



# The Constantine Sig

*Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi at the University of Virginia • Fall 2024*

## NOT JUST A COLLEGE TOWN

*Alumni Perspectives on Retiring in the Hook*



*The Ward family at Trick-or-Treating on the Lawn, circa 2012.*



*From left: Jim Mallon '81 and wife Gina Mallon '84, Stephanie Steele Fitzgerald and husband Tim Fitzgerald '81.*



*Jeff Ward '81 and Jim Mallon '81, both Marines, raise the colors during a pre-game ceremony.*



*Jim's 5-year-old lab, Astro, always deserves to be front and center!*

### **Jim Mallon '81**

It was October 2002, and I was celebrating my wedding anniversary with my wife, Gina, a UVA graduate of 1984 and a Kappa Delta. We were headed from our Northern Virginia home to a friend's home in Yorktown—or so I thought! Gina surprised me with a trek to Charlottesville to look at potential real estate to build on, and we purchased a lot that very weekend. Three years later, we moved here.

It's one thing to be a student here, living in an insulated UVA community, and quite another to experience all that Charlottesville and Central Virginia have to offer. I am unabashedly a fan of "the Hook." I am ecstatic that I get to reconnect with all the visiting Brothers who I've known through the years, and I cherish the fact that I get to live near the Grounds where we all had so much fun.

### **Jeff Ward '81**

Though I am not yet retired, it has been an absolute gift to raise Matty in the Hook. Plugging into UVA athletic and arts programs is an obvious benefit, but there are little things, like Trick-or-Treating on the Lawn, that made his childhood something special and memorable for all of us. We consider ourselves very blessed to have been able to raise Matty here in Charlottesville!

*Continued on page 3*

# A REWARDING PATH

## Tim Heaphy '86 Embraces Sigma Chi in His Legal Career

In the early 2000s, The National Law Journal named **Timothy J. Heaphy '86** one of its 40 Important Lawyers Under 40. Brothers who don't know Tim are likely familiar with some of his larger cases—biggest of all when he served as lead investigator for the U.S. House's January 6 Committee, a responsibility he found both daunting and rewarding.

"Like many Americans, I was horrified to see the violence that occurred at the Capitol," he said. "I wanted to be part of the response by assembling the facts and circumstances that surrounded the event. I am proud of our work and hope it makes political violence less likely in the future."

Tim previously worked as an Assistant U.S. Attorney, and his boss, Eric Holder, told him that his one rule was to "do the right thing" at all times. "I've always remembered that advice and tried to ensure that my actions and decisions are scrupulously fair." Practicing law allows Tim to impact people's lives significantly, and his tendency toward team environments in his career reflects the strong fraternal bonds he enjoyed at the University of Virginia.

### Supporting Others

When Tim attended UVA, a student was killed (and others seriously injured) in a tragic accident. He saw how the Brothers of Sigma Chi banded together to support one another through the aftermath; this, along with the diversity and camaraderie of Psi Chapter, drew him to the fraternity. Tim served as Kustos for a year while enjoying many great mixers and brotherhood parties, and many of his best friends to this day are Sigma Chi Brothers.

Tim moved to Washington after graduating following a deferred law school acceptance. He taught high school English for a year and then joined the staff of then-Senator Joe Biden. "I was looking for life experience and public service before starting law school—both jobs were rewarding and ended up shaping my subsequent career."

### Serving Virginia

Most of Tim's career so far has been in government. He spent 15 years as a federal prosecutor, including his time as a U.S. Attorney for Virginia's Western District (appointed by President Barack Obama). He

*"If I could go back and redo my college experience, I would pledge Sigma Chi again."*

has also served as general counsel for UVA and enjoys working with its president, Jim Ryan (a law school classmate).

As a private practice attorney, Tim conducted an independent review of the August 2017 "Unite the Right" rally on behalf of the city of Charlottesville. He now works at the D.C.-based law firm Willkie, Farr, and Gallagher, supervising the investigations and enforcement group.

Living in Charlottesville with his family also allows Tim to see fellow Psi Alumni frequently. **Dave Burke '88** and his family live there too, and he sees several more for an "Old Guy Weekend" each fall, including **Brooke Roberts '86**, **Fred Helm '86**, **Ken Guthrie '85**, and **Jim McCullough '87**. "I've had a lot of professional contact with **Matt Olsen '84**, including a year-long criminal trial we did together as Assistant U.S. Attorneys."

### The Bonds That Last

"If I could go back and redo my college experience, I would pledge Sigma Chi again," Tim declared. "It was my constant social home and the place where some of the most important relationships in my life were forged. My son went to UVA and had a similarly satisfying fraternity experience, in part because of what he'd grown up seeing and hearing from his dad."

You can reach Tim at [timothy.heaphy@gmail.com](mailto:timothy.heaphy@gmail.com).

## We Asked the New Members WHY DID YOU JOIN PSI?

*"The Brothers of Psi Chapter stressed the national relationship and camaraderie between all Sigma Chi houses. I chose to join not only because of the Psi brotherhood but also the undergraduates and Alumni from every Chapter."*  
—Charlie Gehringer '27

*"I chose Sigma Chi because of the bond between Brothers. At any time, I can ask guys to hang out, get food, or study, and I get a positive response every time."*  
—Corey Park '27

*"I joined Sigma Chi because of the diverse brotherhood, the commitment to leadership, and the national and professional presence that it offered. Through my time as a member, I have been able to strengthen those connections with fellow Brothers and live up to those beliefs."*  
—Drew Winterstein '27

## Chapter Officers

Consul  
**Luke Lustig '26**  
[lustigluke22@gmail.com](mailto:lustigluke22@gmail.com)

Pro Consul  
**Joe Hardy '26**

Annotator  
**Mason Lewis '26**

Quaestor  
**Jack Catalano '27**

Recruitment Chairman  
**Drew Winterstein '27**  
[drew\\_winterstein@icloud.com](mailto:drew_winterstein@icloud.com)

Magister  
**Corey Park '27**

Kustos  
**Phil Mascia '26**

Alumni Chairman  
**Owen Hunter '27**



# A LIGHT ON A HILL

## *Psi Undergraduates Continue to Excel*

As we near the end of the fall semester, I can confidently say that Psi Chapter did not lose its edge over the summer! Between the parties, tailgates, pickup basketball games, and utter dominance in the fraternity flag football league (sorry, SAE!), the 2024-25 year is off to a hot start.

This is the first year living in the House for me and nine others from the spring pledge class of 2023. To say it's been a good time would be a massive understatement! We began the year with 19 Brothers in the main House and nine in our satellite House behind us. We held elections for House positions and the House draft for next year and, once again, have filled both the House and satellite! The members from the spring 2024 pledge class are eager to spend the next two years living alongside their Brothers.

Last spring, we initiated a pledge class of 21 young men who have earned their place in the Chapter with great enthusiasm. They were a great source of energy and drive for our spring Derby Days, and we are proud to say we raised over \$10,000 in just five days! We have our philanthropy chairmen, **Joe Hardy '26** and **Scott Daley '26**, to thank for that great success. Through Joe's personal connection to St. Jude, we found a little extra motivation in achieving our donation goal and were able to send the entirety of our donations to this worthy organization.

We officially graduated from the National-imposed enhancement program this fall, ending a four-year process that began in spring 2020. It was a long affair, but we are currently in excellent standing with National, and we look to keep that momentum going. To that end, I would be remiss if I didn't attempt to paint a picture of what Greek life currently looks like at UVA.

To put it mildly, last spring was an interesting time to be associated with any of the Greek organizations in Charlottesville. Three fraternities, Kappa Sig, Theta Chi, and Pi Kappa Alpha, were kicked off campus for a minimum of four years, and since both PIKE and Kappa Sig were the Alpha chapters for their respective organizations, that status was terminated, and PIKE lost their house and their charter. Currently, Sigma Alpha Mu and Phi Lambda are also under investigation, and their status is up in the air. The relationship between the UVA administration and Greek life,



*From left: Patrick Fox '26, Ryan Poplawski '26, Walker Beck '26, Krish Patel '26, and Luke Lustig '26 celebrating the first day of fall classes.*

particularly fraternities, has become extremely strained and frankly, discouraging.

However, we assure you that Psi Chapter's status on campus remains excellent. We have a fantastic relationship with the school and National and have had zero complaints associated with our conduct. While some chapters have suffered from lower recruitment numbers, social suspensions, and other issues, we have not. Despite numbers dropping across the board over the past few years, we have continued to not only bid the largest classes, but also the most well-rounded and good-natured.

I'm sure this sounds like personal bias (which it most certainly is; I love our guys!), but these facts have been recognized by the greater UVA community. **Luke Kielbasa '27** and **Max Buono '27** placed first and second, respectively, at this year's "Mr. Heartthrob Competition," a talent show hosted by Alpha Phi. Every fraternity sends two pledges to participate, and ours won by nearly unanimous decision!

Our philanthropy also goes beyond the one week of Derby Days in the spring, as Brothers **Ryan Poplawski '26**, **Charlie Katzen '26**, **Shahmeer Danish '26**, **Corey Park '25**, and many others are leaders at the Madison House, a charity organization managed by UVA that allows students to create their own charity projects in the Charlottesville community.

As we look forward to closing out this fall semester and returning to campus in 2025, I can speak for the entirety of the House when I say I am proud to be a Psi and am excited for what the future will bring!

In Hoc,  
**Luke Lustig '26**  
Consul

## NOT JUST A COLLEGE TOWN

*Alumni Perspectives on Retiring in the Hook*



*Jeff Ward '81 and his wife, Karen Ward, enjoy a home game at JPJ with coach Tony Bennett!*



*The Long family hikes at Ragged Mountain Reservoir.*

*Continued from page 1*

### **Bret Holden '83**

I sold a business in Europe in 2006 and had the opportunity to relocate to the U.S. I had spent a lot of time in Charlottesville with my wife, Jeanne Marie, a UVA Zeta who graduated in 1984. It was close to both our parents, and many friends of our era regularly passed through for sporting events, so it made a lot of sense. It has been a great decision, and having several other Sigs close by has made it all the better!

### **Kevin Long '83**

After graduating in 1983, returning to Charlottesville infrequently over the years, and then visiting our three sons who also graduated from UVA, my wife and I thought we knew the community well. This led us to move here in 2023 after retirement and spending a few years abroad and in Northern Virginia. Charlottesville's quality and pace of life really appealed to us. After a year, we realized that we only knew our new hometown superficially — there is so much more to experience and enjoy. The music and arts scene, restaurants, history, policy think tanks, UVA academics and activities, outdoor opportunities, and most importantly, the chances to meet a lot of interesting people, confirmed that we made the right decision to move here. It's a lot more than a great college town!

# SAVE THE DATE



We are considering a  
**Psi Alumni/Active golf outing in  
Charlottesville sometime  
during March - May 2025.**

**This will be the inaugural event.**

If you are interested in participating,  
please send your first and last name along  
with your current contact information to  
the board members listed below.

The subject line should read

*“Interested in Psi Spring ‘25 Golf event.”*

**We hope to see you there!**

**Mark Senell** markvsenell@gmail.com

**Todd West** vbbigeasy@gmail.com

**Bruce Walter** bwalter79@gmail.com



# The Constantine Sig

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**  
MAILED FROM  
ZIP CODE 66044  
PERMIT #570

# CHAPTER GOALS

## 1

Increase Alumni involvement. Reach  
out with feedback if you have any  
suggestions on how the Chapter can  
better connect with our Alumni!

## 2

Strengthen our philanthropic presence.  
We want to increase our Derby Days  
goal from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

## 3

Maintain relationship with National.  
Given the current state of Greek life at  
UVA, we aim to continue building and  
maintaining a mutually beneficial bond.



*The entire Chapter welcoming the new members on their spring 2024 Bid Day.*

## WELCOME, SPRING 2024 NEW MEMBERS

Thomas Adams '27 | Midlothian, Va.  
Colton Begley '26 | Boston, Mass.  
Ryan Berman '27 | Morristown, N.J.  
Nikola Borovicinanin '27 | Basking Ridge, N.J.  
John Catalano '27 | Millis, Mass.  
Pedro Cavelier '27 | Bogota, Colombia  
Parker Cullen '27 | Springfield, Va.  
Andres Espinosa '27 | Miami, Fla.  
Charlie Gehringer '27 | Gladstone, N.J.  
Griffin Gould '27 | Richmond, Va.  
Owen Hunter '27 | New Canaan, Conn.

Xavier Jardine '27 | Charleston, W. Va.  
Luke Kielbasa '27 | Charlottesville, Va.  
Jackson Kiland '26 | Christchurch, Va.  
Jack O'Hearn '27 | Fayetteville, N.Y.  
Corey Park '27 | Little Rock, Ark.  
Haskew Pearson '27 | Alexandria, Va.  
Jack Simmons '27 | Port Chester, N.Y.  
Ryan Sribar '26 | Vienna, Va.  
George Todorovich '27 | Weston, Conn.  
Drew Winterstein '27 | Chesapeake, Va.