

THE SIGMAN

University of Michigan Chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha

Vol. LXXX

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No. 2



MICHAEL PADILLA

On the front lawn of 1601 Washtenaw, HA Eli Gerber referees the Watermelon Bust on April 5.

SIGMA REGAINS 1601 TITLE

By **GEORGE FRIESS, ETHAN REIN,**
and **NATHAN WHETSELL**

When Sigma went dormant in 1994, title to the chapter house at 1601 Washtenaw was transferred to the General Fraternity, which oversees AXA's chapters and colonies. At that time, NBD Bank held a mortgage on the chapter house with about \$700,000 in principal. Brothers George Friess '57, Bruce Koepfgen '74, and Paul Meister (Northwestern '74) loaned \$85,000 to the General Fraternity to build NBD's confidence that it could pay the mortgage. Later, the General Fraternity leased the chapter house to IKA, then ΣΦΕ. Sigma returned to the chapter house in 2004, but the General Fraternity still held title.

On August 2, 2011, and without advising Sigma, the General Fraternity signed an agreement to sell the chapter house to Beta

Tau Corporation, the alumni organization of the U-M chapter of IKA. This sale agreement was to become effective if Sigma did not exercise an option to purchase the chapter house by April 30, 2012.

By early April 2012—fortunately before April 30—George Spasyk '49 and Rocky Pozza '71 negotiated an agreement with the General Fraternity that Sigma would regain title if it assumed the \$85,000 loan. Nonetheless, Beta Tau brought a lawsuit against the General Fraternity in June 2012 seeking to enforce the August 2011 sale agreement.

The suit was dismissed in Sep. 2013, thanks in large part to Brother Pozza's testimony and Sigma's legal counsel Scott Timmer '77. Sigma officially regained title in March 2014. Brothers Friess, Koepfgen, and Meister also forgave their loan, a magnanimous act for which Sigma brothers everywhere are grateful.

Mark Your Calendars!

9th Annual Sigma Golf Outing	July 16
AXA's 55th General Assembly	July 24–27
Chapter House Work Day	August 23
Fall classes begin	September 2
60s Alumni Reunion	September 19–20
Fall study break	October 13–14
Alumni Association Meeting	October 18
Homecoming Brunch	November 1
Thanksgiving recess	November 27–30
Initiation	December 5

Going to a home football game?

Visit the chapter house!

vs. Miami (Ohio)	September 13
vs. Utah	September 20
vs. Minnesota	September 27
vs. Penn State	October 11
vs. Indiana	November 1
vs. Maryland	November 22

See more and get tickets at mgoblue.com

Homecoming Brunch

is at

1601 Washtenaw

on

November 1

It'll probably start at 11 o'clock, but because the football game's kickoff time hasn't been announced...

Subscribe to the email list at
lcamichigan.com/alumni-news
so you'll know when brunch starts!

Or, check
lcamichigan.com/events
for updates.

We hope to
see you there!

Golf Fans

Sigma's 9th annual Golf Outing is on Wednesday, July 16 at the U-M Golf Course. Contact George Pomey '65 at george@georgepomey.net to purchase tickets.

Everyone

Chapter House Work Day is on Saturday, August 23. Help fellow alumni and undergraduate brothers spruce up the chapter house starting at 10:00 A.M.

60s Alumni

Contact George Pomey '65 at george@georgepomey.net to learn more about and purchase tickets for the September 19–20 reunion of 60s-era brothers.

THE SIGMAN

The official publication of Sigma Zeta,
the University of Michigan chapter of $\Lambda X A$,
issued biannually for its alumni and friends.

Ethan Rein '07 Editor
Nathan Whetsell '05 Designer

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Visit the chapter house at
1601 Washtenaw Ave, Ann Arbor MI 48104

Send alumni news and contributions to
1025 Imperial Dr, Pittsburgh PA 15236

Write to info@lcamichigan.com

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HENRY MAJOROS

During a snow football game with prospective members on January 18, Kevin Kacan tries to tackle HA Bobby Brandon as Stephen Lindsly looks on.

A Message from the High Alpha

On behalf of all of Sigma's undergraduate members, I thank our alumni brothers and friends for their continued involvement and support. Through your contributions, you give us a wonderful home and family for our time at the University and beyond.

Our undergraduate brothers and officers have accomplished a great deal during the winter 2014 semester. With the Watermelon Bust, formal dinner and dance, brick campaign, and growth of the active chapter to over 40 members, we have seen the chapter become more well-rounded and effective in our lives, the lives of others, and the Greek community.

We also realize that the most important part of our Fraternity is its brothers, and our strength lies in the upbuilding of our connec-

tions with one another. While we will always work to grow and become a more complete chapter, we will also continue to develop ourselves and be thankful for Sigma's active members at each moment in its existence.

In that spirit, our brotherhood has benefited immensely from the friendship, guidance, and contributions of our most senior members: Davud Kucukarslan, Jacob Taber, Daniel Varsanik, Gregory Myers, and Scott Godbold. We will be always grateful to these men for helping to strengthen the chapter, bringing us into it, and showing us what a ΛX is supposed to be.

To all, the undergraduate members wish you nothing but the best.

Yours in ZAX,

Bobby Brandon

Bobby Brandon
Chapter President

Academic Standards Sky High

By AUGUST KLATT

In fall 2013, Sigma achieved an overall GPA of 3.26, an increase of 0.19 points over winter 2013's 3.07 GPA. 18 brothers achieved GPAs of 3.5 or more, including two brothers—Michael Duczynski and Zach Vigneau—who achieved 4.0 GPAs.

Our goal for the winter 2014 and fall 2014 semesters is for Sigma to surpass U-M's all-student GPA. We have implemented a program

where Sigma members struggling in a course can get help from brothers who have already taken the course. We also reserved a room in the Shapiro Undergraduate Library (more commonly referred to as the UGLi) from 8:00 P.M. to midnight nightly so that brothers have a quiet place to study, with additional rooms reserved during the week of final examinations.



Mike Padilla and Nate Stanifer grill for prospective members on January 20.

Winter Rush Nets Eight

Sigma to adopt Exceptional Gentleman Recruitment

By ELI GERBER

Eight associate members joined Sigma during Interfraternity Council (IFC) recruitment this winter. The active chapter is very proud of the commitment to Sigma that Jordan Bryan, James Castellano, Peter Fogel, Christopher Jordan, Jeremy Meeder, David Misch, Anthony San Filippo, and Eric Veith have shown during their time as associate members.

IFC recruitment—traditionally referred to as Rush—was a very enjoyable, if hectic, process for the undergraduate brothers. This writer planned events ranging from a barbecue at the chapter house, to snow football at Douglas Park, to whirlyball at Whirly Ball of Ann Arbor. Brothers were encouraged to meet and get to know as many prospective members as possible during this time so that once it came time to give bids we would have a good idea of who we wanted to invite to join our ranks. We concluded winter Rush on January 24 with a

formal dinner at the chapter house cooked by our chef Giovanni Farruggio. At the dinner, several brothers shared the reasons they joined AXA, as well as the benefits and responsibilities of membership.

Sigma plans to experiment with AXA's recruitment model, called *Core Values-Based Recruitment*, by adopting a modified version called *Exceptional Gentleman Recruitment*. The only substantive change it makes is that during bid meetings, instead of trying to shoehorn things that prospective members have said into one of AX's Seven Core Values, undergraduate brothers will instead focus on what makes the prospective member exceptional. This could be anything from academic success to extracurricular leadership. Hopefully, this will help make bid meetings—and Rush in general—a more substantive and cohesive experience.

SIGMA HONOR ROLL

To our brothers and friends who have already contributed in 2014, *thank you!* These brothers and friends helped restore the chapter house's front path, give \$780 to Food Gatherers, and award 19 undergraduates \$1,650 for excellent fall 2013 coursework.

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Σ 878 Paul C. Robertson '64 •

\$1,000 – \$2,499

Σ 943 C. Robert Kidder '66 •

\$500 – \$999

Σ 556 George W. Spasyk '49 •
Σ 727 Thomas Vanden Bosch '59 •
Σ 812 David R. Carpenter '60 •
Σ 1237 Steven J. Carnevale '77 •
Σ 1334 James F. Sansone '79 •
Σ 1815 Nathan A. Whetsell '05 •
Σ 1843 Neal Turett '08 •

\$250 – \$499

Σ 728 Thomas W. Gougeon '58 •
Σ 756 Charles F. Schrader '60 •

Σ 903 Robert M. Tobias '65 •
Σ 936 Larry L. McLaughlin '66 •
Σ 1139 Roger T. Whitaker '73 •
Σ 1235 J. Scott Timmer '77 •
Σ 1360 John C. Harder '81 •
Σ 1564 Scott G. Metcalf '87 •

\$100 – \$249

Σ 500 William F. Ruzicka '44 •
Σ 571 George W. Tuck '49 •
Σ 629 Charles E. Cuson '52 •
Σ 657 Richard T. Good '57 •
Σ 665 Gordon R. Merritt '56 •
Σ 686 Paul L. Gruner '55 •
Σ 706 George A. Grove '58 •
Σ 709 G. Frederick Sheffler '57 •
Σ 719 Constantine Gianakaris '56 •
Σ 725 J. George Friess '57 •
Σ 729 Francis J. LeMire '56 •
Σ 738 H. Carl Walker '57 •
Σ 748 James H. Wells '58 •
Σ 761 Thomas L. Capua '62 •
Σ 771 Robert L. Metzger '59 •
Σ 822 David A. Matzen '63 •
Σ 842 Charles W. Newton '63 •
Σ 858 David C. Breiholz '63 •
Σ 866 Randall L. Mitchell '64 •
Σ 879 Ronald A. Modreski '64 •
Σ 880 John S. Hardy '64 •
Σ 884 Ronald A. Mulder '64 •
Σ 889 Michael P. Knapp '63 •
Σ 906 David J. Newton '65 •
Σ 917 George J. Pomey '65 •
Σ 918 Gary D. Gillespie '65 •
Σ 922 William G. Newton '66 •

Σ 925 Charles W. Blackmer '65 •
Σ 930 Larry L. Twitchell '65 •
Σ 996 Robert J. Stevens '67 •
Σ 1034 Robert F. Taugner '67 •
Σ 1062 William L. Jackson '70 •
Σ 1090 J. Michael Luerich '70 •
Σ 1146 Todd M. Petersen '73 •
Σ 1163 Andrew L. Knowlton '74 •
Σ 1187 George A. Isaac '75 •
Σ 1258 Gerald L. Olson '78 •
Σ 1276 Thomas L. Cox '79 •
Σ 1301 Jack D. Withrow '79 •
Σ 1308 Craig A. Page '79 •
Σ 1318 Christopher Thompson '79 •
Σ 1333 Gerard A. Geraci '79 •
Σ 1336 Peter L. Schaefer '80 •
Σ 1358 Thomas S. Maentz '80 •
Σ 1359 David Ulgenalp '80 •
Σ 1361 Robert F. Casalou '81 •
Σ 1364 Douglas R. VanDagens '80 •
Σ 1365 Lewis K. Burton '81 •
Σ 1367 Edward K. Leh '81 •
Σ 1370 Mark S. Vander Broek '81 •
Σ 1376 John E. Cunningham '82 •
Σ 1378 Ted N. Haddad '82 •
Σ 1385 Robert M. Di Scipio '80 •
Σ 1395 Bruce H. Murphy '79 •
Σ 1411 Robert M. Swiller '81 •
Σ 1426 Paul J. Paruk '81 •
Σ 1429 Daniel L. Girdler '82 •
Σ 1443 R. Nikolaus Schmidt '83 •
Σ 1542 Andrew M. Grove '86 •
Σ 1677 T. David Gillespie '91 •
Σ 1797 Bradley E. Quinn '01 •
Σ 1801 Gregory J. Wright '02 •

Σ 1817 Thomas A. Knowlton '04 •
Σ 1827 Scott A. Nielsen '04 •
Σ 1828 Benjamin A. Hoff '06 •
Σ 1832 Ethan A. Rein '07 •
Σ 1833 Colin T. Campbell '09 •
Σ 1840 Andrew W. Turckes '08 •
Σ 1891 Kevin G. Mantay '13 •

\$1 – \$99

Σ 486 F. X. Nutto '45 •
Σ 487 Robert J. Patton '42 •
Σ 491 James H. Weikel '44 •
Σ 677 Elliott E. Burd '56 •
Σ 739 Neil Taylor '58 •
Σ 1796 Vikram V. Vaishya '00 •
Σ 1802 Aaron T. Niemiec '01 •
Σ 1804 Kush K. Goyal '01 •
Σ 1829 Stephen C. Marin '06 •
Σ 1839 Sean M. Ruwart '08 •
Σ 1844 Christopher VanDeusen '08 •
Σ 1918 Isaac L. Ahuvia '16 •
Σ 1919 Robert W. Brandon '15 •
Σ 1920 Craig J. Friend '15 •
Σ 1921 Cameron H. N. Lindsay '16 •
Σ 1922 James J. Miron '16 •
Σ 1923 Hunter S. Toomajian '16 •
Mitchell Gerber •

Purple • indicates sponsors of bricks for the front path of the chapter house.

Gold • indicates supporters of Sigma's food drive and Feeding America.

Donate today at
lcamichigan.com/donate

GREEK WEEK

***Sigma, ΑΔΠ, and ΧΥ form Team “Teacher’s Pet”;
Alumni Secretary Connor Rubin wins Mr. Greek Week;
Variety squad performs challenging, stunt-laden dance***

By ANDERS JOHNSON

This semester, Sigma joined the ladies of ΑΔΠ and the gentlemen of ΧΥ to form Team “Teacher’s Pet”, one of 15 teams to compete in Greek Week from March 25 to April 2.

With sponsor Erin Watkins, a freshman sister of ΑΔΠ, Sigma Alumni Secretary Connor Rubin was named Mr. Greek Week at the ΑΔΠ-sponsored event at the Power Center for the Performing Arts on March 31. Competitors for the title of Mr. Greek Week must perform a talent, answer trivia questions, and dress up as a hero. For his talent, Brother Rubin performed a tumbling gymnastics routine. He then won the trivia round and gave the crowd a final hurrah dressed up as his hero: a *venti* caramel macchiato from Starbucks. Brother Rubin remarks, “I decided to do the competition because my high school had a very similar pageant that I’d won, I figured someone from our Greek Week team had to do it, and I had the experience so I might as well. Plus it was for a great cause—the Ronald

McDonald House.”

While the singers of Team “Teacher’s Pet” were unable to compete, the 20-member Variety squad performed a military-themed routine at Greek Week’s final event: Sing & Variety at Hill Auditorium on April 2. The rules of Variety favor group performance over individual performance—at least four dancers are required to perform any given stunt—so the Variety squad practiced hard twice a week to realize the choreography of ΑΔΠ sisters Cassandra Boston and Emma Carlson. The dance routine included a challenging handspring, which this author and Brother Rubin performed.

Sigma congratulates Team “Class Clowns”, comprised of the ladies of ΣΔΤ and the gentlemen of ΣΑΜ and ΤΚΕ, for placing first in Sing; and Team “Most Likely to Break a World Record”, comprised of the ladies of ΑΦ and the gentlemen of ΠΚΦ, for placing first in Variety and winning Greek Week overall.



The Variety squad of Team “Teacher’s Pet” before its performance on April 2. **Row 1:** Cassandra Boston, Emma Carlson **Row 2:** Gina Benedicto, Stephanie Mackey, Susannah DeRoss, Sarah Epstein, Madeleine Prechtel, Lindsay Walter, Meghan Lamothe, Jamie Ockner **Row 3:** Connor Rubin, Anders Johnson, Aaron Hellman (ΧΥ), Tommy Wydra (ΧΥ), Nick Evans (ΧΥ), Brandon McCann (ΧΥ), Anthony San Filippo, Hunter Toomajian, Peter Fogel, J. P. Franze (ΧΥ)

Thank You
WATERMELON BUST
SPONSORS

U-M Credit Union

umcu.org

Robert F. Murray & Co. CPAs

robertfmurray.com

C&B Scene

candbscene.com

NEW INITIATES

*On December 6, 2013, Sigma initiated
FOURTEEN MEN*

Ryne A. Sieracki	Σ 1932
Cody A. Barlow	Σ 1933
Obadiah Brown	Σ 1934
Wilburt L. Geng	Σ 1935
Anders E. Johnson	Σ 1936
August E. Klatt	Σ 1937
Craig J. LeFevre	Σ 1938
Stephen M. Lindsly	Σ 1939
C. J. Motley	Σ 1940
Spencer P. Popp	Σ 1941
Jose A. Rosales	Σ 1942
Connor S. W. Rubin	Σ 1943
Travis Smith	Σ 1944
Zachary T. Vigneau	Σ 1945

*On April 18, 2014, Sigma initiated
SEVEN MEN*

J. Anthony San Filippo	Σ 1946
Jordan P. Bryan	Σ 1947
James J. Castellano	Σ 1948
Christopher J. Jordan	Σ 1949
Jeremy R. Meeder	Σ 1950
David M. Misch	Σ 1951
Eric P. Veith	Σ 1952

Congratulations, brothers!

The next Initiation will be on December 5.

Watermelon Bust Raises Thousands for Charity

By ISAAC AHUVIA

Σ 1808 Stephen Moss '02 planned Sigma's first Watermelon Bust in 2000, and, after a hiatus that began sometime in the late-2000s, this semester saw Sigma's major annual philanthropy event revived. This year's Bust began with a fundraising period on March 15 and culminated in a day of watermelon-related fun at the chapter house on April 5. The Bust featured ladies from the U-M chapters of ΑΦ, ΑΕΦ, ΔΔΔ, ΔΦΕ, ΖΤΑ, and ΣΔΤ competing in watermelon-related games like relay races and a watermelon eating contest. Sigma was happy to host about 50 guests from the Greek community at the Watermelon Bust, which was exceptionally fun for everyone involved.

The Watermelon Bust raised \$3,123.29 for Food Gatherers, a food bank that supports hunger relief efforts throughout Washtenaw County; and \$500 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, the philanthropy of Watermelon Bust winner ΔΔΔ. Sigma is looking forward to next year's Bust, which is planned to occur in April 2015.

On March 29, about 20 Sigma members cleared debris from a burnt-down house on the site of the Heidelberg Project in the east side of Detroit during DP Day, the Detroit Partnership's annual day of service. Six members came back to Detroit on April 12 to prepare meals at Cass Community Social Services.

Thirty Sigma members participated in MRelay, U-M's annual Relay For Life event benefiting the American Cancer Society, at Palmer Field from 10:00 A.M. April 12 until 10:00 A.M. April 13. Throughout the winter 2014 semester, members moved furniture and did other odd jobs for Ozone House, a shelter for homeless and runaway youth.

All in all, this semester was marked by a great deal of community involvement and highlighted by the brothers' continued support of philanthropic endeavors.



NATHAN WHETSELL

The Watermelon Bust banner arrives at the chapter house a few hours after Founders Day Brunch on March 22.



MICHAEL PADILLA

Travis Smith, Obadiah Brown, and Craig Friend haul debris at the Heidelberg Project on DP Day (March 29).



MICHAEL PADILLA

On the front lawn of the chapter house, Matt Yasso referees the watermelon pass competition during the Watermelon Bust on April 5. ΑΕΦ's team is in front of Brother Yasso, ΔΔΔ's immediately behind.

IN MEMORIAM

- Σ 354 Joseph M. Gwinn died May 17, 2010.
 Σ 477 James A. Oline died September 4, 2007 surrounded by his loving family.
 Σ 497 Hubert G. Hauser '44 passed away on August 10, 2010.
 Σ 504 Donald S. Stephens '46 died on January 6, 2009.
 Σ 511 James A. Richardson '45 died on December 24, 2013 at the age of 92.
 Σ 512 Robert P. Young '47 passed away October 5, 2007.
 Σ 516 Robert C. Mussman died August 25, 2006.
 Σ 521 Jerome T. Crane '49 passed away on February 20, 2009.
 Σ 580 Donald R. Kingdon '51 died on January 24, 2006.
 Σ 587 Joseph St. Cyr '52 passed away November 25, 2008.
 Σ 593 Robert E. Powers '50 died January 24, 2010.
 Σ 594 Warren C. Roeger '51 passed away on August 27, 2009.
 Σ 597 J. Halbert Woods died July 17, 2009.
 Σ 610 Manvel L. Coombs '49 passed away on January 9, 2014.
 Σ 640 George J. Chatas '53 passed away February 28, 2014.
 Σ 653 G. Robert Ballman passed away on February 18, 2008.
 Σ 682 Wilford L. Larson died on February 26, 2011.
 Σ 697 Donald B. Head passed away on December 18, 2008.
 Σ 699 Eugene Terrill died October 12, 2013.
 Σ 718 Victor J. Gibbons died December 27, 2013.
 Σ 730 John L. Walper '57 passed away November 26, 2013.
 Σ 788 H. Michael Foy died May 19, 2008.
 Σ 806 William R. Warnock '61 passed away on December 29, 2010.
 Σ 1057 Donald T. Heyliger died on December 12, 2012.

We also learned of these brothers' passing:

- Σ 339 Don W. Ryker '41
 Σ 347 Aubrey C. Roberts '41
 Σ 352 Ross R. Monroe '43
 Σ 363 Erwin C. Heininger '42
 Σ 803 Richard A. Johnson '61
 Σ 1302 Michael McCarthy '78

Sigma Alums are Active

By CONNOR RUBIN

Sigma's undergraduates and alumni worked together to host about 60 attendees at Founders Day Brunch at the chapter house on March 22. Sigma alumni who returned to 1601 Washtenaw included George Friess '57, George Pomey '65, Jim Peggs '70, Art Tai '68, David Arnold '70, Mike Farrell '70, Andy Knowlton '74, Brad Quinn '01, Nate Whetsell '05, Scott Nielsen '04, Ethan Rein '07, Neal Turett '08, Colin Campbell '09, Kevin Mantay '13, Jordan Morningstar '13, and Warren Morningstar '13.

About halfway through brunch, Sigma Alumni Association awarded a total of \$1,650 to 19 brothers who excelled in their fall 2013 coursework. The *Paul Robertson, Jr. Award* went to brothers whose GPAs were at least 3.5: Isaac Ahuvia, Robert Brandon, Michael Duczynski, Wilburt Geng, Eli Gerber, Aaron Helwig, Kevin Kacan, August Klatt, David Kucukarslan, James Miron, Gregory Myers, Michael Padilla, Ryne Sieracki, Travis Smith, Gregory Strasser, Jacob Taber, Zachary Vigneau, and Rex Zhou.

The *William K. Hall Award* for the most-improved GPA went to Matthew Yasso, and the *Bruce L. Koepfgen Award* for the highest GPA was shared by Michael Duczynski and Zachary Vigneau.

Alumni brothers Lewis Clark '79, Paul Gessler '85, Jack Miner '84, Bill Brinker-

hoff '87, and Jordan Morningstar '13 made the résumé/interview workshop on March 16 a huge success. Sigma's undergraduates are grateful for these brothers' excellent feedback on résumés and advice on how to have a successful job interview.

Sigma's undergraduate brothers are also grateful for the material support that alumni have contributed. 90 Sigma brothers gave \$14,175 for bricks for the chapter house's front path, and 15 alumni and friends gave \$780 toward the Watermelon Bust food drive.

Connor is Sigma's alumni secretary. He hopes alumni will contact him at (248) 520-2656 or rubincon@umich.edu.



NATHAN WHETSELL

Greg Strasser and Jordan Morningstar '13 at Founders Day Brunch on March 22.



MICHAEL PADILLA

In the chapter house living room, Bill Brinkerhoff '87, Lewis Clark '79, Jack Miner '84, Paul Gessler '85, and Jordan Morningstar '13 share job interview tips at the résumé/interview workshop on March 16.

A Sigma Skiing Adventure

*Brothers Gordon Merritt,
Donald Good, and George Fomin
take a ski trip in January '54*

By GEORGE FOMIN

As the winter semester break was approaching, we found ourselves talking about how great it would be to go skiing, and beyond anything Don and I could imagine, Gordon suggested we could stay at his family cabin near Gaylord and ski at Sylvan Knob [present-day Treetops Resort—Ed.]. That was an irresistible idea and our adventure was on.

I believe it was a Friday afternoon that we loaded Gordon's family 1952 Chrysler, and he began driving us to Gaylord. It was a snowy winter, and as we got up north it was already dark and snowing so that all we could see was the snow blowing sideways in our headlights.

We were passing through some small town, maybe Gaylord, when a snow covered sedan pulled along side of us for a couple hundred feet, and we wondered what that was all about because the road was so snow covered. Well, the sedan's window rolled down and we could see two old men, and to our surprise the passenger draped out the window a banner that said "Sheriff", so Gordon pulled to the side of

the snowy road.

One of the old men came over to our car, looked at us for a few moments, and grumbled, "You're going too fast." We were astonished because the road was heavily snow covered, and we sure weren't going very fast. He said something about five dollars, for which we looked at him and each other, and then forked over to him. He might have said something more, but he went back to his car, and we rolled up our window and started up and on into the snow. We didn't know if the two old men were really sheriffs, but it was a very small town and sixty years ago.

Before long, Gordon was looking for landmarks along snow covered, wooded roads to find his way to the cabin. It was hard to see much with the snow flying across our headlights, but Gordon found his way to the little road leading to his cabin. He explained that the snow plow went only as far as the cabin beyond his, where some hearty soul lived year-round. The snowbanks alongside and at the end of the road were sure piled high.

Gordon said that with the flying snow whiteout we'd have to count three hills in the road, and at the top of the third hill we'd have to stop and walk through the snow to the cabin. He said it was important for us to count and stop at the top of the third hill so that we wouldn't roll downhill into the snowbank across the road at the bottom of the hill. So, good enough, we counted the hills together and stopped at the top just like he said.

We got out of the Chrysler and slogged through the deep snow to Gordon's cabin.



GORDON MERRITT

George Fomin '56 and Don Good '54 near the family automobile of Gordon Merritt '56.

Luckily for us it wasn't too far from the road. We carried the food and blankets that we brought for our stay, and we were really glad to get inside when Gordon unlocked the door.

The cabin was more than we could have imagined, a natural beauty inside, with a stone fireplace and even a kitchen stove to heat the food we brought. We quickly agreed who would do what chores. Don and Gordon said they'd cook the meals, and I would start the log fire in the fireplace and get up in the middle of the night to throw more logs on the fire to keep it going. And that's what we did. Don and Gordon made a great late supper, good hearty beef stew, and I kept the fireplace going through the night and early the next morning. At some point, Gordon primed the dry cabin pump and we even had running water.

Saturday morning, it took some effort to get up, but Gordon and Don were already making coffee and frying bacon and eggs. It smelled so good, I figured I'd better get up and throw some more logs on the fire or I wouldn't get any breakfast. It took more than throwing logs into the fireplace because there were only a few embers hardly glowing, but, with some huffing and puffing, I got the fire going again which earned me the privilege of breakfast, and it warmed up the cabin.

With a great breakfast, we were all charged up to get to the hills and start skiing. We threw extra logs onto the fire because we knew we'd be gone all day and didn't want the cabin to be stone cold when we got back. Then with great excitement we got into the car and Gordon started up the road that looked like a trail, deeply covered with the night's snowfall, but the heavy 1952 Chrysler was so powerful it made tracks through the snow like a plow.

To be continued in the next issue...



DONALD GOOD

Gordon Merritt '56 and George Fomin '56 at the Merritt family's cabin at Sylvan Knob (now Treetops Resort).

A few of your editor's favorite brick inscriptions:

**Sleeping in the Cold
Dorm, windows open,
brotherhood abounds.**



**George W. Spasyk '49
Σ 556
Executive Vice Pres.
Lambda Chi Alpha**

**Paul L. Gruner
Σ 686
Here, afoot, be PLG.**

**Gary Gillespie
Σ 918
"A Band of Brothers"**

**SEAL Team Six
Σ 1918 – Σ 1923
Every Man a Leader**

... ALUMNI NOTES ...

Mark Vander Broek '81, December 2013 — Continuing to practice law and live the good life in Atlanta. Stay in touch with a number of Chisters from Sigma Zeta, 1979–83, including Craig Page, Tom Maentz, Dave Ulgenalp, John Harder, Doug VanDagens, Paul Paruk, Rob Casalou, Bob Di Scipio, Bruce Murphy, Karl Dumas, and Pete Schaefer. John Harder is our primary social chairman.

*Write a note for a future newsletter at
lcamichigan.com/alumni-news#sigman*

A SIGMA NUMBER MYSTERY

Σ 1344 is named John Boes. Σ 1345 is a lost brother who, based on AXA's records, is also named John Boes, likely class of 1980.

Consecutive Sigma numbers with the same name is one heckuva coincidence.

Please write to info@lcamichigan.com if you can shed some light on this mystery!

LOST

Please send email or mailing addresses of, or other information about, these lost brothers to info@lcamichigan.com. Sigma numbers are on the left.

326 Richard J. Humphreys '40	766 Robert G. Hodges '58	1106 Joseph Allen	1357 Jonathan Willoughby	1617 Benjamin R. Lummis '89
331 Frank W. Bussard	782 Stanley E. Fuller	1111 David H. Nadelman '71	1366 Geoffrey R. O'Connor '80	1618 Christopher C. Johnson
332 Donald T. Carr '41	796 Harvey C. Pearce '59	1112 Mark J. Knapp	1373 Jeffrey Zheutlin '80	1621 Jorge R. Blanco
335 Charles W. Greene '41	801 William Watson	1136 Joseph W. Rutkowski	1386 Daniel Hogan '80	1623 John N. Ekelman
344 Oscar G. Declerck '40	820 Joseph L. Vojir '61	1153 David C. Scott	1402 Thomas D. Ernsting '82	1625 Michael N. Gouda
525 George W. Jones '48	888 Mark W. Hall	1160 Keith F. Clark	1403 Harvey J. Reiser '80	1630 Mark Van Osdol
539 William E. Ainslie '47	890 Kimball Wade	1195 Bradley LaLonde '75	1416 David B. Knowles	1634 Michael A. Margolis
552 Gordon D. Olson '49	893 Jeffrey L. Clark	1197 John S. Mullen	1419 Stephen Fletcher	1637 Scott M. Keough '90
561 William M. Chase	898 Michael R. Palmisano	1203 Barry W. Kowal	1423 Michael D. Sullivan	1641 John E. Mack
602 John D. Box '52	923 Michael Buss '64	1207 Randall S. Jacobs	1428 Robert G. Perlmutter	1642 Michael F. Burke '88
605 Dwight S. Heim '52	929 Charles Peterson	1210 William G. Merchant	1442 James A. Ward	1643 Peter M. Muer '89
624 Nicholas A. Semos	932 William Henderson	1211 Peter D. Anderson	1454 Phillip E. McCarthy	1645 Peter W. Riehl '90
625 Walter H. Stein '54	949 William Hinkley	1213 William G. Snell '74	1457 Robert J. Nathan	1651 David G. Williams '89
630 William E. Duellman	980 David A. Graff	1217 David Everett	1469 Kirk J. Grosel	1655 Mark C. Moore
639 Robert Bloom '52	986 John P. Ketels	1222 Carl Meister	1473 Patrick J. Conway	1661 David R. Owen
654 Maitland Alexander	990 Christopher Tompkins	1224 Scott E. Ossewaarde '77	1478 Christopher J. Cleary '84	1671 S. Tyler Staelin '91
676 Angello Zannis '55	992 John Sterner	1227 Leonard J. Van De Wege	1483 John A. Kinch	1672 Christopher W. Mason '90
678 Paul D. Duncan '53	993 Roger S. Ulrich '68	1228 Ernest L. Li '76	1487 James C. Becker '83	1678 Kenneth R. Oehler
687 Robert E. Thorne	998 Roger A. Leslie	1232 Thomas Hammond	1488 Eric H. Grupe '85	1686 Douglas Lucas '92
734 John J. Erlanger '58	1004 Earl Hamilton	1234 Kevin Mills	1492 Ramon C. Raneses	1690 James L. Simpson
740 Laird Sloan '57	1010 Thomas O. Bailly	1254 Robert R. Fuller	1502 Bradley Page '82	1695 Douglas A. K. Bennett
744 Peter R. Stanger '59	1035 David M. Colwell	1256 Jeffrey Traina	1514 Bruce H. Amlicke '86	1701 Brent J. McGroarty
762 Joseph Gray	1040 James Neel '70	1259 William A. Rosenau	1531 David A. Duttchenhofer	1709 Matthew D. Brady
764 Thomas A. Smith '58	1042 Dennis C. Dill '69	1260 Allen H. Lambacher '76	1548 Christopher D. Johnson	1713 Fredrick H. Chang
765 Richard C. Canfield '59	1044 Peter Koepke '70	1261 Drew Walsh	1549 Pierre I. Laxa	1727 Matthew S. Couzens
	1047 Charles Day '70	1274 Peter Van Horne	1550 Geoffrey D. Briggs	1731 Brian J. Macuga '94
	1051 John W. Dugan '69	1280 Kevin Kerwin	1554 Jeffrey J. Larson	1733 Michael D. Barnes
	1054 Robert Kraft '70	1281 Thomas Kornmeier	1556 John J. Perry	1741 Edward J. Stone
	1056 William Brater	1284 Michael Darland	1558 Scott P. Drumm	1750 David J. Wheeler '94
	1059 Douglas J. Heyliger '69	1285 Richard A. Hrivnak '78	1560 Andrew H. Rosen	1765 Kevin I. Hickman '95
	1070 Kimber Von Blohn '70	1294 Michael Nash	1561 Matthew Mittelstadt '85	1785 Yong-Uk Choi
	1075 Peter Farrell	1297 Howard Roth	1562 Walter E. Traver	1813 Brian N. Jerred
	1078 David V. Paul	1298 John Mandich	1566 Anthony D. Iannone '86	1854 Richard A. Moreno '08
	1079 Henry Bonislowski	1305 David Montford	1597 Richard J. Gagnon '88	1870 Jacob B. Hekker '09
	1091 Michael Schubring	1306 Robert Miles	1605 Joseph J. Morrow	
	1092 Kurt A. Lauer '69	1312 Hugh D. Sullivan '80	1610 Jon Ein	
	1094 Ramon M. Almonte	1319 Lawrence C. Agee '78	1613 John P. Reehil	
	1100 Robert Zolkowski	1345 John Boes	1615 Joseph H. Holland '89	