



Rho Chapter of Sigma Pi at North Carolina State University | Fall 2020



## STAYING TRUE TO SIGMA PI'S MISSION

*Rho Chapter Raises Campaign Goal to \$1.1 Million*

As you all have heard over the past few weeks, we are thrilled with the early success of Rho Chapter's *Securing the Next Century* campaign to purchase the house on Greek Way. With more than 781,080 in commitments, we are well on our way to reaching our initial \$1 million goal and purchasing this facility. The alumni who have made early commitments are staying true to Sigma Pi's mission of inspiring, promoting, and supporting the development of our brothers, and we are calling upon the rest of the brotherhood to follow their lead.

Due to Rho's strong response, we have increased our fundraising goal to \$1.1 million. Any additional dollars to the \$1 million needed for the down payment will put Rho in a much better position for the start of its second century. In addition to being a financially sound chapter, the extra funds will further improve the chapter house, such as small renovation work, preparing a maintenance fund for capital expenditures, or reducing the long-term debt on the property.

We all have had different Rho experiences, and although they vary across our chapter's history, they have served as a foundation for our

### Campaign Status At-a-Glance

*As of August 25, 2020*

Initial Goal: \$1 million

Stretch Goal: \$1.1 million

Total Commitments: \$781,080

Number of Donors: 81

personal and professional lives. We could not be where we are today without our fraternity. It is our responsibility as alumni to remain committed to Sigma Pi's mission, ensuring that

our undergraduate brothers and future members will have the same opportunities we did.

By donating to the campaign, you can set the stage for Sigma PIs at NC State to have a life-changing fraternity experience in Rho's second century. We understand that there are several organizations that are very deserving of your generous and appreciate your consideration of supporting the campaign. To ensure that your gift puts Rho in the best possible position and fits within your financial means, you can stretch your pledge payment over a five-year period. All gifts are helpful and meaningful to this effort. We can't wait to see what is in store for our brotherhood and are thankful for all the alumni who are riding with us into Rho's second century.

Fraternally,  
**Jack Daniels '69**  
 Co-Chairman  
 daniels195@gmail.com | (919) 975-2569

**Brent Brewbaker '90**  
 Co-Chairman  
 ncsbrew@aol.com | (910) 975-2569

**RHO CHAPTER SECURING THE NEXT CENTURY**

# RHO CHAPTER SECURING THE NEXT CENTURY

## Thank You, Loyal Brothers and Friends, for Your Support

### Donate Today to Rho Chapter's *Securing the Next Century Campaign*

**W**e are deeply grateful to the brothers and friends who have committed more than \$781,080 to the *Securing the Next Century* campaign. These alumni recognize the importance of ensuring the Rho's future and have demonstrated a sense of gratitude for their personal experience. Commitments are still needed from the rest of our alumni as we push forward toward our new goal of \$1.1 million.

**Emerald Society**  
(\$100,000 and above)  
Patrick McKee '85

**Golden Circle Society**  
(\$50,000 to \$99,999)  
Monroe Family Gift  
Samuel Monroe '69  
William Monroe '71

**Adytum Society**  
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)  
Ireland Family Gift  
Berkely Godehn '66  
Lloyd Mattingly '71  
Jeffrey Cline '85  
Eric Praser '85  
Richard Kiernan '89  
Brent Brewbaker '90  
Rho Undergraduate Chapter

**Sage Society**  
(\$15,000 to \$24,999)  
Donnell O. Bullock '51  
Carey Gupton '69  
Jim Moss '72  
Richard F. Schmidt '80  
Neil Britt '86  
D. Rick Anderson '89

Daniel Ingram '90  
Jonathan D. Boland '92

**Rho Society**  
(\$10,000 to \$14,999)  
Paul Mitchell '66  
David W. Drake '68  
Gerhard Beyer '71  
Greg R. Warmuth '81  
Rich Adams '83  
Augustus S. Hall '86  
John "Kerm" Suther '86  
Chris Albers '88  
Jack Barger '90

**Clark Ave Society**  
(\$5,000 to \$9,999)  
Grady Sykes '54  
Peter R. Gernert '61  
In memory of  
Asa Franklin '60  
Laurice G. Altman Jr. '62  
In memory of  
Asa Franklin '60  
Robert G. Ford '66  
Terry Allen '67  
Phillip T. Hester '68  
Jack Daniels '69  
Walter D. Howard '69  
Ralph B. Morrow '69

All supporters of the project giving \$2,500 and above will be recognized on a prominently displayed plaque within the new house. All donors contributing \$1,000 or more to the campaign are listed below. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661.

Jack Cummings '72  
Marcus E. Rabil '79  
In memory of  
Gene Jenkins '80  
John Hollingsworth '85  
Mike Kaney '89  
Jarrod M. Dixon '97  
In honor of  
Fall 1997 pledge class  
Timothy B. Bowen '00  
William R. Lackey, III '01  
Ryan S. Kirkendall '04  
Brandon L. McPherson '04  
Peter L. Barnes '07  
Jimmy Davis '08  
Alex Lasek '11  
Adam Elshanawany '13  
Konnor H. Klingenberg '13

**Lavender & White Society**  
(\$2,500 to \$4,999)  
Raymond R. Uptegrove '60  
Robert Laine '61  
Samuel M. Dollyhigh '65  
Ersell C. Liles, Jr. '66  
Lawrence W. Redman '67  
Joe Watterson '81  
James R. Baggs '72  
William C. Campbell III '72

Nancy and Thomas A.  
Melton, III '74  
William L. Moore III '78  
Michael G. Talbot '78  
Theodore A. Cunningham '80  
In memory of  
Hawley Hegler '76  
and John Tola '81  
Michael Moles '90  
David Butts '91  
In memory of  
Kevin Vroome '92  
Brian E. Trent '92  
In memory of  
Kevin Vroome '92  
Gregory M. Gmyr '94  
Brian Norris '10  
Nick Despotos '13  
Zach Fearnside '15

**Delta Brotherhood Society**  
(\$1,000 to \$2,499)  
Skeens, Hook, Susan Family Gift  
Gerald B. Hurst '52  
In memory of  
James S. Caddell '52  
James S. Caddell '52  
Peter Kolf '83  
Fred E. Duyck '03  
Curtis Ledford '06

## PHENOMENAL 2019 FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION



Jack Daniels '69, Russ Johnston '65, Phil Hester '68, Paul Mitchell '66, Les Thornbury '67, Joe Watterson '69, Terry Allen '67, Berkley Godehn '66, and Bob Ford '66 at Rho's Founders Day celebration at Sammy's.



Alumni BOD members Brent Brewbaker, Jimmy Davis, and Brian Norris wondering if the great conversations during break would ever stop as to continue with the 2nd half of the meeting.



Jack Daniels '69, Russ Johnston '65, Phil Hester '68, Speedy Mitchell 'XX, Les Thornbury '67, Joe Watterson '69, Terry Allen '67, Berkley Godehn '66, Bob Ford '66, and Ersell Liles '66. Not pictured: Carey Gupton '69.



## LEADING THE PACK AT SIGMA PI

*Monroe Brothers Call Upon Alumni to Reflect on Rho Experience, Give to Capital Campaign*

**S**am Monroe '69 learned at a young age to look in the mirror and ask what he could do to leave the world a little better off each day. Rho Chapter reaffirmed Sam's mindset when he attended NC State, and for that he is still thankful.

Sam was thrilled that his younger brother, **Bill Monroe '71**, decided to follow in his footsteps to Sigma Pi. Bill and Sam both held multiple leadership positions as Rho undergraduates, including Sage. The Monroe brothers have fond memories of the chapter house on Clark Avenue, and it's important to them that future generations of Brothers reap the rewards of the Sigma Pi experience at our brotherhood's new home at 3408 Greek Way. Sam and Bill are calling upon their brothers to join them in donating to Rho's *Securing the Next Century* capital campaign.

"I was intrigued by the thought of making it possible for the chapter to remain vibrant and continue shaping lives," Sam said. "The current size of the fraternity is a tribute to how the brotherhood has carried on."

Bill added, "I learned a lot about myself and how to run a business, so I wanted to give back some of my resources so future generations of Rho brothers had the stability of their own house and could have a similar experience."

After Bill tried out for the Wolfpack freshman basketball team against the likes of David



*Bill Monroe '71 (far left) and his wife, Anna, with Sam Monroe '69 (far right) and his wife, JoAnna, on a 2019 hiking trip.*

Thompson, he realized that his potential as an architect would far exceed his talents on the court. The leadership skills Bill developed paid off as he worked his way through Design School and went on to start his own architectural firm in Charlotte, WGM Design. He has been heavily involved in the American Institute of Architects and was the NC Chapter President in 1997 and received an Honorary Doctorate of Human Letters Degree from Belmont Abbey College for his work there.

Sam got his start in the oil and gas industry with the help of Big **Dave Johnson '67**. "He was my job visit sponsor in Baton Rouge on a job recruiting trip. He worked for the company that made a gas additive, tetraethyl lead," Sam said. "I asked about the company's future. He

told me not to work for them because they would soon go out of business, though at the time they were thriving. He taught me to think strategically and out of the box." Sam took his advice and entered the petroleum engineering world and had assignments in Louisiana, Texas, Saudi Arabia, and is now president of Eagle Petroleum in California.

Sam and Bill are both happily married with grown children and have 12 grandchildren between them. Aside from his wife and Sam, Bill considers his senior year roommate and 2nd Counselor, **Jim Baggs '72**, to be his best friend.

"I know I can count on Jim at any time, in fact, I could call many of the brothers and get their help, if needed. That is the meaning of brotherhood."

With everything Rho has given the Monroe brothers, they are staying true to Sigma Pi's mission of inspiring, promoting, and supporting the lifelong development of our Brothers. As alumni reflect on their favorite Rho memories, Sam and Bill are encouraging them be a part of something special by donating to the campaign.

"Support the chapter and remember that it helped make you who you are," Bill said.

You can connect with Sam at [sammon417@icloud.com](mailto:sammon417@icloud.com) and Bill at [billm@steelwoodsolutions.com](mailto:billm@steelwoodsolutions.com).

## SERVING BROTHERHOOD AND COUNTRY

Caleb Lloyd '08 Reflects on His Time with Rho Chapter and the ROTC

**D**uring his freshman year, **Caleb Lloyd '08** lived in Wood Hall where half of his suite-mates joined ROTC while the other half rushed Sigma Pi. "I got along so well with all of them that I decided to join both the next year," Caleb said. Being a member of both organizations gave him a unique college experience filled with many lifelong friends.



tie around our shoes, and several shovels," Caleb said. "It was certainly a distinctive bonding experience."

That being said, Caleb is glad the chapter has a new home at 3408 Greek Way. "The new house has nice living arrangements," Caleb said. "I am glad to see the chapter has grown in size and moved into a bigger and better house." As a graduate

brother, Caleb has remained involved through maintaining the website for Rho Chapter's annual philanthropy event, the Break the Silence 5K. He also recently joined the Alumni Board and looks forward to helping improve the Greek experience at NCSU.

Caleb served as third counselor, treasurer, for two years and held the unofficial role of house manager back when Rho Chapter lived at 3414 Hillsborough Street. While at the old chapter house, Caleb remembers coordinating cleanup from a burst sewage pipe. "We bought 400 pounds of cat litter, some trash bags to

After graduating with a degree in computer engineering, Caleb worked as a software consultant as a civilian while serving as a captain in the Army National Guard. He was recently deployed in Kuwait along with one of his pledge brothers. Despite being thousands of miles away, Caleb stayed in touch with many of his fraternity brothers. "I'm still great friends with all those guys," Caleb said, "so maintaining that connection is really important to me."

Caleb recently returned to his home in Raleigh and is excited to be getting back to work with Rho Chapter. You can reach Caleb at [caleblloyd@gmail.com](mailto:caleblloyd@gmail.com) and learn more about the Break the Silence 5K at [www.ncsubreakthesilence.com](http://www.ncsubreakthesilence.com).

# RHO CHAPTER COLLEGIANS KEEP BONDS STRONG DURING PANDEMIC

*Undergraduate Brothers  
Make Their Mark in Raleigh  
Community*



*The Rho intramural basketball team.*

Despite lack of in-person gatherings during the second half of the spring semester and the summer, our brothers maintained the tight-knit community that is Sigma Pi. With strong leadership from the Executive Committee and advice from the national fraternity, Rho Chapter has adapted well to the difficult times. Small group sessions and virtual meetings have kept the special bonds of our brotherhood intact.

## Sharing Sigma Pi's Stance Against Racial Injustice

After returning to Raleigh for the fall semester, we are excited to make a difference on NC State's campus. Brothers are conscious of the racial injustice in our own community, and Sigma Pi has been using its organizational influence to express our heightened moral awareness. As our creed states, we are united in brotherhood to advance truth and justice and diffuse culture.

## Rho Remains Committed to Suicide Awareness and Prevention

Rho's philanthropic efforts have been rejuvenated in recent years and have been centered around suicide awareness and prevention. In the fall of 2019, we joined Triangle Survivors of Suicide to host a 5K walk/run and raised \$30,000 for community organizations that are united in our cause. While we were disappointed that the Break the Silence 5K that we co-host each spring with Phi Delta Theta was canceled this year due to COVID-19, we're hopeful to resume the tradition in 2021. The 2019 Break the Silence 5K raised more than \$12,000 for the NCSU counseling center. Rho has also enjoyed expanding its philanthropic endeavors over the past year to volunteering with the Museum of Science Ecostation fossil dig, Walnut Creek Wetland Center restoration, Miracle League of the Triangle, Shakori Hills Grassroots Festival of Music and Dance, and the SPCA of Raleigh.

## Advancing Our High Academic Standards

Our dedication to scholastic success the past few years has been evident with the gradual rise in Rho's GPA. This improvement stems from the hard work ethic and willing mindset of brothers to progress as individuals. In the fall of 2016, our chapter GPA was 2.86. Fast forward to the spring of 2020, and Rho's

THE

ALUMNI



RHOAR

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GPA stands at 3.42. We are very proud of the strides we've made, but also realize that we can't become complacent. Rho is committed to continuing its rise in the ranks to be the number one academic fraternity at NC State.

## Building on Rho's Robust Traditions

We held numerous brotherhood events last school year prior to the COVID-19 outbreak. Some of these events include campfires after sending a loved brother to the Adytum on High, an annual campout retreat, a mountain weekend trip to Gatlinburg, and a Thanksgiving meal in the chapter house that's become tradition these past few years.

As we inch toward the centennial celebration, we're excited to show what Sigma Pi is all about with our commitment to academics, philanthropy, social justice, and representing Rho in a positive manner in all that we do. We are thankful for the wonderful brotherhood that you, Rho's loyal alumni, have built over the past century. The active members are embracing the challenge of making Rho's second century even better than the first.

Fraternally,  
**Dylan Brack '17**  
Chapter President  
[debrack@ncsu.edu](mailto:debrack@ncsu.edu)

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### ADYTUM ON HIGH

**Austin L. Newsom Jr. '43** entered Chapter Eternal on July 2, 2019. A World War II veteran, he began his military career in 1943 as an aviation cadet in the Army Air Corps. Austin was among the first Americans to witness the atrocities of Buchenwald Concentration Camp, airlifting survivors back to hospitals. He retired for the Air Force in 1975, receiving the Legion of Merit, among other awards. Austin was highly involved in activities and community service in his home of Wilmington, N.C.

**William J. Bunn Jr. '71** entered Chapter Eternal on July 15, 2020. He worked for Koppers, and most recently for Lysaght & Associates, where he is known nationally for success in jobs with incredibly complex geometry. Bill will be remembered for sincerity, kindness, and warmth he shared with everyone he encountered.

### ALUMNI NEWS

**Gerald B. Hurst '52** is retired from two careers, including the United States Air Force. He is active in civic affairs and keeps in touch

with brothers from the early 1950s, including **Grady Sykes '54** and **Garland Pass '53**. Gerald's degree from NC State and association with Sigma Pi have served him well. He lives in Jacksonville, N.C.

**Charlton B. Strange Jr. '52** retired from dentistry and is a full-time cattle farmer. He lives in Danville, Va.

**Tony Riddle '65** worked as an architect for 43 years before retiring in 2017. For the last 14 years, he worked solely as a specifications writer for projects such as the Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson International Terminal in Atlanta. He also went to Kansas City to work with 360 Architecture and eventually HOK Architects to work on sports stadiums and arenas. Tony and Connie have one daughter, three sons, and seven grandchildren. They live in Prairie Village, Kan. Email: [triddle854@aol.com](mailto:triddle854@aol.com)

**Brandon McPherson '04** was named partner at Schwartz & Shaw, PLLC. He lives in Raleigh, N.C.