

Zeta Alpha Theta Chi Fraternity Alumni Corporation

Brothers,

The Alumni Bylaws direct the Alumni Board to present an Annual Report to the membership on May 1 of each year.

A copy of this report shall be posted on our website at http://www.zachapter.com under the Alumni Board Section of the site. Remember, to access the "Brothers only" section the password is: **Boston**.

REGISTER TODAY FOR THE ANNUAL ZETA ALPHA GOLF OUTING! MORE INFORMATION IN THE ANNUAL REPORT BELOW BUT YOU CAN CLICK HERE AND REGISTER NOW. THE DEADLINE IS MAY 27!

Just remember, everyone needs to register. Just because one person registers and lists who they are playing with, does NOT register those with whom you are playing!

Results of the Election of Directors and Officers by the Secretary

I would like to begin with reporting the results of the election to fill the three (3) vacancies that would need to be filled effective June 1, 2022.

Advance notifications of vacancies to be filled for 2021-2023 were announced to the membership in the February and March Alumni Updates soliciting nomination of candidates to fill identified vacancies.

An announcement providing information on each candidate nominated and a ballot was distributed on April 10, 2022. The balloting occurred by electronic ballot between April 10 and April 25, 2022 by members of the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, in good standing, no longer attending Slippery Rock State College/University or enrolled in a school with no collegiate chapter of Theta, Chi, Honorary members voted in by the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, and Initiates of any Theta Chi collegiate chapter voted into the corporation by the Board of Directors.

Each person voting could cast a ballot for up to 3 of the 3 candidates running. The results of the balloting is as follows:

- Brother John Farrar received 74 votes (90.24% of the votes cast)
- Brother Daniel Pennell received 78 votes (95.12% of the votes cast)
- Brother Logan Tupper received 79 votes (96.34% of the votes cast)

A total of 82 ballots were cast.

Brothers John Farrar, Daniel Pennell and Logan Tupper were elected to fill the three Director positions for the period of June 1, 2022 through May 31, 2024.

Congratulations to these three brothers.

Following the election, a meeting was held on April 27, 2022 with the newly

constituted members of the Directors who would hold their positions as of June 1, 2022 and an election of officers was conducted. At that meeting, the following officers for the period of June 1, 2022 - May 31, 2024 were elected:

- President Brother Sky Pederson
- Treasurer Brother John Farrar
- Secretary Brother Patrick Russell

With the election of the 3 new Board members, comes the retirement of Brother Douglas Bull who has served the Board since its inception, including serving as President. His counsel and support of the Board and the chapter has been consistent and always with an eye on how we can advance the growth and support of the chapter. We thank him for his service and know he will always not be far away if we need his help.

Patrick Russell 2021-22 Secretary

Report of the President

Before I begin, I want to make a special point of the date MAY 27, 2022!

Anyone attending needs to register by then, submit money for T-Signs and what you want on the sign in by then, let us know if you want to play golf by then or if you are just planning on attending by then so appropriate arrangements can be made.

Mark your calendars, set a reminder, do whatever it is you do to remind yourself by make sure you have done what you need to do by MAY 27, 2022 to attend the golf outing! - CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

As President of the Zeta Alpha Alumni Chapter Board I want to thank the entire brotherhood for their support throughout the year. This was a much more normal year for everyone and we have seen that not only for the Alumni but also for the Chapter.

As an Alumni Board we have been able to achieve some big things for which we can all be proud and have been working hand-in-hand with the Chapter and Theta Chi International. I would also like to point out that the minutes of every meeting of the Board is usually posted to the web site within 2 weeks of every meeting for any member to view, though not official until approved at the next Board meeting.

Homecoming 2021

The Alumni Board authorized up to \$300 for the Chapter to use for expenses related to Homecoming. However, after the conclusion of the event, the Chapter only requested \$175.69 to cover costs. Chapter President Cooper Collins after the event wrote to the brotherhood:

"On behalf of the Zeta Alpha Chapter, I want to thank those who attended this year's Homecoming Celebration. Unfortunately, due to tornado warnings the float that we had spent hours constructing was not able to be used because the parade was cancelled but that did not dampen our spirits. We had about 50 brothers, alumni, family and friends attend the tailgating. It was so great to have all of our brothers from near and far back in town and reconnect after almost 2 years. Brother Marshall Tuten gets the "Man Mile" award having traveled all the way from California to attend. Through bad weather (wouldn't be a true SRU Homecoming without rain) and holding down our tents, that didn't stop us from having a great time. It was also great to have parents of brothers attend including the parents of Alumni Board member Brother Logan

Tupper! I appreciate all of the help and kind words from the alumni and cannot wait to return next October as an alumnus myself and see everyone once again."

Needless to say, we expect to continue to support the chapter's homecoming efforts and President Andrew Koley has already informed us the Chapter plans to host Alumni on October 15, 2022 at Homecoming again this year. Anyone wishing to help the chapter with Homecoming 2022 should let me know.

Chapter Eternal

The Board purchased three memorial bricks this year to be placed at the Alumni House one each for Brothers **James W. Allen**, **J. Patrick Scullen** (who had served as a Regional Counselor for Theta Chi International) and **William A. "Fritz" Tatich** who passed to the Chapter Eternal during the year.

Elections

As noted by Secretary Russell, the annual Alumni Board Elections were just completed and we had 82 Brothers participate in the election. Brothers John Farrar and Logan Tupper were re-elected for another 2 year term. I want to extend a hardy welcome to our new Alumni Board member Brother Daniel Pennell who is actively serving in the military. I would also like to thank retiring Board member Doug Bull. Having worked with Brother Doug and watched his leadership and commitment to the Alumni and more importantly the advancement of the collegians and the chapter inspires me to continue to always put the chapter first in all of our decisions.

I am heartened to see more and more brothers step forward to help us in our vision of developing the Alumni Association to continue to advance the goals and objectives of the chapter, enhance the cooperation between the Chapter and the Alumni and to encourage more and more involvement in the Alumni Association by the collegians as they graduate to assume the role of running the Alumni Association in the future.

Helping Hand Scholarship Fund

As has been reported many times in the past, we have officially rolled the Resolute Man Scholarship Fund into the Helping Hand Scholarship Fund. There still are some funds in the Resolute Man scholarship fund, just over \$100, waiting to be used by the recipients. Once these collegians graduate, any unused money will be rolled into the Helping Hand



Scholarship fund. We expect that those funds should be moved before the beginning of the fall semester.

The purpose of the Helping Hand Scholarship Fund is to **EXCLUSIVELY** support Zeta Alpha Brothers only who may need our assistance. This will be for food money, gas money home for funerals, housing assistance and all others things an on campus brother may need in an emergency situation.

However **WE WILL NOT** be the first source of assistance. The University has a program under the direction of the University Director of Student Support. This Director has discretionary funds available to assist ANY student in need. However, in our research many students were not aware of this fund. So we are educating our brothers to the availability of that fund while the Helping Hand Fund works "hand in hand" with that fund to help a Brother who may fall through the cracks.

Since its inception in 2018, the fund has granted \$2,000 in scholarships for brothers in need.

Our goal in 2021 was to have donations to the Helping Hand Scholarship Fund reach in excess of \$25,000 that would place the fund into Endowment status. This would enable the fund to live in perpetuity with continued tax advantages, interest earned to be used for awards and to be able to accept further donations.

Brother Gary Purdue has enthusiastically volunteered and the Board has appointed him to lead us in all fund raising activities. Shortly after the golf outing and the generous donations of brothers with T-signs and donations to the 50/50 raffle and cash donations on site we were within \$500 of reaching endowment status.

Thanks to contributions from several generous brothers since then we have been able to bring the fund to just over \$26,000 which brings the fund to endowment status.

Now the job we have is to keep the fund at that level because each year the chapter can use up to \$1,000 of that find for scholarships for brothers in need.

Now is a god time to consider buying a T-sign for the 2022 Golf outing to support the Helping Hand Scholarship Fund.

Brother Logan Tupper is coordinating T-signs this year. You can indicate your interest in purchasing a T-sign when you register or email Brother Logan at logan.tupper@outlook.com he will let you know where to send your TAX DEDUCTABLE donation and gather the information you would like on your T-sign. he will also be reaching out to those who purchased T-signs in the past.

At the same time each of us who have contributed to the fund (many who have been highlighted in previous newsletters) should be proud of our unselfish efforts in offering an "Assisting Hand" to brothers in need.



2021 Golf Outing

As I mentioned at the beginning of my message, the 29th Zeta Alpha Theta Chi Golf Outing is planned for June 11 at Tam O'Shanter golf course in Hermitage, Pa. We have made some changes to how to register for the event. But many of the things we have become familiar with at the event have not changed:

- The Zeta Alpha Theta Chi Fraternity Annual Golf Outing will be held June 11, 2022 at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course 2961 S Hermitage Rd, Hermitage, PA 16148.
- You can now register directly online. That is right. We have moved into the 21st century and now have an electronic registration form. - <u>CLICK</u> <u>HERE TO REGISTER!</u>
- We are NOT asking for money in advance! That is right. Instead of writing and mailing checks and us chasing down payments we are

believing in the tenants of Theta Chi and believe that your word is your bond. If you say you are coming and say you are going to pay, we expect you to keep your word. So tell us what you would like to eat and bring your cash to the event!

- Unless you have been living under a rock (no pun intended) you have noticed the costs for dinner have been going up and this year the costs reached what the Board believed reach a critical point. Because of the this, the Board has decided to change the menu and reduce the price for dinner after the outing. The options for dinner will be chicken or up to 2 hamburgers and sides and instead of \$27 like last year the dinner cost will be \$15.00!
- Board member Mike Bariski and I have also volunteered to sponsor a portion of the dinner covering the cost of water, sodas and beer and a portion of the cost of prizes, though we would appreciate brothers considering bringing donations of prizes.
- The Alumni Board will again sponsor a drink and a hotdog during the day for EVERY attendee.
- We will still have closest to the pin and longest drive contests.
- We will still be holding a 50/50 raffle.
- The chapter will be presenting Silver Legion and Golden Guard Awards.
- Very importantly we will be raising funds for the Helping hand Fund to assist chapter members who may be in need with T-signs at \$100 each.

And last but not least we expect to have a great day of renewed relationships, fun and golf with brothers and friends of the Zeta Alpha Chapter and Alumni of Theta Chi.

We know it is still early but so far we have registrations from Brothers: Farrar, Copeland, Russell, Kearney Miller, Bariski, Ambrose, Pederson, Jackson, Richards, Pusateri, Jacob, Grissinger, Krepinevich and Stotka.

REMEMBER - You do not need to be a golfer to come and enjoy the day! It is a day of fellowship a day to share stories to strengthen bonds between brothers and continue to expand and help grow the Zeta Alpha chapter.

Start putting your foursome together now and register today.

 Remember the deadline for registering and ordering T-signs is MAY 27, 2022! - <u>CLICK HERE TO REGISTER</u>

Just a note, you will notice that the site is a secure site when you visit the site to register if you are using Chrome you will NOT get the NOT SECURE message. We have secured a security key for the site so any information submitted is encrypted and secure.

Want a Polo for the Outing?

We just heard from the Chapter the deadline for ordering Theta Chi Golf Outing Polos has been extended and they are making them available to Alumni! Click on the image to see a larger version.

They have created Theta Chi Golf Outing Polos for purchase. They are black with a red logo and they are

\$27. The order deadline has been extended to May 10th at 9 AM CST. They can either be shipped directly to you or shipped to the chapter and they can bring them to the outing itself. Please reach out to Past President Cooper Collins me if you have any questions! cooper.collins14@gmail.com

To order click here: https://tcsrugolfouting.itemorder.com/

Brothers Helping Brothers

We wish to thank the Brothers who went out of their way to work with Brother



Herbert in setting up and raising money through a GoFundMe page for Brother David Price who continues in his struggle with cancer. Just another example of Theta Chi brothers offering an Assisting Hand.

Alumni Association Recognition Program

First announced in July 2021 and then followed up in December of 2021, Theta Chi International has launched a new Alumni Corporation Recognition Program. Since that time, the Alumni Board has worked tirelessly to make sure that the Zeta Alpha Alumni Chapter of Theta Chi Inc was in compliance and would become recognized by this program.

The program relates to the insurance coverage and convention delegate voting rights for ALL alumni groups regardless of the collegiate chapter's charter status.

Beginning with the 2022/2024 biennium commencing July 1, 2022 to ensure proper stewardship of the Fraternity's resources and intellectual property including but not limited to the use of Theta Chi's name and registered trademarks, provided coverage of liability and officer and director's insurance policies at no charge in addition to educational programs and consultation Alumni Corporations will be required to apply and required to renew their status every 2 years.

After nearly four months of work and filing of 990 Tax forms and registering with the IRS as a 501(c)7 corporation (all at no cost) we are pleased to announce that as of April 14, 2022 the Zeta Alpha Alumni Association was notified that we completed all requirements to be recognized under this program.

What this means is 2 things. First it means that any events sanctioned by the Alumni Association and conducted by the Alumni Association is covered by this program. Second it means any event or items not approved by the Alumni Association cannot state that it is a Zeta Alpha Alumni Association event and is NOT authorized or covered by this program and can be asked to cease to use the Theta Chi name.

I want to thank the members of the Board for their efforts to complete this process.

I want to thank you all for your commitment to Theta Chi and I look forward to a great 2022 and beyond.

Sky Pederson 2021-22 President

Treasurer Report

We continue to work hard maintain the books of the organization and work with the SRU Foundation on the accounting for the Scholarships. A report is part of every Board meeting and included in the minutes that are posted on the http://www.zachapter.com website after every Board meeting to keep the finances of the Alumni Association as transparent as possible.

All expenditures are approved by the Board and checks must be signed by two members of the Board before being issued. The Scholarship funds are kept by the Slippery Rock University Foundation, regularly reported to the Treasurer and are tax exempt donations and expenditures must be authorized by the Board. The Brick Fund and the General Fund are accounted for separately.

Scholarship Accounts

Resolute Man Scholarship

Balance as of May 1, 2021 = \$ 717.32

Income

None

Expenses

• Funds released to Helping Hand Scholarship Fund - \$610.22

Balance as of May 1, 2021 = \$ 107.10*

*\$107.10 remains in reserve for Book scholarships awarded in 2018 to students who have yet to use the full amount awarded and have yet to graduate. Once they either use the full amount awarded or graduate, the remainder of the funds will be transferred to the Helping Hand fund.

Helping Hand Scholarship

Balance as of May 1, 2021 = \$ 21,095.91

Income

- Donations from 2021 Golf Outing and T-signs = \$1,500.00
- Individual Donations May 1, 2020 May 1, 2021 = \$ 3,921.96
- Total: \$13,190.00

Expenses

- Scholarships Awarded May 1, 2021 May 1, 2022 1 @ \$500
- Total: \$500.00

Balance as of May 1, 2020 = \$ 26,017.87

Brick Fund

Balance as of May 1, 2021 = \$ 2,531.00

 Purchase of Bricks = \$300.00 (James W. Allen, J. Patrick Scullen and William A. "Fritz" Tatich)

Balance as of May 1, 2019 = \$2,231.00

General Fund

Balance as of May 1, 2020 = \$ 6,021.53*

Income

- Proceeds from 50/50 raffle \$500
- Golf Outing on-site donations \$125.00
- Donations for T-signs \$700
- Total: \$ \$1,325.00

Expenses

- Cost of T-signs \$263.90
- Cost of Hot dog and drink and prizes for outing \$560.00
- Donations for 2021 outing and T-sign Donors to Helping Hand Fund =\$1,500.00
- Reimburse Chapter for Homecoming costs \$175.69
- Total: \$ 2,499.59

^{*}These totals include deposits of \$800 made for tee signs prior May 1, 2021 included in the total income for the tee signs.

Balance as of May 1, 2021 = \$ 4,846.94

John Farrar 2021-22 Treasurer

Chapter Advisor Report

A chapter year runs from January to the end of December so this report covers the end of one chapter "administration" and the beginning of another. The 2020-21 Zeta Alpha Chapter and its Executive Board was in full swing as of May 1, 2021. Brothers were finishing finals and preparing for summer jobs and planning for the Theta Chi Fraternity Summer Celebration in Lexington, KY.

A priority for the chapter was to have a Zeta Alpha banner created for Theta Chi International for display at the International Summer Celebration. Every Chapter has a banner that is displayed at the biennial conventions, but Zeta Alpha has never had



one. The Chapter made plans to purchase one for display on our behalf at the 2021 meeting for the first time.

The summer celebration occurred July 30-August 2 in Lexington, KY. The Chapter sent 2 brothers President Cooper Collins and Membership Chairman Andrew Auth in addition to Advisor Krepinevich who attended at his own expense so 2 collegians could attend at no cost.

The Secretary of the Chapter has worked with the chapter's Executive Board to prepare and distribute to all Brothers who made a T-sign contribution in 2021 to send a thank you letter signed by all members of the Executive Board expressing their appreciation for the Brother's contribution to the Helping Hand Scholarship Fund.

A banner was prepared for the golf outing highlighting the accomplishments of the Zeta Alpha Chapter since its recolonization to be displayed at the Golf outing and has been used again during rush and other events.

There was a very positive response from President Collins on behalf of the Chapter members to the golf outing. The Chapter brothers were very positive about the interaction they had with the alumni and expressed many positive reactions to the entire day. They are anxious to use the "accomplishments banner" provided and have expressed their appreciation for the generosity of the brotherhood in accomplishing endowment status for the Helping Hand Fund. It was remarkable to see more than 20 percent of the participants are now the more recent alumni or current members in attendance.

Two term Chapter president Eric Lehman has taken a position with the Theta Chi International Office and has been working on the resource team to support and strengthen existing chapters. He has been instrumental in the recolonization of Alpha Beta Colony at the University of Pittsburgh and members of the Zeta Alpha Alumni have volunteered to serve as Chapter Advisors!

Due to the covid restrictions from the Spring the Zeta Pledge class was actually installed at the beginning of the Fall '21 semester on campus on August 29 Brother Iskat represented the Alumni at the event and reported that everything was again a first class.

The Alumni Board as well as each of the Chapter Officer Advisors received a copy of the Zeta Alpha Chapter Assessment Scorecard reviewing how the chapter stands up against the criteria the International Office sets as standards for all aspects of a successful chapter and as can been seen Zeta Alpha is doing remarkably well for as early in the chapter's career it currently sits. The Alumni can be assured the primary focus of the chapter is recruitment. As can be seen in the assessment, the only areas where the chapter seems to fall short is due to not having enough brothers to accomplish the goals so by working to achieve membership targets all other goals can be easily achieved.

The chapter continues to use creative ways to generate leads and follow up especially with freshmen but due to the restriction set by the Greek Advisor concerning deferred recruitment these prospects have to be developed for the Spring, but the chapter did have a fall Eta Pledge class of 5 and a spring Theta pledge class of 5 each successfully completing the Resolute Journey.

The installation of the Zeta Pledge class, which will be our most "international" pledge class, because it included a student from Germany, will occurred on November 14 with Brother Don Iskat, Paul Herbert and Patrick Russell in attendance and given roles to participate and the installation of the Theta Pledge class occurred on April 24, 2022.

The installation on the 24th was followed by the first ever Resolute Man Ceremony at Slippery Rock University installing collegian Cooper Collins and Alumnus Kevin Krepinevich as Zeta Alpha's first to earn the Resolute Man designation. It is hoped now that the chapter has had a chance to see that it is attainable for both a collegian and an alumnus there can be more participation. Resolute Man is Theta Chi's premiere membership experience and one of the fraternity's highest honors.

The chapter elections were held on November 28th with the following Brothers elected to the following positions:

- Andrew Koley President
- Jack Hare Vice president
- Maximus Oberg Vice President Health and Safety
- Ben Sullivan Secretary
- Mitch Wilson Treasurer
- Billy Planic Recruitment Chairman
- Lucian Dean Marshal
- Tyler Ross Scholarship Chairman

It is of note that each member, with the exception, of Brother Oberg were initiated either the Spring of 21 or Fall of 21. This emphasizes the critical role each of the Officer Advisors had this year.

January 7-9, 2022 Theta Chi International held their annual officers training for chapter presidents (Sasser Conference), Vice Presidents of Health and Safety (Sacred Purpose), Marshal Conference and Recruitment Chairmen Conference (Amplify Theta Chi) this year it was held in St Louis. IHQ provided a stipend for each chapter's travel to attend and provided meals and housing on site. Additionally, Chapter Advisor training was provided during the weekend and Advisor Krepinevich attended in his case IHQ covered all expenses once he got there. Unfortunately, due to them contracting COVID-19 President Koley and Marshal Dean could not attend nor could staff member and past Zeta Alpha President Eric Lehman. However, IHQ scheduled make up sessions for officers who could not attend (since these two were not the only ones who contracted covid prior to the weekend.)

The Zeta Alpha chapter was well represented. In addition to those mentioned, Alumni President Sky Pederson and Zeta Alpha Recruitment Advisor James Jackson were asked to be presenters at the event. IHQ tries to use prominent successful brothers to lead these sessions. Due to budget constraints, all

officers could not be trained on St Louis so IHQ provided additional training for chapter treasurers via zoom on January 19, 2022.

January 22, 2022, the annual Executive Board and Chapter Officer Advisors retreat was held at Slippery Rock University between 9:30 am and 5:00 pm. The intent of the retreat is to strengthen the relationship between the chapter brothers and their alumni counterparts and assist the chapter officers in providing some institutional knowledge, avenues of assistance and a workable plan for 2022.

Each officer advisor, after the meeting kept in regular contact with their chapter counterpart providing support counsel and advise as needed with the specific intent of being there when needed and providing the appropriate guidance.

Theta Chi continues to set the standard for fraternities on campus reporting a 3.151 Grade Point Average for the Chapter for the Spring 2020 semester and a 3.331 Grade Point Average for the Fall 2021 Semester!

It was a close contest based on all reports but Theta Chi finished 2nd in Greek week this year.

The Sacred Purpose program has gone under a minor modification combining 2 of the original categories into existing categories so now the chapter offers 5 events during the year. This year one of the premier events coordinated by the Chapter was one initiated by the Chapter and they convinced Greek life to cooperate/subsidize in bringing Dr. Louis Profeta to conduct a Sacred Purpose Program for the entire Greek community at SRU. His presentation on Sex, Drugs, Drinking and Dying and how students should understand and react on campus and off campus was both relevant and engaging. He then posted to his Linkedin page a very complementary post about the event that appears below.

Several scholarships were applied for as the March 1 deadline approached and expectations are high in that category.

Finally, the chapter was able to raise \$1,600 from 25 donors which was the 4th highest of all student organizations during SRU's Giving Day and the highest for any Greek organization. We would like to make a special note of Alumni brothers John Farrar, Tom Laicha, Kevin Krepinevich, Evertt Smith, Sky Pederson and Brian Saul and, if they were alumni, 5 anonymous donors for their contributions. The contributions will help and the chapter plans to send thank you letters to each who contributed no matter the size of the contribution.



The Zeta Alpha Chapter after the April 24, 2022 Theta Pledge Class Installation



Greek sing competition at Greek Week 2022



Big Brother Assignment Night Spring 2022 (see if you can actually find a younger brother who is the big brother to his big brother!)



President Cooper Collins with the Chapter Accomplishments Banner



Chapter and Advisors Planning Session January 2022



In all of this, it can be reported that the members of the Chapter continue to express their appreciation for the support the Alumni provide in all ways to help the chapter to be successful and hope that Alumni take advantage of participating in the installation rituals as they are announced and come visit at homecoming and are looking forward to interacting with the alumni at the golf outing.

Needless to say, the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi is one of which all Zeta Alpha Alumni and friends can and should be proud.

Extending the Θηρόποεα **Χ**είρ

Kevin Krepinevich Chapter Advisor

This concludes the Annual Report for the 2021-22 administrative year. The 2021-22 Officers, President Sky Pederson pedersonsky@outlook.com, Treasurer John Farrar jsfarrar1956@gmail.com or I patrickrussell2906@gmail.com welcome any questions.

Patrick Russell 2021-22 Secretary





