

# Tau Sigma Chi Alumni Association - TEXAA

## September 2012



## Calendar

### Homecoming 2012

#### Pre-Game Get Together

Saturday September 29  
Casa Capri (Louies)  
2129 Birch Road  
Starting at 10:00a

#### Carthage vs North Park

Starting at 1:00p

### Homecoming 2013

#### Our 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Saturday October 19  
vs IL Wesleyan  
Game- 1pm  
Celebration-starts 4:30p

## HOMECOMING - Turtle 59<sup>th</sup> and Class of 1962 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

September 29, 2012

The Tau Sigma Chi Alumni Association (TEXAA) invites all Turtle Alumni to come to Carthage College for Homecoming. Attend our annual pre-game festivities at the Casa Capri (2129 Birch Road), Kenosha, on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. You will have time to attend the parade and game after having pizza and beer with fellow Turtle Alums. You young guys come and meet the old guys and you old guys come and meet the young guys. The TEXAA has worked hard on keeping this event going but they need donations to continue. Please send a check or put something in the basket at the Casa Capri. Look for the Turtle flag flying at the concession area at the game and buy a brat from the Actives.

As we celebrate our 59th anniversary at homecoming we will be recognizing the Class of 1962. It was a class of 15 members including the 9th Turtle President, Earl Wolf. There are no deceased members but two, Elroy Diaz-Santana and James Smith are missing. Any information you know about these missing brothers we would appreciate.

Since this homecoming Carthage College will be celebrating 165 years and offering complimentary food and beverage buffet with cash bar immediately following the football game maybe we can find an area to have a Turtle party and hopefully find a few actives also. I understand they will have tables by the decades so look for me at the 50s table and we will see if we can get something started for a Turtle Party later and for sure A GOOD TIME WILL BE HAD BY ALL -- OH BOY!!!

Don (Ace) Henderson  
1st Turtle President

Need to stay Friday night before the game or Saturday after a party? Here's a couple of hotels within 15-20 minutes of campus.

Marriott – Racine 7111 Washington Ave (Hwy 20) 262.886.6100 (home of the 60<sup>th</sup>)

Fairfield Inn – Racine 6421 Washington Ave (Hwy 20) 262.886.5000

Super 8 – Racine 1150 Oakes Rd 262.884.0486

Best Western Harborside Inn – Kenosha 5125 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue 262.658.3281

Microtel Inn & Suites – Racine/Mt Pleasant 5419 Durand Ave 262.554.8855

Check out –  
<http://www.tausigmachi.org>

There is still time to get a T-shirt as we gear up for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year. The Tau Sigma Chi Alumni Association has jersey-style shirts available. Send Chris Steenrod an email at [steenrodchris@gmail.com](mailto:steenrodchris@gmail.com) to buy a shirt. Each shirt fits true to size and costs \$30. The TEX crest is on the front with "60" on the back and "10-17-53" directly underneath. Please have all orders in by September 10<sup>th</sup>. Shirts will be available for pickup at this year's homecoming..



## Membership and Website Report

Including our recent graduates, we now have 560 Turtle Alums on our TEXAA roster. Of those we are in contact with 279 of them via email messages. Due to budgetary restraints the Board decided to discontinue mailing paper newsletters, so if you are in contact with any brothers via email, please let Tim Hughes know their addresses ([twh17@yahoo.com](mailto:twh17@yahoo.com)). We'll get them added to our email list. And direct them to check out the website: [www.tausigmachi.org](http://www.tausigmachi.org).

That said, the Board did decide to send out a "Save the Date" postcard to all alums without email addresses to make them aware of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party on October 19, 2013. Those cards will be mailed out in January.

I try to keep the website as active as I can. New pictures were added from the recent Brewer Tailgate Party and I'm working on adding an application that will allow us to sign up for events. And don't forget to check out the Turtle's Facebook presence as well.

Tim Hughes, '76

## 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Re-Constituted Brewer-TEXAA Tailgate Party

We held our 5th annual gathering on August 18, 2012 with a total of 25 Turtle alums and wives, Turtle kids, and friends. Tim Hughes, '76 cooked the brats, everyone stood/sat around drinking beer and talking stupid. In other words, we had a great time! (see pictures on the website).

Controversy swirled in the 6<sup>th</sup> inning when the Sausage Race was a photo finish between the Chorizo and the Italian. From our vantage it looked like the Italian crossed the finish line first, but the replay gave the race to the Chorizo – it was probably the brim of his sombrero that did it. Brother Cary Turner was irate (his money was on the Italian) and threatened to sue the Brewers and/or Klement's Sausage Company. Stay tuned to the website for further information.

The Brewers lost another one-run game, but we had a great time and did a little post-game tailgating, even handing out cold brats to passing cars.

For those who didn't make it – mark your calendars for a weekend in August when we will schedule the 2013 edition of our Tailgate Party. As soon as the schedule is announced we will buy the tickets.

## MARCHING TO THE 60TH - OCTOBER, 2013

This is the fourth installment of the origins and early History as recorded in the Turtle History Book by Founder Bill (Bushes, Treetops) Trees.

In the fall of 1953 as part of the Tau Chi's emphasis to increase school spirit, they officially entered the intramural football league. At that time the participation by the student body in the intramural program was all but nil. The Turtles went undefeated. This was the first time in many years this has happened. At the completion of the season there was an All Star game and the Turtles were on the short end of a 6-0 score.

One day before convocation, which preceded a basketball game, the Turtles struck again. Signs were drawn up, various musical instruments were assembled and a brief skit was worked out. The morning of said convocation, from out of the blue, in came fifteen boys screaming, shouting, playing their instruments and carrying their posters boosting the Redmen. Since no one knew of this all were surprised and some thought it in bad taste; but after it was over almost all in attendance thought it was great and the attendance at the games began to pick up.

A short time later a planned skit (planned is used to denote the announcement of the skit to the student body) was given to increase school spirit.

In the year 1953-1954 the Turtles also participated in the following campus activities:

KAMPUS KAPERS: Roessler, Eisele, Gorsky and Henderson, Gohr and Diskerud

ALL CAMPUS SING: Diskerud, Eisele, Gorsky and Henderson

ATHLETICS: Two teams in the intramural basketball program and a team in the softball league

SERENADE OF THE GIRLS' DORM: Tau Chi's

In February, 1954, Dr. Morgan (head of the drama department) along with the student body was presenting the first of many fine musicals, "BRIGADOON". During the course of preparation for the musical, additional help was needed in order to finish the scenery by opening night, just a short 24 hours away. At the time Gohr and Rosessler were starring in the play, the first of many for these talented young men. Realizing it would be impossible to finish the sets on time they contacted the rest of the Turtles around midnight indicating the problem. At 12:30 a.m. the entire club dropped their studies and proceeded to the Music Hall. Working all night and much of the morning they finished the props for opening night just a few hours away. Dr. Morgan was so grateful he acknowledged the clubs efforts in an open letter to the student body.

### REFORMATION

The clubs early beginning and fight for recognition during the spring of 1954 was a long and hard struggle. Many were offended by the brash young Turtles, always popping up from nowhere and creating some form of entertainment or "otherwise". Naturally word got around of the blasts at the lake. In actuality we were forced into becoming strongly organized or to abandon the idea of an organization. I don't believe any of the original members realized this or was for the continuance or growth of the Turtles at this time. The force previously mentioned was evidenced by several factors: 1) we had to create and adopt a constitution, 2) open the membership to any and all and, 3) change the name of the club because Turtles denoted a "drinking mans" crowd. (It doesn't appear the changing of the name helped any).

The constitution was tentative and the open membership and no voting on the pledges came about but the club remained the Turtles until a later revision.

Soon after the student council approved the Tau Chi's, the faculty weighed all facts of the club's justification for existence and a vote of approval was received. It is important to remember that this was the first organization on campus other than honorary fraternities. ANNOTHER TURTLE FIRST....this opened the door for other organizations to follow but the Turtles will always remain the oldest and best!

And we continued on in the spring of 1954!

Don (Ace) Henderson, 1st Turtle President

## TEXAA Association Update

I can't believe that the 60<sup>th</sup> is a little over a year away. The alumni association started planning almost a year ago and it seems like we keep coming up with improvements with each meeting. One of the biggest decisions we needed to make was committing to a banquet facility and hotel for those of us who live too far away to head home Saturday night or just wish to stay up all night and shoot the breeze. After reviewing our options it looks like we'll be switching over to the Racine Marriott. We're still planning on starting the night with some drinks starting at 4:30p and an open buffet from 5:30p – 7:30p. We plan on having a brief ceremony around 6:00p with a bunch of socializing (and beer) to follow. I'll starting making my pitch for decade sponsors who will take the lead in reaching out to others encouraging their attendance as well as gathering memorabilia that we can display. If you're able to help please let us know. There are no excuses pledge, you must attend this milestone anniversary!

This has been a transition year for the group as we left the print world behind and went electronic. We continue to get new additions to our Facebook site as well as increasing hits to the website. Tim has been able to add new things to the site including old newsletters, more pictures and announcements. We hope to add a registration option soon which will allow you to sign in for the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration or a number of other events as well as seeing the other brothers/sisters that plan on attending. The newsletter is being send electronically to about 250 people which has allowed us to actually get a few hundred bucks in the treasury for upcoming activities. I'm excited to see that this year we also added t-shirts to the mix. If you didn't get hit by the email blast, check out the article in this newsletter on how to order you shirt. Let's dominate the Carthage Homecoming with the green and white!.

In parting I want to make sure that we don't lose contact with any of our brothers and sisters so let us know if there someone out there that you think should reach out to. We can certainly afford to mail a few newsletter when someone has 'electronic challenges.' Please call Kurt Lehrmann at 262-880-2447 with any leads. If you want a mailed copy just leave your name and mailing address and we'll shipped one out twice a year.

## TEX Alumni Leadership Team

Randy DiVito '77

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Don Henderson '56

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Tim Hughes '76

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Chris Steenrod '09

[steenrodchris@gmail.com](mailto:steenrodchris@gmail.com)

Golf Outing

Dave Narey '76

[david\\_narey@sbcglobal.net](mailto:david_narey@sbcglobal.net)

## I AM RUNNING FOR OFFICE.....

And I need your help. I recently announced my candidacy for office and I need to take out ads in the newspaper and TV. That costs big bucks but I promise I will represent you in the way you wish. I will promise anything to get your vote!!!! I probably will not deliver as I am a politician running for office; but I promise none the less! OK.... I am not running for office but on behalf of the Tau Sigma Chi Alumni Association we sure could use your donation. The check book is low and the need to help the actives and others is high. We appreciate all the support we have had to date and would appreciate any financial assistance you could offer.

Please send your checks to:

Randy DiVito

923 Lake Dr

Delafield, WI 53018

Go on.....get your check book now.

**You know you want to! I am Randy DiVito and I approve this message.**

## Tau Sigma Chi 1953 – 2013

### 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Mark your calendar, October 19, 2013 marks the 6<sup>th</sup> decade of greatness for the best fraternity at Carthage College. Come and celebrate with your old friends and make new ones. "We are the Turtles, yes we are, we work and strive as one. And when in doubt we always ....."

## Turtle Golf Outing

Great to see that Tom Joerres was able to join the growing ranks of Turtle golfers. Along with stalwarts Kurt Lehrmann, Dave Narey, Mike Matson, Tim Hughes, Rick Wirsch and two time repeat Jim Nelson, the group took it to the turf at Ives Grove. This had to be one of the best weather dates so far with great sunshine and mild temperatures. Once again the group did some switching after 9 holes so we got to share the same bs with some fresh ears. This year we were able to corral the group for a picture so check out the photo op near this article.

The group is still predominately from the mid 70's but with the addition of Jim ('65) and Tom ('74) we're starting to spread out. For next year we're looking at moving some dirt at another course so stay tuned. What we most likely won't change is the mid June Friday date. We hope you'll join us next year and why not bring a few others with you. This event is an equal opportunity harasser. If you want to join us next year, notify any of the leadership team listed at the bottom of the newsletter) or grab us at Homecoming. Why not check with a few bro's that live in your area and bring a group? We'd be happy to send you a list of names and address of those around your class.

## Jim Nelson '65 Man of the Year

by Jeff "Big Shooter" Menter '90

Jim Nelson, a product of Milwaukee, Wisconsin chose Carthage for his educational experience. Jim began his college career at the original Carthage, Illinois campus in '61. He completed his first 3 years in Carthage, Illinois and graduated in '65 as part of the first graduation class at the new campus in Kenosha, Wisconsin. Jim was on the football team for all 4 year as a "bench warmer", but managed to make the traveling team. Coach Art Keller seemed to have soft spot for Jim and presented him with a letter his senior year. Although Jim was challenged in the speed department he also managed to be on the track team for his first 2 years as a pole vaulter and javelin thrower. Jim pledged with guys like John Sladek, Ed Truschke, Bob Bosin, Dave Powers, Al Kimbrough and his roommate for all 4 years Bob Everson. Jim's pledge father was John Beckman. Jim was the TEX Historian his freshman year and Secretary his sophomore and junior years. After graduating from Carthage, Jim was drafted into the Armored Division of the United States Army and spent 19 months in Germany. For some unknown reason, Jim was bestowed with the ultimate honor of TEX Man-of-the-Year award in '67. Upon completion of his duties as a Sergeant in the Army, Jim joined the Information Systems Department of Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Jim had a long and gratifying career at Northwestern Mutual Life and retired after 35 years of service. Jim remained single (never married) for all these years and currently resides in Oak Creek, Wisconsin. He spends his time golfing, skiing and attending Carthage events. Jim still keeps in touch with TEX brothers John Sladek & Bob Bosin and visits John Sladek in Colorado annually for a ski outing.

Jim "Man of the Year" Nelson '65  
7222 S. Delaine Drive  
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154  
[414-762-6595](tel:414-762-6595)

## Dig out that Turtle Composite Picture

We're slowing adding Turtle composite pictures to the list but we need your help in filling in the blanks. Check out the Turtle website [www.tausigmachi.org](http://www.tausigmachi.org) and see if there's a group composite from your era. If not start digging in those boxes in the basements and see if you've got one. While your there don't forget some of the old pictures and party favors for the 60<sup>th</sup> celebration. If you've got one please get it digitized. It's not really that hard, first carry it over to the nearest Office Max, Kinkos or Office Depot and have them scan it. They can save it for you on a disc but it's easier to bring a jump drive with you. Doesn't matter if the file is jpg, gif or other picture file, we can handle most. It only costs a few bucks but think of the enjoyment it will bring. When you get home send it to me at [kurt.lehrmann@gmail.com](mailto:kurt.lehrmann@gmail.com) as an attachment. To see an example check out <http://www.tausigmachi.org/1975Album.html>.

## Active Corner

The Turtles and Turtle Doves continue to have a strong presence at Carthage. As the last school year drew to a close the actives had one thing on their minds, having fun. So, they organized a party for all at Art Bar in Kenosha. In usual Turtle fashion, it was a huge hit and a great time had by all that attended.

The Turtles and Turtle Doves also welcomed last year's pledge classes to their ranks as the academic year ended. This year, the new brothers and sisters will work with the rest of the actives at the homecoming brat stand to raise money for the annual semi-formal and formal dance.

So, be sure to look for the actives sporting their letters at homecoming. Be sure to buy a brat. But, most importantly, be sure to ask them, "Are you a Turtle?"



## Bro-File on Tom Joerres

One thing I realized very quickly when "interviewing" Tom for this Bro-file; I should have taken short hand when I had a chance. This man's mind is as quick as his wit and you best be prepared to write.....FAST!

Tom came to Carthage in the fall of 1969 and pledged the Turtles the next spring. He never even considered another frat due to relationships he had developed on the Cross Country team. Tom still remains close to his coach Jon Swift, who was the Advisor for the Turtles at the time and sees him on a monthly basis. Even though Tom helped the Cross Country team finish 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Nation in 1973, Tom feels his biggest contribution for the Athletic Department was helping to recruit Jim Jodat to attend Carthage. Jodat was a star football player and went on to play 6 seasons in the NFL.

What were some of Tom's fondest memories of Turtledom? How about when during the pledging Paul "Rico" Ociepa, an active, chased Tom all around campus to haze him. Rico! What the hell were you thinking? Tom was on the cross country team! Rumor has it that Rico is still trying to catch his breath. Needless to say, Rico never did catch Tom but I would bet that during a hotbox Tom heard about it. He also enjoyed when the "Bro's" got together in the lounge for football games, especially a Bear/Packer game. There was a 50-50 split as to who had the better team so the banter was loud and raucous. Of course the Turtle Keggers in Alford Park were always memorable for Tom. Or was it that you were trying to remember them? Either way they were a hell of a time and always a good time with the Bro's. Since he was the RA on the Turtle floor, his room was directly across from the phone so all he heard all day when someone answered the phone was "Turtles Summer Inn, some are in and some are out". Geez Tom, if that was the worst issue you had to deal with being the RA for the Turtles I would say you had it pretty easy!

His junior year he married his high school sweetheart, Linda and moved off campus. He then earned the name P-T Bro (part time) as he was rarely around. Tom and his wife went on to have 4 children that now live all around the country. He has 7 grandchildren who are the love of his life. Tom's statement about grandkids is "They are your reward for not killing your own children when you are raising them".

Tom recently retired from the Milwaukee Radio Group where he has worked since the mid 70's. He served as President for them and is considered one of the most influential people in the Milwaukee radio scene. Tom and his wife Jodi, whom he married in 2004 spend November to May in their Sarasota, FL home and the remainder of the year in their Oconomowoc, WI home. Regardless of location, they spend much of their time flying around the country visiting the grandkids. I guess that means he did not strangle any of them!

