

The SALTINE SIG



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALUMNI

SPECIAL EDITION

Dear Psi Psi and Sigma Chi Alumni:

The last time I corresponded with all of you was during a dark period for Sigma Chi at Syracuse University. In October 2000, I notified you of the House Corporation's decision to not allow former Sigma Chi undergraduates to occupy our chapter house at 737 Comstock Ave. and, in effect, cease operations.

As you will remember, in October 1998, Sigma Chi International Fraternity revoked the charter of the Psi Psi Chapter of Sigma Chi due to a number of violations of General Fraternity policies stemming from alcohol abuse, hazing, and overall improper behavior. Syracuse University followed the general fraternity with immediate suspension from the university. Although we allowed some individuals to remain and live in the chapter house from 1998 through 1999, we soon realized this was not an acceptable situation. Beginning with the fall 2000 semester, we leased the chapter house to Sigma Alpha Mu for an initial two year term. Since that time, we have renewed the lease, and it now extends through July 31, 2008.

Well, a new day has come, and Sigma Chi at Syracuse looks as if it could soon be a reality again. Let me explain our exciting recent events:

After the 150th anniversary of the Sigma Chi International Fraternity celebration this past June in Cincinnati, Ohio, Harold "Butch" Gilbert '77 called me and said that he had attended this anniversary event and had spoken with the fraternity new chapter development committee chairman inquiring about the possible reinstatement of Sigma Chi at Syracuse. Butch was greeted with a very favorable response.

After Butch contacted me, he contacted Syracuse University to discuss the overall Greek system, as well as the outlook for Sigma Chi at Syracuse University. Again, a very favorable response was received by Butch.

On November 5, a handful of Psi Psi alumni met to discuss the feasibility and interest of rekindling Sigma Chi at Syracuse. At this meeting, the excitement was evident, and we unanimously agreed to pursue reinstatement.

On January 28, a group of several Psi Psi alumni met with a group of around 18 undergraduates who were part of the local organization called Psi Psi, Inc. and who also wished to become part of Sigma Chi at Syracuse. We spent several hours interviewing them. Roy Baker, associate dean of students from the office of Greek life, was there and felt this group would be a fine core of young men to become affiliated with our new chapter.

On February 27, we received notification that Syracuse University Interfraternity Council endorsed our request to commence the recolonization process.

On March 22, local Sigma Chi alumni in the Syracuse area met with the sole purpose of reactivating the Sigma Chi Central New York Alumni Association. Officers were elected and committees formed.

To say the least, the "ball is rolling." Where do we go from here? This is where we need you. On **April 29**, we are again meeting in Syracuse to continue to make our dreams a reality. We are asking for any brothers, who wish to work for the rebirth of Psi Psi, to come to Syracuse on April 29.

We are presenting our plan for moving forward.

There are many things that need to be done. We need to strengthen the Central New York Alumni Association, fundraise for capital improvements to the chapter house, revitalize the House Corporation, and finally install the new chapter. If all

goes well, we hope to install our new chapter by the end of 2008 or early 2009!

Fortunately, our chapter house is debt free, and we have approximately \$130,000 invested for future house improvements. We will need more. Our alumni dues program still has over \$4,000 in our account.

We have not asked for dues since my last letter. However, I believe the time is right and the need is there. We need your help now more than ever. We need to bring Sigma Chi back to Syracuse in the right way. With your help, we can. If you



Our chapter house, currently occupied by Sigma Alpha Mu.

wish to attend our April 29 meeting in Syracuse, contact either Butch or me for the event schedule. Our contact information is as follows:

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Butch Gilbert

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Tampa, FL 33606
813-786-5100 (c)
813-254-0400 (h)
hgilbert@tampabay.rr.com

I have enclosed a gift and dues card for donations to defray our communication cost. We appreciate any support you can give. Should you have any questions regarding this, please call Butch or me. We hope to see you in April.

Sincerely,

William E. Beach '69
President
House Corporation



A group of Phi Psi alumni met on November 5, 2005 to discuss rekindling Sigma Chi at Syracuse. From left, front row: Chauncy Young '70, Gary Katz '77, Alan Krochtangel '79, and David Schiff '77; second row: Bill Peskin '76, Hank Suominen '78, and Larry Kloock '77; third row: Bill Beach '69, Rick Annenberg '77; fourth row: Butch Gilbert '77 and Paul Norcross '74; top row: Bill Gerbig '84 and Warren Boin '76.