From Our President, Neil Van Uum

Has it really been almost ten years since we all gathered for our 100th anniversary? Yes, the arrival of the new millennium and the events of September 11 seem like a long time ago. I think it must be time to throw a party….or maybe a whole year’s worth. Isn’t 110th anniversary a time to celebrate? But first…

There is no question that the brothers of Sigma Sigma have left an indelible mark on the University of Cincinnati community. It’s evidenced by the leadership of our many brothers through the years, our contribution toward Sigma Sigma Commons, and even the spirit demonstrated by many of us found cheering our university in the stands and around the world. As our 110th anniversary approaches, we have a truly unique opportunity to leave a mark on the UC campus. It is also very stirring for me that we can acknowledge the legacy of one of our most beloved brothers, Teddy Baehr ’15. As many of you know, Teddy was a running back on our football team, captain and the impetus behind the naming of the Baehr-Cats. Everyone who attended the spring picnic was apprised of our work in deriving a Bearcat Statue on campus. We have worked very closely with the university over the last year and a half and are now ready to ask for your support as we raise the funds to make this a reality – a perfect way to mark our 110th anniversary!

It has been a very busy year as we have worked to balance our operating budget, remodel the house and redesign and prepare to launch our new website. In addition, we have put together a great year of events, which will be capped by the dedication of the bearcat statue in the spring.

Our organization is fueled by our commitment to uphold the standards of excellence of our beloved UC. Teddy left his mark. Now it’s your opportunity to leave your mark by supporting the bearcat statue initiative. Stay tuned.

Torches and Hammers,
Neil

From Our Active Chapter President, Jerry Tsai

It’s been a terrific year for the Active Chapter - filled with outrageous Thursdays, a few tough Friday mornings, and memories that will stay with us for the rest of our lives. The brotherhood that was formed among this year’s Actives is strong, and we hope to continue these bonds as we graduate ten seniors.

Those who have moved on to ‘alumnus’ status will be partaking in a multitude of activities post-graduation. We have brothers set to begin law school in the fall at UC and Georgetown, others leaving to begin careers in Chicago and Las Vegas, while the majority are staying in Cincinnati to work at great places like P&G, Citi
Group, and Fort Washington Investing Advisors. And et before these seniors received their diplomas, they - along with the five returning Actives – hosted the 69th Annual Sigma Sigma Carnival of Love!

Similar to last spring, this year’s carnival was one of the best in recent times. With an estimated attendance of more than 6,000 students, alumni, faculty, staff, and community members, the Carnival of Love was a blast from the past as the carnival booths and decorations were reminiscent of the year 1969 and Woodstock. Students arrived in tie-dye shirts and a balloon artist decorated attendees with psychedelic balloon hats. The beautiful May 17th evening was filled with more than 30 booths, traditional carnival food, the ever important fresh cold beer, live bands, a DJ, and a fantastic firework show put on by Razzi Fireworks. The event raised just over $19,000, much of which will go toward the periodic gift Sigma Sigma bestows to the University.

Although we are sending our seniors off to the “real world,” the Active Chapter is already gearing up for an exciting fall as Sigma Sigma celebrates its 110th anniversary. Leading the Active Chapter next year are President- Nate Smith; Vice President- Christopher Heater; Carnival Chair- Brad Hawse; Treasurer- Larry Hodge; House Manager- Jordan Moss. On behalf of the Active Chapter, we look forward to seeing everyone at the open houses in the autumn and we wish everyone a great fall!

Torch & Hammers,
Jerry P. Tsai
Active Chapter President 2007-2008

Spring Picnic Recap

The Spring Picnic was held on Friday, May 8 at the Miami Boat Club with more than 90 of our brothers in attendance. Although the rain shortened the cornhole championship and some other sporting events, it did not dampen our spirits. All would agree that Chris Dalambakas outdid himself again this year by providing us with great food, cold beer and an entertaining program.

Neil Van Uum and Chris Carper did a great presentation on current Sigma Sigma projects, most notably the giant Bearcat statue that we are leading. This project is well underway and will be a major attraction on campus. This shrine will also honor “Teddy Baehr”, the 1915 Sigma Sigma from which our nickname was derived.

The first step in this significant undertaking is the creation of an art committee who will assist in the selection of a sculptor. The creation of this new committee – along with much beer – sparked a debate at the picnic regarding whether or not something can really be considered art if it is not painted on black velvet. Some of the Sig Eps then offered that only works by Robert Maplethorpe should be considered by the committee. A compromise was reached when it was agreed that a painting of ‘Dogs Playing Poker’ would be purchased for Huck Hall. We are thinking about asking Otto for a grant to purchase the painting.

08 Spring Golf Outing

The spring golf outing at Deer Track was held the morning before the Picnic. Although the event was a sell-out, the threat of a few raindrops convinced several of our weaker members to cancel at the last minute. Those who did show were rewarded with relatively good weather and a day of great golf. The winning
foursome was comprised of Carey Tapp, Kevin Smith Buckmeyer, and Dan Kihm. Steve “Big Hitter the Llama” Trepkoski won the longest drive and Kevin Breckinridge had the longest putt. The awards for Closest to the Pin went to Jared Brandyberry and Scott Oyler. The group of Gary Lessis, Gary Karg and Bob Carroll won the award for being the first to abandon golf for the beer and burgers at the Spring Picnic.

**Jed Small Scholarship Update**

Based on projections, The Jed Small/Sigma Sigma Scholarship Fund will be able to grant $6,000 in annual scholarships beginning summer 2009 for the next several years. Those scholarships will be available to lineal decedents of Sigma Sigmas and selection will be based on academic achievement, extra-curricular involvement, community service, leadership, character and financial need. Scholarships will be applied to tuition, room and board.

Applications are available in the Office of the Director of Student Financial Aid or via the Sigma Sigma website. The application for a high school senior is slightly different than the application for a current UC student, so if you know someone who is interested, please make sure they complete the correct application. Please note: a lineal decedent is a child, grandchild, great grandchild, great-great grandchild, etc. It does **NOT** include the nieces and nephews of a Sigma Sigma.

High school seniors who wish to apply for next year must submit an application by December 31, 2008. The deadline for current UC students is February 28, 2009. Scholarships for incoming freshman will be announced by the end of March. The recipient must confirm acceptance of the scholarship and attendance at UC by May 1. For current UC students, scholarships will be announced in early June and must be accepted by mid-July.

If you would like to make a donation to The Jed Small/Sigma Sigma Scholarship Fund, please contact the UC Foundation. All contributions are tax deductible and help students and their parents cover the increasing costs of a college education.

**Sigma Sigma and the Alumni House**

Since the beginning of time, Sigma Sigma members have always been very involved with the university. We are especially successful with alumni relations, especially in light of the fact that Jed Small helped found the UC’s Department of Alumni Affairs (prior to the Alumni Association). Jed’s devotion and contributions to UC are legendary, and led to growth and success of this department including the creation of the Alumni Association. Chris Damakes served as the first Director of the Alumni Association and he held that position for over 20 years, when health concerns led him to retire. As most of you know, Chris passed away several months ago, and his funeral was attended by numerous close friends and associates from the University, including many of his Sigma Sigma brothers. Chris will always be remembered for his leadership and innovations at the Alumni Center.
After Chris retired, the Alumni Association experienced many dark years with the invasion of Red Hawks (aka Redskins). Then in 2002, Dave Macejko was called upon to put things back in order. Dave was well-known for his years at WEBN when the radical radio station was in its heyday, and he did a great job restoring the Alumni Association. Although his departure was a surprise to many of us, the Alumni Association did not fall into the hands of an outside bureaucrat.

Just when we needed him most, Myron Hughes stepped up to the plate (make that the foul line) to ensure that the Alumni Association remained in good hands. Myron has a long career in the field of economic development, and has worked in several parts of the country, most recently in Florida. All the while, Myron maintained close ties to the university. Bill Mulvihill convinced Myron to interview for the position and after a few hectic weeks of travel and interviews, we got our man. Many of our older brothers will remember Myron as a leader and a great player for a mediocre UC basketball team. He could have gone just about anywhere but chose UC and he worked to make it a better place. Why UC? Some theorize that he wanted to live in Sander Hall. Some speculate it was the great dorm food back then. And still others claim that it was our local beers, Hudepohl and Schoenling. Whatever the reason, Myron made UC a better place and will continue to do so in his new role. Do you remember that it was Myron who helped heat up the once dormant rivalry with that other Cincinnati team (I don’t like to use the X word). If you don’t, when you see Myron, ask him about that game. Welcome back Myron!

There have been many other Sigma Sigmas who have worked in different capacities for the Alumni Association including Chris Dalambakis and John Albachten. To Chris, John and everyone who has worked or volunteered for the Alumni Association, THANK YOU!

25th Annual Boys Trip Reunion, by Shawn Stiver
Back in the summer of 1983, Gary Osterfeld convinced some of his fellow Sigma Sigma brothers to travel to northern Michigan for a weekend of boating, golf, cards and fishing. Since no one died on the first trip, the group has made this an annual outing.

The location of this annual excursion had to be changed occasionally for legal reasons, but a semi-permanent location was finally located 20 years ago, a place called Put-In-Bay, Ohio. Put-In-Bay is located on the Lake Erie Islands near Sandusky and is commonly known as ‘Disney Land for Drunks.’ The slogan, “What happens on the island, stays on the island,” was created long before Las Vegas got the idea. (A second slogan, “We don’t want to have too much fun,” never caught on.)

But times have changed and the goal of the nine original revelers who attended this year’s trip was to reduce their carbon footprint, which they succeeded in doing. Because of their efforts, hundreds of empty beer cans and bottles were able to begin their recycling journey, not to mention several empty aspirin and Gatorade bottles. Tim’s ‘Java Hut’ was hopping as usual as were Neil’s boat excursions (known as – ‘The three hour tour’). A fine round of golf was played by Neil, Chris and Greg, and Gary announced that he has launched a second career as the world’s first Buzz Management Consultant (call the man for more information). Oz attended again this year to keep his perfect attendance record alive. All agreed that they were looking forward to 25 more years.
Halfway to Homecoming Celebration, by Kirby Neumann

On the weekend of March 7 when the city of Cincinnati was locked down during the great blizzard of 2008, a group of Sigma Sigmas managed to dodge white death and spend a weekend living it up Huck Hall-style in the capitol of the south. What started as a quite business trip for Scott "the White Monster" Oyler turned into a gathering of 16 Sigma Sigma's in Atlanta, GA for what was deemed the "halfway to homecoming" celebration.

Atlanta residents Kyle and Kirby Neumann were joined by brothers Rishi Parikh, Steve Trepkowski, Dale Stigameir, Zorya Kluska, Scott Oyler, Jay Hummel, Darren Toliver, James Scales, Justin Awles, Rob Thornton, Eric Jerger, Matt Carlin, Nikosi Bay, and Nasir McGee. The highlights are too many to recount but suffice it to say the weekend served as a successful reunion for everyone who made the trip. By the end, the Neumann apartment was trashed (special thanks to a sober DT for the broken ΣΣ framed poster), Dr. Parikh found his future wife, and Hummel's "behavior" met expectations. Some of these guys see each other all of the time; for others it was the first time in several years. Regardless, it was as if we just rolled the dice and drank beer around the coffin on the previous Thursday night. Thank you Sigma Sigma for those memories. Its spirit is alive and strong in this group.

Torch and Hammers,
Kirby '03

Official Sigma Sigma Tailgate

Join the official Sigma Sigma Tailgate in the parking lot across the street from the Sigma Sigma House before every home game. Many Sigma Sigma’s (all era's) have been tailgating in this lot for the last few years. Bring your family, crack a beer and join the biggest party on campus before the game! Look for the ultimate bearcat tailgate trailer and bearcat flag flying high!

The 1980s Sigma Sigma’s Trivia Game

Which one of the Village People was Gary Osterfeld’s favorite?
1. The Chief
2. Construction Worker
3. Traffic Cop
4. The Leather Guy
5. Cowboy
6. Rugby Player
Class Updates

You may have noticed that we have changed the format of the newsletter. We will now distribute the newsletter after each function instead of before so the information contained will be more current. Therefore, we need you to contact us with your personal updates. We will continue to collect updates at the picnic and banquet. The following are updates were either collected at the Spring Picnic or fabricated and embellished by fellow brothers.

The 60s
- **Ed Wolf** attended the picnic and shared that he has five grandchildren and sells Medicare supplemental insurance for AARP. Ed also writes that his brother-in-law, **Don Schuerman**, who died in the line of duty working for NASA, is having a building named after him at the University of Florida, where he ran a laboratory for NASA as an astrophysicist. Don worked on many major NASA projects over the years. (It doesn’t take a rocket scientist to figure out that Don was a great astrophysicist!)
- **Jim Hayes** also attended the picnic and was happy to give inventor, Gary Lessis, a few minutes of free patent law advice.
- **Doc Monnig, Phil Shepardson, Dan Bennie, Gary Menchhofer** and **Bill Mulvihill** were spotted at the picnic downing a few beers, munching on ribs and talking about the good old days. (Did you know next year is the 40th anniversary of Woodstock?)

The 70s
- **Dave Macejko** was at the picnic and was having a good time.
- 70’s Sitings: **Alvin Roehr** has been sited at numerous St. Gertrude sporting events. (The chant “Put Alvin In” can clearly be heard echoing from the stands.)
- **Greg Pike** was at the picnic, is getting married again, and is set to retire soon from CPS after 32 years.
- **Drew Emmert** was able to make it this year and states that he is busy working so that he can pay private school tuition for his children. He also was able to give Gary some free business law advice.

The 80s
- **Jeff Smolilo** and **Bob Carroll** attended the picnic and learned both have children matriculating at UC. It would be fun to invite them all to Huck Hall after a game and tell them stories about their fathers. **Chris Schneider**, who was also at the picnic, noted that his son will also be attending UC in the Fall. (Chris made the comment that he thinks that today’s incoming freshmen are more naïve than in his day. “Heck, they all think that a Cricket is a brand of cell phone.”)
- Little league coach, **Gary Osterfeld** was seen planning his next Halloween party and some football plays that he intends to implement for his son’s team.
- **Dr. Glenn Kwiat** is relocating to the Tampa area in September. He has children attending that school up in Oxford so he promises to attend our annual functions! We wish Glenn well.
- **Gary Karg** was seen nursing his wounds from golf earlier in the day.
- **Phil Collins** and **Erick Schmidt** were spotted talking with **Greg Wolf** about UC basketball tickets.
- **Myron Hughes** attended his first picnic in a while, but vowed to never miss another. After a few beers, Myron also admitted that it was the influence of then teammate and Graduate Assistant coach Joe Niemann that inspired his success.
- 80’s Sitings: Speaking of **Joe Niemann**, he was sited back in April having few ribs at the Montgomery Inn with a few of his Sigma Sigma brothers. **Pat Gibbons** has been sited at a couple of girls’ volleyball tournaments (presumably because his daughter plays for one of the teams). **Mike Taney** has been sited at a local all-girls high school (again, hopefully because his daughter attends school there). **Tom Shaw** made his annual Christmas trip into town for Gary Lessis’ ‘Miami game party’ as well as the game.
The 90s
- Moeller Coach, Doug Rosfeld was spotted at the picnic reminding several of the Elder and St. X guys that Moeller was going to dominate the GCL for the next 20 years. (Wow, it seems like only yesterday when Big Moe football players like Joe Hartman pushed around the St. X guys like Gary Osterfeld.)

The 00s
- Brandon Zureich had fun at the picnic this year and reports that he is working at Fort Washington in the private equity group.

A Blast From the Past Photo Gallery!

1985-86 BEARCAT VARSITY CHEERLEADERS

Nice sweaters! (Pat Gibbons and Chris Schneider)

IMPORTANT REMINDER...
Please Please Please!!
Remember to log on to the web site www.sigma-sigma.org and update your profile and e-mail address. Your default username is your last name (or your first intial and last name)and your default password is your tap year. If you are having trouble logging in please e-mail Chris Carper at chris.carper@hotmail.com. Use the Sigma Sigma Directory to reconnect with brothers across the country and globe.
Sigma Sigma Calendar

August
28 UC vs. EKU at 7:30pm - Nippert Stadium - Tailgating
Join the official Sigma Sigma Tailgate a few hours prior to the first home game of the season. We will be tailgating in the parking lot across from the Sigma Sigma House. While you’re in the area, stop by the house and check out the numerous upgrades made over the summer.

September
29 UC vs. Miami - Time TBA - Nippert Stadium - Tailgating
Meet up with your Sigma Sigma brothers for beer at the official Sigma Sigma tailgate in the parking lot across the street from the Sigma Sigma house. Bring your family and root for the Cats to claim the Victory Bell!

October
11 Homecoming - UC vs. Rutgers - Time TBA - Nippert Stadium
Sigma Sigma Homecoming festivities will kick-off a few hours prior to the big game in the parking lot across from the Sigma Sigma House. Stop by the official Sigma Sigma tailgate for food, drinks and good times before kick-off. Details will be communicated via e-mail when the official game time is determined.

30 Tapping - UC vs. S. Florida - Time TBA - Nippert Stadium
Join fellow Sigma Sigma’s in welcoming the Fall Tap Class of ’08 at Half-Time of the UC vs. S. Florida Football game. As always we will be tailgating prior to the game in the parking lot across from the Sigma Sigma House.

November
21 Annual Fall Banquet - Alumni Center
The annual Fall Banquet will be held at the Russell C. Meyers Alumni Center to celebrate Sigma Sigma’s legacy with athletics, football and the Bearcat!

22 UC vs. Pittsburgh - Time TBA - Nippert Stadium - Tailgating
Cheer the Bearcats to victory as they face the Pitt Panthers in the “River City Rivalry”. Don’t forget to stop by the Sigma Sigma Tailgate (same location) prior to kick-off.

29 UC vs. Syracuse - Time TBA - Nippert Stadium - Tailgating
Stop by the official Sigma Sigma tailgate for the last big tailgate party of the year! Cheer on the Bearcats and send the seniors off on a high note for their last home game in Nippert Stadium. By this time the Cats should be well on their way to claiming the Big East Championship!

December
Visit www.gobearcats.com for the complete basketball schedule. Watch for e-mail for various open house dates throughout the season!

January 2009
2 Dan Dell 70th Birthday Party at the Sigma Sigma House.
Join fellow Sigma Sigma’s to honor Dan Dell for his many years of service to Sigma Sigma and celebrate his birthday!

May 2009
110th Anniversary Celebration and Bearcat Statue Dedication
Stay tuned for more details on this milestone event to occur spring 2009.

Sigma Sigma Carnival