



Zeta Alpha Theta Chi Fraternity Alumni Corporation

Brothers,

When the bylaw revisions were approved on March 3, 2019 the Alumni Board assumed the responsibility 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.

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, 2019.

A announcement providing information on each candidate and ballot was distributed on April 10 2019. The balloting occurred by electronic ballot between April 10 and April 25, 2019 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 4 candidates running. The results of the balloting is as follows:

- Brother Rick Fox received 49 votes (72.0% of the votes cast)
- Brother Dr. Donald "Doc" Hannon received 35 votes (51.4% of the votes cast)
- Brother Sky Peterson received 51 votes (75% of the votes cast)
- Brother Patrick Russell received 53 votes (77% of the votes cast)

Brothers Rick Fox, Sky Peterson and Patrick Russell were elected to fill the three Director positions for the period of June 1, 2019 through May 31, 2021.

Congratulations to these three brothers.

At this time, we wish to thank Brothers Joe Suprano for his last 2 years of service on the Board and Brother Dr. Donald "Doc" Hannon for his service this past year. Their dedication to the chapter we serve and the brotherhood is appreciated.

Following the election, a meeting was held with the newly constituted members of the Directors who would hold their positions as of June 1, 2019 and an election of officers was held on April 28, 2019. At that meeting, the following officers for the period of June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020 were elected:

- President Brother Douglas Bull
- Treasurer Brother John Farrar

- Secretary brother John Merski, Jr.

John Merski, Jr.
2018-19 Secretary

Report of the President

As President, I want to thank the entire brotherhood of the Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi for their support throughout the year. We as an organization were able to accomplish a great deal with your help. I would like to share with all Brothers what we were able to accomplish with this annual report.

Amendments to the Bylaws

I would like to thank and congratulate the Brotherhood for overwhelmingly approving the changes in our Bylaws. The revised Bylaws were approved by over 90% of the votes cast of the Brotherhood and over 55 votes were cast. A copy of the new bylaws can be found by visiting the website at <http://www.zachapter.com> and click the Alumni Corporation Link and on that page is the link to the revised bylaws. These changes helped us all keep pace with the continuing challenges we face as an Alumni organization.

Annual Alumni Board Elections

I would like to thank the 4 candidates who stepped forward to help lead this organization. It takes a special brother to contribute to the organization by offering to lead and whether elected or not the offer is appreciated.

I want to welcome Brothers Sky and Pat and let them know I am really looking forward to working with them. Brother Rick was re-elected and he will bring his vast experience for another two years.

I hope, as we move forward, others will join 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.

Resolute Man Scholarship

We awarded 5 scholarships in the fall of 2018 to some well respected students at Slippery Rock. The Resolute Man Scholarship has funds to continue to award scholarships in the fall of 2019 before the school year starts. Brothers Ron Burke, Dave Price and Paul Herbert are working on the applications now and will announce the winners in August. However, we have worked very hard this year to redirect the focus of the Resolute Man Scholarship in several important ways:

- It will be promoted exclusively through the SRU orientation program as an example of scholarships available through the University giving us maximum exposure.
- It will be available on line each year for all incoming freshmen beginning in January of each year.
- It will be only awarded to incoming freshmen.
- Its underlying design is collect potential quality candidates for the Chapter as incoming freshmen prospects for fall recruitment. The names and contact information for each applicant will be shared with the chapter for early contact prior to these students arriving on campus.
- The scholarship will now be a "general" scholarship rather than a "book" scholarship since the paradigm has shifted and students are buying fewer and fewer "hands on" books.
- Effective with the 2020 year, a representative of the Chapter, the CAB and the Alumni Association will be the selection committee.

Helping Hand Scholarship

This is a brand new scholarship that has been established in 2019 and will be "officially" kicked off at the June Golf Outing. The goal of this scholarship is twofold.

The purpose of the scholarship will to be 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.

We have partnered with the University and as part of an educational program for our collegiate chapter members. They are being educated that the University has this type of program available. If a chapter member is in need, the Chapter will assist them in contacting the University Director of Student Support for assistance. Only if the University cannot help or help at the level of support a student may need help would the chapter member then turn to the chapter and the Helping Hand Fund. Awards would be no more than \$500 per student in any academic year and no more than \$1,000 total in a year as we get started.

I wish to thank Brother Roy Pascal for providing some seed money for this fund along with a few other anonymous other brothers and the Alumni Board. We have worked with the SRU Foundation to establish this fund and it can be a **tax-deductible contribution**. However, we do not want to have to go back to brothers every year to fund this program so our long-term goal is to establish a \$25,000 endowment. Once that level is achieved, the fund will be self funding. There will be more information on this program in the future.

The chapter was notified in January 2019 that the scholarship would be available but up to \$1,000 for the first year. As of May 1, no requests for funds from the scholarship have been made.

Homecoming 2018

During Homecoming 2018 or the 2nd year in a row a contingent of the Alumni and members of the chapter had an opportunity to interact during the tailgating prior to and after the game.

Golf Outing

The 26th Annual Golf Outing was another great success and as years in the past raised money for the Brick Fund, we held a 50/50 raffle for the Alumni Association, brothers donated event prizes and we had members of the recently chartered Zeta Alpha Chapter in attendance for the first time! This was a great start to again creating a strong relationship between the chapter and the Alumni and I know I speak for all the Brothers our appreciation for Brother Joe Soprano's efforts.

Looking ahead, the 27th Annual Zeta Alpha Golf outing will take place at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course on June 8th.

Brother Joe Soprano has done another excellent job organizing this year's event as he has done for many years on the past. We truly owe a debt of gratitude to Brother Joe for his untiring effort for this event on behalf of the brothers and we all look forward to a great time. Should you have any questions, please contact Joe at 412-592-6156 or email him at jssuprano@Juno.com. I look forward to seeing everyone there.

As mentioned in Brother Joe's Golf Outing emails, the Alumni Association is having a fund-raising event during Saturday's golfing. The Alumni Association

will be raising money through Brotherhood Golf Tee signs. We hope to have on each hole 2 or more tee signs sponsors. The sign can be sponsored by your golfing foursome, your business, or with a personal saying. Each sign is approximately the size of a political campaign lawn sign. It can include a, business logo, family photo or a past college day photo. The cost is \$100.00 per sign per hole. The money raised will go towards the Alumni Association to eventually support the Chapter. Please send your check if purchasing a sign, made out to ZA Chapter Alumni Chapter of Theta Chi, to the following address:

(For Sign Purchases ONLY)
John Farrar
11801 Riverpark Way
Chesterfield, VA. 23838

Also let him know what you want the sign to say!

Please contact Gary SABOO Sablowsky 412-692-0403 or sabooisajew@yahoo.com if you have any further questions regarding the Brotherhood Golf Tee signs.

On Friday afternoon, June 7 there will be a warm up golf outing for those who want to practice up for Saturday's event. Jim Clarke has secured tee times at the Grove City Golf course for Friday afternoon. Jim has asked if you plan on golfing Friday, please contact him at 412-527-1728. Jim was able to secure only so many spots, and he needs to confirm if you plan on attending.

Now I want to point out that it seems like this is a lot of money talk. But it really is not. We hope to offer Brothers options to support the chapter in a way that fits. That is all we ask. But any amount helps in any way you can help. But we have to start somewhere. As with any enterprise, there has to be some start up money to get going. Then we hope to have avenues for those who wish to participate do so on their terms. As we continue to move forward, more ideas will be developed for other initiatives and I assume they will be less financial but as I said we had to start somewhere.

I think you will see later in this annual report this is a group of collegians that have earned our support and if we can offer an assisting hand... well it couldn't hurt!

That is it for now and I want to personally thank every Brother in the Zeta Alpha Chapter for their hard work and commitment. For without that, we could not have possibly accomplished all that we did in this year.

Doug Bull
2018-19 President

Treasurer Report

We have worked hard this year to centralize the accounting and to provide a report as part of every Board meeting and include it 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, reported to the Treasurer monthly 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 June 1 2019 \$ 5,230.99
Donations June 1, 2019 - May 1, 2019 \$ 950.00
Total \$ 6,180.99

Scholarships Awarded 2018-19 \$ 1,750.00
Cost of Certificates and Frames \$ 55.08
Total \$ 1,805.08

Balance as of May 1, 2019 \$ 4,375.91

Helping Hand Scholarship

Balance as of June 1, 2019 \$ 0
Donations June 1 - May 1, 2019 \$ 1,590.00

Balance as of May 1, 2019 \$ 1,590.00

Brick Fund

Balance as of June 1, 2019 \$ 2,550.00
Donations to Fund \$ 831.00
Purchase of Bricks \$ 100.00

Balance as of May 1, 2019 \$ 3,281.00

General Fund

Balance as of June 1, 2019 \$ 6, 926.45
Proceeds from Golf Outing \$ 398.00
Donation to Chapter for CAB Retreat,
Theta Chi University, Chapter Visits,
Initiate Academy Registration \$ 1,700.00
Donation to Helping Hand Scholarship Fund \$ 300.00

Balance as of May 1, 2019 \$ 5,324.45

John Farrar
2018-19 Treasurer

Chapter Advisory Board Chair Report

2018-19 has been a busy and productive year for the Chapter Advisory Board.

To review, a chapter adviser/CAB member is a mentor, role model, teacher, counselor, and confidant to the chapter's executive board and individual members. An adviser gives of his knowledge, and experience to help collegians plan and lead their chapters.

The result is a well-run, goal-driven, and stable organization which promotes a positive learning experience for its members.

An adviser is not a baby-sitter, nor should he be one who does the work when chapter officers fail to meet their obligations. He is a guiding force who supports the concept that students learn best through personal experience and who is committed to helping young men develop their own potential as chapter members.

The CAB currently has approximately 20 members, eleven which are, or could be, assigned a Chapter member or Officer. The role of a chapter adviser/CAB member is to "advise." The real learning experience in Theta Chi happens when collegians interact as brothers within the chapter. An adviser's role is to advise on matters requiring an opinion from someone who has a more sophisticated background of knowledge concerning group dynamics, Theta Chi, the school, and a basic knowledge of the resources available to officers and brothers.

The CAB meets by teleconference 3 to 4 times per year.

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The collegians should feel that the chapter adviser/CAB member is a part of the chapter, but not one of the guys. They (the collegians) will make the ultimate decision on what advice to accept and what advice to reject. Consequently, when we do give advice, the collegians must have respect for us which allows them to hear and understand what we are saying. This past year the a CAB advisor has had contact with his Chapter counterpart 2 or 3 times per year on average.

In addition we participate in the first "formal" meeting of every month and have been involved in providing content at meeting that have helped the chapter address issues.

On January 19, 2019 a Chapter Advisory Board/Executive Bard Retreat was conducted at Slippery Rock University in a bit of a snow storm but all members of the Executive Board attended and 6 members of the CAB were able to brave the snow storm. Significant planning for the 2019 year was conducted and constructive planning and problem solving occurred to help the chapter plan for the year.

Current CAB Positions Include:

- President Advisor
- Vice President Advisor
- Health and Safety Advisor – counterpart with Vice President of Health and Safety
- Marshal Advisor - counterpart with Marshal
- Financial Advisor – counterpart with Treasurer
- Recruitment Advisor - counterpart with Recruitment Chair
- Academic Advisor- this is student scholarship GPA maintenance etc.
- Legal Advisor
- University and Public Relations Advisor
- Liaison to the House Board
- Rapid Response Advisor

Chapter Advisor

It has been indeed a pleasure for me to work with the Zeta Alpha Chapter, the Chapter Advisory Board and the Alumni Board this year and to also accept a volunteer position with Theta Chi International as an Alumni Ambassador. As an Alumni Ambassador I will be working with at least 5 other Chapters in helping them recruit and train Chapter Advisory Boards and then hand them off to the International Headquarters staff to manage and help them grow and support their chapters. This helps us in many ways because it keeps us up to date in a variety of ways that can be passed on to help keep the chapter and the CAB especially healthy.

This year has been an exceptional year for the Zeta Alpha Chapter. Just think, it was April 29, 2018 when many of us had the opportunity to sit in the room with the members of the Zeta Alpha Colony just 7 months after they were designated a colony and watched them be installed as the 160th chapter in Theta Chi!

Now it is just over one year later and what have they accomplished?

- Brother Sky Peterson was recognized as the outstanding Greek Chapter President on campus.
- The Zeta Alpha Chapter received the Outstanding Greek organization on campus for 2018.
- Marshaled 2 recruitment classes totaling 11 new brothers replacing the 14 they will graduate on May 11 keeping the chapter close to their charter strength and the largest on campus.
- Had 2 brothers in the Homecoming Court.

- Completed their first two newsletters for the Alumni and are completing the third for the end of the semester.
- Conducted several Sacred Purpose programs and in April 2019 conducted a campus-wide Stop the Bleed and SAVE (Suicide Prevention Program) that earned the chapter a Slippery Rock University Rising Star Award this Spring for the Educational Event of the Year.
- Received \$5,000 in funds as a Fraternity for the first time from Student Government to support a Sacred Purpose Program.
- For the 2nd year in a row was the first campus organization to obtain 50 donors on Giving Tuesday and earned the FIRST PLACE AWARD of \$1,000 from the SRU Foundation to support chapter operations.
- Participated in a "St Jude up till 2" fundraiser that raised over \$62,000 campus wide for St Jude.
- Nominated in the Spring of 2019 and received the Slippery Rock University Rising Star Award as the Outstanding Student Organization of the Year.
- Brother Dillon Pussateri received 1 of 7 Slippery Rock University 2019 Rising Star Awards exemplifying and standing out as an emerging leader in the chapter and on the Slippery Rock campus.
- Four of the Chapter collegians attended the International Theta Chi Convention on scholarship and attended every session to earn their scholarship and brought back the ideas they learned to help the chapter.
- Have conducted 2 successful formals.
- Fourteen Chapter members attended the Theta Chi University held at the University of Maryland, believed to be the largest contingent of any chapter at any event in the country!
- They have submitted for the Alter Award competition the highest award presented by Theta Chi to a Chapter.
- Brother Marshall Tuten has been selected as a finalist for the Reginald E. F. Colley Memorial Trophy, was awarded the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association Outstanding Senior Man and the Joanne Day Business Student of the Year.
- Brother James Jackson is currently under consideration of becoming employed as a Field Executive for Theta Chi International.

I know there is more. But the point is that these collegians do not just recite the words of the Theta Chi Creed they live the words every day in their deeds and the University and those outside the University are taking notice. We should all be proud of their efforts. As of today, 9 will be attending the golf outing and I would hope, if you are attending, you reach out and get to know them better.

Yours in the Θηρόπορα Χείρ

Kevin Krepinevich
Chapter Advisor
Alumni Ambassador

