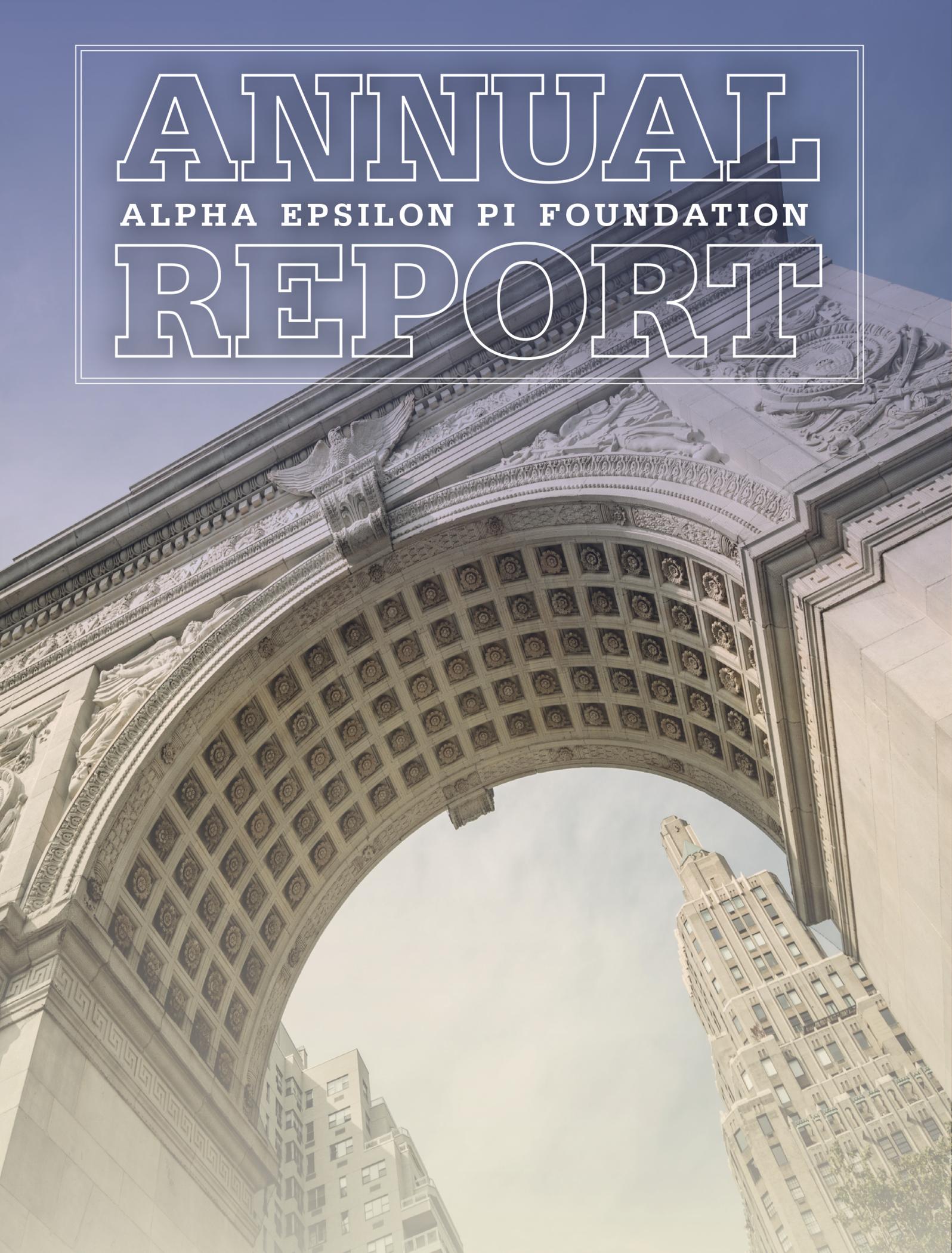
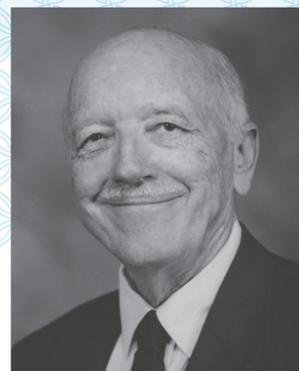


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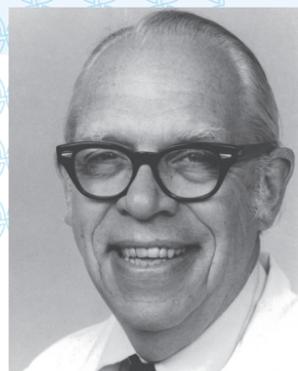
ALPHA EPSILON PI FOUNDATION

REPORT





JACK THOMSON



BLAIR BATSON



EDWARD FERKANY



FOWLER LOW



BOB MCNAIR



MICHAEL O'NEAL

The WHITE ROSE CEREMONY

In 1909, the service *in memoriam* was officially added to the Ritual. More than a century later, the beautiful White Rose Ceremony is publicly conducted as a final honor to the life of a Sigma Chi and to recognize a brother's entrance into the Chapter Eternal.

The White Rose Ceremony may be conducted in two ways, as a part of a memorial service and at a cemetery. In both, brothers who are present don white roses over their hearts. Then, each brother places his rose on the casket. After honor is called to the name of the deceased, the words spoken by the leader of the ceremony are short, yet poignant and true to the spirit of Sigma Chi:

"In as much as our dearly beloved brother wore over his heart The White Cross of Sigma Chi whose immaculate whiteness symbolized to us the purity of his motives, therefore, it is most appropriate that he now bear above his heart our emblem; and that we lay white roses upon his casket in token of the sweet memories we will always cherish of him we loved so well."

The service *in memoriam* is one of four portions of the Ritual that can be conducted publicly. It provides a brief, but powerful glance at the meaningful words of Sigma Chi to those outside of our Order, showing them the emotional importance of the bonds of our brotherhood.

* Denotes Life Loyal Sig.

Order of Constantine Sig **JACK THOMSON**, TULANE 1943, entered the Chapter Eternal on Oct. 31, 2018. He was 96. Thomson was born on Dec. 5, 1921, in New Orleans. He interrupted his undergraduate studies at Tulane University in Louisiana to serve in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II and earned the Air Medal and Presidential Unit Citation, among other honors. Afterward, he returned to Tulane, where he earned his undergraduate and law degrees and was inducted into the Order of the Coif in 1951. He was inducted into the Order of Constantine in 1991.

Significant Sig **BLAIR BATSON, M.D.**, VANDERBILT 1941*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Nov. 26, 2018. He was 98. Batson was born on Oct. 24, 1920, in Orvisburg, Mississippi. He earned his bachelor's and medical doctor degrees from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee, where he was Consul of his Fraternity chapter. After serving in the U.S. Army during World War II and then in the U.S. Army Medical Corps, he became chairman of the pediatrics department at the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson and practiced there for 34 years. In 1997, UMMC named its children's hospital in his honor.

Significant Sig **EDWARD FERKANY**, BOWLING GREEN 1959, entered the Chapter Eternal on July 12, 2018. He was 81. Ferkany was born on Jan. 9, 1937, in Flint, Michigan. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from Bowling Green State University in Bowling Green, Ohio, before serving in the U.S. Army and working as a teacher and football coach at Flint Southwestern High School, Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and Ohio State University in Columbus. He also worked for Worthington Industries for 30 years, retiring as president of Worthington Steel in 2003. He received the Significant Sig Award in 2011.

Significant Sig **FOWLER LOW**, GEORGIA TECH 1954*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Oct. 13, 2018. He was 86. Low was born on Feb. 9, 1932, in Wilmington, North Carolina. He spent his 44-year career in the footwear and leather industry with Genesco Inc. of Nashville, Tennessee, retiring as its vice president in 2000. He also was president of the Williams Manufacturing Co. of Portsmouth, Ohio, and vice president of G.H. Bass & Co. of Wilton, Maine. As an undergraduate, he served his Fraternity chapter as Quaestor and as Consul. He received the Significant Sig Award in 1996.

Significant Sig **BOB MCNAIR**, SOUTH CAROLINA 1958*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Nov. 23, 2018. He was 81. McNair was born on Jan. 1, 1937, in Tampa, Florida. After graduating from the University of South Carolina in Columbia, McNair moved to Houston and started a truck-leasing company he later sold. In 1983, he founded Cogen Technologies in Houston. He then formed The McNair Group, now McNair Interests, and Houston NFL Holdings in order to return NFL football to Houston. The NFL awarded him its 32nd franchise and, in 2002, the Houston Texans began their inaugural season with him as founder, senior chairman and CEO.

Significant Sig **MICHAEL O'NEAL**, EMORY 1958*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Nov. 12, 2018. He was 82. O'Neal was born on Oct. 28, 1936, in Ocala, Florida. After graduating from Emory University in Atlanta, he began a 60-year career as a restaurateur in New York City. At various times he operated 14 restaurants, including the Boat Basin Café, O'Neal's and the Ballfields Café in Central Park. O'Neal also served on the boards of New York's Riverside Park Conservancy, Westside Crime Prevention Program, Symphony Space and Project Find, among other organizations. He received the Significant Sig Award in 1983.

Significant Sig **JACK PINKERTON**, VANDERBILT 1950*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Nov. 17, 2018. He was 91. Pinkerton was born on July 18, 1927, in Franklin, Tennessee. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, and afterward earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee. In 1955, he cofounded the Pinkerton and Laws Co. in Atlanta, which became one of the largest construction companies in America by the time he retired in the mid-1980s. In 1988, he joined the Atlanta Organizing Committee and chaired the bid-preparation committee for the 1996 Olympic Games.

Significant Sig **JOHN ZIEGLER JR.**, MICHIGAN 1955*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Oct. 25, 2018. He was 84. Ziegler was born on Feb. 9, 1934, in Grosse Pointe, Michigan. He earned his bachelor's and law degrees from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor before working for Olympia Stadium in Detroit and was vice president and general counsel of the Detroit Red Wings of the NHL. From 1977 to 1992, Ziegler was the NHL's fourth president and oversaw the growth of the league from 18 to 24 teams. He received the Significant Sig Award in 1986 and was elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame in 1987.

JOHN AYRES, HOUSTON 1968*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Oct. 4, 2018. He was 74. Ayres was born on Jan. 25, 1944, in Dallas. He earned his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Houston and worked in the power industry, retiring as a senior project manager for CB&I Co. in Beaumont, Texas.

CHARLES BACON, OKLAHOMA STATE 1955*, entered the Chapter Eternal on Aug. 22, 2018. He was 84. Bacon was born on Dec. 20, 1933, in Shreveport, Louisiana. After serving in the U.S. Army and earning bachelor's and master's degrees in electrical engineering, he earned a Ph.D. from Michigan State University in East Lansing and was an engineering professor at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater.

Sigma Chi Fraternity CHAPTER ETERNAL LISTING

(University order)

A College in Morgantown, West Virginia

1957 Rader Dod of Lexington, VA; 10/18*

Alabama-Tuscaloosa

1948 William Stevens Jr. of Augusta, GA; 12/18

1968 Danny Tyler of Fairhope, AL; 9/18*

Albion

1973 John Strayer III of Alexandria, VA; 10/18

Arizona

1950 Arve Michelsen of Silver Spring, MD; 9/18*

Arizona State

1961 Ivan Hinerman of Redlands, CA; 12/18*

Arkansas

1949 Jack Neel Jr. of Fayetteville, AR; 11/18*

1950 John Troutt Jr. of Jonesboro, AR; 12/18

1956 Robert Ford of Kailua, HI; 11/18*

1958 John Walsh of Fort Myers, FL; 10/18*

1984 Rick Anderson of Conway, AR; 10/18

Ball State

1988 Frank Sergi of Fishers, IN; 12/18

Beloit

1949 Dave Mason of Beloit, WI; 11/18*

Bowling Green

1952 Terrence Gillespie of Spring Valley, OH; 10/18*

1958 Bill Scalzulli of Jefferson, MA; 11/18*

1959 Denis Baum of Gulf Shores, AL; 10/18