

SPEA CONN

The SigEp @ UCONN Alumni Newsletter

A PUBLICATION OF SIGMA PHI EPSILON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

Fall 2020

CT Alpha undergraduates and alumni at Carlson Leadership Academy.



CT ALPHA ADDRESSES COVID-19

Dear Brothers,

I hope all is well with you and yours, and you're doing what you can to keep safe, healthy and connected. SigEp, like most every other aspect of our current lives, is not untouched by changes due to the new coronavirus. As alumni, there are a number of ways we can support our undergraduate brothers in maintaining the strong sense of purpose, belonging, and friendships they've developed at UConn. We remain committed to building a great SigEp experience for our undergraduate and alumnus brothers alike.

Health concerns around COVID-19 closed the UConn campus (and our Husky Village chapter house) in the spring semester (all courses were moved online), and there will be serious restrictions on all campus activity this fall. Chapter life continues, though. Connecticut Alpha leadership is working with our national HQ to develop ways to share brotherhood and personal development online. Staying connected during this time is critical for all undergraduates and alumni. Our 15 recent graduates especially missed the activities they were looking forward to during their final semester on campus.

Our Ritual directs us to *"be kindly affectionate one to another with brotherly love; in honor preferring one another."* Look after each other. Call someone you haven't spoken to in a while. If you're looking for contact information for any brothers, we may be able to help; please email me at edkaplanCTA@gmail.com.

Stay safe. Looking forward to seeing everyone sometime soon!

Fraternally,
Ed Kaplan '88
President, Alumni and Volunteer Corporation

Alumni and Volunteer Corporation

President/Director

Ed Kaplan '88

edkaplanCTA@gmail.com

Treasurer/Director

Larry Carboni '86

Secretary

Van Augur '20

Alumni Relations

Vacant

Directors

Bob Flynn '82

Chad Stewart '88

Ryan Jarnutowski '19

Volunteers (Non-Board)

Chapter Counselor

Andy Kelly, Arkansas '00

Balanced Man Steward

Bill Oldach '16

Mentor Committee

Bob Flynn '82

Larry Carboni '86

Andrew Kim '15

Bill Oldach '16

Ryeed Khan '17

Luke Maloney '18

George Andrews '19

Dylan Feldmeier '19

Ryan Jarnutowski '19

Andre Wang '19

Jonathan Wharton, Stevens Tech (REN)

If you are interested in volunteering as a mentor to undergraduate leaders or working with alumni operations, please contact Ed Kaplan at edkaplanCTA@gmail.com.

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Staying True to SigEp's Sound Mind, Sound Body Initiative

Bill Oldach '16 Helps CT Alpha Build Balanced Man Program

When SigEp new chapter development directors arrived in Storrs in September 2014, they found a campus hungry for Sigma Phi Epsilon's Balanced Man vision. Among the first 10 new members that semester was **Bill Oldach '16**, a junior management and engineering for manufacturing major from Hopkinton, Massachusetts. Quickly recognizing his leadership skills, the new colony elected Bill its first chapter president.

"I had a pretty unique experience with starting CT Alpha back up. For me, it was personal and professional development and the opportunity to lead a chapter and executive board," Bill said. "The members of our executive board didn't necessarily always get along, so leading a group of people with different desires and expectations and learning how to work through all of that is a skill that I still use a lot today."

Bill joined the CT Alpha Alumni and Volunteer Corporation as director after graduating in 2016 and recently signed on to become Balanced Man Steward, where he mentors the vice president of member development and his committee to operate and improve the Balanced Man Program.

"The thing that attracted me to SigEp was the fact that the fraternity concentrates on things that matter to me like the Sound Mind, Sound Body focus," Bill said.



Bill Oldach '16 with his fiancée, Sara.

It hasn't taken Bill long to find success in his career. He is the validation lead of military development programs at Pratt & Whitney. Bill found his love for science and math at a young age and is thankful to have a job he enjoys.

Bill shares his favorite hobby of mountain biking with a few of his coworkers. They were happy to take advantage of a mild winter.

"We probably mountain bike eight months out of the year," Bill said. "We meet in the parking lot at 5:30 a.m. before it's light outside and get a ride in before work. We do it every couple of weeks."

The past year has been particularly exciting for Bill, as he proposed to his girlfriend, Sara, in April 2019. The couple recently bought a house in West Hartford and live with their dog, Yukon. With Bill and Sara's wedding set for November, they're excited to see what their next chapter holds.

Sara also has a Greek life background and served as the president of UCONN's Pi Beta Phi chapter. It's safe to say SigEp's Sound Mind, Sound Body initiative will be a pillar of Bill and Sara's family.

You can connect with Bill at oldach.william@gmail.com.



Zane Cooke '18, Bill Oldach '16, Rob Ciolino '16, Mike Rosenthal '16, Tim Fagan '16, and Tyler Cappello '16.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

We sadly report the following deaths, which have come to our notice since the previous newsletter.

One of the Founding Fathers of Connecticut Alpha, **James L. Burnes '59**, entered Chapter Eternal on July 4, 2019, shortly after his 87th birthday. James grew up in Waterbury, and served in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. He was recruited by the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, becoming the first professional administrator of the agency. Over the coming decades, five consecutive commissioners appointed by governors of both parties relied on his wise counsel, extraordinary work ethic and apolitical leadership. James served as board member for the Albany YMCA and played basketball at the Y well into his middle years. After retiring in the early 1990s, James moved from the Albany

area to Bonita Springs, Fla., where he enjoyed golf, swimming, and socializing with his many friends. He is survived by his two children, one grandchild, and numerous nieces and nephews.

John D. Burkholder '62 entered Chapter Eternal on February 6, 2020. Originally from West Simsbury, Conn., John was a dedicated undergraduate leader at UConn, serving CT Alpha as recruitment chairman, secretary, and chapter president. John entered U.S. Army helicopter flight training after graduation and was assigned to duty in Vietnam. He was awarded the Army medal for heroic actions during the rescue of wounded troops under heavy ground fire. He later returned to evacuate more injured troops.

After completing his duty, he moved back to Simsbury and became employed at a Hartford stock brokerage firm. Eventually, John moved to New Orleans and was employed as a helicopter pilot flying personal back and forth to oil rigs

in the Gulf of Mexico. During his time in New Orleans he met his partner, Maryann Luke, and opened a florist shop. John later returned to Simsbury where he became a caretaker for his father and joined a local family business.

Richard C. Warner '67 entered Chapter Eternal at his home in Port Monmouth, N.J., on December 26, 2019, surrounded by his loving family. He served in the Army from 1968 to 1972, stationed in Turkey and Ethiopia. He received his Ph.D. in linguistics in 1979 with a dissertation of distinction and went on to teach at Colorado State University, later becoming a Fulbright scholar in Poland. He went on to pioneer work in object oriented analysis and design and ended his professional career as a data architect in New Jersey. Richard sang with the Shrewsbury Chorale for over 25 years. He is survived by his daughter, Elisabeth Warner, granddaughter, Emma Nell Warner-Mesnard, his long-term partner, and her children, all of whom he loved very much.



THANK YOU, LOYAL DONORS

Brothers, Add Your Name to the Connecticut Alpha Supporters List Today

By giving back to Connecticut Alpha, we demonstrate faith in our undergraduate brothers and show them that they, and Sigma Phi Epsilon at the University of Connecticut, are worthy of our investment. Thank you for supporting our young brothers. Thank you for choosing to invest in SigEp.

The following brothers made one or more gifts to a dedicated CT Alpha endowment with the Sigma Phi Epsilon Educational Foundation between August 1, 2019, and March 30, 2020.

CT Alpha Gildhouse Brotherly Love Scholarship

Anonymous
Robert Flynn '82
Eugene Choung '88
Steven Schaefer '88
Ralph Hedenberg '89*
Shane Bartling '90

CT Alpha Scholarship

Alan Stickle '59
Wade Medlar '81
Christopher Chadbourne '88
Brian Sabia '89

The following brothers donated (August 1, 2019, to March 30, 2020) to the Connecticut Alpha Alumni and Volunteer Corporation to assist in AVC operations, including our SPE@CONN newsletter and other communications, governance fees and insurance.

Richard Baranowski '65
Robert Flynn '82
William Marvin '82
Michael Antonini '84
Chip Hunziker '84
Ronald Nault '84
Marshall Senk '85

Robert Stickle '85
Lane Driscoll '86
Eugene Choung '88
Shane Bartling '90

*Recurring gift

His granddaughter Emma shares, "He was one of the few people that initially supported my choice to join a sorority and I think that is largely due to his experience in Greek life. I intend to wear his badge to honor both him and the fraternity. Thank you for being a part of his college experience and his life."

Richard P. Cramer '89 entered Chapter Eternal on December 8, 2019, in Coral Springs, Fla. Originally from Hamden, Rich joined CT Alpha in spring 1986. He graduated with a B.S. in mechanical and materials engineering in 1989 and earned his MBA from UConn in 1994.

Rich started his career at The Stanley Works, where he held positions of increasing responsibility, ending with plant operations manager in Puebla and Chihuahua, Mexico. His long career in manufacturing management took him to Presto ECOA Lifts, and, after moving to the Ft. Lauderdale area in 2001, he became vice president of global operations at ACS Group.

Then he became CEO of his own consulting company, CrAmerica Industries and Consulting, president of Campus Debt Solutions, and VP revenue operations for Selas Technologies.

Rich enjoyed outdoor activities, roller coasters and theme parks, and great food with friends. In the past few years, Rich struggled with recovery from alcohol and substance addiction. He is survived by his parents, his two brothers, eight children (four with first wife, Kim, and four stepchildren with second wife, Kary Ann), and many friends.

It is with deep sadness we report that **Nicholas F. Pape III '90** entered Chapter Eternal from complications due to COVID-19 infection on March 27, 2020.

Nick joined CT Alpha in spring 1987 and was the brotherhood development coordinator in fall 1989, before graduating with a degree in business administration and marketing. Nick

WHERE DO YOUR DONATIONS GO? Learn How You Can Make an Impact on CT Alpha

Connecticut Alpha's alumni program, our SPE@CONN publications, and ability to support our undergraduate chapter are made possible through the generous support of alumni and friends like you. Funds raised through Alumni Operations are separate from scholarship donations and are used for undergraduate chapter support and AVC operations.

Items financed through Alumni Operations include:

- Publishing the newsletter and other communications
- Maintaining address files
- Preserving chapter memorabilia for Husky Village
- Supporting undergraduate retreats and national leadership events
- Covering governance costs (fees and insurance)

The suggested annual amount for alumni operations support is \$50, but any contribution is appreciated.

Please make checks payable to "CT Alpha Alumni and Volunteer Corporation" and mail to:

Larry Carboni, AVC Treasurer
78 Summer Lane, North Haven, CT 06473
or Venmo: Edward-Kaplan-1

To contribute to a specific CT Alpha Scholarship Fund, visit www.classy.org/give/211419/#!/donation/checkout

Contributions to Alumni Operations or to any Connecticut Alpha Scholarship Fund will be recognized in upcoming newsletters.

served on the Connecticut Alpha Alumni Board and was board president throughout most of the 1990s. Professionally, Nick enjoyed a career in healthcare sales management, most recently as vice president of sales, global healthcare at SoftServe. Prior to that, Nick held executive sales roles at Alliance HealthCare Services, CSC, Gartner, and GE Healthcare, where he was director of sales at GE Performance Solutions.

Nick married the love of his life, Charisse, in October 1999. They lived in several different cities before eventually settling down in St. Petersburg, Fla.

May one of our Fraternity symbols, the red rose, now assume added significance as an expression of our enduring Brotherly Love for our departed brothers.



ALUMNI NEWS

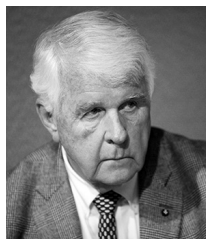
Tom Muchisky '56 reports, "I'm still living at age 85! I was backed into by a guy in a parking lot, but still getting around with a prosthetic leg and a walker! Still working from my home. Just received my 11th patent and finished a book, *Writings by a Realist*."

Giles Packer '60 retired as director of career services and cooperative education at Central Connecticut State University, and says he's "slowing down at age 81." Giles and his wife, Joan, live in Farmington. E-mail: gpacker386@comcast.net

Harry Parsons '60 retired after 34 years with Emhart Glass. Harry enjoys volunteering and part-time ushering basketball, hockey, and concerts at The Ohio State University's Schottenstein Center.

A retired pilot from both U.S. Air Force and United Airlines, **Lynden Wordell '62** and his wife, Martha, have celebrated 53 years of marriage. They have three children and five grandchildren, and split time between Pompano Beach, Fla., and New Jersey. E-mail: lwordell@comcast.net

Gerald Murchie '63 retired as a systems consultant with Digital Equipment Corp. Jerry and his wife, Terry, live in Deerfield Beach, Fla., and have two daughters. germurchie@aol.com



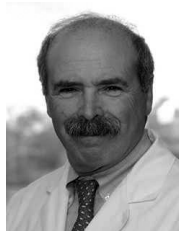
As Vice Chairman for the State of Connecticut Sentencing Commission, **John Santa '64** is continuing work started in 1998 as founder and chairman of the Malta Justice Initiative

advocating for Criminal Justice Reform. Retired as CEO of Santa Energy Corporation, John serves on a number of corporate boards and is currently board chairman at H.J. Baker & Bro, LLC, a world scale sulphur trader with global offices. John and his wife, Irene, have two children and two grandchildren. E-mail: jsanta@johnsanta.com

Harry Bissinger '67 served two tours in Vietnam and was awarded two Distinguished Flying crosses and 16 Air Medals for valor in a combat zone. He continued his flying career with Eastern Airline and United Airlines, retiring as captain in 2006. A

financial advisor, Harry enjoys travel, playing racquetball, singing in a men's barbershop chorus, and spending time with grandkids.

Michael Urban '71 earned his M.D. at Temple University School of Medicine. Prior to his anesthesia residency at Yale, he completed a Ph.D. in molecular biology and post-doctoral training at the Fox Chase Cancer Center. Specializing in cardiac anesthesia and critical care, Michael is medical director of the Post Anesthesia Care Unit at Hospital for Special Surgery in New York City. Michael and Brook have two children and spend summers on Martha's Vineyard. E-mail: bushes58@gmail.com



Our first chapter president when we returned to campus in 1980, **Wade Medlar '81** attended his first Grand Chapter Conclave in 2013, but has not missed one since! Regional manager for Quikrete Corporation, Wade and his wife, Elaine, live outside Kansas City. Three children and four grandchildren nearby, Wade reports his youngest daughter is getting married in January 2021.

Ralph Genova '81 joined CT Alpha in 1980, and his brother, **Robert Genova '85**, did the same in 1983. Ralph is national sales manager for National Lighting in the greater Atlanta region. E-mail: ralphgenova@yahoo.com

Salvatore Tassone '82 has been producing commercials and directing short films as president and CEO of Zen Master Films. Sal lives in Topanga, Calif. E-mail: zenmasterfilms@me.com

Tom Ference '83 still spends an enormous amount of time outdoors in Vermont, snowshoeing, skiing, snowboarding, and doing trail work. Tom is self-employed as a registered Vermont patent agent. E-mail: tomcatofvt@aol.com

Jay Kogan '83 is senior vice president of legal affairs at DC Entertainment. Now living in Los Angeles, Jay gets back to Connecticut often, and sends a great comics prize package to the annual CT Alpha Golf Tournament. Thank you for your consistent support over the years, Jay! E-mail: jay.kogan@dcenterainment.com

Michael Antonini '84 recently celebrated 35 years as a licensed insurance broker and currently focuses strictly on Medicare insurance. Mike and his wife, Amy, have two children, Johnny and Frankie. "Animal" took the stage at the SigEp Winter Social with **Jeff "Ryder" Russek '85** for a rousing rendition of "I Know You Rider" and "Althea." E-mail: mwantonini@yahoo.com

With over three decades of experience in engineering, **Ronald Nault '84**, is currently president of Luchs Consulting Engineers. Ron and Joanne live in Guilford and recently celebrated their 30th anniversary. They have four children; their youngest, Christina, entered UConn as a freshman in 2018. E-mail: nault@luchs.com

Marshall Senk '85 lives in Corona del Mar, Calif., with his wife, Amy, and children, Aaron and Jill (starting Duke University in the fall). Marshall is a managing director and senior research analyst at Compass Point Research and Trading, LLC. Marshall gets to New York regularly and would love to meet up. E-mail: misenk@gmail.com

After three and a half years in the London and Hong Kong offices (CAO of Asia, Europe, and head of office, respectively), **James Moreno '86** returned to Connecticut as managing director, head of human resources at Conning. Jim and his wife, Jane, (UConn '87) have three children, Joshua, Megan, and Christopher, and live in Farmington. E-mail: jim.moreno19@gmail.com

Barry Musco '86 has lived in New Hampshire for the past 26 years and worked for Fidelity Investments for the past 19, currently as director, program lead, HR transformation. He and Gail have been married for 28 years. Their oldest son, Jackson, is 23 and works in Boston, and their second son, Payton, is a sophomore at Becker College. E-mail: bmusco@comcast.net

Mike Baldassari '87 is a Tony® and Emmy® nominated lighting designer whose work has been seen live in more than 25 countries. A full list of credits and accomplishments in his field can be





found on his website www.mike-o-matic.com, but they include Broadway (*Cabaret*), films (*Ghostbusters*, *Nine*), TV (pre-tapes for *SNL* and *Seth Meyers*), Netflix (*David Letterman*, *Ray Romano*, *Pete Davidson*), and concerts (Phish at MSG New Year's Eve, Neil Young, and Alice in Chains). Mike, and his wife, Arlene, and their daughter, Sophie, live in Hoboken, N.J. and East Hampton, N.Y. E-mail: mb@mike-o-matic.com

Michael Sinatra '87 teaches language arts at Wilton High School. Completing his Ed.D. at Western Connecticut State University, Mike has served on the Regional School District 12 Board of Education representing Bridgewater for over a decade. He and his wife, Roberta, have two daughters. E-mail: msinatra5905@charter.net

Christopher Chadbourne '88 is account vice president at United Healthcare Retiree Solutions. Chris lives in West Newton, Mass., with his wife, Jean, and cautions us not to "apply mulch directly in contact with plants. Leave an inch or so of space next to plants to help prevent diseases flourishing from excessive humidity." E-mail: cjchadbourne@comcast.net

Christopher Kirk '88 earned his MBA at Penn State and spent over 10 years in consumer-packaged goods marketing, lost his job, took a year off, then started a 1-800-GOTJUNK franchise. Chris has now been in business for 15 years, employing 14 men out of Stratford and providing service throughout Fairfield and lower Westchester Counties. E-mail: cmk1966@hotmail.com

Craig W. Zettergren '88 owns three FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Centers in central Connecticut. Craig resides in Wallingford. E-mail: craig.zettergren@gmail.com

Erik Amend '89 is excited to share that he was married in 2018! Erik works for the Federal Aviation Administration in the office that handles unmanned aircraft systems (drones). He and Colleen, reside in Arlington, Va. E-mail: erik.amend@yahoo.com

Greg Mattesen '89 recently purchased his own business, Connecticut Metal and Tool, providing raw materials to manufacturers and machine shops, many of which supply the military and defense industries. Greg and Kelly live in Portland, and have one daughter, Amelia. E-mail: vwdriver1@sbcglobal.com

Matthew Gerritsen '90 is "raking leaves and cleaning gutters on Boston's South Shore." He is a practicing attorney and president and general counsel for Live Microsystems, administering day-to-day activities of the corporation and its subsidiaries. In 2013 he managed the legal process of the \$18 million sale of the company's mobile services business to OnMobile. "My oldest is a junior at BC High School, which makes me feel positively ancient." E-mail: magerrit68@gmail.com

Leaving his role at UConn as Neag Professor of Educational Leadership and Educational Psychology, **Jonathan Plucker '91**, became the Julian C. Stanley Professor of Talent Development at Johns Hopkins. A PhD in Educational Psychology from the University of Virginia, Jonathan studies creativity and talent development and just finished his ninth book on those subjects. He also serves as president of the National Association for Gifted Children. E-mail: japlucker@gmail.com



Eric Muschlitz '92 resides in Gurnee, Ill., with his wife, Sarah, and three children. Currently AVP at AT&T Consulting, he leads a professional services organization of 750 people performing network infrastructure projects for AT&T's clients. Eric has served SigEp for the last 17 years as AVC President for Illinois Xi at DePaul University, and was recognized as his region's SigEp Volunteer of the Year in 2019 at last year's Chicago CLA! Eric also plays guitar in the Blind Squirrel Blues Band. emuschlitz@gmail.com

Bill Devlin '93 is chief technology officer at ZOOM International with responsibilities for global product strategy, marketing and development. Bill and wife Claire split their time between Raleigh and Surf City, N.C. His heartfelt and powerful recollection written after the passing of **Nick Pape '91** has been shared widely throughout SigEp, both locally and nationally, and can be read here: https://blog.zoomint.com/blog/tribute2_nick

Jeff Peduto '95 is SVP, operations at Recruitics, LLC, a data-centric recruitment marketing agency. Jeff has three children and lives in Monroe, Conn.

Brian Weir '96 lives in Wallingford with wife Julie and their three children, He is an eastern U.S./Canada service engineer for Meritech. E-mail: brianweir16@comcast.net

Robert Phillips '98 is director of planning and community development for the Town of Southington, where he leads the Planning and Building Departments in land use development, preservation and revitalization. Rob earned his MS in Natural Resources in 2001 and MPA in 2012, both from UConn. Rob also coaches and runs the Mudhogs youth flag football programs with over 200 kids and 50 coaches. He and his wife, Kim, have two children and live in Farmington, but ski in Vermont and New Hampshire virtually every weekend in the winter.



Kevin Lenhart '05 married Betsy on October 10, 2015. He is an account manager with The Lehigh Valley IronPigs, the Triple-A affiliate of the Philadelphia Phillies. Kevin, his brother, Brian Lenhart, **Lehigh '04**, and their father were all married on the same roads they live on. E-mail: kevin.w.lenhart@gmail.com

After earning his juris doctor with honors from UConn Law in 2009, **Dallas Dodge '06** clerked with the U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut, and worked as an attorney in the Office of the Connecticut Speaker of the House and with the Insurance Association of Connecticut. Currently a partner at government relations consulting firm Roy and Leroy, Dallas recently retired from the West Hartford Town Council due to his appointment as that town's corporate counsel. He and his wife, Jessica, live with their two children in West Hartford.

Michael Alvarez '09 graduated with a degree in political science and government, earned his M.Ed. at Sacred Heart in 2013, and taught elementary school in New Haven until 2017, when he converted his service in the Army National Guard from reservist to active infantry officer. Caption Alvarez and his wife, Sarah, have one daughter and live in Guilford. E-mail: mcalvarezzz@gmail.com

Kenneth Petrella '10 recently returned from two years in Australia as senior field marketing manager with Boston Scientific (and lived with **Bryan Currie '10**, who was on a two-year assignment for Deloitte at the same time) and is now a product manager at their Marlborough Global Headquarters.



CARLSON LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

More than 300 chapter leaders and alumni volunteers from Maine to Virginia gathered in Parsippany, N.J., over the February 7-8 weekend to develop and implement the vision necessary to move their chapters forward. Connecticut Alpha was represented by 11 undergraduates and eight alumni and took home two awards recognizing performance and improvement in critical areas of chapter operations.

The Talent Power Award is presented to one chapter per region for excellence in recruiting the highest caliber of men on campus. In 2019, CT Alpha recruited nearly half its total chapter size of 90 members, recruiting club sports players, ROTC members, presidents of student organizations and academic high performers. Congratulations to VP Recruitment **Dean Zacchio '20** and his committee!

CT Alpha also brought home an Excelsior Award for improvement in overall chapter standards, specifically in greater accountability around grades, finances, and participation in the Balanced Man Program. Congratulations to Chaplain **Reilly Enos '20**, the Standards Committee, and Executive Board for their leadership in supporting a culture where members live in accordance with the values and expectations of the fraternity and their university.

Four recent CT Alpha alumni attended CLA to participate in the Philip Cox Volunteer Institute. **Ryan Jarnutowski '19**, **Danny Lubinitsky '19**, **Andre Wang '19**, and **Ryeed Khan '17** received training designed to prepare them to support our undergraduates and mentor chapter leadership for CT Alpha and others.



Cox Volunteer Institute participants: Danny Lubinitsky, Andre Wang, Ryan Jarnutowski, and Ryeed Khan.

Great to hear a wonderful CAMPUSPEAK presentation to UConn Greek life from David Stollman, Maryland '94 in October. Not only did he relate to college students, but his message was inspiring. Thank you for opening our eyes to the positive impact fraternity men can have in their communities. Buy In or Get Out!



CT Alpha Brotherhood Remains Strong Leaders in Academics and Community

It is fair to say that the semester ended in ways we could have never have imagined. Because the campus and our Husky Village house were closed, CT Alpha explored ways to use virtual alternatives to provide opportunities for members to connect. Chapter and committee meetings moved online, including Sigma meetings for our new members. Senior members worked to adapt our senior sendoff Hoop of Steel ritual so it could be held over Zoom and, while sad, was really nice to have good turnout and see our seniors supported.

We ended the semester with 88 members, including 16 graduating seniors. Fall 2019 recruitment brought in 14 members with 11 added this spring. Unfortunately, campus closure prevented us from acting on our goal of recruiting additional members throughout the semester, but we are continuing to identify potential new members, and our VP recruitment has hosted Zoom calls with potential candidates so we can be in a strong position once we return.

While most of the semester's activities were cancelled, the chapter was able to participate in February's HuskyThon, an 18-hour dance marathon to benefit the Connecticut Children's Medical Center. We also won the Hoops for HuskyThon benefit with Alpha Chi Omega and Alpha Kappa Lambda.

One of our primary goals as a chapter this semester was to recruit a faculty fellow as part of our application to become an accredited SigEp Learning Community. We have formed a faculty

outreach committee to focus on the search and consulted with our own alumni mentors, as well as alumni who are faculty at other institutions. We are developing a list of potential faculty fellows and working on our messaging and approach to faculty and are hoping to hit the ground running with this in the fall. If you or anyone you know is faculty or staff at UConn and could help, please let us know.



Dean Zacchio '20 with his parents at the Family BBQ on October 26.

Even with all the changes, there have been some positives, and one is seeing how our brothers have responded to the crisis, putting their own concerns (and health) on the line to help others. CT Alpha Chaplain **Zach Briggs '22**, a biomedical engineering major from Stafford Springs, has been putting in 12-hour shifts as a lead tech EMT with the Stafford Ambulance Association.

John Donnelly '23, a civil engineering major from Litchfield, serves with the Connecticut Air National Guard as Senior Airman, 103rd Civil Engineer Squadron structural specialist, and has spent much of the semester staging tents at specific hospitals throughout Connecticut for patient overflow due to COVID-19 and helped the CT Department of Public Health distribute personal protective equipment to healthcare facilities and individuals in need.

We could not be more proud of these brothers and their service in the community.

Fraternally,
Ross Bodington '21, Chapter President
bodingtonross@gmail.com



CT Alpha Winter 2020 Social

When the Sabbs Brothers Band (**Vinnie Piselli '86**, **Mike Gourdier '86**, and **Bill Gunn '88**) approached the AVC with an idea about hosting a social event to benefit chapter operations, we knew this had huge potential for a great time. With COVID-19-related distancing still a few weeks away, we had no idea this would be our last get together for a while!

Our first winter social was held on Sunday, February 23, at the beautiful Milford Arts Council (MAC) theater hall in the heart of downtown Milford, Conn. The MAC was packed with an elbow-rubbing family of well over 60 SigEp brothers and their sweethearts. The silent raffle table was loaded with CT Alpha memorabilia, and as the room filled with family, friends, and song, so did the buffet and drink tables with the generous contributions of so many brothers!

With special guests joining the stage with the Sabbs Brothers, it felt like old times. It did seem like time stopped when song chairman Bill led every voice in the hall in singing the SigEp sweetheart song to our most senior, and no doubt wiser, attendee, **Dolph Santello '60** and his wife, Sandi.



CT Alpha sings the Anthem

After all was said and done, nearly \$750 was raised to support the chapter. What a great time reconnecting with old friends and meeting some new ones! Thanks go out to all involved, especially to Michelle and **Vinnie Piselli '86**, Lisa and **Mike Gourdier '86**, **Ed Kaplan '88**, **Larry Carboni '86**, and Kim Langella for the amazing cake! As Vinnie said the next day, "I bet I'm not alone in saying even 24 hours later—I still can't stop smiling!"



(1) SABBS Brothers Mike Gourdier, Vinnie Piselli, Hubie Gunn (2) Brothers Soule, Gunn, Wivell, Marvin, Conners, and Madden (3) William "Mook" Marvin, Dave Estes, Harry Vlandis and some SABBS (4) Joe Kubic, Harry Vlandis (5) Kathy and Larry Carboni (6) Mike Antonini, Tom Davies, and Dave Estes (7) Sean Fallon, Tim Johnson, and Bill Jenkins (8) Jon Curry and Sean Fallon

2019 SigEp Open



Above: Top row: Ryan Jarnutowski '19, Ross Bodington '21, Harry Vlandis '83, Matt Epstein '21. Bottom row: Paul Langella '87, Brian Fitzgerald '83. Right: Steve Sommers '93, Matt Arciero '87, Dean Briglia '92, Neil Beesley '90

Connect with Us Online



Website
<https://connecticut.sigep.org>



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SigEp at UConn Alumni



UG Facebook
@SigEpUConn



Twitter
@sigep_uconn



Instagram
@uconnsigep



LinkedIn Group
CT Alpha Alumni of Sigma Phi Epsilon

CONGRATULATIONS to Our Newest Alumni

WINTER 2019 GRADUATES

Dylan Feldmeier '19

Oxford, Conn.

Molecular and Cell Biology and Ecology and Evolutionary Biology
Studying toward a Ph.D. in Applied Ecology and Conservation Biology

Ryan Jarnutowski '19

Monroe, Conn.

Kinesiology and Exercise Science
Working with UConn's Strength and Conditioning Department, training D1 athletes

Jacob Rudolph '19

Trumbull, Conn.

Political Science and Communication
Web Content Manager, Left of Center PAC, and studying piano and music production

SPRING 2020 GRADUATES

Van Augur '20

Northford, Conn.

Political Science, Master of Public Policy
Pursuing Juris Doctorate at Stanford Law School

Andrew Blackmore '20

Avon, Conn.

Finance
Private Equity Analyst at Hartford Investment Management Co (HIMCO)

John Brindisi '20

Trumbull, Conn.

Management and Engineering for Manufacturing
Junior Consultant at Roland Berger



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Accounting
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Audit Associate at Deloitte, New York

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Biomechanical and Medical Engineering
Working as an EMT

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Potomac, Md.

Looking for business field positions in Connecticut.

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Fairfield, Conn.

Chemical Engineering
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Pieter Siebesma '20

Tolland, Conn.

Management and Engineering for Manufacturing
Operations Leadership Program at Raytheon Technologies Corp

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Finance
Looking for finance/consulting positions

Dean Zacchio '20

Avon, Conn.

Communication
Looking for a position in advertising/marketing, preferably in Connecticut

Matthew Zikovich '20

Avon, Conn.

Finance
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