Alumni Relations Program Aims to ‘Bridge the Gap’

♦ Active Members Are Strong Eta Chapter Leaders
♦ 1908-2008—Eta Chapter Centennial Celebration to be Held this Spring

Fall is here again, and it is hard to believe that another summer has come and gone. It was a lot easier to mark time when we were all undergraduates. As an adult, I am amazed at how quickly time—and life—flies by.

Our undergraduate members are off to a great start this year. Great leaders were elected last semester, and they are beginning to show their potential with the help of the previous leaders. For the first time I can recall, we have a summer recruitment program. Every undergraduate male coming to the University of Illinois received an e-mail welcoming them to the university and encouraging them to visit one of Alpha Sigma Phi’s recruitment events. This is a beginning that we, as alumni board members, intend to build upon.

Another major priority for our alumni board is to establish farther-reaching alumni relations. Over the years, the proud tradition of Eta Chapter has been maintained through the efforts of many volunteers. Our fraternity has always been a foundation upon which members build during their adult lives. The Eta Chapter alumni board intends to play a bigger role in bridging the gap between the undergraduate experience and life after college.

Hopefully, many of you can make it to Homecoming on October 27. We will be honoring the men who re-chartered Eta Chapter 25 years ago. We also plan on holding the Centennial Celebration Sig Bust this coming spring, so there will be plenty of opportunities to pay a visit to 211 E. Armory over the next school year.

Remember: time continues to tick away, no matter how we spend our days, so spend it wisely. I hope to see you all at Homecoming!

Erik Sachs ’94
House Corporation Board President
(312) 421-2828
esachs@rvinc.com

Alumni Events
OCTOBER 27
Homecoming/Eta Chapter Re-Chartering Celebration
Twenty-five years ago, a group of leaders re-chartered Eta Chapter and we are celebrating those members in a special ceremony following the Homecoming football game. Go to www.etaalphasigmaphi.org for a schedule of times and events!

SPRING 2008
Centennial Celebration Sig Bust
After 100 Years at U of I, Eta Chapter Still Going Strong

- Undergraduates Lead in Academics, Recruitment, and Philanthropy
- Alumni, Look for Another Sig Bust next Spring

The Eta Chapter of Alpha Sigma Phi is approaching its 100th year as one of the foremost chapters at the University of Illinois. It is quite an honor to lead this chapter, with its rich history, into the next century of its existence. Carrying on our founders’ traditions, we have excelled in academics, been involved with charitable work, strengthened alumni relations, played competitively in intramurals, and remained socially active on campus. Members of Eta Chapter have many reasons to be proud of the last 100 years and much to look forward to in the future.

ACADEMICS
Academic success is always a priority of the Eta Chapter. Alpha Sigma Phi consistently achieves a higher chapter G.P.A. than the all-male average G.P.A. Scholarship Director Kristofer Williams '06 explains, “Once again, we plan on remaining competitive with other fraternities in academics.”

RECRUITMENT
We kicked off our fall recruitment program in August. The recruitment chairmen created a letter that was e-mailed out to all male freshmen starting at the U of I. David Ramsey '06 notes, “We think this is a great tool to get our recruitment schedule out to as many people as possible.” Our brothers are eager about getting others to join Alpha Sigma Phi, and we are excited about the prospect of initiating them into our brotherhood.

PHILANTHROPY
As always, the active members place emphasis on philanthropic causes. Philanthropy Chairman Jim Tenzillo '06 says, “After the success of last year, we are planning several new events to increase the amount of money raised by Eta Chapter.”

ALUMNI EVENTS
This spring’s Sig Bust was extremely successful, so we plan on having another one next year. Alumni Relations Director Kyle Hanpeter '06 asserts, “We are looking forward to celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Eta Chapter with all alumni at the Sig Bust in the spring.” It should be a great opportunity for alumni and undergraduates to get together and strengthen fraternal ties.

INTRAMURALS
We have been very competitive the last couple years in soccer, thanks to our many skilled athletes. Intramural Chairman Chris Heid '07 says, “We are excited about another successful soccer season, as well as expanding to softball and flag football leagues.”

The Eta Chapter is in great shape this year and, with a core of outstanding men to support the fraternity in the coming years, Alpha Sigma Phi expects even more success in the future! On behalf of the entire chapter, I would like to thank all alumni who have supported the undergraduates’ efforts through donations, volunteering assistance, and attendance at chapter functions. We thank you very much and encourage you to make a visit to the Old Gal soon!

In Phi,
Tim Bensman '09
HSP
(630) 485-1569
Bensman2@uiuc.edu

Welcome Eta Chapter Initiates

Chad Fisher
Bloomington, Ill.
Liberal Arts and Sciences

Michael Reu
Bloomington, Ill.
Urban Planning

Zack Flynn
Champaign, Ill.
Kinesiology

Shouvik Sayef
Naperville, Ill.
Psychology

Mitchell Hoekstra
Bloomington, Ill.
Liberal Arts and Sciences

Eric Weisheit
Park Ridge, Ill.
Economics

ON THE WEB
Eta Chapter
www.etaalphasigmaphi.org

Alpha Sigma Phi Fraternity, Inc.
www.alphasigmaphi.org

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
www.uiuc.edu
Alumnus Learns First Lessons as an Alpha Sigma Phi

Spotlight on Jim Caruso '82

As one of the re-colonizers of Alpha Sigma Phi at Illinois, Jim Caruso ’82 joined the fraternity in an unconventional way. “I was beginning my third year of undergrad and had spent the first two years in the dorms. I saw a newspaper advertisement that offered an opportunity to start a fraternity, which was very appealing to me at the time. I had little interest in being in a pledge class of freshmen and I saw immediate leadership opportunities in re-colonizing Alpha Sigma Phi.” In college, Jim’s focus was on academics, but he admits, “The classes were not nearly as important as learning how to get along with people from diverse backgrounds and just taking time to grow up.” He had only positive things to say about living at 211 E. Armory. “We had members from down-state, out-of-state, the suburbs, farms, Chicago, you name it. The feeling of camaraderie and brotherhood is something you can’t describe to those who have never experienced the Greek system.”

Jim earned a bachelor’s degree in biology with additional concentrations in English and chemistry. “Surprisingly, my G.P.A. was better during my time as an Alpha Sig than during my first two years at Illinois.” Jim has been a physician in the United States Navy for 20 years, and presently works at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan. “This past year I was promoted to the rank of captain and will probably be looking at a second career as a civilian in the next few years.” Of his preparation for this field, Jim states, “I had my first significant leadership experiences serving as HS and HJP in Alpha Sigma Phi, which have served me well during a 20-year military career.” One specific memory of Jim’s is meeting with Dave Fines ’82 “many a late night ‘solving world problems’ as we called it. Essentially, we would discuss house issues and how to approach them from a Brotherhood perspective. Sometimes a huge compromise was in order; other issues required a command decision by house leadership.”

Jim has traveled all over the globe and spent time in several different and interesting fields. “I spent four years at Duke University Medical Center for training in pathology and eventually became a forensic pathologist, specializing in the investigation of unnatural and unexpected deaths.” With this specialized training, Jim has been directly involved in numerous high-profile cases, including the Space Shuttle Columbia mishap. He also took five trips to Iraq to investigate deaths of high federal interest. “Prior to coming to Okinawa, I spent a great deal of time at Dover Air Force Base, performing autopsies on service members who died in Iraq and Afghanistan. The travel was extensive and tough on the family life. In my present job, I am the medical examiner for U.S. interests in the Pacific, but I also oversee a significant portion of the hospital operations.”

A proven leader, Jim says, “Good leaders are a combination of nature and nurture. Most individuals attracted to institutions like the University of Illinois and Alpha Sigma Phi bring these to the table.” Jim has an open door policy and trusts his personnel to handle projects. “I delegate with minimal management on my part. My job as a leader is to provide my personnel with appropriate resources to get the job done.” To alumni early in their careers, Jim advises, “Don’t pass up opportunities to expand your horizons and don’t be afraid to take a few risks. You can learn a lot from those for whom you work, as well as from people who work for you.”

Jim grew up in the Chicago, Illinois, area. His family moved from the city to the suburbs when he was in grade school. “As a career Navy officer, I don’t have a true home yet. We have moved an average of every two to three years and have called Virginia, Maryland, California, Florida, North Carolina, and Connecticut home at one time or another.” With a busy career, Jim still finds time to do the things he enjoys. “I enjoy traveling, scuba diving, fishing, and doing things with my family.” He runs on a regular basis and has completed several marathons. “I also write a fair amount of medical literature with six book chapters and have numerous other publications to my credit. I even write the medical column for an international diving magazine that comes out every other month.” Jim mentions that he regrets not staying in touch with many brothers over the years. He says that he has crossed paths with some and has had steady communication with a few others, but military life has not afforded him the opportunity to make it to Homecomings and reunions. “I hope to change that as my career winds down.” Jim and his wife, Pamela, have two daughters, Erica (9) and Amanda (7). You can contact Jim at CarusoUSN@aol.com.
FALL 2007 NEW MEMBERS

Nicholas Addante  
Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Hannie Ali  
Naperville, Ill.

Max Barrett  
Ashkum, Ill.

Spencer Keelan  
Inverness, Ill.

William Shelley  
Naperville, Ill.

Tyler Pinter  
Bloomington, Ill.

Nathaniel Rezin  
Morris, Ill.

Brian Temple  
Bloomington, Ill.

Jason Vincent  
Bloomington, Ill.

Jessica Abbate  
Bloomington, Ill.

Benjamin Franks  
Bloomington, Ill.

Josh Paturi  
Bloomington, Ill.

Marc Virgilio  
Chicago, Ill.

Jeffrey Gersch  
Mt. Prospect, Ill.

Skyler Peak  
Bloomington, Ill.

Kyle Wallace  
Bloomington, Ill.

Peter Fudalej  
Chicago, Ill.

Jeffrey Pickett  
Chicago, Ill.

RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Alumni, we value your referrals. Please submit prospect recommendation to:  
Chad Papa '05 at cpapa2@uiuc.edu or  
211 E. Armory Avenue • Champaign, IL 61820

Above: Brothers bond while watching a Fighting Illini football game at the house.  
Right: Undergraduate men pose for a picture at the chapter house.
OMEGA CHAPTER

Oliver F. Burnett ‘23 passed on to Omega Chapter. He was a resident of Brentwood, Tenn., at the time of his death. He is survived by his wife, Anne, and their seven children: Roger, Pandora, Jinetta, Cassie, Jeri, Carole, Diane, and James.

ALUMNI NEWS

1930s

Dan E. Andrew ‘37 lives in an assisted living facility in Winston Salem, N.C., near his son, Dr. Ray Andrew. His wife for 60 years, Lorena, passed away six years ago. Dan is the chairman of bridge, chess, and an hour program called “News & Views.”

1940s

Robert W. Starck ‘40, Austin, Texas, retired as president and CEO of Starck Realtors Inc. in 1980. He enjoys playing golf, as well as visiting his summer home in Baileys Harbour, Wis., that he and his wife, Mary Jane, own. They are active in their church and with SAR and other hereditary groups. Bob says, “Every day is a joy and a blessing!” He and Mary Jane have two children, four grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. E-mail: str709@aol.com

Roderick Urquhart ‘49 lives in Madison, Wis. He has three children: David, Michael, and Kevan, and is creating art, reading, and enjoying life. Contact Rod via e-mail at mc53705@sbcglobal.net.

1950s

Charles L. Bolster ‘52 enjoyed the 50th anniversary in 2003. He says, “It was a lot of work, but I would work on it again if enough of the house grads from ‘52-’54 are interested.” Chuck and his wife, Rose, reside in Cupertino, Calif., and have three grown children: Bryan, Brooke, and Daniel. Chuck retired in 1989 from Syntax Pharmaceuticals as vice president of Canada/Asia. E-mail: rosebolster3@aol.com

Perry R. Bolhous ’55, East Moline, Ill., reports that he and his wife, Audrey, travel, play tennis, and bike. They have two children, Sally and Jeff. He follows the Fighting Illini and occasionally attends games. Perry is retired from John Deere and may be reached at bolhous@qconline.com.

Richard H. Gallagher ’55 has five children who are all married and have primarily relocated to the South. He and his wife, Dorothy, spend the winters on Hilton Head Island in South Carolina. Any brothers in the area can reach him at hhirhg@aol.com.

Edward E. Perry ’57 retired in January of 2007 and will now concentrate on his favorite kinds of “work”: trout fishing and the grandchildren. If time allows, he plans to play some golf. Edward and his wife, Debrah, live in Mansfield, Ohio.

H. Joseph Bourn ’59 enjoys serving clients as an advisor in commodity and a broad arrangement of raw materials investments. He is a financial consultant and vice president of Uhlmann Price Securities LLC. Joe and his wife, Marilyn, live in Lisle, Ill., and have two children, Jeffrey and Rebecca. He can be reached through e-mail at marilyn.joe.bourn@netzero.net.

1960s

Richard W. Rewerts ’69, Coppell, Texas, completed his MBA in finance from the University of Texas at Arlington in May 2003. He has been on an expatriate assignment to Sydney, Australia, for the last two years and returned to the U.S. in January with his wife, Dorothy, and daughter, Nicole. Richard can be e-mailed at rrewerts@verizon.net.

1970s

Todd E. Druley ’71, a pediatric hematologist/oncologist at St. Louis Children’s Hospital, is researching mechanisms that cause children’s cancer. He and his wife, Debbie, have two sons, Eric and Joshua, and live in St. Louis, Mo. You can e-mail Todd at druley_t@kids.wustl.edu.

Troy J. Lively ’96 is married to Kelli, a graduate of the University of Illinois, and has two children, Mattie and Allie. He is a senior environmental and utilities engineer for the Olin Corporation and resides in Bethalto, Ill. Troy requests e-mail at tjively@olin.com.

David A. Cox ’98 writes that he and his wife, Jean, are traveling, doing some ranching, and were busy building a new home this year. They spend winters in Southern California and live the rest of the year in Omak, Wash.
THE ILLINI ETAGRAM

ETA CHAPTER
OF ALPHA SIGMA PHI
University of Illinois
P.O. Box 477750
Chicago, IL 60647

Address Service Requested

ATTENTION: This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates and parents. If your son is
still attending the University of Illinois, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House.
If he has graduated, please send us his new address to update our records. Thank you.

2007-08 FIGHTING ILLINI
MEN'S HOME BASKETBALL SCHEDULE

Nov. 5 Quincy
Nov. 7 Kentucky Wesleyan
Nov. 11 Northeastern
Nov. 19-21 Maui Invitational
Nov. 28 Big Ten/ACC Challenge
Dec. 1 Weber State
Dec. 8 Lexus December to Remember Classic
Dec. 17 Western
Dec. 20 Miami
Dec. 28 Loyola
Dec. 30 Tennessee State
Jan. 3 Ohio State
Jan. 6 Penn State
Jan. 16 Michigan
Jan. 27 Northwestern
Feb. 2 Purdue
Feb. 7 Indiana
Feb. 20 Wisconsin
March 4-6 Michigan State
March 8 Minnesota
March 3-16 Big Ten Tournament
March 20- April 7 NCAA Tournament

To order tickets, visit www.athletics.uiuc.edu/tickets or call (866) ILLINI-1.

SAVE the DATE

OCTOBER 20
Stop by the house
from 3-6 p.m.
for a cookout before
the Fighting Illini
take on Michigan
at 7:00 p.m.