

May 2024



# ***Sig-Nificant News***

Monthly Newsletter - May 2024  
Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno

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## **FEATURED**

### ***DANA MCMANUS NAMED SIGNIFICANT SIG***

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

### ***BEST WINE TASTING YET!***

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/the-7th-annual-fresno-sigma-chi-wine-tasting-was-the-best-yet>

### ***LOCAL ALUMNI AWARDS CANDIDATES NEEDED***

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

### ***CUSD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL NAMED***

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events>

## ALUMNI DUES/DONATIONS

July 1 2023 to June 30, 2024

[www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership](http://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership)

### *President's Message*

*Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)*

**My Brothers,**

Another school semester comes to an end and we wrapped up our Spring Alumni Chapter dinner meetings. Exciting news with the announcement that Dana McManus (70-F) will be part of the 2024 Significant Sig class. Congratulations Brother McManus!

On Monday May 8, 2024, we held the Senior Ceremony during the Epsilon Eta formal meeting. 2024 Sigma Chi graduation stoles were presented to **Kyle MacFarland** (16-F), **Max Mahoney** (21-F), **Logan Mann** (20-F), **Matt Morales** (20-S), **Sam Silverman** (22-S) and former Consul **Trey Wood** (20-F).

We are exploring an event on Saturday June 28, 2024, to celebrate the Sigma Chi Founders Day. For those local, please reply to **Sam Mann** (91-S) [sammannsemail@gmail.com](mailto:sammannsemail@gmail.com) if you can help and with your recommendations.

Guard well the White Cross and may it be the guide  
those encountering life's obstacles!

**In Hoc Signo Vincas,**

**Brad**

**Brad S. Fischer (78-S)  
Significant Sig  
Cal State - Fresno 1981  
President**

**(559) 287-1392**

**[fresnosigs1952@gmail.com](mailto:fresnosigs1952@gmail.com)**

**<http://fresnosigsalumni.org>**

"I realized how important the values represented in our Ritual had been to my  
life and career ... the opportunity to share them with a group of new brothers  
each year, that has me more committed to Sigma Chi now than I have ever  
been." - *John Watson, BRITISH COLUMBIA 1963*

**[www.sigmachi.org/history](http://www.sigmachi.org/history)**

# **DANA MCMANUS NAMED SIGNIFICANT SIG**

**By Mike Patton, (63-S) Order of Constantine, Significant Sig & President  
of the Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment. [mike@rmpatton.com](mailto:mike@rmpatton.com)**



Brother **Dana McManus** (70-F) served as Quaestor of Epsilon Eta in 1971 while attending CSU-Fresno as a business major. He graduated in 1972 with a BS in Business Administration, completed an MBA in 1973 and subsequently earned an MS in Taxation from Golden State University.

While attending CSU-Fresno he worked for the family business, McManus Construction. He became a CPA and managed McManus Construction for several years. Dana became Owner and CEO of Amoroso Construction in 1995.

To read how Dana earned Significant Sig status, please click on the link below:

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/dana-mcmanus-named-significant-sig>

## ***Housing Corporation Update***

*Contributed by John Ballenger (65-S)*

I can't believe that our collegiate school year is over in a week. We've had a good spring!

I would like to give a huge shout out to several members of the active chapter who assisted us with the recent Scholarship

Wine Event:



Major kudos to Brothers Seth Karagozian, Tito Gomez, Caden Shows, William Ventura, Jake McCreedy, Michael Alexander, Harrison Alessini, and Julian Rocha who did an outstanding job of setting up and breaking down our event! Best ever!

Other actions going on include upcoming attic insulation and solar fans to help reduce heat buildup in the upstairs area and bedrooms. Upon inspection it was also noted that a couple of our AC ducts had separated and we were losing valuable cooling to the attic space.

Also, check out the photo of our trailer after spring cleaning. There's another one to follow! Reminder... we could use a couple of fresh faces on our HC board!!

In Hoc.

**John Ballinger ('65-S)**  
**Housing Corporation President**

## ***BEST WINE TASTING YET!***

The 7th Annual Fresno EX Wine Tasting Was the Best Yet. 94 brothers and guests gathered in the Ballinger's backyard for a perfect wine tasting.



L-R William Ventura (23-F), Jake McCreedy (23-F), Tito Gomez (22-F), Michael Alexander (23-F), Caden Shows (22-F) Consul 2024/25 and Seth Karagosian (22-F) Consul 2023/24.

Besides having fun and enjoying the brotherhood, the event earned \$40,711 for the Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment.

Click on the link below to read the details...

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/the-7th-annual-fresno-sigma-chi-wine-tasting-was-the-best-yet>

## ***1460 E BULLDOG LANE FOUR-STORY UPDATE***

Plans to construct a 4-story housing project on the lot east of the Chapter House have been interrupted thanks to a meeting by **Brady McGuinness** (86-F) with the property owner.

The owner now understands that the CC&Rs restrict height, ground floor minimum square footage, parking, setbacks, etc., which have not been incorporated into the project design. He is dedicated to student housing and has asked to meet with the other property owners to address design alternatives.

We continue to meet with other Greek Housing

representatives. At the May meeting representatives agreed to meet with the owner.

# ***LOCAL ALUMNI AWARDS COMMITTEE***

Our local Alumni Awards Committee is looking for recommendations for International and Fresno Chapter award candidates.

Fraternity Alumni Excellence Awards:

<https://sigmachi.secure-platform.com/a/page/Awards/Annual-Alumni-Excellence-Awards>

Fresno Chapter Alumni Awards:

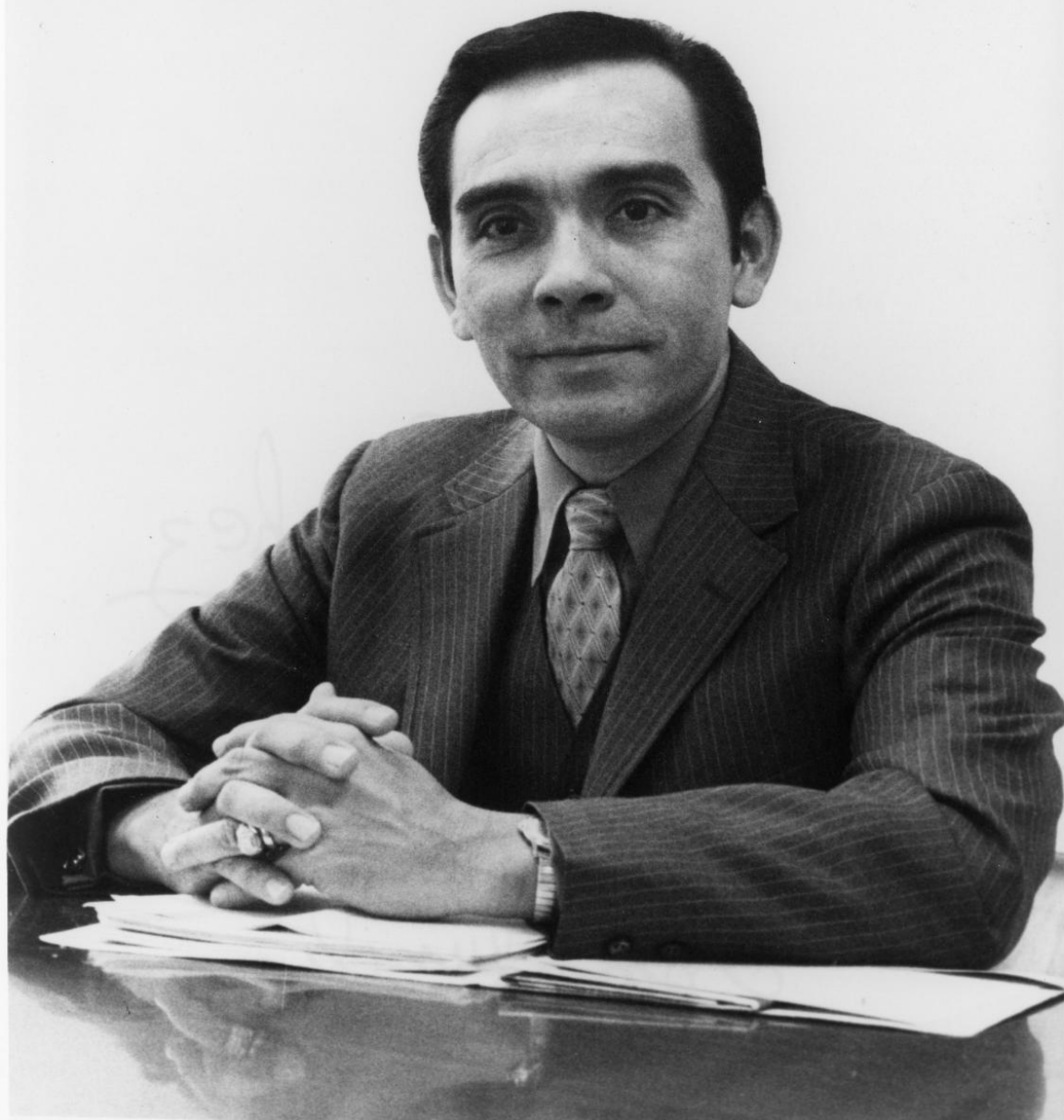
[www.fresnosigs1952.org](http://www.fresnosigs1952.org)

Send your recommendations and a brief statement of qualification to:

[fresnosigs1952@gmail.com](mailto:fresnosigs1952@gmail.com)

Members of the committee are: **Jerry Waters** (62-F), **Mike Patton** (63-S), **Dave Reuland** (69-F), **Mark Scott** (69-F), **Kyle Stephenson** (72-F) & **Brad Fischer** (78-S).

## ***PHILLIP VICTOR SANCHEZ INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL***



Clovis Unified School District board of directors unanimously named their new intermediate school the Phillip Victor Sanchez Intermediate School. Order of Constantine and Significant Sig **Phillip V. Sanchez** (52-T) was a Californian farmworker-turned-U.S. ambassador.

Before entering international politics, Brother Sanchez was chief administrative officer of Fresno County in the 1960s and a board member for Clovis



Unified School District.

Read online at:

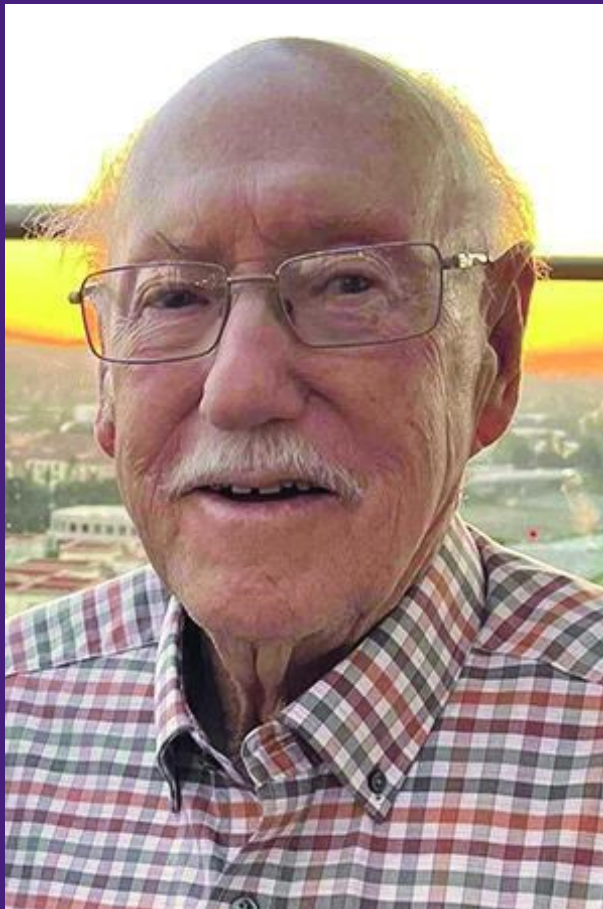
<https://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/education-lab/article288436781.html?tbref=hp>

*\*In the event of a Fresno Bee paywall, a document of the article has been created and can be accessed here:*

[\*Clovis Names New School After Phillip V. Sanchez\*](#)

# ***ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME*** **JOHN CARSON MITCHELL**

February 12, 1943 April 30, 2024



Brother John Carson Mitchell entered the Chapter Eternal on April 30, 2024.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Pamela Mitchell, his daughter Kimberly Mitchell Uhlman

(Jason Uhlman), his son Bradley Mitchell (Jennifer Mitchell), his five grandchildren Logan Uhlman, Sophie Mitchell, Bella Mitchell, Lyra Uhlman, Carson Mitchell, and his sister Margaret Mitchell Johansen.

Read more at:

[Legacy.com - John Carson Mitchell](https://www.legacy.com/JohnCarsonMitchell)



WHITE ROSE SCHOLARSHIP FUND:  
PAYABLE TO THE FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
2625 E MATOIAN WAY M/S SH124  
FRESNO CA 93740-8000

## **2022-23 DUES & DONATIONS**

Contributed by Mark Scott (69-F)

*Dues are \$50.00 and donations for 07/01/23 to 06/30/24 are being accepted.*

*Online payments can be accepted today at:*

[www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership](http://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership)

*Checks payable to the Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno can be mailed to PO Box 7803, Fresno, CA 93747-7803.*

[Download 2023-2024 Dues Appeal Form Here](#)

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**Note: This chart shows the names of all Brothers who have paid dues received during the last 12 months, as of April 20, 2024.**

## 1950's

Homer Potts 52-T; *Bob Buckenberger*, Butch Charlebois, **Tony Flores**\*\*\*, **Jim Green**\*\*\*, Rodger Jensen\*\*\*, Byron Justus, Joe Monachello, Dante Simi\*\*\*, *Frank Small*\*, Ron Weiner, **Leo Wilson**\*, & Norm Winslow.

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## 1960's

Mike Alaga, Alex Audelo, John Ballinger\*\*\*, Dave Barnes, Don Beauregard, Tom Beggs, Dale Blickenstaff, John Borasi, *Richard Bratz*, Lindsay Brehm, Marv Broderson, Jim Calandra, Larry Calvino\*@, *Joe Chappell*, Steve Crawford, Rob Crossland, Larry Dorsey, **Tom Downing**^\*\*\*, Michael Elliott, Elwood Enns, John Garcia, Dexter Hardcastle, **Colin Kelly**\*\*\*, Bob Koligian\*, *Ron LaRocca*, Jeff Linder, *John Marinovich*\*\* , **Bill Matesso**, Dan Mueller, Ed Musolff\*, Rick Nelson\*, Ron Nelson, Jim Norquist, Dan O'Brien, *Steve Pallios*, **Mike Patton**\*\*\*@, Wes Qualls\*\*, *Art Renney*, **Dave Reuland**, Don Ruiz, Dennis Schmal, Mark Scott@\*\*\*, Brian Stout, Jack Tacchino, James Tatum, **Tim Vaux**\*\*\*, Jerry Waters^\*\*\*, Don Witzansky.

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## 1970's

David Arakelian\*\*, *Dick Arakelian*, Bill Arnold\*\*\*, Steve Bachand, Amos Bagdasarian, Pat Beggs, Bruce Berger, *Norm Bishop*, Peter Britton, *Mike Chin*, Gerald Chooljian, Steve Coleman, Mike Crowley, Mark Ducas, Kenny Duncan, Russ Efird\*\*, Bruce Ekmanian\*\*, Ken Esraelian\*, **Brad Fischer**, **Jon Gallinetti**\*\*\*, **Mike Gallo**\*\*\*, Bob Garavello,

Rodney Gavroian, Tony Guerriero, Doug Haas, Rob Hauser\*, Wade Hedrick, *Marv Helon\**, Jon Hollenbeck, Darryl Horowitz, *Jim Hutton\**, Larry Johnson, Kenny Jelacich\*, Dave Kandarian, *Rich Klopstein*, Tom Kusaka, Tom Licouris, *Michael Lynch\**, *George Matoian*, *Mark Pasculli*, Paul Porter, Bruce Quan, **Bill Robinson**, Don Ruiz, Mark Sanchez\*\*\*, Jim Sandrini, Glenn Scott, **Bill Smittcamp**\*\*\*, Bob Soligian\*\*, Larry Spikes, Kyle Stephenson, Serge Tomassian, Gary Trembley, Walt Trembley, Bill Van Skike, Chris Visser\*\*\*, Steve Vucovich, Kirk Wethey, Kevin Wren, Richard Wright, Wayne Yamagiwa & *Chris Yocum*.

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## 1980's

Joel Armstrong, Richard Bambauer, Randy Garabedian, Marc Graham, Mike Green, Alan Hansen, T.A. Heckel, John Hughes, Sergio Ilic, *Marc Jason*, Jeff Little, Brian Lockhart, Chris Morse, Mike Price, Mike Riggs, Matthew Rowan, Mike Rush, Doug Sampson & Darin Tockey.

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## 1990's

Rob Bell, Kenneth Eynaud, David Folly, Donny Gill, *Nathan Labiak*, Preet Purewal & Jason Weiner.

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## 2000's

Chad Calhoun, Matt Helon, & Frank Puccio.

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## 2010's

Mike Colgate, Tyler Davies, Dusty Lacefield, Donnie Mayjoffo & Scott Moore.

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Welcome our one-year complimentary membership, Fresno State Class of 2023 – Trent Benevedes, Christian Cruz, Travis Hansen, Tyler Hansen, Bassel Khoury, Luke Karagozian, Adam Peters, Seth Preheim, Victor Rosas, Christopher Sousa, Matthew Tatum & Jordan Vasquez.

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**Order of Constantine, Significant Sig**  
**Headquarters Award**

*Consuls who served Epsilon Eta*

+ Chapter Eternal

\* Plus \$0-\$50, donation Alumni Chapter

\*\*Plus \$51 -\$150 donation Alumni Chapter

\*\*\*Plus \$151 or more donation Alumni Chapter

^ Donation Endowment Fund or White Rose Memorial Scholarship

@ Donation to the Housing Corporation

## **COACH VANCE WALBERG VISITS ALUMNI CHAPTER**



Thank you to our loyal brothers who join us month after month for our alumni meetings. This one was amazing with Coach Walberg and many brothers

attending for the first time or were returning.

It was great to welcome back **Bob Buckenberger** (56-S) and visiting his Clovis home, Significant Sig **Jon Gallinetti** (70-F) from Virginia. Seven Lights **Sam Mann** (91-S) joined 2024 graduate **Logan Mann** (20-F). We were delighted to have our Madera contingent join us, **Davinder Mahil** (99-S), **Navi Ponni** (99-S), **Bill Purewal** (96-S) & **Preet Purewal** (99-S).

We are blessed that Coach Walberg is leading the Fresno State Bulldog Basketball program. The players that join him and Assistant Coach John Welch will receive some the highest caliber coaching in the country. Thank you to **Larry Spikes** (75-F) for securing the coach as our May guest speaker. A Sigma Tau/Sigma Chi 100 Year medallion was presented to the coach.

He shared the challenges of the NIL he is facing in recruiting. It is astonishing “bidding” that is occurring. Sometimes we win with our offer and other times the challenger brings more money to the table. Coach Walberg offered to come back in the Fall and bring coach Welch who can talk about the Tarkanian era at Fresno State.

Significant Sig **Dante Simi** (58-F) brought his grandson **Travis Hansen** (20-S) who attended for the first time since he graduated. **Elwood Enns** (60-F) attended for the first time in a long time. Others who we do not see as often were **David Arakelian** (72-F) from Turlock, **Jerry Choolijian** (73-F), **Jeff Linder** (65-F) **Chris Visser** (71-F), and **Don Witzansky** (67-S)

# SAVE THE DATE

## 2024 Alumni Chapter Dinner Meetings

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

No-host cocktails followed by dinner.

Thursday, August 15, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Visit our events calendar for other upcoming activities:

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events>

## **PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED FROM EPSILON ETA COLLECTION AT FRESNO STATE**

### ***Memorial Project to honor Phillip V. Sanchez (52-T)***

The final phase has begun for the manufacture and installation of the memorial bridge sign on Highway 41 at Alluvial Avenue to honor Order of Constantine, Significant Sig, first Epsilon Eta Consul, Ambassador Phillip V Sanchez (52-T).

## **Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez MEMORIAL BRIDGE**

Donations over \$10,000 were received from Headquarters Award recipients and others to make

this memorial possible. Also, the largest donor was the Amb. Sanchez Charter High School II in Fresno and operated by Learn4Life.

Thank you to the following donors: **Rodger Jensen** (52-T); Order of Constantine & Significant Sig **Tony Flores** (56-S); Order of Constantine & Significant Sig **Mike Patton** (63-S); Order of Constantine **Tom Downing** (62-F); Significant Sig **Colin Kelly** (62-F); Significant Sig **Jim Green** (58-S); Significant Sig **Tim Vaux** (66-F); Significant Sig **Jon Gallinetti** (70-F); Significant Sig **Bill Smittcamp** (73-S); Significant Sig **Brad Fischer** (78-S); Seven Lights Alumni Award **Jerry Waters** (62-F); William T Bringham House Corporation Officer Award **John Ballinger** (65-S); **Mark Sanchez** (70-F), Significant Sig **Mike Gallo** (70-F) and Alumni Chapter Treasurer **Mark Scott** (69-F).

### **Epsilon Eta Collection at Fresno State**

We have recharged our efforts to build a collection of Sigma Chi Epsilon Eta materials at the Special Collections Department at the Fresno State Library. The following is a partial list of items:

Three Sigma Tau pledge paddles (Order of Constantine **Oran McNeil** 52-T & **Dick Beers** 52-T)

Archive items from Gene Andrade 56-F, Order of Constantine Bill Matesso 63-F, Order of Constantine Chuck Sant'Agata 56-S and Order of Constantine Glenn Sheets 52-T

First Outstanding Pledge Award paddle 1952-1961 (donor Warren Williams 61-S donor and last brother listed)

70th Epsilon Eta & 100th Sigma Tau Anniversary



items

Your Alumni Chapter donated on your behalf to cover the cost of archival storage containers and fees for these items. A fund has been established at the Fresno State Foundation for the Sigma Chi Collection at the Fresno State Library. You can donate at:

<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1692/lg23/form.aspx?sid=1692&gid=2&pgid=2469&cid=4681&amount=>

Select University Library and note Sigma Chi Collection

## ***ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME***

***07/01/2023- 06/30/2024***

***(Click the Name with links for Obituary Information)***

**\*John C. Mitchell** (62-F) - entered the Chapter Eternal on April 30, 2024

**Steven Miller, MD** (65-S) March 1, 2024  
*Lambda Chapter, University of Indiana, Bloomington*

**Doug Munday** (65-F) January 13, 2024

**Harvey Casey** (57-S) December 21, 2023

**John Hovannisian** (73-F) December 6, 2023

**Chris Yocum** (74-S) November 27, 2023

**Donald Michael Davis** (65-F) August 7, 2023

**Gary Zarounian** (75-S) July 12, 2023

**Paul Hokokian** (73-S) June 27, 2023

**Robert D. Smith** (54-F) June 21, 2023

**Bryce Carey** (57-S) February 4, 2023

**Edward "Steve" Zucker** (56-S) 2023

**Joe G Farias** (70-F) March 2, 2021

Rich Church (62-S) January 14, 2020

Gary R. Millier (75-S) February 1, 2018

Jeffrey Perenon (66-F) August 3, 2018

Don Berg (67-F) December 10, 2017

Jim Irick (68-F) April 5, 2016

Bob Kerley (61-S) July 2016



\* Notes those who were added this month.

*Thank you to Brother Patton for researching archives and located brothers who entered the Chapter Eternal in the past.*

**WHITE ROSE SCHOLARSHIP FUND:  
PAYABLE TO THE FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION  
2625 E MATOIAN WAY M/S SH124  
FRESNO CA 93740-8000**

## ***NEWSLETTER ARCHIVE***

**FACEBOOK – SIGMA CHI ALUMNI – FRESNO STATE**

**<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/newsletter-archive>**

## ***SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS***

**FACEBOOK – SIGMA CHI ALUMNI – FRESNO STATE**

**<https://www.facebook.com/FresnoStateSigmaChi>**

**LINKEDIN – FRESNO STATE SIGMA CHI PROFESSIONAL NETWORK**

**<https://linkedin.com/groups/13688055>**

***SIGMA CHI REACH OUT App***

Sigma Chi has created a mobile device App for Active and Alumni members. Topics include Get Help Now; Law Enforcement & First Responders; Alcohol and Drugs; Prevention Education and many others. Look in your mobile device store for the following App.



For those iPhone users:

<https://apps.apple.com/us/app/sigma-chi-reach-out/id1472427192>

## ***Sigma Chi Scholarship & House Corporation Donations***

You can now make scholarship donations using our website.

<https://fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership>

## ***Sigma Chi's Highest Honor***

Visit our website to view the list of honorees of the Order of Constantine, Significant Sig and Seven Lights Alumni Award.

<https://fresnosigsalumni.org>





Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter of Fresno | P.O. Box 7803 | Fresno, CA 93727 US

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