

SPRING 2012

THE Rattle

Also available online at www.thetachi.org

OF THETA CHI

The Rattle turns 100
Celebrating a century of
news, notes, and conversation

Pockets of Hope

A Theta Chi helps build
better lives in Guatemala



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Contributions

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Dear brothers,

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the publication of the first edition of *The Rattle of Theta Chi Fraternity*. Like our Fraternity itself, *The Rattle* has undergone many changes through the years but remains as relevant today as it was 100 years ago, if not more so. I am proud to be part of an organization that is not only able to retain its most cherished traditions but that is also able to adapt in order to meet the changing needs of its members.

I hope that this edition of *The Rattle* inspires you to take an even more active interest in Theta Chi Fraternity. The young men who are currently members of our undergraduate chapters need your support

and guidance; as such, I challenge you to become involved as a chapter advisor or member of an alumni corporation or advisory board. Of course, our Foundation Chapter that provides scholarships for tuition and Theta Chi's leadership development programs always needs your financial support as well.

Our 156th Anniversary Convention will be held July 4-7 in Palm Springs. This National Convention will mark the end of my term as National President and I am quite pleased with the progress Theta Chi has made during the last four years. Of course the real credit for our accomplishments belongs to our undergraduate brothers, our dedicated alumni volunteers and our outstanding professional staff at the International Headquarters. Since our last Convention, Theta Chi has continued to grow; we've reinstalled several dormant chapters and added chapters at colleges and universities where we have never been before. Almost all of our chapters have experienced healthy growth and our total membership is at its highest point in nearly two decades. Additionally, we have upgraded the financial and database systems of our Headquarters, which will help Theta Chi continue to grow, prosper and keep in touch with more members. And, of course, we have made some leaps forward with *The Rattle* and our other forms of communication as well!

So, brothers, I thank you again for the honor and privilege of serving as National President of Theta Chi. I truly believe in Theta Chi and our founders' vision of a fraternity that helps our members become better friends, better students and better men.

Most fraternal regards,

Douglas Allen

National President

Theta Chi Fraternity



Help us grow
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2011 Foundation Donors
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Rally for Rho
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On the Cover

In February 1912, *The Rattle of Theta Chi Fraternity* made its debut. Little did Founding Editor Ralph Heath know how many brothers it would reach—or how far it would go. Read the story on page 12.

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From the Editor

Our fraternity benefits from the unique (and uncommon) advantage of having over 150 years of heritage and history from which to draw perspective, strength and inspiration. And, for the last 100 of those years, we have enjoyed unrestricted access to the stories of who and what has moved Theta Chi into the position it occupies today. In this edition, you will get to

our magazine you also have to be willing to read between the lines—at the subtle jokes and jabs, cleverly phrased editorials and impassioned calls for action. We have much more in common with our predecessors than it might seem.

As I found over the course of my research for this article, the loves and frustrations of the brothers who preceded us bear a striking resemblance to the challenges and opportunities we face today. I regret that I cannot share all of their stories with you here. If I could, it would require not a magazine article, but an entire book. If you are ever in Indianapolis, I welcome and encourage you to visit us at the International Headquarters to see for yourself what made, and continues to make, *The Rattle* “the voice of our Fraternity.” And, thank you for reading.

read about some of those brothers as seen through the lens of *The Rattle*, our long-serving national publication.

Researching for this story was challenging, not only in terms of the sheer volume of reading that had to be done while balancing my other day-to-day responsibilities, but also of having to decide what was worthy of comment. There is definitely a narrative to be told about *The Rattle's* evolution over the years, but I learned that to fully appreciate the richness of

Bart Zino
Bart Zino

Director of Communication

Dear brothers:

As Theta Chi marks the 100th year of publishing *The Rattle*, it is appropriate that we consider what has made our magazine a time-honored tradition within the Fraternity.

It is most fitting that we honor our past and present Editors of *The Rattle*, from Founding Editor Ralph C. Heath (Gamma/Maine 1908) to current Editor Bart Zino (Iota Theta/Central Florida 2008). Since 1912, our Fraternity has been blessed to have had so many individuals who are incredibly passionate about Theta Chi occupy the Editor's office. That passion is reflected in the many volumes of *The Rattle* produced over the years. The countless hours dedicated to interviews, research, writing, and layout is enormous. As we celebrate this important milestone in the life of this publication, we express our gratitude for the men and women who have served as its Editor.

We also owe thanks to the many brothers and friends who have contributed as writers and photographers. It is always a pleasure to work with volunteers who care so deeply about the Fraternity and its works that they are motivated to capture its history in words and picture to share with the greater brotherhood.

Last, but most certainly not least, we are extremely grateful to our chapters, undergraduate members and alumni for consistently providing enjoyable and inspiring stories about the positive impact Theta Chi has had on the lives of its members, our communities and the world of higher education. Without such outstanding chapters and members, there would be no features to write or histories to chronicle within the pages of *The Rattle*.

I hope you will walk away from each reading of *The Rattle* with a greater sense of pride in being a Theta Chi. Let us all consider what we will do as brothers, chapters, and an International Fraternity to continue fill the pages of our great publication with such wonderful stories.

Fraternally,



Michael Mayer
Executive Director



2012/2013 Leadership and Education Consultants

Theta Chi is pleased to introduce the 2012/2013 Leadership and Education Consultants (LECs). Consultants travel on behalf of the International Headquarters to help chapters and colonies discover their strengths, confront problems and facilitate change. Consultants also provide assistance and training to colonies and recently installed chapters. The Fraternity thanks the outgoing 2011/2012 field staff for all of their hard work this past year. The 2012/2013 LECs are:

Jeffrey Draluck

(Epsilon Zeta/Tampa 2012)

Jeff served as Fundraising Chair for Epsilon Zeta and also held the position of IFC President. He attended the ELITE (Educating Leaders in Today's Environment) freshman leadership program on campus and served as a mentor within the program as an upperclassman. Jeff is a sport management major, is a member of the Sport Management Club, and has interned with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, the University of South Florida Game Day Operations and Event Management, and the Collegiate Licensing Company. Jeff frequently volunteers at the local Shriners Hospital.



Matthew Gillis

(Beta Iota/Arizona 2012)

An initiate of Alpha Iota Chapter at Indiana University, Matt transferred to the University of Arizona to be closer to his family in the Los Angeles area. Matt arrived at Arizona during the initial start-up of Beta Iota's recolonization effort and quickly became involved in assisting the colony with recruitment and operations training. At Beta Iota, Matt served as Secretary, Rush Chair, and Public Relations Chair. At Beta Iota's reinstatement banquet, he was awarded the Park Valentine Perkins Award for assisting with the chapter's return to campus. A nutritional science major, he made the dean's list, earned a 3.65 GPA, and was also involved with the Pre-Optometry Club, Nutritional Science Club, and Red Cross Club.



Jason Howeth

(Delta Phi/North Texas 2012)

At Delta Phi, Jason served as Alumni Relations Chair, Public Relations Chair, and was a member of the Rush Committee. He is a co-founder of the UNT Green Tones, the University's first contemporary cappella ensemble, and was twice elected as their vocal coach. He helped to lead the Green Tones to the International Championship of Collegiate A Cappella in 2011 as the only group invited from the state of Texas. He was also a three-time representative of the UNT College of Music—the largest college of music in the United States—to the Student Government Association. Jason was also a Student Orientation Leader. Jason is a music major with a minor in business foundations and is planning to attend law school following his service on the field staff.



Cory Loveless

(Phi/North Dakota State 2012)

Theta Chi's 2011 Colley Award recipient has served as Phi Chapter's President, Treasurer, and Marshal, as well as at the national level on the Theta Chi Ritual Review Committee. On the NDSU IFC, Cory was elected to the positions of Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer. He also served as the Scholarship Chair of the NDSU Greek Programming Council. Cory is the Student Government Association Assistant Finance Commissioner, treasurer of the Blue Key Honor Society, and a member of the



NDSU Complaint Resolution Board, NDSU General Education Committee, President's Council on Alcohol and Other Drugs, and Lions Club International. Cory was recognized as NDSU's Student Leader of the Year in 2010. He was also a leader in Freshmen Orientation as a Student Coordinator. Cory is a double major in mathematics and mathematics education.

Joseph Macko

(Zeta Tau/Michigan-Flint 2012)

Joe Macko has served as President, Vice President and Marshal of Zeta Tau Chapter. He aided in starting the UM-Flint IFC by drafting their constitution and bylaws and serving as their first president. He also later served as the IFC Vice President of Recruitment. Joe has attended the NIC IMPACT conference. He is a founder of the UM-Flint Chapter of Order of Omega and served as its first Vice President. He worked on the Flint campus as a Resident Adviser. Joe is a health science major with a concentration in pre-physical therapy. He consistently made the dean's list and maintains a 3.84 GPA.



Alex Nunchuck

(Iota Theta/Central Florida 2012)

Alex served as Iota Theta's Secretary and Public Relations Chair. He worked as a Resident Adviser and was a member of UCF's LEAD Scholars Program. He is also a contributing editor for *The Odyssey*, a national newspaper written by Greeks for Greeks. Alex attended UIFI in the summer of 2011. He is an Interpersonal/Organizational Communication Major with a Minor in Theatre Studies. Alex has made the dean's list on several occasions and has maintained a 3.2 GPA. He will have earned his bachelor's degree in just three years. ■





Organic Expansion Essential to Future Growth

BY PHILIP C. THORNTON, REGIONAL COUNSELOR (GAMMA THETA/SAN DIEGO STATE 2005)

At the 2004 Convention in Phoenix, I served as Gamma Theta's undergraduate delegate and recalled learning of a brother—Aaron Tabor (2006)—who had transferred from Arizona State to Northern Arizona University and was planning on creating a Theta Chi chapter there. I asked other delegates about this and how it was possible for a lone brother to undertake such a large challenge. There were a number of brothers asking similar questions: “How can one brother do that?” “How do you even start a chapter?” True to his word, Aaron began hosting information sessions and recruitment events at NAU that fall and recruited enough members to gain colony status shortly thereafter. In October of 2006, Iota Kappa was granted a charter.

It is our duty to establish the standards of our fraternity at each college campus. Sadly, this is one of the oft-overlooked obligations of our brotherhood, even though we know it works. In 2011, we saw the (re)installation of three chapters in three very different parts of the country. Interestingly, the paths by which each of these chapters came to be mirror the work of Brother Tabor as a transfer student: all three were started by a legacy, a graduate student and friends of brothers.

Iota Xi/Georgia College

In the Fall of 2009, Joseph Longoria, Jr. entered Georgia College and State University in Milledgeville, GA. Joe participated in the formal rush process and was unhappy with his options. When Joe Longoria Sr. (Delta Phi/North Texas 1985) learned of his son's thoughts on GCSU Greek life, he encouraged him to create a Theta Chi chapter on his campus. Jason Longoria (Delta Beta/Georgia 2013), Joe Jr.'s brother, also encouraged him to go the route of expansion. Joe Jr. took his family's advice and recruited some high school friends who were also attending GCSU. On April 9, 2011, Joe Longoria, Jr., was bestowed the badge of Theta Chi by his father and brother at the installation ceremony of Iota Xi Chapter.

Beta Iota/Arizona

In 2009, I began work on my master's degree in business at the University of Arizona. Prior to my arrival, I knew that I wanted to attempt to reinstall the inactive Beta Iota Chapter, which had been dormant since 1973. Assisted by undergraduate transfer brother Matthew Gillis (Beta Iota/Arizona 2012) and alumnus brother Gordon Davenport (Delta Mu/Texas 2003), a Beta Iota interest group was formed in the spring 2011 semester. After the challenging journey of growing from interest group to colony, more than 48 alumni and new brothers witnessed Beta Iota regain its charter on November 12, 2011.

Zeta Rho/Kentucky

Theta Chi had been inactive at the University of Kentucky campus for more than 20 years. In the fall of 2010, Zack Brown (Eta Beta/Eastern Kentucky 2014) was speaking to three of his friends from high school—all freshmen at UK at the time—about fraternities. Zack, who was pledging Theta Chi at EKU, talked about his experience with Theta Chi and asked his friends if they had joined a fraternity. His friends, Grant

Kennedy, Kiefer Eubank and Brandon Loschiavo, responded that they did not find any of the fraternities at Kentucky appealing and had decided not to join anywhere.

Zack convinced them to begin the work of bringing Theta Chi back to UK. Along with his father Regional Director Darick Brown (Eta Gamma/Morehead State 1989) and Chapter Advisor Robert Leitch (Eta Beta/Eastern Kentucky 1996), Zack guided and coached his friends on recruiting other great students to join Theta Chi. In a mere 10 months the membership of the Zeta Rho colony exploded from three members to 52, and on December 5, 2011, Grant, Kiefer and Brandon, along with 49 of their friends became brothers at Zeta Rho's reinstallation.

These are some fairly recent examples, but this kind of organic expansion is not a new phenomenon. A look back at Theta Chi's history shows that transfer brothers and alumni were actually an integral part of the Fraternity's early rapid growth.

The most important event in the history of the Fraternity, aside from the founding in 1856, was the chartering of Beta Chapter at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1902. Those efforts to charter Beta were thanks to Park Valentine Perkins (1905), a transfer student from Norwich University. Brother Perkins pushed Alpha Chapter to grant a charter to his group of friends across the border in Massachusetts.

Alpha Chapter, which had previously rejected two other petitions from Perkins, resisted. It was only after Perkins enlisted the help of alumni J. Albert Holmes (1895) and E. Wesson Clark (1892) that the charter was granted for Beta Chapter. This singular event unleashed the floodgates of growth for Theta Chi: between 1902 and 1912, Theta Chi installed nine more chapters in New York, Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine, fulfilling the initial dream of our founders to become a truly national fraternity.

Brothers, we all owe our Fraternity membership to the unrelenting efforts of Brother Perkins. Theta Chi's staff, Regional Counselors and alumni are already working with existing colonies that had been started by transfer members or men referred to us by initiated brothers. As we all had tremendous undergraduate experiences in the Fraternity, let us work to bring that same experience to new campuses. Extend a Helping Hand and assist in the growth of our great fraternity.

If you have a son, a brother, a cousin or a family friend who would make a great brother, talk to him about joining or starting a Theta Chi chapter. If you are currently a member of a chapter, talk to your unaffiliated friends at other campuses about starting a Theta Chi chapter. If you are considering graduate school or are already enrolled, investigate options to head up the initial recruiting at the campus.

After you've recruited a few committed members for your interest group, your next step should be to contact JD Ford, Director of Recruitment and Expansion (jdford@thetachi.org) at the IHQ. He will provide guidance on your group's next steps.

Additionally, if you have a potential recruit to refer for membership, simply complete the Recommend a Recruit form on the Theta Chi website.

Theta Chi returns to Arizona and Kentucky

Theta Chi added two chapters back to its active chapter roster in the fall 2011 semester. Beta Iota at the University of Arizona was reinstalled on Saturday, Nov. 12, while Zeta Rho at the University of Kentucky was reinstalled Saturday, Dec. 3.

Beta Iota/Arizona

Forty-eight new brothers (including two alumnus initiates) will now continue the work of Beta Iota, which had been inactive since 1973.

National Historian William Palmer served as installing officer. Joining him were Past National President Mike Maloney, past Norwich Housing Corporation board member Jeff Anderson, former colony adviser Philip C. Thornton, and many other alumni and volunteers. Leadership and Education Consultant Ryan Walbridge and Executive Director Michael Mayer represented the International Headquarters staff.

"Theta Chi is proud to be represented by such an outstanding group of students at the University of Arizona," Executive Director Michael Mayer said. "The Fraternity looks forward to many successes ahead for Beta Iota."

Beta Iota Chapter traces its roots back to 1912 with the formation of the Square and Compass, a local fraternity and the first organization of its kind to take root at Arizona. In 1922, the members affiliated with Delta Sigma Lambda, a small national fraternity, but returned to local status in 1936 after the parent organization disbanded. Efforts to affiliate with Theta Chi began in 1938 with the help of Square and Compass alumni and members of the Grand Chapter. Beta Iota Chapter was installed on May 17, 1941.

The most recent effort to restart the chapter began in 2009, when Philip Thornton (Gamma Theta/San Diego State 2005) arrived on campus to begin work on his MBA. Thornton, a former LEC, had expansion experience and agreed to serve Theta Chi as a Graduate Adviser. In this role, he helped recruit and train a new generation of Beta Iota members.

"It has been an honor to work with these men as they realize their dream of reviving the Beta Iota Chapter at the University of Arizona," Thornton said, adding that with Beta Iota's return to campus, Theta Chi now has an active chapter at every public university in Arizona.

Zeta Rho/Kentucky

Fifty Founding Fathers were initiated over the weekend of December 3. Joining them were Associate Executive Director Ben Hill, Director of Recruitment and Expansion JD Ford, Director of Standards Jason Handberg, Regional Counselor Darick Brown, Chapter Adviser Robert Leitch, and all six of the Fall 2011 Field Staff. National Vice President Joseph R. D'Amore served as the installing officer.

First recognized in the fall 2010 semester, the interest group was formed after a group of UK freshmen notified the International Headquarters of their desire to restart Zeta Rho. In less than a year, the group grew to 27 members and nearly doubled again this fall. The interest group formally colonized on Sept. 18, 2011.

Originally installed on May 11, 1968, what was to become Zeta Rho Chapter began as a small group of undergraduates calling themselves the "Oxmen." The group had been organized by Vic Walk, a transfer student and Theta Chi from Purdue University, and eventually colonized in April of 1966.

"We've very excited to be back at the University of Kentucky," Director of Recruitment and Expansion JD Ford said. "We have high hopes and high expectations for these brothers and wish them well. ■"

Can you help?

Do you know of any outstanding undergraduates at any of the following institutions that might make a good match for Theta Chi? If so, please send a recommendation to our expansion team by using the Recommend a Recruit Form on www.thetachi.org/recommend.

Current Colonies and Interest Groups:

Omicron/Richmond
Delta Eta/Colorado State
Delta Pi/Indiana State
Eta Psi/UAB
University of Illinois-Chicago
Southern Polytechnic State
Averett
Texas State

(Re)installed Spring 2012:

Alpha Upsilon/Nebraska
Gamma Zeta/Oklahoma State
Iota Omicron/Florida International
Iota Pi/Louisiana State

Look for details about these four reinstallations in the fall 2012 edition.

Bring back my chapter!

The process of installing or reinstalling a chapter, known as expansion, requires tremendous amounts of time, energy and resources. The first step frequently starts at the alumni level. If you would like to learn more about how to begin the process of expansion at your alma mater, e-mail expansion@thetachi.org.



Zeta Rho's 50 Founding Fathers pose for a picture after their reinstallation ceremony. The chapter had been inactive since 1990.

From Cardboard to Concrete

Building Better Lives in the Land of Eternal Spring

BY MICHAEL RUBRIGHT (BETA SIGMA/LEHIGH 1987)

Guatemala, known as the “Land of Eternal Spring” for its temperatures that rarely go higher than 80 or lower than 60, is a beautiful place where you can find countryside, beaches, mountains, art and culture. Its capital, Guatemala City, is home to more than 2 million people and is a place of stark contrasts. You can find majestic skyscrapers, lavish malls as well as five-star hotels and restaurants. The city is the center of the country’s economy and culture.

It is also, however, home to some of the worst crime and poverty in the world. Broken into 22 zones, the city is commonly known as one of the most dangerous cities in the world. It is commonplace to see armed guards at banks, places of business and aboard delivery trucks. The most dangerous place of all, a place where it is half-jokingly said that even the military won’t go, is Zone 3, home of the Guatemala City garbage dump.

During the past four summers, I have spent vacation time in Guatemala City—not at world-class hotels on the beach, in the mountains or touring museums—but in Zone 3. While this is not exactly the kind of vacation that most people would sign up for, it is one that cannot be matched.



Small children peek out of the “window” of their house. Young children are usually left alone during the day while their parents work.

Each year, a group of people working with Beyond the Walls, a non-profit organization based in Morris County, NJ, travel to Guatemala to work with some of the neediest people on earth. In the middle of Central America’s largest city you will find a network of well-organized communities that surround a 40-acre garbage dump. Trash from all over the city is brought to the dump, which fills a natural ravine. The people, disparagingly known as “scavengers” by their countrymen, depend on the dump and its garbage for survival. Nearly 11,000 people live in homes constructed on the landfill; 7,000 of these people are children. When the garbage reaches a cer-

tain level, it is covered with dirt and people often construct makeshift houses. Methane seeps through the dirt floors, filling these places with deadly gas. In all seriousness, it is a complete misnomer to call these houses. In middle-class suburban America, our tool sheds are far nicer than where these people live.

Life in the garbage dump is terrible. Men and women leave their houses by 4 a.m. to make the several-mile trek to the bottom of the to sift through mounds of garbage, including medical and other hazards in order to find recyclables or other items that they can sell. The average value of a day’s work is about \$3—on a good day. It is a place filled with despair and desperation.

However, there are pockets of hope inside this place. Beyond the Walls has partnered with Potter’s House, a Guatemala-based non-profit organization whose mission is to defeat all forms of poverty by serving those who live in and around the garbage dump. Volunteers have worked with Potter’s House staff to build and renovate houses, provide medical treatment, teach job skills, put on sports clinics, and provide day camps for children. Beyond the Walls and its contributors fund lunch and tutoring through the Potter’s House education program. The goal is not to go in and do



Walking down the alleyway where they built a house last year. Houses here are roughly five feet across from each other. Many do not have doors, but instead some kind of curtain over the doorway.

something nice and then go home. The goal is to let the people there know that there are people who love and care about them, and who want to help them break the bonds of poverty.

A Call to Action

Traveling to Guatemala, particularly to spend a week in a garbage dump, was not something I had ever envisioned. The only thing I knew about the country was that my niece, Sophia, was born in Guatemala City before being adopted into our family. Things all changed, though, when I sat in church one Sunday and watched a video of one group's recent trip. As I looked at the eyes of the children living in squalor, all I thought about was how that could have been my niece—she could be any one of those children—and I felt called to do something.

My first trip to Guatemala was quite overwhelming. While I knew most of the other people on the trip, I felt somewhat alone, as I quietly absorbed the entire experience. The



People put their hands on the incoming garbage trucks to lay claim to its contents.

About Beyond the Walls and Potter's House

Beyond the Walls can work with any group or individual who is looking to make a difference somewhere. They are a small operation with very low administrative costs, but they continue to make a difference in the lives of people everywhere. You can find them at www.beyond-the-walls.org.

Potter's House, celebrating their 25th year of serving the Treasures of the Guatemala City garbage dump, offers sponsorship and volunteer opportunities. Through the sponsorship program, you can support a child in his or her education and nutrition programs. It is a tremendous opportunity to share the blessings that you have been given. You can find them at www.pottershous.org.gt.

smell, unlike anything I had ever smelled before, kept us in a constant state of nausea. The armed guards stationed everywhere rode “shotgun”—literally and figuratively—on trucks. The streets leading into the garbage dump were filled with men passed out from sniffing glue and lying in their own feces. We saw dogs so many that you would struggle to classify them as canines. And there were children covered in dirt, many without shoes, running everywhere through trash and contaminated water. The constant circling of buzzards overhead served as a constant reminder of where we were. The prevalent feeling was pity; how could you not feel bad for these people?

Something happened with each successive trip; the last three of which have included my 16-year-old daughter, Emily. A very dangerous

and ugly place started to become a little more beautiful each time I returned. The garbage dump became part of my own life. The scavengers, people we refer to as “Treasures,” became people that I knew and cared about. The children became my own children. I became part of something bigger and far more important than myself. Seeing the hope and faith that these people have despite what we would consider unlivable conditions made me rethink everything I had ever thought. Suddenly, the things that were so important back home—cars, televisions, cell phones, and computers—seemed so insignificant. I began to rethink how I was spending my time and my money. In the end, I realized that I was a much better person when I was in Guatemala than I was when I was home in the

United States; I focused more on others, focused more on faith and focused more on relationships.

The group I travel with takes on a variety of projects. While there is a major focus on construction and renovation, other projects allow us to meet the diverse needs of the people while forging lasting relationships. We travel with doctors and nurses who provide much-needed medical care. In addition to setting up a free clinic outside of the garbage dump, the medical staff travel to those who cannot afford to stop working long enough to get to the clinic. We travel with coaches who put together soccer and baseball clinics for the children who often spend their days wandering around with little or no adult supervision. We travel with teachers who offer Bible camp activities to children who greatly need a message of hope.

Pockets of Hope

Living conditions in the garbage dump communities are incredibly sad. The people who live here often live in little more than shacks made of rotted wood, scrap metal and cardboard. They have dirt floors and no plumbing. If they cook anything in the house, it is done with open wood flames and little air circulation. The conditions are incredibly dangerous and inhumane. It is not atypical to find upwards of five or six people living in a 12 x 12 space. If they are lucky, an entire family may share one bed.

We construct very basic concrete-block houses with poured concrete floors, but, as one resident put it, they are “palaces.” That is hard to hear when you realize that the 20 x 20 houses we build, at a cost of about \$4,500, are smaller than some rooms in the United States. Throughout the weeklong construction period, the people who will live in these houses work alongside us. When finished, homeowners can live in a safe dwelling (concrete protects from stray bullets and seeping methane gas) with a toilet and shower.

While the conditions are horrendous, the saddest situation belongs to the children. There are few men that stay with their families—most are led by single mothers who are barely old enough to be considered adults. Older children do not go to school because they are charged with watching younger siblings while parents work to earn meager salaries. Most children in the dump communities will not finish sixth grade—many drop out before that. There is little value on education because parents need their children



The author and his daughter with the Lopez family, the family the Rubrights sponsor and for whom they raised funds via Facebook for a new house. The house was completed this past November (left to right) Michael, Jennifer Lopez, Emily Rubright, Aura Maria, Michelle Lopez (front).

home to help support the family and because they feel their children are destined to work in the garbage dump and would not need formal education.

Jennifer's Story

The first time I travelled to Guatemala with my daughter, in 2008, I committed to sponsor a girl named Jennifer, who was 10 at the time. She lived with her mother and three siblings. Her father, an alcoholic, had left the family. He still lives near them, but offers no kind of support, either financial or emotional. We were able to meet her, converse through a translator and communicate with letters throughout the year.

The toughest day of my life came two years ago when I watched Jennifer leave Potter's House after school to head to her house. As she walked away, passing a pile of trash and a guy sniffing glue, it hit me that this was real—it wasn't cute, it wasn't fun and it wasn't temporary. While I spend a week here, she lives this every day of her life. I wept as I imagined her future.

With all of this despair, there is great hope. Through the work of Potter's House, real

homes are being built, children are being fed and educated, adults are learning job skills and the community is learning how to take care of each other. Volunteers provide the funding and labor to build houses and put on programs.

I believe in the usefulness of my Fraternity

When I entered the brotherhood of Theta Chi, I often heard the phrase “Theta Chi for life.” That sounded good, and I guess I always thought that I would be friends with my brothers forever. As I've gotten a little bit older, though, I think it means more. Yes, I have a lifelong bond with my Theta Chi brothers, but I also have a lifelong responsibility to “extend a helping hand to all who seek it.”

This year, I was blessed with a tremendous opportunity. I found out that Jennifer's makeshift house was literally collapsing, putting her and her family at risk. In order to help, I decided to raise the money to build them a new and safe house. I turned to social media and asked every one of my Facebook friends to donate \$1 and in turn forward the request to each of their friends. The response



Jennifer's house, before a new one was built in November. The concrete sink in the foreground does not have any running water, neither does the toilet in the background. This area of their house is outside with a piece of sheet metal covering, but no walls



Michael's group brings tools with them in their checked baggage to cut concrete blocks.

was overwhelming—we raised more than \$5,000 in only a couple of weeks. Many of those who were part of my campaign were my Theta Chi brothers—Theta Chi for life. Today, Jennifer, her mom and three siblings live in a house with a concrete floor, a shower, a toilet and a bed for each person.

The Treasures aren't the only ones whose lives are being transformed. Our volunteers' lives are changing too. Seeing the world from the garbage dump has put so much in perspective for me. Finding out that the things I often worry about are largely insignificant compared to people who worry about food and shelter on a daily basis. Complaining about anything is hard to do when you see a person picking through garbage in order to survive.

I urge all of my brothers, young and old, to do more than just say you are a Theta Chi; I urge you all to be the helping hand and make a difference, whether it is in your community, in another state or across the globe. ■



The inside of an almost-finished house.

The Rattle

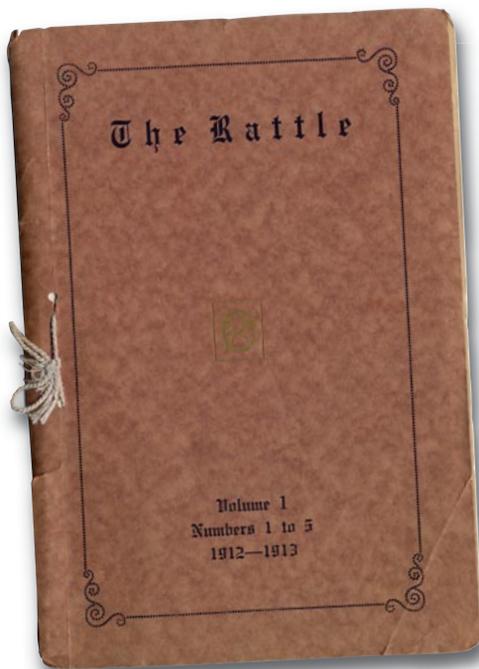
BY BART ZINO (IOTA THETA/CENTRAL FLORIDA 2008), EDITOR

For the last century, *The Rattle* has entertained, informed, persuaded and challenged its readers as the official magazine of Theta Chi. *The Rattle* is not only significant because of its age, but as an enduring tradition of the Fraternity. It has grown to play a much larger role as Theta Chi's historical record, public forum, mouthpiece and barometer of opinion.

It turns out that *The Rattle's* greatest contribution to Theta Chi isn't solely its content, but how those stories, letters, photos and editorial pieces brought its readers together. In a major way, the magazine helped cultivate the Fraternity's sense of national identity and pride. Without a magazine like *The Rattle*, some of the major decisions that Theta Chi had to make in its nascent years would not have received the thoughtful consideration they deserved. And, some of the Fraternity's most notable heroes might not have ever had the chance to share the ideas that would form Theta Chi into what it is today.

Our Motto: Get Together

A motif shared among many of *The Rattle's* editors over the years was the idea of the fraternal conversation—using the magazine to create a place where members could discuss and even openly debate the issues of the day. And that's precisely where founding editor Ralph C. Heath (Gamma/Maine 1908) began.



The first decade of the 20th century was a busy one for Theta Chi. Between 1902 and 1912, the Fraternity's chapter roster had grown from two to eight, with two more—Iota, at Colgate University and Kappa, at the University of Pennsylvania—on the way. At that time, Theta Chi had about 800 members, 230 of which were estimated to be undergraduates.

At the February 1912 National Convention, Herbert D. Leary (Gamma/Maine 1910) received permission to develop a magazine to be called simply *The Theta Chi*. When the publication failed to materialize, the Grand Chapter (formed less than five years before) turned to Leary's chapter brother Ralph C. Heath to get things back on track. The new publication would be called *The Rattle*, and made its debut a few weeks later on Feb. 28, 1912.

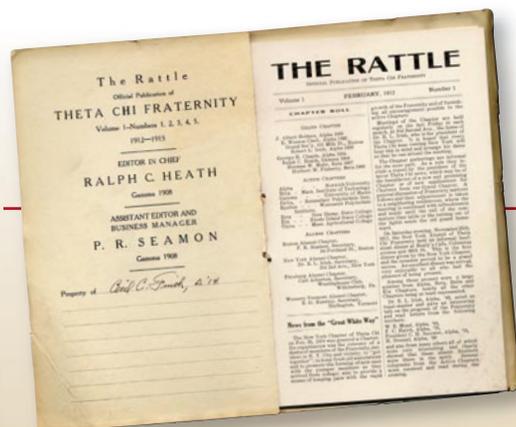


Ralph C. Heath

The plan was straightforward: Heath would produce the first five editions and then turn it back over to the Grand Chapter. Heath recruited another Gamma brother, Percy R. Seamon (1908), to help out as business manager.

Although only four years removed from college and without any editorial experience whatsoever, Heath and Seamon produced Volume I at their own expense and on their own time. Their business model was simple: readers could buy an edition one at a time for 25 cents each, or purchase a year's subscription for a dollar.

Heath, who was also serving on the Grand Chapter as National Treasurer at the time, shared his vision for *The Rattle* in his opening editorial:



Vol. I, No. 1 (February 1912)

"The staff asks that you forgive any mistakes which you may see, but in forgiving not to forget to criticize—knock us if you will, but show some interest one way or the other in what we are undertaking. If 'every knock is a boost' the harder they come the better we'll like 'em." —Ralph Heath

Vol. I, No. 2 (April 1912)

"We want articles from everyone who feels in the mood to write. We don't care whether you know how to write or not. We want to know and want others to know what you are doing for yourself, your college and for Theta Chi... we want to make [the Rattle] so much a mirror of Theta Chi life that a stranger reading it would know what a splendid Brotherhood Theta Chi is and what manner of fellows we have in our ranks." —Ralph Heath

100 years of bringing Theta Chi the news.

"The Rattle is here for just one purpose—to give you all the news. The Rattle intends to seek out every member of Theta Chi and make him think once more of the good old days in college—the happiest and best days of his life."

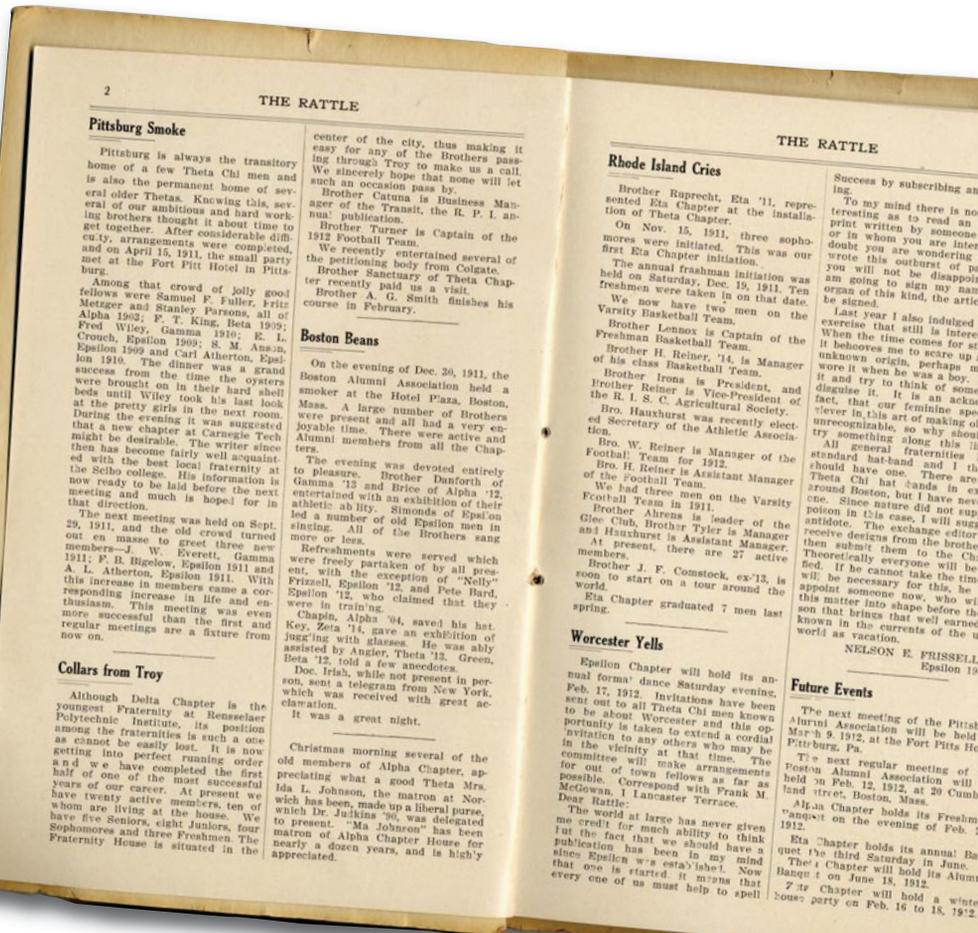
The first edition was a collection of letters from alumni chapters and undergraduates, under colorful headlines like "Boston Beans," "Pittsburgh Smoke" and "The Ravings of the Maine(iac)." Many of the letters were about recently passed or upcoming reunions, updates on the whereabouts of certain members, and news from the active chapters. Gamma Chapter, for instance, reported that 10 of its members had agreed to quit smoking, and that anyone caught would be forced to wear a "pompadour-style" haircut as punishment. The letter concluded that two pompadours had already appeared.

Another letter urged the Fraternity to adopt an official hatband, reasoning that "all general fraternities have a standard hat band, and I think we should have one."

Heath and Seamon, perhaps recognizing that the only way *The Rattle* could survive was with reader input, encouraged brothers to write in as often as possible:

"The Rattle will print anything that is Theta Chi news and earnestly asks that each brother consider himself a member of the staff and contribute generously to our columns."

Over the course of the next year, the magazine began to find its footing. Alumni and



Vol. I, No. 3 (June 1912)

The pages of *The Rattle* are filled reflections of the attitudes of society at the time. A call for brothers to attend the summer outing at Bass Point promised "athletic games, eats, drinks" and "others like her."

The very same issue, though, had a serious note: "We regret to state that at the present time Norwich University is under military quarantine. Owing to two cases of smallpox among students the authorities have placed the entire university, including the professors under quarantine. The April 1913 issue reported: "The Massachusetts men have passed through an epidemic of scarlet fever of 24 cases and four deaths." (Theta chapter lost no men during the 3 month seige.)



Vol. II, No. 4 (July 1914)

"It is a source of regret that any issue of The Rattle should go to press without news items from every active and alumni chapter."—John Foster

Vol. II, No. 3 (April 1914)

From a speech at the 1914 Convention in Boston: "That [Theta Chi] spirit has made Theta Chi branch out from one college to fourteen institutions, and if it is fostered, there will not be letters enough in the Greek alphabet to name all the chapters..." —Major Shuttleworth, Alpha/Norwich

chapter letters became a regularly occurring feature, as did reports on new chapter installations, Convention business and editorials about the political issues of the day. The reader response was tepid at times, but what little feedback Heath received indicated that *The Rattle* was slowly gaining momentum and a fan base.

A Greater Fraternity

Having reached their goal of “giving you all the news,” Heath and Seamon, per their agreement, turned the magazine over to the Grand Chapter in 1913 and resigned. John H. Foster (Alpha/Norwich 1903) became editor.



John H. Foster

Foster had editorial experience from his years as a cadet at Norwich where he worked as editor of the school’s newspaper *The Reveille*. Under his editorship, *The Rattle* took on more of a magazine-like character. In his first edition, he reported on the impending installations of Mu/California, Nu/Hampden-Sydney and Xi/Virginia. A biographical sketch of Fraternity founder Arthur Chase also appeared, as did one of retiring professor Samuel Shattuck (Alpha/Norwich 1860), who had held his post at the University of Illinois for over 40 years.

Foster also published reports from meetings of the Inter-Fraternity Conference (now the North-American Interfraternity Conference, or NIC), as well as stories from alumni about interesting trips, chapter visits and reunions. Editorials about important fraternity issues of the day—for example, questions about different rushing standards, inter-Greek competitiveness and the role of campus interfraternity councils—appeared as well.

When “business reasons” prompted Foster to resign in 1916, Percy Seamon was called back to the magazine, this time as editor. He took Foster’s innovations and ran with them, declaring his intention to make *The Rattle* “the mouthpiece of the Fraternity.”

Seamon tried introducing new departments for undergraduates and alumni, writing in 1917 that *The Rattle* “is and should be the voice of the Fraternity and that through this medium any member of Theta Chi should have an opportunity of presenting to the rest of the Fraternity anything that he wishes to say.”

For all its serious philosophizing, the magazine also maintained a wry sense of humor. Under Seamon’s editorship, weighty stories about hazing, the conflict in Europe, and alcohol use were balanced out by humorous anecdotes, poems, short stories and even illustrations.

An important issue that garnered a lot of attention among the brothers during this time was about Theta Chi’s expansion plan. From all corners of the country, brothers asked “are

we expanding too quickly? Not quickly enough? Where else should we be opening chapters? How shall we decide?” Brothers from all corners of the Fraternity wrote in on the subject, though a concrete plan would not be decided upon until 1927.

There is no doubt that the issue would have been settled sooner were it not for the disruption brought about by the United States’ entrance into World War I.

War and Transition

The full attention of Theta Chi turned to Europe following the United States’ formal entry into World War I. Although the decision to enter the war was unpopular for some, brothers rallied behind the president nonetheless. A June 1917 editorial gave voice to the Fraternity’s patriotic spirit:

“The call has come. We are now all actively preparing for the great conflict in which we, citizens of our beloved United States, must take part.”

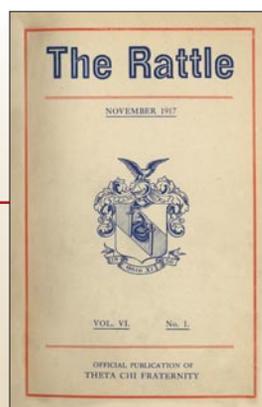
The Rattle’s war coverage was comprehensive. In addition to an increase in articles and editorials praising the virtues of patriotism and military service, a “Roll of Honor” listing all of the Theta Chis fighting overseas appeared in each edition, as well as a listing of those who had died. Seamon and other national fraternity figures called on readers staying at home to consider purchasing *Rattle* subscriptions for soldiers in the trenches who otherwise would not be able to.

Vol. V, No. 3 (March 1917)

“Although many of us were opposed to President Wilson, on of his policies and actions of the past, we nevertheless are behind him in every way in the present crisis... The only thing we must remember is our duty to our country.”

Vol. VI, No. 2 (February 1918)

Early editions contained letters from brothers in service. George E. Dole, Gamma ’17 wrote: “This is the first chance I have had to write since we landed here. ... The weather was ideal for the transporting of troops. The last five days were not fair, but that added to our safety for it is almost impossible for a submarine to attack in a heavy sea. The three days and nights that we traveled in the danger zone were days that the Lord had planned for us.”



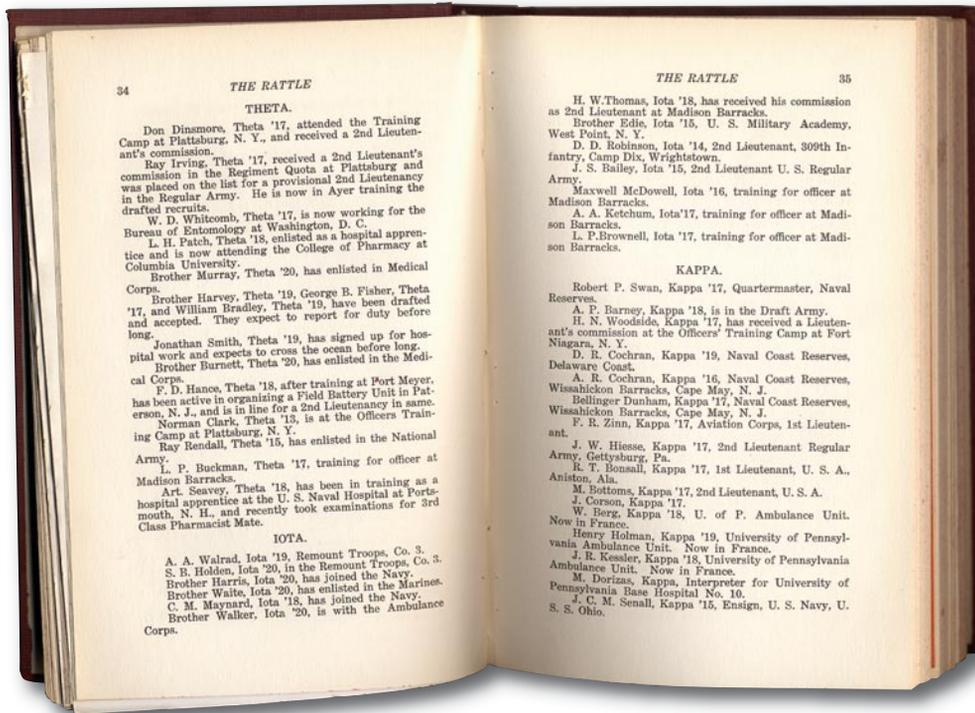
November 1917

Vol. V, No. 3 (March 1917)

“There are a great many of the brothers whose work for Theta Chi warrants recognition, but who, nevertheless, are not of Grand Chapter caliber. Think this over and be sure that you know just who you are voting for!”

Vol. VI, No. 3 (April 1918)

“Only one addition has been made to the Honor Roll since our previous revision: Brother Hatcher, who had already volunteered and received a cold shoulder from the Medics, finally landed a job with the Signal Corps in the Accounting Division. At present he is stationed at Hoboken, N.J.” —*New York University’s correspondent*



The Lasher Years

In 1925, Seamon announced his retirement, and rising star George Starr Lasher (Alpha Gamma/Michigan 1911) was named as his



George Starr Lasher

replacement. In his first edition, Lasher outlined his vision for a new kind of *Rattle*.

“To entertain, to instruct, to arouse mentally, and withal to make for more real brotherhood—such is the function of the fraternity magazine. Is it little wonder then that a man

should approach the task of editorship with a tremendous question as to whether he can measure up to the responsibilities and to the opportunities involved?”

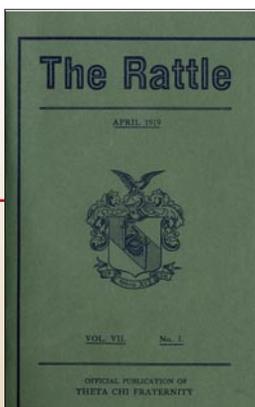
Lasher, or Starr as he was known, would do more than merely “measure up.” Over the course of his nearly 40-year career, he would go on to become one of the most beloved and accomplished editors in the interfraternal world. Starting with his first edition, Vol. XIV, No. 1, he made an aggressive series of improvements to not just the content of *The Rattle*, but also to its appearance and frequency. Gone were the one-column layouts and gray walls of text, as were the cartoons and silly stories. For the first time, photography and layout were just as important as the content, and the dimensions of the magazine were

Starting with the September 1917 November edition, The Roll of Honor was listed in each *Rattle* and listed the name and rank of each Theta Chi brother in active duty.

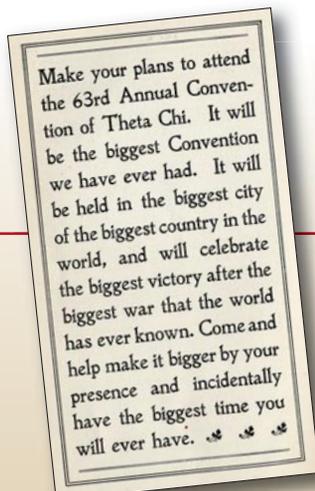
To celebrate the end of the conflict, the 1919 Convention was held at the Hotel Astor in New York City. Fraternities, and Theta Chis, were ready to rebuild. Seamon challenged all Theta Chis with the following editorial:

“Today Theta Chi calls her every son that they may renew their pledge of service and love to her splendid ideals... Theta Chi needs

and urges the support of her every son who solemnly swore to uphold her cause both as an active or as an alumni brother that she may emerge from the reconstruction period fully prepared and better equipped to meet the problems of the future. Theta Chi needs her every son! Will you respond, dear brother?”



April 1919



Vol. X, No. 1 (October 1921)

The struggle for submissions is a timeless struggle: “We want to scold some of you writing guys. Not all of you, but some of you. Some of the Correspondents of *The Rattle* and just doing fine and some are not. We want to set the delinquents up in a corner and throw rocks at them.” —Percy Seamon

Vol. XI, No. 1 (February 1922)

I want to take the best that Alpha has and sow it clear to Tau. I want the best that Beta boasts of and plant it as far as Mu and Alpha Epsilon. I want to gather up the best, the highest attainment of each chapter so that I may pass it on to the other chapters 'that they may profit thereby.' There is lots of bad water in the best of us, but the more good water we pour into the glass, the less room is there for the evil corks!”

—Harold A. Fellows (Kappa/Pennsylvania)

increased for easier handling. By 1928, *The Rattle* would be published an unprecedented eight times a year. With Starr at the helm, *The Rattle* adopted most of the characteristics of a truly modern magazine.

As far as content was concerned, Starr introduced a number of new columns, including: "As the Active Sees It," for undergraduate editorials; "When Greek Meets Greek," shared news from other fraternal organizations; "College Days and Nights," which replaced the long-problematic chapter letters; and "Editorially Speaking," an editorial column whose popularity among other organizations and editors would eventually place Starr at the center of the fraternity universe.

Starr's *Rattle* featured a second column, "Between You and Me," inspired by his undergraduate days spent discussing and attempting to solve "most of the problems of the universe." He envisioned it as the kind of column where he might "say just what I might say if you and I were sitting in front of the fireplace at an hour when we should be in bed."

Depression, War (again), and Moving Forward

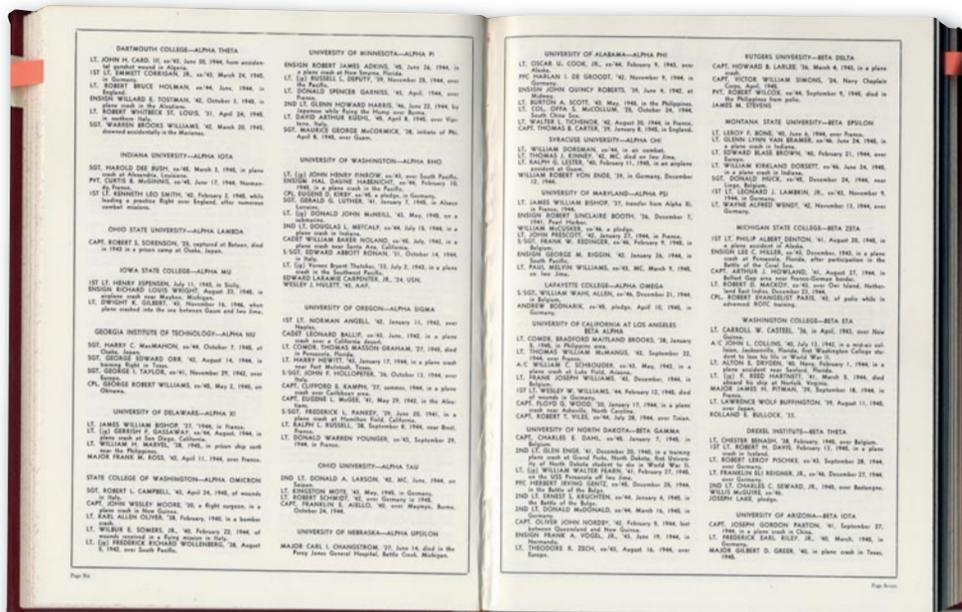
The prosperity of the 1920s gave way to austerity and caution in the 1930s. More articles advising chapters and members to adopt more conservative financial plans and cut back on extravagant expenses appeared, and the publication schedule dropped from eight editions a year to four.

Vol. XVII, No. 6 (March 1929)

"The most stupid thing about a fraternity chapter is its passion for conformity. Almost anything, no matter how asinine, will be adopted by a group if it is the thing that is done by other chapters on the campus." —George S. Lasher

Vol. XXI, No. 6 (March 1933)

At the height of the Depression in 1933, Lasher wrote, "Despite decreased enrollments and decreased incomes, the things fundamental to Theta Chi Fraternity will remain: loyalty to college, ambition to serve worthy, the development of men of sound character, and that most priceless of fraternity gifts, fellowship... Theta Chi shall live wherever Theta Chi is today."



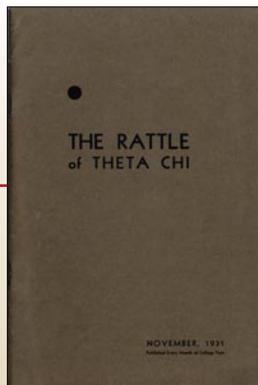
The 1948 Victory Memorial Issue listed the names of 342 brothers and pledges who had given their lives in WWII. Editor Lasher noted that the list was incomplete, as it was impossible to trace the records of all who had perished.

Having only four editions a year meant that magazine space came at a premium. Lasher made it clear that in order for the magazine to cover the same amount of ground as it did previously, it would "be possible only through the most careful, and, at times, ruthless editing, with emphasis placed upon condensation." This, however, was only the beginning.

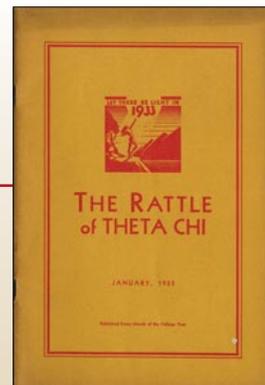
After the attacks on Pearl Harbor in 1941, Theta Chi again braced for the full impact of

war. Though the usual chapter news and Grand Chapter announcements did not completely disappear, there was a greater emphasis placed on the brothers who had either volunteered or been drafted for military service.

Coverage of the war was again comprehensive, but tempered by memories of the loss and struggle of the first World War. Many chapters saw huge reductions in membership; many active chapter rosters were reduced to



November 1931



January 1933

zero. Starr dubbed the April/May 1942 edition “The Service Issue,” and dedicated it to giving readers a “picture of Theta Chi campuses at war,” in the hopes of encouraging a worried and rapidly tiring fraternity:

“An inspiring story it will be, for already the articles and pictures which have been sent in by the chapters indicate that Theta Chi Fraternity is a leader in leadership,” Lasher wrote. “It should be a *Rattle* that will make everyone proud of the undergraduates.”

After the war ended, Theta Chi and the rest of America began the slow road to recovery. The much-hyped “Victory Memorial Issue” that appeared in August 1948 gave thanks and recognition to the many brothers home and abroad who contributed to the war effort. In compiling and editing all of the content needed for the edition, Starr described the issue as “the most difficult challenge faced in more than twenty years of magazine editorial experience.” It was hailed as a resounding success and an appropriate testament to Theta Chi’s fallen heroes.

A Greater Emphasis on the Modern

By 1951, *The Rattle* had undergone yet another change in direction. Theta Chi’s chapter roster had exploded since the conclusion of the war, and the sheer volume of content coming in to Starr’s office was too much to handle. Compounding the problem was the fact that a lot of what was submitted appealed

to a small or regional audience, which meant that underrepresented regions and chapters were growing unhappy with the content of the magazine.

Lasher wrote in the January 1951 edition: “Henceforth an effort will be made to give to the magazine a character more consistent with the role it should play in interesting readers, alumni and undergraduate, in problems that concern the Fraternity as a whole, in ideas that are stimulating to men with much in common, in news that will develop a pride in worth while achievements, in items that have human interest among all members, and in the exports, the experiments and the programs that are a part of the picture of college fraternity, those responsible are Theta Chis or belong to some other Greek organization.”

Chapter letters, which Lasher had “abolished” some 18 years earlier, would move to a new publication, *The Theta Chi News*, so more space could be devoted to “that which should interest, stimulate, and inspire all members of the fraternity and those outside its ranks who are interested in fraternity life.”

The tone and direction of *The Rattle* shifted as a result. Stories with headlines like “Battle with the Bottle,” about a fraternity member’s struggle with and recovery from alcohol addiction, “Holiness of Grades Questioned,” in which a member questioned the usefulness of the traditional grading system, and “The Message and the Medium,” which featured one alumnus’ innovative use of television to teach large classes began to

appear. Executive Director George Chapman (Omega/Penn State 1920) even authored an article titled “Just What Goes on Here?” detailing the inner workings of the Executive Office in Trenton, NJ.

Difficulties Ahead

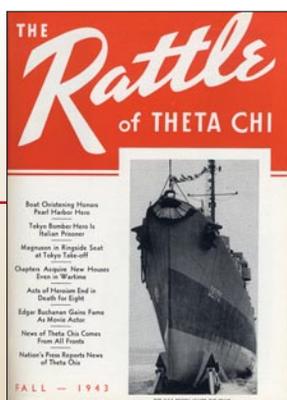
In the summer of 1963, the 77-year-old Lasher unexpectedly suffered a stroke while visiting his daughter, Mary Elizabeth, in Chicago. He was transferred to a nursing home in upstate New York. Mary Elizabeth, an accomplished journalist in her own right, took over as editor for the next two editions.

Even with Mary Elizabeth’s help, publication of *The Rattle* fell behind schedule and the search for a full-time replacement began. The Grand Chapter unanimously named Lasher Editor Emeritus in the fall of that year and appointed Walter R. Collins (Delta Gamma/West Virginia Wesleyan 1956) as editor.

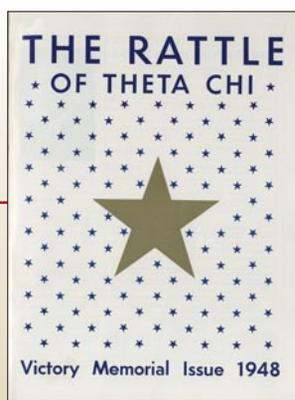
Lasher died on March 19, 1964, in Buffalo, NY. His passing was mourned not only by Theta Chi, but also by the interfraternal community and the many chapters and campuses that he impacted throughout the course of his life. Lasher’s editorship spanned a total of 39 years, and bore witness to the Great



Walter R. Collins



Fall 1943



Victory Memorial Issue 1948

Vol. XXX, No. 5 (April–May 1942)

“An inspiring story it will be, for already the articles and pictures which have been sent in by the chapters indicate that Theta Chi Fraternity is a leader in leadership. It should be a *Rattle* that will make everyone proud of the undergraduates.”

—George S. Lasher, on the upcoming “Service Issue”



Vol. XXXVII, No. 1

By 1949, Theta Chi had become “A Truly National Fraternity,” and the map on the cover reflected the spread of chapters from coast to coast. This explosion in membership and diversity of chapters forced changes in content as the magazine took a more national appeal.

Depression, the repeal of Prohibition, two wars, the Cuban Missile Crisis and other significant global events. Even when things seemed at their worst, Starr always maintained an optimistic journalistic tone that, although not ignorant to the state of the world, assured readers that America and Theta Chi would persevere.

With Collins at the helm, *The Rattle* changed once again. The magazine now contained fewer but longer feature stories and a more open layout. Chapter letters, in a style resembling today's chapter news briefs, also resurfaced, gradually taking up more and more space in subsequent editions.

Unfortunately, by the fall of 1968, *The Rattle* had fallen almost a year behind schedule. Sensing a need to act, the Grand Chapter assigned all publication duties directly to the Executive Office.



Ed Jacobson

Newly appointed Executive Director Howard Alter (Omega/Penn State 1941) dispatched his assistant, M. Walt Davis (Delta Upsilon/Arizona State 1965) and Senior Field Secretary Ed Jacobson (Sigma/Oregon State 1967) to get things back on track. In addition to their regular duties at the Executive Office, Davis and Jacobson worked weekends clipping stories, doing the layouts, and editing content



Jeff Pierfy

Slivinske (Gamma Sigma/Duke 1968) in the summer of 1973.

Slivinske, an English major and former member of the field staff, would hold on to the post for the next 20 years. He introduced several improvements to the magazine's look and feel, wrote his own content, and was an active member of the College Fraternity Editors' Association (now the Fraternity Communications Association). He served as president of the CFEA in 1977.



Dale Slivinske

Under Slivinske's editorship, *The Rattle* finally returned to a regular publishing schedule. Chapter and alumni news took up a large portion of each edition, as did Executive Office updates and announcements. Feature stories about prominent alumni and undergraduate members were common as well.

to journalistic standards. Davis resigned in 1969, and Jacobson followed suit a year later. Their replacement, Jeff Pierfy (Epsilon Rho/Rider 1965) would sit in the editor's chair for a short time before being replaced by Associate Executive Director Dale

When Dale Slivinske died on Aug. 28, 1989, Executive Director Dave Westol (Beta Zeta/Michigan State 1973) took over the responsibilities of the magazine until a full-time replacement could be found. That replacement was newly hired Director of Development Dr. Wesley K. Wicker (Alpha Phi/Alabama 1979).



Dave Westol

Around the same time, ownership of *The Rattle* was transferred to Theta Chi Funds for Leadership and Education, Inc., a public foundation that provided individual scholarships and financing for the Fraternity's leadership and educational programming. Editorial content took on an educational character, but also began to cater toward the Fraternity's fundraising needs in general.



Wes Wicker

In his first edition as editor, Wicker, announced the beginning of "a new theme which the Fraternity will pursue in the next three years: 'Excellence in Theta Chi.' We plan to feature outstanding alumni, outstanding undergraduates and outstanding chapters

Vol. 30, No. 4 (Summer 1969)

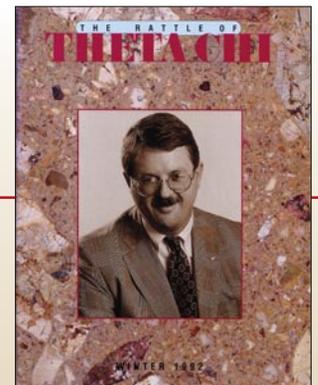
"With this issue of *The Rattle* we, after several agonizing years, finally have the Summer 1969 issue out while it is still summer and still 1969. Since the Executive Office has assumed, or more correctly was assigned, responsibility for editing *The Rattle* in the fall of 1968, this has been our goal!" — Howard R. Alter

Vol. 71, No. 1 (Spring 1991)

"We know that you've missed *The Rattle*. We did, too... The next *Rattle* will be bigger, better... and sooner. Thanks for sticking with us." —Dave Westol



Summer 1969



Winter 1992

in the next six issues of the magazine, counting this issue and through 1995.”

Wicker sought to make *The Rattle* more closely resemble that of mainstream publications like *People*, and did so by shifting the editorial spotlight back to the Fraternity’s alumni base. Wicker wrote a substantial portion of each edition’s content, and interviewed many of Theta Chi’s most prominent alumni to develop the profiles.

Wicker announced his resignation from Theta Chi Funds in 1996, but would remain as editor until the completion of the fall 1996 edition. El Ahlwardt (Gamma Rho/Florida State 1973) was named as his replacement.



El Ahlwardt

Under El’s leadership, *The Rattle*’s tone became more expository—in addition to topics related to alumni and Theta Chi Funds, El developed stories that dealt with Theta Chi’s traditions, history and culture. The spring 2003 edition, for example, investigated how the Fraternity’s badge was manufactured.

In the spring of 2006, El announced his resignation. Cathie Morgan was named his replacement and served as editor until the publication of the spring 2008 edition.

In the spring of 2006, El announced his resignation. Cathie Morgan was named his replacement and served as editor until the publication of the spring 2008 edition.

Today

In 2008, ownership of *The Rattle* transferred back to the Grand Chapter. Leadership and Education Consultant Bart Zino (Iota Theta/Central Florida 2008) was assigned to develop the 2009 edition—the year’s only edition—and edited it that fall between chapter visits. Zino was named editor in January of 2010.



Bart Zino

The new *Rattle* under Zino’s editorship took on a cleaner, more modern design. He reintroduced Chapter News and Alumni Briefs as regular departments and developed a content strategy that appealed to both alumnus and undergraduate readers. In contrast with past editions where a majority of the content was generated in-house, a substantial portion of *The Rattle*’s content is now written directly by alumni and undergraduates.

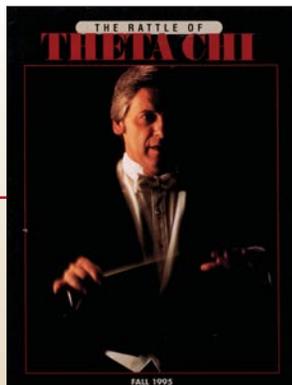
Zino also changed how *The Rattle* is read. The spring 2010 edition officially kicked off *The Rattle*’s digital transition, allowing readers access to a whole new kind of magazine—one with links, videos, and extra content. Today, *The Rattle* reaches approximately 35,000 Theta Chis, interfraternal friends and college/university administrators.

Between You and Me

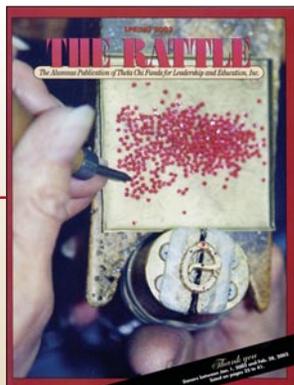
With the near-instant access to information made possible by e-mail, social media and the Internet, it might seem strange to some that the Fraternity continues to publish a twice-a-year print magazine. But, I believe that no blog post or Tweet could ever adequately replace the richness of a powerful feature story or the permanence of a chapter’s record of accomplishments. Even today, *The Rattle* is one of the Fraternity’s most consistently reliable historical records.

It is also our way of representing the best Theta Chi has to offer to the rest of the world. In that sense, Heath and Seamon’s goals of having a “fraternity mouthpiece” endure even a century later.

I believe that *The Rattle* remains a work in progress, especially as we continue to grow *The Rattle*’s digital presence. The rapid pace at which technology is evolving will enable us to do increasingly interesting things, but only if we stay on top of the trends and keep looking for new and better ways to “bring you all the news.” The digital *Rattle* you see today is only the beginning. As long as there are stories to tell—and brothers to tell them—the presses will keep rolling. ■



Fall 1995



Spring 2003



Spring 2010

The Norwich Housing Corporation Salutes Pat O'Connor

BY WES WICKER (ALPHA PHI/ALABAMA 1979)



The Norwich Housing Corporation (NHC), formerly known as the National Board of Trustees, offers loans to local house corporations for life safety improvements, house renovations and construction loans. NHC President Patrick T. O'Connor completes his term of office on August 31, 2012. Thank you, Pat, for your continued service to Theta Chi.

For the past 10 years, the NHC board has been blessed to have the leadership of Patrick T. O'Connor (Chi/Auburn 1978). Pat is a past National President and served on the Grand Chapter for eight years prior to his election to the NHC. When Pat first joined the board in 2002, he had already enjoyed a long tenure and service to the National Fraternity. As an NHC board member, Brother O'Connor beat his admirable record, logging countless hours while working with undergraduate members and alumni house corporations in building better, safer and more attractive fraternity houses across the country.

Pat brought his distinct knowledge of National Fraternity operations to the NHC, and helped transition it from a real estate ownership corporation to a real estate lending agency. As an attorney, Pat donated countless professional hours, pro bono, to solving real estate-related legal issues, and has guided our fraternity and the Norwich Housing Corporation through several difficult challenges. Pat's wisdom and dedication have served the Fraternity very well.

Pat's leadership as President of the National Fraternity and as president of the NHC—18 years of voluntary service to Theta Chi in all—

ranks among that of our most elite leaders, such as Dave DeVol, Dale Taylor and the late Howard Alter. Very few brothers have served on both the Grand Chapter and The Norwich Housing Corporation. Fewer still have served as president of those boards.

There is an obvious reason why Pat's involvement in the Fraternity became so prevalent. It was in his genes...literally. Pat is a double-legacy Theta Chi. His grandfather, Benjamin J. O'Connor (1923), was a charter member of Alpha Nu Chapter at Georgia Tech. His father, Daniel P. O'Connor (1954) also joined Theta Chi at Tech.

While Pat didn't follow in their footsteps in terms of his college choice, he did become a Theta Chi at Auburn University. Today, the tradition continues: Brother O'Connor and his wife, Carol, are the proud parents of three Chi Chapter sons: Thomas (2005), Tyler (2009), and Tate (2015), a freshman quarterback for the Auburn Tigers.

Pat's involvement in Theta Chi has not been exclusively restricted to the National Fraternity. He has long been involved with the growth and development of his own chapter. Brother O'Connor was instrumental in the planning, fundraising and construction of the

current Chi chapter house, one of the Fraternity's most impressive facilities. It bears noting that Brother O'Connor was also one of lead contributors to the recently built chapter house at Georgia Tech, another impressive facility. He dedicated his gift to honor his father and grandfather.

I first met Pat when we were undergraduate brothers, at the archrival institutions of Alabama and Auburn, respectively. Auburn and Alabama students, alumni and fans have a general dislike of each other that permeates their relationships, both on and off the grid-iron. But in Pat O'Connor, I found that brotherhood supersedes college rivalries, and we developed a quick friendship.

Ten years later, Pat was an up-and-coming attorney in Savannah, GA, and I was a graduate student at the University of Georgia. I called on Pat to assist the chapter in a legal matter, and we had the opportunity to renew our friendship, albeit over an unpleasant circumstance. A couple of years later, I became the director of Theta Chi Funds for Leadership and Education, Inc., and I forwarded on Pat's nomination as a candidate for the Grand Chapter. His natural leadership skills were quickly appreciated, and he became National President within a couple of years.

Brother O'Connor is well-known in the state of Georgia's legal community. He has been recognized as one of the "Top 100 Lawyers" in Georgia on several occasions, and he is a leader of the Georgia Bar Association.

Patrick T. O'Connor's family legacy in Theta Chi, and civic and fraternal leadership make me proud to be considered as one of his friends and fraternity brothers. Job well done, Brother O'Connor. ■

The O'Connor Legacy



Benjamin J. (1923)



Daniel P. (1954)



Thomas (2005)



Tyler (2009)



Tate (2015)

Wesley K. Wicker, Ed.D., serves as Counselor to the Norwich Housing Corporation. He is the former President of The Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi, former Director of Development for Theta Chi Funds for Leadership and Education, Inc. and a former Editor of *The Rattle*.



An innovative, efficiency-enabling tool that networks our membership, myThetaChi is a chapter's communication portal and the go-to place for ΘX resources for undergraduates and alumni alike.

Your myThetaChi provides:

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myΘX will network our membership, be a chapter's communication portal and will serve as your on-line resource for access to Theta Chi.

Dear brothers,

There is a Chinese proverb that says, “Spring is sooner recognized by plants than by men.” As I see leaves budding on the trees and color returning to the landscape, I am reminded of the sense of growth that spring brings.

In a way, I see the same thing happening with Theta Chi. Over the course of the past several years, our beloved fraternity has been experiencing growth in a variety of ways. We had more new initiates and more undergraduate members last year than in the previous 14 years, and average chapter size is at a 17-year high. At the same time, we have seen consistent growth in the number of young men participating in our leadership development programs.



I have no doubt that the growth that Theta Chi has been experiencing is directly related to the growth in participation at our leadership development programs. With quality leaders come quality chapters. Our chapters are larger and stronger today because we are preparing our undergraduate members to lead.

The Foundation Chapter plays a significant role in this process because it provides much of the funding for those leadership development programs. Over the course of the past several years, The Foundation Chapter has increased its asset base from just over \$4 million to just under \$10 million. This growth has resulted in additional benefits and resources that are making a difference in the lives of brothers across the country.

Unfortunately, not all of our undergraduate members are able to participate in our leadership development programs. There are still a significant number of young men who have never had the opportunity to grow in terms of their leadership capacity. In most cases, cost is the prohibitive factor.

We want to ensure that every one of our undergraduate members has the opportunity to participate in one of our leadership development programs. Whether it is a Mid-Year Leadership Conference, the Deranian Presidents Conference, The Initiative Academy or National Convention and School of Fraternity Practices, we want these aspiring leaders to graduate ready to lead their communities, their campuses, their chapters and, most importantly, themselves.

As our Creed states, Theta Chi is “nurtured by resolute men.” It is our duty to prepare our undergraduate members to be precisely that. Just as spring brings natural growth, Theta Chi must bring personal growth to the young men who represent the future of our beloved fraternity.

In order to achieve this worthy goal, The Foundation Chapter is focusing on its own growth. We must grow the amount of support that we provide to our leadership development programs by growing the amount of support that our alumnus members provide. We must acquire new supporters, reactivate lapsed supporters and increase current supporters. We must grow the average gift size, the number of supporters and the total dollars raised.

We greatly appreciate the generosity of our supporters, who exemplify our motto, “An Assisting Hand.” If you are not already a supporter, we ask that you consider becoming one by making a gift. When you support The Foundation Chapter, you help us perpetuate the traditions and the ideals of Theta Chi!

Better Because of Theta Chi,

David May Foundation Chapter President
Zeta Sigma/Wisconsin-River Falls 1970

P.S. — If you have any questions or suggestions regarding The Foundation Chapter, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. I can be reached by e-mail at foundationpresident@thetachi.org.

build. promote. advance.



The Foundation Chapter Salutes its 2011 Donors

The Foundation Chapter is grateful to all those who have contributed to our mission of promoting the academic, leadership and service ideals of Theta Chi Fraternity. We are very proud of the men who continue to give back to their Fraternity regardless of their personal circumstances, ages, or chapter affiliations.

We would especially like to acknowledge Theta Chi's most generous members, without whose gifts our scholarships would not have been possible.

Membership in the Foundation Chapter's giving levels is based on cumulative lifetime giving. A key to giving levels can be found on this page.

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(Level indicates lifetime giving total)

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\$25,000+

Chairman's Council
\$10,000-\$24,999

Freeman Fellow
\$5,000-\$9,999

Chase Council
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The Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity Revenue and Expenses

For the Year ending June 30, 2011 (Pro-Forma)

Combined Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Revenues and support

| | |
|--|-------------|
| Contributions | \$400,670 |
| Interest and dividends | 100,153 |
| Realized gain on sale of investments | 11,066 |
| Royalties | 9,284 |
| Investment income- perpetual trust | 238,242 |
| Change in value of perpetual trusts | 762,834 |
| Change in value of charitable trusts | (1,074) |
| Other | 174 |
| Total revenues and support. | \$1,521,349 |

Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| Scholarships and grants | \$371,962 |
| Alumni programming | 921 |
| Management and general. | 176,418 |
| Fundraising | 26,863 |
| Total expenses | \$576,164 |

Change in net assets

| | |
|---|-------------|
| before unrealized gain on investments | \$945,185 |
| Unrealized gain on investments. | 481,924 |
| Change in net assets. | \$1,427,109 |
| Net assets, beginning of year | \$8,622,409 |

Net assets, end of year \$10,049,518

Statement of Financial Position

Assets

| | |
|---|--------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents. | \$258,606 |
| Trust income receivable. | 216,118 |
| Contribution receivable. | 144,369 |
| Prepaid expenses and other assets | 5,790 |
| Inventory. | 1,150 |
| Investments – Market | 3,887,334 |
| Beneficial interest trust | 5,819,997 |
| Charitable remainder trusts. | 13,206 |
| Funds held for others. | 108,457 |
| Total assets. | \$10,455,027 |

Liabilities and Net Assets

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Accounts payable. | \$814 |
| Accrued expenses and other liabilities | 3,059 |
| Scholarships payable. | 260,000 |
| Payable to Theta Chi Fraternity, Inc. | 30,336 |
| Liability under charitable remainder trusts | 2,843 |
| Funds held for others. | 108,457 |
| Total liabilities | \$405,509 |

Net Assets

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Unrestricted | 513,459 |
| Board Designated Allocation. | 1,615,320 |
| Temporary restricted | 119,824 |
| Permanently restricted | 7,800,915 |
| Total net assets | \$10,049,518 |

Total liabilities and net assets \$10,455,027

The above financial information was compiled from financial statements that are available upon request for a nominal fee to cover copying and shipping costs.

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3. Zeta Sigma/Wisconsin-River Falls \$5,165.00
4. Alpha Iota/Indiana \$4,400.00
5. Gamma Upsilon/Bradley \$4,390.50
6. Alpha Delta/Purdue \$3,325.00
7. Eta Pi/East Stroudsburg \$2,951.36
8. Alpha Upsilon/Nebraska \$2,726.00
9. Gamma Rho/Florida State \$2,703.04
10. Delta Kappa/Ball State \$2,666.17

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6. Alpha Nu/Georgia Tech. 31
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8. Gamma Upsilon/Bradley 28
9. Beta Sigma/Lehigh 28
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2. Gamma Zeta/Oklahoma State. . . 4%
3. Zeta Kappa/Ohio Northern 4%
4. Gamma Lambda/Denver 4%
5. Epsilon Psi/NJIT 3%
6. Zeta Sigma/Wisconsin-River Falls 3%
7. Beta Kappa/Hamline 3%
8. Eta Pi/East Stroudsburg 3%
9. Iota Lambda/Longwood 3%
10. Beta Nu/Case Western 3%

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“As our Creed states, Theta Chi is ‘nurtured by resolute men.’
It is our duty to prepare our undergraduate members to
be precisely that. Just as spring brings natural growth,
Theta Chi must bring personal growth to the young men who
represent the future of our beloved fraternity.”

—David May, Foundation Chapter President

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Michael A. Brinson

IOTA THETA

University of Central Florida

SNAKE & SWORD

William B. White

Credit: Rich Boroway



Brothers Lippold, Reynolds, Nasca, Vasiloff, Boroway and Rumanowski commemorate their 60th birthdays by making a “youth statement” in the French Alps.

Delta/RPI

BY RICH BOROWAY (1973)

In the fall of 2010, **John Lippold** (1973) contacted a few of his classmates and proposed an adventure for 2011, the year we would all turn 60 years old. We had taken many golf trips over the years, but John wanted to make a “youth” statement and do something a little more challenging. Being an occasional cyclist and a big follower of the Tour de France, he decided that cycling up Alpe d’Huez, in the Central French Alps, might be an appropriate challenge. Alpe d’Huez (just outside Grenoble) is arguably the most famous and one of the most difficult climbs in the Tour de France (9.5 miles at an average 8% grade—some sections are 12%).

To our surprise, he got three takers, and so the planning and training began. John found a bed and breakfast halfway up the famous mountain, and there was no turning back. The group arrived on Sept. 11, 2011, and after a day of acclimatization, successfully conquered the beast two days later. The climb was everything they had bargained for (and much, much more).

Besides John, the victorious riders were **Paul Reynolds** (1973), **Carl Nasca** (1973), **Chris Vasiloff** and Chris’ wife Cyndie. **Rich Boroway** (1973) and **Ray Rumanowski** (1973) were also on the trip and volunteered to play the extremely critical role of “SAG Wagon” drivers. The six Delta Chapter brothers (and three wives) spent a glorious week in the Alps and finished the trip off with a visit to Paris. John is already planning for 2021 and our 70th birthdays.

Credit: Mike Testa



Eta Chapter brothers and friends gather for a picture at their quarterly dinner meeting in December. Pictured from left to right, bottom row: **Jim Sullivan** (1960), **Bob Piacitelli** (1962), **John Eastman** (1962), **Dave Cunha** (2013), **Aaron Attwater** (2013), **Howie Nesbitt** (1968), **Dick Gammell** (1957), **Dick Hagopian** (1962). Top row: **Mike Testa** (1963), **Russ Knight** (1983), **Alex Binder** (2014), **Gary Henry** (Gamma/Maine 1980), **Kevin Chronley** (1982), **Ed McGlinchey** (1961), **Angelo DeStefano** (1962), **Pete Rosen** (1993), **Ron Smith** (1958)

Gamma/Maine

Judson Cake (2001) won his fourth Bangor Five-Mile Road Race, held on Labor Day in 2011. Cake took the lead early and completed the course in 25 minutes, 48 seconds, beating his 2005 record by 19 seconds. He has won every Bangor Labor Day race that he has competed in.

Eta/Rhode Island

The alumni of Eta Chapter continued their traditional quarterly dinner meeting for the 12th year in a row. Attendance at these events is between 10-20 brothers from classes ranging from the 1950s to the 1990s. Undergraduates have also begun attending since the reinstatement of the chapter in 2011. Most in attendance are from the local area but almost every dinner makes a surprise visit by a brother who travels to meet with the group.

Theta/Massachusetts

Wayne Barcomb (1966) finished writing his fifth mystery-thriller novel, *Pressure Point*, a follow-up to his 2009 novel *The Hunted*. Before he was a writer, Brother Barcomb worked in the college textbook publishing industry and is a past chairman of the higher education division of the American Association of Publishers. Look for *The Hunted* in bookstores later this year.

Alex Kasendorf (1996) was presented with the Helping Hand Award by the San Fernando Valley Jaycees at their annual Gala Dinner in October 2011.

Rho/Illinois

Rho Chapter celebrated the 95th anniversary of its founding on the University of Illinois campus with a reunion weekend held from Oct. 14–16, 2011. The event also marked the 20th anniversary of Rho's return to Illinois. In attendance were more than 60 chapter alumni representing the classes of 1961 through 2011. Events included a reunion mixer held on Friday night and a tailgate barbecue on Saturday at the chapter house.

The chapter also gathered to remember Brothers Albert Krusemark, III (1963), C. Victor (Vic) Manny (1970), Jeffrey Speigel (1995) and Joshua Rymarz (2013), who passed to the Chapter Eternal since the last gathering five years ago. Special thanks go out to reunion organizers **Charles Davis** (1967) and **Scott Passmore** (1992) for their efforts in planning the weekend.

Rho alumni wishing to reconnect with fellow alums, update their contact information or receive news about future events should e-mail Chuck Davis (chazzied11@msn.com) or Scott Passmore (sgp33609@gmail.com).

Sigma/Oregon State

On Oct. 22, 19 Sigma Chapter alumni representing the classes of 1979 through 1985 gathered in Seattle for the Oregon State vs. Washington State football game. Brothers from Maryland, Wisconsin, Texas, California, Washington and Oregon were all in attendance. The Beavers won, 44-21.

Alpha Gamma/Michigan

Ryan Waddington (1993) and **Tim Streit** (2000) established Huron River Venture Partners and Huron River Ventures I, L.P., a \$15 million venture capital fund based in Ann Arbor, MI. The fund focuses on early stage clean technology companies in the state of Michigan. HRV has received investments from the State of Michigan, DTE Energy Company and a number of private investors and counts **Robert Buckler** (1970) among its advisory board members.

Alpha Epsilon/Stanford

Professor Don Boileau (1964) was named George Mason University's 2011 Faculty Member of the Year. He was recognized by the Mason Alumni Association at their annual Celebration of Distinction in April 2011. Boileau began his career at GMU in 1981 and became chair of the communication department in 1987, a post he held for 13 years. He has published more than 35 articles teaching

Credit: Scott Passmore



Rho alumni commemorate the chapter's 95th anniversary in October. Pictured from left to right: Bill Sailor (1963), Chuck Davis (1967), Brian Rinker (2001)

Credit: Jeff Ryman



Sigma brothers cheer on the Beavers in Seattle.

Credit: James Sun



More than 225 guests attended Beta Alpha's Alumni Day Tailgate in Pasadena. The Alumni Day Tailgate event has become a much-anticipated tradition for Beta Alpha alumni

education and contributed to the development of the first doctoral program in community college education at GMU.

Beta Alpha/UCLA

On Saturday, Oct. 29, 2011, Beta Alpha Chapter welcomed over 225 guests to its 12th



Rogan Kersh returns to Wake Forest.

Annual Alumni Day Tailgate at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena for UCLA's Homecoming football game versus the University of California. Five decades of Beta Alphas were in attendance, as were brothers from more than seven Theta Chi chapters. The chapter extends its congratulations to Co-Chairs **Jeff Mahony** (1989) and **James Sun** (1992) for putting on Beta Alpha's third consecutive alumni event in which more than 200 guests attended.

Gamma Omicron/Wake Forest

Rogan Kersh (1986) will return to his alma mater as Wake Forest's new Provost starting this summer. Brother Kersh is currently a professor of public policy and Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at New York University's Wagner Graduate School of Public Service.

Gamma Upsilon/Bradley

Chuck Ebeling (1966) was inducted into Bradley University's elite Centurion Society at Bradley's Founder's Day convocation on Oct. 14. Brother Ebeling is an accomplished public relations and communications professional whose career included 15 years with McDonald's Corp. He retired in 2000 as McDonalds' vice president of communications and chief spokesperson. Today, he helps promote public relations and community engagement through the Ebeling PR-ize at both Bradley and Loyola universities. The PR-ize is a program in which students work in teams to complete a public relations campaign in tandem with local businesses and non-profit organizations. The Centurion Society is limited to the 100 most influential living alumni of Bradley University. Brother Ebeling is the fifth Theta Chi to join the Society after **Gilbert Gordon** (1955), **Gen. John Shalikashvili** (1958), **Bruce Bagge** (1962), and **Howard McKibben** (1962).

What happened to my update?

While *The Rattle* staff tries his best to ensure that each edition of *The Rattle* contains relevant and timely news updates, he regrets that, due to time and space constraints, he cannot always accommodate every story that is submitted for the edition that it may have been intended for. Not all submitted stories will be selected for publication. However, readers are still asked and encouraged to notify the editor of new developments or stories by e-mailing him at rattle@thetachi.org. Contributors with time-sensitive material are asked to notify *The National Eagle*, Theta Chi's breaking news blog, by e-mailing nationaleagle@thetachi.org. The editor reserves the right to edit or omit story submissions prior to publication. Not all submitted stories will be selected for publication.

Credit: Jim Nothel



Delta Sigma brothers reunite in Saratoga Springs for a day of brotherhood and catching up.

Delta Beta/Georgia

National President Doug Allen (1990) received Sigma Chi's Grand Consul Citation for interfraternal service. The award was presented by Past Grand Consul Wayne Tucker (of Sigma Chi Fraternity) at a meeting of national fraternity presidents earlier this year.

Delta Sigma/Clarkson

Fifty-five brothers from the classes of 1978 through 1991 attended a reunion for the Delta Sigma Chapter on Sept. 28, 2011, in Saratoga Springs, NY. Fifteen spouses and girlfriends attended as well.

Credit: Don Edmonds



Colley winners Don Edmonds, James Sears and Vance Maultsby, Jr., presented their award plaques to Delta Phi Chapter in honor of the completion of their new chapter house. Former chapter president Landry Lewis (2011) is third from left.

Credit: Harrison Haas



Photographer Harrison Haas takes in Chicago by stepping out onto the Willis Tower Skydeck.

Delta Phi/North Texas

Three past Colley Award recipients reunited for the dedication of Delta Phi's new chapter house on Oct. 22, 2011. Brothers **Don R. Edmonds** (1958), **James M. Sears** (1961), and **Vance K. Maulsby, Jr.** (1974), agreed to donate their award plaques to the chapter for permanent preservation and display in the foyer of the new house. They formally presented the awards at Delta Phi's Oct. 3 chapter meeting and gave a few brief remarks. Edmonds won the award in 1958, Sears in 1962, and Maulsby in 1974. The Colley Award is Theta Chi's highest undergraduate honor and is awarded annually.

Epsilon Zeta/Tampa

Harrison Haas (2008), a New England-based photographer, had some of his work published in *The History of Gunstock: Skiing in the Belknap Mountains*, in October 2011.

Zeta Pi/Old Dominion

The Theta Chi Alumni Association of Old Dominion University's sixth annual Helping Hand Invitational Golf Tournament raised over \$1,200 for ForKids. The fundraiser yielded an additional \$1,200 for the chapter's scholarship fund. **Michael Barnum** (2005) and **Scott Reinen** (2003) served as the event's main contacts.

We want your news!

Please send any photos, story ideas, or materials for publication, as well as address changes, to the Editor at: rattle@thetachi.org.



ODU men's basketball coach Blaine Taylor (front row, second from left) was initiated into Zeta Pi Chapter. Lee Edmondson (1972) is front row, left and Regional Counselor Patrick Crute is front row, right.

In other news, Zeta Pi recently initiated ODU Men's Basketball **Coach Blaine Taylor** on Sept. 24, 2011. Coach Taylor has attended and spoken at Zeta Pi alumni events for many years. As an undergraduate, he played varsity basketball at the University of Montana. Although he had been interested in joining Theta Chi's Beta Epsilon Chapter, he was not allowed to because of other commitments.

Eta Mu/Findlay

Mayor Adam Brannon (2007) was recently re-elected mayor of the city of Bellefontaine, OH. A Democrat, Mayor Brannon received nearly 63 percent of the vote to defeat Republican challenger Robert Lentz. He first

assumed office at the age of 22 on Jan. 1, 2008, after a closely contested race. Now in his second term, Mayor Brannon is currently the youngest mayor in the state of Ohio.

Theta Epsilon/Kennesaw State

Daniel Hill (2011) participated in the United States Army Civil Affairs and Psychological Operations Command's 14th annual Randy Oler Operation Toy Drop at Fort Bragg, NC. Soldiers who donate a toy are entered into a lottery to conduct a parachute jump with a foreign jumpmaster. Ten countries participated in the event this year and helped collect over 20,000 toys for the local community and other nationwide causes.

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Registration closes June 15. Go to www.thetachi.org for more details!

Where's my chapter?

Did you remember to submit your chapter news update by the published deadline? News briefs for the spring edition are always due no later than February 15 each year; the fall deadline is August 15. Not sure what to write about? News briefs typically report awards that the chapter or an individual member won, a recent philanthropic event that the chapter successfully hosted, and/or community service projects (these are just a few suggestions). We also want to know about brothers who have been elected to IFC or student government positions. Still not sure what to report on? Keeping reading below or e-mail the Editor at rattle@thetachi.org.

Omega/Penn State

For the third time in five years, Theta Chi won Penn State's Homecoming Competition. In the other two years, the chapter won second and third place, respectively.

Alpha Zeta/Rochester

Alpha Zeta Chapter won this year's KD Shamrock 5K Run/Walk at Rochester University. Twenty brothers ran in the event, raising \$350 for Prevent Child Abuse America. The chapter also received the distinction of "Fittest Fraternity" for having the top eight runners with the best cumulative time.

Alpha Kappa/West Virginia

Matthew Webster (2011) was elected IFC Rush Chairman at the end of the fall semester.

Alpha Tau/Ohio

In December 2011, the men of Alpha Tau participated in a Secret Santa event organized by the Salvation Army. They raised \$400 and used the money to buy gifts for a local family in Athens (OH) for Christmas.

Alpha Psi/Maryland

During the fall 2011 semester, 15 Alpha Psi brothers traveled to Anacostia Watershed for a community service project. In the early morning rain, they helped clean up the local neighborhoods, parks, streambeds, and riverbanks that dot the Anacostia River.

Mike Walsh (2012) was elected president of the Accounting and Business Association and Raghav Ahuja (2013) was elected vice president of finance for the Business and Information Technology Society. Vas BlagodarSKIY (2014) was selected to be a part of the University's prestigious Hinman CEOs entrepreneurial program, in which participants have one year to develop a business plan from the ground up. The program culminates



Alpha Zetas celebrate their new title as Rochester's "Fittest Fraternity" at this year's KD Shamrock 5K Run/Walk.

in a presentation of ideas to past and present Hinman CEOs.

Lastly, the chapter implemented a new high school scholarship program, targeted toward potential new members. The chapter awarded \$1,000 in scholarship money to qualified applicants.

Beta Zeta/Michigan State

In the fall 2011 semester, the chapter earned the highest fraternity GPA, saw their chapter house go through a major renovation, and worked with the MSU Office of Greek Life to develop new philanthropy programs. Max Isaacoff (2013) took first place at Kappa Alpha Theta's philanthropy event Mr. Casanova.

The chapter has also been recovering from a fire that occurred in the chapter house on October 30th. Since the fire, Beta Zeta Chapter had its walls re-plastered, new doors put in, ceilings remodeled, basement floors re-sealed, game room remodeled and residential areas re-carpeted. Brothers who find themselves in Michigan are encouraged to visit.

Beta Eta/Washington College

The brothers of Beta Eta Chapter spent their Valentine's Day with the residents of the Heron Point retirement and assisted living home. Every brother participated.

Beta Lambda/Akron

Mike Nalepka (2013), Beta Lambda's first two-term chapter president, was elected IFC President in early 2012.

The chapter is also excited to report that a major project to renovate the chapter house is almost complete, thanks to the nearly \$70,000 in alumni contributions over the last three years.

Originally built in 1977, many aspects of the facility required major repairs and updates. But with the support of Beta Lambda's alumni network, the completed renovations include a new roof, new vinyl siding, new leather sofas, a remodeled library including new computers, a new 65" plasma TV, hot water tank, landscaping improvements and a new regulation foosball table. The chapter reports that both undergraduates and alumni have contributed an impressive number of work hours to perform all of the necessary work.

The chapter is especially grateful for the contributions of William R. Dahlgren (1955), who donated nearly \$60,000 over the past three years to ensure that the men of Beta Lambda have a home that they can be truly proud of.

Beta Nu/Case Western

Aditya Rengaswami (2015) spearheaded Beta Nu's participation in his service event members of Cleveland's different political parties to clean up Forest Hills Park. Brother Rengaswami has also launched his own non-profit organization, Kids Against Hunger, for the purpose of feeding the hungry in the Cleveland area. So far, he has raised more than \$4,000 to get the project started. Beta Nu brothers have stepped up readily to volunteer for transporting, setting up, and running the necessary equipment to package the food and get it where it is needed.



Mike Nalepka



William Dahlgren

Credit: Jeff Matheny



The recently renovated Beta Lambda chapter house stands out at the University of Akron. Many of the renovations were made possible by alumnus William R. Dahlgren.

Additionally, a unique award was given to **Matthew Miller** (2011) for high achievement in Japanese language.

The chapter's "Vox" lip synch competition, now in its second year, took place on Feb. 25, 2012. The chapter raised \$800 for Community Greenhouse Partners, nearly double last year's profits.

Beta Psi/Presbyterian

Chapter President **Cole Winburn** (2013) was recently voted IFC president. The chapter participated in both Relay for Life and donated money to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital to support a young girl with Down

Syndrome. Beta Psi brothers play on Presbyterian's golf, football, tennis, and baseball teams, and the chapter looks forward to defending its title as PC's intramural basketball champions. The chapter reports that the Beta Psi house has undergone many new improvements, including building new counters, stages, purchasing a television for the alumni room, and renovating the deck.

Beta Omega/Susquehanna

In December, Beta Omega Chapter members and friends went caroling at the local Selinsgrove Center. They brought presents for the elderly and sang to them as well.

Credit: Chris Fernandez



The brothers of Beta Omega make some friends at the Selinsgrove Center.

Photo provided by: Thomas Sisco



FSU fans greet Alex Yarbrough as its new Homecoming Chief at the 2011 Homecoming Pow Wow.

Gamma Omicron/Wake Forest

Gamma Omicron recently unveiled their new website and newsletter. The new site can be viewed at go.wfu.edu/thetachi.

Gamma Rho/Florida State

Alex Yarbrough (2012) was elected the 2011 FSU Homecoming Chief in front of a sold-out Leon County Civic Center for FSU's annual Homecoming Pow Wow. Among the many things he has done, he spent last year studying at FSU-Paris on a full academic scholarship.

Florida State Seminoles shooting guard **Michael Snaer** (2013) was selected to the All-Atlantic Coast Conference Second Team, as well as All-ACC All-Defensive Team. Brother Snaer (No. 21) has averaged 14 points per game and 3.8 rebounds this season.

In the fall, Gamma Rho had its second Cheers for Children Philanthropy, a cheer-leading competition held in the FSU basketball Arena. The chapter raised over \$11,500 for the Kidz 1st Fund, topping last year's total of \$10,000. The Kidz 1st Fund is a charity set up by Seminoles football coach Jimbo Fisher to raise money and awareness for Fanconi Anemia, a rare condition that his son Ethan suffers from.

Gamma Tau/Drake

Gamma Tau Chapter started the fall 2011 semester off with a first place finish in Delta Gamma's Anchor Splash. Gamma Tau also had another successful Polar Plunge, in which members took turns jumping into icy water to

raise money for the Greater Des Moines Special Olympics. This year's Polar Plunge raised more than \$1,000.

Delta Zeta/Nebraska-Omaha

Theta Chi at UNO reports that the chapter won this year's Homecoming competition and raised more than \$400 for the Yellow Ribbon Foundation. The brothers also paired up with UNO sororities to deliver Thanksgiving dinners to Omaha families in need.

Delta Rho/NC State

At the end of the fall 2011 semester, Delta Rho was named one of five Caldwell Chapters by the NC State IFC. Scoring is based on a chapter's academic standing, participation in Greek Week, Homecoming, and IFC, intramural sports performance and overall excellence in chapter programming. The chapter was also recognized for "outstanding alumni relations." Lastly, Brother **Johnathan Tucker** (2012) won Fraternity Man of the Year.

Epsilon Sigma/Wagner

Epsilon Sigma brothers hosted a campus-wide dodgeball tournament to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. Although overall fundraising fell short of the chapter's goal, the brothers reported that the event successfully brought Wagner students together for an enjoyable evening.

Epsilon Tau/Stephen F. Austin

Epsilon Tau initiated its fifth and largest pledge class since its reinstatement in 2009. This initiation is especially important because it was the first one to take place in the chapter's recently acquired three-story, nine-bedroom house. In addition, brothers **Allan Holder** (2014), **Jovel Hamilton** (2014), and **Jermaine Merritt** (2015) were selected to be Orientation Leaders for summer 2012.

Credit: Mike Miller



Regional Director Brit Rowe presents Zeta Tau President Austin Bailey with Theta Chi's Most Improved Chapter Award at the spring 2012 Mid-Year Leadership Conference in Adrian, MI. This year's winning chapter was selected by the field staff.

Zeta Tau/Michigan-Flint

The members of Zeta Tau were awarded the Volunteerism/Service Learning Award by Priority Children at their 17th Annual Children's Champion Awards Breakfast in Flint, MI, in February. The award was presented in front of a crowd of more than 900 people. The fall semester was a busy one for Zeta Tau: during their first week of school, they raised \$1,000 for the Make-a-Wish Foundation by sponsoring a Campus Cookout for Kids event and soliciting donations from students, staff and community members. The money raised was used to fund a child's wish to go on a cruise in the Caribbean. The chapter's intramural basketball team won the Sportsmanship Award and they closed out the semester with the highest fraternity GPA on campus.

Serving on UM-Flint's Student Government Executive Board are **Marcus Papin** (2012), Vice President, **Marty Quertermous** (2015), Director of Student Organizations and Partnership Board, and **Tamer Abuaita** (2014), Director of Student Relations. Aside from his duties in Student Government, Brother Papin is also IFC President, Vice President of Student Communication, and Vice President of the Student Advertising Network.

Brother **Mike Whalen** (2014) is busy enough to warrant a section in his own right.

He is President of the UM-Flint chapter of Order of Omega, President of Flint Corps., a school board member in the Mt. Morris School District (the youngest person ever elected in Genesee County, MI), and is the founder of Friends of the Mt. Morris Library, a community non-profit organization.

Last (but not least) is **Ryan Elder** (2015), who was named Mr. Panhellenic by the UM-Flint NPC in February.

Eta Mu/Findlay

For the third year in a row, Eta Mu Chapter was recognized for donating the most food for the Helping Hands Across America Food Drive. In total, the chapter donated 1,200 pounds of nonperishable canned food for the drive—twice as much as the next largest donation—with the help of alumni and friends. The University of Findlay was able to collect a total of 28,000 pounds, 2,000 more than its original goal. The chapter also launched its new website earlier this year.

Eta Pi/East Stroudsburg

Sam Pearce (2013) is currently serving as IFC Vice President and also heads the Burg Boogie event planning committee. The Burg Boogie—also organized primarily by Eta Pis—is a planned dance marathon similar in nature to Penn State's famous THON event and benefits the B+ Foundation, which pro-

Credit: Jamal Smith



Epsilon Tau brothers recently moved into this three-story, nine-bedroom house in Nacogdoches, TX.

Credit: Derek Putnam



Eta Mu brothers receive recognition for the third year in a row for donating the most food to the Helping Hands Food Drive.

vides support for children with cancer. The chapter reports that it has raised well over \$2,700 so far.

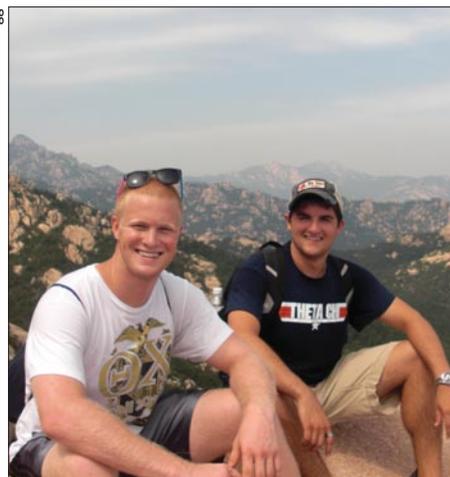
Eta Omicron/Northwestern State

For the 2011 NSU Homecoming, seven out of 10 men on the Homecoming Court were Theta Chis from Eta Omicron, including the 2011 Homecoming King, **Chase Stepp** (2013). The brothers on the Homecoming Court were: **Ryan Owens** (2013), **Cameron Tillman** (2012), **CJ Johnson** (2013), **Jackson McNeal** (2012), **Austin McCann** (2013) and **Solomon**

Matthews (2013). Additionally, Brother McNeal was named Mr. NSU for 2011.

Eta Omicron also celebrated having the highest overall fraternity GPA for fall 2011. Chapter President **Michael Stephenson** (2013) is serving as Executive Director of NSU's Up 'Til Dawn, which has raised \$65,000 for St. Jude Children's Hospital over the last two years. Brother Stephenson separately held a silent auction to benefit a local St. Jude patient and raised \$3,000. The chapter has made it a tradition to enter a team for Up 'Til Dawn each year.

Credit: Miles Figg



Miles Figg and Garrett Mueller sit on top of Mt. Laoshan outside of Qingdao, China. Mt. Laoshan is the tallest coastal mountain in China and a sacred landmark for followers of Taoism.

Eta Omega/Chico State

In November, Eta Omega brothers won back-to-back intramural championships in football and volleyball. Theta Chi and partners Alpha Gamma Delta won the 2011 Greek Olympics and placed second in the overall competition. This past Halloween, the brothers teamed up with the Campus Alcohol and Drug Education Center to promote safe party practices and hand out water. Lastly, the chapter acquired a new set of letters for their chapter house, which is undergoing a series of major renovations.

Iota Beta/Missouri State

Iota Beta had the highest fraternity GPA, highest new member GPA, most community service hours, and most community service house per member among fraternities. Additionally, the fraternity won IFC intramural sports in volleyball, pool, ping-pong, and tennis.

Miles Figg (2013) spent his summer semester aboard the University of Virginia's Semester at Sea Program. During the trip, he ran into **Evan Meyer** (2010), a Theta Chi from Gamma Lambda Chapter at the University of Denver, who was serving as the program's official photographer. Brother Figg's travels then took him to Qingdao, China, for the fall 2011 semester, where he studied abroad in a cultural and language immersion program at Qingdao University with fellow Iota Beta brother **Garrett Mueller** (2013).

Photo provided by: Eta Omicron Chapter



Northwestern State's Homecoming Court was composed of almost all Theta Chis this year. Two of those brothers—Chase Stepp and Jackson McNeal—won Homecoming King and Mr. NSU, respectively. All seven Theta Chi nominees are pictured here.

Fall 2011 Top Recruiting Chapters

- Alpha Phi/Alabama – 47
- Gamma Rho/Florida State – 35
- Iota Beta/Missouri State – 35
- Tau/Florida – 34
- Iota Mu/Missouri – 30
- Iota Theta/Central Florida – 29
- Rho/Illinois – 28
- Alpha Iota/Indiana – 25
- Iota/Colgate – 24
- Chi/Auburn – 24
- Delta/RPI – 23
- Zeta Epsilon/Long Beach State – 22
- Theta Epsilon/Kennesaw State – 22
- Psi/Wisconsin – 18
- Alpha Nu/Georgia Tech – 17
- Delta Rho/NC State – 17
- Delta Phi/North Texas – 17
- Iota Delta/Southeastern Louisiana – 17
- Alpha Xi/Delaware – 15

*Recruitment numbers were calculated based on paid, registered initiates as reflected in the fall 2011 initiation report as of Feb. 15. Initiates that were not properly registered and/or paid for were not included in the final count.

Iota Theta/Central Florida

David Lynch (2012) was voted UCF's 2011 Homecoming King. Additionally, **Medardo Cevallos** (2013) and **Anthony King** (2013) were elected to the IFC Executive Board as Vice President of Finance and Executive Vice President, respectively. **Jake Whitacre** (2012) was crowned Mr. Casanova at Kappa Alpha Theta's annual philanthropy.

Iota Lambda/Longwood

Iota Lambda brothers continued the tradition of volunteering at the Richmond Marathon Water Station and participated in Habitat for Humanity, the Farmville Food Bank and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Service Day Challenge, which is a day of service devoted to helping the Farmville community. **Bobby Smith** (2012) was named Greek Man of the Year and Brother **Dane Summerell** (2012) won Most Panhellenic. Iota Lambda received Chapter of the Year as well as the Outstanding Leadership Award. Additionally, the chapter is excited to announce that brothers **Matthew McPartland** (2013) and **Zach Sneed** (2013) now serve on the Interfraternity Council as

Credit: Joseph Russo



Iota Lambda brothers and new members after spring 2012 recruitment. Iota Lambda has established itself as a reliable source of student leaders at Longwood.

Credit: Christopher Brown



Iota Xi brothers celebrate the crowning of Ross Daniel as GCSU's newest Mr. Georgia College in February.

Vice President of Community Service and Vice President of Membership Development. Brothers **Brandon Fry** (2012), **Matthew Hovey** (2012), and **Brian Reid** (2013) served on the Student Government Association as President, Vice President, and Treasurer, and Brother **Logan Miller** (2012) lead as President of the Theta Chi Chapter of Order of Omega. Their terms ended earlier this spring.

Iota Mu/Missouri

Iota Mu reports that the fall semester was an excellent growing period for Theta Chi at the University of Missouri. **Nick Thompson** (2014) was elected to the Alumni Association Student Board. **Dylan Barnard** (2014) was hired as a member of the campus Tour Team.

Brother Thompson and **Alex Murer** (2013) were also elected as Summer Welcome Leaders and will mentor incoming freshmen this summer. Iota Mu Chapter finished 10th in grades out of 28 other fraternities and hosted their first formal at the Lake of the Ozarks.

Iota Xi/Georgia College

Less than one year after the Iota Xi chapter was installed, **Ross Daniel** (2012) was crowned 2011's "Mr. Georgia College." The winner was announced at the homecoming basketball game on February 11. Brother **Sean Espinoza** (2014) was elected to his second term in office as SGA Treasurer. The Iota Xi chapter tied for the highest GPA on campus in the fall 2011 semester.

Bowling for Breast Cancer lands a strike

BY PHILIP MAKAREWICZ (IOTA MU/MISSOURI 2009)

Credit: Avidahn Levin



Iota Mu brothers present a check for more than \$3,300 to Susan G. Komen's Mid-Missouri affiliate following their inaugural philanthropy, Bowling for Breast Cancer.

Iota Mu held its first philanthropy in Columbia, MO, on March 3, 2012. Their event, Bowling for Breast Cancer, raised over \$3,300 in support of the local affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure and took place at Columbia's local bowling alley. A total of 14 teams consisting of members from the Greek as well as the local Columbia communities participated. Around 70 participants were in attendance, in addition to the brothers working the event.

The chapter organized a weeklong competition and invited MU's sororities to compete. Teams received points based on the number of event T-shirts they purchased, a banner they designed and hung from their houses to promote the philanthropy, and their overall team scores during the bowling portion.

Philanthropy Chairmen **Robert Humphry** (2014) and **Nick Thompson** (2014) began fundraising months prior to the event date. General sponsorship letters were sent out to companies describing the event and how they could benefit from sponsorship. The event was also featured on the local news explaining how companies and members of the community could get involved. Parents of chapter members also kicked in some support to increase the total amount raised and the remaining proceeds came from t-shirt sales and the teams that gave a donation to participate.

Each team was paired with a brother to coach and cheer them on during their round of bowling. Many brothers expressed this as a great way

to network with the Greek community and formed new relationships they would have otherwise not had the opportunity to do so.

"My team had a great time and the men of Theta Chi were great coaches and cheerleaders. I can't wait to participate again," said one sorority participant.

The women weren't the only ones enjoying themselves. Chapter President **Dean Pearce** (2014) described the event as his proudest moment as president.

"I am so fortunate to say that I was there to witness the first of many philanthropy events to be hosted by Iota Mu," he said.

Pearce coached the winning team, 'The Training Brawlers,' and was happy to see his fellow brothers give back while having a great time.

Former two-term president **Daniel Vazquez** (2012) was impressed to see the event come together from scratch and be executed even through officer transitions.

"The chapter really took the idea and ran with it," said Vazquez.

As an alumnus and founding father, I couldn't be more proud of this chapter. Putting on a solid, well-received philanthropy has been a goal since the group was still a colony. I can't express how amazed I am by the accomplishments of this chapter and I know they are never going to settle, knowing perfection is always just one step further.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

We have been honored to call these men our brothers. The condolences of Theta Chi's extended worldwide family are offered to the family and friends of our deceased brothers.

BETA

Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cary R. Mock, 1964

GAMMA

University of Maine
Robert E. Savage, 1954
Paul A. Flaherty, Jr., 1965

DELTA

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Dana Covill, 1973

THETA

University of Massachusetts
Patrick D. Casey, 2000
Dr. Roger E. Allen, 1936
Chester C. Conant, 1937
Walter T. Wakefield, 1939
Col. George T. Pitts, Jr., 1940
Harold S. Lewis, 1943
Donald B. Walker, 1944
Walter B. Kozloski, 1946
Robert F. Crierie, 1949
Alan S. Warden, 1948
Joseph J. Westwater, 1950
William D. Sweeney, 1950
Martin S. Cryan, 1952
George F. Seiferth Jr., 1952
Cmdr. Robert F. Paul, 1951
James S. Darling, 1953
Peter M. Doiron, 1956
Lt. Col. Richard E. Murray, 1956
James M. Sanders, Jr., 1957
Andrew C. Knowles, III, 1957
R.C. Carpenter, 1958
Robert J. Chucka, 1958
Robert J. Harding, Jr., 1960
Lt. Col. G.E. Bradley, Jr., 1960
Thomas B. Cavanaugh, Jr., 1960
Matthew L. Collins, 1963
Gerald W. Anderson, 1964
Norman W. Tate, 1965
Peter J. McErlain, 1970
Garrett Dinardo, 1972
Steven G. Mason, 1977
David B. Carleton, 1974

PI

Dickinson College
Hon. Morris M. Terrizzi, 1937

TAU

University of Florida
Ivan D. Lechowich, 2006

PHI

North Dakota State University
Louis E. Davis, 1959
Jeremy R. Bucholz, 2000

PSI

University of Wisconsin
John B. Gravenstine, 1935

OMEGA

Pennsylvania State University
Herbert G. Wittman, 1950

ALPHA BETA

University of Pittsburgh
Robert G. Lisetto, 1968

ALPHA THETA

Dartmouth College
Dr. Michael Heyman, 1951

ALPHA IOTA

Indiana University
Dr. Russell H. Davis, 1943
Eldon D. Mogle, 1947
Charles E. Brown, 1948
William Tosheff, 1951
Thomas F. Hexamer, 1959

ALPHA MU

Iowa State University
James M. Moeller, 1960

ALPHA NU

Georgia Institute of Technology
Samuel C. McLendon, 1943
Jere G. Osmer, 1957

ALPHA XI

University of Delaware
William H. Colona, Jr., 1949

ALPHA TAU

Ohio University
Herbert H. Stickney, 1940

ALPHA UPSILON

University of Nebraska
Keith G. Bauman, 1957

ALPHA CHI

Syracuse University
Jack M. Friel, 1945
Dale A. Desaulniers, 1988

BETA DELTA

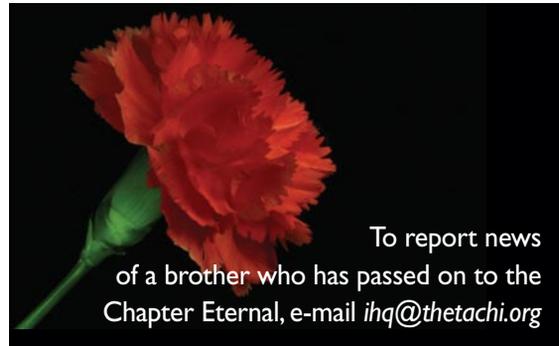
Rutgers University
William T. Waddington, 1950

BETA EPSILON

University of Montana
Gordon T. Hughes, 1960

BETA MU

Middlebury College
Dr. Peter J. Stanlis, 1942



To report news
of a brother who has passed on to the
Chapter Eternal, e-mail ihq@thetachi.org

BETA OMICRON

University of Cincinnati
Timothy E. Troutman, 1966

BETA SIGMA

Lehigh University
Thomas P. Bradford, 1943
Edward R. White III, 1945
Robert H. Holland, 1943
Roger S. Funk, 1946
Samuel M. Purdy, 1947
Richard W. Flores, 1950
Lt. Col. Earl R. Velie, 1945
Andrew J. Hutchinson, Jr., 1948

Alden G. Hoyt, Jr., 1948
Dalton F. Brion, 1949
Casper R. Musselman, 1935
George B. Holman, 1951
H. T. Calvert, Jr., 1952
George Hopkins, Jr., 1954
Henry M. Haberle, Jr., 1952
Robert W. Ryder, 1957
William D. Norlander, 1958
Vance F. Rigling, 1933
William F. Gillespie, 1961
John M. Wehman, 1963
Richmond M. Wight, 1963
W.B. Hopkins, 1966
John W. Bowman, 1969
William G. Taylor III, 1970
Scott R. Mansfield, 1975
David A. Begelman, 1994

BETA PHI

University of Nevada
Eugene J. Kilianny, 1957

BETA PSI

Presbyterian College
John C. Johnson, 2013

GAMMA DELTA

Florida Southern College
Thomas E. Bernard, 1948

GAMMA ZETA

Oklahoma State University
David F. Steadman, Jr., 1950

GAMMA XI

San Jose State University
Terry L. Hostek, 1970

GAMMA TAU

Drake University
Lawrence T. Walsh, Jr., 1954

GAMMA UPSILON

Bradley University
Jerry E. Bennett, 1959
William T. Fowler, 1959
M. P. Moore, Jr., 1961

GAMMA OMEGA

Vanderbilt University
Clarence J. Smith, Jr., 1950
Dr. Thomas H. Gray, 1953

DELTA ALPHA

Linfield College
Thomas V. Morgan, 1962
James J. Hansen, 1967
Matt M. Donovan, 1971
Timothy S. Glenn, 2000

DELTA KAPPA

Ball State University
Lowell Goodwin, 1951
Owen F. Lemna, 1951
Thomas B. Jackson, 1954
Don P. Portolese, 1954
James F. Godfrey, 1957
Donald M. Myers, 1957
Richard C. Thompson, 1959
Jack M. Linton, 1958
Theodore R. Tibbets, 1963
John J. Reasoner, 1969

DELTA OMICRON

Gettysburg College
Ralph J. Cacciutti, 1995

DELTA TAU

Kent State University
Harold E. Howell, 1950
David L. Stone, 1967

DELTA UPSILON

Arizona State University
Jay J. White, 1981
David J. Geovanelli, 1983

DELTA PHI

University of North Texas
William E. Boyd, 1952
Dr. T. E. Zachary, 1956
James E. Stephens, 1957
James C. Cornelius, 1960
Dr. Christopher Penhallow, 1962

EPSILON GAMMA

Widener University
Charles R. Gilliard, 1967

EPSILON PI

Northern Illinois University
Kenneth J. LeWald, 1967

EPSILON TAU

Stephen F. Austin State University
James H. Garrett, 1984

EPSILON PHI

University of Central Missouri
John F. Belshe, 1957

ZETA PI

Old Dominion University
John F. Hamilton, 1988

ZETA SIGMA

University of Wisconsin-River Falls
Alvin E. Johnson, 1970

ETA LAMBDA

Virginia Tech
John S. Liskey, 1971

ETA MU

University of Findlay
Daniel R. Bauer, 1981
Michael A. Soldwish, 1982
Robert C. Birmingham, 1990

THETA ZETA

University of North Carolina-Asheville
John W. Bowman, 1998

BETA KAPPA FRATERNITY

Peter J. Potochney

“We kept expecting him to turn up . . .”

BY ANTHONY SANTELLA (RHO/ILLINOIS 2014)

I first heard it from a phone call. No one could find Josh Rymarz.

It seemed illogical, at first. Even if no one could reach him, he had to be somewhere. And, it had only been a day since his family had not been able to reach him. Alex Schuh (2014), a member of Josh's pledge class, said later that, “we kept expecting him to turn up while we sat outside his apartment and say, ‘Hi guys.’”

Alex was the first one to let me know that Josh was missing. As we waited for more information to become available, we were not prepared for what turned out to be the end result.

Standing outside our chapter house later that night, the unthinkable happened. We learned that Josh Rymarz had died. For many of us, it was a new and frightening experience. Not even two weeks had passed since we had returned to campus for the new semester, and I was suddenly and unexpectedly experiencing a close loss for the first time.

“Everyone was silent, and if anybody said anything it was never above a whisper,” Steve Torrez (2011) recalled later. “That scene of 25-plus brothers sitting outside in total silence was one of the saddest and scariest things I have ever seen.”

From that low point, though, we made something amazing happen. In a little under two days' time, we came together and organized a campus-wide fundraiser in Josh's honor—an event that ended up raising over \$4,000 for the Epilepsy Foundation of Greater Chicago, a charity chosen by the Rymarz family. It was the largest event Rho had organized since recolonizing in 1989.

But on Saturday night, still in shock, we looked to then-president Brian Kelson (2012) for leadership. Seeing the silence and depression that settled over our chapter, he recalled, “That's what we really had to take care of first: everybody's well being.”

That night, he contacted the IFC, key Rho alumni and others to inform them of the situation. The next day, Brother Kelson put together a meeting of our chapter. Joining us were counselors from the University, various alumni, and Theta Chi Executive Director Mike Mayer. The best of a fraternity—of what



We watched in literal shock as the number of those attending the fundraiser in Josh's memory swelled to more than 1,000 in only a few hours.

a Greek organization offers to its members—comes from what we learned the day after Josh died: that we do have each other.

The 48-Hour Fundraiser

The idea to do a fundraiser in Josh's honor was also Brian's. The plan was to turn the first floor of our chapter house into a dessert bar where visiting students could pay their respects to Josh and make a donation in his honor. While Kelson worked on a plan, the rest of our chapter went north to Richmond, IL, for a memorial service at Josh's old high school that Sunday. The knowledge that my fellow brothers were there with me was the best support I could have received at that time, and I did my best to reciprocate.

Meanwhile, Brother Kelson was hard at work laying the groundwork for the fundraiser. A local grocery store promised him a donation of \$500 worth of cakes, cookies, and

baked goods for us to sell. We got to work soon after returning to campus. I wrote a brief announcement that we used to spread awareness of the situation and our fundraiser, while brothers visited the other fraternity and sorority houses on campus—nearly 70 in all. We started a Facebook group to promote the event and watched in literal shock as the number of those attending swelled to more than 1,000 in only a few hours. Soon, we were in contact with the neighboring fraternities and sororities to borrow chairs and tables as the scope of the event grew. Brother Charlie Kusk (2014), who had known Josh best, commented afterward that Josh, “brought a lot more that was positive out of people rather than just to have them grieve.”

Calling the fundraiser a success is a gross understatement. Greek Advisor Brandon Common commented that he “witnessed true Greek unity as members from dozens of chapters on campus came out in droves.” Representatives from practically every Greek chapter and council were there. The emotional impact of this became greater as entire chapters showed up at once.

Never have I been more proud to be a Greek than on that first Wednesday in September. Not only did our brothers support each other, but they received it from a community of over 8,000 Illinois Greeks as well. The lengths they went to help us in our time of need went above and beyond our expectations.

Our loss was sudden. It left us feeling empty and confused. With the support that the Rho Chapter brothers gave each other, we gained strength. And, the way that the Illinois Greek community came to our side inspired us. For all this, we are truly thankful. We will miss you, Josh, but you will not be forgotten.

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Indianapolis, IN 46268-1333

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Last call to convention 2012!

General discounted registration ends May 31.

Late registration runs June 1–June 15. Registration closes June 15.

Go to www.thetachi.org for more details!

