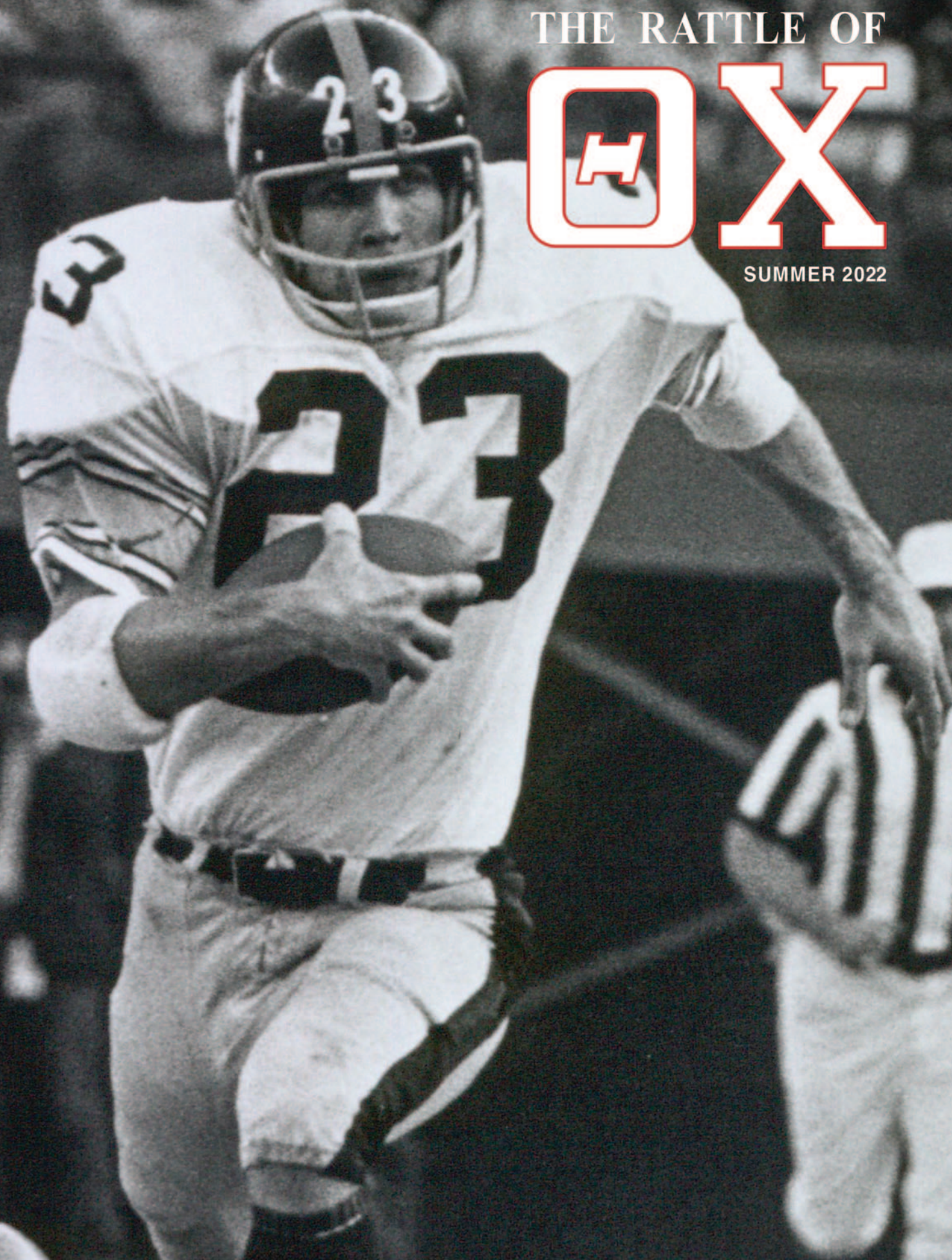


THE RATTLE OF

OX

SUMMER 2022



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Reflecting on accomplishments



*International President
Darick Brown*

Dear Brothers,

As I took office two years ago, COVID-19 had just shut down the world. There was a lot of anxiety about the future of our brotherhood. We weathered that storm and came out in great shape. The 2021/2022 academic year was closer to normal than the prior three semesters. We continued to challenge our staff and collegians to focus on recruitment, operations, and brotherhood. As expected, they exceeded expectations.

Before final audits, it appears we will break the all-time record for the most men initiated in a single academic year, a 45% increase in new initiates over the prior academic year. Our overall collegiate chapter membership appears to be the fourth highest in fraternity history—an incredible number as we come out of a pandemic.

This January, our officer conferences were held in person for the first time since 2020. Even though the Omicron variant was peaking and winter weather deterred some from attending, the conferences were a success. We were able to provide make-up training for anyone missing the in-person event. Between last summer's 165th Anniversary Celebration in Lexington and this winter's officer training, our operations are getting closer to being back to normal.

Our brotherhood remains strong. As I communicate with brothers, they tell me they are thrilled with the friendships they are making in college and the support and engagement with the International Fraternity. The brotherhood formed in college extends a lifetime. This year, I personally reaffirmed this when I attended the Centennial Anniversary of Alpha Iota/Indiana, and the 50th anniversaries of Eta Lambda/Virginia Tech and my own chapter, Eta Gamma/Morehead. At all three events, brothers of more than 50 years were in attendance. I am extremely proud of my home chapter whose anniversary weekend saw more than 330 brothers and guests return to campus to celebrate their Theta Chi experience. Those men (148 donors) raised more than \$32,000 for the Foundation Chapter's Founders Day fundraising event.

As I complete my term on the Grand Chapter and as International President, I have been reflecting on some of Theta Chi's accomplishments over the last few years.

My career is sales driven, so no doubt I am passionate about recruitment and growth. Since April 10, 2010, Theta Chi installed 27 new chapters and reinstalled 38 more. Of our 159 total active chapters, just over one-third have been (re)installed since 2010. Not only have we grown by number of chapters, but we have grown our existing chapter membership as well. Over the last eight years, we have broken the record for most men initiated four times. For the first time in our history, we exceeded 3,000 members initiated in a year. With the exception of the two pandemic years, our brotherhood has maintained that number. With more than 3,500 initiates this year, there is no looking back.

We introduced and launched signature initiatives including Resolute Man and Sacred Purpose. The Initiative Academy has developed our young leaders. The Foundation Chapter endowed our Presidents Conference and we have ensured our officers receive professional training by our amazing International Headquarters staff.

We now formally assess our chapters annually, recognize our alumni corporations, and nearly all of our chapters have a Chapter Advisory Board. The Counselor program was replaced by a new



The Grand Chapter meets in Spring 2022. International President Darick Brown, International Secretary Chad Strelow, and International Treasurer Herb Morgan will complete eight years of service on the board.

and modern Ambassador program. New advisory councils were established such as the Chapter Presidents Advisory Council and the Diversity and Inclusion Council. Theta Chi played a leading role in the formation of a unique organization of like-minded fraternities called Fraternity Forward Coalition.

We introduced new branding and modernized our jewelry. Our Ritual was revised to become closer to that of our founding. We battled Harvard, defended our right to exist, said “no” to campus overreach and cancel culture, and stood up for student rights. We initiated brothers at Norwich and West Point and celebrated Silver, Golden, Diamond, and Centennial Anniversaries. Most important, we created a strategic plan to continue our success through our 175th Anniversary. I am so proud of our incredible Headquarters staff who is the best in the business, as well as the amazing chapter and international volunteers, alumni, and collegians—all who have made these achievements possible.

For me, I will always hold dear the friendships I have made with the brothers I have had the honor of serving with these last eight years. I have enjoyed connecting with the many remarkable alumni and collegians across the U.S. and Canada. Congratulations to our new Grand Chapter. I am confident they will continue to lead Theta Chi to do great things!

Fraternally yours,

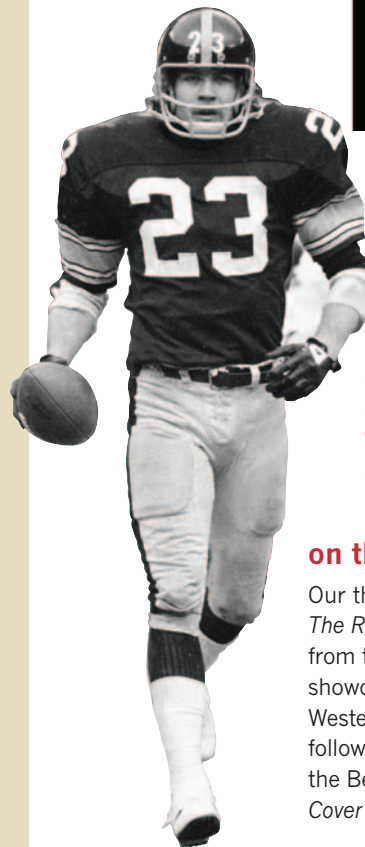
Darick Brown
 Darick H. Brown
 International President



Kappa Zeta/Arkansas 24



Red Slipper Warrior Project 28



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Don't miss Mike Wagner's (Zeta Psi/Western Illinois 1971) Theta Chi memories and his incredible journey from a high school and college walk-on to a four-time Super Bowl Champion with the Pittsburgh Steelers. Story on page 6.

on the cover

Our throwback cover uses *The Rattle's* masthead and style from the late-'70s/early '80s to showcase Mike Wagner's (Zeta Psi/Western Illinois 1971) 65-yard run following his interception against the Bengals on November 2, 1975. Cover Photo: Pittsburgh Steelers

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EXPANSION



(Re)Installations



Gamma Nu/New Mexico State
Las Cruces, NM
Reinstalled: 12/4/2021



Iota Alpha/UNC-Wilmington
Wilmington, NC
Reinstalled: 12/11/2021



Kappa Pi/Boston
Boston, MA
Installed: 5/7/2022

Current Colonies



Delta Kappa/Ball State
Muncie, IN
Recolonized: 11/21/2021

New Colonies



Alpha Beta/Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, PA
Recolonized: 4/22/2022

Expansion Projects

FALL 2022



Alpha Upsilon/Nebraska



Gamma Sigma/Durham, NC



Delta Phi/North Texas

Please contact Sr. Director of Growth
Zack Brown at zbrown@thetachi.org
if you are interested in becoming involved
with these groups.

Visit www.thetachi.org/news
for additional stories on our (re)installed
chapters and new colonies.



Alpha Beta Colony/Pittsburgh



Iota Alpha/UNC-Wilmington



Kappa Pi/Boston

Know a Resolute Man who would be a good fit for Theta Chi? (or to start a chapter?) Use our online form at thetachi.org/recommend-a-recruit



Since 1928, the Norwich Housing Corporation (NHC) has had a proven track record of assisting Theta Chi house corporations with the acquisition, construction, and renovation of fraternity houses for Theta Chi chapters.

With programs such as the low-interest Life Safety Loan and the Ladue Emergency Loan, the NHC is a leader among national fraternal organizations by providing funding for housing construction and renovation projects.

Housing is a key component to the Fraternity's growth and success. Working together, the NHC and Theta Chi house corporations can meet the needs of today's students and improve our ability to compete in the modern housing market.

For more information about the NHC, or to request a loan application, contact the International Headquarters at 317-848-1856 or email norwich_loans@thetachi.org.

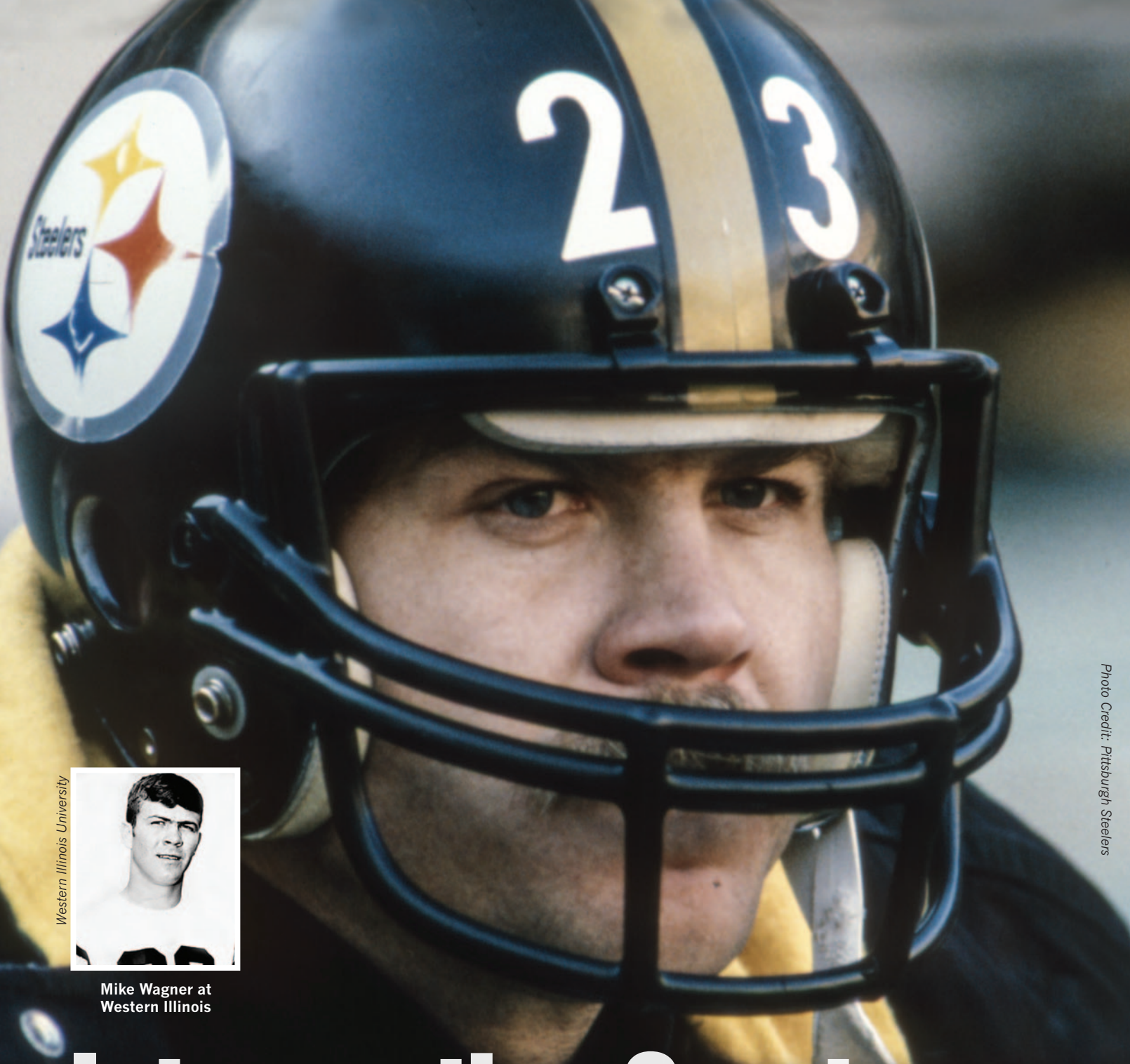


Photo Credit: Pittsburgh Steelers

Western Illinois University



Mike Wagner at Western Illinois

Intercepting Greatness

Photo Credit: Western Illinois University





Last year, Super Bowl Champion Mike Wagner (Zeta Psi/Western Illinois 1971) was featured in Western Illinois University's Summer/Fall 2021 *Western Magazine* where his remarkable journey was traced from a walk-on at Carmel Catholic High School, to a walk-on to become a Western Leatherneck, to an 11th round draft pick to become a Pittsburgh Steeler and part of the famed "Steel Curtain" defense. Brother Wagner graciously provided some additional background on his time in Theta Chi and as a Charter Member of Zeta Psi Chapter. A reprint of the *Western Magazine* feature begins on page 10.

The Rattle: Why did you join Phi Theta, the local fraternity which later became Theta Chi?

Mike Wagner: I met a couple of the members who were also in the school of business in the accounting department. I can't say I was actively pursuing Greek life, but I just started hanging out with them and they were moving forward, trying to become a national fraternity. It was a time when I was looking to expand my horizons, whether it was washing dishes, or taking a train to go work on the weekends, or getting involved in the creation of a fraternity.

R: Were there other football players in the chapter while you were there?

MW: No, I was the only one. I tried to get some of my friends as time went by to get involved in sports, but our chapter was a more academic type of group of guys. They were serious business and worked hard on their studies and they were bright guys, that's for sure.

R: Why do you think the chapter was so focused on academics?

MW: We were conscientious enough to know that the school was looking at all our grades in order to justify keeping fraternities as part of campus life. We understood the fraternity man's number one responsibility was to be a student, and then to get involved—while also getting the grades. Of course, we had the other incentive back then, which was the draft, which started during my sophomore year. That really motivated a lot of people to make sure they kept up with their classmates. But not all the brothers, though. I think there was one who flunked out but didn't tell anybody in the fraternity—or his family. I thought that was very curious.



A 1968/1969 group photo of the members of Phi Theta, a local fraternity at Western Illinois University that later petitioned to become a chapter of Theta Chi. These men were initiated as Charter Members on April 18, 1970, during Zeta Psi Chapter's Installation. (The arrow points to Mike Wagner, kneeling at bottom left.)

R: What other memories come to mind from being in the chapter?

MW: Like most fraternities, there's always somebody willing to try anything or do anything, whether it's helping out, or going to play ice hockey with brooms, or just having fun. I invited my roommate **Todd Reynolds** (1971) to join the Fraternity, which he did. Our chapter wasn't a fraternity that did a lot of partying, but there were times that we did and those were fun and no one really got out of control or out of hand. For pledging, we didn't do anything physical where anybody would be hurt and there wasn't any alcohol involved or anything that would cause problems with health. Overall, it was a good experience while I was actively involved.

R: Did you ever visit any other chapters in the area?

MW: The pledge class took me to Miami University of Ohio for a couple of days. I really didn't want to go at first, and I was

trying to get away. Finally, they were like, 'Will you quit trying to get away, we're just going to take you, this is supposed to be fun.' I said, 'Okay, I get it.' So we hung around the [Gamma Kappa Chapter] house and a couple of the bars there and then they drove me back. One bar had a goal post that was partially assembled and it was on the back of the bar commemorating a big win by Miami some years earlier. It was a good weekend; the Miami guys went out of their way to be nice to me. I was glad I went.

R: Who was the best leader in the chapter?

MW: **Tim Osmond** (1971)—he was the President when we went national with Theta Chi.

R: What made him stand out as a great leader to you?

MW: I think great leaders are people who demonstrate leadership by just letting it



happen and not trying to be a leader. They just lead by example. It just becomes something that you just do. I think it's an example and you hope those around you will follow it. And if you need help, you go seek somebody who can help you.

R: What can you tell us about a TKE from Western Illinois—Bob Nardelli?

MW: My hero. Amazing guy. We were co-captains together our senior year. He was a real inspiration for me because he wasn't a very big guy, but he was just so determined. A lot of things in life is just being determined and just saying, 'I'm going to somehow figure out how to do this.' And he's that type of person. I hadn't seen him for a while, and then when he was taking over companies like Chrysler and Home Depot, there he is, either in the Senate or the House of Representatives, being queried on TV. I got his information and reached out to ask him, 'Bobby, what's worse, getting grilled by Congress or losing 66 to nothing to Western Kentucky?'

R: Did you ever think of the Steelers as a brotherhood or having similarities to the Fraternity?

MW: Yes. Because we were a young team when we started winning championships, we had a long time to play together. We won four championships in six years. And quite honestly, when I'm around my teammates or if you're observing players from my era, you'll see a lot of hugging going on. My teammates were concerned about whatever was going on. When I was diagnosed with cancer, many of them responded, encouraging me or just calling. Terry Bradshaw called and wanted to know how I was doing. He always tries to entertain me, he's a fun guy. It's really a pleasure to be around my old teammates and in a way, it's like a fraternity.

R: Did you know former Steeler Tunch Ilkin (Delta Pi/Indiana State 1979) is a Theta Chi?

MW: I did not! — I don't think we ever talked about it. He was a rookie my last year. Tunch is highly, highly regarded here, not just for football, but for what he was doing in the community to help people. He was very religious. It was a tremendous loss for Pittsburgh last year. [Editor's Note: See page 38.]

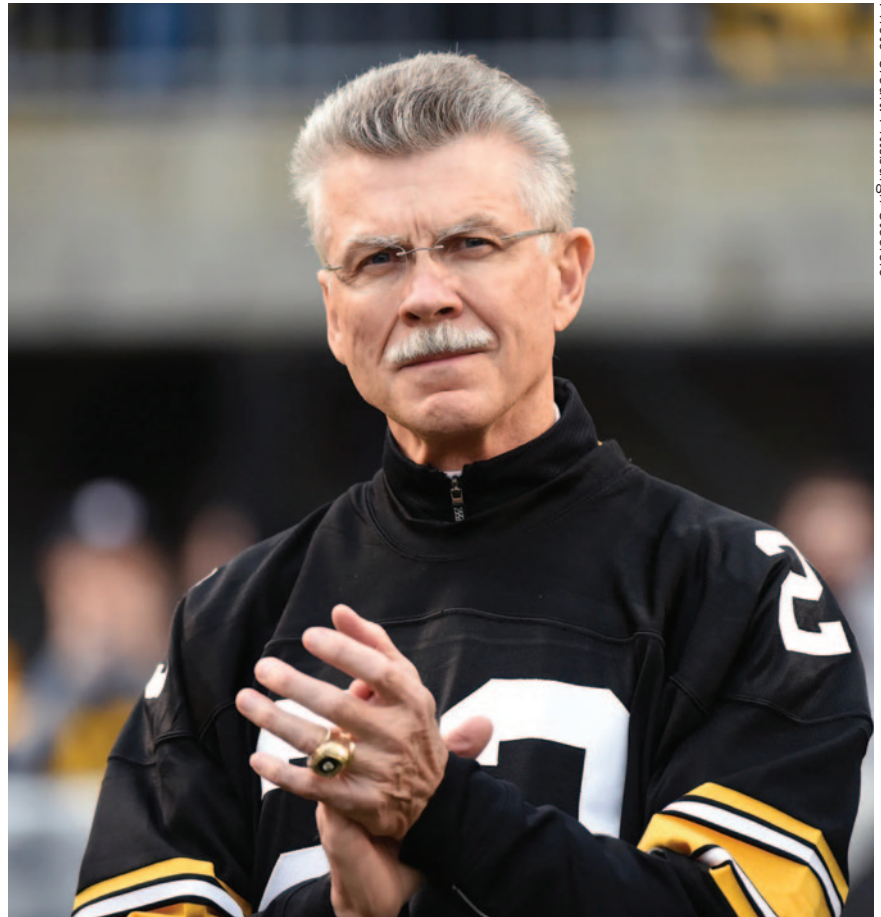


Photo Credit: Pittsburgh Steelers

In 2021, Mike Wagner is announced as one of the newest inductees into the Pittsburgh Steelers Hall of Honor.

R: In your time in the NFL, did you ever come across another accounting major?

MW: (chuckles.) No. The Steelers would publish it—they liked promoting it as one of the things I had in my background, saying, 'Well, he must be smart because he has an accounting degree—and we're looking for not only great athletes, but we're looking for smart players.' It's not necessarily being the toughest or the fastest. Doing the right thing at the right time is very important—and particularly not making mistakes—mental mistakes, not just physical mistakes. Coaches tear their hair out when players just can't learn what they're supposed to do.

R: Any advice for Theta Chi football players trying to make it into the NFL?

MW: Chase your dreams. Set your goals. Develop a plan. Execute the plan. And

from time to time, reevaluate your plan and make changes where needed. If you have a dream, I think you have to set goals and the only way you're going to achieve a goal is to make a plan. And it's not just sports—it's whatever you do, whether it's your family life, work life, or whatever it is. Those are the keys to success. Chase your dreams, but you've got to set goals and you've got to plan. You've got to work hard at it and be ready...and be a little lucky, too.

R: In 2019, you returned to Western Illinois and stopped by the chapter house—any thoughts from that experience?

MW: I was surprised they knew who I was. It reminded me about the good things and bad things about belonging to a fraternity: Maybe it was just our house, but the sleeping accommodations weren't always the best designed. I remember one semester or



4x Super Bowl champion IX, X, XIII, XIV, 2x Pro Bowl (1975 and 1976), first team All Pro 1973, second team All Pro 1976, NFL interceptions co-leader 1973

Ranked as the 50th Best Defensive Back – Sean Lahman, “The Pro Football Historical Abstract”

WIU Athletics Hall of Fame Inductee – 1976

NAIA All-American selection – 1969

11th round draft pick – 1971 by the Pittsburgh Steelers

36 interceptions; 12 fumble recoveries

Steelers Hall of Honor 2020

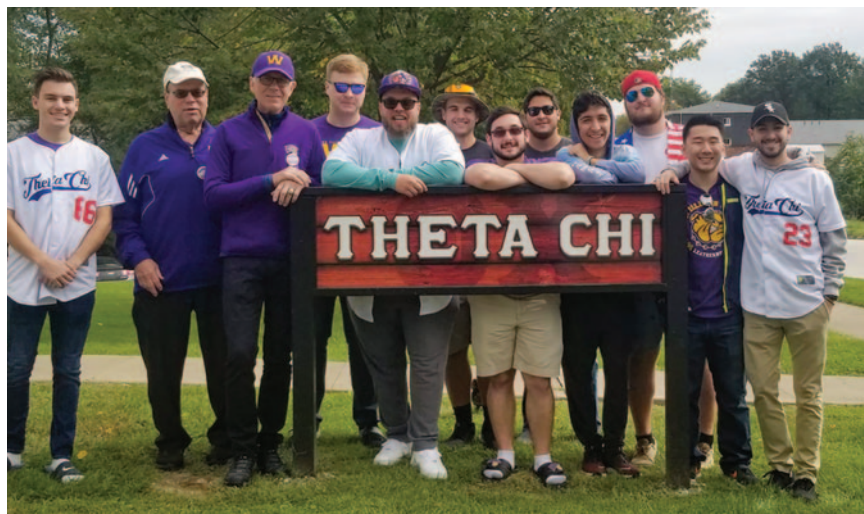
term, or it might have been the whole year, I slept in a bunk bed in the garage of the fraternity house and that was quite an experience. I don't want to say anything negative about fraternity life, but getting your sleep is sometimes a challenge.

R: What is your definition of a Resolute Man?

MW: Resolute means that you have decided to do something and you are going to pursue it as long as you possibly can to reach the end—and not give up.

R: I think that sounds a lot like you, Mike.

MW: Well, I've been fortunate that some of my efforts have rewarded me greatly, but some of my efforts have not. I get more attention for the ones that I've been rewarded greatly than I do the ones that I didn't! So, it's a balancing act, but everything that went on in my life, particularly during the period of time that was good or



On October 5, 2019, Mike Wagner (third from left) visits Western Illinois University and stops by the new Theta Chi house to meet brothers and take a tour.



The autographed jersey donated by Mike Wagner to the brothers at Western Illinois following the acquisition of their new chapter house in Macomb, IL.

ideal, I had to either say, 'I can do this' or 'Time to move on.'

R: What's something interesting in the Western Illinois article you'd like to point out to our readers?

MW: My high school coach taught me a lot of things that even some of the pro coaches didn't know. I was very fortunate to have tremendous coaches, particularly on the mental side of the game, who helped me be a better football player by pushing me to work hard and giving me the support that I could do it.

R: Anything else you'd like to share?

MW: I'm glad to represent some of the good things that can happen to some people, particularly when they're tied in with the Fraternity.

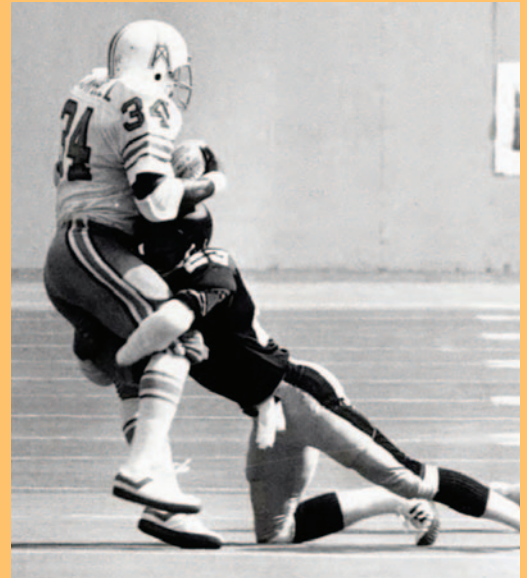
R: We certainly wish you the best in your recovery and treatment.

MW: Yeah, it's touch and go, so we'll see how it goes. The doctors and nurses are great. It's just another challenge, that's how I look at it. ■



“Steeling”

FEATURE ARTICLE BY DARCIE SHINBERGER AND
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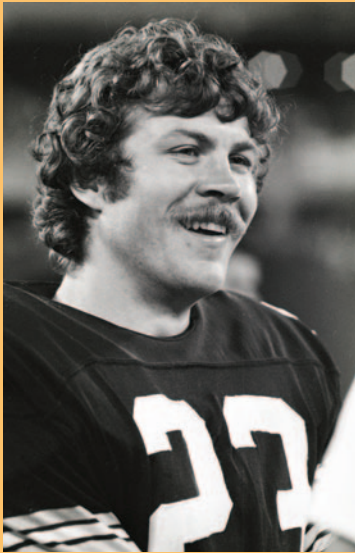


Photos on these pages courtesy of Western Illinois University



the Spotlight

It's the stuff dreams—and headlines—are made of: a high school freshman (and sophomore) getting cut from football tryouts, later makes it to the pros, with four Super Bowl championships to his name.



Super Bowl Champion Pittsburgh Steeler and former Leatherneck gridiron standout **Mike Wagner '71** recalled that he tried out his freshman year for Mundelein's Carmel Catholic High School team, but he was cut.

"I was 110 pounds soaking wet, and I'd never played organized football. I didn't know how to play, but I still went out for football my freshman year. My dad was upset when they cut me because he had just bought me spikes," Wagner said with a laugh.

"I kept trying out every year, and I finally made it my junior year."

Looking back to those high school years, Wagner said the playing field at this suburban Catholic high school was extremely competitive. Spots were coveted, with nearly 100 boys trying out for the team every year.

"I had a pretty good senior year, but nothing that really stood out. Let's just say, I didn't have any scholarship offers coming in to play college football," he added.

Wagner happened upon WIU because he was looking for an affordable state school, as his parents were sending four kids through Catholic Grade and High Schools (and three boys to college), and Western fit the bill. He took the train to Macomb with his best friend, looked at the school, wandered around campus and stayed overnight. Besides Lake Forest, WIU was the only other school Wagner visited. When he enrolled in 1967, he started as a math and accounting major.

"I liked math, but the combination of the two majors was tough. I remember in one of my math classes, the teacher drew a wavy line and said we will find the math formula for this line, and I thought to myself, 'Why do I want to know this?' I decided then and there to stick with the accounting major and drop math," he said. "No matter what, it was very important to me to get my degree."

Outside of the classroom, even though he'd only had two years of high school football under his belt, he went to Leathernecks Head Coach Art Duffelmeier in late September and asked to try out.

"I liked to work out and I liked the game. I had a handle on my schedule and felt my academics were under control, so I was looking

for an activity to get out of my dorm room and get involved," Wagner remembered.

And that, as they say, was the beginning of Wagner's historic football career. He was cast as a defensive end. He walked on the team and wasn't a starter . . . until the first-string player got hurt and Coach Duffelmeier put the newest member of the Fighting Leathernecks into the game.

"From that point on, I played the remaining games as a starter on the freshman team. It worked out," he said.

While scholarships weren't yet a thing for athletes, Wagner—who worked washing dishes in the residence hall dining room—continued to balance sports, working and school. During his junior year, legislation was passed for athletic scholarships for college athletes. Once again, Wagner used his confidence and determination to earn a scholarship with the new head coach, Darrell Mudra.

"They were bringing kids in to play from out west and everywhere else. I told Coach Mudra I wanted some scholarship money to play. I thought I was just as good as anyone else they were bringing in," he said. "Mudra told me no, and when spring practice rolled around, he asked me if I was coming out. I told him no. My dad was a blue-collar worker; we had four kids in the family; I was washing dishes in the dorm over the lunch hour; and if there was no scholarship to play, I wasn't going to play. I had earned it. He finally offered the scholarship."

By the end of Wagner's junior year, he was starting to get a lot of attention from the media, and he was racking up national honors. As he remembered, his junior year was a "great year." He had 8-10 interceptions, and he liked to tackle.

"We had a really great defensive coach, Howard Justice. He was smart, and he taught us things like reading plays, new defensive coverages, so much," Wagner said.

While he played ball, he still worked, including going home on weekends and breaks to wait tables at a swanky Lake Forest restaurant (Wagner would catch the train at 11 a.m. on Fridays to Chicago, hop on the train to Lake Forest, wait tables all weekend, and take the train back to Macomb Sunday night). And during this busy, almost breakneck schedule of work, football and classes, Wagner developed a few friendships along the way that he's maintained through the years, including through his fraternity, Theta Chi, which he had joined his freshman year.

"One of my closest friends here, Nelson "Nels" Hanson, who also played football for a year, could talk me into things, like getting a motorcycle or going to a quarry with him in the middle of winter to chop ice and hold the rope so Nels could scuba dive. Hindsight is 20/20 I guess."



Wagner went into his senior year anticipating a great year ahead on the gridiron. However, the football gods threw a wrench in his plans. During the last scrimmage, a sophomore player did a crack-back block, which was eventually outlawed, and that almost ended Wagner's senior season.

"I sprained both my ankles and missed the first four games of the regular season, and that diminished my hopes of playing in the pros. By this time, I had grown to about 6'2" and about 185 pounds, so I felt like I could have made it, if I had a chance," he said.

And make it he did. WIU's coaches encouraged Wagner that he was good enough to go pro, and in spite of Western's rural location and injuries, there had been some scouts keeping an eye on him. He came home from class in February 1971, and his roommate nonchalantly told him that Mudra's office had called.

"The Steelers had called and had drafted me, and I was given a number to call. I was an 11th round draft pick. When I called back, I told the Steeler representative that he had to speak to my agent to negotiate my contract. The Steeler representative couldn't believe it, and said something like, 'You have an agent!! You're an 11th round draft pick?'"

Wagner was flown to Pittsburgh in the spring of 1971 along with all the other rookies, and at that time, Heinz Field was just a year old. They taped and suited us up and got a look at the new recruits in three days of practice.

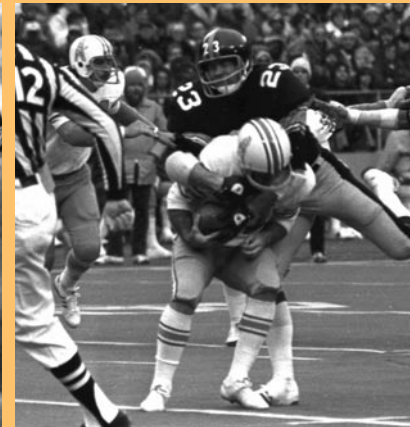
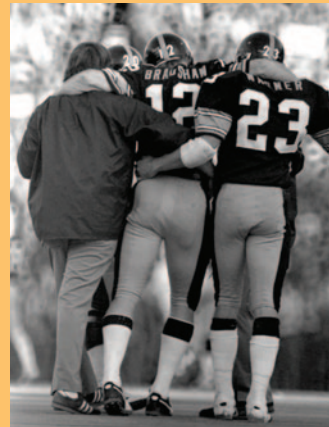
"This guy walks into the locker room, and he was the one who called me and who couldn't believe I had an agent. He was the trainer, so I hadn't even been talking to a recruiter or a coach," Wagner laughed.

Even though he was young, Wagner's savviness paid off. Without an agent, he was looking at a three-year contract, a \$3,000 signing bonus and \$15-17k per year. With an agent, he managed a three-year contract at \$33k per year and a \$10,000 signing bonus. As he said, that was a lot of money back then. And of course, Wagner made the team, earned all his bonuses his agent had attained for him.

"The incumbent strong side safety got hurt in the first pre-season game, and just like in college, I got in right away as a rookie. It was quite the miracle," he said.

Hailing originally from Wisconsin, before Wagner's father moved them to the Chicago suburbs, the family usually cheered for the Green Bay Packers. Wagner's first pre-season game happened to be in Wisconsin, of course, at Lambeau Field. He remembered getting maybe 60 tickets for family and friends because so many of them wanted to see him in a Steelers uniform for "a chuckle," because at that time, the Steelers weren't that good. That was about to change during Wagner's time with the team.

"I think one thing that made me such a mentally strong player was that I really knew how to read plays thanks to my coaches at WIU and back at Carmel. I didn't make mental mistakes, and being a good mental player was really important to me. I had tremendous coaches in high school and college, many that had played semi-pro ball. We all [my teammates] really benefited from their wisdom, so when I started with the Steelers, I knew what I was doing and what I needed to do," he said.



All photos on these pages courtesy of the Pittsburgh Steelers

Wagner played for 10 years, from 1971-1981, and his name is on four Super Bowl trophies.

"I was really lucky on the timing of joining the team. Dan Rooney, Art Rooney, Sr's oldest son, [president] had taken reins of the team in 1969 and ran the team like a business. He and his first hire for a head coach, Chuck Noll, cleaned house. Noll didn't put up with players and coaches who weren't working hard to make the team successful. By the time we went to our first Super Bowl, we only had four or five veteran players left from the pre-Noll period," Wagner remembered. "So, as a newcomer, this was a good opportunity for me to work hard and do well. Coach Chuck Noll let me play early on as a starter and that gave me a lot of confidence. I was prepared and ready to go, and Coach Noll led us to greatness."

Looking at the roster of the Steelers during Wagner's years in the "Steel Curtain Era" in the 1970s is like a "Who's Who of the NFL": Lynn Swann (who Wagner would play backgammon against and usually win); Jack Ham (who was Wagner's roommate for 10 years); Terry Bradshaw; Gerry Mullins; L. C. Greenwood (who remained a friend and Wagner's golfing buddy in Pittsburgh until his passing [in 2013]); Donny Shell; Mel Blount; Joe Greene; and Jack Lambert, to name a few.

"We had a really good team for several years. It was a pretty amazing time. I made the decision to retire after 10 years because our defense was not as good as we lost some of those incredible players, and I made a promise to myself when I started that I was going out before the fans started to boo me," he said. "Of course, there were injuries over the years that really started to affect my game."

Wagner had had chronic hip issues over the years thanks to an undiagnosed torn tendon during his broad jumping years in high school track, but those old injuries weren't discovered until 1977. He also experienced concussions and a cracked vertebrae in his neck. He spent most of the '79 season on the injured list with continuing hip problems, but came back in 1980 to prove to himself, and the team, that he could still play.

"But by the end of the season, I was pretty beat up. I couldn't even lift up my arm above my shoulder and I was older," Wagner added. "I retired before I was booed."



While his gridiron career may have been over, thanks to his accounting degree from WIU, he had a fallback. Wagner went on to earn his MBA from the University of Pittsburgh Katz School of Business, graduating in 1987, the same year his son was born. Then he began a career in investment banking.

"I did miss football. Art Rooney, Sr. tried to talk me into coming out of retirement, which was nice to hear, but I just left it there," Wagner said. "The Rooneys—Art, Sr., Dan, Art, Jr. and the other members of the Rooney family—treated their Steelers like family. They were so proud of us, and I knew I probably wouldn't get that anywhere else."

While football was a phenomenal part of his life, it wasn't without its challenges and ups and downs. That determination and perseverance that Wagner demonstrated on the playing field, all the way back to his days at Carmel High School, are helping him as he faces a new challenge in his retirement.

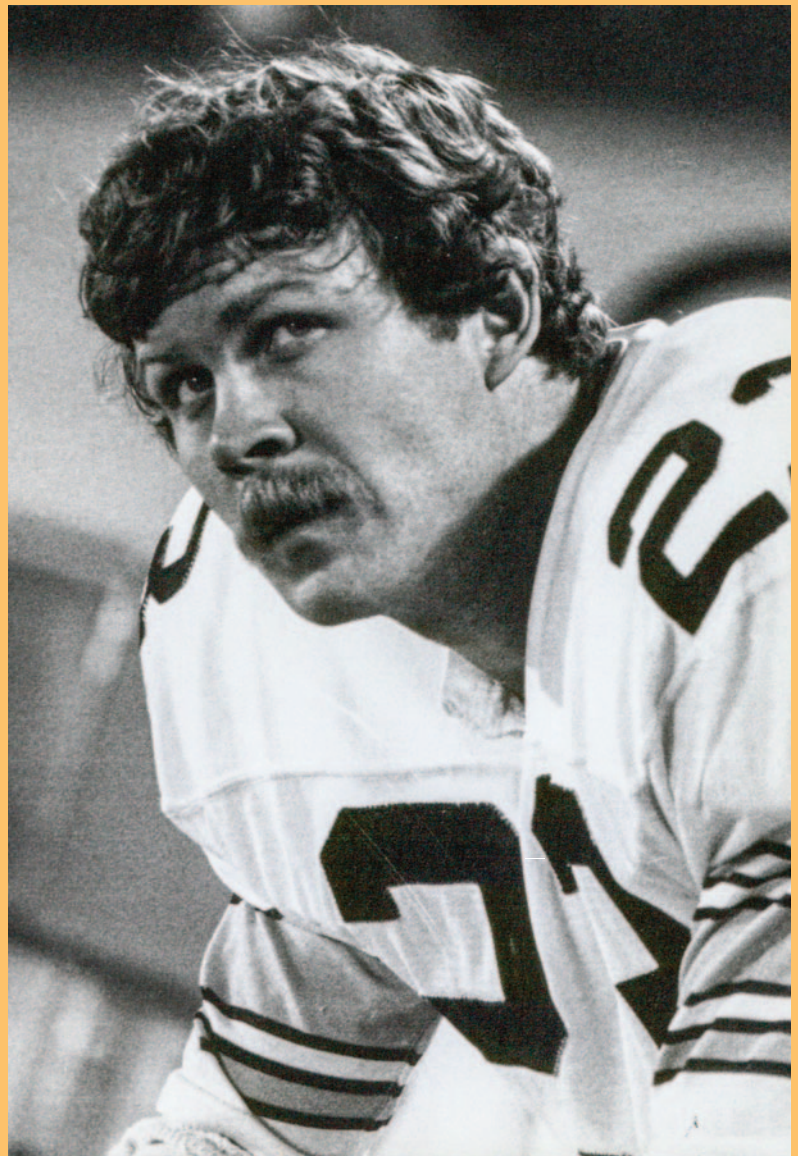
"Last summer, I began treatment for another challenge when the doctors found I had pancreatic cancer," he said. "I let my friends and teammates know of the diagnosis, and I've really relied on them. I'm in chemotherapy now, and I know I have a tough challenge ahead, but I'm fighting the fight."

"I'm doing what I've always done: I'm looking for a good path and living each day one at a time," Wagner said.

While this diagnosis certainly wasn't part of a future he envisioned or planned for, Wagner said overall his life, and his career both in football and finance, shaped out as it did because he has been a planner.

"You can dream, but if you don't set goals and make a plan, it's always a dream. Dreams can come true," he said. "I was a little skinny kid from a blue-collar family. I wasn't athletic. I played in two Pro Bowls. I have four Super Bowl rings. I have a WIU undergraduate business degree in accounting. I had a job after football, and the MBA was the cherry on top.

"I've always had curiosity and dedication," Wagner added. "And those traits gave me the opportunity to achieve my goals." ■





REUNITING

Man is a social creature. One lesson learned from 2020 was the importance of getting together, or in the case of alumni who graduated and moved on, getting back together. The bonds of brotherhood remain unbroken and brothers from Alpha Omega/Lafayette and Gamma Kappa/Miami (OH) share their inner workings and triumphs in reuniting Theta Chis near and far. Share in their joy and take note of their success—use their advice and knowledge to start planning your own chapter's next get-together.

BROTHERS FOR LIFE

BY: ALPHA OMEGA/LAFAYETTE'S ROBIN FOLDES (1972), RICHARD SCHMERMUND (1972), AND BOB MORABITO (1975)

When we pledged Theta Chi Fraternity approximately 50 years ago, we assumed a lifelong fidelity to the concept of brotherhood. Some of the friendships we developed from our days at the house lasted only during our time at school, while others continued for several years beyond. Only a few close relationships typically endure for a lifetime. However, the alumni of the Alpha Omega Chapter have fostered a tradition that has extended the brotherhood experience to life well beyond graduation.

Although Lafayette College, located in Easton, PA, near the New Jersey border, attracts students from all over, domestically and internationally, the majority who attend are from the Northeast. This theme tends to apply to alumni as most find careers in the region. In today's increasingly mobile society, however, many of our brothers have settled distant from the "College on the Hill" and have very little opportunity to maintain close relations. For some, though, after moving away, their careers brought them back to the area.

In the mid-1990s, Brothers **Rich Schmermund** (1972), **Scotty Becker** (1972), **Robin Foldes** (1972), and **Jim Goodwin** (1972) met at Porters' Pub in Easton, PA, to share a few beers, catch up, and reminisce. All four had returned to the area and they used the opportunity to renew old friendships. The event was so warming, the suggestion was made to meet regularly, with Porters' serving as the base of operations—a new tradition was born.

The "Six O'clock Club," a name coined by Brother Foldes, is a quarter-century old monthly gathering attended by Alpha Omega brothers from near and far. Brother Schmermund sets the date, time, and location. He diligently watches the weather and the latest COVID restrictions, notifying all members via email of any changes. Because it is home to Lafayette, Easton remains the mecca for these get-togethers.

Brother Schmermund accepted the sinecure as "Secretary," nominally in charge of keeping the minutes of each meeting (an easy job since there are none) and notifying interested brothers of any changes to



Alpha Omega/Lafayette's Rich Schmermund (1972) and Jim Goodwin (1972) reminisce about helping to establish the Six O'Clock Club at Porters' Pub in Easton, PA.

meeting times, dates, or location. As he tells it, "I enjoy doing it and I have the added advantage of only scheduling the meetings when I can make them." The group initially decided to meet about every six weeks with Thursdays being the most convenient day for the majority to attend. The actual meeting date and time have always been and remain flexible and are now scheduled about once a month.

At the first affair, Brother Becker ordered appetizers for the group which quickly became a tradition for all future meetings. Even when not present, Scotty is expected to call in the appetizer order or at least email his suggestions to the group. At Goodwin's prompting and with Schmermund's agreement, Scotty's task was inserted into the non-existent bylaws. As we learned from the Fraternity: rules are rules, even when they are made up as we go along. It remains the only rule the group insists on following.

As word of the gatherings spread, more brothers who were in the area began to show up: **Dan Dantas** (1971), **Dan Yankovich** (1974), **Bob McCluskey** (1974), and **Bill Scott** (1974) were the next additions.



Alpha Omega/Lafayette's first golf outing after COVID restrictions are lifted. (l-r) Links Committee Chairman Dan Yankovich (1974), Brother Jim Coffey's son Michael, Jim Coffey (1975), Bruce Michelsen (1975), Ed Wetzel (1974), Bob McCluskey (1974), Keith Munch (1975), and Bill Scott (1974).

Soon a younger group of brothers took advantage of the camaraderie as **Jim Coffey** (1975), **Bruce Michelsen** (1975), and **Gary Gildersleeve** (1975) attended regularly. Over the years, more brothers from the '70s began to attend.

In the early 2000s, an annual summer golf outing was added. Brothers from farther environs often take advantage of the opportunity to spend several days among old friends. It is also open to children of Alpha Omega brothers which adds a unique dynamic to the event. Yankovich volunteered to head up the "Links Committee" and annually schedules the hotel reservations and tee times at various courses. The outings are scheduled for Thursday through Saturday with Yank coordinating with Rich to ensure the golfers can make the Thursday meeting.

Over the years, Alpha Omega brothers moved in and out of the area, but the "Six O'clock Club" remained a regular event until COVID-19 restrictions suddenly halted in-person gatherings. Rich did a fantastic job keeping everyone informed as the pandemic progressed, although everyone felt the loss of personal interaction.

That's when Foldesy saw the opportunity to take advantage of technology unimaginable during our college days. He proposed we move to Zoom meetings during quarantine. The tradition was re-born in electronic format. Given there was no need to travel to Easton, brothers from several other states and Canada were able to connect with the group. Even though some of us are technologically challenged, the initial Zoom meeting went surprisingly well. The second Zoom meeting brought new members to the group from the Midwest and Canada. The potential for reconnection proved boundless.

When quarantine was finally lifted, the in-person "Six O'clock Club" once again began meeting at Porters'. At the first gathering, a



It's Six O'clock somewhere—time for another round at Porters' Pub in Easton: (l-r) Ed Wetzel (1974), Bob Schmermend (1978), and Dan Yankovich (1974).

new enthusiasm and appreciation for our enduring brotherhood was evident.

For most of us, joining Theta Chi was a godsend. The teamwork of operating the chapter, sharing academic strategies, and confiding our deepest feelings with our brothers enhanced the social interactions we encountered in college. The ability to share the events of our lives involving families, careers, and a myriad of other experiences as we aged provided unique advantages to the group. Those same advantages are still inherent with membership in the "Six O'clock Club." Perhaps the most amazing aspect is the bonds of brotherhood have not only endured for 50 years but have grown even stronger with time. We are brothers for life. ■



THE REUNION THAT WAS

BY STEVE DAVIS (GAMMA KAPPA/MIAMI (OH) 1974)

This past October, the thoughts of a 20-something caught up with the nostalgia of late 60 and 70-somethings. Over the course of a half-century, the dreams and aspirations for most may have changed, but their integrity remained the same. That recognizable gait, familiar smile, hearty laugh, and warm, firm handshake—it’s your fraternity brother from way back when!

In that moment, you are propelled back in time to your collegiate days where you remember Theta Chi—not as the house, or when the chapter was formed, or how big or small it was, or its campus reputation. You recognize the values and the continuation of those

values which make Theta Chi, Theta Chi. Theta Chi is a chapter of brothers resolute.

Like an airplane that achieves lift off, then comes back down to scrape the ground but eventually makes it airborne—our reunion finally made its way up to the clouds and flew upon the wings of a Theta Chi eagle, as brothers from 1969–1976 descended upon Miami University in Oxford, OH, for an amazing opportunity to reconnect.

The day began with a golf outing in perfect weather. Later that night, a large gathering of brothers packed into a small pub in downtown Oxford for drinks and

appetizers. The next day, a tour of the Theta Chi house was followed by tailgating and the Central Michigan vs. Miami football game. The pinnacle of the weekend took place that evening at a banquet at Hueston Woods Lodge & Conference Center.

The banquet began with finding name tags with our collegiate headshot (for ease of identification). Gamma Kappa Chapter memorabilia was placed strategically nearby along with two large posters: one explaining how the reunion came to be and the other listing names and pictures of our dearly departed brothers.

As brothers and wives arrived, comingled, and drank a toast to each other, a looped slide presentation with photos from early post-collegiate graduation showed on a large screen. As old friendships renewed, smiles and laughter could be seen and heard across the room. No one wanted to sit at their tables to break the mood.

But shortly after they were corralled to take a seat to eat, **Doug Lopina** (1976) gave both an awe-inspiring and

humorous meal blessing. The food was excellent and toward the beginning of the meal, attendees were treated to a 20-minute “Back to the Future” video. It began with a Marty McFly movie clip, followed by Theta Chi pics from yesterday and today, synchronized to music with occasional subtitles.

Next was Paycor Founder/CEO **Bob Coughlin’s** (1983) keynote speech on how he turned considerable personal adversity into triumph. He was an encouragement for others to do the same. We surprised Bob with Theta Chi’s Distinguished Achievement Award, presented by International Marshal Al Copeland.

During the night, other awards were given to the brother who traveled the farthest to the reunion, the one who provided the nifty name tags, the one in charge of the awesome tailgate, the brother who organized the golf outing (and arranged for perfect weather), etc. The night concluded with a Theta Chi and Gamma Kappa Chapter history quiz game, where the brother first to answer a question correctly earned a \$2 bill. This added the icing on the reunion’s fully baked cake. It was a night not soon forgotten by those in attendance.

Throughout the weekend, including the morning of our departures, brothers met in separate groups and sidebars for breakfast or lunch to renew old friendships, discuss current situations, share family pictures, talk about health issues, and solve the country’s problems.

COVID delayed our reunion, but it couldn’t stop our brotherhood. Time itself could not stop our brotherhood. Our brotherhood, we learned, was timeless.

Randy Smith (1973) said, “During my nine-hour drive home, I relived weekend memories in my head the whole way. What a great time! I’d do it all over again next week if given the opportunity!”

Chuck Stout (1973) echoed, “Knowing there’s much more time behind me than what’s left in front, I’m hoping to attend other get-togethers in the future. But if I never can, I’m sure glad I made this one!”

John Andres (1971) stated, “I’m so glad so many made the effort to attend. At our age, it’s so easy just to pass. What was most remarkable to me, was meeting brothers whom I hadn’t seen in over 50 years and we were able to pick right up where we left off. In some respects, it seemed like we were only gone for a long weekend. Must be something to that ‘brotherhood’ thing, huh?” ■



International Marshal Al Copeland (r) presents the Distinguished Achievement Award to Bob Coughlin (Gamma Kappa/Miami (OH) 1983), second from right.





Inspired to organize your own Theta Chi Reunion?

THIS 'GUIDE' WAS GENEROUSLY ASSEMBLED AND PROVIDED BY STEVE DAVIS (GAMMA KAPPA/MIAMI (OH) 1974)

Maybe it's been 10, 20, 30, or 50 years since you've gotten together with the brothers. Whatever the time of the disconnect or relationship lapse, I assure you it will be well worth the effort and you will certainly find it most rewarding. Here's some advice I'm happy to share for planning a reunion:

Step 1: Decide the scope of your reunion

Do you want just your class year? Do you include the years just prior to and just after your class year? Extend it to years beyond? Invite everyone? It's up to you, but plan accordingly.

Step 2: Find your brothers

Your college/university's alumni directory, along with records shared by Theta Chi International Headquarters, will produce fertile results. Next, try using social media networks like LinkedIn and Facebook. You can also utilize 'people search' programs on the Internet. When I still couldn't find them, I'd try to locate their wife or one of their kids to get their contact info. There were a few times where all I had was a brother's physical address. So, I drove to his house and dropped off an envelope at his door with information about how to contact me about the reunion. My detective work earned me the nickname "The Hound of Theta Chi."

Step 3: Make Contact

Call, text, email, or snail mail your list to make a connection. You want to have a good conversation and attempt to create a desire in your brother to attend the reunion. Once you establish contact, you'll likely discover a brother who stayed in touch with one or more brothers and can provide their information or contact them on your behalf.

Step 4: Gain and Maintain Interest

Set up an independent blog, establish a group on LinkedIn or Facebook, or use a blanket email for your brothers. Be sure to include pictures from back in the day and class pictures and stories about times at the house. Since I had an ability to write, I interviewed brothers and published internal biographies about their lives at college and post-college.

Step 5: Select Location and Dates

Your reunion venue could be a football weekend at your alma mater, a trip to Aruba, or a hotel or resort in Scottsdale, AZ, etc. We all have tremendously busy lives, so finding a weekend that fits everyone's schedule is impossible, so don't get discouraged if a brother doesn't attend.

Step 6: Maintain Interest and Build Suspense

Publish a list of RSVPs—if I see my best friend is going, or a member whom I've not seen in a long time, chances are I'll

plan to attend. Are there any notable guest speakers who may attract attendees? Giveaways? Raffles? Other old photos or stories you can share or post?

Step 7: Enjoy the Reunion

Obviously, there are a lot of logistical details that go into planning a reunion. But don't be so focused on the details that you forget to enjoy the reason for gathering together!

If RSVP = No—Don't Get Discouraged!

In my opinion, there are several reasons why someone lacks enthusiasm or is resistant to attend a reunion:

1. They feel they have done so well in life that their success has eclipsed that of their classmates and they see no reason to hobnob with average folk.
2. At the other end of the spectrum are ones who feel they have not come close to living up to their own expectations and feel embarrassed to show up.
3. They have a legitimate conflict due to a familial obligation, vacation, or work.
4. Their poor health or their spouse's health may prevent them from coming.
5. A poor Theta Chi experience or unresolved conflict among brothers resulting from disagreements or hazing.
6. Alumni who have struggled with alcohol addiction may find certain social situations challenging and do not want to expose themselves to unwanted pressure.
7. The expense of the event is not affordable. Whether travel, venue, meals, etc., try to keep your event within agreeable limits to attract the most members possible.

Focus on being as inclusive as you can and addressing any concerns that may arise. You cannot accommodate everyone but you can always be a good brother.



Don't forget the reason for gathering together: Brotherhood!



John Berghoff
Chief Development Officer

Leave Your Legacy

Dear Brothers,

Theta Chi Fraternity owes its strength and success to countless brothers who have labored for its welfare since 1856.

The pandemic has allowed all people to see their importance and the difference they can make with their time, talents, and treasure. Since 1953, the Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity Inc. has been making a difference by providing leadership experiences, scholarship opportunities, and fraternal bonding for our men. You can make a difference in the lives of our collegiate brothers beyond your lifetime and for generations to come.

Please consider adding Theta Chi as part of your estate. Theta Chi's Legacy Society is a collection of men who have a vision for a perfect brotherhood to grow and thrive.

These brothers, along with many others, cherish their Theta Chi experience and selflessly desire to see the ideals and friendships of this Fraternity live on forever. These men will truly leave a Legacy for Theta Chi.

Charles "Choo Choo" Wickersham (Delta Phi/North Texas 1963) was initiated by Delta Mu Chapter at the University of Texas in 1961 but later transferred and graduated from the University of North Texas. "Theta Chi helped me so much as an undergraduate... it was an answer to my prayers. It made an enormous difference in my schoolwork and wouldn't have graduated without Theta Chi. Getting my degree was incredibly special to me." He added, "I graduated over 50 years ago and still spend time with my chapter brothers. I wanted to give back to Theta Chi and leave a legacy gift to ensure Theta Chi will continue and other brothers have the same opportunities and gifts I have received."



1962



2012

Michael Clements/URCM

You can leave a legacy to the Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi in these ways:

- Wills
- Trusts
- Charitable Gift Annuities
- Life Insurance
- IRAs (and other retirement plans)

TAX ID INFORMATION

Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity Inc.
Tax ID: 21-4014559

It is critical you list our legal name and tax ID as the beneficiary of your gift. For legal or tax advice, please consult an attorney or tax advisor.

Have Questions? I'd be happy to speak with you anytime! You can reach me at 317-848-1856 or via email at jberghoff@thetachi.org.

Fraternally,

John Berghoff

Chief Development Officer

PS: Please make your gift today by visiting thetachi.org/give!

Scholarships

In the 2021/2022 academic year, the Foundation Chapter provided over \$250,000 to more than 170 collegiate brothers. The Foundation Chapter scholarships are awarded through the Sherwood and Janet Roberts Blue Memorial Scholarship and the Victor Simon Memorial Scholarship. None of this would be possible without the support of Theta Chi brothers who generously give to the Foundation Chapter. Countless brothers have benefited the Foundation Chapter's scholarships. Many brothers could not have completed their undergraduate degrees, attended graduate or doctoral programs, or paid for their tuition or books without these scholarships.

Learn how your gift to the Foundation Chapter impacts our scholarship recipients:

Robert Cotter (Gamma Rho/Florida State 2020)

I applied to help offset some of the tremendous costs of pursuing an education at Yale School of Medicine and earning an MBA. My goal is to receive the best training in the world and to use what I have learned to revolutionize the care and rehabilitation of spinal cord injury patients. Since my younger brother, William (Gamma Rho/Florida State 2022), is living with a spinal cord injury, any opportunity to serve patients like him gives me the greatest joy and fulfillment in life.



Shim Desai (Alpha Nu/Georgia Tech 2022)



Theta Chi has enabled me to become the best version of myself and the Resolute Man I am today. As Vice President of Alpha Nu Chapter, Theta Chi has given me the ability to flourish academically, professionally, and socially. Thank you to all the alumni who financed my scholarship. Being a first-generation college student and paying for my higher education is a huge investment. I am ecstatic and

proud that my academic, community service, and professional achievements have helped lift some of my financial burdens and allowed me to continue pursuing my education.

Turner Griffin (Alpha Phi/Alabama 2023)

I applied for this scholarship because I want to continue helping my parents pay for my college education so they can concentrate on my little brother's medical care. This scholarship enables me to help my family out financially and allows me to continue pursuing my education and future career goals. It also enables me to finish my communications degree at Alabama and hopefully go on to law school where I will advocate and fight for disabled individuals who cannot fight for themselves. Thank you for helping me continue my college career path and helping me show my brother to never give up!



RIGHT: When he's not studying at the University of Alabama, Turner Griffin offers hope, encouragement, and support to his little brother, Gabe, who was diagnosed with Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy. Gabe's positive attitude and fighting spirit has inspired Turner to pursue a law degree and advocate for those with disabilities.



LEFT: Robert Cotter (Gamma Rho/Florida State 2019) is joined at the Yale School of Medicine in New Haven, CT, by his parents and younger brother William (Gamma Rho/Florida State 2022).



Leadership Training

Each year, the Fraternity, with the support of the Foundation Chapter, provides more than 600 collegiate brothers the opportunity to attend formal leadership training. In January 2022, Chapter Presidents, Vice Presidents of Health and Safety, Marshals, and Recruitment Chairmen were all invited to attend the leadership training and educational sessions in St. Louis.

Theta Chi is providing the only leadership education many of these young men will ever receive in their lifetime. They were provided with training on how to lead their chapter brothers, recruit on their campuses, host effective Sacred Purpose events, and much more.

Jon Hilton (Zeta/New Hampshire 2023)

“Participating in the 2022 Sasser Presidents Conference was far more beneficial than I could have ever imagined. Starting this new Presidential role can be very intimidating at first, but being able to learn and talk with the professionals from Headquarters as well as network with experienced brothers from other chapters provided me with the insight and confidence I needed to excel in my role. These experiences go beyond this position, and I will be able to utilize all I learned about leadership, safety, and brotherhood throughout many different facets of my life. I couldn’t be more thankful for this amazing experience provided to me by Theta Chi and I’m looking forward to our chapter’s future Presidents being able to learn and experience the exceptional curriculum at the Sasser Presidents Conference!”



Jayson Hutchinson (Eta/Rhode Island 2024)

“I found the Sasser Presidents Conference to be refreshing. Before attending, I didn’t fully understand the scale of the impact I have a chance to make, not only within my chapter but the surrounding community as well. To be elected President is intimidating. At first, you have all these goals and ideas with little to no direction or means of completing them. But, while attending the Presidents Conference, I was given a sense of assurance. Not only in my duties



as President, but as we go further in life. I had an opportunity to meet brothers from all corners of the country who I still remain in contact with since the conference. It made me understand how grateful I am to be a part of such a supportive network of Resolute Men.”

Kaleb Sowards (Gamma Mu/Bowling Green 2022)

“The Sasser Presidents Conference was a life-changing opportunity for me. Seeing how other Presidents lead their chapters in the face of different kinds of adversity and speaking with our Grand Chapter and International Headquarters staff members, I left with a much better understanding of what it means to be a leader—and what it means to lead a chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity and how much of an honor it really is to serve as Chapter President.”



Alex Brafford (Alpha Delta/Purdue 2024)

“I thought the Sasser Presidents Conference was everything and more than what I anticipated. I really enjoyed talking to other Chapter Presidents from around the country and found everything our officers learned in the conferences extremely useful and applicable to bring back to the Alpha Delta Chapter at Purdue University.”



Lend your Helping Hand to our Scholarship and Leadership Training initiatives by making your gift today at thetachi.org/give!



Lessons Learned Over 4,000 Miles

BY AADITYA JAIN (RHO/ILLINOIS 2023)



Sitting locked up in my house due to the world shutting down in 2019 and having only owned a rusty little mountain bike, I was informed via email that I was selected for the 2021 Bike America Team. I was going to ride 4,000 miles from New York City to San Francisco on a delicate piece of carbon fiber that had no motor and needed power from human muscle, all to raise money for cancer research. I had never biked more than four miles or fundraised more than \$4 dollars but here I was, part of a team where each individual would raise \$4,000 toward cancer and ride 4,000 miles.

Calling ourselves uncomfortable on the ride was an understatement. Our bodies had come to accept a daily wake-up at dawn, often beating Eos to it. Our minds had forgotten what to think. Our stomachs took in any food that came their way. Our butts accepted the fate of sitting on a seat the size of an iPhone 12. We had become machines: waking up at 6 a.m., biking eight hours a day, showering, eating, sleeping, and then repeating the entire day as a constant cycle.

There were all sorts of people we met on this trip: Homeowners who were willing to host a live music festival in their house solely for our enjoyment; 60-year old church members waking up at 4 a.m. to cook us a variety of breakfast foods; 50-year-old cancer survivors running a marathon; and retired army generals who had fought in Afghanistan. These were the people who inspired us and helped us to push through the pain.

Throughout the ride tears flowed, legs burned, and tempers were lost. The hardest part of the 78-day cross-country tour was a 40-mile ride with a 7,000 ft of elevation gain with an average grade of 8%. This was the time to step up. This was the time to let my training as a Resolute Man be put into practice. The Assisting Hand had been a focus of mine, and I made sure to help whoever struggled by providing moral support, food, and hydration. I needed to believe in myself before I could help others, and that is what helped me get through the climb. It was eight hours of brutal burning and low morale, but at the end of the day, all 18 of us could say it was our most memorable ride.

Biking 4,000 miles across America, fundraising \$4,000 with the help of my fellow brothers at Rho Chapter, living 24/7 with the same 18 people for 78 days straight, and going to emergency rooms at odd times of the day taught me a lot about myself. I learned the people you surround yourself with helps to cultivate the type of person you become. I have chosen to surround myself with Resolute Men.

What's next? On April 30, 2022, I'll join other brothers of Rho Chapter to run the Illinois Marathon through Urbana-Champaign.

CHI/AUBURN

Logan Parks (2022) (second from left) was part of a two-man team that won the \$1 million first-place prize in the Bass Pro Shops U.S. Open National Bass Fishing Amateur Team Championships. Parks and his partner, Tucker Smith, topped 350 teams in the three-day event at Table Rock Lake in Ridgedale, MO, pulling in five fish for a total of 16.41 pounds.





BETA PSI/PRESBYTERIAN

We were recognized as a “Five Star Chapter of Excellence” by PC’s Fraternity & Sorority Life. **Benjamin Bayles** (2023) and **Patrick Leonard** (2023) were inducted into the Presbyterian College FSL Hall of Fame for their work in the community and Interfraternity Council.



We also received distinctions in leadership, scholarship, community engagement, and social responsibility. We also had the highest GPA in both the spring and fall 2021 semesters. Pictured is Bayles (l) and Leonard (r) showing off their new class rings with Presbyterian College President Dr. Matthew vandenBerg.



ALPHA XI/DELAWARE

We work heavily with the National B+ Foundation, which supports and funds research for childhood cancer. The B+ Foundation has “heroes,” children currently fighting childhood cancer, and our chapter has been grateful to work closely with one of these heroes the past few years. The B+ Foundation shared a post on Instagram dedicated to our hero and the awesome things we have done for him.

DELTA PI/INDIANA STATE

Andrew Ley (2023) was named IFC’s President of the Year at Indiana State University. We initiated 16 brothers this fall (using the chapter room at the International Headquarters) and also held a baked potato bar philanthropy event for the USO and a Christmas Toy Drive.



NU/HAMPDEN-SYDNEY

After helping to collect 177 units of blood, we were recognized by the American Red Cross as one of its 2022 “Premier Blood Partners” for our support of the community and the national blood supply.

EPSILON/WPI

Brothers set up a donation table in the campus center and collected enough food and funds to provide a “Thanksgiving in a Box” to nearly half of over 60 families who requested aid through Thrive Support & Advocacy.





Gamma Omicron/Wake Forest Alumni Inspire Collegiate Brothers to Action

BY WOODS CURRY (GAMMA OMICRON/WAKE FOREST 2023)

For five decades, a group of about 120 Gamma Omicron alumni held periodic reunions. Their 2020 reunion was postponed to September 2021 due to the pandemic. During the delay, **Conrad Barrows** (1967) suggested to **Bob Mills** (1971), the main reunion planner, that these older guys could add importance to the gathering by raising money for the active chapter to give along with other money raised for Operation Military Red for the USO.

Barrows, a veteran, knew other alumni who were veterans who would find it appealing to surprise the active brothers with a gift to the USO on their behalf. Mills agreed to help if Barrows would do the work of running an email campaign. To keep the effort a surprise, only the Chapter President, **Armand Ash** (2022), was informed of the plan. He was only allowed to tell the brothers the alumni were planning a special surprise.

Barrows and Mills set up a campaign using Plumfund with Barrows writing near-weekly emails and updates to the brothers. Many gifts came via charge cards while others mailed in checks. In just over two months, the gifts made by 32 alumni exceeded far beyond the initial goal, ultimately surpassing \$4,000.

The agenda for the reunion included a banquet on Friday evening and a visit to Gamma Omicron's on-campus lounge on Saturday morning. Though a COVID surge moved everything outside, 44 alumni brothers and many spouses and significant others attended the reunion, with some returning for the first time since graduation. Armand Ash and several other officers attended and witnessed the presentation of the check from the alumni. These brothers were so impressed they decided to keep the surprise a secret for just a little longer.

On Saturday morning, over 50 collegiate brothers and pledges hosted a coffee and doughnut reception for the alumni at our lounge. Barrows made the official announcement to the astonishment of the collegiate brothers and presented the check to Ash. He also handed out pins as part of Wake Forest's "Decorated Deac" initiative to honor and thank visiting Gamma Omicron veterans for their service. Alumni and their spouses said the enthusiastic reception by the active brothers and pledges was the highlight of their weekend.

We current brothers found out we have a lot to learn from these older peers and we enjoyed updating them on recent changes within the Fraternity. They taught us much about how to maintain brotherhood over the decades. They helped us see that doing something philanthropic—like raising \$4,375 for the USO—could be added to a social event like a reunion. We are eternally grateful for their donation and for attending.

Our chapter was so inspired by these alumni that collegiate brothers worked to match their donation by raising money on our own. Ultimately, we raised an additional \$6,668.38 for the USO, bringing our grand total to \$11,043.38. None of this would be possible without our alumni igniting a fire in our brothers through their passion for our chapter and their commitment to helping others.

Although 50 years may separate these alumni from their active brothers, our chapter's commitment to lending a Helping Hand through philanthropy has become stronger than ever.



KAPPA ZETA/ARKANSAS

We raised more than \$13k at our Out of the Darkness Walk cosponsored by the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention with 323 attendees taking part in the symbolic walk.

KAPPA NU/COLORADO

The IFC on The Hill recognized us as the Most Improved Chapter. **Henry Greene** (2023) and **Robert Weber** (2023) were elected to the IFC Executive Committee, and **Brad Sides** (2023) won the Individual Academic Excellence Award.



Active alumni can truly inspire collegiate brothers: Gamma Omicron members share stories about the chapter's past, present, and future.



A Thank-You Note Recognizing Zeta Epsilon/ Long Beach State

Dear Mike [Mayer, CEO],

I wanted to share the wonderful experience we had with the CSULB Theta Chi Chapter and their alumni. The men who came to prepare lunch for the families staying at the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House were all great ambassadors for Theta Chi. It was a pleasure to work with each of them and I appreciated their hearts to help. They helped beyond preparing a meal—happy to do some heavy lifting that was so needed cleaning our dining room tables and making them so much nicer for our guests. They brought energy, enthusiasm, and a sense of joy into the House—SO VERY appreciated.

The Long Beach Ronald McDonald House provides a “home-away-from-home” for families so they can stay close to their hospitalized child at little or no cost. Our Houses are built on the simple idea that nothing else should matter when a family is focused on healing their child—not where they can afford to stay, where they will

get their next meal or where they will lay their head at night to rest. We believe that when a child is hospitalized, the love and support of family is as powerful as the strongest medicine prescribed. It is the gifts of time and talent from our dedicated volunteers that allow these weary parents to be where they are needed most, at their child’s bedside. We could not accomplish this mission without the help of thoughtful volunteers like Theta Chi. Your organization has much to be proud of...the entire group of men were wonderful examples.

We are so thankful to Theta Chi for your support of the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House!

With Gratitude,

Claudia Dodson

Volunteer Coordinator, Long Beach Ronald McDonald House



International Counselor Tom Thompson joins pledges and members of Zeta Epsilon/Long Beach State who extend a Helping Hand by assisting with a "Feast from the Heart" at the Long Beach Ronald McDonald House.



Alpha Psi's Legacy Spans Generations and Miles

BY TOM GARDNER (ALPHA PSI/MARYLAND 1991) AND STEVE BROADMAN (ALPHA PSI/MARYLAND 1989)



Three generations of Gardners—three generations of Terps—three generations of Theta Chi brothers, all from Alpha Psi/Maryland: (l-r) Tom (1991), Rece (2024), and John (1976).

In November 2021, 20 new collegiate brothers were welcomed into Alpha Psi Chapter at the University of Maryland. A new three-generation Alpha Psi legacy was formed in the **Gardner family** with **John** (1976), **Tom** (1991), and **Rece** (2024).

The Gardner legacy began in fall 1973 when John met his future Big Brother, **Ernie Stiegler** (1975), on campus and they became friends. John went to the chapter house with Ernie and met other brothers including Chapter President **Anton Krucky** (1974). However, on November 19, 1973, a fire broke out causing major damage to the house. John remained in touch with Ernie and continued to meet other brothers. In January 1974, during Alpha Psi's first rush after the fire, John was extended a bid and became one of the

four spring 1974 pledges, joining **John Getchis** (1975), **Gary Hall** (1977), and **Charlie Lady** (1977). John spent the next two years either studying or partying at the house. The memories are clear, intact, and indestructible. In May 1976, John graduated from UMD, attended law school, and started a family.

Eleven years later, John's adopted son, Tom, first set foot on the College Park campus. At the beginning of his sophomore year, he wasn't sure if he wanted to join a fraternity but found his way down to the corner of Knox Road and Princeton Avenue for rush. Tom mentioned his dad was a brother in the chapter, but was unsure what that meant for his prospects of being invited to join the Fraternity. Within 48 hours, he was hooked.

Tom attended one of the epic early-semester social events where he met several brothers he really liked, including his future Big Brother, **Sean Ruhren** (1991). The next day, he returned to the house to play pickup basketball in the back parking lot and met three brothers who would go on to become lifelong friends: **Brian Edwards** (1991), **John Schuma** (1990), and **Tim Green** (1991). That day sealed Tom's fate and the following week he was extended a bid. He joined more than 30 men in that fall 1988 pledge class which established itself as one of the strongest groups of brothers in the chapter's history. Tom loved every minute of his collegiate experience.

During Tom's time in the chapter, his father made a few appearances at the house for Crab Feasts and Parents Weekend events. John delivered the Alumni Charge at Tom's initiation ceremony in 1989.

As a pledge, Tom was given the nickname "Lucky." His Marshal, **Mike Shaffer** (1990), explained, "You were lucky to get a bid and lucky you are still around... so you are now... Lucky." Tom did not know what to make of that nickname at the time, but it has stuck with him to this day. Tom graduated in 1991 and considers himself lucky the brothers he met in college continue to be his best friends to this day.

As the late-80s Alpha Psi members married and started their families, Tom was blessed with his son Rece in 2001. Rece grew up knowing all of Tom's Theta Chi brothers as they were regulars at Gardner family functions, Terps football tailgates, and, of course, Crab Feasts. Rece graduated from high school in 2020 and started at UMD during the COVID-19 pandemic. Frustrated with the many restrictions on campus, he ended up doing remote learning at the beach. In fall 2021 with the pandemic waning, Rece returned to campus ready to create a UMD experience of his own. As fate would have it, Alpha Psi Chapter was



wrapping up a two-year suspension and Growth Specialists had been dispatched to campus to recruit men to revitalize the chapter. Rece decided to check out this opportunity and was ultimately extended a bid in September, joining 19 others in the fall 2021 pledge class.

On November 7, 2021, Rece and the other 19 men were initiated, beginning a new era for Alpha Psi. In attendance at the ceremony were Tom and two of his closest friends: **Rob Gloekler** (1991) and **Rob Mercer** (1987).

Rece is planning to move into the house for fall 2022, joining others as the first new group to live in the house following Alpha Psi's sanctions. Rece reports the new brothers are getting to know each other and are forming bonds—just like his father and grandfather.

Meanwhile, two other Alpha Psi legacies were beginning their first steps in Theta Chi—500 miles away from College Park, MD. **Steve Broadman** (1989) and **Mike Hickey** (1987) discovered their sons were both pledging Theta Chi—at the University of South Carolina!

Inspired by Tom Gardner's story of how much it meant to him when his dad John attended his initiation in 1989, Steve and Mickey knew they had to make the trip.

After making contact with the Iota Phi Chapter President and Chapter Adviser weeks ahead of the initiation, Steve and Mike traveled to Columbia to surprise their sons on October 31, 2021, during the ceremony. The men remained hidden throughout the initiation—until they both came forward to remove their son's pledge buttons and pinned them with the Badge of Theta Chi. Iota Phi Chapter further honored Steve and Mike by asking them to deliver the Alumni Charge to finish the ceremony.

Steve and Mike were honored to participate in the initiation of their sons and the 37 other new brothers of Iota Phi/South Carolina. These Alpha Psi men were proud to call their sons **Jason Broadman** (Iota Phi/South Carolina 2024) and **Ryan Hickey** (Iota Phi/South Carolina 2024) "brother."



With the help of Alpha Psi alumni and International Headquarters staff, 20 men are initiated on November 7, 2021, revitalizing, reestablishing, and inaugurating a new era for Alpha Psi/Maryland.



Mike (1987)



Steve (1989)

Terps and their legacies invade South Carolina: (l-r) Mike Hickey (Alpha Psi/Maryland 1987), Ryan Hickey (Iota Phi/South Carolina 2024), Jason Broadman (Iota Phi/South Carolina 2024), Steve Broadman (Alpha Psi/Maryland 1989).

Is your son, grandson, nephew, or brother attending college and a good fit for Theta Chi? (or starting a chapter?) Let us know at: growthstaff@thetachi.org.

In 1929, 83 men were initiated and established the Alpha Psi Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, creating an unforgettable college experience for all of us who followed in their footsteps at the University of Maryland. The 20 men initiated in 2022

(and the two new initiates at Iota Phi/South Carolina) will undoubtedly carry on this proud tradition because whether spanning the generations or 500 miles, the Theta Chi brotherhood formed at Alpha Psi Chapter remains strong. ■



(Military) Red Slipper Warrior Project Receives Helping Hand from Phil Vassar

BY TIM TINNIN (EPSILON PHI/CENTRAL MISSOURI 1982)



The Red Slipper Warrior Project empowers women and girls fighting cancer and provides slippers, a special backpack/go-bag, and a book and lop-eared-bunny for younger warriors.

Cancer causes turmoil in families. Shortly after my late wife Angie was diagnosed with stage 4 colon cancer, treatment side effects began to take their toll. She said on a number of occasions, “I’ve lost my hair. I feel lousy, I look lousy, and I don’t even feel like a girl anymore. I just feel like cancer is all I am.” Shortly after she passed away in 2012, I realized it wasn’t just Angie who thought that way—it was universal with women going through the ravages of cancer treatment.

I decided to take my 32-year career with the Missouri State Highway Patrol where I spent eight years on the state’s SWAT team (as well as providing personal security for three of Missouri’s governors) and attempt to identify a way to foster a “Warrior Mindset” within women and girls going through a cancer diagnosis. I learned having the right mindset during life-and-death challenges is critical to survival and success. Creating a warrior, invincible, bulletproof mindset is as important in SWAT as it is in tackling cancer treatments. The stakes and risks are high in both situations and, in order to be successful, one must be only focused on winning, regardless of prognosis.

I developed the Red Slipper Warrior Project to help and empower women and girls fighting cancer. Our Project provides a package to our warriors, containing red sequined, super comfy slippers to serve as a reminder that the warrior is still a girl and they are still beautiful, even while they are in the middle of a fight. Second, to emphasize a SWAT mindset, warriors are given a backpack-styled “go-bag.” Every SWAT operator on the planet maintains a go-bag that generally contains what one might need in case of emergency. Patients frequently take items to treatment to pass the time: a book, iPad, music. The go-bag, just like the slippers, serve as part of the ‘battle gear,’ to enhance the warrior mindset. Our younger warriors additionally receive “Hope”—a stuffed lop-eared bunny (wearing her Red Slippers!) to assure them they are never alone, even during extended stays for treatment.



RIGHT: Tim Tinnin (Epsilon Phi/Central Missouri 1982), Phil Vassar (Eta Kappa/James Madison 1984), and Red Slipper Warrior Project advisory board member Shawn Crowe celebrate after the successful event.



Thus far, we've operated in 18 states and Canada, and we'll be launching at Children's Mercy in Kansas City and at Mercy Children's Hospital and Cardinal Glennon Children's Hospital in St. Louis. We continue with our mission believing that a bag is just a bag. Slippers are just slippers. Right up until they become symbols of empowerment.

As part of our fundraising efforts, we host an annual benefit concert called Angiepalooza. Our most recent Angiepalooza was extra special. On October 22, 2021, in Jefferson City, MO, our local amphitheater hosted country music legend, **Phil Vassar** (Eta Kappa/James Madison 1984)!

Phil could not have been more accommodating and eager to embrace the Red Slipper Warrior Project. During the show, Phil spoke glowingly about our Project, Theta Chi, and our efforts. He even performed wearing a pair of our logoed red "Chuck Taylors" in support!

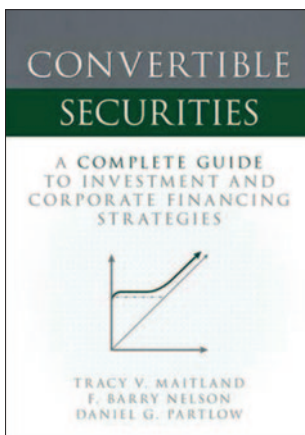
While on stage, Phil mentioned, "Tim and I are both Theta Chi fraternity brothers—thanks again for the red shoes! What you guys are doing here tonight is an amazing thing." He continued, "I grew up with all girls in my family—it's so important what we're doing here tonight. I really appreciate it."

I couldn't help but step back for a second and reflect on how my Theta Chi experience came full circle—from my humble beginnings as a pledge in 1979 in Warrensburg, to teaming up with a country music LEGEND and Theta Chi brother to make women and little girls better fighters in their battle with cancer. This mindset of helping others—and especially those who desperately need it, was rooted at Theta Chi.

Phil and I joined Theta Chi around the same time (late '70s/early '80s), separated by half a country, but the lessons from 40 years ago of "extending a Helping Hand" are still strong. Red Slipper Warrior Project's concert with Phil Vassar is an example of how Resolute Men coming together for good—decades after college—defines Theta Chi's lifelong effect on all of us. It's a testament to what Theta Chi espouses and what we still apply to how we "do life," even today.



ALPHA LAMBDA/Ohio State receives a reproduction of their original composite from their advisers and friends in honor of their centennial. (l-r) Eric Clarke (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1987), Chapter President James Suarez (Alpha Lambda/Ohio State 2023), Pete Hackman (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1987), Ron Kibbe (Eta Zeta/Edinboro 1981), and Larry McVay (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1957).



UPSILON/NYU

F. Barry Nelson (1965) co-authored a comprehensive book on convertible securities published by McGraw-Hill Education. The book will be used in finance classes at major colleges.



CHI/AUBURN

Ira C. "Jack" Waddey, Jr. (1965) was recently named by Chambers & Partners, the London-based leader in evaluating lawyers worldwide, as a Tier II Nation-



wide Mediator of sophisticated commercial and IP disputes. There are nine persons listed in the U.S. for Tier I and 25 persons listed in Tier II, putting Waddey in the top 34 lawyers/mediators in the U.S. for helping litigants resolve such disputes. Jack was chair of the committee (including outstanding Chi alumni **Pat O'Connor** (1978), **Harry Strack** (1965), and **Joseph Couch** (1996)) to build the new Chi Chapter House, a structure which set the standard for fraternity houses at Auburn and beyond. Waddey, a patent lawyer in Nashville, also serves on the Auburn Alumni Engineering Council.

ALPHA LAMBDA/OHIO STATE

To celebrate our centennial and the fifth anniversary of our reinstatement, members of our CAB presented a reproduction of our original composite. **Ron Kibbe** (Eta Zeta/Edinboro 1981) happened to know **Liz Shannon**, the granddaughter of **Louis J. Peterka** (1924), one of the brothers in the composite, and reached out to her to borrow the original for reproduction. **Pete Hackman** (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1987) worked with **Eric Clarke** (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1987) and **Larry McVay** (Alpha Tau/Ohio 1957) (who, at the young age of 86, became a photography enthusiast/professional in his

(continued...)



DELTA ALPHA/LINFIELD's Nabil Zerief (2008) publishes and co-authors *A Kids Book About Adoption*, which helps to start conversations about adoption.



DELTA RHO/NC STATE's Dr. Brian Jackson (2002) is interviewed by *WALTER Magazine* in Raleigh for his work and research on various plants, specifically poinsettias.



GAMMA RHO/FLORIDA STATE's Manny Diaz (1995) is selected as Penn State Football's defensive coordinator and brings his 24 years of collegiate coaching experience to the program.

retirement) to create the reproduction. Brother McVay should also be commended for his efforts to digitize existing composites at the Alpha Tau Chapter House and other historic pictures.

ALPHA PSI/MARYLAND



Raj Arora (2000) was appointed to the board of directors for the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) for a

three-year term.

BETA DELTA/RUTGERS



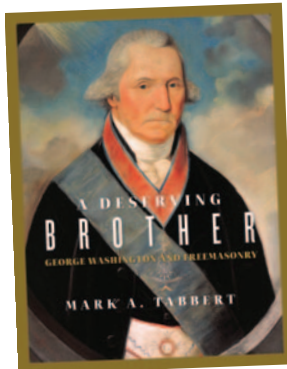
Josh Wiener (2011), associate vice president of global sustainability at MetLife, was nominated to the Environment+

Energy Leader 100, recognizing environment and energy "doers" in commercial and industrial environment and energy management.

BETA CHI/ALLEGHENY



Former Chapter President **Tom Ess (2004)** was selected to Buffalo Business First's 2021 Class of "40 Under 40."



Mark Tabbert (1986) contextualized the first president's Masonic life and experiences in his new book, *A Deserving Brother: George Washington and Freemasonry*.

Tabbert has served as the director of the Library and Museum Collections at the George Washington Masonic National Memorial Association since 2006.

GAMMA RHO/FLORIDA STATE

Justin Casey (2014) was recognized as a member of *Sport Business Journal's* New Voices Under 30 Class of 2021.



GAMMA PHI/NEBRASKA WESLEYAN's Patrick Lee (2006) is sworn in as a district court judge in Nebraska's 9th Judicial District. Joining Lee is **Ryan Post (2007)**, **Matthew Prokop (2007)**, **John Hodge (2008)**, and **Kale Burdick (2008)**.



Nicholas Thomas (2018) received the FSU Alumni Association's most prestigious young alumni award, the Reubin O'D.

Askew Young Alumni Award.

DELTA OMEGA/RIPON



Mark Franzen (1983) has been chosen by Ripon University to chair the search committee to find and

select the college's next president. Brother Franzen currently serves on the Board of Trustees, Academic Affairs Committee, and recently established a new endowed professorship in applied mathematics.

EPSILON UPSILON/CENTRAL MICHIGAN



Jim Holcomb (1990) started his tenure as president & CEO of the Michigan Chamber Board of Directors.



Boiler Up!

Alpha Delta Celebrates Centennial at Purdue

BY JIMMY COX (ALPHA DELTA/PURDUE 2009)

In 1920, on the campus of Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, a group of men came together, merging with the local ag, science, and engineering fraternity to establish the origins and legacy of Alpha Delta Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity. After 101 years of continuous operation, in an age when our organization is scrutinized more than ever before, Alpha Delta takes tremendous pride in having never closed or been asked to leave campus. Its brothers take their commitment to Purdue University seriously and hope to always be on campus to welcome young men and change their lives.

Alpha Delta, Theta Chi's long time chapter with the most total initiates, celebrated its Centennial Celebration on September 24, 2021, delayed due to the pandemic. Brothers gathered together with others from across pledge classes to share stories, photographs, memories, and, best of all, to listen to Catholic priest, former chapter adviser, and past Theta Chi Grand Chapter Member, **Fr. Phil Bowers** (1975). If the Fraternity is built on relationships with people, the men of Alpha Delta exemplify this well with the culture that Fr. Phil cultivated. Brothers talked and then listened as Fr. Phil recounted story, after story, after story, detailing the successes of our chapter and the many titans who preceded everyone in the room.

Other special guests included **Mike Berghoff** (1985), chairman of the Purdue University Board of Trustees; **Rick Conner** (1976), owner and operator of American Structure Point who has served on Alpha Delta's House Corporation for more than 25 years; Alpha Delta Chapter Adviser **Steve Fero** (1988); and former Leadership and Education Consultant **Jimmy Cox** (2009), who is currently senior director at the Purdue for Life Foundation. Representatives from the International Fraternity included CEO **Mike Mayer** and Alpha Delta's own **John Berghoff** (1988), Chief Development Officer.

While the past was something we all celebrated, the future was front and center as well. Collegiate members of the chapter attended to help celebrate and provide updates on recruitment, chapter operations, and campus activities. What's better than celebrating a centennial for your chapter? Celebrating it know-



Alpha Delta brothers celebrate 100 years on campus, visit with former longtime Chapter Adviser Fr. Phil Bowers (1975), and share stories. The evening also included a presentation of a centennial resolution from the Grand Chapter, recognition of key brothers, moments in chapter history, and a "homily" on brotherhood delivered by Fr. Phil.

ing the current membership of the chapter is 130+ men—who had just recruited a 25-man pledge class. The chapter's GPA ranks among the best on the entire campus and members hold leadership positions in IFC and other major organizations.

That evening finally afforded all of us the opportunity to gather together to celebrate the past and look toward the future. The rest of the weekend was filled with campus tours, a football game, visits to the chapter house, and tailgates with brothers and their families. The Alpha Delta Chapter has been around for 101 years, and we look forward to being around 100 more.



Indiana, Our Indiana: A Celebration 100 Years in the Making

Three generations of brothers converged on Bloomington, IN, on July 23–24, 2021, to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Alpha Iota Chapter. More than 120 alumni invaded our alma mater eager to see dear friends, experience old haunts, and relive fond memories.

Early arrivals participated in a practice round of golf at Eagle Point organized by the **Jonas Brothers** [Bill (1977) & Tom (1980)]. Friday afternoon and evening saw many brothers get their fair share of red meat at Little Zagreb’s while Kilroy’s, Nick’s, and the Upstairs Pub were invaded by dozens of brothers late Friday.

Saturday morning included a tour of the amazing IU athletic facilities and a meet and greet with IU’s new athletic director, Scott Dolson. Alpha Iota brothers who were prominent Hoosier athletes were recognized including **Bill Tosheff** (1951), who went on to play professional basketball and baseball.

The golf world was put to shame as over 100 brothers literally left their mark on the pristine Pfau Course. Prizes were awarded for closest to the pin and longest drive. The scramble format saw a broad range of scores which left many to wonder if we were all playing the same game. In the end, the foursome of **Terry Diskey** (1977), **John Ellett** (1978), **Bill Jonas**, and **Dave Walker** (1982) carded a 58 to emerge as the victors and don the ceremonial crimson blazers.

Saturday evening included a dinner and celebration at the recently renovated chapter house. The courtyard improvements and fellowship enhanced the evening as brothers dined on a barbecue feast and enjoyed beverages generously supplied by **Ed Ryan** (1986). Brothers recited the Creed and recognized those who entered the Chapter Eternal.

Ed McDonald (1982) served as the master of ceremonies for the evening. Special guests included International President **Darick Brown** and Theta Chi CEO **Mike Mayer** who commemorated the event by presenting a resolution from the Grand Chapter to Alpha Iota House Corporation President **Tom Cooler** (1981), who accepted on behalf of the brothers to hang in our house.

All brothers with over 25 and 50 years of membership were given certificates of recognition from the Alpha Iota Educational Foundation President **Warren Hoffman** (1976). From this group, our oldest initiate present, **Robert Pollock** (1962) shared his thoughts on the event. Special recognition awards were also presented to Tom Cooler, **Steve Dum** (1979), **Tom Knox** (1977), and **Dick Tetrick** (1977) for their many years of service on the Housing Corporation Board and support of alumni events. **John Haines** (1982) was presented the Meritorious Service Award in recognition of his excellent leadership serving as chairman of the Centennial Celebration Committee. Warren himself was recognized by **Rick Miller** (1977) and **Ken Daemicke** (1974) for his many years of dedication to Alpha Iota and the International Fraternity.

The Helping Hand of Theta Chi was present throughout the event. The generosity of the brothers resulted in \$20,000 being raised for the Alpha Iota Educational Foundation which provides scholarships to our collegiate brothers.

Special thanks to all the volunteers who made this event a once-in-a-lifetime experience, fitting for the high caliber of the Resolute Men of Theta Chi at Indiana, Our Indiana.

Alpha Iota’s elite golfers don crimson jackets following their decisive victory on the course.





ZETA EPSILON/LONG BEACH STATE

Andrew Voss (2021), a friend of International Counselor Tom Thompson, became an alumnus initiate on November 11. Despite graduating from University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 2010, he became interested in Theta Chi and our ideals and expressed a desire to join. After meeting with alumni and collegians, attending open meetings, and volunteering with members at the Ronald McDonald House, the chapter requested permission to initiate, and he was initiated with seven other new brothers. *Theta Chi for Life—no matter when it starts!*



Eta Iota Charter Members gather for a photo at the original chapter house on the day of their Installation: February 12, 1972.

Eta Iota/Newberry

On February 12, 2022, more than 70 brothers, family members, and guests returned to Newberry for a low country boil and oyster roast at Eta Iota's pond house to celebrate the chapter's 50th Anniversary.



Brothers from the 1980s reminisce about their glory days in Brokaw Hall.

**ZETA EPSILON/
LONG BEACH STATE**



Tyler Whaley (2006) was elected president of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Golden Gate Branch.

ZETA TAU/MICHIGAN-FLINT



host of the podcast "Scar Bearers."

Chris Gordon (1999), who has recovered from necrotizing fasciitis, has become a professional speaker and the

ZETA RHO/KENTUCKY

Zach Elkin (1978), president of Beko Home Appliances, was inducted into the National Kitchen and Bath Association's (NKBA) Kitchen & Bath Industry Hall of Fame as the sole member of its 2022 Hall of Fame class. Considered the most prestigious lifetime achievement award in the home appliance industry, the NKBA Hall of Fame honors individuals who not only embody the spirit of the industry but actively contribute to its growth throughout their careers. During his 44-year career, Elkin became an undisputed industry leader known for using innovative marketing, product design, positioning strategies, and a passion for great home and kitchen design to build global brands. Brother Elkin was also inducted into the 2022 Dealerscope Magazine Hall of Fame.

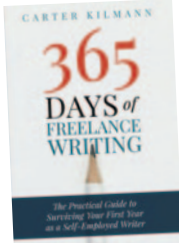


IOTA NU/SOUTH FLORIDA



Dwayne Isaacs (2005) was named senior director of the Reitz Union at the University of Florida.

**IOTA
PHI/SOUTH
CAROLINA**



Carter Kilmann (2016) published 365 Days of Freelance Writing: The Practical Guide to Surviving Your First Year as a Self-Employed Writer.



Don't Be "That Guy"

BY TONY TETLEY (EPSILON PHI/CENTRAL MISSOURI 1967)

In February, Epsilon Phi Chapter at the University of Central Missouri celebrated our 60th anniversary with a weekend of events. The highlight of our weekend was the banquet which was well attended by brothers from the six decades of the chapter along with wives, collegiate brothers, and other guests.

It was my privilege to serve as master of ceremonies for the evening. University President Dr. Roger Best provided a State of the University and future plans for the Greek community. Epsilon Phi Alumni Board President **Glen Harckum** (1986) spoke about alumni support for the chapter and about the need for alumni brothers to serve on the Alumni Board and the Chapter Advisory Board. That need was answered by several alumni brothers in attendance. We were honored to have our very own **Mike Mayer** (2004), Theta Chi CEO, as our keynote speaker who shared good news about our brotherhood and the future of our Fraternity.

Throughout the weekend, I was able to catch up with brothers who came from many different states and all four time zones. There were five members of my pledge class from the spring of 1963! So many of the brothers of all ages from the past 60 years shared stories of how their Theta Chi membership shaped their lives, how we have stayed connected over the years because of our brotherhood, and how fraternity connections provided benefits throughout their careers.

The conversations and the banquet program caused me to think back over my life after college and my connection to Theta Chi. I am retired now, but throughout my working career, I always had two things hanging on my office wall: my diploma from Central Missouri State College (now the University of Central Missouri) and my Theta Chi Membership



Epsilon Phi brothers from the class of 1977 return 45 years after graduation for the chapter's 60th Anniversary. (l-r) Larry Gray, Mark Rosewell, Thomas Bradley, Chris O'Brien.

Certificate. Over the years, I would have visitors who would see my diploma and mention they attended the same school and we would discuss when we were each there and our college experiences.

I don't remember the exact count, but many times a male visitor to my office would see my Theta Chi certificate and would say something like 'Oh, I was a TKE,' or 'I was a Sig Ep,' or another fraternity. This really stuck out to me over the years because it was always said in the past tense. When I had occasion to meet someone who belonged to a fraternity, I always said 'I am a Theta Chi.' It seems like a subtle difference, but it has huge meaning in terms of your fraternity experience.

Brothers, always remember that you are a Theta Chi for Life. Take advantage of this unique brotherhood. Never stop participating with your brothers of all ages. Be a proud member and always say 'I am a Theta Chi.' Don't be "that guy" who says, 'I was a Theta Chi.'





Join the 1856 Wine Club and support Theta Chi while enjoying world-class wines from Napa Valley!

Theta Chi alumni now have the unique opportunity to support the initiatives of the Fraternity by becoming a member of the 1856 Wine Club. Brothers who join the 1856 Wine Club will receive shipments of 3 or 6 bottles a year handcrafted, limited production wines made exclusively for the Resolute Men of Theta Chi.

When you enjoy a glass of wine from Rattlesnake Napa Valley, you are supporting the Fraternity and the education of our collegiate brothers all while enjoying excellent wine from America's most renowned wine country.

Don't miss out!

Learn more and join us!

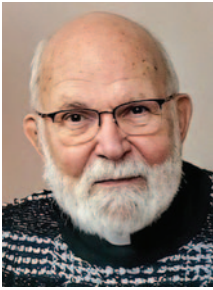
rattlesnakenapa.com

*The 1856 Wine Club is open to alumni 21 years of age or older.





We share the names of our brothers reported to the International Headquarters between October 1, 2021, and April 18, 2022, as passing to the Chapter Eternal.



REV. PHILIP T. BOWERS (ALPHA DELTA/PURDUE 1975)

July 31, 1937–December 17, 2021

Longtime Alumnus Adviser to Alpha Delta/Purdue and Past International Chaplain, Fr. Phil was a dedicated and beloved volunteer, mentor, and friend for 46 years. Countless brothers were married by Fr. Phil, had their children dedicated by him, and were consoled by him during times of loss. While a Father, he was truly a brother, in every sense of the word. One of his final Theta Chi appearances was at Alpha Delta's centennial celebration. He was featured in the Summer 2020 issue of *The Rattle*, and an extensive tribute can be found at thetachi.org/fr-phil.



COL. LAWRENCE H. KLOESS, JR.

(ALPHA PHI/ALABAMA 1954)

January 30, 1927–March 4, 2022

Larry Kloess was a contributing and involved member of Theta Chi and Alpha Phi Chapter where he served for decades on the house corporation and as a friend and mentor to generations of brothers. Brother Kloess was presented the Earl D. Rhodes Theta Chi for Life Award just prior to his death. Find a full tribute at thetachi.org/larry-kloess.



BRIG. GEN. JAMES HALL BAKER

(GAMMA RHO/FLORIDA STATE 1962)

March 8, 1940–March 30, 2021

Brig. Gen. Baker served in the Air Force as the Assistant Adjutant General for Air, Base Commander Jefferson Barracks, Military Commander of the 157th Tactical Control Group, Air Technician Commander, and Executive Support Staff Officer. You can read more about his service at thetachi.org/james-baker-usaf.

GAMMA

Maine
Peyton G. Elliott (1992)

DELTA

RPI
Dr. Robert J. Heinsohn (1954)
John H. Robertson (1951)
Storrs A. Sanzo (1956)

EPSILON

WPI
David B. Denniston (1958)
John R. Lewis (1965)

ZETA

New Hampshire
Bleakney Benedict (1944)
Charles B. Eager (1953)
Walter E. Webster, Jr. (1942)

ETA

Rhode Island
Alan F. Atkinson (1959)
Lester H. Bills (1941)
Daniel Pigott, Jr. (1978)

+ former Regional Counselor

Ronald E. Smith (1959)
Allen C. Stedman (1958)
Joseph F. Sullivan (1954)

THETA

Massachusetts
Robert M. Coon (1956)
James E. Earley (1961)
Michael T. Mole (1962)

IOTA

Colgate
Robert J. Heintzelman (1960)

LAMBDA

Cornell
E. Warren Eisner (1952)
Wesley S. Jacobs (1959)

MU

California
Jack E. Griffin (1950)
Stanley C. Hoyt (1951)
Theodore M. Marois (1953)
John E. Milburn (1987)

NU

Hampden-Sydney
James M. Rissmiller (1966)

OMICRON

Richmond
Louis J. Matt, Jr. (1954)

PI

Dickinson
John T. Valenti, Jr. (1959)

RHO

Illinois
Richard C. Florey (1966)
Robert A. Sick (1955)

SIGMA

Oregon State
Ernest W. Templin (1950)

TAU

Florida
Philip J. Barrilleaux (2011)
John J. McMillan (1946)
Frederick D. Schwartzburg (1951)
Michael V. Wilbur (1988)

PHI

North Dakota State
Paul C. Germolus (1989) +
Robert M. Haines (1984)
Bruce L. Lysne (1976)
James O. Selland (1967)
Dale A. Van Berkomp (1961)

CHI

Auburn
Leonard C. Bolton, Jr. (1961)
Frank M. Mathews (1950)
Joseph E. Murphy (1969)
Axel Norstedt, Jr. (1954)
David F. Tankersley (1974)

PSI

Wisconsin
Lennart S. Nelson (1960)

OMEGA

Penn State
Anthony J. Bernardo (1977)
Philip C. Chapman (1957)
Lloyd Dietrich (1952)
Barry A. Herr (1960)
James S. Lucas (1955)
Lt. Col. Rhys J. Phillips (1952)
Robert M. Spinazzola (1956)
Michael Tapsoba (2017)
George E. Walker (1958)

ALPHA BETA

Pittsburgh
William Marshall (1951)

ALPHA GAMMA

Michigan
Richard M. Joy (1966)

ALPHA DELTA

Purdue
Rev. Philip T. Bowers (1975)
Russell M. Cline (1945)

ALPHA EPSILON

Stanford
Stanley Curry (1957)

ALPHA ZETA

Rochester
Richard J. Bourdelais (1991)
Thomas J. McInnes (1949)

ALPHA THETA

Dartmouth
Dr. Gordon Van Den Noort (1944)

ALPHA IOTA

Indiana
David E. Branaman (1954)
Earl E. McMahon (1950)
James R. Reeder (1963)
Russell M. Romine (1948)

ALPHA KAPPA

West Virginia
Gary L. McCullough (1965)

ALPHA LAMBDA

Ohio State
Kenneth H. Amrine (1950)
Louis S. Belizky (1977)
Robert E. Jirousek (1967)

ALPHA MU

Iowa State
P. Richard Andersen (1962)
Donald A. Jones (1952)
Ray T. Schutter (1965)

ALPHA NU

Georgia Tech
Paul E. Anderson, Jr. (1972)
Salvatore T. Vella (1960)

ALPHA XI

Delaware
Charles W. Gurney (1954)
Thomas R. Oves (1955)
Brig. Gen. James E. Shelton (1957)

ALPHA PI

Minnesota
Harris R. Schenck (1956)

ALPHA RHO

Washington
Donald H. Kallander (1950)
Norman S. Mathews (1951)
John J. Yonich (1977)

ALPHA UPSILON

Nebraska
Dr. David T. Taylor (1970)

ALPHA PHI

Alabama
Jeffrey L. Austin (1978)
Scott A. Drummond (1990)
Col. Lawrence H. Kloess, Jr. (1954)
Carter B. Matthews, Jr. (1971)
Edgar B. McDaniel, III (1962)
Ben R. Ray, Jr. (1969)
James E. Stehle (1972)
Albert M. Watson (1983)

ALPHA CHI

Syracuse
Eric V. Brown (1990)

ALPHA PSI

Maryland
Christopher G. McKee (1985)

ALPHA OMEGA

Lafayette
John W. Wilson (1949)



BETA GAMMA

North Dakota
Michael A. Bue (1967)
Ralph D. Kingsbury (1965)
Ralph Vinje (1932)
Paul T. Westerlund (1969)

BETA ZETA

Michigan State
David F. Dianich (1958)
Donald E. Dickson (1964)
Richard A. Moses (1971)
Terry L. Myers, M.D., Ph.D. (1963)
Gary N. Warnke (1959)
Gerard J. Yablonsky (1966)

BETA ETA

Washington (MD)
Thomas B. Andrews, Jr. (1943)
Thomas L. Bounds (1955)
James O. Bush (1941)
John G. Carrico, Jr. (1950)
David Clarke (1941)
Lee C. Cook (1960)
Harold R. Cooper, Jr. (1946)
Charles W. Coss (1950)
Edgar G. Cumor, Jr. (1953)
Hon. Robert C. Earley (1952)
Philip A. Hickman, Jr. (1938)
Thomas C. Hopkins, Jr. (1947)
John H. Hoppe, Jr. (1940)
Donald H. Horner (1942)
Ebe A. Joseph, Jr. (1956)
Roland T. Larrimore (1961)
Ralph Laws (1956)
Laurance A. Leonard (1952)
Fredrick W. Miltenberger, M.D. (1954)
Emmett E. Molloy (1964)
Dr. George T. Pratt (1936)
Clarence H. Rollins (1953)
Antonio Rovira (1957)
Nicholas J. Scallion (1952)
Joshua E. Shockley (1940)
Rev. John G. Shoemaker (1950)
Wayne L. Sprouse (1994)
James M. Steele, Jr. (1943)
Robert H. Thawley (1943)
William A. Tweed (1960)

BETA THETA

Drexel
Philip E. Schneider (1950)

BETA IOTA

Arizona
Maj. Jules C. Doner (1953)

BETA KAPPA

Hamline
Roger H. Appeldorn (1958)
Wallace L. Erickson (1956)
Brian A. Koland (1992)

BETA LAMBDA

Akron
Stephen D. Horton (1985)

BETA NU

Case Western
Thomas K. Brichford (1955)

BETA XI

Birmingham-Southern
Rev. David C. Cook (1969)
Henry D. Jordan (1962)
Vincent E. Roepke (1950)
Phillip A. Summers (1973)

BETA OMICRON

Cincinnati
Clarence W. "Bugs" Hammel, Jr. (1945)
Ralph C. Jacobs (1962)

BETA SIGMA

Lehigh
Richard C. Howell (1983)

BETA TAU

Southern California
William J. Walther (1971)

BETA UPSILON

Fresno State
Clark W. Gant (1964)
Edward A. Manning (1964)

BETA CHI

Allegheny
William B. McAfee (1964)
Richard K. Piper (1953)
Samuel A. Scott (1966)

BETA PSI

Presbyterian
Mathew L. Thomas (1984)

GAMMA DELTA

Florida Southern
Dr. Russell Handy (1962) +
John J. Smith (1953)

GAMMA ZETA

Oklahoma State
William E. Buffington (1952)
Jerry E. Frisk (1960)

GAMMA ETA

Bucknell
Leonard Kline (1948)
Michael M. Reid (1972)

GAMMA THETA

San Diego State
Kevin D. MacDonald (1976)
Richard W. Maches (1952)
Lawrence Townsend (1958)

GAMMA KAPPA

Miami (OH)
Robert K. Anthony (1970)
Norman K. Christiansen (1951)



CHARLES A. RAY (DELTA KAPPA/BALL STATE 1955)

April 9, 1932–May 8, 2020

In 2021, during Ball State University's homecoming, Theta Chi Fraternity posthumously honored Charles A. Ray (Delta Kappa/Ball State 1955) with the Earl D. Rhodes Theta Chi for Life Award. This award, considered the second highest in Theta Chi, recognizes impactful service spanning many decades. As a devoted mentor, teacher, chapter adviser, and Alumni Corporation President, Brother Ray remained a committed and stable force at Delta Kappa Chapter.

One of Charlie's accomplishments was spearheading the initial fundraising campaign that positioned the chapter financially, providing an opportunity to purchase Delta Kappa's first traditional fraternity house in 2012.

Delta Kappa Chapter's top alumni award is named in his honor: The Charles Ray Award recognizes outstanding service to the chapter over an extended period of time.

In fall 2011, Brother Ray also supported his grandson, Clark Dalton (Delta Pi/Indiana State 2015), who began recruiting students to revive Delta Pi Chapter and attended Delta Pi's reinstatement in 2013 to pin the Badge on Clark.

Past International Historian Brad Burk presented the Rhodes Theta Chi for Life Award to Charlie's children, Bruce Ray and Diane Ray Dalton. For additional photos and to read his obituary, visit thetachi.org/charles-ray.



In 2006, Brother Ray, bottom center, joins other Delta Kappa Chapter brothers for a group photo during the closing banquet of the 150th Anniversary Convention at Norwich University.

GAMMA LAMBDA

Denver
James J. Duncan (1971)
Todd B. Shortlidge (1969)
Gregory A. Turpie (1968)

GAMMA MU

Bowling Green
Gary R. Acierni (1976)
Jack R. Baker (1966)
Edward H. Bauman (1973)
Keith E. Bibler (1956)
Robert P. Bigelow (1960)
John F. Blake (1958)
Kurt N. Brenne (1951)
Willard S. Carr, Jr. (1959)

James A. Chudy (1973)
Harvey F. Coulter (1949)
Walter G. Deichert (1958)
Elton E. Delesdernier (1955)
Joseph V. Desantis (1950)
Thomas R. Donohue (1967)
Nicholas J. Dugovich (1956)
George J. Dunster (1958)
Reginald G. Eden (1956)
Ammon Farmwald (1958)
Robert C. Gum (1950)
Roger L. Hartman (1966)
Evan E. Herr (1950)
Charles E. Hiegel (1953)
John J. Hritsko (1952)
David R. Huston (1973)

Charles E. Jacobs (1954)
Charles R. Jones (1953)
Clayton N. Kelley (1955)
David C. Kimpel (1976)
Stephen Klonowski (1968)
James E. Koch (1966)
Dr. Emmanuel T. Koginos (1954)
Timothy A. Koppin (1978)
Robert J. Kost (1967)
Robert L. Lauer (1956)
Thomas C. Losh (1950)
William D. Loudenslager (1955)
Robert Lucas, Jr. (1957)

Gamma Mu continued...



TUNCH A. ILKIN (DELTA PI/INDIANA STATE 1979)

September 23, 1957–September 4, 2021

Ilkin was the first Turk to play in the NFL. Following a 13-year career with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Ilkin had a 23-year career as a broadcaster, a 15-year career as a pastor, and was known and beloved by all in the Pittsburgh area. Please read his full tribute at thetachi.org/tunch-ilkin.



WILLIAM H. KAUFFMAN (EPSILON BETA/LYCOMING 1959)

October 6, 1937–September 14, 2021

Kauffman served on Theta Chi's staff as a Field Secretary from 1959–1961. Read his tribute at: thetachi.org/william-kauffman.



ROBERT G. BECKEL (EPSILON SIGMA/WAGNER 1970)

November 15, 1948–February 20, 2022

Beckel, the manager of Walter Mondale's 1984 presidential campaign, was a political analyst and pundit who provided commentary on Fox News' *The Five* and CNN and was a columnist for *USA Today*.

- Timothy Majoras (1981)
- Maurice I. Mandell (1965)
- Terence P. McClernon (2000)
- Samuel A. McCoy (1955)
- Dr. Rex T. McGraw, Jr. (1959)
- Ronald L. Meshew (1952)
- Paul E. Might (1950)
- John K. Nofziger (1958)
- Constantine Nowakowski (1956)
- David L. Ott (1960)
- Donald P. Patrone (1966)
- Robert W. Pike (1962)
- Robert H. Pile, Jr. (1951)
- Robert J. Rask (1959)
- Lt. Cmdr. Richard R. Rice (1960)

- GAMMA XI**
San Jose State
- Alvaro P. Figueira, Jr. (1959)
- Robert P. Gross (1980)
- Harry G. Oliver, II (1967)

- GAMMA PI**
Buffalo
- Brian L. Schorb (1961)

- GAMMA RHO**
Florida State
- Brig. Gen. James Hall Baker (1962)

- GAMMA UPSILON**
Bradley
- Darrell E. Wetzell (1956)

- GAMMA PHI**
Nebraska Wesleyan
- Thomas R. Mihane (1950)
- Richard K. Trabert (1964)

- GAMMA PSI**
Puget Sound
- Michael H. Jordan (1964)
- Edmund C. Layman (1957)

- DELTA ALPHA**
Linfield
- Eugene H. Gilbertson (1963)

- Rolf O. Gilbertson (1960)
- Paul E. Holden (2003)
- Thomas J. Jackson (1971)
- James T. Ledbetter (1951)
- Gordon H. McKay (1961)
- Dwane A. Miller (1959)
- Bob D. Pillsbury (1951)
- Martin P. Smith (2000)
- Cecil G. Taylor (1966)
- Marvin D. Thornley (1963)
- William A. Walker (1999)

- DELTA BETA**
Georgia
- William Z. Manos (1977)
- Henry J. Schneider, Jr. (1965)

- DELTA ZETA**
Nebraska-Omaha
- Frederic D. Binder (1969)

- DELTA THETA**
Toledo
- Donald R. Frick (1953)

- Robert D. Horton (1955)
- Leon W. Valencia (1960)
- Thomas G. Williams (1964)

- DELTA IOTA**
Northwestern
- Thomas B. Brown (1963)

- DELTA KAPPA**
Ball State
- William R. Blake (1961)
- Hugh D. Brown (1954)
- Capt. James W. Brown (1957)

- Dr. David W. Craig (1957)
- Dr. Robert L. Doan (1955)
- Thomas L. Drew (1958)
- Leland L. Etzler (1962)
- Gary A. Farn (1959)
- William J. Faucett (1964)
- Homer L. Fish (1953)
- John C. Frye (1960)
- Samuel T. George (1956)
- Estil C. Ginn (1948)
- James R. Goen (1967)
- Ronald D. Harrison (1959)
- Dale L. Hooper (1961)
- Richard J. Horvath (1959)
- Darwin C. Markley (1953)
- Roger D. Mitchell (1959)
- Donald L. Owens (1956)
- Charles A. Ray (1955)
- Glenn A. Weidner (1967)

- DELTA XI**
Valparaiso
- Michael J. Komorek (1981)
- Rex D. Kreger (1983)
- Wallace V. Moll, Jr. (1978)

- Christopher K. Schumann (1990)
- Roger H. Seibert (1968)
- Paul R. Toelke (1964)
- Terry A. Wolfrath (1968)

- DELTA OMICRON**
Gettysburg
- David G. Pomfret (1964)

- DELTA PI**
Indiana State
- Glenden Campbell (1958)
- Bill C. Drollinger (1959)
- Larry J. Johnson (1964)
- Tunch A. Ilkin (1979)
- Rev. Alejandro M. Paternoster (1980)

- DELTA RHO**
NC State
- Ronald D. Cook (1976)
- John R. Erdody (1967)
- Daniel K. Meigs, Jr. (1966)
- William E. Scholtes (1951)

- DELTA SIGMA**
Clarkson
- Ronald B. Barber (1955)
- David R. Sturtz (1963)

- DELTA TAU**
Kent State
- William L. Pettijohn (2002)

- DELTA UPSILON**
Arizona State
- Andrew G. Galasky (1968)
- Gordon K. Maxwell (1966)
- Fred D. Miles (1966) +
- James R. Phillips (1962)
- Alvie N. Thomas (1959)

- DELTA PHI**
North Texas
- Derrell C. Dodson (1963)

- DELTA CHI**
Lenoir-Rhyne
- Robert D. Walker, Jr. (1960)

- DELTA PSI**
Kansas
- Jack W. Smith (1956)

- EPSILON ALPHA**
High Point
- Marvin R. Haga (1963)

- EPSILON BETA**
Lycoming
- William H. Kauffman (1959)
- Randy S. Jones (1971)

- EPSILON GAMMA**
Widener
- Warren W. Homan (1962)
- Purnell J. Spriggs (1967)

- EPSILON DELTA**
Youngstown State
- James R. Labrie (1986)
- Robert A. Russell (1961)
- William A. Voyzey (1956)

- EPSILON ZETA**
Tampa
- Derek LaPlante (2018)
- Richard L. Slye (1964)

- EPSILON ETA**
IUP
- John Gulick (1954)
- Robert N. Teeter (1964)

- EPSILON IOTA**
East Carolina
- Lee S. Downie (1965)

- EPSILON KAPPA**
Idaho
- Donald M. Beckley (1962)
- Brian D. Casey (1991)
- Donley D. Freshwater (1960)
- Terje J. Skogland (1969)

- EPSILON PI**
Northern Illinois
- Alex R. King (1965)

- EPSILON RHO**
Rider
- William J. Heard (1948)
- W. John Heard (1968)

- EPSILON SIGMA**
Wagner
- Robert G. Beckel (1970)
- Frederick M. Robinson (1965)

- EPSILON TAU**
Stephen F. Austin
- Rick D. Baty (1980)
- Clayton M. Brown (2013)

- EPSILON PHI**
Central Missouri
- Scott L. Berning (1975)
- Thomas E. Gibson (1967)
- Donald E. Greenwell, Jr. (1959)
- Mark J. Marlborough (1980)
- John C. Smith (1963)

- EPSILON PSI**
NJIT
- Robert J. Trongone (1964)

- ZETA ALPHA**
Slippery Rock
- James W. Allen (1970)
- J. Patrick Scullen (1971) +

- ZETA BETA**
Adrian
- Dr. Richard G. Rust (1950)
- David R. Smethurst (1969)
- David R. Swift (1968)

- ZETA EPSILON**
Long Beach State
- Rolf B. Juario (1986)
- Dennis A. Landry (1977)

+ former Regional Counselor

**ZETA ETA**

Northern Michigan
Robert S. Miller (1967)
Peter E. Zyburt (1975)

ZETA KAPPA

Ohio Northern
Kenneth E. Alexander (1974)
Nathan A. Brady (1988)
Jeffrey C. Chubb (1974)
Harold E. Cotsamire (1968)
Robert C. Drier (1996)
Matthew J. Droll (1997)
Thomas M. Flench (1972)
Roger D. Hess (1968)
Robert E. Lewis (1987)
David L. Luechauer (1985)
Christopher M. Paulsen (1987)
Robert E. Rausch (1967)
Richard A. Star (1993)
Raymond P. Swenar, Jr. (1970)
Gary L. Utz (1969)
Dennis W. White (1968)

ZETA LAMBDA

Westminster
Christopher R. Borst (2003)
David Dudgeon, III (1966)

ZETA PI

Old Dominion
Col. Edward D. Shames (2014)

ZETA RHO

Kentucky
Jerome F. Conway (1971)
Willard J. Fogle (1983)
James T. Mitsch (1970)
William Sams (1985)
James A. Waldron (1980)

ZETA SIGMA

Wisconsin-River Falls
Michael S. Martin (1999)

ZETA PSI

Western Illinois
Daniel W. Carlino (1972)
Dave A. Carrier (1971)

ETA ALPHA

Clemson
Philip C. Rash (1980)
Gary D. Thompson (1972)

ETA ZETA

Edinboro
Gary D. Smith (1987)

ETA THETA

Chadron State
Randall C. Stutheit (1974)

ETA KAPPA

James Madison
Harold M. Antoniotti (1976)
Hugh E. Brady, Jr. (1969)
Lucky R. Groom (1974)
Bruce M. Keaton (1976)
Grant D. Logue (2021)
William T. Maltby, IV (1978)
Horace W. Wooldridge, Jr. (1971)

ETA LAMBDA

Virginia Tech
Kenneth H. McDaniel (1973)
McCutchan S. Hemp (1974)
Truls K. Henriksen (1990)
Jason G. Raynor (2001)

ETA RHO

Centenary
Brent D. Henley (1980)

ETA PSI

UAB
Madhav Paveen (2024)

THETA EPSILON

Kennesaw State
Spencer D. Bradley (2025)
James A. Weeks (1995)

THETA OMEGA

Appalachian State
Kevin E. Sternagle (1999)

IOTA LAMBDA

Longwood
Richard A. Paradiso, III (2007)

AT-LARGE

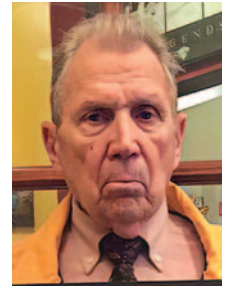
Adelphi
Dr. Michael J. Brienza (1991)

COL. EDWARD D. SHAMES

(ZETA PI/OLD DOMINION 2014)

June 13, 1922–December 3, 2021

During World War II, Shames was an officer in Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment in the 101st Airborne Division, best known as the subject of the book and HBO series *Band of Brothers*. A feature interview with Shames appeared in the Spring 2015 issue of *The Rattle*. You can find a link to that article and other information in our tribute at thetachi.org/ed-shames.

**MICHAEL S. MARTIN**

(ZETA SIGMA/WISCONSIN-RIVER FALLS 1999)

February 1, 1968–January 28, 2022

An alumnus initiate (he didn't want to advise something he wasn't a part of), Martin faithfully served as Zeta Sigma's Faculty Adviser, mentor, counselor, and friend for more than 20 years. During his 25-year career at River Falls, Martin influenced countless students in the educator preparation program, received the Academic Staff Excellence Award from the UW Board of Regents, and the Floyd W. Field Award from Theta Chi Fraternity. You can read our tribute at thetachi.org/mike-martin.

**CAPT. RICHARD A. PARADISO, III**

(IOTA LAMBDA/LONGWOOD 2007)

July 1, 1985–December 1, 2021

Trey was part of the duo who brought Theta Chi to Longwood University. After establishing Iota Lambda Chapter, he followed in the footsteps of his great-grandfather, grandfather (Richard, Sr. (Iota Lambda/Longwood 2007)), and father (Richard, Jr. (Zeta Pi/Old Dominion 1979)) and joined the U.S. Army as an officer and was subsequently deployed to Iraq and the Middle East three separate times. Trey struggled with mental health and took his own life. His family urges all to keep a close eye on those around you, especially those you love, and if you suspect someone is suffering from depression to do all within your power to get them the help they truly need. Please read our tribute at thetachi.org/trey-paradiso.



PHILIP C. RASH (ETA ALPHA/CLEMSON 1980) October 31, 1956–May 15, 2021

Brothers, friends, and family of Eta Alpha/Clemson raised more than \$7,500 to place a bench and tree on campus (behind Harden Hall) in memory of Philip C. Rash (1980). During Clemson's fall 2021 homecoming weekend, alumni, spouses, and collegiate brothers and pledges welcomed Brother Rash's wife, daughter, and brother and together remembered Phil and dedicated the memorial. Brother Rash was both a proud Clemson Tiger and Theta Chi who recently retired after a 32-year career at the Argonne National Laboratory.

Theta Chi Fraternity, Inc.
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PETER
MILLAR

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