

eye ON XI

SIGMA CHI, XI CHAPTER | MARCH 2017



Why I Chose Sigma Chi

I am a member of the 158th pledge class of the Xi Chapter. Going into rush, I did not know where I was going to be pledging, but I knew that I wanted a house that had members who were like me. I had heard of Sigma Chi's reputation, but I had not visited the house much the first semester. When I entered Sigma Chi that first round, it felt like home. It sounds cliché but it's the truth. After meeting the upperclassmen in the house, I knew that Sigma Chi was the place for me. The Sigma Chi Fraternity engenders that deeper sense of brotherhood I was looking for in a house. Although I am a new pledge, I have already met a ton of great guys whom I know I will have an awesome time getting to know in the years to come. The one thing that resonates with me at Sigma Chi is that they are not just a "frat" but are instead a fraternity of men, who hold each other accountable, challenge one another to be their best selves, and as a brotherhood, develop meaningful relationships that will last a lifetime. I know I made the right choice in choosing Sigma Chi.

Mike Lapean
Pledge

Xi's State Day Sweep

The spring semester has swiftly arrived, and with it has come a vivacious sense of anticipation and excitement. I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as Consul of the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi, and I'm optimistic about the future of this fraternity and the active members within it.

The efforts set in motion by my predecessor, Nick Polanco, have already begun to reap benefits. At the 133rd Sigma Chi Indiana State Day, the Xi Chapter stole the show. After coming away with two awards in 2016, our chapter laid claim to three honors this time around.

First and foremost, Jeffrey Collins took home the Bal-four Award for being the "Most Outstanding Senior" in the Southern Indiana province. Additionally, our chapter had the highest percentage of active members registered to attend the reception, and for that we took home the Brotherhood Participation Award.

The most impressive, however, was the fact that our house was able to win the Peterson Award. We, as a house, made considerable efforts within the past year to improve our chapter, and it was simply fantastic to see those efforts validated. The improvement to our house GPA, recruitment numbers, and overall involvement in the DePauw community in 2016 were but a few of the refinements the Xi Chapter experienced.

In terms of the actual aesthetics of the house, those have seen drastic improvements as well. Pro Consul Peter Ciravolo has made it his mission to spark a series of brother-led projects to improve the capabilities of our house. Whether it is large endeavors like renovating the side yard or small yet invaluable projects like re-organizing the house parking lot, Peter has been an invaluable asset to the Xi Chapter.

This year was one of the better-orchestrated



recruitment processes the house has seen in years. There was exceptional involvement from the entire active chapter, and senior brothers Zack Wade and Justin Barnes wowed many future fraternity men with powerful speeches. Their efforts were essential, and the chapter was able to bring home 12 of the most sought after freshmen and sophomores on DePauw's campus. We are excited to see the 158th pledge class blossom into the future campus leaders we know they will be.

The spring of 2017 is shaping up to be a memorable semester. Tommy Peterson is currently coordinating our traditional Derby Days festivities, and the defending "Street Sprints" champion, Aaron Mahoney, looks to have another strong showing at Little 5 this year.

We welcome all Xi Chapter alumni to join us on LinkedIn by simply searching "Sigma Chi Xi Chapter DePauw." Please keep up to date with the chapter through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and on our website at www.xisigs.org.

In Hoc,
Robert Sherman '18
Consul

Philanthropy Is Full Steam Ahead!

Coming off of an impressive first semester where the Xi Chapter brothers donated an immense 550 hours of their time, I would like to congratulate and thank all of the brothers for executing our philanthropy events to perfection, as well as participating in other events, clubs, and trips at DePauw. One of our largest events last semester included Tiger-Stock, where we raised more than \$1,000 for the United Way of Putnam County along with Alpha Phi. Furthermore, 15 brothers donated their time over fall break to head to New Orleans with DePauw's Habitat for Humanity

group. While the brothers replaced homes damaged by natural disasters, they witnessed first hand the smiles that are birthed and hearts that are warmed when one reaches out a hand.

As our eyes remain on the events and opportunities second semester holds, we are looking to keep the pedal to the metal as we prepare for all philanthropic endeavors ahead. Beginning on April 9 and ending on

(continued on page two)

Congrats, Brother Hayes!

The Xi Chapter is pleased to congratulate Steven Hayes '93 on his new position as Editor-in-Chief of *The Weekly Standard*. After majoring in political science and communication at DePauw, Steven has excelled in the world of journalism. He went on to study at the Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism and has since published two *New York Times* best sellers. Be sure to watch out for Steven's work in *The Weekly Standard* and his routine Fox News Channel appearances.

Welcome the 158th Class!

The recruitment process got off to an interesting start in the fall of 2016. The university had informed us that recruitment would happen prior to the start of the spring semester and would occur over three days rather than four days split up for two weeks. This did not stop us from preparing for rush in the normal manner, hosting various events throughout the fall to inform first-year men about the incredible values of Sigma Chi. Through incredible help from the whole house and the recruitment committee, we held a successful recruitment process in which men

learned about the true leadership skills and brotherhood that they could gain from pledging Sigma Chi. We are mighty proud to welcome the 158th pledge class to the Xi Chapter and are incredibly excited to see what they will bring to our chapter and our fraternity as a whole. They truly uphold the values of the Jordan Standard and have only been great additions to the chapter thus far.

IH,
RJ Klinke '19
and Ben Kusber '18

Final Senior Reflections

As my senior year winds down and I look back on my time at DePauw, I can't help but be truly thankful for everything that Sigma Chi has given me. The Xi Chapter has provided me with my best friends, scholarships, leadership opportunities, and the chance for me to grow from a boy into a young man. I am thankful everyday I walk into the Xi Chapter that I ended up in this house, because so much of my life has changed because of it. When I was unsure of my ability as a leader, Sigma Chi pushed me to take the chance and be the best that I could be. When I needed help studying, Sigma Chi provided me with a support system unlike anything I could have ever imagined. Most importantly, Sigma Chi gave me a home with a loving family that stood by me through the toughest of times.

With graduation right around the corner, I honestly don't feel sad or scared of having to leave DePauw for the real world. Yes, I will miss seeing all of my best friends at every meal, leaving a heartfelt chapter with my brothers, and spending every night of the week hanging out with these young men. But I take solace in the fact that Sigma Chi has given me lifelong friends, the tools to succeed in the real world, and memories that I wouldn't trade for anything. Armed with these things at graduation, I feel comfortable leaving DePauw because I know that I had one of the best college experiences anyone could have asked for, and it's solely because of the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi.

Nick Polanco
155th Pledge Class

College administrations are increasingly aspiring to eliminate Greek organizations. Unfortunately, DePauw's administration is following suit. No matter how many times the DePauw administration or faculty claims to stand by the Greek community, a brief discussion with any current DePauw student, Greek

or non-Greek, proves quite the opposite. Fortunately, I am confident in Sigma Chi's ability to support and sustain the Xi Chapter in the future. My three-and-a-half years as a Sigma Chi are decidedly marked by incredible bonds among brothers, invaluable learning experiences as a chapter, and significant support from the Xi's distinguished alumni.

Sigma Chi is you and me, the individuals who understand the uphill battle every Greek organization has fought in recent decades. That's why, after a fellow brother asked me to write this article, I did not choose to write about my individual experience as a Sigma Chi. Sigma Chi is not an individual experience. Sigma Chi is a fraternal experience, with each brother indissolubly linked to one another no matter the circumstances. The individual accomplishments and accolades of my brothers are beyond anything I could have predicted when I met each one of them. They make me proud to be a Sigma Chi, but the Xi Chapter will not endure for future generations without all of us, undergraduates and alumni, working together toward the same goals that we have upheld since 1859. I can assure you the Xi Chapter remains as impressive an organization as ever, and will continue to remain in good standing with Sigma Chi Nationals and DePauw. For these reasons, I encourage your ongoing support of the Xi. Get to know the brothers. Come visit us at our events. Illuminate the importance of DePauw's Greek life to administrators and faculty when you have the chance. An organization as prominent as Sigma Chi should not be privy to dissolution because of mistakes made by other fraternities. With your involvement, we can continue offering future brothers the same invaluable experience we will always remember.

Everett Schau
155th Pledge Class

Philanthropy Is Full Steam Ahead! (cont'd)

April 14, we will host the largest fraternity-run philanthropy event on DePauw's campus, Derby Days. This year, our goal is to raise more than \$10,000 during that week, as well as provide a fun and safe event for all of the sororities that will participate. All funds raised during the week of philanthropy events will be donated to the Huntsman Cancer Institute and Riley Children's Hospital, two esteemed organizations that

we have the privilege to donate to. To accomplish our goal of \$10,000 during Derby Days will take a lot of effort and time, and as always, the Xi Chapter is the right house for the job.

In Hoc,
Tommy Peterson '19
Philanthropy Chair

Winter Term in Nicaragua

This January, Brothers Riley Allen '19, Greg Frauenheim '19, and I traveled on a winter term in-service trip to Nicaragua. Our team arrived in the capital city of Managua, where we spent our first day in Nicaragua sight-seeing and learning about the country's rich history. We then departed to a small, remote community in northern Nicaragua called La Zacataloza. We spent the majority of our trip there, where our main task was to build a retaining wall for the community school. Each day, we worked six to eight hours digging out the side of a mountain and installing used tires to build the wall. During our stay, we lived and worked with members of the community, which provided us with the chance to form incredible bonds and to gain a greater cultural understanding of Nicaragua. Aside from

work, we were also able to see the beautiful Somoto Canyon and spend a final day on the Pacific Ocean.

Although our main focus was to build the retaining wall, we were able to become a part of the community. Through various activities with the children and multiple baseball games, we consistently felt welcome in Zacataloza. The relationships and knowledge we gained genuinely impacted us just as much as, if not more than, the wall we were able to provide the community. All in all, this trip rewarded us with friendships and memories that will last a lifetime.

In Hoc,
Drew Lumsden '19



Brothers Returning to Campus

I spent fall semester of 2016 in Charleston, South Carolina, interning for Student Transportation of America (STA). At STA, I interned to the CEO and Chief Growth Officer to facilitate business development, M&A, and investor relations. The experience was incredibly rewarding as I reinforced and learned technical knowledge while working in a small office setting of a large publicly traded company. I'm grateful for unique opportunities from valuing potential acquisitions to working a Pro Am Jam charity event at the Daniel Island Country Club.

I also had the unique opportunity to immerse myself in the Charleston community by living with a family in an AirBnB. We had community dinners every Tuesday evening where their friends from church and the community would join us for dinner and conversation. On Thursdays, the family and I would play Petanque, the French version of bocce ball, in the local courtyard. I had an incredible experience finding a second home and a second family in the Charleston community.

Over the course of the semester, I realized my interactions with others in the work setting and the home/life setting were shaped by the influence of Sigma Chi's ideals and virtues. I know I would not be a gentleman with the ability to thrive in such unique and foreign environments if it weren't for my experience at the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi.

Mitchell DeShurko '18

Studying abroad in Scotland was the most influential and eye-opening experience of my life. Before my abroad experience, I was someone that had little interest or intention of traveling the world. However, while studying in Scotland I traveled to Madrid, Vienna, Morocco, London,

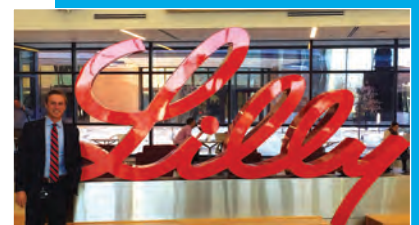
and many other amazing places. While doing so I met so many great people, learned about many different cultures, and gained incredible insights that I never thought I would have had the chance to before my travels. My study abroad experience has enlightened a new desire for travel and learning within my life. I have been fortunate enough to travel to India to attend my pledge brother's (Ranjit Singh) sister's wedding, and a couple brothers and I plan to travel to Australia in the near future. Thanks to my decision to study in Scotland, I have gone from someone who never thought he would travel much to someone whose goal it is to set foot on every continent on the planet.

In Hoc,
Josh Trewartha '18



I had the privilege of completing my Management Fellows internship last semester at Eli Lilly and Company in Indianapolis. As a contract management and analytics intern, I've been exposed to the complex world of the bio-pharmaceutical and healthcare industries. Working alongside the Contract Development team, I helped to create contractual agreements with payer entities to ensure patient access to Lilly products. From serving as a project manager for an internal quality process to analyzing the financial and market share impacts of a new business contract, this position has been a dynamic introduction to finance, marketing, and corporate strategy. I'm proud of having worked for such a top-tier company during my undergraduate years, and am only a mere continuation of the strong internship placements that Xi Sigs have received.

IH,
Grant Potts '18



"We are still doing some international travel (2016 Prague, Vienna, Budapest; 2017 scheduled: Copenhagen, Stockholm, and other Northern European countries)," writes **Leonard Huck '43**. "Summers are spent in our Northern Arizona home, Forest Highlands." Get in touch with Len at 7501 E. Thompson Peak Pkwy, #520, Scottsdale, AZ 85255; lhuck@cox.net.

"The comments by **Bill Oliver '53** in the last issue of *Eye on Xi* took me back nearly 70 years when I was the Magister for Bill's pledge class, of which my younger brother, Dave, was a member," reports **Charles Vear '50**. "The success of the members of that class, both on campus and beyond, was notable, and their cohesiveness after graduation was remarkable. One of my life regrets was not attending one of their last get-togethers in Florida just before my brother passed away. They planned to honor me, and I wasn't there! But more important than missing the presentation was the fact that I missed my final opportunity to revisit with the remaining members of that pledge class. Many fine memories remain. One such memory was protecting the bell in East College Hall. By some strange tradition, the Sigma Chi pledges had the sole responsibility of ringing the bell after DePauw athletic victories and preventing anyone else from ringing it at other times. (In those days, there was a long rope that could be used for ringing the bell.) If someone else did, the Xi pledges would rush out of the fraternity house and try to catch the culprit. If caught, a cross would be shaved on the intruder's head. (With co-eds, it was not so severe. They might have one of their pigtails clipped.) The Phi Psis were most successful at getting away because they lived across the street. As I recall, Bill's pledge class was very capable at this campus challenge. Thanks, Bill, for helping me relive these memories." (140 Hillcrest Dr., Hillsdale, MI 49242; budvear@gmail.com)

William K. Oliver '53 reports, "Out of 13 original pledges (fall 1949), five of us are still 'standing' at age 86—must have been the gals we chased ... or the food we ate at the house! Three of us married DePauw gals." Reconnect with William by writing to 4010 S. 188th St., Unit 104, Seatac, WA 98188.

George Dornier '61 writes, "Glad to see the note about **Tom Turk '58**, my fraternity father. I was also involved with the new ritual facilities, which were built into the house when it was 'new' the first time and it replaced 'the oldest house built specifically for fraternity purposes west of somewhere.' This was an item on a pledge test circa 1957. And, it was good to see **Dr. Chuck Kenyon '61** at our 55th last summer. I was charged with getting our classmates back and, even with Chuck's help, failed. I recently looked up **Dave Cryer '58** in Wikipedia to remind my wife of what part he played for years in 'Phantom,' in other musicals, and on TV. His bio there is quite complete, noting that he was pledge trainer in Sigma Chi at DePauw. You might check out his record at DePauw as listed in Wikipedia and see if any other Sigs have received as many honors there and afterward. Dave was pledge trainer and also for his brother, **Jon '61**." Catch up with George by writing to 20753 N. Buffalo Run, Kildeer, IL 60047; or by sending email to george@dorners.net.



John Easton, Rob Sharpe, Al Martin, and John Kniesly

Xi House Corporation Corner

On the financial front, we are glad to report that the debt has been reduced to \$190,000, although we had to spend an additional \$95,000 in CapEx needs in 2016. With your help, the plan is to have the \$190,000 paid off by first quarter 2018. The debt reduction and additional CapEx funding are from those who have continued to pay their Capital Campaign pledges (thank you so much) and ongoing House Corp rental operations. There is a never-ending cost/need to maintain the structural integrity and educational usefulness/livability of the house. Thanks to all brothers who continue to support Xi for the betterment of Xi and its brothers..

501(c)(3)

Please keep in mind for your 2017 charitable contributions that Xi Chapter Foundation, Inc., is an

approved 501(c)(3) and payments or securities donated to it are 100-percent tax deductible. Donations certainly help in our overall debt reduction while also contributing to additional CapEx improvements, and educational and leadership opportunities for the active chapter.

Thanks to all who have pledged and/or contributed to the Capital Campaign and/or Annual Fund. New pledges, an increase in current pledges, and faster pledge payments will reduce our bank debt quicker and is certainly in the best interest of a successful Xi Chapter for years to come. Your continued support of Xi is always appreciated.

In Hoc,
Louis S. Hensley III '77
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(317) 640-3315

eye ON XI ALUMNI

XI CHAPTER ALUMNI SEND
THEIR NEWS AND NOTES

deceased

WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE
THE DEATHS OF:

Brevoort Jack Baker II '51
January 2, 2017

David B. Bulleit '66
1992

Michael S. Smith '87
December 30, 2002

John M. Endres '63
March 25, 2012

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