



# The Delta Penn

Pennsylvania Delta Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon University of Pennsylvania  
Established 1904 | First Undergraduate Editor — Stuart R. Trottmann Jr. '39

## Upcoming Events

### Alumni Weekend 2012

The Alumni Weekend gathering will be held Saturday, May 12, 2012 from 3:30-6 p.m. at the chapter house.

## New Members

Daniel Brooks  
Vadym Budilovsky  
Cole Francis  
Nicholas Giordano  
Jovonnie Gonzales  
Theodore Guenin  
Devin Hobdy  
David Ibarra  
Jesse Idun  
Amir Javaid  
Alex Kornhauser  
Nicholas Licata  
Adrian Lievano  
Daniel Maser  
Riggs Mohler  
Vincent Nguyen  
Joseph Pasteris  
Austin Powell  
William Reeves  
Holden Rolfs  
Rawlin Rosario  
Kevin Rugamba  
Joshua Schwartz  
Joseph Seidl  
Andrew Shannon  
Robert Tinney  
Alex Yu

Find full bios on our newest members at  
[www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).

## State of the Chapter

### SigEp Remains Strong on Penn's Campus

By **Brett R. Danko '90**, President, Pennsylvania Delta Foundation

I am happy to announce the undergraduate chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon at Penn is doing extremely well. This spring, the chapter brought in nearly 30 new members, exceeding the chapter's own expectations welcoming the largest new member class on campus.

Our successful rush was due to both the outstanding recruiting efforts of the undergraduates as well as the desirability of the chapter house. With support from our alumni, recent improvements to the 45-year-old heating, cooling and electrical systems, as well as the renovation of the first floor common rooms (thank you Tim Games), resulted in the house being both comfortable and functional for those who live, study and relax there. As a

result, the chapter house is filled to capacity and a wait list had to be created as so many brothers wanted to live in the house. Numerous campus leaders roam the halls of 4028 Walnut Street, carrying on the tradition since 1904.

Alumni attending the Balanced Man Dinner in November and the recent Senior Dinner held at The Union League were very impressed with the diversity, integrity and fun-filled nature of the undergraduates attending. The undergraduate chapter is really flourishing and it is a wonderful sight to witness.

Special thanks to all the alumni that have given generously to the Chapter Building Fund. Your efforts are appreciated by the undergraduate chapter.

## Chapter Update

### SigEp Brothers Find Success in New Leaders, Events and a Bright Future

By **Isaac Wittman '12**, Undergraduate Chapter President

The chapter is off to another great semester. Recruitment, led by **Mike Fernando**, brought in 27 new members despite the strictest standards for bidding I've seen since joining. The new guys are a great group and are integrating well with the chapter. Mike was recently contacted by a National Representative interested in interviewing him about the successful recruitment effort. The large new class allowed us to fill the house and have a waiting list.

Programming under **Nigel Lam** continues to be very strong. We've had a string of successful events and mixers which are doing a lot to further our reputation on campus. The haunted house community service went very well, and there have been large showings of brothers at sorority community service

events such as Zeta's Pinkathon, Alpha Phi's Alpha Phiver, and we are preparing to field a team in ΣK's Wing Bowl.

Former President **Eric Heimen** is finishing out a successful term as the Inter-Fraternity Council's Vice President of Recruitment and New Member Education. The chapter was able to successfully place sophomore (and VP Communications) **Chris Yamamoto** as the new IFC Executive Vice President, which will continue SigEp's influence on the board. We are maintaining solid relationships with OFSL and the Alumni Advisory Committee.

We are very grateful for all the advice and support we've received from the AVC and the alumni. The renovations to the chapter house made a big impression during rush and will serve us well into the future.

## SigEp Events

### NYC Supper Club Enjoys Pig Roast in Honor of Past SigEp Homecomings

A group of brothers gather regularly for the informal “NYC Supper Club” which meets every few months at different restaurants. In December 2011, we were at *The Cannibal/Res-to* in New York and had a pig roast where every course was a part of a pig in honor of an entire pig (cooked of course) that used to show up at Homecomings throughout the late 1980s and early 1990s.

If interested in getting on the email list for future dinners, please email **Brett Danko '90** at [brett@brettdanko.com](mailto:brett@brettdanko.com). It would be great to have others in the group for future dinners.

As always, a good time was had by all!

In this photo (right front to back):



**Chris O'Callaghan '93**, **David Sullivan '94**, The Honorable **Mike Stacchini '93**, **Brett Danko '90** and **Mike Kessel '84**; (left front to back): **Nelson Yu '93**, **Jose Ibietatorremendia '90**, **John Paul Basile '86**,

**John Venusti '89** and **Joe Halprin '87**.

### 23rd Annual Raymond C. McCron NYC Dinner

Thank you to the alumni and undergraduate brothers who joined us for the 23rd Annual Raymond C. McCron Dinner at the Penn Club in New York City on April 19. Find more pictures on our web site at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com).



## SigEp Connections

### Lawmageddon Takes Storm in Philadelphia



A group of SigEp brothers joined **Alex Barnett '89** for his group's current comedy tour, “Lawmageddon.” Alex is a member of a group, Comedians at Law, comprised of six men who transitioned from careers in law to careers in comedy. The tour has stopped in several major cities, including DC, Chicago, Boston, Los Angeles, New York and Philadelphia.

This photo is of SigEp brothers who came to see Lawmageddon in Philly on March 29. Pictured (L to R): **Kevin Becker '12**, **Viraj Kalyani '12**, **Vadym Budilovsky '15**, **Alex Barnett '89**, **Lucas Blanchard '12**, **Jovonnie Gonzales '15** and **Antony Krumbhaar '12**.

## Undergraduate Recognized

### Kevin Becker '12 Wins Quinn Scholarship Award as Penn Delta's Most Outstanding Senior

**Kevin Becker '12** was awarded the George Quinn Scholarship Award for SigEp Penn Delta's Most Outstanding Senior. The Quinn Scholarship Award is given to the senior demonstrating leadership in the classroom, the chapter and the Penn community in general and named in honor of former Undergraduate Fraternity President and Alumni Board President **George Quinn '55**.

Kevin excelled in the classroom and is graduating with dual degrees in Wharton and Engineering. Between studying and maintaining a high GPA, Kevin

managed to serve the following roles within the chapter during his tenure:

Freshman year: Pledge Class President

Sophomore: Steward, VP Finance

Junior: VP Finance

Senior: House Manager

In addition, Kevin has served as a great ambassador of SigEp on Penn's campus and as a former steward took



it upon himself to create a new brotherhood eating plan after the passing of Jack Shores. He has gone above and beyond his various roles in the chapter to make sure the best interests of the fraternity are upheld.

Kevin will be in Philadelphia working at LLR Partners, a middle market growth equity PE firm. We wish Kevin the best of luck in all his future endeavors and congratulate him on this honor.

## Alumni Q&A

### Josh Jessen '96 is Alive and Well!

We are embarrassed to report that **Josh Jessen '96** was erroneously listed as deceased in the last issue of the *Delta Penn*. We are happy to report that he is in fact alive and well!

We spoke with Josh briefly about his undergraduate days and what he is up to now.

#### **Why did you join Sigma Phi Epsilon as an undergraduate?**

I rushed SigEp because I thought the guys in the house were terrific. They were all-around great guys and were very welcoming.

#### **What is the funniest memory from your SigEp days?**

There are so many amazing memories to choose from. The adventures to Key West for Spring Break in 1996 come to mind.

#### **What about your membership in SigEp makes you the most proud?**

SigEp attracts very high quality individuals. I really like the emphasis on the "balanced man."

#### **How would your life be different today if you had never joined Sigma Phi Epsilon?**

If I had never joined SigEp I would not

have some of my best friends in the world.

#### **Where has life taken you since graduation? What's new in your life today?**

Since graduation, I have lived in Colorado, Paris and southern California. I have been practicing law in Orange County, Calif. since 2002. I have an 11-year-old daughter and a 9-year-old son.

**Reconnect with Josh at [jjessen@gibsondunn.com](mailto:jjessen@gibsondunn.com).**

## Alumni News

### Penn Delta Alum Bill Schilling '66 to Retire From SFS

**Bill Schilling '66** will retire from his position of Director of Student Aid on June 30. Bill has worked for Student Financial Services at Penn since 1970 and has been the Director of Student Aid since 1980.

While serving in this position, Bill made countless improvements to Penn's student aid program including creating a no-loan financial aid program, implementation of a net-price financial aid calculator and increasing Penn's endowment from less than four percent

of undergraduate grants to more than twenty percent.

After retiring, Bill plans to spend more time traveling with his wife and may continue to remain in Student Financial Services in a part time role.

Bill's son Drew and grandson Jake are also members of Penn Delta.

For more information, go to <http://thedp.com/r/c060f60c>.

*Three generations of brotherhood. (L to R): Drew Schilling '03 (Bill's son), Bill Schilling '66 and Jake Liberatore '14 (Bill's grandson)*



### “I Would Do It Over Again in a Second”

Thanks to **Salvador Brau '67** for participating in this Q&A.

**Why did you join SigEp as an undergraduate?** I pledged SigEp because they appeared to be more interested in the overall college experience, including community service and academics, than the other fraternities that were only interested in partying.

**What is the funniest memory from your SigEp days?** The funniest thing, many years later, was the result of a prank. On a cold February night, at 1 a.m., I opened all the windows of the main floor of the house where the thermostat was. This led to superheating of all the bedrooms upstairs waking up all the brothers in a bath of sweat. Since I was a known prankster, they all congregated in my bedroom, stripped me down to my underwear and put me outside in the snow. The campus cops found me trying to get back into the house and got them to take me back in before I froze my butt off. Like I said, it's funny now.

**What is the single fondest memory you have shared/will share with your children and grandchildren?** The fondest memory is that of being a waiter at dinner for one year during which time I developed a very close relationship with Mr. Marshall. Getting to know that wise man was worth the tuition.

**How do you stay connected with your brothers as an alumnus?** Unfortunately, I moved to Puerto Rico for four years and then to NYC for six, then moved to California in 1977 and I have not been in personal contact with anyone since graduation except for a visit from **Brett Danko** who came out to L.A. some

years ago on a fundraising tour.

**Have you visited Penn since graduation? Why or why not?** I visited Penn six years ago when I was in Philadelphia for a convention but I was unable to visit the House. I just don't go back east that much and when I do I go to NY where my wife is from.

**What about your membership in SigEp makes you the most proud?** I'm proud to be a SigEp because of the good work we did while I was there in my undergraduate years. The house usually led all houses in academic average and had excellent community service programs that not too many of the other houses had. We also had a speakers program that helped promote better relations with the University.

**How would your life be different today if you had never joined Sig Ep?** I don't think my life would be much different today if I had not been a Sig Ep, but the experiences I had there, establishing close relationships with others of different backgrounds, has helped me in my interpersonal relationships through the years.

**If you could go back and relive one moment from your Sig Ep years, what would it be and why?** I don't know if I would want to relive the moment, but the most touching experience was the day in the fall when one of the brothers, who had had an episode of meningitis the semester before, which had caused blindness, returned as a full time student. There were bittersweet tears of joy when he returned to us.

**Where has life taken you since graduation? What's new in your**

**life today?** Since graduation, I went to medical school then did a residency in General and Vascular Surgery at The Mount Sinai Hospital in New York. I was then offered a position in private practice in the Los Angeles area where I have been since 1977.

**Who do you stay connected with in your alumni years? Are there any brothers you've lost touch with whom you'd like to reconnect?** I have not stayed connected personally because of where I live. I do stay in touch by reading the *Delta Penn* regularly. I also like to contribute financially when I can as I did when the need arose for the new house. I think that those who live closer to the house have a better opportunity to stay “connected” and should. So even though I am far away I still know what is going on and that gives me a sense of belonging to something that through relationships and camaraderie, while there, helped form my adult personality.

**Why would you encourage other brothers to engage with Sig Ep in their alumni years?** I was very happy at 3909 for the two years I lived there. We had fun and good parties, we had good sports activities (I was on the bowling team and also won the inter-fraternity Ping-Pong championship in singles and also in doubles with my roommate, **Jim Spendiff '65**, who won the pool crown), we participated in the Greek activities at the University, we did good community work but most of all we developed friendships and relationships that are memorable. I would do it over again in a second.

**Reconnect with Salvador at [salvo@labridge.com](mailto:salvo@labridge.com).**

### A Great Connection Thanks to SigEp

Thank you to **Doug Roberts '83** for participating in this Q&A.

**Why did you join SigEp as an undergraduate?** I liked the brothers and the diversity of membership in the house.

**What is the funniest memory from your SigEp days?** Our cook, Jack Shores, used to hustle everybody in pool all the time.

**How do you stay connected with your brothers as an alumnus?** I stay in contact mostly with a couple of friends.

**Have you visited Penn since graduation?** I've been back to Penn occasionally to show my kids where I went to school and where I lived.

**What about your membership in**

**SigEp makes you the most proud?**

We were a progressive group because of how involved we were with the community.

**How would your life be different today if you had never joined SigEp?** I would have less of a connection to Penn and my college years if it weren't for SigEp.

**If you could go back and relive one moment from your SigEp years, what would it be and why?** I would relive the one year I lived in the fraternity house because I really enjoyed myself.

**Where has life taken you since graduation? What's new in your life today?** I am currently married with two kids and have authored two books: Follow the Fed to Investment Success and Shadow Divers among many other achievements and ac-

complishments.

**Who do you stay connected with in your alumni years?** I always like to see people from SigEp, I've stayed in touch with **Marc Fox '82, Ken Meyers '83, Rich Pzena '80** and **Wayne Palladino '80** throughout the years.

**Why would you encourage other brothers to engage with SigEp in their alumni years?** Engaging with SigEp kind of brings people back to the school a little bit.

**What is the best thing about your alumni experience?** The fact that we're a national fraternity and we get to meet other people from different walks of life with the same values.

**Connect with Doug at**  
**dougroberts@**  
**channelcapitalresearch.com.**

## Annual Fund Honor Roll of Donors

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*Reflects gifts received as of  
April 16, 2012.*

## Alumni Updates

### Donald Zeigler '43

(1308 Brittany Pt., Lansdale, PA 19446-6520; Dszdon@aol.com) I enjoyed the latest issue of *Delta Penn*. I told the alumni association that SigEp brothers were responsible for my meeting my wife Mary Jane, and we celebrate our 60th wedding anniversary in May! This is our 12th year in an excellent retirement community in Lansdale. Our son finally got a Master's degree from Weidner University and Villanova.

### John Fiscella '51

(3494 Chiswick Ct., Silver Spring, MD 20906-1669; fiscellaj@yahoo.com) That was a fine issue of the newsletter. I was glad to see that so many of my brothers are still among us.

### Jeffery Whiting '81

(7565 South 38th Street, Lincoln, NE 68516-5797; jeffreybwhiting@msn.com) My Navy career will end after 32+ years when I retire in August 2013. We will eventually return to NC for our "golden years." However, I plan to return to federal service on the East coast to finish my second career. If anyone can point me toward a decent GS/SES job between Charleston and DC, I'd appreciate it.



### Rich Steinmeier '96

(10 Green Avenue, Lawrenceville, NJ 08648-1624; steinmeier\_rich@yahoo.com) My wife Heather and I recently welcomed son Seth to the family that already consists of Kate (7) and Grace (4).

com) My wife Heather and I recently welcomed son Seth to the family that already consists of Kate (7) and Grace (4).



### Adam Barrist '98

(1601 Market Street, 26th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19103; abarrist@dpattorneys.com), a partner of the Philadelphia law firm of Deeb, Petrakis, Blum & Murphy, P.C., has been named chair of program development for the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation.

## Chapter Eternal

### SigEp Mourns the Loss of Brothers

Fellow SigEp brothers have unfortunately informed us of the passing of the following alumni who have entered the Chapter Eternal. They will be missed and remembered...

#### Reverend Kenneth Klingerman '54

He was senior pastor at Salem Evangelical and Reformed Church in St. Charles, MO for 20 years. Ken was a very nice member at 3909 Spruce, but because of his deep religious convictions, he was not really "into" the party scene and the chug-a-lug games; an earnest young man.

#### Judge James White '51

Jim was one of the really good guys at our house, and went on to be a New York Supreme Court judge (as you know, in NY the Supreme Courts are the courts of original jurisdiction and not the courts of final appeal).

#### Thomas Gilson Sr. '52

From northeast Philadelphia, Thomas was an assistant D.A. who prosecuted welfare fraud and helped create a program that gave first time offenders a second chance. He died in March of heart failure at his home. After gradu-

ating from Penn in '52, Gilson served in the Marine Corps at bases in the Mediterranean and in Camp LeJeune, N.C. He then went on to Law School at Temple University. One of his five surviving sons, Mark Gilson, said of him, "he did not have a reputation as a hard-hearted prosecutor. He was a genuinely nice guy."

Thomas is also survived by one daughter, 14 grandchildren, and eight great-grandchildren.

## From the Archives



We love coming across great old photos from our chapter's history, including this one from the 1960 edition of *The Record*.

Share the best pictures from your era online and in print! You can submit your pictures on our web site at [www.pennsigep.com](http://www.pennsigep.com), via email at [content@affinity-connection.com](mailto:content@affinity-connection.com) (mention Penn Sig Ep), or via the mail using the return address on this newsletter.