

THE DELTASIG

MARCH 2019

The Journal of Delta Sigma Pi—America's Foremost Business Fraternity



DEVELOPING LEADERS IS GOOD BUSINESS!

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On the Cover: Ed Fuller, Wake Forest (NC),
donated copies of his book, *You Can't Lead With
Your Feet On the Desk: Building Relationships,
Breaking Down Barriers, and Delivering Profits,
to all Presidents' Academy attendees. Having
previously worked as Marriott International's
President and Managing Director of International
Lodging for more than 20 years, he has attended
and presented at Deltasig events, including the
2012 National Volunteer Retreat and received his
Golden Helmet in 2018 for his continued support
of Delta Sigma Pi.*

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Presidents' Academy is Our Tipping Point: Play Your Role on Team Deltasig

By: Patrick Bonfrisco, 2018 DD of the Year

Throughout my time as a Fraternity volunteer, I've frequently been asked why I make the organization a priority. I have my answers, as I am sure you do as well, but I was recently asked a new question: *at what point* did I know that I wanted to volunteer? When did I *decide* to volunteer? I had to really think about this one. I remember the initial conversation with my Regional Vice President about volunteering after graduation, but what led me to that decision?

Reflecting further, one very specific day came to mind: a regional retreat for chapter officers during which the presidents were broken out into a separate room to get to know each other, bond as a group and share experiences. For the first time, I was focusing my attention on issues that were bigger than just my own chapter, and realizing that I could draw upon my own experiences to help another chapter overcome their obstacles. I also began to appreciate what a great support group I had in my fellow presidents who were all experiencing similar challenges. Here sat a group of peers I could turn to for advice and get six different possible solutions. Many of us stayed in contact throughout the rest of the year to share our struggles as well as our successes, swap stories and provide moral support.

I recently re-read Malcolm Gladwell's book, *The Tipping Point*, and was reminded of how little things can make a big difference. Those few hours I spent with the other presidents in my region had a profound effect on how I viewed the organization. Until then, I suppose I looked at the role of president as being one of many runners in a relay race, and that upon receiving the baton your job was to sprint as hard as possible until you passed that baton onto the next runner – and then you were done. Sitting with the other presidents made me think of the role as a member of a team, and the team wasn't my chapter, it was much bigger than that, and I was suddenly invested in the success of the team long after I would exit my role. I stopped thinking of graduation as the "finish line." Such a little thing makes such a big difference!

Cut to present day: As I write this, we are heading into the weekend of Delta Sigma Pi's first-ever Presidents' Academy. I believe this is our "tipping point," the moment of critical mass. Over 200 collegiate chapter presidents are descending upon St. Louis to learn

together – and learn from each other. When they return to their chapters, their view of their role in the Fraternity will undoubtedly be different than it was a week ago; no longer chapter focused, with an emphasis on day-to-day tasks to get through the rest of the year, but instead *team* focused, with a shared vision of moving the entire organization in the right direction for years to come.

I am extremely excited to see what type of impact this will have on our Fraternity. For perhaps the first time, all of our chapters will be starting off the year on the same page, as our chapter presidents focus less on the baton they were passed from their predecessor and think more about what they can accomplish *together* with their 200 teammates. I'm also a little jealous, I must admit. I wish I had been able to go to something like this when I was in college!

As you read this, our presidents are already back, and I encourage you to ask them about their experience at Presidents' Academy and how they plan to implement what they've learned, but also – and most importantly – what *you* can do to support them. The presidents will drive exciting change this year, but they can't do it alone. We *all* have a role to play on the team, so don't wait to be asked. This is the moment when we *decide* to volunteer.

Patrick Bonfrisco
2018 District Director of the Year



Patrick Bonfrisco, Cal State-Fullerton, was named 2018 District Director of the Year. From left: GP Tricia Smith, Bonfrisco and Western PVP Crystal Justice.

"Fraternal Forum" allows elected leaders, staff, and interested members to offer updates, viewpoints and commentaries on issues facing the Fraternity. Contact the Central Office if you have an interest in contributing a column. Final determination of content rests with the editorial staff.



Investing in Leadership

The Fraternity made history in January by hosting its inaugural Presidents' Academy. Delta Sigma Pi has a strategic opportunity to brand itself as more than a network of business professionals. Through Presidents' Academy, the Fraternity can more prominently establish itself as a leadership development organization that prepares business students for the evolving world. Attention to such a differentiation will firmly entrench the Fraternity's position and ensure continued growth and strength.

Presidents' Academy is a national training event designed to develop chapter presidents' leadership potential in a way that has immediate benefits to them personally, to the chapters they lead and to the Fraternity as a whole. Presidents' Academy will provide these young leaders with tangible skills that serve as the foundation for success in their business, civic and personal lives.

Chapter presidents intuitively understand and proactively seek out opportunities to be better trained as leaders. They often must operate in the gray space not covered by manuals or standard training. They are accountable to their college or university, communities, fellow chapter members and the Fraternity for setting the direction and tone for their chapters. Chapter presidents must make decisions when all options are exhausted or none seem to be without risk. Investing in these leaders will not only improve the operations of their chapters, but also inspire them and the brothers they lead to become stronger leaders throughout their life and career. (See sidebar for full agenda details.) ▲

Presidents' Academy Curriculum

The overall theme of Presidents' Academy is the development of future business leaders. A professionally designed curriculum and carefully chosen speakers and activities support this focus.

Participants identified the characteristics of successful organizations and how they can incentivize, motivate and hold their teams accountable for meeting goals and commitments. They practiced difficult conversations, group facilitation and dining etiquette. They also discussed ways to avoid and manage risk and will learn to develop and execute effective organizational strategies.

All participants were accountable for employing a set of strategies and leadership approaches and will assess their success through discussions with other participants and trained facilitators. Throughout the process, Fraternity volunteers and staff supported each president in applying what they learned.



Doug Opicka and Kate Shipley, from Plaid, facilitated much of the learning during the Presidents' Academy. Plaid is a professional services firm specializing in all aspects of personal and organizational development and change management. They provide programs and workshops to help organizations grow and succeed. Plaid developed our Presidents' Academy curriculum and we are collaborating with them on additional enhancements to our educational offerings.



Over 200 collegiate chapter presidents and other top leaders arrived in St. Louis during a wintry storm that dropped nearly a foot of snow on the area throughout the weekend. The snow didn't stop them from learning. Main concepts were covered in larger group settings, followed by small group discussions to further reinforce the learning.

Delta Sigma Pi's Presidents' Academy = A Groundbreaking New Program

Agenda:

- Honorary Initiation of Dylan Schweitzer, Corporate Talent Acquisition Manager at Enterprise
- Q&A with PGP Onuka Ibe and Dylan Schweitzer
- Birkman Basics: This program is designed to give each attendee an authentic look at themselves, how they relate to others who may be different and how they adapt to organizations.
- Building Successful Teams: Exploring the assembling process based on providing a diversity of behaviors.
- Successful Organizations – A Guiding Star: Exploring how knowledge of and adherence to a guiding star will assist attendees in both leading the chapter and their career.
- Incentivizing, Motivating & Accountability: Recognizing the differences between people and tailoring incentives in order to properly motivate. Plus, exploring methods to build a culture of accountability within the chapter and how this relates to professional environments.
- State of the Fraternity by GP Tricia Smith
- Navigating Difficult Conversations: Provide insights to help attendees navigate through challenging conflict moments in their associations.
- Strategic Goal Setting and Planning: Discussing the goal setting process and how it can be used to not only provide direction and focus to the chapter, but also aid in accountability and motivation in all aspects of the attendee's life.
- Etiquette Dining Program
- Leading Like a Facilitator: Learn how to approach leadership more from the mindset of a facilitator and less as a top-down, formal leader.
- Inspirational Leadership by PGP Onuka Ibe and panel led by National Organizational Development Chair Jodi Schoh.



Corporate Talent Acquisition Manager at Enterprise Holdings, Dylan Schweitzer, was initiated by St. Louis Alumni Chapter during Presidents' Academy weekend. Brother Schweitzer and PGP Onuka Ibe conducted a Q&A after the initiation to inspire current chapter leaders. Brother Schweitzer talked about some of the challenges he has overcome in the workforce stating, "The things you learn today will help you throughout your career." From left: PGP Kathy Jahnke, Schweitzer, PGP Onuka Ibe and COO Jeremy Levine.

"I had an incredible time in St. Louis for the first ever Presidents' Academy for Delta Sigma Pi. I was able to represent the Xi Pi Chapter from University of Redlands and learned a lot about how I can become a stronger leader for the chapter.

I am extremely thankful to have learned about the Birkman Method which gives individuals and organizations unequalled insight into behavioral cause and effect within corporate structures, institutions, families and one-on-one relationships—normally only large corporate companies get this education. I learned a lot about myself as well as how to read others and to most importantly 'treat others how they would like to be treated'.

Thank you again to Delta Sigma Pi for an awesome experience."--Andrew Kargol, Redlands (CA)



From left: Andrew Kargol, Redlands (CA); Jacob Milligan, St. Joseph's (PA); Ramiro Flores, La Verne (CA); Mitchell Kay, Penn State-Erie; and Vishal Mummareddy, Duke (NC)



Northeastern PVP Dan Collins facilitated a small group of attendees. These small groups allowed officers to practice the skills they had learned in the large group setting. Attendees left with a better understanding of not just themselves and their leadership styles, but how to lead all styles and help them reach their maximum potential.

Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Foundation Supports Presidents' Academy

It was an expectation that all Delta Sigma Pi chapters send their chapter president to Presidents' Academy. To lower the barrier of attendance, as the program rolls out, Delta Sigma Pi covered the costs of registration, travel, meals and lodging for the inaugural program.

The Leadership Foundation provided a \$200,000 grant for the inaugural Presidents' Academy. This grant was made possible through a generous gift from an anonymous donor who has long supported the Fraternity's mission.

This is a significant investment in the personal and professional development of our membership and chapters and is an important investment that aligns with the Fraternity's strategic direction.

The Fraternity Board of Directors is working closely with the Leadership Foundation Board of Trustees to provide sustainable funding through alumni donations and corporate sponsorships to provide the Presidents' Academy experience at no cost in 2020 and beyond.



"This weekend I had the phenomenal opportunity to attend the first Delta Sigma Pi Presidents' Academy. As one of over two hundred attendees from across the nation, I sharpened my leadership skills and worked on the strategic plan for my chapter, Gamma Psi. I am leaving this event with a larger network, an enhanced leadership skillset and an enthusiastic mindset for the future." --Bryanna Samuels, Arizona



Small groups were created using the Birkman personality assessment findings, where attendees had the opportunity to learn from and speak with other students like (and different from!) them. From left: Giana Johnson, Roger Williams (RI), Fadil Jonuzi, Wisconsin-La Crosse, and Iman Tajadod, Pennsylvania, talked about what they have in common since they all had similar usual behaviors.



Presidents' Academy participants received a certificate of completion and an exclusive Presidents' Academy Pin, donated by Herff Jones, for the hard work they put in for this event. Special thanks to our Fraternity Board, Central Office staff, Plaid and other facilitators for helping make this event spectacular!

The Birkman Method®

From birkman.com

The curriculum, presented by Plaid, includes use of The Birkman Method®. This unique method of assessment was developed by Roger W. Birkman, Ph.D. whose experience as an U.S. Air Force pilot led him to study how human characteristics influence perceptions, behaviors, and motivations.

The Birkman Method is considered by many Fortune 500 companies as the most comprehensive and validated personality assessment tool on the market. Since it combines both behavioral and occupational data, it better reflects a person's fit within an organization. It also measures individual's needs to help each person be the best version of him/herself and further examines personality and perceptions in a social context to promote greater self-management and encourage mutual respect among colleagues.



Jeffrey E. Zych Presidents' Academy Fund

Dedicated alumni are already stepping up to financially support the great impact the Presidents' Academy will make on future Deltasig leaders. Jeff Zych, *DePaul (IL)*, made a \$50,000 gift to establish the Jeffrey E. Zych Presidents' Academy Fund.

"When I was looking to make a difference and heard about Presidents' Academy, I went big," commented Zych regarding his donation to the Leadership Foundation. "I want to set the bar high and pull some people into doing the same thing."

The purpose of the fund is to provide an annual grant that directly supports the Presidents' Academy. ▲



During Presidents' Academy, chapter presidents had the opportunity to network with other presidents from across the country. These relationships will help them be stronger leaders for our Fraternity. From left: Andrew Ullmann, St. Thomas (MN); Jacqueline Robertson, Grand Valley State (MI); Jacob Milligan, St. Joseph's (PA); and Ryan Drvenkar, Texas A&M-College Station.

Invest in the Future of the Fraternity's Best and Brightest

Giving back to Delta Sigma Pi is one of the finest traditions of the Fraternity. Alumni, parents and friends have invested in Delta Sigma Pi's collegiate members decade after decade and have ensured the Deltasig experience remains strong. You have the opportunity to play a leading role in investing in the future of the Fraternity's best and brightest by directly supporting Presidents' Academy and by directly supporting a chapter president's participation in the program.

In order to create new opportunities for alumni to support Delta Sigma Pi, and the Presidents' Academy directly, the Leadership Foundation created two new funds providing options for philanthropy.



The Presidents' Academy Fund is a restricted fund within the Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Foundation created to receive designated charitable gifts from those who wish to directly support Delta Sigma Pi's Presidents' Academy.



Chapter Leadership Funds are chapter-specific accounts within the Delta Sigma Pi Leadership Foundation created to receive designated charitable gifts from those who wish to assure collegians from a specific chapter always have access to Delta Sigma Pi's full array of educational and leadership development programs, such as Presidents' Academy, LEAD Provincial Conferences, LEAD Schools and Grand Chapter Congress. The Leadership Foundation is establishing a Chapter Leadership Fund for each Delta Sigma Pi chapter.

All gifts to the Presidents' Academy Fund and Chapter Leadership Funds are tax-deductible (as allowable by law) for the donor and will be included in the donor's annual and lifetime giving records.

dsp.org/donate

Direct all inquiries and questions regarding funding opportunities to Leadership Foundation Executive Vice President Tyler Wash at tyler@dsp.org.

Brush up on Your Southern Hospitality and Gear Up

Give in to wanderlust and join us in Atlanta, August 14-18. Several tools are available to help plan your trip at dsp.org, including registration, hotel information, schedule of events, registration policies, legislation, Bylaw and Ritual proposals, *Nominations Beacon*, *Registration Beacon* and more details. There is also a list of things to do and see around Atlanta.



Event Highlights

Pre-GCC Service Event – August 13

Join us Tuesday morning as we make an impact on the local community by volunteering at the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Volunteers will sort food and box items as part of the Food Bank's mission to fight hunger by engaging, educating and empowering the community. Sign up early to guarantee your spot!



Educational Sessions

A number of exciting and new sessions are offered on Wednesday (and more on Thursday and Friday). The session tracks include Delta Sigma Pi operations and history, financial growth, professional/career development, leadership and personal growth. You'll quickly find there are sessions for everyone—collegiate members, alumni members and guests—attending Grand Chapter Congress. Opening session features Lori Hart, Director of Educational Initiatives for Holmes Murphy, presenting *Better Fraternity; Better You*, a fun and interactive session inspiring attendees to improve their fraternal experience by engaging and challenging the status quo. The keynote will inspire participants with a whole different way of thinking.

Grand President's Carnival

A Congress favorite is the Grand President's event on Wednesday evening. It's a great way to let loose and enjoy an evening of good music, carnival games and bonding with brothers.



Alumni Recognition Lunch and Awards Lunch

Join us Thursday, August 15 in recognizing Silver and Golden Helmet honorees, outstanding donors and other significant accomplishments at the Alumni Recognition Lunch. On August 16, we will honor our national collegiate and alumni chapter award winners and hear the 2019 National Collegian of the Year address at the Awards Lunch.



Friday Outing— College Football Hall of Fame

The Hall of Fame is a short walk from our host hotel and contains more than 50 interactive exhibits, including a 47-yard football field and a three-story wall displaying football helmets representing over 750 different colleges. Get ready to spend the evening eating, networking and playing!



for Our 52nd Grand Chapter Congress in Atlanta!



Saturday's banquet

Brothers and guests look forward to Saturday's formal banquet, where PGP Norm Kromberg will be honored with the 2019 Lifetime Achievement Award. *Pictured are GCC Host Chair Velvet Simmons, PGP Mitch Simmons, Eva Meyer, North Carolina-Chapel Hill, Matt Meyer, Iowa State, and Mike McNulty, Louisiana State.*

Marriott Marquis Hotel



Located in the heart of downtown, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis is an iconic destination bursting with style and energy. Named the 2017 Americas Hotel of the Year by Marriott International, the Atlanta Marriott Marquis is a wonderful setting for our 52nd Grand Chapter Congress. The hotel is near a MARTA rail station, Georgia World Congress Center and AmericasMart Atlanta.

Atlanta Marriott Marquis
265 Peachtree Center
Avenue
Atlanta, GA 30303
404-521-0000
[www.marriott.com/
atlmq](http://www.marriott.com/atlmq)

REGISTER TODAY!

Visit dsp.org/gcc for registration and pricing information. Per day registration is also available.

Congress Service Event

Make plans to arrive in Atlanta before Tuesday, August 13 for the opportunity to leave a lasting impact on the local Georgia community while getting to know your brothers!

The Atlanta Community Food Bank utilizes more than 1,700 volunteers a month along with over 150 staff members to acquire food and grocery items from manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, brokers, restaurants, food drives, gardens and individuals. Partner agencies, such as food pantries, childcare centers, senior centers, and shelters, then order food from the bank to be provided to families and individuals in need. Each year, the Food Bank works with hundreds of nonprofit partners to distribute over 60 million meals to more than 755,000 people across metro Atlanta and north Georgia.

In addition to providing food, Atlanta Community Food Bank's mission is to fight hunger by engaging, educating and empowering the community through their projects: Atlanta Prosperity Campaign, Atlanta's Table, Community Gardens, Hunger 101, Hunger Walk/Run, Kids In Need and Product Rescue Center. Brothers and guests will be volunteering between 9:00 a.m. and noon at the Product Rescue Center (PRC), which provides great hands-on experience in a diverse and social atmosphere. We are limited in capacity of volunteers so sign up early to guarantee your spot!



In January, 25 brothers from Atlanta Alumni Chapter volunteered at Atlanta Community Food Bank, where they sorted 8,744 pounds of food and non-food materials and provided 5,028 meals.



Congress Keynote Speaker

An avid participant in the fraternity/sorority community, Dr. Lori Hart has served as an active volunteer for Alpha Omicron Pi Fraternity in a variety of roles. Professionally, she currently serves as the Director of Educational Initiatives for Holmes Murphy Fraternal Practice after working 15 years for Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity Headquarters.

Today Lori visits close to 70 campuses a year speaking on The Catalyst Agency roster, bringing messages about relationships, alcohol education, and fraternity and sorority life. Campus Activities Magazine has recognized Lori as both "Female Performer of the Year" and "Speaker of the Year." She was awarded with the 2013 Alumnae Woman of Leadership Award at the Alpha Omicron Pi International Convention. In 2014, Lori was recognized by the North American Interfraternity Conference with a Silver Medal for her work in prevention and in 2016 was awarded the Jack L. Anson Award from the Association of Fraternity and Sorority Advisors.

Lori currently resides in Atlanta with her family where she and her husband happily juggle raising four children ranging in age from two to eighteen. In her spare time, she loves to box with her trainer, volunteer at church and walk her two Golden Retrievers.

The Road to Happiness: Catching Up With PGP and “Deltasig For Life” Dick Parnitzke

1983-85 Grand President Richard “Dick” Parnitzke learned some “hugely important managerial skills” as a Deltasig. A purchasing and engineering specialist who understood the key to success was “knowing how to inspire creative teamwork,” he used these talents in Deltasig leadership roles and while enjoying a successful 31 years at GM.

Ask Richard J. (“Dick”) Parnitzke to tell you what it’s like to work for decades in the U.S. auto industry, and the former Chevrolet tooling manager will reply with a single word:

“Tough!”

Then, after thinking for a moment:

“I mean, *really* tough! If you can’t handle the workload and the pressure, you won’t last. Period. You’re done!”

He’s not kidding, either. Ask this feisty, 77-year-old retiree (since 1995) for a compelling example of the psychological toll on production

managers, and he’ll tell you how he once worked 93 days in a row – many of them including overtime – while fending off numerous attacks of brain-numbing exhaustion.

Then, to underline his point, he’ll launch the chilling saga of a “brutal shutdown” that took place in a Muskegon, Michigan, auto parts tool producing shop during the 1970s era.

“I was working at a Chevrolet plant in upstate New York, and I was part of a team that did the yearly retooling for engine components,” says the highly voluble Parnitzke, a Buffalo native who spent most of his career working at several General Motors facilities in the region.

“In that kind of operation, timing is everything . . . and you have to make sure you get all the retooling done by early March, so you can have everything up and running in May when the yearly auto-manufacturing cycle begins.

“Trust me: those deadlines were tight! But we always managed to make it in time – until one particular winter in the seventies, when we ran into a problem we couldn’t anticipate.”

That problem, Parnitzke explained, had cropped up in the West Michigan city of Muskegon . . . where an auto tooling vendor who was supposed to be ramping up a new line of engine equipment kept calling GM’s Buffalo office and asking for “permission to bill for ever-increasing amounts of overtime.”

“This was a multi-million-dollar job,” Parnitzke growled during a recent interview. “But the calls for more and more overtime kept coming in . . . and the Muskegon vendor kept telling us he was running into ‘issues’ that required

his people to work at night and on the weekends.”

This pattern continued – until his boss said: “Something *smells* here. Something’s not right. I don’t feel comfortable with this.”

In the end, the worried boss instructed his lieutenant to “fly to Muskegon and find out what the hell’s going on!”

Deeply alarmed by now, Parnitzke boarded the next flight to the Wolverine State. “I flew in there on Saturday night,” he remembers, “and by seven o’clock the next morning, I’m standing at the door of this company.”

“Here comes the superintendent. He sees me and he turns pale as a sheet! Oh, boy! So we go in there to review what they were doing.”

“We walk out on the shop floor and it was instantly clear that what they had up on their machinery was a huge job for our *biggest competitor!*”

Parnitzke couldn’t believe his eyes. And he didn’t hesitate. After taking a series of photos designed to document the obvious swindle, he raced back to the airport.

“What they had been doing was totally unethical,” he says today. “This supplier had been charging us for a considerable amount of overtime – while working on a *competitor’s* tooling! Well, we pulled the job out of there, and they soon went bankrupt. Because the word gets around real quick in the auto industry on who you give work to and who you *don’t*.

He paused. He growled again. Then: “As I said, this is a very tough business.”

“And those guys in Muskegon were *done!*”

(continued on page 12)



Then GP Dick Parnitzke welcomed everyone to the 35th Grand Chapter Congress banquet in Dallas. Parnitzke’s family, including daughters Kathie and Lisa, were regular participants at Congresses, making these events highlights for the entire family. Kathie is a member of Alpha Upsilon Chapter at Miami University in Oxford so it is only fitting that Kathie would meet her husband, Mark Slusher, Ohio State, at one of these events. The weekend of Kathie and Mark’s wedding was a distinct Deltasig event with brothers from throughout the country in attendance.

Learning Key Survival Skills . . . from His Brothers at Delta Sigma Pi

Looking back on his long and successful career as a purchasing and engineering specialist at General Motors, the now retired Parnitzke is quick to credit the Fraternity with helping him to “both survive and thrive” in the dog-eat-dog world of auto manufacturing.

“I first joined the Alpha Kappa chapter of Delta Sigma Pi as a ‘night school’ student at the State University of New York at Buffalo [aka “SUNY Buffalo”].

“That was back in the winter of 1971,” recalls the easygoing and laughter-loving Parnitzke – who would himself become Grand President of the Fraternity only twelve years later.

“What happened was that we had a break in the middle of a class, and one of the other students walked up to me and handed me a brochure. I took it home and looked through it. Right away, it seemed pretty clear that joining the Fraternity would pay big dividends, because I’d be able to benefit from the mentoring provided by older members who’d been through the grind and knew what it takes to succeed in the world of business.”

And that’s precisely what happened.

For Parnitzke, the grandson of a Prussian-German immigrant and the son of a Buffalo blue-collar worker, who would battle his way into the American middle class by often working 12 hours a day for weeks at a time in the thundering inferno of never-silent auto assembly lines, becoming a Deltasig was a key step on the road to financial and social success.

“There’s no doubt that I got a huge amount of help from the older members,” says Parnitzke. “Several of them became my mentors over the years, and they never stopped trying to ease my path and sharpen my business skills. They were a big part of my success, because they really cared about me.

“I’ve never forgotten this one night when an older member who was a former Grand President – Frank Tober [Franklin A. Tober, 1961-63] – and I went out for a beer after a meeting at Alpha Kappa. We sat down together at the bar, and he looked at me and then he predicted that I, too, would someday serve as a Grand President.”

Amazed, Parnitzke nearly almost fell off his bar stool.

“I asked him why he thought that,” and he told me he could see

that I really liked the emphasis on teamwork and cooperation and finding creative solutions to problems – all of which were at the heart of the Deltasig vision of service. He told me those were the *hallmarks* of leadership as a Deltasig.

“Well, he was right! During the past 47 years, I’ve served as a Grand President, a Regional Director, a District Director and a Trustee of the Leadership Foundation . . . and the thing I’ve always liked most about those jobs was working with the young people.”

“I think I learned early on that Fraternity leadership isn’t about *you* – it’s about helping the younger members to thrive and enjoy success in their careers, while also enjoying the friendships and the camaraderie that are an essential part of life as a Deltasig.”

Surviving a Tragedy . . . and then Rebuilding His Life

It was the most devastating telephone call that Dick Parnitzke would ever receive.

He still remembers the moment when he picked up the phone and said hello.

The voice on the other end belonged to a corporate security officer who quickly told him that his beloved wife Jackie had just been killed in an auto accident.

“I got that call at 9:22 in the morning, on the first of October in 1992, and my world changed forever. Jackie and I had been married for 29 years, and we had two wonderful daughters. She was my best friend and we’d been close pals ever since way back when we were in the third grade together at Public School 63 in Buffalo.

“That call shattered my world, and rebuilding it wasn’t easy.”

But he did it.

While reaching for a lot more of the toughness and tenacity that had defined his long career at GM, Parnitzke gradually began to heal from the disaster. And once again,



Then GP Dick Parnitzke, center, and then East Central Regional Director Jeff Nelson, far right, joined the Cleveland-North Coast Alumni Chapter in 1984 at their annual picnic.

his buddies at Delta Sigma Pi were standing by, ready to help in any way they could.

"Those are some of the finest guys I've ever known," he says with a tremor in his voice. "Some of them have been playing poker on a regular basis for more than 40 years now. And even though I'm retired and living in [a suburb of Phoenix] Arizona now, we still get together whenever I'm back in upstate New York.

"Frank Tober was right – in the end, those friendships and those wise mentors I found at the Fraternity were crucially important in helping me meet the challenges of life, both personally and professionally."

After remarrying and moving to the desert southwest with his second wife, Carol Diane Lutgen – a "wonderfully supportive and loving helpmate" who often joins him in performing church-related volunteer work around Phoenix – the indestructible Parnitzke would begin enjoying a second exciting career . . . as a passionate genealogist who loves to do research on family histories.

He would also set down many of his thoughts as a Deltasig who's always been deeply interested in helping younger members to thrive in their professional lives.

Reflecting on his years as Grand President, he tried to summarize his feelings about that time in his life in a column he wrote some years ago for the members of the Fraternity.

My activities have enabled me to meet so many brothers and participate with many chapters.

Attending Grand Chapter Congress with all the members of his family was always a high point for all.

Perhaps by sharing a few observations, I can communicate what it has been like to be your Grand President.

They include:

---Attending chapter anniversary celebrations and listening to so many collegiate and alumni voices sing the Rose of Deltasig.

---Meeting pledges and members for

the first time and watching these young persons develop into leaders of their chapters and business community.

---The emotion of being able to share the bonds of our brotherhood with my oldest daughter, Kathleen.

---The opportunity to listen to ideas and encourage our young leaders of today.

---Experiencing a new meaningful spirit of cooperation between our Educational Foundation and the Fraternity.

---The enthusiasm that radiates from brothers of newly installed chapters.

So there he is.

A survivor.

A dedicated husband, father, grandfather . . . and a loyal friend to his pals of more than 40 years at Alpha Kappa in Buffalo.

Richard J. Parnitzke . . .

An ideal brother!

A true Deltasig!!! ▲



Richard Parnitzke, Buffalo (NY), was elected Grand President in 1983. He was initiated into Alpha Kappa Chapter in 1971. He was a member and officer of the Buffalo Alumni Chapter and also served as District Director from 1974 to 1976. In 1976, Dick was elected to the position of Eastern Regional Director and served in that position until 1982 when he was elected as Director of Alumni Activities. During that time (until 1983), he served as a member of the Board of Directors and of the National Executive Committee. Also during that time, he chaired or was a member of 11 national committees. Brother Parnitzke received Deltasig's Lifetime Achievement Award in 1997 for his continued support and services to the Fraternity.

Tom Nugent, who has reported frequently for the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *Chicago Tribune* and other publications, recently served as the lead investigative reporter on the Emmy-nominated True Crime Series, *The Keepers*. He lives in Hastings, Michigan.

Finding Your Passion

By: Kim Tardy, alliantgroup
Director of Talent

alliantgroup®

It has been four years since I joined alliantgroup and, in my time at the firm, our company has experienced sweeping changes and exponential growth.

Considering where we are today—a firm of over 800 professionals with a domestic and international presence, a Strategic Advisory Board comprised of former policymakers, elected officials and business and industry leaders—it is hard to imagine that alliantgroup started back in 2002 as just two people working out of a studio apartment. My, how times have changed since those early days when our CEO Dhaval Jadav and CFO Shane Frank took the ultimate gamble in pursuing their dreams to start this company!

I am so proud to have been a part of this journey over the past few years, seeing alliantgroup grow into the fantastic company that it is today and develop the careers of so many talented young professionals in the process.

Prior to founding alliantgroup in 2002, Dhaval Jadav was a member of a mergers & acquisitions/private equity group in San Francisco, advising a number of high-tech companies. During this time he became passionate about U.S. businesses and their influence on technology and economic progress. He saw the importance of helping companies leverage new technologies for the broader benefit of society. These interests carried with him as he founded alliantgroup, a firm whose services are largely based on helping companies claim tax credits and incentives tied to innovation and

the advancement of technology.

From a budding startup to a flourishing international consultancy, our firm's story offers many lessons on how important it is to follow your dreams - even if it means following a non-traditional path to get there.

Having worked hand-in-hand with Dhaval and the rest of our management team to grow our organization over the last few years, I would say that the key to success is hiring the right people in the right roles. Find people who are passionate about their field of expertise and those that find true purpose with the mission of the organization.

The proposition sounds simple on the surface, but it is extremely difficult in practice. As someone who has spent an entire career in human resources identifying the right candidates for the right roles, I know that it takes some a long time to identify their passion. It can be hard to understand and realize exactly what drives them and what gets them juiced up each day.

When sifting through resumes, we've found that identifying candidates with the right skill set for the job is usually the easy part. However, there is a major difference between the ability to simply do what is required of the position and having the internal drive and passion to go above and beyond the requirements of the role. As any executive will tell you, it is ultimately the latter kind of professional that will drive and invest in the future of an organization—and it is imperative to find as many of these career-driven types as possible.

Dhaval often is quoted as he shares



*Dhaval Jadav, alliantgroup
founder and CEO*

the alliantgroup mission statement when he founded the company – it is the same mission statement guiding all 800 employees today:

“... Our number one priority has been to ensure that our clients have an A-plus experience, one that creates the kind of ‘Raving Fans’ that shout from the rooftops about the quality of our services. In order to achieve this goal, it was imperative for us to find the right kind of people that would buy into this idea—career-driven professionals with a passion to be the best at what they do.”

While our company is a tax consultancy, we serve over 50 unique industries. You might ask, “Why does a consultancy firm need to hire MBAs, engineers, PhDs, chemists, etc.?” The answer is simple— we look for individuals who love interacting with clients, who want to use their expertise to help U.S. businesses take advantage of the many tax incentives

that are available to them. To do this well, our professionals must be well versed in their area of expertise.

For so many, this is a non-traditional path to take for their degree. When you find an engineer who loves to share their expertise with others and is able to break down advanced concepts into everyday terms that are easily understood, you have found the blueprint for a successful consultant in our practice. Our PhDs want to interact with clients and understand the research and development that has taken place that qualifies businesses for these valuable incentives. These individuals want to do more than be in a lab all day. While they are still passionate about science, they now become the experts that can help our clients successfully navigate through the qualification process, allowing them to reap the rewards for their R&D work.

MBA professionals are particularly attracted to alliantgroup because of the ability to interact with C-level executives across a variety of industries learning about their journey to success. They are intrigued by the “How It’s Made” interactions that they get to experience daily across all types

Since 2017, Delta Sigma Pi has partnered with alliantgroup to offer Deltasigs opportunities with their fast growing consultancy, with positions offered from entry-level to MBA backgrounds. alliantgroup offers an entrepreneurial, team-oriented environment which works to help strengthen U.S. businesses.

To see job opportunities, please visit: dsp.org/alliantgroup. ▲

of industries. Every facet of their business degree will be utilized fully in the role of a consultant at alliantgroup. The most successful MBA candidates are passionate individuals who love and care about what they do and have a stake in the future of the company.

The alliantgroup unique formula for finding passionate consultants is summarized well by Dhaval:

“I find that in most situations, you can train people about a product

or service and teach them the skills that they need for a specific role, but you can’t teach passion. You can’t teach people to have that internal drive to be the best and that is why it is so important to identify that characteristic as early as possible when recruiting talent.”

In our experience, we have found the best way to make professionals feel valued and part of the organization is to listen to their ideas and to empower them to make their own decisions—and learn from their own mistakes.

We can all learn valuable lessons from the two founders of alliantgroup, both attorneys by background, but both fueled by a passion to help small and mid-sized businesses. They identified what they were passionate about and left what were considered secure careers to follow their passion for helping U.S. businesses. Non-traditional, risky and full of uncertainty, but their passion outweighed the fear of the unknown. When you find that formula - great things can happen. Follow your passion whether it is considered unchartered or not and don’t be afraid to be an early adopter. When you take this approach, your career opportunities are endless. ▲

As part of Deltasig’s partnership with alliantgroup, representatives attend LEAD events to network with Deltasigs. Associate Director Talent Acquisition Kandace Spivey and Director of Talent Kim Tardy are pictured at the 2018 South Central LEAD Provincial in St. Louis.



SHAPING LEADERS: 2018 LEAD School

"Leaders aren't born, they are made."

-Vince Lombardi

As the weather began to cool (or maybe for those of you who live in warmer climates it didn't!), more than 1,500 brothers booked their travel and adventured to Albuquerque, Birmingham, Cleveland, Dallas and Minneapolis for the 2018 LEAD Schools. While each of those locations couldn't be more different, some common themes prevailed: **EDUCATION**, **EMPOWERMENT**, **SERVICE** and **BROTHERHOOD**.

With chapter representatives across the country, alumni members and national leaders, many important topics were presented and much progress was made for the greater good of the Fraternity and its members. Attendees had the opportunity to network with brothers of all ages, cultures and walks of life, build upon their professional skills, explore a new city and get their foot in the door with Deltasig partners.

Chapters and leaders raised the bar this year with numerous service opportunities aimed to benefit Delta Sigma Pi's national service initiative, Ronald McDonald House Charities. Events included wish list donations, pop tab collections, change competitions and more, none of which would have been possible without the planning and dedication from Deltasigs who ensure service is a prevalent theme at each LEAD. A special thank you is also extended to our following partners who dedicated time in meeting with and educating brothers: alliantgroup, Enterprise, The Fund For American Studies, GEICO Careers, IES Abroad and OneMain Financial.

Be sure to check out the 2019-20 schedule on page 39 – we hope to see you at an upcoming LEAD event near you! ▲



DESERT MOUNTAIN REGION had an impressive turnout at the Albuquerque LEAD. For many brothers, LEAD presents a unique opportunity for chapters across a large area to meet and share common interests, strengthening the Fraternity as a whole.



Fraternity friend and presenter at some Delta Sigma Pi functions, Brad Killmeyer with Formulate Your Future opened the Albuquerque (and Dallas) LEAD with his keynote, Ignite Your Future.



TEXAS-DALLAS received its charter at the Dallas LEAD School after being installed last April. The Fraternity is excited to have them as a new chapter and proud of their many accomplishments so far, including their proven dedication to philanthropy.

WAYNE STATE (NE) brothers (from left): Trish Kolterman (Ch. Advisor), Kody Wageman, Jayme Dubas, Kevin Anderson and Tom Toel prepare for an exciting day at the Minneapolis LEAD School, eagerly awaiting an opening keynote by Adam Carroll, Phoenix-Thunderbird, about Getting What You Really Want – Leveraging The Law of Attraction.



Highlights



At LEAD, attendees are encouraged to step out of their comfort zones and sit with brothers from different chapters. Each table was labeled with an interest, spanning from "Dog Lovers" to "Game of Thrones Fanatics," and brothers sat with the table they most identified with, making new friends and sharing great conversations. Here, Birmingham attendees wave hello!

LYNCHBURG (VA) brothers (from left) Ashley Roark and Chelsey Fix and Golden Council member Darrick Williams, Columbia (SC), sat together during a luncheon at Birmingham LEAD after a busy morning of sessions over topics including landing dream jobs, recruiting and managing stress.



STONY BROOK (NY) received multiple regional awards at the Cleveland LEAD School, showing great promise since their installation in 2016. They were recognized for the Empire Region as a Most Improved Collegiate Chapter and for Outstanding Financial

Operations. The chapter's District Director, William Greenberg (not pictured), was also awarded as the Empire Region's DD of the Year.

CLEARY (MI) was presented the charter for Phi Omega at the Cleveland LEAD School by GP Tricia Smith, marking a very special moment for the chapter and its members. Since its installation in April 2018, Phi Omega has matured rapidly and has a promising and bright future!



ST. JOSEPH'S (PA) brothers discuss the four personality types (driver, analytical, amiable and expressive) at the Cleveland LEAD School during the keynote presented by Tim Augustine, Kent State (OH).



At each LEAD School (and pictured here in Albuquerque), chapter representatives and national leaders gather to discuss various topics related to nationally-recognized officer positions.



ANGELO STATE (TX) brothers spend some time discussing the important lessons they learned in the breakout sessions at the Dallas LEAD School. Brothers especially enjoyed the Emotional Intelligence session and how it applied to both their professional and personal lives. From left: Chloe Villarreal, Marco Padilla, Sarah Lozano, Princess Fiel-Murphy and Andrea Imatani.



Diane Arthur with Delta Sigma Pi partner IES Abroad engaged with Minneapolis LEAD School attendees and answered questions about their programs. IES Abroad offered to help Deltasigs create a network and gain hands-on experience in their field of study.

SERVING UP SUCCESS

A great part of being a Deltasig is the opportunity to get advice from alumni, many who are more than happy to offer tips from their experiences. For James “Duckie” Webb, *Houston*, his tip might sound like a beverage recommendation:

“Find your Guinness,” he says.

This advice is more than selecting a pint of stout, it’s a metaphor for finding work in an area that fires up your passion. That’s exactly what Webb did when he ditched a lucrative career crunching numbers for an accounting firm to found AnotherRound Apps.

“It’s just kind of a silly thing,” James says, “But, I think, more than anything else, being in an industry that you have at least an ounce of passion for is going to make a difference in your career.”



James, along with business partner Scott Moorad, developed a software that allows brewers a better way to track kegs. It allows brewers to scan kegs from a mobile device so they can improve keg management and accountability—minimizing the loss of inventory and maximizing profits.



In 2018, James was presented his well-earned Silver Helmet Award for 25 years of support and service to the Fraternity. The award (not the actual helmet!) was presented by GP, and good friend, Tricia Smith.

For James, that’s craft beer. He was a fan of the emerging craft beer business before microbreweries started popping up in the center of every hip neighborhood across the country. And, he has an ongoing admiration for Guinness, being a self-described fanboy who has often toured the iconic factory in Dublin and fills his house with Guinness promotional items.

A QUESTION SPARKS A BUSINESS

A simple question from a neighbor helped James launch a business. The neighbor, a beer distributor who was focused on the then-nascent craft beer industry, asked him if he could use his tech expertise to come up with a way to take orders on mobile devices.

“That really kicked it off,” James says. “I’d been bored to tears with all the accounting



Last summer, James and wife Derry joined ten other Deltasigs on a trip through Portugal and Spain (pictured here). Derry is also a longtime supporter of the Fraternity attending many events with James, but also serving as the National Community Service Committee Chair from 2009-2011, following two years as South Central Provincial Chair. She has also served on various Foundation committees, including the Scholarship Selection Team for four years. Photo Credit: Eddie Stephens

work, so I was excited about getting a chance to marry my skills in technology with beer. How bad could that be, right?"

James and business partner Scott Moorad started the company with two products – the first was a route accounting system that offered tools for the distributor’s sales force to use while visiting bars, restaurants and liquor stores. The app allowed them to take orders and show the details of the available brews.

The second app helped his business take off, and helped solve a major problem facing brewers. Webb explains:

“I went to a brewery and heard they were spending \$30,000 on kegs, many of which weren’t being returned. It was burning a hole in their pocket,” Webb says. “We did some research and found brewers would fill kegs, drop them off and pray they came back. Even if the brewers kept the deposit, it wouldn’t pay for a \$100 keg. We figured out you had to uniquely track these things and know when any one keg is gone. That was the foundation of the system we built.”

Not only was beer a passion for Webb, he was jumping into the confluence of a rapidly-growing industry and swiftly-developing

technology. “I recognized everything anybody does will eventually be on their phones,” Webb says. “There’s a little bit of opportunity here.”

Just looking at the attendance at the industry’s main trade show – growing from 3,500 attendees in 2011 to nearly 13,000 in 2018 – shows the rapid growth in the craft beer category. The smartphone in your pocket or purse shows what’s happened to technology during the same time.

Despite having great timing, it took years to grow the business, Webb says. “What’s that saying about ‘overnight’ successes taking ten years to happen?”

It was primarily Webb and Moorad who ran the business, which they named AnotherRound Apps. With such a small staff, he was happy to be able to lean on Delta Sigma Pi brothers for advice and assistance. “It’s been a lot of the brothers that I’ve been involved with for so long,” Webb says. “Being able to reach out to them to ask for help was

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THE WEBB FILE

James “Duckie” Webb, Houston, has been active since initiation, and if he looks familiar, he’s attended every Grand Chapter Congress since 1995 along with almost 50 other national Deltasig events. He also served as Provincial and National Scholastic Development and Awards Chair.



He continues to support the Fraternity by devoting countless hours to the program development of the scholarship system and by being a long time donor to the Leadership Foundation with his wife Derry Webb, *Houston*, earning them Benefactor recognition for reaching donations of at least \$25,000.

great. Otherwise it would be a huge battle to get the information I needed. We even hired a brother to do our accounting.”

Buying AnotherRound

AnotherRound continued to grow, the founders became overwhelmed with the work required to run the business. A meeting at a trade show in 2014 gave them an opportunity to become part of a larger organization.

“We ran into the folks from Satellite Logistics Group (SLG), and the long and short of it, SLG’s core business is the return of empty kegs. I’ll also note that Guinness was their first customer.” SLG was working to get into the craft beer market, and it quickly became apparent the two companies should combine.

“We needed capital and bigger customers, and they needed the software we built,” James says. “And the fact they were located here in Houston made it all the better. It worked out to do something with them.”

So, in 2015 AnotherRound was acquired by SLG, and James was named commercial software architect.¹ SLG serves 200 brands, and the company CEO said during the acquisition it was excited to tap James and his business partner’s expertise in developing scalable solutions for the beverage industry.

Even though James’s career involves long workdays, he’s remained involved with Delta Sigma Pi, attending every Congress for the past 20 years, building the first awards and current scholarship application website, and currently chairing the scholarship selection committee.

His wife, Derry, *Houston*, who he says supports his often lengthy work hours, is a member, along with a large group of friends he travels with. “My social circle outside of the Fraternity is pretty small,” James says.

After you’ve “found your Guinness,” James recommends staying involved with Delta Sigma Pi through college and beyond.

“I’ve gotten more out of the organization than I’ve put into it,” James says. “Be around people. Talk to people. You never know where that conversation will go and where it will lead. For me, it was really about building the network and getting to know people.” ▲

¹ At the end of 2018, having completed the terms of the acquisition of AnotherRound Apps, James is moving on from SLG in search of his next “Guinness” opportunity.

Here’s a list of Deltasig positions James has held:

Eta Psi (Houston) Collegiate Chapter

- Vice President-Pledge Education
- Chancellor
- Ritual Chairman

Space City Houston Alumni Chapter

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer

District Director

- Delta Eta (Lamar (TX))
- Eta Psi (Houston)
- Space City Houston Alumni

Gulf Western Regional Director from 1997-1999

Scholastic Development and Awards

- National Committee Chair from 2005-2009
- National Committee Member from 2003-2005
- South Central Provincial Chair from 2012-2013

National Organizational Development Committee Member from 2011-2013

Foundation

- Foundation Scholarship & Grant Committee since 2018
- Foundation Scholarship Selection Team since 2012
- Leadership Foundation Committee from 2008-2012

Professional experience:

- Previously: Commercial Software Architect – Satellite Logistics Group (SLG)
- Co-founded AnotherRound Apps, which he sold to SLG in 2015
- Other experience includes a variety of consulting roles at various companies in the Houston area.

**New job? Start a new business? Get promoted or recognized for an achievement?
Share your news with us! Email magazine@dsp.org.**

Colleen Fitzgerald, *Adelphi (NY)*, is financial advisor at Vanguard in Huntersville, N.C.

Jennifer Holdaway, *Baylor (TX)*, is senior counselor at Crossroads Treatment Center in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Quinn Graves, *Bentley (MA)*, is a business analyst at New England Revolution in Foxboro, Mass.

Shahidul Sabab, *Buffalo (NY)*, is project delivery senior analyst at Deloitte Consulting LLP in Lake Mary, Fla.

Phillip Marquez, *Cal Poly-Pomona*, is CD senior resolution manager at Gallagher Bassett Services, Inc. in Brea, Calif.

Mardy Beggs-Cassin, *Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo*, is supervisor, evidence identification at Stockton Police Department in Stockton, Calif.

Bradley Beasley, *Central Florida*, is senior financial analyst at Wyndham Destinations in Orlando, Fla.

Taylor Callaghan, *Central Florida*, is in sales at Salesforce in Sarasota, Fla.

Phillip Christy, *Central Florida*, is financial analyst at Braze in New York.

Jeanette Buie, *Central Missouri*, is product manager at Lumeris in St. Louis.

Thomas Cruse, *Cincinnati*, retired as director of events and special projects at the University of Cincinnati in Blue Ash. He lives in Loveland, Ohio.

Koral Hull, *Colorado-Colorado Springs*, is account executive at Pitchly in Des Moines, Iowa.

Emily Gamble, *Dayton (OH)*, is assistant director of annual giving, student philanthropy and young alumni giving at University of Dayton in Ohio.

Robert Hawks, *Eastern New Mexico*, retired as County Assessor for Sac City. He lives in Sac City, Iowa.

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Virtual Sabotage: NY Times Bestselling Author and Deltasig Julie Hyzy

Loyola-Chicago alumni Julie Hyzy is no stranger to the *New York Times* bestselling list, hoping to add her latest novel, *Virtual Sabotage*, to the lineup.

The novel was developed from Hyzy's love for the Ray Bradbury short story, *The Veldt*, where the kids' playroom comes alive with terrifying consequences. "I first read that short story in grammar school and it wasn't until much later that I began to wonder about how our current technology could be used and misused in a similar fashion," says Hyzy. "Watching *Star Trek*, with its holodecks helped too. Our society is so tied to technology these days – we're so dependent on it – that I wanted to ask the question: How much of our autonomy are we willing to sacrifice for the benefit of a little entertainment? *Virtual Sabotage* is the result."

As the first female brother at Loyola in 1977, Hyzy is a Deltasig for life. "By far, my favorite thing about being a Deltasig is the brotherhood my husband and I pledged into," she says. "Whether we're gathering at the Bob Schumann Memorial Golf Outing each September or enjoying a reunion/meeting brothers for dinner, it's become clear that the bonds we forged during our collegiate years remain strong."

Having won the Anthony, Barry, Derringer and Phobos awards for fiction, Julie's impressive standalone novels and series include:



- Virtual Sabotage*
- Playing With Matches*
- Deadly Blessings* (An Alex St. James Mystery)
- Deadly Interest* (An Alex St. James Mystery)
- White House Chef Mystery series*
- Manor House Mysteries series*

Brother Hyzy's works are available anywhere books are sold, including Barnes & Noble, Amazon and Audible. ▲

Mark Stanley, *Ferris State (MI)*, retired as risk manager for Cornell University. He lives in Charlevoix, Mich.

Randrea Majors-Graham, *Francis Marion (SC)*, is a mortgage loan consultant at Zillow Group Mortgages in North Charleston, S.C.

Amul Singh, *George Mason (VA)*, is a business analyst at Oasys International Corporation in Washington, D.C.

Wayne Nix, *Georgia*, is vice president of operations at Succentrix Business Advisors, Inc. in Athens, Ga.

Ashawndra Lacey, *Georgia Southern*, is simulation distribution lead at Luxottica in McDonough, Ga.

Pierre McDonald, *Georgia Southern*, is logistics, sales and operations account manager at Magellan Transport Logistics in Jacksonville, Fla.

Past ED Michael Mazur, Jr., *Georgia State*, is operations consultant at Meadows Community Association, Inc. in Sarasota, Fla.

Carla Tousley, *Grand Valley State (MI)*, is senior project manager at MasterCard in Troy, Mich.

Gilbert Lopez, *Houston (TX)*, is senior vice president-correspondent lending at AmeriHome Mortgage Company in Spring, Texas.

James Ridenour, *Illinois State*, is buyer II at Caterpillar, Inc. in Mossville, Ill.

Cassidy Steines, *Iowa*, is a digital marketing specialist at Frontier Co-op in Norway, Iowa.

Jordyn Steinkritz, *Iowa*, is an investment banking analyst at Goldman Sachs in New York.

Adam Katch, *Iowa State*, is a software developer at Travelers Insurance in St. Paul, Minn.

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Brother "Lives Más" at Taco Bell HQ



How many people have thought at one point in time while eating Taco Bell, "I could get paid to do this!" For Vinay Somashekar, *California-Irvine*, that dream is a job perk!

Vinay has been working for Taco Bell at their corporate headquarters in Irvine, California for

over two years. And while Taco Bell is known for its banter on social media, clever Super Bowl commercials and locations across the globe (and of course for serving up *DELICIOUS* fast food), it takes some serious talent and determination behind the scenes to make it happen.

Working on the Corporate Strategy team, Vinay works on everything from managing company-owned restaurant pricing, to analyzing international growth opportunities, to even drafting presentations on behalf of C-suite executives. In addition, he closely monitors industry trends and competitor performance, and also drafts Taco Bell's quarterly results and commentary for the investor relations team at Yum! Brands (a Fortune 500 company that operates KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell) in order to help them prepare for quarterly earnings releases to Wall Street.

As you can imagine, scoring a job with a company like Taco Bell is "nacho" average task! "I interviewed with 11 people in total throughout the entire process," recalls Vinay. "In order to stand out from the crowd, I made it a point to show my genuine fervor for Taco Bell – not just the food, but the brand as well. Taco Bell's brand is renowned for its bold and creative innovation as well as its light-hearted and witty persona that resonates with its consumers. I intentionally exhibited a parallel between the brand and my own personality in order to demonstrate a cultural fit. For example, my thank you emails were jokingly peppered with corny fast food puns."

While Vinay spends much of his time invested in the strategic planning and implementation of this powerhouse company, the job definitely has a tasty side. In fact, he says, "The coolest thing about my job is being able to participate in frequent taste panels where we get to try out dozens of innovative product ideas – most notably future menu items that have yet to be released domestically, as well as international menu items that are not available in the U.S."

A dedicated Deltasig for life, Vinay has given back to his collegiate chapter by frequently visiting and giving presentations about his career, as well as advice for job searching. "Being a Deltasig prepared me for my job by instilling in me the value of building and maintaining relationships," he says. "A large part of my job is cross-functional and involves leveraging relationships with many people across the business. Taking the time to build and maintain these relationships goes a long way. Like they say, 'If you want to go fast, travel alone; if you want to go far, travel together.'" ▲

Milestones

Did you recently tie the knot? Welcome a new bundle of joy? Do you know a brother who has passed away? If so, please tell us. Email your mergers, gains or losses to magazine@dsp.org.

Mergers

Alyssa Mullinax and **John Sheehan**, both *Bentley (MA)*, on September 15. They live in North Waltham, Mass.

Laura Schreiner and **Christopher Straub**, both *Colorado-Colorado Springs*, on September 9. They live in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Raymond Coleman, *Florida*, and **Cassandra** on May 18. They live in Atlanta.

Anne Linnemann, *George Washington (DC)*, and **Joshua Denney** on May 12. They live in Nashville, Tenn.

Jeff Winther, *Grand Valley State (MI)*, and **Lisa Tate** on November 3. They live in Holland, Mich.

Brandi Burgess, *James Madison (VA)*, and **Zachary Tolbert** on June 2. They live in Joppa, Md.

Courtney Walker, *Lindenwood (MO)*, and **Jeremy Fondren** on October 6. They live in Manchester, Mo.

Michael Berg, *Minnesota State*, and **Catherine Kedzuf** on September 29. They live in St. Louis Park, Minn.

Megan Harley, *Nebraska-Omaha*, and **Andy Tronick** on September 22. They live in Elkhorn, Neb.

Kathryn Proper, *Penn State-Erie*, and **Michael Jodon** on October 20. They live in Mayfield Heights, Ohio.

Michelle Mahoney, *Purdue-Fort Wayne*, and **Gyan Singh** on November 16. They live in Naperville, Ill.

Sean Vineyard, *Radford (VA)*, and **Natalie Kiddie** on October 13. They live in Reston, Va.

Ronald Axelrod, *Rider (NJ)*, and **Debbie Ramsawak** on September 8. They live in Chester, N.J.

Joseph Bledsoe, *Southern Illinois-Edwardsville*, and **Jessica Hopkins** on November 3. They live in Fenton, Mo.

Christopher Stelacci, *Southern Methodist (TX)*, and **Nikki Vermeer** on May 6. They live in Dallas.

Andrew Satek and **Kacie Sutton**, both *St. Cloud State (MN)*, on October 27. They live in Waite Park, Minn.

Sarah Cormier, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Colin Slack** on December 28. They live in Crystal Lake, Ill.

Cong Do, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Ha Nguyen** on September 14. They live in Bangkok.

Rachel Echternacht, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Hayden Fouch** on December 15. They live in St. Louis.

Kyle Fuchs, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Sydney Cornett** on December 29. They live in Rochester, Minn.

Jon Gilmor, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Julie Staszko** on October 13. They live in Kansas City, Mo.

Richard Hearn III, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Abagale Casagrande** on September 15. They live in Springfield, Mo.

Heather Hoing, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Colin Eyster** on October 13. They live in St. Charles, Mo.

Michele Oberkrom, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Cheyenne Furrow** on September 15. They live in Kirksville, Mo.

Andrew Riek, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Libby Revelle** on November 17. They live in St. Louis.

Haley Stroup, *Truman State (MO)*, and **Alex Saunders** on October 6. They live in Farmington, Mo.

Cody Cox, *Western Kentucky*, and **Kaleb Caceres** on October 19. They live in Bowling Green, Ky.

Gains

Colleen Fitzgerald, *Adelphi (NY)*, and **Patrick** on August 14 – **Patrick**. They live in Huntersville, N.C.

Lucy and **Frank Hodas**, *George Washington (DC)*, on June 23 – **Benjamin**. They live in Arlington, Va.

Jessica Alston, *Georgia State*, and **Erie** on August 9 – **Emory Belle**. They live in Marietta, Ga.

Kelly Green, *Missouri State*, and **Jason** on March 29, 2018 – **Jackson**. They live in Saint Charles, Mo.

Amanda and **Jeffrey Lasky**, *Penn State-Erie*, on December 1 – **Abigail**. They live in Erie, Penn.

Ashley and **Jimmy Lo**, both *Rider (NJ)*, on August 21 – **Jacob**. They live in Lumberton, N.J.

Allie Yates, *Southern Mississippi*, and **Ryan** on February 18, 2018 – **Aaron**. They live in Signal Mountain, Tenn.

Ashley Strand, *St. Cloud State (MN)*, and **Ryan** on September 19 – **Theodore Ryan**. They live in Shakopee, Minn.

Brittany, *Valparaiso (IN)*, and **Kevin Salazar**, *Cal State-Fullerton*, on January 15 – **Chloe Irelynn**. They live in Irvine, Calif.

Losses

Arizona State

William Wilson (October 7)

Detroit (night)

John Kary (September 27)

Florida Atlantic

Santi Maraldo (May 8)

Gary Neal (August 6)

Florida Southern

John Smither (August 11)

Georgia Southern

Franklin Miles, Jr. (June 17)

Illinois

Steven Hirsh (September 4)

La Salle (PA)

Zakiyy Williams (December 6)

Memphis

Horace McRae (October 17)

Miami-Ohio

Billy Gilleland (September 8)

Donald McKillop (November 11)

Michigan State

Bruce Auten (September 25)

Glen Jeffes (August 24)

Minnesota State

Gerald Mertes (January 13, 2018)

North Carolina-Chapel Hill

William Scurry (October 25)

North Texas

Charles Partain (September 7)

Ohio

Phillip Martin (January 20, 2018)

Rider (NJ)

Gordon Grant (October 29)

Richard Jensen (October 4)

South Florida-Tampa

Keysha Williams (December 24)

St. Joseph's (PA)

Anthony Mullen (March 10, 2018)

Temple (PA)

John Poserina, Jr. (June 29)

Texas-Arlington

Daniel Delgado (September 19)

Texas Tech

Joseph Hill (May 3)

Ray Lubke (November 10)

William Sandy (August 27)

Tulane (LA)

Ronald Levy (March 30)

Wake Forest (NC)

James Johnson (November 9)

Western State (CO)

Edward Crisp (September 27)

Elizabeth Donnelly, *James Madison (VA)*, is senior digital marketing manager at Healthy Directions in Bethesda, Md.

Michael Ohmsen, *James Madison (VA)*, is director of electronic tolling at Faneuil, Inc. in Hampton, Va.

Jessica Shoop, *Kent State (OH)*, is chief operating and digital transformation officer at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

Alexandra Untied, *Kent State (OH)*, is client advisor at Erhard BMW in Farmington Hills, Mich.

Stephanie Saldivar, *La Verne (CA)*, is marketing manager at Hudson Jeans in Anaheim, Calif.

Louis Shapiro, *Loyola-Chicago*, is director of people operations at 1 Hotel Central Park in New York.

Breanna Stevenson, *Loyola-New Orleans*, is associate accountant at

CBRE Group in Dallas.

Patricia Provencher, *Minnesota*, is an attorney at Littler Mendelson in Minneapolis.

Jack Pollard, *Minnesota State*, retired as president of The Pollard Clinic, P.C. He lives in Chattanooga, Tenn.

Stuart Katz, *Missouri-Columbia*, retired as regional vice president at AT&T. He lives in Chesterfield, Mo.

Partners in Business and in Brotherhood *Deltasig Initiates Longtime GEICO Partner and Friend, Justine Ramsey*

In late fall of 2018, Delta Sigma Pi welcomed GEICO associate, Justine Ramsey, to the Fraternity after her years of dedicated service and friendship to the organization. Ramsey was initiated by Alpha Kappa at Buffalo (NY), where she has maintained a strong relationship through close proximity and professional presentations on numerous occasions.

Delta Sigma Pi partners with GEICO to not only offer special member discounts on auto insurance policies, but provide Deltasigs with career and internship opportunities through the GEICO Careers Talent Acquisition team. Ramsey is an incredible asset as a recruiter, helping to educate and hire brothers for these excellent opportunities.

When asked some of the qualities possessed by Ramsey that make her an excellent asset to the brotherhood, Deltasig COO Jeremy Levine says, "Justine isn't just a 'business' partner to us, she has been a longtime supporter of our organization. Whether it's experimenting with new engagement options, providing useful feedback as we grow our program or making herself available as a mentor and resource to brothers across the country, she truly has a heart for the organization." And according to Ramsey, the feeling is mutual:

"Delta Sigma Pi means to me brotherhood, partnership, mentoring, support, education and



belonging. From the very beginning I have felt welcomed and valued, and throughout the years of getting to know Delta Sigma Pi and what the Fraternity values and stands for, I knew I wanted to be a part of this organization and be able to give back. It is especially meaningful to me to further the partnership of GEICO and Delta Sigma Pi because we share many core beliefs."

Having mentored and offered meaningful career advice to countless collegiate brothers, Ramsey provides this insight: "I believe the key to making meaningful long-lasting connections is relationship building. I think of all my key connections and partnerships as building long-lasting friendships. I make it a priority to always be honest, respectful, courteous and friendly. I take time to make calls, return calls and send emails in a timely manner. If working together on a project, make it a collaborative effort. Treating your connections as you would like to be treated is so important and it fosters friendship, partnership and lifelong meaningful relations."

Please visit the following webpages for more information:

GEICO Careers: dsp.org/geicocareers

GEICO Automobile Insurance: dsp.org/geico

Robert Hinman, *Nebraska-Lincoln*, retired as account executive at Hormel Foods. He lives in Maineville, Ohio.

Julie Correa, *New Mexico State*, is college assistant professor at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

Stephen Villavaso, *New Orleans*, is president at Villavaso & Associates, LLC in New Orleans.

Scott Ward, *New Orleans*, is a part of national account sales at Fastenal Company in Mandeville, La.

Shannon Murray, *North Carolina-Greensboro*, is a school social worker at Alamance Burlington School System in Elon, N.C.

Andrea Rivas, *Northern Arizona*, is event services manager at Delta Hotels Phoenix Mesa in Mesa, Ariz.

Caitlyn Sinclair, *Northern Illinois*, is in web development and marketing at Zebra Technologies in Lincolnshire, Ill.

Kyle Kennett, *Northern Illinois*, is tax manager at Grant Thornton LLP in Chicago.

Susan Mathew, *North Texas*, is lead accountant at Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas in Richardson, Texas.

Vickie Smith, *North Texas*, is customer service manager at Kroger, LLC in Garland, Texas.

Joe Stephens, *North Texas*, retired as AR specialist at Nucon Steel Commercial Corporation. He lives in McKinney, Texas.

Kathryn McDermott, *Ohio*, is a senior associate at KPMG in Chicago.

(continued on page 26)

Become a CDL today!



The Certified Deltasig Leader program is an online volunteer training program for Deltasigs. Certification recognizes alumni members for their demonstrated leadership training and experience. To learn more, go to dsp.org/beacdl.

To be a CDL, an alumni member must successfully complete eleven E-learning presentations and their respective quizzes noted as “Core Leadership Training” within a three month period.

To qualify for Advanced Certification (also known as CDL Tier 2), in addition to the E-learning presentations an alumni member must also have participated in or led educational sessions at two Fraternity events in the past five years, complete four E-learning presentations and their respective quizzes noted as “Advanced Training”, and supported the Leadership Foundation with a gift in the last 12 months.

Certifications are effective for a two-year term based on the completion date of the original certification.

Congratulations to the CDLs who earned Tier I or Tier II certification between August 31, 2018 and January 7, 2019. (Tier II CDLs are marked with a *.)

Sarah Sterling Barry, *Mercer (GA)*
 Makeda Jacara Ryder Beck, *La Verne (CA)*
 Sam Bishop*, *Evansville (IN)*
 Lisa Coats, *DePaul (IL)*
 Wendy L. Delehaunty*, *Eastern Illinois*
 Lauren Elizabeth Finnegan, *Lewis (IL)*
 Cristina Y. Gao Chen*, *Chapman (CA)*
 Gena Louise Goodson*, *Cameron (OK)*
 Melissa Greiman, *Indiana State*
 Meagan Lee Hagerty*, *Wisconsin-La Crosse*
 Carley Haro*, *Cal State-Fullerton*
 Robert W. Hedrick, *Truman State (MO)*
 Terri L. Kane, *Buffalo (NY)*
 Joseph J. Kaulaity, *Northern Arizona*
 Annemarie Kouba, *DePaul (IL)*

Barthold Leonidas*, *Florida Atlantic*
 Michael T. Losneck*, *Kent State (OH)*
 Eva C. Meyer*, *North Carolina-Chapel Hill*
 Mary L. Miracle*, *Cincinnati*
 Jeffrey Nestrud*, *Minnesota State*
 Kyra L. Pritchard*, *Penn State-Erie*
 Molly J. Rae*, *Winona State (MN)*
 Deniece Yusi Santos*, *Cal Poly-Pomona*
 W. Michael Sinclair*, *South Florida-Tampa*
 Emily Slone*, *Lindenwood (MO)*
 Ronald Robert Taylor*, *Florida Atlantic*
 Elizabeth M. Van Zandt, *Central Florida*
 Tyler C. Wash, *Chicago*
 Peyton Brianna Yahn, *Jacksonville State (AL)*

Elaine Ortega, *Ohio Dominican*, is manager, strategic sourcing at Cardinal Health in Dublin, Ohio.

Jessi Spencer, *Ohio Dominican*, is associate director, operations and constitute relations at Ohio Department of Higher Education in Columbus, Ohio.

James Brinker, *Ohio State*, is a librarian at Dayton Public Schools in Dayton, Ohio.

Wenjing Ouyang, *Pacific (CA)*, is associate professor of finance at University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif.

Jade Pardee, *Penn State-Erie*, is supply chain business intelligence analyst at Dick's Sporting Goods in Coraopolis, Pa.

Jordan Stevenson, *Purdue-Fort Wayne*, is a dishwasher at Outback Steakhouse in Fort Wayne, Ind.

Manuel Rivas Vaquero, *Rochester Tech (NY)*, is an international senior cost accountant at Sherwin Williams in Cleveland.

Maggie Tamerius, *Roger Williams (RI)*, is a project specialist at PharmaLogics Recruiting in Quincy, Mass.

Richard Palma, *Saint Peter's (NJ)*, is training coordinator at Coastal Construction in Miami.

Tita Gray, *San Diego State*, is associate vice president of student and alumni affairs and chief diversity officer at Maryland University of Integrative Health in Laurel, Md.

Zaneta Owens, *San Diego State*, is CEO at Zaneta Owens luxury handbags. She lives in San Marcos, Calif.

Aouie Rubio, *San Francisco*, is project manager, global IT tech adoption at Bio-Rad Laboratories in Hercules, Calif.

Elaine Taylor, *San Francisco*, is international channel coordinator at Halo Top Creamery in Los Angeles.

Kimberly Resnick, *San Francisco State*, is corporate accounts director at Thermo Fisher Scientific in Hercules, Calif.

Jan Malonzo, *San Jose State*, is recruiting coordinator at Google with Nelson Staffing in Mountain View, Calif.

Shawn Mostashari, *San Jose State*, is a data analyst at CrowdStrike in Sunnyvale, Calif.

Capital RVP Monica Monroe, *Shepherd (WV)*, is owner and lead event coordinator at Monica Elizabeth Events in Frederick, Md.

Ryan O'Neal, *South Carolina*, is an underwriter at PURE Insurance in Chicago.

Gerald Kerkhove, *South Dakota*, retired as a consultant at Resources Global Professionals. He lives in Brandon, S.D.

Nicole Soto, *Southern Mississippi*, is a massage therapist at } Studio West Aveda in Woodland Park, Colo.

Kaylea Stier, *St. Cloud State (MN)*, is associate, CPA at CliftonLarsonAllen LLP in Sauk Rapids, Minn.

Mark Scheele, *St. Thomas (MN)*, is chief pilot at Basin Electric Power Cooperative in Bismarck, N.D.

Byron Delarosa, *Syracuse (NY)*, is advisory consultant at Deloitte in Bedford Hills, N.Y.

Meredith Brown, *Tampa (FL)*, is associate recruiter at The Walt Disney Company in Orlando, Fla.

James Taylor, *Temple (PA)*, is team lead IT support systems at Windstream, LLC in Ephrata, Pa.

Ashley Walsh, *Texas A&M-Corpus Christi*, is an agent at Knies Insurance Group in Honey Brook, Pa.

Nicole Peer, *Texas-Arlington*, is senior advisor at TexCap Insurance in Dallas.

Helen Woodland, *Trinity-DC*, retired. She lives in Boynton Beach, Fla.

Cynden Freeman, *Washington State*, is staff accountant at Fitcher Group, PS in Kelso, Wash.

Anne Zarembo, *Washington State*, is senior product manager at Amazon in Seattle.

Regina Irby, *Wayne State-Michigan*, is grant and contract officer III at Wayne State University in Detroit.

Brice Maynard, *Western Illinois*, is general ledger accountant at KB Home in Phoenix.

Gabrielle Massaro, *West Virginia*, is area operations manager at Family Dollar in Philadelphia.

Frank Murkowski, *Wisconsin-Madison*, retired as marketing manager at Tenneco, Inc. He lives in Northville, Mich.

Iran-Darnell Amandah, *Wisconsin-Milwaukee*, is president and founder at T.O.D.D. Logistics, LLC in Milwaukee. ▲

Playing Heaven's Game: Brother's Foundation Battles Cancer

By: Megan Allen, *Communications Specialist*

"I am so lucky."

Four words I did not expect to hear from Chris Dombroski, *Miami-Ohio*, a young man who recently lost his father to cancer. You wouldn't think four words could hit you so hard and give you an immediate sense for who someone is... but let me tell you... they do when you're talking to Chris.

After his father, John Dombroski, passed away in March 2018 from stage four colon cancer, Chris created the Heaven's Game Foundation, determined to make something out of the hand his family was dealt and ultimately carry on his father's passion for looking beyond himself and helping others.

And in speaking with him in the boardroom in the Delta Sigma Pi Central Office, determined to learn as much as I could about this young man and this life-changing event that happened merely months before, I left with a sense that Dombroski truly would change lives, including mine.

JOHN DOMBROSKI'S LEGACY

Chris describes his father as humble, caring and a lover of sports. "He taught me to be who I am," he proudly described while telling me about his father. He described John's early career with Chiquita Brands International, a position that gave him the opportunity to spend time in Central America

where the bananas were grown, and meet the love of his life, Wendi, with whom he shared three children, Chris, his little brother Tyler and older sister Caitlin. During his time in Central America, Chris recalls his father was given a Christmas bonus, which he gave (without hesitation) to a local Honduran worker. "That is the essence of my dad." Even during the last days of his fight with cancer, Chris remembers his father encouraging him to not give up on pledging Delta Sigma Pi. "He couldn't have been more right. I was like, "Thanks, Dad."



Even in his darkest hour, John Dombroski was able to be a light in the lives of his two sons (Chris and his younger brother Tyler, pictured left). His courage in his battle against cancer is only matched by his love for others, and is one of the pillars of Heaven's Game.

CREATING HEAVEN'S GAME FOUNDATION

"I want to blow the doors off this thing," is one of the first things Chris told me about Heaven's Game Foundation. The idea began last summer after his father's funeral, while working with a friend at a golf course near his home in southwest Ohio.

He recalls the owner discussing charities and how the course offered discounted rates for fundraising events. And what started as the idea for a golf outing, with proceeds benefitting cancer research, turned into the goal of operating a full-fledged foundation. Coming up with a name was no easy task. Until one day, it was as if John named it himself. While his dad was sick, Chris recalled traveling home on weekends to spend time with him. At the time, while in Hospice, John started to become disoriented and frequently mentioned a game, often asking his wife, "When are we going to the game?" Chris and his family assumed he was referring to his little brother's first sports scrimmage. After his passing, Chris's mom began reading a collection of stories called *Final Gifts* to help those coping with the loss of a loved one. One story was about a young woman who also died from cancer. Before her passing, she referenced a map, confusing her parents, who thought she meant a literal map. They soon came to realize, however, that she was talking about a map to heaven. Chris received a phone call from his mom, amazed by this new revelation, that his father wasn't discussing a sports game, but his final game – in heaven. Heaven's Game.

BUILDING A FOUNDATION FROM THE GROUND UP

As a junior marketing major in Miami University's Farmer School of Business, a top-ranked business school in the country, Chris is a master of time management. He told me time again, he wants this organization to be something his father would look down on and be proud of. "Everything we are as a foundation is because of who he was." So his first step to success was arranging his class schedule to dedicate Tuesdays and Thursdays solely to Heaven's Game. He also set up a GoFund Me, shared at first with local community members to build momentum, pay initial fees, etc. He also decided to partner with the V Foundation for Cancer Research, his beneficiary foundation created by ESPN and legendary basketball coach Jim Valvano to achieve victory over cancer. "They care about what I'm doing." With a proven track record of extraordinary honesty and integrity in donating funds to those directly who need cancer treatment, Chris confidently believes he made the right decision while taking his mom's advice to "Just pick someone who is going to use it the right way." One of the things that most impressed me while discussing Heaven's Game with Chris is his

advisory board. In the very beginning, Dombroski reached out to those he knew he could trust most, to create a board of people to guide him in decisions about the Foundation. Consisting of his close family members, a long-time friend from Ohio University, a few of John's business-minded friends (a local pizza franchise owner and financial company owner) and other key mentors, the advisory board guides him in networking, minimizing risk, filing with the state, filing tax forms, setting up an official bank account and much more. To Chris, what makes the Foundation most special are the number of young professionals/college students who are a driving force in the success of Heaven's Game. "They're not in it for money, or acknowledgement, but because they truly believe in what we are doing."

BROTHERHOOD AND HEAVEN'S GAME

During the several hours he spent at the Central Office completely enamored with its history and artifacts, we discussed the great impact Delta Sigma Pi has had on him, and his foundation. While pledging the Fraternity, having only briefly met members of the Alpha Upsilon chapter, Chris knew immediately what brotherhood meant, even during the darkest of times. He remembers though his father's funeral occurred during the spring break, people lined around the funeral home waiting almost two hours to see the Dombroski's. "That's the type of person he was," Chris told me, smiling. And much to his surprise, there in line, stood three brother's he had just recently met – Abby Lokai, Megan Varabkanich and Anastasia McDaniel. He paused a second, "They'll never know how much that meant to me."

Weeks after meeting Chris, there in the Central Office's boardroom sit Megan and Abby with me. When asked their perspective on supporting Chris, Megan immediately tells me, "There was no other thought in my head. He is such a light. You're always going to leave a conversation with him smiling. When things happen, life can get you down, but that's not how he projects it." Adding to that, Abby describes how much the chapter appreciates Chris, "It's something I think a lot of us admire. The littlest things can get under our skin, but he can put on a smile. He cares for us more than he does himself. He will sacrifice anything for the good of another." Knowing Abby and Megan were there for him and his family from the start, Chris asked each of them to be members of Heaven's Game as social media managers. "I was very surprised when he first

asked me about it," said Megan. "I was honored to have him consider giving us the opportunity. I think we're both very passionate and it helps that we're interested in that kind of work, especially doing something for Chris."

GAINING MOMENTUM

In less than a year, Heaven's Game has gone from a wonderful idea to something beyond. Recently, the Foundation partnered with Ohio State's Nu Chapter as the beneficiary of their "Hoops for Hope" basketball tournament, which raised almost \$1,000 for Heaven's Game.

A golf outing at the prestigious TPC Rivers Bend course is also in the works for April to honor Chris and his father's many golf outings together. His Tuesdays and Thursdays are now spent securing sponsors for the event and finalizing plans. In the future, Dombroski also hopes to annually contribute a scholarship to the Loveland (OH) High School (his alma mater) to honor his father's dedication to education. "Our Foundation is driven by youth," Chris told me. "I feel this is incredibly special as everyone who is involved is motivated solely by helping others battling cancer. Not money, not notoriety, just helping others," a concept he hopes to continue well into the future.

When asked where he would like to see Heaven's Game in ten years, Chris told me, "I would love to work a professional job and do this as well. I hope it grows to be self-sustaining, and something I can pass down to my children. I want this to be something my dad would be proud of. I know I'll outwork anybody." And it isn't just the funds raised that is helping save lives. Recently while grocery shopping, Chris's mother Wendi was approached by a man who lived in her community, telling her that after hearing John's story he immediately scheduled a colonoscopy as he had not been in years, only to find precancerous polyps. Having the opportunity to have them removed before turning into cancer, the awareness around John's story saved his life, a beautiful chapter from a tragic story, and one of many lives I believe Heaven's Game will save. Chris emphasizes that ultimately, the

goal of Heaven's Game is to create more stories such as this and at the end of the day, it's about saving lives through being educated, vigilant, pre-screening and more (all things the Foundation hopes to provide for others).

Shaking Chris's hand on the front steps of the national headquarters, he must have thanked me ten times for this opportunity. What I found funny – I should be the one really thanking him. Not just for the honor of sharing his incredible story with brothers across the country, but for reminding me of what *truly* matters. ▲

To learn more about Heaven's Game Foundation:

Website: www.heavensgamefoundation.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/heavensgamefoundation/>

Instagram: [heavensgamefoundation](https://www.instagram.com/heavensgamefoundation)



Dombroski is pictured with Abby Lokai (left) and Megan Varabkanich who co-run the social media accounts for Heaven's Game, creating content, developing promotional materials and providing positive messages and campaigns.

Welcome to Delta Sigma Pi, Chi Omega!

School: Old Dominion (VA)

Chapter Number: 299

Reactivation Date: December 1, 2018

Installing team assisting national officers: brothers from Nu Chi Chapter at Lynchburg. National officers present included: GP Tricia Smith, Southern PVP Carrie Burns, Mid-Atlantic RVP Aimee King, Capital RVP Monica Monroe, DDs Danielle Jennette, Marlena Jones, Lencia Marc, Ashley Harrell and Ryan Taylor, LF Trustee Stacy Jordan, Pledge Educator David Feret and Director of Information and Operational Services Jeremy Levine.

History of the University: Old Dominion University was founded in 1930 as a satellite campus for the College of William & Mary and later served as an extension for Virginia Polytechnic Institute (VA Tech) as a two-year college. After rapid growth it became a four-year college in 1962 and was granted independence to become Old Dominion College. The first residential dorms were opened in 1964. Today, the university has six major colleges and is one of the largest universities in

Virginia with enrollment of almost 25,000 students. The name "Old Dominion" is a nickname for the state of Virginia as the oldest of the overseas dominions of kings and queens of England.

Concentrations: accounting, business analytics, database administration, e-business and e-commerce, economics, finance, information systems and technology, international business, management, maritime and supply chain management, marketing, network engineering, personal finance planning, real estate and risk management and insurance.

Old Dominion Colony began January 2017 following an expression of interest from students who had friends in Delta Sigma Pi at other universities. Since that time, the colony welcomed speakers in the following categories/from the following companies:

- Wall Street and Bloomberg
- Analytics and Excel techniques
- Real Estate
- Bitcoin Founder Satoshi Nakamoto
- Management and investments

- Risks and decision making
- ADP – human resource management

They also made a point to participate in an impressive number of service activities, such as hosting a blood drive with the American Red Cross (on several occasions), volunteering at an animal care and adoption center, helping with Coastal Cleanup Day and collecting canned goods for their local Ronald McDonald House Charities.

Southern PVP Carrie Burns is excited to welcome this new chapter, stating, "Watching the Old Dominion Colony transform into the Chi Omega Chapter was truly like watching a butterfly emerge from its cocoon. They worked so hard to get to the celebration of this initiation weekend and I was thrilled to be able to join in on the fun. The number of parents and supporters there for the banquet was truly heart-warming and you could see the joy in everyone's face. Super huge congratulations to the all-new Chi Omega Chapter at Old Dominion University!" ▲



Newly installed Chi Omega Chapter at Old Dominion University (VA) proudly holds the Delta Sigma Pi banner as the Fraternity's 299th chapter.

Omicron Creates a New Presence in Nashville

School: Vanderbilt (Nashville, TN)

Chapter Number: 15

Reactivation Date: November 10, 2018

Installing team assisting national officers: brothers from Alpha Zeta Chapter at Tennessee and Zeta Theta Chapter at Western Kentucky. National officers present included: GP Tricia Smith, PGP Bill Tatum, Southern PVP Carrie Burns, Mid-South RVP Madison Whitehouse, 2018 COY Travis Brodbeck, 2017 COY Olivia Malice, DDs Kimberly Loudon and Vanessa Leithoff, Golden Council members Heather Lewis and Erin Lee and Director of Chapter and Expansion Services Dale Clark.

History of the University: Vanderbilt University is a private university founded in 1873 with a \$1 million endowment from Cornelius Vanderbilt, a shipping and rail magnate who had never even been to the south. He hoped the creation of a new university would help him recover from the Civil War. Prior efforts to establish a university were already underway by the Methodist Episcopal Church from 1861-1865 and in 1872 was named The Central University of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, an institution for training

ministers. A lack of funds delayed the opening until Vanderbilt's gift along with land donated from plantation owners was received. About 200 students first enrolled in 1875 and the university was officially dedicated in October of that year. Vanderbilt died in 1877 before the school name was changed and named in his honor. In 1914, the university separated from the Methodist church. The University received national recognition from the Association of American Universities in 1949 and by 1979 had expanded land coverage of 75 acres to 313 acres resulting from a merger with Peabody College. The current undergraduate enrollment exceeds 6,500, while over 5,000 are enrolled in several graduate schools.

Concentrations: economics, human and organizational development and public policy.

Omicron Chapter was first chartered on January 29, 1922 initiating 73 brothers until the charter was abandoned in 1931 due to lack of sufficient interest and business enrollment to sustain its operations. Vanderbilt Colony began in May 2017 with the hopes of reactivating following a student inquiry seeking the opportunities offered through a professional

business and economics organization, petitioning with 58 students.

Since colonization, the members hosted numerous impressive professional events, including welcoming speakers from large companies like Uber and Google to campus to present. They also organized workshops to help colony members in areas like resume building, interviewing and risk management best practices. They also engaged with Delta Sigma Pi's national service initiative by volunteering at their local Ronald McDonald House Charities by cooking meals, delivering baked goods and donating pop tabs.

Southern PVP Carrie Burns is proud of everything the chapter has achieved and looks forward to their continued success, saying, "Reinstalling the Vanderbilt Chapter 87 years after they closed is an amazing thing and the new brothers there have worked incredibly hard to show that they are worthy of being brothers. I'm confident the chapter will be successful. The force is strong with these new brothers and they are going to be an amazing chapter that will do amazing things. I am looking forward to seeing them at national events and engaged both as collegians and alumni." ▲



Newly initiated members of Omicron Chapter at Vanderbilt University pose together before a celebratory gathering in their honor with friends and Fraternity leaders.

Share news of your collegiate chapter's activities and events with brothers across the country!
 Email news and photos to magazine@dsp.org



◀ WASHINGTON STATE welcomed Angela Liu (not pictured) from Deltasig partner IES Internships to provide a keynote before their chapter meeting about the different opportunities offered around the world.



AKRON (OH) brothers visited the J.M. Smucker Company's headquarters located in Orrville, OH. Responsible for brands like Crisco, Jif, Carnation, Folgers and more, Smucker's has been in operation for more than 120 years and offers long-term careers in the business field.

LOYOLA-CHICAGO hosted a Meet the Chapter Brunch in the fall.



HAWAII-MANOA and HAWAII-HILO held an area conference at Hawaii-Manoa. Chapter alumni led a series of four professional workshops with the theme of "Preparing for Life After College," including networking and branding, an alumni orientation, finances and credit, and a look into graduate school.



▲ WEST FLORIDA celebrated the Fraternity's founding while recruiting new brothers and educating fellow students about Delta Sigma Pi over coffee and cake. Pictured are Brothers Chris Sanabria and Alyssa Riley.



◀ XAVIER (OH) welcomed Gold Star Chili CEO Roger David and the CEO of 84.51° Stuart Aitken to campus, each leading a presentation about their companies, strategies, goals and more.



▲ VANDERBILT (TN) teamed up with their local Deloitte offices to assist low-income high school seniors and their families fill out FAFSA forms to receive aid to attend college. From left: Charlotte Pollard, Caroline Hoyt, Douglas Finnegan, Rohan Cherukuri and Pallavi Sharma.



▲ CAL POLY-POMONA participated in the College of Business Administration's 50th Anniversary Kickoff Event. Brothers enjoyed food, games and networking with other organizations in the school of business.



◀ PURDUE (IN) hosted a campus-wide "Culture Fest" where university cultural clubs provide food, games and activities to students on campus. The event is a collaboration between the chapter and other community members, which takes place during the Krannert School of Management's "Krannert Week." From left: Soukhya Inamdar, Caleigh Tiley and Julianne Hughes.

▶ NORTH TEXAS hosted a Founders' Day alumni dinner celebration with chapter alumni, giving out awards like Best Mentor, Most School Spirit, Most Active Alumni and more! From left: Matthew York, Benjamin Hurlbert, DDs Charlie Kenney and Kevin Gore and Brandon Gomez.



▶ WAYNE STATE (NE) invited Senator Laura Ebke from the 32nd District of the Nebraska State unicameral legislature to speak to students on campus. Hosted by the chapter, Ebke's presentation focused on helping small businesses thrive and the idea of loosening licensing requirements so small business can more easily operate.





◀ **INDIANA STATE** volunteered to clean up their adopted part of a local highway in Brazil, IN. From left: Hailee Christner, Jurnee Lockwood, Lucy Herth, Andruu Foster, Katie Meows, Lilly Hancock, Ethan Sweet and Courtney Hengehold.



▲ **MINNESOTA STATE** brothers made the Dean's List during the 2017-18 school year. Top row: Jared Willemsen, Margaret Knier, Kalli McIntosh and Chapter Advisor Joseph Reising. Bottom Row: College of Business Dean and Brother Brenda Flannery, Melissa Rubio, Katarina Haimes, John Fransson and Alexander Kong.



▲ **OHIO STATE** planned its first wellness hike to help brothers take their minds off of exam season. They traveled off campus to Clifton Gorge State Nature Preserve in Yellow Springs, OH. Brothers made an emphasis this year on mental health and mindfulness.

CALIFORNIA-SAN DIEGO ▶ partnered with Phi Beta Lambda at Triton Consulting Group to host the first Holiday Handshake. The event raised over \$800 and allowed students the opportunity to network with faculty over dinner and an exciting photo booth. All proceeds directly benefited the Rady Children's Hospital. From left top: Henry Ha (Phi Beta Lambda), Eric Truong, Billy Colston (Phi Beta Lambda). From left bottom: Jude Muhsaben (Triton Consulting Group) and Diana Thai.



◀ **DAYTON (OH)** alumni Jacob Swartz, Premium Service Executive for the Cincinnati Reds major league baseball team welcomed over 80 brothers from seven collegiate and two alumni chapters in the East Central Region for a tour of the stadium. Afterward, brothers enjoyed watching the Reds face off against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

ST. JOSEPH'S (PA) participated in the Kinney 5K on campus to ▶ support the mission, "to educate and train the autism professionals for tomorrow, while supporting and serving the individuals and families affected by autism today." Together alongside family, friends, faculty and alumni, the Kinney 5K raised more than \$40,000 with 1,200 participants.





◀ **SOUTH CAROLINA** developed a relationship this year with God's Storehouse, a crisis outreach organization that collects and donates clothing, food and resources to those in need. Brothers volunteered weekly, organized a food drive and offered their knowledge of business to help make sustainable improvements to the organization's operations. From left: Cory Johnson, Brooke Wurzburger, Emily Kendrick, Rob Caldaroni, Sydney Brookshire and Savanna Griffin.



▲ **TEXAS CHRISTIAN** invited two Texas Rangers employees to talk about creating strategies to attract customers, promoting events through various channels, changes needed in everyday operations and more. From left: Alex Yocum Beeman (Manager of Graphic Design), Chapter SVP Ashley Quintilone and Sarah Opgenorth (Director of Marketing and Advertising).



▲ **ANGELO STATE (TX)** welcomed 18 new brothers this fall and is excited to be one big family!



Making a Difference Through Brotherhood, The Deltasig Way

Make A Difference Day (MDDAY), held the fourth Saturday in October, is one of Delta Sigma Pi's national service initiatives. This day allows all Deltasig chapters to participate in a service event on the same day, giving our Fraternity a sense of unity and providing more impact to our communities.

In 2018, hundreds of brothers from nearly 100 collegiate and alumni chapters banded together and volunteered their time and resources to make a lasting impact. Thank you to those who spent the day serving others and making a difference in their communities. It is because of you we are able to further a #DSPHigherStandard not just once per year, but each and every day.

PENN STATE-ERIE created cards and hearts for faculty initiate Phil Stuczynski and his wife Nicolena whose second child was born 25 weeks early. Brothers decorated his office door to help lift his spirits and offer their support.

Share news about your alumni chapter activities! Email your news and photos to magazine@dsp.org



ORANGE COUNTY (CA) and CAL STATE-FULLERTON volunteered at Hemopet greyhound rescue in November. Brothers and pledges walked retired greyhounds around the field so the dogs could get appropriate exercise.

HAWAII ALUMNI attended HAWAII-HILO'S initiation and banquet. The chapter recognized a number of brothers and alumni who have supported the local chapters including Aisha Izuno, Hawaii-Hilo, who was presented with the chapter's Outstanding Alumni of the Year Award.



SPACE CITY HOUSTON celebrated Founders' Day at TopGolf. Brothers received golf lessons from an instructor, perfecting their skills.

CINCINNATI ALUMNI gathered for dinner and drinks at Hofbrauhaus Newport in August. More than 20 local brothers, Central Office staff and guests attended the event at the German-themed restaurant.



DES MOINES-CENTRAL IOWA volunteered at Ronald McDonald House in September. Deltasigs took over the kitchen for an afternoon of baking a pasta casserole dish and brownies.



TWIN CITIES hosted their annual Founders' Day celebration at the Old Spaghetti Factory with brothers and pledges from MINNESOTA and ST. CLOUD STATE (MN). The chapter collected food for Ronald McDonald House and welcomed North Central PVP Cory Stopka who presented "The Power of Volunteer Leadership."

Central Office Open House

CINCINNATI ALUMNI hosted a Founders' Day Central Office Open House welcoming over 100 guests, including PGP John Henik who presented archive items from his collection.



Congratulations to these Distinguished Alumni!



Wendy Delehaunty, Eastern Illinois, (left), became a Deltasig Educational and Leadership Consultant after graduation, serving two years, earning her a spot on the Golden Council. She remained active with the Cincinnati Alumni Chapter, serving in multiple officer roles including President. More recently, Wendy has served as the National Organizational Development Committee Chair from 2015-2017 and served on the Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee from 2014-2015. Wendy has also assisted with the installation/reactivation of the chapters at Adelphi and New York, serving as their pledge educator. She has attended 22 Deltasig national events, including seven GCCs and served as a facilitator at the recent inaugural Presidents' Academy – where GP Tricia Smith honored her with the Silver Helmet. She has also regularly supported Fraternity programs through the Leadership Foundation, earning her Cornerstone recognition. Wendy was recently married to Matthew Delehaunty, Missouri State, and together they live in St. Louis.

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT (CA) and UCLA presented **Lucy Tseng, California-Los Angeles** (center), with the 10-Year Alumni Service Award. The chapters surprised Brother Tseng with the award at her office on the UCLA campus in November.



Beth Losik, Baker (KS) (left), was presented her Silver Helmet Award by GP Tricia Smith during the Volunteer Leadership Retreat in August. Beth has been an active member of the Kansas City Alumni Chapter, having served as President, Vice President and VP-Chapter Operations. Beth also served the National

Alumni Development Committee from 2008 until 2015 and the National Marketing and Communications Committee from 2012 to 2013. She has supported the Leadership Foundation through generous donations and by being on the Foundation Scholarship selection team since 2015. Beth has attended nearly 30 national Deltasig events, including 10 Grand Chapter Congresses. In 2015, she was recognized with the Distinguished Service Certificate for her many years and many hours of selfless contributions to our social media and alumni chapters and all-around alumni outreach efforts. Many will recognize Beth for her activity within a number of Delta Sigma Pi Facebook groups.



Mary Miracle, Cincinnati, was presented the Distinguished Alumni Service Award by Cincinnati Alumni at the Founders' Day Open House the chapter hosted at the Central Office. Mary has long been a supporter of Delta Sigma Pi and the local chapters, including service as East Central RVP from 2010-2013. Mary has also served as District Director for more than 15 years and on numerous Fraternity committees. From left: Miracle and Alumni Chapter President Mathew Whited.



Leonard Bedell, Texas A&M-Kingsville, was presented his Golden Helmet Award at the Dallas LEAD School in October. Brother Bedell's career spanned public accounting, management consulting and various executive and management positions in public and private companies in various industries. Bedell currently serves as President of Mobil Steel International, a private steel fabrication company serving the industrial and commercial sectors for the past 49 years. In addition to being a member of the Space City Houston Alumni Chapter and a Leadership Foundation supporter, he contributes his time and talent as Treasurer, Trustee and Executive Committee member of the Texas A & M University-Kingsville Foundation and serves on the College of Business Advisory Board for A&M Kingsville. From left: South Central PVP Mark Wernette, Bedell, and PGP and LF Vice Chair Randy Hultz.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

2019

April 25
National Alumni Day

August 13
Grand Chapter Congress Service
Event—Atlanta

August 14-18
52nd Grand Chapter Congress—
Atlanta

October 11-12
Syracuse (NY) LEAD School

October 18-19
Detroit (MI) LEAD School

October 25-26
Portland (OR) LEAD School

November 1-2
Kansas City (MO) LEAD School

November 7
Founders' Day

November 8-9
Lexington (KY) LEAD School

Farewell, Joe Shaver

Joe Shaver, *Truman State (MO)*, resigned as Operational Services Specialist after three years at the Central Office. During that time, he was responsible for in-office technical support, Hub support, various systems and troubleshooting challenges, creating report and data queries, and the management of day-to-day relationships with corporate partners, including seeking out new partnerships. We appreciate all Joe did for the Fraternity and look forward to his further involvement after moving back to St. Louis.



COO Jeremy Levine, Operational Services Specialist Joe Shaver and ED Bill Schilling

National Alumni Day

As we prepare to gather in Atlanta for our 52nd Grand Chapter Congress, gather with fellow brothers on April 25th for **National Alumni Day!**



Central Office Staff Changes

We are excited to announce a new staff structure that aligns with the Fraternity's Strategic Priorities and the Foundation's ambitious new efforts and goals.

To better address and succeed at our Strategic Priorities (Membership Growth, Alumni Engagement, Member Education and Organizational Excellence), staff director level positions will be refocused so our veteran team will provide more direct support of the four core areas, while our capable support staff will take on additional roles and responsibilities.

Overseeing all of these efforts will be Jeremy Levine, who became Chief Operating Officer as of January 1. He will oversee the daily activities of Fraternity operations, reporting to the Executive Director, who retains ultimate (staff) responsibility for the Fraternity and Leadership Foundation. ▲



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED



SECURE YOUR SEAT AT THE DELTASIG INVESTORS ROUNDTABLE.

dsp.org/roundtable

The Leadership Foundation has launched a new, prestigious annual (July to June) giving society. The Deltasig Investors Roundtable provides quality recognition to those dedicated individuals who contribute \$1,200 or more annually. Deltasig Investors make a true investment in the future of our brotherhood and ensure that a quality Fraternity experience is provided to those future business leaders. Those who qualify for roundtable membership will be invited to take part in a signature event during Grand Chapter Congress in Atlanta.