



Chi Agitator

CHI CHAPTER OF KAPPA SIGMA OF PURDUE UNIVERSITY | FALL EDITION 2023



FOUNDED
1885

138th YEAR

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GRAND MASTER REPORT

I am Mark Tardy, the newly appointed Grand Master of the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma for 2023-2024. It is an honor to address you to provide an update on our chapter's progress and accomplishments for the past academic year—these, along with other events, will be a focus in 2023 and 2024.

First and foremost, our chapter demonstrated an unwavering dedication to philanthropy, resulting in the impressive achievement of raising over \$1500 for Natalie's Second Chance shelter and the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund during the fall semester. This feat was made possible through the revival of two cherished events: Pumpkin Carving and Yuletide philanthropy. The support we received from our brothers and the broader Greek life community was remarkable. Yuletide, last held in 2018, returned as a week-long extravaganza of philanthropic events. This included a highly anticipated Gingerbread house contest, Pups and Cups, and a hot chocolate sale that raised awareness and funds for Natalie's Second Chance shelter. Additionally, a thrilling sorority dodgeball tournament and a Deck the Halls event infused our chapter with the joyous spirit of Christmas. The success of these events highlighted our commitment to giving back to the community. During the spring semester, we continued our philanthropic endeavors with a range of engaging events. A Girl Scout cookie sale allowed us to support our local troop, a captivating bingo night took place during the Stephen Alonzo Weekend of Giving, and to celebrate Women's History Month, we organized a trivia event that raised over \$500 for our philanthropic causes. I am incredibly proud of our chapter's unwavering

commitment to philanthropy and the results we have achieved.

I am also pleased to announce that we successfully initiated 22 new members during the previous fall semester, followed by an additional 16 new members in the spring. These young men have shown tremendous enthusiasm and dedication, embodying the values and principles of Kappa Sigma. I am confident that they will contribute significantly to our chapter's growth and success.

Moreover, our chapter's performance at the Grand Prix this past April was truly exceptional. We owe our success to the outstanding skills of our driver, Raif Shah '21, and the dedication of our pit crew. The pit crew, consisting of crew chief Dawson Ball '20, Ben Erichsen '21, Owen Castineau '21, Sam Millburn '21, and Michael Schnipple '20, worked tirelessly to ensure our cart was in optimal condition.

As we move forward, I recognize how important it is to focus on our positive momentum and strive for continuous improvement. Chi has gone through many transformative experiences and challenges in the past, and we have emerged stronger and more resilient each time. By learning from our past experiences and embracing a growth mindset, we will continue to elevate Chi Chapter to new heights and solidify our position as a leading fraternity at our university and within Kappa Sigma as a whole. I look forward to the future of this chapter and what we will be able to accomplish this year. Roll Chi and AEKDB.

Mark
Tardy '21





**KEY
CHAPTER
LEADERS
& ACTIVE
VOLUNTEERS
2023-2024**

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Grand Master
Mark Tardy '21

Grand Procurator
Jake Lemieux '21

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Alexander Kapala '21

Grand Scribe
Austin Springer '21

Grand Treasurer
Zack Nondorf '21

ALUMNI ADVISORS:

Alumnus Advisor
Tim Brinkmeyer '08

Assistant Alumnus Advisor
Vince Schissler '00

Assistant Advisors
Jeff Kamm '00

Kevin Lichterman '01
Bryan Searcy '01

FACULTY ADVISOR

Michael Cline '84

HOUSE CORPORATION

Doug Kowert '60 – President
James Shively '00 – Vice President
Charles Marshall '61 – Secretary
Kevin Lichterman '01 – Treasurer
Dave Druetzler '81 – member
Benjamin Townsend '09 – member
Peter Evers '10 – member

House Mother

Teri Battleday

EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Steve Springer '67 – President
Matt Brozovic '82 – Secretary
Kevin Lichterman '01 – Treasurer
Rich Adams II '83 – Trustee
Peter Evers '10 – Trustee
Charlie Marshall '61 – Trustee



HOUSE CORP, ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AND ALUMNI ADVISER REPORT

There is a new excitement in Chi Chapter as it continues in its ongoing development as Purdue's premier fraternal organization. Some of the objectives and achievements for this development are detailed in the other articles in this Agitator. They include– but are not limited to– very strong chapter leadership, robust advisor and alumni involvement and leadership, ongoing chapter house improvements, strong performance in events like the Purdue Grand Prix, and a focus on excellence that has produced outstanding alumni like Kevin Boes, Purdue's new Alumni Trustee and Michael Cline, Purdue's Senior Vice President.

The Chapter Executive Committee and Chapter Leaders have developed plans and programs over the summer that are focused on Kappa Sigma's Four Pillars. Especially important are the academic utilization of study groups, mentors, tutors, a focused rush program plan for 30 fall pledges, special campus and community functions, and a range of other chapter social, philanthropic, and educational functions.

This summer the chapter house underwent the usual cleaning and repairs. Some changes in the operations of the House Corporation include a new food service contractor, a new fire system contractor, a new kitchen ice machine, new washing machines and dryers on the 2nd & 3rd floors, a new building water softening system, Wi-Fi system upgrades, and replacing some damaged furniture.

The chapter will begin this fall with 122 members. 71 members are living in the house. 51 members, mostly seniors, are living in

apartments– this seems to be a recent trend on campus. The House Corporation began a new process this summer for circulating and signing house or parlor contracts and invoicing and collecting house bills. So far both systems seem to be an improvement.

Finally, due to venue complications, the chapter has delayed the next Hall of Fame Dinner until the fall of 2024. However, everyone is invited to visit the house on September 30th for Purdue's homecoming and next April for the Purdue Grand Prix. A special fund was established this summer to support the development of a winning Chi Grand Prix race team.

We are looking forward to everything good that will result from the new operating and communicating synergy between the Chapter Executive Committee, Chapter Membership, Chapter Advisors, and other alumni groups that started this past year.



Doug Kowert '60
President
Chi Chapter House
Corporation and
Alumni Association



Vince Shissler '00
Assistant
Alumni Adviser

Chi Chapter shows spirit at the Purdue Grand Prix



The Chi Chapter, led by their experienced racer Raif Shah and crew chief Dawson Ball, had a fantastic week at Purdue's annual Grand Prix. Raif took Chi's disadvantaged kart and ended qualifiers with the fifth-fastest lap. On race day, the brothers of the Chi Chapter met at the track to support Raif and the Grand Prix team. With the wave of the green flag, Raif began the race at an explosive pace, passing other racers left and right. By lap 41, Chi's kart had made its way to a comfortable second place. Prior to entering the pit on lap 85, the number '96' made its way to the top of the leaderboard and Chi was in first place! Unfortunately, disaster struck in the pits and the outdated kart was damaged in the process of refilling gas; an error that cost 15 laps. Undaunted, Raif continued his performance, making the most passes, posting the best average times, and passing karts in podium positions. By lap 160, Raif ended the race in 14th place. At the Grand Prix Award Banquet, the Kappa Sigma Chi Chapter was presented with the Carol Becker Spirit of Competition award for their enthusiasm for the event.



"This race allowed us to confirm our suspicions," says driver Raif Shah, "With new equipment and a properly blueprinted engine, we will easily be the kart to beat next year. Next year will be my senior year, and I want to win. I will finally be going home over the summer and will get back to some serious racing to prepare. I would love to bring a much newer and faster kart back with me in the fall and convert it into a race-dominating Grand Prix kart over the course of the semester, but this would obviously require a substantial amount of funding. I know it is quite early and a daunting prospect, but the Grand Prix is the best event on campus, and giving the Kappa Sigma Chi the support to run 2 perfect karts would be the dream. I am hoping we can reach out to additional alumni for support, and maybe get sponsorship for next year."



GLIMPSES of the *Past* and *Present*

Chi Chapter has a rich history that builds on the achievements of our Brothers focusing on Kappa Sigma's Four Pillars of Fellowship, Leadership, Scholarship and Service. The awards, trophies and citations in the chapter house Boyd Room are just a few of the many achievements by the chapter during the past 138 years.



Chi chapter was founded on March 15, 1885 under the guidance of W.G.M Stephen Alonzo Jackson. It is the 22nd Chapter of Kappa Sigma and the second fraternity established on the Purdue Campus. Chi's first chapter house was located at 40 North Salisbury Street. The current chapter house was constructed in 1922, expanded in 1961 and completely refurbished and expanded again in 2000.



Chi was dominant during the mid-twentieth century when Homecoming "Signs" and House Dances were a big deal on campus. Chi's "Signs" during this era took time and effort to build, but they usually won the competitions.



Chi's involvement in the Purdue Grand Prix began with the inaugural race held in the parking lot next to the new X dormitory in 1958 when Ben Rossi and the Chi team drove to a second-place finish. With the lessons learned this past April and during this past summer along with the generous financial and moral support of many Chi Alumni, Chi's current race team leader, Raif Shah, along with his teammates using two carts plan to make a very significant showing for Chi at the race next April.



Functions like the Christmas Philanthropy and several other charitable fundraising events are held annually to raise funds or awareness for worthwhile causes.

The Chi Brothers are looking forward to the upcoming school year. They plan to fill it with more long-term memories, prosperous recruitment, and successes in every area of their academic, community, and fraternal endeavors. Chi Chapter stands stronger than ever, recognizing that if they continue to "hammer away", success will attend their efforts.

An emphasis on academics, including chapter interactions, tutoring, and mentoring specific groups of academic majors along with alumni discussion groups will be a prominent part of this coming year. While the main focus of fraternity life is education; preparations and planning for events like Rush Functions, Homecoming, Mom/Dad Weekends, Grand Prix Functions, Christmas Philanthropy, Regular Sorority Exchange Functions, Charity Fund Raisers and Campus Involvement is also part of fraternity life. Spreading the leadership and planning for each of these events amongst the 120 Brothers in the Chapter will insure each Brother has adequate time for his studies or other activities. AEKDB



GLIMPSES of the *Past* and *Present*



Brothers gathered around the chapter house sign at the annual Mom's Day event.



Alumni present for an Alumni Weekend event.



Brothers gathered for our House Mother's annual 5K event.



Brother pictured after receiving the Carol Becker Memory Spirit of Competition Award for his performance in the annual Purdue Grand Prix.



This past holiday season, the Chi Chapter held its annual Yuletide philanthropy event. Fraternities and sororities across Purdue were invited to participate in a week-long team competition of dodgeball, gingerbread-house building, festive decorating of the chapter house, and sheet-sign banner painting. This event raised over a thousand dollars for Natalie's Second Chance Dog Shelter and the Kappa Sigma Military Heroes Fund. The brothers ended the week spreading cheer across campus by singing Christmas carols from door to door.

— UNDERGRADUATE Profiles —



Jack Falconer '21

My name is Jack Falconer and I am from Dallas, Texas. I was initiated as a part of the Alpha Psi pledge class in the Fall of 2021. I am studying Economics here at Purdue, and I plan to graduate in 2025. One of my favorite memories from my time in Kappa Sigma has been our pledge class retreat— a semesterly tradition where the newly initiated pledge class takes a weekend trip together to bond as brothers. Alpha Psi— the Chi Chapter's largest pledge class in history— made a trip down to Southern Indiana. Waiting for us was a big, beautiful cabin set in the middle of the forest.

This was a dream destination for me, as I love being outdoors and can't get enough of exploring and hiking. I hope to one day find a career where I can balance my business degree with my passion for exploration and big experiences. Day and night, Psi took to the forest, picking any random path as a great adventure, walking until it became a journey to find our way back. At the cabin, we held a feast for the 39 of us where we devoured \$500 worth of pizza, somehow bought with free rewards points, in less than an hour. We eventually found ourselves building a small campfire, the perfect spot to enjoy the starry Indiana night. We slept like sardines, brothers piling onto beds that had a sliver of a mattress free, but we didn't mind. We were happy enough to be newly initiated brothers to the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. Coming into my third year with Chi brings great excitement, as I will be continuing my role as the chapter's historian, where I am given the opportunity to reflect and record exciting events, just like our Psi retreat. If I had any advice for our new members, it would be to cherish every moment you have with your brothers. If time flies when you're having fun, then time soars in your time at the Chi Chapter. So don't be complacent; give back to the house in thanks for what it gave you, and spend every moment with your brothers as if it were the last.



Teddy Schaal '21

Hi. My name is Teddy Schaal and I am studying Computer Engineering here at Purdue University. After graduating from Homestead High School in Mequon, Wisconsin in 2021, I decided to take a gap year in Breckenridge, Colorado. Although this provided me with a unique experience, it posed some unexpected challenges. With me delaying my admission to Purdue for one year, I no longer had any friends going into my freshman year. This is what originally pushed me to join a fraternity. I rushed many fraternities during my first few weeks on campus but no one came close to my

original experience at the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. The brothers of Chi welcomed me as a family even before I had accepted my bid. There was an overwhelming feeling of camaraderie amongst the brothers that was unlike any other fraternity on campus. Now speaking to you as a rising sophomore and a fully initiated brother, this very feeling is what I believe Chi stands for. Unwavering camaraderie among brothers. This coming fall, I will be an acting Rush Committee Head, Academic Committee Head, and Social Committee Head. With these positions, I hope to provide the same experiences that I had as a freshman. If there was any advice that I could provide to new members, it would be that you will get out 10 times as much as you put in. Your brothers will have your back no matter the circumstances. Therefore, make sure you are there for your brothers in return.

ALUMNI ORGANIZATIONS & SUPPORT

ALUMNI



Update

Kevin Boes '18, a recent graduate from Purdue University, has been appointed by Governor Eric Holcomb to a two-year term on the Purdue Board of Trustees. "I want to contribute to the success of our students," says Kevin of his goals for the upcoming term, "It's about providing the student perspective on a board made up of nine other highly qualified people. We're a land grant university, so it's important to keep that mission, as well as our students, at the forefront."

Kevin's appointment to the Board of Trustees follows an impressive list of on-campus leadership positions. Previously the President of both Kappa Sigma and Purdue's Interfraternity Council, as well as the Treasurer for Mortar Board, his involvements at Purdue have culminated in this achievement. "I established a solid network and got really excited about getting involved on campus. One leadership role led to the next, and I'm thrilled about this opportunity to continue giving back to Purdue."

Currently pursuing a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering—and with a passion for rockets and airplanes—Kevin hopes to work in the

aerospace industry later in his career. "The two big words for my high-level career goals are innovation and impact. I believe that pursuing a career in aerospace will help me accomplish that." Outside of work and his studies, Kevin enjoys working out, skiing, hiking, running, and is an avid reader.

Kappa Sigma is more than just a fraternity to Kevin. "I am extremely thankful for my time in the chapter because it led me to be the leader I am today," he says of what Chi means to him, "If you believe in yourself and your ability to have a great experience, you'll make many great friends, develop as a leader, and give back to your community." To any future or current undergraduates, Kevin hopes to convey the following message: "You can do whatever you set your mind to. Once you know your capabilities, you can apply them to have an impact on society."



SUPPORT

There is no better time than now to support Chi. Our chapter, like all fraternities, is as strong as our undergraduate members' commitment to success, and our alumni and parent's commitment to sharing some of their time and resources with the chapter.

Volunteer

Join other volunteers on our Advisory Board, Educational Foundation Board, or House Corporation Board. Contact Doug Kowert at dkowert@comcast.net or 312-339-0685 with questions.

Career Program

Join an in-person or virtual career panel this fall or spring or agree to hold a 1 on 1 conversation with the student in your career field. Contact Doug Kowert at dkowert@comcast.net or 312-339-0685 with questions.

Recruitment Recommendation

Provide a recruitment recommendation to the undergraduate chapter by filling out this recommendation form:

<https://www.chikappasigma.org/recruitment-recommendation>

One Time or Recurring Gift

Please consider a one-time or recurring gift to our Educational Foundation or House Corporation. You can donate online here:

<https://www.chikappasigma.org/donate>. You can contribute by mail as well: <https://www.chikappasigma.org/donate-by-phone-or-mail>.

Matching Gifts

Many companies match their employee's charitable donations to nonprofit organizations. Please check with your employer's Human Resource Department to see if they will match the donation you are about to make. Check out this list of matching gift companies:

<https://www.chikappasigma.org/matching-gifts>.

Required Minimum Distributions

For those of 73 and older you can contribute to the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma Educational Foundation using your IRAs, profit sharing plans, 401(k), 403(b), 457(b), and other defined contribution plans. You can contribute up to \$100,000 in meeting your required RMD but also this will reduce your taxable income if 70 ½ or older. Please contact Matt Noble at matt.noble@fmgutucson.com or 520-990-3250 if considering contributing via a RMD.

Become a Chi Regular Donor/Investor

You can give one of two ways:

- 1 Make a one-time donation via credit card or check to the Housing Corporation, and/or
- 2 Join our newly created 1885 Club honoring our chapter founding as a donor to the House Corporation and/or Foundation, which is a monthly recurring gift donation via credit card. A monthly gift of \$5, \$10, \$25, \$50, \$100 or more will make a difference in our future success.

Visit <https://www.chikappasigma.org/donate-now> to learn how you can support Chi through an online gift, check, or legacy giving.

Contact Doug Kowert at dkowert@comcast.net or 312-339-0685 or

Steve Springer at sspringer@msn.com or 317-374-3517 for more information.



Chi Chapter
Kappa Sigma Fraternity

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Homecoming Weekend - Sept 29 & 30, 2023

See more details at the link below or scan the QR code to the right.

<https://chikappasigma.org/events/homecoming-weekend-2023-join-us-september-29-30>



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