



Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity Alumni Newsletter

President's Message

Happy Holidays!

Brothers and friends,

We are about to begin the holiday season and I would like to be the first to wish you the best the holiday season has to offer. We all have a lot to be thankful for in our lives and spending the holidays with family and friends is the best way to celebrate those things for which we should be thankful.

But I would like to take a moment and ask that during this holiday season, if you can see it in your heart to help show some compassion, one of our alumni Brothers could use your help.

As many of you may know **Brother David Price** has been battling cancer since 2017 and his battle has not only been a physical struggle but has depleted almost all of his finances. Because of this **Brother Paul Herbert** is working with Brother Price in creating a Go Fund Me page to try to generate resources to help Brother Price through these tough times.

The link to the Go Fund Me page is: <https://gofund.me/7b17cfe3>

Thank you for considering to help.

I am pleased to report that since the last newsletter, the Alumni Board continues to work hand in hand with the Zeta Alpha Chapter this time in their hosting and welcoming alumni back to the SRU campus on October 16, 2021 for Homecoming. **President Cooper Collins** will highlight those activities later in this newsletter as well as other activities of the chapter. But having attended myself, I can report it was a very successful event.

Helping Hand Scholarship Fund

In other news, thanks to the generous contributions of brothers at the golf outing with the purchase of T-signs and others who just made an unselfish donation we have been able to meet the minimum threshold of \$25,000 for the fund to be an endowment and begin to earn interest on the account. Interest will be earned as long as the account stays above \$25,000 and the interest will be credited each year in June.

This is an amazing achievement considering that we have only been seriously working on this

project for just over 18 months and during a pandemic! I would like to thank **Brother Emil "Zeke" Brenkus** for completing some of the preliminary work and then **Brother Gary Perdue** for picking up the project running with it and bringing us to this point.

This is a living and breathing project with at least \$1,000 available to be awarded each year and if not used can be carried over to the next year. So far, **we have awarded \$2,000 in scholarships since January 2019** and since all of the available funds were not used each year the chapter has up to \$2,000 available during 2022.

Because of this, we need to keep focused on exceeding the minimum so we can keep the fund at the endowment status to earn interest and at the same time make awards.

At any time you can make a contribution at <https://www.srufoundation.org/helpinghand.html>

But if you do please send a quick note to **Treasurer Brother John Farrar** at jsfarrar1956@gmail.com so we know you made an on line contribution and for how much so we can keep our contribution records up to date.

The alumni Board will continue the successful T-signs at the golf outing to raise funds and Helping Hand Fundraising Chair **Brother Gary Perdue** will be pursuing other options to keep growing the fund.

But we cannot thank the brothers and friends of the Zeta Alpha Chapter for your generosity so far. It makes me very proud to be a member of the Zeta Alpha Chapter.

Brother J Patrick Scullen

It is my sad duty to inform you of the passing of **Brother J. Patrick Scullen** on to the Chapter Eternal on November 2, 2021. A copy of his obituary can be found by clicking this link.

<https://obituaries.post-gazette.com/obituary/john-patrick-scullen-1083719029>

Brother Pat was not only a very involved and significant figure at Slippery Rock but also served as a Counselor for Theta Chi International. The Alumni Board has authorized the purchase of a brick to be placed at the Alumni House when bricks are normally purchased in June.

Golf Outing 2022

Mark your calendar! Arrangements have already begun to be made for the **2022 Golf Outing** to be held at Tam O'Shanter Golf Course on June 11, 2022 with a 9:00 am shotgun start. It is a little early for many specifics but mark your calendar! Whether you play golf or not it is a great opportunity to reconnect with brothers and friends of Zeta Alpha and I hope you put it on your calendar to attend it is getting bigger each year!

The Radisson (the hotel we typically reserve rooms) may be under renovation during that time in 2022. An alternative hotel may be needed for brothers and as we get closer to the event the plan will be (if necessary) to book at another local hotel with the potential to use the picnic area at the Radisson.

Homecoming 2022

I have spoken to President Cooper Collins and he has informed me that the chapter plans to continue to host alumni at **Homecoming 2022 to be held October 15, 2022** so put that on your calendar as well.

I would like to thank each Board member for their efforts and generosity and look forward to continuing to work to achieving the goals we have set for ourselves. If you are an initiated alumni and wish to serve on the Board please let me know and remember that we will need to know by April 1 if you would like to serve. It seems like we are getting closer to life becoming more normal and more and more opportunities for us to get together on more normal situations. I hope you are able to spend the holidays with those close to you and look

forward to seeing each of you at the golf outing in June.

Until next time.

Fraternally

Sky Pederson
Zeta Alpha
Alumni President
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ZA Chapter President



It has been a busy Fall for the Zeta Alpha Chapter. I would like to highlight just a few items:

- I was able to attend the inaugural new all expense paid Resolute Man program in Louisiana and learn about becoming an entrepreneur, challenge my skills and interact with 10 other brothers from all parts of the country and officially become the first "Resolute Man" awarded to a member of the Zeta Alpha Chapter.
- The Zeta Alpha Chapter brothers have been raising money for the USO as part of the Chi International's operation Military Red.
- We had a very successful fall rush, but have been hampered by the Greek Advisor with deferred rush for freshmen. Because of this, we were able to have a 5 man Eta pledge class that was installed on November 14 and appreciate the attendance of 4 alumni at the event. It was a truly international pledge class with one of the brothers whose hometown is Frankfurt, Germany. The good news is we have a list of over 20 freshmen who expressed interest and are working with them to create a strong Spring pledge class.
- The Executive Board's term is rapidly coming to a close at the end of this semester and it will culminate with chapter elections that will occur on November 28 our first day back from Thanksgiving vacation. We are already collecting nominations and I am pleased to report that there are many nominees for each of the positions demonstrating a sincere excitement around where the chapter is going.
- New Chapter Officers including the President, VP of Health and Safety, Recruitment Chair and Marshal and the Chapter Advisor will be attending training in St. Louis on January 7-9, 2022.
- We will be working with the Chapter Advisors in scheduling a Advisors/Executive Board Retreat in the first week of the Spring Semester.
- I would like to make a special note of the chapter's appreciation of the efforts of the Alumni and friends of the Zeta Alpha Chapter in raising funds for the Helping Hand Scholarship. We take this scholarship seriously and take great care in utilizing this scholarship with care. But we cannot truly express our appreciation of the generosity of those who have donated. By now those who donated T-signs at the golf outing should have received a thank you letter from the Chapter members.
- We are working with the Alumni Board on plans for the 2022 Golf outing and look forward to spending time with alumni again in much warmer weather conditions!
- 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. I have included some of the pictures taken during the event.



The Eta Pledge Class: (Left to Right) Mattis Jost, Billy Planic, Mitch Wilson, Ben Sullivan, Lucian Dean

Some candid photo from Homecoming!





<http://www.zachapter.com>

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