

THE TIGER SIG



PUBLISHED BY THE XI XI CHAPTER ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

FALL 2026

History, Friendship, and Service at Sigma Chi

*Chip Toth '83 is the current President of the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Educational Foundation and a former Consul. **Dave Knight '73** recently spoke to Chip about his alumni leadership, the current capital campaign, and what keeps Chip's era so engaged with the chapter.*

GIVE US A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SIGMA CHI XI XI EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION.

The Xi Xi Foundation was created in 1991 through the vision of the late **Larry McMullen '54**, along with **Tom Curtis '61** (President), **John Walker '60**, **Dan Slickman '77** (Treasurer), **John Keech '68**, and several other dedicated Xi Xi Sigs. Creating this type of charitable foundation gave a vehicle to support scholarships and the educational portion of improvements to 500 College.

In 2006, led by **Mike Costello '74**, **Jay Shields '74**, **Sonny Bob Jackson '64**, and **Barry Mansur '64**, the Xi Xi Scholarship Fund was established to reward undergraduates for academic excellence.

Looking back, what Larry and that group created was incredibly important. The foundation helped the house corporation keep 500 College afloat during the years Xi Xi struggled. Without their foresight, I'm not sure 500 College would still be a Sigma Chi house today.

WHEN AND WHY DID YOU TAKE OVER AS PRESIDENT, AND WHO SERVES WITH YOU?

Following a long term of service by Dan Slickman, I've been president for six years and involved with the foundation for over 30.

I stayed involved because Sigma Chi has had such a lasting impact on my life. The friendships and brotherhood are certainly a huge part of that, but it goes deeper. What Sigma Chi instilled in me as an 18-year-old has influenced how I've tried to live my life, the values I believe in, and how I view my responsibilities to family, friends, and others. I probably didn't fully appreciate that at the time, but I certainly do today.

At this stage of my life, I appreciate the opportunity to give something back and help make sure future generations of Xi Xi brothers can have that same experience.

Our current board includes **Bill Beil '83**, **Lance Weiss '85**, **John Qualy '70**, **Jonathan McGuff '15**, **Mike Olszewski '76**, and **Mike Basler '85**. I'm fortunate to have a great group of guys around me.

Some 20 or more Xi Xi brothers from the early 1980s have stayed in close contact for more than 40 years through text chains, fantasy football leagues, travel golf events, and more. This picture comes from their annual golf tournament, held in conjunction with their yearly fantasy football draft.



WHAT HAS THE FOUNDATION ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE REIGNITING OUR TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP CAMPAIGN?

The response from Xi Xi alumni has been terrific. The campaign has raised more than \$1 million and counting, with roughly \$716,000 going to the educational foundation and \$310,000 to the house corporation so far.

Those dollars will help make significant improvements to 500 College while continuing to grow the scholarship and leadership programs.

John Qualy and Jay Shields deserve a tremendous amount of credit. They have been very generous financially and have continually pushed us to keep scholarships as a major focus of the foundation. It's easy, when dealing with an older house like 500 College, to have the bricks and mortar consume all your attention. They've helped make sure we never lose sight of the fact that this is about supporting the young men of Xi Xi.

This spring, the foundation recognized more than 20 brothers for academic achievement and leadership at the first Mothers' Club banquet in some years. Between the improvements to 500 College and the continued emphasis on scholarships, I think we're fulfilling the vision Larry McMullen and the original founders had for the Foundation.

"THIS ISN'T ABOUT ONE FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN. IT'S ABOUT PUTTING XI XI IN A STRONG POSITION FOR THE NEXT 50 YEARS!"

TELL US ABOUT YOUR BROTHERHOOD ERA. HOW HAS THIS GROUP STAYED SO CLOSE?

What has kept us close is simple: we genuinely like each other, and I was fortunate to be surrounded by a great group of guys. We met

AN INTERVIEW WITH CHIP TOTH '83

through Sigma Chi, but somewhere along the way we became lifelong friends. We've celebrated the good times together and have been there for each other through the tough ones. That's what brotherhood is all about.

Over 20 of us keep in touch regularly. Another thing that has helped is our fantasy football league, with **Dave Ornduff '84** serving as commissioner since 1989, along with golf events, and text chains.

WHO FROM YOUR ERA HAS STEPPED UP FOR XI XI?

It's pretty special to think that the guys from more than four decades ago are now working together again to help the next generation of Xi Xi brothers. With the fear of leaving someone out: **Bill Beil '83**, **Mike Schmittlein '83**, **Lance Weiss '85**, **Chris Depperman '83**, **Bryan Dempsey '83**, **Hopie Brooks '84**, **Kent Williams '83**, **Kevin Schlitzer '85**, **Jeff Comparato '84**, and **Mike Wilson '84**, **Mike Greenwood '83**, **Tom Gooch '83**, and **Steve Ornduff '81** are among the brothers from the early '80s who are still helping Xi Xi today. Others from the era have made leadership gifts to our current fundraising campaign: **Mike Basler '85**, **Joel St. John '83**, **Tim Hatfield '84**, **John Crowe '85**, **Jeff Weinrich '86**, **Mike Effertz '87**, **Mike Bomstad '83**, **Rhett Johnson '84**, and **Chris Schudy '86**. A complete list of donors can be found on the following pages.

I'm so proud of how many guys from our era have stepped up with their time, talent, and financial support. That's really the Xi Xi story—different generations of brothers stepping up when they're needed and then handing the baton to the next group.

WHAT DOES GIVING MEAN TO YOU AND YOUR PEERS?

When you're 20 years old, you don't realize that some of the guys sitting next to you at 500 College are going to still be some of your best friends 40-plus years later. Most of us have been very fortunate in life, and we're now at an age where we can give something back.

But it's more than writing a check. It's giving our time, talent, and treasure to make sure 500 College remains a place we're proud of and that future Xi Xi brothers have the opportunity to build the same kinds of friendships we did.

For me, that's really what lifelong brotherhood means.



In hoc,
Chip Toth '83

XI XI CHAPTER



REIGNITING OUR TRADITION OF LEADERSHIP

HONORING OUR EXCEPTIONAL DONORS

THANK YOU FOR CARRYING XI XI FORWARD!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the generous individuals listed below who have donated in support of the *Reigniting Our Tradition of Leadership* campaign. Through their selfless contributions, these donors have breathed life into our vision for Xi Xi's thriving future.

This summer's matching challenge was a major success, pushing our campaign past the \$1 million mark! There's more work to do, but we couldn't let this major milestone go unnoticed.

As our campaign pushes forward, we recognize and honor these benefactors whose belief in our mission ensures the enduring legacy of our brotherhood, and we hope to see even more names before the campaign

concludes. Add yours today by scanning the QR code to visit **donatexixi.causevox.com**!

Donors of \$1,000 and above will be recognized in appropriate giving categories in all campaign publications unless otherwise requested. Pledges of \$5,000 and above will be displayed on a permanent donor plaque at the house. If there is an error in your listing, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator at jwhite@penningtonco.com to submit corrections.



**SCAN
HERE!**

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT A GLANCE

AS OF AUGUST 28, 2026

GOAL:
\$1.5 MILLION

TOTAL RAISED:
\$1,038,205

DONORS: **87**

*CAMPAIGNS LIKE OURS
NEED AROUND 20% OF
ALUMNI TO PARTICIPATE
WITH GIFTS OF ALL
SIZES TO REACH THEIR
GOAL. AT 6%, WE STILL
HAVE A WAYS TO GO!
PLEASE MAKE PLANS TO
BECOME A DONOR WITH
A ONE-TIME GIFT OR A
MULTI-YEAR PLEDGE
BEFORE 2026 COMES
TO A CLOSE.*

Norman Shield Council (\$100,000 and above)

John M. Qualy '70
In memory of
William E. Qualy and
James M. Qualy,
Blood Brothers
and Brothers
in Xi Xi Sigma Chi
In honor of
Brother and Mentor
Larry McMullen '54
In memory of
Debbie Walker
Jay O. Shields '76

1896 Council (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

John Walker '60
In memory of
Ken Lambert
Michael Schmidtlein '83
Robert "Chip" Toth '83
In honor of
Larry McMullen '54 and
Brian O'Rourke '83

500 College Council (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

David A. Anderson '69
Michael S. Olszewski '76
Richard S. Olszewski '78
William D. Beil '83
Bryan R. Dempsey '83
Chris Depperman '83
Michael D. Basler '85
Lance G. Weiss '85
Michael Seda '97
Edward D. Greim '99

Constantine Council (\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Thomas L. Curtis '61
Jim McFerrin '67
Nip Weisenfels '71
Paul Courter '72
Richard T. Elias '72
David Knight '73
Richard H. Steele '75
In memory of
Xi Xi Brother
Paul Sessel '76
All honor to his name
Douglas A. Copeland '77

Mark E. Nebergall '77
In memory of
Scott Nebergall '73
Joel H. St. John '83
Hopie Brooks '84
In honor of
Phil and Judy Walters
Timothy J. Hatfield '84
In memory of
Hal Saunders '52
Michael F. Wilson '84
John P. Crowe '85
Jeffrey L. Weinrich '86
Michael Effertz '87
Jonathan C. McGuff '15

Seven Lights Council (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Edward W. Mehrer '60
Keith Mason '74
Jay G. Besheer '77
Shawn G. Byrne '78
Karl R. Wolf '78
Michael G. Bomstad '83
Mike Greenwood '83
Rhett Johnston '84
Chris Schudy '86
Michael J. Burbank '96

Matt McHugh '98
Chad D. Cohen '01
Nathan Willett '18

Xi Xi Council (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

John W. Robinson '76
Michael G. Rehme '79
Bill Corbett '81
Kurt Weinrich '83
Kevin Brown '86
Rob Moore '86
Joe Perry '87
Harry Pettey '12

Order of the White Cross (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Anonymous
Larry L. McMullen '54
Mark D. Williams '69
Don H. Woehle '69
William B. Cason '70
William J. Flamank '75
Paul Sessel '76
Soren "Rick" Jensen '77
David M. Martin '81

Steven Ornduff '81
In memory of
Larry McMullen '54
Thomas K. Gooch '83
Michael L. Percy '85
Craig J. Christy '86
Harry J. Lunt Jr. '86
Jack Needy '86
Thomas A. Rohlfling '87
Jeffrey M. Crowe '90
Nathan E. Burnett '99
Daniel O. Kennedy '13
Berry B. Brooks '17
Morgan Salisbury '18

Sigma Chi

A Stronger Foundation

New Board Strengthens Undergraduate Leadership

*As Sigma Chi at Mizzou looks toward the future, a new advisory board is helping create greater continuity, stronger alumni involvement, and more support for undergraduate leaders. Assistant Chapter Advisor **Kyle Milburn '26** shares how the multigenerational board is being structured to strengthen chapter operations, develop lasting traditions, and give today's members the resources they need to lead Xi Xi forward.*

BUILDING FOR THE LONG TERM

This year, rather than focusing only on a successful semester or year, we are creating a strong foundation future undergraduate members can continue to build upon. The advisory board is an important part of that effort. It gives the chapter access to experienced alumni who can provide guidance and mentorship while still allowing undergraduate members to lead. Our goal is to establish traditions, systems, and relationships that will benefit Xi Xi long after current members graduate.

Undergraduate members will have a network of experienced brothers they can turn to for guidance in chapter operations, recruitment, philanthropy, finances, academics, career development, and leadership. Monthly meetings

will allow us to review progress, identify areas for improvement, and remain focused on long-term goals. Individual advisors can also work directly with undergraduate officers and serve as resources throughout their terms.

THE PURPOSE IS NOT FOR ALUMNI TO RUN THE CHAPTER. WE WANT TO PROVIDE THE KNOWLEDGE AND PERSPECTIVE THAT HELP UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS MAKE BETTER DECISIONS AND BECOME STRONGER LEADERS.

EXPERIENCE ACROSS GENERATIONS

Having brothers from multiple eras involved gives us a broader range of experience to share. Every generation of Xi Xi has faced different challenges and found different ways to succeed. We can help today's officers learn from what has worked in the past while giving them the freedom to develop ideas that fit the chapter today.

We also want to document successful practices and create continuity so each new executive board does not have to start from scratch. Officers should have people they can learn from, ask questions of, and rely on when challenges arise.

ADVISORY BOARD

We thank these alumni, who are listed below with the officer positions they currently advise, for volunteering their time.



Kyle Milburn '26
(816) 645-0858
Consul
Annotator
Quaestor*
Director of
External Affairs
Director of
Internal Affairs
Public Relations

and Engagement Chairman
*(subject to change)

Harmon Colvett '25
Pro Consul

John Noblit '95
House Manager

Andy Kassel '95
Magister
Kustos
Tribune

John Sheppard '95
Risk Manager

Joe Saracini '95
Recruitment Chairman

Ben Trachtenberg '95
Scholarship Chairman

EXPANDING XI XI'S REACH

I am particularly excited about continuing to grow our philanthropy efforts and developing the external director role. Xi Xi has raised more than \$15,000 through philanthropy over the past two years, and we have an opportunity to turn that momentum into a lasting chapter tradition. The external director can strengthen relationships with alumni, other Greek organizations, campus groups, community partners, and the university. Those connections can create more opportunities for undergraduate members while strengthening Xi Xi's reputation across Mizzou.

MEASURING LASTING SUCCESS

Over the next year, success could include stronger recruitment and retention, continued philanthropy growth, improved operations, greater alumni engagement, stronger campus relationships, and officers who feel more prepared in their positions. Ultimately, success should also be measured by what we leave behind. If undergraduate members have stronger systems, better alumni relationships, established traditions, and a clearer path for future officers, then the advisory board will have accomplished what it was created to do.

Meet New
House Director
Donna Westhoff!

Donna Westhoff is a class of 1981 Mizzou alumna and a member of Alpha Phi. She's also a Columbia native with deep Mizzou and Greek life roots. Her sister was a Pi Phi at Mizzou, her other siblings participated in Greek life at other schools, and her brother currently serves as the Boone County Fire Chief.

Importantly for our current needs, Donna brings extensive experience in house management and personal safety. Professionally, she works as a third-party contractor assessing hazard risk for insurance companies. She has several years of experience as a house director, including with Alpha Gamma Sigma at Mizzou, and most recently served another house in Fayetteville, Arkansas. She's

excited to come home to Columbia! Donna has experience managing vendors, coordinating house repairs, working with Daikin HVAC systems like ours, and dealing with mold remediation. Being a sorority alumna, she's well versed in coordinating house events and working directly with chapter members and leadership. She's already familiar with our main floor from attending house director events in the past and is plugged into the Mizzou house director community.

Donna could not have joined us at a better time, and we are so encouraged by the experience she brings to 500 S. College Ave. She is a gift to the chapter! Please welcome her when you get a chance.



Alumni News

John Walker '60 moved to a retirement community in Prairie Village, Kan., two years ago, and he has made Sigma Chi friends there from other chapters. John recently lost his wife and is grateful to have a strong support network around him. "It makes a difference." Email: jode12@hotmail.com

Attendees at our Alumni Barbecue this May!

John Wayne Dedication



Five Sigs and a friend outside the John Wayne museum with the Sigma Chi flag. From left: Jackson Sifers, Arizona '28; Tim Sifers; Tim Gillion; Chris Lewellen '91; Luke Lewellen, Arizona '28; and Jim Sheedy '90.

The Xi Xi and Beta Phi Chapters were represented at the John Wayne dedication for the Sigma Chi Fraternity in Winterset, Iowa, on May 23, 2026.

Three dads and two sons—all Sigs from Kansas City, Missouri—spent the day in Winterset, touring John Wayne's birth home and museum. They also attended the Sigma

Chi plaza dedication and were educated on the influence of Sigma Chi in John Wayne's life. Wayne's family attended the event along with representatives from Sigma Chi International.



In hoc,
Chris Lewellen '91
Xi Xi Chapter



John Wayne's daughter, Aissa Wayne, spoke at the dedication ceremony. Wayne's granddaughter, singer Jenifer Wayne, performed later in the evening.

Journey to the Top



Sigma Chi Formal in Dallas, Texas. From left: Zach Ulrich '28, Luke Reaume '28, Aram Budogev '27, Jack Matteoti '28, Jacob Studer '28, and Lucas Bonnegen '28.

**Sigma Chi Succeeds
in Culture and the
Classroom**

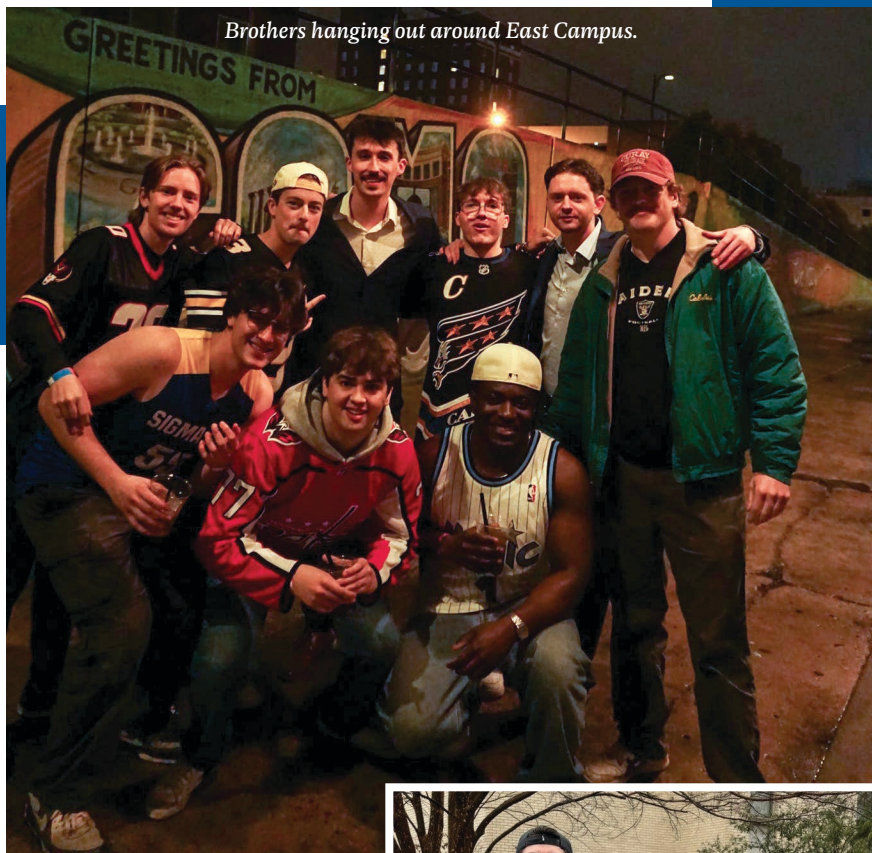
Ian Wiseman '29 and Noah Winsor '28 spray whipped cream on Connor Long '29 during a fundraising event for Derby Days.



Xi Xi made great achievements this spring, and several of them revolved around our yearly Mothers' Weekend. One was reestablishing the Scholarship Banquet, celebrating the brotherhood's scholastic achievements alongside our mothers. We'd also like to call out the incredible help our alumni, who included **John Qualy '70**, **Jay Shields '76**, **Ed Matheney '43**, **Jonathan McGuff '15**, and the late **Larry McMullen '54**, gave during the banquet. Their contributions do not go without appreciation and recognition, and they remind us that academics are a top priority. We've also reestablished our Mothers' Club, which has been very influential as a line of communication between the active chapter and their parents.

Sigma Chi placed second in Greek Week alongside Chi Omega and Sigma Phi Epsilon. Two members, **Kyle Milburn '26** and **David Crow '26**, were chosen for Greek Week royalty, with the former winning King. This victory stands as a great milestone in our continued journey to reestablish ourselves in Greek life at Mizzou. It has also greatly strengthened our council and cross-council relationships on campus.

Our chapter placed third among all Mizzou fraternities in GPA. We take this achievement as proof of the culture of academic success that has been built within our chapter, while recognizing that third means there's still room for us to grow.



Brothers hanging out around East Campus.

Lastly, we are proud to share that four brothers were Ritual Peer Certified at the yearly Province: **Kyle Milburn '26**, **Vince Paino '27**, **Jack Schroeder '28**, and **Connor Long '29**.

We look forward to another exciting year and would like to thank our alumni for your incredible support!



In hoc,
Jake Studer '28
Chapter Editor



From left: Luke Matson '27, Danny Feiste '27, and Luke Reaume '28 catch up after running a 5K together.

Campaign Hits \$1 Million! So many updates are waiting for you inside...

A Shield's Return

At this year's Alumni Barbecue in St. Louis, **Harry Lunt '86** donated a valued piece of memorabilia to Xi Xi: a shield-shaped Sigma Chi plaque. The plaque originally belonged to the late **Robert D. Evans '53** and was gifted to Harry by Bob's daughter Annie. Harry believes Bob received it from his parents as an initiation gift and felt the most fitting place for it was back at 500 College Ave., where it could be properly restored and displayed for future generations of brothers.

Thank you, Harry, for contributing this piece of Sigma Chi history.



Harry hands the shield to Lucas Bonnegent '28.



THE TIGER SIG



**Xi Xi Chapter of
Sigma Chi Fraternity
at the University of Missouri**
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Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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Chapter Goals



WELCOMING OUR NEWEST MEMBER

Jackson Taylor '28, Kansas City, Mo.

"I joined Sigma Chi because I wanted to meet new people and make new friends."

If alumni want to make referrals, they should reach out to **Lucas Bonnegent '28** at lbonnegent24@gmail.com or (573) 510-9445. Please include the person's name, contact information, and where he is from.

Brothers watch a Mizzou Baseball game.



**RECRUIT A 30-MAN
PLEDGE CLASS.**

**EARN A PETERSON
SIGNIFICANT
CHAPTER AWARD.**

**RAISE \$15,000 FOR
DERBY DAYS.**