



# SIGMA NU

-BΨ Newsletter-



*Initiation Ceremony, Chapter Hall, April 14, 2006*

**Fall 2006 Edition**  
2710 Bancroft Way ■ Berkeley, California 94704

## Past, Present and Future

Benjamin Franklin once remarked that “energy and persistence conquer all things.” Though not a Sigma Nu, Franklin’s

quotation rings true with human nature in general and our efforts as a Chapter in particular. The amount of dedication and vigor with which we have

pursued our goals is, as you Alumni will see, quite astonishing. From huge activities, such as planning Rush or social events, to small things, such as keeping our House clean, I cannot think of a better group of Gentlemen with which to work or a better group of friends with which to have.

I came to Sigma Nu a weary young man. After depledging from another Fraternity, a Gentleman of Sigma Nu invited me to dinner. I took notice not only of the Fraternity, but also to the amount of camaraderie, friendship, and support which was evident in this Chapter. You all probably saw those things in your respective times as well. The purpose of this Newsletter is to show you all how, in this regard, not much has



changed over the years. We are new Sigma Nus, but we still hold true the ideals of Love, Honor, and Truth the Founders so vehemently supported more than 150 years ago. Since accepting my bid to become a Candidate, I have seen the Chapter grow tremendously in its perpetual



struggle to improve its standing with potential recruits, its neighboring community, and its Alumni.

Our Alumni events and our Cal home-game parties have been huge successes. I invite you to continue reading to see how else the Beta Psi Chapter of Sigma Nu has used its energy and its persistence to conquer in the pursuit of the great ideals our Fraternity espouses. ■

Thomas D. Owens - 1460  
Alumni Relations Chairman

## Please mark your Calendars!

- October 21: Washington at Cal
- November 4: UCLA at Cal & ΣNake Pit Party
- November 11: Initiation of Candidates
- November 12: **Formal Alumni Dinner**
- December 2: **Big Game-Alumni Reunion Bash**
- December 8: ΣNow Day Party
- February 2007: **Founder’s Day Dinner – 115<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (Details TBA)**

## Facts You Should Know:

- Chapter Strength: 28
- Cal All Men’s GPA: 3.21
- ΣN-BΨ: GPA: 3.27
- Projects Completed this Semester
  - *Pool Room*
  - *Parking Lot*
  - *Back Stairs (right)*
- No. of 350+ parties planned this semester: 3
- Estimated no. of Exchanges: 4



## Contributions (2006 thus far):

- *White Star*: \$1000
  - Barclay Simpson
- *Rock*: \$500
  - David Ruegg
- *Knight*: \$100-\$150
  - Bert McKee
  - William Crosby
- *Brother*: \$25-\$50
  - Thomas D. Anderson
  - Alvin J. Knudson
  - Norman H. Sloane
  - Mason Bancroft
  - Alan W. La Rue

## The Benefits of Fraternity

Today a student can go through college living alone in an apartment, only leaving to go to class and buy groceries. He may get excellent grades, and his professors may all tell him what a good student he is, but will not be prepared for life. Fraternity is about dealing with people. So much of college is about the individual: getting good grades, winning awards, applying for jobs. But it is when men join together with a common purpose that the greatest victories are won.

Whether you study Architecture, Biology, or Classics, the most important of life's lessons are taught every semester at 2710 Bancroft Way, and lately the Sigma Nu program has been in high demand. Much like our proud football program at Berkeley, the keys to Beta Psi's success these past years have been simple: strong recruitment, intelligent leadership, and the persistent drive to become worthy of our past success. In the past two years, our Chapter size has nearly tripled, growing from 13 to 30. Our chapter GPA has jumped from 2.88 to 3.27. From being completely off the social radar in 2004, Sigma Nu has had six sorority exchanges and three of Cal's biggest parties in 2006.



We sincerely thank our Alumni, for noticing our successes and responding with your time and your generosity. It has certainly paid off.

From what I have seen the last few years, the future of our chapter is in good hands. The Brothers of Beta Psi have taken it upon themselves to build this house, and make it a great place for years of Cal students to come. Every time we talk to you all we hear about how big the House was, how great the parties were, and how close you still are to one another. In the spirit of this tradition, the Chapter works to plan how we will continue to live up to both our past history and our future potential. ■

Tom Rupp – 1449  
LEAD Chairman

***Please send us the names of future potential Sigma Nus – incoming Freshmen and transfer students included!. T.J. Johnson: [mr\\_tj@berkeley.edu](mailto:mr_tj@berkeley.edu)***

## From the Desk of Management

Beginning the Fall 2004 academic year, the Chapter hired outside cleaners to maintain the house, a task usually performed by active brothers and pledges. However, the cleaners came by only once or twice a week, leaving most clean up to Brothers despite the cost. Starting this semester, the Chapter has once again taken on the traditional responsibility of maintenance, and from the responses of visiting Alumni, you can rest assured things are running quite well.

In addition to simply maintaining the house, the newly initiated Brothers from the Spring 2006 pledge semester

contributed additions to the house with their combined efforts on their two pledge projects. A new bar or

“lemonade stand” now occupies a corner of the

third floor sundeck and has been a boon for

entertaining guests. The second phase of the projects



was the refurbishment of the Chapter Library. All of the shelving received a fresh coat of paint and much needed repairs, and the wood paneling was treated with a



specially formulated mix of gentle oils to help it reclaim its luster. Paired with the resurfacing of the pool table, the room has become quite the popular hang-out for everyone involved. In the past two years, the Chapter has built new furniture for the outside deck and completed a year long-project to increase the size of the parking lot – allowing for more parking during Beta Psi events.

I would like to personally invite you to drop by the House, not just on game days, but whenever you get the chance. Please take a look around and let the Brothers know how things look. We all hope to see you soon. ■

Michael Kimiecik – 1461  
House Manager

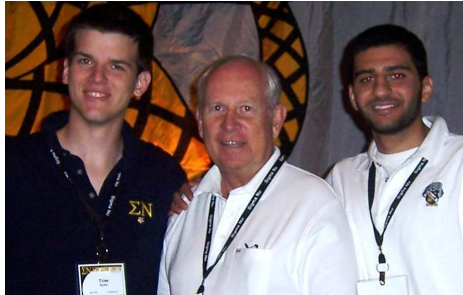


### **David Ruegg: Hall of Honor Inductee**

We are proud to announce that **David C. Ruegg**, former Sigma Nu Regent, was inducted into the Sigma Nu Hall of Honor this past July at the 62<sup>nd</sup> Grand Chapter. This distinction, awarded to few, exemplifies his steadfast support of our great Fraternity. David Ruegg's countless contributions have been an integral keystone to the history and success of the Beta Psi Chapter. We hope that all Beta Psi's are as proud as we are of Dave's work. →

### **Engagements:**

**Jordan Bankhead** (BΨ 1400) was recently engaged. He is getting married in September 2007.



*David Ruegg with LEAD Chair Tom Rupp and E.C. Kourosh Kolahi at 62<sup>nd</sup> Grand Chapter*

### **Chapter Eternal:**

#### **Wes McDaniel (Class of 1956)**

My brother, Robert "Bob or Mickey" McDaniel died last year, 2005, of a heart attack. He joined Sigma Nu in 1954, lived in the House the entire time, and graduated in 1958. After a stint as an Army intelligence officer, he returned to Cal and graduated from Boalt Hall. He was a criminal defense attorney in Long Beach.

## **Where Are They Now?**

#### **Will Pritchard (BΨ 1366)**

Married Jennifer Sim – Alpha Chi Omega from USC on January 29, 2006 at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club. →

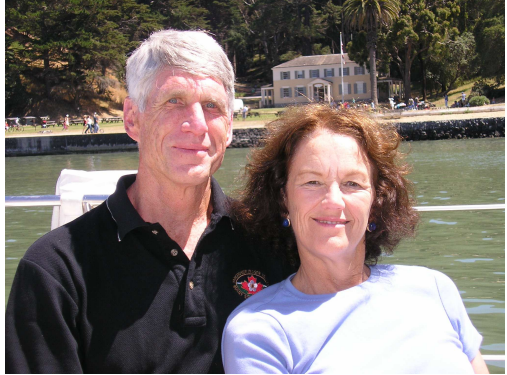






#### **Misha Leybovich (Class of 2005)**

I've begun as a first year graduate student at MIT, seeking a Dual Masters and then PhD in Aerospace Engineering and Technology & Policy. Boston's great, I've been reconnected with many Cal Alums through the Cal New England Alumni Club, and have even gone by MIT Sigma Nu to help out with a Rush event here. Prior to school, I spent half a year traveling around the world, from the Gobi Desert to The Beach to Mt. Everest Base Camp to running with the bulls in Pamplona

#### **Thomas G. Beatty (BΨ 990, Class of 1974)**

Married Kappa Kappa Gamma Paula Ansley in 1973. 4 Children. Stewart, 29. Chef Postino's Restaurant in Lafayette, California. Heather 26, Ph.D candidate University of Oxford England, History of Science. Grayson, 23, graduate University of Iowa. 2002. Looking for the perfect job. (Any suggestions brothers?) Jaclyn, 18, pre-med SMU. I was elected 2005 defense attorney of the year, San Francisco Trial Lawyers Association; elected Member the American Board of Trial Advocates in 2002. Recent travel, Ireland in Catholic Priest litigation, and

	Quebec just for fun.
<p><b>David Williamson (Class of 1968)</b> Retired from his lawyering job last year, but managed to keep his wife of 34 years - Helen Marcus-- bringing home the bacon. That way, she won't see how little he is accomplishing!!</p> <p>In September, Dave and Helen cruised the Dalmation Coast and drove through Sicily without incurring any casualties.</p>	
<p><b>Mujtaba Saifuddin (Class of 2002)</b> Upon graduation from Cal in Dec. 2002, I worked as a fuel cell design engineer at UTC Fuel Cells in Connecticut. After working for 18 months on a project with Nissan, I chose to accept a Fellowship through the American India Foundation to spend the better part of a year in Delhi, India, teaching slum children. The experience was life-changing, as I worked with an NGO called "Deepalaya," the primary objective of which is to offer primary education to slum-dwelling children. Now, I am a test engineer on mini thrust jet engines at Hamilton Sundstrand Power Systems in San Diego, CA. I am also a private pilot and am eager to start aerobatic training.</p>	
<p><b>Yuwynn E. Ho (BΨ 1360)</b> Graduated from Marine Corps Officer Candidates School this summer after 10 weeks of training in Quantico, Virginia. He received his commission as a Second Lieutenant on August 11, 2006. He is currently a first year student at the U.C. Hastings College of the Law in San Francisco. Upon graduation from law school and passing the bar in 2009, he will proceed to The Basic School and the Naval Justice School to prepare him for a career as a U.S. Marine Corps Judge Advocate (JAG). He looks forward to the opportunity to serve this country and do his part to fight the War on Terrorism.</p>	
<p><b>Dick Verling (Class of 1953)</b> This summer I spent 2 weeks sailing on the Baltic Sea and visited 9 counties. We returned in early August and spent a month at our home on Cape Cod. The</p>	<p><b>Richmond Manzana (BΨ 1448, Class of 2005)</b> Since Rich's graduation in Industrial Engineering from the College of Engineering at Berkeley in May, he immediately began his internship at a software financial</p>

<p>weather was terrific as was the golf.</p>	<p>company at Intuit. While not forgetting to enjoy his last summer as a "student" he was able to excel in his 10-week tenure at Intuit and received a full time position at the middle of August. After a three-week hiatus to the Philippines, Rich now works at Intuit as a Business Analyst for their Supply Chain department.</p>
<p><b>Jose Carreno (BΨ 1377)</b> Former Eminent Commander, Married Amber Ruiz, member of Kappa Alpha Theta, on September 3, 2006 in Laguna Beach, California.</p>	
<p><b>Hal Geiogue (Class of 1963)</b> After 31 years working as a consultant to the California State Legislature, plus a brief four year hiatus as the state's Assistant State Treasurer, I decided to take the money and run i.e., retire. I now spend my time trying to play golf and helping to solve financial crimes for the Sacramento Police Department. Anyone from my era (if any) can reach me at <a href="mailto:hgeiogue@comcast.net">hgeiogue@comcast.net</a>. Go Bears!</p>	<p><b>Robert B. Roche (BΨ 689, Class of 1954)</b> Still attending Beta Psi (older) Alumni lunches, led by the erudite Bob Collin and his sidekick, Doug Hamilton. (I help by holding the chairs for the more senior Brothers.) Making all the home football games with Jim Rhodes, Jack and Jeff Babcock, Don Meek, and Don Cvietusa; sitting in the end zone. Glad to see the active Brothers have their act together. Go Snakes, and Go Bears!</p>
<p><b>Carlos Almendárez (BΨ 1405)</b> My official position is "Assistant Case Coordinator." I work with newcomers (mostly Latinos) who need help transitioning to the school system here since most of them have been out of school for a while and speak no English. My job is to help them adapt to the school and provide them with services like tutoring, healthcare, counseling, or even housing if they are lacking it.</p>	

## What You Can Do

Greetings fellow Alumni! I am excited to tell you more about the recent improvements to Sigma Nu. Generous donations from Alumni such as you have allowed the Chapter to improve the landscaping in the front and back yards, rewire the house for internet and cable TV, refurbish the Chapter Hall, and

much more. As a recent Berkeley graduate, live-in Alumni advisor to the Chapter, and new member of the Sigma Nu Alumni Board, in the past year I have had the pleasure of watching Sigma Nu improve by leaps and bounds.

But there is still more work to be done in order to improve and preserve the House for the future Gentlemen of Honor. The entire building needs a fresh coat of paint as do the halls, and very foundation of the House that has stood here since 1921 is now in jeopardy from the errant roots of the tree on our front lawn. We are also currently discussing what to do with an outdated stove (noted earlier this year by a Fire Marshal) – which may cost \$20,000 to replace. As Alumni, your ongoing generosity is key to the successful completion of this work as well as the continued success of the Chapter for years to come. Please continue to contribute where and when you can. And remember, GO BEARS! ■

Daniel M. Purnell – 1434  
Member of the Alumni Board

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## Formal Alumni Dinner

Please join us on Sunday, November 12, 2006 in the Chapter Hall of Sigma Nu for our annual formal Alumni dinner. Please be our guests; the dinner will be prepared by the Chapter and our Swiss Chef, Urs Gut. Please RSVP to [towens1854@calmail.berkeley.edu](mailto:towens1854@calmail.berkeley.edu), or send a letter to 2710 Bancroft Way, Berkeley, California 94704.

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## Help Protect The Axe!



The Beta Psi Chapter of Sigma Nu formally invites you to attend the post-Big Game Alumni Reunion Bash on Saturday, December 2, 2006. There will be live music, refreshments, and food. Bring the whole family! We hope to see you there!

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*Not getting Sigma Nu emails? Contact me at [towens1854@calmail.berkeley.edu](mailto:towens1854@calmail.berkeley.edu)  
Please Visit [www.calsigmanu.com](http://www.calsigmanu.com), and [sigmanu.berkeley.edu](http://sigmanu.berkeley.edu).*