



The Pioneer

Vol. 83, No. 2

Sigma Pi - Upsilon (UCLA)

Dec. 2005

Basketball schedule

Jan. 5 at Arizona
Jan. 5 at Arizona State
Jan. 12 WASHINGTON ST.
Jan. 14 WASHINGTON
Jan. 18 USC
Jan. 21 WEST VIRGINIA
Jan. 26 at Oregon
Jan. 26 at Oregon State
Feb. 2 ARIZONA STATE
Feb. 4 ARIZONA
Feb. 9 at Washington State
Feb. 11 at Washington
Feb. 19 at USC
Feb. 23 OREGON STATE
Feb. 26 OREGON
Mar. 2 at California
Mar. 4 at Stanford

Post-season

Mar. 9-11 Pac-10 Tourney
Mar. 17-19 NCAA Rounds 1-2
Mar. 23-26 NCAA Regionals
Apr. 1 NCAA Semifinals
Apr. 3 NCAA Final

Register on the Upsilon website!

UAA's new website is
www.SigmaPiBruins.com and
www.SigmaPiUpsilon.com.

The existing website,
www.SigmaPiUCLA.com, will
be deactivated, because UCLA
is asserting its copyright and
told us to cease to use.

The login is your email
address. Be sure to include
your email address in your
profile when you register.

If you have problems logging
in, contact Herman at
Herman@SigmaPiBruins.com.

Identification statement

"The Pioneer" alumni
newsletter is published two
times per year (in July and
December) by the Upsilon
Alumni Association (UAA), a
501(c)(7) non-profit mutual
benefit corporation registered
with the State of California.

NOTE: This will be your **ONLY** Invitation to Founders Day and the UAA Annual Meeting. I will not do another mailing of individual Invitations. Please respond to this Invitation or register via the "Bro-vite," which will be emailed in January. I need to spend your Annual Dues/ donations on scholarships and renovations to the house, not extra mailings. -- Jay

Founders Day: Sat., Feb. 25

Annual Dinner and UAA Annual Meeting

WESTWOOD - Plan on joining us on Sat., Feb. 25, for the 83rd Founders Day. Former Sage and student body president **Fred Thornley** also has committed to come up from Fullerton and expects his brothers to join him, and **John "E. Be" Goodlad** has committed already, too!

Bob Hillerman cannot attend but he will come through town the week prior en route to a trip to Guam. He thanks everyone in advance for his Golden Cross. **Tim O'Hara** will sponsor the bar for the fourth consecutive year.

Mike 'El Presidente' Alvarez is getting a room at the Hotel W in Westwood, so join him at the pool during the day. **Doug Glantz** has made the trip from San Francisco and Dallas for three consecutive years; **Jim Murphy** made it all the way from Jacksonville last year; and **Thomas Giffin** and **Dave Riley** came from S.F., so all of you SoCal-ers (or NorCal-ers) are on notice to attend! Giffin, **Richard Marcus** and **Jason Gray** all returned after absences of 10+ years. **Ed Cox** and **Jim Cochran**, each Sages in the early 1960s, will attend, too!

Business notes: **Arturo Martinez**, secretary of the Upsilon Alumni Association, will chair the Annual Meeting. **Herman Quispe** remains the sole director on the board and treasurer of UAA. **Jay Ross** was appointed UAA president in 2004 and will continue as president.

Tom Miller, president of the Upsilon Chapter Housing Association, will give the "State of the Housing Association" report. If interested in joining the Board, contact Tom at (310) 394-8649 or LvzGolf@AOL.com. ΣΠ

Founders Day!

Sat., Feb. 25, 2006
Sigma Pi Manor
612 Landfair Ave.
Drinks: 6:00 pm
Dinner: 7:00 pm

Tickets:

\$35 (post-2001 and pre-1956 graduates)

\$40 (pre-2001 and post-1956 graduates)

Mail check to: J. Ross
1721 S. Granville Ave.
Los Angeles 90025-1803

PayPal: Herman@SigmaPiBruins.com

Please register on www.SigmaPiBruins.com and update your profile with email address!

Printing and mailing 600 "Pioneer" copies costs \$500. So, two editions are \$1,000 per year -- that's 30% of our budget! I prefer to use your valuable Annual Dues and Donations for scholarships and house renovations. I will gladly continue to mail you a paper copy of "The Pioneer", but I encourage you to register to receive an electronic copy.

Plus, I am working hard to make this club work, and I need to communicate with everyone regularly with announcements about events, etc. A twice-yearly newsletter is not frequent enough, so when I ask for your email, please don't make excuses. The brotherhood needs all of us to contribute the talent that each of us has -- Fraternally .lav



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Alumni updates

Steve Kaplan in film

Steve Kaplan (1985), a lawyer and movie producer, traveled to the Cannes Film Festival in April to seek financing and distributors for his various film projects.

He is a co-producer of the linguistic documentary, "F---," which explores the history and implications of the infamous four-letter word. It premiered at the American Film Institute Festival in Los Angeles in September. Website: See www.FourLetterFilm.com.

His movie, "The Big Empty," aired on Apr. 13 on Showtime. Steve's first production was "Terror Track," starring John Ritter.

Steve also vacationed in Costa Rica with his family, doing some gondola riding through the rainforest canopy and scuba diving. He lives in Calabasas and joined brothers at last May's "Seniors Dinner."



Steve Kaplan and Stormtrooper at the "Star Wars III: Revenge of the Sith" opening in Cannes.

UAA Report: Budget

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Many alumni like you responded to our appeal for Annual Dues and donations during the past year! As a result, we collected ~\$3,500 for scholarships for active brothers, house maintenance and future renovations, and communications. We will strive to make sure that ALL expenditures go to the benefit of the whole brotherhood!

I was very impressed by many donations from alumni whom I had never met, and with whom I never had ever really communicated. Many came from locations far outside California (Florida, Wyoming, etc.), so I was very impressed by so many brothers who are afar but still care much about their brothers.

You all obviously had a big impact on each other when you were on campus back in the glory days, and you should be proud that you have prompted your brothers to contribute so many years later! As you benefited from strong alumni when you were an active, the actives today will benefit from your strong support as alumni. We have four levels: Orchid (\$100+), Emerald (\$100), Gold (\$50) and Lavender (\$35).

We do have a surplus from this past year of \$1,400, but, basically, the surplus is already 'used up' and allocated to next year's costs. About \$400 will fund the winter Pioneer, and the remaining \$1,000 will fund regularly occurring budget items (website, P.O. Box, national dues) and scholarships at Founders Day 2006.

Hopefully, alumni like you will again be very generous to fund our activities in 2006.

Revenue

Dues:	\$3,525
Donations	<u>593</u> \$4,128

Expenses

Pioneer:	\$ 394
Website:	490
National dues:	300
Scholarships:	600
Framing sheepskin:	120
Fixing banner:	20
Bank charges:	126
Plane trip (Σπ Univ.)	200
Trailer storage:	360
Post office box:	68
Seniors night:	<u>32</u>
Income	\$2,710
	\$1,418



Is Sigma Pi in your will?

Bequests are often a significant source of financial support for non-profit organizations like UAA, which continues to mold tomorrow's young leaders.

Your gift to the UAA or its Upsilon Endowment Fund (our chapter's own scholarship endowment) will make the difference in the lives of our fellow Upsilon brothers through scholarships, leadership training and value-based education. As you create personal estate plans, please remember the value of your membership and pass along the belief to others.

Sample text for a will:

"I give and bequeath to the Upsilon Alumni Association (Federal tax ID# 95-4838542), a not-for-profit 501(c)(7) mutual benefit corporation, the sum of \$____.00 to be used in fulfillment of its purposes as the Upsilon Alumni Association shall determine."



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Donations: Contribute to these accounts!

* Donations to all of these funds can be made via PayPal at Herman@SigmaPiBruins.com.

1. **National Education Fund:** National's education endowment, tax-deductible donations can be designated for our chapter for scholarships for active brothers. Issue checks to "Sigma Pi Educational Foundation."

Mail to: Joe Marsalek, 240 Vaquero Rd., Arcadia, CA 91007

(626) 447-0238 - JoeAndBarbM@Juno.com

2. **Upsilon Chapter Endowment:** Our chapter's own endowment, funds can be used for scholarships for active brothers and renovations to the house. Current balance is \$2,000, and we seek to increase our chapter endowment for scholarships and repairs. Issue checks to "Upsilon Education Foundation."

Mail to: Herman Quispe, c/o Upsilon Alumni Association, P.O. Box 92953., Pasadena, CA 91109

PayPal: Herman@SigmaPiBruins.com. Phone: (626) 791-2312.

3. **Upsilon Alumni Association:** The general fund that collects annual dues, donations for the Hixon and Vestey scholarships for active brothers, communications (website hosting, mailings, Founders Day invitations), and events (charcoal, food, banners for football tailgaters).

Annual dues: \$35-100. Issue checks to "Upsilon Alumni Association" or <http://SigmaPiBruins.com/subscription.htm>

Mail to: Jay Ross, 1721 S. Granville Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90025 (310) 979-9255 - JayVo@SigmaPiBruins.com

Thank you to the following brothers who donated to Upsilon during 2005.

Annual Dues

(year in parenthesis is year through which brother's dues are already paid in advance)

Mike Alvarez

Charles Bader (2006)

Steve Baker

Jim Ballard ♦ Orchid Level

Matt Bradley

Adam Brockman (2006)

Jim Cochran

Larry Coval (2007)

David Finkel ♦ Emerald Level Sam Ghattas

Doug Glantz ♦ Emerald Level John Goodlad

Ryan Henneberg

Paul Hutton

Kenneth Ingman

Clement Jacomini ☼Gold Level

Kaveh Kamfar

Steven G. Kaplan (2006)

Skip Keyzer (2007)

Greg Khougaz (2007)

Ray Lahr ☼Gold Level

Robt. Lashbrook ♦ Emerald Level

Brian Letourneau (2008)

Barry Maiten

Joe Marsalek ♦ Emerald Level

Arturo Martinez (2011)

Bruce Macdonald ☼Gold Level

Jim McBroom (2006)

Tom Miller ♦ Emerald Level

Al Minjares ☼Gold Level

Nate Murphy

Alan Nichols

Jaime Parady (2008)

Donald Peairs ♦ Emerald Level

David Randel

Lou Ravetti ♦ Emerald Level

Everett Rea ♦ Emerald Level

Dave Riley

Pablo Rivas ☼Gold Level

Dan Romero (2009)

Allen Rowin

Jay Ross (2011)

Ltc. Ronald Rule ♦ Emerald Level

Russell Schaadt (2006)

Scott Scheffler

Raymond Schreck ☼Emerald Level

Karl Schuttenhelm ☼Gold Level

David Schwartz

Bob Seaman

Keith Shoji ☼Gold Level

Glenn Smith (2006) ☼Gold Level

Evan Snider (2006)

Abel Somillea

Kham Srilasak

Matt Sumrow

Fred Thornley ☼Gold Level

Sean Topp ♦ Emerald Level

Adam Treiger

Rob Ward

Robert Webster (2010)

David Zeichick

Nick Zorotovich (2007)

National Education Foundation /

Upsilon Alumni Association

Paul Dinh

David Finkel

John Goodlad

Stu Johnson

Kaveh Kamfar

Joe Marsalek

Wally Reed

David Randel

Matt Sambol

Scott Scheffler

Bob Seaman

Matt Sumrow

Robert Webster



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Alumni updates

Omar Vallejo in real estate

Omar Vallejo works as a Mortgage Consultant for JLH Mortgage, which is powered by Countrywide Home Loans. The company is a partnership between Countrywide, the country's largest lender, and John Laing Homes, the second largest privately-owned builder in the U.S. and recognized the No. 1 Builder by J.D. Power in 2004.

Omar works with buyers at some of their developments and originates loans. He has worked as an Account Executive, Team Leader, Operation Coordinator, Business Development Manager, and now as a Mortgage Consultant since 2001.



Omar is working on JLH's new neighborhood, 'Aria,' located in the 'Renaissance' gated community near Hollywood Park (Inglewood). When completed in 2006, Aria will have 122 houses, built in clusters around a shared motor court.

Renaissance will use "New Urbanist" design principles with tree-lined parkways, pedestrian-friendly pathways, and pocket parks with tot lots. The community will have a recreation center with pool and tennis court.

Website: JohnLaingHomes.com/



You can help!

As an alumnus, you can help the active chapter in three easy ways:

1. **Help wanted:** Quicken! UAA seeks a volunteer to do our accounting. Herman Quispe has done it since 1996 (that's nine years- thanks Herman!). Can anyone step to the plate? Everything is on Quicken going back to 1994 so we seek someone with dedication to the fraternity and good experience with Quicken.
2. **Be listed as a "Career Contact" in UAA Networking Database:** Actives or alumni can call you for job advice. Email your company, industry, job discipline and contact information to Jay Ross.
3. **Attend a "Career Night":** After a Monday night meeting in the Fall or Spring, join 4-5 alumni to discuss your job with small groups of actives. Monday night dinner courtesy of Chef Pinche Ruben and gin martinis with Joe Marsalek included!

If interested, call Jay at (310) 979-9255 or JayVo@SigmaPiBruins.com.

You can help, too (II)!

Several alumni are involved in Community Service activities:

1. **John Brott** (1968) is Chief Administrative Officer of L.A. Neighborhood Housing Services. The non-profit housing advocate held a 'Neighborhood Pride Day' clean-up in Pacoima (Oct. 8). See www.LANH.org.
2. **Sean Bloch** (1992): Transit People - Takes disadvantaged youths on field trips to science centers and the beach, which they otherwise would rarely see. Uses public transit, which eliminates the high cost of renting school buses. www.TransitPeople.org.
3. **Jay Ross** (1992): L.A. Works Day was June 12, at California Plaza (downtown on Bunker Hill). More than 1,000 volunteers fanned out to help paint, plant trees, work with children and generally improve schools, community centers and community service providers (homeless shelters, Boys & Girls Clubs, etc.). **Ajay Patel** and **Sean Bloch** have volunteered in past years. See www.LAWorks.com.



Son of Wiederkehr

Rich Wiederkehr (1992) never had the seniority to be Papa McCoy, but now he has his own lil' Hairball to Haze, er..raise! William Edward was born Sept. 6 to wife Chrissie, and named after his great-grandfathers (not Bill Kealey and Adrian Edwards). Fatherhood cut into Rich's tailgaters this year, but his wife had "such a good time last year she'd kill me if I went alone. Take it easy!"



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losangeles-ventura/aria/

Omar also spent four months last year traveling throughout Argentina, Ecuador, Uruguay, and Chile. He spent time in many provinces and had 'an incredible time,' learning the hard way what a Uruguayan 'fiesta' is all about. ΣΠ



Carlos Vega at USC Law School

Carlos Vega (2002) graduated from USC Law in May. He will work as an Assistant District Attorney for Contra Costa County in the East Bay.

Carlos worked as a Police Officer for the City of Torrance for six years and was a full-time Patrolman working graveyard when he pledged in Fall 1999. He "retired" from the Police Dept. in 2001 before entering USC as a first-year law student.

During Carlos' second year, brother **Ajay Patel** was his professor for Contract Drafting. Ajay is also a general counsel for the university and lives near campus in Bel Air with his wife Kavita. He can be found behind home plate at Dodgers games during the summer, courtesy of USC's season tickets. ΣΠ



Brother Ross hosts Dinner for 12 Strangers

WEST LOS ANGELES - I hosted 10 undergrad students at my home in March as part of the Student Alumni Association's "Dinner for 12 Strangers".

Maybe you heard about it when on campus but never considered attending. That was me, and this past year, I decided to host it - figured to give back to the Bruin community that was so helpful to me as an active on my own in Los Angeles after moving from Phoenix.

I invited all the Upsilon alumni whom I know to attend, but not a single one replied 'Yes!' Well, you all missed out because nine of the 10 students were lady Bruins, and they were eager to hear the wise advice of campus sages like us (check out the photo below - that's me on the right holding the dog).

Hosting it is easy - I was very informal, mainly because I don't have any nice furniture or china. I grilled fish and made a polenta casserole. I had beer, wine and margies, but no one drank anything but lemonade!

An SAA student representative attended, as did an assistant professor of material science, a nice gent named Vivdus, who hails from Latvia.

We had plenty of interesting conversations, and I relayed the stories of Kerry O'Hairball picking a fight with Cory Paus in a bar in Seattle after last year's Washington game and my semi-friendship with hoops coach Steve Lavin.

The students are more involved in charity and the community than my era, which was impressive. They were less impressed by my fraternity glory days stories, though they seemed amused by them. (This is probably because this event attracts more go-getters than card players who stay at home.)

All in all, a good experience. I encourage you to host a dinner this Spring.

There were 70 dinners last year, but still, many students were not selected because too few hosts volunteered. **This year's dates for dinners are Sat., Feb. 25; Sat., Mar. 4; and Sun., Mar. 5, 2006. Please consider hosting!**

▲ I will host a dinner on Sun., Mar. 5, at my home in West L.A., and any Upsilon active brother or alumnus is welcome to attend!

For info: <http://www.uclalumni.net/CalendarEvents/d12/home.cfm>



Papa Doc Derrick - Hindery hops the globe!

Dr. Derrick Hindery (1994) was Assistant Professor in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at the University of Hawai'i at Hilo during the last academic year, and he returned to Santa Monica in September.

Dr. Derrick is now a lecturer in Geography at UCLA and USC. His wife Vania gave birth to their first child, Micaela Hindery-Glasinovic, during the summer (photo at left). Enjoy the cake!



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Separated at birth?

Matt Bradley (LPL Financial) Dennis Kozlowski (Tyco CEO)



One goes for the squeeze, the other makes it!

One grabs and defrauds assets, the other grabs broads' assets!

Which is which? You make the call!

Note: Matt attended as many Bruin football games in 2005 as any brother (eight) - all the home games plus San Diego State and USC on the road! If you see him, call your local authorities! As you can see, like **Alfred Hernandez**, his hands are dangerous! Koosh!

Aloha from Brent!

HONOLULU - **Brent Kunimoto** (1982) was lost but now is found!

He returned to his Hawaiian island home of Honolulu several years ago after working on the mainland following graduation.

Brent was one of several Hawaiian brothers during the late 1970s and early 1980s, including Peter Nakagawa, Paul Goto and Ru Shigozawa.

They introduced the mainland brothers to traditional pig roasts in the Sigma Pi Manor backyard for rush and other parties.

Brent taught the pledges to dig a pit in the dirt (somewhere between the basketball hoops and fences), build an oven of cinderblocks, slather salt, pepper and butter on the pig, package with foil and chickenwire, and wait 6 hours to cook.

Brent's friends were Dave Shiokari, Mark Helmick, Dave Pulaski and George Knisley, a lieutenant colonel who recently returned from a tour in Iraq. He also remembers Greg "Cool-gaz" Khougaz, who even back then was always trying to serenade ladies upstairs to his room with his guitar (still doing it 30 years later).

The house was a mix of ladies' men and bookwormy types, and had its share of "Animal House" moments. Brent's room in the condos was similar to Otter's lounge (though the wife of the dean never visited) with tract light and blenders blending regularly until 2:00 am. Sometimes 50 people would be in the vicinity -- 20 in the room, 30 in the hallway --while Brent and his roomie needed to study. But, they dealt with it in stride and mixed another batch!

Brent earned his MBA and lived in Los Angeles on and off for 15 years, working for Arthur Andersen and General Mills before returning to Hawaii. He now works for Diamond Bakery (www.DiamondBakery.com) -- try their Hawaiian animal crackers! Brent's family has grown since returning, which has cut into his surfing time. Though, he hopes to take up kite surfing soon, too. But he has a "wonderful" wife, Cheryl, and they have a 2-year-old Michelle and 4-year-old, Justin.



Shoji married in Hawaii

MAUI - **Keith Shoji** (1996) married his longtime girlfriend Jaylene on Oct. 5.

Keith is an attorney in San Diego and roadtripped to most of the home Rose Bowl games this year!

Oliver is Good for Chris

Barney Light a father, yes it's true! **Chris Good's** (1996) wife Camilla gave birth to Oliver Hayden on Sept. 10 -- the same day as the Bruins' win over Rice!



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“Cheer, Cheer for ol’ UCLA” - “Fred Thornley Night”

WESTWOOD -- Former Sage and UCLA Student Body President **Fred Thornley** brought down the house at Monday night meeting on Nov. 7, regaling the chapter with his tales of serving in World War II and the antics of the Sigma Pi's during his days in Westwood.



Fred continued a thread of wise leadership, sitting next to current sage **Jon Roper** and near last year's sage **Dashiell Nash** who served more than five decades after him. The chapter house dining room was decorated with homemade campaign signs paying homage to his successful election: “Fred Thornley - The Gent We Want For President,” “We Like Fred,” “READ-e for Freddie” and “Vote 4 Fred.”

Fred's story begins in Waterbury, Conn., his birthplace where he had the “pleasure and honor” of being selected in his junior year of high school as the shortstop on the city's all-star team. He was a decent infielder, but not much of a hitter. Fred's father said he was scouted, but he thinks his father said that just to inflate his ego. Had Fred not moved to Los Angeles, he likely would have remained in that small town his entire life, perhaps working in a coat factory like his father. So, Fred is eminently grateful for

Sigma Pi and UCLA and the opportunities it offered.

Upon graduation at age 18, Fred enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1944 and was stationed on the USS Bon Homme Richard, a new wooden-plank aircraft carrier at the time. The ship left Norfolk for the Pacific via Panama Canal to join Admiral Halsey's 3rd fleet. The next several months, including 72 days at sea, the “night carrier” attacked Okinawa in the early morning in preparation for the invasion. The war ended before the battle was needed, and Fred's ship docked next to the USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay for the signing of the surrender.

Following the war, Fred migrated to the West Coast and entered UCLA where he was invited to a rush party at Upsilon: **Bill Cutbirth**, the future beloved Sage and future Grand Sage, thought Fred was some type of an actor, because no one else would wear a jacket as ugly as the one Fred wore. Nevertheless, the brothers pledged Fred before he knew what he was doing.

“At the time, I had no idea what it was all about because I didn't even know what a fraternity was.”

Fred has not seen Jerry since that night. But, from that twist of fate, an Upsilon legend began his adventure through life and became as extroverted as can be. Fred's days at Sigma Pi opened him to countless opportunities, including a UCLA Yell Leader, Student Body President and best of all -- meeting his wife now of more than 50 years while on campus.

“Frankly, this was the beginning of some of the most wonderful and beneficial years of my life,” he remembers.

Fred became active on campus during Jeff Lawson's campaign for sophomore class president. He helped lead his first song for the campaign on the steps of Royce Hall, jumping and waving his arms. The Sigma Pi brothers saw potential for an even bigger contribution to the Bruin family -- the prestigious position as a Yell Leader.

Fred had never been a yell leader in high school. But, that didn't deter **Sherwood Chambers** and **Jim Ross** and others from promoting Fred and creating a fake resume that included “State Champion Yell Leader.” Jim knew Bob Hike, a yell leader, and **Sherrel Luke**, another yell leader who later became Student Body President, and they taught Fred the UCLA songs, spell out, and cheers. While other candidates had only high school cheer in their repertoires, Fred outshined them all and won the one open slot before a tough, arm-crossed crowd of student body president **Bill Keane**, the Alumni Association president, and others in Dean of Men **Bill Ackerman's** office.

“Again, it was the house, I never would have done anything like that on my own in my life,” Fred says.

When Fred ran for student body president in 1950, he pulled some crazy stunts to garner attention. He entered the all-girl Ms. Tropicana contest in the physics lecture hall as “Frederica Thornley”, sauntering onto the stage dressed as a female contestant and pulling off the best curtsy of the group of ladies. In another stunt, Fred threatened to jump off Royce Hall during the noon lunch hour because he was behind in the polls. He lamented his cause to the gathering of students, ducked down behind the parapet, and threw a dummy of himself off the top of Royce Hall. The conspiring brothers on the ground picked up the dummy and whisked it away on a stretcher.

Fred's supporters also campaigned with songs like this:

Thornley - Thornley - for student body president!

Thornley - Thornley - he's got vi-tal-i-ty!

Thornley - Thornley - he's got a-bil-i-ty!

Thornley - Thornley - for student body president!

The brothers had their own version, which they sang at dinner:

Thornley - Thornley - for student body president!

Thornley - Thornley - he's got no vi-tal-i-ty!

Thornley - Thornley - he's got no a-bil-i-ty!

Thornley - Thornley - he's a horse's ass!

Fred eloped to Santa Barbara and married the lovely then-Miss **Ardis Brown** of AOPi between the primary and election, accompanied by **Bill Cutbirth** and his wife, **Jane**. Having to keep the marriage a secret until the election was over (to ensure the sorority vote), Bill later announced it at the Spring Ball held in Santa Monica. The only hitch was that Fred did not have an engagement ring at the time. (continued on P. 8 -->)



Past sage Fred Thornley (1951) with past sage Dashiell Nash (2004) and sage Jon Roper (2005).



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Thornley (continued from P. 7) Jane offered to let Fred borrow hers, but Fred decided to rush to Hollywood to buy one. The dashing groom-to-be made it back before the end of the Ball, and the couple live in Fullerton happily married more than 50 years later.

"As I indicated, those were some of the very best years of my life, and I owe a lot to Sigma Pi because it all started with that rubber hosing," Fred says.

Fred's final message to the chapter was inscribed on a plaque of business -- and life -- advice that he learned in the marketing field. He gave it the brotherhood, which included this advice: "The most important single word - We. The least important single word - I." The end of Fred's talk to the active chapter ended in a standing ovation!

Epilogue: **Joe Marsalek** followed Fred's emotional talk with powerful words of his own. Joe was recruited as a footballer out of Long Beach Poly H.S. by UCLA and USC in 1949. But he chose the Bruins when a good-ol'-boy USC coach from the South said he shouldn't attend UCLA because the student body president was an African-American. Joe said he should have "told off the bastard right then and there," and he wisely picked the Westwood campus. That student, Sherrel Luke, later became a judge in Los Angeles, and Fred succeeded him as the UCLA student body president.

Joe also recalled how Fred had helped him 55 years ago. Joe's grades were bad because he was busy playing football, involved in the fraternity and courting his future wife, Barbara. Fred, however, knew Joe's potential as brother, even though his grades were down. When the university did not expel Joe for bad grades, Fred (who was then Sage) was the first to say, "Joe, we're going to initiate you." That decision paid dividends for Joe with a rewarding 45-year marriage to Barbara and lifetime of friends.

Note: The "Alumni Night" was very successful, and we want to have a new speaker each quarter. We made sure to invite the pledges, so they stories and lessons they hear can be passed on longer to even more generations, and we hope this demonstrates the type of brotherhood to keep them excited about becoming initiated as brothers.

Several alumni have contacted me to speak in future quarters, but please do contact me if you are also interested: (310) 979-9255 or Ross_Jay@Hotmail.com

Note: I encourage all of you alumni to come to "Alumni Night." The night also brought another wise brother to the house, **Ray Lahr**, who was an active in 1946-47. Ray later transferred to USC to continue his engineering studies, worked as a pilot and now lives in Pacific Palisades. He and Fred never crossed paths much on campus, but they caught up 55 years later. Never too late to meet your brothers!

It was wonderful for Ray to show up unannounced and tell his stories of the old days. Ray recalls how brother **Jim Ross**, now a retired judge living in Fullerton, broke the leg of fellow brother **Dick Kater** in football practice on a tackle. Dick was on crutches for quite some time. It was great fun for Hank (another friend) and Ray to each get one of Dick's elbows and hustle him down Janss stairs. They had to keep him moving fast because if he had half a second, they would get a whack across the shins with a crutch. "It was funny to see the panicked look on kids coming up the steps as they cleared a path for the wild descent. Dick's nickname to this day is still 'Gimpy,'" Ray remembers. Ray also told of the misery of the big 1946 Rose Bowl when the Bruins thought they should be playing top-ranked Army with Heisman Trophy winners Glenn Davis and Doc Blanchard, but played Illinois instead and lost.

Merle Swanson, Jim Ross, Ray Lahr



Fred's friends say "Hi!":

▲ "Freddie Thornley is the gent that we want for President!" Having been on his campaign team, there's nothing I'd rather do than join you for his visit. Unfortunately, we won't be in California until Thanksgiving when we go to Yosemite for a family get-together, but give him my best regards and my e-mail address and tell him I'd love to hear from him. - **Gene Roche** (ELAN7@webtv.net)

▲ Thank you for the invitation. I would certainly like to see Fred again; however being on East coast and working makes it difficult. Would you or Joe Marsalek please convey my personal regards to Fred? As I remember when Fred was running for student body president, I recall we had a little song we sang "Thornley, Thornley!! THORNLEY is a horse's ass". This was at dinner or meeting and done in loud jestful way. Ask Joe M. if he recalls this. If so he can teach current brothers, so you can give Fred a hymn while he's there. Charge Hard, VR - **Marty Donohue** (PatNMarty@AOL.com)

▲ I sure would like to join you on Nov. 7, however, a 700-mile round trip from Mammoth Lakes is a bit too much. Fred was Student Body President when I pledged, and it would be good to see him again. I will miss seeing many others that I would expect to come. Have a good session and say hello to Fred for me. - **Ralph Rea** (RalphRea@aol.com)

▲ Please give my heartfelt congratulations to Fred and to Joe. Both are truly really great people. I will not be able to attend, but my thoughts, heart and soul will be with them. The campaign slogan was "READ E for Freddie". Go Bruins. Aloha. -- **Bill Sewell** (BillSewell@aol.com)

▲ Fred was Upsilon president when I pledged in '49. It was a great deal of fun participating in his Student Body Presidential campaign. Joe Marsalek and I were pledge brothers (twice!). I saw Fred at the OMC Christmas party last year. Hadn't seen him since school, and that was a LONG time ago. Also had a visit with Gene Roche a year or so ago when he visited with the Goodlads in Corona del Mar. Noticed a missive from my very old roomo, Ralph Rea. I've been going to Mammoth every Labor Day weekend for years. Next trip I'll look up Ralph and Pingli. And Bill Sewell gave me a ride to Portland in Spring '49. He was going home to Somewhere, Idaho, and I was going skiing with a buddy at Mt. Hood. -- **Dick Peters** (rapwrap44@cox.net)



The Pioneer

Vol. 83, No. 2

Sigma Pi - Upsilon (UCLA)

Dec. 2005

Football Tailgaters: Go Bruins - 10-2! Sun Bowl champs!



San Diego State (Sept. 3): Grandpa **Larry Ballard** (1961) and his wife Ellen host tailgate with son and new/two-time father **Jim Ballard** (1991) and wife Lesley. **Jeff Bara**, **Rob Ward**, **Steve Lantz**, **Rich Marcus** and **Jay Ross** attended.



Tony Leadholm's dad, Rick Leadholm, roadtripped from Fresno for every home game, arriving as early as 5:00 am for Rice. **Dwain Jefferson**, **Neil Narahara**, **Jared Frandle**, **Sean Topp**, **Matt Bradley** and **Mark Schroekenstien** drink up!



Ladies' man **Jeff Brown** with **Bruce MacDonald** in the background.



Matt Bradley and **Bruce MacDonald** watch "Go" Mo Drew run for a TD.



Ladies' man **Dennis Hong** and his catch from SeaWorld with **Matt Sambol**.



Mark Goldberg, **Sam Ghattas**, and **Bill Flores** prior to the big wipe-out of Oklahoma on Sept. 17 at the Rose Bowl. Yo, Adrian, what blue truck hit you?!

Food at the tailgaters was provided all season by chefs **Julia Zuniga**, daughter of house chef Pinche **Ruben Zuniga**, and **Jorge Zuniga**, brother of Ruben. Gracias!



David Zeichick, **Dave Finkel**, **Bill Kelly** and **Bill Kealey** at OU game. **Kealey** is engaged to the lovely Maureen MacDonald, a Kappa Delta sister of former sage **Stu Johnson's** wife Julie. **Kelly** lives in Sacramento with his wife and two children and works for Barclays Global Investments. **Finkel** is a financial analyst at Alliant Capital in Woodland Hills. **Zeichick** is president of a computer systems networking firm, DZ Network Support, in Sherman Oaks. He won a contest to have his company's logo on Carl Edwards' car at the NASCAR California 500 at the California Speedway in Fontana in September, and was treated to a seat in the corporate suite to watch Edwards' big rally that nearly won the race!