eye ON XI
SIGMA CHI, XI CHAPTER I JULY 2010

Xi Chapter, brothers bring home Greek awards

Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi was honored with several awards and nominations at the Order of Omega and Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life awards ceremony held in April.

The chapter received the following awards.
Outstanding Chapter President: Andrew Emhardt '10
Greek Man of the Year: Brendan Belz '10
Chapter of the Year

Sigma Chi received the following nominations.
Rising Greek Leader (eligible only to sophomore students): Tyler Giesting '12

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Xi brothers at State Day on February 27.

stay connected
ALUMNI WEBSITE

Have you logged onto the Xi alumni website recently? If not, what are you waiting for? Reconnect with your brothers, search by career or location, view photos from recent events, and more at **www.xisigs.org.**

"A Sig I am, a Sig I'll be, a Sig for all eternity!"

The following is a message from David Smith '67. Reach him at 3345 Ledgestone Ct., Ft. Collins, CO 80528; or dsmith1491@aol.com.

Recently, I was in Wal-Mart wearing my Sig hat (of course) and a young guy came up to me, put out his hand and gave me the "grip." He's a Sig from Long Beach State who was here for spring break and some serious skiing. What a fun world!

Though rambling and definitely too wordy, I offer this collection of thoughts about my experience with Sigma Chi to any Sig who is now or has been a part of Xi Chapter.

First, I wish to heartily congratulate the active chapter for creating and, hopefully, maintaining the web site for many years to come. Also, giant kudos for creating and producing a classy, informative newsletter which—as the owner of a small marketing firm—I know is a truly effective method of keeping in touch.

As for me, I still relish my years in the house at DePauw (which, in 1963, was still the "new" ski lodge on campus). Following graduation, I received a "MacNamara scholarship" for an all-expenses-paid, fun trip to Vietnam—first as an infantry platoon leader, and then as a company commander. Once back home, I took my Purple Hearts and my bitterness about the stupid war, and took them with me in a brand-new, paid-for sports car on an infamous

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Darrin Hinkel '10, Tim Nicholson '10, Michael Reed '10, Michael Ratliff '10, Brendan Belz '10, and Andy Spataro '10 show some Xi spirit atop Machu Picchu during their winter term trip to South America.

Sig seniors head south for winter term

Over the winter term, brothers Brendan Belz '10, Andy Spataro '10, Darrin Hinkle '10, Michael Reed '10, Michael Ratliff '10, and Tim Nicholson '10 had the opportunity to travel to South America, visiting the countries of Argentina, Uruguay, and Peru. Since all the participants had completed their obligations to DePauw, the group had much freedom in determining their itinerary and daily schedule. Throughout the whole trip, the brothers enjoyed the warm South American summer season. The climate was a primary driver of the decision to visit the area, and the brothers enjoyed 80 degree weather throughout the trip, a far cry from wintry Greencastle.

The first stop on the trip was the metropolis of Buenos Aires, Argentina. Through extensive and thoughtful planning beforehand, the brothers had hostels reserved in every city, only needing to catch a taxi upon arrival. Several days were spent exploring Buenos Aires, a city with over three million inhabitants. The group toured several neighborhoods, including "La Boca," the arts district known for its brightly colored houses. Several of the brothers commented on the European feel of the city, and several also spent an afternoon enjoying the extensive parks in the Palermo district. One highlight of the time in city was going to the hippodrome. Though it took time to decipher the Argentine betting structure, the group eventually was able to pick several winners.

After leaving Buenos Aires, the group proceeded to visit the capital of Uruguay—Montevideo—and then ventured on to the tiny peninsula of Punta del Este. Known as "the Hamptons of the Southern Hemisphere," the brothers will remember this destination for its sandy beaches, excellent seafood, and beautiful scenery. Though real estate in the area is valuable, the group managed to find a hostel one block from the beach for only $25 per night. Beach football and general relaxation filled the days, and brothers reveled in the legendary nightlife. A popular destination for the jet set, Punta del Este proved to be one of the favorite stops on the trip. As soon as the brothers departed, talks of planning a return trip immediately began.

After taking a ferry back across the Rio de la Plata, a flight carried the group to the third country on the tour, Peru. Following a short stay in the capital city of Lima, the brothers boarded a flight to Cusco, the sacred city of the Incas and the jumping off point for the trek to Machu Picchu. Upon reaching Cusco the group took several days to relax and adjust to the high mountain climate (the city's elevation is 10,800 feet). This allowed time to study Incan history as well as peruse the local markets. The group was fortunate enough to have a view from their hillside hostel that looked out over the city and the surrounding landscape.

Thankful for the opportunity to rest and prepare, the brothers next began their trek on the Inca Trail. By planning the trip several months in advance, the brothers were able to hike the classic Inca Trail, a 500-year-old footpath known throughout the world for its beauty and historical significance. The trek afforded countless beautiful views and unforgettable memories for all those who were involved. The brothers were joined by travelers from Australia, Great Britain, and Wisconsin, as well as the charismatic and knowledgeable guide, Saul. Despite the steady precipitation due to the rainy season, the group reached Machu Picchu on time and was in awe of the wonders of the "lost city." Words fail to describe this experience, but the brothers did capture one moment, flashing the Xi symbol together for the obligatory photograph *(see above)*. Upon returning to Cusco, brothers joined other members of the trekking group for a night of celebration.

The group returned home safely, prior to the landslides and flooding that struck the region only a few days later. The trip totaled over three weeks a will be forever remembered by those involved. The legacy may continue, as a group of juniors is investigating a similar trip for next year. The wealth of cultural knowledge acquired and the bonds of friendship that were renewed on this trip will remain as some of our fondest memories.

Brendan Belz '10, Darrin Hinkel '10,
Tim Nicholson '10, Michael Ratliff '10,
Michael Reed '10, and Andy Spataro '10

A note from our house mother

Hello to Xi Chapter alumni,

First of all, let me introduce myself. I retired as a high-school social studies teacher after 25 years on the job. I have lived in Greencastle since 1983, am married, and have two daughters and two grandchildren. My husband's family has a long history with both Greencastle and DePauw. His father grew up here, and we have numerous relatives who have attended DePauw. Both my husband, Steve, and one of our daughters are DePauw alumni. Also, my husband has been the chapter adviser for Phi Delta Theta for the past 23 years. So, as you can see, I am not a newcomer to either DePauw or the fraternity system.

I was asked to write a reflection of my first year as the house mother of Xi Chapter. Two sayings come to mind in reflecting back over my initial experience as a house mom: "It's been a rich learning experience," and there has been a "sharp learning curve" on my part.

Generally, the young men have been very accepting of my being here. This chapter has been without a house mother for ten years, so there has been some adjustment on the part of the guys. I'm still working on "no hats in the dining room" and requiring them to wear shirts at meals. They sometimes forget, but are very willing to abide by my requests once reminded.

One of my main focuses this year has been to help coordinate special occasions with the officers, the house corporation, and the parents' club. We held two very successful scholarship dinners, one in the fall and one in the spring. Then there was Family Weekend in September, and the big 150th anniversary celebration in October. At the time of this writing, graduation and Alumni Reunion Weekend are fast approaching.

One area of my attention (and that of the house corporation) has been the general upkeep and cleanliness of the main floor. This will be an ongoing project, as we all know the Sigma Chis are an amiable group, and they like to party.

I have also tried to help Paula, the cook, in her quest to feed and nourish the guys. Good cooks are hard to find, so anything I can do to keep her happy will be returned to us in good meals and good humor.

During the school year, I attended a number of the house director meetings, exchanging ideas with other house mothers and being a contact with the Greek affairs office.

I have saved the best for last: The most rewarding part of my job this year has been forming relationships with the young men of Xi Chapter. I look forward to my meals with them, getting to know them, challenging their assumptions, offering advice, helping with their concerns, and discussing timely events. These are some of the same things I did as a teacher. I see my position here as an extension of my teaching career, though in a different fashion.

In closing, I must thank the past Xi president, Andy Emhardt '10, and present president, David Hanger '11, for working with me this first year. Their dedication to this chapter runs deep. These two young men are a credit to their chapter as well as to the university, and they will be an asset to any future community. Also, I need to acknowledge both Lou Hensley '77 and Ivan Hoffman '01 of the house corporation, and Xi Chapter adviser Kyle Danforth '05. All have offered much guidance, suggestions, and support.

To Xi Chapter alumni, I look forward to meeting you on your next visit to DePauw and Xi Chapter.

Kathryn D. Jones
House Mother



Here, a handful of brothers gather around each other to dance to a particular song. "It's awesome, every time that song comes on, we circle up together and you can feel the energy in the room." — Will Catton '11

UNDERGRADUATE
officers

PRESIDENT
David Hanger '11
davidhanger88@gmail.com

VICE PRESIDENT
Steven Schleibaum '11
stevenschleibaum_2011 @depauw.edu

ANNOTATOR
Michael Reed '10

TREASURER
Connor Stallings '12
connorstallings_2012 @depauw.edu

NEW MEMBER EDUCATORS
Nick Kennedy '10
Michael Reed '10

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR
Ryan Berra '12

PHILANTHROPY CHAIR
Logan Meek '12

ALUMNI RELATIONS CHAIR
Matt Maloof '12
matthewmaloof_2012 @depauw.edu

HOUSE MANAGER
Nathan Cummins '12

RISK MANAGERS
Tyler Giesting '12
Marcus Berglund '12
Peter Haigh '12

SOCIAL CHAIRS
Brendan Belz '10
Ryan Bauer '11
Alex Kriegshauser '11

SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI
Meredith Haag

recruitment memo

Over the past few years, the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life has conducted surveys during each round of recruitment. The data, released this past April, shows larger trends in the fraternity recruitment process, but it's also helped the Xi Chapter to better plan for recruitment in the future. The full report and Sigma Chi-specific feedback can be seen on our website at **www.xisigs.org.**

Philanthropy update

During the spring semester, Xi Chapter had great success in philanthropy. The highlight was raising $8,000 through alumni and parent support for this year's Derby Days. Derby Days is our annual philanthropy, which builds campus unity and philanthropic spirit through intersorority competition. The week of events includes a flag football tournament, a scavenger hunt, a dance competition, and an auction where sororities can buy a date with the new pledge class.

The combined dance competition and date auction is always a highlight of Derby Days. This event is held in Meharry Hall, allowing most of campus to come together, and it features a speaker from our Derby Days beneficiary, Riley Children's Hospital. With our donation to Riley this year, we have now been able to donate $24,000 to the hospital since 2007. It is through the help of Xi alumni and parents that this is possible.

In addition to the successful Derby Days, Xi Chapter was also given the award for best philanthropic endeavors by the DePauw Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life. The office commended Xi Chapter for the example it sets on campus through superior philanthropy.

The brothers of Xi led the way this semester by winning Alpha Phi sorority's philanthropy, "King of Hearts." This event benefits the American Heart Association. We also had a strong showing at DePauw's Relay for Life, which raised $125,000 to fight cancer. Chris McGuire '10, who was a primary organizer for this event for the fourth year in a row, was recognized at the Xi spring scholarship dinner for his efforts. Also worthy of recognition is Patrick Ledwidge '13; Patrick played a fundamental part in this spring's philanthropic efforts as the new pledge class philanthropy chair.



Chris McGuire '10, Connor Stallings '12, Tyler Giesting '12, and Logan Meek '12 stop to take a picture. (They were in Germany for their winter term.)

As the school year closes, our chapter looks forward to its plans for philanthropy in the future. Philanthropy is of the utmost importance to our chapter. It is an opportunity to build brotherhood in the chapter while living out our fraternity's values. Surely the best is yet to come for Xi philanthropy.

Logan Meek '12

Xi Chapter, brothers bring home Greek awards

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Inspiring Greek Leader (eligible only to junior students): David Hanger '11

Xi brothers also received the following recognitions at this year's Academic Awards Convocation.

Phi Beta Kappa Honorary Society Initiates: Darrin Hinkel '10, Nicholas Kennedy '10, Nicholas Laird '10, Michael Ratliff '10
R. Stanley Lawton Jr. Prize: Nicholas Laird '10
Chi Alpha Sigma Initiate (national college athlete honor society): Evan Hunter '10
Men's Hall Alumni Association Achievement Scholarship: David Hanger '11
Theodore Englehart Scholarship: Nicholas Laird '10
John Ditter Award: Nicholas Laird '10
Phi Alpha Theta Initiate (national honor society for history): Andrew Spartaro '10
Alpha Kappa Delta Initiate (national sociology honorary society): David Dietz '11
Lambda Alpha Initiate (national collegiate honor society for anthropology): Bradley Hilbrich '10
Phi Lambda Upsilon Initiates (chemistry honorary society): Zachary Berndsen, Darrin Hinkel '10
Sigma Pi Sigma Initiate (national physics honor society): Steven Schleibaum '11
2009–2010 Management Fellows Program Graduates: Brendan Belz '10, Jordan Havercamp '10, Evan Hunter '10, Nicholas Kennedy '10, Nicholas Laird '10, Timothy Nicholson '10
2009–2010 Media Fellows Program Graduate: Michael Ratliff '10
2009–2010 Science Research Fellows Program Graduates: Darrin Hinkel '10, Graham Williams '10
Information Technology Associates Program David B. Becker Fellows: Brendan Belz '10, Graham Williams '10
J. William Fulbright Fellowship Applicant: Bradley Hilbrich '10



Brothers and friends celebrating at State Day.

"A Sig I am, a Sig I'll be, a Sig for all eternity!"

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three-month road trip across America and Canada, which ended up in Arizona.

I was still very proud to be a Sig, and I found myself eagerly volunteering my time to help other Sig active and alumni chapters. I always found it slightly amazing that most Sigs I ran into knew of Xi Chapter through workshops, etc., or that Xi had won so many Peterson Awards, or simply the fact that we were one of the oldest chapters.

1971: Epsilon Upsilon Chapter
I visited the Sig house at Arizona State for an alum cocktail party, and later was asked to help design and implement a fundraising campaign for new house furniture. The chapter did not seem to feel very friendly to me, but I donated my time as a favor to the consul and famous Sig alum and Baseball Hall of Famer Jim Palmer (no kidding, he really asked me to help).

1972–73: Beta Phi Chapter
After moving to Tucson, I met a Sig at my new job who got me involved in the University of Arizona chapter, which was having serious attitude and disciplinary problems. At the time, it was a great party house for those who just wanted to party. I helped the chapter put on their "Greek Olympics" portion of campus Derby Days. I wasn't shocked to later learn that the chapter was kicked off campus in 1973, reinstated in 1977, canned again in 2003, and reinstated in 2009.

1973–84: Zeta Chi Chapter
I moved to Las Vegas (still single and jazzed about this new location). When locals call Vegas "the real national zoo," they're not kidding.

I spotted a tiny classified ad in the paper about a Sigma Chi alum get-together (in a bar, of course), and I met some Sigs who all became great friends, especially one from Wisconsin and one from Nebraska.

The chapter was fairly new, which means it had few alumni to lean on. UNLV is spread all over Vegas, and the Zeta Chi house wasn't near any other Greek house. It was right out of "Animal House," with a look of total disrepair...but it did have a pool (with empty beer kegs on deck as city-required emergency flotation rescue devices).

Two recent UNLV alums and five other Sigs (myself included) quickly formed a quasi-alumni chapter, which met every two weeks at the Desert Inn Hotel (of Howard Hughes fame)—in the golf course bar, of course. To make a long story short, over the course of 12 months, we helped pull the chapter together, and met weekly with the house officers in order to monitor everything, from finances to fixing toilets. UNLV's Greek assistance office provided lots of help, especially concerning housing, since their goal was to create a real fraternity and sorority row close to campus.

1984–today: Beta Tau Chapter
When one of my Sig buddies from Vegas (Ken Frazier, a Wisconsin grad) moved to a college town in Colorado to become an attorney, my wife and I visited him and his wife, and we fell in love with Fort Collins and the Rocky Mountains. We spend three days there, then flew back to Vegas, where both of us quit our jobs, sold our house in three days for cash to a lady from Houston, packed up everything (including three birds and two dogs), and headed for Colorado.

Ken's wife, Nancy, had started her own ad agency, and wanted me to handle the creative end of marketing. Ten years later, in 1994, I bought the agency. I still own it today.

Ken and I stopped in the Beta Tau chapter house on the Colorado State University campus out of curiosity. Beta Tau had 74 members, but the house only slept 12, and it was in really bad shape. We decided to help. We both became very active on the house corporation, and I am still somewhat involved today.

Ken became famous with the brotherhood by taking late-night phone calls from the local jail and getting wayward brothers released in his custody!

I must have two dozen real Sig friends here. In fact, four years ago, we had a new house built by KEM Homes—a custom construction company owned by Bill Krug, a CSU Sigma Chi, and his staff, which includes six more Sig grads! Each year, they hold a Sigma Chi charity golf tournament that draws more than 100 Sigs from Colorado, Wyoming, and New Mexico. What a hoot!

A Sig I am
Again, I continually reflect on the fond memories of four years at Xi and playing an active part in a chapter that was so much, much more than just a building filled with average guys.

I still love to let the world know I'm a proud Sigma Chi, on hats and shirts and, of course, my license plate!

In Hoc,
Dave Smith (aka "The Gremlin") '67



Alumni Reunion Weekend 2010

On Saturday, June 12, the Xi Chapter welcomed alumni back to 311 South Locust Street for Reunion Weekend. We enjoyed a luncheon at the house, and the company of friends, both old and new.

We were happy to see class of 1960 brothers Bob Darnall, Gareth Gilkey, Ed Hecht, Dave Hill, Robert Mitchell, Bob Ryan, Jim Swinehart, and Kenneth Todd return for their 50th anniversary. (Class of '61 brothers, mark your calendars for next year!)

ALUMNI REPORT THEIR NEWS

"Crazy me—in my old age, I recently published a book, *Zigzagging in the Pacific*," reports **Harold J. Cook '40**. "It's about my service as an officer on two ammunition ships of the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during World War II." Write to "Abie" at 434 Manchester Dr., Mishawaka, IN 46544.

Robert N. Bills (init. '46) reports that he's still playing tennis at 85 years old. Catch up with Bob at 2145 Los Amigos St., La Canada-Flintridge, CA 91011; bobandwan@sbcglobal.net.

Stephen J. Nagy '52 sends greetings from 1820 B Wildberry Dr., Glenview, IL 60025. Send e-mail to sjr12031@sbcglobal.net.

"Thanks for a very nice weekend celebration," writes **Frank Shoptaugh '53**. Reach him at 3771 Homestead Ridge Heights, Colorado Springs, CO 80917; fshoppy@msn.com.

Keep up with **Jack McNairy '55** at 1801 Woodhaven Dr., Allentown, PA 18103; e-mail mj1234@ptd.net.

Catch up with **Dave "Gridley" Hill '60** at 387 Narragansett Ct., Crystal Lake, IL 60012.

James Herrick '61 has moved to 3037 Hillrise Dr., Las Cruces, NM 88011. Contact Jim via e-mail at jwherrick@comcast.net.

Say hello to **Barrett Corneille '77** at 6009 Galley Ct., Madison, WI 53705; or barrettc@corneillelaw.com.

Todd W. Ponder '81 has a new address: 11337 Abercairn Ct., Zionsville, IN 46077. Send e-mail to ponder@icemiller.com.

"I was recently married to Norie Kizaki at Nata-dera Temple in Norie's hometown of Nata, Japan," reports **David Wolf '96**. "Norie and I live in Boulder, Colorado. She is a rock-climbing guide for the Colorado Mountain School, and also the founder of Undiscovered Japan, which specializes in luxury travel tours to Japan. I am the CIO and a managing partner of BSW Wealth Partners, an independent health-advisory firm managing around $750 million. Norie and I climb, ski, and travel full-time!" Stay in touch with 3260 47th St, #204, Boulder, CO 80301; david_c_wolf@hotmail.com.

Jonathan D. Lau '04 now receives mail at 824 Bennaville Ave., Birmingham, MI 48009; e-mail jlau@lau-lau.com. J.D. is a financial advisor with Lau & Lau Associates in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

eye ON XI ALUMNI

XI CHAPTER ALUMNI SEND THEIR NEWS AND NOTES



Recently, a few Xi alums got together to play some golf in Michigan. Left to right: Charlie "The Jack" Johnpeter '75, Steve "Beef" Erickson '76, David "The Weasel" Harrison '75, and Neil "Otis from England" Dekker '76.