

# Newsletter

## April 2015

### Upcoming Events

July 19, 2015: Family Picnic Day



### Formal Recap

This past formal was a milestone achievement for Delta Tau. Held on April 11th, 2015, we celebrated our 25th anniversary. The event was held at the Embassy Suites in downtown Indianapolis. During the celebration, we had the privilege of meeting Sigma Tau Gamma's new CEO, Steve Latour. He is currently on a road trip visiting every chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma in the US. Steve had a plethora of great information to share with everyone regarding his vision and goals for Sigma Tau Gamma. We were honored to have him at our 25th anniversary formal.

In addition to Mr. Latour being at formal, we had our long time friend and brother, Mr. Bill Hardebeck and his wife, Cathy, join us for the weekend's events. We have been fortunate to have become very close with brother Hardebeck and his wife over the years. He has attended many formals and other functions and continues to be great example of a true Sig Tau Brother.

This years anniversary event had approximately 90 people in attendance. We had people from various classes in attendance along with some former White Roses. The evening started off with dinner followed by awards and special presentations. A Delta Tau slideshow trip down memory lane and some dancing closed out the event. During the evenings events, there was a silent

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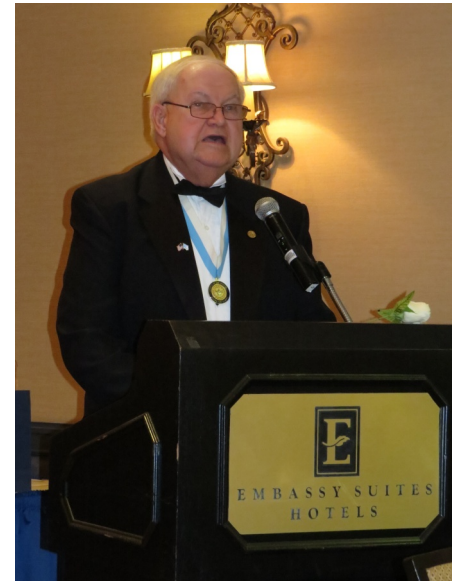




auction with various donated items. All proceeds from the auctions went to the Alumni Association.

The entire weekend was a resounding success. Friday evening, a "Meet & Greet" in Brother Van Camp's room provided a reunion setting for brothers from far away places. Likewise, Brother Van Camp's room provided a location to continue the celebrations of formal after the event had ended.

We want to thank the Embassy Suites in downtown Indianapolis for their hospitality and a great job at catering our event. Thank you to all the brothers who attended and a sincere heart felt "We Miss You" to all those brothers who were unable to make it.



Above: banquet room at dinner. Middle (left): Steve Latour. Middle (right): Bill Hardebeck.

# Annual Meeting

The Alumni Association held their annual meeting during the day on April 11th. We were honored to have Steve Latour sit in our annual meeting; he was able to provide us with some valuable insight from Headquarters. With that knowledge, we were able to come up with some ideas for future improvements to our Association. Additionally, Mr Latour informed us that the Delta Tau Alumni Association is, in his opinion, one of the Top 5 Alumni Associations in our Fraternity. He was impressed at how the Association is doing and how involved we were. According to him, one of the big reasons we were in the Top 5 was because we held meetings, organized events, and were involved with our local chapter.

For all of you who are currently a part of the association or have been part of the association in the past, I want to personally thank you for your hard work. It was and is your commitment to the Delta Tau chapter of Sigma Tau Gamma that continues to make our chapter and association strong. We have shown that it's not hard to be a part of the association. It requires a little bit of time, money, and effort, but the efforts are well worth it. As alumni we have been providing a good example for the actives. It shows them that their commitment to Sigma Tau Gamma is not just a college commitment, it is a lifelong commitment.

During the meeting, we had some lengthy discussions regarding usage of the money currently in our Heritage Fund. As many of you know, the money in this fund "may be used for educational programs, including scholarships and leadership education grants." As a result of the discussions during the meeting, we created a committee who will work with Nationals in coming up with some scholarships for our local chapter. This committee was created primarily because of the amount of details and specifics needed for the scholarships. With that being said, we encourage ALL members of the Delta Tau chapter to continue to donate money to our Heritage Fund so that it can be used to fund these scholarships and give back to our local chapter.

This year, with elections taking place, there was

only one position that had enough people to warrant a vote, Vice President of Membership. The rest of the positions were running unopposed. The results from the election are as follows:

- Mike Van Camp – President
- Curt Binder, DC – Executive Vice President
- Zac Garner – Vice President of Finance
- Chad Smith – Vice President of Membership
- Ben Miller – Vice President of Programs

The new board has a great group of brothers on it. They have lots of good ideas and are excited to continue to grow and build the Delta Tau Alumni Association.



Below: Some of the items available during the silent auction.



# Awards

After dinner, as customary at all Formal's, we had the awards presentation. There were awards given out by the Chapter and Alumni Association. In addition to those awards, Mr. Latour presented the Delta Tau chapter a resolution of heartfelt pride and appreciation for our contribution to the strength and history of Sigma Tau Gamma.

Chapter Awards:

**Brother of the Year Nominees:**

*\*Zach Cooper*  
Dakoda Howard  
Connor Lynn  
Keith Johnson

**Associate of the Year Nominees:**

*\*Nick Butts*  
Austin McGhee  
Jacob Loomis  
C.J. Dunwiddie

**Parents of the Year Nominees:**

Connor Lynn's Parents  
Landon Winslow's Parents  
*\*Taylor Collins' Parents*  
Taylor Johnson's Parents

**Sportsman of the Year Nominees:**

*\*Ali Almomen*  
Braydon Jefferson  
Connor Lynn  
Ryan Crowther

**Glutton for Punishment Nominees:**

Connor Lynn  
Braydon Jefferson  
Keith Johnson  
*\*Mitch Watkins*  
Zach Scott

**White Rose Queen Nominees:**

Jade Schimmel  
*\*Sara Leyes*

**Most Improved GPA:**

*\* Connor Lynn*

**Alumni of the Year Nominees:**

Jeff Scheumann  
*\*Tyler Fleck*  
Dan Bravard  
Johnny Nichols  
Eric Foster  
Mike Van Camp

*\* denotes winner of the award.*

Alumni Association Awards:

New Member of the Year Award: Ben Miller  
Member of the Year Award: Zac Garner



Mike Van Camp and Zach Cooper receive the resolution from Steve Latour



Left: Brycen Joyce presenting Associate of the Year award to Nick Butts.



Right: Jason Veenstra presenting Sportsman of the Year award to Ali Almomen



Left: Zach Cooper presenting Most Improved GPA award to Connor Lynn



Right: Marty McKnight presenting Brother of the Year award to Zach Cooper



Left: Dustin McGillem presenting the Glutton for Punishment award.



Middle: Chad Smith presenting New Member of the Year award to Ben Miller.



Right: Chad Smith presenting Member of the Year award to Zac Garner



Above: Brothers serenading our new White Rose, Sara Leyes

Below: The 2015 White Rose, Sara Leyes



## Note from Mike

I really did not get to relax and enjoy dinner until I hit play on the slideshow. However I had a lot of fun planning the entire event and doing the best I could to get as many Alumni back for the 25th. I think my favorite part of the night was when Nick Butts was given the founders pin. As a past holder of the pin I understand the significance of such an awesome honor. It's pretty cool knowing we have guys like Nick in the chapter it makes the future of Delta Tau that much brighter.

Mike Van Camp  
President, Delta Tau Alumni Association

# Wilson C Morris Fellow

This year, we had something truly amazing happen. We had 5 brothers become Wilson C Morris Fellows. For those of you who do not know what this is, here's the description straight from the Nationals website.

*“The Wilson C. Morris Fellows are those people (alumni, friends, undergraduates) that have given \$1,000 to the Foundation in a four-year period. Named for the Fraternity’s first chapter advisor, Wilson C. Morris, the Fellowship carries on the tradition of supporting our chapters.”*

The amazing part was that all 5 of these brothers became Fellows due to charitable donations by other brothers unbeknownst to them. Here are the new Fellows and who made the donation on their behalf:

Curt Binder, DC on behalf of Mike Van Camp,  
Zac Garner, Chad Smith

Blake Copley on behalf of Dan Bravard

Ben Miller on behalf of Dan Bravard

LaMar Peterson on behalf of Dan Bravard

Buff Dormeier on behalf of Dan Bravard

In addition to them becoming Fellows, our Heritage Fund gained \$5,000.

As mentioned in the Annual Meeting article, a committee has been formed to compile scholarship ideas for the utilization of this money. We ask that you continue to make donations to our chapter Heritage Fund so we can offer scholarships to the actives. Let's continue to grow our Heritage Fund each year. Pay it forward brothers.

To make a donation, please check out the "Chapter Endowment" section of our website for more details.

Left to Right: Buff Dormeier, LaMar Peterson, Ben Miller, Blake Copley, Curt Binder, Chad Smith, Zac Garner, Mike Van Camp, Dan Bravard



# Note from Andy Clark

One score and 5 years ago, a small group of friends did their level best to get something they believed in off the ground. Even after attending the formal and having a few days to process the idea, I am still amazed that there was a 25th anniversary celebration commemorating the event. How I wish that for just a little while I could take everyone back in time to see first-hand how it happened (additionally, it would confirm that we all were thinner, better looking and had hair that wasn't gray...a bonus).

If I could take you back, the first thing that would become painfully obvious is that we quite literally had no idea what we were doing; we faked it – a lot. Think of it this way, everything that was a “run of the mill standard practice” to other organizations was brand new to us. Several times we took hour long turns on the phone to copy down an entire manual the Purdue guys had to read to us because we had no idea we needed it for something or other the next day. Keep in mind that today's ubiquitous email addresses weren't readily available yet. Because we often did the “listen and copy routine”, we always had one copy of whatever the document was to share, a tradition that apparently continues to this day judging from this years' alumni meeting...

You would be able to see the process that we had to go through to successfully charter with Sigma Tau Gamma within our allotted timeframe. You could see the countless all-nighters we spent writing or typing out the paperwork under seemingly impossible deadlines while trying to keep up on grades and classes. The mea culpa calls to Bill Bernier and requests for him to bail us out when we'd made a mistake in the paperwork somewhere along the way. Without that man, we wouldn't be here.

Another man crucial to our effort was Stan “The Man” Nnochirionye, our first advisor and the person who coined the phrase “back inna Buffalo” where he was an undergrad brother of Sig Tau. He believed in us, kept us out of trouble for the most part and pointed us in the right direction when we were lost.

He always told us that someday we would be able to say “back inna Terre Haute”, well I said that Saturday just for you Stan, much love brother.

After we chartered, you could have watched us listen politely to the University / The Interfraternity Council and various other groups of people on campus tell us “no”, and then watch us do it anyway - repeatedly. “You can't come to the IFC meetings”, ok that's fine... We sent Lenell and Pete to the first ones (the loudest human being I know and a future prominent lawyer respectively) which is why we owned the IFC in a matter of months after that. “We're not sure if you can enter homecoming events” hmmm, good to know. We paired ourselves up for homecoming and competed anyway. “Well, you absolutely cannot have a floor in Sandison hall”... We'll take that under advisement and we all put our housing on the line when we signed up for Sandison Hall 5th floor the next semester, essentially daring the university to do something to us. We moved in EARLY on day 1 and took the position that possession was 9/10th of the law and we never looked back. We intentionally put the university in an awkward position, knowing full well there was no real recourse for them that wouldn't risk being a PR issue. Building on that success we demanded that our letters be placed on the front of the dorm just like every other fraternity – there was no argument as it was done relatively quickly. That's when we knew we had made it... we were a real fraternity.

As we travel back to the present day, you'd see that a couple of things have remained constant over the years. We have always been friends first and a fraternity second. That was the way we always thought it should be, regardless of what anyone else thought. Secondly, the small group of us that started STG did so for a lot of good reasons most of which were groundbreaking at the time. Regardless of who you were, where you were from or the color of your skin we were all friends and Sig Tau brothers, that is something I am still proud of to this day and that is what sets us apart from what fraternities usually are – it's what makes us different.

Thank you all for your hard work making the 25th anniversary celebration a success, it was truly a great time and I look forward to many more years.



# Alumni Birthdays

## February:

- 1 - Travis Day
- 4 - Todd Newmark
- 15 - Tommy Modesto
- 17 - Ben Miller
- 17 - Aaron Walker
- 25 - Rhett Huffaker

## March:

- 5 - Adam Hungate
- 17 - Brycen Joyce
- 21 - Jeff Scheumann
- 24 - Joe Tyquiengco

## April:

- 1 - Lew DiRuzza
- 4 - Bryan Sparks
- 4 - Adam Ziegler
- 6 - Blake Copley
- 8 - Chris Kunz
- 12 - Jim Hesterman
- 13 - Glenn Adams
- 14 - Josh Kersey

## May:

- 3 - Marcus Wills
- 5 - Trapper Murphy
- 24 - Phil Beachey
- 31 - Mike Wuestefeld

## Happy Birthday Brothers!

\*\* If you have a birthday in one of these months but are not listed, and would like to be, please contact me.



## Vice President's Corner

Formal is over and the new year has begun. What a great weekend it was! We met and conversed with the new CEO of Sigma Tau Gamma, Steve Latour. Mr. Latour is not only a great guy, but is very easy to talk to and has a lot of good goals for our fraternity. I see him doing good things for us.

This year is looking like the year for Sig Tau babies! There have already been a few brothers to expand their families just this year, but we also have at least 5 more coming. My wife and I are among those who are expecting. Congratulations to all the brothers that have recently had children or are expecting children this year.

I also want to say that I am truly honored and completely surprised that several of my close brothers took it upon themselves to make a donation to our chapters Heritage Fund on my behalf, thus making me a Wilson C Morris Fellow. Those of you who were at Formal and heard me speak could tell that I was completely shocked and honored. This distinction was something that my wife and I had

talked about donating towards starting this year and something that I had been thinking about over the last couple years. I definitely plan on paying it forward and doing the same thing for another brother. Thank you again Mike, Zac and Chad.

This year I am going to work harder at getting everybody's birthdays included in the newsletter. I will be gathering birthdays from Facebook and possibly even National's (if they give out that information to me).

I'm always looking for new material to be included in the newsletters, so please send me articles, paragraphs, or a few quick lines about your job, a Sig Tau memory, whatever and I will include it in the next newsletter. I want this newsletter to be about US, about the Delta Tau Alumni. Send me a message on Facebook or send me an email. My email address is: [curt.binder@gmail.com](mailto:curt.binder@gmail.com)

Curt Binder, DC  
VP Delta Tau Alumni Association

Left to Right: Amy Whittington, Alyson Hanson, Katie Wuestefeld, Trisha Cope, Maranna Binder, Sara Smith (not pictured, but also expecting, Chasidy Garner)

