



# CFAC SIGNature

Grand Chapter 2003 Special Edition

April 31, 2003

Volume 3, Issue 3

## Grand Chapter Schedule Released!

Sigma Chi Headquarters recently released the schedule for Orlando's edition of Grand Chapter, and it promises to be jam-packed with fun!! In addition to five major business sessions spread among the four-day event, Grand Chapter features the following must-attend happenings:

**The Welcoming Celebration.** 5:00 - 7:00pm, Wednesday, June 25th. Sponsored by the Central Florida Alumni Chapter, we'll mingle at the buffet hosting more than 600 Sigs of all ages and from all over the world. A GREAT way to wind down after a hard day's work!

**Order of Constantine Breakfast.** 8:00 - 10:00am, Thursday, June 26th. Be on hand as The Fraternity honors those Brothers who've given a lifetime of service to Sigma Chi.

**White Rose Luncheon.** 11:00am - 2:00pm, Friday, June 27th. It's a splendid opportunity for our own Sigma Chi Sweethearts to join the fun, at a gracious mid-day program just for them. And it'll be held at Downtown Disney's fabulous Porto Bello Restaurant - reason enough to attend!

**Luau Dinner.** 6:00 - 9:00pm, Friday, June 27th. With elections behind them, and most of the business complete, our guests will relax to an award-winning poolside spread and island entertainment, all under the stars.

**Grand Chapter Reception & Banquet.** 5:00 - 8:30pm, Saturday, June 28th. The official gala close to Grand Chapter, The Fraternity will introduce the 2003 Class of Significant Sigs, pay tribute to out-going Grand Consul Doug Carlson, install our new 61st Grand Consul and celebrate Sigma Chi's 148th birthday!!

**The Sweetheart Ball.** 9:00 - 12:00pm, Saturday, June 28th. The "crowning" event for any Grand Chapter, the Sweetheart of Sigma Chi 2003-04 will be announced. Then it's dancing until midnight!!

That's a lot to cram into just a little over 3 days, but once brotherhood-driven adrenaline kicks in it's all the fun you can stand! And the best news is that The Fraternity is preparing a **low-price, single event ticket package** from which Central Florida Sigs can choose as many events as they want to attend. We'll have the details of the package in our next newsletter!!

## Sacrifice and Service

In the 2002 calendar year the Sigma Chi Fraternity proudly donated \$587,400 to the Children's Miracle Network, the recommended beneficiary of proceeds from chapter community service projects. Eighty-eight undergraduate chapters and five alumni chapters are responsible for the amount, 22% of which (or \$123,000) was donated by the St. Louis Alumni Chapter through contributions raised by its annual **Scramble for Kids** Golf Tournament.

Based on the success of this Chapter in raising funds for CMN, the Central Florida Alumni Chapter will be launching this year the first of a series of annual CFAC-sponsored golf tournaments in emulation of the St. Louis model. More tournament highlights on Page 2 . . .





# Putt-in' on the Ritz for Kids

Labor Day Weekend - Friday, August 29, 2003



The CFAC's Putt-in' on the Ritz for Kids Golf Tournament will be held on Friday, August 29, 2003. Sigma Chi Brothers from across the region, their guests and tournament sponsors will have the ability to participate in a first class event while knowing that their attendance will benefit the local Children's Miracle Network affiliated hospitals.

Only the **\$600 Million Ritz-Carlton Golf Club** at the new Grande Lakes Orlando Resort can provide a golf experience not typically found in Florida - imagine if you will a course design set amidst 500 acres of lushly landscaped grounds and designed by two-time British Open Champion Greg Norman. Now add to this the debut of the Ritz-Carlton Orlando Golf **Caddie-Concierge Program** that will follow in the tradition of the classic, refined, attentive service available at the world's finest private golf clubs and you have a small taste of what each participant in this year's tournament will experience.



All players receive round of play, cart, caddie concierge, Ritz-Carlton logo golf shirt, golf locker, shoe shine, club cleaning, valet parking, pre-tournament Continental Breakfast, on-course refreshments and attendance at the Awards Luncheon / Silent Auction. Our goal is to field around 100 golfers but the bulk of our giving efforts will come from Individual and Corporate Sponsors. The CFAC is eager to enlist your help in finding **Tournament Sponsors** - please contact Sponsorship/Donations Chairman Brother David Lawton at [dlawton@lawtonbros.com](mailto:dlawton@lawtonbros.com) to help or give. Additional details on registering for the event will arrive at your homes within the next several months - check out [www.orlandosigmachi.com](http://www.orlandosigmachi.com) for more Tournament Highlights.

Since their Founding in 1983, it has been CMN's goal to help children by supporting better health care for kids. Today more than 170 hospitals throughout North America - and two here in Central Florida - specializing in treating children make up CMN. More info is available at [gocmn.com](http://gocmn.com).



## Grand Chapter 2003 Honorary Chairman Profile:

### Bob Neel

It's hard to envision the Central Florida Alumni Chapter of Sigma Chi or the Orlando community for that matter, without the leadership and contributions of Bob Neel (Missouri '48). With his college education delayed by a Navy Air Corps stint during WWII, Bob moved to Orlando shortly after graduation in 1948. Starting as a salesman for Woodlawn Memorial Park, Bob became president and owner in 1967, eventually assuming the post of CEO and Chairman of the Board. He became an advocate for the industry, as President of the Florida, the Southern and the American Cemetery Associations, and as an author and spokesman coast to coast.

Bob has also been a tireless promoter of the Central Florida community, serving as president of the Greater Orlando Chamber of Commerce, The United Way, Rotary Club of Orlando (also District Governor), and the Orange County Historical Museum (where his Country Club of Orlando home's fairway outhouse now resides). He also has served on the Board of Directors of the American Red Cross, the March of Dimes, the Boy's Club, The Committee of 100, Junior Achievement, the Orlando Youth Center, the Florida Symphony Orchestra and the Central Florida Fair. For his service to Orlando area organizations Bob has been awarded by the VFW of the United States, given the 1963 Most Outstanding Citizens Award, and named Ambassador-At-large for the City of Orlando - one of only four ever awarded.

Brother Neel has never forgotten his Sigma Chi roots. He has been President of the Central Florida Alumni Chapter, was Chairman of Orange County's Committee to raise funds for the Gamma Theta Chapter House, a guarantor for the Eta Pi Chapter House, hosts the Alumni Chapter's Annual Luncheon at the Country Club of Orlando, and annually sends out many dozens of "Happy Brothers Day" cards to area Sigs. Recognizing Bob's achievements in all areas of life, Sigma Chi has bestowed him with its highest honor - The Significant Sig Award. We are deeply grateful to have Bob Neel join us as Honorary Chairman for the 2003 Grand Chapter.

## Grand Chapter Fundraising Update

There's just a little more than 60 days until the Grand Chapter kickoff, and thanks to the tremendous generosity of our Central Florida alums listed below, we are making remarkable strides towards achieving our fundraising goal! These funds are needed to provide the hospitality for which we're renown and to host the Welcoming Celebration for our Sigma Chi guests.

And because we are confident that we will meet our fundraising goal, the Central Florida Alumni Chapter is very pleased to announce that your contributions will also be used to defray \$50 from the registration fees of each one of the Fraternity's 229 undergraduate delegates — an unprecedented gesture!!

Recently you received a letter from Brother Todd Bowers that noted how you can help our Grand Chapter efforts with your financial support. If you have yet to, please become a sponsor **today!**

Founders Sponsor:	\$2,000 and Up
Constantine Sponsor:	\$1,000 - \$1,999
White Cross Sponsor:	\$500 - \$999
Gold Sponsor:	\$250 - \$499
Blue Sponsor:	\$100 - \$249

Make checks payable to **Grand Chapter 2003** and mail to:

Grand Chapter 2003  
C/O Todd Bowers  
1410 Sweetbriar Road  
Orlando, FL 32806

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★ **Founders Sponsors** - Jerry Chicone, Bob Neel, David Godwin, Joe Hartman, Rick Walsh, Jim Hasely, Bob Stine, Butch Wooten  
★ **Constantine Sponsors** - Ken Kraft, Jr.  
★ **White Cross Sponsors** - Dave Pritchett, Earl Vaughan, Dr. Alan Holcomb, Michael Collins, P.J. Stephens, Robert Stuart, Todd Bowers, Karrick Price, Jr., Col. Harry Davis, Larry Beatty, Paul Reich, Richard Adams, Chuck Patrick, Lewis Stuart, Central Florida Alumni Chapter  
★ **Gold Sponsors** - Bill Beekman, Conrad Goshef, David Akins, Dr. Norman Cumming, Robert Pittman, Austin Caruso, Dr. Glenn L. Paulk, Tom Smith, Sid Callahan, Julio Varela, Michael Drew  
★ **Blue Sponsors** - Harry Whittaker, John Rankin, Victor Woodman, David Lawton, James Powers, Don Myers, David Weeks, Blair Culpepper, John Nabers, Paul Pace, Raymond Mayernik, Wayne Rodgers, Donald Weeks, Don Griffin, Frank Stanley, Bill Kennedy, Nelson Blankenship, E.H. Van Akin, Claude Hunter, Bill Cumbaa, Kent Krause, David Miller, Henry King, Rob Clarkson, Terry Lindsey, Robert Harrell, Alan Fidelo, Karl Palvisak, Jim Richardson  
★ **Other Donors** - Ron Hemke, Colin C. Hulme, Noel Keller  
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**The Central Florida Alumni Chapter of Sigma Chi**  
"Perpetuation Through Participation"



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