



# Sigma Phi FLAME

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FALL 2000

## National Convention Held At Delta Of New York

**D**r. Robert Deloian, President of the General Council of Phi Delta Theta, a man considered to be the “father of alcohol and substance-free” initiatives and who speaks on campuses across the country, was the keynote speaker at the 173rd National Convention held October 14-15 in Geneva, New York, hosted by the Delta Chapter of New York at Hobart College.

“We all have similar problems,” Deloian said, “and we all must get back to our fundamental purposes of brotherhood, aca-

demics, campus and community involvement, and philanthropy if the fraternity system is to survive.”

Deloian also spoke to a joint meeting of the S&A Committee and undergraduates on Friday, the first time undergraduates have attended an S&A meeting.

Deloian reviewed the effects of eliminating drinking at fraternity houses. Based on the experience of Phi Delta Theta and other fraternities that have gone alcohol-free, removing alcohol from chapter houses has improved recruitment, increased GPAs, increased alumni participation and financial support, reduced house maintenance and liability insurance costs, and increased retention and graduation rates.

Alcohol-free is a policy that has been adopted by 11 national fraternities and all national sororities as well as by many colleges and universities across the country. Simply put, it means “no alcohol or drinking at the chapter house. If you want to drink, do it someplace else, responsibly,” Deloian said.

### Hobart Sigs Honored

Lifetime Service Awards were presented to three Hobart Sigs at the convention banquet. Mark Geary, G’73,

Hobart Alumni Association President, presented plaques to Ralph E. Springstead, G’43, Charles P. Boswell II, G’47, and Ralph M. Peter Harter, G’65, for lifetime service to the Delta and the Society (see article below for full text of award).

Springstead said, “I am honored to receive this award, but I am not sure I like the words ‘lifetime achievement’ as it implies I don’t have many years left, and I want to continue to work for the Delta for many years to come.”

The weekend began for the S&A Committee on Friday with a full morning meeting at which it was voted to pursue a legal resolution at the state level of the Hamilton case in an effort to get fair market value for the house in Clinton. Legal efforts to retain the house for use by undergraduates failed earlier this year when a federal judge dismissed our complaint.

Other undergraduate reports were heard during the weekend that showed strength at Hobart, Vermont, Wisconsin, and Virginia. Strong rebuilding efforts are taking place at Michigan and California, and alumni rebuilding efforts at Lehigh. Union reported a plan being considered by the college to take over all remaining fraternities and one sorority there within the next three years. The plan is to convert

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*Left to right: Peter Harter, G’65, Grey Perry, C’56, and Robert Deloian, president of the General Council of Phi Delta Theta.*

## Three Hobart Sigs Receive Lifetime Service Award

### RALPH E. SPRINGSTEAD, G’43

Ralph joined the Alumni Board of the Delta of New York in 1949, approximately three years after he graduated from Hobart College. He acted as the Treasurer for approximately 40 years. During that time, he rose through the ranks at the Savings Bank of the Finger Lakes in Geneva to become its chief executive officer. The Delta did not have a large endowment, but Ralph was able to keep us solvent. Every year at the annual meeting, he would report the auditors were “on his back” about our non-performing loan, but he cheerfully kept the auditors at bay.

### CHARLES P. BOSWELL II, G’47

Charlie Boswell is a third-generation Sig. Charlie has at least seven other family members who are Sigs, including his grandfather, father,  
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*Mark Geary, G’73, presents the Lifetime Service Award to Peter Harter, G’65.*

## National Convention

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them to houses to which the college would assign 25 residents, and another 200 students would associate on a social basis. This would be a huge threat to the Society at the place of its founding. The strongest report of all came from Hamilton, where, despite the loss of their chapter house, the undergraduates have recently initiated another large pledge class and are enjoying the fruits of brotherhood in the face of adversity.

Three new Sig Sisters were initiated Saturday afternoon by Boswell at the chapter house in a ceremony attended by most undergraduates as well as many other Sig Sisters and alumni. The traditional conclave was held Friday night at the Delta's chapter house.

Hobart undergraduate Michael Boland, G'97, won the Hicks Oratorical Contest in a highly competitive speaking engagement. Michael beat out three other contestants from the Hamilton and Virginia chapters.

Convention organizers Geary and Harter were recognized by Chairman Grey Perry, C'56, for the outstanding job they did in organizing the event. Perry said in his remarks, "In the spirit of the recent Olympics and President Samarach's traditional evaluation, I declare this to be the best convention ever!" Perry also announced that the next National Convention would be held at the Wisconsin chapter in Madison, Wisconsin.

## Viele Scholarship Awarded To 30

The Viele Scholarship again gave out a substantial amount of money to Sig undergraduates and graduate students. Sixty-three Sigs applied for the scholarships, and 30 were awarded as shown in the table below. In addition to the regular scholarships, the David S. Brown memorial pledge pot continues to allocate to each chapter up to \$2,000 to help ensure that the costs of being a member of Sigma Phi do not prevent high-quality students from pledging.

Viele applications for the 2001-2002 academic year will be available on the Sigma Phi web site ([www.sigmaphi.org](http://www.sigmaphi.org)) in January 2001.

	Undergraduate	Graduate	Amount
Cornell	7	2	\$38,000
Wisconsin	6	1	28,000
Vermont	1	3	13,000
Virginia	4		12,000
California	1	1	7,000
Hamilton		1	5,000
Michigan	1		4,000
Hobart	1		3,000
Union	1		3,000
<b>Grand total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$113,000</b>

**Mark your calendar!**  
**The Fourth of March event**  
**is scheduled to take place**  
**in Boston on Saturday,**  
**March 3. For more informa-**  
**tion, contact Gant Redmon,**  
**S'85, at [gant@gant.org](mailto:gant@gant.org).**

## S&A To Vote On Proposed Bylaws Revisions At Fourth Of March In Boston, 2001

The enclosed insert of the proposed bylaws revisions will be voted on at a special Convention meeting to be held during the S&A meeting at the Fourth of March event in Boston, 2001. All S&A delegates and alternates and interested Sigs should carefully review the proposed revisions and be prepared to vote come March. For questions, contact Peter Harter, G'65, General Counsel of Sigma Phi Society, at [harter@rochesterlawyer.com](mailto:harter@rochesterlawyer.com).

## Three Hobart Sigs Receive Lifetime Service Award

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two uncles, one brother, and five cousins. Charlie joined the Delta Alumni Board after graduation from Hobart College in 1951. Over the last 49 years, he has held all the positions on the board except Treasurer, which was Ralph Springstead's role. From the early 1950s until 1980, Charlie was also the Hobart College faculty representative for Sigma Phi Society, while he served the college in the admissions office, career counseling, and finally, the registrar's office. He was the Delta's delegate to the S&A Committee for many years.

Charlie is an Elihu Root Award winner,

presented by the S&A Committee in recognition of an outstanding career and service to the Society.

### **RALPH M. PETER HARTER, G'65**

Pete Harter graduated from Hobart College in 1968 and the Cornell Law School in 1972. He joined the Delta Alumni Board in 1971 at the urging of his mentors, Ralph Springstead and Charlie Boswell. Pete, like Charlie, has served in all the positions on the board except Treasurer. He stepped down as President after 10 years of service when he joined the board of trustees of Hobart & William Smith Colleges.

Pete has given nearly 30 years of leadership to the Delta. At the same time, he has also served as a delegate to the S&A Committee and is currently its General Counsel.

One of Pete's happiest moments was when his son, Donald Brampton Harter, G'93, became a Delta Sig Brother in 1993.

The Brothers of the Western Lion's Lair recognize you all for your leadership to the Delta and hold you out as an example for our younger Brothers to emulate. Thank you for your time, talent, energy, and financial support of the Delta.

## Brothers Of The Beta Thrive At Hamilton

**I**t is my honor to state that in spite of the decisions made by Hamilton College in the last few years in regard to the housing situation at the Beta, Sigma Phi is not only alive at Hamilton College, but thriving. In these seemingly dark times, the Beta has taken what she lacks in the physical realm and transferred it to a focus on the spiritual—ensuring that the principles of Sigma Phi will never be lost at Hamilton College. Our Brothers continue to be the outstanding gentlemen at this institution, excelling in the academic, athletic, and social fields.

Out of 22 active Brothers and three wandering birds, 10 are currently on the dean's list. Out of this same 25, eight are varsity letter athletes. Individually, Brothers also push themselves beyond college criteria, distinguishing themselves from the masses. For example, Alim Hisam Siddiqui, H'99, ranks second in the senior class, and his academic prowess is a model to us all. Ryan John Elias, H'98, has just been honored with the Fulbright Scholarship. Robin Cameron Larson, H'98, is slated to appear in two major motion pictures due in the fall. Also, Peter Charles Ringel, H'98, is the senior editor of the college newspaper. Mark Nash Breitingner, H'2000, has just been inducted into the Clinton, New York, fire department. Mark's efforts to involve himself in the community outside of Hamilton College reflect the values of the Beta.

The Beta continues her efforts to improve the Clinton area, never forgetting her roots. Last semester, the first organized act of the year 2000 was to clean the Kirkland Town Library, the original home of the Beta. In this Halloween season, members of the Beta could also be found either at the Clinton Fire Department's haunted hayride or escorting local children in the Trust-or-Treat program. Our goal is not to learn and grow apart from our community, but with it, as we can all benefit by discovering about each other.

The Beta is also concerned with staying involved with the other chapters of Sigma Phi, looking to them for support and as fellow Brothers. I am a member of the 2000 swing class. Since my initiation in the spring, I have already been to three chapter houses: the Alpha of New York, the Alpha of Virginia (a trip in which many Beta Sigs took part), and, most recently, the Delta of New York for National Convention. Cameron Boyd Johnson, H'2000, stayed at the Alpha of Vermont in late September. The Alpha of California has also graciously housed Frederick Kepler

Jones, H'2000, and Michael Colin Van Linda, H'97, this summer, and more plan to make the trip this year. We at the Beta strive to stay involved with our fellow chapters, as they are not merely other chapters in a society, but our Brothers.

Although at Hamilton College most students have no idea who the Brothers of the Beta actually are, our presence is still warmly felt. We serve as emergency medical technicians, participate in poetry groups, and perform in comedy troupes. We are not invisible socially either, and we plan to have the funk band Ulu in early December. (Note: all Sig Brothers are encouraged to make the trip to Hamilton College for the show.) The Beta stresses that with or without a house, we will offer our campus memorable social events.

This final point addresses the place of the Beta at Hamilton. No matter what Hamilton College takes away from Sigma Phi, we remain committed to upholding the ideals of those who came before us. Our foundation is not a house but the friendship, love, and truth on which our Society is built. This base has proved strong enough for us to have neophytes in great number without a rush process or a house. Lacking these things has helped us discover what truly matters.

BSL,

Neil John Thompson, H'2000

*The Beta would like to thank the S&A Committee for its fiscal and emotional support in our struggles; the Alpha of Virginia, the Alpha of Vermont, and especially the Delta of New York for their hospitality; Rand Carter, H'74, Brendan McCurdy, H'80, James Wackerman, H'92, and Tim Pickering, H'77, for their undying love and brotherhood; The Flame for a forum to tell you about us; and all of the brethren of Sigma Phi. Esto Perpetua Veritas.*

## A Note About Year-End Giving...

You'll find the traditional contribution envelope enclosed with this *Flame* even if you've already paid your Sigma Phi dues for the 2000 year. Please note that we do not want anyone who has paid dues for the current year to send dues until our 2001 giving year begins in January. However, we wish to remind all Sigs that a tax-deductible, year-end gift made to the Sigma Phi Educational Foundation would be warmly appreciated and spent with care on high-quality educational activities and endeavors.

If you have not yet paid your Society dues this year, please do so before the end of the 2000 year. Annual alumni dues, though voluntary, provide Sigma Phi with vital operating income to keep the national organization running smoothly. With our thanks and best wishes to you for a happy holiday season and a prosperous new year.

## Sigma Phi Jewelry Available

Our Society currently offers five different, equally appealing jewelry pieces for our Brothers: Sigma Phi badges (\$130), Sig Sister badges (\$90), pledge pins, monogram lapel pins, and tie tacks. Personal engraving and shipping is included in the cost. The process for ordering has been drastically streamlined using an automated order process with the Society's jewelry affiliate, Masters of Design. To submit an order, please visit the merchandise section of the Sigma Phi web site at [www.sigmaphi.org](http://www.sigmaphi.org) or contact Derek Fredrickson, V'94, at 212/334-1849 or [derek@fredrickson.com](mailto:derek@fredrickson.com). Please allow two weeks for delivery.



*A large gathering of the Brothers at the Undergraduates' Leadership Workshop at the Delta Convention.*



## News Of Interest

Recently retired from the paper business, **Owen Perry, C'52**, decided to join the Golf Foundation of Wisconsin as the director of development. He writes, "It gives me a chance to give back to golf and the community after all the good years golf has given to me. Our foundation makes golf more accessible and affordable to kids who might not have an opportunity to learn this great game. In addition to teaching skills of golf with PGA professionals, we teach kids life lessons—like honesty, discipline, integrity, camaraderie, etc. It's a terrific mission, it's fun, and it's challenging." Owen adds that he's proud of his brother, **Grey Perry, C'56**, "who has taken over **Cal Howard, S'54**'s great legacy to Sigma Phi as national chairman. Thanks to loyal and dedicated friends like Cal and Grey, Sigma Phi remains strong and growing." Owen lives at 10620 N. Winslow Dr., Mequon, WI 53092.

**Irving W. "Hoke" Holcomb, C'42**, enjoyed a "most pleasant swing" through Arizona and California in April 2000. He visited **Don MacIlraith, C'42**, in Sedona, and in Tucson he played golf with **Bob Johnston, C'40**, and **Bob Pease, F'25**, who "almost shot his age!" Hoke and Bob Johnston traveled together to Napa Valley, California, for a visit with **John Shafer, C'42**, at Shafer Vineyards and Winery. "John has built a world-class brand," writes Irving. "His wines have won many awards—even in France! We all hooked ups with another Sig, **Jim Shryver, C'42**, who drove to Napa from his summer home in Fall River Mills. To be able to vibrate an old Sigma Phi network is, indeed, very special." Write to Hoke at 1330 Southeast St., Amherst, MA 01002.

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Three Sigs golf at Ventana Canyon Country Club in Tucson, Arizona, in April 2000. Left to right: "Hoke" Holcomb, C'42, Bob Johnston, C'40, and Bob Pease, F'25.

## WINNING HICKS ORATORICAL SPEECH

*A distinct highlight of each convention is the Hicks Oratorical Contest—named for Oliver Hewlett Hicks, V'1869, who bequeathed a sum of money to the Society to promote an original speech competition. Brother Hicks hoped the competition would provide an opportunity for interested undergraduates to share their thoughts and feelings about Sigma Phi at the annual convention gathering. This year's winner is Michael Boland, G'97, whose winning essay appears below. We also applaud Andrew Mckay, H'97, and Adam Mandell, G'99, who took second and third place, respectively.*

### Painting The World

It's really not that hard to understand what the Sigma Phi Society is. It's everyday, everywhere, and familiar like a pair of old running sneakers. I often use my first year of school here at Hobart and William Smith as a reference point. Something to ground me when thinking about how this house has changed my life.

From each inch of floorboard to the front door of 624 South Main Street, I am attached to something historical. All of our peers graduated from high school and now moved on to college as we have. What feels special about that? Everybody goes to college. Or, at least that's what it feels like to me. These same feelings are what drew me to this place.

I was searching for something. As a first-year student, I realized that there are many ways to present oneself through countless social groups on campus. These colleges create an environment of competition and self, as the faculty promotes diversity on a daily basis. In class, I have always noticed that professors stress that we should all respect our differences. As people, we must use these differences as a resource and try to better our communities through enlightenment and togetherness. Unfortunately, these same thoughts mutate into something else when the student body goes back to the dorms.

I realized how campus life really went down at about the end of my spring trimester, first year. I had been blindfolded by society, and my mind had finally untied the knot. However, when I opened my eyes and looked around, I didn't like what I saw. It was clear to me that most of the people I engaged with every day were acting under a pretense. Focusing more on what they were doing as opposed to who they were. Then, I met a young man who stood at the center of this mess and said, "Hey man, what are you doing?"

"Nothing," I said. I was sitting on the quad with an acoustic guitar.

"Looks like you're playing guitar, man. I'm Ben," he said. Wearing sunglasses and sporting a nefarious grin, I took an instant liking to him.

After a few more light conversations like that, Ben started coming over to my room to hang out more and more. He

wasn't like any of the other students I had been distancing myself from idealistically. Ben was more like me, he just wanted to hang out and learn from people.

We can all learn from each other. The ways we carry ourselves are different in all of us, down to the smallest detail. Ben gave me hope that people at this school felt this way. By the time he introduced me to a few fellows at the Sigma Phi Place, I realized I had stumbled upon some social shift. There were Greek letters on the door and composites on the walls, yet the men who pledged my class were some of the most positive, smartest individuals I have ever met. And funny to make you laugh out loud on a street corner in the middle of Manhattan.

They introduced me to the idea of taking those same judgments and stereotypes that define Greek systems nationally and then pointing a finger back and saying, "No, you are the conformists." We identify with our houses and material goods attached to this Society as a means of location, but as the Brothers at the Beta will tell us, we do not need these things to be a part of the whole. I am Sigma Phi just as much as Sigma Phi is me. It says that I am different and because of that I am going to change things. Our Society doesn't tell us how we should feel or what we should think. We have prospered for 173 years on the notion that below our black surface is a symphony of colors each brilliant in its own right.

The pillar creates the strength that allows those same colors to paint the world. We learn about what it is to exist within a social body. In turn, we scream at the establishment with the strength of all the ghosts whose questions have yet to be answered. As a Sigma Phi Brother, you breach any social mode and simply exist, even in light of what everybody else thinks. Individuality is the force from within our illustrious circle, and now we've seen the light that will carry through centuries to come. I am now just a fool playing his part, with his heart in his hand for the whole universe to see.

BSL,  
Michael Patrick Boland, G'97

# ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Sigs And The Presidency ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

In the 173 years since its founding, Sigma Phi has given countless of its sons to the service of our country. Through the military, clergy, diplomatic corps, and various levels of elected office, the influence of Sigma Phi has been felt on a scale far out of proportion to its membership. In the midst of the countless Sigs in politics, however, a few select Sigs have drawn close to the very heart of our nation's democracy, the presidency. In doing so, they have been only a few heartbeats away from grabbing the reins themselves.

## James Schoolcraft Sherman, H'1874

*Republican: Vice President, 1908-1912; U.S. Representative (New York), 1887-1891 and 1893-1909*

By the end of their terms, most pledges will know the answer to the question, "What Sig held the highest elected office?" James Schoolcraft Sherman, H'1874, began his political career in his hometown of Utica, New York, where he was elected mayor in 1884. Sherman went on to serve 10 terms in the House of Representatives from 1887 to 1891 and 1893 to 1909, where his easygoing manner and goodheartedness earned him the nickname "Smiling Jim."

Sherman's biggest triumph came in 1908, when he was elected vice president on the Republican ticket with William Howard Taft. Sherman served four years in office and retained the nomination for vice president in 1912. However, he died in Utica on October 30, just three days before the election.

## John James Ingalls, W'1851

*Republican: U.S. Senator (Kansas), 1873-1891*

Although Sherman was the only Sig ever elected to the office of vice president, another briefly served in that role. John James Ingalls, W'1851, was elected to represent Kansas in the United States Senate in 1873 and was re-elected to that office in 1879 and 1885. While in Congress, Ingalls became known as the "Kansas Rascal" for his constant baiting of the South. This reputation may not have been unfounded, considering his past at Williams College in the early 1850s.

While a freshman, Ingalls and classmates had spirited away some beer for a future celebration, only to learn of a plan by the sophomore class to steal it. Not to be fooled, Ingalls and company laced 12 of the bottles with tartar emetic. According to his memoirs, "about 10 sophomores spent all the night and part of the next day vomiting." A rift developed between the classes, and before long pistols and knives were being carried openly around the campus. The Williams president stepped in before things escalated, however, and, according to Ingalls, "put an end to the fun."

In 1881 Chester A. Arthur (himself a graduate of Union College) became president after the assassination of James Garfield. Arthur, however, did not appoint a vice president. Therefore, the man who was second in line was the speaker of the House. Ingalls, as president pro tempore of the Senate, was third in line for the presidency. For a brief time between speakerships, Ingalls assumed the mantle of the vice president.

For reasons other than his brief tenure as acting vice president, the irrepressible "Kansas Rascal" will long be remembered. In his memoirs, he spoke of the "good things" in life: "to eat a good dinner, to get a little drunk, to smoke a cigar, to talk with bright men and women, to drive in the woods, to stroll in the sun, to get into a row occasionally if you can be on top, to sleep and to wake, to play with children, to read good books and wonder what life means and to what it leads, how we got here and where we are going—a perplexing riddle which has not yet been solved."

## Charles James Folger, G'1843

*State Senator (New York), 1861-1869; Secretary of Treasury, 1881-1884*

Ingalls was not the only Sig connected with the Arthur administration. From 1881 to 1884, Charles James Folger, G'1843, served as secretary of the treasury, only four heartbeats away from the presidency, and only two behind fellow Sig Ingalls. Folger was born in Nantucket, Massachusetts, and, after graduating from Hobart, became a lawyer in Geneva, New York. He was elected associate justice of the New York Court of Appeals in 1870 and served there until taking the position of secretary. Folger will be remembered for his efforts at reducing the public debt while in office as well as for his initiation of the civil service administration in the Treasury Department.

## Elihu Root, H'1860

*Republican: Secretary of War and Secretary of State, 1899-1904; U.S. Senator (New York); Nobel Peace Prize winner, 1912*

Another cabinet-level Sig needs no introduction, Elihu Root, H'1860. Root served as secretary of war under Presidents William McKinley and Theodore Roosevelt, occupying the post continually from 1899 to 1904. Praise was heaped on Root for his work in this office. Future Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson said of Root, "No such intelligent,

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## Help Us Find These "Lost" Alumni!

*We do not have current addresses for the alumni listed at right. If you can help us find any of them, please write to us at [sigmaphi@sigmaphi.org](mailto:sigmaphi@sigmaphi.org). Thank you!*

George C. Miller II, U'65  
Eric P. Serrilli, U'81  
Michael E. Bullen, U'94  
Jason K. McWilliams, H'17  
James F. O'Hare, H'63  
Paul Hulleberg, H'75  
Kenneth P. Gronningsater, H'76  
Christopher P. Bundy, H'79  
David Weseley, H'84  
Charles W. Traux, H'85  
Christian Drobynk, H'92  
Herbert H. Moser, W'52  
Peter Dietz, W'54  
Robert W. Brown, G'46  
Harvey L. Katz, G'53  
Horace Havemeyer III, G'61  
Robert T. Milne, G'80

Christopher P. Lesser, G'87  
Geoffrey N. Pyne, G'87  
Joseph Ruggie, G'90  
Jason Cotsibas, G'92  
Ripley Quinby Jr., V'51  
Theodore Edgecomb, V'59  
Jonathan P. Wort, V'65  
Richard K. Vanhoutum, M'52  
Peter A. Cartwright, M'56  
Peter G. Traverso, M'58  
Lawrence D. Percival, M'82  
Michael Jansen, M'85  
S. Michael Ansari, M'86  
Nicholas P. Shear, M'90  
David M. Gallers, M'92  
Peter F. Lafontaine, L'59  
Thomas M. Orlando, L'77

E. Ensley Hooker, C'38  
Richard E. Chittenden, C'48  
Benjamin I. Resner, C'87  
Bradley R. Huggett, F'81  
Joseph P. Fredrickson, F'92  
William F. Lauer, I'76  
Richard G. Gilligan, I'83  
Kassra P. Nassiri, I'93  
Arthur W. Chesterton, S'61  
William F. Kalinowski, S'65  
Christopher Rupp, S'76  
Matthew Radulski, S'84  
Carl Young Jr., S'87  
David M. Heiden, S'88  
Matthew L. Fox, S'93  
Thomas Swift, S'97

## Sigs And The Presidency

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constructive, and vital force had occupied that post in American history." In 1905, Root was rewarded for his efforts and offered the position of Secretary of State under Roosevelt, four steps away from the Oval Office.

While secretary of state, Root's accomplishments were numerous. Chief among them were the negotiation of the "gentleman's agreement," which dealt with Japanese immigration to America. Root sponsored the Central American Peace Conference in Washington in 1807, which resulted in the Central American Court of Justice. He assisted in the resolution of American-Canadian disputes, the institution of the American-Canadian Joint High Commission for the resolution of future problems, and the negotiation of 40 reciprocal arbitration treaties with other nations.

The international community recognized Root's tireless work on behalf of diplomacy and arbitration and awarded him the Nobel Peace Prize in 1912. Three years later the Republican Party also recognized his efforts. In 1915 he was offered, but declined, the party's nomination for the presidency. Root instead went on to head the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.



**Earl Warren, F12**  
*Republican: Governor of California, 1943-1953; Republican vice-presidential nominee, 1948; Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, 1953-1969*

Any discussion of Sigs and the presidency would have to include Earl Warren, F12. Warren served as governor of California for 11 years and later was appointed chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court by Dwight D. Eisenhower, a position he held from 1953 to 1969. While chief justice, Warren guided the Supreme Court to numerous landmark decisions. Chief among them was the *Brown vs. Board of Education* ruling of May 17, 1954, which deemed racial segregation in public schools unconstitutional.

Warren, however, had a near brush with the presidency only six years earlier. In 1948, Warren was the Republican Party's nominee for the vice presidency on the ticket headed by Thomas A. Dewey. The Dewey-Warren ticket lost by 4.39 percent to Harry Truman in an election that immortalized the photo of Truman holding up a newspaper with the headline, "DEWEY

## Networking Strengthens Our Society While Helping Brothers

I stepped into the Serp house for the first time on Friday, December 3, 1999, the night before the annual Sigma Phi Christmas formal at the Alpha of Virginia. The Virginia actives were busy with preparations for the following night's festivities. I was not in Charlottesville for a social call, but instead an interview at the University of Virginia Darden Graduate School of Business.

During the course of the evening, I learned that a Virginia Sig, Sean Werley, S'90, was currently in his second year at Darden, and his telephone number was posted on the wall. I spoke with Sean shortly thereafter, and we talked at length about his experiences at Darden. He provided me with an inside perspective that I could not have hoped to have after a one-day visit to the school. He also gave me the name of another Virginia Sig, Brett Pertuz, S'92, currently in his second year at Harvard Business School. Sean's candor about Darden's strengths and weaknesses was invaluable.

Herein lies the message I wish to impart. We should take advantage of every resource at our disposal in order to help one another as Sigs. When the Brothers of the Sigma Phi succeed, the Sigma Phi thrives as well. The Sigma Phi web page has started to build a networking page consisting of Brothers who are in a position to help others. Help can be in the form of career advice, job placement, or resume tips. This resource will only be effective insofar as we all use it, and the networking page can be used not only for career opportunities, but for graduate school information and much more.

For example, I spent a year in Vail, Colorado, after graduating from Union. Since I did not know anyone else in Vail, I had to look in the local newspaper for my first roommate. After several months in Vail, I knew countless people looking for roommates, and I knew about various job opportunities in the valley (not to mention which job allowed for the most slope time). I very easily could have helped anyone interested in a little skiing or boarding.

The Get Local page of the Sigma Phi web site is a great resource for finding our Brothers in areas across the country and around the globe. I encourage you to take a few minutes to let the Sigma Phi Society know your whereabouts and current activities. You could be in a unique position to help another Sig and not even know it.

BSL,  
Jonathan Kaufman U'95  
jonathank2@juno.com

**VISIT THE NETWORK AND "GET LOCAL" SECTIONS OF THE SIGMA PHI WEB SITE AT [WWW.SIGMAPHI.ORG](http://WWW.SIGMAPHI.ORG)**

DEFEATS TRUMAN." The election of 1948 was the only one Warren ever lost. A more macabre connection with the presidency came in 1963, when he was appointed to head the commission investigating the assassination of John F. Kennedy.

Although no Sig has yet established residence at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, the influence of Sigs undoubtedly has been felt there. Sherman, Ingalls, Folger, Root, and Warren have paved the way. When another Sig does reach those hallowed halls, as one undoubtedly will, he will have some very large, and sometimes colorful, shoes to fill.

BSL,  
Andrew Costello, V'96





## News Of Interest

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In June, **David Skinner, F'90**, became the director of marketing for Wilsons Leather in Minneapolis—and on his first day he discovered that he was working with Sig Brother **Jim Bernier, F'86**, “the president (and legend) of the house when I pledged. It was great to see a familiar face in a new place.” Two weeks later, to the sights and sounds of July Fourth fireworks, the Skinners welcomed their first child, daughter Nelle Irene. All are doing well. Send congratulations to theskinners@uswest.net or to 1903 Princeton Ave., Saint Paul, MN 55105.

**Charles P. Boswell, G'47**, writes that he and Martha are “enjoying the good life in southern New Hampshire and Rockport, Massachusetts.” Charlie has been spending many hours with the New Hampshire Chapter of the Nature Conservancy, of which he is a trustee. When he returned to Geneva, New York, earlier this year for his 50th class reunion—“a glorious affair!”—Charlie stayed with Sig Sister Bunny Bell. “Also ‘registered’ at ‘Hotel Bell’ were **David Couch, G'47**, **Bill Keiss, G'47**, and **Art Stewart, G'47**. We had an extraordinary good time and parted, promising to renew friendships as soon as possible.” Our address for the Boswells is Old County Rd. S., Frances-town, NH 03043.

**Theodore Parrish, H'83**, and his wife, Catherine, are the parents of two children, four-year-old Jaali and six-year-old Julius. Julius is autistic, and the Parrishes have recently undertaken intensive home therapy based on two programs, Son-Rise and Growing Minds, which have proven to be very effective in helping autistic children to understand and live in the world. Anyone interested in learning more about and/or supporting their efforts through the Julius Trees Parrish Fund can contact them at 1037 S. Cuyler, Oak Park, IL 60304 (parhal@worldnet.att.net).

“This year, **Ross Blaufarb, F'80**, a fellow California Sig, and I revitalized the Sigs of Southern California for its first March Fourth banquet since 1981,” writes **Ted Bosley, F'73** (1215 E. Woodbury Rd., Pasadena, CA 91104; bosley@usc.edu). “Twenty-seven Sigs came, from four chapters, including **Mryl Scott, F'49**, and **Rich Glenn, F'49**, who were celebrating 51 years as Sigs. The dinner was held at The

Gamble House, designed in 1908 by Greene & Greene, architects of the Alpha of California chapter house in Berkeley” Ted adds that he misses his involvement at the national level but is enjoying raising a four- and six-year-old.

At its December 1999 meeting in New York City, the Council of The American Law Institute (ALI) elected **Michael Traynor, F'52**, as the institute’s president designate. Michael will assume the presidency in May 2001 at the close of the institute’s 78th annual meeting. Send best wishes to Michael at 3131 Eton Ave., Berkeley, CA 94705.

**Harry Cuthbertson, F'44**, and Sig Sister Mary had a great “wallow in nostalgia” last spring as they traveled across the country visiting family, former business associates, and Sig Brothers. “We had a great champagne lunch with **Bud Fuller, F'44**, and his wife in Stamford, Connecticut. Enjoyed the sights of Portland, Oregon, with **Neil Fulton, F'47**. The martinis in Yreka, California, were well mixed by **Jack Severin, F'44**. Had a wonderful lunch with **Hugh Singrey, F'43**, and his wife in Napa, California, and a super get-together with **Tom Show, F'45**, in Saratoga, California. We calmed down enough to see **Will Melbye, F'45**, for a quiet afternoon in Pasadena. Some of us had not seen each other since graduation ceremonies in 1949!” For details, write to Harry at 205 Laurel Creek Blvd., Moorestown, NJ 08057 (hacuth@aol.com).

**Rich Glenn Jr., F'49**, volunteers with Strive, a national program that provides, free to participants, an intensive 15-day program preparing inner-city young adults for job interviews. Those who graduate (50 percent) are guaranteed job placement. Rich also serves as a mentor for a 15-year-old young man from Bosnia. “Both of these activities are highly gratifying,” writes Rich, “and lead me to wish that I had more time and energy to give to each!” Rich resides at 1181 Balclutha Dr., Foster City, CA.

Thelma and **J. Curtis Tyler Jr., F'36**, are enjoying retirement in their old stomping ground of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii (P.O. Box 129, 96745). When they first came ashore in 1946, this little village of 20 families had no water, no electricity, and no airport; “now we have Walmart,



**Congratulations!** Twenty-five Alpha of Vermont Sigs initiated in years 1987 to 1994 showed up in Manchester, Vermont, for the wedding of Cesar Murillo, V'89 (pictured center, first row), to Alyson Becker on Saturday, October 21. The fall foliage was in prime color for a weekend of golf, horseback riding, and shopping in the Manchester area for this great Vermont Sig gathering.

Kmart, Costco, and regular cruise ship arrivals—but we still have the best weather in the world, year 'round.” Curt still works his small coffee farm, which was planted over 100 years ago and still produces the highly prized Kona coffee. Curt and Thelma moved into Pearl Harbor Navy housing on December 1, 1941, and experienced the attack six days later “first-hand, in spades. It’s hard to believe it was 59 years ago. My ‘Pearl Harbor survivor license plate #186’ starts some interesting conversations!”

In April 1999, a tornado ripped through the home of Sue and **James I. Miller, M'69**, removing much of the second-floor master bedroom and sending a 160-mph wind through the rest of the house. “Luckily, we heard it coming (5:10 a.m.) and made it to the basement with our two dogs with seconds to spare. Wife, dogs, and boat (in that order) were saved. Guess the ‘thrice illustrious’ and whatever deity you choose to believe in were looking out for us that day. We are very thankful.” The Millers can be reached at jmille0926  
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**Moving? Contact us at [sigmaphi@sigmaphi.org](mailto:sigmaphi@sigmaphi.org) to inform us of your new address!**



## News Of Interest

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@aol.com or at 9028 Symmesridge Lane, Loveland, OH 45140.

"It's great to have moved back to Virginia," pens **Lon Holmberg, S'64** (Route 1, Box 250H, Orange, VA 22960; lonand sandy@earthlink.net). "Sandy and I have built a house in a hay field outside Orange, and I'm continuing to revise, for the umpteenth time, my Vietnam memoir, *Crossing the Pass of Clouds*."

**Lloyd F. Stamy Jr., S'70**, and his wife, Mary Margaret, are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Jonathan Patton Stamy, on January 31, 2000. Jonathan joins big sister Caroline (5). Lloyd is senior vice president of investment at C.S. McKee & Co., Inc., and managing partner of The Cobblestone Group. Drop him a line at 600 Pitcairn Place, Pittsburgh, PA 15232.

When he wrote in May, **Geoffrey M. Lang, S'61**, was about to marry Terri Rosenthal of Covington, Kentucky, in Bermuda. About a year ago he traded in the scenic view at a small bachelor pad overlooking the Ohio River for a new home with a large yard, friendly neighbors, and a swimming pool at 7755 Annesdale Dr., Cincinnati, OH 45243. E-mail reaches him at shorttrun@eds.net.

"We recently moved into an older home and are in the process of remodeling it," reports **Bradley L. Watson, S'84** (611

High St., Farmville, VA 23901; bwatson@moonstar.com). "We are also anxiously awaiting the arrival of our second child." He adds that any Sig far or near who is attending a Hampden-Sydney College football or basketball game—or just shopping for furniture at Green Front—is openly invited and welcome to drop in."

**David A. Paddon, U'84**, completed his fellowship training in arthritis and reconstructive surgery at John Hopkins in 1998 and has been in private practice in Florida ever since. His address is 2607 Flamingo Lane, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 (dapthip11@aol.com).

After spending three years working in TV/radio and athletics, **Sam Berger, U'95**, decided there really wasn't any money in those professions—so now he's working at an advertising agency, Arnold Communications, as an account coordinator. Mail reaches him at 36 Commonwealth Ave., Boston, MA 02116 (sberger@arn.com).

Besides working as a dentist, **Seth Blitzer, V'81**, is an inventor and has two patents pending, one in dentistry and one not. He and Sig Sister Letitia have three boys, Adam, David, and Samuel, and live at 521 Leopard Rd., Berwyn, PA 19312. Send e-mail to Seth at sblitzerdr@aol.com.

After 34-plus years at Xerox Corporation, where he held numerous headquarter and field positions, **Hank Burton, V'62**, retired in January 2000. He was planning to spend his first year of retirement getting his golf handicap down to a single digit and visiting family and friends. Fellow Sigs can contact him at 761 Bocage Lane, Beau Chene Country Club, Mandeville, LA 70471.

Banker **Robert W. Ker III, V'79**, reports that the Ker clan continues to thrive at 7 Smith Ridge Lane, New Canaan, CT 06840 (rker@optonline.net). He writes, "My father, **Bob Ker, V'41**, continues to avoid retirement, having assumed management of New England Home Company in yet another post-retirement career. Mother, Jane (Sig Sister), and father remain close at hand, to the delight of my family (wife Elizabeth and daughters Madeleine, five, and Abigail, almost two). We're all looking forward to the arrival of baby number three in July."

We apologize to **Charles R. Boyce, V'79**, who was erroneously reported as deceased in the last issue of *The Flame*. Charlie can be reached at 203/629-7130.



## Never Forget

*We regret to report the death of the following Brothers:*

James Streb, U'53	date unknown
Frederick T. Keeler, H'30	2/11/1998
Edgar B. Graves, H'52	1/1/1970
Justin Brande, W'38	4/11/2000
Henry H. Rich, G'39	1/27/2000
Arthur I. Stewart Jr., G'48	8/21/2000
Frederick Hotchkiss, G'49	6/7/2000
Phillip T. Barber, V'33	date unknown
Melville P. Maurice II, V'36	8/4/2000
Richard C. Hay, V'40	10/5/1998
Paul N. Sutton, V'40	5/17/1997
Matthew G. Tirrell, V'54	date unknown
Frank Lusk, M'35	7/22/2000
Thomas C. Walker, M'82	1/1/1993
Jonathan A. Covault, M'86	6/23/2000
Kenneth MacIsaac, L'16	date unknown
Yellott F. Hardcastle Jr., L'33	8/28/2000
Steven A. Yates, L'52	9/10/2000
Robert B. Schnur, C'32	7/12/2000
Henry C. Brown Jr., C'33	7/30/2000
Grant C. Ehrlich, C'35	4/15/2000
Nelson K. Moody Jr., C'36	date unknown
Kent Maynard, C'37	5/29/2000
Edward D. Eddy Jr., C'41	6/1/1998
Herbert E. Payne, C'42	2/2/2000
John L. Phelps, C'42	6/28/1999
Sanford B. D. Wood Jr., C'50	1/22/2000
John L. Marshall, C'55	date unknown
Knight C. Porter, F'24	3/19/2000
Robert C. Clark, F'32	3/12/1996
James W. Kissel, F'35	9/8/1999
William H. Day, F'50	3/1/2000
Jon W. Dalton, F'53	9/11/1999
James M. Hind, I'30	11/14/1999
William Mason, I'46	12/10/1999
Maynard C. Craig, I'53	1/1/1998
J. Lauren Naden	4/11/2000

## Sigma Phi

The Sigma Phi Society publishes the *Sigma Phi Flame* twice yearly. Please direct all inquiries, suggestions, photos, and changes of address to Sigma Phi National Headquarters, 317 W. State St., Ithaca, NY 14850-5490.

**DEREK R. FREDRICKSON, V'94**  
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MEMBER, NATIONAL  
INTERFRATERNITY  
CONFERENCE



Sigma Phi home page:  
[www.sigmaphi.org](http://www.sigmaphi.org)