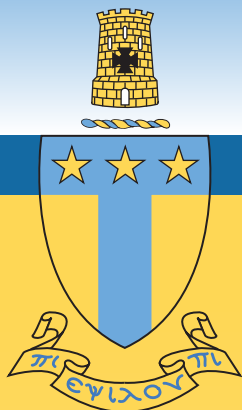


# THE BINDER

NEWS FOR ALUMNI & FRIENDS OF THETA ALPHA CHAPTER - BALL STATE



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## Meet the men of this spring's Gamma Rho pledge class

Please welcome the new members of the Gamma Rho pledge class successfully recruited from spring rush held this January (see page 00). They are (l-r):

<b>Jerry Padget,</b> <i>Vice President</i>	Soph	Kokomo, IN	General Studies
<b>Rayne Baldwin,</b> <i>President</i>	Frosh	Pendleton, IN	Marketing
<b>Mitch Snyder,</b> <i>Secretary</i>	Frosh	Auburn, IN	Business Admin.

*This gentleman unfortunately had to de-pledge for personal reasons.*

<b>Cosmas Bwambok</b> <i>Treasurer</i>	Soph	Fortville, IN	Psychology
<b>Nick Post</b>	Frosh	Noblesville, IN	Urban Planning
<b>Sam Mounsamrouth</b>	Frosh	Fort Wayne, IN	Marketing
<b>Alex Lyons</b>	Frosh	Muncie, IN	Exploratory
<b>Ryan Garvin</b>	Soph	Shelbyville, IN	Pre Med/Biology
<b>Drew Howard</b>	Frosh	Fishers, IN	Urban Planning
<b>Conner Bloss</b>	Frosh	Noblesville, IN	Supply Chain Mgmt.

# Undergrad and Alumni Brothers: please plan on participating in the Theta Alpha Career Network

Developed by the Theta Alpha Alumni Association as an opportunity for alumni to connect and mentor undergraduate students in their chosen field of study, the Theta Alpha Career Network is holding its inaugural workshop on Saturday, March 25th at 10:00 a.m.

by Gary Voreis  
 Director of Communications  
 Theta Alpha Alumni Association  
 Epsilon, 1975

**“This program will elevate our recruiting approach and clearly help distinguish Alpha Tau Omega from others.”**

Jake Hamm  
 Theta Alpha  
 Recruitment Chair  
 Gamma Mu, 2020

The event will take place at Ball State’s Whiting Business Building, Room 144, and will bring together Theta Alpha alumni and current active members for a day of networking, mentorship, and fellowship.

“We’re excited to provide this unique opportunity as an ongoing resource for helping Theta Alpha members successfully launch and advance in their chosen career paths,” remarked Rusty Bruce (Lambda, 1978), president of the Theta Alpha Alumni Association. “Our goal is to create enduring alliances – trusted advisory relationships – between alumni and active members to benefit both parties for years to come,” Bruce added.

The program seeks to ensure a smooth transition from student life at BSU to professional life by pairing alumni with similar academic histories, career choices, or work experience. While still in final planning stages, the workshop hopes to include potential breakout sessions that encompass nearly 60% of chapter member’s areas of study: Business Administration, Finance, Marketing, Sales, and Architecture.

Theta Alpha’s current Recruitment Chairman, Jake Hamm views the Theta Alpha Career Network with a compelling, extra benefit. “I envision this program becoming a powerful core component of our recruitment efforts,” Hamm proclaimed. “Fraternity rush programs at Ball State have become increasingly competitive and their corresponding recruiting strategies more sophisticated – this program will elevate our approach and clearly help distinguish Alpha Tau Omega from others,” added Hamm.

Watch future issues of *The Binder*, as well as email notices, for other workshop sessions and additional features of the Career Network.

Some of the ways The Theta Alpha Career Network can help:

- Avenues to internship possibilities
- Advance degree application tips & advice
- Career coaching: plan, guide, assess
- Connections to subject matter experts
- Ways to expand & enhance your professional network connections
- Connections to industry-specific executive search firms & placement services
- Nurturing, motivation & empowerment
- Resume writing & design
- Interview coaching, overcoming obstacles
- Letters of recommendation
- Professional references & endorsements
- Advance notice of job opportunities
- Awareness of relevant conferences, trade shows, & receptions that provide fertile networking opportunities (often free to students)

## Theta Alpha Career Network Workshop

### FAST FACTS:

WHEN: Saturday, March 25th, 10:00 a.m.  
 WHERE: BSU Whiting Business Bldg., Room 144  
 WHO SHOULD ATTEND: Alumni interested in mentoring a student  
 Active members seeking career advice  
 CONTACT: President.ThetaAlphaAA@gmail.com

### SCHEDULE:

10:00 a.m. Welcome & all-attendee meeting  
 11:00 a.m. Breakout sessions (TBD)  
 12:30 p.m. Fellowship lunch in The Village  
 1:30 p.m. Elite Eight March Madness watch at Brothers Bar & Grill (optional)



**Theta Alpha  
 Career Network**

# SWING TO HELP US REPLENISH THE THETA ALPHA SCHOLARSHIP FUND

SIGN UP TODAY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FIRST

## TAUPGOLF AT TOPGOLF

The Theta Alpha Alumni Association is **researching a new fundraising event for chapter scholarships**. We're calling it "TaupGolf at Topgolf" – and it can be played at more than 70 facilities across the U.S. and the U.K.

Why Topgolf? Nearby locations make it easy to join in the fun:

- With 70+ locations, Brothers, family, friends, and guests won't need to travel to Indiana to participate. Everyone plays at their nearest facility.
- Instead of committing six-to-seven hours out of your day to play an 18-hole golf course, you only commit to two-to-three hours.
- Think of it as a cross between bowling and golf. You'll enjoy climate-controlled tee areas for year-round play, comfortable seating, food, beverage, music, and HDTVs showing various sports. Just like bowling – eat, drink, and swing!
- Highest individual score wins, not lowest.



### TopGolf's Indy facility in Fishers

The \$18M, 60,000 sq. ft. TopGolf in Fishers, Indiana opened in October 2017. The sprawling, three-story facility offers year-round comfort with 102 climate-controlled hitting bays, a huge full-service sports bar, HDTVs in every bay, and restaurant.



## TENTATIVE TAUPGOLF EVENT DETAILS

- DATE:** A Thursday night or late Sunday in May or June (lowest rates)
- TIME:** About a 2.5-3 hours (perhaps an early Thursday night, Sunday afternoon or evening).
- COST:** \$75-\$95 per player (includes 2-hr. bay fee, food buffet and commemorative item).
- GOAL:** To raise scholarship funds and provide financial rewards for new recruits and active members. Scholarships are to be announced at Homecoming Weekend this October.
- EVENT SPONSORSHIPS:** Those who wish to sponsor a portion of the event to promote their business – honoring or recognizing someone – are free to do so. Packages will be available.
- PLAYER SPONSORSHIPS:** Each player is invited to solicit sponsorships from friends and family for their point totals. Sponsors pledge \$0.01 to \$0.25 per point achieved by the player.

### There's a TopGolf facility near you:

- |                                                                                                                         |                                                              |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ALABAMA</b><br>Birmingham<br>Huntsville                                                                              | <b>GEORGIA</b><br>Alpharetta<br>Buford<br>Atlanta<br>Augusta | <b>NEBRASKA</b><br>Omaha                                       | <b>S. CAROLINA</b><br>Charleston<br>Greenville<br>Myrtle Beach                                                                                  |
| <b>ARIZONA</b><br>Gilbert<br>Glendale<br>Scottsdale<br>Marana                                                           | <b>IDAHO</b><br>Boise                                        | <b>NEVADA</b><br>Las Vegas                                     | <b>TENNESSEE</b><br>Chattanooga<br>Knoxville<br>Nashville                                                                                       |
| <b>ARKANSAS</b><br>Rogers                                                                                               | <b>ILLINOIS</b><br>Naperville<br>Schaumburg                  | <b>NEW JERSEY</b><br>Edison<br>Mount Laurel                    | <b>TEXAS</b><br>Austin<br>Allen<br>Dallas<br>Fort Worth<br>The Colony<br>El Paso<br>Katy<br>Spring<br>Webster<br>McAllen<br>San Antonio<br>Waco |
| <b>CALIFORNIA</b><br>El Segundo<br>Ontario<br>Roseville<br>San Jose                                                     | <b>INDIANA</b><br>Fishers                                    | <b>NEW MEXICO</b><br>Albuquerque                               | <b>UTAH</b><br>Salt Lake City<br>Vineyard                                                                                                       |
| <b>COLORADO</b><br>Colorado Spg<br>Centennial<br>Thornton                                                               | <b>KANSAS</b><br>KC - OP<br>Wichita                          | <b>NEW YORK</b><br>LI - Holtsville                             | <b>VIRGINIA</b><br>Loudoun<br>Richmond<br>Virginia Beach                                                                                        |
| <b>FLORIDA</b><br>Fort Myers<br>Jacksonville<br>Lake Mary<br>Miami - Doral<br>Miami Gdn<br>Orlando<br>St. Pete<br>Tampa | <b>KENTUCKY</b><br>Louisville                                | <b>N. CAROLINA</b><br>CLT - SW<br>CLT - Univ<br>RDU            | <b>WASHINGTON</b><br>Renton                                                                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                         | <b>LOUISIANA</b><br>Baton Rouge                              | <b>OHIO</b><br>West Chester<br>Cleveland<br>Columbus           |                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                         | <b>MARYLAND</b><br>Baltimore<br>Germantown<br>Nat'l Harbor   | <b>OKLAHOMA</b><br>OK City                                     |                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                         | <b>MICHIGAN</b><br>Auburn Hills                              | <b>OREGON</b><br>Hillsboro                                     |                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                         | <b>MINNESOTA</b><br>Minneapolis                              | <b>PENNSYLVANIA</b><br>Phila - KOP<br>Phila - NE<br>Pittsburgh |                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                         | <b>MISSOURI</b><br>Chesterfield                              |                                                                |                                                                                                                                                 |

### THE TAU CLASSIC IS ON!

The 13th Tau Classic, our traditional golf outing, will be held on **Saturday, August 26th** at the Winding Ridge Golf Club in Lawrence, Indiana. This will be a best ball, foursome scramble.

We are planning for an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start, with dinner and auction to follow.

After a hiatus due to the Covid-19 outbreak, outing proceeds will also go to replenish the Theta Alpha Scholarship Fund. Watch for details soon.



Winding Ridge Golf Club  
Lawrence, Indiana

## INTERESTED BROTHERS:

**PLEASE NOTE:** In order to make this important event viable, we need a minimum of 125 players. The Covid outbreak prevented fundraising, and now we urgently need your help to replenish funds. Your prompt response will determine whether we commit to this event. **You must:**

## RESPOND BY MARCH 18TH

BY SUBMITTING THIS WEB FORM



## New chapter leadership tackles a hectic schedule of rush, social, and philanthropic events



Theta Alpha was pumped for spring rush this year and our recruitment chairmen worked tirelessly together to create a week full of fun and engaging events to attract potential new Brothers.

But first, we had to spread the word. Printed flyers were posted all over campus – in dining halls, dorm lobbies, classrooms, student center and other places around campus. To create additional interest, we contacted guys on various social media platforms.

Rush kicked off on Monday, January 23rd – with a meet the Brothers/game night event. Under the blue glow of party lights, eight tables were set up in the


basement for a “water-pong” tournament – increasing engagement by pairing guests with Brothers.

On Tuesday, the basement was taped off for a dodgeball tournament, again increasing interaction by teaming guests up with Brothers.

Stogies & Hoagies night was held Wednesday allowing plenty of socializing while guests enjoyed a good cigar and noshed on grilled burgers and hotdogs – with sides of mac-’n-cheese and coleslaw. After the meal we engaged guests by demonstrating how to play the just-released, second edition of “Death In The Water”, a popular horror video game.

Video games (FIFA, 2K) and poker highlighted a casual Thursday night that helped Brothers evaluate attending candidates.

Rush week wrapped up Friday with an invitation-only event where pledges formally signed their bids.

We are proud to have successfully recruited 10 new quality members (*cover*) that we anticipate will become great friends and assets to benefit the chapter. 



Warm lighting helped the House look inviting for rushees – despite the cold, snowy night in Muncie.

## Brothers enjoy surprising Pacers “Ball State Hat Night”

Indy’s Gainbridge Fieldhouse hosted the special event vs. Chicago Bulls on February 15th

Even in a down year for both teams, this is always a heated contest between bitter Eastern Conference rivals. The game seemed even more heated within our group – with friendly squabbles breaking out between true Indiana Brothers and Theta Alpha’s prevalence of Chicago-area natives.

Squabbles aside, we were all happy to escape Muncie for an evening!

What made the evening all the more special were some *once-in-a-lifetime* surprises from a Theta Alpha alum.

Brother Joshua Borges (Gamma Delta, ‘16) is Group Sales Associate for the Pacers and was able to arrange for a group of Theta Alpha Brothers to be the official, *on-court* flag-waivers during the player announcement ceremony before the game!

As if *that* wasn’t enough of a thrill – during halftime – Josh split Brothers into two groups and escorted them down to the court. The groups were lined-up in each team’s tunnel where they were able to high-five players as they returned to the court! And then we were afforded front-row seats to watch them warm-up. I have to say – you have *no* idea just how tall these dudes are.

Both were unforgettable experiences – and though we were completely stunned, it’s just what you’d expect from a Brother like Josh. During his time at Ball State, Josh was the quintessential BMOC – heavily involved in a number of campus organizations (including a prestigious role as Senator for Ball State’s Student Government Association).

Josh was equally involved with Theta Alpha – successfully assuming numerous roles of critical leadership needed to help the Chapter achieve True Merit status.

Thanks to Joshua, Brothers of Theta Alpha – young and old – were able to meet again, to reminisce, experience the thrill of a lifetime – while watching great basketball.




These are the Brothers that watched the Pacers somehow overcome a dismal, 39-15 first quarter performance and rally from the 24-point hole for a 117-113 victory – thrilling most of the 16,000 in attendance.

**Front row** (l-r): Jack Cullinan, Gamma Kappa, 2019; Jacob Bartolotta, Gamma Iota, 2019; Joshua Borges, Gamma Delta, 2016; Matthew Hammerquist, Gamma Zeta, 2017; Bradley Spurlock, Gamma Nu, 2021

**Second row** (l-r): Alan Cohen, Gamma Xi, 2021; Mario Villanueva, Gamma Pi, 2022; Danny Curran, Gamma Kappa, 2019; Sam Merrit, Gamma Xi, 2021; Joe Mitchell, Gamma Nu, 2021; Daniel Richey, Gamma Mu, 2020; Henry Bresser, Gamma Nu, 2021

**Third row** (l-r): Gavin Miller, Gamma Pi, 2022; Elijah Sutton, Gamma Omicron, 2022; Alex Skinner, Gamma Pi, 2022; Aaron Albright, Gamma Zeta, 2017; Clayton Spurlock, Gamma Mu, 2020

**Fourth row** (l-r): Thomas Hayes, Gamma Zeta, 2017; AJ Getz, Gamma Omicron, 2022; Nicholas Roche, Gamma Iota, 2019; Ryan Clark, Gamma Zeta, 2017; Scott Collins, Gamma Mu, 2020 

# “CASINO NIGHT” with Alpha Chi Omega sorority put the *fun in fundraiser*

by Max Garro  
Gamma Omicron, 2022



Brother, Name unknown??? (Gamma, ??) deals to a table of high rollers (l-r): FIRST/LAST NAME, PLEDGE CLASS, YEAR; FIRST/LAST NAME, PLEDGE CLASS, YEAR; AND FIRST/LAST NAME, PLEDGE CLASS, YEAR.

Philanthropy Chairman, AJ Getz and Benton Parmley, wanted to come up with a new idea for their very first philanthropic event, one that might never have been done before in our chapter. After several brainstorming committee meetings with the rest of the chapter, we decided on a Casino Night theme.

Turnout is always a concern with these events. So a decision was made to try and hold the event paired with a sorority for increased visibility. With a history of well-known philanthropic causes, AJ and Ben reached out to Alpha Chi Omega first. The sorority raises thousands of dollars each year for domestic violence awareness and sexual assault prevention. After receiving welcome feedback from AXO, joint-planning sessions were immediately scheduled.



RIGHT: Damn, these guys look serious! Brothers, (around l-r): NEED NAMES, PLEDGE CLASS & YEAR

Hey Bro NAME, no peeking!

Looks like Brother Spurlock is cleaning up!



Many thanks to philanthropy co-chairs, AJ and Ben, for a Casino Night to remember – an event already under serious consideration for next year.



Joshua Snively Gamma Nu, '20 kept things poppin'.



The team agreed to hold the event on Friday, February 10th from 6-8:00 p.m. Entry would be \$5 a ticket or \$7 including popcorn and water. A promotional flyer was created and posted immediately on social media to garner awareness.

The event's primary challenge was turning the ATO house basement into an active casino floor. As luck would have it, Brother Ethan Ayres (pledge class, year) owned authentic poker and blackjack tables that we could borrow. The ladies from AXO filled the room with numerous casino decorations purchased from Party City.

Tables were set up for the typical casino games – “Texas Hold ‘Em” Poker, Blackjack, Craps, Roulette, Dice, and Uno. Popcorn and drinks kept the highrollers refreshed. Jazz music played in the background. Brothers wore white shirts as “dealers” and the ladies of AXO dressed the Vegas part to ensure everyone had a great time.

Within ten minutes from opening, our Casino basement was full of gamblers. Guests received chips to bet in various games – competing for raffle ticket entries to win gift cards.

The evening of fun was for a very worthy cause (*and historically, a Theta Alpha philanthropic tradition*) – the Boys and Girls Club of Muncie, as well as A Better Way – the appreciative benefactors of nearly \$700. ✘



LEFT: This table full of lovely ladies really stands out on the busy gambling floor. Oh wait, **<BUSTED>** look who's sitting at the end. Looks like Sachin hit the jackpot! Note to self: get dating tips from “Sach”.



# My key takeaway from attending the annual ATO President's Retreat: stay positive & lead by example

**Hundreds of chapter leaders from all across the country convened at Chicago's Loews O'Hare Hotel, January 6-8th, 2023 for ATO's annual President's Retreat.**

by Sachin Yadav  
Chapter President  
Gamma Nu, 2021

**F**irst and foremost, I am honored and humbled to have gained the trust of the Brothers of Theta Alpha. You believed in me and my vision. I intend to back up my vision with real action to earn your respect.

I am truly thankful for the privilege of representing Theta Alpha at this event – and for being the beneficiary of the retreat's rewarding discourse.

The three-day retreat of inspiring speeches, presentations and activities was balanced with ample time to meet and socialize with chapter presidents from across the country. It was a profoundly unique and impactful experience.

Absorbing the narratives and events of each day confirmed that to effectively lead Theta Alpha, I must hold myself to a higher standard – and demonstrate those standards by example. Regardless of the love and respect I have for all my fellow Brethern, *I know they won't follow a code of conduct that I don't follow myself.*

The gist of one memorable session illuminated that the term of any chapter president will experience a range of highs and lows – and underscored the importance of remaining calm and staying positive in every circumstance. In my role, the challenge of striving to treat every chapter success or failure as a teaching moment – is a challenge I must accept.

 **Our quest for the cup continues!**

During the three days, I discovered that many chapter presidents share a common challenge – teaching Brothers that academics are a vital part of their role as chapter members. Making academics a firm priority – with sacred study hours – is paramount for Theta Alpha.

Through conversations, another common issue was that of accountability. Getting Brothers to honor what is expected of them is vital to any chapter. Somehow, I found it almost comforting to know that I wasn't the only chapter president that faced periodic decisions of accountability – it's an issue that seems "to come with the territory". Accountability issues are never easy or comfortable for anyone – afterall, these are my friends, my Brothers.

The President's Retreat highlight for me came on the last day where everyone practiced components of the Ritual with each other – a close and meaningful exercise of Brotherhood.

I hope that every emerging leader of Theta Alpha will be able to attend this event and receive the lessons, experiences, and the comraderie that I did. ✨



I'm determined to recapture True Merit status for Theta Alpha! Only 160 days until the National Awards Celebration in Orlando, Florida!



*During the three days, I discovered that many chapter presidents share a common challenge – teaching Brothers that academics are a vital part of their role as chapter members. Making academics a priority – with sacred study hours – is paramount for Theta Alpha.*

*Accountability issues are never easy or comfortable for anyone – afterall, these are my friends, my Brothers.*



*Regardless of the love and respect I have for all my fellow Brethern, I know they won't follow a code of conduct that I don't follow myself.*

# Theta Alpha's holiday season tradition revived after two-year Covid disruption



It ain't Christmas. It ain't New Year's. Nonetheless, Theta Alpha Brothers know it as a cause for celebration.

It's Tain't Day. Pick a day between those holidays – a welcome respite from inlaws, fruitcake, and ugly sweaters – and get together for some male bonding, commiseration, and adult beverages with your fellow men from Theta Alpha.

Thankfully revived after a two-year Covid hiatus, 2022's Tain't Day recovered nicely from an initial snafu (*tain't no reservation for ATO because the venue manager forgot to book it*) and to host more than 40 Brothers.

This year's venue, The Ale Emporium In Fishers, Indiana, more than made up for the error, by indulging the group with an ongoing supply of free appetizers.

So from 6-9:00 p.m., Brothers regaled their college years, visited with old friends, sampled craft beers, and noshed on The Ale Emporium's famous Hermanaki wings (secret blend of peppers, spices, sauces, and teriyaki).

Attendance may have been down from past years – likely from our recent 50th Anniversary Celebration just two months prior.

But those who attended had a great time and many stayed well past the scheduled end.

Many thanks to Rusty Bruce (Theta, 1976) for arranging the event. Watch for details in the Fall issue of *The Binder* for 2024's Tain't Day celebration. Plan on making Tain't Day part of your holiday tradition!



**LEFT** Around (L-R): Beau Bradle (Beta Gamma, '95), Brian Gentrup (Beta Delta, '96), Barry Knechtel (Beta Theta, '98), Daryl Schweitzer (Founders I, '72), Andrew Will (Beta Psi, '14), Rob Damler( Omega, '84), Mary Stute (who is she?), and STILL NEED NAME HERE.

**CENTER LEFT ENJOYING AN ADULT BEVERAGE** (L-R): David Apple (Gamma Eta, '18), Mason Hatfield (Gamma Theta, '18), Andrew Will (Beta Psi, '14), and Adam Kron (Gamma Theta, '18).



**GETTING REACQUAINTED** (L-R): Tony Sandlaben (Beta Phi, '13), Sam Kilmer (Alpha Nu, '89), Rob Damler (Omega, '84), and Andy Alcorn (Alpha Lambda, '88).



**AT LEFT, EVERYONE WAS GLAD TO SEE** (L-R): David McConaha (Beta Gamma, '95), Barry Knechtel (Beta Theta, '98), Chris Feldwisch (Beta Zeta, '97), and Bill Evans (Alpha Phi, 92).



**ENJOYING TAIN'T DAY 2022:** (L-R): Chris Feldwisch (Beta Zeta, '97), Wade Thompson (Beta Alpha, '94), and Beau Bradle (Beta Gamma, '95)



# Things you probably didn't know about Theta Alpha's new chapter president

by Bradley Spurlock  
Gamma Nu, 2021

**S**ince the goals of each of the new chapter executives were already covered in the previous issue – including our new President, Brother Sachin Yadav – we thought you might want to know who he *really* is. Inquiring minds want to know just what makes Sachin tick? So we posed no less than 54 questions to Sachin in his spare time during the recent semester break. Here's what we found out . . .

**Q01:**  
**Sachin Yadav is an unusual name. What is your family heritage? Does your name have a special meaning?** Sachin: My mother is African American and my father is Indian. My father told me our name means "purity".

**Q02:**  
**Do you have a nickname?** Sachin: Yes, "Sach" or "Gigg".

**Q03:**  
**Do you have siblings?** Sachin: Yes, I have a younger, 19-year-old brother currently in Junior College.

**Q04:**  
**What is your fondest childhood memory?** Sachin: Playing tennis with my brother and dad at our local high school courts.

**Q05:**  
**What's the wierdest thing about your parent's home?** Sachin: Christmas music being played all year round.

**Q06:**  
**Best family tradition?** Sachin: Basketball on Thanksgiving.



**ABOVE:** When Sachin achieves fame, he'll have to share hometown notoriety with Dennis DeYoung, (top right) the lead singer from the 1970s-80s rock band, Styx. The only rock group with four consecutive multi-platinum albums in history, the group continues to be snubbed by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

**Q07:**  
**If one of your parents was President of the United States, what would be the first law they try to enact?** Sachin: took the fifth.

**Q08:**  
**Your hometown of Frankfort, IL (a suburb of Chicago) claim to fame is being the hometown of Dennis DeYoung, the lead singer from the American rock group, Styx. One of their greatest hits was "Come Sail Away" from 1977's double-platinum *The Grand Illusion*. What destination do you fantasize sailing off to (dream vacation)?** Sachin: Sailing off to the Bahamas with a drink in my hand, and not a worry in my mind.

**Q09:**  
**If you could have just one super power, what would it be?** Sachin: Super speed.

**Q10:**  
**What one word would your friends likely use to describe you?** Sachin: "Hilarious". (Editor: see the answer to Q12).

**Q11:**  
**What's the craziest rumor you've ever heard about yourself?** Sachin: That I'm way too serious (not true).



**ABOVE:** Sachin stands with his proud father at graduation ceremonies for Frankfort Community High School, Frankfort, IL, home of the Redbirds.

**Q12:**  
**What is your guilty pleasure?** Sachin: *Keeping Up With the Kardashians* – it isn't *that* bad.

**Q13:**  
**What's the one thing about you that few people know?** Sachin: I enjoy going on walks at night .

**Q14:**  
**Never, have I ever . . . ?** Sachin: . . . Been to a concert. (Editor: *Styx is doing a reunion tour this summer . . .*).

**Q15:**  
**What's the worst habit that you can't seem to break?** Sachin: Biting my fingernails. (Editor: *There's a 12-step program for that*)

**Q16:**  
**Other than admitting you watch KUWTK – to date, what is your life's most embarrassing moment?** Sachin: Peeing my pants in second grade. (Editor: *enough said*).

**Q17:**  
**What pet peeve would you make illegal if you could?** Sachin: People showing up later than promised.

**Q18:**  
**Do you believe aliens exist?** Sachin took the fifth on this one. *Hmmmm*.

**Q19:**  
**What word do you always seem to mispronounce?** Sachin: Mischievous.



**ABOVE:** Showing the love at Christmas, Sachin (r), hugs it out with his dad and look-alike brother. Oh wait a sec, the Yadav's aren't one of those families that leave the tree up year round, are they? (see Q05). It's a major fire hazard even if it's an artificial tree. Yule be sorry.

**Q20:**  
**What's the funniest/wierdest place you've ever fallen asleep?** Sachin: In class, during a final exam.

**Q21:**  
**What's the biggest prank you've ever pulled on someone (or have pulled on you)?** Sachin: I tricked my brother into thinking he was late for work.

**Q22:**  
**Would you rather win the lottery or find true love?** Sachin: True love – *all day*. (Editor: *Awww, someone needs to make sure that Sachin's girlfriend sees this*).

**Q23:**  
**What makes you feel the most alive?** Sachin: Being alone with a great view.

**Q24:**  
**What's the last book you read?** Sachin: *12 Habits of Successful People*.

**Q25:**  
**What trait do you dislike most in others?** Sachin: Lack of drive or ambition.

**Q26:**  
**When did you find out that life is not fair?** Sachin: Our predispositions.

**Q27:**  
**What is your biggest fear or insecurity?** Sachin: I fear letting down the people I care about most.



**ABOVE:** Rocking school colors, Sachin strikes a pose with a bud before his high school's formal dance in 2021. Who died?



# More things you probably didn't know about Sachin

**Q28:** **What is your greatest strength?** Sachin: I believe I am relentless in pursuit of my goals.

**Q29:** **What is your greatest weakness?** I can sometimes lose trust in my abilities if I fail.

**Q30:** **What would you most like to improve about yourself?** Sachin: Learning to stay more disciplined where I am lacking.

**Q31:** **What do you like most about yourself?** Sachin: How easy-going I am when having a great time.

**Q32:** **What are you most proud of?** Sachin: Leading BSU's best group of men.

**Q33:** **If you could meet anyone (dead or alive), who would it be?** Sachin: Wardell Stephen Curry.



**Q34:** **Dog or cat?** Sachin: Cat.

**Q35:** **Do you believe in life after death?** Sachin: I believe there is something, I just don't know what.

## Q36:

### If you could have dinner with any three people in history, who would they be?

**Q37:** **How do you define success?** Sachin: Being happy to go to work on Monday – that it doesn't feel like a chore.

**Q37:** **How do you define success?** Sachin: Being happy to go to work on Monday – that it doesn't feel like a chore.

**Q38:** **To date, what has been the best day of your life?** Sachin: Tough question. Probably some time back in kindergarten.

**Q39:** **What do you like most about college life?** Sachin: The independence to learn, fail, and make my own choices.

**Q40:** **What do you hate most about college life?** Sachin: Always worrying about money.

**Q41:** **What is your dream job?** Sachin: Not too sure yet, actually.



**Favorite musician/artist?**  
The Chicago rap artist, "Polo G" aka, Taurus Bartlett.

## Q50:

"Sach" has a thing for his favorite actress – American beauty, **Madelyn Cline**

## FAVS

**Q42:** **Favorite hobby or activity?** Weightlifting

**Q43:** **Favorite music genre?** Rap/Hip-Hop

**Q45:** **Favorite color?** Blue

**Q46:** **Favorite movie?** *The Dark Knight*

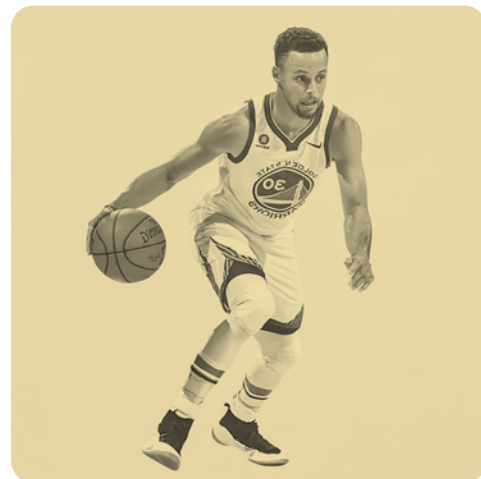
**Q47:** **Favorite TV show?** *Ozarks*

**Q48:** **Favorite sport?** Basketball

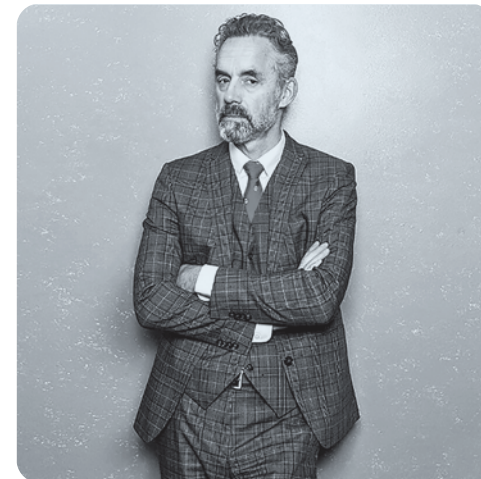
**Q49:** **Favorite team?** Golden State Warriors



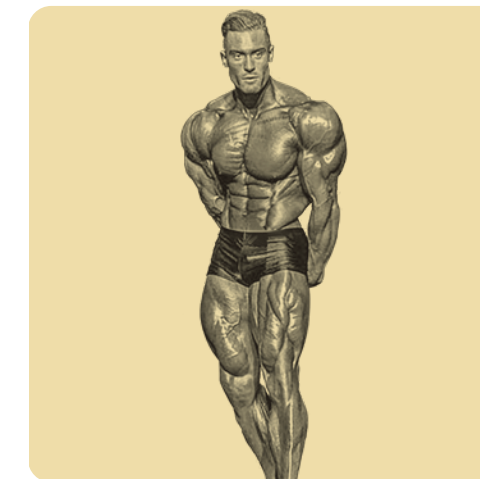
**Stephen Curry**  
MVP point guard for the world champion Golden State Warriors of the National Basketball Association. Highly regarded as one of the greatest basketball players of all time.



**Jordan Peterson**  
Controversial Canadian clinical psychologist, philosopher, internet personality, and author of *Maps of Meaning: The Architecture of Belief* and *Rules of Life: An Antidote to Chaos*.



**Chris Bumstead**  
Canadian professional bodybuilder and internet personality, "Cbum" is the reigning Mr. Olympia (Classic Physique), a title he's held for the last four years – and runner up in 2017, 2018. 20" biceps!



**Q51:** **Why Ball State?** Sachin: Never cared to go to a college with a large campus or student body. Just wanted to stay with my closest friends.

**Q52:** **Why ATO?** Sachin: It was ATO or nothing. Guys I knew in college before me vouched for this place – and I have never regretted my decision.

**Q53:** **What do you see as Theta Alpha's greatest challenge?** Sachin: Earning True Merit status once again.

**Q54:** **Where do you see yourself in 20 years?** Sachin: Hopefully with a wife, a few kids, and out of Muncie. ✨

# Touring the new Chop house at Butler U: a marvel of modern technology

by Steve Nall  
Theta, 1976

**F**

From the initial view of the stately new Lambda Chi Alpha house at Butler University, it appears the Tudor Revival home has been on West Hampton Drive since perhaps, the 1930s. That must be precisely what Rowland Design\* had in mind when they conceived plans for the home. But appearances are deceiving. Constructed in 2020-22, this fraternity house is a marvel of modern technology.

Firstly, we have Brother Tom Vriesman (Psi, 1983) to thank for arranging the tour through his friendship with a former Lambda Chi Alpha alumni board member, who put him in touch with Eric Rupenthal. Many thanks to Eric for graciously taking the time to lead the tour and answer our questions.

With 16,000 square feet, the house is relatively small given the size of many Greek homes recently constructed. Yet costs soared to \$6.3 million with a total project cost of \$8 million (\$2 million to pay off an old loan, architectural fees, permits and legal work). The price tag can be mostly attributed to the house's brick and masonry construction (limestone window and entry surrounds) with paned, casement windows; slate roof; and half-timbered, stucco detailing. Interior elements also contributed – the house has state-of-the-art Smart Home technology.

The exceptional, custom Tudor, frame-and-paneled-woodwork foyer staircase has an automatic fire door system that drops from the ceiling to enclose the entire entry into a fire exit. One alumnus donated \$300K to cover the cost of the unique feature.

The building's interior walls are well insulated for temperature efficiency and soundproofing – and the roof spray-foamed to make the attic space a thermal boundary to accommodate the potential expansion of living space.

**Below Brothers Daryl Schweitzer (Founders 1, 1972), Tom Vriesman (Psi, 1983), Rusty Bruce (Lambda, 1978), and Barry Knechtel (hidden, Beta Theta, 1998) chat with Lambda Chi Alpha tour guide Eric Rupenthal in the home's dormitory lounge. The well-appointed room featured a large, flat-screen TV, and a white, faux-leather sectional – a very brave choice! The Brothers were especially impressed with the home's exceptional cleanliness.**



**ABOVE:** The former Lambda Chi Alpha house, located on Sunset Avenue, was sold to Butler University in a land swap by the fraternity's housing corporation. Butler is planning to convert the house above into a micro hotel.

The chapter then leased the temporarily-closed Phi Kappa Psi house (which has since returned). The Tau Kapp Epsilon house was demolished to make way for construction of new Chop house.

Construction was scheduled to begin in the spring of 2019, but was delayed due to Covid. Construction was completed in the spring of 2022.

The Butler Lambda Chi Alpha chapter dates back to the 1920s and boasts more than 2,000 alumni (including deceased).



## Engraved recognition pavers were thoughtfully installed to honor generous donors to the new house campaign

The house was thoughtfully laid out and we were all amazed with the cleanliness, organization and relative quiet for a building that accommodates 53 brothers and a separate suite for a house mother.

The first floor includes a dining hall, library and a formal/lounge area for reading and studying.

The second and third floors are mainly dorm rooms – mostly doubles with a lounge on each floor equipped with TVs for smaller groups. Bedrooms were adequately spaced for two while providing a bed, desk, chair, and wardrobe for each occupant. Spacious tiled bath and shower rooms were installed on every dorm floor.

The back of the house has an enclosed courtyard with a gas fireplace (piggybacked with a formal room interior fireplace) and comfortable seating for about 25 brothers.



The expansive full basement serves as the home's chapter and social room. The letters were re-purposed from another Lambda Chi chapter house that had been closed.



\*Acquired by the Cincinnati architectural firm Luminaut in November 2021, the company is now called Luminaut Rowland.

# Touring the new Chop house at Butler U: a marvel of modern technology

**OPPOSITE PAGE FAR RIGHT:** The simple, thoughtful addition of keyless, Bluetooth-enabled door locks offer convenience and a higher level of security – especially for each dormitory room.

The lock itself connects to the home's Wi-Fi network so that it can be accessed via a smartphone app or a control panel within the home. It connects to a phone via a Bluetooth keyfob.

The first floor of the house is dominated by a spacious dining room with rustic chandeliers, slate tile floor, grey hardwood tables and chairs, and two large flat-screen televisions with custom hardwood cabinetry surrounds.

A full-time chef (*wow, what a luxury!*) serves three meals a day from a full commercial-style kitchen with blue subway tiling and stainless steel appliances and countertops. The kitchen also includes a convenient 24-hour beverage and snack center. Large walk-in pantries offer ample storage for organizing meal and dining essentials.

Brothers, can one of you *please* hit the lottery!

With all the features and furnishings to admire in Lambda Chi Alpha's new home, one wouldn't expect to spend too much time checking out their utility rooms. But architects stuffed this home's utility rooms with state-of-the-art energy-saving devices and conveniences.

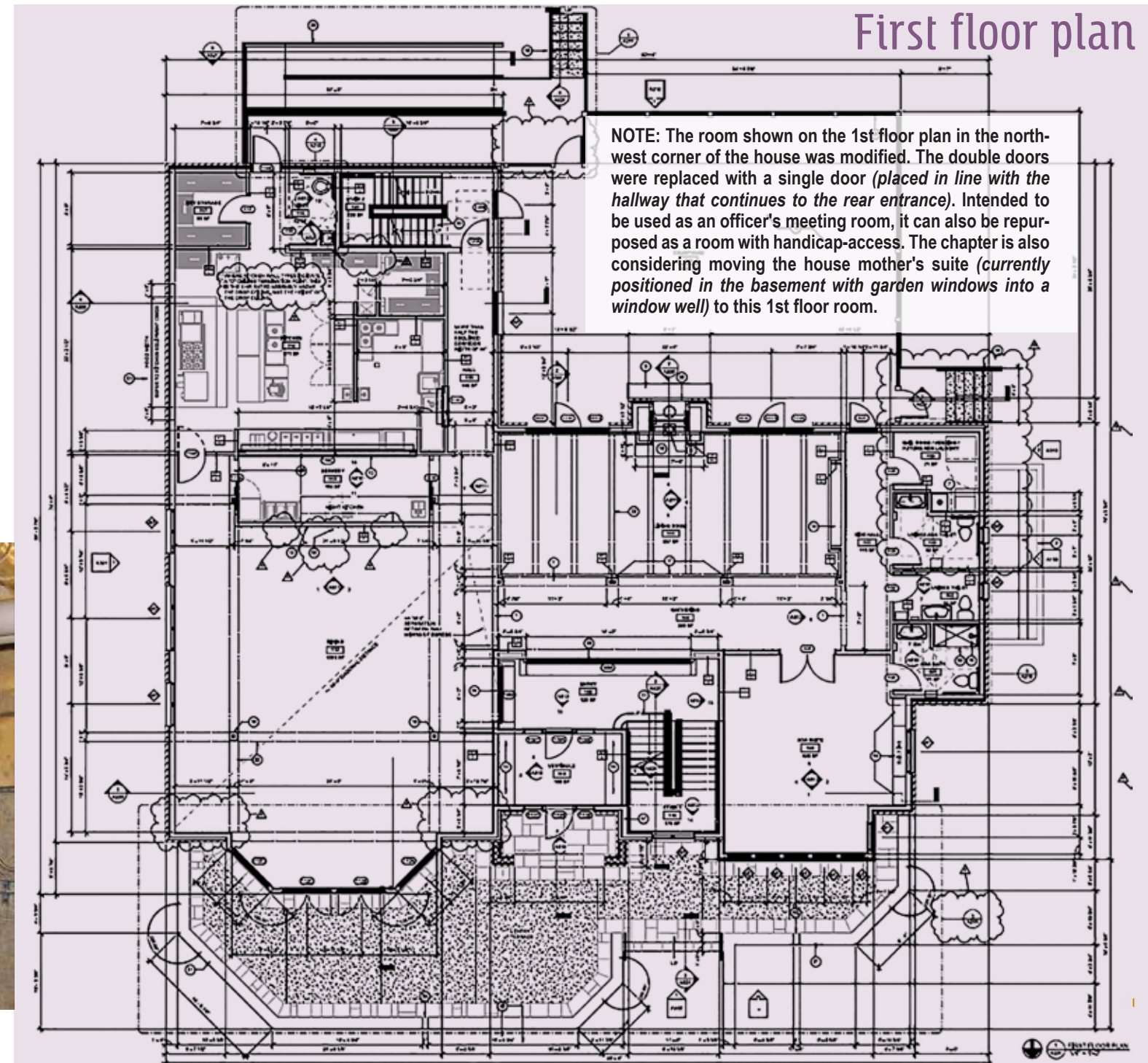
The house is wired to the hilt for high-speed internet access. High-efficiency gas heat and Smart Home lighting control systems help save on utility bills. Five, in-line Navian high-efficiency water heaters (*below left*) provide on-demand hot water to meet the high-capacity needs of 55 residents and kitchen.

Space permitting, there's even more technical wizardry we could cover. 



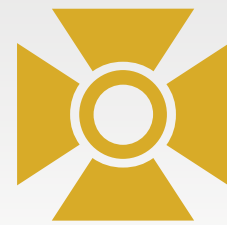
**LEFT:** Brothers Rusty Bruce (Lambda, 1978), Eric Rupenthal, Barry Knechtel (Beta Theta, 1998), and Daryl Schweitzer (Founders 1, 1972) admire the handsome elements of the Chop's impressive dining hall.

**BELOW:** Four large, stone-tiled, individually-lit shower stalls with durable stainless steel fittings are conveniently installed on each dormitory floor.

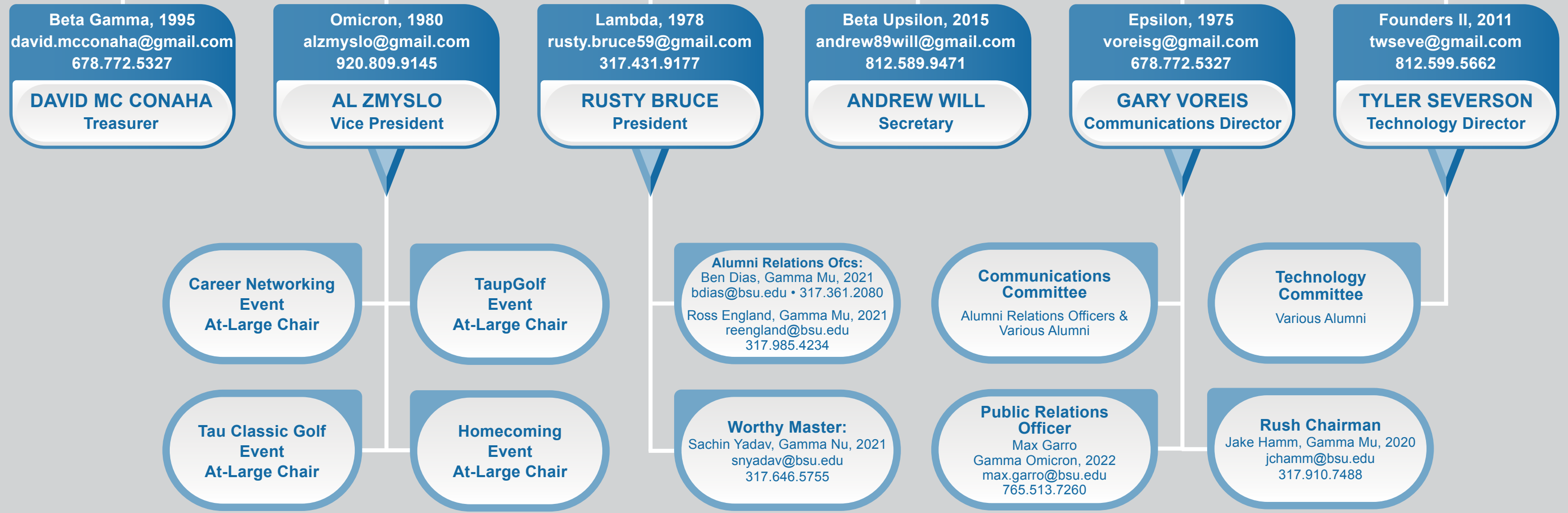


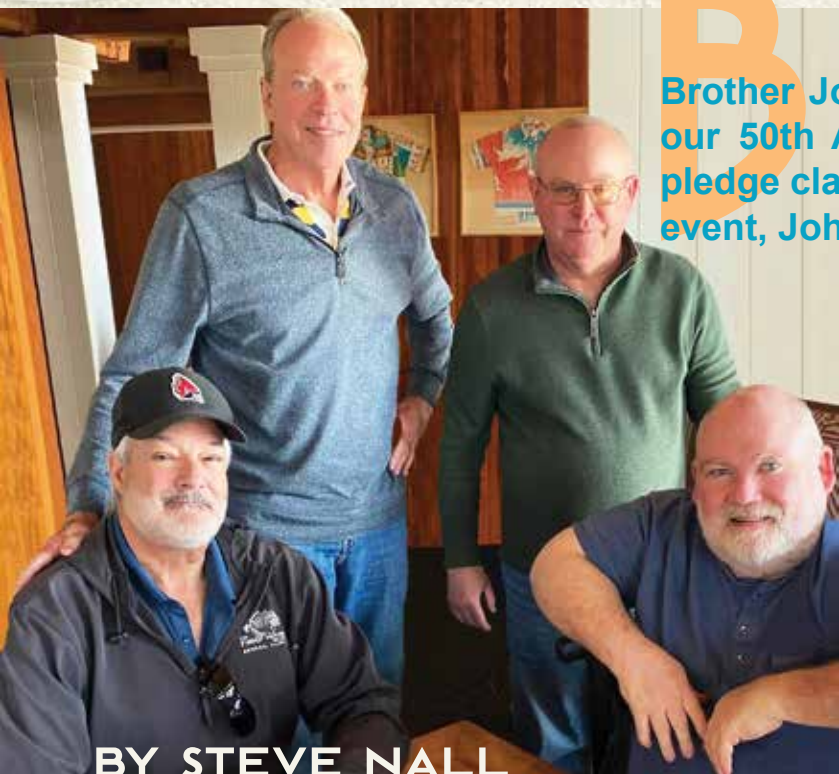
# Alumni Members

## Theta Alpha Alumni Association Mission



The mission of the Theta Alpha Alumni Association shall be to serve and promote the mission of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity, the Indiana Theta Alpha Chapter and its alumni, in a manner that enriches the quality of the institution and the lives of its members. It shall be the purpose of the Theta Alpha Alumni Association to: rekindle our friendships; make connections with older and younger alumni to expand personal and professional networks; assist and support the current chapter Brothers; give back to the Chapter with time, talent and experience; support Ball State University through our Brotherhood; keep cohorts informed on what's happening with Alpha Tau Omega locally and nationally; and enjoy, strengthen, and take pride in Alpha Tau Omega. ✨





BY STEVE NALL

**B**rother John Sam Evans would never have missed our 50th Anniversary Celebration. But when Theta pledge class members of 1976, were planning for the event, John Sam inexplicably had yet to register.

When contacted about a 50th sponsorship, they were alarmed to sobering news – John Sam was recovering from a life-threatening situation. In 2021, he suffered an aortic dissection and spent 53 days in ICU and two weeks in acute care before his release. As one might expect, the condition requires a lengthy rehabilitation.

While John Sam is favorably on the mend, he is still coping with mobility and endurance issues that prevent him from travel. That’s when Brother Al Smith suggested, “well if John Sam can’t come see us, perhaps we should go see him”.

After coordinating plans, three Theta pledge brothers – Al Smith, Randy Holt and myself – headed west for some California sunshine.

John Sam was gratified to see us – as were we to discover him in good spirits, optimistic and very talkative. We reminisced about old times at the House, music we listened/danced to, and all the things we’d done since college. We were instantly reacquainted with his wry sense of humor.

After graduating from Ball State in 1977 with a B.S. “Area” Degree in Music Education, John Sam spent 1977-78 working toward his Masters Degree in “Curriculum & Instruction/Guidance Counseling” at the University of Hawaii.

John then ended up moving to Huntington Beach, California working as a K-9 school principal and teacher – while launching his career in the music industry. During our visit, we were pleasantly reminded that John Sam is a classically-trained pianist, as he played a beautiful rendition of “Your Song” by Elton John.

John Sam was the perfect California tour guide. He knew every beach, park, all the great restaurants, every hillside neighborhood and all the famous people that have ventured to the area.

Huntington Beach is a beautiful place. Only 35 miles southeast of downtown Los Angeles, it’s considered “The Surfing Capital of the World” – home to the International Surfing Museum and the annual Surfing World Championship.

With it’s mild climate and nearly 10 miles of sandy beach, John Sam sure picked a great place to call home!

It was a very relaxing weekend, but way too short. John Sam was a great host and sorry to see us go. We were gratified knowing that we helped elevate his spirits – and were able to leave him in an upbeat mood.

John Sam – you are foremost in our thoughts.

Stay strong Brother!

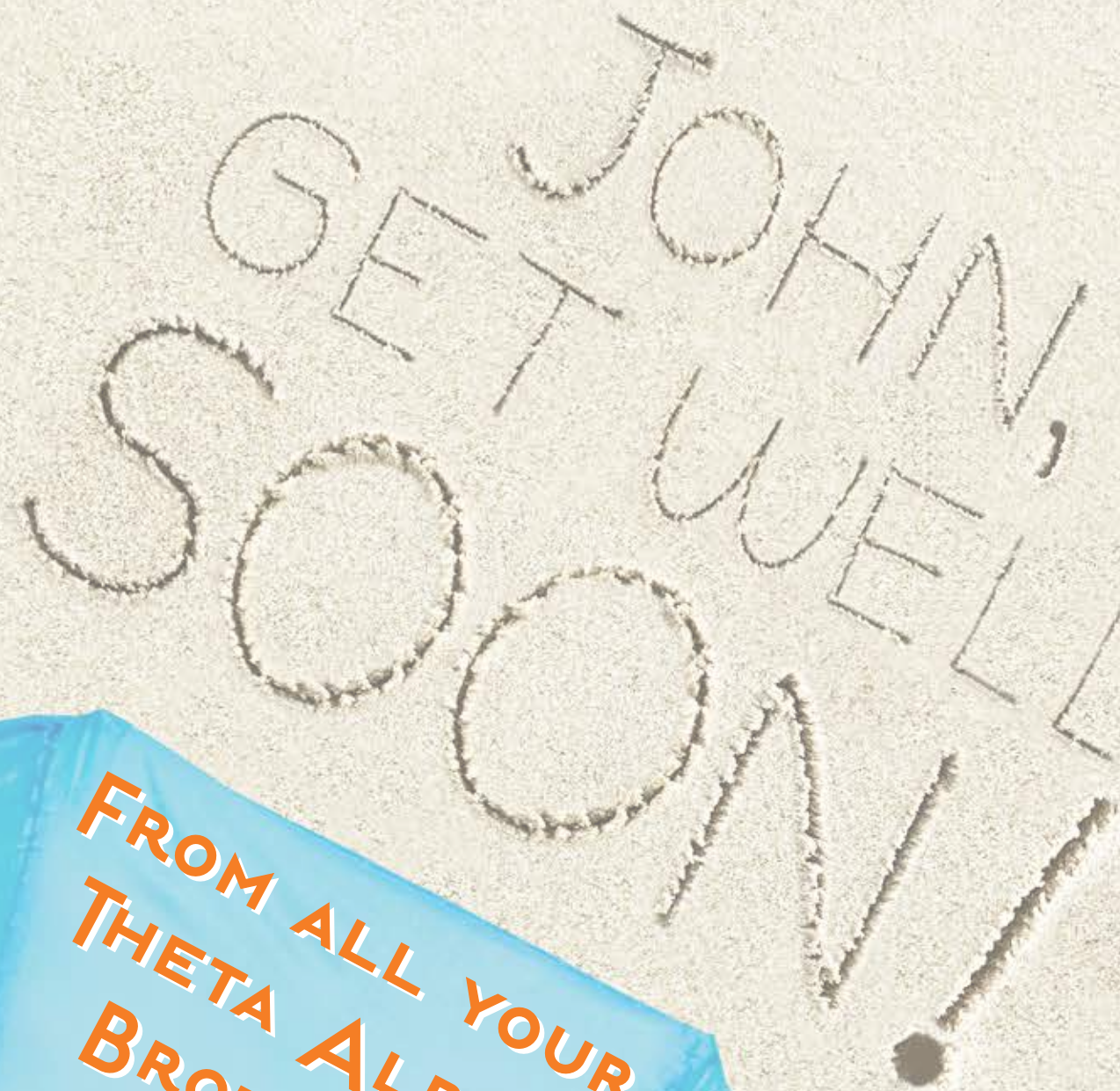
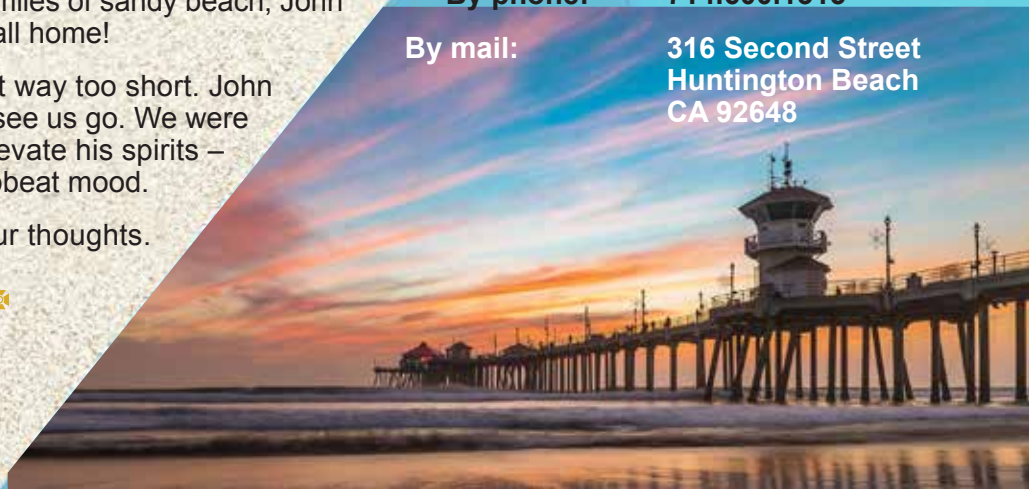


**Whether you know John Sam or not, he would enjoy hearing from you! Feel free to extend well wishes for a speedy recovery. John Sam welcomes your communication:**

**By email:** [saxmanor88@aol.com](mailto:saxmanor88@aol.com)

**By phone:** 714.600.1315

**By mail:** 316 Second Street  
Huntington Beach  
CA 92648



**FROM ALL YOUR  
THETA ALPHA  
BROTHERS**

# 1984's Blast from the past



## ATO AT 1984'S SPRING SING. Ahhhhh Spring 1984 . . .

Who could forget the year of the box office smash, *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom*; Wendy's "Where's the Beef?"; Trivial Pursuit, Madonna's "Like A Virgin"; Robin Leach's "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous"; Vanessa Williams as Miss America; *16 Candles*; "Dynasty"; *Purple Rain* with "Let's Go Crazy"; Apple's infamous 1984 commercial for the launch of the Macintosh PC (for a staggering \$1,995 – \$5,945 in 2023 dollars), Cabbage Patch Kids and Springsteen's release of "Born in the USA"?

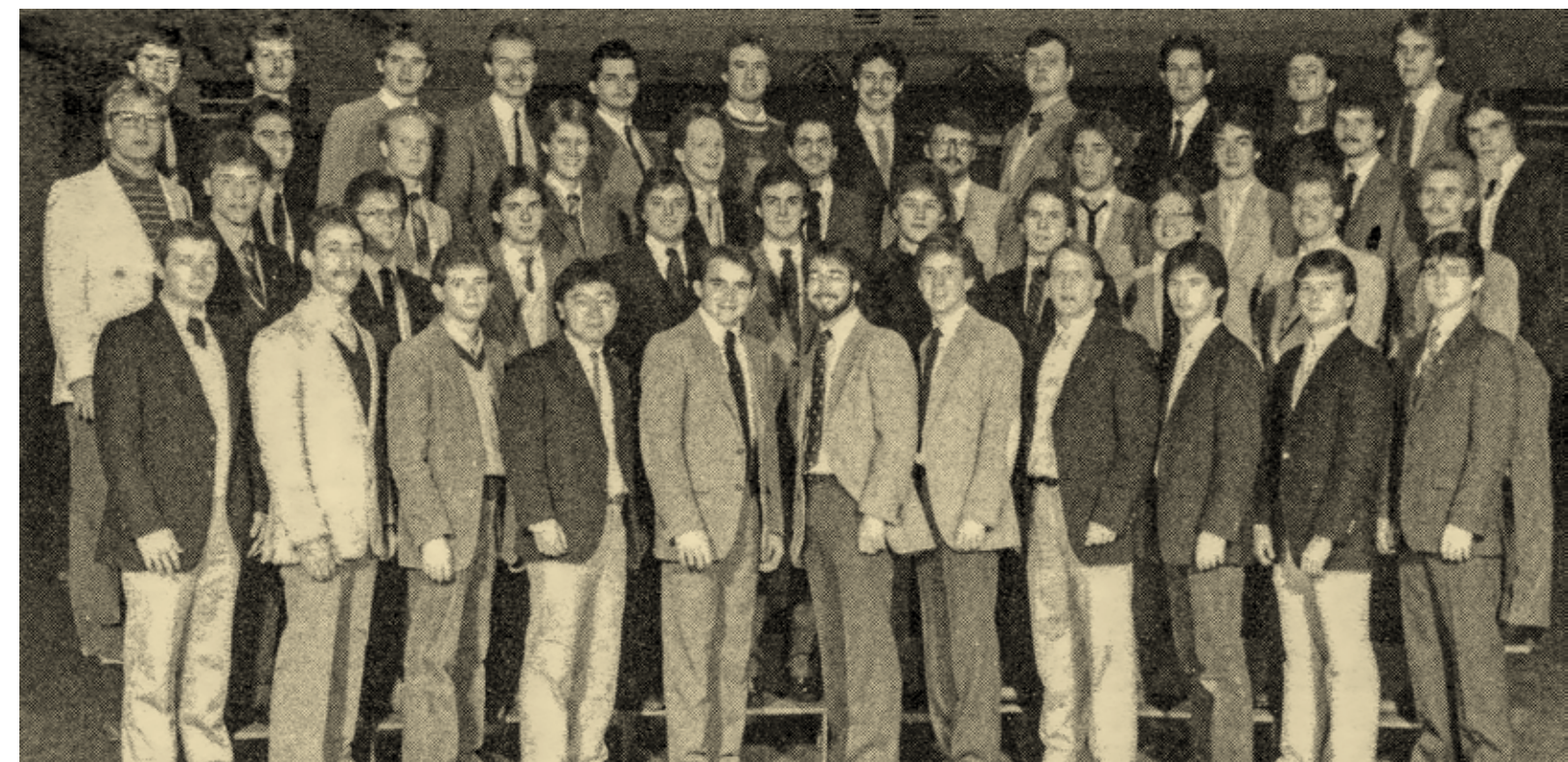
Orwell's 1949 view of a dystopian future in his cautionary novel, *1984* – where distortion of the truth ("alternative facts"), false propaganda (conspiracy theories), erasure or alteration of evidence of the past (e.g. the Holocaust, Critical Race Theory), and embrace of totalitarian power ruled – would wait another 32 years.

Meanwhile, at Ball State, "Spring Sing" was *the* thing on campus. ATO paired up with AOPi and took to the Emens Auditorium stage to present an enthusiastic medley of tunes from *Grease*.

Despite starting practices as early as January, Theta Alpha's Spring Sing jinx continued. Competing against seven Greek organizations, ATO/AOPi failed to place. Alpha Chi Omega/Delta Chi won with a silly medley from *Snoopy, Come Home!* ❌



**AT RIGHT, THE MEN OF THETA ALPHA STRIKE A POSE FOR 1984'S ORIENT YEARBOOK.** From l-r, **First row:** Mike Burrow (Phi 1982), Mark Stillman (Phi 1982), J. Christian Retig (Phi 1982), Gonzo Kim (Sigma 1981), Pastor Todd Falk (Omega 1984), Scott Campbell (Psi 1983), Howard John Lacy (Psi 1983), Pete Young (Rho 1981), Michael Adamson (Psi 1983), Mick Wright (Omega 1981), and Joe Reese (NA). **Second row:** John Thomason (Omega 1984), Alan Gordon (Chi 1983), Jeff Fry (Upsilon 1982), Greg Edwards (Xi 1979), Rich Saltzman (Rho 1981), Robbie Simmons (Founders II 2009), Garret James (NA), Dan Sparling (Tau 1982), Don Humbert (Tau 1982), and Todd Eikenberry (Phi 1982). **Third row:** Brian Hutchens (Rho 1981), John Leganza (Chi 1983), John Crawford (Chi 1983), Brent Harris (Tau 1982), Tom Vriesman (Psi 1983), Frank Hatcher (Tau 1982), Earl Conner (?), Gern Blanton (NA), Ken McCullem (Psi 1983), Greg Shaver (Omega 1984), and Brett Racy (Phi 1982). **Back row:** John Boomershine (Psi 1983), Steve Nash (Chi 1983), Honorable Scott Sirk (Rho 1981), Bruce Longbottom (Chi 1983), Mike Floyd (Chi 1983), Steve Schrader (Chi 1983), Steve Bullington (Tau 1982), Jay Boeldt (?), J.W. Phares (Upsilon 1982), R.L. Honchell (Omega 1984), and Matt Druening (NA). \*NA = not activated ❌





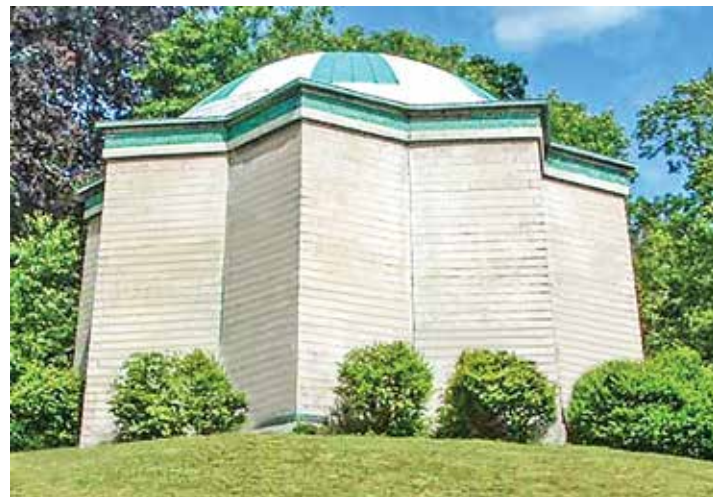
ALPHA DELTA PHI CHAPTER HOUSE AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY, ITHACA, NEW YORK. GEORGE R. DEAN, ARCHITECT, CHICAGO, IS DESIGNED TO STAND ON A POINT OF GROUND OVERLOOKING THE CITY. THE LARGE PLATE-GLASS WINDOWS IN LIVING-ROOM LOOK UP AND DOWN THE VALLEY. THE TWELVE-SIDED PORCH HAS WINDOWS THAT SLIDE UP INTO THE WALL OR MAY BE PULLED DOWN IN WINTER, INCREASING THE LIVING-ROOM SPACE. THE BUILDING WILL BE OF BRICK AND PLASTER WITH STONE BASEMENT AND TILE ROOF. THE LODGE STANDS ABOUT TWENTY FEET HIGHER ON THE GROUND THAN THE HOUSE, THE ENTRANCE BEING APPROACHED BY A FLIGHT OF STEPS

ABOVE: The architect's original site rendering showing chapter house and Goat House . . . but it isn't the Goat House that was actually built – and as shown, the Goat House has a front door entrance accessible by a flight of steps – not an underground tunnel.

RIGHT: An early photograph of the chapter house and the windowless, doorless Goat House that was actually constructed.



Why the costly, secretive change? What is the significance of such a structure? Wildly unconventional by 1903 standards, why was this specific design so important?

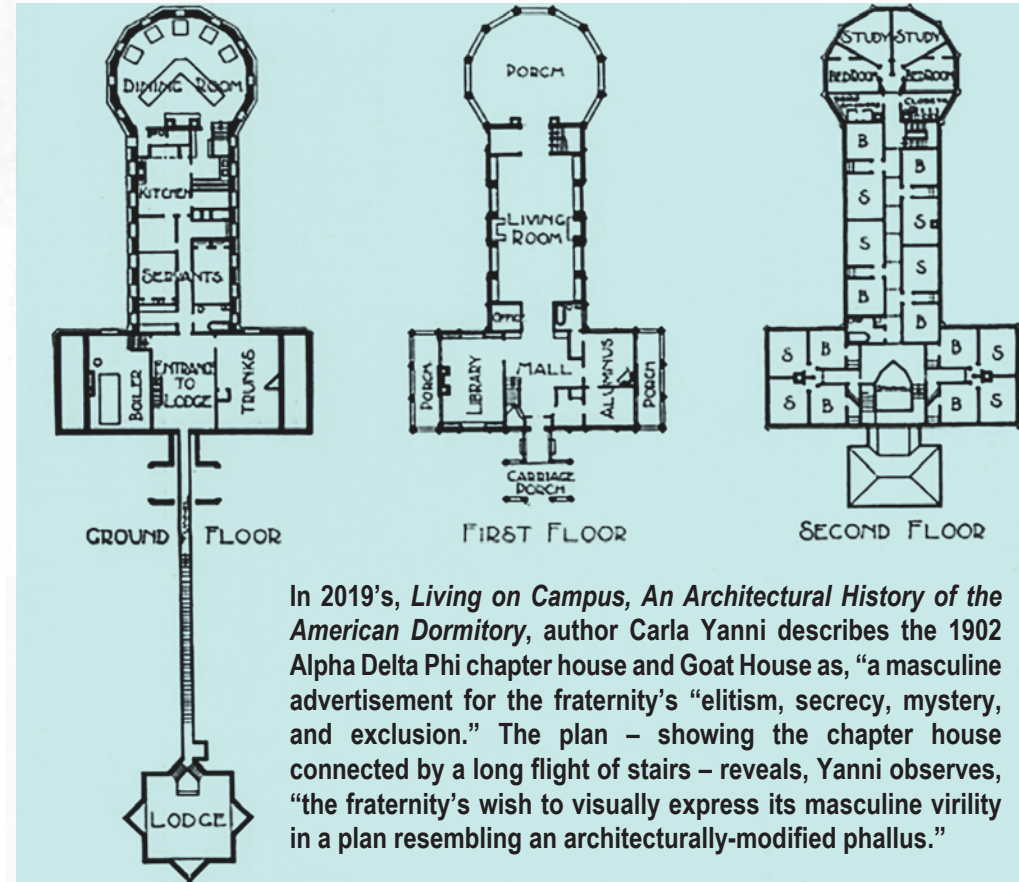


Perched on a hill above Ithaca, N.Y, straddling the Fall River and Cascadilla River gorges, Cornell University's campus is widely (and deservedly) considered one of the nation's most spectacular.

The stunning, natural setting is enhanced by a rich architectural heritage – ten buildings individually listed on the National Register of Historic Places, several local landmarks, and three neighborhoods with Cornell-owned properties listed as National Register historic districts.

Instead of appropriating another school's architectural style, Cornell blazed its own eclectic path, incorporating traditional styles – from the Gothics to Willard Straight to Myron Taylor – alongside groundbreaking modern architecture – from the likes of I.M. Pei, Richard Meier, Rem Koolhaas, Earl Glansburgh, and Gyo Obata.

When Alpha Delta Phi fraternity outgrew its' first home, they called on a protégé of Frank Lloyd Wright to design their new house. George R. Dean (1864-1919) of Dean & Dean Architects, Chicago, presented a revolutionary, modern style identified with the "Prairie Style" originated by Louis Sullivan and Frank Lloyd Wright.



In 2019's, *Living on Campus, An Architectural History of the American Dormitory*, author Carla Yanni describes the 1902 Alpha Delta Phi chapter house and Goat House as, "a masculine advertisement for the fraternity's "elitism, secrecy, mystery, and exclusion." The plan – showing the chapter house connected by a long flight of stairs – reveals, Yanni observes, "the fraternity's wish to visually express its masculine virility in a plan resembling an architecturally-modified phallus."



ABOVE: The chapter house's 9-sided-round back porch with peak-arched removable windows, timbered ceiling and rocking chairs.

BELOW: The chapter house's dining room with herringbone wood floor and panel-patterned wood ceiling. Note the unusually-modern Frank Lloyd Wright inspired seating.

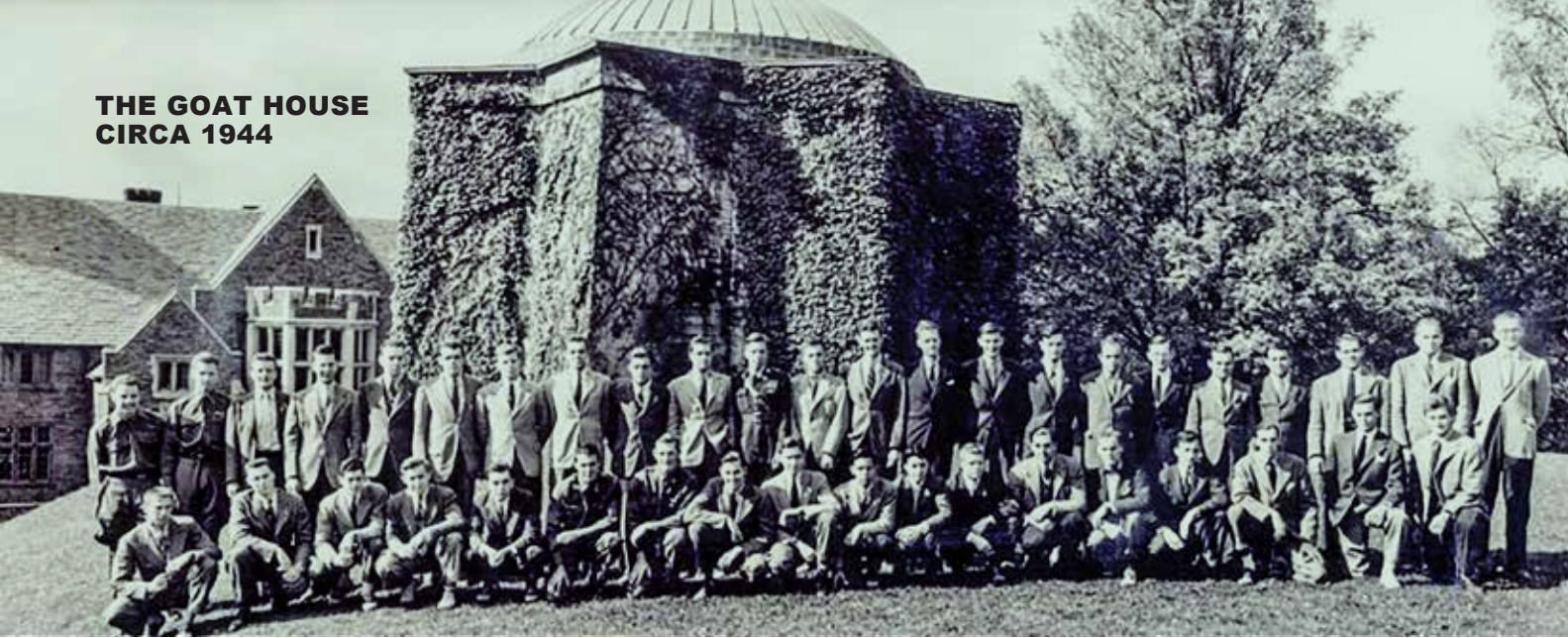


# THE ENDURING MYSTIQUE OF CORNELL UNIVERSITY'S

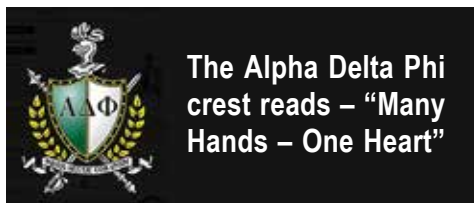


By Gary Voreis  
Epsilon 1975

HOMECOMING 1955

**THE GOAT HOUSE  
CIRCA 1944**


Architect George Dean envisioned a long, linear yellow-brick house in the clean-lined, organic style from the Prairie School of architecture. Also constructed in 1903 was a peculiar edifice separated from the chapter house by 100 feet. Dean's original plan called for a square "mosque-shaped" structure with a large front door entrance connected to the chapter house by a long "flight of steps" (see previous spread top left). What was actually erected was *dramatically* different. Why?


**The Alpha Delta Phi  
crest reads – "Many  
Hands – One Heart"**

It was built on a coveted tract of land known as "The Gauntlet" – conspicuously 20 feet higher than the chapter house. Dean called it a Lodge. Ithaca residents and Cornell students initially named it "The Ice House". Brothers named it the "Goat House" – a nineteenth/early-twentieth century term for a meeting room. It would later be lovingly nicknamed "The G" by Brothers.

The domed, star-shaped Goat House has 16 sides. It has no door. It has no windows. It has no visible means of entry or exit of any kind. Access to the Goat House is now a secret *underground* passageway.

### 1929: Disaster Strikes

On a brisk winter evening of February 11, 1929, George Dean's 26-year-old Prairie School masterpiece was completely destroyed in a spectacular fire caused by a faulty attic electrical switchbox. The Ithaca fire department offered little help as water pressure to the House produced little more than a stream fit for a garden hose. An Alpha Delt chronicled the tragedy this way:

*"Brothers rescued whatever they could hold. Books flew from the library windows, furniture was carried to safety, and the Great Table overturned, piled high with our most sacred documents, then pushed down the icy hill to safety. Praise to those who entered closets and threw out armfuls of suits. In the bitter night, nearly 5,000 spectators – residents, students, and professors – watched helplessly as our chapter house had gone from one of Ithaca's most beautiful buildings, to a smoking heap of rubble"*

**One hundred feet away, only the Goat House remained standing.**



**ABOVE:** The chapter celebrated its Sesquicentennial in 2010 with a formal black tie event. The bareft Goat House, now a target of unrelenting graffiti and vandalism, stands in disrepair. Plans are now in the works for a total restoration.

**BELOW:** To commemorate its Sesquicentennial, artisans sculpted the Goat House from a solid block of ice.



An artist's rendering of Alpha Delta Phi's current Jacobethan Revival style home designed by John Russell Pope.

### 1931: A New Home, A New Beginning

Devastated by the fire, the tragedy did not deter their Brotherhood. With strong support from alumni, funds were secured for a new house on the same site. The chapter chose none other than one of the most celebrated neoclassical architects of the twentieth century, John Russell Pope (1974-1937), to design their new home. Pope's works include Washington D.C.'s Jefferson Memorial, the National Archives building, and the National Gallery of Art.

The new Alpha Delta Phi lodge was designed in the Jacobethan Revival style in Bedford stone and brick with a crenellated roof parapet, limestone door and window surrounds, slate roof, and a giant leaded-glass bay window that graces a soaring great hall (left). Pope's formal design – worthy of Ivy League traditions and status – fully capitalized on the site's dramatic geographic setting with views of Cayuga Lake. The house is estimated to have taken fifty-five percent of Ithaca's work force to erect.



Remarkably, the house opened in the Fall of 1931 – less than two years after the catastrophic fire. It was listed on the National Register of Historic Place as part of the Cornell Heights Historic District in 1989. The enormous home has been called one of the most distinguished fraternity houses in the country.

As for the Goat House – Alpha Delta Phi historically has refused to disclose any information about the perplexing structure. As you might guess, the infamous building has garnered intense amounts of speculation over the years. The manner in which the building, its purpose and contents are kept in such extreme secrecy obviously provokes the rumor mill. Some believe the



structure extends deep underground and ridiculous rumors have purported that it's a geothermal plant that takes heat from convection currents in the earth's mantle. Stories have even surfaced alleging that it's used to summon demons and perform satanic rituals. Both absurd, of course.

One hundred fifteen years after the bizarre doorless/windowless structure was built, an obscure note in the Fraternity's newsletter indicated a *rooftop escape hatch* was sealed in the early 1940s "in response to an attempted break-in by another fraternity". On the counsel of alumni, the hatch was "returned to service with new security features". More recent news indicated a plan to install digital video recording systems for anti-vandalism purposes.

For the time being, it seems that the Goat House will remain an enigma.





**IMPORTANT: BROTHERS PLEASE TAKE NOTE & ACT!**

# SUMMER RUSH

LET'S ENSURE THE  
BEST MEN OF THE  
CLASS OF 2027

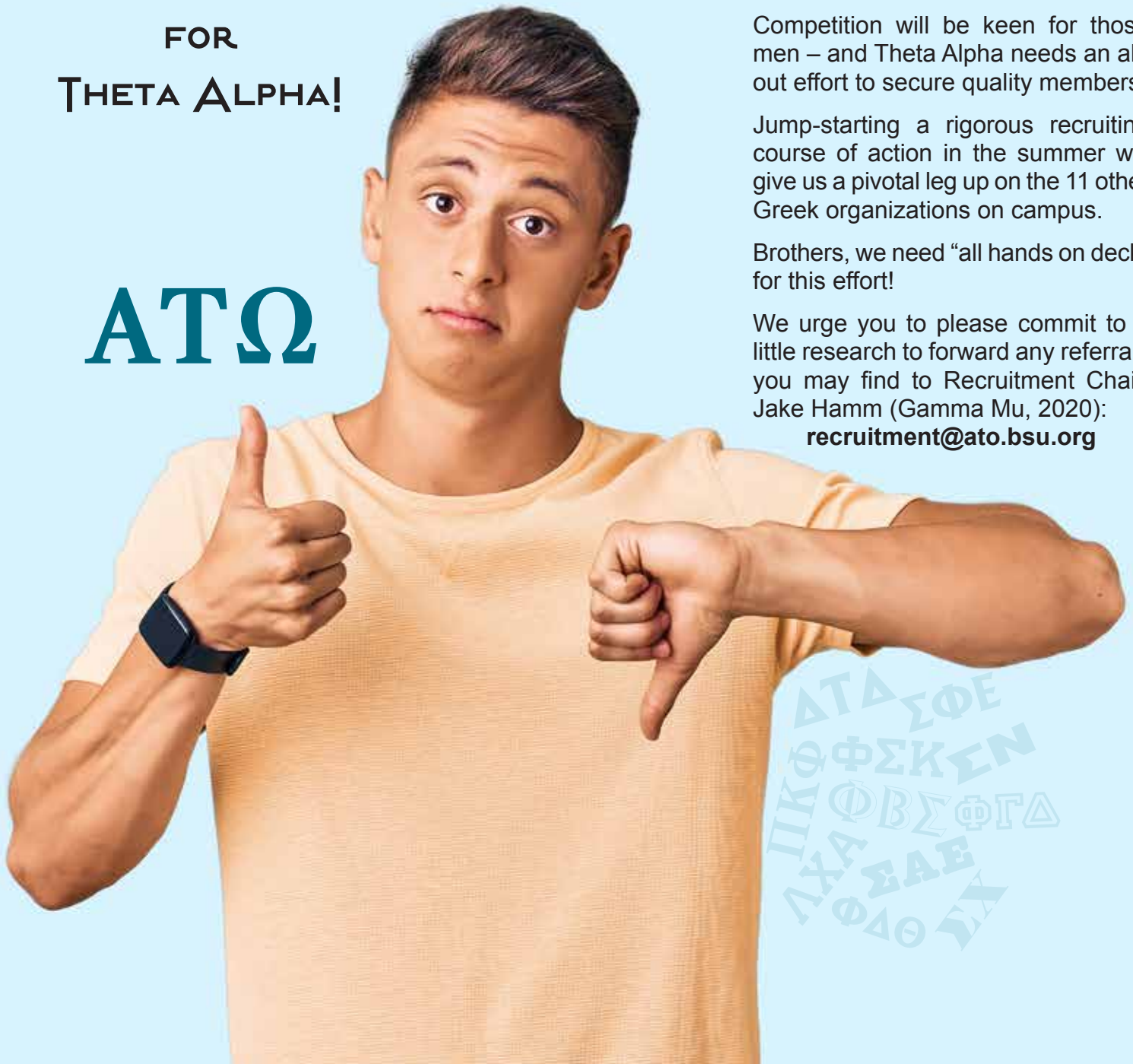
GIVE A

**THUMBS UP**

FOR

**THETA ALPHA!**

**ΑΤΩ**



Due to the current, Junior/Senior-heavy make-up of the Chapter, a Summer Rush has been planned.

We are looking for quality men to contact for this critical recruitment period.

As many as 1,500 men are expected to enroll as freshman for 2023-24 school year. Of course, hundreds of those freshman will be participating in the primary fall rush once the school term commences.

Competition will be keen for those men – and Theta Alpha needs an all-out effort to secure quality members.

Jump-starting a rigorous recruiting course of action in the summer will give us a pivotal leg up on the 11 other Greek organizations on campus.

Brothers, we need “all hands on deck” for this effort!

We urge you to please commit to a little research to forward any referrals you may find to Recruitment Chair, Jake Hamm (Gamma Mu, 2020):

**[recruitment@ato.bsu.org](mailto:recruitment@ato.bsu.org)**