Thank you!! - 2015 Donation Summary

Sixty-six Brothers supported us financially in 2015 - that is up almost 100% from last year. Brothers from the 100s and 200s really stepped up and account for more than half of the total money donated. We greatly appreciate your generosity and sincerely thank you for your continued support!

Our top 10 supporters of 2015 (listed to the right) account for over half of the total money donated. These Brothers were the heavy lifters of 2015 and we absolutely couldn’t have done what we did without you. Thank you Brothers!!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AU#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Donation Amount</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>200</td>
<td>Brad Hornburg</td>
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<td>433</td>
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<td>216</td>
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<td>272</td>
<td>Chris Wilson</td>
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<td>440</td>
<td>Drew Davids</td>
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<td>Mark Schlemeier</td>
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<td>183</td>
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<td>187</td>
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<td>201</td>
<td>Ed Sullivan</td>
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Property Upkeep Update - HVAC and Work Weekend

The new HVAC System is in!! Installed in the room adjacent to the Annex Johns and it looks beautiful! Work was finished on the install just before the end of last semester. The Actives have gotten rid of all of their space heaters and we should see significant savings in utility costs! Thank you Alumni for all of the support to make this possible.

Before the current semester started Alumni Brothers partnered with the Active Chapter to finish up follow on tasks from the HVAC project (install new can lights and ceiling tiles in the hall) and complete renovations on four sleeping rooms in preparation for the Spring Semester Associate Member Class. A lot of good work was done and good relations between Actives and Alumni continued to be forged.

One primary objective was to install can LED lights instead of the box fluorescents and replace the ceiling tiles.

The traditional Theta Xi Work Weekend pizza lunch. If you don’t work you shouldn’t eat!

Lofts, Desks & Dressers - Oh my! Four more rooms renovated and ready for new members.

In This Issue:

Pg.1-HVAC and Work Weekend Update
2015 Donation Summary
Meet Our Alumni - Gene Porter, AU359
Pg. 2-President’s Corner - Progress Continues on Multiple Fronts
Pg. 3-The Lifeblood of the Fraternity - Rush Fall 2016
Pg. 4-5 Reason I joined Theta Xi - Drew Davids
Quicknotes
Save the Dates
Job Opportunity in St. Louis Area
Progress Continues on Multiple Fronts

Your alumni leadership team has been crazy busy since the last newsletter pursuing improvements on a number of fronts which have yielded a number of accomplishments. On the chapter house front, we completed the upgrade of the electrical system begun several months ago by brothers Kent Sterett (Ψ215) and Jim Hardy (Ψ208) as a precursor to professional installation of a new, dual HVAC system that is already delivering improved and safer climate control with heating and cooling available as needed. In January, Rich Reis (Ψ363) led a team of six alumni and a number of actives returning to campus early in a very successful work weekend focused on converting four one man configured rooms to two man configurations, with the addition of a loft. Work included painting and carpeting, fabrication of desks, assembly of new dressers and provision of new mattresses to create a comfortable living environment and to allow us to address an anticipated increase in chapter membership. Funds for the room upgrades were generously donated by brothers Jerry Lebo (Ψ187), Ed Sullivan (Ψ201), John Evans (Ψ216), and Joe Kuss (Ψ234).

Less visible, but equally important, Alumni Association Treasurer Chris Foeller (Ψ534) has formulated an annual budget for the alumni association, tightened up the financial documentation with the participation of the Active Chapter Treasurer, and collected lease fees for the new semester. He is well along to reestablishing the tax free status of Theta Xi which had lapsed. After a successful Fall semester rush that saw eight new brothers initiated into the bonds of Theta Xi, an aggressive Spring semester rush is underway that promises to be equally successful. This effort is led for the association by Ed Sullivan (Ψ201) in partnership with Active Rush Chairmen Adam Jedlicka (Ψ605) and Brady Kluesner (Ψ620). Rush is a foundation of a vibrant and thriving Alpha Psi chapter and Ed has put in place a multifaceted rush program which includes emphasis on a robust Spring rush effort, complemented by effective use of the University sponsored PRO days for future students to identify new candidates and a renewed focus on the use of the University provided call list of students expressing interest in Greek Life. Volkan Becker (Ψ429), Chuck Petit (Ψ431), and John Meyer (Ψ433) are facilitating a training workshop for the active chapter on Feb. 13th on how to get the best rush results from the Rush Call List. So, a push is on to not only fill the house but also to generate sufficient interest in Theta Xi that we can be selective in those we chose to offer a bid card.

Joe Kuss (Ψ234), Tony DeJohn (Ψ199) and Ryan Fisher (Ψ459) met with officers of Theta Xi National in January to explore how better to utilize resources of the national organization to strengthen the culture of the chapter including adherence to traditions and rituals, improvements in academic performance from good to superior and taking advantage of proven management and leadership tools available to the chapter. Joe led an action to see to it that a number of our new chapter officers were able to participate in a National sponsored leadership conference. Newly elected President, Max Rose (Ψ612), attended the Vredenburgh President’s Academy; and the new VP Zach Reising (Ψ617), the new Secretary Albert Perlman (Ψ621), and Rush Co-Lead/House Manager Brady Kluesner (Ψ620) attended the Rising Star’s academy. Joe encouraged chapter participation in the on-campus Greek Academy held on 23 January and is looking forward to participation in the National Convention later this year.

Mark Schlemeier (Ψ372), the Social Committee/Homecoming Chairman has plans underway in both the St. Louis and Kansas City areas for St. Patrick’s Day celebrations and supporting rush efforts. More on that as these plans take their final shape. Homecoming 2015 remains a warm feeling in everyone’s heart that were able to attend. Mark and Drew Davids (Ψ440) did a remarkable job as detailed in our previous newsletter.

The Special Project Office for development of the New Chapter House continues to work hard on this complex project. Led by Brad Hornburg, Ψ200, this activity will be reported separately as appropriate. However, the New Chapter House project itself is not standalone, and rather is intimately linked to the other activities reported here as a strong Alpha Psi is fundamental to achieving the realization of a new chapter house.

Finally, yours truly Ψ164 is leading a group of bright, young alumni brothers in formulating a five-year plan for the chapter. The team consists of Nick Ulmer (Ψ493), Ken Goeke (Ψ503), and Alexander Lincoln (Ψ510). We envision a strong, vibrant chapter that is an active participant in University Life, a pillar of the Greek Community, and a place new students aspire to be a part of. Work is well underway to define the strategies and actions required to achieve our future potential and as that work matures you will hear more about it in future newsletters.

YITB,
Steve Jungers, Ψ164

Start to Invest in Us Now and Know Your Money Will Make an Enduring Difference...

Is the Alpha Psi Chapter part of your Estate Plan? You can’t take it with you but we have a great plan to put it to good use.
Did you just pay off a debt and free up a chunk of money? Make a commitment to send a portion of that money to us every month!
Are you expecting a sizeable tax return this year? Share part of it with Theta Xi and see what you help accomplish!

- President’s Corner -
This Rush season is gearing up to the biggest in recent memory. With new leadership at the help (Ed Sullivan, Ψ201 - 2nd VP of Alumni Association focused on Rush; Adam Jedlicka, Ψ605 - Lead Rush Chairman; and Brady Kluesner, Ψ620 - Co-Rush Chairman) we are compiling our Rush Strategy for this semester which will include Cold Calls, Rush Interviews, PRO Days and numerous Rush events scheduled in the key geographic regions.

Our developing Rush strategy is multi-dimensional. The first dimension targets the growing Freshman class. We are mailing our Rush Brochure out to 1800 incoming Freshman with ACT scores of at least 25. This is a first for us as we are partnering with the University to mail the brochures out before the Call List is even published. The brochure is a tri-fold flyer (pictured right) that provides highlights of the Alpha Psi chapter and an overview of advantages to choosing to be a Brother.

Alumni are facilitating a Rush workshop at Rolla for the Actives on 13 February to educate the Actives on our proven rush model utilizing the Call List. The Alumni will give the Actives training on how to gather information of value to us and communicate important information to them. Utilizing the Call List and conducting in person Rush Interviews has become a lost art and something we feel we can take significant advantage of in the next 3-5 years as we build an organization that can support the projected numbers of the new house! First engagement and expansion of the Call List through connections is key to our success.

The Actives are going to focus on Kansas, Missouri, and Illinois - especially Kansas City, Springfield and St. Louis where over 90% of the prospects on the Call List are from. We are going to lean on our Alumni to actively rush potential members outside of those main areas. If you are interested in helping us out, please let us know!

The next dimension of our Rush Strategy is the continued success of PRO Day engagements. The Active Chapter has averaged 4-5 signees each semester through their effective engagement with potentials during PRO Days. PRO Days are Preview, Registration and Orientation Days where future students learn about student life, get the need-to-know facts about Missouri S&T, meet with a college advisor, take mathematics placement exams and prepare to make their course selections.

We have taken steps to stand out amongst the competition and bring the potentials to our table. With some much needed upgrades to our table display and improved use of technology solutions we are confident that PRO Day attendees will want to come see the house and found out more about us. We are confident we can implement some new strategies by leveraging information gathering practices from the Call List and be able to call potentials over to our table by name. All of this centers on effective engagements which build on each other and give our Active members the opportunity to qualify potentials as productive members of the house. Good members make good Alumni and good Alumni are critical to long term success of Theta Xi in Rolla, MO. You can participate in this effort - whether you send money to fund Rush efforts or host an event at your house. Any contribution is needed and appreciated!

YITB - Drew Davids, Ψ440
Top 5 Reasons I Joined Theta Xi

This is in no way meant to reflect the opinions and/or feelings of the organization in general or members of our leadership team. These are my personal opinions and feelings regarding why I chose to sign my bid card and become a member of Theta Xi’s Alpha Psi Chapter as a High School Senior in 1992.

#5: It was not the dorms: As a senior to be in high school I had the opportunity to attend one of S&T’s (then UMR) summer programs for a week in Summer ’91. All attendees stayed in TJ. Upon entering my room, I knew that if I attended UMR I was NOT going to stay in the dorms. No way-no how! Other options just had to be available.

#4: Close to campus: I really liked that Theta Xi was a very short walk away from campus. I had had a very short drive miles and miles to see them. This made the drive to KC for the BBQ. The only thing I believe it was Chris Shepherd’s (401) house, but the lowest prices on campus for Fraternity was located, but this fact helped solidify my decision to stay.

#3: Pretty Decent Value at a Competitive Price: In the ’90s house bills at the Chapter were $1200 each semester plus mark-ups. This was one of the lowest prices on campus for Fraternity - I think only two other fraternities were cheaper, but this was definitely cheaper than the dorms! This was a key attribute for my parents.

#2: Brotherhood I could see: I was only able to attend one Rush event. It was a Rush BBQ that summer at an Alumnus’ house in Kansas City, MO. I believe it was Chris Shepherd’s (401) house, but 25 years blurs the details. I know that Chris was there. Also there was Chuck Petit (431), my eventual Pledge Father. This was significant to me because Chuck was from St. Louis, MO and had made the drive to KC for the BBQ. The only thing that I’d ever driven that far for was family events, and here was a young man who drove across the state of Missouri for this BBQ. This “Brotherhood” wasn’t tongue in cheek fraternity dogma. Our Brothers are our family and we will drive miles and miles to see them.

#1: First contact & Rush Interview: One evening in March ’92, David Mascher (AV422) called my house in Lansing, KS to talk about UMR and Greek Life mostly. We established pretty quickly that I was likely going to attend UMR and was very interested in discussing fraternities as a living option. He began to talk about Theta Xi and some of the benefits of being a member.

The notion of immediately belonging to a group and having friends right off the bat was very attractive to me. I was the only member of my high school interested in going to UMR and one of maybe 5 students from Northeast Kansas. So I had one foot in the door already.

Dave asked if he and a couple of Brothers could visit me and my parents in person the following Saturday to answer any questions and address any concerns we may have about the University, Greek Life, and Theta Xi specifically. I was hesitant at first, but Dave was pretty insistent it would be beneficial to us (my parents and I) and assured that the visit wouldn’t take longer than an hour. My parents agreed and I gave Dave directions to my home. It took Dave, Terry Bjerkann (AV403) and Bryce Frazier (AV432) a little while to find my house in Lansing, KS that Saturday - after stopping at a gas station to use a payphone (yes really). They sat in my living room and visited with me and my parents for almost 90 minutes. I still remember how much of an impression these “College Guys” made on me just by being willing to drive all the way out to my house in Lansing, KS to talk to me about joining Theta Xi. Their interest in me was very attractive.

I was hooked after that first interview. Within a couple of weeks I was calling the Chapter House asking how I could sign. I didn’t see the Chapter House for the first time until I was moving in later that August. We have a good house with good members and we will always benefit from making first contact.

YITB - Drew Davids, AV440 - #GET20!