

October 2024



Sigma Chi

FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER

SIG-NIFICANT NEWS



FEATURED

**· AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ
SIGN UNVEILED**

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

OCTOBER DINNER SUCCESS

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

THE MAKING OF EPSILON ETA

100 YEARS

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

**CHAPTER INITIATION
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024**

SEE SAVE THE DATE BELOW

2024-2025 SCHOLARSHIPS

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)

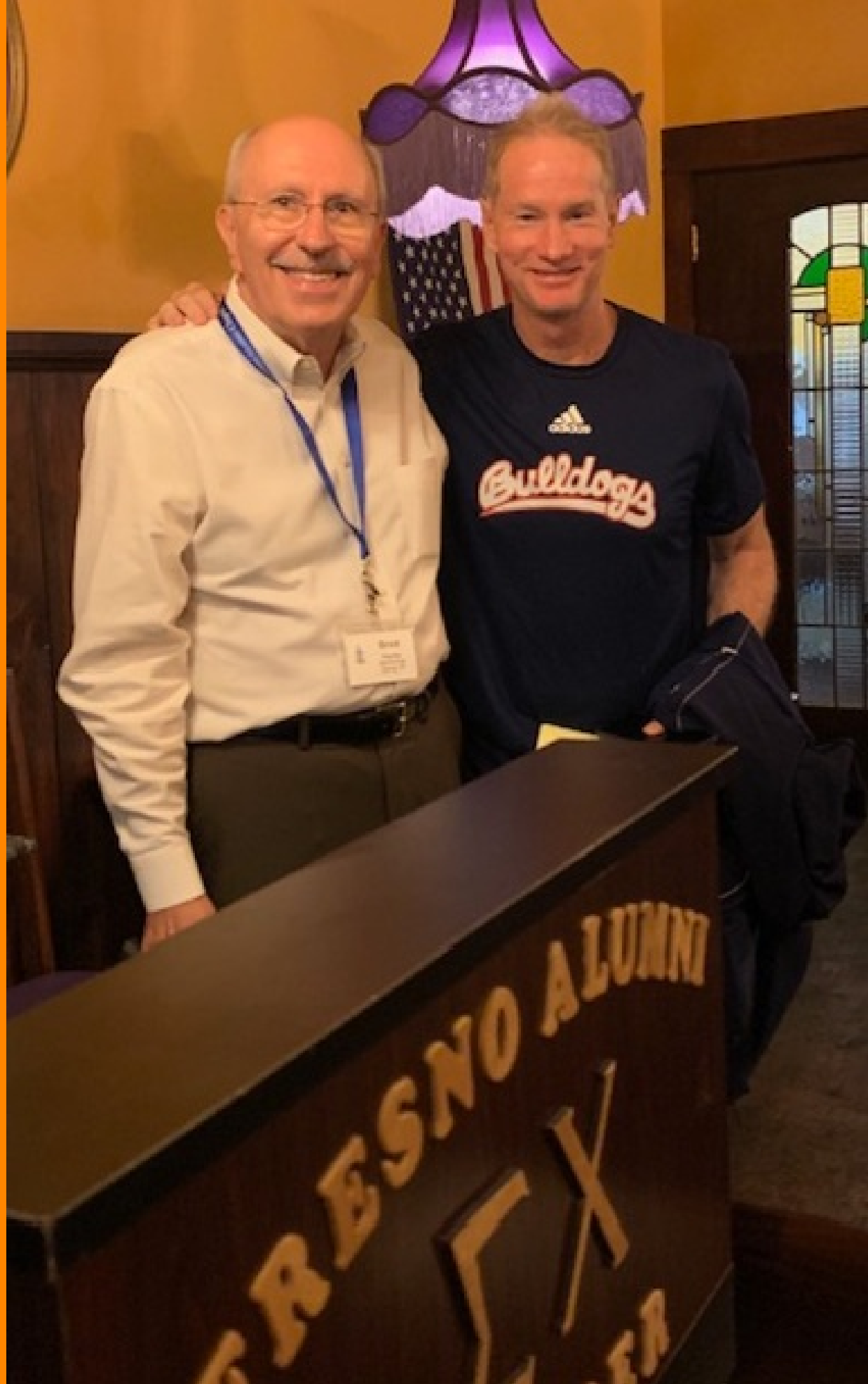


Worthy Brothers,

We are having an amazing Fall semester. There are 21 pledges planning to join Epsilon Eta. We continue to celebrate Semi Century Sig members this month with Tony Guerriero (74-F) and Paul Porter (74-F) joining us on October 17. Both travelled out of the area to be with us.



Also, we enjoyed Associate Basketball Coach John Welch as our guest speaker. He discussed his early years playing with Danny Tarkanian in high school in Reno and then coaching with Coach Tarkanian at Fresno State. He further elaborated on the caliber of Coach Walberg and what he will bring to Fresno State program. Buy your tickets now!



There is amazing power of the Fresno Sigma Chi Alumni Chapter and the Epsilon Eta Chapter at

Fresno State. Your dues and donations make a significant difference. Thank you to those who have contributed and welcome others to join us.

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>

"Sigma Chi was a learning experience for me in personal growth, in finding out more about myself, in shaping my life more effectively, and in directing my energies more efficiently. All of those things were heavily influenced by my Sigma Chi experience. There is no question that that has had a tremendous impact on my career, professionally and on my life."

***Significant Sig Merlin Olsen,
TV actor and sportscaster, and former All-Pro football star.***

www.sigmachi.org/history

**AMBASSADOR SANCHEZ
MEMORIAL HIGHWAY SIGN
UNVEILED**



Front row left to right: Don Beauregard, Order of Constantine Tom Downing, Grand Trustee, Order of Constantine and Significant Sig John "Tony" Flores, Mark Sanchez (son of Phillip V Sanchez), Mark Scott, Order of Constantine Bill Robinson.

Back Row left to right: Significant Sig Brad S Fischer, Larry Calvino, Jack Tacchino, Art Renney, Jerry Waters, Elwood Ens and Seven Lights Alumni Awardee John Ballinger.

On October 5, 2024, the Ambassador Phillip V. Sanchez California State Highway 41 Memorial Bridge was dedicated with the unveiling of a commemorative sign to be placed at the bridge location. This public unveiling was held at Pinedale Elementary in the Phillip V. Sanchez Hall.

Phillip V. Sanchez (52-T), a recipient of the **Order of Constantine** and **Significant Sig** honors, was the first **Consul of the Epsilon Eta Chapter** at California State University, Fresno (formerly Fresno State College) in 1952. Brother Sanchez served in the Nixon, Ford, and Reagan administrations, rising to become one of the highest-ranking Hispanic appointees in U.S. history and the first Spanish-

speaking U.S. Ambassador to Latin America.

Entering the Chapter Eternal in 2017, Ambassador Sanchez was a distinguished diplomat, dedicated public servant, journalist, and humanitarian.

COMMUNITY SERVICE OBJECTIVE

Headquarters expectation of an alumni chapter is at least one community service project per year. This could include a blood drive, help at a food distribution center, neighborhood clean up and numerous other activities.

This community service is not just a Fresno project, it can occur where ever you live. Have an idea? Also, we need a Fresno area chair for an event. Send an email to fresnosigs1952@gmail.com

THE MAKING OF EPSILON ETA'S FIRST 100 YEARS

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

The backstory of the making of our 100-Year book can be found by clicking the link below:

<https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/the-making-of-epsilon-etas-first-100-years/>

SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED AT PREFERENCE DINNER

At our Fall Preference Night, we proudly celebrated the 2024-2025 scholarship recipients, with 17 brothers awarded a total of \$52,000 to support their studies this academic year. Your continued donations to our endowment fund make this possible —thank you for your support!



HOUSING CORPORATION REPORT

Contributed by John Ballinger (S'65)

Congratulations to our active chapter brothers, who are celebrating a successful fall rush signing up 24 pledges, or as they are now called, “recruits. Well done!!

At this time we have 22 brothers living in the house and with the aforementioned potential new initiates, we should retain a full house. We have had to replace a broken washing machine as well as repair a damaged doorframe leading into the Consul’s office so far this fall.

As far as future expenditures are concerned we will need to replace our current smoke and fire alarm system equipment. It no longer meets code and we will be running into engineering needs, permitting issues, inspections, and so on!

We would love to add a couple of board members should you be interested. We truly enjoy our dinner meetings generally every other month, minimal work is required, and it's a wonderful way to give back to your chapter. If interested, please call me!

John Ballinger (S '65)
Housing Corporation President

FRESNO STATE GOLF TEAM

By Lane Pulliam, (20-S) - Edited

FRESNO STATE ALUMNI & FRIENDS CLASSIC GOLF TOURNAMENT

NOV. 11, 2024 | SUNNYSIDE COUNTRY CLUB | 11 AM SHOTGUN



\$800 ENTRY FEE PER TEAM (2 MAN TEAM BEST-BALL FORMAT)
NET, GROSS AND ALUMNI FLIGHTS
HIGH END TEE PRIZE(S)
LUNCH, DINNER, SNACKS, DRINKS
CLOSEST TO THE PIN CONTEST
RAFFLE
GREAT PRIZES

I currently serve as the Assistant Coach for the Men's Golf Team at Fresno State. One of my key responsibilities is fundraising to support our team. These funds go directly to our student-athletes, providing essential equipment and assisting with travel and other program expenses. Last year, we made Regionals as a team for the first time in 14 years, a milestone we aim to achieve annually. We also celebrated two all-conference players who graduated and are now playing professionally around the world, representing our team and community with pride.

This year, a freshman achieved an incredible first—a victory in his debut event as a Bulldog. This accomplishment is unprecedented in Fresno State history and has only been matched by a few players, including Tiger Woods.

We are hosting our fundraiser on November 11th at Sunnyside Country Club, offering an opportunity to play golf and meet the players on the team. Sponsorships are available, and there are additional ways to get involved, such as N.I.L. partnerships or organizing a group outing.

For more information contact Brother Pulliam (559) 816-6031 or lane.pulliam@gmail.com

MEMORIES SHARED ON BROTHER WILSON

By Norm Winslow (57-S)

I do not know which is better. Remembering Leo as Head Cheerleader, along with Butch Charlebois and Elvin Hatch, leading the cheering section at Ratcliff Stadium on to lead the Bulldogs to Victory... OR TODAY seeing Leo as the primary cheerleader for St Agnes Hospital. Had to get some humor and sarcasm to the current events. Leo is the example for many of us that getting old is a bitch. NORM

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:

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 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*^*****, Pete Eliopoulos, Michael Elliott, Elwood Enns, Richard Fox, John Garcia, Dexter Hardcastle, ***Colin Kelly******, Bob Koligian*, *Ron LaRocca*, Jeff Linder, *John Marinovich***@, Dan Mueller, Ed Musolff*, Ron Nelson, Jim Norquist, Dan O'Brien, *Steve Pallios*, ***Mike Patton****@**, Wes Qualls**, Gary Renner, *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 Horowitz, *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, Chris Cole, Randy Garabedian, Marc Graham, Mike Green, Alan Hansen, T.A. Heckel, Don Heckman, John Hughes, Frank Huttlinger (S.D. St.), Sergio Ilic, *Marc Jason*, Kenneth Lehman, 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 Encinias*, 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

Chapter Initiation

Sunday, November 10, 2024 - 8:00 AM

Epsilon Eta Chapter House

2024 Alumni Chapter Dinner Meetings

Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno

No-host cocktails followed by dinner.

Thursday, November 21, 2024

6:00 PM PT – Alumni Chapter Dinner Meeting

Significant Sig Presentation:

Dana McManus (70-F)

8th Annual Wine Tasting

Saturday, April 26, 2025

3:00 - 6:00 PM

Visit our events calendar for other upcoming activities:

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

NELSON FAMILY THANK YOU

By Charlotte Nelson

Thank you so very much for honoring Rick with the White Rose Ceremony. It as special and very touching. Please give my thanks to all who participated and took the time to travel to Los Banos. My family and I will forever have fond memories of your part of the service.

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.

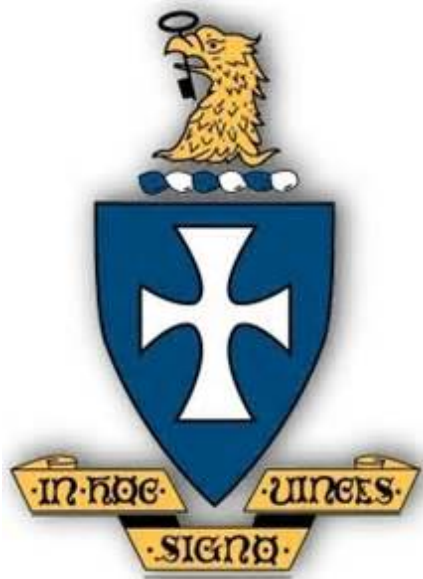
<https://fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership>

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>





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

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