

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Homecoming 2014

Saturday, September 27  
Penn State vs. Northwestern

**Noon:** Kickoff, Beaver Stadium

**4:00-6:00 p.m.:** Join the brotherhood for postgame cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the Ranch from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please email your RSVP to Brother **Craig Socie '81** at [casocie@comcast.net](mailto:casocie@comcast.net) if you will be able to join us.

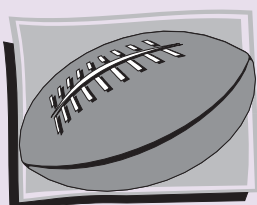
### Philadelphia Area Founders' Day Dinner

Thursday, March 19, 2015  
Time/Location TBD

### SAE 2015 Golf Outing

Saturday, June 20, 2015  
Toftrees

## 2014 PENN STATE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE



9/13	at Rutgers, 8:00 p.m.
<b>9/20</b>	<b>vs. UMass, TBA</b>
<b>9/27</b>	<b>vs. Northwestern, Noon</b>
10/11	at Michigan, 7:00 p.m.
<b>10/25</b>	<b>vs. OSU, 8:00 p.m.</b>
<b>11/1</b>	<b>vs. Maryland, TBA</b>
11/8	at Indiana, TBA
<b>11/15</b>	<b>vs. Temple, TBA</b>
11/22	at Illinois
<b>11/29</b>	<b>vs. Mich. State, TBA</b>
12/6	Big 10 Championship

*Home games in bold*



PENNSYLVANIA ALPHA-ZETA  
SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON  
THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY  
STATE COLLEGE, PA.

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## 2014 '60s & '70s REUNION

### A Reunion So Good They Are Talking About the Next *Brothers Celebrate a "Time Capsule" Visit to PA Alpha-Zeta*

It was just as they remembered it. During the weekend of June 27-29, PA Alpha-Zeta brothers returned to State College and what they thought would be a pleasant gathering on the patio of the SAE house grounds. What they found was a surprise: a house that looked as if time had not passed in more than 45 years. The result was exactly what a reunion should be, including the re-enactment of a statue cleaning by **Carmen Finestra '71**.



*Brother Dave Swigler keeps the crowd laughing.*



*Carmen Finestra '71 in 1968 and again in 2014.*

A few brothers met as early as Thursday, June 26. They spent the evening visiting local bars. On Friday, the group held a party at the Rathskeller (see the article on our site about the Skeller's 82nd anniversary). Everyone attending the reunion stayed until around 10:00 p.m.

On Saturday afternoon, several members of the House Corporation — including

President **Scott Pierce '83**, **Craig Socie '81** and **Jeff Miceli '82** — were available at the house to give reunion attendees a tour. "We had just arranged to use the porch," explains **Rick Guida '69**. "But the House Corporation members were there to give us full access to the house. It was clean. Furniture was in place. The ice machine was working. The grass was mowed. Everything looked just as we all remembered it ... like a time capsule."

On Saturday evening, the group met for dinner at the Nittany Lion Inn. **Dave Swigler** was the hit of the evening during his presentation of several gifts.

Discussions are underway for another reunion in a year or two. In the meantime, go to [www.saepsu.com](http://www.saepsu.com) for more photos from the weekend.



*An impressive group of brothers from the 1960s and 1970s has set the standard for what it means to stay connected at SAE. Next up: 1980s and 1990s ... time to start planning now!*

## WHO ARE OUR ALUMNI?

Brother **Phil Shenk** was named 2014 Volunteer of the Year this past spring by Highmark Blue Shield and The Volunteer Center of United Way of the Capital Region. Phil was one of 19 nominees.

Dr. **Vernon Morris '70** is an innovator. He is one of the first surgeons to perform minimally invasive spine surgery, earning the AMA Award for Physician Recognition in 1984, 1987, 1990 and 1993. He joined the Laser Spine Institute in 2007 after a successful run in private practice in Philadelphia. As an orthopedic spine surgeon at the Laser Spine Institute, Dr. Morris has performed more than 3,000 spine surgeries during his tenure. He contributes to furthering medicine through publishing articles in respected medical journals. He has also received 14 hospital staff appointments. Dr. Morris' mantra is, "excellence has no substitute."

Brothers **Richard Kepler '72** (right in photo below) visited State College this summer for



his niece's wedding (daughter of **George D. Kepler Jr. '63**). While in town, he met up with best friend and fellow Penn State wrestler, Larry "Chopper" Suhey, at the Waffle Shop.

In June, Brother **Tim McAvoy '80** celebrated a clear PET CT scan following four treatments for large B-cell Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. If you would like to check in on Tim's CaringBridge site, go to [www.caringbridge.org/visit/timmcavoy](http://www.caringbridge.org/visit/timmcavoy).

Brother **Mark Frisina '82** is the owner and vice president of Strata Company in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. He currently leads the business development and client relations efforts for their pharmaceutical and marketing communication divisions.

Brother **Greg Stock '87** is the president and CEO of Zenoss in Austin, Texas. Zenoss is a leading provider of unified IT monitoring and analytic services.

Brother **Chip McCaffrey '94** is currently the vice president and regional manager of Astor Investment Management in Philadelphia.

Brother **Joe Richey '09** is currently a strategic sourcing and procurement consultant with IBM in Raleigh-Durham, N.C.

Brother **Luke Pierce '10** is currently an assistant manager in the office of Penn State alum David Britz of STILETTO Entertainment in Inglewood, Calif. Here, he

helps support clients relationships including Barry Manilow and Straight No Chaser.

Brother **Craig Socie '11** is an analyst in trading operations with BlackRock in Wilmington, Del.

Former IFC and PA Alpha-Zeta president, **Vincenzo Lizza '13**, is currently a mid-market account manager for EMC in Boston.

In July, Brother **Steven Vigilante '13** joined Cowen and Company in the San Francisco Bay area as an investment banking analyst.

Email us your news update at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) or go to [www.saepsu.com](http://www.saepsu.com) to leave an update.

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

We recently learned of the passing of :

**Elton J. Holden '58**  
**Edward Lewis III '65**  
**Randal Raeuchle '71**

SAE mourns their passing and extends condolences to their family and friends.

## Fall Flashback

Thank you to Brother **Ed Konrad '68** for sharing these photos of a 1960s pledge formal (left) and garbage party (right). Do you have photos to share with the rest of your SAE brotherhood? Email them to our alumni relations firm at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com). Be sure to reference SAE at Penn State!





## Will the BA Soon Be Part of Ranch History?

by Scott Pierce '83, House Corporation President

Since the late '70s, the brotherhood has utilized the third floor (aka "the BA") of the Ranch in many different ways. Brothers may remember a time when everyone had a mattress on the third floor, and there were no beds on the second floor.

During my time living in the house in the early '80s, most rooms had one bed and both roommates also had a bed on the third floor. Today's



brotherhood does not use the BA for sleeping. The BA is now used for social events and excess storage space. The House Corporation is currently investigating how to best utilize this space. We are researching our options for building out the space with single rooms and a bathroom. The four existing rooms on the third floor would be

incorporated into this plan.

We need to balance this potential renovation with the need to rehab the second floor rooms and the ongoing maintenance requirements of our aging Ranch. Many factors need to be considered as we adapt to the changing trends of how our active brothers want to live and how to best stay competitive with outside options. The board welcomes any comments from alumni. Please email me directly at [piercepilot@comcast.net](mailto:piercepilot@comcast.net) with your comments and ideas.

## RANCH HISTORY

### And We Call it The Rancher Because ...

### Truth and Speculation Behind a PA Alpha-Zeta Institution

by Jerry Watson '78

Have you ever wondered about the history of *The Rancher*? Who started it? What was the purpose? How did it get its name? Here is a little history.

Alumni relations had fallen off the charts back in the mid '70s, but it soon became evident that we, the undergrad brothers, needed a way to communicate (ask for money) with our distinguished alumni brothers. Therefore, it was determined that in order to do so, we needed to establish a regularly published document that relayed news of the active brotherhood, as well as promoted memories of alumni brothers and shared their life stories. A newsletter was the answer!

As we set out to create and name this publication, I had a number of recommendations: *The SAE Record* (already taken), *The Beaver Ave. Gazette* (boring) and even *The Phi Alpha Rag* (are you kidding me!). It was not until one day on campus — at the Willard Building steps, as I recall — that I heard one of my brothers shout out to me, "I'll see you back at the ranch." I knew instantly that had we the newsletter's moniker, *The Rancher*. You see, most PSU fraternities refer to their residence as their house, but we had a Ranch; it was much cooler.

That first newsletter was literally a cut-and-paste job, which in those days meant literally printing the text onto paper, cutting it out with a razor knife and pasting it onto a master board so that we could then take it to

the printer and have hundreds of copies run through a printing press. It seems archaic by today's technology, but that was how you had to do it.

The first issue's text consisted of articles written by the intramural chairman, something about the Phi Alpha Kegglers (I didn't even know bowling was an IM sport) and the social chairman raving about the latest Chi O social. And, of course, our academic chairman wrote a very short piece. It was a one-page, legal-sized document with no pictures that went out to all alums for whom we had addresses ... which was not a lot. The original copies that I had kept have long been lost in various moves, so the initial publication is lost in the annals of time.

Recently, however, I was asked why we call our fraternity house "the Ranch" and, specifically, where the phrase "back at the Ranch" originated. If you Google that phrase, you will see that the phrase originated in the

silent movie era, which lasted until talkies became the new technology of the late 1920s. In that era of cinematography, film directors used segues — written text on fixed screens intended to inform the film audience of a change from one scene's location to another. As westerns and cowboy movies were a common genre at that time, a segue was often used for a scene that took you from being out on the western plains back to the ranch house. For a few seconds, the phrase "Meanwhile, Back at the Ranch" would let the audience know that the scene was changing while the player piano kept pace in the background.

While we don't know exactly when our brotherhood started calling 200 East Beaver Ave. "the Ranch" (maybe somebody from earlier years can answer that question), we do know that back when that beautiful graystone home was completed in 1921, the silent movie was the major form of entertainment. And maybe, just maybe, one of the first brothers to walk through those doors had just come back from the moving picture house in downtown State College, kicked his boots off in one of those big chairs in the newly completed Great Hall and proclaimed, "Boys, it's good to be back at the Ranch!"



# ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

## Are You Living the Code?

As brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at Penn State, we have certainly heard it before. In upholding the code of the True Gentleman, our conduct should “proceed from goodwill and an acute sense of propriety.” But just as a “like” on Facebook means we can support something from a distance without completely becoming engaged or invested, we are wondering what living “the True Gentleman” means to you. Does it actually mean anything, or is it just a feel-good notion that rests in your mind as you hope that

others are taking the reins and doing what needs to be done to keep PA Alpha-Zeta competitive on the Penn State campus?



Heavy stuff? Yeah, maybe. But as you have already read in this newsletter, the good news is that our code is in fact alive and well in our alumni brotherhood. The return of brothers from

the '60s and '70s should get you thinking about your days at 200 E. Beaver Ave. What did alumni do then to help you understand how to live life as a True Gentleman?

So, as we kick off our 2014-15 Annual Fund giving year, we are asking for your continued support of Sigma Alpha Epsilon at PSU through a new or renewed contribution. All we ask is one gift per year, and this year we want to add another 50 donors to our Honor Roll. To make your gift today and add your name to that Honor Roll, go to [www.saepsu.com](http://www.saepsu.com) and click on “Donate” in the upper right-hand corner. We appreciate gifts at all levels.

## We'll See You Back at the Ranch!

Come back this fall for Homecoming, September 27 (details on page 1 and at [www.saepsu.com](http://www.saepsu.com)). And be sure to mark your calendars for our next golf outing, Saturday, June 20, 2015.



Brothers enjoyed a day of golf at Toftrees in State College this past spring. Will you be part of next year's golf outing, June 20?

*Walk in the door, kick off your boots and let us know you are glad to be "back at the Ranch" this Homecoming!*

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