*September 2026*

Sigma Chi

FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER

# SIG-NIFICANT NEWS

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# FEATURED

## PREFERENCE DINNER BANQUET - $68,000 SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

## FIVE 1976 SEMI-CENTURY SIGS CELEBRATED

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

## AUGUST DINNER PRESENTATION

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

## SEPTEMBER DINNER SUCCESS

*SEE ARTICLE BELOW*

## SIG NEWS

*Order of Constantine Tom Downing (62-F)*

Order of Constantine & Significant Sig Phillip V Sanchez (52-T)
Haley & Dusty Lacefield (12-F) welcome Harlow to the family
Send any Sig News to fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com

# NEW HARRY ST JOHN DIXON MEMORIAL LINK

SEE BELOW

# ALL HONOR TO THEIR NAME

JULY 1, 2026 – JUNE 30, 2027
SEE LISTING BELOW

# PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED

ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME – RODGER B. JENSEN
1976 SEMI-CENTURY SIGS
CALL FOR BROTHERHOOD ACTIVITIES
EPSILON ETA RITUAL COACHES NEEDED

SEE ARTICLE BELOW

# HEADQUARTERS NEWS

SIGMA CHI TRANSFORM PROGRAM

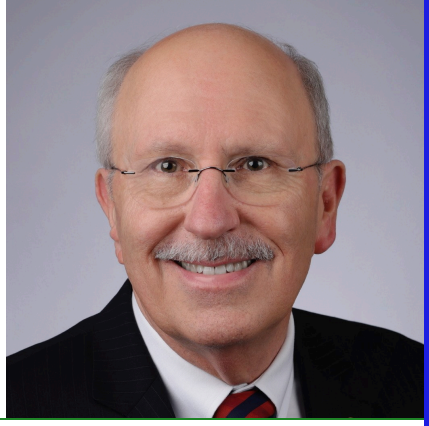
# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events

# ANNUAL DUES/DONATIONS

July 1 2026 to June 30, 2027
Dues Cycle is Open
Annual Dues $60.00
July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026 Supporters Listing Below
www.fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership

# President's Message



***Contributed by Brad Fischer (78-S)***

Worthy Brothers:

The White Cross shined brightly on Epsilon Eta this fall with 19 pledges. Initiation is planned for Saturday, October 24, 2026 at 8:00 AM. An alumni and undergraduate brother BBQ is currently planned after initiation. For those who are local, plan to drop in. More details to follow.

Thank you to those who support our Fresno ΣX Scholarship Endowment. Another historic plateau with $68,000 in academic scholarships awarded. Enjoy the article below.

Whether you live near or far, the impact of Sigma Chi can be felt in your community. When and where you should share the story of our journey and the Jordan Standard as our guiding principle.

Cherish the brotherhood we enjoy and celebrate. It's truly great to be a Sig!

***Friendship, Justice, and Learning***

In Hoc Signo Vinces,

**Brad**

Order of Constantine & Significant Sig
President

(559) 287-1392

***fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com***
***http://fresnosigsalumni.org***

*"Brothers, we built this Fraternity on the conviction that friendship, rightly practiced, makes better men of us all; that justice applied fairly to all is an essential part of society; and that a commitment to lifelong learning begets men of wisdom whare are prepared to lead"*

***74th Grand Consul Ryan Temby – RUTGERS 1990 IOTA PSI***

***www.sigmachi.org/history***

# *2026/2027 SCHOLARSHIP BANQUET AWARDS $68,000*

***Contributed by Mike Patton,***
***Order of Constantine & Significant Sig***
***President, Fresno Sigma Chi Endowment***

The banquet was held on September 21, 2026 with the dual-purpose serving as Preference Night and the Scholarship Banquet. Since the 2018 academic year, 100 scholarships have been granted for $311,300.




***Left to right. Michael Beaton (26-S), Nicholas Needham (26-S), Andrew Dristis (24-F), Brody Mason (25-F) Jonah Craven (26-S), & Nick Palm (24-F)***

Attendees included thirty-one undergraduate brothers, nineteen new pledges and alumni including House Corporation President **John Ballinger** (65-S), Alumni President **Brad Fischer** (78-S), Endowment Board member **T.A. Heckel** (82-F), Endowment Board President, **Mike Patton** (63-S), Chapter Advisor **Gio Primavera** (17-F), Alumni Chapter Secretary **Bill Robinson**, Warden of the Harry St John Dixon Memorial Monument **Steve Smith** (80-F) and recent alum **Austin Tuell** (21-F).

During the presentation, the Active Chapter brothers receiving scholarships were given Certificates of Academic Excellence. They will receive between $8,000 and $14,000 for the 2026/2027 school year. The total award was $68,000, the largest on record.

We are now competing with the Smittcamp Family Honors College which awards $6,000 scholarships plus an optional housing credit for the dorms.

## Fresno Sigma Chi Scholarships Awarded Since 2018/2019

| # | School Year | Number of Scholarships | Total Amount | Average CGPA |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2018/2019 | 7 | $13,300 | 3.21 |
| 2 | 2019/2020 | 9 | $18,000 | 3.14 |
| 3 | 2020/2021 | 14 | $28,000 | 3.20 |
| 4 | 2021/2022 | 10 | $20,000 | 3.34 |
| 5 | 2022/2023 | 14 | $28,000 | 3.24 |
| 6 | 2023/2024 | 12 | $44,000 | 3.43 |
| 7 | 2024/2025 | 17 | $52,000 | 3.23 |
| 8 | 2025/2026 | 11 | $40,000 | 3.28 |
| 9 | 2026/2027 | 6 | $68,000 | 3.40 |
| | Totals | 100 | $311,300 | 3.27 |

*Investing in Tomorrow's Leaders* ΣX

***More details*:**
**https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/2026-2027-scholarship-banquet-awarding-68000/**

# *WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA*

We want the Fresno Alumni Chapter brothers to participate in a Wreaths Across America or similar veteran activity. We are looking for a brother to coordinate an activity. Can you help? Let us know at ***fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com***

# *SEPTEMBER ALUMNI DINNER EVENT*

Head Coach of the Women's Water Polo program, Natalie Benson joined us on September 17th and engaged the crowd of over 45. She was skilled in the Jordan Standard and compared them to the pillars of the water polo program. Pride, Prepare, Focus, Fight and Win.

She is the first coach for the water polo program, and this season celebrates with our student athletes their 10th anniversary. She was the first Olympian to be presented with the 100th Sigma Tau/Sigma Chi anniversary medallion. Also, her engagement continued, she was one of the last to leave that evening.

**For more details on Coach Benson**: Click Here

# *2026-2027 DUES & DONATIONS*

***Contributed by Mark Scott (69-F)***

***Dues are $60.00 and donations for 08/17/2026 to 06/30/2027 are being accepted.***

***Online payments can be accepted today:***
***Click Here for Membership Information***

***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 2026-2027 is now available:***

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**Download 2026-2027 Dues Appeal Form Here**

*Note: This chart shows the names of all Brothers who have paid dues that are credited toward Fiscal Year 2026-2027. (For the purposes of this chart, we are counting all dues paid between January and June 2026.). This chart does not include the generous donations to the White Rose Scholarship Foundation.*

## 1950's

Jerry Bender, *Bob Buckenberger,* Butch Charlebois, ***Tony Flores***, ***Jim Green,*** Rodger Jensen, Byron Justus, Joe Monachello, Homer Potts, Rich Rose, Dante Simi, *Frank Small**, Ron Weiner, ***Leo Wilson*** & Norm Winslow.

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## 1960's

**John Ballinger@,** Don Beauregard, Tom Beggs, Dale Blickenstaff, Lindsay Brehm, Marv Broderson***@, Larry Calvino@, Steve Crawford, Rob Crossland, ***Tom Downing****, Michael Elliott***@, Elwood Enns*, John Garcia, Greg Johnson, ***Colin Kelly,*** Bob Koligian***, *Ron LaRocca*, Jeff Linder**, *John Marinovich*, Dan Mueller**, Jim Norquist, ***Mike Patton****@, Wes Qualls, **Gary Renner,** ***Dave Reuland,*** Don Ruiz, Mark Scott@, Brian Stout***@, Jack Tacchino, James Tatum, James Underhill, Jerry Waters*, **Warren Williams**, & Don Witzansky.

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## 1970's

*Dick Arakelian*, Amos Bagdasarian, Bruce Berger, Kenny Duncan, Russell Efird***, Richard Egan***, Bruce Ekmanian, ***Brad Fischer****@, Bob Garavello, *Marv Helon**, *Jim Hutton, Rich Klopfstein,* Tom Licouris, *Michael Lynch,* ***Dana McManus****, *Robert Morrow, George Neves**, Larry Paris, Paul Porter*@,* ***Bill Robinson***, Mark Sanchez, ***Bill Smittcamp****@, Larry Spikes, Bob Teague, Gary Trembley**, Chris Visser***, Steve Vucovich, Kirk Wethey**, Richard Wright & Wayne Yamagiwa.

## 1980's

Christopher Cole, Randy Garabedian*, **T.A. Heckel**, Frank Huttlinger (San Diego St.), **Sergio Ilic,** Justin Kempton, Brian Lockhart, James McCorkle, Mike Price**, Mike Riggs, Doug Sampson, Mike Smith, Kraig Thomas** & Les Walker.

## 1990's

Kenneth Eynaud, David Folly, Donny Gill & Preet Purewal.

## 2000's

Travis Bader

## 2010's

Mike Colgate & Dusty Lacefield.

Welcome our one-year complimentary membership, Fresno State Class of 2026:

Michael Alexander (23-F), Landon Davis (24-F), Nick Davis (22-F), Emiliano Elacuesta (23-F), Carsen Fusi (24-F), Aron Garcia (25-S), Tito Gomez (22-F), Dom Guerriero (24-F), Noah Hornburg (24-F), Laith Khoury (22-F), Seth Karagozian (22-F), Cooper Lilles (21-F), Zachary Shoup (22-F), Caden Shows (22-F), Ryan Sloan (23-F), Zaid Srouju (22-F).

***Order of Constantine, Significant Sig,*** **Headquarters Awards**
*Consuls who served Epsilon Eta*
** Plus $0-$40 donation Alumni Chapter,*

***Plus $41 -$140 donation Alumni Chapter,*
****Plus $141 or more donation Alumni Chapter*
@ Donation to the Housing Corporation

# *SEMI-CENTURY SIGS*

Grand Praetor Dave Keller joined us in honoring five brothers from 1976 with their Semi-Century Sig honors at our September event.



***Left to right: Grand Praetor Dave Keller Kappa Theta USC (95-F), Dave Gannon (76-S), Rodney Gavroian (76-S) Rob Hauser (76-S) David Linzmeier (76-F) & Roger Parvanian (76-S)***

Our brothers from 1976 will receive their Semi-Century Sig honors at one of our Fall alumni dinner meetings that they are able to attend. We will mail honors to those who are unable to attend a meeting.

Other brothers to be honored at a future dinner event or have it mailed to them are: **Alan L. Benzler** (76-F), **Wil Herring** (76-F), and **Phillip G. Parnagian** (76-F).

If you have any contact information on other 1976 brothers, please send to ***fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com***

# *SIGS IN THE NEWS*

**Order of Constantine Tom Downing (62-F)** and his spouse Cynthia are the 2026 Outstanding Philanthropists by the Association of Fundraising Professionals California Valley Chapter. They will receive their award at the National Philanthropy Day Luncheon on November 17, 2026.

**Order of Constantine & Significant Sig Phillip V Sanchez (52-T)**. The September issue of The September Grapevine newsletter of the **Fresno City and County Historical Society** featured Roots of our Valley, Fresno's First Ambassador. An interview for an oral history project was held with Brother Sanchez on May 12, 1978. You can find the 27-minute interview as follows: ***https://www.valleyhistory.org/ethnic-oral-history-collection***

**Former Chapter Advisor Dusty Lacefield (12-F)** and Haley welcomed Harlow to the family on August 6th. She was born at UC Davis in Sacramento at 5lbs. 15oz. and 19". She is doing well and her big brother Hudson is a big fan.

# *NEW FRESNO ALUMNI CHAPTER EMAIL ADDRESS*

Beginning August 1, 2026, we will implement our new international email address hosted by headquarters. Our new email is ***fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com*****.**

Please update your contact list to include this new email. It will take us some time to fully update to this new email.

# *Events to Celebrate Brotherhood*

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**Thursday, October 15, 2026**
**6:00 PM PT – Alumni Networking & Dinner Event**
***Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno***

***Speaker:***
***Kara Zografos, Dean***
***College of Health & Human Services***
***Fresno State University***

***Celebrating our 1976 Semi-Century Sigs***

**RSVP: *fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com* or**
**text to (559) 287-1392**

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**Saturday, October 24, 2026**
**8:00 AM PT – SPRING 2026 INITIATION**
**Epsilon Eta House**
**BBQ to follow**

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**Thursday, November 19, 2026**
**6:00 PM PT – Alumni Networking & Dinner Event**
***Old Spaghetti Factory, Fresno***

***Speaker:***
***Sam Mann (91-S)***
***Harry St John Dixon Memorial Monument***

***Last meeting to celebrate our 1976 Semi Century Sigs attending***

**RSVP: fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com or text to (559) 287-1392**

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# *SAVE THE DATE*

## *75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE EPISILON ETA CHAPTER*

**Saturday, February 27, 2027**

**Details to Follow**

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***Visit our events calendar for other upcoming activities:***
***https://www.fresnosigsalumni.org/events***

# *ALL HONOR TO THEIR NAME*

***July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027***

**Rodger Jensen** (52-T) August 5, 2026

**Jim Nowell** ( (63-F) January 28, 2026

**Randy Handley** (67-F) August 2026

**Dave Rader (68-F)** August 2026

**(*)** ***Notes those added this month.***

**BY MAIL:**
**PAYABLE TO THE FRESNO STATE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION**
**Memo - Sigma Chi White Rose Scholarship**
**2625 E MATOIAN WAY M/S SH124**
**FRESNO CA 93740-8000**



# *SIGMA CHI HEADQUARTERS NEWS*

## *INTRODUCTION OF NEW SIGMA CHI TranfORM PROGRAM*

***Dave Keller. Grand Praetor (95-F) Kappa Theta USC***

Introducing the new Sigma Chi TransfORM program; ORM = Officer Resource Map.

Sigma Chi Headquarters is taking what was BLTW and Officer Training Academy (OTA) and bringing it to the Province level, with a better hands-on approach. Every Province should have a team of seven TransfORM Officer Mentors representing the mission-critical officers. Ideally, you would have an alumnus who is a CPA, CFO, or accountant who would help with the Quaestor position. Same with a CEO for the Consul role.

There is already some training for some of the officers here:

***https://sigmachi.maplelms.com/local/mycourse***

So far it covers the Magister and Risk Manager; Kustos is coming soon. There will eventually be one for each officer that is on E.C.

**I'm ready to help or more information: Contact *dave.keller@sigmachi.com* or (408) 507-6250**

# *PAST ARTICLES YOU MAY HAVE MISSED*

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## *ALL HONOR TO HIS NAME*

### *SIGNIFICANT SIG*
### *RODGER B JENSEN*
### *1920-2026*

***Contributed by Brad S. Fischer***
***Order of Constantine & Significant Sig***

It is with great sadness to announce that Significant Sig **Rodger B Jense**n (52-T) entered the Chapter Eternal. Rodger was 105 years old and a native of the valley and would make a significant impact on the country and our region.

He was a pioneer of pistachio production in the Central Valley of California, a philanthropist and supporter of higher education. Most importantly, he was a true gentleman.

Visit ***https://www.orchardandsky.com*** for his story, his interviews, articles and photos.
***Password is B-29***

**Links to Other Articles:**

***Fresno State News***

***Fresno County Farm Bureau***

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# *SEMI-CENTURY SIGS*

Our brothers from 1976 will receive their Semi-Century Sig honors at one of our Fall alumni dinner meetings that they are able to attend. We will mail honors to those who are unable to attend a meeting.

Those brothers with updated information in our membership database are: **Alan L. Benzler** (76-F), **David G Gannon, Jr** (76-S), **Rodney K. Gavroian** (76-S), **Robert W. Hauser** (76-S), **Wil Herring** (76-F), **David J. Linzmeier** (76-F), **Phillip G. Parnagian** (76-F) and **Roger Parvanian** (76-S)

If you have contact information on other 1976 brothers, please sent it to ***fresnoalumni@sigmachi.com***

# *EPSILON ETA INITIATION RITUAL COACHES NEEDED*

Thank you to **Steve Smith** (80-F) as our leader of the Epsilon Eta Ritual Coach Team. Our Epsilon Eta Chapter needs your help. Steve is leading a group of alumni to work with our undergraduate brothers to improve the Ritual experience. Call or text Smitty at (559) 289-5297 If you can add to our newest brother's experience at Initiation

# *PROTECTING THE HISTORY OF EPSILON ETA*

***By Order of Constantine & Significant Sig***
***Brad S. Fischer (78-S)***

Sigma Chi continues to have the most extensive collection of materials at the Fresno State Library Special Collections Department. What are you doing to save material from Epsilon Eta? Here are some ideas while you hold the items until you are ready to save them in perpetuity at the library.

Items can include, photographs, invitations, programs, clothing, jewelry, award certificates, trophy's, scrapbooks, etc.

Keep materials in a dry and temperature-controlled environment

Avoid folding any materials

Write the names of people featured in photographs on the back using a #2 pencil

Write an explanation of people, events, places, etc. to accompany your items

Place like materials in a box, folder, envelope or Ziplock

# *SUPPORT THE ONLY GREEK ARCHIVE AT FRESNO STATE*

Funds are needed 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 the Fresno State Foundation, Fresno State Advancement Services, 5244 N Jackson Ave., KC45, Fresno CA 93740-8023. Note University Library/Sigma Chi Collection**

# *HARRY ST JOHN DIXON MEMORIAL MONUMENT*

***Steve Smith (80-F), Warden – (559) 289-5297***

***https://sigmachi.org/history/monuments-memorials/foundational-sites/***

# *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 Scholarship & House Corporation Donations*

You can now make scholarship donations using our website.

***https://fresnosigsalumni.org/product/alumni-membership***

# *Sigma Chi's Highest Honor*

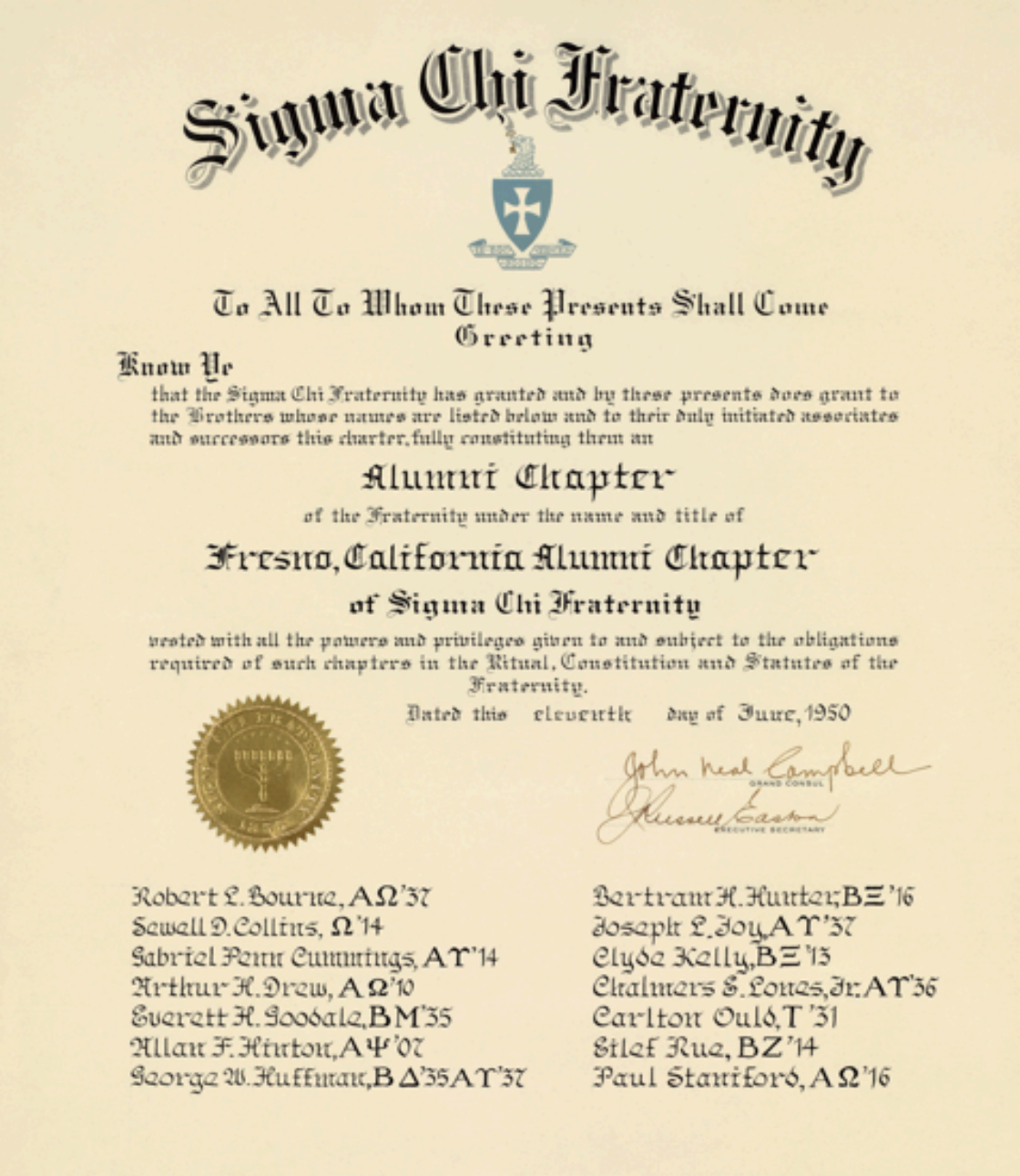
Visit our website to view the list of honorees of the Order of Constantine, Significant Sig and Seven Lights Alumni Award.

***https://fresnosigsalumni.org***

# *FOUNDING OF SIGMA CHI*

***https://sigmachi.org/history/our-history/sigma-chi-founding***

# *Alumni Chapter 1950 Charter*



Sigma Chi Fraternity

To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come
Greeting

Know Ye

that the Sigma Chi Fraternity has granted and by these presents does grant to the Brothers whose names are listed below and to their duly initiated associates and successors this charter, fully constituting them an

Alumni Chapter

of the Fraternity under the name and title of

Fresno, California Alumni Chapter

of Sigma Chi Fraternity

vested with all the powers and privileges given to and subject to the obligations required of such chapters in the Ritual, Constitution and Statutes of the Fraternity.

Dated this eleventh day of June, 1950

John Neal Campbell
GRAND CONSUL

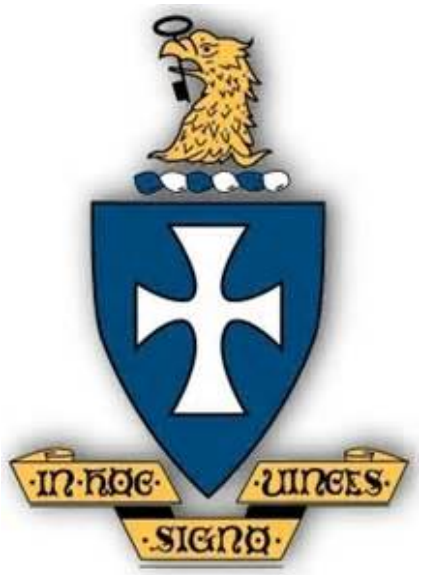
Russell Gaston
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Robert L. Bourne, AΩ'37
Sewell D. Collins, Ω'14
Gabriel Penn Cummings, AT'14
Arthur H. Drew, AΩ'10
Everett H. Goodale, BM'35
Allan F. Hinton, AΨ'07
George W. Huffman, BΔ'35AT'37
Bertram H. Hunter, BΞ'16
Joseph L. Joy, AT'37
Clyde Kelly, BΞ'13
Chalmers S. Lones, Jr. AT'36
Carlton Ould, T'31
Stef Rue, BZ'14
Paul Stanford, AΩ'16










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

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