



Alpha Phi TIDEings

A PUBLICATION OF THE ALPHA PHI CHAPTER OF THETA CHI

FALL 2009

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ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATES WORK TOGETHER TO MAINTAIN CHAPTER HOUSE

- Chapter House receives deep cleaning, new paint, and landscaping
- Alumni invited to campus for football celebrations

I started writing this in the Philadelphia airport, when I flew to the Theta Chi Leadership Conference to attend a memorial service for **Howard Alter, Omega '41**, our past executive director and my former (and first) boss when I worked on the field staff back in 1978-79. For many of you, Howard was a name in your pledge material. For those who were fortunate enough to work or spend time with him, he was much more. **Dale Taylor '69** described him as one of the three most influential Theta Chis ever—along with Freeman and Chase. Though I did not attend any other events at the conference, Alpha Phi was ably represented by **Sam Bone '10** and **Taylor Bryant '10**.

This fall promises great things, both at the Capstone and at Alpha Phi. The House Corporation has initiated a series of projects to make the Chapter House more livable. **Mike Sanders '78**, **Dru Horton '98**, and a group of undergraduate members spent several days of manual labor cleaning up the house inside and out, painting the downstairs interior, and landscaping. We have retained a local contractor to paint the upstairs hallways and rooms and to make much-needed repairs.

Dru is also working on the development of a new Web site. Communication with alumni, active brothers, and prospective members has been our focus over the last two years, and a user-friendly Web site will facilitate that effort. Mike started a new Facebook group, Theta Chi—University of Alabama, only a month ago, and there are

already 287 members. It is pretty neat to surf through and see what is going on with pledge brothers you have not seen in years.

The Chapter ended last year on a high note, coming in fourth overall in academics with a 3.0 G.P.A., well above both the all-men's and all-fraternity averages. The undergraduate officers put the Chapter in a good financial position for the coming year, working with Greek Resources on budgeting and holding a strong summer recruitment. Please remember Alpha Phi when your children, nephews, or friends' children decide to enroll at the U of A. The Chapter recruits year round and is always on the lookout for prospective members.

Finally, the Tide will surely be rolling this year, and I am counting the days until we hit the field in Atlanta. Keep a lookout for e-mails from Taylor and **Gary Bryant '76** regarding home game events at the Chapter House or on the Quad. In fact, I am sure that the Bryants have something cooking for all those Alpha Phis who plan to attend.



Fraternally,
Pete Mackey '78
House Corporation President
(251) 432-0612
psmackey@bcmlawyers.com

Theta Chi Loses Beloved Leader

Alpha Phi Remembers **Howard "Big Daddy" Alter Jr., Omega '41**



Howard Alter Jr., Omega '41 was a proud honorary member of Alpha Phi and had close relationships with many alumni, including Marvin McConaghy '72.

On May 9, 2009, **Howard R. Alter Jr., Omega '41**, lost his battle with cancer and Theta Chi lost one of its most beloved leaders. Howard was undergraduate treasurer and president of Omega Chapter at Penn State and served as national president, executive director, and president of the Norwich Housing Corporation. None but our own **Dale Taylor '69** has held those three highest offices in Theta Chi. Howard was the recipient of every award that the Fraternity can bestow and received interfraternal awards from a host of other national fraternities. He served as president of the Fraternity Executives Association and on the board of the North American Interfraternity Conference. He was the recipient of its Gold Medal—the most prestigious award in the fraternity world.

(Continued on page 2)

Theta Chi Loses Beloved Leader

(Continued from page 1)

The highest award bestowed on a Theta Chi Chapter is named in his honor, and Alpha Phi has won the Alter Award a record-setting eight times.

Howard was also a proud honorary member of Alpha Phi Chapter, visiting several times, and enjoyed close relationships with many Alpha Phis. **Pete Mackey '78**, **Wes Wicker '79**, and I served on his field staff, and although **Lucas Elgie '05** joined later, Howard considered him one of "his boys." All four of us attended his funeral, as did the eight living national presidents and scores of officers, alumni, and undergraduates. Pete and I were honored to join four of Howard's graying boys in carrying him to his rest.

Howard lived on a 250-acre farm in a Victorian house his prohibitionist grandfather built in the 1880s, but many of us enjoyed generously poured adult libations on the expansive back porch over the years. The hospitality and stories shared there were legendary. On the mantle of the library where Howard spent his final days were two framed renderings of chapter houses—his own Omega Chapter and our Alpha Phi.

Howard was an only child who never married or had children—the last of the Alter line. Yet scores of us called him by the name with which a secretary in the headquarters once tagged him, Big Daddy. He was a second father to many of us, and the legacy he leaves to all of Theta Chi is unparalleled.

Fraternally,

Marvin McConaghy '72



Former fieldmen Dr. Wesley Wicker '79, Pete Mackey '78, Lucas Elgie '05, and Marvin McConaghy '72 attended the family reception after Brother Alter's funeral held at Oakmont Country Club.

Meet Aunt Kathy

Housemother Kathy Enjoys Taking Care of Theta Chis

My name is Kathy Murphy, and the Theta Chi boys call me Aunt Kathy. I have been the Alpha Phi Housemother for three years now, and I love it. I have two children, both University of Alabama graduates, and one grandson. My son, Mike, graduated in 2002, and his wife, Sara, graduated in 2004. My 1-year-old grandson, Micah, is the joy of my life. Lindsey, my daughter, graduated last spring and will attend Loyola Law School in the fall.



Kathy Murphy was recruited by her nephew, Paul Keith '09, to become the Alpha Phi housemother.

When my nephew, **Paul Keith '09**, asked me to be housemother I jumped at the chance and have loved every minute of it. I plan meals and manage the kitchen staff. Other tasks I learned about that didn't fall into the job description include mending blue jeans, sewing Halloween costumes, doctoring cuts and scrapes, painting on mustaches, and wrapping togas.

I meet many interesting people, including band members, parents, and families. These are some of the greatest guys I have ever met. I love them all and love what I do for them.

CHAPTER WINS AWARDS AT THETA CHI NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Alpha Phi received awards at Theta Chi's National Conference at Villanova University in July for excellence in recruitment and achievement in scholarship and philanthropy. Congratulation, Alpha Phis, on your hard work and dedication!

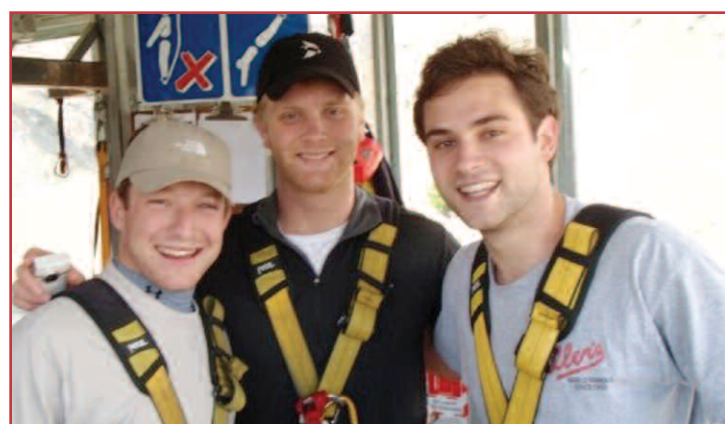


Alpha Phi won recruitment, scholarship, and philanthropy awards at the National Conference.

Undergraduates Study Abroad in Europe and Australia

Several Alpha Phis, including **Joseph Zieman '10**, **Kevin Gibson '10**, and **Gamble Cleveland '10**, had the opportunity to study abroad last year.

Joseph and Kevin lived in London and traveled to France, Scotland, and even golfed at St. Andrews. "It was a pretty big culture shock at first, going from Tuscaloosa, where our southern accents aren't even noticed, to London, where we were given weird looks every time we opened our mouths."



Gamble Cleveland '10 (right) studied in Australia and traveled to New Zealand and Indonesia.

Gamble lived in Sydney and took classes in management, marketing, and human resources. He took every opportunity to travel and visited Australia's Gold Coast, Blue Mountains, and Hunter Valley. He also spent 11 days touring New Zealand and 10 days in Indonesia. "My semester abroad was the best experience of my college career. Being able to live and adapt to cultures around the world was an incredibly interesting challenge. That being said, Tuscaloosa is a great place, and I look forward to an American football season this fall. Roll Tide!"



Joseph Zieman '10 and Kevin Gibson '10 studied in London.

ALPHA PHI FOCUSES ON PHILANTHROPY

The Chapter's focus on philanthropy and community service has benefited from the involvement of members in each pledge class.

Last December Alpha Phis participated in the Holt Christmas Party, an annual event that raises money to buy Christmas presents for more than 100 kindergarten and first grade students at Holt Elementary School. There was a tremendous turnout at the event, where brothers delivered presents to eager young children and watched as they tore through the paper and opened their gifts.

Alpha Phi also proudly participated in the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life in April. Theta Chi raised more than \$1,100 and donated it to the American Cancer Society to fund cancer research, extending a helping hand to the community and to a fellow Theta Chi. **John Hicks '11** is fighting against this very disease, and we were eager to join hands with the University community and the American Cancer Society to raise awareness of this important issue.

Throughout the last year a number of our members volunteered for Big Brothers Big Sisters and spent their spring break in Mandeville,

Jamaica, working at a local boys' orphanage. The group spent a week manually replacing telecommunication lines that had been rendered useless during the previous hurricane season.

Over the last year, the Chapter's philanthropy efforts have allowed Alpha Phi to strengthen the bonds of brotherhood, while extending a helping hand to those within Alpha Phi and beyond.



Fraternally,
Will Henry '10
Philanthropy Chairman
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ALUMNI

Dale Taylor '69 Reminisces About Alpha Phi

Dale Taylor '69 serves as executive director of Theta Chi Fraternity. He manages and supervises the International Headquarters staff and the day-to-day operations of the fraternity consistent with the policies established by the Grand Chapter. He also performs other duties as may be assigned to him from time to time. Here he shares his thoughts on Alpha Phi:

"There was always something special each fall as I came back to school and walked into the fraternity house. It was not just the excitement of another year of school, nor was it the anticipation

of seeing everyone again after the summer break. I actually believe the house had a certain smell, just like a new car smell, that was only there at that house and at that time. Yeah, I know, stale beer and leftover food can do that after three months, but it was not that. Actually, it was the smell of brotherhood to me. It meant we would soon be asking new men to join our

Theta Chi—a chance to make new friends, some of whom would be lifelong friends.

You develop connections to smells, sights, and words in your mind so that one triggers other thoughts. Those of us from that time still refer to the 'new' house, although now it is almost 50 years new. That facility, with its smells and look, triggers lots of great thoughts for me about the brotherhood I joined those many years ago.

A facility can be much more than something to bring back memories, it can be the agent that brings on change, or improves morale of the group, or encourages more men to pledge, or offers new connections to those already members in our Fraternity.

We have had several groups build new facilities lately thanks to those alumni who remember their fraternal experience and want to ensure that others have the same opportunities to develop memories and to join the great connecting brotherhood of Theta Chi. We need to believe that it can happen everywhere with increased Chapter involvement of our alumni brothers and with help in developing the undergraduate members. Our creed begins with 'I believe in Theta Chi,' so let us all believe and remember—for me, the smell and the individuals, for you, the trigger may be different. Clasp the hands of your friends, your brothers, and 'believe.'"

Alpha Phi a Family Affair for Jim '58 and Bill Oakley '81

Jim Oakley '58 came to the University of Alabama in 1953. Shortly after arrival he pledged Alpha Phi Chapter with **Herbert Moore '58**, son of Alpha Phi charter member **L. S. Moore '27**.

Jim was a staff member of the Crimson White and a part-time photographer for the University. He covered the famous

Autherine Lucy riots that erupted on campus when the first black student was admitted. Many of his pictures were printed around the world, and his negatives and photographs are in the library's Hoole Special Collections.

After graduating in 1958, Jim joined a family newspaper in Centreville, Alabama. He became publisher in 1972, sold the newspaper in 1985, and joined the UA faculty in the College of Communication. He is a recruiter, advisor, and career counselor for the college.

Jim's youngest son, **Bill '81**, pledged Alpha Phi in 1977 and majored in journalism. After graduation in 1981, he accepted a job with the University Relations Department as director of special projects. He developed a recruitment program for honor students involving the UA president, alumni chapters around the country, and local media, resulting in a substantial increase in the number of Presidential Scholarship recipients that came to the University.

Bill left the University in 1984 to become the first director of marketing and promotions for the Hall of Fame NCAA bowl game in Birmingham. He remained there until 1989, when he joined the PGA Tour as a tour media official. He developed year-round media plans for PGA tournaments and supervised media center operations at tour events. Since then, Bill has served in several capacities and is currently director of tournament business affairs and sponsor relations.

Bill and his wife, Glenda, have three children and live in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. Bill's oldest son, Will, was a member of the UA football team for five years under coaches Mike Shula and Nick Saban. He graduated in 2008 with a degree in marketing, a master's degree in marketing in 2009, and is attending law school at the University of Florida.

SPOTLIGHTS

SPOTLIGHT ON THOMAS HOWARD '93

Growing up, **Thomas Howard '93** always knew that he wanted to join a fraternity. His dad and brother, **Ben '86**, were both Greek, and he wanted to find a tight-knit community on the large Alabama campus.



Alpha Phi played a pivotal role for Thomas during a formative time in his life. "I loved my experience in the fraternity, and I learned important lessons I still rely on today." Theta Chi provided valuable leadership opportunities. "Leading such a large chapter was really a baptism-by-fire experience for me. There were so many diverse guys who valued and wanted different things, I really had to learn how to relate to people and bring everybody together. Without question, serving as Chapter president was the biggest time of growth for me."

Thomas has lots of fond Theta Chi memories, but some of his favorites are band parties, hanging out at the chapter house after football games, and recruitment. "Recruitment was always fun because it brought together people who wouldn't normally hang out."

Thomas earned an undergraduate degree in public relations at Alabama and a master's degree in business administration from Notre Dame. In 2000 he founded MemberClicks, a company that provides Web site and management solutions to the membership organization market. He serves as president and CEO while focusing on the strategic marketing initiatives of the company.

Thomas spends his free time playing tennis, boxing, shark fishing, and tornado chasing. He lives in Atlanta, Georgia. E-mail: Thomas@memberclicks.com

Ron Gray '81 Chosen for UA Trustee Vacancy



Ron Gray '81 of Huntsville is one of three trustees unanimously elected to the UA System Board of Trustees at the most recent meeting. "We were looking for younger people with diversity in their backgrounds, and we feel these are young, outstanding leaders in this state," said Joe Espy, chairman of the board's nominating committee. Espy said all three are younger than 50. Gray fills one of the two seats representing the fifth congressional district, which covers most of north Alabama.

Ron graduated with a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering in 1981. He is the founder and president of Gray Research Inc. in Huntsville and is responsible for the company's overall management and operation. Gray Research has 190 employees and provides engineering and management assistance to the United States Department of Defense and NASA.

Ron has been honored with several appointments, including 2005 Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Executive of the Year Contender, 2006 Huntsville Chamber of Commerce Entrepreneur of the Year Finalist, 2006 Ernst and Young Entrepreneur of the Year Regional Finalist, and 2007 Engineering Fellow, University of Alabama College of Engineering.

Ron's wife, Cindy, serves as senior vice president of Gray Research. They have two children, Jennifer (23) and Charlie (20). Ron's brothers, **Steve '76** and **Scott '85** reside in Decatur.

ALPHA PHI CEO GUIDES BAY MEDICAL CENTER TO TOP OF HEALTHCARE INDUSTRY



Steve Johnson '75 began his duties as president and CEO of Bay Medical Center in August 2001. He came to Bay Medical Center with more than 20 years experience as a health care administrator, including 15 years as CEO of Coosa Valley Baptist Medical Center, a 226-bed hospital in Sylacauga, Alabama. In addition to serving as CEO, he served as interim CEO of Citizens Baptist Medical Center, a 123-bed hospital in Talladega, Alabama, from 1996 to 2000. He holds a master's degree in hospital and health administration from the University of Alabama.

Under Steve's administration, the hospital has made many strides. In 2005, Bay Medical was recognized as one of Solucient's 100 Top Hospitals in America and was ranked among the top five percent in the nation for overall clinical quality from 2004 to 2007. Only 72

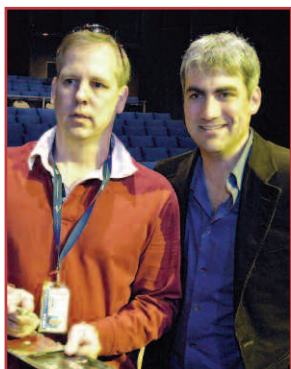
hospitals in the nation out of nearly 5,000 have achieved such consistent success. Bay Medical is recognized both regionally and nationally as a top-quality provider of cardiac and pulmonary care and is currently nationally accredited by the Joint Commission as a Center of Excellence in the areas of heart attack, heart failure, stroke, and hip and knee replacement.

Steve serves on the boards of the United Way and the American Heart Association, is a fellow in the American College of Health Care Executives, and a board member of Voluntary Hospitals of America-Southeast and the Florida Hospital Association.

He is an avid golf and football fan. He and his wife, Linda, have four children.

ALUMNI

Alumnus Journalist Interviews Sports and Entertainment Stars Throughout Career



Chris Welch '78 attended Alabama from 1974-78 and majored in journalism. One of Chris' career highlights was covering the great Bear Bryant for *The Tuscaloosa News* during Bryant's final years and accompanying national championships. Chris left Tuscaloosa for Montgomery to cover the sports beat, and moved to Huntsville in 1983. He has been in Huntsville for the last 26 years.

Chris has covered high school sports and Auburn and Alabama football, including the 1993 national championship. He

received the prestigious Sports Writer of the Year award for the state of Alabama in 1986 and became sports editor in 1994. As a sportswriter, Chris had the opportunity to interview the likes of Bear Bryant, Pat Dye, Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Joe DiMaggio, Arnold Palmer, Mike Shula, Gene Stallings, Jimmy Connors, John McEnroe, and many others. He stepped down to spend more time with his daughter, Abbie Grace.

Chris became an entertainment writer and loves covering everything from concerts, to the circus, to Sesame Street. He has interviewed Kid Rock, Taylor Swift, Taylor Hicks, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Billy Bob Thornton, Mercy Me, Sugarland, Little Big Town, David Copperfield, and Charlie Daniels, just to name a few. Chris says he is very blessed with his job and his beautiful daughter.

Recent Graduate Covers Southeast Football for Scout.com



Andrew Bone '07 was born in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, raised in Gadsden, and currently resides in Birmingham. He attended Westbrook Christian School, where he played football and basketball. Throughout his senior year Andrew was recruited to play football and was interviewed several times by Scout.com. He was an "invited walk-on" at the University of Alabama as a wide receiver, but after deciding not to play college football, Scout.com offered Andrew a position to work within the company.

Andrew attended the University of Alabama from 2003 to 2009 and pledged Theta Chi Fraternity in 2003. He earned a degree in communication studies and a minor in computer science.

In August 2003, Andrew began working for Scout.com and moved up through the years to his current position of assistant regional manager of the southeast. He is also the recruiting analyst for the *Tuscaloosa News* and the publisher of his own high school football Web site, ScoutSouth.com.

Andrew has been featured on numerous radio shows, in newspaper articles, and television programs throughout the years. From 2004 to 2008 he had his own recruiting segment on NBC-13 News in Birmingham, called "Bone-Up on Recruiting."

Andrew interviews prospective college football players, breaks down highlight videos, and follows hundreds of football players every year. He covers the entire Southeast, with a primary emphasis on Alabama, Tennessee, and the Florida panhandle.

JOHN WARD '77 DIRECTOR OF CDC'S VIRAL HEPATITIS PROGRAM



Dr. John Ward '77 is director of the Division of Viral Hepatitis at the CDC. John is responsible for planning and directing national and international research, surveillance, and public health programs related to viral hepatitis prevention and control.

In addition to his work in viral hepatitis, John's experience includes 14 years in the field conducting early studies of AIDS transmission, natural history and diagnosis, evaluating prevention measures to protect the blood supply, and directing national HIV/AIDS surveillance. John has also served as editor of

the *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report*, CDC's primary health publication. As editor, John created the Epidemic Information Exchange, a secure, moderated system for public health officials to report and discuss disease outbreaks and other health events. John has authored more than 100 scientific publications and recently served as editor for *Silent Victories*, a history of public health in the 20th century.

John received his medical degree from the University of Alabama School of Medicine and completed an internship and residency in internal medicine at the University of Alabama Hospitals, with additional postgraduate training at the London School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service, and the infectious diseases fellowship program at the University of Washington Medical Center in Seattle. He holds a clinical faculty appointment with the Department of Medicine at Emory University.

SPOTLIGHTS

ED SMITH JR. '75 BECOMES ANGA PRESIDENT

By Meg Watson



Ed Smith Jr. '75, Alagasco General Manager of Operational Planning, was elected president of the Alabama Natural Gas Association (ANGA) for the 2009-10 year. Ed will serve as the 44th president of the organization and is the sixth Alagasco employee to serve as ANGA president.

To Ed, ANGA is not just another organization—it's a family tradition. His father, Ed Smith Sr., was a charter officer of ANGA and served as first vice president of the association in 1969.

As ANGA president, Smith has chosen to adopt the Council for Responsible Energy's (CRE) "Comfortable. Responsible." tagline as the theme for the association. He hopes that this tagline will help natural gas companies from across the country unite and promote natural gas under a single voice.

During his presidency, Ed plans to travel and visit ANGA's corporate members to ensure that they are getting the maximum benefit of their ANGA membership.

Ed has worked for Alagasco since 1989 and has held a number of different positions. During his 20 years with the company, he served as the Division Manager-Birmingham, General Operations Manager-Birmingham, Manager of Distribution Services, Division Manager of Construction/Engineering Services, and Operations Service Manager. He was project manager and administrator for the Magnolia Project and Greene County Power Plant project during his time as manager of construction and special projects for Alabama Gas and Basin Pipeline. Ed began his career at Alagasco as manager of gas supply.

Among Ed's numerous responsibilities at Alagasco, mentoring younger employees is his favorite. "The biggest resource we have as a company is our people," he says. "If you leave a place better than it was when you got there, it will thrive into the future."

Ed attributes his own successful career path to fellow employees, managers, and officers.

"I was fortunate enough to work for people who gave me the opportunity to be innovative," he says. "I am glad that people like Dudley Reynolds, Bill Bibb, and Ken Smith have confidence in me."

Ed said he is honored and ready to serve as the new ANGA president and is focused on the opportunities the natural gas industry takes advantage of in the future. "We have to get involved and create our future."

Undergraduates to Host Pregame Lunches at the Chapter House

As the fall of 2009 gets under way, it marks the start of a new school year, football season, and the beginning of a class of soon-to-be Theta Chi brothers.

As the spring of 2009 closed, Theta Chi finished ranked number three in G.P.A. among fraternities. We won the All Sports Award for the first time in many years. Three of our brothers: **Rob Rummel '10**, **Clay Looney '10**, and I were proudly inducted into the 96th class of The Jason's. Six members received The Foundation's Sherwood and Janet Blue Memorial Scholarship: **Sam Bone '10**, **Drew Dolan '12**, **George Handey Jr. '06**, **Wesley Pope '12**, **Will Steele '11**, and myself. These accomplishments and many others molded a very successful spring semester.

This fall **Michael Nix '11**, **Andy Bolton '11**, and **Trey Collins '11** are working to recruit an outstanding new member class. Many of the recent graduates are starting their careers or continuing their education. **Harrison Pearl '09** will attend The Medical College of The University of South Alabama, **Neal Townsed '09** will be attending the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in Montgomery, **Keaton Morris '09** is in the MBA

program at The University of Mississippi, and **Taylor '09** and **Garrett Galloway '09** are beginning their banking careers in Houston, Texas.

The Chapter House received many needed renovations over the summer with the leadership of **Mike Sanders '78**, **Dru Horton '98**, and many undergraduate members. The updates created an exciting buzz for the fall semester.

One of the Chapter's most important goals for the year is to reestablish a connection with alumni. We will offer pregame lunches to any brother during the football season and hope to host a few events to bring actives and alumni together. Please stop by the chapter house next time you are in Tuscaloosa; we would love to see you!



Fraternally,
Cory Vaughn '10
Chapter President
(615) 668-1090
cavaughn@ua.edu

Lucas Elgie '05 Led Theta Chi Chapters Across the Nation



After taking an outside sales job in Birmingham, Alabama, shortly after graduating in August 2005, I realized that I was not heading down the right path for my life. I left the job after eight months and went to work as a leadership and education consultant for Theta Chi International Headquarters. For a year I traveled around the country, mostly by car, visiting chapters and facilitating presentations on leadership, risk management, standards, recruitment, or whatever area the brothers needed help with. I also had the pleasure of serving as an expansion consultant and recruited men to re-colonize two closed chapters, Beta Delta at Rutgers University and Gamma Delta at Florida Southern College. Both chapters were re-installed and are doing well.

After my year of service to Theta Chi, I enrolled in graduate school at the University of Florida because of their unique graduate program in international business, and for the opportunity to serve as house director at our Tau Chapter. I studied business in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil and Koblenz, Germany for a couple of months during the one-year program and earned my private pilot's license while finishing my degree in Gainesville and working nights at a restaurant.

Once I graduated in August 2008, I took the aviation selection test battery and was accepted into Marine Corps Officer Candidates School. In March 2009 I was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and will go to Pensacola for flight school following completion of my ground leadership training at Marine Corps Base Quantico.

I attended the Theta Chi Chapter Leadership Conference (CLC) at Villanova University in Philadelphia in July and will remain active with our fraternity in every way I can.

Fraternally,
Lucas Elgie '05

JOIN THETA CHI ON GAME WEEKENDS FOR MUSIC AND FOOTBALL

Football season is right around the corner, and I hope you will visit Tuscaloosa for a game. Lunch will be served at the Theta Chi Chapter House on game days, and will be a great opportunity for you and your family to see old friends.

Below, you will find the list of bands that we have booked. If you are in Tuscaloosa on a Friday night, please feel free to stop by. E-mail reminders the week of home games will inform everyone of the week-end's plans. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list, please contact me at thbryant1@gmail.com. Roll Tide!

Fraternally,
Taylor Bryant '10



*Gary Bryant '76, Taylor Bryant '10,
and Scott Gray '10 enjoy a break
while watching the Tide roll to victory!*



2009 Home Football Festivities

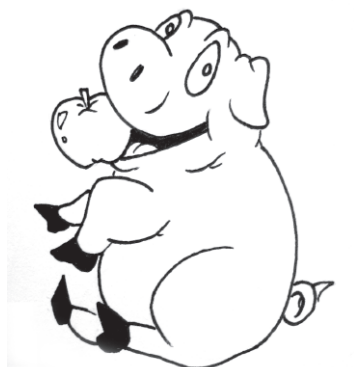


Virginia Tech, September 5

Friday, September 4
Peachtree Tavern (Atlanta)
9 p.m. -12 a.m.
\$5 for cover charge and beverages

Florida International, September 12

Southern Style BBQ at
the Chapter House on Saturday



All undergraduates, alumni, and parents/family members are invited to join us from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. for good food, good people, and good music.

This is a great chance for undergraduates and alumni to get to know each other and see the improvements made to the house.

More information to follow via e-mail;
contact Mike Sanders at
capstone56@comcast.net with questions.

North Texas, September 19

(War and Peace weekend with
Pi Kappa Alpha)
Friday, September 18
Playto Jones at the Theta Chi Chapter House

Saturday, September 19
5 Finger Discount at the Pi Kappa Alpha
Chapter House

Arkansas, September 26

Friday, September 25
Hightide Blues

Saturday, September 26
Dave Matthews Cover Band at the
Sigma Chi Chapter House

South Carolina, October 17

(Homecoming)
Friday, October 16
Benjy Davis

Tennessee, October 24

Friday, October 23
Trotline

LSU, November 7

Friday, November 6
Fly-By-Radio

Tennessee-Chattanooga, November 21

Friday, November 20
Azz-Iz

Alumni Update

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Barry Beckett '65 passed away on June 10 at his home in Hendersonville, Tenn. He was a keyboardist, session musician, record producer, and music director. He worked with such notable artists as Bob Dylan, Cher, Alabama, Hank Williams Jr., and others. Each time you hear Lynyrd Skynyrd mention the Swampers, raise a hand to our Brother Barry.

ALUMNI NEWS

Robert M. Alt '41 enjoys maintaining his home, gardening, and playing golf. He resides in Bartlett, Ill., with his wife, Idell. They have two grown children, Melissa and Walter.

Andrew T. Wuska '49 and his wife, Sara, live in Vestavia Hills, Ala., and have four children: Tim Jr., Jeanie, John, and Jackie.

James C. Parker '49 worked as a special agent for the FBI for 22 1/2 years. He retired in 1981. James lives in Slidell, La.

H. Dixon Forrester '67 is a senior client support representative at Convergys in Sandy Springs, Ga. He and his wife, Mary Anne, reside in Marietta, Ga. E-mail: hdfmaf02@bellsouth.net

Michael J. Mazenko '69 works at Merrill Lynch as a first vice president senior financial consultant in Pensacola, Fla. He resides in Gulf Breeze, Fla., with his wife, Ann. They have two children, Jason and Kate.

Donald B. Henderson '71 practices law in New York City as a partner of Dewey & LeBoeuf LLP. He lives in Bronxville, N.Y., with his wife, Ruth, and their two children, John and Kallie. He still follows Alabama football closely and everyone in his family has plenty of Crimson Tide clothing to wear on game days. E-mail: dhenderson@dl.com

James D. Lewis '75 worked in the health insurance industry for 32 years. He retired in 2007 and is now a national sales manager for Credit Guard, an identity theft protection company. James lives in Little Rock, Ark., with his wife, Susanne. They have two children, Matthew and Patrick, and one grandchild, Lillian. E-mail: lewisjimmyd@comcast.net

Mark T. Smyth '79 lost his wife, Teresa on July 14. "Sissy" is survived by her husband of almost 22 years and two children, Gregory of Brantley, Ala., Leslie of Luverne, Ala., and a granddaughter, Olivia.

Michael A. Pope '80 of Huntsville, Ala., is married to his college sweetheart, Andrea. They have two sons, **Brandon '11** and **Wesley '12**, who both attend Alabama. Mike is the operations manager for Phase IV Systems Inc., and Andrea works for Huntsville Middle School. E-mail: mikepope9062@comcast.net

Frederick Collins '81 and his wife, Kim, have been married for 27 years. They reside in Mobile, Ala., and are empty nesters with their dog, Jazz. They have two children, Mary and Trey. Mary graduated from the University of Alabama in 2008. **Trey '11** is a sophomore at U of A. Frederick is always glad to hear from Alpha Phis from his era. E-mail: rickcollins08@gmail.com

Jimbo Parsons '92 visited Antarctica and planted a flag with the 2008 Alabama-Auburn score, claiming the continent as a Tide colony and eliminating the possibility of future Auburn colonization. He made friends with a population of penguins and informed them of the prowess of the Tide in the SEC and national college football scene.



Daniel J. Gray '93 accepted a new position in October 2008 with YKK Ap America, Inc., as a controller for their state of the art manufacturing facility in Dublin, Ga. They manufacture commercial and residential windows and doors as well as bumpers for the automotive industry. Danny resides in Macon, Ga., with his wife, Suzanne, and their two children, Caroline and Alex. E-mail: dannygray@ykk api.com

R. Holt Lyda '97 worked for various ad agencies and Yahoo! until 2003 and then started his own business, Lyda Interactive. They develop concepts, designs, and then build online marketing tools and ads. He serves Yahoo!, Microsoft, Earthlink, TiVo, and other Silicon Valley startups. He and his wife, Kristy, were married on May 24, 2008. They reside in Atlanta, Ga. E-mail: holt@lydainteractive.com

Timothy A. Hoffman '03 is working for the family business, OLE Bay Management Inc. as a property manager and sales associate in Mobile, Ala. Timothy lives in Mobile with his wife, Mary Louise, and their son, Timothy Jr. E-mail: tim_hoffman@comcast.net



Neal Townsend '09 was accepted to the Thomas Goode Jones School of Law in Montgomery. He graduated with distinction from U of A with degrees in political science and media broadcast management in May.

Harrison Pearl '09 was accepted to medical school at South Alabama in Mobile. He is from Mobile and his parents are Cameron and Gray Pearl.





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Attention: This newsletter is intended for Theta Chi alumni and parents. If your son is still attending The University of Alabama, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

From the Editor

Mike Sanders '78

Theta Chi has many ways of keeping in touch during these times of technological advancement.

One way of contacting old friends is on Facebook. Go to www.facebook.com and create a profile using as much or as little information as you like. Search for "Theta Chi – University of Alabama," or search for me, and I will help you join the group. We are quickly approaching 300 members, and you will find an interesting mix of young, old, and everything in between. Use this venue to post pictures, videos, or as a means of contacting brothers you may have lost

touch with. Upcoming events are posted and updated, and as they approach you will receive reminders containing event information.

LinkedIn, another way to stay in touch, can be found at www.linkedin.com. All you have to do is create a profile and use "Alpha Phi Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity" as one of your groups of choice.

In the near future our state-of-the-art Web site will make it even easier to keep up with one another. Stay tuned for more details.

There has been a lot of work going on at the house this summer, and as a result the undergraduates have expressed much interest in meeting those who preceded them at Alpha Phi. One of my goals is to establish an open line of communication between undergraduates and alumni who match each other in selected major and job experience. To gain a competitive edge, undergraduates need our advice on how to take advantage of extracurricular activities that can help them stand out. I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting and working side by side with the undergraduates this summer. At first I didn't know what to expect, but I have found they are essentially the same as us, they just have better toys and nicer cars.

There will not be a Theta Chi tent on the Quad during this year's football season so please take the opportunity to visit the house while you're on campus—we want to see you and spend some time with you once again.

Edward Pike, father of **Adam Pike '11**, passed away suddenly while at home in Huntsville on August 9th. Adam is a junior studying medicine, is an active member of Alpha Phi, and lives in the Chapter House. Please join me in letting Adam know how special he is to us and how sorry we are for their loss.

In closing, help us by sending changes in your contact information to me at capstone56@comcast.net.

Fraternally,
Mike Sanders '78

