



Issue 21/ September 2016

Reunion 2016

By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)

Thanks to many Sig Tau Brothers and Sig Tau Friends and other Geneseo Alumni, Reunion 2016 turned out to be the best Geneseo reunion event that has ever taken place. Whether we attended a *Sensational 70's* themed alumni college event, grabbed a late night snack at Mia's or Aunt Cookie's, or downed a few beers at The Idle Hour, The Club 41, The Big Tree Inn or the New Vital Spot we all enjoyed returning home!



The second annual All-Alumni Block Party on Center Street was, once again, a huge success and we hope it will remain a Reunion tradition for years to come. See if you can find yourself in the picture below! From the Livingston Alumni Quad Party to the All Alumni Center Street Block Party and the various bar-hopping events at The Club 41, The Vital Spot and the M&B, The Big Tree Inn, everyone seemed to be enjoying old friends and themselves meeting making some new ones.



Special thanks to the great Alumni Relations Staff for organizing this memorable weekend:

Ronna Bosko, Director of Alumni Relations

Michelle Walton Worden '92, Associate Director of Alumni Relations
Amanda McCarthy, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations for Regional Events
Tracy Young Gagnier '93, Assistant Director of Alumni Relations

We are looking forward to your Reunion 2017 events!

Regards,

Chuck

Chuck Curatalo
Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Newsletter Editor.....

The Editor's Reunion 2016 Comments:

Bruce Jordan (Founder, G '66), Jim Vidoczny (Founder, G '66), Dave Mead (First Pledge Class '65, G '68), Al Tolsma (First Pledge Class '65, G '68), Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G '67) and I were the earliest ΣΤΨ members present! We enjoyed drinks, meals and more conversations at Village Tavern, the Big Tree, and The Nines at the golf course, and of course the terrific Center Street Block Party. We were joined for our Nine's dinner by this year's Geneseo Greek Hall of Fame Inductee **Phil Thrall (Friend, DK, G '66)** and other DK friends such as **Don Miller (DK, G'68)** and **Dan Drmacich (DK, G '68)**--and other DK alumni whose names I don't remember. Phil's the person who gets all the alumni DK's out to these reunions, as well as keeping them updated on DK alumni news. To date, Phil snail mails bulletins to over 500 members. He is long overdue for this honor. I'd hate to have his bill for all those copies and stamps!



It was great hanging with the Sig Taus from the late 80's and early 90's. I thank them so much for letting me participate in their Bar-Eat-O (formerly the Vital Spot) get-together. Special thanks to their main organizer **Kevin Foody (P '88, G '88)** for graciously inviting me. He is the most enthusiastic and friendly "Middle Guard" I've ever met. And he is a great partier! The famous **Bruce Jordan (Founder '63, G '66)** was very impressed with meeting every one of them, "they're all such nice guys!"

I also enjoyed mixing with the Class of '66 Party at the Big Tree Inn. It was nice talking and drinking with **Bruce Jordan (Founder '63, G '66), Jim Vidoczny (Founder '63, G '66), Phil Bracchi (Friend, Phi Sig, G '64), Elaine Tramontana Bucci (Friend, Ago, G '66), Joe Bucci (Friend, Phi Sig, G '67)** and **Sonia (Ago, G '65)** and **Chuck Ferb** and many others.

Sorry to say, there were no **Sig Taus from the late 60's and early 70's** this year. **John Hopf (P '69, G '70)** and his wife Gidget have moved away from their home in Geneseo to their new home in the Catskills. So their legendary Sig Tau House Party did not take place. Sadly, the usual dozen or so Sig Taus from John's Sig Tau era didn't show up. Most of them live in the downstate and tri-city area. Let's hope they decide to "come on up" for Sig Tau's 55th anniversary celebration at Reunion 2018! We missed them.

Where were the great Sig Taus from the '01 to '05 years...**John Bruno (P '01, G '06), Giovanni Giordano (P '02, G '04), Brett Smith (P '01, G '04), Tom Venniro, Rob Julian (G '04), Andy Gillette, Mike Flynn, Adam Wright (G '04), Nate Jones, etc.** who put on a great Sig Tau 40th Anniversary Celebration at Homecoming in 2003? We fondly remember you and the great time we had together. We haven't seen you guys in years. We know some of you are still around the area! We'd like to see you at Reunion 2017 next year! How about showing up! We can all have a great time again!

Reunion 2016 Comments from $\Sigma T\Psi$'s and Friends:

Great time with old and new friends. The Center Street Block Party brings everyone you liked and didn't like, knew and didn't know, colors you liked and those you hated, all together for a great time where we all just get along. New great memories created with great people.....**Rich Romito (P '88, G '90)**

I officially named **Kevin Foody (P '88, G '91)** MVP of this year's festivities. He was everywhere and his ability to hang into the late night makes him my choice.....**Rich Kuhn (P' 78, G '81)**

Geneseo Reunion 2016 was outstanding. Seeing familiar faces and friends, as well as meeting new people, was so awesome. It was like we picked up right where we left off the last time. I also reacquainted with friends I have not seen since my freshmen and sophomore years at Geneseo. I have 3 siblings who went to other SUNY Schools and they don't have anything like what we have at Geneseo! Friends and family ask why I continue to go back, they just don't understand. I tell them that it is all about friendships new and old. **Chuck**, it was a pleasure meeting you and talking with you. Keep up the good work.....**Ron "Spice" Spicer (Friend of $\Sigma T\Psi$, G '88)**



Always good to be back.....**Andy Chasen (P '85, G' 88)**

Great to see old friends and make new friends 30 years later! It's truly amazing to see the bonds and friendships I made in Geneseo are still strong as ever! Looking forward to next year...**Jeff Harrington (P '87, G '90)**

We really enjoyed the "Block Party". We got to meet several much younger Sig Tau brothers than us senior brothers! We even got to meet the infamous **Chuck Curatalo**. We appreciate his dedication and hard work for keeping us all informed of Geneseo and $\Sigma T\Psi$ happenings.....**Greg Witter (P '71, G '73), Mike Haskell (P '71, G '74), Tom Basher (P '72, G '74)**

Hi **Chuck**.....Great seeing you and everyone this past weekend. Always good to be back in Geneseo with old friends and making new friends and memories. Thanks for keeping the emails going to remind everyone of events and $\Sigma T\Psi$ news. I really enjoyed the Newsletter. My friend **Ron Spicer** appreciated being included as a friend of $\Sigma T\Psi$. I finally did make it down to the AGO house to meet some of the younger $\Sigma T\Psi$'s. Next year lets plan on bringing a larger $\Sigma T\Psi$ group down to see them. They had many questions for me as to what $\Sigma T\Psi$ was like in the late 80's. It was fun hanging with them. Thanks again for everything.....**"Dugs" Dave Dugan (P'86, G '88)**

Not sure how I should start these comments. What I can say is that if you're not at these events, you're missing out on a great time. From when we started going back for these reunions, they just keep getting better and better. The first year we stayed for the weekend was for the 50th Sigma Tau Psi Reunion. I thought that nothing could top that weekend. The next year was the Phi Lamb reunion and while we didn't have the numbers on our side, we had a great time that year. We rekindled friendships and made new ones. Last year we had a great turnout of "newer" brothers. Again, new friendships were formed and new memories were made. This year was probably one of the lighter years, but man was it fun. When I picked up **Todd Jones** at the airport at 2 PM on Friday, until I dropped them off at 9 AM or so on Sunday morning, the smile



never left my face. Hanging at the "New Vital" with **Chuck Curatalo** and the guys from my generation kicked off our weekend. From there it was onto the Idle Hour and then dinner at the Big Tree. So many funny moments from dinner, but especially **Mike O'Brien**, aka "Fester", not getting his dinner and him storming out and eating Aunt Cookies with a ΣΤΨ Friend and DK Oman. From dinner, things get a little foggy, but I do know that I played Flip Cup with the AOPis at 1:30 AM. Not sure when I went to bed, but it was way too late. Six of us went to breakfast at

Denny's. Holy Sh*t, was it funny. Uncle Fester was telling us his tales that had us all laughing so much we were almost crying. We were at the Club 41 by noon for cocktails. Then on to the Center Street Block Party to hang out with **Chuck** and **Bruce Jordan**. Photo booths, Kelly's pictures, more cocktails, more laughs. The best time about these things is seeing people you haven't seen in a while, but picking up right where you left off. If you've read through this, then you have the ability to come to the 54th anniversary reunion of ΣΤΨ in June of 2017. I'll see you there. If you don't have a great time, you can blame me..... **Kevin Foody (P '88, G '91)**

Great time seeing and catching up with guys I haven't seen in 5 to 20 plus years. It seems life always seems to get in the way of taking the time to visit with old friends, I am glad I got to break free for a couple hours. Hope to see you all next year!.....**Pete Hartung (P '89, G '90)**

The reunion was, as usual, great! It's always fun to see old guards and meet newer guards and current members. Also enjoyed seeing other Greeks from our era.....**Al "Ace" Tolsma (P '65, G '67)**

Block party was great way to meet up with many "mature" friends and **Dave!** We enjoyed meals and more conversations at Village Tavern, the Big Tree, and The Nines. I hope to see more there next year – the 50th for **Chuck** and us other '67s!.....**Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G '67)**

It was great meeting **Chuck** this weekend. I love going back visiting with old friends and reminiscing about the good ol' days. I have been lucky to have a happy life, a great 25 yearlong marriage, and two beautiful daughters.....**Maria Rodriguez Shea (Friend of ΣΤΨ, Ago P '87, G '89)**

"Once again we had a great time. Hoping more brothers come next year. Great seeing everyone again".....**Rob Donley (P '89, G '91)**

"The Summer Reunion was fun and allows everyone a very relaxed way to catch up with each other from our days in Geneseo. I'm not sure what Homecoming will bring, but the Class of '86

and '91 should try a reunion!".....**Billy Manza (P '86, G '90)**

I really enjoy the summer get together because to me it seems more about seeing many old friends from our college days (regardless of year or frat). The block party mixes everyone together in a great informal atmosphere where you can trade old 'war' stories while quaffing your favorite beverage. The other alumni days seem more tailored to frat/sorority doings with old friends (and getting older!) and with the current brothers. I had a nice chat with the girl doing the annual Geneseo beg for cash over the phone. She happened to be an Ago and asked many questions about the start of Sig Tau. She had met some alumni on Friday evening (which I forgot to attend!) and told me how much she liked the current members. It is good to hear that the tradition carries on..... **Dave Mead (First Official Pledge Class '65, G '68)**

Jim Vidoczky (Founder '63, G' 66)..... The absolute highpoint of the 50th was the gathering on Thursday night at the Bucci residence. **Elaine and Joey Bucci's** legendary hospitality was on full display and everyone thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Thank you for your kindness. Joey and Elaine!! Next year it is Joey's 50th anniversary. I invite Joey and Elaine and their selected friends to our farmhouse in Ontario. We can get up Friday morning and drive 9 hours to Geneseo to pick up our name tags. Sadly, only 32 classmates made the party. It was wonderful to see those who did come and that was very, very nice. But I guess we are all in our 70's now. I was at the 40th and 45th anniversaries and they were certainly a bit livelier. My dear friend **Phil Bracchi** and I were the only two left at The Big Tree when the waitress came out on the porch to announce last call. It was 10 after 11. Even **Bruce Jordan** didn't make 11 o'clock...no afterburner in the Stoli that night!! Perhaps the Banquet was the *dénouement* and the rest of the evening sank beneath the waves... Canadians (as I have become these past 42 years) are prone to understatement



and politeness so I am disposed to not express my feelings about the Class of '66's 50th Anniversary Banquet. So to be delicate I will use the *joual* of my Quebec brothers and sisters...*le Banquet de l'Anniversaire Cinquantième sucé*. However, on a more positive note I commend the organizers for setting a new standard in food minimalism as well as a glimpse into the food we will all be served as we take up residence in a state run old age facility. The thoughtful

dose of exercise that comes with bussing your own dishes was a nice touch. We can all be grateful that we've made it this far and we all looked in pretty good shape. I enjoyed **Phil Thrall's** comedic acceptance of his well-deserved award. Thanks, Phil, we can still be goofy. I hope to attend the 55th anniversary and look forward to seeing more of our classmates turning out. Maybe we can stay up 'til midnight on Friday night? Anybody up for a gully party?

My wife, Peggy and I at the Class of '66 50th Anniversary Banquet!



List of Sig Taus and Sig Tau Friend Attendees (Not alphabetically listed):

Tom Basher (P '72, G '74)
Phil Bracchi (Friend, Phi Sig, G '64)
Andy Chasen (P '85, G '88)
Rob Donley (P '89, G '91)
Dan Drmacich (DK, Friend of ΣΤΨ, G '68)
Dave "Dugs" Dugan (P '86, G '88)
Patty Fennell (Friend, Ago, G '65)
Jamie Floss (P '13, G '16)
Kevin Foody (P '88, G '91)
Traci Gagnier (G '93)
Jeff Harrington (P '87, G '90)
Ryan Hargrave (P '90, G '91)
Peter Hartung (P '89, G '90)
Mike Haskell (P '71, G '74)
Bob Hussey (Charter Member '64, G '67)
Nancy Hussey (Phi Lamb, G '68)
Todd Jones (P '?, G '92)

Bruce Jordan (Founder, G '66)
John Kaleba (P '90, G '93)
Rich Kuhn (P '78, G '81)
Dave Mead (1st Official Pledge Class '65, G '68)
Don Miller (Friend of ΣΤΨ, DK, G '68)
Linda Miller (Friend of ΣΤΨ, Phi Lamb, G '68)
Jay Nasella (P '96, G '00)
Mike O'Brien (P '?, G '00)
Rich Romito (P '88, G '90)
Maria Rodriguez Shea (Friend of ΣΤΨ, Ago, G '89)
Ron "Spice" Spicer (Friend, G '88)
David Swain (P '91, G '95) and Erin Swain
Phil Thrall (Friend, DK, G '66)
Chris Vanni (P '88, G '91)
Jim Vidoczky (Founder, G '66)
Michelle Worden (Alumni Relations, G '92)
Greg Witter (P '71, G '73)

See more Reunion 2016 Geneseo, June 3-4 2016 pictures (The first album on the first Gallery page (Home) at <http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/> (**The Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Photo Gallery**) Click on the album and then click on each picture to enlarge it.

NOTES: Upcoming Reunion 2017 will take place at Geneseo on the weekend of June 2-3. The theme will be the "Awesome 80's!" If you plan on staying in a hotel make a reservation soon! They'll be full several months from now.

Geneseo Spring Alumni Weekend/Springfest will take place on April 28-29, 2017!

ΣΤΨ: In the Beginning

Sigma Tau Psi fraternity began as an idea in the minds of **Tom DeBello (Class of '65)**, **Jack Sheehan ('66)**, **Jim Vidoczky ('66)**, and **Bruce Jordan ('66)** in the fall of 1963. They aimed to create a real caring brotherhood, committed to their friendship for one another, and capable of making contributions to Geneseo.

The three met at Court Street where DeBello, Sheehan, **Jack Piedemonte ('66)**, and Jim Vidoczky lived. It was there that they set the very ideas that became the fraternity. The seal of the fraternity was also designed there by the men. Soon these were joined by others, and eventually there were 19 charter members of the fraternity.



As numbers grew, they began to hold their meetings late at night, in private in the Saint Mary's Church parish house on Main Street. Tom DeBello had worked for the church and had access to the huge three story Victorian house. They kept prayer books out in case someone from the church showed up. It was there that the original constitution and policies of the fraternity

were hammered out by consensus.

November 22, 1963 is the day recognized by the fraternity as the founding date. The weekend preceding this date, each year, is founders weekend. On that day in 1963 Sigma Tau Psi officially announced itself to the Geneseo campus. Ironically, President John F. Kennedy was shot and killed on the very day that the brothers first proudly wore their blue jackets.

The original Executive Council consisted of Tom DeBello ('65), President; Jack Sheehan ('66), Vice President; Jim Vidoczky ('66), Treasurer; and Bruce Jordan ('66), Secretary. The other charter members were: **Lee Clinton ('65), Ray (Spike) Leonard ('65), Walt Peek ('65), Dahn Walrath ('66), Jack Piedemonte ('66), Bob Hussey ('67), Dan Kwarta ('67), Chuck Hall ('67), Chuck Curatalo ('67), Pat Pallend ('67), Dick DeMay ('67), Bob Kotchman ('67), Larry Allen ('67), Chris Watson ('67), and Doug White ('67).**

When the fraternity first came on campus, it was not accepted right away. A number of people opposed a new fraternity on campus, especially the members of the Phi Sigma Epsilon (Phig) fraternity. Sigma Tau Psi prevailed, however, and was accepted into the Inter-Fraternity Council (IFC) on its first attempt, with the support of Prometheus fraternity and the Alpha Delta Epsilon sorority. Tom DeBello was the first delegate to the council. The first faculty advisors of Sigma Tau Psi were Duane Rubadeau and Donald Edge. *{From Chronicle of Sigma Tau Psi: A History of the Fraternity, Published 1997, Editor Brian M. Castelli (Pledged '94, Class of '97), Submitted by Les Arthur (Pledged '67, Class of '69)}*

"What was ΣΤΨ like in the late 80's, early 90's?"

By
Kevin Foody (Pledge '88, Graduated '91)

When **Chuck** asked for submissions to the newsletter about life in the various decades, I was a little hesitant to write this. I know so many more brothers in my era that probably had a greater "Sig Tau" experience than me. Those brothers who kept in touch right after college and continue to be best friends. I disappeared for a while, trying to figure out life and came to realize that the brothers I had in college should continue to be in my life. Facebook came along and I was able to reconnect with so many friends, that I'm truly thankful for that.

Anyway, my story begins in the fall of 1987 as a wide eyed freshman entering a new chapter in his life. I hope that through my eyes, you can see what being a Sig Tau in the 80's/90's was all about. I lived in Monroe Hall my freshman year. The dorm was inhabited by mostly PIGs, but two of the very first people I met were Sig Taus. They were both RAs in Monroe, but they were fun guys. In the Spring of '88, **"Dugs" Dave Dugan (P '86, G '88)** and **Jamie Hawayek (P '? , G '90)** told my roommate and I to Rush fraternities. We really weren't interested in that, but we decided to go anyway. For the years I was there, not much changed during rushing. We drank a lot with the current brothers. We had purple dragons (Mogen David wine and beer), which you chugged. They tasted horrible, but you did it anyway. Formal rush was about getting to know the brothers better. I'll never forget meeting **Frank**



Simuro (P '85, G '88), AJ Petrillose (P '86, G '90), Eric Rorapaugh (P '? , G'88), Eric Reinhardt (P '? , G '88), John Florczyk (P '86 G '88), John Ferris (P '? , G '88) and so many others. After the rush parties, I had a better sense of what the fraternity life was all about.

Final Bids came and my roommate and I both received bids to Sig Tau. I will tell you that I only rushed Sig Tau and was probably set on becoming a PIG. But Dugs and Jamie Hawayek came to my room early in the morning and convinced me to go Sig Tau. Most Final Bids nights were the same in our era. Your Big Brother came to your residence with other brothers. You could hear them coming as they were yelling at the top of their lungs "Let's go Sig Tau muff". I still don't know what that means, but whatever. Anyway, the brothers showed up with a bottle of booze that was in your family. Mine was Canadian whisky. We partied in the dorm room and went to the AGO house for a combined party. The AGO floor was covered with a tarp in all the rooms. We drank, sang songs, kissed AGO pledges and had I good time. I "blackened out", but I remember throwing up and still cannot really drink any type of whiskey or bourbon.



Pledging remained pretty constant throughout my time in. It was about 4-5 weeks and we did various activities. To keep the "secrets", I won't reveal much in this article, but it was both hard and fun at the same time. I pledged with 8 others and we were a bunch of misfits. We did have to carry the oar around with us and I believe one of us fell asleep and it was stolen by the brothers. That didn't work out well for us. We had mandatory library hours. If you weren't in class, you had to be in the library until 4 or 5 PM. We drank a lot during pledging and some pledge brothers even smoked weed. We did a pledge walk and our "Hell Night" was at Fallbrook.

The overall campus hasn't changed much since I was there. There are some new buildings, new apartments and a new Athletic field. Going back for the reunions and staying in the dorms is still fun. It's like we are back in campus and doing fraternity stuff.

During the 90's, we mostly did the same things. One of the highlights was our "breakfasts" with the sororities. These usually happened during pledging. The pledges would meet at the house around 8



AM and we would then go to the sorority house. Sometimes the sorority girls would make eggs, but mostly we just drank all day. The majority (or most fun) breakfasts were with the AGOs and the Phi Lambs. I'm sure there are plenty of brothers that could tell you stories about these better than I could. There was sledding down the back hill when it rained at the AGO house. Guys (or just me) pulling pranks on the girls and falling down the stairs. Brothers "blackening out" by 10 AM. Those days were rough on the pledges. They were allowed to drink, but by doing so, they screwed up a lot of the time and we had ammunition for pledge meetings.

Around 1989 or 1990, **Dave (P '89, G '82) and Mike Youngblut's (P '87, G '?)** father bought the houses at 10 and 12 Court street. The first year, we tried to cook and have a nice area in the bottom of the house, but this didn't go so well. People left dishes and crap everywhere. During the next summer, the Youngbluts cleaned out the bottom room and put down a rubber floor. We would then have sorority parties every Friday or Saturday night. Later on, we had "Open Parties" where we charged folks to drink. At one of these parties, we went through something like 33 kegs and had over 600 people there. The cops didn't really bother us or shut us down. We made a lot of money for the fraternity and kept our dues pretty low. Those parties were the start of the entrepreneurial spirit of

many brothers who went on to be very successful. About 12 people lived in the house. We had one common phone and people would just call or stop over. There were no cell phones back then, so you just had to try to find people.

There were plenty of drugs around in the 80's and 90's. I know that folks did "Peruvian Marching Powder" (from **Rich Kuhn (P '78, G '81)**), smoked weed, ate mushrooms and even did Acid. People also bet on football games through someone's bookie. That's about all I'll say about that.

One of the low lights of my college career was getting arrested. The Sig Ep fraternity stole a bunch of relics from the other fraternities around campus. During a night out, **Billy Manza (P '86, G '90)** organized a party of various fraternities to go to the Sig Ep house to get our stuff back. Being a good brother (and drunk at the time), I went with them. I just remember standing around next to **Kevin Leombruno (P '? , G '90)** the entire time as people got in fights. I did not throw any punches, nor did anyone try to fight me. About two weeks later, I received a phone call from public safety asking if I was in my dorm room and the Geneseo police were on the way. My only thought was that someone in my family had passed away. The police arrived and told me I was being arrested for criminal trespass. I had to get a mugshot and my fingerprints were taken. I know I was wearing my Sig Tau jacket in the mug shot. We all went to court and got our charges reduced and were supposed to do 15 hours of community service and stay out of trouble for 6 months. During the next semester we had a huge pledge class (they called themselves the backbone of the fraternity – Ha!). During Hell night, the cops showed up at Fallbrook. We sent the pledges out first and 6 of us had to "escape" back to the house. We rolled under some fences, split up and walked through fields and campus to get back to the house. That was actually fun. Needless to say, we had the Pledge Master with us, so hell night was delayed for over two hours.



There were fights all the time. Guys would sleep with other guys girlfriends (outside of the fraternity) and they would get in fights at the bar. One of the more memorable fights that happened was with a Sig Tau and a DK. I'll leave the name of the Sig Tau out of it because he is very successful and I wouldn't want this coming back on him. This was the so called fight of the century and everyone knew it was happening. It was reminiscent of the old days when two Scottish clans would get together or Ancient times when the best warriors would battle to save the entire army from fighting. It happened right outside the IB, the two warriors trading haymakers and hammering each other. No one else fought, just these two, to settle a score. Our guy was victorious after landing a nice combination of power punches. The DK slinking off with his brothers in shame.

In 1991, my senior year, I was living in the house. A couple of the brothers came back one Sunday night with a keg and some Phi Lambs. This started "Sunday Buzz Club" which became a tradition for years. Just Sig Taus and Phi Lambs partying on a Sunday night. There were rules for Buzz Club, which I can't remember. We also brought out mattresses and did some WWE style wrestling. I was part of a tag team with **Rich Brink (P '? , G '93)** (pretty sure we were the tag team champions). There are embarrassing photos floating around somewhere. This was also a good opportunity to get together (if you know what I mean) with your favorite Phi Lamb.

Speaking of girls, I was not the foremost expert in this category. Casual sex was a thing in our era, but I don't think it is like today. The girls wore a lot of baggy sweatshirts and jeans. Not revealing clothes like today's era. Being in a fraternity, you spent a lot of time with the sororities. There was ample opportunity to get together and it happened a lot. Most of the guys who had girlfriends, those

girls were in sororities. We had co-ed dorms, so you could be in a girl's room all night if you wanted. I think we even had an award called "Pimp of the week" where guys would share stories about their hookups. Yours truly was never the "Pimp".

I think we had Jenny awards when I started, but I'm also pretty sure the tradition ended in our era. We did charity events like the Chicken Wing eating contest where I once ate 65 wings (with some help from Kevin Leombruno) in ten minutes. I was declared the winner, but since I was a Sig Tau, we gave it to the next guy (I also cheated, so that was fair). There were other things that went on, but I think I've gone on long enough. I think you can get a sense of what we were like.

I love hearing the old stories at reunions or when we get together and I'm glad I've reconnected with so many brothers over the years. There are other guys that I would like to see, but I understand where they are at in their lives. Maybe they'll show up someday. The 50th reunion was a great way to catch up with so many brothers that I haven't seen in forever. Special thanks go out to the following for helping during difficult times, even if you don't know that you helped. Thank you **Kyle Hargrave (P '91, G '91)**, **Ryan "Hammer" Hargrave (P '90, G '91)**, **Mark Secaur (P '89, G '92)**, **David Swain (P '91, G '95)**, **Mike "Fester" O'Brien (P ' , G' 93)**, **Rob Donley (P '89, G '91)**, **Todd Jones (P, G '92)**, **Chris Vanni (P '88, G '91)**, **Mike Guzzo (P '? , G '93)**, **Kevin Ryan (P '? , G '92)**, **Steve Alexander (P '? , G '91)** and **Greg "Bird" Walsh (P '? , G '91)**. It was also nice to reconnect with so many brothers at David Swain's wedding. What a great time that was and a special Thank You to Dave. Also, a thank you to **Rich Kuhn (P '78, G '81)** for being so funny and making me laugh whenever I see him. I couldn't end this article without thanking **Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)** our Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Newsletter Editor. He is a great friend and Sig Tau brother who is an inspiration to me. If we all only spent 1% of the time he does, we would all be better off. I've gotten the great pleasure to spend time with Chuck over lunch, beers and at the reunions. See you all soon (I hope)! *(Photo: Mike Guzzo, Rich Brink and Kevin Foody)*



Kevin Foody '91

*A Personal Comment: "Thanks Kevin but you're too kind!" For those of you who don't know Kevin, he is the nicest "Middle Guard" Sig Tau whom I've ever had the pleasure of knowing. I also consider him a great friend! I always look forward to getting together with Kevin for lunch, beers and reunions. He has generously taken time from his busy work and family schedule to write this great article and to create a Shutterfly.com site for us. I'll have more to say about Kevin in an upcoming article!...**Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)***

Sigma Tau Psi: The First Year

During the first year, the fraternity was given a house on the corner of Court Street and Franklin Street by the College. The house was scheduled for demolition to make room for a parking lot. Tenants paid the regular dorm fee to the College. The fraternity thrived, and took its first pledge

class in the spring. The first Pledge Handbook was written by **Tom DeBello ('65), Bob Hussey ('67), Dan Kwarta ('67), and Dan Walrath ('66)**. In this pledge class, the fraternity looked for men that would personify the ideas of the fraternity: character, contribution, involvement. The fraternity's motto is "True brotherhood is known by only a few." This statement characterized the attitude of the fraternity towards rushes in the first year, and in all future years. Brothers felt that having extra brothers that would not contribute would be a waste of their time and efforts. This ideal was not used as an excuse for possible low pledge numbers but rather as a motivation to make a great effort to attract the best men on campus.



During the first year, the fraternity developed its own sense of identity. Sig Tau was the first fraternity founded at Geneseo in nearly ten years, and was viewed as kind of a rebellious



organization. Brothers dared to do things that no other fraternity or organization had ever done at Geneseo. For example, in the first yearbook photo in the 1965 Oh Ha Diah, the brothers appear in the tavern room at The Big Tree Inn, holding their beer mugs, instead of the regular spot in the Student Union where all the fraternities usually posed. This was the first time any organization had done anything like that. The next year,

the fraternity picture was taken in the fountain, on Main Street—which required special permission from the Village....(*I've recently learned this funny story about the fountain picture from Bob Hussey (P '63, G '67) which I didn't remember. When we had gathered at the fountain a police officer approached us and pulled out his gun. "What are you guys doing here," he demanded. Apparently the Town Supervisor had not informed the officer that we had been given permission to take this photo! For a time it was tense but it soon turned funny! C.C.)*)



Sigma Tau Psi began its first year of intramural play with a bang. The Blue team made it all the way to the finals in football against Delta Kappa Tau. In the semi-final game against Blake, Quarterback Dahn Walrath (G '66) was "the whole show," according to a Lamron account of the game, accounting for 24 of Sig Tau's points. He had two touchdowns on runs, and passed to **Jim Vidoczy (G '66)** and **Chuck Hall (G '67)** for the two more. **Spike Leonard ('65)** added another point. That historic season began a tradition of Sig Tau football dominance that has lasted to the present time. (As of this writing). Sig Tau has advanced to the semi-finals nearly every season since 1964, and advanced to the finals in more than half of those seasons. {From Chronicle of Sigma Tau Psi: A History of the Fraternity, Published 1997, Editor Brian M. Castelli (Pledged '94, Class of '97), Submitted by Les Arthur (Pledged '67, Class of '69)}

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Ryan Hargrave's (P '90, G '94), Kyle Hargrave's and David Swain's "Mom"

Thanks to **Billy Manza (P '86, G '90)** for bringing this heartwarming and inspirational story to our attention. (See link article and link below!) The lady **Gladys Reeves Hargrave** in this Wham 13 ABC Rochester, New York News (July 11, 2016) article and interview happens to be the mother of Sig Tau's Ryan Hargrave (P '90, G '94) and Kyle Hargrave's (P '88 G '91). Kyle was a 4 year starting 2 guard on the basketball team, and Ryan a 4 years starting defenseman on the lacrosse team. Both are High School coaches in their respective sports! They are both in the teaching profession. The unidentified "fourth son" in the article is Sig Tau **David Swain (P '91, G '95)** of the Rochester Police Department! Ryan is a Special Education Teacher and Kyle is a Social Studies Teacher. They must be very proud of their mother and vice versa!

As Billy Manza (P '86, G '90) says,

"Dave and Ryan are like Mutt and Jeff! They have been that way since they pledged. The story was done to show a white cop, adopted black family, after all the craziness in the last week around here and across the country! Definitely a buzz up for a change! SO great that it's not only a Geneseo alumni's family in the story but THREE Sig Tau's, OUR fraternity brothers and their MOM! Mrs. Hargrave has been a Matriarchal Force for anyone who's ever met her. She was the adopted Mom for the guys on the Geneseo State Basketball team from the day Kyle started in 1987 and pulled double duty for basketball players and lacrosse players after Ryan came to Geneseo in '89 to play lacrosse. She also baby sat and cared for many of my Sigma Tau Psi Fraternity Brothers over the years. This story encapsulates so much of how things could be and should be today. I could not be happier to have the Hargrave's and Dave as an example of what Fraternity and Sorority life can be, and how it can influence kids in positive ways for the rest of their lives. This is a literal example of the kind of bonds possible when character, compassion, open minds, trust support and love are the factors in building friendships and relationships. Frankly, they are all that really matter. Well said, Mrs. Hargrave! Bravo! I'm proud to call ALL your sons Brothers!"

Black mother who raised white RPD officer appeals for calm.....

By Jane Flasch

Gladys Reeves Hargrave was born in the Deep South. That is one part of the filter through which she sees racial division in Rochester and across the country.

"I felt that I had something to say because I don't think anyone can get any blacker than I am," Hargrave told 13WHAM's Jane Flasch.

Her living room in Henrietta is filled with symbols of her African-American heritage. On the opposite wall to her is a gallery of family photos. There are baby photos of her boys Marcus, Kyle and Ryan - and another photo of them grown



with a new sibling.

David is Ryan's friend and the young man to whom she opened her home. She now considers him her fourth son.

"They don't look at each other as one being white and one being black," Hargrave said. "They just look at each other and say, 'You're my friend. You're my brother.'"

The mother and grandmother has a simple message for these complicated times. She says the protesters who rallied in Rochester Friday have something in common: They are each someone's child.

Her perspective is as a black mother to a white police officer.

"People don't want to talk about race," Hargrave said.

We are not using David's last name because he works undercover for RPD. Since his graduation from the police academy, there have been many anxious nights for his mom.

"I had to teach him how to iron his uniform, so I felt when he put it on, he was a sitting duck," Hargrave recalled.

The tense stand-off between protesters and police on East Avenue and Scio Streets over the weekend has elevated the stakes.

"I just want him to be safe. I don't want anybody to judge him because he's a policeman and because he's Caucasian," she said.

Though it was natural in her home, Reeves Hargrave fears the growing race divide. Even though she is reluctant to be in the spotlight, she is speaking up out of concern for society and for her son.

Her message is simple: Black lives matter. Police lives matter; just ask their mothers.

"I'm not someone so wise I know how to talk about all of this. But I know how to be a mother," Hargrave said.

See the Video Clip of Gladys Reeves Hargrave's interview at

<http://13wham.com/news/top-stories/black-mother-who-raised-white-rpd-officer-appeals-for-calm>

Profiles and Favorite Geneseo Memories

Jim "Pitzer" Pittz (Pledged '81, Class of '84).....Man, what a wild ride it was being a brother in the early 80's. *(Picture from ΣΤΨ Days R to L: Jim "Pitzer" Pittz (P '81, G '84), Rick "Jake" Jankum (P '81, G '84), Chris "Buck" Buckley (P '80, P '83)* I



don't think that there was ever a time where we weren't on probation or in some kind of trouble from the IGC. Didn't matter, we would still have our fund raisers at Fat Augies, when we were called on it, we would just tell them that all of the brothers worked there – so it seemed like we were having a fund raiser – but oh no, not us (wink, wink). One of my fondest memories were of our Sig Tau meetings, especially the end where we would vote on the Sig Tau "Pimp of the week" - we

even had a shirt made up for it! The brothers would regale stories of each other's escapades for the previous week, the winner, or loser depending on your perspective had to war the "Pimp" shirt out on Wednesday nights. Another great memory was the after hour's parties at the house on Bank St, every night! Around 4 AM or so, Geneseo's finest would show up looking for Jake, our President. It would seem we broke the noise ordinance yet again, and he was looking to hand over the \$25 citation to him. I could go on and on with stories, stories that would make "Animal House" look like a G-rated Disney movie!



A number of us still get together each year on the last weekend in July for golf, libations, stories and horse racing at Saratoga. We'd love to expand the group. *(Golfers L to R: Scott McGregor (P '81, G '83), Phil Connery (P '80, G '83), Jim Pittz (P '81, G '84), Rick Jankum (P '81, G '84), Paul Koehler (P '80, G '83), Jeff Roberts (P '80, G '84), Gary Nelson (P '82, G '84)*

Excuse me, I have to go, for some reason I have this craving for 25 cent drafts and nickel wings....

Mark Arlauckas (Pledged '80, Class of '84)....My big brother was **John Trabucco (P '?, Class of '82)** Positions held while active: Second Vice President, 1981-82. After two years I found it necessary to change my status to inactive. I was very close to the brothers who graduated in '81 and '82. Owner of Blue Marble T-Shirts and Graphics. Please visit our website: www.BlueMarbleTShirts.com Like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/BlueMarbleTShirts> NEW! Your source for FULL color POSTERS! Up to 44" wide!

Mark Ryan (P '80, G '85)..... says it all in his Facebook Profile Picture:



More current [Profiles and Geneseo Favorite Memories](#) are inserted between the main articles.

ΣΤΨ's First "Official" Pledge Class

By
Al ("Ace") Tolsma (First Official Pledge Class '65, G '67)

I wish I could remember more about pledging. I recall the blue berets and pledge pins. How long did it take for the Phigs to steal the beret idea, a couple of days? I thought it was really cool that we got our own jackets on Final Bids Night. We made paddles. I think **Chuck** painted our names on them. (*I did! C.C.*) My beret, pin, and paddle are long gone. But I did find the pewter mug we all had. As pledges, we had to memorize the Greek Alphabet and learn some fraternity songs. "We stand together brothers all..." That's all I can remember. I don't remember if the Pledge Class had officers. Maybe someone else will know. I do not remember any Pledge Class Project. The Pledge Class Auction came later. I believe we made it through those two (?) weeks without losing anyone.

*(Picture: Items courtesy of Dan Kwarta (**Charter Member '63, G '67**) ΣΤΨ Beret, Paddle, Jacket Insignias and Pledge Handbook)*



Here is my latest list of the members of the 1965 Pledge Class:

Pledgemaster: Tom DeBello

Juniors: Mark Limerick, Jack Morrell.

Sophmores: Bill Brigham, Roy Howard, Ron Leffler, Jim Tobin, Al Tolsma, Tom Welch.

Frosh: Irv Beimler, Jim Burk, Don Fuller, Ken Gadbow, Ed Garrison, Jim Goldseth, Gary Kresser, Mike Luczak, Dave Mead, Dale Metz, Don Peterson, Fred Welch.

These are the 20 names I remember. .I could have missed someone. Please let me know if the newsletter generates any changes.

Thanks to Bruce Jordan and Jim Vidoczy for the info on Mark Limerick, and thanks to Jeff Gosch for the info on Jeff Gosch.

Thanks to **Gary Kresser (P '63, G '67)** for the following information: "I have been reading about the first pledge class. I remember that there was a prohibition against requiring pledges to perform negative or demeaning behavior. I was always impressed by that. I hope the same rule applies

today.”

Read More Profiles (aka Bios) and Geneseo Favorite Memories in Last Year's Newsletter

More **Bios and Geneseo Favorite Memories** that have been previously published can be found in the last issue of the Newsletter (Edition 20) listed in our [Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends website at <http://www.etoldguard.com/ETOG20.pdf>](http://www.etoldguard.com/ETOG20.pdf) They are dispersed between the main articles so be sure to scroll through the whole Newsletter.

In this issue you will find the **Profiles and Favorite Geneseo Memories** of:

Roger Brown (Pledged '68, G '71)
Andy Chasen (Pledged '85, G '88)
Jim Colucci (Pledged '68, G '70)
Phil Connery (Pledged '80, G '83)
Mike Crino (Pledged '67, G '69)
Ken Crofts (Pledged ?, G '73)
Rod Curran (Pledged '69, G '72)
Doug Dixon (Pledged '68, G '71)
John Ferris (Pledged '85, G '88)
Kevin Foody (Pledged '88, G '91)
Gary Foti (Pledged '69, G '71)
Kaie Fuhrhop (Pledged '65)
Chris Geatrakas (Pledged '69, G '70)
Jeff Gosch ((Pledged '65, G '68)
Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G '67)
Carl Kanoff (Pledged '69, G '70)

Fred Koch (Pledged '68, G '69)
John Leck (Pledged '70, G '72)
Pete Massari (Pledged '69, G '71)
Dave Mead (Pledged '65, G '68)
Dale E. Metz (Pledge '67, G '70)
Dale J. Metz (Pledged '65, G '70)
Bruce Parmiter (Pledged '68, G '69)
Tom Powers (Pledged '67, G '71)
Bob Pruett (Pledged ?, G '81)
Rich Romito (Pledged '88, G '90)
Don Russo (Pledged '91, G '93)
Al Smith (Pledged '69, G '72)
Mike Sobczak (Pledged '66, G '69)
Chris Vanni (Pledged '88, G '91)
James Vidoczy (Founder '63, G '66)
Tom Wolff (Pledged '69, G '73)

My Remembrance of ΣΤΨ Founder Jack Sheehan and Our Sig Tau “Magical” Years

Part 1: The Early Years

By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)



*And now the journey's over
Too short—alas too short.
It was filled with adventure, wisdom, laughter, love, gallantry and grace.
So farewell—farewell.....*

It will be ten years in October that Founder **Jack Sheehan** passed away. I was lucky enough to know Jack for many years. We met in my freshman year (1963) at Geneseo. Jack was a sophomore, a blonde Adonis, out-going, athletic, and very articulate and a ladies' magnet. I was in awe of him. And everyone loved his sense of adventure. As fellow Founder **Tom DeBello (Founder '63, G '65)** recalls:

How about the night at Huber House that we dressed in black and used burnt charcoal on our faces to be able to play commando? It was the middle of the night and Jack had us crawling on our stomachs down the steps (we could have walked down just as easily) then out the front door and into the neighbor's garden next door. I'm not sure what we were after, but I think we would up with a few vegetables.

I was Jack's opposite— very skinny freshmen with limited self-confidence, somewhat introverted and a tiny bit "high-strung". Many of my fellow bros say "that I didn't say sh*t in those days." So I was the opposite of Jack. As my Big Brother **Jim Vidoczny (Founder '63, G' 66)** can attest....

"Charles" as we called him back then was a very nice "goofy" guy! Mildly eccentric, slightly wacky sense of humor, an unmistakable laugh. He was painfully shy. You had to prod him to engage in a conversation. We discovered the best way to get "Charles" out of his shell was to poke fun at him (provocatively chide him) until we got a rise out of him. Then in a loud voice, for Chuck, he would object to the barbs, question our character and then laugh muttering "Geez you guys..."



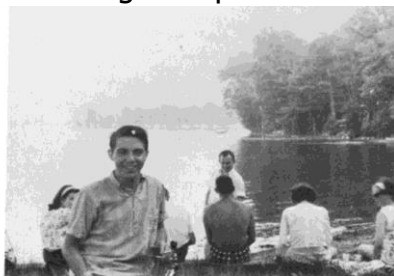
Chuck was also a bit gullible and we loved setting him up so we would have another reason to poke fun at him! In fact, Chuck's facial reaction was extremely arched eyebrows. Too bad his eyebrows didn't continue to migrate to the top of his head!

Chuck always took the ribbing with good humor. I think he knew we all loved him and perhaps he was grateful for the attention and his unique place in our band of brothers.

One of the few things Jack Sheehan and I had in common were that we were both education majors (Jack was Special Education and I was Elementary Education). And we were both members of the new Sig Tau which Jack had just founded with the help of a few others. We also both had artistic talent and along with **Bruce Jordan (Founder '63, G '66)** we all loved to laugh. Jack was interested in the theater arts and I was an art minor. If it wasn't for Jack as well as Bruce Jordan (Theater Major) and Tom DeBello, and **Jim Vidoczy (Founder '63, G '66)**. I probably would have never invited to join Sig Tau.

Also, Jack and I had an appetite for movie trivia. He would say "Charles" (his pet name for me—he always had pet names for his friends), "you know more sh*t about movies and old stars than Cecile B. DeMille."

Jack's love of movie trivia stems back to when his father had been the projectionist for a movie theater in Amsterdam NY where Jack grew up. In fact the famous movie of the late 1930's



"Drums along the Mohawk" made its world premiere in the theatre when Jack's father was the projectionist at the cinema. Jack was very proud of that even though his father died when Jack was too young to remember him. He was raised by his

mother and his funny Aunt Laurie. Needless to say, they didn't have very much money. Once at his home Jack showed me a picture of his dad. He was a "stunner" just like his son.

After Jack and others founded the fraternity, they asked some first semester freshmen to join including myself. There was no pledging or rushing Sig Tau in that first year. It's a complicated story but basically since Sig Taus weren't yet "officially recognized" they couldn't be stopped from recruiting new members. That pissed off the other fraternities. They persuaded many of us to quit and wait until second semester to rush their organizations---when pledging was officially allowed. So quite a few did quit after becoming Sig Taus for only a short while. The big joke on campus was "you too can be a Sig Tau for a Day".

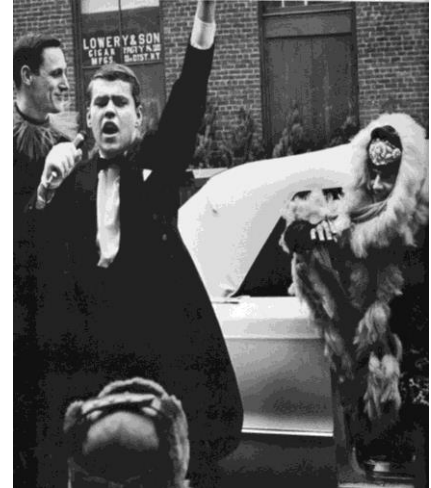
Jack, Bruce, **Dahn Walrath (P '63, G '66)** and Tom DeBello and my Big Brother Jim Vidoczy who were older, sort of took me "under their wings." Either they found me likable and/or they found me socially needy. They made me feel comfortable and got me to participate in many activities that I would never have done on my own. I had no choice—Jack could talk anybody into doing anything he wanted. And I have to admit I slowly became a more bit out-going. However I am still a rather quiet person. Some "baggage" never completely leaves you.

The years of our fraternity at Geneseo were some of the most fun-filled and adventurous of my life. We spent a great deal of time and effort in creating fun fraternity events like the Sig Tau Follies, the Regatta, our beautiful snow sculptures and Homecoming Floats. The Follies, the Regatta, the Jenny Awards were all Jack and Bruce's creations and they took a lot of our time to plan and execute. I can't remember how many times we were put on academic probations because we didn't study very much due to all the time spent on these and other activities—and

the partying!

However, we were all lucky! Most of us were education majors and teachers were in great demand then. I doubt that prospective employers even looked or cared about low cumulative averages. I never mention how low mine was—it's too embarrassing today!

Jack was the perfect Master of Ceremonies at our Zig Tau Follies. He really kept the audiences entertained between our various acts and he was great at announcing and interviewing the "stars" as they exited their limos at the theater. Jack also dressed for the event in a black vintage long tuxedo that he had found in the theater costume department.



The Zig Tau Follies of 1964 was one of the highlights of my Sig Tau years. Tom DeBello had a great singing voice. As "Torche La Phlegm" he belted out a "husky" version of "My Man" that Fanny Brice introduced in the Ziegfeld Follies of 1929 and received a standing ovation. (*See picture of Tom above in his "Torche" drag!*). I had a pretty good voice myself. As Jim Vidoczky has confirmed:

Chuck or "Charles" as we called him back then, is my little brother....We found him at the Student Union. He sat at "our table" obsessively singing "People Who Need People" along with Barbara Streisand on the juke box. He was a commendable octave lower and on key. Hey, we were all about diversity and hitting the high notes!

Bruce and I did a song and dance "drag" performance of "Anything Goes!" Bruce tried to teach me the choreography but I was always "two steps" behind him. However, I think even Bruce would say that I probably out-sang him—even though he projected louder than I ever could. But my flapper" dress was prettier than his! ☺ Lucky that Jack chose to be a great MC; he couldn't sing—in fact he croaked like a frog!

Another funny tale about Jack! Kathe, his widow tells the story of when Jack had all the brothers looking for his Grandmother's diamond ring when Bonnie his girlfriend threw it at him in the middle of winter into a snow bank. Needless to say she dumped him. Kathe's not sure exactly what he had done – "must have been pretty bad! But they found it – I am still wearing it!"

Jack presented me the first annual Jenny Award for "Simpleton of 1964" after our first regatta. He did it with such style, and warmth that I took it very well. Today, some people would say that was rather insensitive. Perhaps so, we were young and youth does have its faults. But I knew the award was accompanied by mutual affection that continued to the very end. Years later when the funny, legendary "Simple Charles Stories" were recalled by Jack, Bruce, Tom Jim and other Sig Taus, I was surprised that I was fondly remembered. I too find the stories funny! I don't believe how naïve I was back then. (*Courtesy of Kathe for picture of Jack Sheehan's Jenny Award for "Quote of the Year 1966" Unfortunately the quote is lost to history!*)



After graduation I lost contact with Jack and just about every other Sig Tau. We all got separated and found work in different places around the state and country. Also, it was the height of the Vietnam War years and many of us were called upon to serve. The wonderful email, Facebook and free long distance were years away.

I would see Bruce every now and then in Rochester when he was an actor at Geva (which was by the way, the organization he was quite involved in founding). He would always keep me up to date on Jack, and whenever they got together Jack would ask about me. But I just didn't call Jack at that time. I now regret!

A few years later I briefly spoke to Jack on New Year's Eve when I was awoken at 3 AM by a phone call from "two drunken fools"---Bruce and Jack. Needless to say they were hilarious! This must have been the beginning of their legendary late night calls to their long, lost Geneseo friends.

Later on we all finally got together in 1983 for 20th Anniversary of the Founding of Sig Tau during Homecoming at the Sig Tau House---which was on Bank Street (next to the old Vital Spot parking lot) and is now a home for the Geneseo Foundation. Jack and Bruce did

the organizing for the celebration. They even wrote personal notes to all the original Sig Taus inviting them to attend. Still I had to be pushed to go---you probably guess who did the pushing---Jack Sheehan. That event was the first time I had seen Jack and many other Sig Taus in twenty years.

We all had a great time. Almost all the bros from those early "magical" Sig Tau years had finally come together. The food was great and the kegs were quickly drained. It wasn't until years later that I found out that Bruce Jordan had financed the whole reunion. As I am writing this Bruce still doesn't know that I discovered his well-kept secret. I'm wondering how he'll react when he reads I know! *(Picture: Commemorative 20th Tee Shirt)*



By the time of the great 40th Anniversary Celebration in 2003 in Geneseo, we had gotten closer. Jack and I put a great deal of effort into searching for mail and email addresses of Sig Taus from our era. We were pretty successful and we managed to get a decent turnout. We had another great time---thanks to the then current Sig Taus. That's when the ΣΤΨ Newsletter really began to grow.

(Picture of "skinniest guy at Geneseo" hugging the gorgeous Elaine Tramantona (Ago, G '66) and standing in front of Lake Conesus in 1964. Notice the nice head of hair! What happened?)

(Picture of Jack Sheehan as Master of the Zig Tau Follies announcing "Torche La Phlegm" aka Tom DeBello with Spike Leonard (Charter Member '63, G '65) of "The Flying Pharts")

Part 2: Continued further down the Newsletter!

A Letter from Mike Grammatico (P '84, G '87) Regarding:

Kelsey A. Annese '16 Memorial Scholarship

August 1, 2016

Dear Friend:

I write to you as an alumnus of Geneseo and a dear friend of the family of Kelsey Annese '16, a senior at SUNY Geneseo who tragically passed away in January. Her passing cut short the bright future of an extraordinary and deeply loved young woman.

Though she was never happier then when surrounded by family and friends, Kelsey embraced opportunities to travel the world, explore her community and help those in needs by volunteering. This curiosity and compassion, combined with an easy-going personality and ever-present smile, made her a beloved member of the SUNY Geneseo community, as well as a cherished friend. Kelsey was a leader on the Women's Basketball team, in the classroom and while student teaching. Kelsey had already decided to teach in a high poverty public school setting but yet to decide between special education and teaching English as a Second Language. She was grateful for her Geneseo experience as it provided her the opportunity to help others.



Kelsey A. Annese '16 Memorial Endowed Scholarship

The Kelsey A. Annese '16 Memorial Endowed Scholarship will provide funding for an entering freshman who is a deserving student demonstrating financial need and in good academic standing. This scholarship honors Kelsey who was a loving daughter and sister, a good friend and a selfless and dedicated leader on the SUNY Geneseo women's basketball team. This endowment was generously established by her family and friends in lasting and loving memory of Kelsey.

As a way of honoring her life, we are creating the **Kelsey A. Annese '16 Memorial Scholarship** at SUNY Geneseo. Once endowed, this award will provide an annual scholarship for an incoming Geneseo student

demonstrating financial need and who demonstrates Kelsey's work ethic, leadership, determination, positive outlook and generosity.

Our initial goal is to raise \$50,000 to establish Kelsey's memorial fund, which will allow for the creation of a permanent endowment at SUNY Geneseo. With your help, the **Kelsey A. Annese '16 Memorial Scholarship** will exist in perpetuity. This effort will ensure that Kelsey is forever remembered and allow her to continue to have a positive impact on the Geneseo community.

We are initially reaching out to a select group to ask for your support. Please join me in creating a lasting memorial for Kelsey, while helping Geneseo students achieve their dreams. To make a tax-deductible contribution, please visit the SUNY Geneseo website go.geneseo.edu/annesescholarship. This link will provide options for a one-time gift or a recurring monthly payment plan.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me or Robin Irwin, Senior Advancement Officer at 585-245-5570 or irwinr@geneseo.edu. If you would like to be involved in a more meaningful way, Robin or I would be happy to meet with you to discuss opportunities to grow the scholarship. We will share updates with you as we progress.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Mike Grammatico (P '84, G '87)
mtico1964@gmail.com
585-315-9754

About Chuck!

By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)

You already know from previous article (**A Friend's Remembrance of ETY Jack Sheehan...Parts 1**) about my earlier life at Geneseo. Many of you are probably still wondering "Just who the hell is this guy?" After "pleading" with you for years about submitting a "Profile" or autobiography (or whatever you want to call it), I think it's time I come forth with my story.

I don't make it a secret that I am a single Sig Tau! I graduated from Geneseo in 1967; I won't say how old I am but you can do the math! As for marriage I never met the right girl—and to be honest I wasn't eager to get married. And there were other family circumstances and responsibilities that persuaded me not to make marriage a part of my life. Also, I'm a "loner" at heart; and I never had a great craving to raise my own kids.

After completing a degree in Elementary Education, I taught other people's young children for many years--so I never felt that I missed out that much. I've often been told that raising your own kids is the hardest full-time job in the world. I was lucky to be able to enjoy children for just several hours a day.

I loved teaching 3rd grade children (also K, 1st and 2nd graders for several years) in the Gates Chili Central School District (a Rochester suburb) and in the New York State Migrant Children's Demonstration School at SUNY Geneseo for six summers. I usually looked forward to going to work every day (Almost!). So I had my 33 years of having kids.



Every day wasn't a total pleasure. Regardless of what some of you may think--teaching is hard work and it's not easy to be with little kids all day. But for the most part it is enjoyable and rewarding. And I enjoyed being "funny" and "making the kids laugh"! These quotes are from former students that I sometimes run into at malls and restaurants. And I've been retired for 16 years! Along with my Sig Taus years I consider teaching one of the happiest times of my life!

When I decided to go Geneseo for a Master's Degree in Education I had a hell of a time getting in. Because of my low cumulative average they would not accept me unless I did very well on the GRE (a common college application test for graduate school admission). After busting my ass studying math (a major weak spot) and increasing my reading vocabulary, I did very well and finally was accepted! After many night courses and a few summer courses I got my Master's Degree in 1972. Just think what I could have done as an undergraduate if I had applied myself. But as I've said, I was distracted by making Sig Tau a great fraternity; something I don't regret!

I became rather dedicated to the teaching profession. Many years ago I wrote a book called Teacher-Made Materials for Math (Grades 1-3) which contained my drawings of "learning centers" and "reinforcement materials" that I had designed and used in my classrooms. (I was an art minor in college.) The book published by the Ferron Publishers (Now called Ferron-Pitman Publishers) was very successful at that time. It has long been out of print and will never be in print again. Thanks to "No Child Left Behind" and its teaching-testing requirements, today's teachers' have little time to be creative, much less make their own materials. I'm glad I retired from the profession a year or two before those laws came into effect. I don't think I would like teaching as much now!

In 2007 I was in the first group of alumni to be inducted into the **Geneseo Greek Hall of Fame** for establishing the $\Sigma T \Psi$ Alumni and Friends Newsletter. By that time the Newsletter had been in existence for two or three years. I am proud of that honor---and grateful to the young Sig Taus who nominated me. In my acceptance speech I thanked the memory of the late **Jack Sheehan** for its continued inspiration.

In the summer of 2015 during a routine physical exam my doctor discovered that my spleen was about two times enlarged. A follow-up CT scan showed scattered mildly enlarged lymph nodes as well, indicating it was probably some kind of lymphoma. Even though I am a "natural born" worrier, I made up my mind that I would get through whatever I had to do---be it chemo, radiation, etc. That determination really helped me survive my ordeal and has influenced the rest of my life. I hope this attitude can help others get through some of life's

difficult times!

After a month of additional tests I was diagnosed as having slow-growing, non-life threatening B cell type of lymphoma—not the dreaded T cell kind. That was a great relief even though this type is incurable. After four optional monoclonal antibody treatments (not chemotherapy) the size of the lymph nodes are normal, and my spleen is almost back to its original size. I will probably have to continue the treatments every 3 to 4 years. These treatments have no awful side effects—in fact I sailed through all of them. I can live with that, so to speak!!! I hope that old adage proves to be true “What doesn’t kill you makes you stronger!” Lucky, again!

I owe a great debt to the Wilmot Cancer Center at Strong Memorial Hospital for their excellent care and support. Also thanks to **Bob Hussey, Dave Mead, Bruce Jordan, Kathe Sheehan** and especially my sister **Debbie** for their support and encouragement.



Unlike many bros I don’t golf. I was in an occupation (K, Grades 1-3) that was dominated by women so there were only a few guys. Whatever time I had at work, I rarely socialized. I used it for correcting work, report cards and other tasks that had to be done. Today, more and more guys are teaching K, 1-3 grades and this is a welcomed addition.

About eight or so years ago, I did take several golf lessons and learned to drive the ball fairly well. But I never followed through and today I would probably suck! I don’t like being out in hot weather anyway! Yes, I know all about the “cold beers” and the clubhouse! But that’s not enough to entice me.

If I weren’t a teacher, I think I would like to have been a writer. I enjoy writing articles for the Newsletter even though I tend to go on too long--as you can probably tell by now. I’m just a sucker for details. I’ve never mastered the art of editing. I’ve written several children’s stories and one even got published in an award-winning children’s magazine awhile back. But if I had chosen that path I’d probably be starving today.



Our ΣΤΨ Alumni and Friends Newsletter Membership has grown significantly since the Newsletter started about 13 years ago. There were about 15 members then, but it has grown to over 300 today. And as I have previously said, I think most people enjoy reading it. I like to think it makes some bros/friends smile, laugh, and maybe shed a few sentimental tears. Also, I’ve been told it has renewed many friendships and created new ones. I can vouch for making many new ones myself. It’s very rewarding.

One great ΣΤΨ friend I’ve recently made is **Kevin Foody (P ’88, G ’99)** whom I commented on at the end of his previous terrific article. Kevin has been a tremendous help to me and our other Sig Tau friends. He has provided much input and assistance with the Newsletter and is very active in keeping his “Middle Guards” together. You will soon read about a great new website which he has created for us. It’s always great getting together with Kevin for lunch, dinner and drinks. We enjoy talking about our different Sig Tau days and our mutual friends. He is also a golfing champ and a great partier! Above all, he is good-hearted!

So it’s worth all the time and effort put into publishing the Newsletter! At times it can be very frustrating—especially when I’m seeking input--I can’t write everything myself. But it’s a great

hobby—it certainly beats collecting stamps! And as I've stated, I've met some very nice people. And I'm doing something I really enjoy. So how much trouble is all that?

I've also been actively involved with planning Geneseo and Sig Tau Reunions. **Mike Grammatico, Dave "Dugs" Dugan, Tom DeBello, Bob Hussey, Jim Vidoczky**, myself, and a few others helped plan Sig Tau's 50th Reunion at Geneseo in the summer of 2013. Tracy Gagnier



and her Alumni Relations staff were our great coordinators. We look forward to planning Sig Tau's 55th Anniversary Celebration at Reunion 2018. Tracy will probably be asking again for more Sig Tau involvement! I have also participated in planning and advertising the four special Geneseo performances of Bruce Jordan's Geva comedies and the Alumni Relations receptions that followed each performance. It's great to see all the bros

from my era "come out of the woodwork" for these Bruce Jordan-Geva events.

I live in North Greece (Rochester NY suburb) in a nice-sized ranch house (*See photo*) almost two miles from Lake Ontario and close to Long Pond. I have a sister Debbie whose ten years younger living with me. Throughout the years there were times she was not very well. But her health has improved and she's been fine for quite a few years!

For many years we both looked after our father who lived with us before his death at 92 years of age about 8 years ago. My younger brother Rick and his wife Nancy live practically around the corner. I have a nearby niece and nephew and many great nieces and nephews; and we have wonderful neighbors. Debbie and I enjoy traveling---particularly on cruises (The Mediterranean, Greece and the Islands, The East, West and Southern Caribbean, Hawaii, The Bahamas, Mexico, Alaska, New England, and through the Panama Canal, and a touch of South America and Africa). I think we've been on almost 30 cruises at the last count.



Retirement also leaves me time for reading biographies and history books, collecting hand-carved Hopi Indian "Kachina" dolls---and putting together the Newsletter Thanks to my aerobic bicycle I manage to stay in shape without golfing! (*See photo: Part of my "dolls" and other Indian relic's collection. See also my Kachina "Eagle Dancer"*).

Today, I am no longer "skinny" as I was at Geneseo. I weight trained after college and packed on about 20 or more pounds of muscle. However, in recent years I've also packed on some extra pounds of fat.



I'm much more social than I was in my early college years even though I'm still a bit of a loner. However, I like meeting and socializing with Sig Taus and other Geneseo friends. We enjoy having a lunch, dinner, great conversation, sharing of memories, and a few drinks!

Just like anyone else I've had my share of hard times and also a few heart breaks. I find no purpose in listing them. I have only chosen to talk about how I handled my lymphoma since that could help others deal with their own health issues.

I have no big regrets. Of course, that's not to say that "if I knew then what I know now" I may have done some things differently. But that's the way it was planned. We're not the same persons we were way back then. We learn and we grow! And I'm having a good ride! As I've said, I've been lucky!

Chuck '67

More Profiles and Favorite Geneseo Memories

By
Paul Koehler (P' 80, G' 83)

"Sluggo" Phil Connery (P '80, G '84) has made me guilty so I am responding here though I am on a train sitting next to a fat butt who is hogging the seat.

I pledged with Connery and **Chris Buckley (P' 80, G '83)**. Oddly we became instant friends though Buck didn't like me trying to steal his girlfriend or that I used him for a decoy only in football. Phil and I then lived together. Best was sleeping through most classes and cooked hot dogs and cheese; the highlight was that his girlfriends (Oooh Phil!) did my Laundry when they did his. Now "Beac" (as in Beacon NY, not a bird's nose) **Scott McGregor (P '81, G '83)** is my little bro who sang "walking down Bank Street" He was the most likely to succeed. Alas that failed as he is now Professor at a college next to my home but never stops by.....Must be stressful teaching gynecology to coeds.

Tried to add Buck to this email thread but can't find his address-- oh that's because he never responds to my emails.

As for **Jim "Pitzer" Pittz (P '81, G '85)** my favorite memory is of him having 100 dollar bill at school and never having to pay because nobody could break the Hund. Very clever Jim!

Oh my, just checked to see that I forgot about **Rick "Jake" Jankun (P '81, G '84)**. Hmmm, soooo many memories..... My favorite was after college but still the best. I can still see Jake in his party naked tank top trying to enter a downtown Boston bar where the bouncer says "are you kidding me?" I put him in a cab to my house and met him much later to find him doing shots with my house mates. I think that was also the night that we put a life jacket on Jake on the booze cruise boat so he didn't drown only to start a fight with the ship mates.



(Photo of Paul Koehler: Doesn't he have a striking resemblance to the Late, Great Marty Feldman?)

David Swain Gets Married

By
David Swain (P '91, G '95)

Our wedding went very well. Our ceremony was at St Mary's down the road. After the ceremony we made a quick hop to the Club 41 and the Idle Hour. Then we went to the reception at the Wadsworth Homestead. Plenty of brothers were in attendance ranging in classes from the 70's (Tom Basher) and mostly from the 90's. My wife Erin was originally from Arizona and we met at a Christmas party hosted by Sig Tau Ryan Hargrave's (Hammer) future wife years ago. I plan on finishing out my stint as a Rochester Police Department investigator sometime in the next year and start my next career at the financial



firm Sage Ruttly**David Swain (P '91, G '95)**

(Picture of Sig Taus at Dave and Erin's Wedding Party: {The following names are not in order} Steve Persche, Kevin Foody, Kevin Johnson, Ryan Hargrave, Rich Brink, Kevin Ryan, John Macaluso, Chad Morrissey, Chris Morrissey, Chris Tizzano, Dan Sheridan,

Tom Condon, Mike Guzzo and Mike "Fester" O'Brien at the end!)

See more [David and Erin Swain, Geneseo Wedding, June 2016 pictures](http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/) (The second album on the first Gallery page (Home) at <http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/> **(The Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Photo Gallery)** Click on the album and then click on each picture to enlarge it.

More Profiles and Favorite Geneseo Memories

Hi Chuck.....I'm **Bill Palmer (P '69, G' 71)**. I arrived at SUNY Geneseo in September of 1967 and was assigned to a suite with seven other guys in the newly opened Nassau dormitory. As I recall, we were all freshmen. The late **Louie Ziegler P '69, G '71)**, who was also from my hometown of Palmyra, and I were the only two guys from the suite to survive the first semester without being placed on academic probation or simply realizing college was not for them. During that first semester we put together a dorm flag football team that won a bunch of intramural games, including one against Phi Sig's best squad, a fete that attracted quite a bit of attention from the Greek athletic community.

Once formal pledging started, Louie and I went to a bunch of sponsored events. I'm sure you guys all remember the "Smokers," where the sponsoring frat's sister sorority members walked around with paper cups full of free cigarettes while the brothers pitched their organizations to prospective pledges. Plenty of informal recruiting went on in the new on-campus Rathskeller, as well as the uptown bars. Louie and I both drank the Sig Tau Kool-Aid and pledged in '68. That class included a guy who was an art major and another whose dad was a high school shop teacher, so our group knocked off the pledge paddle project practically overnight.

We also held a very successful auction, canvassing the community for items we put up for sale in a scene that looked like one of today's multi-family garage sales. One spring Sunday afternoon that I will never forget, a bunch of the brothers with nothing better to do challenged some of the pledges to a game of tackle football on a muddy field behind Letchworth. As I recall, the game ended in a draw, with no quarter asked and none taken by either side. Much respect was earned. Later that evening, our class was summoned to report to the weekly fraternity meeting. Rumors were flying as to what was in store for us next, but as it turned out the brothers had voted to bring us aboard after a relatively short pledge period. To this day I think much of the decision to induct us so soon was because of that football game.



As all the alums will recall, two or three times a semester we would have late night/early morning dorm "fire drills," which were little more than thinly veiled room searches by campus security. During one of these episodes my freshman year it was discovered that I had a shotgun in my closet. Imagine what would have happened if that occurred today. I explained to the dorm supervisor that I had brought the gun from home to take advantage of the Geneseo area's excellent pheasant hunting, and after a phone call to my parents, she bought it. It was mutually decided, however, that it would be in everyone's best interest if I kept the gun in the campus security office for the rest of the season. To access it, all I had to do was make a phone call, and an officer would be there to hand it over.

One of these rent-a-cops introduced me to Sig Tau honorary **Beetle Bailey**, who had a farm outside town. Beetle and I became good friends, and over my Geneseo years I hunted pheasants at his place, as well as at a couple of his neighbor's many times. Beetle even rented me a room at the Bailey homestead for my senior year. The house was a popular spot for the brothers to bring their lady friends since dorm policy frowned on co-ed behavior, and motel rooms cost money. It was not without risk however, as Beetle's mother often dropped by unannounced, and her views on premarital sex pretty much echoed those of the university.

Today I live on a little farm south of Cazenovia, having retired from teaching and coaching in the Camden school district for 33 years in 2004. My wife, the former Susan Bradt (Clio '71), and I raised one son, Zack, who now lives with his wife in Eugene, Oregon. Susie and I were married for over forty years before cancer took her in 2012.

I am enclosing a wedding picture of Susie and me. Susie and I are the tenth couple from the right in the bottom half. I can also recognize **Steve Lemke (P '68, G '71)**, **Roger Brown (P '68, G '71)**, **Don Durbin (P '? , G '?)**, **Tom Mooney (P '68, G '71)**, **Tom Wega (P '69, G '71)**, **Rod Curran (P '69, G '72)**, **Al Smith (P '69, G '72)**, **Sal Marchesi (P '? , G '?)**, **Jim Dailey (P '? , G '?)**, **Dave DiFabio (P '70, G '74)** and **Tony Siviglia (P '? , G '?)**. As for the girls, I got nothing. Susie was also a Clio, and I'm guessing the majority of these gals were

either Phi Lambs or wide-eyed freshman lured to the event by lascivious Sig Tau upperclassmen. Hope the fellows from that era enjoying looking for each other. Last winter I caught up with Al Smith, **Mick Brenna (P '68, G '?)** Tom Mooney, **Doug Dixon (P '68, G '71)** and **John Hopf (P '69, G '70)** during my time in Florida, and we shared lots of Geneseo memories. Good times. Hopefully I'll make a Homecoming and/ or the Reunion one of these years. 45-50 years sure go by quickly.



Chuck, I would be seriously remiss if I didn't offer my sincere thanks for your considerable efforts at keeping the brotherhood connected. I am afraid many of us have become curmudgeonly in our advanced years, and without guys like you and **Dave Mead** it becomes too easy to just let the past drift away. I'm sure that without your urging, I would fall into that category myself, especially now that my wife is gone. I am convinced she would have been front and center in putting together a similar newsletter for her Alpha Clionian sorority members had she seen first-hand what you have done.

Springfest in Geneseo (April 29, 2016)

By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)

We all had a great time at The Big Tree Inn and the Ago/Sig Tau Keg Party at Ago House. The

current Sig Taus were thrilled to see us. They always are. Those "local regulars" that met at the Big Tree were **Bob Hussey (P '63, G '67)**, **Al "Ace" Tolsma (P '65, G '67)**, **Bob Veltz (P '65, G '67)**, **Dave Mead (P '65, G '68)** and first timer **Mike Youngblut (P '85?, G '?)**. Mike and I had a great time talking about all the Sig Taus from his era that we both know: **Billy Manza, Mike McCabe, Kevin Foody**, and many more. Mike says it's terrific working for Wegman's! His younger brother Sig Tau **Dave Youngblut (P '89, G '92)** has moved to the Rochester area!



For more [Geneseo Springfest, 2016 pictures](http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/) (The third album on the first Gallery page (Home) at <http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/> (**The Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Photo Gallery**) Click on the album and then click on each picture to enlarge it.

New Shutterfly.com Website

By
Kevin Foody (P '88, G '91)

In order to promote more sharing of pictures when Sig Tau alumni get together for reunions, weddings or just random events, I have created a photo sharing private website on [Shutterfly.com](https://geneseoetyalumni.shutterfly.com). Hopefully, this will allow brothers to share their pictures and we can then move them to the Old Guard website as well.

Shutterfly Site (Desktop)

- In the browser, copy or type <https://geneseoetyalumni.shutterfly.com>
- If you are not a member, click sign up
- Enter Information
- We will get a notification and add you to the site as Members
- Once added, you will get an email confirmation

Browse the current pictures and albums

To Add Pictures

- There is a link "Add album" under the top set of pictures
- Change the name of the album to something meaningful ("Summer Get together at Chasen's House")
- You can then add pictures from your computer, Other Shutterfly sites, Facebook, Instagram or Flickr

To Add Events

- Send an email to cucatal@rochester.rr.com or kevfoody@gmail.com and we will add.

Shutterfly Mobile

How many times have you taken a picture on your phone and found it difficult to get pictures to Chuck C? Now you can upload them through Shutterfly Share Sites.



- Go to the App Store for your phone.
- Search for Shutterfly Share Sites
- Download
- If you have an account sign in, if not click sign up
- To add photos, click the Album or the "+" sign
- Choose your photos from your phone and upload.

Send any questions to kevfoody@gmail.com

Thanks,

Kevin '91

A Report from the Current Sig Taus

By
Alex Drainville (P '13, G '?)

In 2013, one alumni (who may or may not be named Bob) claimed "Sig Tau is doomed!" and laid a powerful curse upon the fraternity.

While many feared the worst, our blue and white drinking club sent it hard for the boys in the year 2015-2016 to ensure that our reputation of drunken debauchery, foolishness, and destruction would remain intact following the departure of a heavy senior class. Young and old, squids (nickname of Sig Taus) of all ages, shapes, sizes, and ethnicities took the reins to give Sig Tau a year for the books.

Coming off a summer vehicular accident, a select few who touched tips with death itself took it upon themselves to try and finish the job, taking the rest down with them. Let's not forget that one of them already has a self-inflicted metal jaw. Who would have thought taking pride in crashing vehicles, befriending drug-dependent townies, and engaging in reckless use of various 'PEDs' would illicit one of the best pledge classes in recent memory. (What's a better way for a 23-year-old sophomore to get his life together than pledging Sig Tau?) As always, psychological distortion, drinking, vomiting, trip down the stairs, vomiting, and drinking turned another shabby group of millennials into a ready-for-anything band of idiots who could single handedly destroy even the 4 story building that is Alpha Omega Poop (Sorry, Pi).

From those who have graduated, many thanks are due to those who will continue to chip years off of their lives and those around them. Here are a few tales we may share come fateful alumni weekend, gathered drunkenly around the newly erected Kelly's Saloon:



- A super senior (who will remain nameless) photographs his own erect member against the cheek of a Clio. The photo finds its way to many social circles, as well as National Geographic where it is mistaken as a hammerhead shark.
- Kyle becomes proficient in bird-watching. His younger brother, Mike, visits and challenges **James Budd** to a mid-party kitchen wrestling match. All 92 pounds of Mike's toothpick frame make contact with James' calf, breaking both tibia and fibula fully.
- Pissing on the side of the house is standard: but what does one do when they need to sh*t and both bathrooms are occupied by multiple sorority unions? Ask the human firehose, **Dylan Gallagher**, whose rocket-propelled excrement can still be seen soaked into the concrete foundation of 27 Orchard.
- The largest collection of bricks to try and cross from one wall to another under Sig Tau's roof, Spring 2016, is hazed so supremely that some believe they are meant to go home mid-meeting, leaving a confused core of stragglers to receive further clarification on the unlikelihood of ever being a brother.
- How many brothers claimed to have "peed the bed last night, and the chick stayed"? Answer: take your guess and multiply by 6.
- Making full use of his legs before bound to crutches for 6 months, **James Budd** sees the back door ajar and promptly karate kicks it closed while **Nick Iannarelli** struggles to climb the outside steps. The door nearly renders Nick fingerless and prompts his 17th trip to the hospital in the past year.
- Gordon befriends the townie next door and succumbs to the mother-of-three in the grass border of fraternity and low-income housing. Months later, news surfaces of her banishment from her family and exile from Geneseo; no one ever hears from her again.
- Bids day 2016 sees the greatest amount of destruction in recent memory. Chairs, couches, and tables are smashed to pieces. Televisions are hurled off the back porch for the sheer pleasure of watching them explode. Windows are shattered, along with Bruce's ribs. Video evidence of **Brian Urlacher** hurling him into the side of a table makes waves on national fraternity media sources.
- Finally, a word to the men carrying on: Although while sporting freshly pissed pants Dylan may guard the stereo like a mother bear shielding her young and play 'Peaceful, Easy Feeling' enough times to clear even Arethusa out of the palace, don't ever let those damned sorority bitches play the music. (Not to suggest to have sexual relations with the stereo similar to the DKs and their bar) but she's our palace; love her until the day she burns to the ground.



While some thought Sig Tau was barreling downhill, we proved once again that we are in fact, going up-hill. Keep going up-hill boys, making things much are difficult than they need to be

and setting yourselves back every step of the way. Keep searching for the top, because you never know, there might be a Mad Dog (20/20) up there waiting.

Alex '13

Pictures courtesy of Nick Iannarelli (P '13, G '16):

(Top picture taken at Bids Day: (L to R) Back Row: James Budd, James Mans, Kyle Kazinski, Nick Iannarelli, Grey Musilli, James Caruana, Brian Rybak, Derek Milgate, Gordon Holden Front Row: Dylan Gallagher, Jamie Floss, Fernando Pantazis, Nino Balsano is the one "booting" which is a Sig Tau term for regurgitation, James Ghosen, Tom Boyatzies

(Bottom picture taken in Canada: (L to R) Back Row: Fernando Pantazis, James Budd, Kyle Kazinski, Alex Drainville, Collin Rampado, Mike Welch, Grey Musilli, Gordon Holden, Derek Milgate Front Row: James Mans, Kevin Collins, Jamie Floss, Nick Iannarelli, Rafael Ziotto, Brian Rybak, James Caruana, Tom Boyatzies

My Remembrance of ΣΤΨ Founder Jack Sheehan and Our Sig Tau "Magical" Years

Part 2: The Later Years

**By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)**



*And now the journey's over
Too short—alas too short.
It was filled with adventure, wisdom, laughter, love, gallantry and grace.
So farewell—farewell.....*

After the 40th Reunion, Jack, Bruce and I didn't get together that often—sometimes a few years

went by—but we always kept in touch via phone or email when it was finally developed. It was always fun getting Jack's emails which frequently included the most hilarious dirty cartoons you could imagine.

Later on Jack and I got to better know each other. While being an infrequent house guest I got to know him as a devoted father to his daughter and his special needs son, a loving husband and a great humanitarian who became very active in local charities and civic organizations. His family meant everything to him and so did his friends.

When Jack heard that a member of my family faced a possible cancer diagnosis, Jack was very supportive, helpful and encouraged me to contact Sloan-Kettering where he was undergoing his treatments for throat cancer. Luckily, it turned out my family member didn't have cancer. Tom DeBello also recalls how supportive Jack was when he was diagnosed with prostate cancer which Jack had previously beaten.

I remember attending Jack's daughter Amanda's wedding in Schenectady. Bruce, Jack and I had a great time at the reception. I got totally "blasted" and acted like an inebriated fool. One



of two times in my life that I've done that. I shouldn't have been driving myself to Bruce's After Wedding Party which wasn't far from where the reception was held. I'd been to his house many times but in my state I just couldn't find it. So I drove all around looking for it while swearing at myself for being so stupid. Thank God I wasn't stopped by some alert police officer. I would have surely tested DWI and that would probably have ended my career.

After an hour I finally found it. Apparently Jack's wife Kathe was the only one who realized how drunk I was. That's because she was the only one sober—she doesn't drink. She feared I'd driven into the Mohawk River--believe me I could have! And she made Jack get out of bed and go searching for me. When I finally got to Bruce's, Jack was about to get into his car to continue his search. Jack drove me to my hotel in his car. When I woke up "hung-over" the next morning I searched the hotel parking lot for my car. I thought it had been stolen until Bruce called and told that it was parked at his place. They laughed about that for many years! A lesson learned—I don't drink more than three beers and then I wait an hour if I have to drive anywhere!

In November of 2005 Geva presented Bruce's and his partner Marilyn Abram's world-wide famous show **Shear Madness**. The Alumni Relations Center sponsored a performance and a following reception for Bruce. I am glad Jack was still alive and able to enjoy all the Sig Taus and other Geneseo friends who turned out in big numbers. **SM** was a big critical hit and at that time the highest grossing comedy that Geva ever presented. If it ever does return to Geva, don't miss it. You'll have a hilarious time and want to see it again and again!

Since then Bruce has returned three more times to Geva to direct comedies which are always very funny. We always have a Geneseo sponsored show and another reception for Bruce. There is always a big turnout of Sig Taus and Geneseo friends. Unfortunately, Jack had passed away before the last two or three productions.

The last time I saw Jack was in the summer of 2006 at his beautiful home in Scotia, a town (suburb) outside of Schenectady while he was fighting his throat cancer which was diagnosed

in 2000 and had recently reoccurred. We had all spent the previous day together at the Geneseo Alumni Day at the Saratoga Races--another Geneseo Alumni Relations sponsored event. The following morning I had a great conversation with Jack in his beautiful sitting room-bedroom that overlooked his huge beautiful garden and in-ground swimming pool. While we talked he began his morning ritual of blood pressure check, blood sugar count and his meds. He also had his liquid breakfast fed through a tube inserted into his stomach.

Although he was rather thin, he seemed optimistic and energetic--in fact he was planning to go to his office at the Customer (a costume company which he owned). He did this throughout most of his illness. He had really enjoyed the alumni event and the many friends who gathered at his house that morning for a breakfast party. But there was something about Jack's coloring and his thinness that alarmed me. I feared that maybe he was slipping away.

We talked about our families. He said he was glad that I had good genes (92 year old father) and he hoped that I too would live a long life. He was still thinking of others when he was going through so much to beat the damn throat cancer. We talked about our favorite movies and stars. I never remember him complaining about his ordeal. Here's what Bruce Jordan recently replied when I asked him if he ever heard Jack complain:

Chuckles.....Jack never once complained. He was a wonderful patient. Didn't always do what he was supposed to (like drink a lot of water and try to eat) because it HURT. And sometimes it made him feel sick. He had both radiation AND Chemo. He was originally diagnosed in 2000. He had the surgery and everything THEN. He had to go for six month checkups for five years. On the very last checkup, around the holidays in 2005, the cancer returned and was inoperable. Don't forget that in between his first diagnosis and his second diagnosis he also had cancer of the prostate. Which he had removed.

Shortly after our great conversation, I had to bid him what was to become our final good bye. As always, we hugged each other and I remember holding that hug a few seconds longer than usual. "Luv ya," said Jack the eternal jokester as he gave my bald head one final rub for good luck!

Not long after that I got the dreaded email in October of 2006 from Bruce that said Jack was in the hospital, in a coma and expected to slip away soon. The cancer had spread and his throat had hemorrhaged. Several days later I got the sad news that Jack had peacefully passed away in his hospital room with some loved-ones around him.



I remember feeling badly because I had lost a great friend. I felt even worse that I hadn't contacted him lately. I didn't want to bother him since it was nearing Halloween—a hectic time for his costume business. A few days later after a long sad ride from Rochester to Scotia, I joined the endless line of people at the funeral home that stood in line for hours to give condolences to Kathe and the rest of Jack's family.

Jack the theatrical perfectionist would have been proud of the church service. It couldn't be any better even if he orchestrated it himself. I like to think that maybe he did. From the

haunting bagpipe prelude to the rousing rendition of "Amazing Grace", the flawless "Duet: The Prayer" and the touching eulogy by Bruce and other close friends, Jack had the perfect send-off on a perfect autumn day.

At the internment each person had been given "Sig Tau White Rose" to place on Jack's ashes.



Bruce had told me that rose had been chosen because of Jack's pride in founding Sig Tau. As I placed the rose on Jack's grave, I said my final good-bye. I remember whispering a misty eyed farewell paraphrasing Jack's last words to me, "Good-by. I luv ya' and will miss ya." And I do to this very day. So does Bruce Jordan who knew Jack best.....

Jack. Jack. Jack. I think of him every day. I'll say this. I never took him for granted. I always knew he was the best friend I would ever have. And every time we were together, doing something amazing or doing nothing, with all his family or just the two of us, in times when we were successful and in times when we were not, we always had a fun, often riotous time...and always referred back to all those "magic" moments at Geneseo.

A few months after Jack had died; I got a package from his wife Kathe. Inside was a tie and sport coat that belonged to Jack. Kathe wanted me to have something of Jack's in her appreciation for being a good friend to him. I still wear that tie and still have the sport coat even though my stomach has outgrown it!

Sometimes I ask myself if I should continue carrying on the ΣΤΨ Alumni and Friends Newsletter which Jack encouraged after our 40th Sig Tau Anniversary Celebration. It's usually about eight weeks of tedious and sometimes "frustrating" work. Recently I've learned to take just a couple of hours each day--- and that's spread over several months.



There are many rewards! I like to think the Newsletter makes some people "smile" when they read it. And I'm told it has reunited many friendships and created many new ones. I'm really kind of selfish--I get a lot more back than I give--like meeting wonderful people at Reunions whom I hope become lifetime friends. But when I dig a little deeper into my heart I hear another reason, a voice says "it's because Jack would want you to!"

(Picture: Kathy Sheehan says..."On Jack's birthday we take him white roses - from the Sig Tau Ball - and have a picnic at his grave. The kids show off their latest Gymnastic feats and we have a little birthday celebration - usually followed by a stop at the ice cream store on the way home.".....(Kathe, Jack's daughter Amanda with the sunglasses, Jack's granddaughters Ellie with the braids, Jacklyn with the white headband, Jordan in front of Kathe, and his son Johnny in the back)

Chuck '67

(If you'd like to know more about Jack Sheehan check on this Newsletter on our ΣΤΨ Alumni and Friends Newsletter Website <http://www.etoldguard.com/ETOG13.html> It is the issue that came out shortly after Jack died in 2006. It contains many more personal remembrances of Jack by his brothers and friends.)

History of the White Rose Ball

The official flower of Sig Tau is the white rose. Each spring the fraternity holds a White Rose Ball, attended by all the brothers, honoraria and their dates. It was the first strictly formal affair to be held at Geneseo by a fraternity. At the ball, the honor of White Rose Queen is bestowed upon one of the senior brother's dates. Originally, the White Rose Queen was a freshman, sophomore or junior who would be returning in the following year. Today, the honor is bestowed upon a senior brother's serious girlfriend. The White Rose Queen is always elected on the basis of service to the fraternity, by those brothers whose dates are ineligible for the award. The first White Rose Ball was at the Big Tree Inn on Main Street. The first White Rose Queen of Sigma Tau Psi was Heather Bryant, a Phi Lamb pinned to Pat Pallend ('67) (*Sorry to say, the White Rose Ball has not been a Sig Tau tradition for about ten years! C.C.*) {From Chronicle of Sigma Tau Psi: A History of the Fraternity, Published 1997, Editor Brian M. Castelli (Pledged '94, Class of '97), Submitted by Les Arthur (Pledged '67, Class of '69)}



"What was Geneseo-ΣΤΨ like in the Beginning as Compared to Today?"

By
Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)

I hope the articles about **Jack** (and also **Bruce, Tom, Jim, Dahn** and others) help answer the question that many current Sig Taus ask when I visit Geneseo. "What was Sig Tau was like at the beginning?" When I left Geneseo fifty years ago I thought I would remember everything about it—I don't but there's a lot I haven't forgotten. Mostly the hilarious times we had, the wonderful events we created and the great friends I've made. Hopefully, these will stay with me for the rest of my life. I hope my previous articles along with Al Tolsma's will give you a pretty good representation of what life was like in our Sig Tau years.



First of I have to say how much the campus has changed from '63 my first year at Geneseo. We had more open spaces back then. Today everything seems so clumped together. The only men's dorms were three small buildings attached to each other on the north side of the quad. They were Blake Hall, Sturgis Hall, and Frasier Hall which are now all faculty and administrative offices. The girl dorms were larger buildings: Monroe and Livingston and Jones Hall. Don't forget the male female ratio was 6 to 1 at that time. Today they added many more dorm facilities, particularly those at the extreme south end of the campus.

We ate at a cafeteria inside of the archway to the same building attached to what were then Blake, Sturgis and Frasier Halls. There was a small college union upstairs from the cafeteria

with a somewhat large lounge and small restaurant for burgers and snack foods. (You had to pay for these of course!) Mary Jamison Cafeteria was opened but most of the girls ate there. Late we also were allowed to eat at Mary Jemison. When Letchworth Dining Hall was completed in the late 60's all the Sig Taus ate there!

The library was housed across the quad from Blake, Sturgis and Frasier Hall and the newer one was built a few years after I left. The Holcomb Campus School which was recently demolished to make room for the Stadium may have been constructed in the middle or late 60's. The Erwin Administration Building was built in '65 or '66. The newer College Union was built a year or two after I left. The older campus school building which I think no longer exists had a steep hill in back of it. One of my fond memories was the use of cafeteria trays in the winter to toboggan down the slope! I wonder if that hill is still there today, although I think that building is gone. Now there are so many other new buildings that I can't keep track of them.

Sig Tau of today is rather different from what I sometimes call Sig Tau "Glory Years". These years weren't glorious but they were a hell of a lot of fun and had "magical moments" as Bruce Jordan has said. When I had entered Geneseo the entrance requirements were nowhere as high as what they are today. And Geneseo didn't have the fantastic reputation that it has attained over the last several decades. Back then as long as you graduated HS, still breathing and especially a male you had no difficulty being admitted—it was basically an education school. A Liberal Arts degree was added after I arrived.

Now students tell me they have to really study to compete in today's very competitive world. If your cumulative average isn't very high, potential employers don't even want to look at you. As a result they probably have to sacrifice a lot of fun times. I hope not. I like to think they can still do both.

However, I'm still sorry that many Geneseo-Sig Tau traditions have gone away. No more Sig Tau Regattas and public Jenny Awards. Some of that is probably a good thing—now that I am older and hopefully wiser I realize a few of the Award categories were cruel and nasty—and very embarrassing. What happened to the huge beautiful



Homecoming Floats—they decorate Wegman's shopping cars now (Can you believe that!)? And what about the beautiful Snow Sculptures and the hilarious Sig Tau Follies and our fun kegs and bonfire parties under the bridge ("the gully") near the Regatta Pond (Incorrectly called



Hemp's Pond back then). I'll never forget the Saturday afternoon kegs at the M&B (Two dollars and all you could drain)! They have all seemed to vanish. However, I still hope that some of these Sig Tau and college traditions will someday return.

Meal ticketing has also changed drastically. Back then if you had purchased a college meal cafeteria plan you could choose anything you wanted —there wasn't much variety, only one entrée—but there were basically no limits. No meal price was deducted from your account. Today, they have spending limits for their cafeteria meals. But I hear you can buy subs at Wegman's and food at other places but these get deducted. We had to eat in the cafeteria. I understand that most students today exceed their food spending limit. I don't know what their

options are after that. Probably starve for most!

The time I was at Geneseo, there was an excellent fine arts department. The Theater Department was particularly exceptional. There were many fine plays and musicals that Professors Bob Sinclair, Alice Austin and Dr. Bruce Klee directed in Wadsworth Auditorium. All drama students and others interested in the theater arts took part in these plays. I fondly remember "Gideon", "Little Mary Sunshine," "Once upon a Mattress," "Pajama Game," "The Jewish Wife," "Zoo Story," "Lysistrata", "The Hairy Ape" and "A Streetcar Named Desire" (which starred Kathy Reynolds who became Jack Sheehan's wife). Founder **Bruce Jordan** acted in almost of these productions. He won the Alpha Psi Omega Award for his performance in "The Lark". *(See Photo: Bruce Jordan as the Court Jester in "Once Upon a Mattress 1964")* I've heard that the Fine Arts Department has been greatly reduced in recent years.



During the last 12 years or so, I and several other local Sig Tau Charter Members have made it a custom to attend Ago/Sig Tau Kegs at Ago House during Springfest and Homecoming Weekends. We are always warmly greeted by the young Sig Taus and most of them remember our names.

The Sig Tau House which has changed location over the years proudly displays many mementos from our early years—the ΣΤΨ wooden crest which I constructed and painted and the Regatta paddle which I also painted and lettered. Hanging from pegs are Tom DeBello's ΣΤΨ jacket and my personal ΣΤΨ paddle which we both donated quite a few years ago. (They don't have jackets anymore and they don't make paddles. BTW: We never used our paddles!) There is even a picture on display that was taken at the Sig Tau House (the one next to the Livingston County Jail) office on Court Street of Jack, Bob Hussey, Tom DeBello and I which we took during our 40th Reunion at Homecoming in 2003. (That house has been demolished.) Sometimes the younger Sig Taus refer to us as "legends." We all think we're too young to be called that!



Before discussing the different attitudes toward casual sex today, let me say first of all "The PILL" was very rarely in use in my era, if at all. And times have certainly changed! In discussions I have had with the current Sig Taus I have learned how much more sexually free and honest Geneseo students are today —male and female. I think that's partly due to the common use of the "pill" which has become more prevalent in the last three or four decades. Maybe a few girls may have used it the 60's but I never heard anything about it. Condoms were the main choice for prevention if you could afford to buy them. But for the most part, we only "hooked up" on back campus across (a woody area) from the M&B and in other places. And none of us could even afford cheap motels. We surely didn't have casual sex as often as they have in last 30 or more Sig Tau years. Back campus has disappeared since I don't know when. *(A funny story about back campus—I remember Bruce Jordan saying how much he hated going there—"all you saw were*

bare asses!")

Today, I am amused to hear that they're having casual sex in the dorms and in the sorority/fraternity houses and in their cars (very few of us had cars) and in a few instances on the lawns. That was practically unheard of during my Geneseo years which were before the height of "the Sexual Revolution". And there were no co-ed dorms in the 60's as there are today.

During the second year, the fraternity was given a house on the corner of Court Street and Franklin Street by the College. The house was scheduled for demolition to make room for a parking lot and some new dorms. Tenants paid the regular dorm fee to the College. A few guys managed to have girls in their rooms—but we weren't in the house for very long. After a semester we all moved into the newly built Genesee Hall where all the Sig Taus were on one floor. The girls had hours—10:00 PM during the week, 12 Midnight on weekends. They all had to "sign in". As **Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G' 67)** further recalls,

***Nancy (Phi Lamb, P '64, G '68)** thinks girls hours were 10 on weekdays and 12 on weekends. She also remembers if you were late a total of 5 mins, you got "campused" and were supposed to stay in your room and not talk to your roommates! **Linda Montiverde (Phi Lamb, P '64, G '68)** aka "Verts" got campused for yelling out the window at some guys! Girls even had to wear skirts to classes until '67!*

The guys also had hours before we came, but after bed checks, most jumped out the back windows and took off! Also no guys were allowed to live in apartments until Tom DeBello and I got permission and were told it was a test case . . . We paid \$33 each/month! It was on Court Street right across from the ΣΤΨ house on Elizabeth and a block from the M&B! The milkman came in the morning and a beer truck delivered a case of Koch's and a case of New Crown every week! We never got hassled despite the partying and Dave's electric guitar. One of the town cops once stopped and asked us what we were doing in the driveway. We explained the stones were used for our poker chips (no, we weren't stoned). He joined our poker game and returned periodically ☺

God help you if you were ever caught with a girl in your dorm room! You would be reported and suspended from the college. I remember that happened to one of our Sig Taus. The RA's were very strict and unbending.

This attitude towards casual sex is a good change and certainly a more honest one. Girls can lead a much more open sex life than they could back then. But who knows—maybe they did—it was just never talked about very much. I think guys were a little more discrete about their conquests back then. Girls' reputations were for the most part protected and most girls didn't want their sexual habits spread all over the campus. I recall several girls who quietly left Geneseo because of pregnancy.



Drugs were not on the Geneseo Campus and Fraternity/Sorority scene—we didn't even smoke "joints" and I didn't even know what one was at that time. However I understand that it was only a year or two after I left Geneseo when that started to become prevalent. Today I hear there are

plenty of other drugs around. I may be "not with it" but other than marijuana I find that rather disturbing.

But drink we did! The legal NYS age back then was 18! The Geneseo bars back then were at the Hotel, Idle Hour, The Big Tree, the M&B—that's all I remember. The Club 41 was not yet established. However **Dave Mead (P' 65, G '68)** who was the band leader for the "Banned" and later in the "Spectres" has a better memory than I. So does **Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G '67)**!

*The Idle Hour opened either my sophomore or junior year. Not sure which. I seem to remember that Jack Carr had a restaurant and a bar perhaps where Kelly's was/will is. Of course the Village Tavern was there but was a townies bar and too far to get back from after a long night. We had kegs in loads of places but mostly at Leicester Casino (buses supplied transportation) and Rose's in Greigsville. There was a big party house in Piffard but not sure of name – might have been Varsity Inn. Woodsy's **[Mike Woods (G '69)]** band played there and we did a couple times....**Dave***

*We occasionally (mostly for kegs) went to Nana's (later The Rustic Inn) near Conesus Lake, Zazo's near Caledonia, Coppi's in Cuylerville, The Avon Inn, and The Leicester Casino...I frequented them so much, it's a wonder I remember anything! I also laugh when I remember those keg bars. They always told us it was so trashed that we were never allowed to return. Then a year or so later **Jack Sheehan** or somebody talked them into doing it again!...Do you remember the guys at the M&B (later The Statesman – much classier) sometimes punched holes in the walls? Who was the Phi Sig "stud" who broke his hand when he punched right where there was a real stud?...And then there was the night **Dick DeMay (Charter Member '63, G '67)** learned that Marty Vitale was a stud and took offense at being called a Warthog! The result was about the same as after another night at the M&B when bro Dick drove his car into a telephone pole! Good thing most of us didn't have a car in those days!.....**Bob***

The on-campus Rathskeller didn't open until after I graduated. This was before New York State raised its minimum drinking age from 18 to 19 years in 1982. Then they raised it from 19 to 21 years on December 1, 1985. So I don't know when the Rathskeller closed.

I hear that in today's age of fake computerized IDs many students still manage to hit the bars. So, in a way some things never change! Students are allowed to drink in the dorms. Back then that was prohibited.

Other things have changed for the better. Today's Sig Tau Alumni stay much closer from the time they graduate than we could---thanks to email and Facebook which didn't come into effect until the middle nineties—almost thirty years after I graduated. I truly regret we didn't have those tools. We were only able to reestablish our friendships after the 20th and especially after the 40th and 50th anniversaries of Sig Tau. That's when the Newsletter, email, Facebook and Bruce's Geva productions brought us closer together! I hope we all continue to stay that way!

Chuck '67

More Profiles and Favorite Geneseo Memories

Thank you **Chuck** for pulling all I'd this together....**Bill Perkins (Pledged '71-72, Class of '74)** I pledged in '71-72 and graduated in '74 with a degree in secondary history. I went immediately to Bowling Green State for a full ride Master's in College Administration. I did not want to leave college! I spent 15 years working at many colleges including Alfred State, Lemoyne College, Ithaca College and Cornell. I changed careers and went into sales for environmental companies. I am still working because I enjoy my work however I have my exit plan in place.

I married Colleen Ellis '74, a special education major who worked in education at district levels. She retired early 5 years ago. We have three children all working. An orthopedic PA, salesman for Paychex, and an energy analyst. No one married and no grandchildren. We live @ 440 Snyder Hill Road, Ithaca. I still ski a lot, bike, and sail as does our family.

My best memories of being a Sig Tau included the regatta, Phi Lamb Derby, the Follies and our house parties. Geneseo still is one of the best things that happened to me.

Barry Price (Pledged '84, Class of 1987).....I am a high school Dean in the Bronx. I also am a basketball coach for Jordan High School. I was awarded highest rated male math teacher in math in NYC. My wife is from Trinidad. She and I are pictured with our daughter Jordan.



Memories: The Way We Were

There are new pictures of the 80's and 90's in the **Memories: The Way We Were** album. Thanks to **Kevin Foody (P '88, G '91)** for this great Sig Tau House photo from 1991! See more pictures on the Gallery!

See this and more [Memories The Way We Were](http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/) pictures (The sixth album on the first Gallery page (Home) at <http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/> (**The Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Photo Gallery**) Click on the album and then click on each picture to enlarge it.



[More New Pictures:](#)

Special Thanks to **Betty Walrath Kent (Phi Lamb, G '66)** for contributing additional pictures for the album: **20th Anniversary of ETY at the Sig Tau House (Bank Street) during Homecoming 1983.** It is the seventh album on the first Gallery page (Home) at <http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/> Pictures of this event are rare!

Sig Tau: The Late 60's

In 1965, the fraternity moved in the dormitories, and remained there for 5 years, without a house to call its own. Many brothers lived in Geneseo Hall; others lived in apartments and around Conesus Lake. It was frustrating not having a house for the fraternity, but numbers continued to grow, and the fraternity thrived. The Regatta and the Jenny Awards continued to be major events in the spring at Geneseo.



During this time, the Sig Tau's associated primarily with the Phi Lambdas Chi sorority. Originally, the fraternity had associated with the AD's for a year or so—the only sorority not pinned to another fraternity at the time. Events were held jointly with the AD's for a year or so, including the Sig Tau-AD weekend held during the founding week of the fraternity. The brothers found, however, that when the Phi Lambs came on campus in 1964, they were a much better match. The Phi Lambs were not the official sister organization of Sig Tau, they held many events together. Many brothers went on to marry Phi Lambs, and are still together today.

The brothers frequented a number of bars around Geneseo. The M&B was a popular hangout, and the fraternity's crest was displayed there for the first time. The Hotel and the west side of Main Street, The Palace Lounge, The Idle Hour, and The Big Tree Inn were also popular places for brothers to get a drink.

In 1969, President Richard Nixon implemented a draft system for the Vietnam War. The draft numbers were called during a live television broadcast of the lottery at the Palace Lounge on Main Street. Those with low numbers were off to war after graduation, and those with high numbers escaped. All got drunk. A number of brothers went on to serve honorably in the war. *{From Chronicle of Sigma Tau Psi: A History of the Fraternity, Published 1997, Editor Brian M. Castelli (Pledged '94, Class of '97), Submitted by Les Arthur (Pledged '67, Class of '69)}*

The Founders Bruce, Tom, and Jim Today

By

**Bruce Jordan (Founder '63 G '66, Tom DeBello (Founder '63, G' 65) and
Jim Vidoczy (Founder '63, G '66)**

Bruce Jordan:

There isn't a day that goes by that I don't think back to those wonderful years at Geneseo. Every second that I was there I knew that aside from my wonderful professors in Speech Education, I was also having the time of my life, enjoying friends that would last a lifetime. Unfortunately many of those closest friends are now just incredible memories....Jack Sheehan, Ken Silveri, Dahny Walrath, Gay Palmer, Teena Ritz, Sally Bohner and Mark Limerick. But the hijinks of those days live on to these. The founding of Sig Tau with Tom DeBello and Jim Vidocz and Danny Walrath and Jack Sheehan. The Zieg Tau Follies with the whole fraternity taking part, Jack and I organizing the Sig Tau Regatta and the Jenny Awards that were presented right afterwards at the M&B. Our summer party house at 18 Prospect Street. The occasional trip out to Longpoint.

I first went to Geneseo between my sophomore and junior year of high school to take a course called "Elements of Acting" taught by Bob "Pop" Sinclair. He was one of the three excellent faculty members that taught me all I know today. Bob Sinclair. Alice Austin. Bruce Klee. The three greatest acting teachers a person could hope for. I was sixteen at the time and looked about 11 but for some reason they always served me at the Big Tree. That was one of the constants in my life throughout college...meetings at the Big Tree with friends. And of course when you didn't have a meal ticket, Jack Carr's was the best food in town.

When I graduated I was really heavy hearted. I didn't want to leave all the wonderful friends I had made in this magical place. But I got a great job as the chair of the Speech and Theatre Department at the high school in Glens Falls, NY and eventually made wonderful lasting friends there. It was while I was there that I co-founded Towers Hall Playhouse with David Eastwood. He and I had been in the Glens Falls Operetta production of "How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying" and just hit it off. We agreed to be partners and the rest is sort of history. We ran the Towers Hall Playhouse for seven years and then it morphed into The Lake George Dinner Theatre. Although I'm no longer involved, the Dinner Theatre has been running for over 45 years.

After teaching for four years....every day of which I loved, I took a leave of absence and went to NYC to see what it would be like to break into the theatre big time. The very first agent I went to see, Susan Smith, took me on and sent me out to do an audition which I GOT. And the first check I got for the residuals was for more than my entire year of teaching. So I headed in a new direction.



A few years later I got a call from **Cynthia Selden** (first female honorary Sig Tau and old friend from the Geneseo "townie" set who was very generous to the fraternity in the early days) and she said that she was starting a theatre company in Rochester and would I come out and help them get it off the ground. I went and spent four years in rotating repertory, performing and directing many shows over a four year period. In 1976 I went with Geva (From Genesee Valley) to the Edinburgh festival in Scotland to perform the first play ever written by an American citizen.

But just before we left for Scotland I was involved in a little play called "Whodunit" which was based on the German play "Scherenschnitt". I wrote to my business partner, Marilyn Abrams that although not very good, the play had a lot of promise for someone who was ready to do a lot of work on rewrites.



That's just what Marilyn and I did and the rest is history. "Shear Madness" has played across the country and around the world to great success. It is currently in its 37th year in Boston (making it the longest running play in the history of the United States [Guinness Book of World Records]), its 29th year in DC, in its fifth year in Paris, its second year in Moscow, its thirteenth year touring Poland and it just re-opened for the third time in Seoul, Korea.

I thought I'd slow down a little, but last November the show opened in New York City. The reviews were great and now it looks like we're moving to a new theatre so we can settle in for a run.

I live in Schenectady and here in New York City and travel around the world to visit the other "Shear Madness" sites. I return to Geneseo often and try to stay up to date with alumni events. Thanks, "**Charles**," for keeping us all together.

(Bruce and Marilyn Abram's on the set of Shear Madness in Palm Beach, Florida circa 2002)

Bruce '66

Do you want to know more about Shear Madness and where to see it? Go to its two official sites at:

<http://shearmadness.com/site/about-the-show.html> *(Facts about the show!)*

<http://shearmadness.com/> *(To order tickets!)*

Tom DeBello:

Pat and I divide our time between Wilmington, North Carolina and Amityville, Long Island. Our four children live on Long Island; three of them are married and each has two sons, giving us six grandsons. When we are on Long Island, we spend a lot of our time with our grandsons. When we're in Wilmington, we're both involved in volunteer groups, Pat at a women's shelter thrift shop and both of us for our church. Pat is a retired school social worker and I am a retired school principal. I teach for Buffalo State's International Graduate Programs for Educators. Our program serves teachers in international schools. Through teaching in the program Pat and I have been lucky to meet amazing teachers in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. Now, if we can only get a school on the French Riviera to sign on!

I would have to say that apart from the memory of walking to the quad on Nov. 22nd, the first day of Sig Tau, my second favorite Sig Tau



memory was a moment just after Bruce spoke at the 50th Anniversary in the Big Tree when the brothers began singing Sig Tau songs. I realized how something that meant so much to us that first day had continued to have meaning for those generations of Sig Taus to follow. My thanks to all the brothers over the years who kept the fraternity going somethings against all odds and to you **Chuck** for keeping all of us connected!

(Picture: Tom and his wife Pat in Macau)

Tom '65

Jim Vidoczy:

The morning we walked onto the Quad Friday, November 22 was a day that was really special for all of us. I never imagined that $\Sigma T \Psi$ would continue on for over 50 years now. I had driven to Syracuse the day before we announced our presence to pick up the frat jackets we had made up for this day. They were beautiful jackets that raised the bar for the other frats. I arrived at the top of the quad (at the corner of Wadsworth and Bank streets) just before 10AM (?) and I passed out the jackets from the trunk of my mother's car (anybody remember the pink Lincoln?). We put them on and marched down the Quad towards Sturges Hall just as classes were changing. We created quite a stir. I remember that we were quite well received and most people thought it was pretty cool, even radical!

On that same day a dream was born and a dream died with the assassination of JFK at 11:30 AM.

I don't really remember much about the next 2 or 3 years except that they were fueled by beer. Lots of beer. I think there were parties where women were present and rock n' roll was played. I was there. I don't remember. Thus ends my meticulous search for remembrances.

Chuck has asked that I give an update since my last of about 10 years ago. I haven't retired yet although I "retired" from my job in Toronto at age 67. We sold our home in Toronto and moved to a 19th century farm house on 80 acres of land about 2 1/2 hours north of Toronto in January 2012; Haliburton County to be exact. The land has 4 beaver ponds and is forested with mostly pine and poplar. There are lengthy swaths of granite shoulders strewn throughout the land, a hallmark of the Canadian Shield.

Granite? We had a new well drilled last year. The drill went through 4 feet of earth and then 251 feet of granite. Luckily we hit an aquifer and now we have water at 100 gallons per minute; the purist sweetest water to drink.

Still working! In May 2012 I created and set up a retail food store for a local community trust based on local food sources. We defined that as food produced or processed within a 200 km radius. The business also has a commercial kitchen where prepared foods are made from locally grown fruits and vegetables. I laid out and equipped the kitchen. The kitchen used my recipes and costing methodology. Trust me; growing fruit and vegetables on the Canadian

Shield is not for sissies! I set up all of the necessary business reporting functions for sales, ordering, scheduling, gross profit etc. I exited that position in November of 2015. I turned over my responsibilities since the business was now created and running well, showing a sales increase of over 100% in 2 years from opening plus refining margins to the top 5% of operations of this type.

In May of 2016 I went to the local food market to buy some coffee cream and I walked out with a job. I am now the village retail butcher, a trade I began many years ago (over 55 years ago) at my father's business. I am thoroughly enjoying myself. Life has come full circle. I am working about 40 hours per week spread out over 6 days. So I've slowed down due to being nearly 72. My commute time is 7 minutes over dirt roads. No more pressure executive job in Toronto. Just me and my knives. I should add that I spent most of my life in the food business, retail, foodservice and primary production. I am considered a master butcher and I am also a chef.

Living in a rural setting it is good to have a trade so you can be useful. I have a mini butcher shop and I prepare moose and deer that family and local hunter friends bring to the house. We also hunt on the property and get a deer for the freezer in the fall. Here's a picture of a moose we are preparing to skin. I cut this up and made about 125 pounds of sausage from it as well; having some moose sausage tonight in fact. Two things you need to know about moose. They are very large and they are very tasty.



You can get an idea of its size from this photo. It weighed about 600 pounds dressed. It is hoisted up using the front end loader of the tractor.



We aren't completely isolated from the outside world. We have high speed internet, satellite TV (with Netflix of course) and satellite radio. I can just boot up the laptop and HDMI over to the LED TV and the world is at our fingertips.

We live a peaceful life in a peaceful country. Peggy and I are both practicing Christians and we believe that The Lord planted us here at this place and built a hedge around us so that we can learn to abide in Christ. We are very thankful for the life The Lord has provided for us.

Peace and blessings to all of the brothers...and praise the Lord, all honor and glory to God!!

(Picture: I mentioned that we use 3 bush cords (9 ricks) of hardwood during the winter. This is what that looks like. There is another pile behind me you can't see. It is July 31 and we are splitting and filling the woodshed. My sons Simon and Evan came up from Toronto for the weekend to help out. We have snow on the ground for 6 months; usually about 4 feet.)

Jim '66

Dahn Walrath:

Betty Walrath (Phi Lamb, G' 66)"I think Dahn would have liked his brothers to know that he served in the Air Force for four years, that he coached high school boys with the main goal of learning to respect and appreciate individual talents/deficits within a team community as they collectively worked toward a win, that he was one of the first adaptive physical education teachers in NY which exemplified his compassion for special children, that he was a master vegetable gardener. He died in 1981 - a long time ago - funny I had had to have blood drawn about 3 weeks ago and the vampire doing the work had played football for Dahn - it feels good to remember, just like right now."

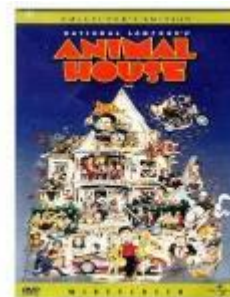


Dahn died tragically in a horrible accident. He left behind his wife Betty and two beautiful daughters. He was a great physical education teacher in the Brockport NY School District and the Dahn Walrath Memorial Stadium is so named in his honor. I remember Dahnny as one of the nicest, gentlest, and most caring Sig Taus from those early years.

Sig Tau: Our 70's

The Park Street House

On October 16, 1970, the fraternity moved into its first official house at 6 Park Street. The house was rented from Gary Least. It was a large white house with a front deck. The house had 7 bedrooms, and housed anywhere from 12 to 15 brothers. The house was crazy, and many alumni brothers have cited the move "Animal House" as an example of Sig Tau at Park Street. It had a reasonably sized kitchen and the living room served as a recreation room for parties. The back porch always had empty beer kegs stacked up.



The Clio's lived next door to the fraternity, in what is now the China House Restaurant.* They were consistent victims of Sig Tau pranks, including the occasional food raid. Needless to say, Sig Tau was not the best of friends with Clio.

The most infamous room in the Park Street House was the Penthouse, on the third floor. At one point somebody left a pipe???? burning in the room during a Sunday fraternity meeting.

With everybody at the Union, nobody was around to put it out. Luckily, the fire department arrived before it got out of control, and the landlord fixed up all the damages for the fraternity.



The fraternity rented the house until May 1, 1978, when the landlord told the fraternity that he wanted to convert the house into a bar. He would not

be renewing the fraternity's lease on the house. Two weeks before graduation he evicted all the brothers who lived there. After the announcement a "remodeling" party took place and much of the upstairs was gutted by brothers and visiting alumni. This was possibly the most regrettable act in the fraternity's history and was the beginning of many problems for the fraternity. The landlord Mr. Least was furious, and insisted that the College take action against the fraternity. Inter-fraternity Council held a judicial meeting and Sig Tau's recognition was partially withdrawn for a period of one year. The fraternity lost all voting privileges during this time. According to one alumni's account, Sig Tau felt lucky to be allowed to exist at the time.

The house on Park Street was quickly renovated and served as the Clio house a year later, and has hosted other fraternities since. It is now a boarding house for college students. *Sig Tau did leave its mark on the house, however. The first writing of the infamous "Whore Corp" (See: Sig Tau Songs at bottom of Newsletter) was inscribed by Brother Ed Pulaski ('78) on the furnace piping in the basement, and remains there today. {From Chronicle of Sigma Tau Psi: A History of the Fraternity, Published 1997, Editor Brian M. Castelli (Pledged '94, Class of '97), Submitted by Les Arthur (Pledged '67, Class of '69)} *As of this writing (1997)

Look for next year Newsletter issue for articles about the Struggle and Recovering during the 70's, Sigma Tau Psi of The 1980's, The 1990's and Today!

NEW UPDATE: Homecoming on Saturday, Oct 14th.

To date, the following bros will be staying over Saturday night until Sunday. These guys have been friends since their Geneseo years!

Jeff Roberts (P '82, G' 84)
Phi Connery (P '82, G '83),
Gary Nelson (P '82, G '84),
Mike Scanlon (P '82, G '84)
Terrie Clark (P '? , G '92)

The following are the "locals" who will be attending Saturday's 12:00 Noon at the Big Tree for drinks and lunch before proceeding to the Ago/Sig Tau Keg at Ago House! (I assume the Sig Taus and Agos will be having one -They've always have!) We won't be staying overnight!

Chuck Curatalo (Charter Member '63, G '67)
Bob Hussey (Charter Member '63, G '67)
Dave Mead (P '65, G '68)
Dale E. Metz (P '67, G '70)
Al Tolsma (P '65, G '67)

Sig Tau Songs

We Are the Sig Taus

We are the Sig Taus,
Sig Taus are we,
Happy-go-Lucky
Bare-assed and free,
God damn it
We are the freshmen
We are the best men
We are the Sig Tau men
YOU BET!



We are the Sig Taus,
Sig Taus are we,
Happy-go-Lucky
Bare-assed and free,
God damn it
We are the sophomores
We always get more
We are the Sig Tau men
YOU BET!

We are the Sig Taus,
Sig Taus are we,
Happy-go-Lucky
Bare-assed and free,
God damn it
We are the juniors
We are the mooners
We are the Sig Tau men
YOU BET!

We are the Sig Taus,
Sig Taus are we,
Happy-go-Lucky
Bare-assed and free,
God damn it
We are the seniors
We got the wieners
We are the Sig Tau men
YOU BET!

CENSORED VERSE: we did not sing this at the Big Tree

We are the Sig Taus,
Sig Taus are we,
Happy-go-Lucky
Bare-assed and free,
God damn it

We are the alumni
We like the CENSORED or (We like to get high)
We are the Sig Tau men
YOU BET!

SURPRISE: View the video recording of the brothers singing at the 50th Reunion at the Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends website: <http://www.etoldguard.com> (second last item on menu)

White Rose Song

She has those dreamy eyes of blue
A smile beyond compare
Two ruby lips to kiss you
a wealth of golden hair
She wears the badge of Sigma Tau
She's the sweetest flower that grows
She's Sigma Tau's own sweetheart
She's Sigma Tau's White Rose

Submitted by John Leck (Pledged '69, Class of '72)

On Top of an Ago (*Censored Version*)

On top of an Ago,
All covered in sweat,
There isn't an Ago,
We have _____ yet.

We _____ all the Phi Lambs,
A Clio or two (or three, or four)
We _____ Arethusa,
And when we were thru

We went back to the Ago's
And took one to bed
'Cause everyone know that
Ago's give good _____.

We _____ in their mouths
It _____ down their chin
Then we went back
And _____ them again.

We _____ on the tables
We _____ on the floor
We _____ in the bathroom
We _____ out the door

So if you're ever horny
Perhaps lonely too
Just go _____ an Ago
Please wait till we're thru

Tune: On Top of Old Smokey

The Whore Song (Sig Tau Fight Song) (*Censored Version*)

We are the men of Sig Tau Whore Corp
We are the men that girls pay more for,
Satisfaction guaranteed,
We provide every need,
In the ditches and the bushes,
You can hear the grunts and pushes,
But the girls don't think we're tramps,
'Cause we give them trading stamps,
F____, f____, f____!

--Ed Pulaski (1977)

Those Who Served Our Country.....



Chris Geatrakas	Specialist 4	US Army	1971-1973
Roger Brown	Specialist 5	US Army	1971-1974
Jeff Gosch	Sergeant	US Army (Field Artillery)	1968-1970
Dave Mead	Petty Officer 2 nd Class	US Coast Guard	1969-1973
Dale E. Metz	Sergeant (E-5)	US National Guard	1970-1976
Dale J. Metz	Staff Sergeant (E-5)	US Air Force	1969-1973

Bob Meyers	Sergeant	US Army	1969-1976
Bruce Parmiter	Cadet	US Coast Guard	1963-1967
Al Smith	Sergeant First Class	US Army Reserves	1972-1978
George Speedy	Sergeant	US Marine Corps	1966-1968
Jim Vidoczky	Petty Officer 2 nd Class	US Navy	1966-1970

Mike "Looch" Luczak, president 1968, completed a 20 Navy career. He retired as a Navy Commander.

If you served in the military and want to be added to the list contact Chuck
ccuratal@rochester.rr.com

In Memoriam

Larry Allen P'63 (G'67)
 Bill Brigham P'63 (G'67)
 Don Durbin P'69 (G'70)
 Don Fuller P'65 (G'67)
 John Hoffman P'67 (G'69)
 Mark Limerick P'65
 Bruce Lomnicki P'68 (G'70)
 Jack May P'70 (G'72)
 Don Peterson P'65 (G'68)
 Jack Sheehan (Founder '63 G '66))
 Tony Siviglia P'69
 Dahn Walrath FG'63 (G'66)
 Lou (Karl) Ziegler P'69
 Jim Tuck P'69 (G'72)
 Tim DeWeaver P'70 (G'72)
 Lou Pettica P'63 (G '67)
 Roland Littrell P'69 (G'71)
 Jim Dailey P'70 (G'72)
 Larry Patzwald (P'66, G'70)



Ken Silveri (Sig Tau Friend, G '66)

Sig Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Website News

New Website Design:

When you log on to the website at: to:
<http://www.etoldguard.com> you will now automatically come to the main menu instead of the current newsletter. If you wish to print any of the composite pictures from the website it is best to save them to your hard drive first; then print them using either



Microsoft Picture It! or **Photoshop** or other similar programs. Again thanks to **Dave Mead (P'65, G'68)** our webmaster for designing and maintaining this site. **The website's address is known only to Sig Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends members and will not show up in any searches. Therefore phone numbers and email addresses cannot be viewed by outsiders.**

TO VIEW THE GALLERY GO TO <http://www.etoldguard.com> WHERE YOU WILL COME TO **MENU**. CLICK ON **ETOG PHOTO GALLERY** WHICH WILL TAKE YOU TO **Sigma Tau Psi Alumni and Friends Gallery**. IN THE GALLERY CLICK ON EACH ALBUM PICTURE OF AND YOU WILL COME TO ALL THE PICTURES IN THAT ALBUM. CLICK EACH PICTURE TO SEE IT AT FULL SIZE. **(EASIEST WAY: book mark this NEW shortcut which will take you immediately to the PHOTO GALLERY:**

<http://www.etoldguard.com/etgallery/>

When submitting pictures please send a list of captions for each one...this will simplify the process. If possible send your pictures in a jpeg format with the reduced "email size" to Chuck who will be administrator of the gallery at: ccuratal@rochester.rr.com. At times, the Gallery might not be running for part of a day because Dave Mead's Main Computer which powers the site might have to be shut off. If you experience difficulty logging on please be patient and try again later.

ΣΤΨ Alumni Links/Advertisements

Need some job or service provided? Find companies and services that are run by our Sig Tau Alumni and Friends Members.

Lil' Byte Softstuff was founded in 1984 by **Dave Mead** as a computer services related company. Currently we create/host websites, build/repair computers, and program original applications for businesses or schools. Our website is www.lilbytesoftstuff.com/ and our motto is "Exceeding expectations since 1984".



The Costumer is America's #1 Source for Costume Accessories and Supplies for High School, Collegiate, Community and professional theater for over 85 years. This company was founded and owned by the late **Jack Sheehan (P'63, G'65)**, a co-founder of Sig Tau. It continues to be operated by Jack's wife Kathe Sheehan '67. The website address is www.thecostumer.com/cfwebstore/

If you'd like an advertisement added to the list contact Chuck ccuratal@rochester.rr.com

ΣΤΨ Alumni Member Directory

Member/ <u>Pledged</u>	Email Address	Address	City/State	Phone	Grad/Class
------------------------	---------------	---------	------------	-------	------------

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.....And Many Others!

This is the end of The ΣΤΨ Alumni and Friends Newsletter: Issue 21. I hope you enjoyed it! I would appreciate any feedback, comments, or recommendations for next year's 55th Sigma Tau Psi Anniversary Issue of The ΣΤΨ Alumni and Friends Newsletter: Issue 22!

Last but not least, I'd like to thank the following Sig Taus and Geneseo Friends for their contributions in making this the BEST and LONGEST Newsletter ever: *(Not listed alphabetically)*

Rich Romito
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Hopefully, I've listed everybody! I'm very sorry if I left anyone out!

Stay safe and well,

Chuck

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