



*Regent Robert Durham, at right, stands with past Regent and recent Mu Chapter initiate Joe Gilman.*

**CONTACT  
YOUR CHAPTER:**

Andy Monk (Mu 2366)

*Commander*

> (404) 374-9628

> a.wileymonk@gmail.com

Richie O'Connell (Mu 2462)

*Alumni and Parent Relations Officer*

> (404) 877-8180

> oconnell.richie@gmail.com

Wells Ellenberg (Mu 2400)

*Recruitment Co-Chairman*

> (912) 230-4340

> jwe626@gmail.com

John Hearn (Mu 2000)

*Alumni Adviser*

> (404) 683-1036

> jhearn@benefitcompany.com

Michael Barry (Mu 2071)

*Alumni Adviser*

> (404) 434-0604

> michael.barry@agg.com

**A LETTER FROM THE REGENT**

In January 2011, I will attend the annual Edgewater Conference, a gathering of the leadership of the ten largest fraternities and sororities in the nation. I'll be proud to represent Sigma Nu as its 62nd Regent but even prouder to represent Mu Chapter.

In the broader Greek world, there are a handful of chapters regarded as the best. On the fraternity side, the chapters held in high esteem are Kappa Sigma at the University of Virginia, Phi Delta Theta at UNC-Chapel Hill, Phi Gamma Delta at the University of Texas, Sigma Nu at Oklahoma State, and... Sigma Nu at the University of Georgia. That's right, in just five years, Mu Chapter has gone from near extinction to one of the flagship chapters in America! Not just in Sigma Nu but the entire fraternity world!

The hard work and dedication of hundreds of collegians and alumni has paid off handsomely, but we can't rest on our laurels. All of us need to remain engaged and active. The Rock Chapter status we worked hard to achieve should become the standard expectation. Each pledge class should be charged with the obligation to keep Mu at the heights of greatness. All of our alumni and stakeholders should remain available to help mentor and guide the collegians.

On another note, as Regent, I was proud to watch my High Council approve Mu Chapter's request for a non-matriculate initiation of my good friend, past Regent Joe Gilman. Joe was the second initiate of the Theta Tau Chapter at Morehead State University and served as that chapter's Commander. Upon graduating in 1974, he began what has become a 36-year career of volunteer service to Sigma Nu. Joe has served as Division Commander, Vice Regent, Regent Elect, and was the 61st Regent from 2008-2010. He is now involved in a leadership role with the Sigma Nu Educational Foundation. Joe was with me at my two proudest Sigma Nu moments: my son's initiation at our Auburn chapter in 2008 and Mu's Rock Award presentation in 2010. Joe Gilman having a Mu badge number should be a source of pride for us all.

With Honor,

Robert E. Durham (Mu 1650)

Commander 1976-1978

62nd Regent of Sigma Nu Fraternity



*Regent Robert Durham delivers his inaugural remarks at the Grand Chapter closing banquet.*



*Former Commander Buck Dixon displays the Rock Chapter Award, given to the best collegiate chapters of Sigma Nu nationwide.*

## MU CHAPTER WINS ROCK AWARD; BROTHER DURHAM INAUGURATED REGENT

Sigma Nu Fraternity held its 64th Grand Chapter in Boston, Massachusetts, and the event proved to be a proud one for Mother Mu.

Mu Chapter was represented by four voting delegates: alumnus Robert Durham (Mu 1650), Regent; alumnus George Ward (Mu 2308), Alpha Affiliate and past Collegiate Grand Councilman; Buck Dixon (Mu 2326), former Commander; and Chris Green (Mu 2367), former Lieutenant Commander. Also in attendance were alumnus Ernie Ward (Mu 1735), Alumni Advisory Board Member; alumnus John Hearn (Mu 2000), Alumni Adviser and House Corporation President; alumnus Michael Barry (Mu 2071), Alumni Adviser and House Corporation Vice President; and Wells Ellenberg (Mu 2400).

At the closing banquet on July 6, Robert Durham was sworn in as Regent of Sigma Nu Fraternity. In his inaugural address, Regent Durham announced his theme for the biennium: "Obligation to Excellence." At the heart of this theme is Regent Durham's observation that "there is no honor in mediocrity; honor can only be found in excellence." In order to obtain excellence, Durham announced the creation of "Task Force Hopkins," which will collect and distribute best practices from chapters nationwide. Brothers Hearn and Barry were appointed as the general fraternity's Grand Sentinels and will serve on the task force.

In addition to several other awards, Mu Chapter was announced as the recipient of the Rock Chapter Award. Based on the Pursuit of Excellence program, Rock Chapter Awards identify the best collegiate chapters nationwide. To be granted the award, a chapter must first attain excellence across a broad range of areas of fraternity operations including academics, athletics, leadership, and service. The chapter must then maintain that state of excellence for a period of two to three years.

The next Grand Chapter will be in Dallas, Texas, in the summer of 2012. We will provide updates as more information becomes available.

## ALUMNI SPEAKER SERIES WELCOMES DR. CHARLES BULLOCK

On September 27, Mu Chapter was proud to host an Alumni Speaker Series event featuring Dr. Charles S. Bullock III (Beta Xi 658, Mu 2440).

Dr. Bullock spoke about the keys to success in college, as well as his favorite memories from fraternity life, to the active chapter and thirty candidates.

Though not a Mu alumnus, Dr. Bullock was initiated into the Beta Xi Chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity at William Jewell College in Missouri. His father was also an initiate of the Beta Xi Chapter.

Dr. Bullock serves as the Richard B. Russell Professor of Political Science and has taught at the University of Georgia for over thirty years. In 2005, Dr. Bullock was honored as the Josiah Meigs Distinguished Teaching Professor, which is considered the highest teaching award at the University. In addition to his many honors, Dr. Bullock has published dozens of books and papers regarding policy analysis, interest groups, legislative politics, and southern politics.

This semester, Dr. Bullock received a Mu badge number in recognition of his tremendous contributions to Mu Chapter and the University of Georgia during his over thirty-year tenure.

## MU CHAPTER RAISES THOUSANDS FOR ST. JUDE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL

Authored by Chris Brandus (Mu 2459)

On November 26, Mu Chapter put aside its “good ol’ fashioned hate” for Georgia Tech and teamed up with its Sigma Nu chapter to hold an annual event known as the Gameball Run.

Georgia Tech’s Gamma Alpha Chapter started a seventy-seven mile, police-escorted run in the relentless, cold rain that would ultimately stretch from Atlanta to the New Chateau in Athens. A football was carried by the Gamma Alpha Chapter to pass on to Mu Chapter at an estimated halfway point in Lawrenceville. Once there, Mu Chapter completed the rest of the run. Every brother ran as far as they wanted before passing the football to another runner.

The two chapters combined raised approximately seven thousand dollars with donations from brothers, alumni, and corporate sponsors. All proceeds went to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

“We first contacted our Georgia Tech chapter back in August with some rough plans for the run, and they were immediately interested in cooperating with us. We coordinated police escorts and buses, and made a t-shirt and banners with our sponsors,” said Wes Robinson (Mu 2373), Mu Chapter’s former Philanthropy Chair and current Lieutenant Commander. “Everything went extremely well, and the run turned out to be absolutely flawless.”

Both chapters used the football rivalry to boost involvement and excitement about the run by creating a competition between each other. Each chapter scrambled to get more donations than the other, keeping the traditional rivalry alive.

“The excitement and anticipation of the game allowed us to capitalize on the rivalry aspect. It made it a fun competition between brothers that went towards a good cause,” said Shane Sandridge, Gamma Alpha’s Philanthropy Chair.

The physical aspect of the run distinguished the event from others held by Greek organizations on campus. Mu Chapter brother Graham Kellams (Mu 2413) commented on the running experience: “It was really cold out, and I was really tired from running, but it was good to know I was running for a good cause. Once we got into Athens, it was great to see everyone on Broad Street cheering us on. It was an excellent way to raise money while getting everyone active and keeping the public involved in ways such as sponsorships and the spectators on the street.”

Mu Chapter brother and Athens native Chris Green (Mu 2367) expressed his contentment with the exposure of the “other side” of the Greek system. “The Gameball Run was a great way for college students to donate their time for a worthy cause on their break and show a positive aspect of the Greek community,” said Green.

Mu Chapter plans to do this event again next year and hopes that it will continue to grow larger.



*Mu Chapter brothers (from left) Ben Green, Ross Everett, Wes Robinson, Andy Monk, Nathan Whitmire, and Buck Dixon run the gameball past The Varsity in Athens.*

*[Photo courtesy of the Athens Banner-Herald]*



*Brother Jim Murrell runs the gameball ahead of a charter bus carrying the other Mu Chapter runners.*

*[Photo courtesy of the Athens Banner-Herald]*



*Brother Dave Sanders runs the gameball through Athens on his way to the New Chateau.*

*[Photo courtesy of the Athens Banner-Herald]*



*Tax-deductible donations may be sent to:  
Sigma Nu Fraternity; Attention: Gameball Run;  
115 Greek Park Circle; Athens, Georgia 30605  
(Please make checks payable to St. Jude).*

## MU CHAPTER HOSTS 2010 ALUMNI AND PARENTS WEEKEND

Alumni, parents, active brothers, and their families gathered in Athens for Mu Chapter's annual Alumni and Parents Weekend on the weekend of October 15-16.

The weekend began with live music and dancing at The Melting Point in downtown Athens. The music was great, the location was packed, and a good time was enjoyed by all in attendance.

On Saturday morning, the group gathered again to cheer the Dawgs on to victory against Vanderbilt. The New Chateau proved the perfect location for a tailgate,

a short walk to the stadium, and a catered barbecue after the game. Additionally, the White Rose Society, Mu Chapter's Mothers' Club, gathered for breakfast and a short informational session before the tailgate. The group now boasts a membership of over forty mothers.

Mu Chapter was proud to join with the sisters of the Gamma Pi Chapter of Zeta Tau Alpha Sorority for this year's Homecoming celebration. This was especially meaningful as the group celebrated the life of ZTA Lady Carolyn Hester, a true friend and long-time supporter of Mother Mu.

Please visit our website often for updates on our 2011 Alumni and Parents Weekend.



*Brother Will McCorkle with his family at The Melting Point on Friday evening.*



*Alumni Jon Burt, Hodges Bradberry, John Hearn, Rob Hanson, Bill Stovall, and Patrick Pierce tailgate at the New Chateau.*



*Brother Graham Kellams stands with his parents at The Melting Point in Downtown Athens.*



*Mu Chapter brothers pose with Miss Becky Reynolds and sisters of ZTA at an in-house date night during Homecoming week.*

## ZTA AND SIGMA NU CELEBRATE HOMECOMING WITH A DATE NIGHT

Zeta Tau Alpha's house mother, Miss Becky Reynolds, hosted twenty sophomore and junior brothers from Mu Chapter at an in-house date night to celebrate the two chapters' Homecoming partnership.

Brothers arrived to applause and enthusiasm from approximately forty ZTA Ladies in attendance. Miss Becky introduced each brother and asked him to share his hometown, high school, age, major, residence on campus, one fun fact, and his relationship status. Fun facts ranged from having played all-state soccer, to eating dinner with President Carter and world travels.

Miss Becky used the date night to make an important point: "It's all in who you know." She also shared that "relationships developed in college will provide individuals with a network of people that they can draw upon for their entire lives." After a formal dinner, the group enjoyed more conversation and friendship-building on the deck.

The active chapter was grateful to receive Miss Becky's invitation and looks forward to spending time with ZTA in the future.

## A "MAN OF STEEL" AND AN AMERICAN HERO: ARMY LT. BOBBY WOODS RECEIVES PURPLE HEART

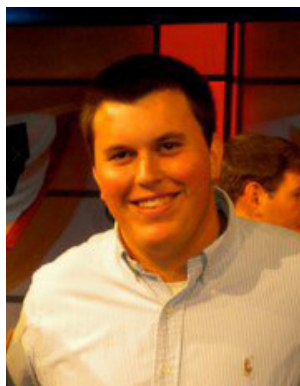
1st Lieutenant Bobby Woods (Mu 2300), a 2008 University of Georgia graduate and United States Army Airborne Ranger, was severely injured when his platoon was ambushed outside of Kandahar, Afghanistan, on August 7. Bobby was shot in the head by a sniper.

"He pulled out his own bandage and wrapped up his head," said Lieutenant Colonel John Fickel, a professor of military science. "He led the rest of the platoon as they defeated the ambush and then conducted the medevac." Instead of evacuating with the other wounded men, Bobby led the rest of the platoon back to base before receiving medical treatment. He returned home on November 20 and is recovering from his injuries.

"Bobby is an extremely strong individual," said former Commander Buck Dixon (Mu 2326). "Service is in his blood. He certainly puts everyone else above himself. When he makes a full recovery, he'll be chomping at the bit to get back over there and finish the job."



*Alumnus Bobby Woods is recovering from combat wounds sustained in Afghanistan.*



*Recent initiate Richie O'Connell serves as the Chapter's Alumni and Parent Relations Officer.*

## NEW BROTHER SPOTLIGHT: RICHIE O'CONNELL

Richie O'Connell (Mu 2462) is a freshman Chemistry and Political Science major from Sandy Springs, Georgia. He attended Holy Spirit Preparatory School.

Upon arriving at the University of Georgia, Richie wasted no time becoming involved, both within the fraternity and on campus. Richie currently serves as Mu Chapter's Alumni and Parent Relations Officer. Additionally, he serves as a member of the Student Government Association's Freshman Board, a highly-selective group charged with representing the freshman class in the SGA Senate.

When asked why he decided to pledge Mu Chapter, Richie had this to say: "At my first rush event, I walked into the room and noticed the large groups of people who seemed to be of all different ages having a great time. I could sense the brotherhood immediately, and it was something I wanted to be a part of."

Richie's interests include economics, politics, the Boston Red Sox, reading, and skiing. He plans to attend law school after completing his undergraduate studies.

## RECRUITMENT 2011

Mu Chapter is busy at work recruiting our spring pledge class. As of this publication, we are proud to announce that three men have already accepted the opportunity to join the oldest continually active chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity nationwide:

- > John Huffines of Atlanta, Georgia (Woodward Academy);
- > Daniel Martinec of Charlotte, North Carolina (Charlotte Latin School);
- > Sean Taylor of Savannah, Georgia (Herschel V. Jenkins High School).

The active chapter needs your help recruiting the next generation of "leaders with vision and courage." If you are aware of any promising UGA matriculates in your area, please send us their names and contact information. The earlier we can contact potential rushees, the better.

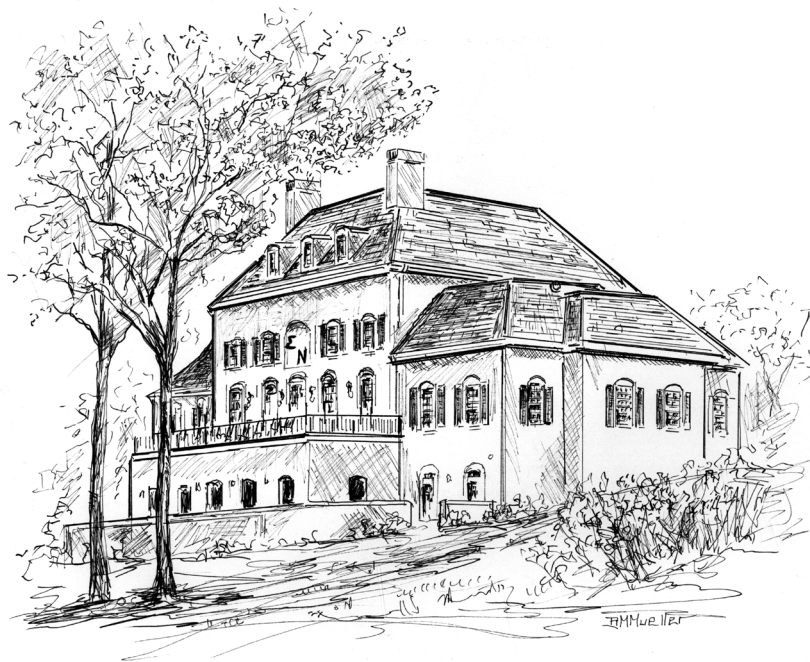
Please know that letters of recommendation are always welcome. We also have an online recommendation form on our website ([www.ugasigmanu.com](http://www.ugasigmanu.com)).

Also, if you would be willing to host a golf outing, dinner, or other type of regional recruitment event, please contact one of our Recruitment Co-Chairmen: Wells Ellenberg, Rob Davis, Jackson Noland, or Brian Davidson, whose information is located on our website.

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VISION AND COURAGE  
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MU CHAPTER  
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THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA  
115 GREEK PARK CIRCLE | ATHENS, GEORGIA 30605 | [WWW.UGASIGMANU.COM](http://WWW.UGASIGMANU.COM)