

STORIES OF SIGMA ALPHA MU

3.3k Sammies Share How Sammy Made a Difference in their Lives

Written by



(Washington University, '82), Supreme Prior

As I start as Supreme Prior, the Fraternity finds itself 2+ years into executing the ΣΑΜ 2030 Strategic Plan. The goal of this plan is to establish Sigma Alpha Mu as the first choice of collegians seeking a forward-thinking, inclusive fraternity which enhances the university experience and prepares the fraternity member for a fulfilling life.

How can we make such a lofty statement easier to understand and relatable to prospective members? How do we reconnect with alumni members who lost connection to the fraternity after graduation?

After two years, Sigma Alpha Mu concluded a project to collect personal Sammy Stories from its members. These stories provide a myriad of examples of the profound significance that Sigma Alpha Mu has made in adding to and improving the lives of the more than 80,000 men who have been initiated into our ranks. The significance also includes contributions to the lives of their families and communities. Starting with this issue of the Octagonian, I will be sharing with you selected stories from our members that bring our lofty objective down to earth and remind us of who we are, what we stand for, and why being a Sammy is something to be sought after and valued.

This oral history was edited for brevity.

"Two things I decided on entering my freshman year: 1) I am trying out for the varsity soccer team 2) I am not joining a fraternity, particularly not Sammy. My father, a Σ AM Chapter founder, was pushing me in that direction... My soccer tryout was successful; however, during my physical I learned, I arrived at school with a viral infection. This ended my chance that season to play soccer and worse, I realized new academic difficulties for the fall semester...

Sitting in my room with the door open, staying calm, figuring out how I could remain in school, a guy in a ΣAM sweatshirt stopped by and started a conversation. I disclosed what happened at health services. I told him that I had my hands full so I certainly couldn't consider joining a fraternity. The conversation ended. He departed. Later he returned with another guy, the Chapter's Prior. He said that my first visitor mentioned my name in their meeting and I was on their legacies list. They shared that they wanted to help me through my illness. I told him I was not able to join the fraternity. He said, "it's not about joining. It was about helping the son of a Sammy who was in need." That fall, a small group of men from ΣAM cared for me. They helped me to get to class, joined me for meals, brought by food, shared class notes when I was too ill for attending, etc. Were it not for the kind support of these men, my life today would be completely different. By November my health issue was resolved. When the ΣAM Prior dropped by once more, I thanked him. He said, "Glad you're better and sorry about the soccer season. Did you know the fraternity's intramural soccer season is starting?

If you would like to get back into shape I would be happy to get you a purple shirt and..."I interrupted and accepted the offer. Over the next few weeks, I practiced and played soccer games. I met the rest of the guys, and started developing friendships. Despite my initial convictions, is it any surprise that I decided to join the fraternity in the Spring semester?"

I believe this story demonstrates that ΣAM is far more than media portrayal of an out-of-control, collegiate party-club. Ours organization exists to make peoples' lives better during and after college through lifelong friendships, supporting others in need of assistance, improving our communities, and, most importantly, instilling in our members a common foundation of values that guide each of us to always try to do the "right thing".

Yes, responsible social gatherings will always be part of Sigma Alpha Mu. They're fun and they usually provide first impressions of our organization to prospective members and the campus communities where our chapters exist; however, life is about more than parties. If we are going to realize our goal of being recognized as the first choice of collegians, then we need to show the world that we're more and make a positive difference in their lives.

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The OCTAGONIAN ISSN 0744-6972 KELBY M. DOLAN, Editor Vol. CVI No. 2 Fall 2022 ANDREW J. HUSTON. Executive Director

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POSTMASTER: Send address changes to **The OCTAGONIAN**, 8701 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. All manuscripts and matter for publication should be addressed to Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity, 8701 Founders Road, Indianapolis, IN 46268. Return of manuscripts and photographs promised, if requested.

Articles published and opinions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the editorial views of **The OCTAGONIAN** or of the international officers and various entities of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity.

Our fraternal experience does not end when our members finish school. Sammy membership is for life. Since graduation, many of us have found our membership supportive time and again. Whether by continued friendships, job mentoring and networking, being welcomed to a new city by a ΣAM brother, and in times of adversity when a helping hand and moral support of friends is really needed. Sigma Alpha Mu has been a cornerstone for many of its members. For many of us, it still is today.

Prospective new members and existing members who have lost touch need to hear and see, in both word and deed, if we are to be successful in achieving our ΣAM 2030 goal.

A personal note of thanks to Ted, Neil, Tony, Eddie, Lee S, Lee F, Rex, Josh, Bob, Avie, Lenny, Adam, Dub, Daren, Bruce, and the rest of the men of Phi Chapter. You were there for me in the fall of 1981. I was the guy with the viral infection. You extended the hand of friendship and enabled me to build the life that I have. Opening my heart and mind to see how my life would be enhanced by becoming a part of this organization. The guy who was never going to become a member of ΣAM has taken on the role of Supreme Prior because we continue to live the values of Sigma Alpha Mu. I will try my best to continue following your example.

Fast and firm.

Dave P. Kleppel Supreme Prior

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Spring 2023 Expansion Efforts: SIGMA OMEGA - North Carolina State MURHO - Rochester

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Find our photos at sam.org/photos

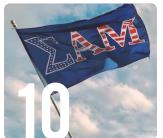




HAVE YOU HEARD

Learn about members making a \$1 million donation that will help build a new theater in downtown San Diego, performing with Elton John, publishing a book on cheating in baseball, producing a billion dollar movie series, and coaching a state champion tennis team.

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STATE OF THE FRATERNITY

Executive Director Andy Huston and Assistant Executive Director Jackie Hackett share research from the the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) on national men's fraternities that reveals our fraternal return on investment.



HOUSING & GROWTH

Director of Alumni Development and Real Estate Ken Schneider shares how our brotherhood can diversify their fraternal contribution through the gift of your volunteered time, leadership, and/or financial investment.



AROUND THE CHAPTERS

Discover each chapter's results for membership, recruitment, philanthropy, and community service. See their chapter photos and read about their recruitment and philanthropy events.



A SAM.ORG



The Mu Psi Chapter at Miami OH embodies our eight ideals and incorporates them into their chapter operations and everyday lives. More importantly, the chapter demonstrates these values when recruiting and educating new members. They are a diverse group of men who pride themselves in being inclusive and accepting of all individuals regardless of race, sexual orientation, and religion. These experiences helped them recruit their largest new member class in five years this spring with 37 new members.

Much of the Mu Psi Chapter's success is attributed to exceptional leadership. Each year, members are engaged and involved with the International Fraternity, by serving on the Undergraduate Advisory Committee and participating in our award-winning program, Developing Leaders Initiative. Members of this chapter continually hold leadership roles on the IFC executive board and are involved in various campus committees, such as Hazing Prevention Committee and Greek Leadership Retreat.

The Chapter prioritizes alumni engagement by planning regular alumni and undergraduate networking events. The Mu Psi chapter demonstrates ongoing humanitarian efforts through their annual philanthropic initiatives and strong focus on mental health awareness. The Chapter organized various philanthropic events including a silent auction during their parents weekend, March Madness Bracket Challenge and their Oxford Tennis Open raising over \$17,000 for The Judy Fund. The Chapter values brotherhood events whether that is a trivia night at their house or 80 brothers attending a Cincinnati Reds game together.

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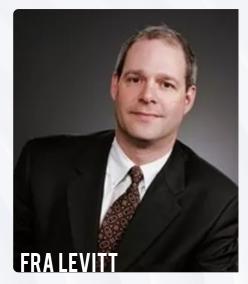
Their commitment to a positive fraternity experience is illustrated in the care they have for one another. Assistant Vice President of Student Health and Wellness at Miami [OH] Dr. Steve Large shared, "When it comes to promoting and protecting the mental health of their brotherhood, individually and collectively, Miami's chapter of Sigma Alpha Mu walks the walk in every single way. Besides having a designated mental health chair on their executive board, ΣAM actively seeks out opportunities for their members around the topic of mental health. What stands out to me most is their deep and genuine desire for every single one of their brothers to be seen, supported, and loved for who they are. I am inspired by the depth of their engagement and the sincerity of their support they show their brothers. I am heartened and so grateful for their continued commitment to mental health."

Sigma Alpha Mu is extremely proud of this chapter! Please join us in congratulating Mu Psi from Miami University of Ohio on winning the 2022 Founders Cup!

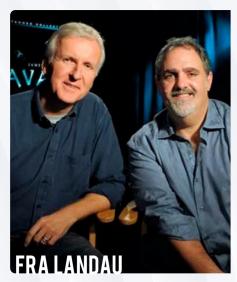
HAVE YOU HEARD



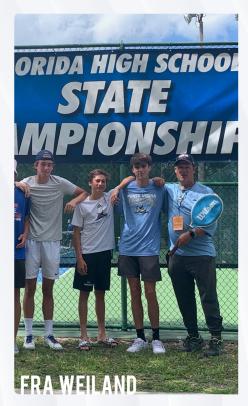
Fra David Guggenheim (Purdue, '66) and his wife, Claire, made a \$1,000,000 donation to have "The Guggenheim Theatre" named after them at a brand new University of California San Diego building called Park & Market in downtown San Diego. This state-of-theart 225 seat black box facility will be used to present diverse cultural events as it can be configured for music, theatre, lectures and conferences. The above photo of the Guggenheim family is from the UC San Diego Park & Market community building grand opening in downtown San Diego last spring with a VIP Celebration & Concert in the new Guggenheim Theatre. The multipurpose four-story venue stands on a full city block at Park Boulevard and Market Street in East Village, near the Blue Line Trolley. Fra Guggenheim's donation in the Park & Market will serve the entire San Diego community as a social and intellectual hub for civic engagement, learning and collaboration.



Fra Daniel Levitt (Wisconsin, '83) recently released his fifth book on baseball, Intentional Balk: Baseball's Thin Line Between Innovation and Cheating, published with Clyde Hill Publishing. With coauthor Mark Armour, Dan provides the definitive history of cheating in baseball and delivers an engrossing chronicle of America's pastime and the players, coaches, and front office executives who have sought any advantage. Baseball and cheating have a long history together, and the evolving views and the widely differing reactions to different kinds of cheating provides and interesting lens on American society. Tyler Kepner, author of A History of Baseball in Ten Pitches, reviewed their book sharing, "From fake foul tips to dugout disguises, sign stealing to sticky stuff, Mark Armour and Daniel Levitt don't miss a trick — and that's saying something when the subject is baseball, where rule-bending has always been part of the game. Armour and Levitt teamed up for the definitive history of the baseball front office with In Pursuit of Pennants, and now they've written the definitive history of cheating in our national pastime."



Fra Jon Landau (USC, '79), renowned producer of Titanic and Avatar, collaborated with Director James Cameron on the sci-fi franchise and shared news of film production beginning on the fourth movie in the Avatar Series. Fra Landau shared with the Variety magazine, "We've completed most of the first act of 'Avatar 4' and there were logistical reasons why we needed to do that." For the second and third sequel to Avatar, Jon explained that technological advances needed to be made before a seguel could come to fruition. At the Busan International Film Festival, Jon shared, "We could not have delivered what people saw, five years ago, eight years ago, nine years ago. We needed the time to take it to the level that we're able to deliver to people today." Jon's film, 'Avatar' broke box office records when it was released in 2009 and a long-awaited sequel, 'Avatar: The Way of Water', is set to hit cinemas this December.



Last spring, Fra Fredo Weiland (Ohio State, '80) coached his Ponte Vedra High **School Sharks Varsity Tennis team to** the Florida 3A State Championship and received the USA Today Northeast Florida HS Tennis Coach of the Year. One of Fredo's five seniors, Adam Logan, battled back from trailing two match points early in a tiebreaker to win. For Coach Weiland's senior star, the victory will always hold a special place in his heart after his dad's passing earlier in the year. After a long career as a tennis pro in New York, Fredo decided to give back as a volunteer head coach and mentor at the area high school. In youth athletics, Coach Weiland serves as the Director of the Ryland-Weiland Tennis alongside USTA-Midwest Hall of Fame Inductee, Bob Ryland. Weiland also serves as the Executive Director of the Pinstripes Sports Dreams Foundation, which offers financial support and guidance to youth baseball teams and players in communities where there are limited resources. Coach Fredo's high school tennis team won the high school's first state championship in tennis. "Our goal was to win it all every year," stated Coach Weiland. "Our Sharks had the same goal. Believe in yourself. Believe in your teammates. Together, we can do this."



On Veterans Day weekend, Past Supreme Prior Jerry Conrey (Cal. State-Fullerton, '84), Supreme Prior Dave Kleppel (Washington, '82) and their wives met in Las Vegas, NV to celebrate their wedding anniversaries together. Jerry met with a casino employee at the lounge desk to arrange the delivery of a special package to the restaurant where the four would be dining that evening. While making arrangements, Jerry sat down with the young man who briefly halted the conversation asking, "Aren't you the Supreme Prior of Sigma Alpha Mu?" Jerry replied, "I was, but this man sitting next to me took over that role a few months ago." That is how Jerry and Dave unexpectedly met another fellow frater and MGM employee Michael Ryan (UNLV, '15). After a heartfelt conversation and happenstance run-in, Dave wanted to again wish the young man gratitude sharing, "Thanks for your help Michael, and good luck on your transfer to casino marketing!"



Sammy alumnus Adam Chester (USC, '82) who recently performed on-stage at Dodger Stadium during Elton John's final performance in the United States. Since 2005, Adam's earned the title of the "Surrogate Elton John," working exclusively with Sir Elton and his band as Elton's only "stand-in" on the piano and vocals for various rehearsals, sound checks, and concert appearances. As a Sammy volunteer, Adam shared his performing talents at the 2020 and 2021 Virtual Awards Banquet.

SHARE YOUR UPDATE

Tell us about your individual accomplishment, award, or news by contacting the Director of Alumni Engagement at kelby@sam.org or online at sam.org/heard.









Sigma Alpha Mu is posting *every day, 7 days a week* on social media. We encourage you to find us, friend us, and follow us.



FRA EDWARDS

Former Congressman Mickey Edwards (Oklahoma, '58) is the 2022 Achievement Award recipient. Fra Edwards served for 16 years as a U.S. Congressman and was the co-founder of the Heritage Foundation. He is proud to note that he was elected as a Republican to a district that was predominantly Democrat, but emphasized the importance of working of all constituents of his district. During his Congressional tenure he served was in the House Republican Leadership, a member of the Appropriations and Budget Committees, and the ranking member of the House subcommittee on foreign operations. Fra Edwards is currently a lecturer at Princeton University and has previously taught at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government for 11 years. Fra Edwards credited Sigma Alpha Mu with helping him mature and providing polish to a young man from rural Oklahoma. Watch the interview on our Sammy YouTube channel, youtube. com/@sigmaalphamu1129.



FRALEVINSON

The Alumni Service Award shall be presented by the Octagon to alumni at the request of chartered Alumni Clubs in recognition of continued service within the Fraternity. Marty Levinson, who entered chapter eternal in 2020, was the advisor of Sigma Theta Chapter for more than 20 years from 1998-2020. He was devoted to the boys - as he would say - as a mentor and an advocate. He worked tirelessly to support one of the largest chapters in Σ AM by engaging alumni, triaging financials, managing their House Stewards "Daddy" and Larry, and helping the chapter address concerns through disciplinary conduct.

Following his passing, the alumni rallied to develop a Σ AM Foundation scholarship fund in his memory and contributions of \$46,000 during the uncertainty of the pandemic came quickly from generations of Sigma Theta's surpassing the initial goal of \$25,000. Marty's wife, Laura, accepted the award on his behalf at Covention.



FRAGLAUBEN

PSP Fra Phil Glauben (North Texas, '73) is the 2022 recipient of the William P. Schwartz Distinguished Service Award.

This award is presented to alumni who have rendered service of such lasting and superlative quality to Sigma Alpha Mu as to merit single recognition by the Fraternity. He becomes the 18th individual to receive this award. Fra Glauben has served in the fraternity for more than 30 years as the Education Committee Chairman. The breadth of his service includes being a local Chapter Advisor, Regional Governor, and Endowment Fund Trustee, where he also served as Secretary. On the Octagon, Phil served as Consul, Supreme Recorder, Vice Supreme Prior and Supreme Prior. In fact, he holds the distinction of being Sigma Alpha Mu's longest serving Supreme Prior having held that role for 5 years. Phil's commitment to the fraternity has ushered in new strategic plans and industry award-winning educational initiatives that have shaped the Sammy experience as we know it today.



AWARD WINNERS



FRA GOLDMAN

We were delighted to present Past Supreme Prior Joel Goldman with the Certificate of Merit. Joel has spent more than 30 years fiercely advocating for causes including hunger, global health, poverty, social justice, and human rights. He's been an innovator in building cohesive stories and public engagement campaigns that engage influencers to bring attention and resources to support some of the most pressing causes in the world. He excels at driving global impact in the entertainment and non-profit industries. It's also worth noting that his career began under the tutelage of Bill Schwartz at ΣΑΜ Headquarters.

Joel's impact has spanned organizations including The Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, Elizabeth Glazer Pediatric Aids Foundation, Feeding America, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He is an expert at building entertainment industry-specific departments within non-profit organizations to propel social impact and growth through celebrity partnerships and industry platforms.



FRA FINKELSTEIN

Bill Finkelstein (Texas, '68) is the 2022 recipient of the Certificate of Merit.

Bill Finkelstein started as Pledge Class President, then Chapter Prior, and an Officer of UT's IFC. As the President of the Jewish Federation of Dallas, Fra Finkelstein helps guide the philanthropic efforts of the Jewish community worldwide! Bill and the Federation's work is also responsible for raising \$288,000 to help the victims of Ukraine.

Bill has recently retired from a successful career as an attorney in Dallas. He has however not slowed down his community and philanthropic work:

President of the Jewish Federation of Dallas President & Founder of Mount Zion United Jewish Cemetery

Past President of Forest Lane synagogue
President of Dallas Kosher
On the advicery sphingt for Israel Roads Dalla

On the advisory cabinet for Israel Bonds, Dallas Branch

Board Member of Legacy Senior Communities Recent Sigma Theta House Corporation Board Member

What is the CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

The Certificate of Merit is awarded to alumni whose service and achievements in community endeavors are deemed by the Octagon worthy of national recognition. This is an award about giving back to the community beyond Sigma Alpha Mu to help repair the world.



BONNIE WUNSCH

Bonnie Rubenstein Wunsch of Alpha Epsilon Phi is the first woman to receive our Sidney H. Guller Interfraternity Award. And in the fraternal industry, she has been a pioneering woman - often breaking barriers through her leadership and relationships. We would expect nothing less from the daughter of a Sammy from Sigma Theta.

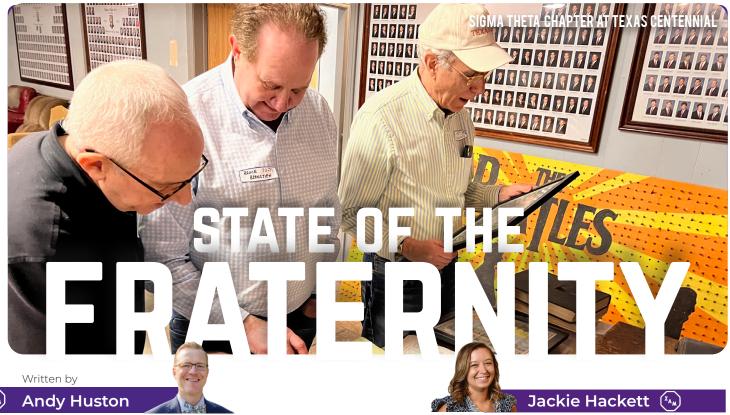
At this point she has served as Executive Director longer than our beloved Bill Schwartz. Like Bill, she has served as President of the Fraternity Executives Association and an abundance of interfraternal recognitions.

North American Interfraternity Conference Silver Medal

Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors Sue Kraft Russell Distinguished Service Award Intefraternity awards from ZBT, AEPi, Pi Kappa Phi, Phi Mu Delta

Northeast Greek Leadership Association Bonnie Wunsch Volunteer Service Award Fraternity Executives Association Service to the FEA Community Award

Bonnie has been instrumental in partnership programming with Sammy through regional conferences, creating Summit Against Hate, the Words to Action program, and research to support Jewish students in Greek Life.



(Minnesota, '01), Executive Director

Assistant Executive Director

I know the profound impact Sigma Alpha Mu has had on my life. Because of the fraternity I met my wife, Amber, and we now have two wonderful children. Less tangible is the growth I experienced as a student leader navigating difficult situations between members. These life milestones and learning opportunities have shaped who I am today. In Sigma Alpha Mu, we know the power of our personal experiences and stories. And yet, we worry and wonder if these still hold true for the next generation of fraternity men.

As Executive Director, I'm often asked, "How's the fraternity doing? What's happening with my chapter? What's the real story with what's happening on campus?" This issue of *The Octagonian* highlights how organizational resources are wisely invested in our strategic priorities. This academic year, 464 men accepted bids to join our chapters which is our best fall recruitment since 2018. The vast majority of our chapters have met or exceeded last fall's recruitment results.

The Around the Chapters article highlights the good news that many chapters continue to rebound well from the pandemic - some chapters and their respective campuses more so than others. The sense of belonging that is forged through the fraternity is what we are hearing from students as a core reason for this growth. Better yet, new industry research is beginning to provide qualitative and quantitative data about the benefits of fraternity membership.

IT IS OUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SHARE THE IMPACT OF THE FRATERNITY.

Ultimately, it is our responsibility to share the impact of the fraternity. If you aren't following us on social media, if your chapter is dormant, or they are not as communicative as you would like, you are likely not hearing the good news. And let's be honest, most media coverage of fraternity life isn't ideal.

someone down a dark rabbit hole.
Searching the recent news articles, it is not challenging to find a plethora of negativity and disturbing stories about alleged fraternity members' behavior and conduct. In 2020, the fraternal industry saw a rise in anti-fraternity activity on college campuses, known as the Abolish Greek Life Movement, which directly called for the end of fraternity and sorority life on campus and largely questioned the value of the fraternity experience. With all this negativity, you may also be asking, why should we continue to have fraternity life on

campuses? More importantly, why is Sigma

Alpha Mu important or relevant for the next

generation?

Googling the word fraternity can send

The North American Interfraternity
Conference (NIC), the trade association
that represents many of the inter/national
men's fraternities, invested in discovering
the answer to these questions through a
research initiative.

Studying active fraternity men across the country, the researchers learned remarkable facts about the experience and the value-add our organizations bring to the collegiate experience. At Sigma Alpha Mu, we are hopeful this research will drive our data-driven decision-making and help us improve the services, programs, and resources provided to chapters and members, and drive us closer to our Σ AM 2030 strategic plan, and ultimately, the vision for Sigma Alpha Mu.

Young adults report higher levels of anxiety and depression at an alarming rate. According to the Mayo Clinic, one in three college students report high levels of anxiety and depression and up to 44% report having some symptoms. Thankfully, the fraternity experience provides an opportunity for men to find their home away from home. More importantly, the research shows that fraternity men are more likely to seek help when they are in need over non-fraternity members. At Sigma Alpha Mu, we are committed to providing members with additional resources and support. Each Chapter Coach knows the resources available on every campus and can recommend options to leaders. In discussions with chapter leadership, they have described personally reaching out to licensed mental health counselors during stressful times because of their brothers' recommendations and how they felt supported, rather than judged.

Now more than ever, the fraternity experience needs to demonstrate its value for a member's future and a strong return on investment. Sigma Alpha Mu members develop leadership, interpersonal and life skills that help them accelerate after college. For example, as exchequer, a member will operate a large budget, articulate the ROI for the chapter experience, and demonstrate leadership through the collection process.

Michian State Exchequer Adam Budiansky (Mu Chi, '22) shared, "From my experience as exchequer, I learned how to balance a budget, collect dues, listen to and help members with financial concerns, and address our needs as a chapter. I have embraced my leadership opportunity and become more coachable as I am rewarded with new responsibilities."

As a candidate educator, members learn facilitation skills, practice positive peermentorship, and lead a group of peers through the expectations of membership and adjusting to a new environment.

For example, the Candidate Educator at the Omicron Chapter at the University of Cincinnati described how even as a finance major serving in this role helped him with his organizational skills, public speaking, leadership and adaptability. According to the NIC research, 83% of members say their confidence in their leadership skills increased because of their membership. Following graduation, fraternity members are more likely to be thriving in every aspect of wellbeing – career, community, financial, physical, and social wellbeing. There is value in Sigma Alpha Mu. There is a research-backed return on investment in the fraternity experience and the members of Sammy are proof of that. Their stories of the bonds of brotherhood and leadership skills help demonstrate that joining Sigma Alpha Mu is a life changing decision and will help them thrive in college and beyond.

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(Chapman, '10), Director of Alumni Development & Real Estate

Many volunteers and staff alike wrestle with finding new and engaging avenues for our alumni base to which they gravitate. In this vein, we are excited to talk about the relatively recent creation of Sigma Alpha Mu National Properties. This organization has introduced a new avenue of alumni engagement and supports the Fraternity and its practical implications on growth. Why does this idea of housing, while not new, warrant your attention? Alumni groups have banded together before to assist in down payments, but could rarely do so with the comfort of knowing that their investment is being looked after by a professional team connected to the changing realities of the Greek and real estate world.

When it was established in 2016, SAM National Properties had a clear purpose: to develop and solidify the housing inventory of this organization, and by extension to help ensure the success of Σ AM as a whole. Chapters with housing facilities recruit more men than those who do not. That is only one part of the story. Housing or central facilities stand as places of congregation, but equally as important, as places of support. Brothers reading this today can remember when a group of alumni banded together to help make a special project into a reality.

THE POTENTIAL FOR HOUSING TO BEGOME ANOTHER ARM OF ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT CAN ALREADY BE SEEN.

As we are preparing to expand to more campuses across the country, the potential for housing to become another arm of alumni involvement can already be seen.

Let's call attention to a specific group of alumni from the Sigma Omega Alumni Club. The chapter at North Carolina State University has not been active for many years; however, two members delivered a check of \$25,000 to help secure a plot of land in the current phase of the Greek Village. The leadership of Richard Williamson, Lee Garret, and Roy Neulicht cannot be overshadowed. In the weeks following this news, several Sigma Omega alumni from across multiple decades of initiation have connected with staff to share their enthusiasm for the upcoming project and are looking to become more involved.

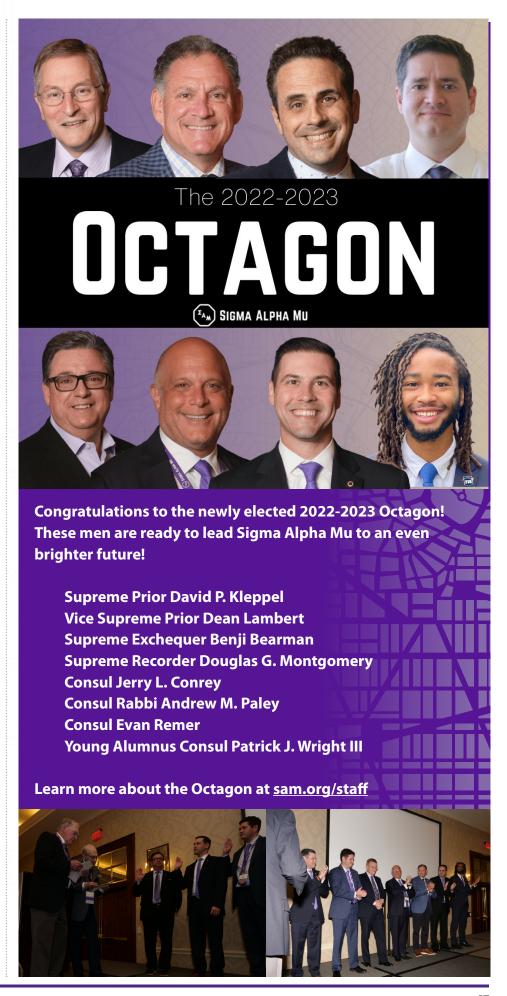
Another SAM National Properties project at the University of Illinois is in conjunction with the re-establishment of the chapter. It displays another example of how housing provides beneficial support to the local chapter and the international organization.

While the return of any chapter is exciting news, there has also been a new level of Rho Chapter alumni engagement including those not initiated in the chapter at the University of Illinois. Currently, there are 11 groups of and/or individual ΣΑΜ alumni invested in the rebuild of the house in Urbana-Champaign including the current Rho chapter alumni group and representatives, class of '89 and '90. The opportunity to invest does however go further than one's alma mater. We have seen non-chapter related participation of alumni from the Sigma Zeta, Sigma Kappa, Gamma Kappa, and Mu Theta chapters. The story of the Bridge Builder was taught to many of us during the candidacy process, focusing on the ideals of providing mutual moral aid and support even if you will not directly benefit from them. I submit that these alumni exemplify that value.

How do our undergraduate members feel about housing? Many of the campuses this organization expands to include housing as an integral element of organizational success. On campuses where there are current expansion efforts, Illinois, Cornell and Ohio State, housing is a centralized location and stands as a symbol of foundation and belonging to a greater community. It is not the sole factor of success, but we cannot discount its far reaching impact.

"AS WE LOOK
FORWARD TO THE
GROWTH OF OUR
ORGANIZATION
IN ALIGNMENT
WITH OUR VISION,
IT'S IMPORTANT
TO CELEBRATE
THE INCREDIBLE
VICTORIES OF THE
LAST YEAR."

It is not enough for Sigma Alpha Mu to facilitate opportunities for service. We must also understand that our diverse brotherhood will be passionate about different types of investment. Whether in terms of time, money, or leadership, each contribution helps to ensure a successful future. There are currently over 40 active chapters and multiple provisional chapters. In addition, there are new ones being added every year. This organization runs on the efforts of our alumni. As an investor or a volunteer, there are more opportunities than ever before to be a bridge builder, which is essential to the work we do. If you are interested in investing or learning more, contact Ken at ken@sam.org.

















CHAPTER INFORMATION

Membership Total Fall '22 Recruitment Results

of Young Guller Scholars

'21-'22 Community Service Hours '21-'22 Philanthropic Dollars Raised







The Beta Chapter at Cornell recruited five refounding fathers this fall. The chapter is working with our Growth Consultant and its alumni advisory board to prepare for a successful spring term.

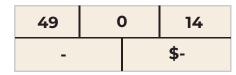






The Eta Chapter at Syracuse volunteered with distributing water to participants of the Walk to End Alzheimer's this fall.
Additionally, Alumnus David Sackler (Syracuse, '84) was awarded the Chapter Advisor of the Year who is currently serving as the Tau Chapter Advisor at Alabama.





This Fall, the members of the Theta Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania raised a total of \$2,135 towards philanthropic efforts. The chapter raised \$1,535 for American Suicide Prevention and \$600 for the Judy Fund. Additionally, the Theta Chapter was awarded the Dr. Alexander Lowy Scholarship Award for their achievements in academics.















This Fall, the Rho Chapter at Illinois participated in their first kosher tailgate for the first Fighting Illini Thursday football game. Their Prior and Social Chair grilled hundreds of hotdogs and burgers for the event. See in the included photo, the individual wearing a CHABAD shirt is Sammy's 2022 Campus-Based Professional of the Year, Rabbi Dovid Tiechtel, who helped host the tailgate.







The Tau Chapter at Alabama hosted their second Sammy Safe Box philanthropic month-long philanthropic event. They shared, "We're overjoyed to be working on this again and want to thank everyone involved. We delivered the boxes and excitedly await the results of our shared accomplishment!"

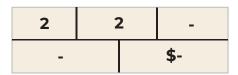


University of Pittsburgh



Members of the Psi Chapter, Grant Davtyan (Psi, '21) and Josh Berkowitz (Psi, '21), participated in Greek Week singing with Delta Zeta Sorority and Delta Tau Delta Fraternity chapters. The chapter shared, "Our fratres have been practicing for 6 months and their hard work paid off as a team. We won the award for best choreography, and took third place overall!"











Prior Ryan Bloom (Sigma Zeta, '21) and Fra Jason Garrod (Sigma Zeta, '21) at Indiana University (IU) met IU alumnus Mark Cuban in Bloomington this Summer.





106	24		13
-			\$-

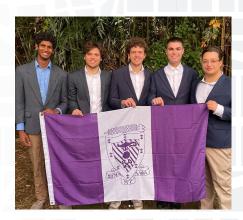
This fall, members of the Sigma Theta Chapter at the University of Texas - Austin celebrated their Centennial in Austin. The weekend included multiple individual recognitions including the winner of the Housing Excellence Award, Fra Brad Greenblum (Texas, '76). The celebration also included an opening night cookout at the Sigma Theta Chapter house, a college football watch party, a banquet, and brunch. We applaud the efforts of the chapter's council, the alumni chairs, Fra Bruce Golden, and Fra Randy Maltz for hosting a tremendous event! Additionally, at convention the chapter received the Risk Management Award.



ΣΟ University of Nebraska



This summer at Convention, the chapter was one of the six chapters that achieved Founders' Level for the 2021-2022 school year. This fall, the chapter hosted a latkes cooking hash bash to raise funds for The Judy Fund.





ΣΧ

Last Spring, the alumni and active members of the Sigma Chi Chapter at Maryland hosted an alumni get-together. The chapter shared, "It was amazing showing recent and older alumni the growth of the chapter. Alumni have seen the chapter double in size over the past 3 years and watching them interact with all of the members is something we hope to strive to make happen every semester. We're excited to have a similar event on a larger scale next semester!"





Continued on the next page. >>

This Fall the Mu Eta Chapter at Drexel planted trees and landscaped at Riverfront North. Last spring, they were landscaping parks throughout Philadelphia. This summer at Convention, Mehmet Ali Makbulohlu (Mu Eta, '19) was awarded the Undergraduate Achievement Awards for Juniors. Additionally, the chapter was one of the six chapters that achieved Founders' Level for the 2021-2022 school year.









14	 5	1
30	\$3	,541.82

Colorado's Mu Pi Chapter hosted their second annual retreat at 12k feet elevation. Chapter Videographer Will Vrielink (Mu Pi, '21) shared, "After getting snowed on last time, the chapter made sure every brother was bundled up and ready! We stayed warm through some cold nights in our 16-person tent and capped it off with a beautiful attempted summit of Grays Peak. The best way to bond is by doing difficult things together!"To watch the video recap of their camping retreat, check out their Instagram page, @sam.cuboulder. Additionally, in November, the chapter shared, "Last community service day, we packaged several thousand eggs for those in need! We always enjoy volunteering at the Community Food Share Co."





23	(5	1
259	259		7,000

The Mu Chi Chapter at Michigan State moved into a larger house and continued their multi-year partnership with SAM National Properties. The chapter has spent the 2022-2023 academic year in a larger facility. Adam Budiansky (Mu Chi, '21) has begun work on the development of a Safety Always Matters (SAM) initiative for the chapter and is creating key messaging around risk management and harm prevention.





94	()	•
16			280

The chapter is the 2022 recipient of the NIC's Chapter Award of Distinction and Lyle Yaggy (Mu Psi, '20), recieved the Undergraduate Award of Distinction. This fall, the Mu Psi Chapter at Miami OH who shared, "after our chapter meeting, our [fratres] cleaned up the alleys around our chapter house to help keep Oxford, OH clean."





120	5	0	5
200			\$-

This Fall, the Beta Gamma Chapter at the University of Arizona recruited 50 new initiates, their largest class in the last five years! The chapter also attended a Greek Life Healthy Relationships Meeting hosted by their IFC. The chapter shared, "Members of our chapter had a great night at the meeting learning how members of Greek life can foster and maintain healthy connections with everyone in their lives." Additionally, the chapter's former Prior, Anthony Andolino (Beta Gamma, '19), won President of the Year. The chapter shared, "Through continued dedication to our chapter, he has helped improve our house every day."







Continued on the next page. >>

OCTAGONIAN

18

Many members of the Beta lota Chapter at the University of Wisconsin participated in Study Abroad in the Spring semester, meeting up with one another in Florence, Italy. The chapter maintained high academic standards last year with 17 members making Dean's List and an overall Chapter GPA of 3.49. Within this, the chapter utilized alumni to help connect current students with recent graduates as a method to teach them about pathways of interest within their colleges and majors.







The Beta Psi chapter at the University of Virginia hosted their $\Sigma AM \times DZ$ Wingfest event where they combined philanthropy with chicken wings. In doing so, the chapter raised over three thousand dollars! Additionally, this summer at Convention, the chapter was one of the six chapters that achieved the Founders' Level for the 2021-2022 school year.



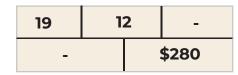




At the 2022 Convention, the Beta Omega Chapter at Kentucky Wesleyan was recognized with the community service award for completing 37 hours of volunteer service per member. This fall, the chapter also hosted its second alumni disc golf tournament and participated in the Panther Pride 5K. "We saw familiar faces who joined us for Homecoming and Fall Family Weekend! Oh, what a great weekend it was to be a Sammy!"







This Fall, the Gamma Epsilon Chapter at Illinois-Chicago collected canned food to donate to the Greater Chicago Food Depository. The chapter shared, "with our friends at Delta Phi Epsilon , we were able to collect over 400 lbs of canned food for those in need! Thanks to all for supporting!" Additionally, this fall, the chapter volunteered for the second year in a row at the Chicago Marathon.





This fall, the Gamma Kappa Chapter participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's in Brazos County in support of The Judy Fund. They raised \$1846 for the Walk to End Alzheimer's - just shy of their \$2,000 goal. They had 26 people registered on their team which surpasses the chapter's membership of 21 individuals.





15	8	3	1	
424			\$525	

The members of the Gamma Lambda Chapter at Northern Illinois University donated \$100 to the Dekalb Tails Humane Society Donation. The chapter shared, "We hope these supplies can help take care of our local sheltered pets. Visit The Dekalb Tails Humane Society if you are interested in picking up a new friend!" Additionally, the chapter participated in Chicago's Annual Walk to End Alzheimer's.











This Fall, the Gamma Tau Chapter at Florida participated in a trash pick up with the Keep Alachua County Beautiful (KACB). The chapter shared, "Our fratres love contributing to the community by keeping it clean with KACB. Big thanks to our philanthropy chair, Austin, for organizing such a meaningful event." Additionally, this summer at Convention, the chapter was one of the six chapters that achieved Founders' Level for the 2021-2022 school year.



Arizona State University



The members of the Gamma Phi Chapter at Arizona State participated in their IFC Open raising \$1,250 for The Judy Fund. The chapter developed an understanding of the risks of hazing and was recognized by ASU Fraternity Sorority Life Staff for their commitment to not allow hazing within their membership experience.





FXBrandeis University

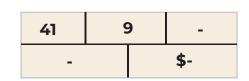


The Gamma Chi Chapter at Brandeis University hosted a Pie-a-Sammy event. Prior Adrian Karwoski said, "With a lot of work from our philanthropy committee, we were able to raise \$225 to donate to the Humane League for Animal Welfare." For a second year in a row, the chapter went to Honey Pot Hill Orchards this fall to go apple picking and eat cider donuts. Matt Merovitz (Gamma Chi, '19) shared, "Brotherhood events, like this, help us better showcase the type of support that we have to offer. Whenever we go out as a brotherhood, we try to create an inclusive environment where fratres and candidates feel comfortable to best enjoy our time together."





ΓΨ Temple University



This Fall, the members of the Gamma Psi Chapter at Temple participated in food packaging and delivery, and maintaining local playgrounds. The community service has been organized through a local church and middle school near campus.





△BAmerican University



This fall, the Delta Beta Chapter at American participated in a Alpha Chi Omega Soccer tournament in support of Domestic Violence Awareness.



FIU AZ
Florida International University



This Fall, the members of the Delta Zeta Chapter participated in FIU Homecoming, and in FIU's Pathers Got Talent. This summer at Convention, Prior Douglas Echenagucia (Delta Zeta, '21) earned the Prior of the Year award for the 2021-2022 school year. Additionally, Sergio Reyes (FIU, '19) was awarded an Undergraduate Achievement Award.





18	6	5	1
-		\$	6,500

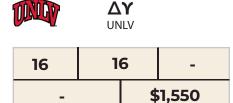




18	18		-
91			\$700

This Fall, the fratres of the Delta Pi Chapter at Ottawa University participated in the annual Ottawa Greek Olympics. Everyone came to compete, finishing strong in 2nd place out of 9 rival fraternities. The event spanned the entire weekend with day events such as football, volleyball, and tugo-war, and also had night events including Pool, Pinball, and Poker. There was also a bottle drive in which the chapter raised \$307.60 which was donated to the local Children's Hospital.





The Delta Upsilon Chapter at University of Nevada - Las Vegas participated in homecoming with fellow Greek organizations and Greek Night.



 $\Delta\Omega$ Rochester Institute of Technology

21	9	•	6
425		\$17,180	

This fall, the Delta Omega Chapter at RIT hosted their second annual Run for the Fund raising \$1.2k for The Judy Fund. This fall the chapter also hosted their annual retreat at Keuka Lake to deepen connections amongst their fellow fratres. Vice Prior Mitch Schauer (Delta Omega, '19) shared, "During our retreats, we reflect on one of our values, brotherhood. As a chapter, we need to maintain the bonds forged through tough times, foster a spirit of friendship, resilience, and trust one another. This is how we will prosper as a chapter and grow as individuals."



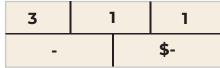


7	•	•	-
50			\$-

Our Epsilon Alpha Chapter at SFA shared, "Our fratres continue to make the pledge to protest the violent act of hazing in any form." This fall, members hosted an alumni tailgate at the 96th Battle of Piney Woods game.





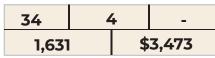


Epsilon Gamma at Illinois State University participated in a joint philanthropic event raising money for the Judy Fund with the Rho Chapter at University of Illinois Urbana Champaign. The chapter shared, "Thanks for letting us join in on your paint ball event! We had a fun time raising money for a good cause!" The chapter also visited the Rho Chapter early in the semester for a brotherhood poker night. The strong connection between these two central Illinois chapters affirms the strong values of Sigma Alpha Mu and the sincerity of brotherhood across campuses.





EE SUNY-Geneseo



This Fall, the Epsilon Epsilon Chapter at SUNY-Geneseo got together with the Sisters of Sisters Making a Change. While together, both groups were able to enjoy the amazing taste of ice cream. Additionally, the chapter participated in SUNY-Geneseo's Title IX office's annual Love Shouldn't Hurt campaign.





ΕΘWest Virginia University



Last May, The Epsilon Theta Chapter at West Virginia partnered with Project Linus and participated in making handmade blankets for children in need. Project Linus is a non-profit organization that provides love, a sense of security, and warmth to children in need by hand-making blankets and quilts.

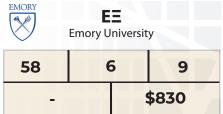






The Epsilon Nu Chapter at UCONN created new public trails for a local forest conservation trust this past spring. The chapter shared, "This tradition has been a core part of our candidate education process to teach the value of service. Big thank you to Joshua's Trust for having us!"





The Epsilon Xi Chapter at Emory won the Emory Miracle x IFC philanthropy flag football tournament! The chapter shared, "The \$830 dollars raised by the chapter will support the children's healthcare of Atlanta." This summer at Convention, Ben Fox (Epsilon Xi, '21) earned the Recorder of the Year award for the 2021-2022 school year.







Last spring, the Epsilon Pi Chapter participated in their Greek Week raising \$12,895 in support of Arms Wide Open, Glimmer of Hope, and The Cure Starts Now Foundation. The chapter shared, "We're already missing Greek Week, but we had so much fun with our sorority and fraternity partners!" This fall in partnership with the Epsilon Delta Provisional Chapter at JWU participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's event. They collectively raised over \$2.3K.

CTAGONIAN

PATRICK JAMES WRIGHT III

Written by



AJ Davis



At the 2022 Convention, Fra Patrick James Wright III (FIU '14) was elected by unanimous decision to serve as the next Young Alumnus Consul representing and supporting the Octagon and Undergraduate Advisory Committee. At the business session, Wright made history becoming the first African-American to be elected to the Octagon. "I am a big believer in the power of role modeling and envisioning myself excelling more," shared Patrick.

Patrick joined the Delta Zeta Chapter at Florida International. His interest in the opportunity of the Young Alumnus Consul began in 2016 when he began his first semester as Prior of the Chapter. "I was admittedly nervous knowing someone could run from the floor," Patrick humbly noted. "I've worked up to this, but this role could very well not have been my next opportunity. It is such a great honor to be considered."

Wright has served in numerous capacities since becoming a Sammy including Prior of the chapter, Education Leadership Consultant, CLD Facilitator, as well as a DLI Participant. With the knowledge he gained from these positions, the question asked of him was what goals are you looking to accomplish while serving this role? Wright said, "Sometimes undergraduates do not believe that headquarters is there to support them, rather it serves to be a disciplinary resource.

In reality the Headquarters and the Octagon represent the members who want to know what's going on and support them by leveraging resources. Another goal Wright has revolves around the UAC and how to involve the members more. Incorporating more professional development for the Undergraduate Advisory Committee would lead our students to feeling like their voice is heard by the international organization. They don't have a voting responsibility and it's more of an educational role.

Based on what I know from my schooling and professional work, the way that the fraternity operates and learning organizational management, would be key factors for students to learn."
Fra Wright is looking forward to in his role specifically to build relationships between the Octagon and UAC for the benefit of each. Wright suggests, "our chapters continue to grow and as our college campuses get more diverse, there may be a need to widen the number of undergraduates on the UAC."

Fra Wright III talked in depth about his plans and where he sees the organization headed. He concluded, "It is truly my deepest longing to be a great person. Unafraid to make mistakes. Strong enough to bring people to the same place. Vibrant enough to change an environment without saying a word. And in the end, after all the music stops. My goal in life is to live my life in such a way that when I die, someone can say he cared."





Reyes

For many undergraduates, this was the first time in their membership experience that Convention had been held in person. For many alumni, this was the first time in many years that they've seen their peers, friends, and brothers. For all, it was an opportunity to connect and be bound by the fraternalism of Sigma Alpha Mu.

For one undergraduate attendee, Pedro Reyes (Tau, '19), this was his first time attending Sigma Alpha Mu Convention and an eye-opening experience to how vastly different the University of Alabama community in Tuscaloosa is from many other campus that have Sammy chapters.

As you can see from the photo from opening night, the Tau Chapter's exemplary efforts earned a tremendous amount of recognition for Pedro individually, and his chapter; however for Pedro, his recollection of Convention and humility were caught up in the following evening. "My favorite part was the second night and the awards for alumni and friends of Sammy," shared Pedro. "It was my first realization that I am a part of something so much bigger and I will be a part of this for the rest of my life. It was a beautiful recognition for people who have had a lasting impact who still have a fundamental love for the fraternity."

Pedro shares that fundamental love of the fraternity and has been motivated as an undergraduate member to share the beneficial power of fraternity and sorority involvement with the University of Alabama campus and surrounding community. University of Alabama has nearly 70 Greek-lettered organizations across four councils. Many of those chapters have signature events that they are known for on an annual basis. For many years, Sammy was a smaller chapter on campus and was looking to carve out a name for themselves.

Pedro recollected, "Last year, I was Philanthropy Chair. We were saying if we want to grow as a chapter, we need a staple that people will know us by." This led to the Sammy Safebox initiate started Fall 2021. The Sammy Safebox benefits the Tuscaloosa Safe Center (TSC) which provides resources and support to survivors of sexual assault at no cost. Tuscaloosa Safe Center has been around for 40 years and Sammy was the first fraternity to ever reach out to partner with them. Pedro's trailblazing vision and strong initative led the first year of the Sammy Safebox to fund raise \$9,000 and acquire over 35,000 items for TSC. The goal this year is to reach \$30,000 and 70,000 items. The money raised helped to hire a part time nurse who provides care to survivors who visit TSC and Pedro met her in-person last month.

Through its inaugural year, Sammy Safebox continues to provide support to survivors and the chapter is currently in the middle of coordinating the second year's worth of activities. By providing this initiative, Sammy started to gain respect and recognition from larger chapters on campus and have now been invited to participate in larger philanthropic events with other organizations.

For Pedro, it isn't necessarily about the recognition. He was not expecting Convention to be highlighted with so many awards for Tau. He saw Executive Director, Andy Huston (Minnesota, '01), at Convention - whom he hadn't seen since he was a freshman - and Andy remarked, "look what you've made happen in four years!" Pedro started his time at University of Alabama wanting to create the biggest impact as an individual, and did not always have the sense that fraternity was for him. His freshman tour guide was a member of another fraternity and Pedro wasn't certain he would end up joining, but found a place in the Tau Chapter that felt right.

His impact as an individual and with the fraternity is remarkable. As Pedro approaches graduation, he is mindful of transition and passing the torch to the next group of students who can make things happen. "The biggest thing is I like to create a plan five and ten years out. That is my approach. It was brought to my attention at the beginning of the semester. After May, I do not get to have influence over where the chapter goes. I have goals for this chapter, but I am not the person who moves the pedals anymore. It is about providing the chapter with the right resources they need to find their passions and to make things happen."

Pedro likened Sammy to the little engine that could - no one expected them to accomplish this and they somehow made it happen and are prepared to make it even bigger and better in the years to come. He also says other chapters can be doing just as much. "Every chapter can be doing this. We are not doing something that magical. We are making sure our brothers have a lot of passion for this and making sure our brothers are seeing the overall impact of the work."

Thinking back to his freshman tour guide who told him to join a fraternity when he was uncertain. Pedro thought, "I am never gonna be a fraternity guy who says for life and I'm literally that guy now because I fundamentally believe this organization has change my life. It has the potential to do that for every member while they do what they are passionate about."

What comes next for Pedro after college is to be determined, but he knows he wants to remain connected to the Fraternity. He has ambitions of a career in law. He would love to see Sigma Alpha Mu grow to other campuses in the South, and will continue to help people in all aspects of his life - a cornerstone of his time prior to and in Sigma Alpha Mu's Tau chapter.



(Nebraska, '82), Vice Supreme Prior

Alumni play a central role in achieving the EAM 2030 vision: "To transform Sigma Alpha Mu into the first choice for collegians seeking a forward-thinking, inclusive fraternity which enhances the university experience and prepares the fraternity member for a fulfilling life." That's why the Octagon has adopted a new "customer centric" Alumni Relations committee that is structured with recent member survey data in mind.

Looking at our Σ AM 2030 stakeholder diagram, *sam.org/sam-2030*, Σ AM undergrads and alumni are the hub of the organization.

Stakeholders are inexorably linked to ensure the long-term support and growth of our Fraternity. The new Alumni Relations Committee is organized to successfully engage, inform and retain enthusiastic participation of graduate members of ΣAM .

How will we do it?

Our strategic plan calls for us to be a data-driven organization. The member survey mentioned earlier is the beginning of a commitment to reach out to members to understand how to provide the best fraternity experience throughout the various life stages of our alumni. Initial data indicates we need to provide a variety of opportunities for alumni participation.

We have published the Alumni Relations Committee structure with this article. We invested in the various functions and will need a great deal of help to engage and motivate a strong and committed alumni population. Currently, the Octagon is focused on Data & Analytics, Communication and Development.

We are grateful for any amount of time you can commit to volunteering for ΣΑΜ! Committee volunteers typically dedicate a few hours per month depending on the committee's approach. Inspired to serve? Email evanremer@gmail.com or dean19.lambert@gmail.com.

WHERE YOU CAN HELP:

Sign up for one of the following sub-committees at sam.org/volunteer.

DATA & ANALYTICS

Collect, analyze and maintain data to effectively tailor and target alumni communications, programs and services to specific alumni segments.

ALUMNI COMMUNICATIONS

Work with Σ AM entities (Foundation, Endowment, National Properties & Property Management) and Σ AM headquarters staff to coordinate or create timely, relevant communication outreach that engages, informs and motivates alumni throughout their lifetime of membership.

ALUMNI SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Identify, create and manage the delivery of services and programs that would be most valuable to each of the identified segments and/or clusters of Σ AM alumni. Measure and report on participation and alumni experience satisfaction on a regular, periodic basis.

ALUMNI INVOLVEMENT

Support recruitment of volunteers to serve as committee chairs and members, chapter advisors, and supporters of alumni services/programs.

ALUMNI EVENT SUPPORT

Develop tools and resources for alumni reunions, chapter anniversaries or other significant milestones, social events such as golf outings or annual gatherings, alumni philanthropic and community service efforts, and other international alumni events.

ALUMNI GROUP RESOURCES

Support and manage Alumni Club Formation, recruitment, and growth by creating tools and resources for alumni club membership targeting and experience support.

ALUMNI DEVELOPMENT

Responsible for non-deductible fundraising, recruiting investors for housing development projects and planned giving (in support of ΣAM Foundation and Endowment).

FOUNDATION

Since our inception, the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation's mission has been "to support the educational interests and activities of Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity, to furnish student aid, and to encourage and develop conduct and traits of character consistent with high morals, constructive citizenship, scholarship, leadership and community service."

To learn more about the foundation's programs or to make a donation, go to sam-fdn.org.



The 2023 applications for our Lawrence D. Schaffer Endowed Scholarship Program are now open!

More than 140 scholarships for Sammy undergraduates, graduate students, and non-members including some for children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren of alumni! Applications are due by January 30, 2023.

FIND APPLICATION LINKS AT **SAM-FDN.ORG/APPLICATIONS**





New scholarship awards for 2023

Sean P. Daly Memorial Scholarship – In memory of Sean P. Daly (UIC, '95)
Tommy Howe III Memorial Scholarship – In memory of Tommy Howe III (Miami OH, '17)

FOSTERING SUCCESS - BY THE NUMBERS IN 2021-2022, THE SAM FOUNDATION AWARDED:

- 149 scholarships to Sammy undergrads, graduate students, and others.
- \$174,000 in total scholarship awards, impacting 38 chapters.
- 120 Guller Young Scholar Awards to new initiates in 29 chapters with a minimum 3.75 GPA.
- \$6,750 in emergency grants to undergraduates
- 2 scholarships provided for chapter leaders to attend the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) hosted by AFLV.
- \$450 in grants from the Jewish Endeavors Initiative to support Jewish educational programming.
- \$45,275 in grants distributed for Fraternity programming to benefit students.

NEW SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS!

Ralph Santiago Memorial

Started by friends and alumni of the Gamma Chi Chapter at Brandeis University in memory of Ralph Santiago, Brandeis, '93.

Tommy Howe III Memorial

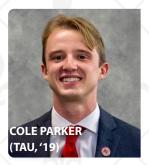
Started by friends, family, and alumni of the Mu Psi Chapter at Miami University (Ohio) in memory of Tommy Howe III, Miami, '17.

To make a donation to these or other scholarship funds, go to sam-fdn.org/donate or contact Nancy Dietmeyer at nancyd@sam-fdn.org

WITH OUR SINCERE THANKS

Messages of gratitude from the 2022 Lawrence D. Schaffer Scholarship Recipients

The Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation would like to thank the many donors who have made it possible for 149 Sammys and others to receive a total of \$174,000 in scholarship awards in the 2021-2022 academic year. Since the Foundation's inception, we've awarded more than \$3.6 million in scholarships, impacting the lives of nearly 4,000 students.



HYMAN I. JACOBSON TOP SENIOR SCHOLAR

Words cannot express how grateful I feel to have been blessed to receive this scholarship. One of my main goals in the pursuit of a bachelor's degree has been to graduate with the least debt possible, as I have seen just how shackling and difficult student debt can be to recent graduates. Thanks to your generosity I am proud to announce that I have managed to graduate debt-free.



GARY GOTLIEB SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you so much for this scholarship. Since I am an out-ofstate student, I will definitely leave the school with loans and this support will help me tremendously. I will be forever grateful for this scholarship as I go on to finish my final year in college and pursue a career. It is a blessing to receive help from thoughtful individuals and one that I will not soon forget.



TAU (ALABAMA) SCHOLARSHIP

Thank you for the

tremendous opportunity you have given to me. I hope you can see that this scholarship will go a long way in my academic endeavors. Furthermore, I hope to use it to the greatest extent that I can so that, someday, I can also pay it forward to someone who will appreciate the opportunity as I do now.



GORMAN FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

Each year you continue providing financial assistance to fratres who are taking the steps to better their chapters, their communities, and themselves, is undoubtedly another year of changed lives. I consider your generosity an investment in the future of our chapter, of Sammys, and my future.



RON RAPCHIK MU PHI SCHOLARSHIP

As I pay for much of my own schooling, I cannot overstate the impact of your generosity. Your gift will help me to continue my education so that I can reach my goals of being happy and successful. Furthermore, your gift will help to ensure that I can give back and help others as you have helped me. Thank you again for your generosity. It has truly made a difference for me, and I am incredibly grateful for it.



HAMMERSTEIN, RONN & KIMBERLY TULMAN SCHOLARSHIPS

I wanted to extend my sincerest appreciation for your generosity. When I joined, I was told about our incredible alumni network. I have received tremendous amounts of support from our organization financially and beyond. I am forever thankful that members of my community genuinely care and are willing to invest in my future.



ALBERT J. KAUFF SCHOLARSHIP

I am excited for the possibilities of furthering my education. I decided to join Sammy when a friend of mine, who was already a member, invited me to a recruitment event to meet the other fraters. Right away, I knew we made a connection. The fraters of my chapter showed love and supported everyone in the brotherhood.



WILLIAM OBER SCHOLARSHIP

You have lightened my financial burden which allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. I am committed to my education and to

health care, and one step closer to becoming a doctor. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.



SCHWARTZ DAUGHTERS OF FRATRES SCHOLARSHIP

By providing me with this scholarship, you are giving me the chance to further my education and continue exploring these fascinating subjects. I look forward to learning more and taking new engaging courses this upcoming school year and deeply appreciate the donation you made to allow me to do so. I am so fortunate to be able to continue my education and thank you for your support in doing so.

HONOR & MEMORIAL GIFTS MARCH THROUGH OCTOBER 2022

Contributions to the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation can be made in memory of fratres, family, and friends, and to honor living members. These gifts help to further the Foundation's educational initiatives to benefit our student fratres. For more information or to make a gift, please go to www.samfdn.org/donate. For questions or corrections, contact Nancy Dietmeyer at nancyd@sam-fdn.org.

BB Brooks (Rutgers, '87) To the Michael El-Far Memorial Scholarship By Andy J. Huston (Minnesota, '01)

Jerry L. Conrey (CSU-Fullerton, '84) By Michael W. Brown (UC-Berkeley, '95) Dane Elkins

By Brett Elkins (USC, '85)

Madeline Florence for Mother's Day To the Andy Dickson Scholarship By Elana Grissom

Bernice Greenberg To the Theta Centennial Fund

By Lawrence Greenberg (Pennsylvania, '82) Isaac Kohn Claar (Beta Iota, '19) By Robert A. Kohn (Louisville, '58)

Leland D. Manders (Miami OH, '72) By Bruce J. Tasch, M.D. (Miami OH, '74)

Sean P. Daly (University of Illinois at Chicago, '95) To the Sean P. Daly Memorial Scholarship

By Jeffrey B. Ekergren (University of Illinois at Chicago, '02) By Michael I. Farr, DMD (University of Illinois at Chicago,

Jeffrey A. Davis (University of Illinois-Urbana, '73) By Gary G. Kash (University of Illinois-Urbana, '71) By Adam Levine

Andrew "Andy" C. Dickson (WashU, '83) To the Andy Dickson Scholarship

By Stephen M. Alpart (WashU, '82) By Stephen M. Emer (WashU, '83)

By Madeline Florence

By David P. Kleppel (WashU, '82)

Howard S. Dvorin (Rutgers, '57) By Donald J. Blum (Rutgers, '57)

Joshua J. Eber (UC-San Diego, '98)

By Lon N. Nguyen (UC-San Diego, '95)

Michael Amir El-Far (Rutgers, '19) By Jerry L. Conrey (Cal State-Fullerton, '84) By Thomas M. Stremme (Rutgers, '85)

Judge Martin Feldman (Tulane, '52) By Sidney W. Lassen (Tulane, '53)

Jarin F. Feldstein (UC-Berkeley, '60) By Carole Feldstein

John Florence for his Birthday and Father's Day To the Andy Dickson Scholarship By Elana Grissom

Charles E. Gettleman (Rutgers, '34) To the Charles E. Gettleman Scholarship By Lawrence Gettleman (Rutgers, '59)

Alfred M. Gladstein (Oklahoma, '24) By Jay S. Gladstein (Texas-El Paso, '62)

Max Glauben By Marc E. Perlstein (North Texas, '71) By David S. Rice (Illinois-Chicago, '83)

Robert and Lois Goldberg By Chad A. Goldberg (Texas, '00)

Robert A. Goldstein (Rutgers, '59) By Donald J. Blum (Rutgers, '57)

Harvey A. Gottlieb (Long Island, '58)

By Phyllis Gottlieb

Ron Granader By Michael A. Rich (Ohio State, '63) Mu Psi 2021 Founders Cup

By Bruce J. Tasch, M.D. (Miami OH, '74)

My Brothers By Ronald Feusier

David H. Phillips (Ohio Sate, '82) By Kathie Garland

Daniel Puentes (FIU, '13) & Chelsie Boodoo Wedding By Benji D. Bearman (Minnesota, '97)

Sigma Omega Chapter By Herbert S. Goldberg (NC State, '48)

Theta 100th anniversary scholarship to ensure the continued get togethers of the brothers of the greatest Theta Bud-Era

To the Theta Centennial Fund By Eric R. Bober (Pennsylvania, '81)

To help the Fraternity that saved my life and changed it for the better. Fast & Firm!

By Kaiden Scott Hicks (Beta Omega, '17)

Thomas Edward Howe III (Miami OH, '17) To the Tommy Howe III Memorial Scholarship

By Mary Pat and Mike Bitter By Mu Psi Chapter Alumni & Friends By Thomas E. and Ann Marie Howe By Marc Schneiderman (MiamiOH. '17)

Representative Tom Lantos (Washington, '49) By Nelson France (West Virginia, '06)

Richard M. Latkin (Columbia, '55) By Stephen V. Berzok (Columbia, '57)

Martin "Marty" B. Levinson (Texas, '84) To the Marty Levinson Memorial Scholarship J. Bradley Greenblum (Texas, '76)

Seymour I. Marcus (Cornell, '49) By Alan S. Harris (Cornell, '62)

Jerry Miller (Miami OH, '76) By Wiliam L. Frischman (MiamiOH, '74) Jerry Miller (Miami OH, '76) To the Jerry Miller Scholarship By Leland D. Manders (MiamiOH, '72)

Susan Leigh Morris By Nicholas McLlellan (West Florida, '12)

Stanley R. Orsolek (Long Island, '66) By Peter I. Livingston (Long Island, '63)

Sheldon Pedowitz By Stephen V. Berzok (Columbia, '57)

Marvin Popeck (SUNY Buffalo, '55) By Howard R. Rosenthal (NYU, '57)

Benjamin Raphan (Rochester, '57)

By Steven B. Oppen (Rochester, '64) Mark S. Ratner (Minnesota, '81)

By Gerald A. Russ (Purdue, '55)

Jack "Rocky" Rogers (NC State, '74)

By Kimberly Davis

Allen M. Rosenthal (Buffalo, '55) By Michael B. Schultz (Buffalo, '56)

Ralph Santiago (Brandeis, '93) To the Ralph Santiago Memorial Scholarship By Steven A. Wander (Brandeis, '93)

George J. Schwartz (Rutger, '57) By Donald J. Blum (Rutgers, '57)

Jerome M. Skibell (Texas, '65) By Norman F. Crandall (UC-Berkeley, '64) AN OBITUARY FOR

DOROTHY DUNCAN

DAUGHTER OF SIGMA ALPHA MU FOUNDER. JACOB KAPLAN

She was the cherished only child of Shirley (née Vollberg) and Jacob Kaplan. Her father, a Manhattan attorney, was a student at CCNY when Jews were excluded from fraternities, motivating him and 7 of his friends ("The Octagon") to found Sigma Alpha Mu ("the Sammys") which spawned chapters on college campuses throughout North America.

Dorothy, known for her beauty throughout her life, inside and out, was an alumnus of Erasmus Hall High School where she was named the "Class Actress" in her yearbook. She attended NYU and worked as a runway model in Manhattan for several years before becoming a buyer at Macy's in Herald Square. The epitome of vivacious, she was also hilarious, good-natured, and amenable to new things - even trying white water rafting with her grandchildren at age 80. Dorothy was a fantastic cook best known for her incredible brisket and someone who always encouraged her children to invite their non-Jewish friends to her Passover Seder to learn about Jewish traditions.

Although she lived most of her life in her beloved Kansas City, she was still a New Yorker through and through who loved her Schrafft's coffee ice cream and, even in her 80s, could still navigate her way around the streets of Manhattan so fast that even her grandchildren couldn't keep up.

She adored her many dear friends, her dogs, babies, old black and white movies, playing tennis at Oakwood CC, traveling the globe, rooting for the KC Chiefs and a good party. She also had a remarkable memory for the people and events of her life and always had a great story to share such as when she was 4 and her parents brought her along to see the legendary fan dancer, Sally Rand. As she told it, she stole the show when she screamed, "Look Mommy – that lady is naked!" But most central to her personality was her incredible maternal nature. No woman ever loved her children or grandchildren more deeply than she, and she always made sure they knew it.



Fra Jackson Roth (Sigma Theta, '22), son of Fra Bradley Roth (Texas, '86)

Fra Ryan Saywitz (Mu Theta, '22), son of Fra Barry Saywitz (UCLA, '86)

DIVIDENDS

Fra Otis Cohen (West Florida, '11) and wife, Christian Moore, welcome a girl, Jestina Rose Cohen.

MERGERS

Fra Jordan Grebow (Indiana, '10) and wife, Samantha Gordon

Fra Michael Hiller (Arizona, '07) and wife, Vanessa Marroquin

Fra Alec Bones King (Indiana, '10) and wife, Emily Smith

Know a Sammy who had a child or was married in 2022? Send us an update at sam.org/familyupdates.



CHAPTER ETERNAL

Forever remembering these men and the love they had for Sigma Alpha Mu and their fratres.

Notices of their passing were reported between Mid-March to Mid-November. To report a death, please email samhq@sam.org.

Memorial donations in memory of Chapter Eternal members may be directed to the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation. **To donate online, go to SAM.ORG/DONATE**

BETA

Gerald L Dorf (Cornell, '54)

Stephen A Kasten (Cornell, '56)

GAMMA

Stanley M Lipnick (Columbia, '54)

THETA

Charles K Keil (UPenn, '52)

KAPPA

Robert Latz (Minnesota, '50)

Lloyd L Robinson (Minnesota, '56)

NU

Marvin Popeck (Buffalo, '55)

RHO

Jeffrey A Davis (Illinois, '73)

TAU

Sidney Hollander (Alabama, '56)

OMEGA

Joseph M Tanenbaum (Toronto, '51)

SIGMA ALPHA

Michael J Lubel (Oklahoma, '63)

SIGMA BETA

Eden S Feldstein (Ohio State, '61)

Richard H Gurevitz (Ohio State, '57)

SIGMA GAMMA

Gerald D Horowitz (Tulane, '57)

SIGMA DELTA

James M Dring (Rutgers, '90)

Martin S Hanopole (Rutgers, '57)

SIGMA ZETA

Ronald H Grumbacher (Indiana, '69)

Jack A Hertz (Indiana, '60)

Andrew L Platkin (Indiana, '08)

SIGMA ETA

Howard Aduss (Purdue, '51)

SIGMA THETA

David Abramowitz (Texas, '66)

Robert E Gurwitz (Texas, '58)

SIGMA IOTA

Donald A Busch (Michigan, '41)

Avern L Cohn (Michigan, '42)

Merrill L Kaufman (Michigan, '53)

Saul S Saulson (Michigan, '47)

SIGMA KAPPA

David H Dickstein (Lehigh, '68)

SIGMANU

Barry A Posner (Washington WA, '58)

SIGMA OMICRON

Marshall D Becker (Nebraska, '52)

Leonard A Mozer (Nebraska, '50)

Martin E Sophir (Nebraska, '58)

SIGMARHO

Arthur M Malcy (Missouri, '51)

Norman S Pearl (Missouri, '52)

SIGMA SIGMA

Albert P Moon (Berkeley, '96)

Stanley Trilling (Berkeley, '58)

SIGMA TAU

Donald M Simon (Oregon, '48)

SIGMA CHI

Arthur Chernow (Maryland, '56)

Michael H Folb (Maryland, '57)

David Freishtat (Maryland, '54)

Joseph S Gimbel (Maryland, '61)

Franklin Goldstein (Maryland, '47)

Stephen E Harris (Maryland, '56)

Martin S Kleinman (Maryland, '53)

Robert C Levin (Maryland, '46)

Joel M Smeyne (Maryland, '57)

SIGMA OMEGA

David I Brook (NC State, '48)

MU GAMMA

Stuart Mestelman (Case Western, '61)

MU EPSILON

Stuart M Lilien (Miami FL, '57)

MU THETA

David A Kronick (USC, '86)

MU KAPPA

Eugene Driker (Wayne State, '56)

Ronald A Steinberg (Wayne State, '59)

MU OMICRON

Bernard B Breslin (NYU, '52)

MU RHO

Arnold D Cohen (Rochester, '78)

MU PH

Harvey A Gottlieb (Long Island, '58)

MU CHI

Warren E Wolfe (Michigan State, '73)

MU PSI

John D Williams (Miami OH, '69)

BETA GAMMA

Harry Seton (Arizona, '58)

BETA DELTA

Michael S Barko (San Jose State, '77)

Sander H Heller (San Jose State, '67)

BETA RHO

Herbert Shapiro (Houston, '68)

BETA SIGMA

Lee N Prince (North Texas, '70)

BETA PS

Jeffrey L Galston (Virginia, '74)

BETA OMEGA

Michael H Welsch (KY Wesleyan, '71)

GAMMA EPSILON

Alan B Itzkowitz (IL-Chicago, '70)

GAMMA PSI

Wesley T. Richardson (Temple, '17)

EPSILON DELTA

Nurbu Thandu (Johnson & Wales, '13)

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THE OCTAGONIAN



Sigma Alpha Mu Fraternity 8701 Founders Road Indianapolis, IN 46268



Moving? Update your contact information on My Σ AM or send your new address to samhg@sam.org.



Parents, if your son still receives his copy of The Octagonian at your home and is no longer in college or living with you, feel free to send us his new address by emailing samhq@sam.org.

To make a difference in 2023!

Start your year off making a difference for our young Sammy brothers!

When you make your donation to the Sigma Alpha Mu Foundation, you can receive a tax-deduction for your generous gift.

Every gift helps us serve our

Brotherhood through
social and service opportunities,
encouraging academic excellence
and teaching leadership skills.

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