

THE TIGER SIG



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

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OUT-OF-HOUSE FRESHMEN: WEIGHING THE RESULTS

For the last two years, Xi Xi has been the only major fraternity on campus that has adopted freshmen living outside the Chapter House. This was done in accord with the desire of Greek Life to allow an easier transition to college and to broaden the individual's perspective on embracing a total campus experience rather than one limited to a fraternity perspective. So far, there have been some pleasant surprises mixed with predictable shortfalls relating to off-site living.



Of three original concerns, two of these—recruitment and scholarship—have proven to be virtually non-existent. The idea of easing in to fraternity house living has had a solid appeal to parents and many of their sons. Recruiting remains strong. Greek Life has also given substantial support to the Chapter, particularly in our recruitment of young men from a broader geographic spectrum who go through formal recruitment. The combined GPA for Sigma Chi after the fall semester was 2.95, whereas the freshmen GPA was 3.05. The figures speak for themselves. We initiated 32 of an original pledge class of 37.

The third concern—separation of living quarters—is one that has required adaptation and planning by the active Chapter. Realizing that this would be a learn-as-you-go process, the Chapter is developing better approaches in terms of maximizing the in-house experience and the socialization with active members. Freshmen eat at the house so they are in attendance daily, but involving them more on

a consistent basis outside of specific events remains a challenge. It is most important that our freshmen live together in university housing. Although we were able to concentrate them in two halls last year, we have not been able to achieve the goal of all under one roof yet.

No longer having the luxury of 30+ freshmen moving in each fall, the control of house population has become more critical. A major attraction of out-of-house

freshmen was that, unlike other fraternities here, our composition at 500 College would be sophomores and juniors rather than freshmen and sophomores. Improved in-house maturity has long been a goal. The Chapter, however, has to manage the coming year's in-house population on an earlier and more controlled basis. It was hurt this year in terms of income by over estimating in terms of occupation, thus ending up with an in-house population which was nine below normal capacity. That reduced operating income by \$90,000.

In summary, we see definite advantages in several areas and still have work to do in others. Giving young men time to grow up before moving into the Chapter House is certainly a plus as is increasing the average age. Challenges remain, but we are facing them. How well we ultimately do is a work in progress.

In Hoc,
George Gale '54
georgetg@centurytel.net

Bell Chapter Status Benefits Xi Xi

In another case of our alumni giving back to the active Chapter, Xi Xi has now received the fruits of membership in the Thomas Cowan Bell Chapter during the past four years.

Thanks to the support of **Albert Darling '46**, **Ronald Hensley** (in memory of **Robert Hensley '51**), **Duncan Matteson '56**, **James McFerrin '67**, **Larry McMullen '54**, **John Qualy '70**, **Jay Shields '76**, and **John Walker '60**, we have met the \$10,000 minimum annual contribution required for participation.

The purpose of the Bell Chapter is to engage undergraduates in value-based leadership programs and scholarships. Our Bell Chapter status has delivered the following benefits to Xi Xi:

- Eight Balfour Leadership Training Workshop registrations
- One designated attendee at the Horizons Leadership program
- A \$1,000 scholarship to a qualified applicant
- Preferential scheduling of Crossroads Alcohol and Drug Education Program
- \$250 travel allowance for attendees to the Balfour Workshop

The Chapter has responded by sending 21 undergraduates to the workshop and has a member who has applied for the 2015 Horizons program. Three undergraduates have received \$1,000 scholarships.

Should you wish to support our Bell Chapter status, go to foundation.sigmachi.org/donate. When the site asks for "fund list," select Bell Chapter Challenge. When it asks for "additional fund list," select Xi Xi.

In Hoc,
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Honoring an American Hero

On November 1, 2014, Captain **Joseph W. Parent '60** was inducted into the University of Missouri Army Reserve Officer Training Corp (ROTC) Hall of Fame. Joe was commissioned as an Infantry Officer following his ROTC training, where he was a distinguished military graduate and leader in all capacities. Beginning in April 1965, he served as a Special Forces/Green Beret team commander in Vietnam. Toward the end of his deployment in April 1966, while fighting the



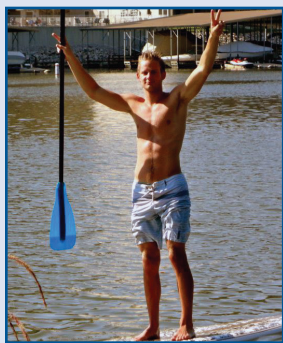
enemy, Captain Parent received bullet wounds as he rendered first aid to one of his sergeants. Sadly, he died two months later. During his tour of duty he was awarded the Bronze star, Purple Heart, and Oak Leaf Cluster medals.

Joe had a bright future and his next scheduled military assignment was to receive his master's degree in economics from Vanderbilt to become a professor at West Point. He was looking forward to that challenge. Those of us who fondly remember Joe and his great smile and caring personality cherish our time together and will forever remember him as a true American hero. He is survived by his lovely wife, Liz Parent Watkins, and daughter, Cindy McIlhenny. They

were on hand, along with his sister, Margie Domeier, to honor him at the Hall of Fame induction. **Lee Keefer '58, Don Hicks '58, John Loomis '58, and Paul Carothers '58** (Joe's pledge father) also attended to remember their good friend from 500 College Avenue.

Joe will always serve as an inspiration to everyone he touched during his lifetime. He brought great honor to our country and to Sigma Chi. Our appreciation to **Bill Bollinger '59** for efforts and opportunity to nominate Joe for this honor. We are pleased his heroic deeds have been honored and will serve to inspire those who follow.

Alex Lindley '15 Champions the Fight against College Suicide



Ryan Candice several weeks before his suicide at age 21.

Ryan Candice was the epitome of a carefree, fun-loving young man. His many good friends included **Alex Lindley '15** and other Xi Xi brothers. Last year, the lives of those who loved him were shattered when Ryan killed himself. No one had sensed a hint of the inner turmoil that brought about his death.

Instead of merely recoiling from this tragedy, Alex and other MU students decided to grasp the situation; to create a communications program that analyzed and attacked what has become the second leading cause of death on college campuses. Seeing a need to speak from the vernacular and perspective

of college students, they initiated the program, Wake Up, with a featured documentary film to be used as a teaching mechanism nationally.

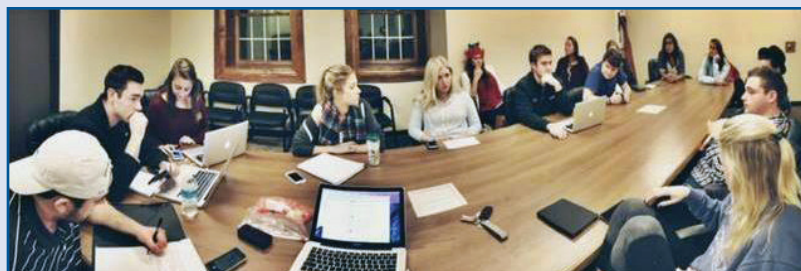
The film's objectives are to give proper warnings in order to build awareness of the possible signs of suicidal tendencies, to offer paths to prevention, to tell Ryan's story, and relate the stages of assimilation and reaction to his death by his friends.

Right: Alex Lindley '15 and other MU students plan operation Watch Out.

The group was amazed when immediate response to a website generated more than \$21,000 toward the production of the film, which is estimated eventually to cost more than \$100,000. Alex's efforts are so impressive that some of the alumni have started a challenge grant of \$10,000 to spur your donations—matching them up to \$10,000. Thank you to **John Qualy '70, John Walker '60, Larry McMullen '54, and Jay Shields '76**. The film will include interviews of medical professionals and specialists involved with suicide prevention.

If you are interested in supporting this effort, go to gofundme.com/wakeupdocumentary.

Author's note: I have discussed in some detail the direction that Wake Up is taking in organizing its program and in approaching the production of its film. In both cases, I find that the planning to date is remarkably professional.



BROTHER SHIELDS TO RECEIVE CONSTANTINE AWARD

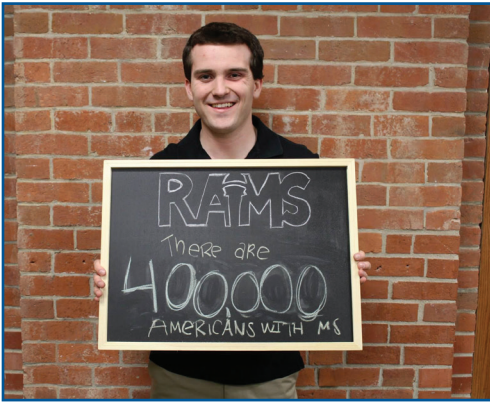


On June 25 and 26 at the International Grand Chapter in San Diego, Calif., Brother **Jay Shields '76** will be presented as a Constantine Sig.

Jay's contributions to Sigma Chi include leadership in rechartering the Chapter in 2007, instituting the \$30,000 per year scholarship plan, drafting the Chapter's Strategic Plan, and tireless leadership as president of both the Xi Xi Alumni Association and House Corporation.

The nominating papers for Jay's selection say: "Jay's passion for Sigma Chi knows no limits. He has given the White Cross new luster. He deserves to be a Constantine Sig."

Jay can be reached at (314) 308-7583 or jayshields@schaefferoil.com.



Jon McGuff '15 serves the community as a member of the steering committee for Rockin' Against MS, a walk leader for the Joe McGuff ALS Walk, and was a Walking School Bus participant.

If Significant Sig Awards Were Given to Undergraduates...

...**Jonathan McGuff '15** would be at the head of the class. Jon, a senior majoring in Parks, Recreation and Tourism with a business minor, has earned a cumulative GPA of 3.41, thus receiving continuous scholarship recognition by our Educational Foundation and the university. He also was the recipient of the Ike Skelton Sr. Outstanding Junior award and a member of the Rho Phi Lambda Honors Society.

Jon has served on Xi Xi Derby Days and Ritual committees and fulfilled the position of Kustos. He is the Chapter and Northern Missouri Province Balfour winner, is competing for the international award, and has attended the Horizons Leadership program and the Balfour Training Workshop.

Take a breath as we now dive into his good work in other areas. Jon served on the steering committee for Rockin' Against MS. He was walk leader for the Joe McGuff ALS Walk (in honor of his grandfather) and a Walking School Bus participant. That's just for starters. Jon has been a Woodhaven volunteer, assisting developmentally disabled adults. He joined the Turn the Page KC program, tutoring and helping elementary school children with reading comprehension, and worked at the Harvest and Central Northeast Missouri food banks. As an alumnus of the National Youth Leadership Council, he has been invited to presidential inaugurations. To round off his efforts he, through the Church of the Resurrection, has helped paint walls, clean windows, and build playgrounds for the KCMO public schools.

It's a small challenge merely to read Jon's accomplishments. Just imagine the character, the maturity, and the dedication that this young man possesses. He honors us all.



Seniors at the Scholarship Banquet: Alex Pirotte '15, Dom Martinez '15, JT Kratochvil '15, Hunter Holman '15, Alex Lindley '15, Andrew Stolzer '15, Zach Kramer '15, Chuck Wilson '15, Thomas Egan '15, Connor Egan '15, Connor Steele '15, Chris Powers '15, Scott Herring '15, Chris Browning '15, James Rhodes '15, Tim Pettey '15, Matt Cressionnie '15, David Owens '15, and Jonathan McGuff '15

Just the Right Blend: Mothers and Scholarship

The Hilton Garden Inn Ballroom was, to coin a phrase, "Sigma Chi alive" on the evening of March 14. Following a silent auction the previous night and a day of mother/son activities, a number of alumni joined the ladies and their progeny as some 60 Xi Xi scholars were recognized with more than \$40,000 in scholarship money. This proper ending to our Mothers' Club annual gathering also featured special awards for all-around performance at each grade level. Even though the minimum grade for receiving recognition had been increased to 3.2, recipients were at an all-time high. Since performance is exceeding the ability of the Educational Foundation to finance scholarships, a higher minimum of 3.3 will be used next year. It's a nice problem to have. All in all, a great weekend for the Xi Xi Mothers' Club and excelling actives.

Should you wish to support the scholarship fund, contact **Dan Slickman '77** at dslickman@uam-llc.com.

National Recognition for Xi Xi Consul

Jeremy Terman '16, who last year received the Young Philanthropist of the Year award in Kansas City, has been recognized as one of the nine most outstanding fraternity members in the country. The North American Interfraternity Council selected Jeremy from a record number of nominees who carried an average GPA of 3.89 and who had shown unusual leadership qualities in terms of extending the values of their fraternities and their contributions to their campuses and communities. Jeremy received his award in Kansas City this spring.



As you would imagine, the university is as proud of Jeremy's recognition as we should be.

Jeremy Terman '16 receives the Young Philanthropist of the Year award.

Sigma Chi Golf and Brotherhood Reunion October 2, 2015

The tournament will be at Eagle Knoll Golf Course. Further details to follow via e-mail. To keep informed, send your e-mail address to xixialumniassoc@gmail.com. A block of hotels have been reserved, as well as a block of tickets to the MU vs. South Carolina football game.

Stay Connected

A redesigned chapter website, www.XiXiChapterSigmaChi.com, is in progress. Check back soon to browse the alumni directory, view photos of the renovation, stay up-to-date on Chapter news, and recommend a rush prospect. Prospects can also be recommended by contacting Head Rush Chairman **Harrison Lanning '17** at jhlanning224@gmail.com or Assistant Rush Chairman **BJ Dean '17** at bjdean5@yahoo.com.

Donate Online

To make an online donation to the Sigma Chi Fraternity of Missouri, please go to xixi.kintera.org/housecorp. To make an online donation to the Sigma Chi Educational Foundation of Missouri, please go to xixi.kintera.org/foundation.



Undergraduates at the Slap Shot on Cancer game against Beta. Xi Xi raised more than \$17,000 for Ellis Fischel Cancer Center and Camp Kesem. We beat Beta 6-1 as well.



Brothers receive the Slap Shot on Cancer trophy.



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Xi Xi Undergraduates Excelling at All Levels

The Xi Xi Chapter experienced a truly exceptional spring semester. Whether it be academic achievement, campus involvement, or any number of leadership efforts, our Chapter made great strides toward furthering the ideals of Sigma Chi.

Our Chapter experienced new levels of achievement as we reshaped our risk management program and focused on growing our campus involvement and leadership roles. **John McGuff '15** received the Province Balfour award, and Consul **Jeremy Terman '16** brought further prestige to Xi Xi after receiving the Undergraduate Award of Distinction from the National Interfraternity Conference.

In Hoc,
Reilly Manz '17
House Manager

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