

# Gamma Sigma News

Newsletter for the Alumni and Friends  
of Gamma Sigma Chapter, Sigma Nu Fraternity

Number 19

Spring 2009

ΣΝ-ΓΣ

Sigma Nu House Company, Inc.  
Gamma Sigma Alumni Association

## Reunion Recap!

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Our Reunion had normally been the main focus each year and a great way to establish relationships among the different classes of Brothers. Attendance has varied from year to year.

Last year Gamma Sigma decided to take a break from the more formal and expensive reunion dinners held on campus at Iowa State. A casual reunion dinner took place for anyone who was interested at Olde Main Restaurant & Brewing Company in downtown Ames. A variety of appetizers was generously covered by a donation from Dan Simpson and everyone ordered their drinks and dinner and paid by their own check. We appreciate those Brothers in attendance: Ted Hollander, Rick Hollander, Shawn Ovenden, Carl Moon, Dave North, Chris Swailes, Lorne Wazny & Glenn Wazny.

Be sure to save the date for the weekend of October 16-18 this year. It will be Homecoming at Iowa State so what a perfect opportunity for a Reunion. We do hope by that time a colony of Gamma Sigma will have begun back at Iowa State in order for Recruitment to begin as early as Spring 2010. Hotel reservations will be on your own and more details in regards to the dinner on Friday, October 16th and the tailgate location for the game on October 17th will be announced this summer.

## Moved?

*Help us keep our Missing Brothers List short! Contact the Membership Secretary or the Editors to let them know of your new address, phone number or email address.*

**We are charged by the USPS when we mail something to an incorrect address and the mail is returned. Thank you!**

Deadline for the Fall Newsletter will be **August 1, 2009**. Please send information directly to the editors. Contact information is on the back of this newsletter.

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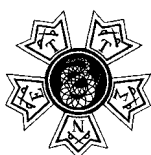
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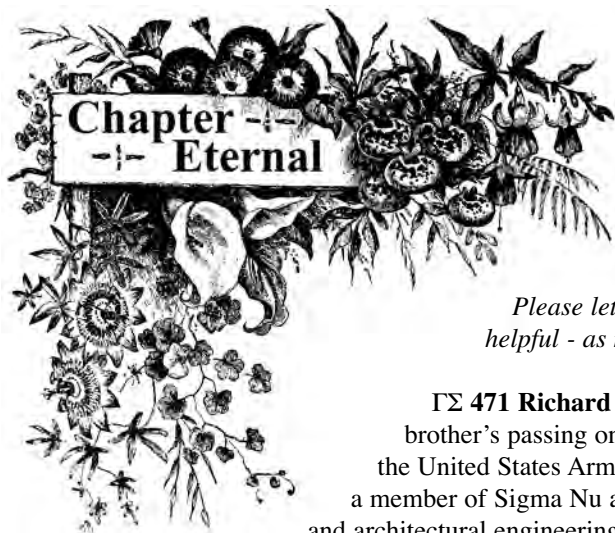
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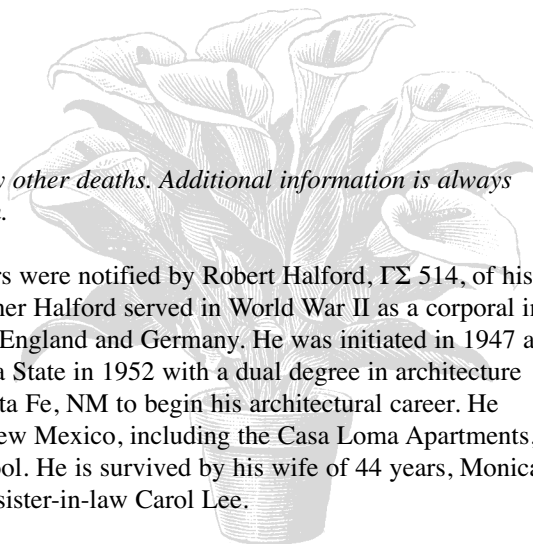


# THEY'VE LEFT US...



*Please let the Editors know of any other deaths. Additional information is always helpful - as much as you can furnish.*

**ΓΣ 471 Richard E Halford** – The Editors were notified by Robert Halford, ΓΣ 514, of his brother's passing on August 29, 2008. Brother Halford served in World War II as a corporal in the United States Army and served in France, England and Germany. He was initiated in 1947 as a member of Sigma Nu and graduated from Iowa State in 1952 with a dual degree in architecture and architectural engineering. He then moved to Santa Fe, NM to begin his architectural career. He designed several buildings in Santa Fe and in northern New Mexico, including the Casa Loma Apartments, Bank of Santa Fe (now Wells Fargo) and the Taos High School. He is survived by his wife of 44 years, Monica, his six children, twelve grandchildren and his brother Robert and sister-in-law Carol Lee.



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## Search for Lost Brothers Continues

Below is the present group of Missing Brothers. If you can help with an address on any, please send it to Shawn & Nancy Ovenden, 4239 N. 164th St., Omaha, NE 68116 or e-mail: NLOvenden@cox.net. If you remember these Brothers going by a nickname that may be more helpful to locate, please advise.

ΓΣ 0305	Mr. Louis C. Jewell	ΓΣ 0739	Mr. Richard M. Hogan
ΓΣ 0477	Mr. Richard D. Alcock	ΓΣ 0740	Mr. Roger L. Wood
ΓΣ 0515	Mr. Howard O. Jackson, Jr.	ΓΣ 0742	Mr. Oscar C. Miller, Jr.
ΓΣ 0545	Mr. John G. Donahue	ΓΣ 0806	Mr. Ronald L. Cooper
ΓΣ 0559	Mr. Roger R. Fisher	ΓΣ 0811	Mr. Ricke G. Nelson
ΓΣ 0566	Mr. John Chatellier	ΓΣ 0824	Mr. Daniel B. Holmstrom
ΓΣ 0567	Mr. William I. Thomas	ΓΣ 0845	Mr. Robert J. McCullough
ΓΣ 0579	Mr. Richard J. Meinking	ΓΣ 0886	Mr. William C. Schuster
ΓΣ 0602	Mr. Garret H. Conner	ΓΣ 0910	Mr. Kevin B. Crook
ΓΣ 0637	Mr. William P. Wilson	ΓΣ 0958	Mr. Jeff C. Lingren
ΓΣ 0653	Mr. Robert L. McBride	ΓΣ 0975	Mr. Steven A. Johnson
ΓΣ 0658	Mr. James A. Stout	ΓΣ 0990	Mr. Robert Uherka
ΓΣ 0677	Mr. Larry L. Miller	ΓΣ 0999	Mr. Scott E. Jensen
ΓΣ 0686	Mr. Charles P. Barrett, Jr.	ΓΣ 1064	Mr. Stephen P. Lueschen
ΓΣ 0689	Mr. Harry L. Scott	ΓΣ 1098	Mr. Troy J. Johnson
ΓΣ 0696	Mr. John M. Doherty	ΓΣ 1115	Mr. Scott D. Greiwe
ΓΣ 0697	Dr. Joe M. Anderson	ΓΣ 1169	Mr. Jacob R. Bostow
ΓΣ 0729	Dr. Raymond F. Sorensen	ΓΣ 1170	Mr. Matthew B Jensen
ΓΣ 0732	Mr. Charles D. Corwin, III	ΓΣ 1192	Mr. Keith J. Krienert

# Brother Spotlight

Chris Swailes, ΓΣ 1129



My introduction to Gamma Sigma came during my senior year in high school. I spent quite a few weekends hanging out at the house attending various functions. I vividly recall the Pledge House Party and the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor party. However, the thing I remember the most is the sympathy card I received signed by the brothers of Sigma Nu when my Father passed away that spring. The friendships I made cemented my decision to pledge Sigma Nu during the summer of 1989.

I still have a lot of great memories of my time in the house. Most importantly were the friendships I developed with so many brothers. I am forever grateful to Dave North for introducing me to the idea of living in a fraternity and glad to say we still talk to each other on a weekly basis. Another thing that I have come to appreciate is the leadership skills I developed while living in the house. I have to admit I did not fully understand the impact Gamma Sigma had on me while living in the house. However, after living in the “real world”, I truly appreciate the leadership skills, relationship building and patience I learned.

Currently my family and I live in Ames, IA. My wife, Jodi and I met while attending Iowa State and will celebrate our 15<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary this fall. We have one son, Zach, who just turned 13. Much of our time is spent supporting Iowa State athletics with season football, basketball and wrestling tickets.

I currently work for Progressive Insurance as a Zone Process Leader. My responsibilities cover the entire process customers experience getting their vehicles repaired after an accident. About 50% of my time is spent traveling across a seven state area in the Midwest.

Something near and dear to my heart is bringing Sigma Nu back to Iowa State University. I recently accepted the position as the Gamma Sigma Re-colonization Chair. On February 16<sup>th</sup>, we will be meeting with the university leadership about re-colonizing the Gamma Sigma chapter. With the efforts of Chris Healy from the national fraternity, we are looking to begin the recruitment of new members as early as this August. The effort to re-colonize will take a great deal of time and effort and anyone who is interested in helping out, please give me a call or send me an email.

I encourage everyone to consider attending the fall reunion this year. It is a great opportunity to catch up with brothers you have not seen for a long time. Another great way to catch up is on Facebook. There is a group called the Sigma Nu - Gamma Sigma Chapter that currently has 28 members.

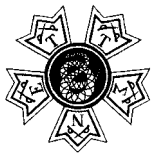
*You can feel free to contact Chris at [cjzswailes@mchsi.com](mailto:cjzswailes@mchsi.com)*

# BROTHER NEWS

- Cleal Watts Jr., ΓΣ 554, wrote that he has been married to his wife, Marie Elizabeth, for 53 years and has 4 adult children. He followed in the family business which started in 1897. H.F. Construction Company began in 1897 with the founding of Budd Engineering in Des Moines, Iowa. It is a fourth generation engineering and construction firm. Brother Watts has kept busy by traveling to 60 countries and has completed several patents. You can contact Brother Watts at clealw@sbc.global.net.
- Dave (ΓΣ 1101) and wife Laura had a baby boy on Thursday, January 29, 2009. Thomas John North was 7 lbs, 13oz and 21 ½ inches long. This makes legacy number four for Brother Dave! Congratulations.
- Congratulations to Brother Tony Ruiz (ΓΣ 1140) on his recent wedding! Tony and Jill were married in Puerto Vallarta on January 10<sup>th</sup>. Tony was happy to say that his Sigma Nu Brothers Jason Claus, Jim Unga, Paul Tonner and Aaron Weibelhaus were present there as well!
- Best Wishes to Jeff Winkler (ΓΣ 1095) on his recent engagement!



**\*Please write or email the Editors to include your news! What are your kids up to? Have you moved recently? New job? Recently retired? Let us know! Information received by August 1, 2009 will be included in our fall edition. Thank you!**



# Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the SIGMA NU HOUSE COMPANY, INCORPORATED

## Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Sigma Nu House Company, Incorporated Held September 15, 2008

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sigma Nu House Company, Incorporated, was held by telephone conference call on Tuesday, January 14, 2008. The meeting was called to order at 9:03pm EDT by President Hollander.

### Board Members Attending:

Frederick Raab (FR)  
Carl Moon (CM)  
Dan Simpson (DS)  
Ted Hollander (TH)  
Shawn Ovenden (SO)

### Board Members Absent:

Dean Kruse (DK)  
Alan Peterson (AP)  
Craig Adamson (CA, emeritus)  
Bob Thompson (BT, emeritus)  
John Wetherel (JW, emeritus)

### REPORTS

#### Chris Healey – Sigma Nu National Director of Expansion

Discussed the recolonization of Gamma Sigma at ISU and answered questions.

This is a summary of the dialog:

- New Chapter will establish its own bylaws and legalities separate from the alumni association and House Corporation.
- Alumni members (alumni board) will work with the undergraduate members in the various officer and committee positions to run the house.
- Housing is not a primary necessity in the beginning but will be necessary for chapter sustainability at ISU.
- Chapter will establish budget and fees for members.
- House will be separate from house corporation – Chapter renting for occupancy.
- Various housing options can be considered.

- National representative retained on campus for one full semester.
- The chapter will be in close contact with representative after that including chapter visits.
- Chapter can consider older graduate member either from ISU or another campus to act as a representative (not normally done in the establishment of other chapters)
- ISU is not necessarily ready for another charter at this point from her perspective.
- Greek system capacity is at 60% - current fraternities are not at capacity.
- University enrollment is on the decline.
- National’s perspective is that Sigma Nu has something to offer that is more than that offered by other fraternities.
- Sigma Nu is not necessarily targeting the 11% looking to join a fraternity – rather they are targeting the other 89%.
- National will be doing the recruiting and will be looking for young men that are looking for an experience other than the typical “frat” lifestyle.
- Looking for men interested in helping to build a lasting “Rock Chapter” institution.
- IFC afraid of the increased competition – Success of Sigma Nu could act as a catalyst of positive growth in the Greek system.
- Chapters that embrace the change in society and the positive growth of leaders will flourish and those that maintain the status quo will perish.
- University house versus living at Sigma Nu is really a non issue.
- Greek systems at other universities are seeing similar trends.
- Sigma Nu seeing great success at other universities.
- Housing at ISU is important – if housing not available then a plan for house should be established for the chapter to be working toward.
- National has a branch that can assist with housing.
- National is in place for the heavy lifting.
- Spring 2009 window is narrowing – Not too late.
- Start exploring housing options.
- Fall 2009 2 slots open or spring 2010.
- Go-No-Go date in 2 weeks (Wednesday after reunion)

Secretary - SO distributed the minutes of the May 2007 meeting by e-mail prior to this meeting. DS moved to approve the minutes. FR seconded. Passed.

#### Treasurer

FR distributed the 2007 Financial report.  
Net income: \$5,794.25  
Total Assets: \$231,679.42

#### Current 2008 Financial Report

FNB checking: \$2,444  
FNB money market: \$154,153 (1.71APY)  
FNB CDs: \$75,000  
Total: \$231,597

SO motion to approve  
DS Second - Passed

Board discussed the various options to invest a portion of the cash assets.  
FR moved to rescind the original motion  
SO second – passed  
CA and BT to come up with investment proposal.  
CA will confirm that he can aid with compliance department to confirm that he is not violating any laws.

#### Selection of Board Members:

FR – Will continue.  
TH – Will continue.  
CM – Emeritus  
MW – Willingness to Join Board  
FR – Motion to put on ballot  
DS Second - Passed

Membership DS – 2008 will be that last year he will be able to continue as membership Secretary due to health reasons. Board encouraged him to remain active with the board and participate as much as his health will permit. Shawn and Nancy to step up.

Property – No Report  
Alumni Contact – NO Report

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Recolonization**

DS - Get going  
FR - Concerned about 60% occupancy  
- Other concerns  
- Fall 2009  
CA - Fall establishment on campus will give the chapter a full year together without a break.  
DS - Fall.

CA - Knows Jennifer personally.  
- Knows they have changed their program.  
CA - Two or three chapter houses will become available next year.  
TH - Has been doing the follow up.  
FR - Need to know the manpower requirements.  
FR - Special meeting to determine Go-No-Go.  
TH - Sent message to folks with no response.  
Oct 6 - Monday night  
8:00 Chicago Time  
Recolonization topic.  
FR - Motion to adjourn DS - Second – passed.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shawn M. Ovenden  
ΓΣ 1109, Secretary



**Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the SIGMA NU HOUSE COMPANY, INCORPORATED**

**Minutes of the Board of Trustees of Sigma Nu House Company, Incorporated  
Held January 12, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sigma Nu House Company, Incorporated, was held by telephone conference call on Monday, January 12, 2008. The meeting was called to order at 8:03pm CDT by President Hollander.

**Board Members Attending:**

Frederick Raab (FR)  
Craig Adamson (CA, emeritus)  
Dan Simpson (DS)  
Ted Hollander (TH)  
Shawn Ovenden (SO)  
Dean Kruse (DK)  
Alan Peterson (AP)  
Bob Thompson (BT, emeritus)  
John Wetherell (JW, emeritus)

**Board Members Absent:**

Carl Moon (CM)

**Committee Chairs Attending:**

Chris Swailes (CS)

**REPORTS**

Secretary --- SO distributed the minutes of the September 2008 meeting by e-

mail prior to this meeting. Ted Hollander approved as submitted.

**Treasurer**

FR Financial report.  
**STATUS OF ACCOUNTS**  
FNB checking \$ 3,786  
FNB money market \$154,827  
FNB CDs \$75,665  
Total \$234,268

**DUES AND DONATIONS**

Dues received \$ 1,320  
Donations \$ 580  
Members participating: 89

A breakdown prepared by Shawn and Nancy is attached.

**STATUS OF TASKS**

Iowa tax return - filed  
Federal estimated tax - paid  
2008 ledger - current, waiting to check final bank statement

**TO BE DONE IN 2009**

Income statement  
Audit  
Federal tax return

Iowa tax return

**Smith Barney Investment Proposal**

DS motion to approve  
FR second  
DS motion to approve  
FR Second - Passed

**Election of Board Members:**

FR – Will continue.  
TH – Will continue.  
SO – Willingness to Join Board

CS – Recolonization Chair  
SO and Nancy Ovenden – Membership Secretary  
Property – Alan Peterson  
Newsletter – Nancy and Shawn Ovenden  
Website – Marshal Wilharm

**2009 Reunion**

SO – Motion to have reunion in the fall  
DS – Second

Dates – 1<sup>st</sup> Choice – October 17  
Homecoming

2<sup>nd</sup> Choice – September 26  
Mechanics of reunion to be established outside of meeting Approved

**Recolonization**

SO – Motion to appoint Chris Swailes as recolonization chair

DS – Second

Discussion

Approved

- Ted Hollander to contact Chris Healy to get things started.
- Discussed future housing for chapter.

Property – No Report

Alumni Contact – No Report

Discussion summary:

- Plan as approved up to now.
- SN National recruiting in the spring of 2009
- Colony to be established in the fall of 2009
- Alumni will active in the process will have the option to have misc. expenses reimbursed (mileage, group meals, etc) per Board approval.
- Chris and Ted to remain in contact to determine the required frequency of upcoming board meetings

**NEW BUSINESS**

**OLD BUSINESS**

SO - Motion to adjourn DS - Second – passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawn M. Ovenden

ΓΣ 1109, Secretary

**Tally of Voting 2008 Election  
Sigma Nu House Company, Incorporated  
Gamma Sigma Alumni Association**

The ballots were mailed on or about November 15, 2008. The ballot stated that it “must be received by the SNHC no later than December 6, 2008.” A total of 85 Ballots were received and counted within the cut off date.

There were 658 ballot envelopes mailed, sent first class mail with “address service” requested. All responses were reviewed for information change reports. Six were returned as undeliverable, 5 address correction cards were returned by the U.S. Post Office, 84 contained valid ballots, and 96 contained checks for Dues. Several Ballots were received late and could not be counted but Dues were accepted and the total “2008 Voluntary Dues” amount as of today is \$2,030.00. Some ballots were mailed back later and received after the due date and could not be counted.

The vote tally is as follows: Board members-vote for 3

Ted Hollander, ΓΣ 703	82 votes
Fritz Raab, ΓΣ 772	84 votes
Marshall Wilharm, ΓΣ 771	83 votes

There were two valid write-in votes for:

Steven Schroder, ΓΣ 722	1 vote
Alan Renken, ΓΣ 779	1 vote

84 out of 85 ballots received were determined to be valid. One Ballot was not valid because it had four votes; votes for the 3 candidates and one write in vote for John Wetherell.

I have reviewed and certify the ballot count to be accurate, and declare these candidates to be duly elected.

Shawn M. Ovenden, ΓΣ 1109, Secretary

## We Need Your Help

Please take a few minutes to look over this brief message, fill in the blanks and mail to: Shawn & Nancy Ovenden  
4239 N. 164th St.

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_ Omaha, NE 68116

If this newsletter was improperly addressed, please indicate the correct address below. Also we would appreciate having any additional contact information that may be applicable.

Correct address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

News for our next issue – we hope to publish twice a year. Write a note about yourself and send along with this form. **Send news to Shawn & Nancy Ovenden, 4239 N. 164th St., Omaha, NE 68116, NLOvenden@cox.net**

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ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

GAMMA SIGMA NEWS  
Newsletter of Gamma Sigma Chapter  
Sigma Nu Fraternity  
c/o Shawn & Nancy Ovenden  
4239 N. 164th St.  
Omaha, NE 68116



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