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### Your name/company here

The Gear is the official magazine of Thera Tau Professional Engineering Fratternity and has been published since 1909. The Gear is sent twice per year to all members for whom an address is on file; all chapters, parents of student members, and various engineering colleges across the country. Fublication is in the fall and spring of each year with press rundistribution to approximately 17,500. The magazine is about people – our members & chapters, their activities & interests – but distribution is clearly to those with a scientific education, technical experience, and analytical minds.

Full color advertising space is available in virtually all sizes, shapes, and formats for affordable rates starting at just \$300 per issue. For more information, please contact Executive Director Michael Abraham at central.office@thetatau.org



### ON THE COVER

Some 2009 Leadership Academy attendees at Awards Dinner on campus at Washington University in St. Louis

Photo by Ian Lacy, Zeta '08

## FROM THE Grand Regent



Michael Livingston, TB '92

Brothers, I hope that you all had a great Founders' Day As 2009 winds down the national fraternity and the national officers continue to make great strides in bringing our strategic vision to life. One of our biggest initiatives is to create a Chapter Advisory Team at each chapter. We have currently implemented these teams at a number of our chapters and are working on implementing them at all chapters. If you are interested in being an Advisor, please contact Grand Vice Regent Justin Wiseman. We also successfully piloted our officer training workshop at the Leadership Academy in August with some of our national officers and potential national officers. I'm happy to announce the appointments of Ian Lacy as Central Regional Director and Andrew Monticello as Great Lakes Regional Director. I would also like to thank Jamie March, who recently stepped down as Great Lakes Regional Director, for his many years of service as an Executive Council member and as a National Officer. One of the main themes of our Strategic Plan is a Balanced Program of Service. Professional Development, and Brotherhood, Therefore I will shortly be appointing a National Service Director and a National Professional Development Director, Our fraternity is strengthened by the talent and commitment of our national officers and other alumni volunteers

One initiative we will be focusing on over the next year is to increase attendance at the National Convention.

which promises to be a celebration of Theta Tau. The 2010 convention will be held at the Grand Hyatt in Denver, CO from August 5-8, 2010. So, mark your calendar and start making plans to come to the convention to reconnect with brothers from your chapter or to meet new brothers. Watch for additional information in future communications and on the Theta Tau website.

Speaking of the website, we have a brand new website. I would like to thank the volunteers who put in many hours of work to help implement the new website. I encourage you to explore the various features our site has to offer: we created this online space to communicate general information, to provide access to additional resources, and to enable members to create dynamic member profiles, collaborator on projects, share ideas and expertise—and, most importantly, to connect with fellow members.

Those are just a few of our recent achievements, and I hope you enjoy reading the stories in this issue of *The Gear* about how members of Theta Tau are making a difference.

In H&T,

Michael Livingston, Gamma Beta '92

### FROM THE Editor



Allison Pollard, T

This issue of The Gear has taken on a distinct theme: Theta Tau members making a difference. From those who devote their careers to teaching or research in areas deeply noted in our Fraternity history (geology and mining) or areas relatively new to the world (wireless technology), to those helping charitable causes and education, to those who have used their undergraduate engineering degrees to prepare themselves for careers in law and medicine, Theta Taus make a difference cave when the careers are the members of the careers are the statement of the careers are also as a statement of the careers are the statement of the careers are the careers a

In H&T,

Allison Pollard, Tau Beta '05



# Giving Time, Giving Talent

by Justin Wiseman, Xi Beta '94



"We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give."

- Winston Churchill.

At the end of a long convention day back in 1992 when I was an officer for Xi Beta chapter, Randy Scheetz and Dean Bettinger both spent several hours with me and helped me assess where my chapter was and develop a plan to turn things around. They both followed up with phone calls (emails were just emerging back then), and it was their care and concern not only for me and my chapter but for Theta Tau that impressed me. They inspired in me a desire to remain involved after graduation, so I approached them about how I could continue helping the fraternity as an alumnus. Fifteen years after I first volunteered, I'm still giving back and find that one thing remains the same: Theta Tau has numerous opportunities for its alumni to make a difference

It's fun working with other wonderful, inspiring, motivated Theta Taus, and as a volunteer, you can help our fraternity develop and nurture engineers with strong communication, problem-solving, collaboration, and leadership skills that we demonstrate in our profession, our community, and in our lives. Consider taking on one of the opportunities listed below:

- start or participate in an alumni club
- start or participate in a housing corporation
- join the National Alumni Club
   serve as a member of a chapter advisory team
- · serve on a national committee

Each opportunity contributes to the growth and strength of our fraternity, and none of them require travel. Theta Tau has given me so much, and I want you to benefit from the safe learning environment we provide; as a national officer, I've learned how to deal with problems in a calm manner, networking, and people, organizing, and planning skills. It's helped me to be a better manner at work-helped me to be a better manner at work-

and I've been mentored and love mentoring others. You too can further develop your personal and professional skills by serving our fraternity.

I want to see the day when our undergraduars members see their graduation as a transition into another phase of their membership in Thea Tau rather than as an ending, and my goal is to leave Theat Tau a bette, larger, stronger fratternity than when I fast joined. My membership in Theat Tau is for a lifetime—join me in supporting Theat Tau by contacting Central Office for more information on how to help.



Justin Wiseman, Xi Beta '94

## **PFA** Headquarters moves to Theta Tau

Early this year, the PFA Board contracted with Michael Abraham of Theta Tau to serve as PFA's Executive Director, Accordingly, PFA has moved to Theta Tau's Central Office in downtown Austin, Brother Abraham has years of experience with the PFA culminating in his volunteer service as PFA President in 2001-02. The Executive Director role is a change of pace as it is the sole staff position for the organization. The PFA position is very part time, making use of Theta Tau office space, staff, equipment, etc.

Theta Tau joined with 26 other fraternities in founding the Professional Interfraternity Conference in 1928. In 1977, the PIC (predominantly men's fraternities) merged with the Professional Panhellenic Association (predominantly women's

fraternities) to form the Professional Fraternity Association (PFA), The PFA comprises 33 national and international fraternities (including Theta Tau) representing 17 professional fields. Four Theta Taus have served the PIC or PFA as President: Jamison Vawter, 1931-33: Russell G. Glass, 1952-54; Randall I, Scheetz: 1995-96: and Michael T. Abraham, 2001-02, Robert E. Pope served as Executive Secretary to the PIC and later the PFA, 1975-86, while also emploved as Theta Tau's Executive Director, PFA's more recent executive staff position was held by Harriett Rodenberg of Phi Rho Sigma medical fraternity, followed by Andrew Sagan of Phi Alpha Delta law fraternity.

Theta Tau encourages interfraternity cooperation by its chapters through local professional fraternity councils on their respective campuses, and at the national level through its long time involvement in PFA





## **Expansion Highlights**

### KAPPA CHAPTER

The Kappa Chapter of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fartentity was first installed on March 25, 1916. Founded by George Gieb, a graduate student in Civil Engineering, the chapter attracted many bright members during its initial 23 years of existence. It had initiated 455 members in total. Some notable members during this period of Kappa's existence include Charles Luckman (1931), a Hall of Fame Laureate, and US Senator Harry Darby (1917), who played an instrumental role in convincing Eisenhower to run for President. Due to unknown reasons, the chapter dissolved in 1939 and remained macrice for several decades.

In 2005 Steven Choi, a member of the Zeta Chapter, transferred to the University of Illinois

and decided to restart the de-activated Kappa Chapter. After completing the procedural requirements, the colony began to slowly grow. With guidance from Steven, the colony leaders (Sean Safavineiad, Gautam Amin, Bertrand Tay, Joe Cocco, Ankeet Patel, and Ui Aik Cheah) succeeded in laving the foundation for the Fraternity on campus. During this time, the colony also received a lot of help from Peter Ho, Chen Xu, Calvin Gudeman, Sravan Mettupalli, Kai Amundsen, and Amy Chow. After initiating 5 members in February 2007. the colony began seriously preparing to obtain Chapter status, as the colony charter was set to expire the following year. During the fall 2007 semester, the fraternity more than doubled in membership - 26 were initiated - and all the necessary paperwork was filed to petition for

Chapter status. On February 9, 2008, the Kappa Colony was reactivated as a Chapter of Theta Tau.

Currently, Kappa has 54 active members and is continuing to grow. Each semester, the Kappa Chapter hosts professional, philanthropic, and social events on the University of Illinois campus. Members of Kappa attend leadership conferences and the University of Illinois Engineering Open House. They also volunteer on campus through various engineering programs and events. The involvement and dedication of many members has allowed Kappa to mature with tremendous speed over the past few years, and it will continue to grow in the future.





### PHI GAMMA CHAPTER

Oklahoma State University's interest in Theta Tau began with Mark Ohnesorge and Donald Stutson of electrical and mechanical engineering respectively. The first organized meeting was held on October 10, 2004. Initial response was impressive. In just one semester, OSU's Theta Tau Colony was initiated on April 23, 2005. Colony growth was rapid, with five new brothers in the Alpha pledge class and six more in the Beta pledge class. During their time as a colony. the brothers visited other chapters in and out of their region to learn and take home ideas to OSU. In fall of 2007, the colony's petition to become a chapter was granted, and a formal chapter installation held April 15, 2008.

The Phi Gamma chapter of Theta Tau has continued to flourish since its installation. Three pledge classes have been initiated, and the chapter has pinned a very promising fourth pledge class. Brothers of Phi Gamma are

actively involved in Oklahoma State's College of Engineering. They participate in events promoting the college to incoming freshmen. as well as helping with the college's career fair. Outside of the college. Phi Gamma has sent members to each of the national conventions and leadership academies since their installation as a colony.

#### LICSD COLONY



The University of California San Diego was certified as a colony in the spring of 2009. With thirteen founding fathers, the UCSD colony is quickly expanding and becoming a recognizable name on campus. The colony recently finished their first rush and is looking forward to expanding the colony to an even larger organization on campus. With the three aspects of Theta Tau in mind (brotherhood, professionalism, and service), the colony plans on creating larger and more meaningful events in the future.

The addition of UC San Diego to the Theta Tau family will be especially appropriate given its "founding" in the UC System by Brother Roger Revelle, Epsilon '29,

UCSD colony would like to send an extended thank you to everyone that has made this opportunity possible. We would have never been able to make this happen without the help from alumni, other chapters/colonies, and executive members. Thank you so much, and we look forward to becoming a strong and respectable chapter of Theta Tau!

## Beta Chapter CAPITAL DRIVE



After nearly 50 years on "Anchor Hill", the Beta Chapter Corporate Board has begun a Capital Fund Drive to build a new house on the Michigan Tech campus. Anchor Hill is about five miles away which detracts from class and campus participation. After the wear and tear of 600 brothers, the house needs more and more maintenance and repair. The kitchen renovation done this summer was the latest in a series of remodels done over the years to keep the house livable.

Plans to move the chapter back to an oncampus environment were triggered by a pledge made by Hall of Fame Laureate

Iim Klungness, Beta 1949, Brother Klungness believes that Beta Chapter could be more successful nearer the campus, and backed his belief with a sizeable pledge to achieve that purpose. Michigan Tech is playing a very supportive role by offering a property exchange whereby MTU would swap an undeveloped campus site for the current Anchor Hill property (adjacent to the MTU Golf Course). A two-track study conducted also showed that new construction was more cost effective than an extensive remodel of the existing property. With that conclusion, the Beta Chapter Board (including student members) voted unanimously to establish a Building Task Force Committee and conduct a Capital Fund Drive for construction of a new house on campus. Named to chair was Dave Post, with Vice Chairman Iim Coté, and Secretary Ken Pollard. Completing the committee are Jim Whalen, Jon Ricker,

Jeff Kellogs, and Dick Dunnebacke. The committee then selected Jim Klungness as Honorary Chairman, and Greg Sesselmann as Honorary Vice Chairman, Then, it was time to get to work to raise the targeted \$2.2 million needed to get the house designed and built to return Beta to campus where it existed for the first 60+ years of its history.

While early solicitation collected pledges of about 25% of the goal, the Drive was put on hold when the US economy faltered. Hopefully, the current economic turnaround will support the reinstated drive. All alumni should seriously consider this once-insa-century request. Contact Jim Cote (cotem48@msn.com or \$20/\$31.8159) to request the Capital Fund Brochure. The Pledge Form enclosed will provide opportunities for alumni to be immortalized by name and pin number on the new facility.

## Michigan Tech and Theta Tau Fraternity – Beta Chapter

## James D. and Monica A. Coté Endowed Scholarship



MTU established this this scholarship to honor the successful lifelong journey of Brother Jim Coté as a 1962 BSEE graduate

of Michigan Tech, a member and past-Regent of Theta Tau Fraternity – Beta Chapter, and a retired Professional Engineer.

Jim was selected for a summer co op position with the GMC Truck and Coach Division with the GMC Truck and Coach Division General Motors during his freshman year at Tech. This began a career with General Motors that endured until his retirement some 42 years later. As Jim Bices to say, "whatever the largest ruck GM had in production, that's what I was working on." When he became part of GMFs executive ranks in 1979, he was working as the Chief Engineer of the AstroTrian models

which were aluminum COE highway tractors. He and his staff enjoyed driving 18 wheets from Michigan to Arizona each summer for hot weather testing. It was during this assignment that he won the Counterpoise Award, presented annually by the Society of Plastics Engineers, for the best new product design in plastic in the United States.

Jim enjoyed a lot of international experience at GM, including a brief assignment in Brazil and subordinates in England, Mexico, Japan, China, and Indonesia. He was very active in the Society of Automotive Engineers, authoring numerous papers and chairing and moderating several conference sessions.

He represented GM on the Truck Manufacturers of America trade group in Washington, DC, serving as a board officer for several years,

including as Board Chairman when he retired. It is important to remember what came before in order to make a successful path for the future, and the recipient of the Coté scholarship will honor this principle. The scholarship will provide financial support for full-time students who are majoring in Engineering, earn a minimum GPA of 2.5, and are members of Theta Tau - Beta Chapter. It will be awarded at the beginning of the spring semester of each academic year to a student who achieves the highest GPA on a minimum of 12 credits for the preceding fall semester. In the event that two or more students earn the same GPA for that semester, the scholarship will be awarded to the one with the greatest financial need.

# Leaving a Legacy

### by Janice Wiitala, Omicron '90 Educational Foundation Presiden

There are certain things that are fundamental to human fulfillment. The essence of these needs is captured in the phrase to live, to love, to learn, to leave a legacy. The need to live is our physical need for such things a food clothing, shelter, economical well-being, health. The need to love is our social meed to relate to other people, to beling to love and to be loved. The need to learn is our mental need to develop and to grow. And the need to leave a legacy is our sprimal need to have a sense of meaning, purpose, personal congruence, and contribution — Sexphen R. Covey contribution — Sexphen R. Covey

I always feel a strong sense of pride and emotion during the awards dinner at national meetings. There we reiterate what we value, appreciate the hard work of our chapters toward growth and our purpose, and recognize individual members who exemplify our high standards. This year Theta Tau Alumni Hall of Fame Director and Past Grand Regent, Dean W. Bettinger, Tau 1981, recognized the 2009 Hall of Fame Laureates. We were honored to hear from Brothers Spencer Titley, Gamma 1951, and Tom Kirchner, Chi 1972. They shared personal and professional advice and humorous recollections. We also honored Ross Bryan, Zeta 1933, and Jack Goodrum, Rho 1944, who created legacies for our profession and our fraternity.

### Impact of a Legacy

Brother Goodnum demonstrated great generosity. Unknown until his death in 1994, approximately 30% of Goodnam's estate was willed to the Fraternity. This strengthened the Fraternity's financial position in such a way that enabled Theta Tau to establish the Educational Foundation in 1998. This type of unanticipated generosity was the inspiration for establishment of the 2nd Century Society so that we may recognize while these Brothers are with us the significance of such fare sighted gifts.

Over a decade later, I reflect on the impact of the Foundation: we have created a successful biennial national leadership academy and a valuable program for emerging alumni leader, we provide student scholarships, we offer house loans for educational Improvements to chapter houses, and we provide alumni insights through Visions in Personal Planning. The Foundation has awarded nearly \$30,000 in scholarships to deserving student members since is inception, and well over 1,000 members have graduated from the Foundation's national (3 day) or regional (1 day) leadership training academies. It started with Brother Goodrum's generosity and has grown since then, and it's only the beginning as we continue to explore new opportunities to further our mission.

### Estate Planning

While that first gift was a cornestone, we have been fortunate to have many alumni provide tax exempt gifts, and we are honored that a number of alumni have included Theta Tain in their estate plants. It's not a topic people enjoy their about estate planning is a touchy subject—but it came up in conversation with a group of my peer recently. Primarily, they were focused on care for their children. However, while most had considered writing a will, very few had put per no paper.

It's something we don't want to think about. According to a suvey by findlaw.com, SR percent of American adults have not written a will, leaving family in an uncomfortable and potentially underable position. The main reasons respondents had for not having a will included not wanting to think about dying, not knowing where to start or who to talk to about setting up an estate plan, and not believing they had enough assets to need one.

But has year! realized that estate planning is simply the grown up thing to do. I'd previously utilized a lawyer for two home purchases—this was far more important. And on a more personal note, when my step-father passed away recently I realized that he did not have a will or an advance directive. According to a survey by legacy consortium Remember a Chartie, nearly nine out. of ten people would be "proud and pleased" to see their parents leave money to charity in their wills after they have looked after their family. While it's a bit stressful to go through the details of writing a will, it's very freeing to know that I have stated my intent and should the unfortunate occur. I have lessende nosoible stress on my family

### Your Legacy

Our Alumni Hall of Fame Laureates shared gifts and talents with our profession and our Fratemity, but their greatest legacy stems from the individuals they influenced. Your legacy should channel your values and guide future generations, and I hope that you will consider including Theta Tau in your estate plan. We all have a great opportunity to impact our community, our chapters, and our fraternity by pledging a bequest to the Theta Tau Educational Foundation. With the assistance of the Foundation. Theta Tau chapters are being recognized on their campuses for helping recruit high school students for the engineering school: welcoming and orienting new students to their campus; leading engineering or university student government and other organizations: tutoring underclassmen in core subjects; helping instructors with research projects; working with administrators, faculty, and other student groups to further the educational mission of the engineering school; setting high standards of scholarship and academic achievement for others to follow:

The Theat Tau Educational Foundation can achieve all this and more. Every year, income from bequests and endowed funds will be used by the Foundation to promote education and training for leadership, teamowfe, professionalism, responsibility, decision making skills, and development of others. Our members – current and future – benefit well from those gifts as they live our fratternity's purpose. I sincerely thank you for your consideration.

## Leadership Academy Summary

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THE 2009 LEADERSHIP ACADEMY was held at Washington University in St. Louis. The four day conference put on by the Educational Foundation had record breaking attendance as brothers from all around the nation came to develop themselves professionally.

A new leadership theme for this academy was implemented, moving away from 'Who Moved My Cheese,' and introducing teachings about a positive, fun-based approach to spicing up raditional business. The Fish Philosophy,' as imspired by the working environment at Seattle's famous Fike Place Fish Marker, is geared towards developing leaders to take a non-traditional approach towards encouraging others to act. With the given theme, the weekend proved to be a great success. As can be expected, the number fish related puns and pictures of brothers making fish faces was high.

For the first time since the inception of the Leadership Academy in August 1999, a Leadership Workshop for alumin, business professionals, and leaders was developed and implemented with great success. The alumin who attended participated in various professional development related discussion groups as well as pertinent discussion groups with the students, and the keynore speaker. A parallel track for returning students was also offered that focused on bringing their group leadership and facilitation skills up to new levels.

At this event, numerous individual and chapter awards were presented. 2009 Hall of Fame Laureates Ross Beyan, Zeta 1933, Jack Goodrum, Rho 1944, Torn Kirchner, Chi 1972, and Spencer Tilley, Gamma 1951 were inducted into the Theta Tau Alumni Hall of Fame. Those named Outstanding Student Members by their chapters were recognized, and Alessandra DeSarno, Gamma Beta '10, was named the National Robert E. Pope Outstanding Student Members.

The Best Website award was presented to Ps Beta Chapter with Theta Gamma second and Rho third. Theta Gamma won the Best Newsletter Contest with Tau Gamma second and Psi Beta third. The Best Photograph awards (from 1st to 5th) went to Omega, Theta Gamma, Eta Gamma, Epsilon Beta, and Xi. The Chapter Service Award was presented to Psi Beta Chapter for first place, and Kappa Beta for second. Chapter Efficiency awards were presented to Rho, Xi Beta, Tau Beta, Upsilon Beta, Theta Gamma, Iota Gamma, Kappa Gamma, Omicron Gamma, and Rho Gamma with a \$50 check to each chapter.

Receiving certificates for scoring 700 or more points in the Chapter Performance competition during 2008-2009 were: Alpha, Zeta, Xi, Rho, Phi, Chi, Omega, Gamma Beta, Epsilon Beta. Kappa Beta, Xi Beta, Rho Beta, Chi Beta, Psi Beta, Zeta Gamma, Theta Gamma, Iota Gamma, Kappa Gamma, Lambda Gamma, Pi Gamma, Rho Gamma, Tau Gamma, and Upsilon Gamma- a record number of chapters reaching this milestone achievement and 25% more chapters than did so last year! This Fraternity-wide improvement was due primarily to most Regional Directors having required this past school year that their chapters file the Annual Report in quarterly manner. This resulted in more contemporaneous, complete, timely,





Jon Fortunati, Dave Dancorowicz, and Yost Smith disc leadership concepts.



Grand Inner Guard Amar Amin, Grand Scribe Katie Griffin, and Grand Marshall Brandon Satterwhite served as Academy facilitators.

and accurate data recording, and significant improvement in report scores,

The following chapters demonstrating at least 20% growth over the previous year were recognized: Alpha, Zeta, Xi, Pi, Omega, Xi Beta, Omicron Beta, Pi Beta, Delta Gamma, Eta Gamma, Nu Gamma, Omicron Gamma, Rho Gamma, and Tau Gamma. And, those chapters that have maintained at least 40 members during the period were also recognized: Zeta, Phi, Chi, Tau Beta, Zeta Gamma, Omicron Gamma, Rho Gamma, and Sigma Gamma. In addition, for meeting its Chapter Size Target, Zeta Chapter was awarded a \$500 prize.

A special thanks to Janice Wiitala, the Educational Foundation, and the facilitators who put their time and effort into making this event a great success, as well as to our Sponsors PPI and GEICO!



Grand Outer Guard Stensrud, Regional Director Walker, and Regional Director Brandenburg pucker up.

## Alumni Hall of Fame Laureates Inducted



Hall of Fame Laureates Bettinger and Pope flank new inductees Titley and Kirchner.

### ROSS H. BRYAN, ZETA '33 for Outstanding Service to Profession

Ross H. Bryan was selected for outstanding service to his profession. Brother Bryan received his Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Kansas in 1933. He started his career in the Kansas Highway Bridge Department, followed by the Panama Canal Company, and later was a Lieutenant for the US Navy Seabees during World War II. After the war, Brother Bryan worked at Marr & Holman Architects before becoming a Partner at Bryan & Dozier Construction Engineers.

He spent the last 24 years of his career as President of Ross H. Bryan Consulting Engineers where he designed the Fayetteville Stadium and Madison County Bridge. These structures were the first prestressed or post-tensioned concrete structures of their type in America, and his Model designs are currently on display in the Smithsonian Institute. His designs include the L & C Tower, which was the first and only skyseraper in Nashville and the Southeast for many years.

Brother Bryan published "Prestressed Concrete Innovations in Tennessee" and many other articles in PCI Journal and "Long Line Production of Building Flements in the United States" in Journal of the Construction Division. He served on the PCI Board of Directors, the ACI-ASCE Committee on Concrete, and the ACI Building Code Committee He was also named Engineer of the Year of the Tennessee Society of Professional Engineers in 1987, was an American Society of Civil Engineers Fellow, and won the Medal of Honor from the Precast/Prestressed Concrete Institute (PCI) in 1996

### WILLIAM JACKSON GOODRUM, RHO '44 for Outstanding Service to Fraternity

William Jackson Goodrum was selected for outstanding service to our Fraternity. He graduated in 1944 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from North Carolina State University. As a student member "lack" was Scribe of Rho Chapter in the Fall of 1943, President of the NCSU Chapter of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, and a member of the Engineers' Council for the Chemical Engineering Department.

As an NC State alumnus, Brother Goodrum was a member of the Giving Society and the Walter H. Page Society and funded \$500,000 to establish the NCSU William Jackson Goodrum Scholarship of approximately \$2,400 per semester, which is awarded to several engineering students each year.

The most generous donor to Theta Tau to date has been Jack Goodrum. Brother Goodrum willed approximately 30% of his estate to Theta Tau, which we learned upon his death in 1994. The magnitude of the bequest, some \$225,000, was nearly 10 times the size of the previous largest gift (Founder Lewis's bequest of \$25,000, establishing the Founders' Memorial Fund).

Brother Goodrum's generosity put the Fraternity's finances on a solid footing and was determinative in our starting the Theta Tau Educational Foundation since the Fraternity no longer had to depend on alumni gifts for its operating income.

### TOM LEE KIRCHNER, CHL'72. for Outstanding Service to Profession

Tom Lee Kirchner was selected for outstanding service to his profession. He received a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in 1972 from the University of Arizona and served as Regent of Chi Chapter.

Brother Kirchner served in the US Navy Fleet Air Recon Squadron during the Vietnam Conflict. He has worked at Boeing Corporation, the Westinghouse-Hanford Nuclear Plant, and AE International, In 1982 he founded Electronic Systems Technology and continues as its CEO, Electronic Systems Technology was the first company to develop the wireless modem and received the United States and Canadian patents for this technology.

Brother Kirchner is a member of the Rotary Club. He was honored with the Washington State Governor's Award in 1990 and named the Southeast Washington Small Business Person of the Year in 1992. In 2009 he was honored with the Sam Volpentest Entrepreneurial Award, given to one supporting entrepreneur in Washington State, Brother Kirchner holds 2 U.S. patents, 5 Invention Awards, and the R&D 100 Award for wireless modems

### SPENCER ROWE TITLEY, GAMMA '51 for Outstanding Service to Profession

Spencer Rowe Titley was selected for outstanding service to his profession. He received a Bachelor of Science in Geological Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines in 1951 and went on to earn his PhD in Geology and Chemistry from the University of Arizona in 1958

Brother Titley served in the U. S. Army from 1951-1956 and was awarded the Bronze Star in 1953. In 1959, he become a Professor at the University of Arizona in and retired just this year. He is also Curator of the University of Arizona Mineral Museum. He has been widely published and has been a Distinguished Lecturer around the world

He holds numerous awards and honors including the Faculty Achievement Award for Teaching Excellence, the Creative Teaching Award, and in 2001 the Career Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Arizona College of Science. Also, Brother Titley has been honored with the Penrose Gold Medal from the Society of Economic Geologists, the Medal for Distinguished Achievement in Mineral Engineering from the Colorado School of Mines, the D. C. Jackling Award from the Society of Mining Metallurgy and Exploration, and the Medal of Merit from the American Mining Hall of Fame. In 2005. Brother Titley was elected to the National Academy of Engineering.

deserving for consideration for the Hall of Fame, please email dean, bettinger@thetatau.org for information. Members, living or dead, been so honored.

# Theta Tau Appointed SD ATTORNEY GENERAL



On September 4, 2009, Marty J. Jackley, a member from Omega Chapter was sworn in as the 30th Attorney General for the State of South Dakota. He serves as the chief law enforcement officer for the State. As Attorney General, Marty is committed to fighting crime, protecting consumers and making South Dakota a safer place to live.

Marty graduated from South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in 1992 with his Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering with Honors. He received his law degree from the University of South Dakota School of Law in 1995.

From 1995-97, Marty served as a law clerk for then-Chief Judge Richard H. Battey in federal district court in Rapid City. Marry then joined the Rapid City law firm of Gunderson, Palmer, Nelson, and Ashmore LLP. As a partner, his practice areas focused primarily on criminal law, civil and business litigation, construction/engineering law, Indian law, and water law. At this time he also served as a Special Assistant Attorney General for South Dakota prosecuting primarily controlled substance felonies. He has extensive jury trial experience on cases including murder, assault, financial crimes, controlled substances, and other felonies. His appellate experience includes veidentary matters, jurisdictional claims, sentencing issues, juvenile transfers, reclamation law, and other substantive lead issues.

Prior to becoming Attorney General, Marry was appointed United States Attorney for the District of South Dakota in 2006. While United States Attorney he served on both the US Attorney General's Subcommittees for Controlled Substances and the Subcommittees for Nortive American Issues, and the Midwest High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Executive Board.

## **Spotlight** on a Student Summer Internship

This past summer Jacob Breach, Phi '10, was hired for an internship with Congressman Dan Burton (R-N) in his district office in Indianapolis, Jacob carned this internship after he met the Congressman in Washington D.C. while interning for the Department of State. The Congressman is preparing for the 2010 elections, so Jacob was on-hand during this important time. He spent his time in the Congressmen's home district focusing on constituent services and reaching out to the citizens of Indiana on the Congressman's behalf by running Constituent Connection booths at local county fairs and speaking to many voters throughout Indiana's htt district. Particularly hot issues the dealt with htt district. Particularly hot issues the dealt with included cap and trade, healthcare reform, and spending cuts. Throughout the internship, Brother Breach received valuable knowledge and experience in public service and learned a great deal about Indiana politics. He was very successful at both reaching out to constituents and campaigning for Congressman Burton at local parades and events, he also had the opportunity to research nationwide issues and respond to overs in an informed fashion. Jacob greatly enjoyed his time working for Congressman Burton and is grateful for the wonderful experience. Regardless of the future, Brother Breach is sure that this will be a defining moment in his professional development gath.



### **RE-ENGINEERING EDUCATION**

by Raj Thakkar, Omega Beta '96



To Raj Thakkar, the disparity in education and the preponderance of failing schools is the single greatest challenge the U.S. faces today. For years, he has felt our educational system has largely been run as a largely been run as a

monopoly, with little to no educational options for those assigned to underperforming public schools. With the gradual introduction of charter schools, however, competition has shall peter things up a bit. Seem years ago, Raj left an unfulfilling job at a tech start-up to use his financial know-how in the world of non-profits, landing at Explore Charter School in Brooklyn, NY as Chief Finnsal Officer.

Rai immediately found himself in a community of educators working so frantically to manage business and administrative matters that they were distracted from the central goal of helping students learn. Charter public schools are charged with managing their own front and back offices, unlike traditional public schools that are supported by district offices, Rai's observations led him to a business idea: he'd free these educators from their nonacademic responsibilities. As Raj puts it now, "We take care of all the annoying stuff so school leaders can stay focused on what they know best." The business he built from that idea is Manhattanbased Charter School Business Management Inc., established in 2006, CSBM's mission is to provide charter schools with the knowledge and services they need to develop and maintain a strong foundation of finance, operations and human resources-three elements that ultimately ensure a school's fiscal solvency and ability to provide a quality education.

Raj says he thrives on the challenge of managing his company's growth as well as that of his clients. "Nationwide, there are educators opening charter schools. They are very passionate abort academics, but often do not realize they are running rapidly expanding, multi-million dollar businesses. They simply just need the support. Our organization gives school leaders options. We can professionally develop their business leaders to handle the non-academic responsibilities on their own. They can outsource their bookkeeping, audit preparation, financial reporting and paroll resconsibilities to such see side.

Charter schools are nonsectarian public schools of choice that are publicly funded and open to all students with no admission testing or screening. Each school has a charter, or performance contract, detailing its program, goals, and methods of assessment. Charter schools operate with increased autonomy and flexibility in exchange for strict accountability. They are accountable for both academic results and fiscal practices to several groups: the authorizer that grants the charter, the parents who choose to send their children, and the public that funds them. This multi-tiered accountability system leads to the establishment of quality schools and increased student achievement. Charter schools that do not perform academically, are not viable financially or violate the law can be and have been shut down. Financial mismanagement is the main reason that approximately 600 charter schools have been shut down since the first charter school opened in 1992. Rai states, "This is unacceptable because finances are manageable, when handled by a qualified professional. Closing the student achievement gap is the true challenge and where most of the charter school leaders' time should be focused."

A large percentage of charter school students come from disadvantaged backgrounds. It is estimated that nationwide, approximately 75% of children enrolled in charter schools qualify for free and reduced lunch, an indicator of poverty. To date, more than 1.5 million children attend over 4,900 public charter schools in 39 states and the District of Columbia. Education reform is an enormous part of President Obama's national agenda. He and Secretary of Education Arme Dunean have allocated an unprecedented \$5 billion towards education reform in the U.S. and have challenged states without charter law to adopt it. For states with caps on the number of charter schools, they are requiring states to increase or eliminate the caps in order to qualify and compete for the \$5 billion in order to qualify and compete for the \$5 billion in fording.

The growth of charter schools has been a boon for Rai's business, which has worked with over 125 schools in New York, New Orleans, and Chicago, among other cities. To manage the volume of work, Rai has expanded his team rapidly-they are now 17 people strong. "To make the impact that I intended. I knew it would definitely take more than just me." Rai recalled. In building his team, Rai focused on recruiting people who "really love the charter school world and are great with juggling many responsibilities concurrently and accurately." The rapid growth was accomplished with a vigilant eve to the internal health of the company, and in 2009 CSBM was named the Small Business of the Year for the Eastern Region by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce,

Although CSBM1s focus remains on supporting schools in New York, Raj has shared best practices at conferences in Washington DC, Boston, Atlanta and New Jersey. CSBM, sworking to launch a local office in New Orleans and has added a number of operational services to support schools. According to Raj, "If you have the drive for it, opening your own business is one of the most empowering and challenging things you can do. I feel connected to every entrepreneur out there, including my father, grandfather and great-grandfather, simply because they each had the guts to take a niture risk."

## The Call of the Wild: Leaving a Mark

by Katherine S. Crawford



"For almost any specialty in human medicine. there is a counterpart in veterinary medicine," Akin explained. To become a specialist, she will

undergo three-plus years of advanced training. and then must pass certification exams. "There is a huge variety of care I perform as a resident, including spinal surgery, brain surgery, and muscle and nerve biopsies. Pets present to me for anything from seizures to having a weakness in their rear legs "

Her favorite condition to diagnose and treat is intervertebral disc disease, similar to herniated discs in humans, which many animals overcome with surgical intervention. "I love all my patients," Akin shared. "The most rewarding part of what I do is making a difference in the lives of patients and their families."

Not many people have helped inoculate a rhinoceros, but for Dr. Erin Akin, such unusual experiences are, in fact, the usual. Take, for example, the time she spent in South Africa as a vet student, where she studied exotic animals at a game reserve. Four years later, as a firstyear veterinary neurology and neurosurgery resident at Auburn, every day still presents new challenges. "I am often on call 24 hours. Recently, I performed an emergency back surgery at midnight," she says.

After receiving a chemical engineering degree from the Capstone in 1998, Akin worked for five years as an engineer. She chose to attend the University because of its "reputation as a top-notch engineering school" and was the 1993 Vulcan Scholar. "At UA, I worked hard and learned the critical and analytical thinking skills needed as an engineer and, as it turns out, a veterinarian," she said. "My favorite memories of school revolve around my involvement in Theta Tau, the professional engineering fraternity, and I fondly remember taking my dog for walks around the Quad "

Now the owner of three dachshunds-a female, Chloe, and two males, Casev and Oscar-Akin said, "Most people are surprised when I tell them I went from engineering to vet school. There was no specific event that made me want to change careers-more of just a gut feeling." She has called Alabama home since 1988, and said her parents, who live in Seoul. South Korea, have been "phenomenally supportive" of the career change.

Having earned her doctorate, Akin's next move is to become a veterinary neurologist and neurosurgeon upon completing her residency in 2011. She is also working toward a master's in biomedical sciences

## Running for a CAUSE by Allicon Pollard Top Part 105

I first heard about Ine Fairchild Theta Gamma '06 from another brother on Twitter and felt compelled by his story to share it with others loe's running across America to raise money for Multiple Scleroris and was nice anough to answer a four or portions for ...

- O: loe, tell me a little more about what vou're doing
- A: Well, I'm running about 3,400 miles from Boston to Los Angeles to raise money and awareness for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. So far I've made it over 900 miles and have raised over \$2,500. I push all my stuff in a modified haby stroller and stay in hotels or people's houses along the way. Followers can read my blog entries, view pictures and mane of my path and donate to MS on my website www.runsomemore.com
- O: Why run 3 400 miles? Why not participate in a marathon?
- A: Well, back in June, my brother and I were on the phone discussing training plans and goals for a fall marathon when he out of the blue mentioned running across the country. I had never though about doing something like that before, but after he planted that seed I couldn't stop thinking about it. For me, everything lined up almost perfectly in an odd sort of way: I was soon to be out of a job, my lease was up in August, I was out of shape. and I had no idea what I wanted to do next

with my life I was considering business school (and scored in the 98th percentile on my GMAT) but I wasn't sure that's when I wanted. Lucas at a crossroads whose I leave I wanted comething more out of my life, but I wasn't exactly sure yet what it was A run across the country seemed the perfect solution to address all of those concerns

- O: Besides raising money for MS, is there another message you are trying to send with this run?
- A. I don't have a particular message I'm trying to send, but I've had so many people respond in different ways about how what I'm doing has affected them. Some find extra motivation for a race they are training for, others say they are experiencing the journey vicariously through me. For me personally I think it's a way to break from a mold. I think a lot of people out there are quick to categorize an engineer as a pretty one dimensional tech-sayyy, smart. boring, anti-social, problem fixer, Maybe many are but some especially Thera Taus have a much broader range of personalities interests, and talents that don't fit into the typical 'engineer' bin. Now when people ask me what I do. I can say I'm running across the country. Most people don't have a bin for that!
- Q: I imagine it gets pretty boring and lonely out there on the open road - what keeps you going?



- A. It helps knowing my friends, family and even people I haven't even met are cheering me on I've also met people along the way that have shared touching stories about people in their lives with MS. And once at an Arby's in unstate New York the cachier gave me my meal for free and said, "We don't charge heroes here " Walking along the side of the road pushing a stroller isn't really all that difficult, and I certainly don't feel like a herobut comments like that make me feel like Pm doing something bigger than just myself, and that feels good. And if all else fails. Liust put some up-tempo rock on the iPod and push through it
- O: What are you going to do after you finish? A: I still have no idea. People ask me that a lot and don't have much of an answer even after 900 miles. But I'm not too worried about it. I just try to keep my mind open and available to accept any possible seed of an idea that may come within the next 2,500 miles. Or maybe I'll just turn around and keep running!

## University of California Davis 47th annual College of **Engineering commencement ceremony**



### In Memoriam

ALPHA

Raymond Joseph Bass Class of 1938, Roll No. 401

Glenn Warren Schwartz 1949 Roll No. 545

Attilio Victor Berdusco 1952. Roll No. 679 Brian Born O'Neill

1947. Roll No. 465 John Melvin Swanson

1937. Roll No. 414 Dale Davies Wood

1944. Roll No. 504

GAMMA Marvin Arthur Mantooth 1948. Roll No. 668

Paul Albert Wichmann 1958. Roll No. 863

DELTA Charles Del McJunkin 1957, Roll No. 920

**EPSILON** Manuel George Bonilla 1943, Roll No. 539

David Goodwill 1943, Roll No. 544 John Quentin Sims 1958, Roll No. 826

ZETA Charles Arthur Beard 1939, Roll No. 354

David Wright Oberlin 1941. Roll No. 406 Francis B. Slichter

1927, Roll No. 219 Harvey Sam Steele 1939, Roll No. 389

William Huxley Stinson 1952, Roll No. 540

Wayne Charles Theroff 1974. Roll No. 735

Francis Neiland Thudium 1940, Roll No. 396

Richard Preston Price 1926, Roll No. 204

THETA Richard Hillen Hunter 1950, Roll No. 475

IOTA Armin Frederick Fick 1941, Roll No. 398

Guy William Heinrich 1957, Roll No. 790

Roland Lee Pohlman, Ir. 1952, Roll No. 672

KAPPA Maurice Kilner Carr 1939, Roll No. 450

LAMBDA Dean Oscar Brand 1957, Roll No. 693

Spencer Simmons Hunn 1948, Roll No. 569

Thomas Richard Muir 1945, Roll No. 531

MII Arthur Charles Daar Class of 1960, Roll No. 726

John Charles Genter 1953, Roll No. 578

NU Joseph Herman Copp 1938, Roll No. 282

OMICRON George Loren Hansel 1956, Roll No. 459

Gale Bennett Hansen 1953, Roll No. 419

Neil Jay Stiver 1935, Roll No. 193

Harold Wayne Deaner 1959, Roll No. 551

John Adam Dovel, Jr. 1946, Roll No. 335

Richard Fontaine McPherson 1946, Roll No. 311

RHO Jerry DeWitte Leggett 1951, Roll No. 440

Arnold Prescott White, Ir. 1951, Roll No. 435

Lonnie C. Williams, Ir. 1942. Roll No. 263

SIGMA Robert Lester DeRoo 1946 Roll No. 288

Glen Gladstone McCov 1951 Roll No. 334

Charles Milton Sackett 1941, Roll No. 249

Malcolm Mitchell Bliss 1950, Roll No. 418

William Edwin Chamberlain 1937, Roll No. 143

Thomas Melville 1942. Roll No. 272

UPSILON. William Walden Deaver 1949, Roll No. 265

Haskell George Wilson 1932, Roll No. 51

Richard Andrew Stresser 1949, Roll No. 185

Robert William Ageton 1942, Roll No. 213

William Donald Loveless 1952, Roll No. 400

Lewis William Lowe 1940, Roll No. 178 Herman Willet Van Loo 1939, Roll No. 143

PSI

Arthur Jewett Bovee, Jr. Class of 1934, Roll No. 28

Jack Fredrick Harvey 1943, Roll No. 151

Tom Manuel 1950, Roll No. 234

Elton Albert Youngberg 1937, Roll No. 53

OMEGA Arthur Lawrence Allen 1944, Roll No. 197

William Alexander Griffith 1947, Roll No. 170

William Seaton Hannan, Jr. 1943, Roll No. 189

Elvin Gordon Helling 1949, Roll No. 269

Gordon Albert Larson 1940, Roll No. 132

Kenneth Scott Meyer 1980, Roll No. 826

Stanley Arthur Schack 1950, Roll No. 308

Duane Blair Skogen 1956, Roll No. 428

GAMMA BETA Walter Harvey Cole, Jr. 1949, Roll No. 201

EPSILON BETA Ronald George Budrick 1968, Roll No. 174

IOTA BETA Walter Joseph Wietecha 1969, Roll No. 78

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Robert W. Ageton, Chi 1942, last August in Arlington, Virginia. Brother Ageton spent his professional career in the mining and minerals field and is author of many technical papers related to that field. He was also a ham radio operator in his spare time. He is survived by his wife June Kite Ageton. He was Life Loval member of Sigma Chi. He was a regular donor to Sigma Chi, the Virginia Hospital Center Foundation, and Theta Tau. He also remembered Theta Tau in his estate plans for which the Fraternity is very grateful. Brother Ageton was interred at Arlington National Cemetery.



You too can provide assistance to our Fraternity and Foundation beyond even your own lifetime. Contact the Central Office (800/264-1904) for more information on the Second Century Society Wegreatly thank these Second Century Society members who have informed the Central Office that they have remembered Theta Tau in their estate plans:

> Michael T. Abraham, Epsilon Beta '92 Robert Alexander Iota '67 Robert W. Ageton, Chi '42 Dean W. Bettinger, Tau '81 A. Thomas Brown, Mu '77 Jeffrey S. Brown, Phi '87 J. Matthew Clark, Kappa Beta '5 Daniel T. Colpi, Phi '98 John W. F. Dulles, Chi '43 William S. Johnson, Rho '42 Iulia Kinchen, Eta Gamma '01 Charles Gnerlich, Delta Beta '66 I. Hal Grossman, Phi '71 Lee C. Haas, Rho '62 Lester A. Haug, Zeta '39 George K. Kostopoulos, Xi Beta '88 Michael Livingston, Gamma Beta '92 Duncan M. McIntosh, Chi '65 John A. McNary, Chi '37 Wayne K. Milne, Phi '38 Arthur M. Partin, Tau '84 Otto Pfahl, Mu Beta '69 Robert E. Pope, Zeta '52

Ron Starr, Beta '67 Justin G. Wiseman, Xi Beta '94

## **UPSILON UPDATE – University of Arkansas**



Exciting things are happening in Fayettevillet Before the school year even began, students were fixing up the grounds and moving into the house. They made great strides in making the exterior grounds more attractive and more easily maintained.

Over the last year or so, the chapter has increased its membership from 4 to 17, and they expect to double their numbers again this school year. The house has at least one person in each room in contrast to not too long ago when nearly all were vacant. To accommodate the growth, we installed new blinds, a new stove, and a second refrigerator were also purchased. As importantly, the chapter continues to revisible its relationship with the engineering school and its freshmen engineering program.

The Foundation and chapter extends most sincere thanks to all those who made contributions and fulfilled their pledges. Your support, and the assistance of Brother Reynie Rutledge, Upsilon 1972, of First Security Bank has enabled the Foundation to recently refinance the mortgage on the house at considerably more favorable terms.

In some respects, the hard work is over, and it's downhill from here. But, we still need your support to alleviate the long-term burden of the current \$850,000 mortgage on the chapter house. Reducing that burden enables the Foundation to support the academic and leadership goals for our members at the local at the University of Arkansas (instead of all revenue being consumed for the principle and interest on a mortgage).



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# **NEW** Website Launched!

The Theta Tau website has been completely redesigned! This new site for the Fraternity promises to bring more content and more functionality and is available at www.HretaTau.org. The new site combines the functionality of a static site and an online directory and communication tool.

Some features of the website include:

- Resources, including print and electronic documents like forms, manuals, and The Gear
- Updated news section so you can stay informed.
- Calendar function noting upcoming events and deadlines.
- An online community to update your contact information, search for members, and stay in touch.
- A group/chapter section just for your chapter's members.
- · Social networking link to Facebook.

We hope you'll take the time to explore our new website and register as a member. To locate your name in our online directory, you'll need your chapter abbreviation and roll number which is located on the address portion of this magazine issue.



Visit www.thetatau.org Now!

Theta Tau

Professional Engineering Fraternity 1011 San Jacinto, Suite 205 Austin, TX 78701

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# 75TH ANNIVERSARY!

A gala dinner celebration will be held in the Washington, DC area on Saturday, March 27, 2010, in honor of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Gamma Beta Chapter of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity at The George Washington University!

Please contact us at ncacthetatau@gmail.com or call Alex Rosenheim at 202-412-3090 to let us know if you are interested or want more information.

For updates on this event and other alumni club activity visit http://thetatau-ncac.blogspot.com (A link to our Facebook page is located there as well.)

In H&T - Rob Huie, GB '97, President, National Capital Section Alumni Club