

September 2024



Sigma Chi

FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER

SIG-NIFICANT NEWS

FEATURED

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

RICK NELSON 65-S

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

JOHN CROOKHAM 90-S

SEE "ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME" SECTION BELOW

PREFERENCE DINNER

MONDAY SEPTMBER 30

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ

MEMORIAL SIGN UPDATE

Saturday October 5, 2024 at 1:30 pm

Pinedale Elementary School

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

SIGMA CHI SCHOLARSHIPS TOP

\$1.4 MILLION NEXT YEAR

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

ALUMNI DUES/DONATIONS

July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership

President's Message

Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)



Worthy Brothers,

We had an outstanding September dinner meeting. Dr. Kent Willis, VP Student Affairs and Enrollment Services spoke to the valuable contributions the alumni of Sigma Chi have made at Fresno State. He further discussed his commitment to the Greek System.



It was also a great turnout to celebrate the Semi-Century honor to Bob Morrow (74-F). Join us in October as we will hear from Garrett Klassy, the newly appointed Athletic Director at Fresno State.

Happy 104th Birthday on September 12 to Rodger Jensen, Sigma Tau, and founding Sigma Chi Epsilon Eta member (52-Tau)!

May the White Cross of Sigma Chi guide and protect those brothers who are experiencing health setbacks. May it also be with those family members whose loved one's life has sunset into the Chapter Eternal.

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>

"Membership in Sigma Chi has been one of the most important ingredients in shaping both my business and personal life. We are better equipped by our Sigma Chi membership to be responsible parts of our great country."

*George L. Ball, Chief Executive Officer,
Prudential Bache Securities; former President of E. F. Hutton*

www.sigmachi.org/history

PREFERENCE DINNER INVITATION

By Caleb Gretlien, F'23 Rush Chairman

Join the Epsilon Eta Active Chapter to welcome the Fall 2024 pledge class. No host dinner and program.

When: Monday September 30, 2024

Where: Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

Dinner: 6:30 pm PT

RSVP: Caleb Gretlein F'23 Rush Chairman

Text or Call (805) 931-1726

Thank you to our dues and donations support that will allow us to host our Fall 2024 pledge class brothers!

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

Richard "Rick" Nelson (65-S)



Rick Nelson (65-S) entered the Chapter Eternal on September 10, 2024. Rick was a loyal and dedicated board member of the House Corporation during amazing improvements in the Chapter House. He was a long-time and committed member of the alumni chapter and dues paying brother.

Rick was born on November 28, 1946, in Sacramento, CA, he dedicated his life to serving his country, family, and community. Rick graduated from Los Banos High School. He joined the Sigma Chi Fraternity in Spring 1965. He graduated from Fresno State in 1970 with a B.S. degree in Criminology.

He embarked on a notable career with the United States Secret Service in 1971, serving as a Special Agent until his retirement in 1997. Following his service, he continued his professional journey as a bank investigator at Citibank and retired from Citibank in 2008.

Rick was a devoted husband of 55 years to Charlotte Nelson, loving father to four children, and

a proud grandfather of eight.

More details can be read by clicking [here](#).



BOB MORROW (74-F)
SEMI CENTURY SIG



Bob Morrow, (74-F) received his Semi-Century Sig honor at our alumni dinner meeting on September 19, 2024. Brother Morrow has been in men's clothing business all of career and currently works at Joseph A. Banks.

The International Sigma Chi Fraternity proudly recognizes brothers as a Semi-Century Sig attesting to his membership of 50 years duration. The honored brother receives a certificate and 50-year lapel pin.

Active Chapter Update

Contributed by Harrison Alessini, Chapter Editor

The semester is now in full swing with Epsilon Eta preparing for fall rush which starts September 24! We have been enjoying football season and have loved having and visiting with our alumni who visit the house on game days.

Please join us for our preference dinner at The Old Spaghetti Factory on September 30 at 6:30 p.m. Please contact Brad Fischer for further details!

Epsilon Eta has already begun preparing for a flawless initiation tentatively scheduled for November 2nd at 8:00am. Please keep in mind this date is extremely tentative and could change as our pledge process continues.

We also recently added a new member to Epsilon Eta with transfer Luke Orlando (F-23 Eta) from the Eta chapter at Ole Miss! Last but not least, the Epsilon Eta active chapter would like to shoutout Steve Smith (F-80) and give a big thanks to him for all he has been doing for our chapter lately!

In Hoc Signo Vincas,
Harrison Alessini | Chapter Editor

FRESNO EX ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIPS TO EXCEED \$1.4M TOTAL

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

The Fresno EX Alumni scholarships will exceed \$1.4M in total next year. When we began the first

Fresno Sigma Chi Alumni endowment, the White Rose Memorial Scholarship Fund, in 1993, I doubt that we dreamed we would be so successful. I also doubt we thought it would take this long to make a material difference to our undergraduate chapter and our house corporation. But here it is:

Fresno Sigma Chi Scholarships Awarded Since 2018/2019

School Year	Number of Scholarships	Total Amount	Average CGPA
2018/2019	7	\$13,300	3.21
2019/2020	9	\$18,000	3.14
2020/2021	14	\$28,000	3.20
2021/2022	10	\$20,000	3.34
2022/2023	14	\$28,000	3.24
2023/2024	12	\$44,000	3.43
2024/2025	17	\$52,000	3.23
Totals	83	\$203,300	3.26

We estimate scholarships for the 2025/2026 school year will be about \$60,000 pushing the eight-year total to more than \$1.4M awarded to about 100 undergraduate brothers.

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:

Note: This chart shows the names of all Brothers who have paid dues received during the last 12 months, as of September 9, 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^***, Matt Wittkins**, Don Witzansky.

1970's

David Arakelian**, *Dick Arakelian*, Bill Arnold***, Steve Bachand, Amos Bagdasarian, 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, Tony Guerriero*, Doug Haas, Rob Hauser*, Wade Hedrick, *Marv Helon**, Jon Hollenbeck, Darryl Horowitt, *Jim Hutton**, Larry Johnson, Kenny Jelacich*, Dave Kandarian, *Rich Klopstein*, Tom Kusaka, Tom Licouris, Mike Lorenzen, *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, Don Heckman, John Hughes, Frank Huttlinger (S.D. St.), Sergio Ilic, *Marc Jason*, Jeff Little, Brian Lockhart, Chris Morse, Mike Price, Mike Riggs, Matthew Rowan, Doug Sampson & Darin Tockey.

1990's

Rob Bell, Brandon Cohrs, Kenneth Eynaud, David Folly, Donny Gill, *Nathan Labiak*,

Preet Purewal & Jason Weiner.

2000's

Chad Calhoun, Aaron Encinas, 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 2024 – Cooper Liles,
Max Mahoney, Logan Mann, Roman Wells
& Trey Wood.

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

SAVE THE DATE

2024 Alumni Chapter Dinner Meetings

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

No-host cocktails followed by dinner.

Thursday, October 17, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Speaker: Garrett Klassy

Newly-Appointed Athletic Director

Thursday, November 21, 2024
6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Significant Sig Presentation:
Dana McManus (70-F)

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**

LEO WILSON (55-F): A NEW BEAT ON LIFE

By Saint Agnes Medical Center



Twelve years ago, Leo Wilson, a Central Valley native and well-known home builder and developer, started experiencing fatigue and would wake up gasping for air at night. Over the years, it got to the point where he could hardly move.

In 2023, Leo's wife felt something was wrong and called for an ambulance. He was taken to Saint Agnes Medical Center's Emergency Department where doctors discovered he was suffering from heart failure and needed emergency surgery.

"I came in and went straight up to the floor and then they started putting stints in my mitral valves," Leo says.

He was suffering from [mitral valve regurgitation](#) – a condition in which the mitral valve does not close properly. In a healthy heart, blood moves from the heart to the body and then back to the heart. For patients with mitral regurgitation, the mitral valve, which acts as the door between the body and heart, does not function properly, disrupting the blood cycle.

Three days after surgery, Leo was walking and able to return home to continue his recovery. Two months after his procedure, he was able to start attending Saint Agnes' Cardiac Rehabilitation and Lifestyle Program. He quickly began to feel like himself again.

See the complete story:

<https://www.samc.com/newsroom/blog-articles/new-beat-life>

Hear the story in Leo's own words :

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Bj5l8GelX8>

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

Mail your check to:

Fresno State Foundation

Fresno State Advancement Services

5244 N Jackson Ave., KC45, Fresno CA 93740-8023.

Note: University Library/Sigma Chi Collection

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME

07/01/2024- 06/30/2025

Edward "Ed" Boswell (58-F) July 20, 2024

James "Jim" Calandra (60-S) July 22, 2024

(*) **Gene Goltz** (63-F) February 9, 2021

(*) **Rick Nelson** (65-S) September 10, 2024

(*) **John Crookham** (90-S) September 9, 2024

J. David "Dave" Jensen, Jr. (67-S) July 20, 2024

(*) Notes those added this month.

Names underlined are links to obituaries on memorial sites



**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>





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