

Sigma Tau Chi

*Celebrating over 60
Years of Brotherhood*

Alumni Association

Offering A Unique Learning and Social Experience at Oswego State Since 1946



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Spring STCAA Alumni/actives meeting April 2008*
 - 2008 Alumni Event, weekend of June 06 (with the Oswego State 2008 reunion)
 - Clean up for Harborfest, July 12th 2008
 - Harborfest Celebration at the house. July 24-27, 2008.
 - Fall/winter STCAA Alumni/Actives meeting December 2008*
- * Visit the STCAA website for exact date

The Presidents Message

By Ron Ramsden (Sp 1968)

It is amazing how much we have accomplished in the past nine years since some very caring and proactive alumni organized the Sigma Tau Chi Alumni Association. Thousands of dollars have been donated to improve the "House of Blue" and rejuvenate the active organization. It is my pleasure to serve as the President of the Alumni Association for the next two years. It is my hope that the over eight hundred Sig Tau Alumni think about giving back to the organization that helped shape our lives and our future.

Our annual dues are only \$100 or less and

must go to supporting the improvements in the fraternity house. We plan at least one reunion each year (June 6-8, 2008) and welcome all alumni brothers to attend and rekindle old memories and friendships.

The Executive Council of the Alumni Association meets with the actives several times during the school year. We advise and counsel the active fraternity in order to help improve a vibrant organization while maintaining the traditions we hold dear.

Please make an effort to attend a reunion and maintain a membership

in the Alumni Association each year. If you have any questions, I

can be reached at 315-382-0100

or

r Ramsden@twcnny.rr.com



Update from the Brothers in the House

By Matt Natoli S05

The past couple semesters have been very successful for the active community. We have kept 18 brothers living in the house for the 2nd consecutive semester. Every pledge class has been strong and the outlook is good for spring 2008. All active brothers have

taken part in community service projects including the YMCA Haunted House, YMCA Healthy Kids Day and a Spaghetti Dinner in which we donated \$500 to the Oswego Fire Department. Speaking for all the actives we would like to thank all alumni

for their help and dedication the past few semesters. We are looking forward to alumni weekend this summer.

YIB, Matt,
Executive
Committee



WORKING HARD TO MAKE IT WORK BY FRANK MURANO (S68)

Over the last six years we have changed a lot of procedures in the house. One of the main things was the way we collected rents and paid continuing expenses for the house. All rents are collected and bills are now paid by the Treasurer of the STCAA. This is to insure that nothing happens like what happened six years ago when the house was on the auction block again for failure to pay back taxes. The main problem, as I see it, was the lack of continuity from year to year. Since actives are now only allowed to live in the house starting their Junior year we have endured low numbers in the house. Our annual budget requires us to have 15 (down from 17 last year) actives living in the house at \$1400 every six months. We will probably increase rents again this fall to \$1500 to give us some breathing room. What rents go for are things like insurance, gas &

electric, garbage disposal, water and taxes. Our annual budget, just for these items is \$41,000 a year, give or take. My job, and that of the board is to work on these budgets to make sure enough money is coming in the door to pay future expenses. It has not been easy but I think we are seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. The actives are working on increasing their numbers overall so that we have a larger base of actives to fill the house. This past fall the house was finally paid off and

I want to make it clear to everyone that alumni dues, donations and fund raisers do not contribute to these expenses.

that freed up enough money for us to secure insurance on the house

as well as liability insurance to cover us for any lawsuits.

Another new plan that we have put into effect this past year is that we are now requiring all actives to come up with a \$100 security deposit. At the end of each semester we then go around to see if there is any damage to the house and deduct it from all of the security deposits. I would like to caution any alumni that plans on making a trip to 8 Montcalm St. to be aware that the actives are instructed to turn in anyone that gets out of hand and does any damage to the house as they know that they as actives are going to have to foot the bill. I certainly hope that this will not be the case. We have also installed a new steel door on the Montcalm side of the house and the front door is always locked to keep out undesirables. Should you de-



The house when it was a girls dorm

sire to get in the house you will have to have an active let you in as they all now have keys. This May will mark my turning over the treasurer's duties for the collection of rent and paying of bills to Bob Squire, S01. I am confident that Bob will do a good job and since he lives closer to Oswego than I do he will be able to get more of a feeling for what is going on at the house. I will however still continue to handle the alumni dues, and special projects and maintenance of the house as I have in the past.

YIB

Frank Murano S68



STCAA & STC ALUMNI WEEKEND

By Gerry Hendershot S'69

This year's alumni weekend event is scheduled June 6-8. Due to the overwhelming success of our 60th anniversary reunion in October of 2006, it was decided to postpone the fall event for 2007 and coordinate our active and alumni reunion with the entire SUNY Oswego College reunion over June 6-8 in hopes of making the weekend an even bigger success.

The weekend promises to be a fantastic gathering of old Greek brothers, sisters, and college friends as Sigma Tau Chi is one part of the whole college community.

The brotherhood will follow a familiar format:

- Friday, June 6: meet & greet at the Press Box on E. 1st St. beginning at 8 p.m.
Cash bar
- Sat., June 7: a summer picnic BBQ at the House of Blue from 2-4 p.m.
- Cost: \$25.00/person advance by May 26, 2008. \$40.00/person thereafter

Bill Of Fare:

*Red & White Hots, Burgers (Veggie as well)
with meat sauces, condiments, baked beans,
Mac, potato, & fresh greens salads,
cheese/veggie & dip appetizer table
BEER, soda, & water*



Brothers: As always, STCAA works on a very frugal budget. We cannot afford to gamble on attendance numbers relative to food & beverage purchases. Your great historic response to advance sales will once again be appreciated so that we can continue to provide you a memorable weekend. As always, 100% of a modest profit will go to improvements to the House we all hold dear.

This year you can include your STCAA/STC picnic ticket purchase in a lump sum with other college events through the college OR Fill out the registration form in this Newsletter and send your check for our picnic only to: Gerry Hendershot, 609 McKinley St.

East Rochester, NY 14445-2115

payable to: STCAA

Let's make this another awesome alumni weekend! See you there!

Yours in brotherhood, Gerry Hendershot S'69

ETX By the Numbers.....

The treasurer's Report

by Frank Murano STCAA treasurer

The year's 2004, 2005 and 2006 brought in \$6925, \$8650 and \$8013 respectively in alumni dues donations. Last year we had a total of 74 alumni contribute to the cause. Nice job guys!!!!

In addition to alumni dues in 2007 we also raised another \$3500 for alumni weekend. Here is how your dues and other contributions were spent from 6/01/06 to 03-26-2007:



Door Repairs, Keys & Locks: Labor & Mat.	\$138.68
Postage and cost of Newsletter	\$320.00
Heating & Plumbing	\$719.43
Laundry Room Insulated	\$420.00
Website expense	\$100.00
Attorney Fees	\$38.50
Window Repairs	\$447.20
Electrical	\$402.44
Renovations Projects:	
Chapel, Main Hallway, & Dance Room & Under Main Staircase	\$23,770
Miami Bathroom:	\$4,700
TOTAL:	\$30,636.25

Now you are all probably wondering how we could possible spend \$30,000 plus and only take in \$11,500. Well for those of you that missed it, we had a major pledge campaign for the renovation project that took place this summer. Sixteen alumni pledged \$24,700 over a four year period. Another alumni member put up the difference of what is to be collected over the next three years so that we could get the project done. The Miami bathroom costs were actually paid for mostly by the money that was earned over alumni weekend and all of your dues through out the year. The Miami bathroom still needs a floor which will be in within the next couple of weeks.

This year we are gearing up for some out side maintenance around all of the soffits. There are many animals that now make the ETX house their home so we need to rip out all of the bad wood and re-insulate that whole area along the Northern exposure. Since it is up several stories the cost to do that work is not cheap and we are looking at around \$9,000. However if the members of our alumni continue to send in their dues payments like they have in the past four years we should be able to do all or part of that needed work.

Just a reminder that we are asking for dues payments in the first quarter of the year (see article in this NL) Please remember that all of your donations go toward either renovation on the house or the small amount of money that it takes to run the STCAA.

As a reminder, please make sure you also send us any change of mailing address or e-mail address let me know via e-mail at fmurano@marshallsterling.com or 800-564-3773 ext 204, Frank.

Dues News

By REX, S70

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In our December 2nd Alumni Association meeting it was decided to put all the alumni on a common anniversary date for dues. Members have been giving at all times of the year and if you have certain times of the

year when it is easier for you to send in a contribution then please do so. But from now on dues will be due the first quarter of the year. For any of you that just contributed recently or the last three months you will have nothing due until 1/2009. For any of the rest of you that can send in a payment in January and did pay after January of last year you may pro-rate your dues for 2008 if you would like to.

We have also formed a new dues structure so that we can get even more alumni involved. From now on anyone that has graduated within the last five years your dues have now been reduced to \$25.00 a year. For those that have graduated from 5+ to 10 years your dues will now be \$50.00 a year. For those over 10 years to 35 years your dues will remain at the \$100.00 mark.

For those brothers over 35 years, **congratulations**, many of you are now retired. We ask that you send in what you can, and that goes for all alumni. If you can not afford what we have set for the dues structure we encourage you to send in what you can and be active rather than nothing at all.

We have been very blessed in the last five years as all sorts of alumni have contributed from time to time and we have been able to get the house in much better shape than it was 6-8 years ago. Financially we are debt free and the house is over the minimum capacity of tenants (15) to pay all the continuing bills.

In the winter meeting a small group of alumni have stepped forward to work on reducing the gas and electric bills. This group is going through the house and making sure that all the heat losses are addressed, and the heating systems balanced.

For some that can not give money but have skills that could greatly benefit our fraternity I am asking that you help with a special project. Please contact Wes Proctor S68 or Tony Carnevale S68 at wproctor@twcny.rr.com, tcarnevale@hughes.net they will put you to work. For those that have any financial skills or fund raising skills I ask that you contact everyone in your pledge class or area that you live and try and come up with a special fund raiser. If you are willing to do this I will let you know how much we need for special projects. Lastly I wanted to throw this out to everyone. There are many older alumni that are blessed with financial assets and would like to share their wealth beyond their immediate family. I for one, have chosen to take this path. Therefore I will be leaving in my will a sum of money to be used as an endowment to the STCAA.



The Alumni Association depends On Active Members and your Dues to be Successful. Please take the time to fill out the Payment form. YIB REX

In the future I see a time when we can actually be offering room discounts to officers for all of their hard work or new construction projects like a new parking lot where the old tennis court used to be. The possibilities are endless .If you are looking to leave something in your will we have an attorney that is an alumni that can help you out with that. Let me know and I will guide you over to him.

As always, any questions please feel free to e-mail me or call.

YIB, Frank Murano S68

1-800-564-3773

LAST TOOLSTANDING

By, CUSE S94

Greetings Brothers:

Before my Last Tool Standing update, I would like to say it was great to be able to meet many of you at the 60th this past fall up at the House of Blue. Having not been back to Good Old Sigma Tau for about ten years, I must say that I was extremely impressed by a few things 1) The Actives, an awesome bunch of guys that are carrying on the Blue and White Tradition as we all did before them. Although I am a decade removed, the House is in great hands. 2) The Executive Committee of the STCAA, We all know the Names of the guys responsible for getting us to the point we are at today, I would just like to say thank you to these guys for their time, dedication and overall amazing job they have done for us all. Without this perfect mix of Active and Alumni, Sigma Tau Chi may be simply a memory, versus what we are today, and that is continuing to create memories for the men worthy of wearing Blue and White.

On to money we have raised for the House. This year was the 4th year of the Last Tool Standing. As a recap, I began running this four NFL seasons ago. The way it works is this, you pick one NFL Team per week straight up, if they win, you go on to the following week, lose you are out. Last guy in wins and is The Reigning Last Tool Standing. The entry fee is \$20, 50% of which goes to the house, and 50% goes to the winner. This year, we had another nice turnout with sixty nine bros entering, and sixty eight paying.... Welcome!!!!. And as much as I would like to say I made it passed week two, once again I did not. Gator on the other hand made it all the way, and was these years Last Tool Standing (I will point out that he requested I send the check to his wife and not him, I'll say it.... whipped...). With the \$690 that was sent to the House, Frank and the STCAA were able to put more windows in to the common area of the Dance Floor.

Rick Seleski, F'93, has also started a similar fundraiser for The House O'Blue. He does March Madness. March Madness 2007 was the third year he has done the same type of fundraiser. I am sure we all do these through the office. This one also is a \$20 entry with 50% to the House and 50% to the winner. Rick has done an awesome job organizing this. He sent an email the other day congratulating this years winner, Steve Kalies '69, and also informing us that another \$310 was sent up to the House, this was of course after one threat of public humiliation for non-payment. On behalf of the brothers, I want to thank Rick for the psyche and the effort he has put in to running this the past few years.

After a combined seven fundraisers, four Last Tool and three NCAA we have raised approximately \$3000 for the House. Individually, \$20 is not much, but look what we can do when we combine it, over three grand... pretty sweet. Once again, I would like to thank everyone for participating in either or both of these fundraisers. Only with your participating, have we been able to do this, and only with your future participation will we be able to continue. If NFL is not your thing, or NCAA hoops is not your thing, the banter, comments, reminiscing, ragging that goes on during the course of the contest is well worth the minor admission price, that said, next year.... Participate.

YIB,

Dan Cruse S'94

STCAA Elects New Officers



Fall STCAA Meeting at Fallbrook

At the 2007 Spring STCAA meeting on April 28th with the active brothers nominations were taken and elections were held for new STCAA officers** .

President:.....Ron Ramsden** (S68)

Vice President:.....Jim Ferina** (F97)

Recording Secretary:.....Eric Herman** (active)

Treasurer, Actives Accounts:.....Bob Squire (S01)

Treasure, STCA Accounts:.....Frank Murano (S68)

REFLECTIONS (“What Would Me Say?”)

.....by Adam Kapp F02

I have heard the following saying from a variety of different people in the course of the past several years, “Enjoy college, for it is the best years of your life.” Although I never subscribed to that theory, and I still don’t to this date, I can see what these people are getting at. My term at SUNY Oswego, especially those years at 8 Montcalm, offered me opportunities and experiences beyond what I could have ever expected when I arrived on campus in 2002 as a green and naive freshman thinking that a fraternity was not for me—man did I get wrong! Five years later I have now been an official alumnus for

almost a year to the date, eating that ha....well you know how the song goes, and there is not a day that goes by where I’m not in touch with brothers that are still attending Oswego, or have graduated before or alongside me, to share stories of each others ‘shenanigans’. Being a member of Sigma Tau Chi has truly provided the base of my professional life, as I take away the experiences learned at 8 Montcalm, and most importantly my personal life, with the people that I have met there and will take with me for the years to come. As the house has been upgraded

tremendously throughout this past year (thanks to the donations of the alumni), the several times I returned to 8 Montcalm I still had a comforting and familiar feeling when I entered the house that instantly brings back memories of the great times I have had there. My visits also bring a hint of jealousy of those moving into the house now of all the opportunities that will be at their command. I look forward to continuing to be apart of this organization and my many visits to 8 Montcalm to come!

YIB Adam Kapp F02



We Stand together Brothers All

As the Years They Come and Go

I received this email inquiry in early 2007 during my term as the alumni association president. Although some time has passed, I thought that I would share it with the brotherhood. I would encourage you to share news about our brothers be it good news or sad. Being able to keep each other informed as the years they come and go, is truly a blessing of the electronic age. Gerry Hendershot, S69

“Mr. Hendershot,

My father Jerry Skillen, pledge class 1959, passed away on January 20th 2007. I wanted to let the brothers of Sigma Tau Chi know the news. My father often spoke of his days in the fraternity house. My mother (Judy, Driscoll, Skillen) is an AD sister and the two met a Psi phi party. I remember as a child my father driving us past the frat house laughing and telling stories of he and his brothers having good times. I know he had kept in touch with many brothers here on long island. I am also an Oswego Alumni (SDT sister) graduating in 1994.

I just wanted to pass the news on..... Kim”

Derek Olson

Many brothers don't have the opportunity to return to the college and fraternity house of their youth, Mostly because of the distance and time investment. Some because they are not sure what they will find should they return, and others because of the thought, “that was then, this is now”. We all know that those years and friends were special and changed our lives forever.

There are some brothers who make the choice to become involved and return occasionally. Derek Olson was one such brother. Over the past five years, Derek has shown up at the annual summer cleanup to get the “House of Blue” ready for



Derek Olson, (right) along with Whitey Caldwell and Frank Molinari at the 2007 summer clean up

Harborfest. The summer of 2007 was no different for Derek, but in one way it was very different. The summer clean up was a reason for his annual summer visit. Do some work, see old friends, meet a few of the summer brothers who chose to live at the house for the beautiful Oswego summer. It was a chance to take that annual tour of the house that always brings back a flood of memories as you wander about peering into each room. As always, we hung in the side yard. The work Wes had lined up was almost done. There was lots of laughter and telling and retelling the old stories. There was always the tales of the great exploits of the brothers of our time. We have heard them a hundred times and they get a little more legendary with each telling. It was at this time Derek told us he had to go, he had a million things to do as he was to go into the hospital on the following Monday for reasons not shared.

The visit this summer was different for Derek because it would be his last. Derek Olson passed away on August 06, 2007, just 2 weeks after we had gathered together to work, laugh, and remember together as brothers. we can see how

important this place of his youth was to Derek, as it seemed, he put a visit to the house on his short list.

When we look back, the gap between then and now seems long at times. Other times, it feels like yesterday we were standing in the circle. In talking with Derek you knew that this house had a special place in his heart. Derek would recommend you return to the “House” of your youth, as you will never know what you will remember or who you may see. So, during the annual summer cleanup this year, there will be big shoes to fill. Derek would do the work of two brothers and as he used to like saying “my names’ Derek, like in crane”. See you at the house for the annual summer clean up and bring a brother.

“He gave me a hug when he left. We will all miss him”

Wes Proctor S69

Barrie Gorman S70

Feedback or comments on the Newsletter contact Barrie Gorman at bgorman3@twcny.rr.com

If you would like to contribute an article to the next newsletter please contact me.

WHAT YOU MISSED FEBRUARY 2007



Jim Cantorie in Oswego on Assignment



Photos By Wes Proctor S68

REGISTRATION FOR 2008 ALUMNI WEEKEND

This year's alumni weekend event is scheduled June 6-8, 2008 in conjunction with the college alumni weekend.

The weekend promises to be a fantastic gathering of old Greek brothers, sisters, and college friends as Sigma Tau Chi is one part of the whole college community. The brotherhood will follow a familiar format:

Friday, June 6: meet & greet at the Press Box on E. 1st St. beginning at 8 p.m. Cash bar

Sat., June 7: a summer picnic BBQ at the House of Blue from 2-4 p.m.

Cost: \$25.00/person advance by May 26, 2008. \$40.00/person thereafter

Brother Name: _____ Pledge Class: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ZIP+4 _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number of Guests: _____ Total No. Tickets: _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

You can send checks for our picnic only to:

Gerry Hendershot,
609 McKinley St.,
East Rochester, NY 14445-2115
payable to: STCAA

Let's make this another awesome alumni weekend! See you there!

Yours in brotherhood, Gerry Hendershot S'69