

CHAPTER LIFE DURING COVID-19



In spite of restrictions due to COVID-19, the brotherhood remains strong and Chapter business continues to get done safely.

By Ryan Lamson



Colorado Gamma and all of Greek life at CSU have endured a significant sacrifice during this pandemic. As members of SigEp, it is especially important to be role models on campus and do our part to keep everyone safe during this unprecedented time. That being said, our chapter has taken the COVID restrictions very seriously and done the best we can at providing a good chapter experience without putting our community and ourselves at risk.

This semester, the university has halted almost all activities and events. Even during these tight restrictions, our chapter was able to find ways to stay connected and provide a meaningful experience for our brothers. We were able to maintain these connections in a variety of COVID-friendly ways.

Colorado Gamma has met every week on Zoom for our Chapter Meetings this past semester. Although these meetings aren't the traditional experience, we have been able to make the most of

them and have great conversations about the betterment of our chapter. We have also been able to virtually continue our Balanced Man Program Challenges. This includes weekly Zoom meetings for challenge classes and provides a meaningful curriculum that brothers can do on their own or in small groups. Some examples include Alumni guest speakers and classes on manners and what it means to be a gentleman. We have also had the opportunity to put on a few ski trips and camping trips with brothers this spring semester. These have been a great way to keep brothers connected while following the guidelines put in place. While our ability to connect in person was limited, we were still able to bring brothers together and make strong connections.

Colorado Gamma is very excited to start hosting events next semester. Our chapter is planning to be completely in-person, given the university allows it. All things considered, the outlook is very good, and all of our members are in great spirits about the semester to come.

THE POWER OF SMALL GIFTS

The past year has taken its toll on us all. In addition to the daily uncertainty of a global pandemic, the economic landscape has been pushed to its limits. Understandably, one would expect many families to have tightened their belts and reined in philanthropic efforts and charitable giving. However, what you may not know is that charitable giving in the United States actually increased in 2020, jumping by as much as 2%, according to some sources.

One explanation for this surge is the rise of microphilanthropy - small acts of daily giving, rather than large, lump sum gifts. As attitudes toward charity continue to change, many Americans see great value in supporting causes near to them with smaller, more dispersed giving. Additionally, credit card fees and other barriers have largely adjusted and no longer stand in the way of small gifting.

In the case of Colorado Gamma, small gifts mean the world to our mission, and they add up quickly. So, if you are on the fence about giving, please know how valued even the smallest of contributions is to the mission of Sigma Phi Epsilon. There is power in numbers, and together, we can help make SigEp a premier undergraduate experience at Colorado State for generations to come.

You can donate through the CSU/SigEp Learning Community fund :
<http://www.csusigep.org/rlc-giving>

RECHARTERING: NEXT STEPS IN OUR RETURN TO CAMPUS



In the Spring of 2014, Colorado Gamma was shuttered when we lost recognition from Colorado State University. Subsequently, our charter from Sigma Phi Epsilon Headquarters was stripped and the chapter went on a four-year hiatus from CSU.

While the mistakes of our past are well-documented, so too is the remarkable work the Chapter has done since returning to campus. Now nearing seventy members and with a fully occupied house expected in the fall of 2021, CO Gamma has proven its viability at CSU and is trending upward in every metric. However, in the eyes of Headquarters, our chapter is still considered a colony. The next major

milestone in our return to Colorado State is the restoration of our national charter.

The charter process exists to prevent fly-by-night groups from watering down the SigEp brand. Criteria has been established to measure the aptitude and commitment of every group of men who colonize, and this information is then evaluated by Headquarters to determine their candidacy for charter.

AVC Member **Ryan Garthright '10** is leading the charge on this front and is optimistic about the attainment of a charter in the coming semesters.

"We are currently in the process of rechartering," says Garthright, "Each semester starting last spring, we have petitioned headquarters to earn our

charter. HQ wants us to be a self-sustaining and high performing chapter." To prove our case, Garthright is leading the collection and documentation of several key metrics. This is a comprehensive effort, with both undergraduates and AVC members pitching in to develop our petition. Areas of interest for headquarters include finances, standards, member development, recruitment, volunteer board, academics, leadership, and culture.

Unsurprisingly, the bar for chartering is extremely high and colonies typically petition multiple times before earning their charter. Still, the future looks extremely bright for Colorado Gamma. Says Garthright, "We are tracking in the right direction in all areas, and if continued, I expect we earn the charter within a few semesters."

PRESERVING THE PAST: HELP COLORADO GAMMA DOCUMENT OUR HISTORY

My name is Dan Reagan '82, and I am the AVC Historian. For some time now I have been researching and compiling the rich history of Colorado Gamma. Only recently have I begun incorporating that material in the Chapter website. If you haven't had the opportunity, please check it out: <http://www.csusigep.org/>.

We are attempting to make our records/history as complete as possible. The material we are now are searching for has been lost from the Chapter archives and cannot be found online. So, we need your help!

We are asking you to pull out your old college storage boxes from the attic and reminisce for a bit. In particular, we are seeking:

- Composites - (hard or digital copies)
- Varsity Lettermen - (names, letters, short bios, digital photos)
- Military Service - (rank, service history, duty stations, awards, digital photo)
- Undergraduate Executive Offices - (year, name, position)
- House Mothers or Resident Scholars - (name, years in position)
- Chapter Achievements/Awards - (Intermural, IFC awards, other)
- Copy of old Spears (or any chapter/alumni communications)
- Ideas for future articles or individual(s) you feel should be profiled

Please contact me directly with any questions or you can send us any information you have (even if it is only a lead) to me at dsreagan@reaganpartnership.com and we will take it from there researching, cataloging, archiving, incorporating in the material.

OBITUARIES

The alumni and undergraduates of Colorado Gamma mourn the loss of the following brothers. Our thoughts and sincerest condolences go to their families, friends and loved ones:

Staff Sergeant Don "Bill" Albertson '49

Bill was a World War II Veteran, 89th Bombardment Squadron, 3rd Bombardment Group in the Pacific Theater of Operations. Graduated from Colorado A&M with a degree in chemistry and physics. His notable awards include the Bronze Star.

Donald Kenneth Reichert '52

Don was a Colorado A&M letterman in football, track and field, and wrestling. He earned a degree in Physical Education and General Science; he completed his master's degree in 1956. Don was a Mortar and Tank Turret Instructor from 1952-1954 at Camp Roberts and Camp Irwin in CA. A lifelong coach, teacher and administrator and lifetime member of the Colorado Wrestling Official's Association.

Lt. Col Charles "Chuck" Simon '54

Served active duty in the Air Force for 3 years, served in

the Air Force Reserves for 25 years as an intelligence staff officer with duties at Air Defense Command, NORAD, and Pacific Air Command. He retired as a Lt Col. He was the area Air Force Academy liaison officer for 40 years.

Perry Venard '71

Perry received a degree in accounting from CSU which wasn't much help in his chosen profession, plumbing. He seldom charged what his services were worth. He and his wife, Judy were married 42 years. They had one daughter, Sarah who was Perry's pride and joy. An avid skier,

talented bowler, unmatched conversationalist, and loving father, brother and grandfather, Perry loved life.

Kenneth Michael Stubler '75

Ken held multiple degrees from CSU, CU, and Oklahoma State University. Spent more than 45 years in the health services industry. Credited SigEp and CSU for helping him grow and mature. Ken was known for his ability to broker all "discussions" to a meeting of the minds. A lauded home chef with a unique sense of humor, he is survived by the love of his life and sous chef, Kathryn.

SALUTE TO SERVICE: Lieutenant Colonel Victor Reynolds Bird '62 Benevolent Warrior

To be a benevolent warrior is to do justice, to show kindness, and to walk humbly among both those you saved and fought against.

Vic was commissioned in the infantry in June 1962 upon graduation from Colorado State University. He spent 25 years of active duty as a United States Army Infantry Officer. His overseas assignments included: Republic of Korea (13 months); Vietnam (two tours, 2 years); and Germany (6 years).



Vic received the **Legion of Merit** for his work from 1968 through 1969, when he was responsible for training Regional and Popular Force troops in Vietnam. He fought alongside the troops he trained in more than 100 combat operations.

His trained forces efforts aborted enemy fire directed against his District and effectively neutralized the Viet Cong infrastructure. His advice and assistance to the District Revolutionary Development Council were influential in making it a responsive community organization. He initiated more than 40 development projects including school repairs, agricultural assistance, and road, disciplinary and market construction.

Vic was awarded the **Silver Star** for gallantry in action on March 6, 1969. When his unit came under attack by hostile sized force, Vic directed mortar and heavy artillery support from nearby American units. Bravely exposing himself to a continuous barrage of hostile fire, he adjusted the artillery support to inflict heavy casualties upon the enemy.

When he saw the Vietnamese Company Commander wounded, he assumed control of the company. Exposed to intense hostile fire, he ran from position to position, encouraging the men. He inspired his Vietnamese comrades to regroup and set up defensive positions. Eventually the unit halted the enemy advance. Under intense hostile fire, Vic bravely led a group of soldiers toward the enemy position to evacuate his wounded and assist in their medical treatment.

Vic was awarded the **Meritorious Service Medal** in late April 1975, when the North Vietnamese Army was approaching Saigon. The capitol of South Vietnam was about to fall and President Gerald Ford ordered all American civilians to evacuate along with South Vietnamese refugees. Vic was responsible for the planning effort which resulted in the rapid and successful preparation of the Southeast Asia refugee center at Fort Indiantown Gap in Lebanon County Pennsylvania in May 1975.

For eight months, Fort Indiantown Gap housed more than 20,000 Vietnamese and Cambodian refugees.

Today, 46 years later, there are more 1.3 million immigrants from Vietnam. They and their 300,000 or so children, along with their culture and cuisine, have become yet another inextricable strand that make-up the American fabric. Vic's actions have directly benefited 3 generations of Vietnamese families.

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CLASS NOTES

Colorado Gamma would like to recognize the following brothers for their recent milestones, celebrations, and news:

Phil Hayford '70 and his wife, Sandy (Colorado State, Chi Omega), celebrated their 51st Wedding Anniversary. Phil just finished his 50th year as a High School Football Coach and became the winningest coach in Pinellas County, Florida.

Robert F. Hainlen '50 celebrated his 94th birthday. Bob was and is the youngest starting quarterback ever at CSU. He was only 17 when he first started for the Aggies and led them to a bowl game in 1949. He later married the homecoming queen.

Jordan Koslosky '16 is engaged to be married to Julia Adams.

Justin Gabriel '11 and his wife, Alyssa (University of Colorado) welcomed the birth of their son, Hudson.



REGISTRATION FOR THE 2021 SPECAT IS OPEN!

Great news for golfers – the Sigma Phi Epsilon Colorado Area Tournament is back and registrations are open now! After the unfortunate cancellation of last year's event due to COVID-19, organizers are moving ahead with the 2021 iteration of this beloved alumni event. The tournament will be held **Friday, August 20, 2021 from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM MDT at Green Valley Ranch Golf Club (4900 Himalaya Road Denver, CO 80249).**

Entry fees for the tournament are \$150 per person. Teams can register online today by visiting www.csusigep.org or <https://conta.cc/3eaALY5>.

Questions and comments can be directed to Dave Madden at 720.218.0727 or dave.md.madden@gmail.com.



SUMMER 2021

Red Door House Corporation

P.O. Box 2051
Fort Collins, CO 80522

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



The Brothers of Colorado Gamma Would like to recognize the following brothers for reaching significant alumni milestones:

50-Year Club

Class of '71

David Shaw, Roger Klopfenstein,
Todd McIntyre, Perry Venard,
David Wilke, Steven Hanson, Rick
Jussel, Frederick Marlette, David
Miles, Steve Rubright, Sidney
Smith, Stephen Wilcox, Gary Miles

60-Year Club

Class of '61

Gordon Appel, Kenneth
Broadhurst, Alfred Henderson,
Al Hornung, Pal Hornung, Lee
Jeffers, Miguel Leman, Joseph
Marcus, Lee Marteney, Jerry
Schopf, Philip Deems, Robert
Hayes, James Hindman, Fred
Hodge, Stanley Smith

70-Year Club

Class of '51

Norman Klements, William
Dunn, John Crane, Gene Gingery,
David Gates, Paul Morris, James
McCafferty, Paul Alexander,
Lewis Johnson, Eugene Miller,
David Myers, George Williams,
Richard Taylor, James White,
Craig Sandusky, Charles
Swanson, Allen Koeneke

75+ Year Club

Max Brown '46
Jack McKee '46
Donald Oldemeyer '46
Harold Confer 1946
Earl Mortenson '45
Charles Campbell '45
Robert Kinghorn '45
Richard Kingman '44
Russell Carver '44 -100 years old

Help us we can stay in contact with you! Have you recently moved, retired, had a changed in email address?

Update your information today at www.csusigep.org/alum-update.

SHARE YOUR STORY

Getting a new job? Volunteering around the world? Writing a book? Playing in a band? Just moved?

STAY CONNECTED

Our SigEp brothers live all across the globe but staying connected is easier than ever — you are always just a click away! You can check in anytime you like and update your information at CSUSigEp.org. The site is updated regularly, so be sure to check it out regularly! While there, you can check out some great history about the chapter, profiles on many of our distinguished brothers, news and information on the current happenings at the chapter, and all the new members.

And if you're looking to for more interactive ways to stay connected, check us out on social media. We are on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and YouTube!

CONNECT

WWW.CSUSIGEP.ORG