

THETA XI FRATERNITY  
FALL 2014 NEWSLETTER  
ALPHA IOTA CHAPTER

# THE ARCHER



A LOOK INSIDE

INTRAMURAL SUCCESS  
VOLUNTEERING RECORDS SET  
LOOKING INTO 2015

# FROM THE PRESIDENT



**A**s the semester comes to a fast close, there is so much to be thankful for and proud of. Here at Theta Xi we have continued to grow and strengthen ourselves as a chapter and as individuals. This was proven best by, yet again, beating our record for best GPA in the K-State Greek community.

We are very pleased to announce our first place finish, setting the bar even higher for future semesters to come. We averaged a 3.544 collective grade point average for the spring semester. This was .67 points above the All Male University GPA and the highest in the Greek Community overall. This is the 5th semester in a row that we have earned the top spot in grades and we won't stop there.

However, the success of Theta Xi doesn't stop with academics. We won second place in the quest for the Memorial trophy, Brother Chance Berndt, AI 974, finished up his term as Student Ambassador, and Brother Stanton Weber, AI 977, has started every football game as number 12 on special teams for the Cats. We continue to be a force to be reckoned with on campus, with over half of our members actively involved with clubs, and many that hold leadership positions on campus.

Our semester in intramurals is headed in a spectacular direction. We are currently sitting in

third place. Our volleyball, soccer, and flag football teams all made playoffs as well as several other individual sports.

In Homecoming, we were paired with Kappa Delta as well as Alpha Tau Omega. We were pleased to place 4th overall as well as extending our relations with both other houses.

Theta Xi also created 2 new philanthropies this year. During our spring semester, we held Theta Xi and Delta Chi Fish Fry. We held it on a Friday during Lent and had a great turnout. During this philanthropy, our house raised \$1,300. We can't wait to see how much it will grow when we host it again this upcoming spring. Our second philanthropy that we created this fall was a tailgate and watch party with the ladies of Gamma Phi Beta. During the away game at West Virginia, we invited people over to Gamma Phi Beta for yard games, chili dogs, nachos, hot chocolate and watching our Wildcats beat the Mountaineers. This was also a huge hit and we ended up raising \$1,100. Both of the earnings were donated to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

We are currently in a very good position at Theta Xi. We have been doing very well in grades and intramurals while still maintaining a positive and carefree atmosphere. We also continue the traditions of Wet N Wild, Tuffy Strut and Semi

Formal.

We received a huge honor from Dr. Pat Bosco, Vice President of Student Life at K-State, who brought donuts to our house with a note attached that said "Theta Xi, thank you for making my job so easy!" This goes to show that we are making huge strides at being the best men in our quest for Theta Xi. It is an extreme honor to be leading such an excellent group of men, especially since we are the best of the best. We have a strong exec and many other men who are ready to put in work. I have no doubt that we will continue to build off of the already great accomplishments that we have had this past year. Everyone in our house is driven to improve and we all have a mutual focus at being the best all-around gentlemen on and off campus.

If you ever have questions, comments, or suggestions for the house or myself, please pass them along. If you would like to get in contact with me, you are always welcome to visit, or I encourage phone calls. We would love to show you some of the recent additions to the house. We are always looking to improve and extend our alumni relations, so I'd love to hear from you.

YITB,  
Christopher Leonard  
A.I. 984  
(913) 575-0423

## HOUSE MOTHER REPORT

**A**s the Fall Semester, 2014 comes to a close the Alpha Iota Chapter of Theta Xi has much to celebrate! Amazing study efforts are a normal part of the routine of this House and excellent grades and learning are results. These super young men are leading the way in grades here at KSU. Academics matter to the men and interactions with professors do as well. Outstanding internships and positions of employment as well as learning are rewards of persevering over the long semester. Thanks, Men. I am so proud of you!

The Guys have fun, too! The Men of Theta

Xi show up loud and proud to support our KSU Wildcats. Alumni, be sure to stop by the tailgates or the House. We love to chat with you! Come join us. Theta Xi hosts numerous functions and always welcomes friends over.

Both participation and House support in intramurals have been terrific this semester! These guys can play every sport and video game you can think of.

I am pleased at the initiative the men take. Men of Theta Xi serve on many Greek, campus, church and volunteer organizations: IFC, Catalyst, Engineering Ambassadors, Horticulture Club, Big

Brothers and Sisters, church groups, Boys and Girls Clubs, SAB and SGA to name a few.

The Guys decorated their rooms and the outside of the House for Christmas. The outside lights at night are stunning! Just recently we welcomed in the holidays with our Annual Wassail event. It was well attended by Greek, community and KSU faculty representatives.

It is indeed a pleasure to live here at Theta Xi. Thank you, Men. Enjoy the holidays, the Alamo Bowl, your families, a little sleep and GO CATS!

Love, Mom Rose of Theta Xi

# COMMITTEE REPORTS

All True Men | Alumni Relations | Brotherhood | Sustainability | Finance | Homecoming | House | Intramural | Kitchen | Memories | Philanthropy | Pop Machine | Scholarship | Secretary | Public Relations/Apparel | Risk Management | Rush | Social | Supplies | Technology | Tailgate

## TREASURER

Brothers,

We have had another fantastic semester at Theta Xi. I only recently began work for this position, and am picking up where Brother Devin Feist left off. We were able to stay well under budget over the past two semesters, and as a result, have been able to make various small home improvements and give our House Mother a well-deserved raise!

At the moment, we are sitting in a very

favorable financial position. I plan on maintaining a balanced budget, and do not foresee any major projects taking place in the next year. My hope is that you all have had an enjoyable holiday season, and I look forward to seeing many of you at 6294 Formal this spring!

YITB,  
Evan Hartter  
A.I. 998

## TECHNOLOGY

Brothers,

As the use of technology continues to expand, there are constant challenges in providing adequate wifi and internet services in an older home such as Theta Xi. This coming semester, I am looking at installing some new pieces of hardware along with looking into what our services from Cox are.

YITB,  
Andrew McKittrick  
A.I. 1019

## HOMECOMING



This year out homecoming partners were Alpha Tau Omega and Kappa Delta. We participated in a campus wide theme of "K-State Coast to Coast" with our individual theme of Las Vegas. The week began with Pant the Chant in Bramlage Coliseum where groups from each pairing performed a stomp chant to their choice of music. Other events throughout the week included WRL, a choreographed dance number once again in Bramlage Coliseum, and fun and games at the children's carnival. The final event of the week was the homecoming parade. We spent countless hours preparing the float for the parade, , it was

truly amazing to see the float come together. Although we did not place overall amongst the Greek pairings, we placed in the top five of several events. These events include a third place finish in pant the chant and a first place victory in the children's carnival. Although we didn't place in every event, we were believed to be contenders in every event. After many weeks of work we finished the week by having a social with our partners at the Alpha Tau Omega fraternity house.

YITB,  
Darin Feist  
A.I. 999

## SCHOLARSHIP



In order to reach a goal, you must first set one. The Alpha Iota chapter has done this every semester, however these past couple semesters (Spring of 2014 and Fall of 2015) have been especially successful. Last Spring, the men of the Alpha Iota broke their own GPA record with an outstanding house average GPA of 3.5435. This semester we have the potential to break it again; but even if we do not, it has surely been another great semester in the classroom. As of right now, the house is sitting at a 3.5098 and from what I've heard, finals went very well. Although not specifically related to grades, an idea I have implemented as a great resource for brothers is the compilation of a previous class database. This will allow future and current brothers to find success scholastically by choosing the best teacher for them and saving money on classroom resources.

For the Fall of 2014's scholarship dinner, brothers who achieved grades above the house average in the previous spring semester were rewarded for their hard work with glasses engraved with Theta Xi's Coat of Arms. The brothers that earned 4.0s also received this glass as well as a tie clip that included our letters which I have often seen worn proudly at weekly formal dinners and other formal occasions. Before and during the dinner, we were honored to get to hear from K-State's President, Kirk Shultz, who discussed the future of Kansas State and also provided us with insight to help us succeed in the rest of our college careers as well as our future professional ones. He first described the upcoming changes, a part of the K-State 2025 program, and what we should know to be prepared for those changes so that we and our future brothers may prosper in this new environment. Other impactful messages were felt by the men as Kirk described work ethic and flexibility to changes as key proponents for success.

This Fall semester was filled with academic success and I am sure us Alpha Iota men will continue to hold ourselves to such high standards. Looking forward to returning to the house and college life after winter break, Alpha Iota will be ready for another great semester.

**Left:** Brothers and their guests socialize during Loud Half Hour, an event held Sunday-Thursday nights of finals week as a study break with music and food provided.

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YITB,  
Eric Aube  
A.I. 1020

# INTRAMURAL ROUNDUP

This semester has been a great start for Theta Xi in intramurals. Even with the new complicated system in place, Theta Xi is currently in third place for the first semester of the K-State intramural league. Thanks to plenty of participation and great athleticism, Theta Xi made the playoffs in all major team sports so far — football, soccer and volleyball. Not only were we successful in team sports but we had a large majority of points come from individual sports. We came in top three for punt, pass

and kick, handball, racquetball, Madden and 1-on-1 basketball(under 6'). There were three other great highlights this year for intramurals. First was our amazing swim team that won almost every race except two, and in both cases came in second place, needless to say, we won the swim meet. Second, was a bit of a dark horse, having Austin Davis(fifth year senior) win the title for best darts player in the world — or at least that's what it felt like. The final highlight of this year was the volleyball team.

## VOLLEYBALL



## SWIMMING



**W**ith a new, strong group of three freshmen who were former high school swimmers along with a number of older Brothers, Theta Xi was able to achieve our first team intramural championship of the season! With wins in both relays over a strong Beta Theta Pi, we started out well. Key individual performances from many brothers helped Theta Xi to secure not only the most individual champions, but also the team championship at the meet.

## SOCER



**H**ouse Soccer was at it again this year with one of our strongest teams yet. The team had a great combination of upper and lower classmen and did well in the regular season and advanced to the playoffs. The team battled and won our first round game, but lost in the next round to the eventual champions, Beta Theta Pi. We look forward to the season next year, but we will miss the contributions of our five seniors who will be graduating.

**W**hen it comes to team sports Theta Xi is extremely competitive and volleyball is no exception. This year was a special year that started with a group of men ranging in height(5'7"-6'7") and age from freshmen to fifth year seniors. The season started out great with the team not dropping one match and moving on to the playoffs with a number three seed. The first match was fairly easy because we had such a high seed, but our next match was against Beta Theta Pi who has always been a very high quality team. With a fairly large crowd and plenty of excitement we were able to beat Beta and move on to the finals against Delta Upsilon. After a long season of bruised arms, scuffed knees, and spikes to the face we had finally made it. It was a great turn out for the finals with almost the entire Theta Xi house there to support their team. Sadly, just as fast as the season started, it was over in a crushing defeat. Although the Unicorns did not get first place it was a great season full of exciting, and entertaining memories.

**A** tradition at the Alpha Iota Chapter for many years continued this year as the holiday season began to draw near. Many brothers helped to prepare the house for the holiday season. Over Thanksgiving break, the preparations began and as Semi-Formal drew closer, the decorations continued to improve. Lights were hung outside outlining the house (as can be seen below) and two trees were placed inside, an artificial one in the entryway (as can be seen at

right) and a live tree in the corner of the dining room.

Garland was spread throughout the main level while all the rooms were filled with lights and other decorations. It was great to see the house come alive with the holiday spirit as the end of the semester drew to a close and no one wanted to have to take down the decorations.



TIS THE SEASON

# CATS IN THEIR COMMUNITY

This past semester has seen Brothers from the Alpha Iota Chapter getting involved in community service across Manhattan. From setting a record for Gameday Recycling to spending quality time with their fathers doing yard work, it's been great to see these men get involved in the Manhattan area.

**T**he Alpha Iota Chapter of Theta Xi has a strong history of helping their community. Brothers are asked to commit to a minimum number of service hours each semester but many go above and beyond this call. At the heart of this volunteering were two brotherhood service events organized by men in the house.

First, on September 21st, following the home football game versus Auburn, 26 brothers traveled to the game day recycling center. During every home football game, clear and purple plastic bags are distributed to all the tailgates, the former for recyclables. These bags, many filled with empty beer cans and the occasional piece of trash had been left outside in the sun from Thursday until that Sunday.

The brothers showed up at noon that afternoon and after a quick overview, went to work. We pulled the bags off of the trailers and pulled them into the warehouse. There, we piled the bags onto sorting tables where we opened them and sorted the contents into trash, glass and aluminum or plastic. Finally, the aluminum and plastic was dumped into the compactor to be forced into bales.

After around two hours of work, the job was done in a record amount of time. The workers were very appreciative and amazed at how fast the work had gotten done, even receiving a write-up on the K-State website!

Second up this fall semester was when 22 brothers and many of our dads participated in the October 5th, Change the World Volunteer Day. For this, brothers and their dads traveled to a local man's house in order to help with some much needed yard work. After years of decay, his yard had been nearly overrun with weeds and plants.

We took a few hours to clear away vines and ivy from the house and began to clear brush as we moved farther into the back of the yard. As we moved back, we began to discover hidden gems from an old filled pool to a half basketball court! It was amazing to see the transformation that occurred before our eyes as we helped this man for a few hours as part of a much bigger volunteer program.

Besides these two events, we have seen Brothers involved in all areas of our community. From multiple soccer and basketball coaches, to participants in Big Brothers and Big Sisters, volunteering at Flint Hills Bread Basket and of course philanthropy involvement, the brothers are slowly doing their best to improve the Manhattan area.



**Clockwise starting at top left:** Brother Chris Leonard displays trash that he found while sorting through Game Day recycling cans, Brothers Nate Sterns and Logan Krizek drink lemonade at Alpha Delta Pi for their philanthropy, Brothers Anthony DelCorral and Christian Buessing sort through beer cans in record time for Game Day recycling, Brothers pose after playing games of volleyball in the mud as part of Sigma Kappa Philanthropy



## SEMI-FORMAL SUCCESS

The Alpha Iota chapter recently continued their tradition of hosting an annual Semi-Formal date party

**S**emi-Formal was a rousing success this year as all the brothers and their dates had a great time! Taking place in early December, we rented out the Ballroom of the Four Points Hotel in Manhattan to enjoy an exceptional dinner and dessert. The brothers and their dates arrived in time to mingle before dinner started where they shared stories and memories from the fall semester and years past.

New chapter president, Brother Chris Leonard gave a speech towards the end of the dinner, thanking everyone and sharing some favorite memories from the past semester. Finally, Mom Rose was recognized for all of her amazing hard

work and many contributions to the house.

As has been a tradition for many years, we decorated the house to show guests afterward. Every room trying their best to out-do the other rooms and win the coveted award of best decorated. From inflatable snowmen, to fake fireplaces on computer monitors and hundreds of lights, the house was ready for the holiday season.

There was a competition throughout the night for best decorations and the judges ruled that the room with brothers Anthony DelCorral, Jonathan Pyle and David Feist was the best. Filled with pictures of the brothers along with well placed lights throughout helped them to snag their victory.

# VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER

Brother Michael Gagliano spent 24 hours helping at Manhattan fire department



On October 24th, 2014 I volunteered for the local Manhattan, KS fire department on a 24-hour shift. It was a great opportunity to learn and understand the dynamic of how particular fire departments run while simultaneously directly being involved with serving the community. They have an unmatched discipline for diligently serving others before themselves – sometimes even missing meals, sleep, or the chance to put your feet up and relax due to the random nature of emergency calls. And while riding along to areas that were called in from the dispatcher was exciting, I think that what stood out to me the most was how much of the job was actually not about fighting fires at all. The cleaning, maintenance, and training that goes on “behind the scenes” is like you wouldn’t believe. I believe their work ethic to ensure preparedness and success in their department and community alike parallels to the efforts of ourselves as men in the world today. It is all the work done that no one else sees that makes the difference between good and great, and we must keep striving to continuously improve as individuals.

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The Alpha Iota Chapter initiated thirteen new members into the brotherhood during the fall 2014 semester

Andrew McKittrick

Ben Stutterheim

Christian Buessing

David Feist

Eric Aube

Jack Feighner

Jacob Carroll

Jason Yingst

Joe Pyle

Johnny Maher

Kane Comfort

Nate Sterns

Ryan Adams



This coming semester at 1803 Laramie looks as though it is shaping up to be a busy one.

## WHAT TO LOOK FORWARD TO AT ALPHA IOTA:

### FORMAL

This year's 6294 Formal is scheduled to be in Kansas City on the Saturday of April 25th. It will be at the Holiday Inn on the country club plaza (1 E 45th st. KC, MO). Invitations will be sent out in March, but if you have any questions, don't hesitate to contact Chris Leonard (cgleonard4@ksu.edu), Gordon Harton (gjharton@ksu.edu) or myself (amkit@ksu.edu).

Every year, Formal turns out to be a highlight for not only the Brothers in the house but also alumni. Last year turned out to be an absolute blast, and we hope that we can see as many Theta Xi alumni as possible!

### NDLA's

This year, the Newell District Leadership Academy will be hosted by the Alpha Iota chapter at K-State for the Great Plains district. The brothers in attendance will further develop leadership and communication skills through presentations and various group activities. These skills will then be a useful tool to apply to chapter affairs and other life obstacles. Additionally, the brothers from the different chapters of the district will strengthen the Theta Xi bonds by learning more about each other and the strengths each chapter has. These activities will take place on Saturday, February 21 from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm. Following the leadership activities, an alcohol-free event will be occurring for the remainder of the evening.

## CONGRATULATIONS NEW GRADUATES

### Gordon Zimmerman

In December 2014 I graduated from K-State with a degree in Architectural Engineering. I personally do design work for the heating, cooling, ventilation, plumbing, electrical and lighting systems as well as some more specialized stuff here and there.

I will be going to Chicago with my team in January to accept the 1<sup>st</sup> place award for an international design competition.

### Travis Snyder

I graduated from K-State with a degree in construction science and management and a minor in business. I accepted a position with a local construction company, Walters Morgan. They specialize in water and waste water treatment. I'm a member of the estimating department and a part of the take-off and preparing bids for potential customers. I'm eager to see my career progress and am excited to be staying in the Manhattan area.

### FIND OUT MORE

For the quickest updates on what's happening at the house, follow the K-State Theta Xi on Twitter by scanning the QR code on the left. For more in-depth information about the house, find the official website on the right.



## NEW EXECUTIVE

Meet all of the members for the new 2014-2015 Exec. This group was elected at the November 16th Chapter and were installed at the December 7th Chapter. Overall, there is one returning member from last year's Exec, one Junior, four Sophomores and two Freshmen.

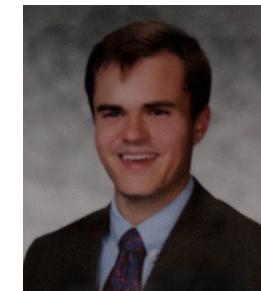
**PRESIDENT:** Chris Leonard  
Junior in Mechanical Engineering



**VP:** Ian Harmon  
Sophomore in Biology



**TREASURER:** Evan Hartter  
Sophomore in Accounting





**Left and Below:** Brothers watched the K-State football vs. Iowa State football game at Gamma Phi Beta Sorority as part of their Game Day Tailgate Philanthropy which raised over \$1000

# ON GAMEDAYS WE TAILGATE

**A**t the beginning of the semester, the philanthropy committee decided that the house was in need of a new philanthropy. After the previous success of the Fish Fry, the committee has some ideas of what could prove successful. We brainstormed as a group and a multitude of ideas were thrown around. After a couple of days of thought and debate, we decided to have a Gameday tailgate before and during a K-State football game. From there, the planning process began.

The first step was to find another house to pair with as we have found that by pairing with a sorority on campus, both houses have been able to improve the amount of money they can donate to their chosen organization. We met with Gamma Phi Beta and decided that we would work together to support a variety of groups. We designed t-shirts to sell to other groups on campus that are simply tailgating shirts without the event details or letters so that they can be worn for every game. In addition, we worked to presale tickets to

groups to drum up support.

As the tailgate drew closer, the planning and execution process kicked into high gear. Both houses worked to prepare chili, popcorn, desserts and other foods or snacks for people to eat at the tailgate as they watched the Cats take on and win over Iowa State. The tailgate started a couple of hours before the game and continued into the second half.

The philanthropy was an amazing success and upgrade over previous years as we were able to raise over

\$1000 for Multiple Sclerosis. The brothers of Theta Xi, sisters of Gamma Phi Beta and everyone that came had a great time playing yard games, eating and watching the game.

Hopefully the tailgate can turn into a tradition and grow in the coming years as new ideas are brought into the mix! It's always great to see all the brothers and two houses pull together on campus in order to support a couple of great organizations.

## WINNING SERENADES

**O**ver the course of a year, the men of Alpha Iota will compete for first in many different areas. From raising philanthropy dollars to our GPA, we're very proud of our successes this year. We were even able to strut our stuff in a more unusual way; by receiving first place in the inaugural Sorority Serenades dancing competition!

Sorority Serenades are a historic tradition at K-State. Every year, on the first weekend before class, fraternities will travel to sororities on campus to perform a singing and dancing routine. It's a fantastic way for our new members and upper-classmen alike to reconnect with the fairer members of our Greek community, and to get the excitement raised for an awesome year ahead!

This year, Serenades took on a bit of a twist when our Greek Affairs office at K-State decided to throw a competitive spin on the annual tradi-

tion. Using Twitter, sorority members were able to vote for their favorite routine and fraternity throughout the day. The top three winners would receive prizes, and the opportunity to perform their routine at an all-Greek function later in the semester.

While we have had great Serenades routines in the past, our brothers decided to go above and beyond this year when planning and practicing our performance. Pulling from new songs and old favorites alike, we featured singers, group dance portions, crowd interaction, and even a few acrobatics! That hard work paid off when we received the first place, in addition to a \$500 donation to our philanthropy!

If you ever find yourself around K-State near the first weekend of the school year, drive past Alpha Iota. You may hear the sound of music, as we prepare to defend our title as long as we can!



**HOUSE:** Darin Feist  
Sophomore in Construction Science



**KITCHEN:** Logan Krizek  
Sophomore in Kinesiology



**SECRETARY:** Andrew McKittrick  
Freshman in Computer Engineering



**SCHOLARSHIP:** Eric Aube  
Freshman in Biochemistry



# A SEMESTER IN REVIEW

I always knew I wanted to come to K-State. I was pretty sure I would join a house. However, what I wasn't sure about was what house I would end up in. After looking around, I decided that Theta Xi was the house for me and every day, I couldn't be happier with that decision.

As was seen throughout the previous pages, the Alpha Iota chapter of Theta Xi is in an amazing place. We recently placed first in grades for the fifth semester in a row (posting once again over a 3.5 house average), we are third place in intramurals, philanthropy is stepping up, brothers are involved with their community and so much more.

Over Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, I was lucky enough to be able to travel to St. Louis to participate in the Rising Stars Academy that was put on by Theta Xi Headquarters. It was an amazing opportunity to interact with Brothers from around the country. I became friends with a multitude of members. This weekend at a YMCA Lodge, allowed me to appreciate even more the national orga-

## FROM THE EDITOR

nization that I am a part of. I was extremely proud to be a member of one of a handful of All True Men chapters and it was amazing to hear the kind words from fellow brothers and national members about all of our hard work in the Little Apple.

Looking into the future, everything looks very bright. Rush will be starting up and the entire house is very excited to start looking for the next group of young men that will lead not only Alpha Iota but Theta Xi as a entirety into the future. These new men and the men already initiated into the Brotherhood will continue to drive this house into the upper echelon of Fraternities while endlessly producing quality men.

I couldn't be happier as a member of the Alpha Iota chapter of Theta Xi and joining this brotherhood was one of the best decisions of my life. Finally, I'm going to leave you with a challenge.

As alumni of Theta Xi I want you to ask yourself what Theta Xi meant and means to you. If you find yourself thinking, "It was



great to be a Theta Xi", try to change that. This brotherhood is for life and I challenge you to change that thinking to "I am a Theta Xi". Talk to Brothers current, future and past to reconnect. The bonds forged here should stand forever, evolving but never dying.

YITB,  
Andrew McKittrick  
AI 1019  
(913) 687-6479