



The Constantine Sig

Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi at the University of Virginia • Spring 2013

House Corporation Encourages All Brothers to Stay Involved

Upon graduating from the University of Virginia, we all leave Sigma Chi with high hopes of keeping our fraternal bonds intact. Unfortunately, we quickly find that many new interests—careers, families, and civic activities—can create valid diversions. The day-to-day activities of life take over and, before long, we fall out of touch and begin to wonder what happened to our brothers.

With this in mind, *The Constantine Sig* newsletter has a new look and a new focus on alumni. This focus will help our members stay in touch and will cultivate awareness and involvement with Psi Chapter. It is also important for all brothers to stay informed about the collegiate chapter and what our younger brothers are accomplishing on campus and in the community.

The Chapter House is legally owned by the Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi House Corporation. The only task of the House Corporation is to manage the property's operations and maintenance. Normal operations are fully paid by the rent and dues from active members. Periodic repairs and more significant maintenance items are funded by reserves that have accumulated from alumni contributions, including past capital campaigns. While loans have been taken out in the past to fund renovations and maintenance, there are no loans currently outstanding.

All Psi alumni are members of the House Corporation. The corporation is governed by a board of alumni who are elected at an annual meeting. These members receive no compensation of any kind for their service.

All Psi members are invited to attend and vote at the annual meeting. Beginning in the '90s, the board has been gradually expanding to its current membership of eight brothers. If you are interested in serving on the House Corporation, please contact me. We would like to have representation from all eras.

Over the next few issues of *The Constantine Sig*, we will include articles on the history and management of 608 Preston Place. It is our hope that, through this new focus, your fraternal bonds are regularly renewed and strengthened.

In Hoc,

James "Jim" Moore '68

Psi Chapter House Corporation President
jamoore46@charter.net

FRATERNITY EXPERIENCE SHAPED ALUMNUS

Chris Nassetta '84 Serves as President and CEO of Hilton Worldwide

After **Chris Nassetta '84** joined the Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi he was proud to walk the grounds. He felt that, as an underclassman trying to find his way at a big school, being a member of the Psi Chapter made him feel part of a tight-knit community. "I was always taught that the company you kept reflects on your character, and the Sigma Chi brothers upheld a reputation as men with integrity," he said.

Chris has taken the leadership skills and values he learned during his undergraduate experience and uses them each day in his professional career. Chris serves as the president and chief executive officer for Hilton Worldwide, leading a team of more than 300,000 individuals at more than 3,900 hotels across 90 countries. "My time in the Chapter House helped me to realize my potential as a leader—and helped me to shape what type of leader I wanted to be," he said.

Chris began his career in the hospitality industry working at the Capitol Holiday Inn in the engineering department. This experience gave him an early insight into the day-to-day operations of a hotel, which has helped him make many decisions over the years. In addition to working as the CEO of Hilton, Chris serves on multiple boards and organizations, including the World Travel and Tourism Council, the Real Estate Roundtable, and the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. Chris truly believes that

his fraternity days at Sigma Chi helped him become the man he is today. "Being part of the fraternity helped me define my own values, which continue to guide my daily life both personally and professionally," he said. "Sigma Chi built on the values instilled in me by my family and taught me respect, humility, and many other life lessons, and I had a blast in the process."

Twenty years ago, Chris married his wife, Paige, whom he took to his senior prom many years ago. The couple has six daughters. While there isn't a chance of any Sigma Chi legacies to follow in Chris' footsteps, his second-oldest daughter is attending U.Va. in the fall, so Chris is hopeful she will get to know some of the active brothers. "I'm really looking forward to seeing the school through her eyes and having one more reason to visit my old stomping grounds," he said.

Chris and Paige live in Arlington, Va. Chris enjoys spending time with family, cooking, traveling, playing golf, and boating. E-mail Chris at chris.nassetta@hilton.com.





Psi Brother Honored with Significant Sig Award

The Significant Sig Award is one of the Fraternity's highest honors. It recognizes alumni members whose achievements in their fields of endeavor have brought honor and prestige to the name of Sigma Chi. Sigma Chi Fraternity has recognized more than 1,500 Brothers since the award's inception at the 1935 Grand Chapter. Alumni in any profession, occupation, or philanthropic endeavor are eligible for consideration. Only living members of the Fraternity are considered for the award.

Since its inception in 1935, eight Psi Chapter brothers have been honored with this award. This year, Brother **Chris Nassetta '84** joined this elite group. To read more about Chris, his experience with Sigma Chi and his professional career as president and CEO of Hilton Worldwide, please see page 1. Below are the list of Psi Brothers who have been named Significant Sigs.

- 1969: **Dr. Joseph Vaughan '26**
- 1975: **Howard McCall Jr. '28**
- 1983: **Louis G. Fields Jr. '51**
- 2010: **John Rogers '61**
- 2011: **W. Scott Butler '88**
- 2011: **Dr. Ashby Moncure '60**
- 2012: **Thomas Shadyac '80**
- 2013: **Chris Nassetta '84**

Psi Chapter House Corporation Board



President
James "Jim" Moore '68
Suffolk, Va.
jamoore46@charter.net



Member
Richard Dyas '67
Nellysford, Va.
1967wahoo@gmail.com



Vice President
Steve Herbert '68
Virginia Beach, Va.
r.s.herbert@hotmail.com



Member
Chris "Komo" Komelasky '00
Chapel Hill, N.C.
chris_komelasky@hotmail.com



Treasurer
Rick Davis '69
Spring, Texas
rldavis0310@sbcglobal.net



Member
Bill Nixon '70
Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
nixonphd@comcast.net



Secretary
Justin Nixon '03
Chapel Hill, N.C.
jnixon5@hotmail.com



Member
Tom Washburn '70
Seabrook Island, S.C.
washburntom@hotmail.com

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Robert P. Stockwell, Ph.D. '46 was born June 12, 1925, in Oklahoma City. He entered Chapter Eternal at his home in Los Angeles, Calif. He worked at UCLA as an assistant professor in the English department beginning in 1956 and soon after was marshaling the resources for an effective linguistics program.



Robert T. Tavenner '50 entered Chapter Eternal on December 8, 2012. Bob was preceded in death by his beloved wife of 62 years, Frances Lee Tavenner. Bob served in the U.S. Army during World War II, coming ashore on D-Day with the 238th Combat Engineers. Bob was a longtime member of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church. An avid sportsman, he enjoyed hunting and fishing on the Cowpasture River and many hours of golf at Hermitage Country Club.

James W. Freeman Jr. '69 entered Chapter Eternal at his home in Destin, Fla., after a long illness.

ALUMNI NEWS

J. M. Daniel '58 resides in Fairfax, Va. The reunion group of Psi alumni circa 1957-61 has been meeting in Charlottesville since 1988. This year they are getting together the weekend of October 18-19. E-mail: sam1958@cox.net

ALUMNI UPDATE

John W. Timmons Jr. '67 practices law in Athens, Ga., where he resides. He stays in touch with **Jackson Bedford '66**, a judge in Atlanta. John made a pilgrimage in August to the gravesite of Ferrell J. Minor at the Aisne-Marne Cemetery in France. Ferrell was a 1911 graduate of the University of Virginia and is commemorated on a plaque on the porch of Psi. E-mail: john@classiccitylaw.com

Robert R. Brown '68 and his wife, Debbie, visited with Elaine and **Eric Kendrick '68** at their home in Cudjoe Key, Fla., in February. They had two great fishing days that week. Rob and Debbie reside in Poquoson, Va. E-mail: rob@rbainc.biz

R. B. "Bubba" Cozzens Jr. '71 moved to New York City after graduating and worked in the airline industry while also working for **Fred Schneider '71** part time. Bubba then went to law school at night while being a claims manager for Icelandic airlines. He was then elected to the Supreme Court in 1997 and re-elected in 2011. Bubba has three children from his first marriage. He and his wife, Mary, reside in Glen Head, N.Y.

Thomas J. Cricchi '83 and **Bret Holden '83** run a company, SyCom Technologies, that is ranked 47th in the Tech Elite 200 rankings of the nation's top IT System Integrators for 2012. Last year Tom and Bret hosted a 100th birthday bash in August for their wives, who each turned 50 last year. Tom and his wife reside in Richmond, Va. E-mail: Tom: tricchi@sycomtech.com; Bret and his wife live in Charlottesville, Va. E-mail: bholden@sycomtech.com

David P. Bowman '05 spent five years post-U.Va. at the Boston Consulting Group before finishing his MBA at Stanford in 2012. Following graduation, he joined Blue Bottle Coffee, a specialty coffee roaster and retailer with retail cafes in the Bay Area and NYC, as CFO. He is looking forward to attending the wedding of Melissa and **David del Sol '04** in Healdsburg, Calif., this November. The couple resides in Palo Alto, Calif. E-mail: dbowman@alumni.virginia.edu

Patrick J. Fanning '09 will graduate from the University of Richmond Law School in May. After a long summer of studying for the Virginia bar exam, punctuated by a few Psi weddings, he will be joining a boutique environmental law firm in Richmond, Va., where he resides. E-mail: patrickjfanning@gmail.com



Psi Chapter Officers

Consul Brian Ohlhausen '14 (703) 944-4958 bao2mu@virginia.edu	Annotator David O'Hara '15
Kustos Luke Barney '15	House Manager Peres Nubong '14
Tribune Morgan Lupton '15	Quaestor John Burns '15
Alumni Chairman Peter Wright '15	Pro Consul Michael Kreamer '15
Steward Mike McCarthy '15	Social Chairmen Corbin Baginstose '14 Phill Connell '14
Intramural Chairman John McMichael '15	Risk Manager Chris Hutson '15
Recruitment Chairman Michael Bugas '14 (540) 292-5121 mab3nx@virginia.edu	Scholarship Chairman Leo McLaughlin '14
Brotherhood Chairman Richard Gorog '15	Derby Days Chairmen Jeff Del Presto '13 Stew Fortier '13
	Magister Walker McKusick '13

History Highlights:

We are inspired by our past as we look forward to our future!

FRATERNITY LIFE DURING WORLD WAR II

Prior to World War II and during the first few years of the war, the Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi owned a house at 1 University Circle. Professor Joe Vaughan was the Chapter advisor and **Bob Harmon '23**, a local business man, was president of the House Corporation. WWII caused Psi severe membership and financial issues and the Chapter nearly lost its charter. Professor Vaughan deposited the charter in the Rare Books Room at Alderman Library and promised the national office of Sigma Chi that Psi would continue despite its struggles to maintain membership.

Professor Vaughn and Brother Harmon knew that the Chapter needed more members, so they enlisted the help of Captain Williams who was a member of the Navy ROTC to join them as advisors. Since the Navy V-12 program was very active at U.Va., and since Captain Williams was in charge of that, a number of men joined Psi and the Chapter grew to about 40 members.

In the mid-1940s, the House Corporation sold the house at 1 University Circle. Also at this

time, the House Corporation bought a large lot on University Avenue, which is now the site of the UVA parking garage, and deposited some of the proceeds from the sale into a checking account. Since the former Chapter House was sold, Psi members rented the Beta Theta Pi Fraternity house on Rugby Road as a temporary home. Once the Betas wanted their house back, members rented a house with four bedrooms on Chancellor Street.

After the war ended, membership grew and a committee was formed to find a permanent home. When **Bob Fair '50** became consul, committee activity increased, and 608 Preston Place, built in the mid-1930s, was purchased in 1950. The purchase was paid for through a combination of alumni contributions, assessments of active members, and the sale of property owned by the Chapter. Since that time there have been three major renovations, along with periodic required maintenance.

Special thanks to Bob Fair for his contribution to this article.

Chapter Raises \$15,000 for Children's Miracle Network

Brothers Chosen to Live on the Lawn

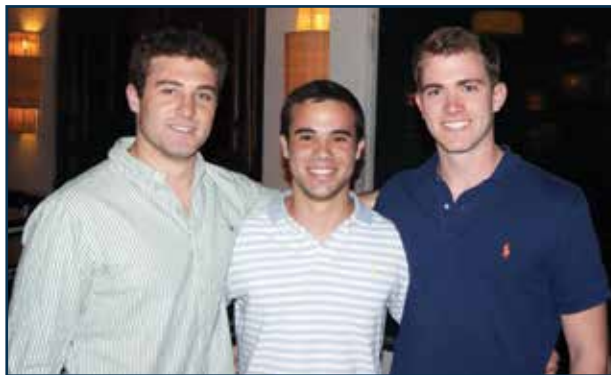
The spring semester has been successful for the Psi Chapter and we are truly grateful to alumni for your support. This spring we raised more than \$15,000 for the Children's Miracle Network, hosted various social functions with sororities, and continued to thrive in areas of leadership both in the community and on campus.

Psi Raises Money for Philanthropy

Our Derby Days' theme this year was Derby Dayglow, which paid homage to the wildly popular electronic dance music culture. Competing sororities decorated our house with bright banners and colorful neon trimmings and helped raise over \$15,000 for the Children's Miracle Network while vying for the prize of Derby Days champion.

Brothers Serve in Leadership Roles

Leaders represent Sigma Chi in various campus organizations, including three Brothers who have been selected to live on the Lawn next year. Brothers **Nick Cafero '14**, **Michael Bugas '14**, and **Jeff Roberson '14** will represent Psi Chapter through this honor. Brother **Andy Colberg '13** served as Interfraternity Council president this year, helping the



Andrew Colberg '13, Alex Sneider '15, and Jackson Partin '15 on the Seeds of Hope service trip in Brazil during spring break. Seeds of Hope Brazil is a student-run organization at U.Va. that is dedicated to combating the social and economic injustices faced everyday by the children of Sao Paulo, Brazil.

University's Greek community immensely by speaking on our behalf at Charlottesville City meetings, helping push forward fraternity and sorority friendly legislation to better ensure our future at U.Va.

Actives Enjoy Social Functions

While academic and leadership endeavors were at the forefront of fraternity life at Psi this semester, Chapter members participated in a number of different social events. They enjoyed our ΣXPN event, Bahamas function, Great Gatsby-themed date function, parents formal, and multiple other mixers with the women of Alpha Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Delta Gamma sororities, which all made for a fun and exciting social calendar.

Needless to say, the Psi Chapter has taken full advantage of the spring 2013 fraternity activities and we all are looking forward to what the fall semester has to offer.

In Hoc,
Brian Ohlhausen '14
Consul
(703) 944-4958 • bao2mu@virginia.edu

**SPRING PLEDGING
UNEXPECTEDLY SHUT
DOWN BY THE UNIVERSITY
Chapter Reacts to
U.Va. Directive**

The spring pledge period was cut short on April 4, when Dean of Students Allen Groves sent a message to all 31 interfraternity presidents, national organizations, and local alumni advisors. The message stated that all fraternities must complete pledging and initiate all members by April 6.

In a press release issued by the University of Virginia on April 4, the request was “designed to ensure student safety and is in accordance with best practices governing the length of time for new member orientation.” The press release states that the University’s request to initiate all pledges by April 6 was not in response to allegations of criminal misconduct. The deadline was later extended so all ceremonies and new member training could be completed by April 7.

U.Va. leadership said that non-compliance with this directive would be met with various measures, including re-evaluating renewal of the Chapter’s Fraternal Organization Agreement with the University. At this time, there is no investigation of the Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi.

The active Chapter, as well as House Corporation leaders, understand the importance of pledging and following University mandates. Chapter leaders look forward to working with Dean Groves, a member of Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity, who has committed to meeting with undergraduate and IFC leaders, national headquarters staff, and alumni to discuss ways in which the pledge process can be made more constructive in the future.

Consul **Brian Ohlhausen '14** and other Chapter leaders quickly arranged the initiation ceremony for our new brothers and should be commended for their efforts and successes. It must be noted that the Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi continues to prosper. With the addition of our new brothers, the Chapter is even stronger.



**Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi
at the University of Virginia**
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

Address Service Requested

PSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
LAWRENCE, KS
66044
PERMIT #570

**SAVE THE DATE
2013 ANNUAL HOUSE
CORPORATION MEETING**

*October 5 - 10 a.m.
Psi Chapter House, 608 Preston Place*

All alumni are members of the House Corporation and welcome to attend.

Welcome, New Initiates

John Armstrong '16
New Orleans, La.

Jordan Goldwag '15
Virginia Beach, Va.

Jory Segal '16
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Matthew Atienza '16
Suffolk, Va.

Locher Grove '16*
Roanoke, Va.

Christopher Sherrick '16
Brookfield, Conn.

Brett Campbell '16*
Centreville, Va.

Benjamin Hack '15
Groton, Mass.

Henrique Sosa '16
Caracas, Venezuela

Michael Carter '16
Fairfax, Va.

Ryan Murphy '16
Richmond, Va.

Kyle Souders '16
Cincinnati, Ohio

Jeremy Connerton '16
Geneva, Switzerland

Neil Ohlhausen '16*
Annandale, Va.

Owen Sperling '16
Greenwich, Conn.

Ryan Culberson '16
Herndon, Va.

Jackson Partin '15
Santa Cruz, Calif.

George Stellas '16*
Chicago, Ill.

Ryan DeLucie '16
Virginia Beach, Va.

Clarke Pietruszka '16
Clifton, Va.

Cameron Thum '16
Austin, Texas

Christian des Pallieres '16
London, England

Tanner Riche '16
South Riding, Va.

Marcelo Timm '16
Santos, Brazil

**Legacy*

Psi Chapter Website

<http://aig.alumni.virginia.edu/sigmachi>

Facebook

Search for Psi of Sigma Chi Alumni

LinedIn

Search for Psi of Sigma Chi - UVA