



Zeta Alpha Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity Alumni Newsletter

President's Message

Brothers and friends,

With Ground Hog Day looming and the good news, no matter what, Spring officially is 6 weeks away! The better news is that the 29th Annual Golf Outing is now only 18 weeks away! Later in the email is information about the outing but I hope everyone has it on their calendar.

I would like to make a special request this year.

The request is for each of you that came last year, reach out to one brother who did not attend and see if you can bring him along this year. The event continues to grow with nearly 30% of the attendees now being recent graduates or current chapter members. The chapter continues to reach out to those who attend and wishes to strengthen the relationship with the alumni so the more we can enjoy this brotherhood event.

I was honored along with Brother James Jackson to be asked to be presenters at the Theta Chi International Training Conference held in St. Louis January 7-9, 2022. I was responsible for the Health and Safety Vice President sessions and Brother James was responsible for the Marshals sessions. It was an interesting experience to have been on the other side of the podium just 4 years ago and to now witness first-hand just how dedicated, informed, enthusiastic and committed these young men of Theta Chi are all over the country.

I was also able to spend time with some of the Zeta Alpha representatives at the events and can confirm that our chapter continues to be a bright spot in the Theta Chi organization.

Alumni Association Recognition Program

Since we have a EIN (Employee Identification Number,) The Alumni Association is also doing its due diligence and as a Board is filing our 990N form to be in compliance with the IRS guidelines for a 507c7 organization such as ourselves. Additionally, the Alumni Board is submitting the necessary paperwork with the International Headquarters by April 1 to bring the Zeta Alpha Alumni Association in compliance with the IHQ to be a recognized part of the newly established Alumni Corporation Recognition Program which will then cover the Association with officer and director insurance, the liability insurance for sanctioned events, licensed use of trademarks and other benefits. (all of this at no cost to the alumni association.) This will need to be renewed every 2 years.

Golf Outing 2022

As mentioned, 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 followed by a brotherhood dinner we hope everyone participates in afterward. Bring a brother who has not attended before or has not attended for a few years.

We will be offering the purchase of **T-signs again this year** to support the Helping Hand Fund to keep the fund above endowment status and so we can continue to award the scholarships for need. As we get closer, we will be reaching out for your help. Think about what you would like to say on a t-sign and maybe get a couple brothers to pitch in and buy one as well. All proceeds from signs go to the fund.

It has been confirmed that the Radisson (the hotel we typically reserve rooms) will be under renovation during that time in 2022. So, **we will not be able to book a block of rooms for the event.** If you would like a room (or would like to share a room) for the weekend the golf outing, we suggest you consider booking a room in the area soon.

To help here is some information brothers may find helpful:

- Holiday Inn Hermitage: 2 Queens - \$165 (few rooms left) - 855-516-1090
- Holiday Inn Express Grove City - 2 Queens - \$143 - 833-449-1270
- Quality Inn & Suites Grove City-Outlet Mall - \$125 - 724-748-9920
- Best Western Grove City Inn - 2 Queens - \$140 - 724-748-5836
- Roadway Inn (Mercer) - 2 Queens - \$105 - 855-516-1090

June 11 is the first day of Strawberry Days in Grove City and June 10-12 is the Bantam Jeep Heritage Festival in Butler so there will be people from out of town all over Butler County so rooms may disappear fast.

As we get closer there will be more and more information 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!

Helping Hand Scholarship Fund

This is one of the most consequential projects we run as an alumni association. At least \$1,000 is available to be awarded each year to Theta Chi Brothers ONLY 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 (currently we are just over \$25,000) 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 jfarrar1956@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.

As mentioned above, 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 soon be pursuing other options to keep growing the fund so you will be hearing from him.

We have some brothers who have decided to go to the web site noted above and have provided a credit card number and are having just \$10 a month put on their card for the fund. It does not seem like much but it accumulates and helps a lot.

We cannot thank the brothers and friends of the Zeta Alpha Chapter for your generosity so far. Every little bit helps.

Homecoming 2022

Homecoming 2022 to be held October 15, 2022 and hosted by the Zeta Alpha Chapter. The new chapter officers are already looking forward to hosting the alumni on campus again this October. It would be a good idea to put that on your calendar as well.

I hope everyone enjoyed their holidays and I assume we are all looking forward to warmer temperatures. I look forward to continuing to work with the Alumni Board and with each of you. If you have questions or concerns, I am here to listen and I will be willing to work with you to always do first and foremost what is best for the fraternity.

Until next time.

Fraternally

Sky Pederson
Zeta Alpha
Alumni President
724-309-8311

ZA Chapter Advisor

The Zeta Alpha Chapter has been both busy and successful in living up to the principles of Theta Chi.

Let's start with what the brothers appear to be the proudest:

Spring 2020 - 3.331
Fall 2021 - 3.151

These are the grade point averages for the Zeta Alpha Chapter at Slippery Rock University for the last 2 semesters. If you happened to notice, in your last edition of the Rattle. Brother Dillon Pusatari received his 3rd Sherwood & Janet Blue Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi \$1,000 scholarship.

The Zeta Alpha Chapter elected their officers for the 2022 administrative year on November 28, 2022 and promptly completed the ritual to install the officers as well.

The Executive Board for 2022 include:

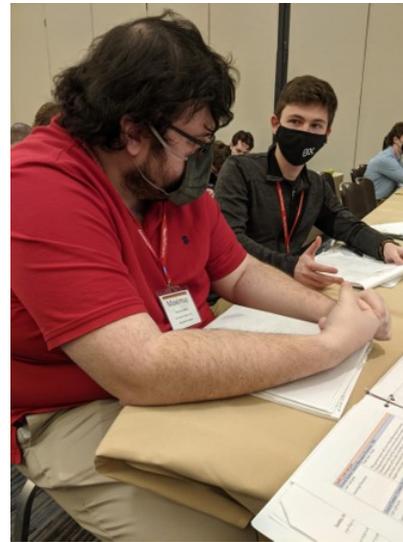
- Andrew Koley - President
- Jack Hare - Vice President
- Maximus Oberg - Vice President for Health and Safety
- Ben Sullivan - Secretary
- Mitch Wilson - Treasurer
- Billy Planic - Recruitment Chairman
- Lucian Dean - Marshal
- Tyler Ross - Scholarship Chairman

Andrew, Max, Billy and Lucian were all scheduled to attend the training held in St. Louis on January 7-9, 2022. The training is mandatory for Presidents, Vice Presidents for Health and Safety, Recruitment Chairmen and Marshalls. Unfortunately, due to COVID-19 Andrew and Lucian were not able to attend. We were able to make arrangement for materials from the conference to be brought back to both and the International Headquarters is scheduling "Zoom" sessions with anyone who could not attend due to COVID-19. Of the over 600 potential attendees, about 100 could not attend because of the pandemic.

Travel, housing and meals are covered for each session by chapter dues or by the Theta Chi

Foundation. Unfortunately, there are not enough funds for all officers so as an example the IHQ followed up this year with Zoom training for chapter Treasurers.

Some photos from the training.



Slippery Rock University's Office of Student Engagement and Leadership recognized organizations associated with Greek Life on campus at the 2021 Celebration of Excellence in Fraternity and Sorority Life on December 1, 2022.

The Zeta Alpha Chapter was recognized as having the **best GPA of any fraternity on campus** and was recognized for **Excellence in Membership Development** and was the only Fraternity to receive an award during this celebration.

CELEBRATION OF EXCELLENCE IN FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE

December 1, 2021
Smith Student Center Ballroom

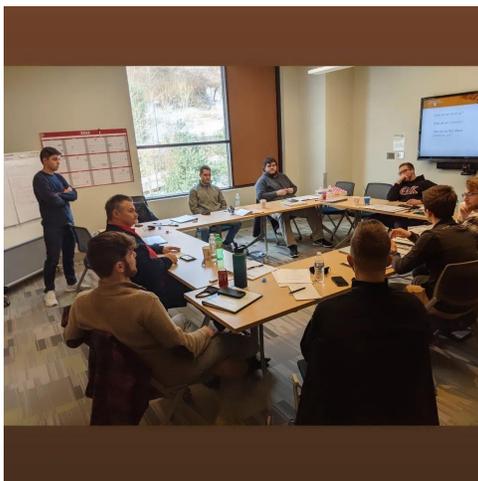


January 22, 2022 the Executive Board of the Zeta Alpha Chapter and the Chapter Officer Advisors met on campus at the Robert M. Smith Student Center between 9:30 am and 5:00 pm for the annual Exec Board/Officer Advisors Retreat.

During the event, the officers were brought up to speed on many of the programs available to the chapter and to members including the liability insurance program for the chapter the Chapter Member Accident Protection Policy, Scholarships available and due dates, the Helping Hand Scholarship and its process, chapter history and most of the day was spent discussing what were perceived as chapter strengths and weaknesses to put in place plans to enhance the strengths and overcome the perceived weaknesses.

It was a highly interactive and intense day and created the necessary results for a strong plan for the 2022 year. Fortunately for all involved it was probably one of the best weather days in 5 years!

Pictures from the retreat:





The Chapter Officer Advisors and myself are in regular contact with the Chapter and provide assistance when requested and guidance when needed. If there are any questions alumni wish to share about chapter operations or efforts being made by the Chapter Officer Advisors, feel free to reach out to me.

Kevin Krepinevich
Chapter Advisor
703-402-8674
kwkcae@websiteassist.com

Other News!

Long Distance Zeta Alpha Visitation!

The Battle of the Villages brought 8 of the best high school basketball teams in the country to entertain the residents of the Villages in Ocseola, FL. to play between December 27 and 29, 2021. It just so happens that Brother and Board member Michael Bariski and his Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School Team was one of the teams invited.

What makes this so special is that 2 members of the Zeta Alpha Chapter, who reside at the Villages, Brothers Kenneth Rader and Thomas Laicha stopped by to give their chapter Brother some support and cheered him on to an 89-74 win!

This created a bit of a buzz and generated an article in the local **Villages Daily Sun Newspaper**.

Its great to see brothers renew connections! Below left to right Brothers Tom, Mike and Ken.

Click on the picture to see the full article.



Brother David Price

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.

Board Nominations

If you are interested in placing your name into nomination to fill one of the three (3) positions to be voted upon to serve on the Board, you need to submit a notification of your interest with a brief description of why you wish to serve that will be distributed at the time of the balloting to Secretary Patrick Russell no later than April 1, 2022 at his email address: patrickrussell2906@gmail.com

<http://www.zachapter.com>

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