

# 2005 CHI CHAPTER HALL OF FAME



The University of Purdue  
*SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH, 2005 7:00PM*  
THE UNIVERSITY INN



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# Welcome.....

## TO THE 9TH ANNUAL HALL OF FAME AWARDS BANQUET

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Conceived as a way of honoring Kappa Sigma and Chi Chapter alumni for outstanding achievements, this award has quickly become an integral part of our tradition here.

Kappa Sigma is a fraternity with great pride and a tradition of excellence, and our many distinguished alumni have served to enhance it throughout the years. The Chi Chapter, since its beginning in 1885, has seen many brothers rise to positions of great respect.

Inductees are among a select group of alumni. Recognition comes to those who have excelled in their career, or in their service to the community, and/or to the fraternity.

Each inductee will have his name placed on the Man of the Year perpetual plaque, to be prominently displayed at the Chapter House, and will also receive a personal plaque to take home. Congratulations to all who have earned this honor.

**This year's Hall of Fame Inductees are:**

**Mike Gray '54, Dwight Abbott '55,**

**Bob Worrell '66, Jeff Minner '81, and**

**Chi Chapter Man of the Year Jim Milner '79.**

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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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## Welcome

*Master of Ceremonies, Rich Tiller*

## Grace

*Grand Master of Ceremonies, Sean Eckhart*

## Special Recognition

*Lloyd Zickert, Presented by: Executive AAA Bob Sorensen*

## Introduction of Alumni Leaders

*(remain standing, hold applause)*

- Lloyd Zickert and Educational Foundation Board
  - Doug Kowert and House Board of Directors
  - Joe Harshman and Alumni Committee (AAA's)
    - Stuart Williams, Resident Advisor

*(Applause)*

## State of the Chapter House

*House Board President, Doug Kowert*

## State of the Chapter

*Grand Master, Ryan Eckhart*

## Undergraduate Recognition Scholarships

*Alumnus Advisor, Joe Harshman*

## National Man of the Year and Honorary PhDs

*Mike Eskew, Arnie Cooper, Gordon Binder - Presented by: Scott French*

## Hall of Fame Induction

*Mike Gray '54 - Presented by: Tom Thompson*  
*Dwight Abbott '55 - Presented by: Mike Griffin*  
*Bob Worrell '66 - Presented by: Steve Springer*  
*Jim Minner '81 - Presented by: Scott French*

## Chi Chapter Man of the Year

*Jim Milner - Presented by: Doug Kowert*

## Closing:

*Master of Ceremonies, Rich Tiller*

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## Mike Gray '54

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*“Chi Chapter and Kappa Sigma was the time of my life.”*

Like several other Hollywood realists, Mike Gray comes from a documentary film background. His Chicato-Based Film Group chronicled the political violence of the 1960's, including the award-winning feature documentaries, AMERICAN REVOLUTION II, and THE MURDER OF FRED HAMPTON.

Gray grew up in the small farm town of Darlington, Indiana, and after graduating from Purdue University with an engineering degree in 1958, he worked in New York as an editor for AVIATION AGE.

In 1965 he joined with Jim Dennett to form The Film Group, a Chicago based production company. Their work in TV commercials provided the foundation for a series of theatrical and television documentaries. The two men have worked together on more than fifty film and television projects over the last two decades.

After moving to Hollywood in 1973, Gray began writing the screenplay that was to become the eerily prophetic CHINA SYNDROME. His years of research were confirmed less than two weeks after the movie's release by the accident at Three Mile Island.

Gray went to Harrisburg to cover the TMI story for Rolling Stone magazine and collaborated on THE WARNING, (W.W. Norton) a definitive account of the accident based on 200 hours of interviews and 50,000 pages of transcripts from 5 government inquiries.

In 1981 Gray wrote and directed the theatrical feature, WAVELENGTH, a science fiction thriller starring Bobby Carradine and Deenan Wynn (New World).

Gray and John Mason also rewrote the screenplay for CODE OF SILENCE (Orion), and a pilot for ABC based on the film STARMAN. They were hired by Columbia as writer-producers for the STARMAN series (1986-87) and Gray Directed the Pilot and three of the 22 episodes, with Jim Dennett as Production Manager.

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In 1988 Gray and Mason were hired as writer/producers for the Paramount "STAR TREK" series.

Gray's second book, ANGLE OF ATTACK: Harrison Storms and the race to the Moon (W.W. Norton) was purchased by Tom Hanks for the TV series, From the Earth to the Moon.

After six years of research and writing, Gray's seminal book, DRUG CRAZY: How We Got Into This Mess and How We Can Get Out (Random House, '98) has already had a major impact on the drug war debate. The paperback was released in the spring of 2000.

Gray's latest book, The Death Game: Capital Punishment and the Luck of the Draw, has just been released by Common Courage Press.

Mike Gray currently lives in Los Angeles with his wife, Carol, a reporter for public radio. His son, Lucas, is an animator for the Simpsons.

## Dwight Abbott '55

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“My fond memories of Kappa Sigma can best be summed up as a learned appreciation for the “Brotherhood.” The appreciation I gained for the brotherhood translates today to an appreciation for, and desire for, community involvement. Would I now be involved with my community as mayor and councilman had I experienced Purdue as a “geek” engineer in the dorms? It’s doubtful. My diploma states that my education came from Purdue, but perhaps Kappa Sigma should be there in parenthesis.”

Mr. Abbott is currently Mayor of the city of Palos Verdes Estates, California. He was elected to the City Council in 2003. He previously served on the city's Planning Commission and Financial Advisory Committee. Earlier he was a member of a Special Citizens' Committee to support Police/Fire/Paramedic services. He has served the community and school district to conduct demographic and environmental impact analyses of area schools. Mr. Abbott serves as a board member of



the South Bay Cities Council of Governments, the Los Angeles County Sanitation District, and the LAX Community Noise Roundtable.

Dwight Abbott retired as General Manager, Systems Engineering Division, The Aerospace Corporation in March 2000. He was employed by Aerospace for nearly 40 years after joining the company as an original employee at its founding in 1960. He was appointed to this General Manager position in 1997.

The Aerospace Corporation is a nonprofit organization providing engineering support to Air Force programs and national security space systems. The corporation also provides scientific and engineering services to other government agencies and corporations involved in advanced space systems programs. The Systems Engineering Division, with over 150 engineering specialists, provides engineering services to essentially all Air Force and National Reconnaissance Office space programs.

Prior to this appointment, Mr. Abbott was General Manager, Business Management, Space Technology Applications, where he developed business in the emerging civil and commercial space fields.

From 1990 to 1992 Mr. Abbott was Principal Director, Design Engineering Subdivision, where he developed and conducted a corporate-wide concurrent engineering training course. He directed the corporate Advanced Launch System Program from 1987 to 1990. Previously, Mr. Abbott served as Principal Director of Space Transportation Development, Space Launch Operations, and Principal Engineer in the Mission Development and Applications Office undertaking various responsibilities in Space Shuttle-payload integration.

In 1975 Mr. Abbott relocated from Los Angeles to Washington, D.C. to assist in opening a new office in Germantown, Maryland where he served until 1982 as Principal Director of the Environment and Conservation Directorate. This office provided engineering services in energy and environmental systems that were in demand during the national energy crisis of the mid-1970s.

Prior to 1975 Abbott was Director of Advanced Projects in the Development Planning Division where he was responsible for several



advanced systems planning studies conducted for the U.S. Air Force, the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency. Previously he served in offices at San Bernardino, California in ballistic missile planning and analysis and at the Los Angeles headquarters in propulsion systems analysis. Mr. Abbott holds a patent on a rocket engine thrust vector control device.

Before joining Aerospace in 1960, Abbott was associated with the Space Technology Laboratories from 1959 to 1960 and the Northrop Corporation from 1958 to 1959 where he worked on the T-38, the nation's first supersonic trainer aircraft.

Abbott earned a BS degree in aeronautical engineering from Purdue University in 1958 and an MS in industrial administration from the Krannert Graduate School at Purdue University in 1965. He has served on the Visiting Committee to the Dean of the Schools of Engineering at Purdue. While attending Purdue he was elected to the Gimlet Club, Chief Justice of the Student Court, Student Senate Executive Council, And Vice president and Treasure of Kappa Sigma fraternity.

Dwight was appointed to the Aeronautics and Space Engineering Board of the National Research Council, the principal operating agency of the National Academy of Sciences. He is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, serving for ten years on its national Public Policy Committee. He also is a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science and a member of the Planetary Society. He has served as the Aerospace Corporation representative to the Corporate Advisory Board of INCOSE, the International Council on Systems Engineering, and the NDIA, National Defense Industrial Association.

Mr. Abbott now resides in Palos Verdes Estates, California with his wife, Janet. They have two adult sons, Steven (attorney/investment banker) and Douglas (orthopedic surgeon), and five grandchildren. Mr. Abbott's avocation is aviation; he is a private pilot.



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## Bob Worrell '66

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“*Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma was the foundation of my social development in College. It is where I learned to grow as an individual in a collection of diverse personalities and leadership styles. While it was probably not where my greatest character qualities were shaped it was a place where there certainly was no shortage of characters. It is the source of many fond memories and continues to be a source of interest and amazement to see what many of my brothers have accomplished in their lives.*”

Since 1976, when he co-founded Worrell, Inc., with his wife, Judy, in Minneapolis, MN, Bob has molded his firm into a nationally recognized, world-class product innovation and design consultancy that helps Fortune 100 companies and venture start-ups alike “innovate out of the middle” to establish durable brands and product category leadership.

Mr. Worrell blends his knowledge of brand evolution and global economics with a values-based Midwestern work ethic that gives his clients the competitive edge. “CEOs are responsible to their shareholders or investors,” says Mr. Worrell. “And Design – through 3D universal language of ergonomics, fit, finish, color and technology innovation – is the future of economic viability in a global marketplace for which our leaders will need to be well versed to keep our country strong.”

Mr. Worrell invented Censys, a proprietary process that predicts customer behavior to guide in the definition and development of new products and services. He has also invented or acquired software and methodologies that focus the design process, including OnTask, The DesignBrand Strategy, Cypher Innovation Strategy and The Design-Path.

Mr. Worrell and his company have been honored with numerous and prestigious design awards both nationally and globally. He has also been an Industrial Design Society of America National Board Member and was selected as a 1990 Who’s Who in the Midwest. He has spoken at Worldesign, Washington, D.C., Designer’s Saturday, New York City, NY, the 2002 Advamed Conference on medical devices, and the 2003 University of Minnesota Design

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for Medical Devices Conference. Mr. Worrell served on the 2004 AAMI committee on design and human factors and was named one of the 100 notable people in the medical device industry in 2004.

Mr. Worrell has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Industrial Design from Purdue University and holds a provisional QFD Black Belt from the Quality Function Deployment.

## Jeff Minner '81

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“ *The Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma was truly a home. It was a family. Like a family, you shared some good times as well as not so good times. What a great experience to live with 70 guys and learn to communicate, share, respect, support and just live like brothers.* ”

During his time at Purdue, Jeffrey A. Minner, studied communications and was involved on campus working as Advertising Account Manager for the student newspaper, “The Purdue Exponent.” Jeffrey was also a member of the Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. During his time with the fraternity he served as kitchen manager from 1981-1982, and then as Grand Master during the Fall of 1983.

Upon receiving his Bachelor’s Degree from Purdue, Jeffrey began his career as an Account Manager for the electronic components distributor, Newark Electronics. He has remained in Indiana, and involved himself with the Surface Mount Technology Association, a group of professionals who develop solutions in electrical assembly technologies. While a member of the association, he served as both their Treasurer and their Vice President.

Today he resides in Indianapolis with his wife Julie, also a graduate of Purdue, and their two sons, Alex and Jake. He currently works for Restronics Midwest Incorporated, and attributes his “drive to be successful,” and his ability to “take risks, and work with people,” to the relationships and experiences he built through Kappa Sigma. Those traits have served him well. It has been just barely over 20 years since his graduation from Purdue and he is serving as the Restronic’s President.



## Jim Milner '79

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James E. Milner attended Purdue to study accounting. He received his B.S. in 1981 in Management – Accounting. During his undergraduate studies he was a member of Chi, serving as the House Treasurer for 2 years and as Grand Prix Social Chairman also for 2 years. He is grateful to have been a part of a “great national organization and chapter,” and now, twenty five years later, still values the friendships he developed with his fraternity brothers, some of which have also turned into business relationships.

In the way of business, James has had much success. He worked for Bucher, McCarty & Metz as a Public Accountant, and later took the position of Chief Financial Officer for Fleet Supply, Inc. Currently, he is the Controller for Eikenberry & Associates, Inc., an adept custom plastics molding and engineering company located in Kokomo, Indiana, where he presently resides with his wife Judy. Together they have raised three children, Tamra (35), Justin (32), and his youngest, Jacquelyn (20).

He is extremely involved with his personal and professional community, a virtue perhaps engrained in him from his Kappa Sigma days. He is a member of the Elk's Lodge and the Rotary Club in Kokomo. He is also a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, as well as, the Indiana Society of CPAs. Since 2003, James has served as the Chi Chapter House Board Treasurer for Kappa Sigma.

Though James is “grateful to now have the opportunity to work with Chi as a Board Member,” and recognizes the fraternity for its part in helping shape him into the well rounded man he is today, he is just as quick to point out his allegiance to Purdue University as a whole. “Kappa Sigma and Chi mean a great deal to me, but so does Purdue,” he said recently.

With that in mind, it is no surprise that he's not only a club member, but also a Board Member for the Purdue – Kokomo 400 Club, whose total contributions benefit students attending the College of Technology. He also co-sponsors the annual John Milner \$1000 Memorial Scholarship, playing one of his many roles in helping others achieve their own successes.

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# CHI CHAPTER - HONORED ALUMNI

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## *Men of the Year*

- 2000 Joseph Harshman '48  
2001 Scott French '81  
Mike Galt '82  
2002 Robert S. Sorensen '60  
2003 Doug Kowert '60  
2004 Eric Wenaas  
2005 **Jim Milner '79**
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## *Hall of Fame*

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|------|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1997 | Elmer Oliphant '11    | James Hunter '54           |
|      | George Goodwin '27    | Walt Richey '54            |
|      | James Hill '31        | Bruce Storm '56            |
|      | George Burnell '33    | Eric Wenaas '59            |
|      | Robert Keim '39       | Michael Zachary '67        |
|      | Byron Anderson '45    | Michael Eskew '68          |
|      | Lloyd Zickert '45     | Jan King '68               |
|      | Richard Freeman '47   | 2000 Joseph Harshman '48   |
|      | Robert Covalt '50     | Robert Jones '61           |
|      | Walt Houston '51      | Charles Marshall '61       |
|      | Jerry Albrecht '54    | John Prentice '66          |
|      | Gordon Binder '54     | 2001 Gene Grotnes '48      |
|      | Kenneth Bishop '54    | Bill Schulenberg '48       |
|      | Daniel Meyer '55      | John Haimbaugh '52         |
|      | Russell Maier '56     | John McCammon '62          |
|      | William Topercer '58  | 2002 Daniel Evans '49      |
|      | Robert Sorensen '60   | Charles Benner '66         |
|      | Steven Springer '67   | David Derrick '66          |
| 1998 | John Feinler '47      | Samual Rich Tiller '83     |
|      | Jack Houston '50      | 2003 Ben Mottleson '45     |
|      | Kenneth Appel '54     | 2004 Allen C. Dickason '70 |
|      | Robert Schweikher '55 | Bradley C. Edwards '83     |
|      | Alan Crebo '60        | Michael P. Griffin '90     |
|      | Walter Myers '61      | 2005 <b>Mike Gray '54</b>  |
|      | Ronald Yara '66       | <b>Dwight Abbott '55</b>   |
|      | Steven Beering '85    | <b>Bob Worrell '66</b>     |
| 1999 | Robert Landis '30     | <b>Jeff Minner '81</b>     |
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*Not for an hour ... a day ...  
or college term only ... but for life.*

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KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY  
CHI CHAPTER  
UNIVERSITY OF PURDUE  
FALL 2005

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