



A Publication of the Sigma Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity

361 NW 26th Street

Corvallis, Oregon 97330



Sigma Chapter members pose outside the house on a rare sunny day.

New Alumni President Upbeat, Goal Oriented

My name is Kevin Gorman ['92-1309], and, for those of you who did not attend Homecoming this year, I was elected alumni president at that time. I felt that the *Tattler* would be a good vehicle for sharing the optimism I feel about the near future and for letting everyone know what the alumni board is working on.

First, a little about myself. I was the third member of my family to join Sigma Chapter. While an undergraduate, I served as house manager, vice president, and president. I graduated in the winter of 1996 upon completion of my industrial and manufacturing engineering degree. Currently, I am a manufacturing engineer for Cascade Microtech, Inc., a Beaverton company that manufactures equipment for the semiconductor industry.

During my term as alumni president, I will follow the fine example of Scott Debo ['90-1249], who did a great job of developing close ties with the undergraduates. I will take up where he left off and strive to make some improvements, too.

I visited the house during the latter half of fall term and attended chapter. I must tell you that before driving down to Corvallis, I prepared myself for the worst. I realized that we recently had gone through an entire reorganization, and many members were lost as a result. I knew that the Greek system as a whole has been feeling the pinch of low rush numbers and increased regulations. I was aware that every chapter on campus has stressed risk management to avoid liability issues. This emphasis has taken resources from the other vital concerns of Greek organizations: rush, philanthropy, and campus involvement. I was prepared to see 15 or so members in chapter that night; however, the

room was quite full. I saw better attendance than when we had 63 live-ins and just as many live-outs.

This involvement was very encouraging to me. I've come to the realization that even when the numbers were at their highest, only about 25% of the members made positive contributions to the chapter. I could see that in that room sat a group of individuals determined to improve their situation. This attitude is essential for improvement, and I feel that it is the alumni board's duty to steer the undergraduate members' efforts toward attainable goals.

With this in mind, the board is coordinating a winter term retreat, the focus of which will be creating a goal for 1999. We will establish objectives and milestones for winter, spring, and fall, and having clear goals and a definite timetable will ensure steady progress. The chapter's executive board will provide me with biweekly updates showing dates of completed action items and milestones. I will stress to the undergraduates that success lies in continuous improvement in all areas of the organization; each person will have a vital role in the chapter's future success.

I will close with one request. Please give these men support with the task of improving Sigma Chapter. There are many ways you can help. All of your monetary contributions are greatly appreciated and are needed to maintain the chapter's aging house. There are leaky pipes, water-stained ceilings, and other repairs that need to be done. If you have skills in this area and have the desire to pitch in, please contact the chapter president, Adam Marshall, or me. The board is currently exploring some

THE TATTLEER

SIGMA

WINTER 1999

avenues for fund-raising opportunities, as well; if you have experience in fund-raising, we would very much like to hear your ideas. Please give me a call and let me know if you can help out in any way. Fraternally, — *Kevin L. Gorman, 6306 SW 30th Ave., Portland, OR 97201; 503-601-1535 (work), 503-768-4804 (home); keving@cmicro.com*

Chapter Presidents' Report

I've been the president for the past two years and have seen this chapter at its worst and at its best — which would be right now. We started this fall term off by pledging 13 guys through formal rush and two through informal rush. We currently have 33 guys living in the house and are working hard to increase this number. The morale of the chapter is high.

We have just elected a new executive board, including a new president. Yes, I am finally retiring. Adam Mitchell took over at the beginning of winter term, and I am confident in his ability to lead this chapter on to bigger and better things over the next year.

I thank all alumni who have supported this chapter and me over the past four years. Theta Chi and its brotherhood have been one of the highlights of my life. I am very grateful for the friends and experiences that I have gained through involvement with this chapter. I just thought you might want to know that Sigma of Theta Chi is still providing growing experiences for guys like myself, and it will continue to do this well into the future.

Well, I will turn over the rest of this article to Adam, but you will hear from me in the future, when I can find time in a few years to run for alumni president! Have a great 1999! — *Sam Carter*

I am pleased to write you this article as the new president of Sigma Chapter. I am anxious to continue to move this chapter in the direction in which all the brothers have it going. Some of my main goals are to institute a program that continues the education of the older members, to improve the level of mutual respect and morale within the chapter, and to win the Alter Award and the Brennan Cup.

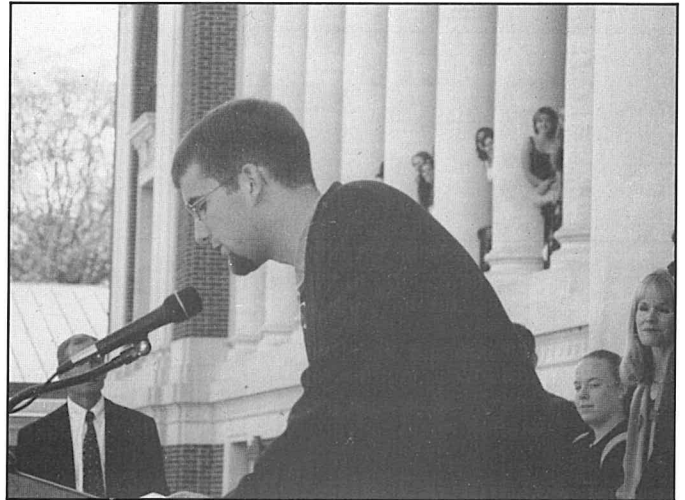
I plan to have a guest speaker each month. I hope to have speakers cover a variety of topics, such as improving the Greek system as a whole, sensitizing ourselves to sexual harassment, alcohol education, and résumé improvement. I feel that no matter how good the chapter has become, morale and mutual respect between members can always be improved. I hope to help brothers by encouraging them to serve as examples whom others can follow; I hope to show everyone how the creed and ideals of Theta Chi can be applied to daily life. As far as the awards go, while I can't win them myself, I can inspire and encourage my brothers to do everything they can to put us on top, to be the best fraternity on campus and the best chapter in Theta Chi.

If you have any advice or ideas, please give me a call at 541-752-9635, come by the house for a meal, or attend a chapter meeting on Monday nights. Thank you for all of your continued support! Fraternally, — *Adam Mitchell*

Treasurers' Accounting

I am just finishing my two years as treasurer, and I am excited about what we as a chapter accomplished financially during my years in office. Starting winter term of my freshman year (January 1997), the chapter overcame a \$16,000 debt and instituted a legally binding billing system.

I will be taking over as president starting in January, and I feel that we are lucky to have Jason Marshall taking over as treasurer. — *Adam Mitchell*



Ryan Oliver, secretary of both Sigma Chapter and the IFC, announces the names of Theta Chi pledges at the conclusion of rush in fall 1998.

To start, let me introduce myself. I am a senior in the chapter and an academic junior. After living out last year, I moved back into the house this year to fulfill my three-year obligation. I left Sigma after starting my sophomore year to join the US Army; currently, I serve in the Oregon Army National Guard. My obligation to the army keeps me busy outside of school.

I decided to run for the position of Sigma's treasurer for a few reasons, foremost among them being that I wanted to address what I believe to be the problem of underclassmen serving as chapter treasurer. During my affiliation with Sigma, we have had two freshmen elected treasurer. They both did outstanding jobs, especially given that they served during a time when the chapter was in a decline. However, both times, the outgoing treasurer dumped the responsibilities onto the new treasurer — with little transition.

Luckily, Scott Friedman and Adam Mitchell were able to teach themselves how to be effective treasurers. I don't want this self-teaching to be necessary in the future, and my main goal is to leave the treasury in an improved condition for the succeeding treasurer. It should be noted that this practice of preparing for your successor is in accordance with President Sam Carter's policy of overlapping the terms of outgoing and incoming presidents and treasurers to ensure smoother transitions.

Some of my projects include: 1) establishing online banking for our chapter accounts to make it easier to track spending categories for future budgeting; 2) archiving yearly budgets, account histories, etc., in an electronic format to reduce the amount of space-hogging paper records; 3) entering summer '99 with no accounts payable (which we have achieved the last few years) to leave the next treasurer with no debt; and 4) ensuring that money for our summer '99 rush budget comes out of this year's funds and does not spill over into fall '99.

These are my goals. I believe they address some of the main problems that we have in our financial process here at Sigma. I would be open to — and in fact seek — any advice past treasurers can give. Thank you. — *Jason Marshall*

New Member Educator Explains 4-1-4

I have had the great pleasure of educating our new brothers since last winter term. I also had the chance to go to our national convention in San Antonio, Texas, this past summer with Sam Carter (president) and Ryan Oliver (secretary) and brought back some ideas that I hope will help the chapter. I learned a

lot of things at the convention, not only about new ideas but about how other chapters operate. It is comforting to me that other chapters have some of the same ups and downs that our chapter has.

We have successfully initiated 13 new members for fall term 1998. We again implemented the 4-1-4 New Member Education Program, and we are still working the kinks out. The only major issue as far as the 4-1-4 program goes is the schedule of events during the term.

For those who do not know what the 4-1-4 is, I will explain. The 4-1-4 is: four weeks of education on the creed, expectations of a brother, local and national history, objectives, and getting new members situated in the house and on campus, etc.; one week of initiation; four weeks of continued education on subjects deemed necessary, such as "rush school" or seminars on sexual harassment. I strongly believe that this is a great rush tool because we can advertise that not only will we initiate our new members the first term, but we will do so in about four to five weeks.

Now, I know some of you may be thinking that four weeks is not enough time, or that "that's not the way we did it." However, the national headquarters strongly urges all chapters to at least try the 4-1-4 program before passing judgment. We tried it last year and have made progress in working out the bugs since then. I think we have it nailed down to just scheduling conflicts as our major problem. It's a great program and has led to a successful education process.

If you have questions, feel free to write to me, or e-mail me at meyeri@ucs.orst.edu. Fraternaly, — *Ian Meyer*

Fall 1998 Initiates

November 5, 1998

Alexander Zach Clark	Eugene, OR
Paul David Fisher	West Linn, OR
Andrew Takahiro Gille	Salem, OR
Kevin Barry Guiney	Madras, OR
Adam James Hickey	San Ramon, CA
Aaron Michael Lieuallen	Madras, OR
Thomas F. Normandin	West Linn, OR
Austin Daniel Rabe	Salem, OR
Donny Phillip Revis	Turner, OR
Cassidy O. Riordan	Monmouth, OR
Andrew James Stallings	Turner, OR
Scott James Taylor	Gresham, OR
Zachary Kittredge Zarosinski	Portland, OR

Rush Chair Reports a Great Rush, Seeks Greater Alumni Participation

This school year was preceded by an extremely successful summer rush. Although our rush budget was fairly restricted, we were able to partake in several exciting activities. Our summer rush events included camping at Ollalie Lake, water-skiing in Roseburg, and a wonderful pool party at a brother's house in Portland. Through these activities and many others, we were able to sign 14 new pledges, of whom 13 are now Sigma of Theta Chi brothers.

My goals for this year are to have a large informal rush and set up strong objectives for the next rush chairman. We have already successfully signed two informals, and we hope to keep up our goal of signing four quality men per term. Overall, rush has been great, and if we continue initiating quality men, we should be at capacity in no time.

If I could ask anything of Sigma Chapter's alumni, it would be to host a rush party this summer, or at least get involved. This would help us a tremendous amount. Other fraternities here have alumni who participate a great deal in rush, oftentimes even hosting large parties, and this puts us at a disadvantage. Any participation you can offer would be appreciated. Fraternaly, — *Nick Stokes, '98 Rush Chairman*

Obituaries

Lyle H. Johnson, '27-131, passed away July 19, 1995, according to a note from a relative. Brother Johnson was born April 26, 1905.

Findlay C. Penix, '38-246, died May 9, 1998. Findlay resided in New Smyrna Beach, Florida.

Lawrence E. Hardman, '39-270, of Tulelake, California, passed away March 3, 1998, according to *The Oregon Stater*. "Al" was born May 16, 1920.

Donald G. Lavey, '43-395, died June 22, 1997. Brother Lavey resided in Shoreline, Washington.

Gilbert H. Ridder, '47-470, of Lake Forest Park, Washington, passed away August 4, 1998, according to *The Oregon Stater*. Gilbert was born January 21, 1911, and graduated from OSU in 1934.

Tattle Tales

Oliver W. Miller, '32-185, colonel USAF (retired), resides at 723 Holly Oak Dr., Palo Alto, CA 94303. Brother Miller writes, "Best regards to all Theta Chis!!!"

Edwin J. Stastny, '35-221, writes, "I congratulate you [Sigma Chapter] on increasing membership and maintaining good grades." Ed sends a rushee recommendation for Sigma: his grandson. Brother Stastny resides at 23333 Evans Rd., Malin, OR 97632; 541-723-4583.

Hollis D. Brown, '39-268, and his wife, Rene, reside at 7108 Daisy Ln., Citrus Heights, CA 95621; 916-721-9580. Hollis is a retired engineer. He is busy helping the Shriners Crippled Children's Hospital and also belongs to the Masons. Hollis and Rene have a son, Jeff (40).

Jack D. Over, '43-372, is a retired dentist who enjoys golf and travel. He and his wife, Cathie Bogert Over (ΑΓΔ, OSU '48), have two sons, Tom (47) and Joe (43). Jack and Cathie reside at 3145 NE 108th, Portland, OR 97220; 503-252-3841. Jack announced in early September, "Fiftieth wedding anniversary in September '98. See **Jack O'Brien** ['47-452], **Lanar Coverstone** ['43-374], and **Fred Wall** ['46-433] occasionally."

Richard M. Thurin, '48-475, and his wife, Norma "Cass" (ΑΓΔ, OSU '50), reside at 7355 SW Sharon Ln., Portland, OR 97225; 503-292-0928; ndthurin@juno.com. They have three children, "all in their 40s." "Stretch" writes, "My wife and I attended the 50th wedding anniversary of brother **Ellis Purdy, '47-458**, and his wife, Elenora, this summer and had a great time. We saw brother **Jack O'Brien, '47-452**, and his wife at the party, after not having seen them for about 30 years."

Gordon B. Bennett, '51-529, reported in May 1998, "Another busy year. Went to Europe for six weeks last fall, and we are going to Alaska, where we will rent an RV and roam about for two weeks in September. We will travel to the Midwest in the RV this summer. Would like to hear from other Theta Chis who were in the house when I was." Brother Bennett and his wife, Edith, reside at 14201 Fortuna Palms Pl., Yuma, AZ 85367; 520-342-1110; K7PED@juno.com. They have three children — Jim (46), Nancy (44), and Mary (43) — as well as four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. Gordon is "very active" in amateur radio.

Michael Wills, '58-653, resides with his wife, Judy, at 17605 SE Roethe Pl., Milwaukie, OR 97267; 503-654-1156. Mike and Judy have three daughters: Michelle (32, U of Chicago), Tiffani (29, George Fox), and Vicki (24, ΚΚΓ, OSU). Mike belongs to the OSU Beaver Club and BPOE (Elks) Lodge 1189. He is also a life member of the OSU Alumni Association. He writes, "Basically retired in 1978. Moved to Hawaii for a few years. Moved back to Oregon. Bought a tavern and now spend my time building a cabin out of Mitchell. Also put in hours fishing, hunting, eating, and drinking (not necessarily in that order)." Mike lists himself as "owner-president, CEO, and EIEIO" of the Gladstone Card Room!

Greg P. Jacob, '64-749, says, "Ran into fellow alum **Jeff Johnson** ['67-800] at a wedding in Napa, California. We shared old frat tales about initiation ceremonies, or should I say, trials and tribulations!" Greg lives at 2157 NE Grant St., Hillsboro, OR 97124.

Edward P. Jacobson, '64-751, is a fund-raising and communications consultant and trainer. He and his wife, Sandy (San Diego State U), reside at 1821 Kennedy Dr., Pierre, SD 57501; coach@cam-walnet.com. Ed writes, "Still coaching volleyball in Pierre and now coaching golf — both boys' and girls' — at Stanley County High School in Ft. Pierre, just across the Missouri River."

John C. Goetz, '81-1049, writes, "Keep up the good work, Sigma Chapter! I moved back to the Pacific Northwest about two years ago and live in southwestern Washington. I work for Hewlett Packard in Vancouver, Washington, and really like it. ["Brawny" is a competitive analyst.] I see **Dave "Pink Steel" Roberts** ['81-1051] and **Scott "Scotter" Johnson** ['81-1046] regularly. I am married to a wonderful gal (Carol) and have two kids, Angela (6) and Julia (4). If you're in the area, give me a call at 360-891-6838." John and family reside at 20413 NE 161st St., Brush Prairie, WA 98606; John_Goetz@hp.com.

Peter A. Nelson, '82-1079, enjoys golf, bow hunting, and bird hunting. He's been sales manager at Marc Nelson Oil Products, Inc., for 10 years. He lives at 4264 Bryan St. S., Salem, OR 97303; 503-375-3457. Brother Nelson announces, "Just got engaged! My fiancée's name is Jacque Gorham. She played volleyball at OSU for two years and then transferred to U of O. I had to look past that when I met her; I hope you guys will too. Other than being half Duck, she is a fine gal. She told me the other day that we should start a family right away. I hope our children don't resemble platypuses! Best of luck to the chapter!"

Daniel J. Dunstan, '83-1089, writes to the alumni office requesting help in locating **Bob Scott, '82-1062**. Happy to oblige, Dan! Brother Dunstan resides at 960 Rancho Lobo Ln., West Linn, OR 97068; 503-655-4296.

Torri E. Lynn, '84-1128, is a supervising probation officer for the Linn County juvenile authority. "Skin," his wife, Kela Sue (OSU), and their daughter, Talia Mae (1½), reside at 316 6th Ave. SW, Albany, OR 97321; 541-924-5639. Writes Torri, "Recently moved to our current address, a historic home in Albany built about 1900. I now truly understand what the position of 'house mouse' is all about! We have a beautiful daughter and are very much enjoying parenthood. Would love to hear from the 'bros.' "

Jon P. Bettendorf, '86-1152, resides at 8394 SW Charlotte Dr., Beaverton, OR 97007, with his wife, Tiffani (ΑΓΔ, OSU), and their four children: Bradley (7), Conor (5), Maxwell (3), and Grant (1). "Dorf" is in national sales for Columbia Funds. He writes, "Traveling throughout the Midwest in search of money. Love to visit bros — buy them food and leech a room for the night. Going to sporting events every night with my boys (theirs, of course). Loving life, living large! Would love to see a pledge class reunion — relive our walkout. Where's **Pee Wee, Dale Will** ['86-1170], **Depner** ['86-1153], **Phil May** ['86-1150], etc.?" You can call Jon at 503-649-1727, or e-mail him at bettendorf@columbiainfunds.com.

Steven R. Johnson, '92-1311, and his wife (ΠΒΦ, U of O) have two children, Evan (3) and Claire (1½). "Johnson" has been branch manager for Familian Northwest for two years. He enjoys golf, hunting, and fishing. He writes, "Busy with work and family. Just spent six labor-intensive hours setting up a swing set for my son's third-birthday surprise. The reaction was well worth the effort. Would love to hook up with other Sigmas now and then!" The Johnsons reside at 3594 Sussex St., Eugene, OR 97401; 541-485-2901; johnsonshec@juno.com.

Geoffrey S. Bryant, '93-1336, writes, "It was great to read all the good news in the Spring 1998 edition of *The Sigma Tattler*. From the articles I have read, it seems that there are still opportunities to improve, but you are now reaping rewards for the hard work that many of you have contributed over the last few years. Continue the great work, with pride!!!" Geoff lives at 1136 Monterey Blvd., Hermosa Beach, CA 90254.

1998 Honor Roll of Contributors

In 1998, 88 Theta Chis contributed a total of \$4,820 via the alumni communications program. Your dollars support *The Sigma Tattler*, which exists to keep alumni in touch with the chapter and with each other. Whatever is left over after paying the cost of communications goes toward chapter house improvements, rush, and other worthy ends. Many thanks to all who are participating!

Name	Init. Yr. & No.				
Marvin L. Fisher	26 125	Gordon B. Bennett	51 529	Gregory A. Parrott	73 891
Warner T. Palmer	28 140	Jack L. Sturza	51 533	Vance F. Huddle	73 892
Fred S. Winters	28 144	Charles E. Carlbom	54 577	Scott D. Linde	73 893
Ralph G. Ciliax	29 151	George H. Caspar	54 585	Paul D. Traugher	74 914
Frank W. Dedman	29 159	Gene R. Wall	56 628	Steve D. Mullins	78 985
Curtis C. Tigard	29 160	Robert D. Campbell	57 648	Mark R. Lloyd	79 1010
Oliver W. Miller	32 185	Michael Willis	58 653	Kevin P. Carbin, Jr.	81 1037
Edwin J. Stastny	35 221	Ken S. Hessel	58 654	John C. Goetz	81 1049
Murel A. Long	35 222	Jared L. Black	58 660	David G. Roberts	81 1051
Robert W. Jensen	37 240	Jack I. Hamilton	58 662	Rodney W. Copeland	82 1070
Hollis D. Brown	39 268	William A. Lamb	58 667	Peter A. Nelson	82 1079
Herbert T. Osborne	40 288	Joe W. Moore	59 672	Daniel J. Dunstan	83 1089
J. Randall Pope	42 315	Roger L. Rollins	59 683	Michael H. Portwood	84 1120
Charles A. Boyden	42 357	Gilbert N. Miller	61 707	Douglas R. Faulkner	84 1121
Jack D. Over	43 372	Robert K. Russell, Jr.	62 712	Torri E. Lynn	84 1128
H. Richard Westerberg	43 378	Dwight J. Matson	62 719	James T. VanHorn	85 1141
George E. Carlon	43 393	Robert G. Nelson	62 721	Jon P. Bettendorf	86 1152
Arnold F. Peterson	45 411	Charles D. Mosher	62 722	Jeffery P. Hough	86 1169
Alvin B. Friedrich	45 412	Steven L. Senders	63 732	Kevin J. Monaghan	87 1196
Robert E. Woodley	46 420	William Z. Scott	64 746	Spencer A. Clarke	88 1209
Earl E. Hardie	46 434	Michael L. Hornbeck	64 748	David C. Ohm	88 1216
John C. O'Brien	47 452	Greg P. Jacob	64 749	David D. Culbertson	88 1221
Ellsworth D. Purdy	47 458	Edward P. Jacobson	64 751	Craig A. Keudell	89 1224
Fred E. Harem	47 459	Verlin R. Rhoades	64 758	Stephen W. Flett	89 1244
Richard M. Thurin	48 475	Steven E. Wall	66 781	James V. Decker	90 1258
Johnny A. Ielmini	48 481	Stephen B. Jolley	66 784	Kevin L. Gorman	92 1309
Robert G. Lium	48 482	Robert C. Byrne	69 834	Steven R. Johnson	92 1311
Donald C. Wilson	48 484	Bradley D. Hagedorn	70 850	Brian C. Patridge	92 1325
Ernest W. Templin	48 493	Bud Hooker	70 855	Geoffrey S. Bryant	93 1336
		Brian N. Sommer	71 867		