Finally Air Conditioning....maybe

The Alumni Association has been involved in serious discussions on getting a new HVAC system installed for the Chapter House since before 2012. Climate control in the Annex during the hotter months has always been done with window AC units in individual rooms and since about 2009 Actives and Associates have had to regulate temperatures in their rooms with space heaters during cold winter months. This is very inefficient and, as our monthly electric bills indicate below, it is costing the Chapter a lot of money.

Since 2012, the Alumni Association has contacted various HVAC companies to come out to the property. These companies assessed our property in lieu of the work we wanted them to do. They projected the kind of system we needed based on our needs and provided a quote to install the system. In some cases the vendor included work to ensure the electrical architecture could handle the load, but most of the quotes stated that this electrical work would be an additional non-specified cost.

With the recent spike in Alumni support due to focused Alumni Fundraising efforts (replacing the doors, repainting the interior and exterior, and renovating the New House), the Alumni Association felt confident about moving forward with this much needed project. Our plan was to secure a Unicorn Loan from National Headquarters, pay for the whole project up front and funnel donations towards paying the loan off over the next three to five years. However...

The City of Rolla has strict rules on performing this kind of work at a Fraternity (and other buildings of similar size used for similar purposes). Any HVAC system must be certified by a state of Missouri licensed Professional Engineer (PE). This added requirement meant that the vendors we’d already received quotes from had to go back to their in-house PE to either give their existing quotes a stamp of certification or design a certified system, at an additional cost, and provide a new quote for the certified system. As an example of the additional cost this would be. One of our vendors had an initial quote just under $25K. When we introduced the PE requirement, they estimated the project cost would balloon to over $90K! Needless to say, this was disappointing and pushed the budget of the project to a price point outside of our ability to do it.

So we went back to Social Media to again ask for help from our Alumni ranks. Thankfully, Brother ‘ROTC Rob’ Schmitt (AW’329) stepped up and offered his services and experience; and his professional connections. As a MO-licensed PE, he has agreed to design the system we need a much lower cost of $2500. He has also agreed to negotiate on our behalf with an electrical company he has partnered with for years.

either give their existing quotes a stamp of certification or design a certified system, at an additional cost, and provide a new quote for the certified system, at an additional cost, and provide a new quote for the certified system. As an example of the additional cost this would be. One of our vendors had an initial quote just under $25K. When we introduced the PE requirement, they estimated the project cost would balloon to over $90K! Needless to say, this was disappointing and pushed the budget of the project to a price point outside of our ability to do it.

To do the electrical work required to support the system. We will then submit his design to the vendors we have been dealing with to provide us another quote to install it. It is our hope the overall cost of this project will not exceed $50K - including the system design, electrical work, and system installation. If so, we are still confident we will be able to secure a Unicorn Loan to fund the project and pay back the loan through alumni donations within five years.

There are many benefits which result from completing this project. A new HVAC system providing heat and AC in the sleeping rooms for the Chapter will create more comfortable living conditions and improve moral for our in-house members. Happier members are less likely to move out of house and are more successful at rush. Improved recruitment and in-house retention combined with the lower utility costs will improve the financial standing of the Chapter and the Alumni Association which will position both to successfully complete the Chapter House renovation, discussed in the last issue—our next major endeavor—by 2024; and put us on the bath to build a new house by our centennial! If you have any thoughts or feelings on this, don’t hesitate to reach out to the officers of your Alumni Association to discuss them. YITB-AWΩΣ

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How do you want to be involved?

MEET OUR ALUMNI

AW’87 - Joseph Mickes

Brother Mickes decided he wanted to be a brother of Theta Xi because the Actives he interacted with in 1953 were a lot of fun to hang out with. He completed his Associate Member period that fall and completed his initiation the following Valentine’s Day.

BS CE-Missouri School of Mines

Brother Mickes enjoys his retirement pension from the Missouri Department of Transportation. His favorite retirement activities include golf, fishing and wood working.

Married to Darlene and they celebrate their Anniversary on 18 June.

Children: Yes

Lives in Jefferson City, MO
The President Remembers...

I've been thinking about all of the Brothers I lived with at 1605 Pine Street during my years as an Associate (PLEDGE), and an Active Member of the Chapter. The current Active Chapter calls my years at the house "The Golden Age of Theta Xi", which is funny, because when I was there we said the same thing about the 1980s, and they probably felt the same way about the 70s! In the spirit of reminiscing, I've compiled a list of every Brother who lived at the house (or at least attended UMR) from August 1992 when I pledged the house until I moved out in 1997 when I got married (the first time).

AV4335 - Bill Stewart: Returned to UMR to complete his BSME. Brothers who lived with him in '79 until he left UMR will be surprised that he was quick to enforce both study and quiet hours during the week and did not appreciate any loud, late-night hijinks.

AV4393 - Joe Skeeters: The old man in the house when Brother Stewart was gone. Lived in house working on his EE graduate degree. Did not tolerate much hijinks when he was sober, but get a few beers in him and he was a lot fun.

AV4039 - Terry Bjerken: One of three Brothers who drove out to my house in Lansing, KS to rush me. Has a very special place in my heart for that. Signed before ever seeing the Chapter House.

AV4038 - Matt Acuff: Super smart brother, who liked to have fun. Very approachable to us young guys and willing to talk and give advice anytime we asked.

AV4161 - Chris Fields: Was kind of an introvert, but was always active at house functions. Set the example for other introverts to "get out of your room every now and then!"

AV4172 - Jeff Haywood: Was very quiet unless he was drunk, and boy did he like to talk when he was drunk. He was Santa for my first Christmas Party and I'm pretty sure he told me he loved me a couple dozen times before he passed out.

AV4199 - Brian Klenklen: A fellow Brother from the KC area. Really good at balancing his commitments to school, the house, and his social life—in that order. If you needed time management tips, you went to Klenklen. He had it down.

AV4200 - Ed Jaegers: I could tell he respected Theta Xi. He held brothers accountable if they disrespected the chapter house. He wanted the chapter to be better.

AV4201 - Dave Maschler: Another Brother who rushed me. He was also my Pledge Class’ Pledge-Educator. A great Theta Xi and example of a Brother.

AV4202 - Greg Wyatt: Playah, playah! Greg was a ladies man, but loved hanging out with Brothers. Had a huge pet boa constrictor he fed baby rabbits (yes bunnies) to. Feeding time was usually a social affair.

AV4203 - Randell Kent: Lived out of house, but came around. Most memorable moment was when he called the house phone asking for Terry Bjerken. I told him “He’s on the sh*tter, can I take a message.” Randy: Yes, tell him Reverend Campbell called to see if he was going to join us in church this weekend.” Scared me to death.

AV4204 - Frank Reinsch: Little known member of PC’90. So smart and wanted you to know what he knew. Took a lot of grief, and still loved the house.

AV4205 - Volkan Becker: V was so much fun. One of three members of PC’90 who went on multiple walkouts because he was so likeable.

AV4300 - John Blair: Johnny Vegas, another member of the PC’90 trifecta. Multiple walkouts and too many stories to count.

AV4301 - Chuck Pett: Last of the PC’90 trifecta and my Pledge Father. I met him at a KC rush party and knew I would get along with him immediately. I love you dad!

AV4302 - Bryce Frazier: Third Active that rushed me. Can’t express how much coming out to my house to recruit me meant.

AV4303 - John Meyer: My first roommate. He witnessed after effects of my poor choices my whole first semester and is the only roommate I had in college who didn’t leave.

AV4304 - Craig Findley: Had to have thick skin for all of the grief he took. Kept a smile on his face in spite of it all.

AV4305 - David Bodeen: Was initiated with my Pledge class and I’m sure that was one of the only times I saw him wearing a shirt on house property.

AV4306 - Scott Britt: One of my K.C Pledge Brothers and the first to get initiated and was always screwing up the curve in Dr. Robinson’s Chemii class.

AV4307 - Matt Beard: Fellow Ceramic Engineer, but ended up at least a year ahead of me in classes because he was so smart. Big help to me getting through college with his files. ;)

AV4308 - Greg Pett: My Pledge Father’s little brother. Legacy! Was the first in my Pledge Class to be a Baby Rep on IFC. We celebrated our 21st birthdays together….I think! AV4309 - John McNeely: Was a couple of years older than us. Awkward in an endearing way. Common place for him was on a couch in the New House watching TV, but would watch whatever anyone else wanted to watch.

AV4400 - Drew Davids: Me, enough said.

AV4401 - Mike Greenway: One of my best friends to this date. To many memories to list, I will just say ‘Low Rider photo” and leave it at that.

AV4402 - Pat Schroeder: Had good birthing hips and long hair, so we couldn’t get too drunk at a party—we might’ve ended up hitting on him. Loved how much he loved his Maverick. WHAAAAAAAT!

AV4403 - John ’J’Jig: Green County Bitches! JJ was a legacy (his dad is AV238). The drunker he got the shorter his fuse got. He liked to wassle too. If you were drinking with him, you were probably going to get dirty

AV4404 - Brian Robertson: Our Pledge Class’ good boy and another dear friend and Brother. He hardly ever drank, but the few occasions he did…whooo. I know there is a photo of him passed out naked in the shower floating around.

AV4405 - Ed Shuh: My roommate second semester Freshman year. So much fun to hang around with. Unfortunately, he left UMR after Freshman year.

AV4406 - Dan Plank: Crazy, and loved to party. Wasn’t interested much in classes and was a horrible influence from an academic standpoint.

AV4407 - Matthew Wilson: Another one of my best friends. Liked to party a little too much for UMR and lasted a couple of years before leaving for good. Got the nickname Pube Freshman year from Triangle, but JJ made it stick.

AV4408 - Peter Cloud: Yet, another one of my best friends to this date. Until Fall 2013, he had the highest number in our Pledge Class. We always talked about what we were going to do to make the house better when we graduated.

AV5397 - James Ledbetter: Number isn’t a typo. James never made grades back in the day, because he liked — no loved, to play computer games. He returned to UMR for his MBA and the Chapter initiated him as an Honorary Member in Fall 2013. I’m very proud of him and honored to call him a Brother in the Bonds.

AV4409 - Kevin Moll: Probably one of the smartest people I’ve ever met. An intellectual giant among us cavemen. He was an awesome person who loved Theta Xi though.

AV4410 - Trent Weaver: He showed up to rush events and looked older than our upperclassman. Zeus ’96.

AV4411 - Larry Ragsdale: Small town guy with passion for the house from the very beginning. He thought of and implemented many improvement projects for the house still seen today.

Five of my Pledge Brothers (Back Row: Britt, Robertson, Greenway, Beard. Front Row: Me, Ledbetter and Pube). attended Ledbetter’s initiation in Fall 2013. It was a very special moment for all of us. Told many of the old stories from the good old days!
adding it to the noodles.)

**AV4670 - Aaron Barklage:** Smart and good look...well smart anyway. LOL. Very loveable guy. Has Brothers who consider him a dear friend in almost every Pledge class in the '90s.

**AV4711 - Matthew Seelleke:** Looked like he was fifteen and really appreciated a good prank. Probably thought of a few we should have been arrested for. My lips are sealed.

**AV4722 - Jeremy Hall:** Another Pledge Son of mine (is that 3 or 4?). Great story teller. I could listen to him tell stories for days.

**AV4731 - KC Green:** KC was so naive when he showed up as a freshman. I taught him how to do laundry and how to use the stove top to cook mac&cheese.

**AV4741 - Jack Reeves:** Quiet introverted guy who was hard to get to know. Didn’t come out of his room much, but would tolerate a conversation if you made the effort.

**AV4757 - Jason Kwacz:** Kwaszemoto was the goofiest looking guy, but was so much fun to be around.

**AV4765 - Lucio Simon:** By far the guy I was closest to in his class. He was crushing on a good friend of mine for years. He ended up marrying her - persistent SOB.

**AV4775 - Joe Simon:** Wasn’t serious about school, but he never needed a reason to party.

**AV4785 - Shane Smith:** Wanted to be more serious about school, but partying got in the way.

**AV4801 - Noah Adelman:** Ran a regular poker game out of the basement for a while that helped him pay for school.

**AV4811 - Chris Therrien:** Loved soccer,...a lot...and computer games.

**AV4825 - Matt Raterman:** Tall drink of water. Lived in Dave Maschler’s old room. Was always up for hijinks.

**AV4831 - Joel Cumby:** Green County returns. Joel loved to party — especially with his Green County Brothers!

**AV4841 - Robert Kenmore:** Sweet Home Alabama, or Sha. Took a roadtrip to his home once and had a blast.

**AV4851 - Erick Allis:** Best Friend in this Pledge Class. The first Theta Xi I ever saw go Theta Tau without a jacket.

**AV4865 - Evan Zelkovich:** A gentle giant. Looked like he could whup you’re ass, but was averse to confrontation.

**AV4875 - Adam Goetz:** Probably the only guy on this list I ever voiced concerns about the amount of drinking he did. A lot of fun, and a prankster. Could out drink seasoned board reps as a freshman.

**AV4885 - Darrick Tarbox:** Darrick looked like he weighed a buck ten. I didn’t interact much with him individually.

**AV4891 - Steve Poulsen:** Another legacy! UMR wasn’t a good fit, but boy did he make the most of the little time he was here! I parted with him quite a bit.

**AV4901 - Carlo Morello:** The mad Mexican. Loved to party, but somehow graduated anyway.

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**The President Remembers...**

This shot of Clipper, Thien, Cloud and Bequal was taken within the last ten years. Still friends after almost 20 years. I miss these guys all the time!

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**QUICKNOTES**

**Happy Birthday!**

4 March: Tom Brueggen (AV4547)
5 March: Zach Ryals (AV5456); Bryan Holdmeyer (AV5563)
7 March: Brian Robertson (AV4444); Kevin Moll (AV4449); Landon Goldstein (AV5581)
8 March: Ashley Sharp (AV5500)
9 March: Evan Zelkovich (AV4486); Aaron Tremshaw (AV5588)
12 March: Mike Zwick (AV4545); Ryan Fisher (AV4529); Dean Spaey (AV5677)
13 March: Jack Reeves (AV4744)
14 March: Sam Golden (AV5589)
20 March: Chris Anderson (AV6611)
22 March: Jacob Finn (AV5901)
25 March: Robert Kenmore (AV4884)
26 March: Ike Williams (AV146)
27 March: Darrell Haase (AV4143); Matt Ward (AV4408)
31 March: Doug Jost (AV3191); KC Green (AV4735)

1 April: Bill Flatt (AV2277); Scott Britt (AV4366)
5 April: David Bontemp (AV4380)
8 April: Eddie Noonan (AV5706)
11 April: Chuck Reeves (AV3501); Richard ‘Pancake’ Pankau (AV552)
12 April: Lucio Simon (AV4768)
16 April: John ‘JJ’ Jilg (AV4443); Eric Cloud (AV4488); Stephen Banks (AV5609)
18 April: John Miller (AV6600)
21 April: Seth Foster (AV6601)
23 April: Brian Crawford (AV354); John Welch (AV577)
24 April: Nat Broeckling (AV386); Keenan McKinney (AV5755)
29 April: Theta Xi Fraternity — 151 years!

**Anniversaries/Weddings/Engagements**

Scott Ford (AV4457) and wife Marcela celebrated their anniversary on 2 March.
Lucio and Carrie Simon (AV4766) celebrate their wedding anniversary on 18 March!
Bill Flatt (AV2277) celebrated 45 years with wife Sylvia on 21 March!
James Ledbetter (AV5597) celebrated 15 years with wife Andrea on 25 March.
Bryan Klenklen (AV419) and wife, Jaymie celebrate their anniversary on 30 March.
Robert Diefenbacher (AV515) and wife Katie celebrated wedding anniversary on 1 April.
Matt and Angela Clipper (AV453) celebrated wedding anniversary on 5 April.

**Congratulations**

Tim Speer (AV317) published his first novel: Return to Paradise.
Bryce Frazier (AV4332) and Kari Davis welcomed Kylee Lynne Frazier into the world on 2 March.
Dave Bodeen (AV4353) was elected to the Aurora School Board.
Todd Wallentine (AV4468) and his wife Kari welcomed their daughter home.
Steve Banks (AV569) and Brendan Daly (AV593) were both elected Guards on St. Pat’s Court this year.

**Condolences**

Keep Brother Dylan Stevens (AV571) in your prayers as he continues to recover from his motorcycle accident on 11 April.

Are we missing anything? Did you celebrate a birthday or an anniversary and aren’t listed above? Do you have big news to share with the Brotherhood (new home, new baby, completed your Graduate studies, whatever) LET US KNOW! Fill out the Alumni Biographical Form or just shoot us an email with the news you want to share!

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**Tool Drive:** We are collecting tools for the Active Chapter to use throughout the year. If you have tools you don’t use or are going to have replaced, please consider donating them to the Active Chapter! Contact the House Manager Today!
We encourage you to become part of our alumni support structure. Contact the Alumni Association to discuss the many ways you can get involved and stay involved. Below are a list of initiatives we could definitely use some support on. If you have an interest which is not listed below, please contact us to discuss the ways you would like to contribute.

**Property upkeep expertise** (Structural, construction, electrical, plumbing, drainage - your expertise is always welcome and needed. Join us for our Alumni Work Weekends or coordinate with the Active House Manager to come to one of theirs); **Newsletter Publication** (write pieces, submit/gather photos, organize articles); **Mentorship/Coaching Initiatives** (help us leverage your expertise and mold the Actives into productive Theta Xi Men. Make yourself available for one on one discussions); **Fundraising** (encourage brothers to provide financial support to the Alumni Association to fund our various initiatives and educate them on how best to do so); **Webpage Administration** (Help rebuild and manage the content of the Alumni Association Webpage, support webpage administration efforts on Active Chapter Webpage); **Workshop facilitation** (recruiting, money management, time management, leadership development, job hunting, whatever); **Hold Offices or serve on the Board of Directors** (this is the primary way to engage with the officers of the Active Chapter); and of course **Donations** (whether it is your time or your money, we need it and appreciate it). If there is anything else you think of please let us know!

Any officer of the Alumni Association is glad to talk to you about how you want to support Theta Xi - now and in the future.

For donations, make checks out to **THETA XI FRATERNITY** and mail them to:

Or you can make a secure donation online to the Alumni Association Paypal account ([http://www.alphapsialumni.org](http://www.alphapsialumni.org)). Username: alphapsi Password: puresoul) Select the donate button and fill out the information fields to send your secure donation to the Alumni Association today. Currently all donations online default to the PUC account, so let us know if you prefer to designate it for something else by sending us an email (info@alphapsialumni.org or alphapsithetaxi@gmail.com). You can sign up to make monthly donations automatically to conveniently provide financial support the house every month.

If you make a donation through National Headquarters or the MST Alumni Association, don’t forget to designate it for the Alpha Psi Chapter of Theta Xi Fraternity! Help is always needed and support in any form is appreciated. It’d be great to see any of you at upcoming events. YITB - ΑΨΞ