



THE TIGER SIG



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

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

SPRING 2008

Alumni Advisory Board and Xi Xi Education Foundation Gives \$20,000 in Academic Scholarships

- MOTHERS CLUB AWARD BANQUET HELD
- GUEST SPEAKER CONGRESSMAN IKE SKELTON IV '53
- CHAPTER TOP 5 IN GRADES

“High places are vacant, and men filled with the fraternal spirit must take them. You are called to stern responsibilities in these high places. You bear upon your breasts the emblem of the most exalted manhood that mankind will ever know.”

—Congressman **Ike Skelton IV '53** quoting Brig. Gen. Benjamin Piatt Runkle at the installation of Xi Xi Chapter at the University of Missouri on September 26, 1896.

With these strong words, Brother Skelton honored the young men of Xi Xi who gathered for the Mothers Club award banquet at Old Hawthorne Country Club on April 5. Twenty-eight young men received scholarship awards for grade point averages above 3.0 in the fall semester. Last year the chapter set a goal to be in the top five in grades. Mission accomplished!

But staying on top is tough. “When we stop getting better, we stop staying good!” That is why the Alumni Advisory Board puts such a high value on incentives for scholarship. We gave over \$12,000 in **Robert L. Jackson '64** and **E. Barry Mansur '64** Scholarship Awards for students with academic achievements above a 3.0 G.P.A. In addition, the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Educational Foundation, represented by **Dan Slickman '77**,

gave an additional \$4,000 (\$1,000 to each class leader in grades and contribution to the chapter). Altogether, we gave nearly \$20,000 in scholarship money, and we did it in front of the people who matter most in the lives of these young men—their mothers!



Congressman Ike Skelton IV '53 honored the young men of Xi Xi who gathered for the Mothers Club award banquet.

From the beginning, Brothers Jackson and Mansur and the leaders of the Xi Xi Educational Foundation recognized the tremendous recruiting advantage of a scholarship fund. It would help us recruit young men with the values of character and leadership. We are off to a great start.

Since the chapter was reconstituted in 2006, Brothers Jackson and Mansur have given \$29,000 in scholarships. We thank Bob and Barry for their commitment to bring Xi Xi back.

Ike Skelton renewed the Ike Skelton III Award for Junior Leadership, which is dedicated to his father.

I also wanted to do something personal to recognize leadership and decided the best way would be to renew the Harry Tidd Award for Sophomore Leadership. Harry was from Hutchinson, Kansas, and started the award in the 1920s. In carrying on this tradition, I am funding this award each year in his name.

Special thanks for this year’s Mothers Club award banquet go to Jan Clutter and her team of Sigma Chi moms who organized this unbelievable event. Attendance was 100 percent except for two moms who were out of the country. Thanks also to **Clayton Burnett '01**, chapter advisor, who served as master of ceremonies. Clayton has served tirelessly in providing leadership and guidance to the chapter. Also in attendance were **Dave Bear '65**, **Andy Kassel, Western Illinois '95**, **Larry McMullen '53**, and **George Gale '54**. Special thanks go to **John Gurney '10** who put the perfect finish on a perfect evening as he led the chapter in singing the Sweetheart Song to their moms.

Xi Xi is doing unbelievably well. We are in first place in small-chapter intramurals. We had 51 members living in the house last fall and will have 70 members living in this fall. This growth will move us into large-chapter intramurals. Our accountancy team won first place (and received \$1,000 each) in the PricewaterhouseCoopers Extreme Accounting Challenge (out of nine MU organizations competing). Now we compete in the national championship against winners from 40 other states.



In hoc,
Jay Shields '76
President
Xi Xi House Corporation
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jayshields@schafferoil.com

ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD

Chapter Advisor/Academic Advisor
Clayton Burnett '01

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SPRING 2008 XI XI PLEDGE CLASS

Dominic Bergfeld
Nick Cies
David Clasby
John Clifford
Dominic DeFeo
Tim Hosie
Tommy Hunkins
Kurt Juhl
Ryan O'Connell
Ryan Pestka
Matthew Schmertz



Mark Wolff '10, Greg Clutter '10, Alan Simpson '09, Kirk Payne '10, Chris Jones '11, Dominic Bergfeld '11, Mike Holt '11, Ryan Pestka '11, Scott Myers '11, and Brad Wegman '08 sang the Sweetheart Song to their moms at the first Xi Xi Mothers Club awards banquet.

The State of the Xi Xi Chapter

Derby Days Raises More Than \$2,800 Balfour Leadership Training Workshop in Columbia this Summer

This will be remembered as a watershed year in the history of the Xi Xi Chapter. Our new chapter participated for the first time in Homecoming, successfully held our first Mothers Club banquet and Derby Days, and organized the initiation of the Epsilon pledge class; our first initiation run completely by the chapter.

On April 5, the first Sigma Chi Mothers Club banquet was a huge success. The dinner offered a chance to show the mothers how important they are and an opportunity to recognize the accomplishments of the undergraduates in front of their mothers. Check out the impressive amount of awards presented on page 3 of this newsletter.

Sigma Chi hosted the first Derby Days at 500 South College in over five years. Several sororities participated in the philanthropic fun, and we raised more than \$2,800 for Children's Miracle Network and the Huntsman Cancer Foundation.

Participating in the 2008 Greek Week, the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Chapter placed sixth overall in a week that tested every facet of our abilities. Our chapter paired with the ladies of Zeta Tau Alpha.

This summer the University of Missouri will host the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop for the second consecutive year. This year's Balfour will also see the formal installation of a new chapter of Sigma Chi. All Xi Xi brothers are encouraged to attend this very memorable event to be held in Columbia.



Paul Spearing '10, Dominic DeFeo '11, Kellen Long '10, and Ryan Turner '11 participate in the tug-of-war during Greek Week. Sigma Chi took second and propelled their pairing to fourth overall in Greek Week sports.

As we move into the next year, Xi Xi plans to maintain the high standard we have set for ourselves over the past few years and to uphold the values we have voluntarily taken upon ourselves. Next semester, we plan to improve upon our previous performance in Homecoming, become more active in philanthropic activities, improve our already high academics, and concentrate on making the fall 2008 pledge class an exemplary one for all Sigma Chis.



In hoc,
Dane Gibson '09
Consul
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dkgx93@mizzou.edu



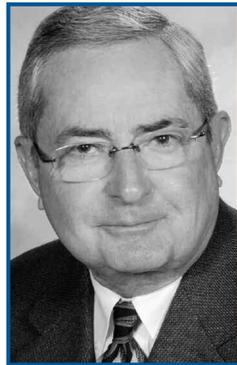
Phil Walters '59 Inducted to the Order of Constantine

ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Phil Walters '59 has been inducted to the Order of Constantine. He responded to this award by saying, "It is a great honor to have been selected as a Constantine Sig. The response from the alumni and the young men who were at Xi Xi when I was advisor has been very gratifying."

He joined Sigma Chi because of the high standards the active members maintained. Being part of this Fraternity gave him the opportunity to establish lifelong friendships. One of Phil's favorite memories as an undergraduate is spring formal on the front lawn of 500 College.

Xi Xi alumni are convinced that Phil saved the chapter during its darkest days. Once one of the top fraternities on the University of Missouri campus, Xi Xi Chapter membership had plummeted to less than 20 by its 80th year. The active membership was shrinking until Phil took charge. He and his family expended time, money, effort, and love in the renovation of the house. Phil



assisted with recruitment and, within a few years, membership exceeded 100.

During his undergraduate years, Phil served as chapter president and historian. As an alumnus he has served as House Corporation member from 1976 to 1995 and chapter advisor from 1977 to 1985. As chapter advisor, he hosted and coordinated several province conferences. Phil co-chaired the Xi Xi Chapter Centennial celebration and house renovation in 1996 and is active with the chapter today. He is also a member of the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Educational Foundation.

"My advice to undergraduates is to observe, listen, and participate. Above all else, always remember to say thank you," said Phil.

Phil retired as president and CEO of Deans Inc. headquartered in Columbia, Missouri. He resides in Cordillera, Colorado, with his wife, Judy. They have a son, Dr. Doug Walters, and a daughter, Jenny Murphy, and four grandchildren.

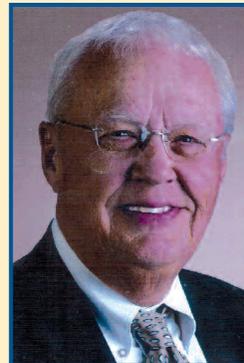
John Walker '60 Honored as Significant Sig

ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT

Written by **Burt Jensen '60**

John Walker '60 received the Significant Sig Award for his accomplishments as a Sigma Chi in business, charitable giving, and service to the Fraternity. John prides himself on being the person behind the scenes, never seeking recognition for his numerous good deeds. The number of Sigma Chi brothers and other individuals he has helped will never be completely known. Debby, his wife of 48 years, has supported John in his good works. They have two married daughters, Lisa and Rebecca, and four grandchildren.

John completed a very successful 30-year business career with Business Men's Assurance
(Continued on page 6)



Fall 2007 Scholarship Awards

Robert L. Jackson '64 and **E. Barry Mansur '64** Scholarship Awards
These awards were presented to the following students with academic achievement above 3.0 G.P.A. Sixty percent of the active chapter received this award.

Geoff Peterson '09	4.0	Travis Hunt '11	3.264
Paul Spearing '10	4.0	Charles French '08	3.26
Mark Wolff '10	3.925	Andy Hunn '10	3.25
Jonathon White '10	3.91	Tony Wirkus '11	3.25
Steve Mayfield '11	3.885	Matt Yordt '10	3.231
Kirk Payne '10	3.86	Kevin Jaeger '10	3.214
Jonathon Duke '10	3.779	Andy Derosse '10	3.175
Matt Hickey '11	3.74	L. Michael Holt '11	3.175
Paul Dillon '10	3.714	Louis Groff '11	3.1
Chris Jones '11	3.653	Alex Scott '10	3.06
Bradley Wegman '08	3.54	Bret Musser '09	3.036
Dane Gibson '09	3.45		
Sean Burrell '10	3.425		
Andy Samples '10	3.75		
Alan Simpson '09	3.333		
Chris Pullen '09	3.3		
Sean Madden '09	3.28		

Mothers Club Freshman Jordan Standard Book Scholarship Award
L. Michael Holt '11

Jay Shields/Harry Tidd Excellent Sophomore Leadership Award—
Engraved watch and name engraved on the plaque in the trophy room
Dan Patterson '10

Ike Skelton III Outstanding Junior Award—
\$500 and name engraved on the plaque in the trophy room
Geoff Peterson '09

Sigma Chi Xi Xi Educational Foundation Scholarships were awarded to each class leader based on grades and contribution to the chapter.

Freshman	Junior/Senior	Junior/Senior
Tony Wirkus '11	Chris Pullen '09	Dane Gibson '09
\$1,000	\$1,000	\$500
Sophomore	Junior/Senior	
Paul Dillon '10	Alan Simpson '09	
\$1,000	\$500	

ALUMNI NEWS

John H. Rodgers, Th.D. '54 is a bishop in the Anglican Mission in America. E-mail: jrogers@timesnet.net

William C. Bollinger '59 and Brothers **Bill Curtis '58**, **Don Hicks '58**, and **John Loomis '58** are organizing a pledge class reunion in St. Louis around the August 30 Missouri-Illinois football game. E-mail: wcbolli@sbcglobal.net

Edward J. Higgins '68 writes that he is "living in the lap of retirement."

Kevin P. Mullally '85 is employed by Gaming Laboratories International as general counsel and director of home government affairs. He lives in Jefferson City, Mo., and has two children, Erin and Ashley. E-mail: k.mullally@gaminglabs.com

Charles V. Lamento '87 moved to Prague in the Czech Republic in August 2007 to teach law.

Chapter Eternal

Marvin A. "Woody" Wilson '48 passed on to Chapter Eternal on January 7, 2008, at the age of 84. **Andy McCause, M.D. '49** remembers him as an exceptionally nice person who carried himself with a military bearing.

Donald L. Shughart '51 passed on to Chapter Eternal on January 23, 2008. He was an original founder of the Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers. He is listed in Who's Who in American Law. Don is survived by his wife, Mary Isabel, two daughters, Susan and Nancy, and four grandchildren.

Recruitment Recommendations

Prospect's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Parent(s): _____

High school attended: _____

Does prospect have a ΣX relative? _____

Reference submitted by: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

Please contact Recruitment Chairman
Kevin Jaeger '10 | kbjqk6@mizzou.edu | (314) 922-2738

If you would like to complete a form, you can print one off of our Web site,
<http://sigmachi.missouri.edu>.

Xi Xi Chapter House Corporation Board of Directors

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Bruce Klaus, Southeast Missouri State '71

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Chris Mahley '75

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Douglas A. Copeland '77

Dan S. Slickman '77 (Honorary)

Jeff Comparato '82

Ben Verhagen '82

Kevin J. Schlitzer '85

Andrew Grabau '97

The Great Change in Xi Xi

I know that some who read this may carry some resentment at the expulsion of our chapter as being unfair and/or a negative reflection on the character of the previous Xi Xi members. Having worked closely with the “former” chapter for nine years as chapter advisor, I’d like to offer some insights.

I must tell you that I felt, long before the event, that the closing of the chapter was necessary. I watched the frustration of so many good men in attempting and failing to correct the actions of a few who had little respect for themselves and our Fraternity. The troublemakers clung to what they termed tradition and gave it as an excuse for their mistreatment of pledges and the property. Try as the house leaders did to eradicate these problems, those who they referred to as “the dark side” particularly would use the late hours of the night to abuse pledges and the house. It finally was this type of action of a few which brought us all down. In my opinion, it was inevitable.

I once had an active tell me that he could never love this fraternity as it took his self-respect from him as a pledge. The destructive aspect of our pledgship in terms of breeding resentments and apathy was a cancer to our chapter. Parents who are abused as children are more prone to become abusers. This same principle applied to our pledgship. It turned out future abusers.

The change in our chapter since its re-instatement is remarkable and wonderful. I do not exaggerate. A few weeks ago I was asked to attend a small dinner for a new recruit on the basis that the chapter wanted my perspective on the boy. As we talked during the meal, the underclassmen at the table volunteered what Sigma Chi meant to them. There is no way they could imagine how their words touched me. Here were three young men who, several years ago, came up to a table in Brady Commons where Sigma Chi information was displayed and for whatever reason took interest. They weathered the long journey through pledgship, they earned approval for re-statement and initiation. They watched others live in their fraternity house while they held meetings in campus buildings. I attended a few of these and was amazed at their sense of direction and organization. With no experience and only help by alumni volunteers they were performing remarkably.

Recently I watched these same men hold their own first initiation. It was the finest I had seen at the chapter house. They initiated men who had been treated like brothers, with

friendship and respect; who had joined actives in executing weekly duties in the house; who had not seen others do anything while they did everything. The impact of initiation on them was touching. The pride, the sense of belonging that all our new group of young men feel is something I had hoped to be possible some day.

Most impressive is that I have seen young men mature more in a short time in the chapter than used to be the case in four years.

I can walk into the chapter house at any time and feel pride in its cleanliness and order. We used to spend a small fortune replacing kicked-in doors of freshman rooms and holes punched in walls. That simply doesn’t happen. As far as I know, we have had one minor incident in the house all year, and this man was dealt with appropriately.

The chapter also is showing strong discipline in financial management. Because we are still new, we have a less than normal complement in the house. Currently operating on a smaller budget, the house is projecting a solid profit on operations during a year when we thought the House Corporation might have to underwrite a portion of its expenses.

The chapter had the highest G.P.A. I have seen in 15 years, above 3.0. It is doing quite well in intramurals, in participation in campus and community activities, and won a major philanthropy in competition with 11 other fraternities.

In my opinion the foundation for these achievements is summed up by a second-semester pledge (the chapter has 11) who had previously pledged KA and quit due to the alienation he felt among actives and pledges. He said that pledging Sigma Chi was a wonderful change because here he felt he was wanted and greeted with friendship as a potential brother. He and his fellow pledges are not living in fear and are not building resentments against those hazing them, but are achieving respect for themselves and their future brothers.

Had we not closed down and put the harmful traditions to rest, I’m sure we never would have seen this level of unity and brotherhood at 500 College. We are a better fraternity now than in many years.

In Hoc,
George Gale '54
 Ex Officio
 Xi Xi House Corporation

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 and put the harmful
 traditions to rest,
 I'm sure we never would
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THE TIGER SIG



Save the Date

July 26

House Corporation Board Meeting
12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
500 S. College
(lunch not included)

August 2-3

Balfour Leadership Training Workshop
University of Missouri

August 16

Initiation
500 S. College

October 10

House Corporation Board Meeting
12 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.
500 S. College
(lunch not included)

JOIN IN!

Attend the House Corporation meetings.
Become involved with the Alumni Advisory
Board and help mentor our young men.

All alumni are welcome. R.S.V.P. to

Andy McCanse '49,
communications chairman,
at amccanse@kc.rr.com.

Sigma Chi Fraternity of Missouri

P.O. Box 480502
Kansas City, MO 64148

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Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Missouri, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address. Thank you.

John Walker '60

(Continued from page 3)

Company, a large stock insurance company in Kansas City, Missouri. He held many senior positions over his career, eventually running the reinsurance division as managing director-reinsurance and was a member of the Board of Directors from 1987 to 1995, when he retired.

Because of John's desire to be of service to others, he has served on numerous boards, including College of Osteopathy, Kirksville, Missouri, Executive Board of the Boy Scouts of America, Farm Bureau, and many others. His current passion is Freedom Fire, a non-profit organization that serves 300 inner-city youths. He also tutors a group of kids on a weekly basis where he is affectionately known as "Pops."

As an alumnus, John has served on the Xi Xi House Corporation Board for years and was president in 2004-2005. John has been a linchpin in the Xi Xi comeback campaign that culminated with the initiation of 31 young men on August 2, 2007. He has spent a lifetime helping others. He is truly worthy of the designation Significant Sig.

2008 MIZZOU FOOTBALL

Aug. 30	Illinois (in St. Louis)	Oct. 18	Texas
Sept. 6	Southeast Missouri	Oct. 25	Colorado
Sept. 13	Nevada	Nov. 1	Baylor
Sept. 20	Buffalo	Nov. 8	Kansas State
Oct. 4	Nebraska	Nov. 15	Iowa State
Oct. 11	Oklahoma State	Nov. 29	Kansas (in Kansas City)

Home games in bold

Web Sites

Xi Xi Chapter
<http://sigmachi.missouri.edu>

University of Missouri
www.missouri.edu

Central Missouri Alumni Chapter
www.centralmissourisigmachialumni.com

Sigma Chi Fraternity
www.sigmachi.org

Mizzou Athletics
<http://mutigers.cstv.com>