

Career Event!

The ninth annual Sigma Pi career event is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, February 6-7, 2014. The program for this year is as follows:

Thursday, February 6

- 3:00-5:30 p.m. – Interview skills, resume writing, and networking workshop; *JF Wait Advisors – 40 East 73rd Street (between Park and Madison), New York, NY 10021*
- 6:00-9:00 p.m. – Networking dinner with alumni; *Enduro Restaurant – 919 Third Avenue at 56th Street (Al Rosen's '91) new restaurant)*

Friday, February 7

- Students to spend time with selected alumni at various businesses in the NYC area

We are looking for alumni who would like to attend the Thursday, February 6, dinner. We have approximately 12 to 15 seats available. We are also asking each alumnus who attends to underwrite an undergraduate's dinner. Estimated cost for alumni per person is approximately \$85 to \$95 a head.

In addition, we are looking for alumni to host students at their office on Friday, February 7, in the professional fields: investment banking, sales and trading, wealth management, asset management, human resources, consulting, law, hospitality, marketing, health care, or information technology.

Please let me know of your potential interest and involvement as we begin to plan another successful career event for the undergraduates.

Thank you,
Jarett Wait '80
jwait@jfwaitadv.com

Centennial Recap: A Grand Success!

**By Kurt Rasmussen '80
Alumni Vice-President**

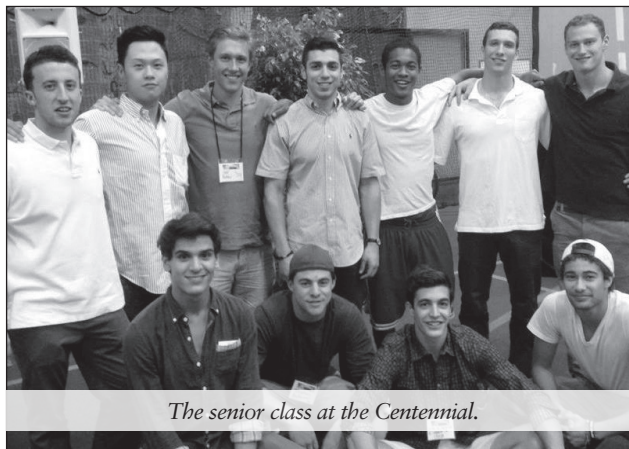
Enveloped by splendid early-fall weather, an assembly of over 200 brothers and their guests gathered in Ithaca this September to celebrate the 100-year anniversary of Sigma Pi at Cornell. Brothers spanning classes from 1955 to 2017 shared in the celebration of our remarkable history.

Immediately upon entering the Pi-house, guests were greeted by current undergraduate brothers at a bannered welcome desk, complete with vital information for the weekend and commemorative shirts and hats for sale. Throughout the house, poster-sized enlargements of photographs from the past 60 years of Sigma Pi activities were exhibited. The posters included photographs of everything from group shots of the 1954 pledge formal and 1977 Homecoming to Zoltan performing at Rock n' Roll Tea and Ring-around-the-Dong at Fun-in-the-Sun. Also scattered throughout the house were copies of the original flyers for 805 at Rock n' Roll Tea and Toad the Wet Sprocket at Hurlothrumbo. The weekend started on Thursday night with a sumptuous Steaks n' Bakes cookout on the front porch. Refreshing adult beverages were consumed over hours of lively conversation, and many brothers made the requisite late-night pilgrimage to the Hot Truck (yes, it's still there and still popular).



Beginning early Friday morning, 28 brothers golfed at Cornell's Robert Trent Jones Golf Course. Remarkably, no one was hurt. That night, the kick-off dinner was held at the Ramin Room in Bartles Hall. The casual diners enjoyed a cocktail hour and delightful meal from Cornell Catering while a slide show of photographs of Pi-Man escapades from the past 60 years projected continuously. After the meal, the proud tradition of after-dinner announcements was revived. Brothers shared both old memories and thoughts about the future. In addition, the "rest of the story" story behind a selection of Name That Pi-Man photos was presented as a slide show. It was also announced that Sigma Pi had introduced a new philanthropic student organization to campus, College Mentors for Kids, and that the undergraduate brothers would play a significant role in the student leadership of the organization. The night ended with another lively party back at the house.

Saturday morning started early (8:30!) with a coaches panel and breakfast in Friends Hall. In a grand, wood-paneled room overlooking Schoellkopf Field, about 40 Pi-men were treated to a presentation on the present and future of Cornell's most acclaimed sports teams. The venerable and resplendent Richie Moran led the interactive discussion with Cornell's hockey, lacrosse, and wrestling coaches. After the discussion, the Pi-men were given a private



The senior class at the Centennial.

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Centennial Recap: A Grand Success!

(continued from pg. one) tour of Lynah Rink and the new, state-of-the-art athletic training and wrestling facilities. Later that afternoon, Associate Professor Jeff Hancock, Department of Psychology, delivered a stimulating lecture entitled

"The Psychology of Money." More than 100 people packed the Lynch Room in the Johnson Art Museum, with its panoramic view of Cayuga Lake. In his talk, Dr. Hancock addressed the potentially problematic financial inequality that exists in the United States. The talk catalyzed a spirited discussion; Dr. Hancock stayed to answer questions for over an hour.

As day turned to night, Pi-men and their guests migrated to the Statler Hotel's Grand Ballroom for the semi-formal Centennial Dinner. Before dinner, Sigma Pi's national grand second counselor, Andrew Morris, announced that Jim Keene '57 was to receive the Sigma Pi Founders Award. Jim is only the 96th person to receive this prestigious award. Next, NASA flight surgeon Joe Dervay '80 surprised the crowd by announcing that the Sigma Pi charter was, at that moment, circling the earth on the International Space Station (ISS). Joe worked with his friend and NASA astronaut Captain Chris Cassidy to get the charter aboard the ISS. As he projected images of the charter free-floating in space



inside the space station, Joe read a greeting from Captain Cassidy: "To the brothers of Sigma Pi at Cornell - Much congratulations upon celebrating the 100-year anniversary of your fraternity. It was an honor to fly your charter, and I truly hope you enjoy the images from space. All the best as you begin your second century of brotherhood."

Following the sumptuous meal, Jim Keene entertained the gathering with a stirring slide presentation on the distinguished history of Sigma Pi at Cornell. The presentation included a video message from Dr. Frank Rhodes (ninth president of Cornell) and was punctuated with a cappella songs from the tuxedoed Hangovers. At the end of the evening, all present raised their glasses in a toast as they sang "The Men of Sigma Pi."

Following this memorable event, the brothers and their guests returned to the house for the Centennial blast: two simultaneous parties! In the west lounge, Mark Nadler, for years the featured entertainer at Sardi's in NYC, provided cabaret-style entertainment while playing the Pi-house's newly tuned grand piano. Mark led a room full of people singing both old and current favorites (from Billy Joel to Frank Sinatra). The undergrads helped fill the room with song. If they needed help, Mark sent links/texts to the un-

dergrads who sang as they read the lyrics on their smartphones. While people were singing in the west lounge, bands were rocking the dining room. Howie Gordon '81 played the drums for one set with his band Men with Big Hips before joining the Band of Brothers (Sandy Kraker '74, Dave D'Orlando '79, Jay Sacco'80, Kevin Kruse'79, Brian Finneran'81, and Owen McCarron'80) for several hours of hard-core rock and roll. Multiple generations of Pi-men and Pi-Women danced to Sigma Pi favorites from bands like the Stones, Jethro Tull, and Led Zepplin. Sometime after 1:00 a.m., Cornell Safety arrived to tell us to turn down the volume—a sure sign of a good party.

Dawn on Sunday greeted a weary, but happy group of Pi-men. Brothers gathered on the front porch for brunch and final goodbyes on another beautiful day. A large contingent also trekked to The Pines to enjoy the iconic meal of Pinesburgers and bloodies.

At the end of the weekend, all agreed the party that was "one century in the making" was a grand success!



Mark Nadler playing the piano in the west lounge at the Centennial.



Be Part of It! Centennial Appeal Starts Strong

By Jarett Wait '80
Alumni President

Brothers,

During our gala Centennial celebration on September 5-8, Mu of Sigma Pi launched an appeal to raise \$250,000 for the purpose of retiring our mortgage and to fund future needed infrastructure improvements to our house on University Avenue. The alumni board plans to close this appeal on August 30, 2014.

To date, we have raised \$58,007 or 23.2% of our goal of \$250,000, and total alumni participation is at 5.4%, with 100% of the board invested. We thank those who have contributed,

and ask for your participation with a one-time gift or multi-year pledge.

I'd personally like to thank our class leaders for their efforts:

Jim Keene '57
Van Robinson '57
Ed Kemp '68
Bill Strusz '73
Steve Booth '74
Bill Forman '76
Mike Anderson '77
John Haggerty '78
Kent Sheng '78
Dave D'Orlando '79

Luc Chabot '80
Gary Derck '81
Joe Ruocco '81
Tim Hawes '82
Dennis McNamara '83
Greg Vojnovic '85
Jason Halio '93
Trevor White '07
Aaron Klein '12
Zach Smith '13

We are currently looking for additional class leaders in the following eras: 1960–1965, 1987–1989, 1996–2005, and 2008–2011. Please contact me if you are interested in assisting.

Be part of Sigma Pi's second century as you have been part of its first. Contribute today. Visit www.SigmaPiCornell.org to make an easy, secure gift or multi-year pledge to our appeal online, or send your check made out to Mu of Sigma Pi to P.O. Box 876, Ithaca, NY 14851.



HERITAGE CENTENNIAL CAMPAIGN DONORS TO DATE

Michael E. Anderson '77
Albert M. Beck '52
Craig F. Binetti '77
Gale H. Brooks '54
Thomas W. Brotherton Jr. '74
Wayne S. Buder '79
James J. Burns '56
Dick Cahoon '76
William Cavanaugh '78
Luc G. Chabot '80
Milton A. Chace '56
Peter A. Chase '70
Andrew John Chatham '12
Jonathan P. Coll '01
Jeffrey L. Craver '75
Mark G. Cunha '77
David C. DeCecco '91

Steven T. Decker '85
Robert Stephens DeLaney '58
Joseph P. Dervay '80
John P. Diamond '58
David C. D'Orlando '79
Henry Dunnenberger III '77
Miguel A. Ferrer '91
Jonathan M. Fordin '80
James R. Franz '77
Thomas M. Garr '76
Evan L. Gilbert '03
Wesley R. Grace '62
John J. Haggerty '78
Jason Douglas Halio '93
Frederick C. Hoge '72
James F. Hulvat '99
James H. Keene III '57

C. Edward Kemp '68
David J. Knapp '83
James A. Kraker '74
Kevin C. Kruse '79
Peter A. Laird '07
Dennis P. McNamara '83
Stephen A. Mongeau '78
John W. Morrison '75
Peter A. Muth '74
James R. Myers '77
Christopher B. Olie '79
Randy Ottinger '80
Matthew D. Pens '00
Michael G. Rantz '81
Kurt Rasmussen '80
Frederick J. Reeg Jr. '74
Donald G. Rider '69

VanNess D. Robinson '57
Joseph B. Ruocco '81
Livi Victor Rusu '98
Kent G. Sheng '78
Rohan A. Siddhanti '12
Jeffrey Benjamin Stambough '07
John B. Stetson Jr. '75
Jan H. Suwinski '63
Nicholas S. Vojnovic '81
Jarett F. Wait '80
Joshua A. Weinreich '82
Barry P. Weiss '81
Clifford J. Wengert '53
Harlan R. Wengert '48
Trevor Barnes White '07



Sage's Report: Commitment to Excellence Continues

By James Alvarez '16, Sage

The fall 2013 semester has gone very smoothly for the active brothers of Sigma Pi. I am proud to report on the many ways our chapter continues to excel. Overall, the bonds of brotherhood and fraternal spirit at 730 University Avenue are very strong. We started things off with a very busy move-in week. There are currently 34 brothers living in the house. All of the rooms are fully occupied. There is never a dull moment in the Pi house with so many brothers always around! We have not taken in any new members this fall. As usual, we are continuing to focus on spring recruitment only. The highlight of the entire fall was the Centennial celebration, which occurred in the first weekend of September. It would be a challenge to recount all the momentous stories from the weekend. But suffice it to say that I, and most of the active brothers, will remember it as one of the best weekends that we



have spent at Cornell. Being part of a momentous gathering that brought so many brothers here will be a memory that will long endure—and only reinforces my appreciation of Sigma Pi Mu Chapter. The Centennial was promptly followed by Homecoming Weekend. Several more alumni visited, which was great to see. We had a rainy Saturday for the football game, but the Big Red still prevailed on the gridiron. The weekend also featured a formal dinner at the Pi house, which was another highlight of the semester.

As the summer waned, time on the Beach dwindled, but the brothers of Sigma Pi yet again answered the call of Ralph Wilson Stadium, the home of the Buffalo Bills. Our annual trip to Buffalo was another great success. Almost 30 brothers attended, Pat Spirawck cooked an extensive tailgate, and, best of all, the Bills defeated the defending Super Bowl champions, the Baltimore Ravens. In philanthropic pursuits, the men of Sigma Pi have also been leaving a significant mark on Cornell's campus. Thanks to the initiative of Kurt Rasmussen '80, five of our brothers have been able to assume executive roles on the board of College Mentors for Kids. This new organization on campus

connects local elementary-school students to mentors from Cornell and facilitates a weekly educational activity with brothers and their little buddies. Beyond the five board members, several more Pi men, including myself, have joined the organization and help each week as mentors. We are growing quickly; each week we increase the number of buddies and mentors. To give any indication of how fast the organization has taken off, the executive board was able to interview and choose 40 mentors from a pool of hundreds of applicants.

In addition, we held our annual Movement campaign. Nearly every brother signed up to grow mustaches for the entire month of November. The purpose of this activity is to visibly raise awareness about men's health issues and to raise funds for research in prostate cancer, testicular cancer, and mental health issues. These are important issues for our brotherhood, and we are continuing our commitment to the cause.

Again, I am so proud to be able to report such wonderful news from Mu Chapter. I give my sincerest thanks to all the brothers who have made and will continue to make Sigma Pi an enduring treasure in our lives.

College Mentors for Kids, a Part of Mu Chapter

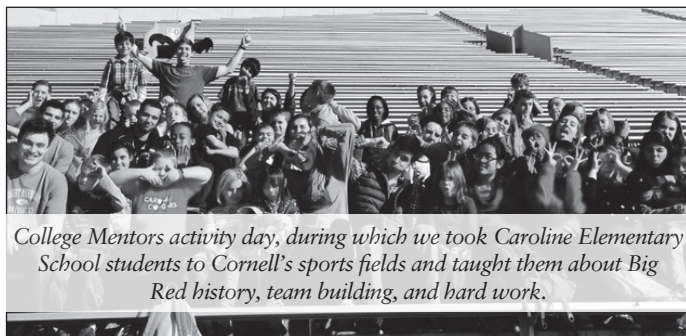
By Jacob Laufer '15
President, College Mentors for Kids

Toward the middle of spring semester 2013, the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi got word of a non-profit organization that would be coming to Cornell with the hope of significant brotherhood involvement. To be quite honest, none of us had ever heard of "College Mentors for Kids," the non-profit organization that is based out of Indiana, but it wasn't long before it became a big part of our chapter and its members' lives.

It all began through the involvement of Brother Kurt Rasmussen '80 and his dream of one day having College Mentors for Kids be a part of his alma mater. Having spent time on the board of the national organization in Indiana, Kurt was passionate about the program and saw its positive impact on all of its existing chapters throughout the United States. Although the organization had not yet branched out to any universities on the East Coast, the idea was definitely an

exciting one for the small non-profit staff. Because forming a new chapter of any organization takes more than just vision, Kurt then pushed the idea to the alumni board of Sigma Pi Mu Chapter as an opportunity for our brotherhood to exemplify what can and should be expected of the Greek community at Cornell—and simply as a way to get involved with a great cause. The alumni board loved the idea, seeing the great potential for the organization and future undergraduate brotherhood. We thank the Mu Chapter of Sigma Pi Educational Foundation for providing the initial seed money that was needed to get the organization on its feet.

In short, College Mentors for Kids is an organization formed to "connect college students with the most to give to kids who



College Mentors activity day, during which we took Caroline Elementary School students to Cornell's sports fields and taught them about Big Red history, team building, and hard work.

need it most." Through weekly activities with local elementary school students, the organization aims to provide a role model in the lives of many and a firsthand experience of the fun, hard work, and opportunity that are abundant on a college campus. Most of the elementary school students come from underprivileged backgrounds, many lack significant role models in their lives, some may not ever consider going to college, and all can benefit from the engaging activities that the organization can provide.

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Sigma Pi Gets Hairy with Philanthropy

By Connor Riser '16
Philanthropy Chair

The brothers of Sigma Pi got off to a great start this school year in terms of philanthropic events. Just three months into the year, the brotherhood has already participated in numerous community service and philanthropy events around campus. Brothers have attended Delta Gamma's Walk for Sight, Pi Beta Phi's Pi Burger Phry, Cornell's Into the Streets, and many more. In addition to those events, brothers have already agreed to participate in many upcoming projects, such as Alpha Phi's Ivy Man and Delta Gamma's Anchor Slam.

A highlight is No Shave Movember, an event that has been widely popular and successful for the house. The event is in support of men's health and involves growing mustaches of all shapes and sizes. While some seniors will inevitably have to shave due to the onslaught of job interviews, the brotherhood will remain united throughout the month and

raising money through their personal "Movember pages" online.

Plans have also been made to support one of Sigma Pi's national philanthropies, Donate Life, through the Chana Foundation. The Chana Foundation was founded in honor of Brother Cameron Chana from Eastern Illinois University, who passed away in May 2009. Although Chana died tragically in a bus accident, he was able to save the lives of six other people through the donations of his organs and tissues. The brothers of Mu Chapter will show our support by encouraging members of the Cornell community to sign up to become organ donors.

Other events currently being planned include a blood drive through the American Red Cross, a benefit concert in conjunction with fellow Greek members of Tri Council Cares, and our yearly Ace Project. Wherever philanthropic activity is being held, the men of Mu Chapter will be found; this is turning into one of our most exciting years yet!

Mu Chapter Rising to the Top

By Robby Attia '16
Intramural Sports Chair

The signing of 29 new brothers last spring has bolstered Sigma Pi's presence on the athletic fields. Throughout the fall 2013 semester, Mu Chapter put together dominant squads and competed in all sports across the board.

The soccer team, led by goalie and team captain Brendon Viña, remained unbeaten throughout the regular season in the league's toughest division and secured the 13th seed in the playoff bracket. First-year players—including striker Billy Alford, midfielder Lorenzo De Simone, and center back Robby Attia—stepped up tremendously in the postseason, helping Sigma Pi knock off Delta Phi in the first round and Chi Phi in the quarterfinals. Unfortunately, however, the playoff run came to a close when Lambda Chi edged out a 2-1 victory over Sigma Pi in the semis.

The widespread house interest in flag football led to the creation of two teams, one comprising sophomores and the other seniors. The quarterback of the sophomore team, Nick Ornitz, suffered a collarbone fracture early on in the season, but the team still prevailed and finished at the top of its division. The team went on to beat Chi Psi in the first round of the playoffs, 25-19, but lost a nail-biter in the second round to Chi Phi,

21-20. The senior team also finished at the top of its own division with a record of 3-1 but lost in the first round of the playoffs.

In the tennis doubles tournament, Sigma Pi put up a strong fight and made it all the way to the semifinals. The Pi house enjoyed similar success in the sand volleyball tournament, once again making it to the semis. As we go to press and the end of the semester approaches, the indoor volleyball team looks to make a deep run in the postseason with its newly added firepower in James Alvarez and Alec Charbonneau.

Sigma Pi has its eyes set on once again hoisting the coveted All-Sports Championship Trophy. With the spring 2014 season just around the corner, the Mu Chapter knows that it has what it takes to rise to the top of the fraternity sports world.



New Officers

Annual alumni board elections took place this fall. The officers of the alumni board for the coming year are Jarett Wait '80, president, Kurt Rasmussen '80, vice president, John Haggerty '78, treasurer, and John Morrison '75, secretary. Alumni directors include Jim Keene '57, Dennis McNamara '83, David D'Orlando '79, Brian Finneran '81, Van Robinson '57, Matt Pens '00, and Trevor White '07.

We would like to thank Jim Keene '57 for his long-standing service, dedication, and leadership as alumni board president for the last two decades. Steve Hobbs '80, Josh Katcher '06, and Alex Deyle '06 have decided to step down from the board. We would like to thank each of the outgoing directors for their dedication and service to the fraternity.

The alumni board will be nominating four new members. If you are interested in serving and learning more about the responsibilities of an alumni board director, please contact Kurt Rasmussen '80 at rasmussen_kurt@lilly.com.

Brotherhood Runs Deep

By Jeff Baker '14 and Andrew Luzzi '14
Brotherhood Chairs

The Sigma Pi brotherhood has grown and strengthened its fraternal bonds over the past semester as brothers demonstrate unity participating in both traditional and novel brotherhood events. Thus far, we have held several brotherhood dinners at such venues as the Pines, Buffalo Wild Wings, and of course, our dining hall. We also spend each Monday night together enjoying one another's company while watching football in the Pit.

Our most notable event thus far has been our annual brotherhood trip to the Buffalo Bills game. The bus trip there and back, the tailgate, and the experience of watching the Bills beat the Ravens made for an incredible memorable day. We look forward to several other brotherhood events, including our annual pool tournament, a camping trip, and possibly a paintball outing versus another fraternity.

As graduating seniors, we have taken pride in watching Mu Chapter brothers grow closer, and we are confident that this trend will continue for the foreseeable future.

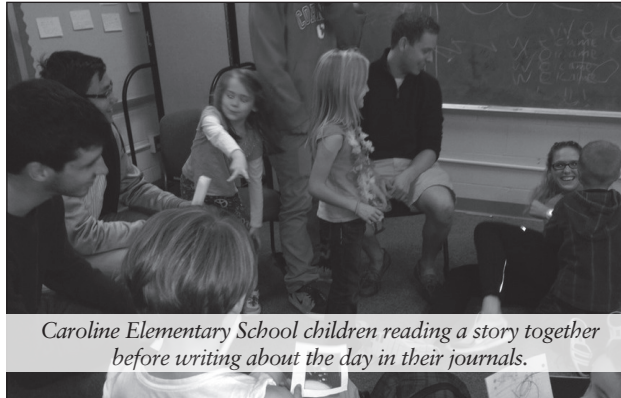


College Mentors for Kids, a Part of Mu Chapter NYC Alumni Reunion

(continued from pg. four)

Although the idea sounds similar to existing service groups and opportunities, it is the structure of the organization that sets it apart. Each elementary school student is paired up with his or her own college mentor, and each pair participates in a variety of group (~10 buddy pairs) activities that take place all over the college campus. From doing chemistry experiments in the university labs to team-building activities on the athletic fields, the opportunities for enriching events are endless.

With a more detailed description of the organization and its merits, it wasn't hard to find Sigma Pis who wanted to assume the responsibilities of founding and building the new organization. By March, five brothers were hired to fill executive board positions, and although there was the clear common goal of getting the organization up and running by the fall, each staff member was tasked with different pieces of the unwavering plan. Looking forward at that point, we had to register our group with Cornell, market our new organization to the student body, recruit a staff of around 40 students/



Caroline Elementary School children reading a story together before writing about the day in their journals.

mentors, budget and plan activities and fund-raising events, and contact the necessary administrative figures who could make it all happen. Looking back now, it was a lot to handle for five fraternity brothers who jumped at the opportunity, but we are all so proud of how far we have come. With a staff of over 40 Cornellians of all classes, we are now getting ready for our fifth activity day on campus. And with the pleasure of mentoring an amazing group of second- and third-graders from Caroline Elementary School this year, we see a bright future for the organization at Cornell and its roots in Sigma Pi.

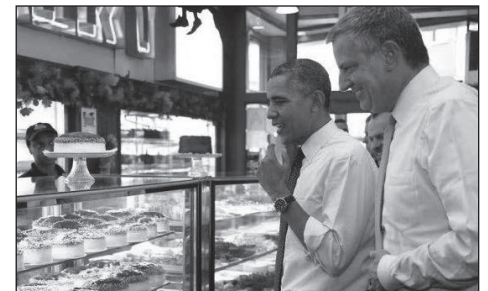
Please contact us at cornellmentors@gmail.com if you are interested in more information or would like to help us out by donating to our program. We hope to keep it on campus and in the lives of Sigma Pis for many generations to come.

On November 5, Third Avenue became University Avenue, and Enduro became the west lounge as dozens of Pi men showed up for a NYC Sigma Pi reunion. Thanks to the hospitality of Enduro owner Al Rosen '91 and the initiative of Jason Halio '93, we had a spirited event with about 30 alumni attending.

Although the hors d'oeuvres were different from Dolly's cooking, the brothers had a fantastic time. Dozens of class years were represented, and there were even some crashers (a particular pair of twins was in attendance whom none of the brothers could remember from school). Old friendships were rekindled, and some new ones were made. By the end of the night, we were all re-living the days of Dolly's "rats" and the good times had in the grotto.

Wait ... who lived in the flag room in 1990?

Fraternally,
Marc Warm '93



President Obama, accompanied by Bill de Blasio made a campaign-style appearance at Al Rosen's ('91) Junior's Restaurant, a Brooklyn landmark known for its cheesecakes, on Friday, November 1. He shook hands, gave out hugs, posed for photos, and bought two cakes to go.



Mentors and mentees painting pumpkins for Halloween and learning how to conquer their fears.

..... Deceased

Frederick R. Haverly '42

June 19, 2013

Joseph S. Dewey '53

March 24, 2013

Richard D. Fisher '55

May 9, 2013

Steven O. Corrie '65

January 25, 2012

Gary L. Ryder '69

May 2, 2013