
∞ THE ALUMNAE LINK ∞

The Newsletter of the Sigma Psi Alumnae Corporation

Summer 2004

Sigma Psi Is Getting a New House!

By Melissa McNichols Cardon '93

During the '05-'06 school year the new Greek Residential Village will open on North Side - and is to include a brand new house for Sigma Psi! The Campus Master Plan calls for all undergraduate students to live on North Side, including all of the Greek chapters. New Greek houses will range from 18 to 36 beds, and consist of stand-alone and duplex houses built in the housing style common in that part of Cleveland. Most will include both front and back porches as well as a living room, chapter room, library, and kitchen. Bedrooms will include singles, doubles, and triples, and each bathroom will be shared by only 4 girls.

Would you like to be part of this exciting time in Sigma Psi's history? We are seeking two different types of donations to make our new house even better. First, if you have any Sigma Psi mementos that you would like to see part of the new house, such as old pledge paddles, song books, or news stories on famous (or infamous) Sigs, please send them in. Secondly, we are seeking monetary donations for upgrades to the house for things like a mantle for the fireplace, nice kitchen cabinets, and carpeting. Much like building a regular family home, the University will provide basic grade items throughout the house and the Sigma Psi Alumnae Corporation will pay for any upgraded materials we want.

Wouldn't it be great to see a new set of letters for the front of the house, or a stained glass window with Sigma Psi or our crest in it? How about a brick walkway leading up to the front door? Do you own a company that can donate materials? Let us know what other ideas you would like to see in your new house.

We encourage graduating classes, pledge classes, or alum groups from various parts of the country to join efforts to fund specific areas or

items in the house. For example, the group of alums in Boston may want to combine their contributions to fund a new mantle, or the class of '92 may want to collectively upgrade the kitchen cabinets. Want to help organize such efforts in your area or for your graduating class? Just let me know!

Whether part of a group or as a solo alumna, we encourage you to get involved with your ideas and donations for the new house. All donations will be recognized with plaques or bricks at the new site, and a welcome party will be thrown for all alumnae when we move in.

Questions, comments, and donations can be sent to Melissa Cardon (McNichols '93) at mcardon@case.edu or 28649 Woodmill Drive, Westlake, OH 44145.

Family Trees

By Maurissa D'Angelo '05

Calling all alumnae new and old: Sigma Psi is in the process of putting together family trees. We would like our final product to go all the way back to the beginning and everyone can help. If you could e-mail or mail me your family trees as far back as you know them, or can find from your pledge manuals, this would be a great help. We have some pieces of the family trees, but especially if you graduated before '74 your family trees would be of great help.

My e-mail address is mxd70@case.edu or you can mail me your information at Maurissa D'Angelo, 2105 Murray Hill Road Apt 4, Cleveland, Ohio, 44106. Want to get more involved? Have some suggestions to make this project run more smoothly? Our next meeting is Wednesday, September 22 at 7:00 at the sorority house. If you are interested in attending feel free to call me at 216-650-1552, we would love to have more help.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 12 - Chapter Dinner

Come join fellow alumnae to help cook the active's chapter dinner- the last event of their fall recruitment. We will be meeting at the house around 3. Contact Sarah Born for more information or if you will be helping out- sig-gysarah@yahoo.com or 216-849-6207

September 22 - Alumnae Board Meeting

At 7:00 we will be meeting at the sorority house for a Alumnae Board Meeting. All alumnae are welcome.

October 9 - Homecoming

Watch your Case publications for news about an active sponsored event during Homecoming weekend.

November 12 - Mr. CWRU and Alumnae Social

At 5:30, prior to Mr. CWRU, meet up with other alumnae at McNulty's Irish Pub in Coventry for a social hour.

January 5 - Conference Planning Meeting

At 7:00, meet up at Sarah Born's apartment for our next conference planning meeting. Contact Sarah Born for more information -

CONTACT INFO

Questions/comments about...

...the newsletter? Alumnae website? Yahoo! group? Contact info for other alumnae? Sigma Psi merchandise? Please contact Marie at marie@sdharvey.com

...the Alumnae Board or Alumnae Board meetings? Social events? Please contact Sarah at siggysarah@yahoo.com

...the new Sigma Psi housing at Case? Please contact Melissa at mcardon@case.edu

...the Family Tree project? Please contact Maurissa at mxd70@case.edu

...the Sigma Psi Conference being planned for next year? Please contact Carrie at carrie.schenkel@jhu.edu

...formal recruitment in the spring? Please contact Maria at mxy30@case.edu

...the 3rd Annual Welcome to the Alumnae Corporation Brunch next spring? Please contact Cheryl at clw8@case.edu

Campus News

By Lisa Hudy '03

At the last Panhellenic council meeting of the spring 2004 semester, Delta Gamma and Phi Sigma Rho were both voted into full chapter status within the Greek community at Case.

The sisters of Delta Gamma at Case form the Theta Beta chapter and initiated 38 members at the end of the spring 2004 semester. They are lead by President Bobbie Nenno, a senior music and pre-med major. The sisters of Delta Gamma have completed more than 192 hours of community service this year, far surpassing their goal. In addition, the sisters of Delta Gamma earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.271 for the spring 2004 semester, placing them second among the sororities. Delta Gamma was founded at the Lewis School for Girls in Oxford, Miss., and now operates 141 chapters in the United States and three in Canada.

The sisters of Phi Sigma Rho at Case form the Omicron chapter of Phi Sigma Rho, and have 21 sisters who were initiated since their chartering. They are led by President Katherine Scherrer, a senior biomedical engineering major. The sisters of Phi Sigma Rho have completed more than 180 hours of community service this year, far surpassing their goal. In addition, the sisters of Phi Sigma Rho earned a cumulative grade point average of 3.087 for the spring 2004 semester, placing them sixth among sororities. Phi Sigma Rho was started on the campus of Purdue University in 1984 and now operates 15 chapters and 4 colonies nationwide.

HEY SIGS!
 Mark your calendars NOW for the
1ST ANNUAL SIGMA PSI CONFERENCE
SEPTEMBER 2 -5, 2005!!

ACTIVITIES INCLUDE:

- ◆ Wine and cheese reception ◆ Keynote speakers ◆ Variety Show ◆
- ◆ Business meeting ◆ Cookout ◆ AND MORE! ◆

The first conference will focus on the future of Sigma Psi, and how we can plan for the long term to make us stronger and more vibrant in the years to come. We will be putting together 5-year plans, and building stronger bonds between and among actives and alums.

This conference, as well as those in the first three years, will be held in Cleveland. Once we've built up some momentum, we'd love to move it to different cities across the US in order to make the conference even more fun!

WHY should we hold such a conference? For several reasons! Among them:

- Alumnae who don't live near Cleveland would have a great opportunity to interact with actives and alums, and to be a greater part of the alumnae association.
- To provide networking opportunities for actives and alums alike.
- As a venue for long term goal setting and planning for the active chapter, the alumnae, and individuals.
- To organize regional alumnae chapters, so that Sigma Psi doesn't have to end when you graduate and to support the Cleveland Alumnae Board.
- To have fun!!!

SOUNDS GREAT! How can I help?

- Plan to participate!! Keep your calendar open, and watch for registration materials.
- Tell other alums to come too!! The more, the merrier!
- Suggest ANYTHING you'd like to see happen at the conference! We want this to be a valuable experience for everyone involved.
- We would love to showcase the experiences and successes of our very own alums! If you would be willing to serve as a speaker for the conference, please contact us.
- We need a photographer and a videographer to record the event.
- If you'd like to be involved with planning, we'd love to have you! Our next planning meeting will take place on Wednesday, Jan. 5th at 7 p.m. at Sarah Born's apartment in the Cleveland area. Let us know if you'd like to attend, and we'll give you directions.

If you have questions, ideas, or would like to volunteer, you can contact
 Carrie Schenkel at carrie.schenkel@jhu.edu, at (740) 704-7521, and
 by mail at 1100 6th St. SW #612, Washington, DC 20024
 or Sarah Born at siggysarah@yahoo.com

SEE YOU THERE!!!

MEET THE ALUMNAE BOARD

Elections in May brought a lot of new faces to the Alumnae Board. We thought this would be a great opportunity to introduce ourselves!

Sarah Born - President

My name is Sarah Born and I am currently the Alumnae Board President. I graduated from Case in 2001 with a degree in biochemistry. I am working at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation in the medical intensive care unit (not using my degree at all, but still loving it!). I live in Cleveland Heights.

Corrie Rittenhouse - VP

Upon graduating in January of 2004 I was thrown into the world of Public Auditing (woohoo!) with PriceWaterhouseCoopers (a public accounting firm). I am now currently serving my first term on the Alumnae Board as VP. I live in downtown Cleveland with no pets or roommates and I'm right down the street from some happenin' bars and thoroughly enjoying the cosmopolitan lifestyle.

Lori Vanatsky - Treasurer

Lori graduated from CWRU in 1992 with a B.S., Management. She has been on the Alumnae Board since graduating and is currently the Treasurer. She recently moved to Mason, Ohio with her husband Mike CIT '90 and her 3 children, Allison (9), Emily (7) and Jack (4). Her favorite memories of Sigma Psi include winning Greek Week two years in a row (and the Paradise by the Dashboard Light variety show skit!) and co-chairing the Centennial Planning committee in 1996-97.

Marie Vanaman Harvey - Secretary

I have been on the board since graduating in 1999. I graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering, and after a short stint as a waitress at the Mad Greek, I went to work in the real world at a crane manufacturer named Demag, which is located in Solon. I moved out of Cuyahoga County a few years ago, and make my home with my husband-Shawn CWRU '98 on a few acres in Aurora, OH.

Maria Yakover - Rush Advisor

I received a BA in Biology in 2003 and then just recently completed my MBA from Cleveland State University. Currently I do marketing for Life Settlement Insights in Solon and live with three other Sigs in University Heights.

Maurissa D'Angelo - Historian & Chapter Liaison

Biomedical Engineer graduating this December (actually, Jan '05). I went early alumni to concentrate on graduate courses that I have been taking for the past year. I was elected this summer to the position of historian and chapter liaison. I am very excited to be working with Melissa Cardon and some of the active chapter on a full family tree of Sigma Psi, including addresses of alumnae, and I look forward to working with the chapter and helping them communicate with the alumnae.

Melissa Cardon - Faculty Advisor

Melissa Cardon (nee McNichols) graduated in 1993 with a BA and 1994 with an MBA from Case. She is now a professor in the business school and the faculty advisor to Sigma Psi. Melissa and her husband Jim (Sarge from ZBT) now live in Westlake with their two boys, Shamus (8) and Dominick (5), and their yellow lab, Sunny (1).

Sara Gencur - Member at Large

After graduating in 2003, I turned down a chance to lead the U.S. Olympic Full-Contact Origami team, after learning there was no such event at the Olympics. I served for a year as the Alumnae Recruitment Chair while working on my Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering. I then moved on to something I found interesting: trucks (specifically, those made by Cummins Inc.). 'cause dogs like trucks, and I like dogs. But not as much as cats. But I'm allergic to cats. Now I mostly roll around in a pool full of money (I wish) and watch "Good Eats" on the food network while solving all of the world's problems in my spare time. Not that anyone listens to me.

Lisa Hudy - Member at Large

I graduated in 2003 with a degree in Chemical Engineering, but have since taken a different route. In fall 2003, I began working for Greek Life at Case as a Greek Life Assistant (GLA) and for Cleveland State University as an undergraduate business adviser while I work toward my MBA at CSU. In February 2004, I became engaged to

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Alan Lufkin, a Sigma Tau. This will be my second year as an Alumnae Board member-at-large.

**Jackie Shanks -
Member at Large**

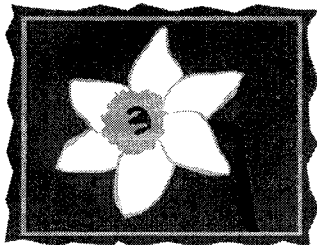
I graduated in May 2004 and am pleased to be a part of the alumnae board as member at large. I live in University Heights with three other Sigs, two of which are members of the board with me.

**Cheryl Thompson -
Member at Large**

I went early alum in 1997. BS 2000, MS 2002. Currently at Case working on Ph.D. in Genetic and Molecular Epidemiology. Married with two kids (Andrew, 6 and Abigail, 21 months). I was president for the last two years and now I am a member at large and still plan on working on the alum of the semester awards and the 3rd Welcome to the Alumnae Corporation Brunch next May.

**Vicki Vitacco -
Member at Large**

I am Vicki and I graduated in May 2004 and I am working at the Cleveland Clinic as a nurse in the ICU. I live with three other Sig alumnae in University Heights. This is the first time I am on the board.



Alumnae News

30s...

Virginia Reeves Sauser '35 writes that she and **Ada Ruth Heavilin Wagner '35** still visit by phone. Virginia is 91 and living alone in her home of 57 years-on a walker part time from dizziness. Virginia adds that she wishes she was able to see the current Sigma Psi house.

40s...

Ruth Chantler Sloan '46 sends greetings from New Jersey! She adds, "Sorry there isn't a Flora Stone Mather College anymore. Those were the fun days!"

Omitted online...

50s...

Joan Gifreda Smith '53 has moved and she's retired! Her husband Steve had already retired. They moved to be closer to their youngest son and his family. They really downsized to a townhouse in the beautiful wooded county of Sussex in the northwestern part of New Jersey. Now Joan should be able to once again enjoy doing watercolors, gardening, and some volunteering.

Joan sends word that **Elaine Palda Swiler '53** is a dear friend and is spending the snowy months visiting sons in New Mexico and Florida.

Joan asks, "What happened to our identity? CASE is now on

all letterheads and return envelopes. We're all upset! Anyone else?"

60s...

Maggie Ginther Case '63 purchased a condo in Sun City Center Florida 2 years ago. They are enjoying the sunshine and warm weather. She and her husband are there from November until May, when they return to Cleveland. They get together regularly with **Martha Wolfram Powers '63** and husband Bill during the winter months. Maggie and her husband are expecting their fifth grandchild in July.

Charlene Labovitz Wilhovsky '65 is enjoying the challenges of her new position as Coordinator of Psychological Services at Santa Ana College. In addition to supervising and training pre- and post-doctoral psychology interns, she handles psychological issues and crises for students, staff, and faculty. Outside of college, Charlene has a small private practice in which she does individual and couples therapy and psychodiagnostic and psychoeducational testing with adults, adolescents, and children. Her leisure time is mostly spent with her husband, son & his wife, and daughter & her husband. No grandchildren yet!

80s...

Michele Hopple Muzilla '83 and family has moved back to Ohio after being away for 20 years. Their oldest is graduating from the 8th grade (spring '04) while their youngest is just finishing kindergarten. Their middle child is in the 4th grade. Michele will be getting back into the workforce part-time, maybe substitute teaching.

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Susan Marchetti Clements '87 and her husband just welcomed the arrival of their son Peter in January of 2004 who joins big brothers Matthew, 5, and James, 3. The family recently moved into a new and bigger house and are busy with house projects when time permits. Susan is currently enjoying her opportunity to be home full-time with the boys- some days are long but they are all fun.

Jennifer Cleric '88 recently moved to Macedonia, Ohio and is adjusting to suburban life with her son Cameron. She is currently working at the Hospice of the Western Reserve as a Home Care RN which is very rewarding. Jennifer would love to hear from Sigs from late '80s to early '90s.

Rebecca Cline Fletcher '88 is continuing study towards an M. Div. degree in order to become a chaplain.

Vanessa Valena Tinsley '89 and her husband Rob (CIT '88, Delta Gamma) are thrilled to announce the birth of their third child, Isabelle, born on January 30, 2004. Her big brothers, Nicholas (10) and Cooper (7) adore her and plan to sign her up for Tae Kwon Do as soon as possible.

90s...

Sheryl Lieber Bruce '91 recently married (again) and is living in Germany. She's applying for jobs at the NATO base where her husband works, but otherwise enjoying Europe.

Melanie Bickum Carlson '94 would like to announce the birth of her son, Conner, born on April 9, 2003. He joined his sister,

Josannah who is 2 1/2 years old. Melanie is working as a family physician in Olmstead Falls. Her husband, Jess (whom was known as Jessifer while she was an active) works as an industrial designer at Smartshape Design in Cleveland.

Last September, **Valerie Richardson Hays '94** and her husband Nick bought their first house. Nick completed his post-doctoral fellowship and is now a research assistant professor at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He'll be teaching his first class in the fall. Valerie is working for Arkansas Children's Hospital and attending Law School in the evenings. On March 10, they had their first child- Brandon Nicholas. 8 lbs 14 oz. She adds that, "Things are very hectic these days." Valerie also writes that **Sandy Swinler Orland '94** was expecting a daughter in early July and **Julie Conrad Bailey '94** had her second baby on May 25.

Trista Onesti '95 married Seth Greenfield (they graduated together from OSU Dental School in 1999) August 24, 2002. Seth practices at Erieview Dental in Mentor, Ohio. Trista is currently working as a geriatrics dentist based in the Cleveland area, but works throughout the State of Ohio. Currently, she provides treatment primarily to long term care facilities. At this time, she considers herself more of a full time mom. Since the birth of her 1st child, Aliza Rayne, she only works 3 days a week. She was born July 6, 2003 during those horrible storms everyone in Northeast Ohio remembers.

Trista would like for everyone to get in touch with her at tlodds@yahoo.com- after so many years of study (which took

up too much time) she would like the opportunity to reconnect.

Carrie Ann Matyac '99 will graduate from the University of WA in June 2004 and take her boards to be a Nurse Practitioner in July (hopefully). She hopes to stay in the Seattle area, but may work out of state at least for a while. She loves Seattle, though! "Feel free to visit if you're ever out this direction!"

Marie Vanaman '99 and Shawn Harvey '98 (ZBT) were married on June 26, 2004 in an outdoor wedding at Hiram, Ohio. The weather was unusually cooperative for Northeast Ohio. They honeymooned in the Vancouver and Victoria, BC areas. Pictures of the wedding and honeymoon can be seen on their website www.sdharvey.com/wedding

On July 31, 4002, **Paula Tranbarger '00** and Stephen Iverson were married in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Sigs that made the trip to Fort Wayne were **Lisa Hudy '03**, **Marissa Melenski '03**, **Barbara Mellen '03**, **Maria Yakover '03**, **Dawn Woodcox '01**, and **Marie Vanaman Harvey '99**. After a honeymoon to Hawaii, Paula and Stephen are settling into their home in West Hills, CA. Photos can be found online at www.previewgallery.com/photoartistry/events.php (select their wedding photos from the "wedding" dropbox).



Alumnae Deaths

Ester Johnson Diefendorf '40, per the Spring 2004 Case Magazine

Sigma Psi Alumnae Corporation
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Cleveland Heights, OH 44118



ΣΨ Alumnae Newsletter

**Check us out on
the web for the
most up-to-date
information!**

www.SigmaPsi.org

Have you signed up for the Sigma Psi
Yahoo! group? This is an alumnae-only
subscription e-mail group that is open to
all Sigs from Cleveland to Alaska!

YAHOO! Groups 

Directions to join are located on the
Sigma Psi website.