

June 2024



Sigma Chi

FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER

SIG-NIFICANT NEWS

FEATURED

JOHN BALLINGER
2024 SEVEN LIGHTS ALUMNI AWARD
SEE ARTICLE BELOW

FRESNO STATE TOP DOG
CAROL SCOTT
SEE ARTICLE BELOW

1972 PHOTO SCRAPBOOKS
PRESERVED
SEE ARTICLE BELOW

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events>

ALUMNI DUES/DONATIONS
July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024
www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership

**JOHN WAYNE BIRTHPLACE AND
MUSEUM**

President's Message

Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)

My Brothers,

Another reason to celebrate, we have another local Sig who has achieved recognition by the International Fraternity. Congratulations to John Ballinger (65-S), a 2024 Seven Lights Alumni Award honoree. We will present John with this distinguished award at one of our fall alumni dinner meetings.

Thank you to those of you for your dues and donations this past fiscal year. Why support your Alumni Chapter? An example of return on your investment was our funding able to send four of our Active Chapter leaders to the Krach Transformational Leaders Workshop from August 1 to August 3 at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Continue to put the White Cross of Sigma Chi to good use in both your personal and professional life. It will be your guide to success and you will find brotherhood with strong arms around you!

In Hoc Signo Vincas,

Brad

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

(559) 287-1392

fresnosigs1952@gmail.com
<http://fresnosigsalumni.org>

"Nothing so much tends to promote friendship as the free and mutual interchanging of one's thoughts, hopes and fears with one in whom we can confide." **Franklin Howard Scobey, Founder**

www.sigmachi.org/history

JOHN BALLINGER

2024 SEVEN LIGHTS

ALUMNI AWARD HONOREE

By *Brad Fischer, (78-S) Significant Sig & President, Fresno Alumni Chapter*
bsfischer937@gmail.com



The Seven Lights Alumni Award is presented by the Sigma Chi Fraternity to alumni members who have demonstrated significant service to the Fraternity over a ten-year period. Currently only twenty-four can be awarded annually. Epsilon Eta now has six Seven Lights alumni with the announcement of our 2024 honoree **John Ballinger (65-S)**.

John has displayed positive participation and impact on our Active Chapter and support to the Alumni Chapter. He has been an active participant in our

local Fresno Alumni Chapter activities since 2008 and an annual payer of dues. His leadership since 2015 as President of the Housing Corporation has achieved many milestones that provide a safe and healthy environment for our Active Chapter.

They include the highly acclaimed solar installation, HVAC replacement, remodel of bathrooms and showers, exterior lighting and security cameras, window replacements, front yard renovations and HVAC efficiency. In 2019 John was the recipient of the headquarters William T Bringham Outstanding Corporate Officer Award.

As a result of his leadership, in 2023 and 2024 a Gold rating was awarded to the House Corporation by RMF. This success was achieved while collaborating with the Active Chapter for fairness in lease arrangements and housing standards. Also, he is a strong advocate for firm alcohol policy in the House. John strives to maintain sound financial policies to insure a balanced budget.

Also, John serves or served on the 70th Epsilon Eta Anniversary Committee, Alumni Awards Committee, Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment Committee, and annual Wine Tasting Committee. He also provides valued updates to our alumni brothers at our monthly dinner meetings.

Please join me in recognizing John for this high level of achievement.

***Brothers Heckel and Ilic
Create World's Most Fun Dinner***

For the silent auction at this April's Fresno Sigma Chi wine tasting, T.A. Heckel (82-F) and Sergio Ilic

(87-F) offered an “Alfresco Tapas Dinner and Wine Extravaganza.” It was so popular they consented to do a “double” and offered to do two dinners which raised a total of \$12,500 for our Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment setting the record for an auction item. Our Endowment this year will give \$52,000 for scholarships to our undergraduate brothers at Fresno State, and ultimately will offer \$120,000 annually. To see the menu for the June 22 dinner click [here](#):



Fascinated watching Chef Sergio

Enjoying the June 22 wine dinner included John Ballinger (65-S) and spouse Susan, Larry Calvino and spouse Sue, and Mike Patton (63-S) and spouse Ilen. It was 108° that day, but having infinite wisdom, Sergio rented the industrial evaporative cooler seen in the background.



Then the party really got fun

Sergio and spouse Becky, both originally from Chile, are experts at grilling small bites at their outdoor kitchen while T.A. is probably our fraternity's most knowledgeable brother about fine wines. There were 21 items on the menu with many paired with the 13 special wines selected by T.A. all from his wine cellar. Needless to say, a good time was had by all.



Delicious, done-to-perfection fillet bites

1972 EPSILON ETA PHOTO SCRAPBOOKS

By Brad Fischer, (78-S)
Significant Sig & President, Fresno Alumni Chapter
bsfischer937@gmail.com

Thank you to **Mike Chin** (71-F) who assembled a group of alumni to help identify unnamed people in the Spring and Fall 1972 scrapbooks. These two bound exhibits and one from Spring 1973 will be entered into the Sigma Chi Collection at the Fresno State Library.

See the article below on that collection. Your support to the collection is appreciated and will help offset the costs of archiving our items in the Library's Special Collection department. As an example, processing and creation of a library file is \$255 per linear foot.

If you have or know of the existence of other scrapbooks that should be added to collection, then please contact me at (559) 287-1392 or bsfischer937@gmail.com



***FRESNO STATE TOP DOG
CAROL SCOTT***

*By Mike Patton, (63-S) Order of Constantine, Significant Sig
& President of the Fresno Sigma Chi*



Congratulations to Carol Scott, spouse of **Mark Scott** (69-F) for her 2024 Fresno State Top Dog award that was announced on July 2nd.

"College of Health and Human Services:
Carol E. Scott (1973, '76), owner, Carol Scott Consulting. Scott is a prominent leader in the children's museum profession. Scott has been instrumental in the development of several museums and nonprofit groups across the country, including the Children's Museum of the Upstate South Carolina and most recently the Modesto Children's Museum."

Link to the 2024 Top Dog honorees:

<https://www.fresnostatenews.com/2024/07/02/fresno-state-alumni-association-announces-2024-top-dog-honorees>

VINES AND ROSES WEEKEND 2024

Join Sigma Chi for an exclusive weekend before the Napa Valley harvest season! Brotherhood, wine tasting, live music, amazing food and an iconic Gala in the In Hoc Napa Valley wine cave!



AUGUST 22-24, 2024 IN NAPA VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

From Napa to Calistoga, an exclusive weekend of wine and brotherhood await...

From August 22 to 24, 2024, Sigma Chi International Fraternity will welcome brothers, sweethearts and friends from across North America for a magical weekend in scenic Napa Valley, California.

Sigma Chi Vines & Roses Weekend will provide an opportunity for alumni, sweethearts and guests to reconnect, enjoy the bonds of brotherhood and enjoy the beauty from Napa to Calistoga.

The weekend will be highlighted by the In Hoc Napa Valley Vines & Roses Gala, held exclusively within the wine cave at Calistoga's Fairwinds Estate Winery — home to the Fraternity's official wine

partner In Hoc Napa Valley.

Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to participate in additional engagement opportunities such as wine tastings exclusive to Sigma Chi guests and more.

[CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS OR LEARN MORE](#)



Sigma Chi J. Dwight Peterson International Headquarters
1714 Hinman Avenue | Evanston, IL 60201

2024-2025 DUES & DONATIONS

Contributed by Mark Scott (69-F)

Dues are \$50.00 and donations for 07/01/24 to 06/30/25 are being accepted.

Online payments can be accepted today at:

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.

Note: Dues Appeal Form for 2024-2025 is now available:

Download 2024-2025 Dues Appeal Form Here

Note: This chart shows the names of all Brothers

who have paid dues received during the last 12 months, as of July 12, 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.

1960's

Mike Alaga, 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*** , Dan Mueller, 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, James Tatum, **Tim Vaux*****, Jerry Waters^***, Don Witzansky.

1970's

David Arakelian** , *Dick Arakelian*, Bill Arnold***, Steve Bachand, Amos Bagdasarian, Bruce Berger, Peter Britton, *Mike Chin*, Gerald Chooljian, Steve Coleman, Mike Crowley, Mark Ducas, Kenny Duncan, Russ Efird** , Ken Esraelian* , **Brad**

Fischer, **Jon Gallinetti*****, **Mike Gallo*****, Bob Garavello, 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.

1980's

Greg Anderson, 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, Doug Sampson & Darin Tockey.

1990's

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

2000's

Chad Calhoun, Matt Helon, & Frank Puccio.

2010's

Mike Colgate, Tyler Davies, Dusty Lacefield, Donnie

Mayjoffo & Scott Moore.

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.

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

1460 E. BULLDOG LANE
4 STORY BUILDING

UPDATE

The owner plans to conform to the CC&Rs that restrict height, ground floor minimum square footage, parking, setbacks, etc. He will restrict the height to two stories. We are waiting for the owner to present his revised plans.

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

Thursday, September 19, 2024
6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting
Speaker: Kent Willis, VP Student Affairs

Thursday, October 17, 2024
6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Visit our events calendar for other upcoming activities:

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

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

Send your recommendations and a brief statement of qualification to:

fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

JOHN WAYNE BIRTHPLACE AND MUSEUM

By Jim Shields, Founder William Lewis Lockwood Level Donor

THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI



Photo – THE MAGAZINE OF SIGMA CHI / Summer Issue – 2009

The Magazine of Sigma Chi – Special Issue (2024)

The Magazine of Sigma Chi Special Issue 2024 publicized its *Monuments and Memorials Commission* voted the *John Wayne Birthplace Home and Museum* to be a Memorial Monument on the Sigma Chi trail of history.

April 14, 2022 our Southwest Florida alumni chapters submitted application for the Birthplace Museum to be a Sigma Chi Memorial Monument. In less than ninety days we received unanimous approval.

They then launched an Alumni Chapter Project for Sigma Chi to own *in-perpetuity naming rights* at the Museum. Presently, there is *absolutely nothing* about Duke being a member of Sigma Chi at this well patronized Museum. The archives of photos and memorabilia are solely dedicated to the life and legend of John Wayne - *an authentic*

American Icon.

In hoc,

Jim Shields

Founder William Lewis Lockwood Level Donor

jimshields@fl-office.com

cell: (239) 877-1749

LEARN MORE: [John Wayne Birthplace Museum](#)

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

**HAPPY 75TH
ANNIVERSARY!**

**By Brad Fischer, (78-S) Significant Sig
& President of the Fresno Alumni Chapter.**

bsfischer937@gmail.com

Many of us learned in the Spring 2024 issue of The Magazine of Sigma Chi that our Fresno Chapter celebrated 75 years on May 18. The chapter was founded on May 18, 1949. The Fraternity Grand Council approved the chapter at its meeting on June 11, 1950.

Neither Headquarters or us have archives that tell the story of our founding and any details of the years that followed. We thank our founding brothers and the brothers of the Sigma Tau Fraternity to the establishment of our Epsilon Eta Chapter on February 23, 1952.

Arrangements for the installation have been under the direction of the Fresno Alumni Chapter:

EVERETT L. GOODALE, Beta Mu '35, General Chairman
BERT H. HUNTER, Beta Xi '16, President
ROBERT BOURNE, Alpha Omega '37, Secretary
CHALMERS LONES, Alpha Upsilon '36
ARTHUR DREW, Alpha Omega '10
PAUL STANIFORD, Alpha Omega '16
HON. GEORGE HUFFMAN, Beta Delta '35
JOSEPH JOY, Alpha Upsilon '37
COL. CLUDE KELLY, Beta Xi '13
ELIF RUE, Beta Zeta '13

From the Installation Program February 22 and 23, 1952

If you have any details of our early history, you can email us at
fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

1961 FALL PLEDGE CLASS - BAND OF BROTHERS

*By Jim Green, (58-S) Significant Sig
1231jimg@gmail.com*

A booklet was created of stories of the 1961 Fall Pledge Class of Epsilon Eta. The material was collected by their Magister, Significant Sig Jim Green and then distributed. We challenge other pledge classes to replicate this effort. A copy will be placed in the Epsilon Eta Collection at the Fresno State Library.

[Click Here for Band of Brother Booklet](#)

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)

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=>

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

07/01/2023- 06/30/2024

(Click the Name with links for Obituary Information)

[John C. Mitchell](#) (62-F) 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



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. Topic 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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