Meet Mike Bocchinfuso ’08, Gear Society member

Who will win the Castle Point Cup?

INSIDE: THE SPIRIT OF EAS
Summer's here, and so is this special edition of the Stevens Society Pages!

This mini-mag recognizes the four philanthropic societies at Stevens, each with their own calling of loyalty, leadership, lifetime giving and leaving a legacy.

The Gear Society celebrates the loyalty of alumni who make a gift, at any level, year after year.

The Edwin A. Stevens Society celebrates annual giving that reaches a leadership level.

The six Lifetime Giving Societies honor donors whose cumulative lifetime giving exceeds $100,000.

The Stevens Legacy Society recognizes members who plan to leave a legacy through gifts in their financial or estate plans.

With the end of the fiscal year approaching on June 30, we hope the society members celebrated here will inspire your own giving to Stevens. Annual gifts have a great impact on the community, especially our students. When made every year, gifts for scholarships, academic programs, athletics, student activities or the comprehensive Stevens Fund provide Stevens with important resources to fulfill its mission.

Plus, every gift from alumni, of any amount, improves the university’s giving participation rate, which factors into national rankings.

Thank you for considering a gift by June 30! Then, whether you’re catching some sun, surfing some waves or just relaxing with family and friends, we hope you have a spectacular summer!

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**THE SPIRIT OF EAS**

**Trustee Annmarie Rizzo ’86 M.S. ’92 is chair of the Edwin A. Stevens Society**

Growing up in Hoboken, I always wanted to attend Stevens, because it was both close and prestigious. There was even something to it being at the highest elevation in town, like it was at the top in more ways than one.

I am grateful that Stevens prepared me for an amazing career with Verizon, and I’m happy now to give back as a member of the EAS Society, named for our visionary founder, Edwin A. Stevens. Every year, hundreds of alumni, friends, faculty, staff, parents and even students begin or renew their EAS membership by making leadership-level gifts. Such gifts mean Stevens can award more scholarships, support faculty with more resources, and fill more campus needs.

**EAS members are always making a difference.** There are several pathways to membership, and I hope you see one that fits you after visiting stevens.edu/EAS. If you’re currently a member, I hope you will renew for the coming year, and if possible, consider increasing your commitment.

As I said, I’ve always thought of Stevens at the top. And yet, as I see new buildings, new achievements and talented students, I continue to be amazed by how much we are a university on the rise. Thank you for considering, or renewing, membership in the Edwin A. Stevens Society and helping us climb even higher.

Warmest regards,

Annmarie

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**Getting in Gear**

**Mike Bocchinfuso ’08** has given back to Stevens every year since he graduated, making him a member of the Gear Society for more than ten years. He works as a quality assurance engineer at Dentsply-Sirona, a dental equipment manufacturer, and he is a past president of the WCPR alumni association.

**How did Stevens prepare you for your career?**

The rigorous academics were a great starting foundation, not just within my major of electrical engineering but in the overall field of engineering. I also credit a lot of my career success to the co-op program. Four semesters of co-op provided me with excellent experience while job-hunting my senior year.

**Why do you give every year to Stevens?**

I was fortunate enough to receive financial assistance during my time at Stevens, which helped me focus more on my studies and extracurricular activities without having to worry financially, and I would like to make sure that future generations have that same opportunity. Just as we have the Torch Bearer statue on campus, I firmly believe in keeping the spirit of philanthropy going.

**What means most to you about your involvement with WCPR?**

WCPR was always more to me than just a place to hang out, play music, and chat over the airwaves. It provides its members with valuable knowledge, such as audio engineering and live sound operation, how to successfully plan event logistics, how to manage budgets, and more lessons you can’t get in a classroom. I’m really glad I had a chance to be a part of this great organization with 60 years of rich history, working alongside great people with common goals and having fun at the same time.
Stepping up for the Castle Point Cup

The Big Red Machine. The Steel Curtain. The Showtime Lakers. The Class of 1963!

Like those great sports dynasties, the Class of ’63 has excelled at winning the Castle Point Cup, an annual challenge for classes and sororities/fraternities to achieve the highest giving participation rate among their members.

The Class of ’63 took the trophy in 2018, with an astonishing 70% participation rate, and in 2017 and 2016, while tying with the Class of ’64 for first in 2014 (the Class of ’65 won in 2015). Their prominent showing is a testament to the bonds that members of the class have for each other, and the dedication they share for their alma mater.

“Stevens is where we learned the skills to have rewarding and successful careers, and where we made so many lifelong friends,” said Dick Magee ’63. “Grateful to Stevens in so many ways, we look to give back.”

Top sports teams always have key people in place: a talented quarterback, a crafty point guard, an ace pitcher and so on. Sadly, the Class of ’63 recently lost two stars who were their incredible class fund co-captains: Jules Nagy ’63, who passed away in April last year, and Joe Polyniak ’63, who passed away this March. Like cagey veterans pacing the sidelines to inspire their teammates to rally, Joe and Jules always encouraged their classmates to stay connected to Stevens, and for 50 years, right to the end, they led the Class of ’63 annual fund drive.

“Joe was a great guy with a marketing mindset,” said Tom Moschello ’63. “Every year he wrote several witty and informative solicitation letters encouraging classmates to support Stevens, particularly our class scholarship.”

Joe and Jules created a class fundraising committee. “Whenever the time came for the committee to do their part, Jules made sure that everything was in place for our class telethon, and that everyone in the class who had not yet given was contacted by phone or personal note,” Tom said. “They are a great loss and will be missed in many, many ways.”

Who knows if the Class of 1963 will win the Castle Point Cup this year absent the drive, commitment and leadership Joe and Jules provided? But getting a trophy is incidental to the impact that alumni can have on the university with their annual gifts, and the personal satisfaction they can get from staying connected to each other and to Stevens.

“When alumni give, the real winner is Stevens, especially its students,” said Joe Grauman ’63 M.S. ’65 Ph.D. ’69. “The gifts we make now create opportunities for a new generation of talented students who will continue to enhance Stevens’ reputation. Joe and Jules showed us the level of fundraising we are capable of accomplishing, so let’s follow them!”

Jules Nagy ’63 M.M.S. ’69 and Joe Polyniak ’63 M.M.S. ’69

New Kids on the Block

The competition for the Castle Point Cup is heating up between the classic Stevens fraternities and these newer Greek groups. Here are some of the values that are inspiring them to give back.

**PHI SIGMA SIGMA**

believes that a woman who serves is also a woman who leads. By serving others, our members become more valuable citizens, students, parents, workers and community leaders. Through education and challenging ourselves to reach new goals, we become women of influence and substance.

**LAMBDA UPSILON LAMBDA**

The brothers of Lambda Upsilon Lambda are strong believers in shaping our own destiny. What separates us from the rest is our ability to inspire greatness in others. We have a remarkable work ethic that allows a small group of men to achieve the impossible, but more importantly create a unique family that we can return to years after.

**KAPPA SIGMA**

serves to make not just better men, but those who become the leaders of tomorrow. Brothers actively seek out opportunities to serve as leaders in the community, on campus, and within the fraternity. These experiences have proved valuable to those who pursue them, and they set the path for holding leadership positions in the professional world.

**THETA PHI ALPHALPHA**

Our national tagline is “Ever Loyal Ever Lasting,” which is exactly how the bonds are in Theta Phi Alpha. The friendships that blossom through the sorority are ones that are true and strong. Our sisterhood is incredibly diverse; however, we know that what ties us together is our love for each other and our love for our chapter.
Win $$$ for your Class or Greek Scholarship!

In competing for the Castle Point Cup, the top three classes and sororities/fraternities win bonus prizes of $2,500/$1,000/$500 for their scholarships. These prizes come from a special donor-supported fund created by a group of alumni to encourage their fellow alumni to give back to Stevens.

You can help your team!

Just make a gift at connect.stevens.edu/challenge, where you can also see all the competition scores!

Congrats to the Class of 2019

Best wishes to these new alumni and hopefully future members of Stevens giving societies!

OCTOBER 19

Save the Date

Join us at the Celebration of Philanthropy on October 19

stevens.edu/alumni
power.stevens.edu
facebook.com/stevens.alumni