



*"Character without action
has little meaning
in this world.*

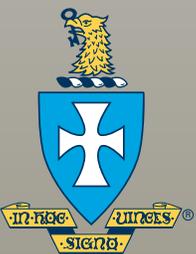


At Sigma Chi, Family Matters.



*But leadership,
acting in
accordance
with your
character,
can change
the world."*

Bill George,
Georgia Tech 1964
The Magazine of Sigma Chi,
Summer/Fall 2004



SIGMA CHI
FRATERNITY



"We shall form a fraternity on the principal that the adequacy of the fraternity lies in the opportunity for the building of a well rounded and symmetrical development of individual character."

Benjamin Piatt Runkle, *Miami of Ohio, 1857* (in 1855, to the founders of Sigma Chi)



SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

Dear Parents,

Congratulations to you and your son on his decision to continue his education in college. I am sure that this has been a dream of yours for quite some time. For most young men, this is the first time he will be on his own. Over the next few years, his college experience will test his maturity and character. You might find yourself asking:

- *Will he do well in his classes?*
- *Will he use his college experience to prepare for a satisfying, responsible, happy life and/or career?*
- *Will he make friends with "good" kids?*
- *Will he remember and practice all of the values that you have taught him?*

These questions are asked by virtually all parents, and, as a parent, I share these same concerns. The decisions that your son makes will influence and create the framework for a long and successful career for him.

Now your son is considering joining the *Sigma Chi Fraternity*. You may not know much about fraternities, so I encourage you to visit our Web site at www.sigmachi.org to find out more. In the meantime, allow me to introduce you to Sigma Chi.

Sigma Chi is one of the largest fraternities in the world. We have undergraduate chapters on more than 225 campuses in North America, with membership exceeding 12,000 undergraduates. Sigma Chi has a proud tradition of training, supporting, and mentoring its members to be leaders on their campuses. Together, Sigma Chi brothers share experiences, learn to tolerate differences, experience the power of unity, strengthen their values, learn responsible conduct, enjoy success and develop their leadership skills.

More than 220,000 living alumni, hundreds of which volunteer their time mentoring undergraduate Fraternity brothers, will be able to provide your son with the opportunity to develop and understand his own personal values. This is done in a healthy and challenging environment. The core values of Sigma Chi are *"Friendship, Justice and Learning."* Our mission is to *"develop 'values-based' leaders committed to the betterment of character, campus and community."*

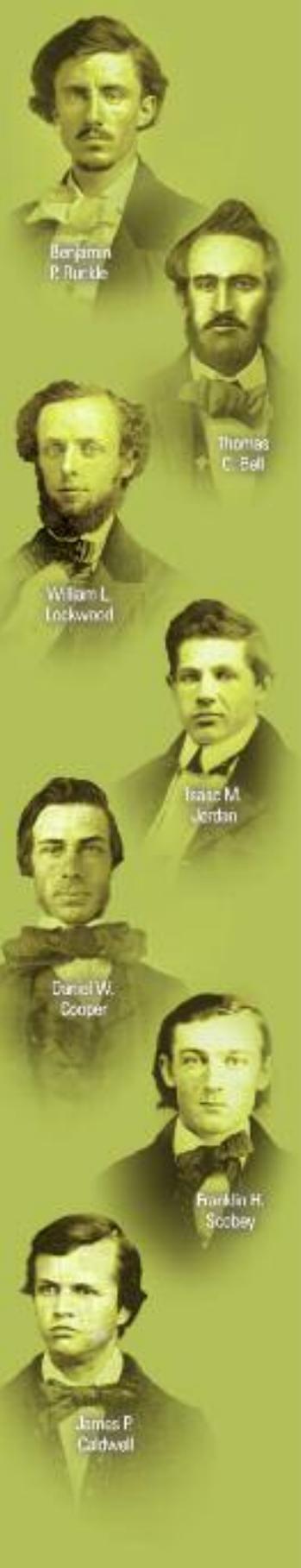
The bonds of friendship formed in Sigma Chi endure throughout life as the lessons that we teach are life-long and always relevant. These high ideals and principles were established more than 150 years ago by our founders. They have stood the test of time.

This brochure gives you a glimpse of what Sigma Chi is all about. I urge you to read the brochure, discuss it with your son and talk with other parents whose sons are in his chapter. I would like the opportunity to answer questions that you may have and I encourage you to contact me at Sigma Chi Fraternity International Headquarters at 847-869-3655 or by e-mail at Michael.dunn@sigmachi.org.

Very best personal and fraternal regards,

Michael H. Dunn
Executive Director

Our Heritage



Sigma Chi was founded in 1855 at Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, as a literary society by seven men, aged 14 to 25. The Fraternity's primary purpose, they believed, was to appreciate and develop *friendship, justice* and *learning* among exceptional men. These young men developed a set of standards and principles for all members detailed in a variety of our documents: The Jordan Standard, The Sigma Chi Creed, The Spirit of Sigma Chi and our Ritual. Sigma Chi members of all ages can be guided "to do the right thing" thanks to these documents.

Today the Fraternity has over 225 active campus chapters, 150 alumni groups, 220,000 living members, and 12,000 undergraduate members.

Our members are brothers from all races, religions and backgrounds. We strive to live as friends who share common beliefs, but have different temperaments, talents and convictions. We are alike only in our devotion to a set of values honoring friendship, on-going learning, justice, good character and our guiding virtues: Courage, Wisdom, Integrity, Self-Control, High Ambition, Courtesy, and Fidelity.

Guided by the Founders' ideals and powered by our friendships, we grow together and individually to succeed as family members, as business professionals, as community leaders and in life every day.



"Genuine friendship can be maintained without surrendering the principle of individuality or sacrificing one's personal judgment."



From The Spirit of Sigma Chi

Our Three Founding Principles:

Friendship

Friendship



Friendship is the essence of the fraternal experience. Within a few months at Sigma Chi, diverse sons with shared ideals become more than acquaintances. As a circle of friends and brothers, they encourage each other, promote and help with each others' academic achievement, develop a sense of belonging and confidence, become decisive leaders and compassionate companions for life.

These friendships are lasting. They span the course of a lifetime. Alumni brothers nationwide provide a *forever* support network for employment, training, leadership and inspiration. Many young members leave college to a first job or opportunity with the help of an alumni brother.

Across continents and across towns the words "I'm a Sigma Chi" open doors, develop immediate rapport and create opportunities.

"I made some very long-lasting friendships with Sigs in college—a lot of them have lasted to this day, and are a very valuable thing for me. The Fraternity has meant an awful lot to me, and the Ritual was very, very meaningful to me."

Tom Selleck,
Southern California,
1967

Justice

Justice



It is not enough to just speak of high ideals. We demonstrate our commitment to our founder's ideals by living them every day. We are proud to be friends who hold one another accountable for our actions and who act on our beliefs. Our brothers' support gives us the courage and conviction to *walk the talk*, to live positively, to improve the world in which we live. We call "living" the principles of justice **Character-in-Action**.

Sigma Chi brothers feel a sense responsibility to the community and to helping those less fortunate. Our members know it's *the right thing to do*.

On an international level, the Fraternity sets the *Character-in-Action* standard with its dedication to Huntsman Cancer Institute (HCI) and to Children's Miracle Network (CMN), which receives more than \$200,000 annually from Sigma Chi in donations and from chapter community service hours and fund-raising.

In addition to HCI and CMN, Sigma Chi chapters are also involved in numerous other local and international philanthropic efforts such as Special Olympics, Habitat for Humanity, and the American Heart Association Heart Walk, just to name a few.



“Sigma Chi, more than anything else, got me involved with the people who knew how to study, and they helped me. I learned from them. The Norman Shield is still quite applicable now.”

Dr. William DeVries, *Utah, 1966*

Learning Learning

Learning is our third and bedrock ideal. Sigma Chi was founded to enhance collegiate learning, not detract from it.

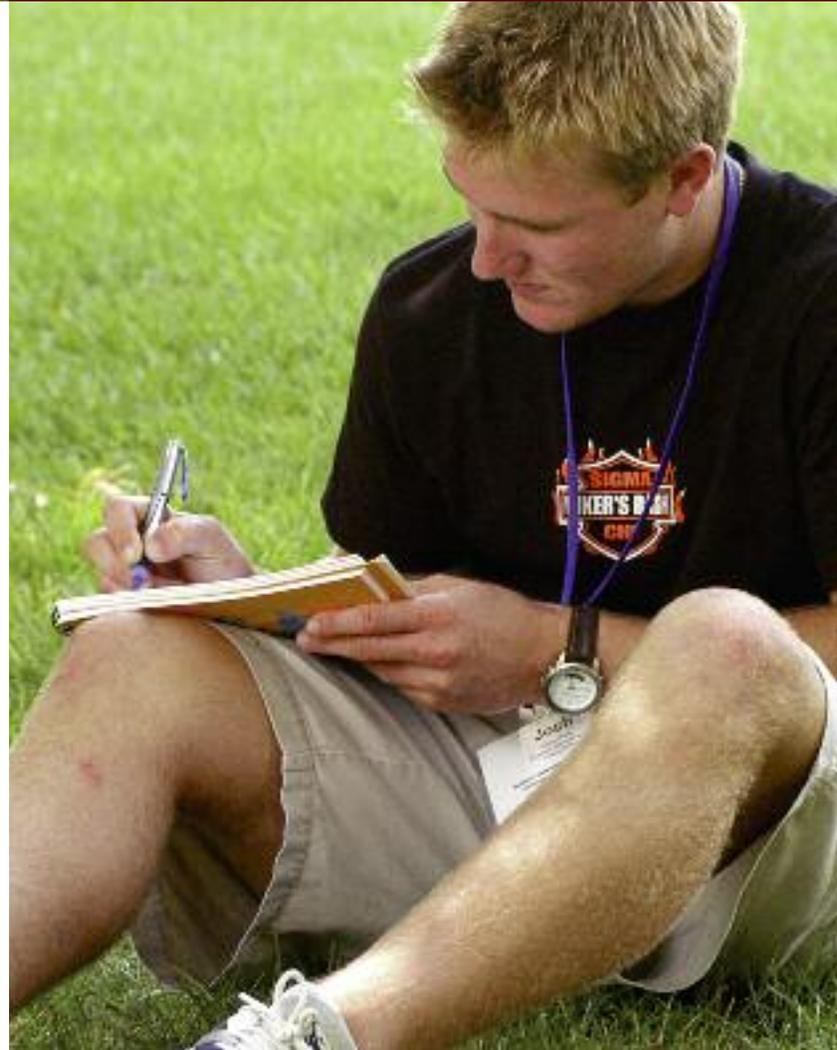
Sigma Chi demands high educational standards of its undergraduate members and we continue to encourage and facilitate it in our life-long learning programs for alumni. This dedication to education helps brothers of all ages become responsible, accountable, well-rounded men.

A college grade point average of 2.25 is a minimum requirement to become and remain an active member of our Fraternity. Several chapters have a higher requirement to become a member. There is help to do this with study tables in each chapter house, as well as a chapter fraternity officer dedicated to arranging tutoring and other assistance for our members.

There is more help from the Sigma Chi Foundation. Alumni established the Foundation in 1939 to ensure funds for financially needy undergraduate members to complete their education. With assets of more than \$23 million, the Foundation has given more than \$1.5 million in the last ten years to Sigma Chi students around the country. More grants and funding are available from the General Fraternity.

“Our ritual is a guide to your life, to help you make the right decisions, better yourself, grow, change the world.”

Ben Ford, *Willamette, 2004*



Sigma Chi is focused on developing leaders. We are known as the *pre-eminent leadership development organization* within the Greek Community. Not only do we provide formal programs for our undergraduate members designed to teach critical character-based leadership skills, but there are also many opportunities for your son to practice leadership as a chapter officer.

The International Fraternity is dedicated to creating new ways to educate, guide and support Sigma Chi members of all ages as each member strives *“to so build myself and so conduct myself that I will ever be a credit to our Fraternity.”* (from *The Sigma Chi Creed*)



Our Standards

Your son is
leaving home to
make new friends,
prepare for a career
and develop adult
perspectives on
responsible behavior.
It is his time to learn,
socialize and explore.
He has many new
freedoms. He sees
no limits to what
is possible.

WE AGREE.

Standards that Guide Our Behavior

Sigma Chi has more than 150 years of history helping sons prepare to reach their limitless potential.

However, like your family, we believe young men want and appreciate boundaries and requirements. At our chapter houses, members elect officers, set the chapter budget and organize their activities democratically, under the supervision and advice of alumni members.

Every member of our Fraternity must follow fraternity, college, community, government and other applicable laws and standards, particularly related to hazing, and alcohol and drugs.

Intimidation and ordeals do not create the life-long bonds of friendship we value. Sigma Chi has strict and clear policies about hazing. Expressly forbidden by Sigma Chi are any activities that can be considered demeaning, degrading, embarrassing, uncomfortable, purposeless, deceiving, questionable or punishing, either physically or mentally.

Similarly, there is nothing about Sigma Chi membership that is tied to drinking alcohol. All chapters must abide by college, community and state laws regarding the use of alcohol. Members are expressly forbidden from serving alcohol to those who are not of legal age, which is 21 at most college campuses. Most Greek systems, including Sigma Chi, now prohibit alcohol at fraternity recruitment activities.

"I'm constantly learning about friendship, team work, relationships, about life and how to deal with it, about myself and who I want to be. I got all of that from Sigma Chi."

Dave Bjerkek, San José State, 2005



To further the education of the Fraternity and its members, Sigma Chi has formed a partnership with the *Betty Ford Center* to help brothers of all ages avoid addiction to alcohol and other drugs.

At Sigma Chi, our sons live and learn with the guidance and inspiration of alumni mentors. There are more than 220,000 alumni members who can share the bonds of brotherhood and the lessons of life with new members. Through problem-solving and guidance, alumni help our chapters align all of their practices closely to Sigma Chi ideals.

"The values of Sigma Chi enhance what I believe. They've made me look in the mirror every day to hold myself accountable. Am I really living the way I say I am?"

Dick Hester, Former Grand Consul,
Ball State, 1977



The Growth of the Fraternity

Each year, Sigma Chi looks for potential members who are interested in joining our brotherhood of friends in learning, in living our values. Our selection criterion for new members is based on *The Jordan Standard*, written in 1878 by Founder Isaac M. Jordan.

We are looking for:

- Men of Good Character,
- Students of Fair Ability,
- With Ambitious Purposes,
- A Congenial Disposition,
- Possessed of Good Morals,
- Having a High Sense of Honor, and
- A Deep Sense of Personal Responsibility.

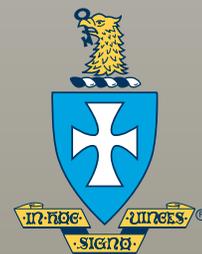
Could this be your son?
If so, we welcome him to explore joining the family of Sigma Chi.

At Sigma Chi, Family Matters.



*“It’s about
putting men
out there
that will
change
the world.”*

Clarence Gilyard,
California State-
Long Beach, 1981



**SIGMA CHI
FRATERNITY**