

# GEAR

THE

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SPRING 2012

of Theta Tau

## *Inside This Issue:*

Chapter News

Miller helps Goodyear

Expansion Highlights

Shaving heads for  
St. Baldrick's

Lessons in Service from  
*The Kingdom of Wonder*

**StarPoint**  
EXTRUSIONS LLC

2011  
Tire Manufacturing  
Innovation of the Year  
Multi-Piece Cushion

**GOODYEAR**



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The Gear is the official magazine of Theta Tau Professional Engineering Fraternity 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. Publication is in the fall and spring of each year with press run/distribution 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 or 800/264-1904.



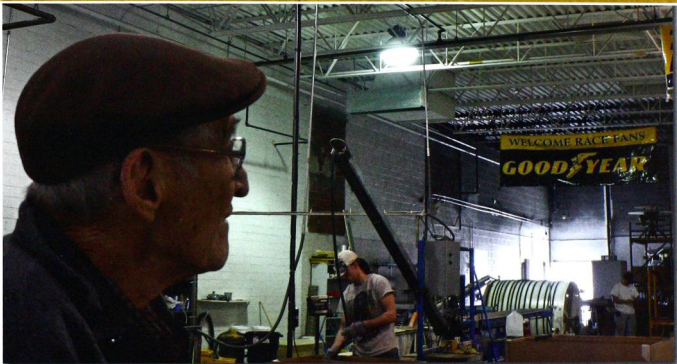
#### ON THE COVER

On his ninety-second birthday, consulting engineer and Theta Tau Hall of Fame Laureate Bob Miller, Omicron '41, visits Norton, Ohio's StarPoint Extrusions plant.



# Nonagenarian Engineer Helps Realize Goodyear's Better Retread

Bob Miller Jr.



*On his ninety-second birthday, consulting engineer Bob Miller, Omicron '41, visits his Norton, Ohio's StarPoint Extrusions plant.*

When Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio saw a way to make longer-lived, high-performance truck tire retreads replacing traditional "cushion gum" strips with round, three-layer extrusions that combine cushion and adhesion with heat resistance—it sought a supplier able to extrude the flexible rods at marketable cost. A Goodyear consultant mentioned the challenge to local consulting engineer Bob Miller, Omicron '41, and the 90-year-old extrusion expert offered advice. Armed with Miller's wood models and his knack for adapting used equipment, the resulting startup, StarPoint Extrusions of Norton, Ohio, is now in

production as Goodyear's key supplier—it's use of three rubber extruders continuously feeding one finished-product line is said to be a first. In February 2012 in Cologne, Germany a Tire Technology International jury of professionals and academics named Goodyear's Retread Multi-Piece Cushion technology its 2011 Tire Manufacturing Innovation of the Year.

Robert L. Miller PE, FAICHe is a consulting professional engineer and the former president of Prime Plastics of Clinton, Ohio. An internationally published authority on rubber plastics extrusion and corrugating technology,

he has helped set both manufacturing and product standards as a member of the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM), the Society of Plastics Engineers, the Corrugated Plastic Tubing Association, and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, which elected him a Fellow in 1988. A graduate of the University of Iowa and Case Institute of Technology, he was inducted to the Theta Tau Alumni Hall of Fame in 1992.

# Lessons in Service

Steven Choi, Zeta '05

## from *The Kingdom of Wonder*

It was 10:50 p.m. when I arrived in Siem Reap International Airport on December 23, 2011. "Welcome to Kingdom of Wonder" was the slogan before my eyes as I walked through customs. It was a small airport; the second largest airport in Cambodia only consists of two baggage claim carousels and four customs counters. After a short ten minute wait, the Border Control Officer signaled my turn. I walked through the yellow lines and handed over my passport. The officer looked through my passport for a few seconds, and then he started rubbing his thumb and index finger together. I was in disbelief that a government official was asking for a bribe. He once again looked around to make sure his superior wasn't on site and firmly demanded a tip using the same gesture. I noticed other tourists were giving these border customs officers a dollar to bypass the border control. I told him I didn't have any money. He mumbled some words, stamped my passport, and told me to go through.

Why did I choose Cambodia to spend my Christmas? In 2010 during a visit to South Africa, I met a woman named Diane Hall who was working for a nonprofit organization called Justice Acts ([www.justiceacts.org](http://www.justiceacts.org)) that is committed to combat human trafficking in South Africa. After returning to the States and receiving weekly emails from Diane, I began to do some research online and found out Cambodia was the epicenter in Asia, acting as a source, transit, and destination country for human trafficking; boys as young as twelve are forced to do labor in agriculture, fishing, and construction industries. When I learned this, I wanted to see how I could help. After looking at various nonprofit organizations in the area, I came across a small pagoda about 40 km south of Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, which mainly dealt with boys who were aged

between 5 and 18 years old. I got in touch with a fourth year computer science student named Psieth who was attending Norton University in Phnom Penh; he grew up in that pagoda as a child and worked to become a college student. Noting he was an engineering student, there was a lot we could share. After several email exchanges, Psieth invited me to spend two days in his pagoda during Christmas, teaching the boys English or math and experiencing village life. This was a golden opportunity to experience the real culture of Cambodia, so I accepted his invitation immediately.

Once I passed through customs, I was greeted by the hotel courtesy shuttle. A guy who looked to be in his late thirties greeted me with a sign that read "Mr. Steven S. Choi (USA)." In broken English, he asked me if I was traveling alone or in a group. I told him that I was alone, and he took me to the courtesy van. The ride to the hotel was 20 minutes long. About five minutes into the ride we shared basic information like where I was from and the weather and things to do around Siem Reap. I then asked him if I could stop by the bank to obtain some cash. He drove me to a nearby ATM which gave me U.S. dollars. Given that Cambodia's official currency, the Cambodian Riel, fluctuates rapidly in its value, the U.S. dollar is accepted more widely across the country. When he noticed I had some cash, he asked me: "Do you yum yum or boom boom?" I asked him what that was, and as he said "girl girl," I quickly realized what he was offering. I politely said "No, thank you," and he looked at me like it was his first time a male tourist denied an offer. Clearly prostitution was readily available in Cambodia. According to the United Nations Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking, girls aging from 10–18 are sold by their families to brothel owners for \$150 to \$170 each. The brothels then use these girls for

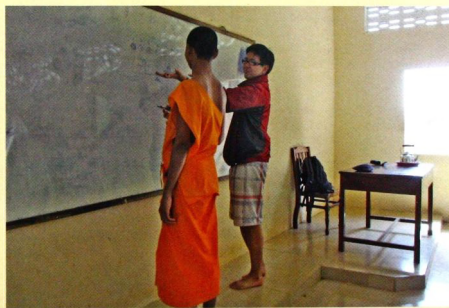
sexual exploitation, forced labor in factories, or domestic servants. As I arrived at my hotel, there were plenty of brothels who approached constantly asking for "Yum yum or boom boom" with costs varying from \$5 to \$10. It saddened me greatly to see how these young girls, who looked to be between 14–20, were being sold off to tourists. Without hesitation, one of the tourists at my side held out some cash, petitioning the girls without a care in the world about the kind of harm they were truly causing these children. It hurt that there was nothing I could do to prevent the circumstances leading up to this event—that I couldn't control what was going on in the city.

Early the next day on Christmas, I took a bus from Siem Reap to Phnom Penh—a seven hour bus ride. It was then another one hour van ride to Kumponsu, which is 40 km south of Phnom Penh where Psieth, the computer science student, greeted me at the market. He was happy to see me, and with a warm smile, he told me he initially thought I was joking when I promised to spend two days at his pagoda. A pagoda is a monastery; however in Cambodia, most of them host children because some families cannot support them. Around 6 p.m., I finally arrived at the village where it was already dark. I shared the hut that Psieth and three other children call home. The hut was approximately 20 square feet, which was barely enough for five of us to sleep on the floor. There were several other huts in the pagoda that were shared amongst 70–80 other kids. Most of the kids were studying under the candlelight in their hut because the village lacked electricity. In fact, the only source of water is a well which only stores rain water. They drink, bath, and cook using this water source. This was an eye opener, and it really gave me a sense of how blessed I was to live in America.



The following day I woke up early—the roosters woke everyone in the village around 5 a.m. The kids in the village started their day by cleaning the pagoda with brooms made out of hay. Around 6 a.m., they all gathered to have a breakfast of noodles and rice. Some of the children then went to school for the first class session from 7:30 to 11:30 a.m. According to Linda, a Cambodian native teacher, in a school of 320 students there were only 2 teachers. Because of the limited number of teachers the government provides, the students are divided into two different school zones. Students who can attend the first session go in the morning, and those who attend the second session begin from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Some have to walk over six miles to attend primary school, yet most students never miss a day in school. I spent an hour teaching English and math in both sessions that day. At the end of each, I shared with them what my long time mentor and role model, Janice Wiitala (Omicron '90), President of Theta Tau Educational Foundation, has shared with me: "To lead you need to share knowledge, and to learn you need to understand each other. But most importantly, you won't be able to do either unless there is Hope or Vision." The kids asked what "vision" was. I answered, "It's something you dream to accomplish or see when you are all adults like me." The younger ones told me their vision was to eat three meals a day. Some said they dream of becoming engineers like me since they enjoy math. Some said they wanted to become doctors and cure all the disease in the village so their families won't suffer. I was in joy that these kids started to see a vision for themselves for the first time.

Later that evening, I was given the opportunity to speak with the elders in the village and learned some shocking facts about the kids. The majority of their mothers were victims of human trafficking. Some were in the prostitution industry and had their first child around the ages of 14–16, and they only hoped their kids would be spared the same experience. I felt an enormous healing was necessary in the community, but honestly, I didn't know where



to begin. All I could provide them was an open ear to the stories of their broken pasts. As the sun began to set, they were thankful. I was very humbled. Behind the most wonderful smiles of the children and the most sincere greetings of the elders, there stood the consequences of human trafficking.

Other than continuing to support the village, I realized that I could raise awareness of human trafficking by writing to *The Gear* and sharing with brothers what some parts of the world are dealing with in comparison with our daily issues. The entire experience was an eye-opener and has significantly changed the way I view

the world since my return. From the trip, I learned there are many ways we could do more in terms of "service" to the communities that we live in. The Cambodians shared small things and loved each other infinitely—even the smallest grains of rice were being given to those less fortunate. And there are always people in need we can help if we just listen to their stories. In our fraternity, we can share and give back to our brothers, our chapters, and our communities (both local and global). Service can come from things as small as a grain of rice or an open ear.

# The **BENEFITS** of Theta Tau

*Justin Wiseman, Xi Beta '95, Grand Vice Regent*

## *Why did you become a member of Theta Tau?*

It has been quite some time since I was initiated—this past January marked 20 years! Back in the day, I was sold on Theta Tau to bolster the resume. I am confident that joining Theta Tau helped me to land my first position; shortly after starting to co-op, I realized just how many members of Theta Tau worked for Chrysler, and these contacts helped me professionally on countless occasions. It equally has been my privilege to add so many new graduates to my Chrysler-Theta Tau network over the years, and we try to get together every year around Founders Day for lunch.

But Theta Tau is more than resume filler or a gateway to jobs—the real benefits of membership are the experiences. Through those experiences we learn soft skills such as teamwork, time management, decision-making skills, and problem resolution. All are very beneficial skills that have helped me tremendously in the workplace, and it's these skills that I have had the most fun teaching our younger brothers over the years, be it during a presentation at a Convention, a breakout session at a regional conference, or one-on-one interaction during a chapter visit.

During my 16 years as a national officer, I have always cherished the opportunities to interact with our members. I especially enjoy opportunities mentoring younger fraternity members in my local area regarding the transition from school to work life, stressing the balance of work, personal life, and staying involved in the fraternity, and I have learned quite a bit in the process. I believe you can't help others without helping yourself, and through Theta Tau, I have made strong

friendships and made countless connections which have helped me over the years professionally, personally and fraternally.

You may think you need to be an expert or have a large amount of free time to volunteer, but all you need is a desire to be involved. You can organize a local alumni event, review a manual, write an article for *The Gear*, volunteer as an adviser to a chapter (whether you live nearby or not), serve as a mentor to a younger member, update contact information for brothers from your chapter—the ways to contribute are endless. There are many things that need to be accomplished, and there is an opportunity for everyone to volunteer, whether you have 30 minutes to donate or hours. Improve your soft skills and our fraternity by contacting Grand Scribe Rachael Stensrud at [rachael.stensrud@thetatau.org](mailto:rachael.stensrud@thetatau.org) to become involved today.



## **True Story of Mentoring:**

I was mentoring one young man years ago; it was early on in the program, and we were working on the basics. I asked him to get a Phillips screwdriver, and after about five minutes he comes back without the screwdriver. He sheepishly asked if the Phillips was the one that looked like a plus or minus symbol. I am proud to say he is now a program manager at Chrysler with an electrical engineering degree, and he loves wrenching on his own cars now.

It was extremely gratifying when one day out of the blue he came into my office at work, shook my hand, and thanked me for helping to shape his future by demonstrating that engineering was cool. That right there was the ultimate reward.

# Brotherhood Around the WORLD



Four Theta Tau members working as field engineers with Schlumberger met while in the United Arab Emirates for training at the Yas Viceroy Hotel Skylight lounge. From left to right: Ben Canon (Rho '08), Julie Williams (Tau Gamma '10), Chelsea Ellis (Theta Gamma '09), Maria Kaufman (Tau Gamma '11).



Alex Chan, Xi Gamma '11, and Tau Beta Chapter members eating wings in Dallas, TX.



Alex Chan, Xi Gamma '11, Tau Gamma Chapter members enjoying sushi in Philadelphia, PA.

# Sigma Recruits with **Technical Flair**

*Daniel Brown, Sigma '15, Scribe*

Sigma Chapter at The Ohio State University has been on a recruitment dry spell for a while, but we're working hard to change that. As of this quarter, we have had our largest pledge class in three years, and I can happily report that our future members are some of the greatest men I have ever gotten to know. This, I believe, is thanks to our new approach to recruitment. After two Phired Up sessions and two quarters of experimenting with new methods, we have finally hammered out a three-tier approach:

**OUTREACH** – Ensure that everyone on campus knows of us and views us in a positive light.

**PROFESSIONALISM** – Going to parties is fun and all, but we want members that prioritize academics and are capable of being shaped into tomorrow's leaders.

**QUALITY CONTROL** – One-on-one meetings/dinners with potential new members to ensure that we're only giving bids to those who we would be proud to call our brothers.

I believe that one of the best ways to project professionalism is by demonstrating our ability as engineers. As a computer science and engineering undergraduate, I think having a student programmed recruitment application shows that we are talented and puts us a step above other fraternities in recruitment.

The app's main feature is its ability to pull from a Google RSS feed and display upcoming events. The first five upcoming events are displayed with their title and time of the event. Events further in the schedule can be navigated to using arrows, and tapping on any event pulls up a new screen

with more information. Other features supply information about the fraternity and benefits of joining, and the app allows users to contact the chapter with questions or comments. The app will likely be downloaded by few students, but advertising the app on the 500 flyers we post around campus impresses students, and those who do use it find it advantageous.

If your chapter would like to use the app on your campus, contact Daniel Brown at brown.4111@osu.edu or (419) 310-3534.



## Contact Us

Name:

Email or #:

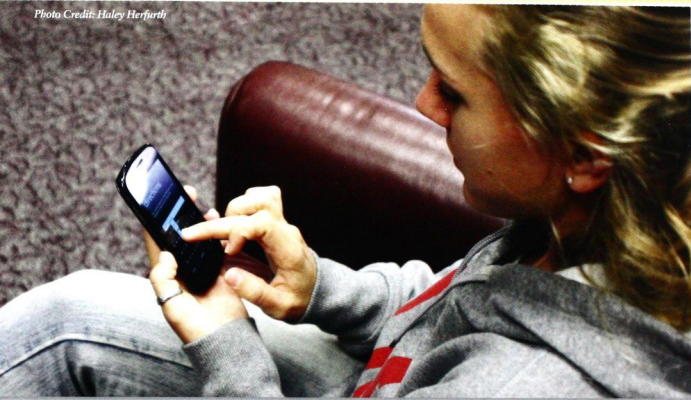
Questions/Comments:

**Send**

"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do,  
do it with thy might..." - Ecclesiastes 9:10







## University of Alabama Students Develop Beneficial Smartphone Applications

Lauren Musselman

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TUSCALOOSA, Ala.—Smartphone applications are continuously and rapidly being developed. While most apps are for entertainment purposes, there is a trend of app development for functional uses. Developers are looking to apps as a way to solve everyday problems. See a need, app a need.

The University of Alabama is no exception to this trend as students and professors are working together to develop beneficial apps. A few current student app projects are primarily health related, looking to improve living functionally with conditions of blindness, obesity and diabetes.

### Digital Eyes Application for Windows Phone 7

An all-female team from UA's department of computer science is creating a smartphone application named "Digital Eyes" for the visually impaired. The purpose of "Digital Eyes" is to help those who are visually impaired or blind navigate inside buildings. Users are able to scan tags at the entrance of buildings using their phone's camera. This initiates an interactive experience as information about rooms and other points of interest in the building is spoken aloud. Users can even set restrictions on their navigation, such as avoiding stairs.

The team consists of computer science majors:

- Leah Boling, a senior from Nashville, Tennessee
- **Melissa Bowman, a senior from Hoover [Mu '11]**
- Andrea Torske, a senior from Rowlett, Texas
- Elizabeth Williams, a junior from Huntsville

Dr. Jeff Gray, associate professor of computer science, is the faculty adviser. The team collaborated with UA's Office of Disability Services to test the app and ensure a relevant and meaningful product.

# Update from Twin City Alumni Association

Gary Nies, Alpha '80, President



Last year was another exciting year as Alpha Chapter at the University of Minnesota continued to grow from 22 members in 2010 to 29 members during spring semester 2011, and they are on track to initiate 10 more in January 2012! The quality and excitement of the new members continues to be impressive, and it is a pleasure to get to know and work with them on chapter projects. One highlight this year was the Rube Goldberg video that the chapter showed at Founders Day where the goal was to extinguish a candle (which they did successfully). It was great to see the creativity and hear the enthusiastic explanations about how they used all the old treasures they found at the chapter house to help them construct the machine. It was truly some awesome engineering in action!

With regards to the chapter house, 2011 was also a big year in that we replaced the roof. The roof was in tough shape with multiple leaks in the bedrooms and chapter meeting room because the seams in the roofing material were starting to let go. The roof replacement cost approximately \$40,000 and included a complete tear off of the old roof followed by installation of tapered insulation to help drain the water to the south

and west edges of the building. This approach was selected to prevent any water from draining down the north side of the building and has eliminated the ice buildup problem we previously experienced in the car port area. The insulation also improves the "R-value" of the roof and reduces our heating bills in the winter, in effect, slowly paying back some of the installation cost over the life of the roof. To help finance the new roof, many alumni contributed and provided over \$8000 to the project, and we want to sincerely thank those of you who contributed! Not only has the new roof stopped the leaks, it has also energized the chapter to fully take occupancy of the house. In fact, the fall semester was the first time in over ten years that there were only members or potential members living in the house; non-members were asked to move out in August to make room. The chapter has since mentioned that having only members living at the house is a huge improvement over having mixed tenants—non-members are simply not as much fun to be around!

Another area of significant achievement in 2011 is the increased involvement of recent alumni in the Twin Cities Alumni Association (TCAA) and

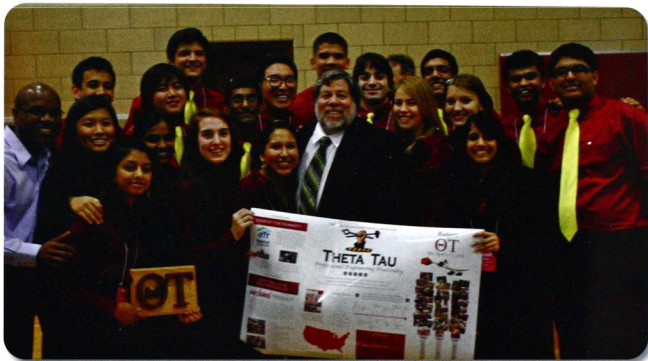
the Alpha Chapter Housing Board. During Founders Day dinner in October, Lucas Crist (Alpha '09), Eivin Berry (Alpha '08), and Daniel Bissell (Alpha '10) were voted onto the joint council for the TCAA and Housing Board. These three recent alumni were among five engineering students who were recruited, supervised, and initiated under the guidance of the national fraternity and support of the TCAA, restarting the dormant chapter during the Fall of 2007. All three are excited to once again be involved with the chapter and look forward to playing a role in the professional development of students as the chapter members continue to mature.

Subsequently, in true Alpha form, the new Board went right to work! In the first meeting of the new TCAA and Housing Board, officer elections were held. Returning members Gary Nies and Jon Bovitz (Alpha '88) were nominated and accepted to maintain their officer positions as President and Treasurer respectively, and Daniel Bissell was elected Vice President. In the following meetings of the board, our new members were instrumental in saving over \$2000 when we had to replace the worn out roof top exhaust fan for the bathrooms. The board will continue to meet on a regular basis to improve the house for the use of the chapter.

We are positioned to make 2012 another great year. Watch for updates from the chapter and join the fun when you can! As always, if the Theta Tau Alumni Association can be of assistance to you or a member you know, please let us know. The network of professionals we have in leadership positions today is impressive, and collectively we have significant resources that can be used to help members in need. President Gary Nies can be reached at [niesgm@yahoo.com](mailto:niesgm@yahoo.com)

# Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day featuring **STEVE WOZNIAK**

Pema Kongpo, Rutgers Colony '13, and Bhadraraj Kalania,  
Rutgers Colony '13



The Rutgers Colony of Theta Tau facilitated Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day from start to finish as university staff members. Members worked all day to ensure that the event progressed smoothly by completing a variety of tasks, including setup, greeting and organizing guests, guarding entrances, organizing presenters' posters, distributing food, and more.

Theta Tau also hosted a table near that of the Rutgers School of Engineering, which publicized the fraternity to a large number of students, faculty, up-and-coming entrepreneurs, and other guests of the event. Hundreds of people attended Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day which featured technology venture pitch competitions, a poster and networking session, and keynote speaker Steve Wozniak, the co-founder of Apple Computer, Inc.

During the event, Steve Wozniak spoke about how he began his professional career and famously founded Apple Computer, Inc. alongside the late Steve Jobs. He expressed the importance of innovation and pushed for young minds to go beyond the norm. When speaking about the next possible big thing, Wozniak stated that you have to watch out for the kids working in a garage. During intermission, Wozniak held an impromptu autograph session

and took photos with many of the guests, including the colony members in attendance. At the end of Rutgers Entrepreneurship Day, the Rutgers Colony of Theta Tau helped give out the awards for the venture pitch competitions.

# Celebrating Brotherhood Day by Day— A Family of Theta Taus

## Steve Day, Sigma Beta '95

About 20 years ago, I returned to college after serving 7-1/2 years in the US Army. The University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee admissions office referred to applicants like me as "non-traditional" students: a little older than most students, married with children. Friends from high school had already graduated, so I didn't know too many people on campus. I encountered Theta Tau my second semester during recruitment week. The Sigma Beta Chapter was fairly new and had been installed just a year earlier. It was a great group of fellow engineering students, with the chapter founders still actively involved in activities.

In addition to the group activities and outings (which were many), what I remember most is the assistance everyone in the chapter provided in navigating some pretty challenging classes. Without that peer support, I doubt that I'd have done as well as I did academically.

At the time, I certainly didn't anticipate or expect my sons to pursue a career in engineering; seeing them become brothers in Theta Tau seemed even more remote. Twenty years later, my oldest son is a graduate engineer and an alumnus member of Xi Chapter at UW Madison. Fraternity life there seemed a little different since they had the good fortune to have a chapter house in which to live, meet, and of course, entertain. But the same fraternity principles were present.

My youngest son is a sophomore at University of California-San Diego and a student member of Epsilon Delta Chapter. I was honored to attend the initiation ceremony at UCSD and get a look at how that chapter is operating, and I had the opportunity to make a presentation at a chapter professional development event. It helped me become reconnected with Theta Tau.

The growth and expansion of Theta Tau is truly amazing—I think 28 or 30 chapters have been installed since I first pledged! With the integration of electronic communication, social networks and other means of collaboration, the ability for

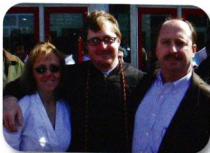
fraternity brothers to interact and network is exponentially better than it was 20 years ago. Kudos to the central office and all the students and alumni that have worked to make that happen, and keep up the great work!

## Travis Day, Xi '09

I learned about Theta Tau at an early age while attending some fraternity events with my father at Sigma Beta Chapter. Once I arrived at University of Wisconsin-Madison and started down the path to become an engineer, I knew I'd eventually join; in my sophomore year, I made one of the best decisions during my time at UW and joined Theta Tau.

I saw the advantages of the fraternity to be twofold: to help me develop both professionally and socially. It was extremely helpful to be around other students who were going through the long hours and stressful moments that I was. I found I appreciated being a member of a multi-faceted organization that allowed me to pursue interests in several areas. Social events were a great way to break the monotony of school and enabled us to become better friends in the process. Above all, I feel the greatest advantage was making lifelong friendships.

Since graduating, I am amazed how quickly Theta Tau has been growing. Being an organization with male and female members is enjoyable, and it sets us apart from other fraternities. I am proud to see the hard work of the central office and fraternity as a whole in bringing our principles to campuses across America.



## Tyler Day, Epsilon Delta '14

When I came to college, I was sure that one of the best experiences would be joining a fraternity, as both my brothers and my father were in fraternities. The sheer number and types of fraternities, however, was a little intimidating. My dad wanted me to help get the UCSD Theta Tau Colony established into a full chapter, but they had already achieved that by the time I pledged in the winter of my freshman year.

My mom was a little surprised that I would be joining a fraternity because of her general perceptions about these organizations, but Theta Tau was different. I didn't feel out of place being the only engineering student in the room—these fellow students share my interests and experience the same grueling hours of study and work while we all attempt to stay sane. With everyone being an engineering student, we understand what we are all going through.

When it came time to pledge with a fraternity, my choice was simple. My father and brother both attended my initiation and had the same questions for me: How many student members are there? How many alumni? And so on. Their conclusion was that our chapter still has a long way to go, but it's off to a great start. We're all very excited to see how I can help my fellow brothers during my time at UC San Diego and as a member of Theta Tau.



# Why I Will Always be an Entrepreneur

Karl Hughes, Chi Gamma '12, [www.KarlHughes.com](http://www.KarlHughes.com)

When I was nine years old, my dad quit his job. He was in his forties at the time, and my mom was homeschooling my brother and me full time. In other words, we had \$0.00 monthly income.

Of course, my father didn't quit his job on a whim; he started his own business. My dad has the heart of entrepreneur. He is great with people, and he is fiercely independent. At the same time, quitting your 9-5 job in your mid-forties with two young kids is difficult.

I saw my parents struggle for ten years. My mom had to go back to college to get her masters in teaching so she could get a decent job. She worked full-time in retail while my brother and I attended "real" school for the first time in our lives. My dad was so stressed out that he left us for a brief period. I have no recollection of a peaceful interaction between my parents until my sophomore year of high school. Before that point, I only remember fighting, yelling, and mistrust between them. I learned that being an entrepreneur is stressful. It made me rebellious, it made me mad, and it made me sick, but what could I do? I was in junior high school. I was just starting to figure out that there were girls; that school mattered; that life was hard.

In high school, much of this changed. My parents moved back in with each other. My mom was making just enough money to keep food on the table, and my dad's business was finally taking shape. It wasn't easy, but it was life. I never expected my parents to give me allowance. I started to work at the corner grocery store the day I turned 15 (the legal working age) for \$5.17 per hour. I made all A's in school and played football for four years.



I say all of this to tell you that being an entrepreneur is hard, and that's why I love it. I'm not the kind of person who seeks the easy road. If I were, I would work for GE, where I had my first internship, making widgets for laundry machines. Instead, I am charting my own path working with a Nashville area internet Startup Uloop among other things.

Because I realized at a young age that things are not handed to you, I can't see myself being anything other than an entrepreneur. In some ways my father is an inspiration to me; we have long talks about running a business every

week or two, and I love learning from his mistakes and successes. In other ways, my mother is an inspiration to me; when my dad left to pursue his passion, she stayed painfully loyal, and I deeply respect that.

After four and a half years of college, two years of internships, and one year of owning my own business, I regret nothing. Every piece of my life has led me to where I am now, and ***I love it. I am an entrepreneur.***

# BY THE NUMBERS

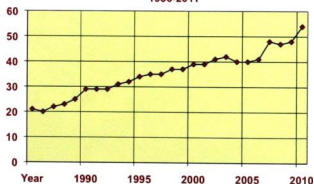
Michael Abraham, Epsilon Beta '92, Executive Director

The national fraternity has worked hard over the past couple decades to keep membership affordable for the greatest potential number of students on its campuses. While it will always be arguable that we could do better in this regard, the facts demonstrate clearly that the careful stewardship of all Theta Tau's talents and treasures has brought about the second golden age in our fraternity. This article contains just some insight represented by the numbers to show what has been accomplished in the last quarter century (1986-2011) in Theta Tau's history, as well as where we stand now relative to some of our competitors.

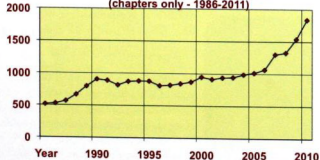
## Did you know?

If Theta Tau were a school of engineering, it would be the 36th largest engineering school in the country by undergraduate enrollment. Counting colony and chapter pledges and members, it is larger than the remaining 300+ engineering colleges in the United States.

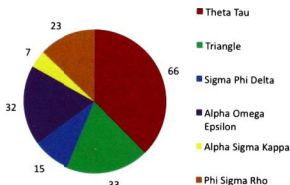
Number of Chapters by Year  
1986-2011



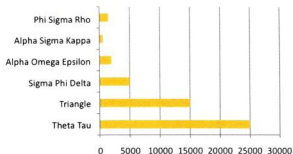
Number of Student Members  
(chapters only - 1986-2011)



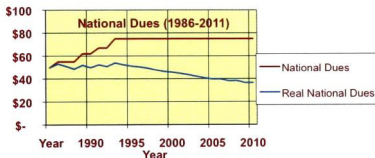
## Chapters & Colonies



## Living Alumni (some estimated)



The cost of membership is one factor in the overall success of an organization. More importantly, it is the quality of the relationships, the benefits of the programming offered, and the counsel and support provided that determine success. By all these measures, Theta Tau is head and shoulders ahead of where we were. While it is not time to gloat, and there is still much work to be done, it is a good time to recognize how far we have come.



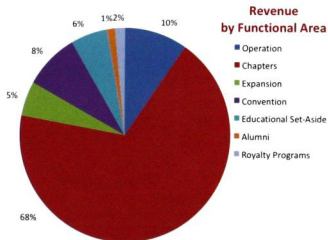
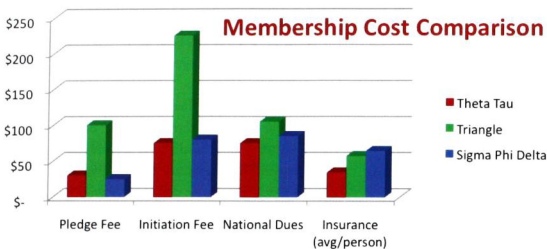
## Did you know?

In 1939, National Dues were \$6 and the Initiation Fee was \$14. In today's dollars, if they had kept pace with inflation since 1939, National Dues would be \$97/semester and the Initiation Fee would be \$227/member (not including badge cost).



## What does the word "real" mean here?

"Real" is often used in economic analysis to represent the value of a figure in relation to a previous value. It is often used to characterize the effects of inflation. These graphs show that a dollar today in 2011 buys about 50% less in goods and services than it did in 1986.



## Did you know?

In 1986, the Theta Tau's operating budget was about \$100,000—serving 23 chapters & colonies, fewer than 600 students, and 15,000 alumni. Today, the budget is about \$450,000—serving 66 chapters & colonies, nearly 3,000 students, and 25,000 alumni.







## You spend hours using your phone.

We all love our smartphones, but they're only as smart as the decisions we make when using them. Remember to only use your phone when it is safe to do so. In 2009, over 5,400 people were killed in vehicle crashes related to distracted driving, while an additional 448,000 people were reported injured in such accidents (NHTSA, 2012). Make the smart choice and put the phone away while driving. Together, we can make our roads a safer place for everyone. For more safety information, or to get a free quote on auto insurance, visit [geico.com](http://geico.com) or call 1-800-947-AUTO (2886) any time.

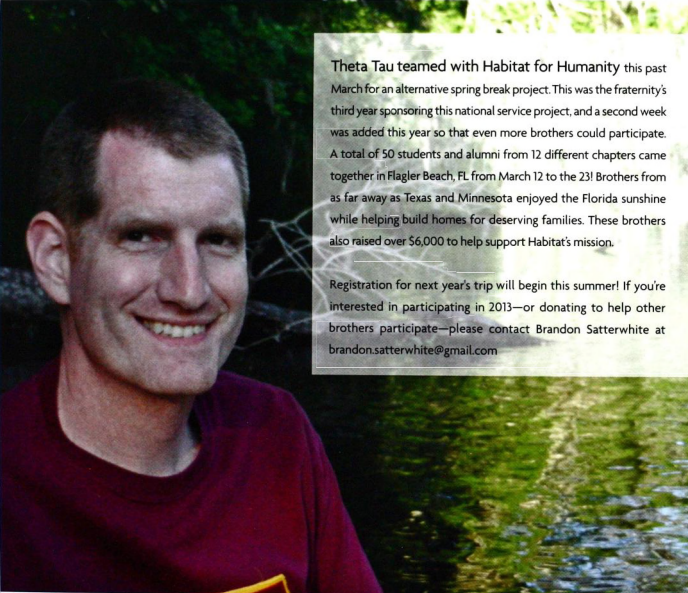


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# HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

*Brandon Satterwhite, Mu '98, Grand Marshal*



Theta Tau teamed with Habitat for Humanity this past March for an alternative spring break project. This was the fraternity's third year sponsoring this national service project, and a second week was added this year so that even more brothers could participate. A total of 50 students and alumni from 12 different chapters came together in Flagler Beach, FL from March 12 to the 23! Brothers from as far away as Texas and Minnesota enjoyed the Florida sunshine while helping build homes for deserving families. These brothers also raised over \$6,000 to help support Habitat's mission.

Registration for next year's trip will begin this summer! If you're interested in participating in 2013—or donating to help other brothers participate—please contact Brandon Satterwhite at [brandon.satterwhite@gmail.com](mailto:brandon.satterwhite@gmail.com)

*Pictured above: Brandon Satterwhite, Mu '98, Grand Marshal*

# Alternative Spring Break Expanded



*Pictured top Left: Ryan Green and Evan Albers, both from Sigma Chapter.*

*Pictured top Right: Brothers pose for a picture on top of the house they are helping to build.*

*Pictured Bottom: From left to right, Emma Fletcher (Gamma Beta '13), Meredith Sappington (Kappa Gamma), and Mike Davenport (Kappa Gamma '13).*

# NASA INTERNSHIP BENEFITS UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH FLORIDA STUDENT

Daylina Miller

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## A USF mechanical engineering student spent last semester helping NASA develop new technologies for a space rover.

*Marie Chenoweth is a member from Upsilon Gamma Chapter of Theta Tau.*

TAMPA, Fla. (Jan. 13, 2011) – To those small children dreaming of spaceships and walking on the moon, University of South Florida student Marie Chenoweth has one thing to say: keep dreaming big.

The mechanical engineering student just completed a semester-long internship in the robotics department of NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Tx. and is back at USF to finish her last semester for her bachelors degree.

It hasn't been an easy journey, Chenoweth said. In 2005, Hurricane Katrina devastated the city of New Orleans, where Chenoweth is from. Her family's house and all their belongings were destroyed so the family was forced to relocate, with barely more than the clothes on their backs and a box of photos, to Florida.

She took three years off from school, working three jobs, to help her family get back on their feet. "I graduated from high school in 2002 and here it is 2012 now so it's been 10 years working on my degree with all the ups and downs between Katrina and having my family move around," Chenoweth said. "It has been a long struggle but because I've had my family there to support me I've been able to look forward to my future."

Chenoweth admits she was nervous about the NASA internship coming to an end. She doesn't know what to expect after graduation, but she's hopeful the internship will help her in her career.

While at the space center, Chenoweth worked on new technologies for the next space exploration vehicle, a rover that will be sent on future missions to Mars. She studied various copper and aluminum foams to be used as heat exchangers in the rover's thermal subsystem.

But Chenoweth almost didn't accept the internship. When NASA called to offer it to her, she told them, believe it or not, that she'd have to think about it.

"I do have a [10-year-old] son," Chenoweth said. "Being a single mother and a student is really hard if you don't have the right support, but I do have a very loving and caring family. I have to think about not only myself but my family as well when it comes to my future and without my family there giving me support, letting me know they'd take care of my son and help me, I would not have been able to do this."

Chenoweth's son was taken care of by her mother, sister and a close friend, USF engineering student Marcela Godoy, for the five months that Chenoweth spent with NASA. Despite her anxiety over leaving her son for a few months, Chenoweth decided taking the internship was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"Honestly, when I applied for this internship, I didn't think I'd ever hear back from NASA," Chenoweth said. "NASA is something you dream about, that's up in the heavens somewhere, in the sky, you don't think you're ever going to work at NASA so when they gave me the call back, I was baffled. I could not believe that NASA wanted to know who Marie Chenoweth was."

After graduation, Chenoweth plans on pursuing opportunities in the aerospace industry or the U.S. Department of Defense, which NASA works with to develop new technologies.

"Without going there and witnessing it hands on, I would never have any idea of some of the things we use today that NASA is responsible for...like the flip phone and laptop technology," Chenoweth said. "The idea of having them on a folding mechanism was developed by NASA, as well as many flame retardant materials like clothing and apparel that fire departments use."

In just a few short months, Chenoweth will walk across the Sun Dome stage, ending a nearly 10-year journey to receive her degree and start the next chapter of her life.

# Rho Chapter Shaves Heads for St. Baldrick's

Matt Brewer, Rho '11



Pictured above: Eve holding up her "beads of courage"—she got a bead for every cancer-related procedure she had done.

*In October 2009, Brother Matthew Griffith (Rho '01) was met with a shocking revelation—his two-year-old daughter, Eve, was diagnosed with kidney cancer. The doctors at Duke Pediatric Oncology in Durham, North Carolina saw Wilms tumors in both kidneys. Bilateral cancer meant that Eve had a long road ahead of her; instead of removing one kidney, she'd have to undergo aggressive chemotherapy and radiation.*

The student members of Rho Chapter took it as a chapter goal to help Eve and the Griffith family. In the spring of 2010, Rho Chapter organized a fundraiser on North Carolina State's campus in Raleigh. The plan was simple—sell raffle tickets for a few dollars each. At the end of the fundraiser, the winner of the raffle would take home half of the money raised. The other half of the money would be donated to Matthew Griffith and his wife

Christie to help pay for medical bills. When the time came, the winner of the raffle was Andre Culbreth (Rho '07). Andre declined his share of the raffle, and Rho Chapter donated all \$800 to the Griffiths.

Over the last several years, Rho Chapter has continued to fundraise for pediatric oncology, and our charity of choice is the St. Baldrick's Foundation. St. Baldrick's raises money by

asking volunteers to shave their heads in support of kids who lose their hair to chemotherapy. On a set date, the volunteers get their heads shaved on stage. The organizers take bids from the crowd to have to shavers leave chunks of hair, shave beards, shave eyebrows, or even shave arm hair! Donations are taken through the web or in cash at the event.

On February 25, six Rho brothers shaved their heads at an event at the Hibernian Irish Pub in downtown Raleigh. Matthew Brewer (Rho '11), Josh Hanks (Rho '13), Dylan Ventra (Rho '13), Andrew Warren-Love (Rho '12), Sagar Patel (Rho '15) and Michael Brooks (Rho '15) spent the spring raising donations for St. Baldrick's, and the team raised over \$200 in cash on the day of the event by volunteering for various bad haircuts. Brother Hanks sacrificed an eyebrow and a half for a \$100 cash donation! Two more Rho alumni,



Before: from left to right is Ventra, Warren-Love, Patel, Brooks, Brewer, and Hanks.

Del-Michael Lawson (Rho '10) and Matthew Tunney (Rho '04) are shaving their heads at Napper Tandy's Irish Pub in Raleigh on March 3. It is the fourth year that Brother Tunney has shaved for St. Baldrick's, and the second year for Brothers Brewer and Hanks.



The crew getting buzzed on stage. Left to right is Ventra (behind the presenter), Patel, Brooks, Warren-Love, a local radio personality, Hanks, and Brewer.

Eve, now four years old (going on five), has been in remission since ending her treatment in May 2010. Her hair has grown back, but the family is still very active with St. Baldrick's. On March 3, her big brother Daniel will be shaving his head at Napper Tandy's. Eve will be there to hand out lollipops and tell her story.

Rho plans to continue with St. Baldrick's in the future, with more brothers volunteering and making the fundraiser a campus-wide event.

To learn more visit Eve's blog:  
<http://www.evegriffith.blogspot.com/>

To donate to the shaves:  
 Rho's page on St Baldrick's:  
<http://www.stbaldricks.org/teams/mypage/72790/2012>



After: left to right is Ventra, Hanks, Brooks, Brewer, Warren-Love, and Patel.

# Expansion Highlights

## **IOTA DELTA CHAPTER INSTALLATION AT VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY**

*Clay Christain, Iota Delta '12*

Iota Delta chapter was installed at Vanderbilt University on September 17, 2011 after having been a colony since December 12, 2009. Chapter membership is currently 40 student members with 16 pledges to replace 16 seniors graduating this spring. After attending the southeastern regional conference at Lambda Gamma Chapter at Clemson University, our chapter assisted with Engineers Week at Vanderbilt University by co-sponsoring a trivia night event at the School of Engineering. Upcoming plans include building school furniture for Tools for Schools non-profit organization, assisting the Vanderbilt Career Center with networking events and career fairs, and planning our popular brotherhood retreat in Gatlinburg, Tennessee. Seeing our group grow from 4 members to 56 has been the most exciting experience of my college career.

## **UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA RENO COLONY CERTIFICATION**

*Zach Ward, University of Nevada  
Reno Colony '14*

On December 10, 2011 the University of Nevada, Reno Colony of Theta Tau was certified. A few California chapters and some alumni who live the area were in attendance.

Having chapters come witness us become a colony highlighted the meaning of Theta Tau.

We started with an email sent to students in the College of Engineering and ended with 15 students getting the ball rolling as a group. Our first major undertaking was building a catapult for a local middle school, and it was a good hands-on project for our members to work together. Launching pumpkins was our initial step to bettering our community. Once the middle school worked with us, they wanted our colony to come back for their Medieval week and build them a trebuchet. Along with community service, the colony members have started tailgates and other social events to better get to know each other.

With encouragement from the national officers and Theta Tau chapters, the University of Nevada Reno colony has a support base like no other. The colony members already have many events planned from assisting with the National Concrete Canoe Competition to providing tours of the College of Engineering. The members of the Reno colony have high hopes to become a chapter and have a larger impact on the College of Engineering, the university, and the surrounding community. The colony members would like to thank all who attended this ceremony, and we look forward to making Theta Tau proud!

## **FLORIDA GULF COAST UNIVERSITY COLONY CERTIFICATION**

*Dustin Chisum, FGCU Colony '12*

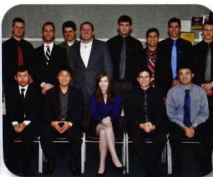
On January 14, 2012, the Florida Gulf Coast University in Fort Meyers, Florida was certified as a colony of Theta Tau. Since organizing as a student group in October 2009, the members have diligently worked toward affiliation with Theta Tau Fraternity. This goal was realized thanks to the national officers and members of the Atlantic region who attended the FGCU Colony certification.

The students at Florida Gulf Coast University impacted the community positively from the very start. Service initiatives include an ongoing relationship with Habitat for Humanity and the formation of the Architecture, Construction, and Engineering (ACE) Mentor program in southwest Florida. In addition to volunteering as student mentors with ACE, a member of the FGCU Colony serves on the board of directors for the non-profit organization.

Moving forward, our goal is to be installed as a chapter. As we continue to grow in numbers and reputation, it is our sincere desire to become an integral part of the College of Engineering at FGCU. We thank everyone who has aided us in our quest to bring such an incredible organization to our campus!



*Iota Delta Chapter Initiates*



*Nevada-Reno Colony Members*

*Photo Credit: Kaz Itaya, Delta Gamma '97*



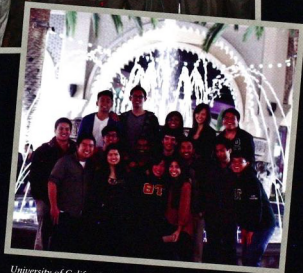
*FGCU Colony Members*

# University of California Irvine Banquet

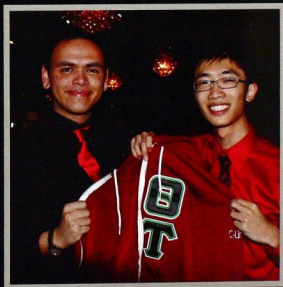
The University of California, Irvine Colony of Theta Tau held an Initiation Banquet on Thursday, January 12, 2012. The joyous occasion was held to celebrate the initiation of UC Irvine Colony's first pledge class and was held at the Tuscany Mediterranean Grill in Irvine. The colony was pleased to have alumni, young and old, from various other chapters, demonstrate the meaning of brotherhood by joining them for the event.



From left to right: Lana Nguyen (Epsilon '11, UCI Colony alumna adviser), Daniel "Xander" White (Tau Gamma '09), Don Saari (Beta '62, UCI professor, and UCI Colony adviser), Dennis Bress (Omega '85), Sam Lee, (Epsilon '11).



University of California-Riverside interest group visited with UC-Irvine Colony members at the Irvine Spectrum in February.



Vice Regent Clever Tan (UC Irvine Colony '13) and his "little" brother, Lloyd Greiner (UC Irvine Colony '14) are holding up their family letters, custom designed from big brother to little brother.



# Promoting Theta Tau at University of Arizona

Brandyn Mahan, Chi '13

This year we have been promoting the fraternity across the University of Arizona campus by hosting and participating in numerous events including Engineers Week, hosting the Rube Goldberg Machine Competition, and several philanthropy events.

This last spring Chi Chapter competed in Engineers Week (also called E-week), hosted by the College of Engineering. E-Week is dedicated to ensuring a diverse and well-educated workforce by increasing awareness of engineering and technology among all university students. This year E-Week took place from February 20 through February 26 on and around campus. During E-Week, clubs, organizations, and societies participate in and host competitions that test engineering skills and concepts.

Theta Tau hosted the Rube Goldberg Machine competition; the challenge this year required teams of students to build a machine with at least 20 steps in order to water a plant at the end. The goal of the competition is to have students think critically and work as a team to make a simple task significantly more complicated by turning a one step task into several chain events that eventually lead to the same end result. Four teams competed: a high school team from California, Delta Gamma Chapter from Arizona State University, Chi Chapter, and the Society for Hispanic Professional Engineers. At the end of E-week, the top three clubs were announced, and Theta Tau came in second place. Due to the chapter's success with Rube Goldberg, Coca-Cola offered us the opportunity to help them with a Rube Goldberg themed commercial.



*Pictured above: Chi's Award winning float.*

*Pictured right: Chi members help the Red Cross.*



This last spring semester several members answered phones for the KUAT televised pledge drive. The annual Theta Tau Halloween Blood Drive was a success in keeping the Red Cross busy the entire day, bringing in 35 working units of blood. All donors were treated with a barbeque in the engineering courtyard. We still remain committed to cleaning up 6th street once a month, as well as the Ben's Bells Project. We also continue to compete in University of Arizona's annual Homecoming float parade. This year we had a tent on the mall for alumni and students. During the halftime show for the UA vs. Utah

football game, Theta Tau was announced as the winner of both popular vote and Marshall Award for best overall float (for the 12th straight year).

Our Regent, Sean Orsburn (Chi '12), has been working with Dean James Baygents to promote the fraternity more on campus. The dean has allowed Theta Tau to have class talks in engineering courses, as well as booths for recruitment throughout campus and at events such as the college's New Student Welcome. Chi Chapter continues to strengthen Theta Tau's influence and reputation both on and off campus.

# Serving the Most Important Meal of the Day

Timothy Nobbee, Kappa Gamma '13

For the past three years, the Kappa Gamma Chapter of Theta Tau and Virginia Commonwealth University School of Engineering have partnered to present Coffee & Bagel Hour. Held every other Thursday during the semester, students and staff are treated to a free breakfast in the lobby of the engineering school in an effort to provide a relaxing, "out of classroom" experience. While providing the most important meal of the day, Coffee & Bagel Hour encourages communication between students and staff that might not otherwise occur during classroom and professor office hours.

Originally the idea came from the Dean of the School of Engineering, who was looking for a creative way to enhance the student-teacher

relationship, and the school reached out to Theta Tau for help running the event. While the School of Engineering hosts and pays for the event, the brothers of the Kappa Gamma chapter donate their time to get food, setup, and clean after the event. Breakfast items include bagels provided by Panera Bread, Krispy Kreme doughnuts, and coffee from Crossroads Coffee and Ice Cream. Faculty and students are free to come and go as their schedule permits. Since its inception, the event has been popular among engineering students, and some teachers let classes out early to get in line.

About two years after the event started, the VCU School of Engineering Career Services began coordinating with Theta Tau to allow



companies to help host Coffee & Bagel Hour. Companies all over Richmond have heard about the popularity of Coffee & Bagel Hour and now regularly schedule their university visits on the same day. This event has expanded to help students find internships, co-ops, and employment after graduation and is a staple of the VCU School of Engineering. The success of Coffee & Bagel Hour has helped Theta Tau spread its influence and name throughout the engineering school.

## Omega Beta Chapter Brings Back Slime Time

Emil Prysak, Omega Beta '12

As with every fall semester at Hofstra University, student organizations teamed up in order to build amazing floats for the annual Homecoming parade. Since the football team was cut from Hofstra's sports program two years ago, there would be no Homecoming game to look forward to in the fall, but the tradition of the Parade of Floats would continue with the newly established annual Fall Festival, which also includes carnival rides and a live concert. This year's theme for the floats was '90s television shows, a theme that sparked feelings of nostalgia in Hofstra's student body and inspired the organizations to bring their childhood shows to life.

The brothers of Omega Beta worked together with Alpha Theta Beta, Hofstra's first and oldest sorority and the Student Government Association to build a float replicating the set of Nickelodeon's Slime Time Live. Staying

true to Theta Tau's open motto, they worked hammer and tongs to put together the most authentic and intricate float possible. With main construction headed by brothers Evan Harrison, Omega Beta '11, and Robin Holloway, Omega Beta '12, the float included a station of swinging slime buckets, pressurized whipped cream cannons, a slime-filled trough (known in the show as the Big Shaboozie), and a functioning slime water fountain. The edible slime itself was made of water, flour, and large amounts of lime Jell-O. The float's background also featured a giant glitter-covered Hofstralodeon sign, paying homage to the show's home network while showing off some Hofstra pride.

After a week of drilling, styrofoam shaving, glittering, and dancing, the members from all three organizations were ready to get slimed on the day of the Parade of Floats. They put

together a skit reenacting an episode of Slime Time Live, which successfully demonstrated the functionality of all of the set pieces, and a dance number put together by Alpha Theta Beta and SGA. The three groups won second place for Best Float and Skit, as well as second place for Best Banner, making this Theta Tau's third consecutive victory in the float building competition. Many lasting friendships were made during the week of float building, and the hard work put in by the students will be remembered for years to come.



# RHO BETA CHAPTER **CHILI COOK-OFF** 2012 AT OHIO UNIVERSITY

*Grace Robison, Rho Beta '13*



*The winning team with their first place trophies: Bryon McElwee, Gene Robison, and Grace Robison*

The Rho Beta Chapter of Theta Tau located in Athens, Ohio, recently held their annual chili cook-off. The Rho Beta Chapter originally started this event in the winter of 2011 to create a fun, friendly competition while bonding with fellow brothers over chili, and the second annual Chili Cook-Off was held on Dad's Weekend, January 21, 2012, so that members' fathers could join in the fun.

We divided into teams of three to four people, and each team created a fun name and motto. The other rules were simple—make your best chili. There were five teams competing, and a wide variety of dishes entered. The judges panel consisted of two dads and a brother's roommate, and the judging criteria included taste, appearance, creative ingredients, texture, and aroma. The judges were presented with one chili at a time labeled with only a number to keep the contest fair. Each judge ranked the chili and gave points for each of the criteria; the points were then tallied to decide the winning chili.

This year the winning chili was Smoked Turkey Chili made by Gene Robison and Brothers Grace Robison, Rho Beta '13, and Bryon McElwee, Rho Beta '13. The aptly-named winning team, "Better Than You," chose smoked turkey as their main and creative ingredient and decided to make the chili sweet. Other teams chose to use creative ingredients such as bananas, coffee grounds, and bottles upon bottles of hot sauce—one team's strategy was to make their dish so hot the judges wouldn't be able to taste the other entries!

Whatever the strategies of the teams, this was a fun way to bring brothers together to instill fraternal fellowship, and we plan on continuing this tradition for many years to come.

# Unique Events at University of California-Davis

## Pie Your Professors

*Ashley Martin, Omicron Gamma '12*

Omicron Gamma Chapter from Davis, California hosted their very first philanthropy event last spring, and this year, they are looking to make it bigger and better! Originally spearheaded by Brother Ashley Martin, this event connects a unique activity with a good service to the community. For this philanthropy event, students purchase cupcake liners filled with whipped cream to toss at their professors from a ten-foot distance. All proceeds from this event will go directly to Big Brothers Big

Sisters of the Greater Sacramento Area. A total of nine professors from various departments on the UC Davis campus graciously volunteered to take a pie to the face for a good cause last year.

Convincing professors to participate in such an event is easier said than done. Omicron Gamma contacted nearly 140 professors at UC-Davis, and nine is more than enough to host a successful event. The chapter requested funding from the College of Engineering in order to purchase the supplies and vast amount of whipped cream needed, and they agreed to reimburse our full expenses. Hosting a

campus-wide event is not a simple task, but overall, it sheds a good light on Omicron Gamma Chapter.

This year, Brothers Amy Cunningham, Omicron Gamma '14, and Ashley Martin will be pushing this event to be even more successful. Omicron Gamma has received confirmation that their adviser, Professor John Owens, will participate, and we hope our Omicron Gamma alumni will come back and donate. Everyone at Omicron Gamma is motivated to make this event an annual event no one can miss!

## Warrior Dash

*Chrissy Palomares, Omicron Gamma '11, Corresponding Secretary*

Warrior Dash is an annual 5k race held around the country complete with obstacles, mud, barbed wire, and fire. Mud runners race to the finish, walking planks and tightropes, hurdling over barricades, climbing rope walls, walking on fire, and trudging through the mud under barbed wire—all in exchange for a fuzzy Viking hat, a medal, and free beer.

By keeping in close contact with the UC-Irvine Colony, Chrissy Palomares learned how to get involved with Warrior Dash and use it as a fundraiser for Omicron Gamma Chapter. In late October 2011, Omicron Gamma members volunteered for the Dash in exchange for a hefty donation of \$1,000! Volunteers spent the entire day in Hollister, CA where the atmosphere was filled with fun and excitement. Brothers were responsible for



*Brothers Kimberly Rovai and Amy Cunningham motivate runners to crawl in the mud underneath barbed wire to reach the finish line.*

keeping the energy high and making sure the runners were safe around the obstacles. Some brothers were given megaphones and told to motivate (and heckle) the runners who refused to crawl in the mud. Other volunteers gave refreshments and congratulations at the finish line and in return were covered in mud from bear hugs given by those who finished the race.

Being able to participate at Warrior Dash was reward enough because of the fun and rewarding experience, and the donation at the end of the day was icing on the cake. Thank you to all the brothers who helped this event go off without a hitch; let's make our attendance an annual tradition!

# In Memoriam

## ALPHA

University of Minnesota  
Cecil Hubert Suter  
Class of 1952, Roll No. 600

## BETA

Michigan Technological University  
Philip Raymond Michel  
Class of 1953, Roll No. 676

## GAMMA

Colorado School of Mines  
Earl Walter Adams  
Class of 1932, Roll No. 369  
Paul V. Fillo  
Class of 1938, Roll No. 493  
Glen Edward Hasse  
Class of 1962, Roll No. 950

## DELTA

Case Western Reserve University  
Robert Martin Kemper  
Class of 1942, Roll No. 454  
Edward Leonard Maag  
Class of 1951, Roll No. 759

## EPSILON

University of California, Berkeley  
Ronald Lowell Ackley  
Class of 1951, Roll No. 695  
John Czamecki  
Class of 1951, Roll No. 656  
George Wilson Metcalf  
Class of 1948, Roll No. 577

## ZETA

University of Kansas  
Bill Earl Rae  
Class of 1952, Roll No. 545  
Kenneth Neil White  
Class of 1954, Roll No. 570  
Elbert Boyson Youngstrom  
Class of 1933, Roll No. 255

## THETA

Columbia University  
Roscoe Guernsey  
Class of 1938, Roll No. 262

## LAMBDA

University of Utah  
Don Alvin Olson  
Class of 1943, Roll No. 445

## MU

University of Alabama  
Beal Madison Teague  
Class of 1940, Roll No. 263

## NU

Carnegie Mellon University  
Arthur Edward Steele  
Class of 1942, Roll No. 352

## XI

University of Wisconsin  
Jack Louis VanDerhei  
Class of 1975, Roll No. 371

## PI

University of Virginia  
James Owen Rector  
Class of 1963, Roll No. 631  
William Warner Staley  
Class of 1947, Roll No. 261

## RHO

North Carolina State University at Raleigh  
Harrison William Fox  
Class of 1941, Roll No. 251

## SIGMA

The Ohio State University  
William John Dandalides  
Class of 1968, Roll No. 599  
Carl David Fischer  
Class of 1939, Roll No. 180

## TAU

Syracuse University  
Stephen Hays Jecko  
Class of 1964, Roll No. 632

## UPSILON

University of Arkansas  
Johnny Bruce Floyd  
Class of 1964, Roll No. 587  
Doyle Stanley Gibson  
Class of 1949, Roll No. 309  
Richard Gene Meek  
Class of 1949, Roll No. 272

## PHI

Purdue University  
Nicholas B. Barsha  
Class of 1939, Roll No. 138  
Herschel Lee McCord  
Class of 1966, Roll No. 382

## CHI

University of Arizona  
Maurice George Free  
Class of 1965, Roll No. 627  
Martin Oliver Lohman  
Class of 1957, Roll No. 514  
Nelson Severinghaus  
Class of 1951, Roll No. 392

## GAMMA BETA

The George Washington University  
Charles Edward Chambliss  
Class of 1949, Roll No. 219  
Edward Egloff  
Class of 1950, Roll No. 243  
Robert Charles Koche  
Class of 1949, Roll No. 192  
George Winston Plondke  
Class of 1948, Roll No. 182

## DELTA BETA

University of Louisville  
Walton Selwyn Furnas  
Class of 1943, Roll No. 61

## EPSILON BETA

Wayne State University  
Charles Marcus Daniels  
Class of 1956, Roll No. 72

## IOTA BETA

University of Detroit Mercy  
Gregory Andrew Humenik  
Class of 1973, Roll No. 135  
Orvell Tucker  
Class of 1990, Roll No. 205

## LAMBDA BETA

Tennessee Technological University  
Lester Eugene Blair  
Class of 1977, Roll No. 136



## Welcome to the newest members of the 2nd Century Society!



Edward Bohannon  
David Holberg  
Joseph McCombs  
Neil Smith

Henry Coil  
William Lowrie  
James Moden

You too can provide assistance to our Fraternity and Foundation beyond even your own lifetime. Contact the Central Office (800/264-1904 or visit the [educational.foundation@thetatau.org](mailto:educational.foundation@thetatau.org)) for more information on the Second Century Society! We greatly 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, EB '92

Robert Alexander, Iota '67

Robert W. Ageton, Chi '42

Dean W. Bettinger, Tau '81

Edward L. Bohannon, Zeta '69

A. Thomas Brown, Mu '77

Jeffrey S. Brown, Phi '87

J. Matthew Clark, Kappa Beta '99

Henry Coil, Epsilon '54

Daniel T. Colpi, Phi '98

John W. F. Dulles, Chi '43

William S. Johnson, Rho '42

Julia Kinchen, Eta Gamma '01

Charles Gnerlich, Delta Beta '66

J. Hal Grossman, Phi '71

Lee C. Haas, Rho '62

Lester A. Haug, Zeta '39

David Holberg, Zeta '65

George K. Kostopoulos, Xi Beta '88

Michael Livingston, GB '92

William Lowrie, Sigma '66

Joseph McCombs, Rho '69

Duncan M. McIntosh, Chi '65

John A. McNary, Chi '37

Wayne K. Milne, Phi '38

James Moden, Epsilon Beta '53

Arthur M. Partin, Tau '84

Otto Pfahl, Mu Beta '69

Robert E. Pope, Zeta '52

Neil Smith, Theta '66

Ron Starr, Beta '67

Justin G. Wiseman, Xi Beta '94



In January 2012, while national officers were in Charleston, South Carolina, for a weekend meeting and planning session. Mr. & Mrs. William Lowrie, Sigma '66, joined those in attendance for dinner and to receive his Alumni of Fame plaque in person. To find out more about the Alumni Hall of Fame, visit [http://www.thetatau.org/?page=hall\\_of\\_fame](http://www.thetatau.org/?page=hall_of_fame)

## Theta Tau

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

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# RESURGENCE IN CHARLOTTESVILLE!

**16 new members** were initiated into Pi Chapter at the University of Virginia on April 14. This resulted from the national fraternity's effort to recruit members and was assisted by the SEAS E-Council and supported by Dean James Aylor, Pi '68. The member education period was primarily self-led concluding when the members demonstrated knowledge of Theta Tau's history and purpose, and successfully conducted events or activities in the areas of professional development, community service, and brotherhood.



The new group at UVA extends its sincere thanks to those nearby Atlantic Region chapters that checked in, lent advice, and counseled the new group remotely. The members were impressed by the brotherhood demonstrated by so many from other Theta Tau campuses. The Executive Director also thanks those from Rho, Kappa Gamma, and Psi Gamma chapters who assisted with the orientation activities and initiation ceremony. Bright days are ahead for Theta Tau at UVA!