

# THE BEAVER SIG

*Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity*



CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

SIGMACHI.MIT.EDU

WINTER 2016-'17

## Karl Büttner '87 Recognized by MIT and Sigma Chi



*Campaign Executive Chair Karl Büttner '87 during the open house and dedication on November 14, 2015.*

Of the many devoted alumni volunteers of Alpha Theta, Karl Büttner '87 stands in a league of his own. The executive chair of the capital campaign, member of the renovation committee, former corporate board president, and all-around mentor and repairman was recognized by both MIT and the Sigma Chi general fraternity this year. At the MIT FSILG Awards Banquet in May, Karl received an Outstanding Alumnus Advisor/Volunteer Award. At Sigma Chi's Balfour Leadership Training Workshop in July, he received the William T. Bringham Outstanding Housing Corporation Officer Award.

Karl, of course, was instrumental in both the fundraising and the construction phases of the renovation of 532 Beacon St. Even after the project's completion, he has been a continued presence at the house, working on follow-up projects and ensuring that the reoccupation of the house is as smooth as possible. Thank you, Karl, for all you have done and continue to do for your Alpha Theta brothers.

## Awards Cap An Outstanding Spring Semester

On May 5, 2016, Alpha Theta received three major awards during MIT's annual FSILG awards ceremony: MIT Chapter of the Year, Risk Management of the Year, and placement on the honor roll for academic excellence. In addition to the chapter awards, Karl Büttner '87 received the IFC's Outstanding Alumni Volunteer Award for his tireless devotion and effort for the beautiful renovation of 532 Beacon. On all fronts, Alpha Theta rounded out the school year on a strong note, setting a standard of excellence in the FSILG community at MIT.

Receiving the IFC's Chapter of the Year Award was an exciting recognition that highlighted our continued impact and leadership in the MIT community. Alpha Theta's reach expanded across all aspects of campus this year, including 11 different sports teams, 10 different clubs (ranging from Sloan Business Club to Solar Car), 10 different majors of research (from nanoparticles to macroeconomics), and multiple

*(continued on page four)*

## Alpha Theta Wins MIT Alumni Association's Great Dome Award

Alpha Theta was recognized at the MIT Alumni Leadership Conference in September with the Great Dome Award, the alumni association's highest honor for groups. From the award citation:

"The Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi has demonstrated commitment to the institute as the oldest continuously operating fraternity at MIT. Their recently completed capital campaign, which funded an award-winning renovation of their Back Bay townhouse, accomplished their goal of building a 'first-class living and learning environment' that still felt like a home. They sensitively restored their landmark residence and

upgraded it for the next generation of MIT students. The building now has updated plumbing, electrical, air conditioning, heating, lighting, life safety system, computer networking, kitchen and bathrooms, a five-stop elevator, an extended central stair, and an additional fifth

floor. Working with their project team, Sigma Chi was able to complete this comprehensive overhaul of 532 Beacon St. with so much historic integrity that it earned a Preservation Achievement Award from the Boston

Preservation Alliance—putting it in the company of Fenway Park and Trinity Church.

"The Beacon to the Future Campaign's  
*(continued on page four)*



*Alpha Theta wins MIT Alumni Association's Great Dome Award.*

## Taking Flight Over (and Into) the Charles River

*"I watched helplessly as the airplane hurtled toward its watery grave. My vision of a perfect flight, of winning the 2016 Red Bull Flugtag competition in front of 50,000 spectators, of bringing glory to MIT, shattered in an instant. It was the most humiliating and disappointing moment of my life."*

—William Thalheimer, MIT Monkey Ballers Team Leader

During the summer of 2016, five college friends and I sought to build a human carrying glider to compete in the Red Bull Flugtag competition. This competition was a celebration of creativity and flight, where 30 teams of costume-wearing, dancing adults were given the opportunity to hurl a team member in their home-built aircraft off a 28-foot platform into the Charles River. Naturally, my team of five young MIT engineers—known as the MIT Monkey Ballers—were out to win and set a Flugtag world record.

Over the course of the summer, we gathered sponsorships, materials, and used all of our engineering resources to design an aircraft that would fly our pilot over 200 feet from the launch platform. Utilizing the Aero Astro Hangar on campus, we constructed a giant banana-themed aircraft to our design specifications. Thousands of man-hours, many thousands of dollars, and one all-nighter—by the end of August, we had an airplane that would undoubtedly carry us to victory.

We entered the competition 100 percent confident, and my team was not shy about sharing our certainty in a win for MIT, our



*Mike Klinker '14 and fellow Aero Astro alumni of the MIT Monkey Ballers launch their flying machine over the Charles River at the Red Bull Flugtag Boston in August 2016.*

sponsors, and our fans. Fifty-thousand people lined the shore of the Charles River, cheering as team after team attempted to fly into the Red Bull Flugtag history books. When our time came, I cannot describe the feeling of holding our aircraft, hearing the crowd cheer, and looking forward to the edge of the runway, which ended in an abrupt cliff. Our pilot crammed into his seat, ready to fly our craft as

far as our wings would take him. With clearance to take off, we pushed our plane down the runway in a full sprint, giving one final shove as the plane lifted off the cart, and over the Charles.

The plane flew; our math was correct. However, shortly after takeoff, the wire linkage from the joystick to the tail broke, causing the pilot to lose all elevator control. We watched in horror as our plane and pilot dove helplessly into the water. Our aircraft barely made it 30 feet, and our pilot broke his wrist upon impact.

None of our team members could sleep for days after the event. We felt the weight of letting down our school and fans, we had injured our teammate, who had trusted his safety to our design and construction. However, as the shock of failure continued to wear on us, we realized all that we could still be proud of.

The team project was driven by our passion for aerospace. As a group of young engineers, we learned a valuable lesson on how difficult it is to succeed in flight—a field where the tolerance for error is extremely low. We sought to solve an extremely difficult engineering challenge, and, in hindsight, I believe we grew more as engineers, individuals, and as a team from watching our aircraft crash into the Charles. The irony was we had named our aircraft Icarus, and never thought that we might fly too close to the sun.

Mike Klinker '14, SM '16

## Jake Mooney Selected as International Balfour Finalist

This past spring, Alpha Theta selected Jake Mooney '16 as its chapter Balfour winner. He represented (and still does) everything an exemplary Sigma Chi should be. We were blessed to have him play a huge role in the house, holding the positions of both Consul and Pro Consul during his time here. Although there were others truly deserving, he stood out as a leader and role model to everyone he met. Not only was he our Balfour winner, he was also up for selection as Province Balfour as a result. Given his outstanding character, dedication, and accomplishments, he was awarded the honor of Province Balfour, just as the entire chapter at Alpha Theta knew he would be.

Next, it was on to International Balfour Selection. Given the ability to apply for International Balfour, he did just so. Jake's application was found to be exceptional and the International Balfour Selection Committee chose him as one of four finalists! In the final stages of the process for an award only one Sigma Chi can be bestowed a year, he was afforded

the opportunity to travel to Bowling Green State University in Ohio for the Balfour Workshop. After a round of interviews with the selection committee, it was revealed that the recipient was Ethan Pickering '15, from Case Western University. Although Jake did not win, we are all very proud of his amazing run. Our chapter has been forever changed because of his presence, and we strive to emulate his ever bettering of his character in our own lives.

"Being chosen as an IBA finalist was an incredible opportunity to not only meet our brothers from across the country, but to catch a glimpse into the inner workings of the Sigma Chi general fraternity operations, and the intense personal dedication of our national leaders," Jake explained. "Alpha Theta has always been an exemplary chapter, though in recent years we have also drawn into ourselves and opted to not share our insights with the national fraternity. In doing so, we've deprived ourselves of utilizing the combined knowledge, experiences, and resources of the national

Sigma Chi fraternity to improve our chapter and community. My intention in applying for the IBA was to not only gain experience with the national fraternity that I could possibly bring back to Alpha Theta, but to set a precedent for Alpha Thetas to continue involvement at the national level. It was, of course, a personal disappointment to not be chosen as the International Balfour, but the fraternity could not have chosen a better man than Ethan Pickering. We were placed in the same Horizons small group back in 2013, and have remained close friends ever since. It is absolutely no surprise that he is now our Balfour winner. Though I have immense appreciation for the national experience I had, I am still most proud for being chosen as our chapter Balfour. An award conferred by my chapter brothers, the men who know me best, will always be the most cherished and humbling honor."

Jack Dulsky '19  
Chapter Editor



## Fall '16 Sees Biggest Pledge Class in 41 Years

Brothers:

Being able to serve as Consul this semester has been one of the highlights of my life so far. It's been a trial, but an experience that is nearly unmatched throughout college. The fall semester at Alpha Theta has been a great one. We began the year with a great rush, producing 14 newly initiated brothers who did a tremendous job with the new Preparation for Brotherhood Program, and look poised to contribute to the house in the coming years.

Jump to the school year, and we have brothers involved in all areas of campus. Brothers compete in soccer, football, volleyball, squash, basketball, sailing, hockey, lacrosse, swimming, ultimate Frisbee, cross country, and rifle. While we have members on over 60 percent of the sports teams at MIT, we also have captains in soccer (Kareem Itani '17, Nate Johnson '18), lacrosse (Graham Davis '18), hockey (Henry Merrow '17, Keith Gailli '17), squash (Tyler Finkelstein '17) and basketball (Cameron Korb '19).

Beyond the athletic fields, we also have brothers involved with Camp Kesem, Dance

Troupe, Rambax, Jazz Ensemble, and some very cool UROPs. Thad Daguihl '19 even directed his own dance as a member of Dance Troupe, which is a rare occurrence for a freshman. Attending Ben Harpt's ('18) jazz concert with his solos and seeing 20 other brothers in the audience was a great example of the tight knit brotherhood here at Alpha Theta.

Socially, we have had an active semester. It began with the MIT Neighborhood Open House, which we hosted at the onset of fall. Here we welcomed the MIT community and our Back Bay neighbors to a lovely barbeque and house tours. Meeting members of the MIT Police as well as our neighbors created relationships that have been invaluable this semester.

As we have not had a *Beaver Sig* since last fall, I would also like to mention how Derby Days went last spring. Cutter O'Connell '18 took the reins in leading the event, and partnered with the Alpha Chi Omega sorority to achieve one of our most successful Derby Days yet. We built upon the format created the year before, and had a bubble soccer tour-

nament with different fraternities and sororities competing. In addition to bubble soccer, we also had an obstacle course, a dunk tank, and food for sale. Altogether, this was the most successful in recent years in terms of both raising money for the Huntsman Cancer Foundation and community involvement. Next year's Derby Days, chaired by Cameron Korb '19 and William Caruso '18, figures to be even better.

In addition to Derby Days, our chapter has also volunteered its time as the Harvard Food Bank, Relay for Life, POTS Walk & 5K Race, and the Walk to End Alzheimer's over the past year.

All in all, it has been a privilege to be consul of Alpha Theta. From my first semester as a pledge, this chapter has meant more to me than anything else in my life, and it has been an honor to give back to it.

In Hoc,  
Ryan Stuntz '18  
Consul, Fall 2016

## Brothers Undertake Preparation for Brotherhood (P4B)

In September, our chapter welcomed 14 eager young men into our pledge program. They represented the biggest pledge class in many years at Alpha Theta and brought diverse personalities, backgrounds, and interests into our organization.

The pledge program this year was quite different than in years past because of a new curriculum introduced by Sigma Chi International, known as Preparation for Brotherhood (P4B). This program includes thorough online learning, with videos of historic Sigma Chi events acted out by professionals. It also incorporates weekly experiential activities to help the pledges gain an in-depth understanding of the literature in the Norman Shield, such as the Jordan Standard, the Spirit of Sigma Chi, and the Creed. The intention of P4B, as explained by Michael Greenberg at BLTW, is to unite all of the chapters of Sigma Chi with a uniform new member experience, which, in my opinion, will strengthen our relationship with Sigma Chi as a whole in years to come.

Since this was the first year of the new program, my assistant Magister, Quinn Magendanz '19, and I focused on making the transition as smooth as possible. This would not have been possible without the incredible support of the active brothers, who took significant time out of their schedules to learn about P4B and participate in its activities every week. During the pledge meetings, we spent most of the time applying the values of Sigma Chi to the lives of college students. This encouraged our new members to reflect on their past and

set goals and expectations for the future.

The Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi proudly announces the class of 2020: Harrison Kaplan, Rob Delaus, Yianni Giannaris, Brennan Rosales, Cole Baker, Cameron Burnett, Aidan Einloth, Rishabh Yadav, Vedaant Kukadia, Francis McCann, Charlie Nodus, James Baker, Adam Gumbardo, and Connor Bradley. They completed the learning activities with enthusiasm in the online activities and in pledge meetings. I was very proud to see their growth both as individuals and as a coopera-

tive and supportive pledge class throughout the year.

We initiated all of them on November 12, 2016, and have watched them become an integral part of our brotherhood these past few weeks. I am excited to see them develop into leaders of the Alpha Theta, MIT, and Sigma Chi communities.

In hoc,  
Cutter O'Connell '18  
Magister



*The brothers of Sigma Chi serenade Corie Fay (UConn '16) with the traditional "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" at this year's formal.*

## Alumni Career Night A Great Success

On Sunday, November 21, the chapter hosted an alumni career night at the house. The evening consisted of introductions from four alumni panelists, followed by questions from actives. The panel was comprised of brothers from a wide range of industries and graduating classes: Mike Fitzgerald '07, CTO of Harmonix Music Systems, Charles Theuer '85, CEO of TRACON Pharmaceuticals, Aaron Doody '07, senior manager at Zipcar, and Scott Sundvor '12, co-founder and chief product officer at Nima. Karl Büttner '87 was responsible for bringing the panel together and moderated the discussion. The alumni gave career advice to actives, and shared some of their most significant



*Career Night: Charles Theuer '85, Aaron Doody '07 and Mike Fitzgerald '07 on screen, Scott Sundvor '12, and Karl Büttner '87.*

professional experiences.

This was the first time in the last few

years we have hosted an alumni career event. The night was successful, with over 15 brothers across all undergraduate classes in attendance. These four alumni served as a reminder to all undergraduates of the strength of the Alpha Theta alumni network. We are privileged to have so many accomplished alumni capable and willing to help us develop as young professionals. We hope to host this event every fall moving forward, so if any alumni are interested in participating and sharing their valuable insights, please reach out.

Nate Johnson '18  
Pro Consul

## Alpha Theta Hosts Neighborhood Open House

Scattered clouds and light showers couldn't keep guests away from the second annual Neighborhood Welcome Barbecue for MIT fraternities, sororities, and independent living groups (FSILGs) and their alumni and neighbors on Thursday, September 1. The barbecue was hosted by the Alpha Theta Chapter in our beautifully restored Back Bay fraternity house at 532 Beacon Street.

A number of notable guests graced the event, including Bay State Road Association President Jennifer Battaglino, Kenmore Business Association President Pamela Beale, MIT Government Relations Director Sarah Gallop, Living Group Council Speaker Pravina Sama-

ratunga, Epsilon Theta '18, and Interfraternity Council President David Dellal, Phi Kappa Sigma '17. Dean for Student Life Suzy Nelson made a surprise appearance as well. Also among the estimated 100 attendees were members of neighboring fraternities and sororities, officers of the MIT Police Department, Association of Independent Living Group (AILG) board members, MIT fraternity alumni, MIT Alumni Association members, and a number of Back Bay residents.

Throughout the barbecue, Sigma Chi Historian Graham Davis '18 led tours of the house, featuring a restored foyer, central staircase, and over 30 framed class photos of Sigma

Chi alumni. The renovation, funded by Sigma Chi alumni, won the fraternity a 2015 Preservation Achievement Award from the Boston Preservation Alliance.

The brothers' dedication to restoring and maintaining the house's rich history is indicative of the FSILG community's commitment to the Back Bay. MIT and the FSILG community will continue to foster the positivity and good relations built through events like these throughout the year.

*This article was originally written for MIT DSL Tumblr. It was edited for length and is reprinted with permission.*

## Awards Cap Outstanding Semester

*(continued from page one)*  
school bands.

Just at MIT, our active members have been involved in community service efforts including our own Derby Days event, the annual Erg-A-Thon competition, the Camp Kesem program, the bone drive, high school tutoring programs, Relay for Life, and more. We also took the lead on sexual assault awareness and prevention on campus, holding chapter-wide workshops and partnering with MIT's VPR to host events on campus as well. Across the board, the brothers had a fantastic year both on and off campus.

Alpha Theta was also excited to receive both the IFC's Risk Management Award and a place on the academic honor roll, highlighting the timeless balance we aim for between fun and responsibility. The IFC noted that while we are one of the most social fraternities on campus, we not only set the campus

standard for strong risk management, we also have unparalleled community involvement and retain one of the highest GPAs—a true testament to the impressive community that the Alpha Theta brotherhood has created over the years.

Finally, and perhaps most impressively, Karl Büttner '87 received the Outstanding Volunteer Award from the IFC for his incredible commitment to the renovation of our fraternity. From start to finish, Karl's effort and care for the project was absolutely extraordinary, resulting in not only one of the finest chapter houses in the nation, but a reinvigorated brotherhood that has never been as close as it is today.

The active brothers of Alpha Theta were honored to receive the awards from the IFC, would like to again congratulate Karl on his contributions to our renovation and the FSILG community! Here's to another great year!

In Hoc,  
Thomas Cowan '17  
Consul, Spring 2016

## Alpha Theta Wins Great Dome Award

*(continued from page one)*

chair, Doug Bailey '72, SM'74, ME'75, deserves much credit for spearheading the fundraising efforts, but no project of this scope is accomplished by one person alone. It is a testament to the entire chapter, which was able to solicit necessary funding from their alumni and use the Independent Residence Development Fund to finance the construction. Karl Büttner '87, administrative chair of the campaign as well as a member of the building committee and former house corporation president, was instrumental in the effort. Completing this sort of project on schedule demanded the cooperation of the undergraduate members, who were inconvenienced and displaced during the eight-month construction period. This success is the result of a coordinated group effort."



## 135<sup>th</sup> Reunion Committee Hard At Work

It is with great pleasure that I introduce myself as the alumni coordinator for Alpha Theta's 135<sup>th</sup> Reunion this spring. Over the next few months, you'll be hearing from me periodically as I update you with our plans for our exciting, fun-filled weekend of May 5-7, 2016.

First though, a little about me: I graduated MIT in 2015 with a degree in Course 20 (biological engineering). I was a four-year member and captain of the varsity lightweight crew team. I also worked in the Belcher lab, where I helped design genetically engineered viruses for improving the efficiency of solar cells. At Alpha Theta, I served as social chair, house manager, and consul. Currently, I work as a consultant for the Boston Consulting Group in their Boston office.

I'm honored to be working with a great team of alumni and undergraduates to plan our 135<sup>th</sup> Reunion. John Piotti '83 is serving as chair of the Reunion committee and Ben Harpt '17 is our undergraduate coordinator. Together, we've got a host of new ideas to bring to the planning, but we are sticking with the familiar format of previous reunions. Briefly, some things you can look forward to: class and era dinners on Friday night, a ritual exemplification on Saturday morning, with the return of Alpha Theta Academy in the afternoon, and a big reception Saturday night at the Hotel Commonwealth. Throughout it all there will be family-friendly events for all to enjoy. Stay tuned for more details and correspondence from me, Ben, and John as the year goes on, but in the meantime, please feel to reach out

to me with any questions or concerns you may have.

This will be our first Reunion since the big renovation of our chapter house. If you haven't been back to see the house yet, you are in for a real treat! Our alumni, architects, and contractors have done a fantastic job remodeling the house and bringing it into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, while still maintaining the authentic look and feel of the old house. The 135<sup>th</sup> reunion will have several events scheduled at the house for everyone to enjoy.

I look forward to hearing from you now, and meeting all of you in the spring at the 135<sup>th</sup> Alpha Theta Reunion!

In Hoc,

Thomas Altmann '15  
taltmann7@gmail.com

### Please join brothers, families, and friends for Alpha Theta's 135<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion May 5-7, 2017, in Boston

This year's program will include era and class gatherings on Friday night, exemplification of the Sigma Chi Ritual on Saturday morning, followed by lunch and Alpha Theta Academy presentations at MIT. The signature event is the Saturday night banquet at the Commonwealth Hotel in Kenmore Square, only minutes away from the newly-renovated 532 Beacon Street.

For a complete schedule of events, online registration, hotel information, and a list of those already registered, please visit [sigmachi.mit.edu/135](http://sigmachi.mit.edu/135).

## Remembering John Walters '69

The class of '69 was saddened to hear of the passing on June 18 of our classmate, John Walters. We remember especially his infectious, exuberant "Let's do it!" attitude and wry sense of humor. But above all, John exemplified our era's spirit of fun and independence, which he demonstrated by showing up for rush week in his race-tuned '63 Chevy Impala convertible. Many of us have fond memories of high-speed runs in John's Chevy to Wellesley College to make curfew.

Following MIT and Harvard Business School, John had a very successful business career, which enabled him to retire with his wife, Joan, in 2001 in Southern California. He returned to his love of cars throughout his life by restoring numerous classics of the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century. His crown jewel may well be the

1910 Packard Gentleman's Runabout, which he proudly displayed at the Pebble Beach, California, Concours d'Elegance some years ago.

John was diagnosed in 2013 with multiple myeloma. He had never been seriously ill before, "not even a broken bone," according to Joan. They moved to the Atlanta area in December 2014 to be close to his sister and her family. John clearly knew how to live life to its fullest, and he encouraged us all to open

ourselves to experiences we might not have pursued on our own. For this, and for his friendship and positive energy, we're all grateful. If you wish to get in touch with Joan, please contact me at [rolfbrauchler@gmail.com](mailto:rolfbrauchler@gmail.com) or Jim Black at [black\\_jim@bellsouth.net](mailto:black_jim@bellsouth.net).

In hoc,  
Rolf Brauchler '69



John Walters '69 and his 1910 Packard.

## Alumni Send News From Far And Near



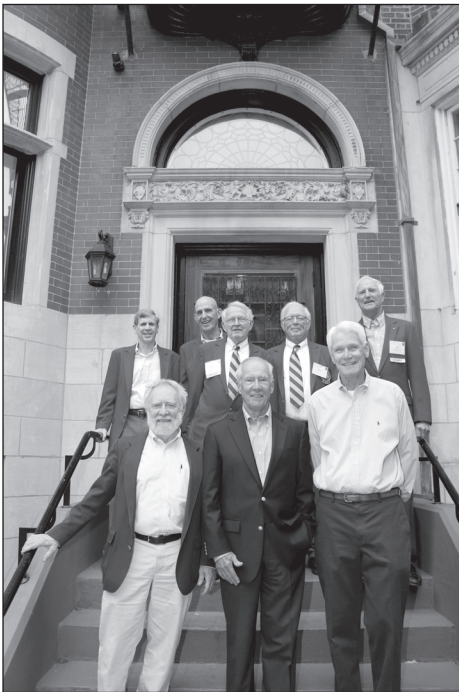
Thomas L. "Cowan" Bell Jr. '47 writes, "Now in Brookdale Meridian Englewood Senior Living with wife Joanne. We sold our home in Denver, Colorado, in June 2015 and moved here." Find out how the new digs are at 3455 S. Corona St., Apt 626, Englewood, CO 80113; or [tojo3482@gmail.com](mailto:tojo3482@gmail.com).

Stanley S. "Stan" Davies '49 wrote last year, "Moved with Pattie, my wife of 66 years, to a pleasant retirement community near our elder daughter." Catch up with him at 5246 Magnolia Ct., Mechanicsburg, PA 17055; or [spdavies@epix.net](mailto:spdavies@epix.net).

Austin F. "Buff" Marx '49 also wrote last year, "Remarried to a lovely lady I met on a jazz cruise to Hawaii some years ago. Currently living mostly in San Diego. Life is great. Retired from three nonprofit boards researching mind-body medicine, local youth hostel, and past volunteer for Sustainable Business Institute. Congrats on a beautiful 532 remodel! In occasional touch with George Hossfeld '48 and Bob Kiehn '50. As Consul Jim Veras said back in 1949, life at Alpha Theta was 'one of

(continued on next page)

# Alumni Send News From Far And Near



*Claws of 1961 members visit the house during their 55<sup>th</sup> Reunion in June. Back row (left to right): Bruce Tarter '61, Bill Kendall '61, Earl Van Horn '61, Ken Nill '61, and Al Brennecke '61. Front row (left to right): Steve Colburn '63, Erich Ippen '62, and Al Bellows '62.*

*(continued from page five)*

the most constructive, interesting, and memorable periods of our lives.' He speaks for all of us!" Get in touch with Buff at 2453 Mosswood Ln., Santa Clara, CA 95051; or amarxa@netscape.net.

Speaking of James G. "Jim" Veras '49, he wrote last year, "Congratulations Alpha Theta of Sigma Chi! The house is now spectacular and we are proud of your accomplishment. No doubt the quality of the current brothers is high and will sustain the greatness of our fraternity. I am equally proud to have been the Consul (1948-'49) of an outstanding house, which included many WWII veterans. I remain in close touch with brothers Howard E. Hendershott II '49, Chester Patterson '49, and Robert Jenkins '48. Chest and I served in the same infantry division, having entered and discharged on the same day. Howard and I had the good fortune of living in Cleveland and Florida since 1946. In both cases, I have had the privilege of genuine lifelong friendships. Chester was my mentor, and Howie, the pledge master. We remain loyal to each other in Sigma Chi." Drop Jim a line at 3610 S Ocean Blvd., #508, Palm Beach, FL 33480; or jimgveras@gmail.com.

Hobart W. "Hobie" Kraner '55 wrote, "We've been facing the problems of old age, but are

still vertical (more or less). I'm super fortunate in having a wonderful, active wife, and we will survive! You have done a magnificent job on 532—many kudos—GOOD JOB! We are in awe of what you have done and are very proud!" Write to Hobie at P.O. Box 1642, Murrells Inlet, SC 29576; or chkraner@yahoo.com.

Robert M. "Rob" Johnston '64 writes, "Now working part-time as an ophthalmologist in Elkin, North Carolina. Rest of the time sailing to, from, and around the Caribbean." Drop him a line at 411 Walnut St., #8869, Green Cove Springs, FL 32043; or sailorrjmd@gmail.com.

John B. Adger Jr. '66 wrote last year, "Still in the Washington, D.C., area, even though we have been intending to leave for 40 years. One son and his family in San Francisco Bay Area (San Mateo); granddaughter now almost two and a half. We try to get there three to four times per year. I am still working, doing consulting in the public utility industries (electric, gas, telephone, etc.—I am the natural gas guy!)" Catch up with him at 100 Warrenton Dr., Silver Spring, MD 20904; or lcgiadg@aol.com.

John H. "Gunner" Fittz '67 wrote last year, "My wife, Joan, and I moved to Gainesville, Virginia, in December 2014, three months after I retired from the Raytheon Company in Marlborough, Massachusetts. We are living in a beautiful Heritage Hunt 55-plus community on a spectacular golf course, 30 minutes from our daughter and three grandchildren, ages 16, almost 15, and 13. We have joined a wonderful Catholic parish in Gainesville and are active in music, Bible study, and fellowship with new friends, most of whom live in Heritage Hunt. I enjoy meeting new friends on the golf course. We maintain our connection with dear friends in Connecticut and New England while visiting our son and his family (our other four grandkids are 14, 13, 8, and 6). We love our life here in Virginia, and we welcome any visitors who have occasion to be in the D.C. area." Take Gunner up on the offer at 6885 Saddle Run Way, Gainesville, VA 20155; or joxnfittz@gmail.com.

Nicholas H. Cohen '02 wrote last year, "Everything is good here in New York. My wife, Michelle, and I recently moved to Brooklyn. Our daughter, Lyla, is almost two and we are expecting a boy in February. I'm still working at BNP Paribas running structured equity in North and South America." Write to him to get the latest updates at 319 4th St., Brooklyn, NY 11215.



## DECEASED

*We regret to announce the deaths of the following alumni:*

**Winfield H. James '40**  
November 30, 2015

**William C. Steber '40**  
February 1, 2002

**John C. Peck '46**  
August 31, 2015

**Hunter M. Bennett Jr. '47**  
September 1, 2016

**Jose Haroldo Falcao '50**  
December 1, 2014

**Philip N. Starin '50**  
June 17, 2014

**Allen H. Wahlberg '55**  
May 12, 2016

**Frederick L. Morefield '57**  
May 22, 2016

**Wayne A. Stuart '59**  
June 25, 2016

**Robert P. Sitzenstock '62**  
July 8, 2016

**John L. Wyatt Jr. '68**  
February 3, 2016

**John F. Boylan '75**  
August 11, 2013

## How Can We Email You?

Please visit the alumni section of the Alpha Theta website to make sure we have your most recent email address: [sigmachim.it.edu/alumni](http://sigmachim.it.edu/alumni).

The Beaver Sig is published regularly by the Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity at MIT for its friends and members. News should be sent to Alumni Records Office, Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity Inc., P.O. Box 390528, Cambridge, MA 02139-0006.