



OUR FRATERNITY QUEST.. **history, structure, traditions**

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The Fathers Of Theta Xi



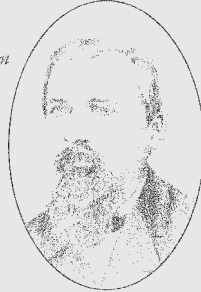
Samuel Buel, Jr.



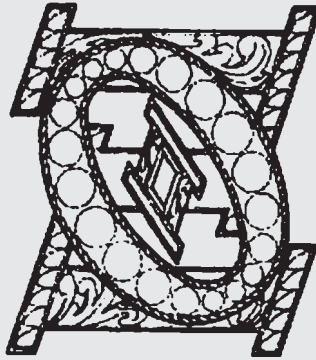
Henry Harrison Farnum



George Bradford Brainerd



Peter Henry Fox



Christopher Champlin Waite



Ralph Gooding Packard



Nathaniel Henry Starbuck



Thomas Cole Raymond

Theta Xi, Founded April 29, 1864
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Troy, New York

THE FOUNDING OF THETA XI

Theta Xi was founded at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI) in Troy, New York, on April 29, 1864 by Peter Henry Fox, Ralph Gooding Packard, Christopher Champlin Waite, George Bradford Brainerd, Samuel Buel Jr., Henry Harrison Farnum, Thomas Cole Raymond and Nathaniel Henry Starbuck. Minutes of the original meeting, Constitution and Ritual have been preserved by the Fraternity to this day. Our tradition is truly continuous.

Christopher “Kit” Waite, whose father was destined to become Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court, was from Toledo, Ohio. Peter Fox from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and Thomas Raymond, a “downeasterner” from Westborough, Massachusetts, together with Waite, were the only Founders from out of state. Nathaniel Starbuck was a “local” from the campus town of Troy whose father, a leading citizen of the town, was often called upon to address public meetings to arouse popular support for the Lincoln administration. The remaining Founders were all New Yorkers: George Brainerd from Brooklyn; Samuel Buel, Jr., from Poughkeepsie; Ralph Packard from Niagara Falls and Henry Farnum from Port Jervis.

In 1864, Rensselaer was attempting to rebuild. The Civil War had threatened the future existence of the institution, just as it had threatened the future existence of our Union. In 1861, the collar factories, for which Troy was famous, nearly all closed down, and several other large manufacturing plants went idle. In 1862, sparks from a passing locomotive ignited the roof of a covered bridge spanning the Hudson at Troy, and before it could be halted, the fire swept across a 75-acre tract, completely destroying eight hundred structures in the heart of Troy’s business section, including the downtown campus and the original building of RPI, the Old Bank Building.



Old BankPlace, the original building of R.P.I., was destroyed in the fire of 1862.

All of the Founders were members of Sigma Delta, a local fraternity established in 1859 to rival Theta Delta Chi, the only secret society then at Rensselaer. Crude in its beginnings, Sigma Delta gradually increased and prospered so that, by the fall of 1863, it had become a secret center of attraction for all freshmen.

Debates formed a regular part of Sigma Delta meetings (as in other fraternities at that time) and these were judged by the presiding officer. Spirited debates were held on such topics as: “Genius is more necessary in the pursuits of science than in the pursuit of art”; “The use of tobacco is injurious”, and “The rum barrel is more potent than the gun barrel.” Dissension within Sigma Delta became apparent on October 30, 1863, when George Brainerd tendered his resignation to the society. The resignation was unanimously declined, but it contributed to a rift that would not heal. On that same day, due to a seeming desire of some of the members to “bust up” Sigma Delta and try to become part of another organization, Samuel Buel suggested that Sigma Delta try to obtain a charter from some “large and flourishing society such as Sigma Phi,” which had been founded in 1827 at Union

College and had six chapters at that time. He had previously had an interview with a minister who belonged to Sigma Phi, who assured him that he favored such a move. He promised to do all in his power to help them obtain a charter. Sigma Phi sent representatives to Troy who were entertained and had their hotel bills paid.

A petition was prepared and submitted to Sigma Phi, but at its convention at Union College on March 4, 1864, a motion was adopted to the effect that no more charters be granted. Since no action was taken on Sigma Delta's petition, this was accepted as a refusal.

Dissension in Sigma Delta continued to grow such that two factions sprang up within the society. The eight members who ultimately founded Theta Xi considered such divisiveness incompatible with their ideals of unity and fellowship. They determined to build anew with the intention of forming a society national in scope — a tall order for the Civil War era!

The ill feeling became more acute after the failure to obtain a charter, and at a regular meeting held on March 11, 1864, attention was called to "the sad condition of the society." A suggestion was made that "each one present express his views concerning the management of the affairs and offer some plan of removing this feeling which has existed, and does now exist, among us." This suggestion was accepted and each member in turn was called upon for his opinion. One suggested plan, which met with instant favor and was finally agreed upon, specified that bottles, suitably covered and labeled, be provided and placed in the adjoining club room.

On March 12, 1864, two large cups of white and black beans were provided for the purpose of voting. A bottle was placed upon the table and each member went into the clubroom to cast his ballot on the member whose name appeared on the bottle (a tradition used by chapters to this day). After everyone had voted the bottle was sealed, and the next vote taken. When the process was completed the members assembled in the club room to count the votes. Before any bottle was opened, each man deposited on the table the keys and all other property in his possession which belonged to the society. The bottles were emptied alphabetically and, as one received a majority of black beans, he took up his hat and left. The first person who received a majority of black beans remarked, "I guess I am not wanted here." Four of our eight founders had opened their bottles before the five who received a majority of black beans left them in possession of the room. A new lock was immediately put on the door.

At a meeting held on April 1, 1864, a committee consisting of Waite, Buel, Brainerd and Packard was appointed to prepare a constitution. At this meeting the secretary was instructed to recall their petition to Sigma Phi and to inform them of their intention to form a new society. On April 6, Buel presented two monograms, Theta Xi and Theta Psi, as possible names for the new society. Theta Xi was chosen because of the reported existence of a local society called Theta Psi at Yale at that time.

On April 29, 1864—that most sacred night in the history of our brotherhood—eight former members of Sigma Delta met in their secret rooms for the purpose of founding Theta Xi. Ralph G. Packard was chosen chairman because he had been president of Sigma Delta at the time of its dissolution. Brother Farnum was requested

to act as secretary. A committee made up of Brothers Buel and Brainerd was designated to develop an initiation service, while another committee comprised of Brothers Raymond, Starbuck and Brainerd was made responsible for developing a grip, various symbols, the names of the officers, as well as for completing all vacancies in the constitution. The Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Order which had been drawn up by the committee were read and adopted without a dissenting vote. The oath of initiation was taken by all the Founders as a group, then they signed the Constitution alphabetically and by classes. The new society decided that the chapter be called the "Alpha Chapter of Theta Xi," and that each succeeding chapter should be named by the following letter of the Greek alphabet. On the same night Edward H. Morrison was unanimously selected the first new member of the Fraternity, and was initiated eight days later on May 7, 1864.

Various concerns about Fraternity operation were addressed during the months that followed. At the beginning of the next school year, in Fall of 1864, six of the Brothers answered to their names at roll call. Recruitment efforts that Fall increased their number to eleven.

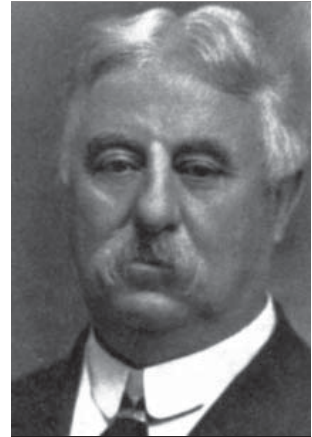
William H. Wiley, initiated as Alpha 11, had a close friend at the Sheffield Scientific School at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. He approached his friend with the idea of forming a chapter at Yale and found him to be in favor of the idea. On October 29, 1864, Frank Martin Guthrie and Thomas Ira Atwood, members of the Class of '68 at Yale, came to Troy to be initiated as honorary members and to be instructed in the secrets of the Fraternity. Upon returning to Yale, they organized a chapter.

In December, two members of Alpha Chapter were sent to New Haven to help Guthrie and Atwood initiate three more men, and a sixth was added in February, 1865. Although these men held meetings, they were not regarded by Alpha Chapter as a chapter of Theta Xi until they received their Constitution. This document was not received until April 26, 1865, when Beta Chapter was officially installed and Theta Xi started on the road to becoming a national organization.

The six chapters established by Theta Xi during the first forty years of its existence (Yale University, Stevens Institute of Technology, Massachusetts Institute



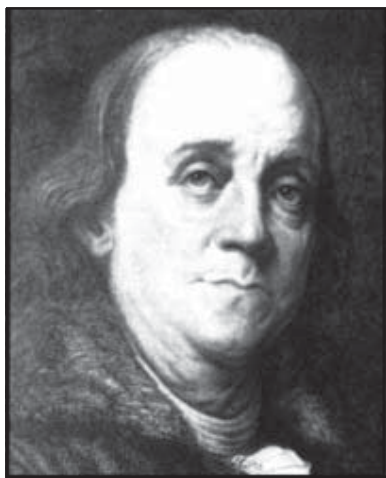
*Alpha Chapter, R.P.I.;
Troy, N.Y.*



Col. William H. Wiley, Alpha 11, devoted sixty years of loyal service to the Fraternity, including 17 years as the first National President, which earned him the affectionate title "Grand Old Man of Theta Xi."



Beta Chapter, Yale University; New Haven, CT.



William S. Mason, Beta 145, was perhaps Theta Xi's greatest benefactor. In addition to helping organize the Grand Lodge, Mason nearly single-handedly financed the construction of the chapter houses at Beta at Yale, Nu at the University California-Berkeley, Alpha Beta at the University of Illinois-Champaign, and Alpha Zeta at the University of California-Los Angeles, and contributed to a number of others. He was also known for his world famous collection of Benjamin Franklin papers and memorabilia, which he donated to Yale University. Mason studied and admired Benjamin Franklin, and was instrumental in encouraging the adoption of Franklin as the Fraternity's "Patron Saint."



Theta Xi established its first West Coast chapter with Nu at the University of California-Berkeley. This is a picture of the chapter's original house.



Alpha Beta Chapter at the University of Illinois-Champaign.



Alpha Zeta Chapter at the University of California-Los Angeles. Since this picture the house has undergone major renovations.



Theta Chapter at Purdue (left) and Iota Chapter at Washington University in St. Louis (right) marked the beginning of Theta Xi's westward expansion.



Theta Xi was introduced to the Southwest with Rho Chapter at the University of Texas-Austin. This is a picture of the chapter's original house.



The Fraternity entered the Pacific Northwest with Upsilon Chapter at the University of Washington in Seattle.



Alpha Alpha at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge was the Fraternity's first Southern chapter.

of Technology, Columbia University, Cornell University, and Lehigh University) were all located within approximately two hundred miles of Rensselaer. It was not until 1905 that Theta Xi began its westward expansion with the chartering of Theta Chapter at Purdue in February of that year, and Iota Chapter at Washington University in St. Louis a month later. The Fraternity established its first West Coast chapter in 1910 with Nu Chapter on the Berkeley campus of the University of California; moved into the Southwest three years later by locating Rho Chapter at the University of Texas and entered the Pacific Northwest in 1915 by establishing Upsilon Chapter at the University of Washington. Theta Xi's introduction to the South occurred in April, 1921 when Alpha Alpha Chapter was chartered at Louisiana State University. In less than sixty years the dreams of our Founders had become a reality. Theta Xi had become a national organization.

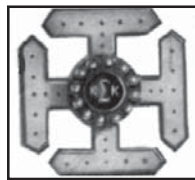
THE FOUNDING OF KAPPA SIGMA KAPPA

On April 9, 1865, General Robert E. Lee surrendered the Army of North Virginia at Appomattox. The great Civil War had ended and leaders on both sides turned their thoughts and efforts toward reconstruction. Lexington, Virginia became the educational center of the new South. General Lee accepted the presidency of the bankrupt and looted Washington College (later renamed Washington and Lee University) in August of 1865. Lee's presence attracted the finest educators to Lexington. As a result, the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) was reopened on October 17, 1865.

In this environment, three fine fraternities were founded. Alpha Tau Omega was founded in Richmond, Virginia on September 11, 1865 and placed its mother chapter at VMI when it reopened. Sigma Nu was founded January 1, 1869.

On the evening of September 28, 1867, cadet John M. Tutwiler invited cadets James Gunnel Hurst, Kenneth McDonald and David Gamble Murrell to his room in the VMI Quadrangle to found a fraternity. The original name, "C.E.C. Fraternity", was soon changed to Kappa Sigma Kappa, but the letters "CEC" did retain ritual significance within the fraternity (these letters can be found inscribed on the back of all Kappa Sigma Kappa badges). The Fraternity was built upon the principles of mutual confidence, trust, and fraternal cooperation.

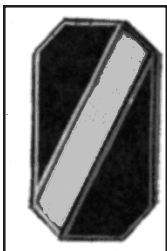
It was Tutwiler who suggested the name, devised the ritual and designed the badge. The badge of Kappa Sigma Kappa was a gold Jerusalem Cross. The Greek letters of the Fraternity appeared in gold on a black enameled disc in the center of the badge. Twelve oriental pearls surrounded this disc on the jeweled badge. Seven gold dots appeared on each of the four white enameled arms of the cross. Each part of the badge represented certain mystical concepts revealed



*Kappa Sigma Kappa
Badge*



*Kappa Sigma Kappa
Coat of Arms*



***Kappa Sigma
Kappa Pledge
Shield***

in *The Ritual*.

The second chapter was established at Washington College, and other chapters were subsequently chartered at Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (now Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), the University of Virginia, Emory and Henry, Randolph-Macon, and other Southern schools. In the late 1880's, however, antifraternity laws which were passed in the South forced some of the chapters of Kappa Sigma Kappa into inactivity. Others chapters, with the exception of one at the University of Virginia, merged with Phi Delta Theta Fraternity. Alumni from the Virginia chapter, which had refused to enter the merger, preserved the records of Kappa Sigma Kappa. The fraternity remained inactive for more than forty years.

In 1935 four students at the University of Virginia learned about Kappa Sigma Kappa and conceived the idea of reactivating the fraternity. The group, led by St. Paul Henstridge, investigated the history of the old Virginia chapter and found that a complete membership roll could be reconstructed from historical files in the University library. They learned that three members of the chapter were living, including two charter members. They discovered Founder Kenneth McDonald was still alive as well. The four students contacted these alumni and informed them of their intentions to revive Kappa Sigma Kappa. The alumni officially granted the four students permission, and in September, 1935, the rebirth of Kappa Sigma Kappa began.



***George R. Jefferson,
known as "Uncle
Jeff," was the chief
executive of Kappa
Sigma Kappa from
1937-1962.***

The person most responsible for the reestablishment of Kappa Sigma Kappa nationally was George R. Jefferson, who became the fraternity's chief executive in 1937. During his term, which lasted until the merger agreement with Theta Xi Fraternity in 1962, he oversaw the expansion of Kappa Sigma Kappa. Under his leadership, the fraternity roll grew from two chapters to a height of 45 in 1950. Beginning in the early 1950's, however, the fraternity began to rapidly lose chapters for reasons which ultimately led to the merger with Theta Xi.

THE MERGER

Upon completion of informal talks held between representatives of Kappa Sigma Kappa and Theta Xi in 1962, it was concluded that a merger would prove beneficial to both organizations. Kappa Sigma Kappa had three main reasons for favoring a merger. First, and most important, it had been unable to obtain National Interfraternity Conference (NIC) membership because several of its chapters were on unaccredited campuses. Some of its chapters had disaffiliated or lost host institution recognition as a result of the fraternity's failure to obtain NIC membership (Theta Xi had been a member since 1911). Second, its membership expressed a need for stronger organizational structure with a sound financial footing, more

uniform chapter operations, and a larger base of alumni volunteers. Last, the fraternity saw a need for a central office with paid personnel, including a full-time executive and traveling staff. Theta Xi could provide all of these needs. The two fraternities also seemed to complement each other, since there was no duplication of chapters.

Following a series of meetings the terms of the proposed merger were agreed upon and subsequently ratified by the governing bodies of the two fraternities. As part of the merger agreement, the Theta Xi Fraternity flower was changed from the white carnation to the blue iris, the fleurs-de-lis on the coat of arms were replaced with upright crescents and the title of the membership manual was changed from *The Theta Xi Pledge Manual* to *The Quest For Theta Xi*.

On August 20, 1962, twenty-one chapters of Kappa Sigma Kappa located at accredited schools were received into the Bonds of Theta Xi. Each of these chapters received a Greek-letter designation prefaced by Kappa. Seven chapters, which were ineligible to come into Theta Xi because they were located on unaccredited campuses, reorganized their national structure and continued under the name Kappa Sigma Kappa.

SYMBOLS AND TRADITIONS

HERALDRY

Heraldry is the study of coats of arms and other armorial designs. It began when warriors first marked their shields with insignia to recognize each other in battle. Knights also decorated their equipment. They and princes were the first to bear arms in the days when warfare was a gentleman's sport. Thus, coats of arms have long been associated with royalty.

Coats of arms were designed to distinguish individual families, and the practice became so widespread that a College of Arms was established in England to register every English design. In more recent years, fraternities and other organizations have realized great value in heraldic design, and have structured and designed their coats of arms primarily after the English. Coats of arms are used by fraternities because their secret meanings bind individuals together even though no blood relationship exists.

The true symbolism of the Fraternity's coat of arms is revealed only upon initiation into the Bonds of Theta Xi, but a study of heraldry and some of its devices will prepare the new initiate to better understand the meaning of the coat of arms when it is shown to him.

COAT OF ARMS

Many distinctive features may be incorporated in a coat of arms, but not all need to be present. The parts of a coat of arms include the shield, which is usually the center of interest, and can be of any shape. The left side of the shield (as worn by an individual) is called the sinister; the right side is the dexter. The surface of the shield is called the field. The largest division in the field is the ordinary. It was originally a sheet of metal or canvas placed across the field. There were considered to be ten ordinaries, each with a special name. The most common in fraternity heraldry is the bend. The charge is a smaller emblem placed on the field or ordinary.

The helmet is placed above the shield. The four kinds of helmets, in rank order, are: the helmet of the sovereign or king, the peer or noble, the knight, and the esquire.

A crest may be placed on top of the helmet. In medieval times a crest would be placed on the helmet of a combatant's suit of armor so that his followers, as well as his enemies, could recognize him. A coat of arms that includes a crest is usually considered to indicate leadership of superior standing, because only a leader would need such a distinguishing characteristic.

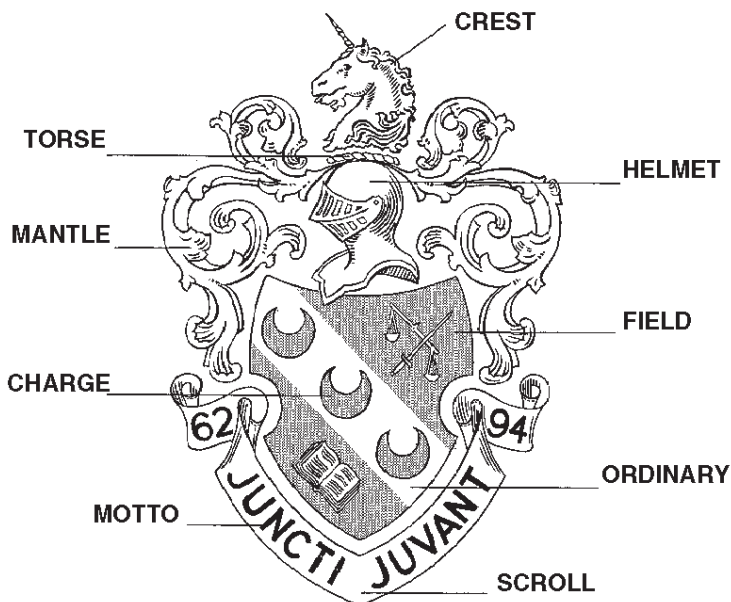
The torse is a twisted, horizontal cord above the helmet and below the crest. It rests on the helmet and serves as a foundation for the crest.

The mantling represents a flowing scarf or cloak frequently portrayed as a leafy design. It usually originates at the top of the helmet and flows out around the shield.

The motto is usually placed on a ribbon or scroll beneath the shield. Fraternity mottos often are secret and represented by symbols or initial letters. Frequently, the motto is the Greek words whose first letters are the Greek letters by which the fraternity is known.

THETA XI COAT OF ARMS

The Coat of Arms of Theta Xi can be described as a shield of azure blue, diagonally crossed by a bend of silver which lies between a pair of balances and a sword arranged crosswise, above, and an open book or Bible below, all of silver, the bend being charged with three azure upright crescents. Below the shield is the scroll carrying the public motto "JUNCTI JUVANT" and the Arabic numerals "62" on the dexter side, and "94" on the sinister. Above the shield is an esquire's helmet of silver and the crest, a unicorn's head, in natural or bay color, with its severed part jagged, as having been forcibly torn from the animal. The unicorn's head rests upon a torse composed of eight twists of alternate azure and silver.



The Coat of Arms of the Fraternity has been revised twice, first in 1933 and then in 1962. The first revision was made in order to make it more heraldically correct according to formal design. For example, in the original design, the mantling (or foliage work) emanated from the upper angles of the shield. According to heraldic tradition, the mantling represents a flowing cloak, originally used for protection, and thus should fall over the top of the helmet and from under the wreath. The book in the lower corner of the shield in the first design was a closed Bible. In the first revision, the book was opened to conform to principles in our ritual. Also, the motto was changed from *Juncta Juvant* to *Juncti Juvant* because the "a" at the end of "*Juncta*" was discovered incorrect. (The Latin root word "*Junctus*" is in the masculine gender; "a" is a neuter gender plural ending. The correct masculine plural ending is "i," thus: *Juncti*.) The helmet was added to conform with traditional heraldic design. The second revision in 1962 was a result of the merger with Kappa Sigma Kappa. The upright crescents from the Kappa Sigma Kappa Coat of Arms were incorporated into the design, replacing the fleurs-de-lis in the bend.

THE BADGE



The Badge is available in three official sizes. Pictured here, from left to right, are the Yale size, regulation size, and Sweetheart size. The Yale badge was donated by R.L. Randolph B 569, the regulation badge by Col. Edwin Withers K 186, and the Sweetheart badge by W.H. Milroy B 409.

The Sacred Badge of Theta Xi consists of the Greek letter “Theta” superimposed upon the Greek letter “Xi”, their geometric centers coinciding. The elliptical part of the Theta is set with twenty graduated pearls. A single stone, either a ruby or a diamond, is set in the bar of the Theta.

The Badge is to be worn with pride and great care. It should be worn on the shirt, slightly to the right and above the shirt pocket (as you wear it). The Badge is never worn on a collarless shirt, coat or other outer garment. It is permissible to affix the Badge to a vest or sweater, provided it is worn over a collared shirt. The Badge is not a lapel pin. The Official and Yale size Badges are expressly for members only. The Fraternity has, however, authorized a miniature copy known as a “Sweetheart Badge”. It may be given as a token of affection to one’s fiancé, mother, wife, or sister, and is also appropriate for housemothers.

THE RING



The official ring of the Fraternity bears the Greek letters “Theta” and “Xi” encrusted on a blue stone, which is surrounded by the public motto “JUNCTI JUVANT” and the Arabic numerals “6294”. The Unicorn’s head with torse and the shield from the coat of arms appear on the shanks.

ASSOCIATE MEMBER SHIELD



The associate member shield, produced in button form, is the same as the shield in the coat of arms, a field of azure crossed by a bend of white. It should be worn in a fashion similar to that of the Badge. The associate member shield does not carry the charges, indicating the associate member has not yet met the qualifications of the Fraternity. He will be entitled to use the complete coat of arms and wear the Sacred Badge of Theta Xi only after he has been initiated.

THE SEAL



The seal, which is the corporate stamp for official Fraternity documents, is circular in form. On top of its outer edge is the name of the Fraternity. On the bottom of its outer edge are the Arabic numerals "6294" and the public motto "JUNCTI JUVANT". Two stars separate the script in the upper edge from that in the lower. In the center are the rays of the rising sun emanating from behind a Greek temple on the summit of a hill. The Greek building is symbolic of the Greek-letter system, and its location on the hill with the rising sun stands for the high ideals of Theta Xi.

THE FLAG

The flag of Theta Xi is composed of three bars of equal width parallel with the staff. The outer bars are blue and the center bar is white. The upper half of the bar next to the staff is charged with the white Greek letter "Theta", the lower half of the outer bar with the white Greek letter "Xi", and the middle of the center bar with a unicorn's head in bay color.



The official Theta Xi flag was designed by Edwin F. Gillette A 100, and was formally recognized at the Sixty-Seventh Anniversary Convention in September 1931.

THE COLORS

The colors of the Fraternity are azure blue and silver. White appears instead of silver in some places due to the expense and color processes silver requires.

THE FLOWER

The official flower of Theta Xi is the blue iris. Prior to the merger, the white carnation was recognized as the official flower of the Fraternity.

THE MOTTO

The public motto is "JUNCTI JUVANT" which translates "united they serve."

THETA XI HOLIDAYS

Theta Xi has two special holidays which are celebrated annually by all chapters and alumni clubs. On both holidays, members should take extra care to wear their Sacred Badges with azure and white ribbons, and the flag and coat of arms should be prominently displayed.

FOUNDER'S DAY...April 29 — Since 1865, the founding of the Fraternity has been celebrated each year by special activities, usually taking the form of banquets. Undergraduates and alumni members take the opportunity to unite in reaffirming their devotion to the ideals which make their quests for Theta Xi successful.

EMBLEM DAY...September 28 — To commemorate the founding of Kappa Sigma Kappa Fraternity in 1867, the Fraternity observes emblem day. On this date, every Theta Xi should take special note of the rich heritage found in the emblems of his Fraternity.

OFFICIAL JEWELERS

All badges and fraternity jewelry should be purchased from one of our official jewelers, who have been appointed by the Grand Lodge. All badges manufactured by these firms are guaranteed to be made in accordance with the specifications of the Fraternity. The official jewelers for Theta Xi are:

Awards Concepts, Inc., 110 South 11th Avenue, St. Charles, IL 60174
(800) 659-7801, Fax: (630) 513-7809

Burr, Patterson & Auld Co., P.O. Box 800, Elmwood, Indiana 46036,
(800) 422-4348, Fax: (765) 552-2759

All chapters must purchase badges from an official jeweler who obtains permission from the Fraternity Headquarters prior to production. Limited jewelry items are also available from the Fraternity Headquarters.

ORGANIZATION AND GOVERNMENT

The administration of Theta Xi Fraternity is modelled after the United States' system of government in that all members are accorded an equal voice in the affairs of their brotherhood. The specific bodies which govern the Fraternity are described below.

NATIONAL CONVENTION

Theta Xi Fraternity is governed by the National Convention. The supreme authority of the Fraternity, the convention consists of delegates from each undergraduate chapter, chartered alumni club and alumni association, members of the Order of the Unicorn, past national presidents, members of the Grand Lodge, regional directors, chapter advisors and national committee chairman.

As the supreme authority of the Fraternity, the National Convention is specifically empowered to:

- Grant and withdraw charters
- Elect and remove national officers and directors
- Amend the Constitution and By-Laws
- Raise money by assessing dues on chapters, alumni groups and individual members
- Provide for the regulation of national officers, chapters, alumni clubs, alumni associations, and members of the Fraternity
- Act as final authority on all matters brought before it on appeal from the Grand Lodge
- Deliberate any other matters brought before it

The National Convention met annually from 1865 to 1933, and was known as the "Annual Convention". From 1933 to 1972, it convened biennially and was called the "Anniversary Convention". This title was retained when conventions once again were held annually from 1974 to 1980. Following the 1980 Convention, the Fraternity chose once again to meet biennially. The word "anniversary" marks the number of years since the Fraternity's founding. The composition and powers of the National Convention are detailed in Article Two of *The Constitution and By-Laws of Theta Xi*.

SPECIAL CONVENTIONS

Special Conventions may consider and act upon only the specific business for which they have been called. A Special Convention may be called by the National Convention, by a two-thirds vote of the Grand Lodge, or by a majority of the chapters, chartered alumni clubs, and chartered alumni associations.

GRAND LODGE

Between National Conventions, the authority of the Fraternity is vested in the Grand Lodge, which exercises general control over the business of the Fraternity, subject to the Constitution and the National Convention. The Grand Lodge serves as the national Fraternity's board of directors.

The Grand Lodge meets at least once a year and has the authority to:

- Suspend and reinstate members
- Fill vacancies among national offices by interim appointments
- Provide for, define and organize regions within the Fraternity
- Grant charters to alumni clubs and alumni associations
- Appoint the executive director
- Rule on appeals brought before it by chapters or members
- Adjust membership fees
- Appoint national committees

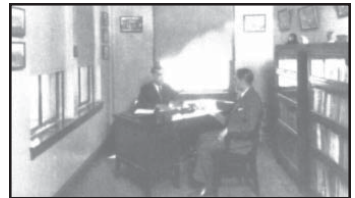
The Grand Lodge is composed of nine members. The president, vice president, and two undergraduate directors are elected to two-year terms. Another four directors and the Treasurer are elected to four-year terms.

FRATERNITY HEADQUARTERS

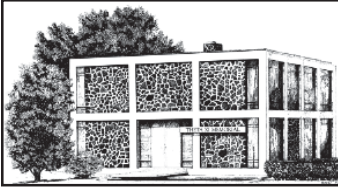
The Fraternity's Headquarters was established in St. Louis in 1924. At that time, the Grand Lodge and Convention saw the need to establish a central office to administer the operation of a growing brotherhood. Today, the Fraternity Headquarters is staffed by an executive director, professional and support personnel.

The functions of the Headquarters staff are to:

- Serve as a communication center for all individual members, chapters, alumni groups, the Grand Lodge and national committees of the Fraternity
- Oversee the Fraternity's visitation program to assist chapters in maintaining successful programs and operations
- Conduct the Fraternity's expansion program
- Supervise the publication and distribution of the Fraternity magazine, membership manual and guides for chapter and alumni operations
- Collect all dues and fees and maintain the financial records of the Fraternity.
- Preserve all important documents, records, and membership files
- Represent the fraternity in its relations with college administrators and other fraternities



The first St. Louis Headquarters, established in 1924, was known as the Grand Lodge Office.



The Theta Xi Memorial Headquarters, dedicated in 1964, was the administrative office of the fraternity until 2000.

In 1960, the Grand Lodge purchased a building site. Fundraising for a National Headquarters building began on July 10, 1961, under the direction of then National Vice President Phillip C. Sowersby, Alpha Delta 1. The new building was occupied April 17, 1964, and formally dedicated on the one hundredth anniversary of the Founding of the Fraternity, April 29, 1964. Contributions totaling \$115,000 were received for the construction from more than two thousand Brothers.

In 1999, the Memorial Headquarters building was sold. Proceeds of the sale were placed in trust. Today, Theta Xi rents space, which provides flexibility to meet ongoing changes in office space needs as staffing and conditions warrant.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

National Committees are standing, or permanent, committees addressing the ongoing needs of the Fraternity. Special Committees are sometimes appointed when immediate issues or concerns which require attention are out of the realm of responsibilities of National Committees.

National Committees

Awards

The Committee on Awards develops and supervises the awards program of the Fraternity, including the Memorial Trophy competition.

Constitution

The Committee on Constitution oversees all revisions of the Constitution and advises the National Convention and the Grand Lodge of the constitutionality of any matter.

Financial Policy

The Committee on Financial Policy oversees all Fraternity financial operations.

Information Technology

The Committee on Information Technology is responsible for overseeing the ability of the Fraternity to utilize technology to best serve all members.

Membership Education

The Committee on Membership Education is responsible for providing chapters with a complete membership education program that promotes the history, philosophy and organization of Theta Xi.

Nominations

The Committee on Nominations shall receive recommendations for candidates to be elected to national office, Grand Lodge directorships, and the Order of the Unicorn, and shall report its recommendations at each National Convention.

Ritual

The committee on Ritual oversees all revisions of the Ritual and suggests amendments and changes as it sees fit.

Scholarship

The Committee on Scholarship monitors each chapter's academic progress for the purpose of developing academic guidelines and promoting scholastic achievement.

Special Committees

Membership Development and Rush

The committee is responsible for updating recruitment resources available from Fraternity Headquarters and reviewing MGM for its effectiveness.

Philanthropy

The committee monitors chapter, Fraternity, campus, and community service programs.

Risk Management

The committee oversees the Fraternity's risk management program. As part of this duty, the committee investigates allegation of risk management policy violations.

Strategic Planning Committees

Theta Xi's Strategic Plan, adopted unanimously by the 137th Anniversary Convention in Palm Springs, California, requires several committees to oversee its implementation. These Special Committees include Recruitment, Alumni Involvement, Brotherhood, and Expansion. Each committee is responsible for key aspects of the Strategic Plan, and the Chairman of each committee is a member of the Strategic Planning Executive Committee, which is responsible for overseeing the overall implementation of the strategic plan, to provide long-term direction and assure future viability of the Fraternity. The Strategic Plan is discussed in more detail on the following pages.

Unicorn

The committee includes the appointed editor and assistants, who are responsible for publication of Theta Xi's national magazine, *The Unicorn of Theta Xi*.

THE STRATEGIC PLAN

In 1999, the 135th Anniversary Convention called for the creation of a Strategic Plan to guide Theta Xi into the future. Over the next two years, hundreds of members participated in the development of the plan, which was adopted unanimously by the 137th Anniversary Convention in Palm Springs, California. The Plan consists of a Ten Year Vision to unify our actions, set goals that are critical to the survival and prosperity of an organization and articulate action plans to achieve these goals.

Strategic planning provides the following benefits:

- Establishes a long-term framework for organizational leadership and decision-making
- Enhances organizational communications
- Encourages discussion of issues that need to be discussed in the open
- Facilitates exchange of ideas, opinions, and information
- Helps build organizational capabilities that may be needed in the future to respond to unforeseen environmental threats and opportunities
- Strengthens commitment of members when planning process is open, inclusive, and respectful of member inputs, and plan addresses pertinent issues.

Our Vision, a series of statements that describe Theta Xi Fraternity ten and more years into the future, is:

Undergraduate Membership

Theta Xi is a strong and growing Brotherhood that sustains excellence in scholastics, fellowship, service and ethics by recruiting and developing future leaders. Each Chapter operates at a membership level that provides the full Fraternity experience to every undergraduate member.

Undergraduate Commitment

Theta Xi Fraternity builds an enduring commitment among its Brothers by providing a variety of worthwhile experiences and developmental opportunities, and creating a positive, engaging environment. Undergraduate members and their Chapters embrace and fulfill the scholastic, financial, social, and leadership responsibilities of Brotherhood.

Alumni Involvement

Theta Xi alumni members are a robust and capable source of guidance and support for undergraduate members. Membership in Theta Xi Fraternity is a lifelong commitment. Active lifelong membership broadens and deepens our understanding of Brotherhood.

Chapter Expansion

Theta Xi Fraternity's nation-wide presence on an increasing number and diversity of campuses provides extensive opportunities for undergraduates to participate in and strengthen the Bonds of Brotherhood. This network of Chapters increases public recognition of the Fraternity and enhances both the strength and quality of the Brotherhood.

Financial Stability

Organizations at all levels within the Fraternity (Headquarters, Chapters, Alumni Associations, and Alumni Clubs) have the financial resources available to permit the Fraternity to reach its fullest potential. Financial stability is achieved through a commitment to sound fiscal management and dedicated efforts by undergraduate and alumni members to build endowments and reserve funds for future growth and security.

Communications

Communications with and among the stakeholders of Theta Xi Fraternity (undergraduate and alumni members, parents, universities, and the public) are timely, robust and clear so that the objectives and activities of the Fraternity are understood and can be supported.

National Reputation

Theta Xi Fraternity is recognized and respected by campus leaders, college administrators, and the public as a Brotherhood that challenges its members to be leaders, scholars, athletes, and gentlemen, and makes positive contributions to the collegiate and local communities.

In order to bring about the Vision, the Strategic Plan includes two-year and ten-year goals and an ongoing implementation model. A full report on progress to meet Strategic Plan goals is provided at least annually to the membership in *The Unicorn of Theta Xi* and at Theta Xi events.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS



Harold P. (Jack) Davison, Iota 149, served from 1925-1964.

Harold P. Davison served for 40 years as Theta Xi's first Executive Secretary. Brother Davison, who preferred his nickname "Jack," became the Fraternity's executive in 1925 shortly after graduating from college. Largely due to his urging, the Fraternity voted on April 9, 1926 to open its membership to non-engineering students. He encouraged the Fraternity to create the Unicorn Fund in 1929. In 1930 he wrote the Fraternity's first pledge manual. Expansion of the Fraternity had long been delayed due to the strong opposition of several Eastern chapters, but Brother Davison was persistent in his insistence that the Fraternity adopt a progressive expansion policy, and in 1931 such a policy was adopted. During his term, the Fraternity roll grew from 27 chapters when he took office to 74 at the time of his retirement. In 1947, "Jack" advocated that the Fraternity create the Theta Xi Foundation. He served as President of both the Fraternity Executives Association and the College Fraternity Editors Association. Davison was presented both the Distinguished Service Award and the Order of the Unicorn. He retired in 1964 at the age of 65. For his many years of selfless service, the library in the Fraternity Headquarters was dedicated in his name.

Since Brother Davison, the Executive Directors of Theta Xi have been:

- **Elmer Blumenkamp, Alpha Beta 162, 1964-67**
- **Col. Carl E. Grant, Alpha Lambda 43, 1967-73**
- **James N. Hall, Kappa Tau 56, 1973-78**
- **James E. Vredenburg, Jr., Beta Omega 11, 1978-1997**
- **Alan Gardner, Beta Zeta 634, 1997-1999**
- **J. Scott Berry, Gamma Pi 16, 1999-2000**
- **Craig J. Dennis, Beta Omega 59, 2000-2001**
- **James E. Vredenburg, Jr., Beta Omega 11, 2001 - present**



William J. Hedley, Iota 158, was National President from 1961-1964. He oversaw the merger with Kappa Sigma Kappa. He was honored by both the Fraternity and the United States. He received one of our nation's highest honors when he was presented with the Hoover Medal, and he was presented with the Order of the Unicorn in 1974, Theta Xi's highest honor.

PAST NATIONAL PRESIDENTS

Col. William H. Wiley, Alpha 11, 1906-1923 *
Alexander S. Langsdorf, Iota 96, 1923-1929 *
Anthony W. Lomis, Lambda 4, 1929 *
Charles K. Traber, Iota 8, 1929-1930 *
Edward P. Hamilton, Alpha 206, 1930-1934 *
Alfred J. Johannsen, Tau 39, 1934-1935 *
Samuel E. Hoyt, Beta 213, 1935-1937 *
Clayton M. Allen, Theta 104, 1937-1941 *
Albert E. Peterson, Psi 89, 1941-1945 *
Joseph A. Sauls, Jr., Iota 113, 1945-1947 *
Earl T. Luff, Alpha Epsilon 3, 1947-1949
Lucien A. Hauslein, Omicron 50, 1949-1951 *
Ernst H. Schultz, Jr., Iota 226, 1951-1953 *
M. S. McNay, Theta 70, 1953-1955 *
Dr. Z. L. Loflin, Alpha Alpha 112, 1955-1957 *
Henry R. Kruse, Nu 149, 1957-1959 *
Elmer F. Blumenkamp, Alpha Beta 162 Iota, 1959-1961 *
William J. Hedley, Iota 158, 1961-1964 *
Joseph F. Wolff, Rho 149, 1964-1966 *
George F. Branigan, Alpha Epsilon 7, 1966-1968 *
Harold A. Thomas, Jr., Iota 404, 1968-1970 *
Norman W. Ray, Rho 405, 1970-1972
Thad Hanway, Theta 430, 1972-1974 *
David C. Auten, Omicron 558, 1974-1976
Dr. Fred D. Hinson, Kappa Phi 113, 1976-1978
Ronald L. Smith, Kappa Sigma 2, 1978-1980
Arthur D. Ickes, Kappa Sigma 183, 1980-1982
Donald A. Fischer, Iota 266, 1982-1984 *
Donald G. Allison, Omicron 758, 1984-1988
Dr. Richard C. McCormac, Beta Epsilon 131, 1986-1988
Duane J. Fox, Mu 727, 1988-1991
Barry A. Breen, Alpha Zeta 551, 1991-93
H. Robert Veenstra Jr., Mu 740, 1993-1995
Robert G. Dietrich, Kappa Tau 331, 1995-1997
Walter S. Brock, Beta Pi 103, 1997-1999
Donald W. Thomas, Beta Epsilon 167, 1999-2001
H. Robert Veenstra Jr., Mu 740, 2001-2003

* - denotes deceased

FRATERNITY FINANCES

THE GENERAL FUND

The General fund supports the day-to-day activities of the Fraternity, and the greater proportion of Initiation and Life Membership Fees are placed in this fund. The other major sources of revenue to this fund are: investment income, chapter service fees, and risk management assessments.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FUND

Upon initiation, each new initiate of Theta Xi is considered a Life Member, having paid a deposit on his Initiation and Life Membership fee. This is in accordance with the provisions first established by the 104th Anniversary Convention in 1968. During the balance of his college years, each initiated member completes the payment of his Life Membership fee with semi-annual installments as part of the chapter service fee. Thereafter, each member's only financial obligations are voluntary contributions to his chapter's alumni association and to the Theta Xi Foundation.

A portion of each Life Membership Fee is deposited into a trust fund called the Life Membership Fund, the income from which is used to support annual Fraternity educational and leadership programs. The principal is held intact as an endowment and invested in high-grade securities.



THETA XI FOUNDATION

Theta Xi is an institution which should provide its members with new opportunities and special services, while continuing to contribute to society in general, and educational endeavors in particular. To implement this conviction, the Grand Lodge, acting under the authority of the National Convention, created the Theta Xi Foundation in 1949.

The purpose of the Foundation is "To receive and maintain a fund or funds and to apply the income or principal thereof to promote the advancement and diffusion of knowledge and understanding by creating scholarships or fellowships for the benefit of deserving students in colleges and universities by making loans or outright grants to professors, teachers, students, student organizations or societies to carry on research in his, her, or their particular field of endeavor, and to expend money for any other educational or charitable purpose not inconsistent with the above purposes."

The Foundation is administered by a board of trustees composed of an Executive Committee of four members including Theta Xi's current National President, and at least six additional trustees, all of whom are alumni members.

The Foundation is built by gifts from alumni and friends who have a deep interest and abiding faith in youth, and who recognize the college fraternity as an agency that is making an invaluable contribution to molding its members into responsible and upright citizens.

Gifts may be restricted or unrestricted according to the wishes of the donor. They may be made for any specific purpose that is consistent with the general purposes of the Foundation or for use by a specific chapter. Since the Foundation is a public charity, all gifts, bequests, legacies, devises, and transfers are exempt from Federal Income, Gift and Estate Taxes. As an alumnus of Theta Xi, one of the most important ways you can show your commitment to the Fraternity is through contributions to the Foundation. Just as your commitment to brotherhood and fellowship in Theta Xi continues beyond your college years, so should your commitment to serve the Fraternity and to contribute to its continuing financial well-being.

UNICORN FUND

On February 23, 1929 the Unicorn Fund was created. It originally established the Fraternity's second endowment fund. It was founded with the intent to endow the Unicorn of Theta Xi. IRS regulations no longer made this possible as years passed, so the fund was reorganized to support chapter housing efforts. In 1995, the 131st Anniversary Convention voted to gift the Unicorn Fund to the Theta Xi Foundation. Today, the Unicorn Fund is available for loans to chartered alumni associations to assist in providing and improving chapter housing. While the Fund has considerable total assets, the Unicorn Fund Committee recognizes the large number of chapters to which these funds should be made available and, as a result, limits the size of any single loan. The loans from this fund are intended to assist Theta Xi groups in putting together adequate financing for realistic chapter housing plans. Loans are granted based upon an application form completed by a chapter's alumni association. The Unicorn Fund Committee determines the merits of each loan application. Application forms are available from the Fraternity or Foundation Headquarters.

THETA XI PUBLICATIONS

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

The *Constitution and By-Laws* is a public document which sets forth the rules and regulations under which the Fraternity operates. Sections which are applicable to associate member education have been referred to in this manual. Every Brother is required sign *The Constitution and By-Laws* at the time of his initiation. This document provides Theta Xi with continuity in its year-to-year operation.

Theta Xi's *Constitution and By-Laws* have been amended many times in efforts to update and plan ahead for the Fraternity's needs. The Constitution itself can be amended only by a three-fourths vote of either a National Convention or a Special Convention called for that purpose. The By-Laws may also be amended by a National Convention or Special convention, but only by a simple majority vote. Each Brother, in respect for the history and traditions of the Fraternity, shall always accord due respect to *The Constitution and By-Laws*.

RITUAL

The *Ritual* of Theta Xi is the book of secret knowledge which is the cultural heritage of our Fraternity. Its content is made known to newly initiated chapter members upon initiation into the Bonds. Revisions in the *Ritual* are seldom made. The secrets of the Fraternity have been preserved intact since the founding of Theta Xi.

THE UNICORN OF THETA XI

The official magazine of the Fraternity is *The Unicorn of Theta Xi*. Originally called *The Theta Xi Quarterly*, it was first published in 1892 by Charles W. Hoyt, Beta 166, in New Haven, Connecticut. Brother Hoyt edited early volumes of *The Quarterly* while an undergraduate member of Beta Chapter at Yale. He had long felt the need for something that would keep the alumni in touch with one another, their chapters, and the Fraternity. After his return from the twenty-eighth Annual Convention, which was held in Boston in 1892, he announced that he would immediately release the initial issue. He was so enthusiastic for the magazine and so confident of its success that he assumed full financial responsibility for its early issues.



Charles W. Hoyt, Beta 166, was the founder and first editor of *The Theta Xi Quarterly*.

Charles W. Hoyt continued as editor until 1896, when he was succeeded by his brother, Samuel E. Hoyt, Beta 213, who was then an undergraduate at Yale. In 1902, Alpha Chapter assumed responsibility for the publication of *The Quarterly*. The first copy released under the direction of the Grand Lodge made its appearance in 1908, when Frank R. Lanagan, Alpha 196, who had been elected secretary, assumed the responsibilities of editor. From that time, with a few exceptions, the magazine has been edited by the National Secretary (currently the Executive Director). Since 1924, the magazine has been published at the Fraternity Headquarters in St. Louis. The name of the magazine was changed from *The Theta Xi Quarterly* to *The Unicorn of Theta Xi* in 1928. *The Unicorn* contains news on individual chapters, special alumni, Fraternity and interfraternity events, conferences and issues, and listings of chapter addresses, alumni contributions and Fraternity obituaries.

THE QUEST FOR THETA XI

The Quest for Theta Xi is a membership manual, thus it serves not only to acquaint associate members with the responsibilities of membership, but to educate all members about the heritage, ideals, and opportunities which Theta Xi Fraternity has to offer. This manual is written to complement the *Alpha Nine* membership education program. Although *The Quest* is primarily designed for the Fraternity membership, it is also the most appropriate Fraternity publication to acquaint parents, other students and school administrators with Theta Xi.

Research for this revision included examination of previous editions of *The Quest for Theta Xi*, Kappa Sigma Kappa Fraternity historical records and selections from its manual entitled *The Quest*, selections from other general fraternities' membership manuals and various other sources. This edition of *The Quest* reflects years of educational tradition and excellence begun in 1930 by the late Brother Harold P. Davison with the first edition of the *Pledge Manual—Theta Xi Fraternity*. The title was changed to *The Manual of Theta Xi* when the fifth edition was published in 1939, a name which remained until the merger of Theta Xi with Kappa Sigma Kappa in 1962. Under terms of the merger the title of the Kappa Sigma Kappa manual, *The Quest*, was adopted by Theta Xi and has been retained ever since.

CHAPTER OPERATIONS GUIDES

Several guides designed to support chapter operations and to assist volunteer alumni workers are published by the Fraternity. These include guides for chapter officers, chapter advisors, alumni associations and clubs, membership education chairmen, and recruitment chairmen. These are guides to important functions within the Fraternity. They bring the wisdom and experience of Theta Xi's heritage together with the day-to-day tasks of operating a fraternity chapter. The guides serve to orient men to the duties of their positions, important points to consider, and common pitfalls to avoid.

The guides also give examples of successful methods for conducting certain programs such as recruitment, membership education, finances, publicity, and scholarship. By utilizing Theta Xi's publications, chapter officers are more effective, and advisors and alumni officers can more adequately plan programs to meet their needs. These publications are the collective wisdom of hundreds of Theta Xi chapter and alumni leaders.

STATEMENTS OF POSITION

From time to time, issues arise which address the Fraternity's core beliefs, values, and traditions. Theta Xi will often address these issues through formal opinions, adopted at the National Convention as Statements of Position. Those of enduring significance are sometimes used as the basis to amend the By-Laws of the Fraternity.

At the 135th Anniversary Convention in Kansas City, the National Convention created By-Law 29 for this purpose. Five statements of position were included in

the By-Laws: Use of Alcohol, Risk Management, Little Sister Organizations, Human Dignity, and Fraternity Expansion. The original Statements of Position are included as appendices within this book.

Two other Statements of Position currently in force address Fraternity Values and Hazing and Pre-Initiation Activities. These Statements emphasize concepts which have been included in the Constitution for many years, and further clarify Theta Xi's commitment to brotherhood and personal values. These Statements of Position are also included as appendices within this book.

As part of Theta Xi's *Constitution and By-Laws*, all members should regularly review these statements to ensure that their chapter programs are in compliance.

THETA XI AWARDS

Theta Xi has developed several awards to recognize outstanding individuals and chapters within our brotherhood. Nowhere are the ideals of Theta Xi more visible than in the requirements for these prestigious awards.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (DSA)

The 73rd Anniversary Convention (Houston, Texas, 1941) authorized the Grand Lodge to develop a means of expressing appreciation to members for exceptional and meritorious service performed in the interest of the Fraternity. Shortly thereafter, the Grand Lodge created the Distinguished Service Award, for presentation to members "in recognition and appreciation of outstanding services" to the Fraternity.

In September 1941, the Grand Lodge selected twelve outstanding members to be the initial recipients of this coveted award. Within the next few months, Distinguished Service Awards were presented to them at special dinners and meetings.

Citations have been made for outstanding and meritorious service to chapter advisors, officers of alumni clubs and alumni associations, regional directors, members of national committees, for establishing and reactivating chapters, colonies, and alumni clubs, to members of the Grand Lodge and chairmen of Conventions, for protecting chapters in periods of war; and for other extraordinary services.

Recommendations for the Distinguished Service Award may be submitted to the Grand Lodge by alumni associations, alumni clubs, chapters or individual members. Each recommendation is thoroughly investigated and acted upon by the Grand Lodge. Awards are usually authorized at each Grand Lodge meeting.

As of January 1, 2002, a total of 393 Distinguished Service Awards have been presented.

THE ORDER OF THE GOLDEN STAR

Membership in Theta Xi for fifty years results in elevation to the Order of the Golden Star. This award was created in 1953 by the Grand Lodge in accordance

with the recommendation of the 89th Anniversary Convention in Chicago.

Golden Star Certificates are presented each spring in connection with Founder's Day celebrations. Arrangements are made with alumni clubs and chapters to present the certificates personally whenever possible. Otherwise, the certificates are mailed with a letter of congratulations from the Executive Director.

THE ORDER OF THE SILVER STAR

The Order of the Silver Star, also recognized with a certificate, was established in 1995 to recognize twenty-five years of membership.

THE ORDER OF THE UNICORN

The highest honor that may be conferred upon a member of Theta Xi by the Fraternity is election to The Order of the Unicorn, the "Hall of Fame" of our Fraternity.

The Order of the Unicorn was established by the Diamond Jubilee Convention (75th Anniversary) in Troy, New York, on September 2, 1939. It established the means for honoring prolonged and invaluable service to the Fraternity.

All proposals for membership in The Order of the Unicorn must be approved by the Committee on Nominations and the Grand Lodge before they may be brought to the floor of the Convention for election. Approval by the Convention is necessary for election. Members elected to The Order of the Unicorn become honorary life members of the Grand Lodge and have voting privileges at the National Convention.

Edwin F. Gillette, first recipient of The Order of the Unicorn in 1939, was appointed National Historian in 1931 and was responsible for the written completion and revision of the Ritual. Gillette also designed the Fraternity's Coat of Arms, and several of his engravings adorned



The Unicorn of Theta Xi. He founded the first Theta Xi alumni club in Chicago, published the first membership directory, and held the office of National Vice-President from 1937 to 1939.

MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF THE UNICORN

Edwin F. Gillette	Sept. 2, 1939	Alpha 100, Rensselaer '84 *
Addison A. Righter	Sept. 2, 1939	Beta 100, Yale '81 *
William S. Mason	Sept. 2, 1939	Beta 145, Yale '88 *
W. O. Wiley	Sept. 2, 1939	Epsilon 98, Columbia '82 *
Charles K. Traber	Aug. 23, 1941	Iota 8, Washington U. '06 *
Frank R. Lanagan	Sept. 7, 1946	Alpha 196, Rensselaer '05 *
Harold P. Davison	Sept. 7, 1946	Iota 149, Washington U. '24 *
Edward P. Hamilton	Aug. 30, 1947	Alpha 206, Rensselaer '07 *
Clayton M. Allen	Aug. 31, 1949	Theta 104, Purdue '20 *
Alfred J. Johannsen	Aug. 29, 1951	Tau 39, Stanford '19 *
J. A. Sauls, Jr.	Aug. 29, 1951	Iota 113, Washington U. '22 *

Gifford G. Todd	Aug. 31, 1955	Nu 86, California '18 *
L. A. Hauslein	Aug. 31, 1955	Omicron 50, Pennsylvania '16 *
Earl T. Luff	Aug. 31, 1955	Alpha Epsilon 3, Nebraska '28
M. S. McNay	Aug. 31, 1955	Theta 70, Purdue '16 *
Don M. Leidig	Aug. 28, 1957	Nu 125, California '22 *
Ernst H. Schultz, Jr.	Aug. 28, 1957	Iota 226, Washington U. '29 *
Albert E. Peterson	Aug. 28, 1957	Psi 89, Minnesota '19 *
Elmer L. Lacey	Sept. 1, 1959	Iota 60, Washington '13 *
Z. L. Loflin	Sept. 1, 1959	Alpha Alpha 112, L.S.U. '32 *
William H. Wiley	Sept. 2, 1964	Alpha 11, Rensselaer 1866 *
Hugh T. Wreaks	Sept. 2, 1964	Gamma 69, Stevens '90 *
Donald E. Dawley	Sept. 2, 1964	Xi 118, U.C.L.A. '29 *
Francis J. Koenig	Sept. 2, 1964	Alpha Beta 162, Illinois '29 *
J. Fred Gross	Aug. 30, 1966	Delta 640 Phi 6, Wisconsin '16 *
Philip C. Sowersby	Aug. 30, 1966	Alpha Delta 1, Oregon State '27 *
C. Leonard J. Ager	Aug. 25, 1970	Alpha 327, Rensselaer '22 *
George F. Branigan	Oct. 8, 1972	Alpha Epsilon 7, Nebraska '27 *
William J. Hedley	Aug. 30, 1974	Iota 158, Washington U. '25 *
Dr. W. Turrentine Jackson	Aug. 12, 1979	Beta Epsilon 59, U.C., Davis Alumni Initiate *
Elmer F. Blumenkamp	Apr. 27, 1981	Alpha Beta 162 Iota, Illinois '31 *
Thomas C. Landrum	May 2, 1981	Alpha Alpha 149, L.S.U. '36 *
Harold A. Thomas, Jr.	Aug. 9, 1980	Iota 404, Washington U. '44 *
Jerry A. Lilly	Aug. 8, 1982	Kappa Epsilon 34, Concord '64 *
Thad Hanway	Aug. 11, 1984	Theta 430, Purdue '45 *
Donald A. Fischer	Aug. 11, 1984	Iota 266, Washington '32 *
David C. Auten	Aug. 9, 1986	Omicron 558, Pennsylvania '60
Dr. Fred D. Hinson	Aug. 4, 1988	Kappa Phi 113, W. Carolina U. '67 Alumni Initiate
Arthur D. Ickes	Aug. 2, 1991	Kappa Sigma 183, G.M.I. '69
Richard J. Jones	Aug. 2, 1991	Alpha Zeta 418, U.C.L.A. '56 *
Norman Ray	Aug. 5, 1993	Rho 405, Texas '45
Elmer D. Kaelin	July 28, 1995	Pi 406, Carnegie-Mellon '48
Dr. Ronald L Smith	July 28, 1995	Kappa Sigma 2, G.M.I. '60
Donald G. Allison	July 29, 1999	Omicron 758, Pennsylvania '72
Duane J. Fox	July 29, 1999	Mu 727, Iowa State '71
Dr. Richard C. McCormac	Aug. 2, 2001	Beta Epsilon 131, U.C., Davis '61
Barry E. Breen	Aug. 2, 2001	Alpha Zeta 551, U.C.L.A. '68

* - *designates deceased*

MEMORIAL TROPHY

The Memorial Trophy is awarded annually to Theta Xi's outstanding chapter. The winning chapter is determined by a detailed report process.

The Memorial Trophy is a large plaque containing a beautifully detailed bronze reproduction of the Memorial Seat presented to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1939 to commemorate the founding of Theta Xi. The name of the winning chapter is inscribed on the plaque, which rotates among the outstanding chapters. Each winning chapter also receives a small plaque that contains a detailed bronze reproduction of the Memorial Seat. The small trophy, properly inscribed, is retained permanently by the winning chapter.

The Memorial Trophy was first awarded at the banquet of the Diamond Jubilee Convention in Troy, New York, to Alpha Alpha Chapter at Louisiana State University, in 1939. Honorable Mention Citation certificates are also awarded annually to the chapters which finish in second and third places in the Memorial Trophy competition.

Category awards are then presented to the top three chapters in each category as determined by the number of fraternity chapters on their campus. Category I are chapters that have 1-9 NIC fraternities on campus, Category II have 10-19, Category III have 20 or more.

A General Improvement Trophy and three Honorable Mention Certificates are also awarded annually to the chapters showing the greatest overall improvement during the preceding year, based on the Memorial Trophy report form.



The Memorial Seat was constructed on the R.P.I. campus to commemorate the Founding. It was dedicated on the Fraternity's 75th Anniversary in 1939. Pictured seated (L-R) are Edward Hamilton A206, Harold Davison I149, Elmer Lacey I60, Francis Koenig AB162, Edwin Gillete A100, Paul Gillilan X87, and J. Roscoe Furber Ψ125, standing (L-R) are Schultz, Lucien Hauslein O50, Allen ClaytonΘ104, Harry Hower Π34, Albert Peterson Ψ89, and C. Leonard Ager Jr. A327.

In addition, Benchmarks Sectional Awards are presented to the chapters that achieve the highest ranking in each of the ten sections of chapter operations encompassed in *Benchmarks of Excellence*. Achievement certificates are presented to all chapters that perform above certain levels in each section.

The Memorial Trophy report form should be used by each chapter as a planning guide throughout the year. At the beginning of each term, the chapter should schedule a retreat during which term-long and yearlong goals are set by the membership. The Memorial Trophy criteria should be used as a guide for setting these goals. By referring to the report form, the chapter can focus on improving its weak areas of operation and refining its strengths.

Winners of Memorial Trophy

1938-39	Alpha Alpha	Louisiana State	1972-73	Mu	Iowa State
1939-40	Alpha Alpha	Louisiana State		Kappa Sigma	G.M.I.
1940-41	Alpha Alpha	Louisiana State	1973-74	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1941-42	Iota	Washington U.	1974-75	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1942-46	Not Awarded		1975-76	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1946-47	Alpha	Rensselaer	1976-77	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1947-48	Pi	Carnegie Tech.	1977-78	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1948-49	Iota	Washington U.	1978-79	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1949-50	Alpha Delta	Oregon State	1979-80	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1950-51	Zeta	Cornell	1980-81	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1951-52	Alpha Zeta	U.C.L.A.	1981-82	Alpha Zeta	U.C.L.A.
1952-53	Gamma	Stevens	1982-83	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1953-54	Sigma	Michigan	1983-84	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1954-55	Lambda	Penn. State	1984-85	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1955-56	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1985-86	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1956-57	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1986-87	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1957-58	Alpha Chi	Trinity	1987-88	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1958-59	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1988-89	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1959-60	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1989-90	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1960-61	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1990-91	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1961-62	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1991-92	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1962-63	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1992-93	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1963-64	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1993-94	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1964-65	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1994-95	Beta Zeta	Auburn
1965-66	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1995-96	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1965-67	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1996-97	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1967-68	Kappa Sigma	G.M.I.	1997-98	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1968-69	Kappa Sigma	G.M.I.	1998-99	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis
1969-70	Kappa Phi	W. Carolina	1999-00	Alpha Iota	Kansas State
1970-71	Kappa Sigma	G.M.I.	2000-01	Gamma Beta	F.I.T.
1971-72	Kappa Theta	W. Illinois			

Winners of General Improvement Trophy

1946-47	Rho	Texas	1973-74	Alpha Zeta	U.C.L.A.
1947-48	Alpha Gamma	Illinois Tech.	1974-75	Alpha Epsilon	Nebraska
1948-49	Alpha Pi	Connecticut	1975-76	Delta	M.I.T.
1949-50	Alpha Chi	Trinity	1976-77	Alpha Gamma	I.I.T.
1950-51	Alpha Tau	Indiana	1977-78	Upsilon	U. of Washington
1951-52	Alpha Iota	Kansas State	1978-79	Omega	Washington State
1952-53	Mu	Iowa State	1979-80	Beta Alpha	Georgia Tech.
1953-54	Alpha Beta	Illinois	1980-81	Tau	Stanford
1954-55	Alpha Epsilon	Nebraska	1981-82	Pi	Carnegie-Mellon
1955-56	Alpha Psi	Mo. at Rolla	1982-83	Alpha Omicron	S.W. Louisiana
1956-57	Alpha Nu	U.S.C.	1983-84	Beta Xi	New Orleans
1957-58	Beta Alpha	Georgia Tech.	1984-85	Alpha Psi	Mo. at Rolla
1958-59	Nu	Cal. Berkeley	1985-86	Pi	Carnegie-Mellon
1959-60	Omega	Washington State	1986-87	Beta Omega	Virginia Tech
1960-61	Alpha Lambda	Alabama	1987-88	Tau	Stanford
1961-62	Pi	Carnegie-Mellon	1988-89	Kappa Kappa	Ball State
1962-63	Alpha Zeta	U.C.L.A.	1989-90	Alpha Alpha	Louisiana State
1963-64	Kappa Kappa	Ball State	1990-91	Alpha Zeta	U.C.L.A.
1964-65	Kappa Theta	W. Illinois	1991-92	Beta Zeta	Auburn
1964-65	Kappa Theta	W. Illinois	1992-93	Beta Pi	SE Louisiana
1965-66	Kappa Theta	W. Illinois	1993-94	Beta Omega	Virginia Tech
1966-67	Alpha Epsilon	Nebraska	1994-95	Beta Epsilon	U.C. Davis
1967-68	Kappa Upsilon	Utica	1995-96	Alpha Psi	Mo. at Rolla
1968-69	Beta Theta	W. Michigan	1996-97	Beta Zeta	Auburn
1969-70	Alpha Tau	Indiana	1997-98	Beta Epsilon	U.C. Davis
1970-71	Beta Omicron	Clarion	1998-99	Beta Alpha	Georgia Tech.
1971-72	Beta Epsilon	U.C., Davis	1999-00	Gamma Beta	F.I.T.
1972-73	Gamma	Stevens	2000-01	Gamma Beta	F.I.T.

ALUMNI COMMUNICATIONS AWARD

Theta Xi recognizes that active alumni counsel, advice and support are key ingredients to successful chapter operations. In order to promote such involvement, it is important for each chapter to keep alumni informed of chapter activities and concerns. The Alumni Communications Award promotes this concept by recognizing specifically those chapters which prepare and mail an alumni newsletter each academic term of the school year.

OUTSTANDING CHAPTER ADVISOR AWARD

This award is designed to recognize those Brothers who have dedicated their time and efforts to voluntarily serve as chapter advisors. Recipients of the award are chosen annually by the National President. One chapter advisor from each region is recognized annually. The most outstanding advisor from this group receives the Dr. W. Turrentine Jackson Outstanding Advisor Award, in recognition of the commitment and dedication of Brother Jackson, Beta Epsilon 59.

Brother Jackson was initiated as an alumnus in 1954 and demonstrated his dedication and commitment to Theta Xi by serving as advisor to Theta Xi's Beta Epsilon chapter at University of California, Davis for 46 years until his passing in 2000.

OUTSTANDING REGION AWARD

This award is presented to each chapter of the region that demonstrates the best representation at national meetings and regional conferences, in addition to the strength of overall chapter operations. The average score of each chapter in the region on the Memorial Trophy Report form is used to determine the strength of overall chapter operations.

OUTSTANDING REGIONAL DIRECTOR

This award is presented to the regional director who is deemed by the National President to have rendered the most outstanding service over the past year.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

These awards recognize chapters which have demonstrated outstanding scholastic performance. To receive the Outstanding Scholarship award, a chapter must be ranked first in scholarship among all fraternities on its campus for a particular academic term. To receive a Scholastic Achievement certificate, a chapter's Grade Point Average must be above the All-Men's Average.

DICK JONES CHAPTER ADMINISTRATION AWARD

This award serves to honor long-time Alpha Zeta chapter advisor Dick Jones, Alpha Zeta 418, who promoted efficient and proper attention to day-to-day chapter administration in the belief that if leaders take proper care of the little issues, that the big issues tend to solve themselves.

A CHRONOLOGICAL HISTORY

April 29, 1864

Theta Xi was founded at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, New York, by Peter Henry Fox, Ralph Gooding Packard, Christopher Champlin Waite, George Bradford Brainerd, Samuel Buel, Jr., Henry Harrison Farnum, Thomas Cole Raymond and Nathaniel Henry Starbuck. The Fraternity was originally founded as an engineering fraternity, the first professional fraternity.

May 7, 1864

Edward H. Morrison, the first member of Theta Xi after the honored founders, was initiated eight days following the establishment of Alpha Chapter as Alpha 9.

April 21, 1865

The first Annual Convention was held at Troy, New York, under the auspices of Alpha Chapter.

September 28, 1867

Kappa Sigma Kappa was founded at the Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia, by David Gamble Murrell, John McClelland Tutwiler, Kenneth McDonald, and James Gunnell Hurst.

April, 1892

The Theta Xi Quarterly was first published by Charles W. Hoyt, Beta 166, in New Haven, Connecticut.

May 15, 1892

The first edition of the *Catalogue* or Membership List was compiled and published by Edwin F. Gillette, Alpha 100.

February 24, 1906

Centralized form of government was adopted, and the Grand Lodge was created as the central governing body. Major William H. Wiley, Alpha 11, was elected first President of the Grand Lodge.

February 20, 1915

The Life Membership Plan was created by the 51st Annual Convention (New York). William S. Mason, Beta 145, Hugh T. Wreaks, Gamma 69, and Henry A. Morss, Delta 59, enrolled as the first Life Members.

April, 1924

First office devoted exclusively to the business of the Fraternity was established in St. Louis, Missouri. On March 22, 1925, Harold P. Davison, Iota 149, assumed office as the first full-time executive.

April 9, 1926

Theta Xi became a general college fraternity by a five-to-one vote of the membership, thus opening membership to men in all curricula.

May, 1926

The first edition of *The Songs of Theta Xi* was published.

April, 1928

The name of the official publication was changed from *The Theta Xi Quarterly* to *The Unicorn of Theta Xi*.

February 23, 1929

The Unicorn (endowment) Fund was created. A resolution to eliminate hazing was unanimously adopted by the active delegates to the 65th Annual Convention (San Francisco).

November 1930

The first edition of the *Theta Xi Pledge Manual* was published.

September 5, 1931

The 67th Annual Convention (Columbus) adopted a definite expansion policy.

September 3, 1932

The 68th Annual Convention (Los Angeles) revised the coat of arms and adopted its shield as the new pledge button.

September 2, 1933

The 69th Annual Convention (Chicago) amended the constitution to provide for biennial instead of annual conventions.

September 15, 1935

Dr. Paul F. Opp directed the reorganization of Kappa Sigma Kappa at the University of Virginia by Frederick St. Paul Henstridge, Edwin Stone Laidlaw, and H. Rankin Miller.

August 30-September 2, 1939

The Diamond Anniversary Jubilee Convention was held in Troy, New York. The Memorial Seat was presented to Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute to commemorate the founding of Theta Xi.

"The Order of the Unicorn" was created, and the Founding of the Fraternity was dramatized. Plans were announced for the Regional Organization and the Theta Xi Foundation. Alpha Alpha Chapter won the first "Memorial Trophy" as the Outstanding Chapter.

June 15, 1940

The first regional conference, held in Lincoln, Nebraska under the direction of Earl T. Luff, Alpha Epsilon 3, was attended by representatives of Mu, Psi, Alpha Epsilon, and Alpha Iota Chapters.

January 25, 1947

The Theta Xi Foundation was established.

August 27-30, 1947

The 83rd Anniversary Convention (Lincoln) created a Board of Trustees to handle and supervise the endowment funds.

December 28, 1948

Kappa Sigma Kappa held its first inter-chapter convention on the campus of Arkansas A.& M. College. Plans were made for annual conventions and publication of a magazine, *The Iris*, was authorized.

August 26-29, 1951

The "Purpose of Theta Xi" was adopted by the 87th Anniversary Convention (Pittsburgh).

August 30-September 2, 1953

The "Order of the Golden Star" was adopted by the 89th Anniversary Convention (Chicago).

March 8, 1954

Gifts and bequests to the Theta Xi Foundation became exempted from all taxes by the Internal Revenue Service.

August 20, 1962

A merger with Kappa Sigma Kappa was approved, and 21 chapters of that fraternity joined Theta Xi.

April 29, 1964

Commemorating the Centennial Anniversary of the founding of the Fraternity, the Memorial Headquarters was formally dedicated in St. Louis, Missouri.

August 28-31, 1966

The 102nd Anniversary Convention (Houston) established the position of Undergraduate Director on the Grand Lodge. Paul L. Stone, Alpha Beta 790, was the first undergraduate elected to this position.

August 22-25, 1968

The 104th Anniversary Convention (Philadelphia) amended the *Constitution* to provide that each member upon his initiation into the Fraternity received Life Membership in Theta Xi.

August 12, 1974

The 110th Anniversary Convention (Vail) adopted The National Multiple Sclerosis Society as the Fraternity's National Service Project.

August 5-8, 1976

The 112th Anniversary Convention (Williamsburg) established the Student Advisory Council.

July 1, 1982

The Theta Xi Foundation converted from private foundation to public charity status.

June 20, 1986

Theta Xi was named the Outstanding Volunteer Organization for 1985-86 by the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

August 9-13, 1989

Theta Xi celebrated its 125th Anniversary Convention (St. Louis) and adopted a Statement of Position on Fraternity Values.

December 5, 1991

Theta Xi was the initial recipient of Association of Fraternity Advisors (AFA) Excellence in Educational Programming for *Values Into Action*.

August 4-6, 1993

Theta Xi celebrated its 129th Anniversary Convention (Snowmass) and adopted the Core Associate Member Education Program and also reduced the maximum Associate Member period to 63 days.

The Fraternity also adopted Habitat For Humanity as an alternate National Service Project.

December 1993

Theta Xi received the Excellence in Educational Programming Award for *Benchmarks of Excellence* from the AFA. Theta Xi is the first fraternity to receive two Excellence in Educational Programming awards from the AFA.

July 27-30, 1995

Theta Xi celebrated its 131st Anniversary Convention (Pittsburgh) and established a chapter academic goal to obtain a Grade Point Average of 0.2 above the All Men's Average.

The Student Advisory Council was disbanded, adding a second undergraduate director to the Grand Lodge.

August 2-5, 2001

Theta Xi adopts the Strategic Plan during the 137th Anniversary Convention, setting a course for the Fraternity for the next 10 years.

