

THE BEAVER SIG

Alpha Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi Fraternity



CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

SIGMACHI.MIT.EDU

SPRING 2019

FROM THE HOUSE CORPORATION

As you will read in this issue of the Beaver Sig, the undergrads stay busy as they balance academics, sports, and support for the brotherhood. They continue to do a great job running and maintaining the house, and are an impressive group of Sigs.

As I reflect on the issues that many fraternities across the country are facing, I realize one of the things that sets Alpha Theta apart is the ties to the alumni. One of the characteristics of the most successful fraternity chapters is the strong bonds to an active alumni base. This is certainly one of our chapter's strengths, and so I would like to thank those alumni who support the house and the corporation.

As always, we welcome participation by our alumni either at the board meetings, which are now set up for video conferencing, or by working with our three full time committees (Leadership, Finance/Operations, or Engagement). Please contact Dan Craig (dcraig@alum.mit.edu) if you would like more information.

In hoc,
Mike DeLaus '82
President
House Corporation

COME HOME TO SIGMA CHI Tech Reunions 2019

Friday, June 7, 2019

2:30–4:30 p.m.

532 Beacon Street, Boston

**Please stop by the house to catch up
with your brothers and visit the house.**

Light refreshments will be served.

Chess Craze Sweeps Sigma Chi

By Ben Wolz '22 | Chapter Editor

A nineteenth-century painter, sculptor, and writer once said, "I have come to the personal conclusion that while all artists are not chess players, all chess players are artists."

At a university where 70% of students major in some form of science or engineering, the average chess player may turn to an open-source algorithm to pull apart the fabric of the game. For first-years George Stultz and Grant Miller, however, walking the line between art and science is what makes the game of chess so enjoyable. For multi-sport athlete Stultz, the elaborate intricacies of chess serve as an outlet and an extension of his identity. "When I'm not in school, doing homework, or at practice,"

Stultz said, "I'm playing or watching chess."

While Miller is a first-year in regards to how long he's been at MIT, he's actually a sophomore in course 6-3, thanks to early sophomore standing. Miller likens playing chess to machine learning, where his brain is an algorithm he can train through the design of stimulating training sets, i.e.: practice. "I like to think of my chess skills as a model," Miller said. "When I practice, or watch videos of other people playing chess, I'm crafting training sets for my mind.

Playing against George is like a test set where I can validate the effectiveness of my practice."

Brothers Miller and Stultz exemplify friendship, justice, and learning through their competitive devotion to mastering the centuries-old game of chess.



Grant Miller and George Stultz locked in a heated chess match in Baker House.

Brothers Spend IAP All Across the World

By Yianni Giannaris '20 | Consul



Independent Activities Period, also known as IAP, has long been cherished by MIT students as a month-long opportunity to disregard the rigors of class and explore new experiences and opportunities.

Extending through the month of January, during this year's IAP the brothers of Alpha Theta engaged in a variety of activities, ranging from writing an AI chess bot, to teaching computer science to high school students in Peru.

Several brothers stayed in the states, while others ventured to other continents. The senior class spent the entire month traveling through Southeast Asia. Starting in Taiwan with the celebration of the New Year, the seniors visited Indonesia, Cambodia, Malaysia, Singapore, Vietnam, and Hong Kong. Ben Kaplan, one of the seniors who partook in the 30-day adventure, recalled his "exposure to the massive nature of the world as a humbling experience."

Aidan Einloth '20, spent IAP teaching computer and data science to refugees from
(continued on page two)

Alpha Theta Athletes Excel This Semester

Ben Wolz '22 | Chapter Editor

For many of the brothers in Alpha Theta, being an athlete is just as important as being a student—which, at a school like MIT, is no joke. The athletes in Alpha Theta made great strides in their respective sports this year. Men's basketball finished the season at an eight-year high 23-5. For the second time in school history, MIT football won their conference. MIT squash is ranked No.17 nationally, two seniors on MIT men's soccer were recognized as all-conference athletes, and Graham Davis '18, of MIT lacrosse, became MIT's all-time leading goal scorer.

The brothers of Alpha Theta certainly have an aptitude for the varsity playing field, but this semester they aim to dominate the world of intramural athletics as well. Under the leadership of Intramural Chair Ben Wolz, the chapter hopes to rise in the ranks and get one step closer to winning the IM Cup. The tone was set early in IAP when brothers

Troy Oliveira and George Stultz won the annual IM spikeball tournament.

Overall, this semester Alpha Theta is competing in basketball, volleyball, squash, and soccer, and the chapter is looking forward to a winning season.



George Stultz and Troy Oliveira pose in their hard earned IM champion tees

Seniors Spend Time Abroad in Southeast Asia

Jack Dulsky '19 | Social Chair

Over IAP five of our 2019s went exploring around Southeast Asia. Seniors Quinn Magendanz, Wesley Woo, Logan McLaughlin, Ben Kaplan, and Jack Dulsky visited Taiwan, Bali, Cambodia, Penang, Singapore, Da Nang, Hoi An, Hue, Hanoi, and Hong Kong. Throughout their time away from 532 Beacon, they experienced troves of culture and fun.

Every place they visited was found to be vastly different from the last. They visited waterfalls in Taiwan, went surfing and tanned in Bali, and saw the largest temple in the world in Angkor Wat. In

Penang, they were able to go “glamping” (glam camping) up in the beautiful mountains. From immersing themselves in these old asian cultures and the modern ones in Hong Kong and Singapore, the seniors gained perspective on Asian heritage and different ways of life. The night life in each place was very unique, and they all enjoyed shopping in Hoi An for suits and other clothes. Best of all was trying all the new and delicious food each place had to offer. From frog, to chicken feet, to the best ramen ever, they were never disappointed.

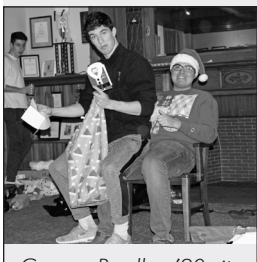


Five 2019s make the most out of their last IAP in Southeast Asia. (Back) Logan McLaughlin, Wesley Woo, Quinn Magendanz, (Front) Jack Dulsky, Ben Kaplan.

An Ode to Our Brother, CP

By Ben Wolz '22

As a humble first-year, my time with Christian “CP” Perez was considerably shorter than that of the other brothers in Sigma Chi. I only knew him for one brief semester, but my first semester at MIT would not have been the same without CP's presence. Christian was like a brother and an uncle to me. He was a fun loving, considerate brother who was always happy to see the freshman spending time at the house.



Connor Bradley '20 sits atop CP's lap at the annual Seret Santa.

When asked about Christian, senior Jack Dulsky playfully noted, “CP is such a big, lovable

guy, he's like my pet doggy.” In addition to this playful loving side, style was another one of Christian's strong suits, and every winter he served as Sigma Chi's most convincing Santa Claus for the annual secret santa.

CP exemplified the Jordan Standard as a senior brother. At first, I was timid when interacting with seniors in the house, careful to not annoy them or get on their bad side. Towards the end of P/NR, CP's extroverted nature and desire to hang out with the underclassmen rubbed off on me, making me more comfortable around older brothers in the house. CP served as a bride for the freshmen, and without him, I don't think the dynamic between under- and upperclassmen would be the same at Alpha Theta Sigma Chi.

Here's to you CP—our canine-loving, shamgod, future superior to Charlie Nodus, and, most of all, our beloved brother.

Current Alumni Board Members

MIKE DELAUS '82
President

JOSH LITTLEFIELD
Treasurer

MIKE GIBSON '13
Clerk

JOHN PIOTTI '83

TOM ALTMANN '15

DAN CRAIG '03

HERB MOWER '65 ('82)

JIM WILBER '81

MARK CURTISS '87

IAP Across the World

(continued from page one)

the Middle East and Africa as part of the MIT ReACT Hub. Through MIT's Global Teaching Labs Program, Cole Baker '20 lived in Peru teaching computer science to middle and high school students. We also had two brothers, Adam Gumbardo '20 and Rishabh Yadav '20, spend two weeks in northern Italy partaking in an Italian manufacturing course led by renowned coffee entrepreneur, Riccardo Illy.

Back in the U.S., we had several brothers externing at various companies, including Bank of America, Kitware, and Roivant. Others competed in a month-long competition where teams painstakingly wrote AI-based chess programs designed to compete in a final tournament.

Moving forward, I am truly excited to see how members of Alpha Theta will spend not only this summer 2019, but the many IAPs that are still to come.

Keoki Jackson '89 Speaks at MIT Apollo Symposium



Lockheed Martin CTO
Keoki Jackson '89

On March 13, 2019, MIT's Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics celebrated the 50th anniversary of the historic moon landing with the day-long symposium "Apollo 50+50," featuring former astronauts, engineers, and NASA administrators, who examined the legacy of the Apollo program, and MIT faculty, students, industry leaders, and alumni, who envisioned what human space exploration might look like in the next 50 years.

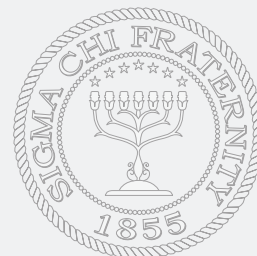
Keoki Jackson '89, chief technology officer of Lockheed Martin, spoke on a panel discussion with four other MIT alumni leaders in the aerospace industry. Dr. Jackson, who earlier in his career served as vice president for Navigation

Systems and program manager for Global Positioning System (GPS) III at Lockheed Martin, noted the pervasiveness of space-based technologies, such as GPS-dependent apps for everything from weather and news, to Uber. "[Commercial enterprises] have made space a taken-for-granted part of life," said Jackson, noting later in the panel that in 2015, 1 billion GPS devices had been sold around the world. "This shows you what can happen exponentially when you come up with something truly enabling."

Source: <http://news.mit.edu/2019/50th-anniversary-moon-landing-0315>

Current Alpha Theta of Sigma Chi Chapter Officers

Consul Yianni Giannaris	Historian Chuck Nodus	Steward Cameron Korb	Tea Master Quinn Magendanz Aaron Makikalli	2022 JBoard Representatives Julian Manyika George Stultz
Pro Consul Adam Gumbardo	Kustos Julian Manyika	Assistant Steward Quinn Magendanz Aubrey Toland Charlie Nodus Skyler Kaufman	Corporate Board Representatives Alex Moser Julian Manyika Troy Oliveira Grant Miller	Jesters Evan Pasko Cameron Burnett Peyton Greve Ben Wolz Robert DeLaus George Stultz
Annotator Troy Oliveira	Brotherhood Chair Grant Miller Aubrey Toland Evan Pasko	Network Admin Charlie Nodus	2019 JBoard Representatives Wes Woo Thad Daguilh	GZ Ben Kaplan
Quaestor Paul Ruh	Community Relations Samuel Dorchuck Robert Williamson	Songmasters Charlie Nodus Logan McLaughlin Bradley Levin	2020 JBoard Representatives Robert DeLaus Aidan Einloth	
Magister Aidan Einloth	Social Chairmen Jack Dulsky Alex Moser Peyton Greve	Web Master Cody Durr	2021 JBoard Representatives Evan Pasko Robert Williamson	
Recruitment Chair Mark Heatzig	House Manager Robert DeLaus	Athletic Chair Benjamin Wolz		
Risk Manager Hamilton Forsythe	Assistant House Manager Aaron Makikalli	Concessions Aaron Makikalli Paul Ruh		
Tribune Patrick Ryan				
Chapter Editor Benjamin Wolz				



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.mit.edu/alumni

Seeking Alpha Thetas in the News

Have you seen an Alpha Theta in the news who should be recognized in the next *Beaver Sig*? Let Dan Craig '03 know at drccraig@alum.mit.edu.

ALUMNI SEND NEWS FROM FAR AND NEAR



"Sorry about not remembering the exact years," begins **Fletch Hosmer '53**, "but at 89 my memory is not what it used to be. Since retiring from Wall Street I've spent about 20 years tutoring math, primarily in the very poor schools in far northern New Hampshire. I quit about four years ago but am getting ready to go back to it. Am horrified at the state of math education around here. In northern New Hampshire, there was no money. Here there is no strong interest. I did a little booklet (20 pages or so) called "Rhyme Time for 1st Graders" (with art by a very talented high school student). Am waiting for delivery of the second printing. I downloaded from problems and solutions from the University of Waterloo website, and a lot of the problems and exercises for younger kids were self-made. When you tutor in the school, you learn very quickly what is needed. Textbook publishers might try it. Am having fun." When Fletch saw **Dave Stallard's ('49)** name, a memory came back to him: "Once at about 2:00 a.m. we got ourselves thrown out of the 'G&V' restaurant in Kenmore Square. The brothers were amazed at how we could get thrown out of the 'Gag & Vomit' dump. We were celebrities for a day. Seriously. Alpha Theta was a great experience and a great bunch of gentlemen." In closing, he writes, "After Caroline and I got married, we were asked to chaperone a house party. Our 6-month-old daughter took over the 'second small back.' Sarah eventually went to Wellesley. Keep up the tradition." Get back in touch with Fletch at efh814@aol.com or 326 Rivermead Rd., Peterborough, NH 03458.

Congratulations to **Bruce Tarter '61**, who published a history of his laboratory in August last year. *The American Lab: An Insider's History of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory*, published by Johns Hopkins University Press, is available on the JHUP website at <https://jhupbooks.press.jhu.edu/title/american-lab> and on Amazon. Use the code HTWN to save 20% on the Johns Hopkins site. Reach out to Bruce directly at tarter1@llnl.gov or 1591 Hillgrade Ave., Alamo, CA 94507.

Ron Norelli '67 reports that he's been doing non-profit strategy essays and is now in the process of drafting a book titled *Rising to Greatness...and Staying There*. Find out more by emailing him at rnorelli@norelli.com. A grandfather of six (five boys and one girl), Ron makes his home at 2320 Westminster Place, Charlotte, NC 28207.

"The bonds between our brothers were strengthened by our 50th (not a typo) reunion last June," declares **Ken Morse '68**. **Jack Ziegler** flew in all the way from Norway to join **Rich Karash** and me at the reunion festivities. Other brothers celebrated virtually. A good time to reconnect." Ken can be reached at kenmorse2@aol.com or 212 Quissett Ave., Woods Hole, MA 02543.



DECEASED

We regret to announce the deaths of the following alumni:

DAVID J. OWEN '45

March 2, 2006

MARTIN T. MOUL '47

August 11, 2018

BARRY N. NORRIS '51

October 10, 2018

ANTHONY S. GREGORIO '53

February 13, 2019

Do You Have News?

Want to share memories, recent accomplishments, or general life happenings with your brothers? Fill out the enclosed alumni news form and we'll include it in the next issue!

Thanks to **Al Brennecke '61** for sending along this photo of his class's "mini-reunion" in January. The gatherings are held halfway between the MIT five-year reunions. "That way we get together every two and a half years. In the past we have gathered at such places as Kiawah Island, Phoenix, Lake Tahoe, La Jolla, and Pacific Palisades. This year we enjoyed a long weekend in Scottsdale, Arizona, where we witnessed the lunar eclipse, hiked in the mountains, and visited Frank Lloyd Wright's desert house. We will keep repeating these mini-reunions as long as we can." Al adds, "Congrats on your recent issue of *The Beaver Sig*. Very informative." Catch up with him at abbottbrennecke@comcast.net or 4304 Sea Forest Dr., Johns Island, SC 29455.



Left to right:
Al Brennecke, Bill Kendall, Bruce Tarter, Ken Nill (all Alpha Theta '61) at McDowell Sonoran Preserve, Scottsdale, Arizona, January 20, 2019.
Not present for photo:
Eric Mudama '61 (host).

