

## CHAPTER STRIKES GOLD WITH RECRUITMENT

by Ryan Fry

This past fall semester the undergraduates of Sigma Phi Epsilon recruited the biggest new member class with 54 men. This fall recruitment nearly doubled the size of our chapter, taking us from 67 active members to 107 active members. On top of that, SigEp recruited the most men out of any other fraternity on campus. This new class consists of majority first-year students who have a combined 3.5-grade point average. This could not have occurred

without the outstanding work of our Vice President of Recruitment, Jack Stilwell. Jack put together an exceptional rush schedule that included a 3v3 basketball tournament, a driving range event, a house tour, and cookout, and two invite-only events. Since receiving their bids, all 54 men have been through the Sigma Rite of Passage and are now full-fledged members within our fraternity.



## BROTHERS HONOR OUR FALLEN BROTHERS

By Dan Reagan '82

This Founders Day, CO Gamma brothers Xavier Mercer-Roberts (USAF) and Connor Williams (USMC) laid a memorial wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery to honor all of the brothers who have given their lives in the service of the country. The event is an annual event put on by my brother Ed Jones New York Eta chapter & retired US Navy chief petty officer as part of his SigEp Patriots Project to inspire, educate, honor, & remember SigEps who serve(d) and celebrate the fraternity's rich history of patriotic service.



## HOMECOMING MARKS THE RETURN OF JIMMY BUFFET

by Ryan Fry

That is right one of Colorado Gamma's biggest events has returned this Homecoming. The legendary tails of this historic event inspired the current undergraduates to host a 'Jimmy Buffet Reunion' celebration for parent's weekend/homecoming this semester.

On October 15th, we welcomed many of our distinguished alumni from the early 70's for their 50-year reunion, as well as friends and family, to the house. The SigEp house was decorated in a Margaritaville theme with tiki torches lining the walkway, a sand volleyball court, and other beach-themed decorations. It was an honor to have dozens of alumni

and family members in attendance and catch up with one another.

During the course of the day, several awards were presented to both our alumni and undergraduates. Alumni Volunteer Corporation (AVC) President, Dan Reagan, and Facilities Manager, Mitch Christ, were both presented with an 'Alumni of the Year Award' as voted upon by active members.

In turn, the AVC presented the 'Clifford B. Scott Key' award to 4 members, brothers Brendon Beaver, Chris Franquenmont, Ryan Fry, Martin Michalik all received a perfect 4.0 GPA.

The AVC also highlighted 28 members who received the 'Pen and Scroll Society' award, meaning they received a 3.5 GPA or higher last semester, to see the full list, go to <http://www.csusigep.org/academics>. The event was a tremendous success, and we cannot wait to host a similar event for homecoming next year!





# THE GODFATHER OF COLORADO GAMMA

by Dan Reagan '82

The significance of just who Pat Hurley was had been lost to the annals of time. But with the advent of the internet, search engines, and the digitization of old journals and newspapers we can once again pay our respect to Colorado Gamma's oldest and most loyal member. Walter Patrick (Pat) Hurley Class of 1900

Pat was born on March 27, 1877, in Fall River, Massachusetts. Raised in St. Elmo Colorado and graduated from the Gilpin High School in the Five Points neighborhood of Denver in 1895.

It should be told; Pat Hurley may not have been the best Mechanical Engineering student ever to attend Colorado Agricultural College. Like many young men new to college, he partook in all the benefits and caused much anxiety among the faculty during his early college days.

In his freshman year, he joined the San Juan Club where he took three meals a day. He soon met men much like himself, in time they banded together and organized as a secret society, the "Mystic Circle." The Mysticmen as they were known around campus were not only socially successful, but they were also hard-working and academically successful. They would all go on to become a real who's who on C.A.C. campus.

Pat himself would go on to accomplish a great deal in his time on campus. He became the Chief Trumpeter for the Battalion in his Junior year, First

Lieutenant and Battalion Adjutant in his Senior year. He played quarterback on the football team. A member of Philo-Aesthesian Literary Society; served on the program committee and became President of the Society his Senior year. Leader of the college Orchestra, Glee club Secretary and Treasurer. If that was not enough, he was the editor of the Athletic and Local columns for the Rocky Mountain Collegian Newspaper.

After graduation in 1900, Pat became an active member of the C.A.C. Alumni Association (Kind of a cross between our Al Hornung '61 and Jim Benemann '78). Because of his sharp wit and comedic humor, he was often tasked to serve as Toast Master for many of the C.A.C. alumni events over the years.

In 1905 when the men of the Mystic Circle reorganized as a local fraternity the "Tree Apes." The College required them to have a Chapter Advisor, so they called upon Pat Hurley their founder to fill the position. Pat would remain as the Chapter's Advisor through all the fraternity growth and reorganizations, "Tau Alpha", and finally "Sigma Phi Epsilon." That makes Pat the only person to be associated with all the reincarnations of Colorado Gamma.

In 1915 after more than a decade of loyalty to the fraternity, the men of the newly chartered SigEp fraternity formally recognized him for his commitment to the fraternity. The minutes from December 15, 1915, chapter meeting (the very first chapter meeting as SigEp) simply recorded "Mr. Hurley voted for honorary membership." However, it would not

be for another four years until he would actually be initiated into the mysteries of Sigma Phi Epsilon. The brothers announced the event in the December 6, 1919, issue of the SigEp Journal, Pat was issued the pin number 050-0088.

I believe that if Pat Hurley had the opportunity to address the undergraduate members of today, he would give them the same sage advice he gave the C.A.C. students in an address he wrote as an alumnus about his time at C.A.C. in the October 26, 1910, issue of the Rocky Mountain Collegian:

"Your time on the stage of action is short, so make the best of it to the glorification of the State which made it possible for you to reap an education, and the men who have guided your destinies on your way thru college."

Who knows how many lives he impacted, Pat Hurley tirelessly served as Alumni Advisor for well over 20, it is not exactly known when Pat Hurley actually stepped down as Chapter Advisor. What we do know is he remained faithful to CAC throughout his life, he even co-chaired the 50th reunion of the class of '00 in 1950.

Walter Patrick Hurley passed away on 7, Jan 1959 at the age of 81 and is buried at Grandview Cemetery in Fort Collins next to his beloved wife Ada.

You can read Walter Patrick Hurley detailed biography by going to <http://www.csusigep.org/life-and-times-of-pat-hurley> or just scan the QR Code.



## ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL SPECAT

By Dave Madden '79

72 players made it out to Green Valley Ranch Golf Club for the 28th annual SPE Alumni Golf Tournament. Thanks to all of those players who participated in this year's event. We had eight undergrads from the Chapter join us, and it was fun to get to know these young men.

Most importantly, this year's tournament raised \$5,000 for the Colorado Gamma RLC Fund, that brings our 6-year giving

total to just over \$27,500. Not bad for a casual summer golf outing!

Once again, the awards luncheon, raffle, and auction proved to be a big success. Master of Ceremonies Jim Benemann '78 did an outstanding job auctioning off the fabulous gifts which were all donated by tournament participants. A very sincere thank you to all those brothers who participated with their gifts and/or their generous bidding.

Finally, congratulations to this year's winning team. Rox Shain '85, Bob Wolf '85, Chris Herring '85 and Dan Reagan '82. Their winning score was an astonishing 56, which was 16 under par.

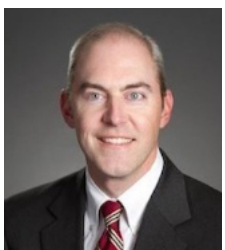


## MUCH HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED THIS YEAR!

The AVC would like to thank everyone for their support, and we would especially like give a little recognition a few special individuals for going above and beyond with the time and energy they dedicate to the fraternity.



At this year's homecoming ceremonies Brother Claude Smith '72 received the Volunteer Excellence Award as a testament to the devoted service he has shown for his brothers of the Colorado Gamma Chapter by organizing their 50-year reunion.



Steve Fry University of Houston '92 was recognized for being the Outstanding New Volunteer for the 23rd District by Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters for his dedication and commitment to the CSU/ SigEp Chapter. Steve currently serves as the AVC Secretary.



This year marked the 28th SPEcat golf Tournament and in recognition of that milestone the AVC recognized Brothers Dave Madden '79, Tom Krause '88 and Jerre Dixon '67 all received Outstanding Volunteer

Awards for organizing and running this great event. The AVC recognized Brother Jim Benemann '78 for always volunteering to be the Master of Ceremony for many Colorado Gamma events.

## CHAPTER ESTABLISHES NEW LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

by Ryan Fry and Dan Reagan



This past August, fourteen of the undergraduate Chapter leaders, the AVC Members, Our District Governor, Joel Saslaw, all meet up at the CSU Mountain Campus for two days of Leadership Training and Workshops.

The goal of our new leadership programming is to identify future leaders of our fraternity and have them learn from the current executive board and AVC about how to shape the next year's undergraduate SigEp experience and to help these members realize their ability to lead themselves, their peers and to make wise decisions to succeed throughout college and beyond graduation.

The members' first session was to face the Low Elements Challenge Course at the mountain campus it is designed to enhance team building and personal growth by taking risks, team communications, group problem solving, and leadership skills are all common focal points.

Another team-building challenge was the assembly of the "Mars Rover" a set of building blocks with I-hooks that had to be reassembled via a set of groups tethered to a hook to pick up the blocks. Not an easy task if everyone does not work together. We must have done well our instructor was quite impressed with how well everyone communicated, supported, and worked together to complete the assembly in record time.

The evening work sessions were focused on learning about the characteristics and traits of a leader, and identifying our personal values. The workshop on the second day focused on the Chapter experience. Time was spent identifying what are and what should the chapter values be. Then they were asked to identify the challenges the chapter is facing. The group then performed a SWAT analysis and set SMART goals on how to improve the chapter experience for the better.

The retreat provided the future leaders with insight into the inner workings of the executive board and provided them with the framework to continue to set up Colorado Gamma for success long into the future.

## GARY HALLEY – DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

The AVC wishes to recognize Brother Gary Halley, '60, for his professional success and the significant contributions he has made to the University and Colorado Gamma. Gary has played an instrumental role in the transformation Business School into a modern, state-of-the-art teaching facility.

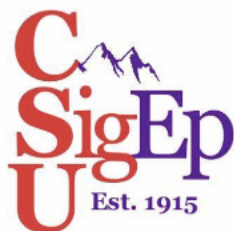
After he returned from the Korean war, Gary enrolled at CSU and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in business in 1960. His passion for business led to a successful career that has allowed him to give back in so many ways.

Gary donated more than \$2 million to the College of Business which has enabled the development of programs that give students hands-on experience in investing. Students are exposed to cutting-edge tools and ideas in finance that prepare them with the skills and confidence they need to excel in the investment profession.

He has also established scholarships for military veterans and first-generation students in the College of Business that gives students access to a world-class education at CSU and opportunities that

may not have been possible otherwise. In 2017 the Colorado State University Alumni Association recognized with their Distinguished Alumni Award.





SUMMER 2021

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**HELP STRENGTHEN COLORADOGAMMA**

I would like to begin by saying thank you to all our 2021 donors! Last year we raised more than \$57,000dollars towards supporting current chapter programming and our goal of building a \$1 million educational endowment for the chapter.

Your gifts will help deserving young men change their lives in dramatic and lasting ways. Now with both local and national programming we are sending more men to more leadership programming. Training helps develop their personal skillsets, hone their leadership abilities, and gain an advantage in life after college.

Please help strengthen the Colorado Gamma LC fund with your gift through the

SigmaPhi Epsilon Educational Foundation. It is a 100%tax-deductible donation.

Simply visit <https://give.sigep.org/give/211426/#!/donation/checkout>. All donations are restricted to supporting Colorado Gamma undergraduates.

Thank you for believing in our Fraternity and its ability to build balanced men. Happy Holidays!

Dan Reagan  
AVC President



**CLASS NOTES**

Connor Williams '21 is Rifle Platoon Commander with 2nd Battalion, 7th Marines soon to be stationed out at 29 Palms.

Xavier Mercer-Roberts '22 is Acquisition Management Officer with the F-35 Joint Program Office in DC working program management for the Combat Data Systems PMO.

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