

The Spear

FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE
COLORADO GAMMA CHAPTER
No. 5 • SPRING 2005

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY, SIGMA PHI EPSILON
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NOTE FROM HOUSE CORPORATION TREASURER ▼

CO Gamma Institutes New Financial Reporting System

I hope this issue of *The SPEar* finds you well, as it reaches all corners of our nation and beyond.

I know it seems strange at this time of year, but it's never too early to start thinking about the next SPECAT golf tournament on Labor Day weekend, and our chapter's 90th Anniversary Celebration, which will be held on Homecoming Weekend this fall. We are already at work on these events, and can't wait to see everyone in person again!

Thank you to the brothers who have made donations to support *The SPEar* and other alumni programming over the last year, without having been asked. Particularly, I thank Richard G. Long '79 of Huddleston, VA, and Chuck Simon '54 of Sheridan, WY, for their support. We will be sending our annual invitation to support *The SPEar* newsletter in the next few weeks, and appreciate any support you can give.

We hope you enjoy hearing about the exciting things your brothers are up to. This issue includes a great profile of Eugene Miller '51, a man of many talents, to be revered for naming the very publication you hold in your hand.

I assumed the role of House Corporation Treasurer in January 2004, and have enjoyed the challenge. Over the last year, we have made some changes to our financial processes allowing for better reporting and recordkeeping. Beginning with the fall 2004 semester, I began invoicing for the undergraduate chapter, and now provide professional invoices by e-mail, as well as weekly accounts receivable reports and monthly budget reports. The undergraduate chapter uses these reports to handle receivables and make adjustments necessary to meet financial goals.

Now that we have implemented this new system, it takes very little time to execute, and provides added value for the undergraduate brothers, parents, and, hopefully, the alumni body. These efforts have amounted to a significantly improved position as we head into 2005. Please see our assets and liabilities summary table on page 3. Thanks to Brother Mark McCloskey '83 for helping with the more complicated financial questions.

Congratulations to the new undergraduate Executive Board members who will be leading the chapter in 2005. I am sure they will continue to make us proud of what SigEp is today—which is a great complement to our pride in what it was before. I hope 2005 is one to remember for you all.

Fraternally,

BRYAN A. HARMSEN
harmsen@mountainwestrentals.com
House Corporation Treasurer



CO GAMMA BROTHERS
WITH RITA WILLIAMS,
WHO HAS BEEN
"HOUSE MOM" FOR
NINE YEARS.

2005 COLORADO GAMMA UNDERGRADUATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

David Smith '06, President
dcsmith82@hotmail.com

Mike Miller '07, VP Finance
mjmiller@simla.colostate.edu

Ross Hendrix '07, VP Programming
r_a_hendrix@yahoo.com

Matt Tuffin '06, VP Brotherhood Development
muffinman82@hotmail.com

Chris Holden '07, Chaplain
chholden@simla.colostate.edu

Andy Frohardt '07, VP Recruitment
Snowmang23@aol.com

Fletcher Drogos '07, VP Communications
fdrogos@hotmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS, BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS

October 8, 2005 – Colorado Gamma 90th
Anniversary Celebration – 2005 Home-
coming Weekend

CSU VS. UTAH. LOOK FOR DETAILS IN THE
NEXT ISSUE OF *THE SPEAR*

April 4, 2005 – Alumni Board Meeting
7:00 P.M. AT THE CHAPTER HOUSE

EUGENE MILLER '51
AND HIS WIFE PHYLLIS

Change in focus:

Miller becomes author and publisher

EUGENE
MILLER '51 AS
A COLLEGE
STUDENT

Gene Miller is an engineer by training, but his love of history has led him in a new direction as an author and publisher.

After a successful career as a geo/civil engineer and geotechnical consultant, Gene founded Antelope-Press, an independent publisher of non-fiction, specializing in mid-western and western history subjects, with special emphasis given to the late 1800s and early 1900s (www.antelope-press.com). The first offering from Antelope was authored by Gene and released in 2004. It is a biography of his grandfather. *Photographer of the Early West: The Story of Arundel Hull* tells the story of “an unusual young man who traveled and photographed the Union Pacific Railroad during its construction in the late 1800s. Spanning the time of exhilarating growth of the West, the book describes the struggles and successes of one man, his family, and a cast of colorful characters on the western frontier.” While he never met his grandfather, Gene was inspired to collect his photographs and write about his life by his mother’s research and his grandmother’s diaries as she traveled on a wagon train across the Midwest.

Two more books are scheduled for release soon. *Railroad-1869* is “a photographic journey along the Union Pacific Railroad, from Omaha to the Golden Spike site at Promontory, Utah.” *Soldiers’ Letters Home, a Trilogy*, tells the stories of a Civil

War soldier, a Spanish American War veteran, and a World War I doughboy through their letters.

After graduating from Colorado State—then Colorado A&M—in 1951, Gene went into the Navy Civil Engineering Corp. In 1956 he earned a masters degree in civil engineering from Georgia Tech. He moved to the San Francisco Bay area, working with a number of engineering firms until he formed Miller Pacific Engineering Group in San Rafael, CA, in 1989. As a geotechnical engineer, Gene has been responsible for several dam projects and for 68 dam safety studies. He has been a consultant for numerous landslides and for the foundations of many high-rise, public and commercial structures.

As CO Gamma Chapter President, Gene is credited with coming up with “SPEar” as the name for the chapter newsletter—a name that continues today. Looking back at his college years, he fondly recalls “dances at the Student Union and trips to Colorado Women’s College”—where he met his wife Phyllis. He also remembers the “College Day Parade and Rodeo, the couple of mornings when it was minus 15 degrees, Roy Romer’s ’50 campaign for student body president, and the five adventurers who painted the Aggie ‘A’ on the flatirons outside of Boulder.” In hindsight Gene realizes, “How fast those four years went, and how lucky I was to find Phyllis.”

Gene and Phyllis live now in Mill Valley, CA, and are only an hour or so away from their four children and four grandchildren.

BJ AMBROSE '95 owns Ambrose & Co., a carpet cleaning and flooring business in Denver. He and his wife Clare live in Littleton, CO, with their 20-month-old twin boys—Jack and Matt. BJ writes, “Clare and I volunteered at the Ryder Cup, thanks to SigEp alum **ANDY ODENBACH '96**. It was great to be with several SigEps and their families. Great job, Andy! I am always looking for a good golf match.” Get in touch with BJ at bjambrose@comcast.net.

ROBERT BOYER '99 writes that he is in Denver again after a year in Alaska. “Currently, I’m staying busy working in corporate sales for the Business Services Division of Office Depot. My new side project is the formation of a free online housing bulletin board located at www.mountainwestrentals.com. I still hang out quite a bit with my Pledge Brother **ROB**, the artist, **BELL '01**. Last weekend, I watched the AFC Championship in Pittsburgh with my pledge kid **DON WILLIAMS '03**. Hopefully, we can all catch up at the SPECAT golf tourney, Homecoming game, or the next monthly Board meeting.” Email Robert at boyer@mountainwestrentals.com.

NATE BUSHNELL '50 is a widower living in Centennial, CO, a new suburb on the south side of Denver. He is retired and volunteers as a docent at the Wildlife Experience Museum. Recently, Nate sent his research on preventing falls and injuries from falls to the Laboratory on Human Locomotion at Virginia Tech. The Director there has said that if Nate’s research proves valid, he will apply for funding for a full study next summer. Central to Nate’s research is the theory that a traditional, waist-high walking cane is unsafe; it does not provide the kind of stability needed to avoid falls. Instead, Nate believes that a walking stick that reaches from the ground to eight inches about the waist provides much better support. Contact Nate at nateb@ecentral.com.



BRIAN FLEMMING '01, HIS WIFE PATTY, AND 10-MONTH-OLD DAUGHTER ZOE STANDING IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE THEY BUILT THEMSELVES LAST SUMMER.

COLORADO GAMMA ASSETS & LIABILITY SUMMARY

December 31, 2004

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings	
House Corp. Checking Account	32,023.36
Facility Renovation Fund	21,085.56
Undergraduate Checking	5,307.79
Total Checking/Savings	58,416.71

Other Assets

Investment Fund (Merrill Lynch) - 0	64,125.39
Investment Fund (Merrill Lynch) - 1	115,364.76
Total Other Assets	179,490.15

TOTAL ASSETS 237,906.86

LIABILITIES

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Facility Room Deposits	5,250.00
Total Current Liabilities	5,250.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES 5,250.00



WADE WELCH '95 SCUBA DIVING IN GRAND CAYMAN.

STUART SMITH '98 is a High Yield Trader with OppenheimerFunds in New York. He moved out of the city a year ago and now lives across the river in suburban New Jersey ("Yes, I am part of the bridge and tunnel crew.") He lives with his girlfriend, who moved east from Colorado. "I can usually be found at a steakhouse in the city, golfing (making no inferences about my ability), or fishing off Long Island for sea bass." Contact Stuart at stusmith@yahoo.com.

WADE WELCH '95 works in sales and marketing for Atrium Companies, manufacturers of windows and doors, in Denver. He also is an assistant scuba diving instructor at the local dive shop and spends his weekends certifying students. He went on two dive trips in 2004—one to Honduras and one to the Cayman Islands. Wade also tries to get up to the mountains to ski as much as possible. Get in touch at wademichaelwelch@msn.com.

BRIAN FLEMMING '01 writes, "Upon graduation, my fiancé Patty Nash and I went on a road trip from Fort Collins to Alaska. That was almost four years ago, and we haven't left yet." Brian and Patty were married in March 2002 at Red Rocks. Patty is the swim coach at North Pole High School (just outside Fairbanks) and I am a carpenter working for a government subcontractor building schools, hospitals, and military infrastructure of all sorts. We built our first home together in the summer of 2003, and were blessed with a beautiful and healthy baby girl named Zoe Faith Flemming on March 21, 2004." Brian wonders whatever happened to our "old fraternity" before Balanced Man. "So many traditions were lost with the transformation into a politically correct fraternity." Email Brian at flemming_brian@yahoo.com.

SCOTT FREAS '04 works as a representative for AIM Investments in Denver, and he is currently in the process of purchasing his first house. Contact Scott at freas11@comcast.net.

JARED KIDDER '00 lives in San Diego, "working in sales and design for home automation, high-end home theater, and custom-installed home electronics. Doing well, and getting better each day with the diligence we were taught in SigEp." Email Jared at jaredkidder@gmail.com.

JEREMY REITSEMA '97 lives in Aurora, CO, and is Vice President of Cherry Hills Lending Services. He is married with two children. He reports, "Currently very busy with business and family, but would love to be involved with CO Gamma." Get in touch with Jeremy at jereitsema@hotmail.com.

BALANCED MEN PREVAIL

By DAVID SMITH '06

The death of fellow Greek Samantha Spady last fall left Greek life at Colorado State vulnerable and in danger of extinction. With this threat it was inevitable that Greek life was in for a change. SigEp felt it must be on the forefront of this change. When the dust cleared, a new and improved Greek system emerged, and Colorado Gamma has been active in keeping the new face of Greek life alive. The chapter organized alcohol awareness classes, CPR demonstrations, and risk management seminars for the benefit of the whole Greek community. Our involvement and commitment have established Colorado Gamma as a leader among CSU fraternities and sororities.

In recent years, Colorado Gamma has been aggressively pursuing the Balanced Man Ideal of Sound Mind and Sound Body. Each year, the chapter, the Balanced Man Program, and individual members have grown into something better than the year before.

With these constant improvements, traditions here at Colorado Gamma are in a whirlwind of change too, but for the good of the Greek community and the chapter. I feel that men join a fraternity for fellowship, brotherhood, and the opportunity to experience personal growth. These things are gained through both traditional and innovative opportunities. Traditional opportunities include formals, homecomings, and sharing meals. The innovative opportunities involve community service projects, experiential activities, and mentoring, which culminate in chapter celebrations.

Times are changing, and last semester's tragedy was an eye opener. If the Greek system does not change some of its old ways, we are bound to be left in the dust. I strongly believe the Balanced Man Program is the wave of the future and is the reason Colorado Gamma has become the number one fraternity on campus.

It is a new semester now, and Colorado Gamma has the ball rolling again. Our goal is to reestablish Wheel House status by earning a house GPA of 3.15. The community service hours are skyrocketing with the addition of a new Community Service Chair position. While neck and neck with Pike, SigEp has a good chance of winning the intramural championship. We are shooting for Chapter of the Year again, and this summer we will apply for the Buchanan Cup. Most importantly, the men of Colorado Gamma have held true to being gentlemen, scholars, and athletes, which has made each member more than proud to say he is a Colorado Gamma SigEp.

I STRONGLY BELIEVE THE BALANCED MAN PROGRAM IS THE WAVE OF THE FUTURE.

Scholarship winners announced

The Edward T. Bradford Scholarship was established to honor a CO Gamma senior, and aid him in the continuation of his education at Colorado State University. **The 2005 recipient is Dave Sime '05.**

The Saylor Memorial Scholarship, established by Robert and Mary Saylor in memory of their son Garry Saylor '58, is awarded based on demonstrated dedication to the CO Gamma Chapter. **The 2005 recipients are Dan Crass '06, David Smith '06 and Jeremy Polk '07.**

The SPECAT Golf Tournament Scholarship recipients are **David Smith '06 and Andy Frohardt '07.**

Congratulations to all for a job well done!

O BROTHER WHERE ART THOU?

Reconnect with SigEp by filling out the update below. Don't be shy.

NAME _____

CHAPTER _____

YEAR GRADUATED _____ HOME PHONE _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

EMAIL _____

COMPANY _____ WORK PHONE _____

OCCUPATION/TITLE _____

BUSINESS ADDRESS _____

WHAT HAVE YOU BEEN UP TO? _____

WHATEVER HAPPENED TO? _____

MAIL TO:
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Do this online at www.cogammaalumni.org **or email** co.gamma@sigep.net

CUT THIS OUT. MAIL IT BACK.

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