



# Gamma Contact

of  
Phi Sigma Kappa

CORNELL UNIVERSITY

ITHACA, NEW YORK

FALL 2009

## Steve Fontana '79 passes the torch to Bill Miller '73

Steve Fontana '79, after all his years of successful service as president of the Gamma Chapterhouse Association and alumni adviser, has decided he must step down from this role as his business responsibilities and family needs no longer allow him the flexibility to serve in this capacity. Much like Bob Chase '59 and Jason Schiciano '92, he has taken the chapter through many ups and downs and has been a tremendous mentor to the undergraduates of Phi Sigma Kappa.

It is hard for any organization to make a leadership change, particularly when one individual's hand has guided the direction of the organization for so many years. Careful choice is necessary. Steve has chosen Bill Miller '73 to replace him in the role of president and alumni adviser. As an undergraduate, Bill managed alumni relations for the fraternity even before we had Stewart Howe, and as house steward, he made sure that the kitchen not only served the needs

of all brothers but also turned a profit during his tenure in the early '70s. Along the way, he graduated from Cornell with honors, like many Phi Sigs.

That was a long time ago. Since then, his professional career has included working as a chapter consultant for the Grand Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa. In that role, he advised various chapters throughout the country on their chapter management, recruitment strategies, and long-term alumni involvement. The truth be known, it was a tough recession in the early '70s, and he felt that a year of traveling the country gave him a better understanding of where the best opportunities might exist.

When the recession passed, he was able to enter the securities industry, which was his life-long dream. He spent the next 31 years working in various capacities in the securities industry. Most of his activity involved managing bond trading units for

various securities firms. Throughout the years, Bill has always tried to send something back to the Gamma Chapter of Phi Sig because he felt he learned a great many life lessons while participating in the fraternity; not to mention that, of his best friends in life, most are brothers from the chapter.

At this time, Bill has chosen early retirement, which gives him the time to devote to the Chapterhouse Association. While he is an MBA/CPA, giving us adequate comfort as to his financial acumen to serve as president of the association, he prefers to refer to himself simply as the managing partner of his family trading company, WCM Trading.

Bill indicated that he does not have any predisposed agenda in accepting this position. "I feel that Steve has done a great job. I just realize that he can't be expected to shoulder this responsibility alone forever. My hope is that I can use him as a resource so that all his contacts in the local community can continue to be utilized without Steve having to be charged with the day-to-day interaction."

If you have questions or suggestions for Bill, contact him at willie53@comcast.net.

## Reunion 2009: Party on the Porch!

The annual Phi Sig/Cornell Reunion reception was a smashing success this year. Almost 100 Gamma alumni, family members, and friends gathered on Saturday, June 6, 2009. The strongest showing was by the class of '79, with eight brothers attending. Close behind were the classes of '84 and '89, with six brothers

each. For more photos, turn to page six.

The reunion party is held every Saturday afternoon of Cornell Reunion, so stop by the big white house when you come back to Cornell.

Steve Fontana '79  
Gamma Alumnus

Dan Richards '84	Kyle Archie '03
David Utter '84	Brian Donnelly '04
David Utter '84	Gerren Faustini '04
Michael Whiting '84	Peter Tucker '04
Ken Dearden '89	Zak Dentes '09
David Feldman '89	Ryan Smith '09
Steve Greenberg '89	
Jeff Hirschberg '89	
Craig Lukin '89	Greg Muenzen '10
Andy Mavian '89	Greg Mauro '11
Rob Mosher '89	Damon Gray '11
Rob Dicks '99	Mike Mascarenhas '11

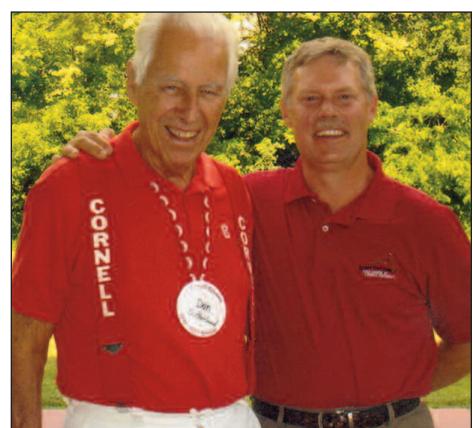
**Undergrads**

Greg Muenzen '10
Greg Mauro '11
Damon Gray '11
Mike Mascarenhas '11

### REUNION 2009 ATTENDEES

#### Alumni

Don Sutherland '49	Larry Jordan '79
Foster Kinney '56	John Molander '79
Bob Chase '59	Bob Vallone '79
Tip Garrett '59	By Widger '79
William Tafuri '59	Roger Yerdon '79
Ken White '69	Ed Stratton Jr. '80
Bill Quain '74	Rob Sanders '81
David Roth '75	Ted Clark '84
Steve Fontana '79	Jeff Gershenwald '84
Jeff Ghizzoni '79	Kevin Hunt '84



Don Sutherland '49 (left) and John Molander '79 at reunion this summer.

## HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

We would like to thank the following donors for their support during the 2008-'09 fiscal year, which runs from October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2009.

**FOUNDERS CIRCLE****(\$1,000 OR MORE)**

WILLIAM C. MILLER '73  
PAUL E. ANDERSON '75  
MICHAEL P. MOORE '88

**LEADERSHIP CIRCLE****(\$500-\$999)**

DONALD C. SUTHERLAND '49  
CLIFFORD F. EVANS '53  
FREDERICK T. PEASE '61  
RICHARD P. ALTHER '62  
WILLIAM O. MOONEY JR. '63  
THEODORE HOLLANDER '86

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ROBERT M. QUENCER '59  
ARTHUR KIRK FIELD '60  
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RICHARD KEYSER BARDO '63  
STEPHEN M. HOWARD '63  
ROBERT J. JACOBSON '63  
THOMAS N. MITCHELL '77  
MARK L. ROULEAU '78  
ALFRED ROBERT FLORIO '79  
STEPHEN A. FONTANA '79  
NATHANIEL C. MYERS III '82  
GREGORY S. AZIA '83  
ROBERT S. FISCHER '83  
BRIAN A. BEWLEY '84  
DAVID M. CYNN '91  
JASON C. SCHICIANO '92  
SEAN K. O'BRIEN '01  
JOSEPH WILLIAM SOBOTA '03

**PLATINUM MEMBER****(\$150-\$249)**

DONALD H. STANDIFORD '47  
DANIEL G. TEAR '48  
DOUGLAS A. YOUNG '51  
DAVID G. MURRAY '52  
JOHN M. CLARK JR. '54  
JOHN L. HAYNES JR. '55  
FREDERICK M. KUEHN '55  
PAUL F. SNARE '56  
ROBERT W. GEORGE '57  
WILLIAM TAFURI '59

**PAUL T. MCCARTHY '61**

FRANK J. QUIRK '62  
GLENN R. THOMAS '63  
DOUGLAS A. MANG '64  
*IN MEMORY OF CARL D. ANDERSON '67*

EDWARD B. ARENSON JR. '67

EUGENE M. WEBER '72

WILLIAM G. LONGHI '75

DOUGLAS F. JOHNSON '78

DALE S. OKONOW '78

JEFFREY A. GHIZZONI '79

JOHN C. MOLANDER '79

EDWARD L. STRATTON JR. '80

MARC C. LAREDO '81

CHARLES J. MURGIANO '82

JEFFREY GERSHENWALD '84

KEVIN C. HUNT '84

MICHAEL E. COE '85

STEVEN SCHWARTZ '85

ERIC P. BOBBY '88

KENNETH W. DEARDEN '89

ADAM P. KLAUSNER '92

ANDREW R. FOX '95

PETER J. MAJERANOWSKI '98

BENJAMIN P. FISHER '06

THOMAS A. MCGUIRE '06

**RICHARD M. CHEMELLI '82**

KURT E. HOLSTEIN II '82

DAVID S. CHABON '83

CHARLES W. ASTOR '86

RONALD R. BROWN '87

STEVEN L. GREENBERG '89

BRIAN J. DRUMM '96

MICHAEL J. WEISS '06

**CONTRIBUTORS****(\$50-\$99)**

WOODWARD H. WARRICK '39

GEORGE D. CROFTS JR. '43

ARTHUR J. WIDMER JR. '44

CHARLES P. FOOTE '49

HAROLD P. HECKEN JR. '49

DOUGLAS W. ANDERSON '50

ROBERT A. HEUERMAN '50

BRUCE HOITT '50

FRANK R. FORTHOFFER '52

JOHN H. WHITE '53

ANDERS J. KAUFMANN SR. '55

GAINES POST JR. '59

DAVID JORDAN '62

PAUL A. HOEBEL '63

ALLEN K. JONES '69

JOHN A. LEON JR. '71

ALAR E. ARRAS '72

RICHARD F. KROCHALIS '72

JOHN T. WILLIAMS '74

DAVID B. ROTH '75

CARLTON L. GEER '76

WALTER A. MILANI '78

BRUCE A. BLACKER MD '79

JEFFREY R. MARGOLIS '79

ROBERT P. VALLONE '79

WALTER D. PEEK II '80

R. CRAIG STEWART '82

JONATHAN W. CHAPMAN '83

MICHAEL D. WHITING '84

JEFFREY S. EARLE '92

GEORGE KONTOGIANNIS '95

KENNETH R. P. OLSEN '97

ANDREW PAUL DEMIDOWICH '03

OZAN OSMAN VAROL '03

ERIC C. ABIS '05

MATTHEW J. BARNARD '05

SCOTT AUSTIN LORD '08

**GOLD MEMBER****(100-\$149)**

GEORGE M. WILKINS JR. '44  
JOHN A. MITCHELL JR. '48  
THOMAS M. POTTS '49  
JOHN M. CUMMINGS '52  
JAMES W. BRYCE '59  
DAVID S. BURNETT '61  
JOHN E. FRANZREB III '64  
ROGER L. ECKHARDT '65  
WARREN L. FISHER '65  
WILLIAM J. WAYLETT JR. '65  
THOMAS J. FARRELL '66  
BRYAN J. WALLEY '66  
RICHARD T. HOPPE '67  
ALAN B. WEITBERG '72  
ALFONSO J. FRESSOLA '73  
JAMES P. AXFORD JR. '74  
NICHOLAS D'AMBROSIO '77  
LAWRENCE J. JORDAN III '79  
STEVEN ROSS '80  
STEVEN ROSENBERG '81

## Summer Renovations Total \$50,000

As the students return to East Hill, the Gamma Chapterhouse Association wrapped up a successful summer of work projects. This year work included:

Patch, prep and paint all the first and second floor exterior surfaces that have not been covered with vinyl siding	\$25,211
Safety-related repairs to meet City of Ithaca Building and Fire Department codes	\$10,425
Renovation of the house's six bathrooms	\$8,401
New boiler for the basement level of the house	\$5,391
<b>TOTAL REPAIRS AND RENOVATIONS</b>	<b>\$49,428</b>

Although the \$80,000 that the undergraduates pay in rent this year to the alumni association covers most of our expenses, your donations to the Gamma Chapterhouse Association directly support our efforts to keep Gamma safe and competitive. Thanks for your help.

Steve Fontana '79  
Gamma Alumnus

# Gamma Chapter House Association Statement of Activities

	10/08 - 09/09	10/07 - 09/08	10/06 - 09/07	10/05 - 9/06
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## Income

Membership Dues	20,180	27,495	23,953	24,953
Chapter Rent	74,500	69,000	69,000	67,000
Chapter Reimb. for Maint./Repair	1,841	2,366	2,134	0
Prior Year's Mortgage Ins.	0	0	0	0
Interest Income	71	144	78	81
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>96,592</b>	<b>99,005</b>	<b>95,165</b>	<b>92,034</b>

## Expense

SHAS - Contact	14,324	13,090	11,515	9,069
Reunion	204	254	193	225
Administrative	0	0	71	80
Accounting	940	1,000	1,235	1,770
Housekeeping	3,978	3,723	2,475	1,335

### Repairs and Maintenance

Contract Labor	288	1,914	975	1,075
Building Repairs/Maint.	31,898	5,251	4,440	1,813
Inspections	2,400	2,021	0	1,462
Water and Sewer	0	0	0	0
Repairs/Maint. (Other)	0	0	372	120
<b>Total Repairs and Maintenance</b>	<b>34,586</b>	<b>9,186</b>	<b>5,787</b>	<b>4,470</b>

### Depreciable Building Maint.

Furnishings/Decorating	5,275	11,926	0	3,971
Maintenance (Other)	10,331	10,898	13,178	32,837
<b>Total Depreciable Building Maint.</b>	<b>15,606</b>	<b>22,824</b>	<b>13,178</b>	<b>36,808</b>

Loan Interest	0	0	272	775
Loan - Principle	0	0	10,374	9,381
Bank Service Charges	191	125	122	0
County Solid Waste Fee	23	518	499	499
Property Taxes	26,261	27,776	27,195	26,473
Insurance	8,821	8,520	9,016	9,792
Furniture	0	0	321	0
Prior Year	0	0	66	180
New York State Corp. Tax	250	250	250	250

<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>105,184</b>	<b>87,266</b>	<b>82,568</b>	<b>101,107</b>
<b>Net Income/Loss</b>	<b>(8,592)</b>	<b>11,739</b>	<b>12,597</b>	<b>(9,073)</b>

## A Chapter Update from the Undergraduate President

Brothers of Gamma Chapter,

Greetings from the undergraduate brothers of the Gamma Chapter of Phi Sigma Kappa! My name is Michael Mascarenhas, and I am the current president. I am an applied economics and management major and Spanish language minor.

With a relatively small new-member class last semester, we have taken great initiative to increase the awareness of our brotherhood on campus. To start the semester off right, we held a major philanthropy event and awareness campaign for the Special Olympics on North Campus during the first week of school. This event, appropriately deemed ESCAPE (we still had the normal ESCAPE event as well, don't worry), raised about \$500 in donations for the Special Olympics, as well as gathering a list of potential volunteers for the Special Olympics that we will revisit in the springtime. We worked with the sisters of Tri Delta to help make this event a success. This event also included a pie-eating contest, a home-run derby, and a football toss. Many thanks to Philanthropy Chair Dan Sattnick '12 and Vice President Ryan Tompkins '11 for designing and running the event.

The brothers, led by Rush Chair Greg Muenzen '10, have made many strides in

promoting rush, even now in the fall semester. In addition, the brotherhood has planned several unofficial events to help put the Phi Sig name out there. Many of the younger brothers volunteered as orientation leaders and teaching assistants to meet members of the freshman class. We look forward to giving good news with regard to rush in the next *Gamma Contact*.

The brothers of the Gamma Chapter have also worked hard on strengthening the bond between the Interfraternity Council (IFC) and the chapter. We sent several members to the semiannual conferences this year, which were themed around promoting diversity on campus. The brothers of the Gamma Chapter are considering hosting a chapter from the Multicultural Greek Council in their house so they can have one of their philanthropy events.

The newly appointed academic chair has also brought a lot to the chapter. Since the IFC has imposed very strict rules concerning new member GPA drops during their pledging semester, the academic chair is beginning to work with the inductor to foster a more academically savvy environment during the spring semester. Some ideas include upperclassmen tutoring and mandatory library hours.

Our house also saw some major renovations this summer, mainly to the exterior of the building. The entire paint part of the exterior of the house was painted. This includes the porches and fire escapes, as well as the Triple T's on the chimney overlooking University Avenue. Additionally, some patchwork inside the house occurred, along with the replacement of many of the bathroom sinks.

While Phi Sigma Kappa is thriving, I would like to take the time to acknowledge one chapter that has suffered a great loss this semester. The brothers of Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity suffered a great loss in the death of a member, Warren Schor '11, due to complications of the H1N1 virus. Please keep him in your thoughts and know that all the brothers of Phi Sigma Kappa are healthy and taking the necessary precautions to keep the brotherhood safe.

I hope this *Contact* finds you all in good health and gives you a clear picture of what life is like for the undergraduates. I look forward to your comments and input over the next year and hope to continue along our current path of success.

Damn Proud,  
Michael Mascarenhas '11  
Undergraduate President

## Alumnus Spotlight on Art (aka, Kirk) Field '60

When Art Field first set foot on Cornell's campus, he was a just another freshman with plans to achieve a degree in animal husbandry and become a dairy farmer. By the time he left, he had been president of Phi Sig, completed a masters degree in microbiology, and met and married his wife, Marcia. The plans for a dairy farm were distant memories.

When Art and Marcia left Cornell, they moved to California where Art continued his education in virology and immunology. He completed his PhD in 1965 at UC Berkeley and was promptly hired by Merck and Co. He and Marcia moved back east, settling in North Wales, Pennsylvania. For the next 21 years, Arthur worked for Merck, putting his PhD to good use studying viruses and developing therapeutic drugs.

By 1986, Art had grown quite comfortable in the Philadelphia area. He and Marcia had two children, Karen and Rick, who would follow their parents' footsteps and attend Cornell and join Alpha Phi and Phi

Sig, respectively. However, Art's time at Merck had run its course. He left the company to develop and head up the virology department at Squibb Corp. He stayed there for six years, surviving the merger, but left Bristol-Myers Squibb in 1992 for a small biotech startup called Hybridon, Inc. in Worcester, Massachusetts.

Working for a small company suited Art, and he did very well for the company. In his time there, he traveled worldwide raising money for its research and developing therapeutic drug candidates. He helped the company grow tenfold and launch its initial public offering. After four years, he retired briefly, moving back to North Wales.

In 1999, Art and three colleagues from UMass Medical School started another small biotech company, Microbiotix, Inc., to develop medications to combat infectious diseases, primarily antibiotic-resistant staphylococcal infections. Still living in Pennsylvania, Art was installed as president and would commute weekly to central

Massachusetts, a schedule he didn't particularly enjoy. In 2003, he hired his replacement and turned over day-to-day control of the company operations. He remains on the board of directors.

Now retired, Art has been working hard in the community where he and Marcia have lived for 40 years. His most recent project has been to build a modern library for the region. After helping to raise more than \$1.3M, Art reports that renovations are progressing well on a 10,000-square-foot building that should open for library business in early 2010. Along with his community service, Art also practices woodworking, working with Marcia to create period furniture for friends and family. They still live in North Wales, although they spend a lot of time traveling to visit their children and grandchildren, who all live on the West Coast.

Damn Proud,  
Matt Hagen '10

# Phi Sig Alumni Report Their News From Far And Near

"I had dinner with **Andy Kaufmann '55** in Vancouver in March 2009," reports **Robert "BG" George '57**. "I moved from N. Vancouver to Bellingham, Washington, in April." Find out more from BG at 22 Marigold Dr., #25, Bellingham, WA 98229.

"My wife, Lucy, and I had a very enjoyable visit here at home in Natick, Massachusetts," writes **Frederick T. Pease '61**, "with **Ron 'Obie' Obermeyer '60** and his friend, Carol Smith. Obie and I vowed that we would meet again soon and try to include as many PSKers of our vintage as possible in a mini-reunion of Boston-area brothers. Lucy and I have been traveling quite a bit: Vermont, Palo Alto, Los Angeles, Durham. We will visit Four Corners country in October. I am lucky to be in good health, and this helps me when I try to keep up with my six grandchildren! Any and all contacts from brothers are welcome." Catch up with Ted at 66 Pilgrim Rd., Natick, MA 01760; [ftpease@netscape.net](mailto:ftpease@netscape.net).

**Alan B. Weitberg '72** writes, "I occasionally see **Gene Weber '72**, but if anyone from my class is in the Newport-Providence area, please stop by. In addition to being chairman of medicine at Roger Williams Medical Center in Providence, Rhode Island, I am also an assistant dean at the Boston University School of Medicine. Any brothers applying to the BU School of Medicine should contact me." Get in touch with Alan at 218 America, Newport, RI 02840, or by e-mail at [awbeitberg@aol.com](mailto:awbeitberg@aol.com).

"Elaine, Andy, and I are still living in the greater Ithaca area," writes **David B. Roth '75**. "We moved here from Detroit five years ago when I was transferred by BorgWarner. I am a senior technical analyst with our engine systems group doing engine R&D. This summer, we will be joining the **Cheperaks (Neil '75)** and the **Dionisios (Paul '75)** on a Caribbean cruise. This will be the fourth get-together of members of the class of '75 for a summer cruise—dubbed 'Sigs at Sea' by

Neil. Any Phi Sigs in the Ithaca area can contact me at [droth@borgwarner.com](mailto:droth@borgwarner.com) or [droth3@twcny.rr.com](mailto:droth3@twcny.rr.com)."

"From September 2009-April 2010, I'll be in Macau, China, as a production coordinator for the 'City of Dreams' show at a casino complex," reports **Walter A. Milani '78**. "Franco Dragone is directing (Celine Dion in Vegas), and I invite any brothers traveling through to drop in for a drink. Hong Kong is an hour away by boat." Take Walter up on his offer at 4 Marina Dr., #2, Mahopac, NY 10541; [milanivice@msn.com](mailto:milanivice@msn.com).

"Hard to believe I've been in the 'burgh 12 years now," muses **Nathaniel C. Myers III '82** (1299 Fox Chapel Rd., Pittsburgh, PA 15238). "Hard to believe I've stayed in one place longer than my typical four-year interval (vet school, four years; internship, one year; work, one year; residency, three years; teaching at ICSV, three years). Proud of our Stanley Cup Penguins—but for some reason, no one knows our 'classic' Lynah Rink cheers. On a brief trip to Westchester, New York, in June, I was able to catch up with **Eric Kessin '81** and **Howard Waksman '84** and meet their daughter and son, respectively. Amazing how the guys I remember from Phi Sig could have such normal, well-adjusted, and bright kids. My 3.5-year-old, Benjamin Noah Myers, shows way too many characteristics similar to his strange dad." Drop Chip an e-mail at [ncmyers3@gmail.com](mailto:ncmyers3@gmail.com).

"After more than 15 years in corporate life and seven-plus years as a part-time consultant/stay-at-home dad (two boys, ages 10 and 15), I am moving on once again to embark on yet another career," announces **Craig Stewart '82**. "I will be starting a credential program this summer, and I will have my first classroom this fall teaching algebra and geometry to lower-income kids in Oakland. I guess it's about time I do something relevant to my (engineering) degree! I am looking forward to teaching, and I hope to help a few kids along the way. The tough part is

going to be trying to figure out how to keep up with 200-plus miles per week on my bike, which I have been fortunate to enjoy for the past couple of years. Thanks much for all your work in keeping Phi Sigs up to date." Craig resides at 49 Haciendas Rd., Orinda, CA 94563. E-mail reaches him at [rcs73@hotmail.com](mailto:rcs73@hotmail.com).

**Louis Musinski '04** recently moved to 94 Dale St., Waltham, MA 02451.

"I am currently living it up in Port Hueneme, California," reports **Thomas A. McGuire '06**, "just north of Malibu. My wife and I are finally living in the same state now that she is active USMC. The Navy will have me here for most of the next year, so call if you pass through!" Tom's phone number is 703-915-6188. Send him snail mail at 1028 Oriole Dr., Port Hueneme, CA 93041; e-mail at [tmcguaire84@gmail.com](mailto:tmcguaire84@gmail.com).

## DECEASED

We regret to announce the deaths of the following alumni:

**Woodward H. Warrick '39**  
April 7, 2009

**Frederick A. Schulte Jr. '43**  
July 25, 2008

**John S. Morgan '45**  
May 10, 2006

**Barry H. Robinson '52**  
March 14, 2009

**Ronald W. Fichtl '57**  
November 2, 2008

**Michael E. Nozik '89**  
May 12, 2009

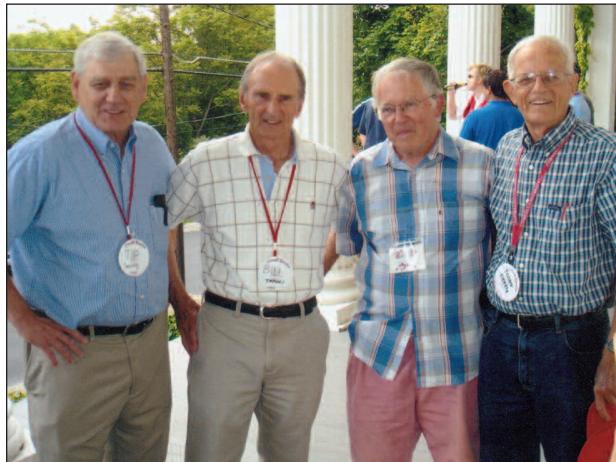
## Reunion 2009 Pictures: Party on the Porch!



Gamma Phi Sigs from the class of '89.



Gamma Phi Sigs from the class of '84.



From left: Tip Garrett '59, Bill Tafuri '59, Bob Chase '59, Foster Kinney '56.



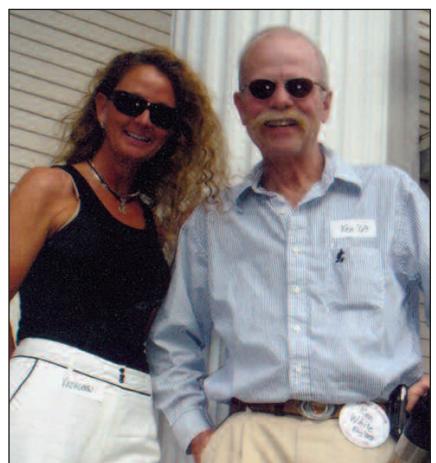
Reunion dinner at Steve Fontana's ('79) house. Back row, from left: By Widger '79, Ed Stratton '80, Jeff Ghizzoni '79, Steve Fontana '79. Front row, from left: Larry Jordan '79, Rob Sanders '81, Bob Vallone '79, John Molander '79, Roger Yerdon '79.



From left: Gerren Faustini '04, Kyle Archie '03, and Bobby V. '04.



From left: Ed Stratton Sr., Nancy Stratton '44, and Ed "Vito Strattoni" Stratton '80.



Ken White '69 and guest.