

The Red Door



OHIO IOTA CHAPTER OF SIGMA PHI EPSILON AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TOLEDO – MARCH 2020

HOMECOMING 2020

Sig Eps Soaring Past Seventy

October 2 - 4

UT Homecoming 2020 has a date, so mark your calendars! This is the year to visit UT to celebrate 70 years of Sigma Phi Epsilon at the University of Toledo Campus. We look forward to seeing many at Homecoming 2020 this year and we have been making plans in anticipation of your arrival. It will be a great time to rekindle old friendships and relive memories. There will be activities for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Come for some or all of the fun. The activities are still in the planning stages, but here is the tentative schedule.

Friday

- Take a bus trip with us to visit 3 Sig Ep Houses in Toledo, ending at the current house on campus for a reception of food and refreshments
- Meet with other Sig Eps at a local pub for drinks and socializing

Saturday

- Homecoming Parade viewing party on the parade route
- Tailgate before the UT Homecoming Football game
- UT Homecoming Football game at Glass Bowl Stadium
- Sig Ep Celebration Banquet at UT Student Union – Price to be determined

Sunday

- Brunch at the Sig Ep House on campus

Watch for more information at the following website or facebook page:

<http://www.sigeptoledo.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ohioiota>

Request more information at the following email address:

sigep2020@pm.me

If you've been thinking about it, or need a nudge, this is it! It may still be months away, but now is the perfect time to spread the word and build the excitement and locate others to encourage them to come!

If there is someone you can't locate, email me and we'll use our alumni board to help find them. Why not contact those brothers that are special to you and make plans now!

Sig Eps have been on an upward trajectory since 1950 and are poised to soar into the future. Together we will make it a Toledo Sig Ep Event to remember!

Randy McCullough
Ted Behnken
sigep2020@pm.me

Sigma Phi Epsilon Scholarship Report

Our Scholarship Funds continue to grow and this year produced over \$14,000 in scholarships. Many thanks to all of you who continue to support our scholarship funds! This past Fall, \$5,000 in Balanced Man Scholarships were awarded and played a significant role in our recruitment and leadership on campus. In addition to helping young brothers with the financial burden of college expenses, our scholarship program really sets Sig Ep apart from other fraternities and organizations on campus. Scholarships help attract great brothers to carry on our values and traditions.

Please remember our scholarship funds for your annual giving and estate plans. What a great legacy we are leaving for Sig Ep, Ohio Iota, and Toledo! Contact Randy McCullough with any thoughts, questions, or ideas.

Our Springer Fund continues to help many members attend Sig Ep Carlson Leadership Academy and Sig Ep Grand Chapter Conclave. Below are 2019-2020 individual Scholarship Recipients.

BALANCED MAN SCHOLARSHIP

Nick Wischmeier
Vineeth Atluru
Kyle Chudzinski
Zachary Farrugia
Logan Shepard
Greg Shulkosky

BENSMAN SCHOLARSHIP

Preston Ewald

MANDULA SCHOLARSHIPS

Chaitanya Koli
Daniel Sullivan
Nicholas Azzarello

BALANCED MAN SCHOLARSHIP

Bradley Eberhardt

Here is a summary of our Sig Ep funds:

SIGMA PHI EPSILON OHIO IOTA CHAPTER /
BALANCED MAN SCHOLARSHIP (1300144)

DICK AND KAY BENSMAN SCHOLARSHIP FOR
SIGMA PHI EPSILON (1301894)

RICHARD L. AND GAIL W. SPRINGER SIGMA PHI
EPSILON LEADERSHIP FUND (1301386)

SIGMA PHI EPSILON MARGARET R. AND JOHN
MANDULA JR. CHALLENGE FUND (1301204)

SIGMA PHI EPSILON PRESIDENT CLUB
SCHOLARSHIP – IN MEMORY OF ROBERT GATES
(1302113)

Remember:

- If you have questions or need help, contact me at Randy@TheMcCulloughs.us.
- This link will allow you to give directly online: <https://give2ut.utoledo.edu/default.asp>.
- Be sure to designate your gift to one of our Sig Ep funds.
- Your gift is tax deductible.
- You can give as much or as little as you want.
- You can put it on your credit card or write a check.
- You can do a recurring gift on your credit card.
- You can be a part of this!
- You can help make a difference!

Career Achievement Recipient

Joel Tschantz '84

Joel Tschantz has been a Financial Advisor of Savage and Associates since 1984. In addition to holding a management position at Savage, Joel provides business owners and professionals with employee benefit plans. He meets one-on-one with his clients to design an estate plan that works for their future. Joel's individual skill sets on retirement income planning are integral to creating a solid foundation for the needs of his clients and their loved ones. Outside of Joel's work at Savage, he is also a lifetime qualifying member in the Million Dollar Round Table (MDRT).



Qualifying membership in the MDRT is based on minimum commission and gross business generated within a year. Each MDRT status designation is granted for one year only. All members must apply every year to continue their affiliation with the Million Dollar Round Table.

Joel and his wife, Patty, live in Maumee, Ohio. They have three children: Niklas, Mikenzie, and Danielle. Joel is active in his children's lives, including coaching their athletic teams. He also supports local charities, and is a past board member of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Northwest Ohio.

UG President's Report



My name is Preston Ewald, and I am bestowed with the honor and privilege of serving as the 70th President of the Ohio Iota Chapter of Sigma Phi Epsilon. I am a Junior studying Finance and Accounting, and am a graduate of

Chelsea High School in Chelsea, Michigan where I was born and raised. I joined Sig Ep in Fall 2017, and have previously served as our Vice President of Communications. As a chapter, we have stayed busy in the pursuit of our successes, while continuing to live every day with our cardinal principles of Virtue, Diligence, and Brotherly Love.

This past fall semester was one of great success for the chapter. We once again were atop the IFC ranks for chapter GPA as well as receiving the highest GPA in Ohio Iota history at a 4.479. We also partnered with Delta Delta Delta to create the Homecoming Float that went on to win first place, which makes it 4 years in a row that we have won the float competition! Our class of 33 new members this fall have already taken it upon themselves to be the absolute best class of students, leaders, and Balanced Men that this campus has to offer, and the 11 new members added in the spring recruitment period, and one new member was informally recruited so far as a part of the 365 recruitment process, have started their Sig Ep journey with hard work and dedication toward growing to be better men and propel this chapter forward.

We began the spring semester by assembling with the AVC board at brother Ted Behnken's lake house for our annual executive board retreat. This was a great bonding experience for the 8 new executive members and the Alumni board, and a lot of great ideas to continue to propel the chapter forward were discussed! We all left feeling very excited and well prepared for our term ahead.

This excitement carried on, as 15 additional rising leaders accompanied the 8 executive board members to attend Carlson Leadership Academy in Chicago in February. Along with the leadership development and officer education, we were able to bring home the Talent Power Award for our recruitment and

retention efforts this last year. Brother Dexter Emch was awarded as an Outstanding New Alumni Volunteer of the year. As well, brother Braden Dobson was named as a Tragos Quest to Greece scholar at Carlson. He will receive an all expense paid trip to visit the roots of Greek life and mythology while studying and bonding with Sig Ep brothers from all over the country.

Along with Carlson, our brother Reece Kendall, the IFC Vice President of Operations, was able to attend the Association of Fraternal Leadership and Values Conference in Indianapolis, IN. Here he learned valuable skills to put to work at the chapter and council level.

Moving forward, we have a lot to be excited for as we continue to build upon the momentum that Jordan Jones' executive board had! The executive board that I am lucky to serve alongside is Logan Perlaky, Vice President of Programming; Benjamin Martin, Vice President of Finance; Joseph Furey, Vice President of Member Development; Noah Ochs, Vice President of Recruitment; Alexander Garbe, Chaplain; Reece Kendall, Vice President of Operations; Collin Mischak, Vice President of Communications; and Ashton Johnson, House Manager.

On March 28th, we will be taking the stage at SongFest, the University's second oldest tradition. Directors Michael Martin and Joseph Misamore have been working very hard to orchestrate the best possible performance and defend our first-place finish from last year while also fundraising for the amazing cause that is the Zepf Center.

On April 24th we will be heading to Wheeling, West Virginia for our spring formal where we will spend a relaxing weekend in cabins with brothers and dates. Also, on April 3rd at 6 p.m. we will be having our Senior Alumni Dinner at Table Forty 4 in Downtown Toledo. We hope to see you all in attendance!

We appreciate your unbroken support for this chapter, past, present, and future. Our successes are not possible without your continued support as we continue to build upon the foundation of greatness you all set before us. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events, and you are always invited to stop by the on-campus house and get to know some of the undergraduate brothers. The Red Door is always open.

Carlson Leadership Academy

The Undergraduate chapter recently returned from the Midwest Carlson Leadership Academy 2020. Over the weekend we were blessed to bring 23 members to this incredible leadership development experience. Not only



were our members learning from the incredible Headquarters staff, we also had our own Jordan Jones join the facilitators as a staff member on the Rising Leader educational track.

Between learning about ourselves and the fraternity as a whole, we were able to bring home some hardware. First off, the Ohio Iota chapter was awarded the Talent Power Award for our efforts in Recruitment and Retention. Due to the success of our Balanced Man Scholarship, recruitment philosophy, and Balanced Man Process, we were

bestowed with this distinguished honor. Not only was our Undergraduate chapter being recognized, our alumni were also recognized for their excellence. Our Balanced Man Steward, Dexter Emch, was acknowledged as one of the Outstanding New Alumni Volunteers of the region. Dexter served Ohio Iota as its president in 2015 and has just recently joined the Alumni Volunteer Corporation to help the chapter and continue to positively impact and help us grow into Balanced Men. Lastly, our chapter was honored by having one of our members be selected to the incredibly prestigious leadership opportunity in the Tragos Quest to Greece. Our brother Braden Dobson will be representing the Ohio Iota Chapter on this endeavor. Braden has recently served on our chapter's standards board, as a philanthropy chair, sound body coordinator and brother mentor phase coordinator. We are all incredibly proud of his accomplishments and cannot wait to hear about his adventures in Greece.



Volunteer Excellence Recipient

Don Warnke '78

Don has lived in Dallas Texas for the last 35 years. He has been married to his wife Debbie for 31 years and has a son Adam a graduate of Texas A&M University and a daughter Sarah who graduated from The University of Texas in Austin. Don was very involved with his kid's sports when they were younger which included traveling to club volleyball and tennis tournaments all over the state. He has also enjoyed going to college football games at Texas A&M and the University of Texas.

As a professional engineer Don has had the role of Project Manager and Design Lead on hundreds of land development and infrastructure projects in North Texas. Several of the major projects he was a team member on include a new runway complex at Dallas Fort Worth International Airport, multiple large scale commuter rail expansion projects in Dallas and Fort Worth, and the expansion of the Western Currency Reserve in Fort Worth. Don is a senior project manager for Huitt-Zollars, Inc. in Dallas.

Don graduated in 1978 with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. He pledged in the spring of 1974 and was active in the chapter to graduation, then served as chapter counselor from 1978 to 1983.

Don was an active pilot for over 30 years. He flew single and multi-engine aircraft and had an instrument rating and a commercial pilot license. He was part of the Sig Ep Air Force in college along with Captain Kent Ernsberger. They flew brothers and friends to numerous University of Toledo road sporting events, along with other destinations.



Founders' Circle Award

The Founders Circle Award was created by the Sigma Phi Epsilon – Ohio Iota Chapter to honor Brothers with a Lifetime of Sig Ep Brotherhood. These two award winners represent the perfect model of a Sig Ep Brother:

FOUNDERS' CIRCLE RECIPIENT – RICHARD FELL

Rich joined Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1967 and graduated in 1969. After graduation, Rich attended Loyola Stritch Medical School and graduated in 1973. He then completed an Internal Medicine Residency at The University of Hawaii from 1973 to 1976. Rich practiced Internal Medicine for one year in rural California. He completed a Cardiology Fellowship at The University of Michigan from 1977 to 1979. Rich moved back to Toledo where he practiced cardiology at The Toledo Clinic until 2008, when I retired. Since retiring he and his wife spend winters in Nevada and summers in Ohio. They enjoy traveling and outdoor activities, especially our wonderful national parks. Rich and his wife have three daughters: one is a lawyer in Chicago, one is an Internal Medicine Resident at The University of Wisconsin, and one is a fashion designer for Calvin Klein in New York City. While only a Brother of Sig Ep for 2 years, joining as a junior, the time was memorable -- some of the best years of his life with great memories and wonderful friends.



FOUNDER'S CIRCLE RECIPIENT – BARRY ALCOCK



Barry joined Sigma Phi Epsilon in 1970 and graduated in 1974. Barry began and ended his career as a high school English teacher. Sandwiched in between those positions were years spent in graduate school, at Bowling Green State University and THE Ohio State University, positions as a counselor at BGSU, a counselor

and lecturer at OSU, and an assistant professor at Shawnee State University in Portsmouth Ohio.

Even in his years at the university, Barry appreciated the possibilities and promises of teaching in public schools, so he returned to public school classrooms in 1990, and finally retired from full-time teaching in 2014. His teaching career began in Bucyrus, Ohio in 1975, fired up again in the Columbus City Schools, and for the most part occurred in the South-Western City Schools, in Grove City, Ohio, a Columbus suburb. During his career, Barry taught Language Arts and English to students from 8th grade through twelfth grade, as well as serving as adjunct professor at Capital University in Bexley, Ohio, teaching courses in philosophy of education, social foundations of education, the teaching of writing, and adolescent literature. Barry earned both National Board Teacher Certification in English, and Ohio Master Teacher Award in English.

Barry became integrally involved in the teachers' union, at the local, district, state, and national levels. He served on the Executive Boards of his local, district, and state Associations, and was a longtime delegate to the state and national assemblies. Barry served his local association as building representative, and on the team that negotiated collective bargaining agreements with the School Board.

Barry's late wife, Martha, was a renowned Professor of Education at Capital University, and fifteen years after her death Barry still runs into teachers and educators regularly who remember her and were influenced by her, professionally and personally. Barry's son Mike and his wife Racheal live in Columbus, where both work for the Columbus Metropolitan Library, and where Mike is also director of a non-profit supporting the public schools of Columbus' South Side, and the education coordinator of the South Side Area Commission.

In his retirement, Barry continues his involvement in schools and education, teaching periodically at his old school, and supervising student teachers for Capital University every semester. Barry is also the Central Representative of the Ohio Education Retired Advisory Committee, which puts him on various other boards in and around central Ohio. Barry tries to read two books a week, now that he is no longer grading papers or planning lessons. Barry will go to a baseball game, anywhere, any time.



Sigma Phi Epsilon

Ohio Iota Alumni Association

3523 Kenwood, Toledo, OH 43606

2020 Senior and Alumni Annual Awards Dinner

All are welcome!

Join us for a night of brotherhood and celebration

Table Forty 4

610 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio 43604

Friday, 3 April 2020

6 p.m. cocktails | 7 p.m. dinner | \$30.00

RSVP via sigeptoledo.com