



# ΣΑΕ

# ews

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ΣΑΕ ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF SAN DIEGO

## INAUGURAL SAN DIEGO REGIONAL LEADERSHIP TRANSITION FORUM



The Alumni Association Board will host our region's first "Leadership Transition Forum" on Saturday morning, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The conference's purpose is to provide the incoming officers for our local CA-AG, CA-CH and CA-TH Chapters with helpful information, advice and training, concerning those key tasks/issues that they may face during their service.

The incoming officers, as well as those outgoing officers who are able to attend, along with up to 2 non-officers from each Chapter are being invited to the conference. The agenda includes a breakfast, keynote speaker and breakout groups for each office. The focus of the conference's program will include key subjects that core officers may find challenging. These could include EA concerns about behavior (underage drinking, etc); ET financial concerns (dues, balance sheets, etc); and philanthropy (projects, etc). We will have Alumni Brothers knowledgeable with each of the respective agenda topics present to address their substance and respond to questions. For more information contact Mike Boyle (CA-TH '72) at: [VicePresident@SAESD.com](mailto:VicePresident@SAESD.com)

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  - Aug 24th Summer Happy Hour
  - Sept 9th Brews with Bros
  - Oct 21st SDSU Tailgate
  - Oct 24th Coach Dutcher Lunch

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I am proud to report that our Association is alive and well. Much has happened since our last newsletter as your Board continues to work hard to provide you with many opportunities to come together and connect with one another.

In April we heard from newly hired SDSU Athletic Director, John David Wicker, in May we held another very successful Brews with Bros at the Karl Strauss Brewery in Sorrento Mesa, and in June we had one of our best programs yet with Brother Jerry Sanders as our luncheon speaker. Little did we know that Jerry would end up twisting the arm of Brother Ron Roberts and both would take questions on a number of topics. Certainly some of the perks of being a member of our Association.

Moving forward we are set to have Captain Joe Buzzella with the San Diego Coast Guard speak to us on Wednesday July 19th. With how active the Port of San Diego is, we will get an insight as to what it takes to keep the port open. On Thursday August 24th we will be holding our annual Summer Happy Hour at the San Diego Yacht Club. Always a nice evening. Come join us as we enjoy appetizers and no host cocktails.

On another note, some of you may still be in need of renewing your membership for 2017. Please consider that your annual dues help ensure that the many programs provided by the Association will continue and at reasonable prices. If you haven't done so yet, please print out the Membership Application found on the last page of the newsletter and mail it in with your check. Your Association Treasurer Chris McCoy would greatly appreciate it.

Thank you for continuing to help make the San Diego Area Alumni Association one of the top alumni associations in the realm through your participation. If any would be interested in further supporting the Association or undergraduate brothers we would love to hear from you. We would be especially interested in hearing from anyone with interest in article writing for our newsletter, social media, and website administration as well as Brothers with some time to help with the luncheons and other social events. Simply send an email to [president@saesd.org](mailto:president@saesd.org) with what your interests are.

With that I leave you with well wishes for a great summer.

In the bonds,  
Adam Porter  
President

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## VOICE OF THE ESA



Freedom of Association - Three simple words that are not only the cornerstone of the United States Constitution but strike to the core of our very existence as a fraternal organization. It's as American as apple pie — and yet, this simple premise is now in jeopardy for Harvard University students due to the heavy-handed actions of the institution's president.

Though Sigma Alpha Epsilon was first chartered at Harvard in 1896, the fate of our chapter, and every fraternity and sorority at this Ivy League university, is uncertain. That's because the leader of this university has chosen to deter students from participating in single-gender social organizations, including fraternities and sororities. In a vast overreach, a new Harvard policy punishes students who choose to exercise their First Amendment right to join a single-gender social organization by denying them valuable collegiate opportunities and experiences. Members of these organizations — which are also not recognized by Harvard — will be unable to take on leadership roles in campus activities, such as student government, or participate collegiate athletics (which themselves are single-gender!). They will also be ineligible to receive recommendations from the Dean of Harvard for Rhodes

Scholarships and other prestigious fellowships.

In the collegiate experience, there are a diverse range of options for involvement, and students should have the choice about which organizations to join, including single-gender groups like fraternities and sororities. As we well know, these are valuable experiences where students find friendship, scholarship, leadership and service opportunities through brotherhood and sisterhood. While all fraternities and sororities will be damaged by this new policy, the students who belong to all-female and culturally-based fraternities and sororities are further adversely affected, as these organizations provide specific support, empowerment and opportunities for women and underrepresented student populations.

What amazes me the most about this action is that Harvard's president has personally gained the benefits of a single-gender experience as a graduate of Bryn Mawr, an exclusive all-women's college. You may be asking yourself why the action of one university president has any impact on you or your university. Quite simply, it's because Harvard is perhaps the most well-known and visible university on the continent, and its actions create a dangerous and oppressive precedent. In other words, if this ruling stands, other institutions may follow Harvard's lead. Harvard's new policy forces conformity at the expense of individual and group rights. In essence, it stifles true diversity and violates student rights. It's the start of a slippery slope that foreshadows an ominous future for student rights.

To protect the rights of our students, we are:

Working collaboratively with fraternities, sororities and other single-gender social organizations to advocate that this ill-fated policy be revised or overturned.

Working with the North-American Interfraternity Conference (NIC) to explore legal options if the matter is not resolved through Harvard's governance process.

Increasing efforts on Capitol Hill to advocate that our members of Congress strengthen the single-sex language around the Title IX exemption for fraternities and sororities.

As a fraternity, we must support our students when their basic rights are trampled upon. They should expect nothing less from me, the Supreme Council and our grand Fraternity. With these remaining few sentences, I will conclude my last column as your ESA. It has been a pleasure to serve as a member of the Supreme Council for the last decade and to lead our Noble Order for this biennium. My thanks to the amazing students to whom we serve for your ability to adapt to change, to our talented alumni for lending your time and treasure, to our professional staff for your guidance and leadership and to the men with whom I have served on the Supreme Council for the course of the last ten years, for your friendship in good times and in bad.

Thank you and Phi Alpha,  
Steven W. Churchill (Iowa State '85)  
Eminent Supreme Archon

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## BRO PRO-FILES: BOB POULSEN (ME-AL '67)

*Bob Poulsen Pursues Third Career as Sports Volunteer - By David Robinson*



When Bob Poulsen began classes at the University of Maine in 1963, he didn't imagine that his ultimate resume would include positions as sports information director, San Diego Superior Court research attorney, and part-time traffic court judge.

As a UMaine freshman, Bob also hadn't planned on becoming an  $\Sigma$ AE—because the chapter (Maine Alpha) was suspended. However, when an  $\Sigma$ AE Colony was formed the following year, he accompanied a friend to a meeting of potential members. Although he could have joined other fraternities, Bob opted for the “purple and gold,” as did 14 other pledges. “It was  $\Sigma$ AE's second chance (to be on campus) and my opportunity to be part of something new,” he said. “Plus I liked the history and the True Gentleman pledge.”

Bob was initiated in April 1965 and served the chapter as steward and social chairman, and also attended Leadership School after his junior year. “That experience going to Evanston reaffirmed that I made the right decision to become an  $\Sigma$ AE,” he said.

Graduating with a BA degree in Speech Communications, Bob's initial plans were to be a radio broadcaster. Yet, after attending graduate school at UMaine and Kansas University, he decided to take a job as assistant sports information director (AsstSID) at Eastern Michigan University and two years later was appointed the SID at Tufts University.

Of course, when Bob visited San Diego in February 1974, he realized that it might be time to exchange the severe East Coast winters for a more temperate environment. He relocated to the Pacific Beach area and subsequently joined the Vista Press, which was the start of his 17 year journalism career. “It was my first newspaper job and I was responsible for the food, social and church pages,” he said. He later became sports editor at the Poway Chieftain, where he won several writing and editing awards.

Like many of us, Bob eventually hit a professional speed bump—his sports editing job had become routine. “I was covering the same teams year after year and felt there were no new challenges.”

Attending law school at National University seemed to be a wise move, but he wanted to be sure. “An NU Dean suggested that I audit an introductory law class to see if I enjoyed it before enrolling. I did and started night classes soon after, while also continuing to work at the Chieftain.”

After passing the California bar exam, he worked briefly for a divorce attorney, and then made another decision that would have a major impact on his life. “I heard about an opening for a San Diego Superior Court research attorney and took a chance—applying for something entirely new. I was there for the next 24 years.”

He and other research attorneys assisted presiding judges by evaluating and summarizing complex motions related to divorce, probate and other civil cases. “We would review the facts and make recommendations as to which side we thought had the best position,” he explained.

Bob also spent time mediating divorce settlement conferences, helping couples agree on the most reasonable solution. “I had an 85 percent success rate (parties settling) and really enjoyed working with people to reach a fair decision.”

Recalling his almost quarter century of legal service, Bob added “I thoroughly enjoyed my second career as a research attorney. I had an opportunity to work on both divorce and criminal cases and the judges were appreciative of the work we did for them.”

Retiring in 2013, Bob wasn't concerned that he could keep busy. Volunteering at major sporting events has been his primary “extracurricular” activity. He and his wife Peggy first developed an interest in this volunteer

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work when they assisted at the college hockey Frozen Four tournament in Anaheim (ironically won by Bob's UMaine team). Then in 2001, Bob helped compile stats for the first round of the NCAA Basketball Tournament held at San Diego State University, and later served in the merchandise tent at the Men's U.S. Open golf tournament and then as a marshal at the annual PGA tournament, both in Torrey Pines. His extensive sports background also includes a long-time position on the Holiday Bowl/Poinsettia Bowl Red Coat committee.

Bob is currently looking forward to being a walking scorer at the U.S. Amateur Women's Open tournament in August and marshaling at the 2018 U.S. Senior Men's Open. "I love the sports environment," he said. "You're outdoors at exciting events. It's a lot of fun."

Bob also was appointed a Pro Tem Judge for San Diego traffic court, where twice a month he wears a robe and issues judgments for a variety of driving offenses. "That has been a fascinating experience. I have heard a lot of interesting stories."

Of course, he also finds time to support the ΣAE San Diego Area Alumni Association. "I had been attending the lunches and other events for a long time and was asked to be a Board member. Everyone in the Association (and ΣAE) has something special in common, no matter what chapter we are from. 'In the Bonds' has great meaning. Being an ΣAE isn't just a college experience, it's a lifetime commitment."

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## NEWS FROM NATIONAL

### Fraternity Welcomes New Eminent Supreme Recorder and Chief Executive Officer

EVANSTON, IL – Eminent Supreme Archon Steven Churchill and Supreme Council members announced the appointment of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity's next Eminent Supreme Recorder and Chief Executive Officer. Mike Sophir (Nebraska '85) has been named as the 14th ESR in the organization's history. His appointment took effect on May 15, 2017.

Sophir first joined the Fraternity Service Center staff in 1986 as an Educational and Leadership Consultant. He was then promoted to Assistant Director of Chapter Development and, in 1989, to Director of Chapter Development, where he supervised all field staff, chapter operations and the supporting volunteer programs. He left the Fraternity Service Center staff in 1992 and has been focused on marketing, communications, strategic planning and fundraising development in his career for the past 25 years.



"On behalf of the Supreme Council and with thanks to the entire Selection Committee, I am pleased to welcome Mike Sophir as our new Executive Director," said Steve Churchill, Eminent Supreme Archon. "His extensive background in both the private sector and the non-profit arena will be huge asset for ΣAE as he leads the charge as our CEO to advance the mission, vision and values for our Fraternity. He is a strategic thinker and true gentleman. We welcome him to the team and have every confidence that he will be a visionary leader for the Realm."

"I am very excited about this next stage of my life both professionally and personally," Sophir said. "I want to thank the Supreme Council for this opportunity and Blaine Ayers for the honor and integrity with which he has served our Fraternity as ESR over the past six years. I see ΣAE as the organization where all of our sons have the opportunity to grow and become true gentlemen and serve as leaders and role models on our respective campus — as well as one where our alumni find value throughout their lives. I am humbled and honored to serve in this role and, with your help, we can do great things for our Fraternity."

Brother Dick Troncone (CA-TH '65) who had the chance to work with Brother Sophir in 1990, when Cal Theta was being reviewed, called and congratulated him on behalf of our San Diego Area Alumni Association.

Brother Sophir can be reached at [msophir@sae.net](mailto:msophir@sae.net).

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# ALUMNI NEWS

## Special Arrangements on Aztec Tickets - by Cliff Bee



Special arrangements have been made with Gina R Balistrieri, SDSU Associate Athletic Director of Ticket Operations, for both football season tickets and the single ticket/Homecoming game. The seats are in the "Orange Plaza 4" section. Gina's telephone number is: (619) 283-7378 x3211.

The single game tickets are at the group rate of \$25 each and the sale starts on July 17th. List the promocode "SAEHC" on your information at the following link:

<https://oss.ticketmaster.com/aps/sdsu/EN/link/promotion/home/f7c1eac4ef16afee02b605cd47669e79007d654a>

The season tickets are \$200 each. Use the promocode "SAE" at the following link:

<https://oss.ticketmaster.com/aps/sdsu/EN/link/promotion/home/d36a4f1b5109feed665193394f51ac5e675dfbdc>

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## Brews with Bros held on May 4th - by Gary Martin & Bill Marckwardt

The San Diego Alumni Association held the third Brews with Bros gathering at Karl Strauss Sorrento Mesa on May 4th. Strong attendance was present from Cal Chi (UCSD) actives and alums who had great fun mixing and becoming acquainted with their Cal Theta brethren. A broad age range was represented. Alumni Association President Adam Porter was honored with the special task of "Tapping of the Keg", as the brewery uncorked their latest pale ale. The next Brews with Bros event is planned for Stone Brewery Escondido on Saturday, September 9th at 3:00 PM. Cal Alpha Gamma (Cal State San Marcos) is excited for this event in their "back yard". Come see your old pals and meet some new ones! Check the website for scheduling ([saesd.org](http://saesd.org)), grab a bro, and come join us for a pint or two. See you there!



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## ALUMNI NEWS (CONT.)

### **SDSU Athletic Director was our Speaker at April 13th Luncheon** - by Gary Keehner



It was great to have newly appointed San Diego State Athletic Director, JD Wicker speak to us at our April 13th luncheon. Fortunately, he is returning to the Mesa from Georgia Tech where he gained valuable experience about being in a Power 5 conference and what the substantially increased TV revenue means to a program. JD reviewed the 2016-17 Aztec sports programs and outlined the many successes not the least of which is the Academic Progress Rate for ALL 19 varsity sports being at least 25 points higher than the NCAA minimum multi-year score of 930. Of course, JD was very proud of the football team and the second consecutive MWC Championship with Donnel Pumphrey being the all-time rushing leader in NCAA Division I FBS history.

It was refreshing to hear and interact with JD as he came across as a very open and concerned AD. Although, not being in the job long he did his best to share as much as he could concerning the future of Aztec athletics, the stadium situation and the programs he wants to implement. He even shared many financial challenges he has to face to try to keep up with other programs from a competitive and recruiting standpoint. You can view the event photos from our Website [HERE](#).

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### **Brother Jerry Sanders was our Speaker at June 6th Luncheon** - by Gary Keehner



It is always a pleasure to have Brother Jerry Sanders, President and CEO of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce join us and speak candidly about everything from law enforcement to San Diego mayoral challenges to Red Cross activities and now Chamber of Commerce opportunities. He is a superb turn-around artist and dedicated Bro who has held the top local job in all these areas. He clearly has done everything possible to keep San Diego classy.

Of course, as speaker at our June 6th Luncheon he did his best to share his feelings and opinions concerning the infamous "Stadium Project" which is foremost in most Bros minds. Since Brother Jerry is very open and embracing he invited Supervisor Ron Roberts to join him and share his knowledge, concerns and frustrations with the Brotherhood. As Jerry said, they see some things differently. The contrasting opinions were great to hear so we got a much broader perspective of possible outcomes. The Bros were surprised by some of the comments but appreciated the candidness of Jerry & Ron. You can view the event photos from our Website [HERE](#).

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## CHAPTER NEWS

### Cal Chi (UCSD) Holds Annual Fundraiser - by Adam Porter

On Saturday May 13th the brothers of Cal Chi at UCSD hosted their annual Powderpuff Football Tournament. Sororities on campus formed teams to compete for the tournament trophy which was awarded to Kappa Kappa Gamma.

This is an annual fundraiser for the chapter which primarily raises funds through t-shirt sales. This year over 400 shirts were sold bringing in excess of \$2500.

All proceeds benefited the Moores Cancer Center, which is affiliated with UC San Diego Health. This Moores Cancer Center is the only cancer treatment center recognized by the National Cancer Institute in San Diego. They provide a thorough treatment regimen that includes patient and post-operation care, which is uncommon for most health centers. More information on the organization can be found through the link below.

<https://health.ucsd.edu/specialties/cancer/Pages/default.aspx>



# UPCOMING EVENTS

ΣAE Alumni Association Calendar of Events for 2017

January						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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August						
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31						

Yellow = Board Meeting; Green = Social Event

- [July 19th, Wednesday - SDYC Luncheon with Captain Joe Buzzella, Cmdr. of S. D. Coast Guard](#)
- August 24th, Thursday - SDYC Summer Happy Hour 5:30-7:30 pm
- September 9th, Saturday - Brews with Bros 3 pm at Stone Brewery in Escondido
- September 23rd, Saturday - Regional Leadership Breakfast for all three Chapters at Cal-Theta House
- October 21st, Saturday - SDSU vs. Fresno State Football Homecoming Tailgate
- October 24th, Tuesday - Luncheon with SDSU Basketball Coach Brian Dutcher
- November (TBD)
- December 15th, Friday - Holiday Party 6:30 - 9:00 pm Sheraton Harbor Island West
- March 9, 2018, Friday - Founders Day at Bahia Resort Hotel



## Join the San Diego Area ΣΑΕ Alumni Association



Our National Top Award-winning Association was founded in 1932 and continues to thrive today, with nearly 200 Alumni ΣΑΕ members. We welcome all ΣΑΕ Alumni, regardless of chapter or graduation year, to reconnect with your fraternity through association with us.

We have regular luncheons, with guest speakers, as well other social events including our annual Founders' Day Dinner and Holiday Party.

We communicate through our website ([www.saesd.org](http://www.saesd.org)), and this quarterly e-newsletter, as well as other social media means (see links on our website).

We also provide support to our three local area Chapters, and participate in their philanthropic activities.

If you are an ΣΑΕ and are interested in joining our local association, please fill out and mail in the enclosed Membership Application Form.

## POLICY ON ALUMNI NEWSLETTER BRIEFS

In addition to news briefs containing information of interest to the Brotherhood concerning local fraternity activities, the newsletter team would like to bring back the "Alumni Updates" feature, which was part of the newsletter a few years back. If you're a current member of the Association and you've changed jobs, received an honor or had some other newsworthy event take place in your life, please send an email to our Editor, Mike Templeton at [news@saesd.org](mailto:news@saesd.org) and we'll include it in a upcoming newsletter. All text file formats are acceptable. Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD CONTACTS

### PRESIDENT

Adam Porter (CA-TH '02)  
[president@saesd.org](mailto:president@saesd.org)

### VICE-PRESIDENT

Mike Boyle (CA-TH '72)  
[vicepresident@saesd.org](mailto:vicepresident@saesd.org)

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Mike Templeton (OH-EP '63)  
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### TREASURER

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Bill Marckwardt (CA-TH '76)  
[membership@saesd.org](mailto:membership@saesd.org)

### PROGRAMS/EVENTS

Gary Keehner (WA-AL '62)  
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### PRESIDENT EMERITUS

Dick Troncone (CA-TH '65)  
[emeritus@saesd.org](mailto:emeritus@saesd.org)

### CHRONICLER

John McMullen (CA-TH '70)  
[info@saesd.org](mailto:info@saesd.org)

### BOARD MEMBERS

Cliff Bee (MI-DE '61)  
Gary Martin (CA-TH '81)  
Bob Poulsen (ME-AL '67)  
Tim Sirotta (CA-CH '14)



# ΣΑΕ Alumni Association of San Diego

302 Washington St., #423 • San Diego, CA 92103 [www.saesd.org](http://www.saesd.org)

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (W) \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (M) \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

### Annual Dues Category:

- Regular Member \$ 30.00
- Century Club \$100.00 (includes Holiday Party)
- Lions Club \$250.00 (includes Founders Day & Holiday Party)
- Minerva Club \$500.00 (includes Founders Day & all other events)

Please mail this form, together with your check to the address above.

If you would like to get more involved in our Association, please indicate your interest in serving on one of the following Committees:

- Events/Social Programs
- Recruitment/Membership
- Communications
- Finance/Fundraising
- Nominations/Awards
- Chapter Liaison

If you do not have the time to get more involved, you may wish to take that extra step to become a Century, Lions, or Minerva Club Member. The generosity of these Brothers helps to support our philanthropic and mentoring activities, including sponsoring undergraduate members from our local Chapters to the Annual Leadership School.