



THE GATOR SIG



SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Gamma Theta Campaign Reaches \$4 Million— But There's Still Time to Join the Legacy!

Make a Gift Today

Thanks to the unwavering generosity of our alumni and friends, the *Celebrating 100 Years - Building 100 More* campaign has successfully reached \$4 million raised! A pivotal moment in this achievement was the remarkable \$990,000 estate gift from Brother **Curtis Jones '69**, whose legacy will forever be a cornerstone of Gamma Theta's future.

The campaign's success reflects the dedication of the Sigma Chi brotherhood. We have come a long way since originally engaging the campaign consulting and fundraising services of Pennington & Company in late 2019. Our initial feasibility study estimated we could raise \$1.8 to \$4 million, and with the combined efforts of our campaign consulting firm, campaign board members, and generous alumni, we reached the high end of this estimate; **however, we can stretch for more.**

From the earliest donors to those who stepped up in the final stretch, each of the 293 contributors of our 2,485 living alumni has played a vital role in this campaign. Together, we are ensuring that future generations of

Sigma Chi brothers at the University of Florida will have a home that honors our traditions while embracing the future.

This milestone achievement came as part of our unforgettable 100-year celebration last fall. Alumni from across the decades gathered to reconnect, reminisce, and witness firsthand the impact of our collective efforts. During the weekend, **Jimmy Springer '93** and **George Stuart '68** provided updates on the campaign progress and **Bill Olinger '64** and **Mark Weinberg '97** shared plans for what comes next from the house corporation. Throughout the weekend, we celebrated Gamma Theta's past and present successes, including the campaign efforts—but to build our future for the next 100 years—**our work is far from over!**

The house corporation is moving forward with project planning. Financing and construction timelines, contractor engagements, and overall design work are being fine-tuned to ensure that our chapter house will serve as a premier home for Gamma Theta for the next 100 years. **But it is not too late to add your name to the donor list and be part of this historic endeavor.**

If you are part of the 88% of alumni who have yet to contribute, naming opportunities remain, and pledges of all sizes continue to make an impact. Remember, whether you were part of the campaign's early momentum or are considering giving now for the first time or are somewhere in between, your support ensures that the spirit of Sigma Chi thrives for generations to come.

Don't miss your chance to be part of the next chapter in Gamma Theta's history. Visit ufsigmachi.causevox.com to make your pledge today!



In Hoc,
George Stuart '68
Campaign Co-Chairman
george.stuart@att.net | (407) 716-4215

Jim Springer '93
Campaign Co-Chairman
jimspringer01@gmail.com | (941) 539-3000

STRIVING TO BE THE BEST

Letter from the Consul

For the 2023-24 term, I had the privilege of serving as consul of Gamma Theta Chapter. Throughout my term, our leadership team constantly pushed for two things: consistent improvement and a commitment to excellence.

We are always looking for ways to innovate and improve our operations, highlighted by our philanthropic efforts in the past couple of years, which have resulted in multiple years of

\$60,000-plus raised; our recruitment efforts, which have resulted in back-to-back years of record-setting pledge class numbers; and our GPA, which now stands as the second best across all IFC chapters on campus.

Our commitment to excellence is evident by brothers upholding the standards that have stuck with our chapter over the past 100 years. Whether it be our involvement on campus or

our dedication to being gentlemen, we always strive to be the best in whatever it is we do. Cheers to the past 100 years, and here's 100 more!

In Hoc,
Conor Lynch '25
Consul



Brothers having a blast during centennial weekend.

Paul Ellis '88 and Todd Menke '90

GAMMA THETA TURNS 100!

Centennial Weekend Recap

Just like that, Gamma Theta's 100th anniversary has passed. We had an incredible fall weekend celebrating with our brothers, connecting with each other, and recognizing several Sigma Chis. Thank you to all who attended; it was great seeing everyone!

On Friday, October 4, 2024, brothers gathered for a cocktail reception at 6 p.m., which was followed by a Call to Order at 7 p.m. After a welcome, invocation, and a moment for the Sigma Chi Grace, dinner was served.

Throughout the evening, attendees enjoyed a new house update from Campaign Co-chairmen **Jimmy Springer '93** and Significant Sig **George Stuart '68** and remarks from House Corporation President **Bill Olinger '64** and **Mark Weinberg '97**. Then it was time for a national Sigma Chi update. Director of operations of the Sigma Chi Leadership Institute, Order of Constantine Brother **Jim Holcomb, Cal State University, Sacramento '94**, presented the 100th Anniversary Proclamation to Consul **Conor Lynch '25** and Sigma Chi military and first responder pins to several brothers.

Chapter Advisor **Hank Greist '96** and Conor gave an update on the active chapter and introduced Significant Sig and UF's 11th president, **Dr. Bernie Machen, Vanderbilt '66**, who gave a few remarks. This was followed by special awards and the presentation of the Significant Sig Award to Judge **Wesley Tibbals '95**.

The evening ended with an introduction of the chapter sweetheart from Alumni Chairman **William Galleher '25**, "The Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" serenade, and closing remarks.

On Saturday, October 5, brothers attended the Sigma Chi Brotherhood Ritual Meeting at 11 a.m., led by Jim Holcomb. Jimmy Springer then discussed an update on the *Celebrating 100 Years - Building 100 More* campaign and information about the alumni mentorship program.

Those who attended Ritual got a 100-year anniversary photo and received a house update in front of the Sigma Chi house.

At 3 p.m., brothers tailgated for the UF vs. UCF game and enjoyed another 100-year anniversary photo.

This was certainly an event to remember!

University of Florida 100th Anniversary



Groundbreaking of the Original Chapter House, 1928



Gamma Theta Chapter 1924

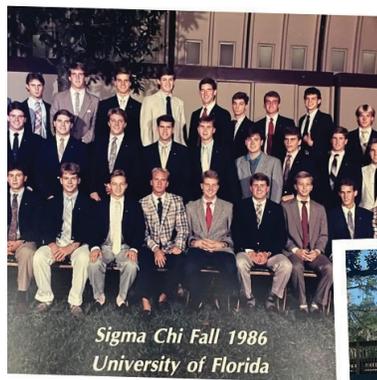


The Original Chapter House, 1928



A glimpse of the past to our fraternity today.

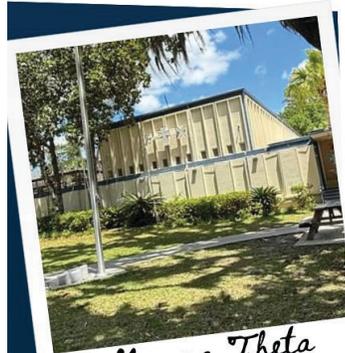
University of Florida 100th Anniversary



Sigma Chi Fall 1986
University of Florida



Gamma Theta Chapter 2024



Gamma Theta Chapter house 2024



Sigma Chi
EXPECT MORE.



House Corporation President Bill Olinger II '64 Inducted Into the Order of Constantine

Congratulations to Our Brother

The brothers of Gamma Theta are pleased to announce that brother **Bill Olinger II '64** has been inducted into the Sigma Chi Order of Constantine. Founded in 1948, the award is the highest honor a Sigma Chi can receive. Limited to a maximum of 21 inductees per year, Bill is one of only 850 Sigma Chis (of the over 250,000 initiated) to receive this prestigious honor. He is rightly recognized for his long and devoted service to our chapter and Fraternity.

As an undergraduate, Bill served as Consul in 1963 and was the Balfour Award nominee in 1964. He joined the Gamma Theta House Corporation in 1970 and has been on the board for over 50 years, serving as HCB president on several occasions, including today.

“Bill also served as chapter advisor for 15 years, with the chapter winning many Peterson Awards,” Past Grand Trustee **William Robinson, Washington '59** shared in his Order of Constantine nomination letter. “This chapter has produced many Florida campus leaders over the years of Bill’s leadership and consulship.”

“He was and remains the ‘institutional knowledge’ of the house corporation, the

financial structure, and the history of our chapter houses.” **Jay Howell '71** shared in his nomination.

Bill is the co-founder of Koss Olinger, a financial service firm that has grown into the largest and most respected financial planning and money management firm in north central Florida. He is a Chartered Life Underwriter, has a master’s in financial services, is a Chartered Financial Consultant, and is a life member of the Million Dollar Roundtable.

“Brother Bill has distinguished himself within all the industry recognitions possible, but his service to his profession is also matched by his service to the UF Sigma Chi Chapter and the Gainesville community,” **Robert Stuart '75** shared in his nomination.

In his community, Bill has served on several boards, including United Way of North Central Florida and Barnett Bank of Alachua County, and been president Kiwanis Club of Gator City, the Estate Planning Council of North Central Florida, and more.

Congratulations on this recognition, Bill!



Bill Olinger II '64

is Gamma Theta’s Fifth Order of Constantine Recipient Out of Its 100-Year History. Other recipients are:

Dr. W. Theodore Mealar Jr. '62 – 2000

Jerry L. Jordan '57 – 1991

John A. Bouvier Jr. 1926 – 1988

J. Lyle Williams '40 – 1982

House Corporation Board

President

Bill Olinger '64

Financial consultant at Koss Olinger

Vice President

Mark Weinberg '97

Investment banker at J.P. Morgan

Secretary

Rich Highfield '94

Mortgage banker and head of CMBS Lending for Greystone

Treasurer

Frank Green '64

Retired CPA, University of Florida

Members

George Albright '78

Tax collector for Marion County

John Briggs '67

Attorney and managing partner of Gamma Theta 2022 LLC

Jim East '95

Senior risk control consultant for Alliant Americas

Craig Curry '71

Realtor® and Marion County commissioner

Chapter Officers

Consul **Nicky Sadaka '26**

Pro Consul **Miles Herron '24**

Annotator **Luke Sadaka '27**

Magister **Nicky Sadaka '26**

Quaestor **Micheal Sawarynski '25**

Risk Manager **Will Potter '26**

Recruitment Chairman **Maddox Bryant '26**

Social Chairman **Merritt Reynolds '27**

Alumni Chairman **William Galleher '25**

Kustos **Reese Watkins '26**

Steward **Keal Mccarey '25**

PR Chairmen

Miles Herron '24 and **Alex Sidloski '24**

Derby Days Chairmen

Theo Rumberger '27 and **Ryan Tucci '27**



HEARTFELT THANKS TO

Our deepest gratitude to our remarkable brothers and friends (listed by initiation year) who've committed to the *Celebrating 100 Years - Building 100 More* campaign. Your generosity echoes the spirit of our cherished Sigma Chi, ensuring its enduring legacy. Together, we've surpassed \$4 million in pledges—a testament to the strength of our bonds.

We're thrilled to have reached this milestone and invite brothers who have yet to give to join us in helping us reach our highest level of participation possible! No gift is too small, and pledges or continued gifts are truly appreciated.

Order of Constantine Society (\$750,000 and above)

Memorial Estate of
Curtis Jones '69

1855 Founders Society (\$500,000 to \$749,999)

Benjamin Piatt Runkle Society (\$250,000 to \$499,999)

William Lewis Lockwood Society (\$100,000 to \$249,999)

William D. Olinger II '61
Joel A. Pellicci '62
Boone Family Gift
Jeffery A. Boone '78
Stephen K. Boone '78
Edward "Alex" Santos '92

L.G. Balfour Society (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

John M. Nabers '56
Memorial Estate of
Gary Dirlam '62
Kirkpatrick Family Gift
John W. Kirkpatrick III '62
Kenneth B. Kirkpatrick '86
Vernon Swartsel '62
John C. Briggs '63
J. Kyle Bachus '87
Geoffrey A. Frazier '87
James "Clancey" Bounds '88

Friendship, Justice & Learning Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Ustler Family Foundation
In honor of
Jerry J. Chicone Jr. '52

Ustler Family Foundation
In memory of
F. Thomas Ustler '58
Hartman Family Gift
William T. Hartman '61
Michael S. Hartman '65
Frank W. Hartman, *Beta Psi* '71
Jerry J. Chicone Jr. '52
Charles "Chic" Holden Jr. '59
Henry W. Haeseker '60
In memory of
Nancy Sue Wilson,
Sweetheart '63
David L. Echols '63
George L. Stuart Jr. '65
Moody/Fulcher Family Gift
Jim Moody '66
Bill Moody '68
Jamey Moody '96
Ryan Fulcher '00
Marion "Bubba" Nelson Jr. '66
William F. Shewey '66
Todd Family Gift
Brad Todd '67
Tommy Todd '70
Michael Todd '97
Whittemore Family Gift
Kent Whittemore '67
Jim Whittemore '74
Don Whittemore '82
Ryan Whittemore '00
Jason Whittemore '03
Chris Whittemore '06
Bergert Family Gift
Fred L. Bergert, *Beta Psi* '59
James W. Bergert, *Beta Psi* '61
Glen F. Bergert '69
Robert F. Stuart Sr. '72
Mike Carroll '73
Jim Dickert '74
In memory of
Robert R. Dickert '44
Keith F. Simmons '74
Smith Family Gift
Tom Smith, *Eta Pi* '74
James "J.T." Smith '06

Donors of \$1,000 and above will be recognized in appropriate giving categories in all campaign publications unless otherwise requested. Pledges of \$2,500 and above will be displayed on a permanent donor plaque at the house.

If you notice any discrepancies in your gift listing, we sincerely apologize—please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661. Thank you for shaping the future of Sigma Chi!

Patrick C. Everett '76
Mark A. Rosser '76
Scott G. Hawkins '77
James C. Polkinghorn '77
David A. Black '78
In memory of
Deedy and Ross Carrier '78
Robert T. Hawksley '78
Henry B. Hostetter '78
Robert E. V. Kelley Jr. '78
In memory of
Mom Woods
John E. Kampfe '79
Mark A. Sessums '80
J. Daniel Singleton Jr. '80
Lucas Fleming '81
Richard R. Alexander '83
In memory of
John B. Cato '83
Sean E. Noble '84
Michael T. Hoyt '85
Robert L. Castillo '86
Frank F. Fernandez III '86
Michael G. Potapow Jr. '86
William C. Guthrie '87
W. Todd Menke '87
Gregory D. Prysock '87
James L. Springer Jr. '89
Jim Wetzel '89
Rodrigo Bolanos, M.D. '91
Richard T. Highfield '92
Kevin S. Probel '92
Travis W. Vickers '92
Grier Pressly '93
Radley W. Ruland '93
Shapiro Family Gift
Mark Shapiro, *Alpha Eta* '93
Jack Shapiro '19
Weinberg Family Gift
Mark H. Weinberg '94
Michael N. Weinberg '99
Merritt Weinberg '23
Maddox Weinberg '24

Hunter Family Gift
Bill Lowery, *Gamma Chi* '50
Brian Lowery, *Gamma Nu* '79
Josh Hunter '95
Theodore S. Kypreos '96

Constantine Chapter Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Jay Howell '68
Pearce Family Gift
Robert J. Pearce Jr. '71
Kem M. Pearce '79
R. J. Pearce III '03
Jay B. Starkey III '82
James R. Thames '86
J. David Torbert '88
David M. Loomis '90
William C. Martin '90
Ryan P. Evans '91

Gamma Theta 1924 Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

James D. Wiltshire '50
In memory of
Susan Wiltshire, *Sweetheart* '55
Culpepper Family Gift
P. Bruce Culpepper '60
J. Bruce Culpepper '85
Brad Culpepper '88
W. Russ Mathis '62
Council "Butch" Wooten Jr. '62
Frank P. Saier '66
John J. Flad '68
Young E. Hall Jr. '68
In memory of
Donna M. Hall '71
Martin J. La Barbera '69
Louis "Kipp" Minter '70
Charles S. Stuart '70
Albert J. Mixner Jr. '72
George J. Albright '75
John "Jay" Caffey III '75
Connelly Family Gift
Paul M. Connelly '76
Michael J. Connelly '77
Robert T. Klingbeil Jr. '76



OUR SIGMA CHI FAMILY!



Brown Family Gift
 Chip Brown '78
 Ted Brown '81
 Larry Brown '84
 Trevor Brown '10
 Parker Brown '12
 Dellecker Family Gift
 Robert H. Dellecker '78
 John R. Dellecker '05
 Troy F. Storey '80
 In memory of
 John D. Bank '80 and
 Charles A. Morehead '80
 Michael S. Caudill '81
 In memory of
 Lenny Cruz '79
 Steven S. Perry '82
 Paul B. Ellis '86
 Henry Gonzalez III '88
 Vincent C. Horton '91
 John "Cater" Randolph Jr. '91
 John V. Marra '92
 Wesley D. Tibbals '92
 Robert F. Stuart Jr. '01

White Cross Society (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Sam L. Perry '62
 Melvin L. Sanderson '64
 W. Wayne Woodard '64
 Anthony E. De Los Santos '66
 Kenneth P. Mingledorff '66
 Ken Norrie '66
 Charles S. White '66
 David L. Holbrook '67
 Thomas A. DeMarco III '68
 Curtis T. Jones '68
 Robert A. Heekin Sr. '70
 G. Frederic Joy '70
 David G. Neale '72
 John P. Drawbert, M.D. '73
 John F. "Chip" Lutz '73
 Hummel Family Gift
 Jim Hummel '74
 Robert Hummel '76
 Mahler Family Gift
 Frank G. Mahler '74
 Michael B. Mahler '98
 Kevin S. Mahler '00
 Paul Connelly '76
 Robert D. Hummel '76
 Richard A. Johnston Jr. '76
 David S. Lewis '77
 James K. Cross '78

Scott M. Bissell '84
 In memory of
 Scott Garland '84
 Bright Family Gift
 P. Blaise Bright '84
 Paul Bright '20
 Timothy Wagner '86
 John T. Cash III '87
 Sean Cuda '87
 Brant Fleming '87
 Jerry F. Kempton '87
 Victor J. Musleh Jr. '87
 T. Kevin Taylor '87
 Lee Chojnacki '88
 Steven C. Fernandez '88
 Michael B. Greiner '88
 Todd Menendez '88
 Tony Rodriguez '88
 Richard C. Wahl '88
 Jeffrey "JC" Wells '88
 John W. Reaves Jr. '89
 Steven J. Vinci '89
 Michael A. Gibbs '90
 Bradley Eavenson '91
 Cary S. Wiggins '91
 Brad T. Bassler '93
 David L. DeAngelo '93
 Anthony Ingrassia '93
 Jeffrey M. Sullivan '93
 W. Sean Gerlin '97
 Timothy G. Anderson Jr. '98
 Jeremy A. Steding '00
 John C. Hettinger '03
 Albert F. Kaminsky '09
 Paras S. Saxena '11
 Tyler L. Cameron '15
 Jack S. McCall '15

Blue & Gold Society (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

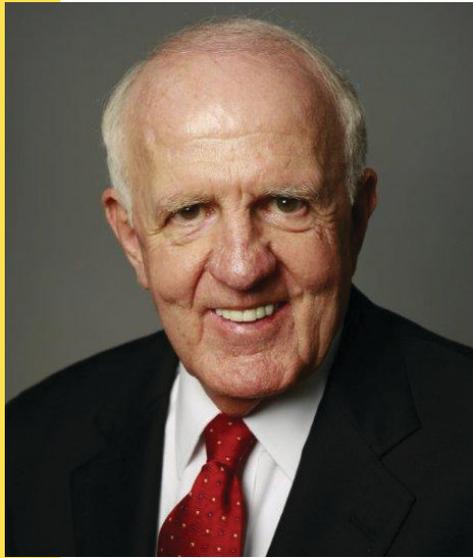
Warren B. Wiltshire Jr. '53
 George A. Sprinkel IV '61
 Leonard M. Vincenti '61
 Bill Rochat '63
 M. Wayne Johnson '64
 Simmens Family Gift
 Joseph F. Simmens '69
 Joseph A. Simmens '94
 Robb Simmens '00
 R. David Kerrins Jr. '68
 Thomas Seybold '68
 Joseph P. McGuigan '69
 R. Terry Rigsby '70
 Robert H. Buck '71
 Towney G. Kennard Jr. '71

Blake L. Stichter '71
 Mark W. Goodson '72
 Steven C. Orman '72
 In memory of
 Dan Parkinson '82
 Robert F. Stuart Sr. '72
 J. Daniel Singleton Jr. '80
 Allen L. Johnson '82
 David C. Arnsparger '84
 Ralph C. Ghioto III '84
 Robert R. Lindgren '73
 James R. Patrinely, M.D. '73
 Robert E. O'Quinn Jr. '74
 David J. Akins '75
 Hector Aguilar '75
 In memory of
 Brad Ford '76
 Lee Ritenbaugh '77
 In memory of
 John Stock '77
 J. Michael Brown '78
 James S. Chonko '79
 In memory of
 Lynn Van Hyning,
Delta Delta Delta '83,
Gamma Theta Little Sister
 Robert A. Porter, D.V.M. '79
 Harold P. Reddick Jr. '79
 In memory of
 Chuck Saunders '85 and
 Aster "Tochy" Garcia '83
 Bradley M. Thompson '80
 Eric P. Carlson '81
 In memory of
 Carl G. Carlson '53
 James L. Lonquist, M.D. '81
 In memory of
 Chuck Saunders '85
 William Obregon Jr. '81
 Page Family Gift
 Robert Draughn Page
 Gregg A. Page '81
 Allen L. Johnson '82
 In memory of
 Bob Burge '82
 Derrick E. Cox '84
 Bruce H. Denson '85
 Robert W. Pitcher '85
 William B. Wiltshire '86
 David R. Horrell '87
 Michael A. Short '87
 Anthony E. Wilson '87
 John Cox '89
 Christopher Pflueger '89
 John A. Cox Jr. '90

Don Moll '90
 Scott M. Benke '92
 John A. Sulser '92
 Gregory "Scot" Grooms '93
 Michael T. Gomez '94
 Calvin G. Whitaker Jr. '94
 Max R. Macon '95
 M. Todd Pembroke '96
 Eli Esquivel '97
 Taylor C. Kessel '97
 Brett W. Zak '98
 Christopher L. DeCort '99
 Ryan T. Hyde '99
 Jason LaBarbera '99
 Thomas Heekin '08
 Tyler A. Owens '08

George Ade Society (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Wilton B. Duncan Jr. '51
 George E. Greene III '56
 In memory of
 Jack M. Wallace '54 and
 Claude I. Allen Jr. '54
 Russell W. Carpenter '60
 Carl D. Collins '60
 William W. Wright '61
 Tayler "Mac" Boyd '62
 John E. Morris '63
 Rae O. Weimer Jr. '63
 In memory of
 Bob Gomez '63
 David D. Rawlins '65
 Michael R. Zern '67
 Gregory A. Heydel '68
 Jeffrey S. Davis '70
 Richard A. Chazal, M.D. '71
 Robert W. Revels '71
 Raymond B. Rutherford Jr. '77
 David R. Tienstra '77
 David F. LaCamera '78
 John M. Pipkin '78
 Daniel J. Engebretson '81
 David C. Arnsparger '84
 Charles D Hines '87
 David A. King '89
 Brian D. Smith '90
 James W. East '92
 William A. Yaegers '93
 Andrew Briggs '94
 Noah W. Brindise '94
 J. Olivier "Oli" Larrauri '97
 Justin T. Page '99
 John P. Lithgow '04
 Carrie and Tim Gillette '24



From left: Carson Rugh '22, Ken Rugh '91, Craig Ustler '91, and Tom Ustler '61 attend a Gators football game.

GUIDED BY SIGMA CHI

Remembering Tom Ustler '61

As the son of a devoted Sigma Chi brother, **Craig Ustler '91** grew up seeing his late father, **Tom '61**, lead a life of fraternal discipline. Tom's unwavering passion for Sigma Chi's values left an indelible mark on his son's life and continues to set an example for Gamma Theta Chapter members.

A MAN OF PRINCIPLE

"My dad carried himself as a Sigma Chi," Craig said. He recalls his father often talking about a "deep sense of personal responsibility" ingrained within him from the fraternity, and Tom could always be found wearing his Sigma Chi ring. "He upheld the Jordan Standard in every aspect of his life."

While some alumni lose sight of their fraternal foundation beyond college, Tom's Gamma Theta experience instilled integrity that he carried into all aspects of life. He didn't push his son to join Sigma Chi, but they both took great pride in sharing Craig's initiation as a special moment.

"I turned around and my father was there. He pinned me with his pin. It is something I will never forget. My father was a fall 1957 pledge,

and I was fall 1987; 30 years apart, but it did not seem like that. Sigma Chi values are timeless."

THE VALUE OF CONNECTIONS

Craig was well-aware of Sigma Chi's broad social network before becoming a member. His father appreciated having several fraternal connections in Orlando, and he took the time to develop friendships with members from Craig's era.

Tom especially enjoyed attending the annual Sigma Chi luncheon and reconnecting with several alumni in Orlando. After his passing, Craig spoke with **George Stuart '68**, who said that he looked up to Tom and joined the fraternity because of people like him.

"Not many sons get to share this with their father," Craig added. "When my dad was disappointed in me or thought I could do better, he talked about what it meant to be a Sigma Chi and holding yourself to a certain standard. That voice in my head will never go away."

Tom's fraternal devotion shaped him as a friend and family man. When Craig thinks of his father, he remembers a true gentleman built by Sigma Chi.

"My dad was a Sigma Chi for life, and he lived it every day."

Sigma Chi in His Blood – Remembering Curtis Jones '69

Curtis Jones '69 was the kind of brother who really breathed Sigma Chi," **Jay Howell '71** shared. "He had Sigma Chi blood running through his veins, and he was a loyal friend and brother."

After graduating from the University of Florida, Curtis served in Vietnam; upon his return, he eventually settled in Gainesville and became involved with the Gamma Theta House Corporation, where he served as secretary.

"He spent many years attending the meetings, monitoring the building, and looking out for the chapter," Jay recalled. "We always appreciated his deep service."

"I first met Curtis in 2011 when Gamma Theta Chapter needed a new chapter advisor," **Hank Greist '96** shared. "Curtis was an active undergrad with my father. Once I accepted the



role, our regular interactions continued for over a decade. Curtis was always active in keeping the house corporation responsive to changing house needs and keeping its policies relevant, even when the undergraduates' requests may have come from left field. From fences to food to fire safety, our communication covered many areas, but one thing remained faithful and that was Curtis' continued commitment to Sigma Chi and Gamma Theta."

"Curtis was critical to the campaign; he was a member of the house corporation that authorized the feasibility study and campaign, and on several votes about the process of the campaign, he was a swing vote. He supported it all the way, including leaving a significant bequest after his passing," **George Stuart '68** said.

Curtis also served as house director for a year or two. In his career, he worked in music promotion and radio sales before owning a Valpak franchise.

"He was very instrumental in getting rock and roll music played on the radio. He had copies of many gold records that were given to him by the artists who gave him a lot of credit for them having received their gold records."

He enjoyed cycling, reading, watching movies, listening to music, and attending Jazz Fest in New Orleans. He was a proud Sigma Chi and had a collection of fraternity pins, crosses, flags, and other memorabilia. He remained in touch with his brothers over the years.

We are truly grateful for Curtis' lifelong devotion to Gamma Theta; he has made a large impact on our brotherhood and campaign and his legacy will live on as we enter this next chapter of Gamma Theta.

Alumni Updates

Chapter Eternal

Dr. D. Michael Watkins '72 entered Chapter Eternal on December 3, 2024. Michael served as consul during his time in Gamma Theta. After receiving his bachelor's in chemistry, he went on to obtain his Doctor of Medicine in dentistry. In dental school, he met his future husband, Michael Murphy, whom he married in 2011. Michael practiced dentistry for about 44 years before retiring. He enjoyed traveling, cooking, entertaining, singing, the theater, and the gym.

UF Professor Larry Howard Oldest Pledge for Sigma Chi



Former Consul Todd Menke '90 giving a pledge pin to Larry Howard, Sigma Chi's oldest pledge, at age 81. Larry is a part of the 2025 spring pledge class through the Sigma Chi NSI (non-student initiate) Program. Larry is currently working as a UF professor for mechanical and aerospace engineering.

Sarasota Mayor Erik Arroyo joins Spring 2025 Sigma Chi Pledge Class

It is not often in life that you are given second chances to go back in time and do something you always wanted to accomplish.

Congratulations to **Erik Arroyo** for now being able to move forward with his bid that was extended 14 years ago to become Gamma Theta Chapter's newest pledge.



Our 170-year-old brotherhood is proud to have Erik's enrollment in the Sigma Chi Non-Student Initiate Program. Erik Jhoan Arroyo is an American lawyer and politician. He became the youngest and first Hispanic mayor in the history of Sarasota, Fla. He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

Erik, you meet the The Jordan Standard for our brotherhood and we look forward to your walk

in pledgeship toward initiation in Sigma Chi. In Hoc Signo Vinces!

The Jordan Standard is a set of minimum requirements for membership in the Sigma Chi fraternity, established by founder Isaac M. Jordan in 1884. It outlines the characteristics Sigma Chi seeks in potential members, emphasizing character, morals, and personal responsibility over factors like race or socioeconomic background. The standard states that Sigma Chi should only admit men who are believed to be men of:

- * Good character
- * Fair ability: as a student
- * Ambitious
- * Congenial
- * Morally sound
- * Honorable
- * Personally responsible

Sigma Chi chapters use the Jordan Standard to evaluate potential members before inviting them to pledge. The fraternity believes in a year-round process of seeking high-quality men, and chapters that participate in the Mission 365 program are twice as likely to recruit campus leaders. See sigmachicago.org/home/leadership-resources/the-jordan-standard.

WELCOME, NEW BROTHERS!

W. Riley Adams | Dallas, Texas
Michael Amato | Weston, Conn.
Matthew Bekish | Fort Worth, Texas
Alexander Benazzi | Glen Cove, N.Y.
Ethan Bergman | Melbourne Beach, Fla.
Ben Burk | Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
James "Wilson" Burns | Charleston, S.C.
Daniel Bustos | Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.
Pedro Cava | Sarasota, Fla.
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Davian Hernandez | Daytona Beach, Fla.
Cooper Hronchek | Greenville, S.C.
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Henry Lescher | Fort Lauderdale, Fla.
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Maddox Weinberg | Winter Park, Fla.
Tyler White | Pensacola, Fla.
James Zandri | Fairfield, Conn.





The *Celebrating 100 Years - Building 100 More* campaign has reached \$4 million! We are thrilled by the progress we've made and thank all who have contributed.

Our work is not over. Read the latest campaign updates on page 1.

Campaign Status at a Glance

As of April 1, 2025

Total Dollars Raised \$4,029,906

Donors 293

Alumni Participation 11.8%



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See a centennial recap and more photos on page 2!

*(Above) Alumni and undergraduates celebrating Gamma Theta's centennial.
(Below) Our current chapter officers.*



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