

eye ON XI

SIGMA CHI, XI CHAPTER | SPRING 2019



Xi House Corporation and Foundation Updates

Thus far, 2019 has been a very good and productive year for Xi Chapter. In addition to celebrating our 160th anniversary at DePauw, we have experienced increased alumni engagement that has benefitted us in many ways. We also are the second oldest Sigma Chi chapter in continuous operation—an impressive honor and distinction that we must guard well.

This spring, we send another successful class of seniors into the world to make their mark—many of whom are graduating with honors and already have secured employment with promising careers ahead of them. We also welcome a fine group of recently initiated brothers, including several Sigma Chi legacies, who will be moving into the house this fall. While we know our graduates will accomplish many great things, we are also impressed by the personal character, academic performance, and athletic prowess of our underclassmen. Included in their ranks are management and media fellows, as well as soccer and lacrosse players, among others. They also are in leadership positions across campus. As one DePauw faculty member said recently, “Sigma Chi seems to nurture leaders.” We couldn’t agree more, especially

(continued on page six)

Xi Chapter Leads by Example



The Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi has started 2019 with more energy and motivation than could have been expected. Spring formal, Little 5, Derby Days, and maybe a couple tests are the only separation between us and summer break. However, we are cherishing our last month with the 157th pledge class before their departure. They will be leaving a campus where Sigma Chi is a symbol of integrity and leadership, and that is largely due to their contributions all over campus. This chapter is thriving due to their efforts and it is my honor to say that they are the reason Xi is in better standing than I could ask for.

One member of the 157th pledge class I would like to highlight is the forerunner of my position, Elliott Atkinson '19. He kept morale high and had our eyes set on the white cross while Greek life on the national level went through a period of criticism and disgrace. During his term as Consul, he set a foundation for myself and the rest of the chapter to grow on and I thank him for that. It is an amazing honor to serve our chapter and contribute to 160 years of friendship, justice, and learning, but, most of all, leadership.

The leaders of Sigma Chi started the semester by welcoming 19 members of the 160th pledge class. Former Consul Elliott Atkinson '19, as well as his predecessor in the Consul role, Robert Sherman '18, both delivered inspiring speeches about the values of Sigma Chi during rush. The ideals that convinced those 19 students to rush our sacred fraternity have most certainly been demonstrated by our new members as they have taken these values to heart, and it has shown in their actions. These young men are all impressive in their own ways and we are excited to see them develop as leaders.

As always, philanthropy is at the top of the Xi's priorities. While our members try to participate in every philanthropy on campus, we conduct three philanthropy events ourselves every year. We start the fall semester in cooperation with

Alpha Phi to put on Tigerstock, which this year sent proceeds to the United Way of Putnam County. Later in the semester, 25 combined Xis and Pi Phis spent their fall break working with Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans. This is our annual philanthropy to help reconstruct the devastation from Hurricane Katrina. Our final philanthropy of each school year needs no introduction: Derby Days. This year we are giving directly back to Sigma Chi by sending all proceeds to the Huntsman Cancer Foundation. We have a goal of \$10,000 and every brother is making it his goal help reach that mark. As Sigma Chis, we make it a priority to lead by example and we see that philanthropy is the most crucial way to outweigh the negative light that has been shed on Greek life. Over the last year, Sigma Chi has been responsible for over \$25,000 in philanthropy across campus, \$15,000 of which we raised ourselves.

It is no doubt that the 157th pledge class has been a shining example of leadership around campus with management fellows, media fellows, elite medical school candidates, and some of the most intelligent men on this campus. Men in our house are on the IFC executive committee as well as presidential ambassadors to Mark McCoy. The Xi Chapter will be left in good hands because these seniors have been perfect examples.

The future of the house looks as bright as I can imagine with a very young and eager executive board. Of the 15 positions, 11 of them are held by sophomores, including consul, pro-consul, recruitment chair, and social chair. In addition, the men who Richard Costas '19 and Jeffrey Nicosia '19 prepared for brotherhood will be valuable assets to our team and I am very excited to see the future of Xi.

With that being said, the 160th anniversary of Xi Chapter is this year. Please join us for a celebration during Old Gold Weekend (Saturday, Oct. 5). Details will be forthcoming. As always, it is an honor to be a Sig.

Mighty proud and In Hoc,
Aaron Rector '21 | Consul

Senior Spotlight:

Andrew Lumsden '19



As I reflect on my time at DePauw, I know it would not have been the same without Sigma Chi.

During my time at the Xi Chapter, I held the roles of scholarship chairman and recruitment chairman. I worked to expand the size of the scholarship dinner and the scholarships themselves. As recruitment chairman, I brought in the 159th pledge class. Both of these roles provided me with tremendous leadership opportunities, which helped me grow into the man I am today. Beyond leadership, the Xi Chapter has provided me with my best friends, many of whom I know will be in my wedding one day. The house pushed me to reach for my goals, take leaps of faith, and do the things that at the time seemed daunting.

After graduation, I will join W.W. Grainger as a financial analyst in their financial development program. I am excited to be heading back to the Chicagoland area and to have many family members and brothers nearby. Without the leadership and personal growth opportunities Sigma Chi provided me, I know I would not be in the position I am today. I look forward to this next opportunity, but I will miss the little things, like having every meal together and always having someone to hang out with. However, I know we will all stay in contact and continue to get together year after year. Simply put, without the Xi Chapter, college would not have been nearly as special as it was.

I look forward to seeing the direction the house takes in the future, as many great men joined Sigma Chi this year, and I'm sure more will in the years to come.

Quality Time Marks Parents' Weekend

Parents' Weekend is always a great weekend to focus on family and to showcase our home away from home, and 2019 was a success for the Xi Chapter as we hosted around 40 families. We had a productive and successful parents club meeting, followed by a delicious cookout in our yard. Following that, our parents were taken



Consul Aaron Rector '21 with his parents and girlfriend.

on a walking tour around Greencastle with Mayor William A. Dory Jr.

For many parents, this was their first trip to Greencastle, and learning about the history and beauty of the city really welcomed them to our second home.

After, we proceeded to the local bowling alley, where we had rented out lanes for the event. This was another great opportunity to spend quality time with our families. The highlight of my



Sophomore Ben Dunlap '21 with his parents and two sisters.

2019 Parents' Weekend was being told that our time at the bowling alley was true evidence of the bond that we have as brothers. This weekend is many brothers' favorite of the year and for good reason. It is evident that the success of the Xi is majorly due to the guidance of our parents, and it is always an honor to host such an extraordinary and impactful group of people.

In Hoc Signo Vincas,
Aaron Rector '21 | Consul

Recruitment Yields 19 New Brothers

After a long and strenuous fall recruitment process, the Xi Chapter was fortunate to welcome in 19 new brothers this past March. These new initiates hail from all over the United States and even the world, with one new member hailing from Lahore, Pakistan. This new class features men who are each impressive in their own unique ways and have already begun to create a meaningful impact on the Xi Chapter through their different talents, temperaments, and convictions. The 160th pledge class includes three legacies, management fellows, honors scholars, soccer players, a media fellow, an ROTC member, a lacrosse player, and a golfer, among others. These men have shown true dedication to this house throughout pledgship and into the nascent stages of brotherhood, and continue to exemplify the values of Sigma Chi.

The recruitment process was particularly difficult this year because the overall Greek life enrollment has decreased. However, despite this obstacle, the whole house enthusiastically took to the challenge. This hard work has resulted in a class of freshmen and a handful of sophomores who everyone is truly proud to be able to call brothers. The work put in by brothers—both apparent and behind the scenes—made this possible as we welcomed in a class of both quantity and quality despite the

challenges with which we were forced to overcome. This effort was further supported by our alumni, particularly Robert Sherman '18, who flew up from Birmingham, Alabama, to deliver a riveting speech during the final round of rush regarding our special Sigma Chi brotherhood that left an impact on not only the recruits but also the brothers of the house. This contribution, along with the effort of every brother in this house, was exemplary of the men present and the impressive 160th pledge class was a worthy fruit of this labor.

This new class is full of future leaders both on campus and for the broader world as their positive impact has already been felt by the house. The new class has continued to put in significant effort to improve our house and will be an asset for years to come. The sophomores and juniors are excited to welcome this new class next year when they live in the house. We hope to continue this trend of successful recruitment classes this upcoming year, and would appreciate any recommendations regarding incoming freshmen, legacy or not, so that we can continue to identify and attract the best young men that DePauw's campus has to offer.

In Hoc,
Townsend Driggs '21 | Recruitment Chair

Philanthropy Chair Hard at Work

The spring semester at DePauw has given us many things to take part in and look forward to when it comes to philanthropic endeavors. We have been able to send many of our members to a wide array of philanthropy events hosted by other organizations on campus, in the hope that our strong attendance would help us garner as much attendance at our own Derby Days.

I have worked tirelessly the past few months to coordinate meetings with various sorority leaders and administration members to ensure that this weeklong philanthropy event runs as smoothly and successfully as possible. I have

made a lot of small, yet important changes to the schedule of Derby Days to make sure it becomes as focused on raising money for the Huntsman Institute as possible, whilst still balancing the fundraising with some fun throughout the week. I am very excited to see how our fundraising efforts finalize at the end of the week, as we have already seen incredible generosity from Xi Chapter parents and Sigma Chi alumni from our chapter as well as others.

Carl Ash '21 | Philanthropy Chair



Jay Klein '20 and several local youth he is coaching soccer to on the beach. Jay is studying abroad this semester in South Africa.



Above: On Saturday, March 2, 2019, Xi Chapter initiated its 160th pledge class, including Peter B. Reuling III '21. His grandfather, Peter B. Reuling I '56, also a Xi Sigma Chi, attended and participated in the event.

At left: Seniors at a night dinner in downtown Greencastle. Left to right: Will Freeman '19, Andrew Lumsden '19, Ty Hou '19, David Jones '19, Elliot Atkinson '19; in front: Doug Kubek '19.

Why the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi?

For me, it was the quality of men pledging Sigma Chi, the values of the fraternity, the quality of actives in the fraternity, having the opportunity to be a legacy, and the national excellence of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. My first introduction to the Xi Chapter was by actives in the 159th class: Nick Baxter '21, Patrick Groeschen '21, and Quan Khuc '21. At that time, I was a sophomore who was a little skeptical of Greek life in general, and didn't know if it was for me. Meeting such quality, genial, dedicated, and balanced individuals who were a part of the Xi Chapter really changed my perspective.

During pledgship, it really taught me the true values, meaning, and what it would be like to be a part of this fraternity. This experience consumed a lot of my time for those five weeks, and shed light on my poor time management skills. This journey meant a lot to me and was an experience I will never forget. The actions the house and actives took during pledgship and initiation demonstrated to me just how dedicated every brother is to the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi.

In Hoc,
Connor Hammerle '21

Memorial Day 2019

At right: Xi Sigma Chis from the '70s get together for the 30th annual golf outing hosted by Glenn ("75") & Fran Brower all these years. Kneeling left to right are John Kniesly '73, Rick Lear '73, Lou Hensley '77, Mike Davis '74, Dave Harrison '75, John Easton '73, Brad Sexauer '73; standing left to right are Kirk Hobbs '77, Dave Tanner '75, Ken Behrendt '76, Dan Saver '76, Glenn "Our Host" Brower '75, Eric Tauer '76, Rob Sharpe '74, Tom King '75, and John Hermeling '74.



Lapean Takes on Italy

What many refer to as the eternal city, I have the honor to call my home. This semester I am interning and studying abroad in beautiful Rome, Italy. I am living with an Italian woman named Rosaria, who is making sure I learn as much Italian as possible. I have been lucky to share this experience with a fellow DePauw student, Jack Hallier. Although I am not considered a DePauw student this semester, I have been impressed with the track record of Temple University Rome and how welcoming all the students have been. My program consists of over 300 other students from Temple University and other universities from across the United States. I have met so many new and interesting people, learned a lot, and have enjoyed participating in my internship. The experience has been eccentric, to bottle and package it into one word. Before getting any further, I would like to recognize Professor Jeffrey Gropp for politely pointing me in the direction of Rome, Italy; without him, I likely would not have participated in this program.

Studying abroad, a truly unique experience, coupled with my internship, has made the whole journey all that much better. Temple University has been nothing but welcoming, and the friendships I have made with students and professors here will be lifelong and not forgotten. My internship experience has had a similar effect. My internship boss is named Claudio, and he is amazing. Claudio runs a company called Dindarò, where the premise is taking physical spare change in a transaction

and transforming that change into a digital wallet. Coins are a big thing in Europe, and this is the solution to that problem. Claudio's love for food, coupled with his appreciation of Italy, bodes well for me. Therefore, on work breaks, I have had the opportunity to try almost every classic Italian dish, including, but not limited to, carbonara, spaghetti e Sugo all'Amatriciana, many pizzas, arancini, and, of course, gelato. In addition to all the food, Claudio introduced me to his barber, a man he has known since he was a kid. Claudio

has helped me experience the wonderful and hidden culture of Rome. Many of my friends at Temple do not get to see the Rome I do, since I am with a local every day of the week.

I have seen many places on this study abroad journey: visited Barcelona to practice my Spanish, seen the red-light district of Amsterdam, sampled the amazing food and drink of Brussels, and experienced the

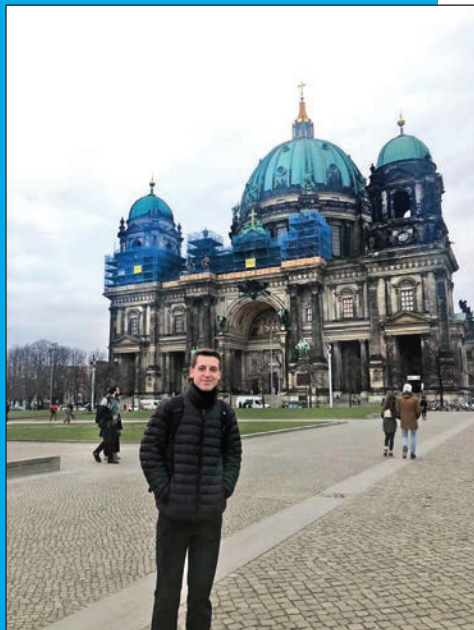


Michael Lapean '20 showcases the Sigma Chi flag in Cinque Terre, Italy, while studying abroad this semester.

historical beauty of Prague. Italy is no short of amazing—I saw Florence at night from Piazza del Michelangelo, embraced the beginning of Carnevale in Venice, and hiked through Cinque Terre (pictured), all of which have contributed to a general love and gratefulness for Italy! One of the more fascinating parts of my journey was catching and meeting up with my great friend and room 12 roommate, Nick Burris '20, in Vienna, Austria. Although Nick is studying abroad in Berlin, Germany, for the next few months, it was great to find a spot we could meet. Lastly, Ireland, England, and France are still on my radar for the rest of my journey and I will be sure to update everyone on those escapades.

I will forever cherish this semester abroad. I have learned so much about the world, myself, and others. With that said, I am also very excited to see all my brothers at the Xi. I will be a senior this fall, and that is mind-blowing for me to say. I appreciate the brothers who have kept in touch with me while I have been away, ensuring me that the house is in good-standing. Senior year will be great, and I cannot wait to see what is in store the rest of my time at DePauw. Shout-out to my wonderful parents for helping make my transition to Italy such a smooth and enlightening experience. Here's to a successful summer to all our Sigs. *Arrivederci!*

In Hoc,
Mike Lapean '20
158th Pledge Class



Nick Burris '20 in Berlin.



Nick Burris '20 and Mike Lapean '20 in Vienna.

Sigma Chi Connections: The Beat Goes On

By Jack Chapin, Xi & Tau Tau '55

Reprinted from The Tau Tau Sig, Summer 2017

One Sunday morning in March of 1952, over 60 years ago, my dad and Constantine Sig Sherman Senne, both Tau Tau Sigs, appeared at my Sigma Chi initiation, pinning our revered badge on my robe at Xi Chapter, DePauw University. Two years later, I transferred to Washington University in St. Louis and affiliated with Tau Tau Chapter, where my dad had served as consul in 1923.

Now, playing the back nine of just about everything, as I reflect on great times and grand, the importance of Sigma Chi core values, our ideals, and brothers who share our sacred experiences—who stay the course of true friendship; with whom we connect nearly every month—is certain.

Graduating in 1955 from Washington



consultant. The national certifying body for consultants was headed by the late Denver Significant Sig Dick Ten Eyck. Sigma Chi Partners assisted my mid-career transition to a new firm and new profession.

Big Four firms require partners to retire at age 60. Flunking retirement, I started my own small firm. Consultants participate in many “beauty contests” for selection. That is where we present ideas, credentials, and qualifications for consideration by a potential client. All are quite competitive.

In a 2000 beauty contest, we competed for a very large engagement to represent a big consulting firm being sued for malpractice. The beauty contest was about to conclude. The lawyer asked me to leave the room

“Now, playing the back nine of just about everything, as I reflect on great times and grand, the importance of Sigma Chi core values, our ideals, and brothers who share our sacred experiences—who stay the course of true friendship; with whom we connect nearly every month—is certain.”

University in St. Louis and from Tau Tau Chapter, there was a military obligation to fulfill. The draft was still on. Most participated in ROTC. We were between armed conflicts. The Korean War was over. Vietnam had not yet erupted. For most of us, it was two years active duty and out. A few made the military a career; not many.

We married our college sweethearts, served our country, and got in the career race. We had families to watch over. Each in our own way, we kept the faith. We connected with our brothers via letters and at college reunions every five years when the loyal returned.

In the normal course, we met Sigma Chis in varied places, frequently because of rings we share. Sigs turned up in the IBM Corporation where I spent almost 20 years, as well as airplane waiting rooms, restaurants, churches, conferences, conventions, professional associations, country clubs, and business meetings.

Late in the 1950s, The Benton Society, a historic local fraternity at Southeast Missouri University, Cape Girardeau, petitioned our Grand Old Order for a charter. Having returned from active duty, the St. Louis Alumni Chapter asked me to serve as local liaison and chapter advisor.

One Sunday morning in May of 1960, 79 Benton Society members (43 actives, 36 alumni) experienced the ceremonies of initiation, becoming Epsilon Phi of Sigma Chi. Attending the installation was Missouri Governor and Xi Xi Sig Jim Tom Blair, Westminster College President and Omicron Sig Dr. Robert Davidson, Executive Director Bill Bringham Sr., future Grand Consul Murray McComas, and a host of Sigma Chis from St. Louis, Kansas City, Chicago, and places near and far.

In 2010, Epsilon Phi celebrated its first 50 years with a gala reunion. My tenure as chapter advisor ended in 1966 when IBM moved us to Chicago. Although it had been 45 years since I had been to Cape Girardeau, I was asked to address the reunion banquet attended by over 560.

Among the many alumni were 27 of the original 79 on whom I pinned the White Cross in 1960, serving as Installing Consul. That Epsilon Phi Reunion is THE memorable moment of my Sigma Chi experience. The legacy of connection; over 1,000 brothers initiated since installation; several Significant Sigs; many Constantine Sigs; eight Peterson Awards. The Beat Goes On!

In 1979, I joined Coopers & Lybrand LLP, now merged as PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, becoming a certified management

so that he could caucus with his client. A few minutes later, he invited me back, announced a decision in our favor. As we shook hands, he slipped me the grip, whispering his being a Sigma Chi had nothing to do with my getting the business!?

Today's technology facilitates connecting like never before. All are urged to keep the faith, stay connected, and involved. In a recent SWFL Sigma Chi newsletter, I noted several Chicago as well as St. Louis Brothers—Grand Trustee Bill Robinson '59 from TT, Bill Canfield from my St. Louis IBM days, Tom Dyke, and Bernie Sergesketter from Chicago. Even here in Lower, Slower, Delaware, The Beat Goes On.

John N. “Jack” Chapin Jr., BSBA '55 and MBA '60, is a forensic economist, Life Loyal Sig (1952), Significant Sig (2001), Constantine Sig (2005), senior consulting partner (retired) PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, president of CHAPIN Associates Ltd., and past national chair and fellow at the Institute of Management Consultants (USA) Inc. Jack and Meryl Chapin are retired in Lewes, Delaware.

A retired orthodontist, **Bill Oliver '53** sent along the following fun reminiscence: "In the fall of 1949, an unknown-to-one-another collection (13) of original Xi Sig pledges gathered in the house to celebrate their recent pledge to the Xi Chapter of Sigma Chi. That group of 13—a lucky number for us for the most part—stayed together, as Life Loyal Sigs, as well as loyal to our unusual group, for more than 70 years (a record, I think)! At our 15th DePauw University reunion, we made another pledge to have, every five years, our own separate reunion—somewhere interesting, outside of the U.S., starting in the summer of our 20th DePauw reunion. And five of the original 13 pledges are still standing at age 88, just shy of 70 years from our pledge year of 1949. Wow!" Recounting the group's adventures, he continues, "On our first Sig pledge group reunion (our 20th university reunion), 10 of us with wives went for two weeks to Ocho Rios in Jamaica. We had a great reunion, renting two side-by-side villas. For our second Sig pledge reunion (after our 25th DePauw reunion), five couples went to Spain, again staying in two villas on the edge of the Mediterranean. Day trips to local market for wine and goose pate, then fast hydrofoil to Morocco, a bullfight in Seville, then to a parador hotel in central Spain, ending at the Alhambra before heading home to the good old USA! For our third group reunion, and 30th DePauw reunion, three DePauw couples and two guest couples went to South Africa. After taking a night train to Cape Town, we went to a private safari camp for four days, seeing all five of the 'major animals' plus others, and ending

eye ON XI ALUMNI

XI CHAPTER ALUMNI SEND THEIR NEWS AND NOTES

with a day/night at Victoria Falls. The group then decided to push up the interval between reunions (as we were all getting older) and stay in the U.S. So, for the next approximately 21 years, we met every three years. In 2013, three guys, plus a Beta from DePauw, met in Wilmington, North Carolina, for two days. That group included (in addition to myself) **Frank Shoptaugh**, **Phil Davis**, and the Beta, **Dean Gullikson**." In concluding, "The Owl" adds, "At this juncture (November 2018) there are still five of the original 1949 Xi Sig pledges still standing. How many fraternity groups can brag about that?!? Must have been the food we consumed at the Sig house during those four years, as booze was not allowed." Catch up with Bill at billwko@msn.com or 4010 S. 188th St., Unit 104, Seatac, WA 98188.

"Still living in Alaska," writes retiree **Dave Watson '55**. Postal mail reaches him at 924 Kellum St., #301, Fairbanks, AK 99701.

Barrett Corneille '77 has retired and moved to 113 County Road West, Mineral Point, WI 53565. His email address remains barrettc@corneillelaw.com.

Congratulations to recent grad **Robert Sherman '18**, who just took a job as a TV news reporter at CBS 42 in Birmingham, Alabama. Check in with him by email at robertshermanmedia@gmail.com.

deceased

WE REGRET TO ANNOUNCE
THE DEATHS OF:

William H. Pearson '41
July 20, 2018

James W. Herrick '61
November 20, 2018

Rhett W. Butler '62
November 22, 2017

Timothy W. Hall '95
December 12, 2018

Zheng Luo '17

Xi House Corp. and Foundation Updates

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since our mission is to develop values-based leaders committed to the betterment of character, campus, and community.

However, Xi Chapter's ongoing success is impacted by the continuous engagement of our strong alumni base. So, please stay connected. Visiting our website at www.xisigs.org is one way to get to know and follow the activities of the active chapter. For example, Derby Days continues to be a manifestation of the active chapter's charitable and philanthropic commitment. It also seems to garner campus-wide support and attention. Additionally, we are contemplating the establishment of an alumni career mentoring program, pairing active brothers with alumni brothers based on their desired and chosen professions. If you are interested in participating in the program or speaking to the active chapter about your profession at a career dinner at the house, please let us know.

This summer, we will be pursuing much needed upgrades to the bathrooms at the house. We hope this will be phase I of an ongoing capital improvement plan to include additional projects such as replacing old flooring in individual study rooms and common areas. These important projects will only be possible with the support of our generous alumni, so we welcome your contributions, as well as your

involvement overall. It's been quite some time since any major capital improvements have been made to the house, and with the university implementing a plan to construct new dormitories, it's important that we continue to offer a competitive living environment, in addition to our strong brotherhood.

The Xi Chapter Foundation Inc. is an approved 501(c)(3) charitable organization and was established for the purposes of raising and investing funds for capital projects, educational programs, and scholarships. In addition to funding improvements to the house, we also were fortunate to be able to increase the amount of academic scholarships awarded this past spring to high achieving actives.

We will continue to keep you abreast of news and developments at Xi Chapter, but in the interim, we welcome your input so please reach out to us any time.

Thank you for your ongoing support and involvement. Your contributions make a significant difference.

In Hoc Signo Vincas,

Mark T. Driggs '91
President

Xi Chapter House Corporation
mark.driggs@legacymarketing.com

Bruce Montgomerie '68
President
Xi Chapter Foundation
mongobmon@aol.com