta Tau	Indiana State University
Delta Upsilon	Penn State Erie-The Behrend College
Delta Phi	Fitchburg State University
Epsilon Delta	University of Massachusetts-Lowell
Epsilon Theta	Plymouth State University
Epsilon Kappa	University of Massachusetts-Dartmouth
Epsilon Lambda	SUNY-Plattsburgh
Epsilon Mu	Marshall University
Epsilon Omicron	Monmouth University
Epsilon Pi	SUNY-Buffalo
Epsilon Rho	Salisbury University
Epsilon Sigma	Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville

## PROVISIONAL CHAPTER VISITS

Kappa PC	University of Wisconsin-Whitewater
Beta Mu PC	University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Beta Xi PC	Winona State University
Beta Theta PC	Purdue University
Gamma Phi PC	University of Southern Indiana
Florida Tech PC	Florida Institute of Technology
UNCC PC	University of North Carolina-Charlotte
Virginia Tech PC	Virginia Polytechnic Institute



## THE BETA LAMBDA CHAPTER: BACK ON TRACK

Originally chartered on Feb. 28, 1960, the Beta Lambda Chapter at Valparaiso University has been working diligently to regain excellence. This 15-man chapter has accomplished many of the goals they set for themselves at the beginning of the 2012 spring semester. With the help of Chapter Development Counselor **Josh Floyd**, Gamma Chi '11 (Michigan Technological University), who visited the chapter earlier this semester, Beta Lambda members have successfully improved their chapter through recruitment, campus leadership and their philanthropic work on campus.

The men of Beta Lambda started the spring semester as a six-man chapter with obtainable goals to reach by the end of the school year. One of their areas of improvement was recruitment. During Josh's visit, he presented the Phired Up names list document for the men to utilize. The names list document is an organizational tool they used to record and log the contacts they made throughout the week. It was also a visual goal tracker, as any of the members could check their weekly progress of meeting new members on Google Docs. They doubled their chapter size from six to 15 in one semester and also have an alumni advisor, **Justin Rhorer**, Gamma Chi '11 (Michigan Technological University).

The Beta Lambda Chapter is one of eight fraternities that are based on the Valparaiso University campus. With their numbers growing, they are accomplishing many tasks that were set before them. Among the eight fraternities, the Beta Lambda chapter had the highest fraternity GPA – 2.95. Along with scholastic achievement, they received the Most Improved Chapter award. For the upcoming school year, they have filled the chapter house for the first time in years.

After a successful spring recruitment, the men have hosted two philanthropy events, including a concert with five bands, raising money for local charities. The concert helped raise over \$350. The men also held a canned food drive that brought in over 800 cans for a local pantry.

The spring 2012 semester was successful for the provisional chapter. Beta Lambda has many things to look forward to in the coming fall semester with a full house, recruitment and striving to live up to their Most Improved Chapter award.



# EPSILON SIGMA RECEIVES CHARTER



**O**n Fri., March 30, 2012 Sigma Tau Gamma 36<sup>th</sup> National President **Richard Harguindeguy** presented the Epsilon Sigma charter to 46 men at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE). This is the first Sigma Tau Gamma Chapter ever chartered at this university.

In 2009, Sig Tau was invited to expand to the SIUE campus. Expansion Counselors **Ryan Binkley**, Gamma Alpha '10 (Mansfield University), and **Frank Vanco**, Gamma Psi '09 (Illinois State University) began on-campus recruitment efforts during the fall of 2010 with assistance from Phired Up Productions. As part of Sig Tau's national partnership with Phired Up, the SIUE expansion project was the third of 12 planned expansions through the year 2012. Since the establishment of this provisional chapter, the members have worked hard on leadership

and academics, consistently holding a GPA above the school's and the IFC's median GPA.

"Over the last two years, the collegiate members at SIUE have worked diligently to make the installation of Epsilon Sigma Chapter a reality," said Director of Expansion **Michael Smoll**, Delta '03 (Emporia State University). "They have become leaders on their campus and have placed a strong focus on maintaining high academic standards for their members."

On Thurs., March 29, the night before the installation ceremony, 11 associate members were initiated into the Fraternity. **Erik Kahl**, Beta Kappa '10 (University of Wisconsin-La Crosse), Lakeland district director and SIUE provisional chapter mentor, along with **Bill Searcy**, Beta '75 (Truman State University), alumnus and faculty advisor, led the Ceremony of Initiation.





*Left: The members of the Epsilon Sigma Chapter.*

*Top right (from left to right): 2011 Chapter President **Matt Korte**, '12, John Davenport, coordinator of Greek Life at SIUE, and 2012 Chapter President **Josh Menacher**.*

*Bottom right (from left to right): Board of Directors **Michael Ray**, D.W. Cole, **John Proehl**, **Richard Harguindeguy**, 2012 Chapter President **John Menacher**, Board of Directors; **Tom Morgan**, **Alxy Parker** and Executive Vice President **Bill Bernier**.*

*Pictures courtesy Erik Kahl*

“Throughout this time, the men of Epsilon Sigma have received tremendous support from numerous alumni members including Erik Kahl and Bill Searcy,” stated Brother Smoll. “The professional staff at SIUE has also supported us generously.”

As part of the installation ceremony, the chapter hosted a banquet dinner the night of the ceremony on the SIUE campus which included awards and guest speakers. Family, friends, alumni, the chapter's White Rose Sweetheart, and Sigma Tau Gamma Executive Vice President **Bill Bernier** and **Michael Smoll** attended the event.

The Board of Directors was hosting its biannual meeting in St. Louis the same weekend, which allowed many of the members to attend as well. Present board members included: Richard Harguindeguy, **Tom Morgan**, **D. W. Cole**, **Alyx Parker**,

**Mike Ray**, **Jonathan Proehl** and **Jeff Russo**. Other notable alumni that attended included: Great Plains Regional Vice President **Jeremiah King**, Mississippi Valley District Director **Bobby Slater**, Alpha Chapter Alumni Association President **Sean Owens**, Lakeland District Director Erik Kahl, Faculty Advisor Bill Searcy and **Chandler Vandenburg**.

The keynote speaker at the event was **John Davenport**, Coordinator of Greek Life for the university. Other speakers included Provisional Chapter President **Josh Menacher**, Bill Searcy, Jeremiah King and Bill Bernier.

“Sigma Tau Gamma is still very grateful for the invitation to expand to the SIUE campus,” added Smoll. “We look forward to our continued partnership and the progress of Epsilon Sigma.”



**S**igma Tau Gamma is honored to introduce the expansion and chapter development counselors for the 2012-2013 school year. The expansion counselors work to recruit high performing student leaders to become the foundation of Sigma Tau Gamma's newest provisional chapters. Chapter development counselors travel around the country throughout the school year, directly interacting with collegiate members, alumni volunteers and campus-based professionals through campus visits.

#### **Alex William, Delta Alpha '12 (East Carolina University)**

The recipient of the Sigma Tau Gamma's 2011 Stan Musial/Eric Hillman Sportsmanship Award, Alex was the key re-founding father to the Delta Alpha Chapter. He served as the chapter president and the vice president of finance. Alex participated in numerous organizations on campus such as the Student Government Association (SGA) Senate and the Resident Hall Association (RHA). He was also member of the ECU National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH) chapter. In spring 2011, Alex attended the Greek Emerging Leaders Program representing ECU. Alex was a member of the ECU coed cheerleading team and the ECU club wrestling team.

#### **Derek Kaimann, Beta '10 (Truman State University)**

At Beta, Derek served as chapter historian, executive secretary and New Member Educator. He was active with the Student Activities Board and Amnesty International while attending Truman. He is the recipient of the President's Recognition Award for scoring above the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile on the national senior exams in his major. The 2012-2013 school year marks the second year as an expansion counselor for Derek. As an expansion counselor, Derek has attended 2011 Strategic Leadership Conference and facilitated sessions at the 2011 Pittsburg State Fraternal

Leadership Summit, and was the featured session presenter on values-based recruitment at the 2011 Florida Tech Four Pillars Leadership Symposium.

#### **Paul Manly, Epsilon Rho '11 (Salisbury University)**

As the founding father of Epsilon Rho in 2010, Paul has served as the chapter president and the vice president of membership. In 2011 he was an Ellsworth C. Dent "Man-of-the-Year" finalist and attended the Earl A. Webb Academy for Principled Leaders, the 44<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter and the Atlantic Coast Regional Conclave. Paul served as the NCAA athletics public address announcer all four years at Salisbury University and was also a sports information student worker there. This is Paul's second year as an expansion counselor. In the past year, he has traveled to many universities including the Purdue University initiation, which he helped charter. As a member of the Sigma Tau Gamma field staff, Paul participated in the Durward W. Owen Risk Management College, the Phired Up Co-op, North/South Carolina FEA Drive-In, Strategic Leadership Conference in San Antonio and the Cal U Greek Life Summit.

#### **Josh Floyd, Gamma Chi '11 (Michigan Technologic University)**

Josh served as Gamma Chi's vice president of finance and ritual chair. He worked as the CEO of the International Business Ventures Enterprise, and was a member of was a member of Kappa Sigma Iota, the accounting club at Michigan Technologic University. A chapter development counselor since Jan., 2012, Josh has participated in many Regional Conclaves, the 44<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter and the Earl C. Webb Academy of Principled Leaders. During this time, he has visited 27 chapters across the nation.



**Joseph Lizza**, CSM, Epsilon Omicron '05 (Monmouth University), was named by the Greater Atlantic City Jaycees and *Atlantic City Weekly* as one of its region's Top 40 Under 40. Brother Lizza is the assistant director of campus center operations and programs at The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree in education, and is currently pursuing his doctorate at Rowan University. He was recently also named Outstanding Professional by the National Association for Campus Activities.

During his collegiate days, he was the president and executive vice president of his chapter. He was also a Ellsworth C. Dent "Man of the Year" finalist and Roskens Scholar. He previously served Sig Tau as a regional vice president and alumni advisor.

**Michael Dittrich**, Alpha Phi '99 (Southeast Missouri State University), is assistant principal of Hancock Place Elementary School in St. Louis, Mo. He recently received several awards recognizing his extraordinary dedication to his community and improving academics.



Michael Dittrich

Brother Dittrich was recognized as the Outstanding Assistant Principal of the Year from the St. Louis Suburban Area Elementary Principals Association. He also was selected as the Missouri Elementary Assistant Principal of the Year. He attended Southeast Missouri State's commencement ceremony where he received recognition as the College of Education 2012 Young Alumni of Merit.

"Sigma Tau Gamma was instrumental in growing me into a man that values service to the community, thirst for knowledge, and valuing individual talents of others," said Dittrich. "The Principles of Sigma Tau Gamma serve as a foundation for the decisions I make concerning my staff and students every day."

Dittrich served as the vice president of membership and fraternal educator of the Alpha Phi Chapter. He will soon begin a new position in the Maplewood Richmond Heights School District.

**Erik Deckers**, Omicron '89 (Ball State University), owns a blogging and social media agency in Indianapolis. His company, which he has owned for three years, handles blogging and content marketing, helps with search engine optimization and manages social media presence for clients all over the country. Within the last few years, he published two books including *Branding Yourself: How to Use Social Media to Invent or Reinvent Yourself*.

Brother Deckers graduated with his bachelor's degree in 1989 and received his master's in 1990. He lives with his wife and three children in the Indianapolis area.



John and Patricia Cobb honored with a scholarship established in their names.

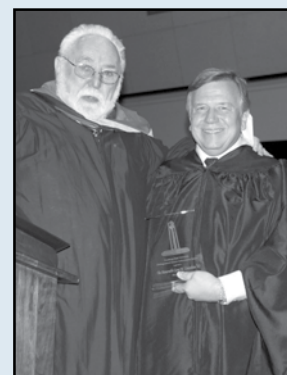
**John Cobb**, Mu '54 (Southeastern Oklahoma State University) and wife Patricia were honored by Southeastern with a scholarship established in their name to benefit students attending the university. The John G. Cobb and Patricia J. Cobb Leadership Scholarship honors their dedication to the university over the past 25 years.

## Two Beta Pi Brothers Recognized as Distinguished Alumni

**Gene Counihan**, Beta Pi '63, and **Jeff Fegan**, Beta Pi '76, were honored with the 2012 Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award from Frostburg State University. This is one of the most prestigious awards FSU alumni can receive.

Brother Counihan is a founding father of the Beta Pi Chapter and helped establish a fraternity scholarship for the chapter. Counihan is a former three-term Maryland State Delegate, a board member of the Universities at Shady Grove and is a commissioner and vice chairman of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission. In addition, he also had a 30-year tenure with Montgomery County schools in Maryland as a teacher and an administrator.

Brother Fegan is a member of the FSU Foundation Board and is CEO of the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport Board since 1994. Fegan is a past chairman of the Board of Directors of Airport Council International - North America. After earning his master's degree in city planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology, he went on to complete the Stanford Executive Program at Stanford University.



Gene Counihan with Al Martin, President of the Frostburg State University Alumni Association.

# Leadership is the 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter Theme

The Principle of Leadership is the theme of the 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter Aug. 2-5, 2012 in Washington, D.C. The biennial Grand Chapter brings together alumni and collegiate leaders over a four-day weekend (Thursday to Sunday) to elect the fraternity's national officers, consider legislation and learn about the Fraternity's programs, challenges and opportunities.

"With Sigma Tau Gamma meeting in our nation's capital in an election year, it seemed appropriate to focus on the Principle of Leadership," commented **Richard Harguindeguy**, 36<sup>th</sup> national president. Harguindeguy will preside over the meeting.

The DoubleTree Hotel at Crystal City in Arlington, Va. is the host property. "We selected the DoubleTree because it is economical, offers easy access to Reagan National Airport, has ample parking and is conveniently located near the Metro for access to all area attractions," said Executive Vice President **Bill Bernier**.

## Honoring Our Finest

Sigma Tau Gamma will honor all brothers living and deceased who have served in our nation's armed forces with a memorial excursion to Arlington National Cemetery. "We thought that there could be no more important activity than honoring those brothers who best exemplify the Principle of Benefit with their service," said Foundation President **Michael D. Schermer**. Memorial ceremonies will focus on the two Sigma Tau Gamma recipients of the Medal of Honor, both of whom are buried at Arlington. They are **Carlos C. Ogden**, Alpha Alpha '40 (Eastern Illinois University) who served in the U.S. Army in World War II, and **James A. Graham**, Beta Pi '63, (Frostburg State University), who served in the U.S. Marine Corps. and died in Vietnam in 1967.



## Sig Tau Expo

The Sig Tau Expo at the 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter will introduce participants to the wide variety of programs available to help chapter leaders build stronger and more rewarding brotherhood experiences. Chapter leaders, both undergraduate and alumni, should first consider their programming needs. Does the chapter need improved recruitment? Visit the Dynamic Recruitment booth at the Expo. Does the chapter need to improve its academic performance?

The Scholarship Programming, Roskens Scholastic Achievement Awards, and Chapter Heritage Funds booths will all help. You get the idea. Delegates are unlikely to learn all they need to know during this 90-minute Expo, but they will learn what is available and how to access more programming support.

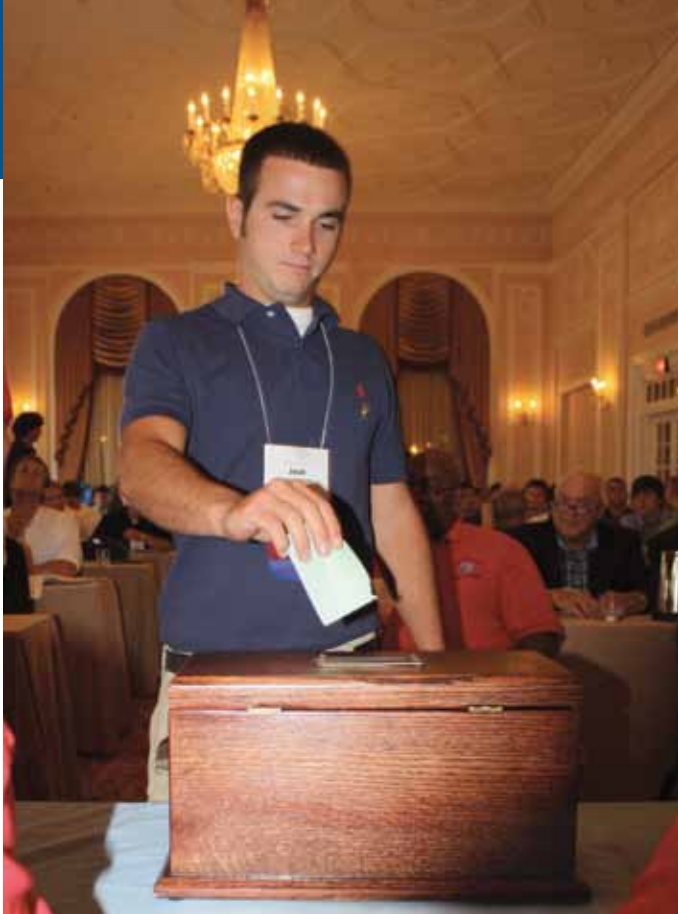
## House of Delegates

Undergraduate leaders representing their college chapters, and alumni leaders representing alumni associations, will gather in the House of Delegates to conduct important fraternity business. Perhaps the most important business item is the election of the national president-elect. **Jonathan Proehl**, Gamma Nu '99 (University of Wisconsin-River Falls) and **Alyx Parker**, Alpha Chi '97 (Illinois State University) are current board members and candidates for this office. One of these two dedicated brothers will serve for two years as president-elect, and then be installed as the 38<sup>th</sup> national president in 2014.

The delegates will also elect four brothers to the four member-at-large positions on the board for two-year terms. There are eight brothers on the national board: president, president-elect, four members-at-large, and two past presidents.







Finally, the delegates will consider and act upon any proposed legislation that would amend the constitution and/or laws, or establish fraternity policy through a resolution.

### **Roskens to Deliver Keynote**

Dr. **Ronald W. Roskens**, Alpha Eta '53 (University of Northern Iowa) will offer the 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter keynote address at the Friday evening banquet. Brother Roskens presided over the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grand Chapter in 1970 as our 15<sup>th</sup> national president. He is an internationally recognized leader who served as the director of the U. S. Agency for International Development (USAID) in the **George H. W. Bush** administration. Roskens came to that office after leading the University of Nebraska system as president and the University of Nebraska-Omaha as chancellor. He is one of just two Sigma Tau Gamma members to receive the Gold Medal of the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), the highest inter-fraternal recognition for service and leadership. He is a recipient of the Sigma Tau Gamma Distinguished Achievement Award, a Wilson C. Morris Fellow and a Society of the Seventeen honoree.

### **Sigma Tau Gamma – A Party You Can Support**

The 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter opening event pays whimsical attention to our nation's presidential politics with the theme, Sigma Tau Gamma – A Party You Can Support. All Grand Chapter participants will enjoy a delicious dinner while listening to the State of the Fraternity Address by President Harguindeguy. Brothers from across the nation will meet and greet one another in a casual and fun filled atmosphere. Chapter delegates will apply for certification of their voting credentials. The Wilson C. Morris Fellowship of honored donors to the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation will gather.

### **And The Award Goes To...**

Throughout the 45<sup>th</sup> Grand Chapter, many brothers and chapters will be honored with awards and recognized for their great contributions to their Fraternity. The Ellsworth C. Dent "Man of the Year," National White Rose Sweetheart, Musial/Hillman Sportsmanship Award and Michael J. Steinbeck Fellowship are among the most coveted individual awards. The Edward H. McCune Distinguished Chapter Award leads the list of top chapter awards.

### **Our Nation's Capitol**

Many undergraduate and alumni participants will experience Washington, D.C. for the first time. In addition to the principal visit to Arlington National Cemetery, they will have the opportunity to visit some of our nation's most historic landmarks. By convenient access via the Metro our members will find the Capitol, White House, Smithsonian Institution, and many memorials. There is no better way to visit our nation's capital than with fraternity brothers.



Due to limited space, the Chapter Eternal will not feature complete obituaries for every member. To see the extended obituaries of each brother listed below, visit: [www.sigmataugamma.org/chaptereternal](http://www.sigmataugamma.org/chaptereternal). To submit a Chapter Eternal entry, please email [editor@sigmataugamma.org](mailto:editor@sigmataugamma.org).

## Alpha Omicron (SUNY Osewgo)

- Charles Sixour, '53, May 18, 2012

## Alpha Pi (Wayne State University)

- James Davidson, Jr., '55, October 13, 2011

## Beta (Truman State University)

- Beryl Cragg, '56, April 5, 2012

## Beta Mu (University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh)

- Paul Bebeau, '72, February 10, 2012

## Beta Gamma (Youngstown State University)

- Anthony Gioppo, '67, April 24, 2012

## Delta (Emporia State University)

- Dr. Melvin L. Winters, '48, April 21, 2012

## Omega (Missouri State University)

- Elliott (Lucky) Knox, '51, September 9, 2011

## Rho (Buffalo State-SUNY)

- Rollin George Vogan, '43, February 21, 2012

## Phi (Southeastern Louisiana University)

- Anthony Leon Golemi Jr. '67, May 26, 2012

- Burton "Buddy" Himbert, '71, May 16, 2012

## Chi (Western Michigan University)

- Charles H. Ludlow, '50, on May 8, 2012

## Remembering Keith C. Dinsmore

**Keith C. Dinsmore**, NMF, Beta '65 (Truman State University), joined Chapter Eternal on April 5, 2012. He was 69 years old. Brother Dinsmore served Sigma Tau Gamma as the editor of the *SAGA*, Executive Director, and 21st National President. Brother Dinsmore was born on July 21, 1943 in Fremont, Iowa. He graduated from Fremont High School in 1961 where he played basketball and baseball. He was a lifelong fan of both sports.

Keith attended Truman (then Northeast Missouri State University) where he was editor of the *Index* student newspaper and the sports editor of the *Echo* yearbook all four years. He also worked at the *Kirkville Daily Express*, where at 20 years old, he was the youngest sports editor of a daily newspaper in the nation.

Keith joined the Sigma Tau Gamma staff as the editor of *The SAGA of Sigma Tau Gamma* in 1966. A year later, at age 22, he became the executive director of Sigma Tau Gamma, the youngest chief staff officer of any national fraternity. In the seven years he worked as the executive director, he initiated an annual fund raising program, created an extensive network of volunteer leaders, launched an ambitious expansion program, chartered many alumni chapters and was an important part of creating the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation. Keith was an advocate for purchasing the founding site of the fraternity that lead to the building of the headquarters.

Brother Dinsmore wrote and edited the membership manual, *A Chain of Honor*, thereby elevating the quality and consistency of new member/pledge education programs throughout the fraternity. He also supervised the creation of the fraternity's first national membership database and edited the first national

membership directory. This critical accomplishment made alumni support of the annual fund possible.

In 1976 Keith was elected to the Fraternity Board of Directors. He became the fraternity's 21st national president in 1980. During his term Sigma Tau Gamma launched Project PITCH, our first \$1 million capital campaign. He was also involved in the establishment of the Wilson C. Morris Fellowship, honoring significant donors.

Keith left the fraternity staff in 1973 to establishing Dinsmore Publishing Co. in Iowa. In 1978 he was honored by Truman State University as its Outstanding Alumnus in Communications. Keith was also active in Democratic Party politics and worked for four presidential candidates along with candidates for governor, senator and mayors in St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo.

While leading at the national level, Keith never failed to serve his chapter as well. He edited the first Beta Chapter alumni directory in 1966 and chapter history a year later. Also in 1967, Keith was instrumental in the founding of the Goetze Educational Foundation, which provides annual scholarships for chapter members.

Less than a year before he died, Keith worked tirelessly to create a new Beta Chapter directory. Collaborating with Beta Chapter alumni association leaders, Keith helped organize Beta Chapter's 90th anniversary celebration. Later that summer, Keith was present at the 2011 Strategic Leadership Conference in San Antonio, Texas to see the Beta Alumni Association win the Alumni Association of the Year Award for its work on the 90th reunion. This was a fitting cap for Keith whose life was dedicated to Sigma Tau Gamma.



## A Tribute from Past President Barlow:

*"Keith embraced and chronicled the heritage and traditions of our fraternity as no other among us ever has. Historian, biographer, story teller – his knowledge of all people and things Sigma Tau Gamma was unrivaled. His dogged determination, insatiable curiosity and mastery of the written word, honed through decades spent as a newspaperman, enabled him to document, reveal and share our collective journey through books, manuals and archival organization. In addition to his warmth and gentle soul, for me Keith's eternal legacy will be the beautiful tapestry of our brotherhood that he was such an integral and unforgettable part of."*

**W.P. "Buz" Barlow, Jr., DMF**  
**20th National President**  
**Society of the Seventeen**



**1** Keith Dinsmore (right) with mentor **Basil Hunt**, '58, Beta, circa 1982. **2** Keith Dinsmore (right) with **W.P. Barlow, Jr.**, '67, Beta Mu. **3** Keith Dinsmore (right) with his successor as the Fraternity's chief staff officer, **William P. Bernier**, Iota '71, at the Beta Chapter 90th Reunion in 2011. **4** From left to right: **Max McGowan**, Beta '63, 25th National President, Keith Dinsmore and **Ollin J. Drennan**, Beta '46, 11th National President, circa 1990.



# Sigma Tau Gamma Fraternity

P. O. Box 54  
Warrensburg, MO 64093-0054

## Foundation News

### Welcome from Your Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation

We have many exciting things planned in the near future ... more on that later.

First and foremost, a very big "Thank You" to those who made contributions during the last year, in both financial contributions and service. I hope you had the time to review the spring 2012 issue of the *SAGA* in which we chronicled those undergraduates and alumni who exemplified the Principle of Benefit by engaging in numerous service projects. We also identified those brothers who made financial contributions to our foundation.



The donor issue is important because it provides us with the opportunity to recognize our donors. If you are like me, I like to look through the list to see those who have given, especially those from my own chapter. During the last year, we have obtained gifts from 74 new donors. This is a very nice increase in number of donors and percentage from last year. I often wonder what I could do to increase the number of donors from my own chapter.

The foundation will soon provide you with an opportunity to help in this effort. At the 45th Grand Chapter in our nation's capitol, we will be announcing a campaign to raise funds that will enhance the benefit of belonging. We will unveil some ways in which you may assist brothers in your chapter, in your region and nationally, to participate in programs that will be of value to them as brothers and in their community after graduation.

These are exciting times. In spite of the economic conditions facing our country, we see a continued commitment to our efforts from our loyal donors. We also see more alumni brothers stepping forward to assist the fraternity in accomplishing its mission. We hope that we will be able to engage many more alumni in this endeavor.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have ideas or suggestions.

Fraternally,  
*Michael Schermer*  
*President, Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation, Inc.*

### Donating is Simple

Has Sigma Tau Gamma made a positive difference in your life? If it has, then give back. Pay it forward and allow this new generation of men to be afforded the same opportunity you once experienced when you were just beginning your journey.

Visit us online at [www.sigmataugamma.org](http://www.sigmataugamma.org) to learn more (click on Donate in the bottom right corner).