



THE TIGER SIG



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XI XI CHAPTER ADAPTS TO NEW P4B PROGRAM

P4B means “Preparation for Brotherhood” and, after a year in testing, it is now the recognized procedure for all Sigma Chi chapters. Its goal is to standardize the pledge period among all chapters and to eliminate opportunities for hazing. It represents significant change in two areas, both of which extend greater control of the path to initiation by the International Fraternity.

All information regarding Sigma Chi history and ensuing pledge tests are now online, emanating from headquarters. E-learning, abetted with group discussion, is the format used for education on our fraternity. Pledge test answers, when entered, go directly to headquarters for grading. Headquarters also offers an approved list of events relative to the P4B period. Chapters may offer their suggestions for inclusions to or exclusions from the original list. Chapters will have the ability to appeal in terms of events they still want returned to their schedules if their requests are passed over. Some I-Week events have been assimilated into the pledge period, reducing the pre-initiation period to several days. After this first year of the national rollout of P4B, it will be fully analyzed with alterations made.

The second major area of change is that, other than Preparation for Brotherhood—eight weeks in duration—there is no period of the old pledge servitude, no delay of initiation until after the semester. The new members study Sigma Chi, and if they pass the P4B test, they are initiated. This change is much in line with actions being taken by many other fraternities on a national basis. The fragile state of college culture and the sensitivity to anything that approaches already tightly defined hazing has affected these re-directions. Our Chapter has been out in front in terms of recognizing these trends due to minimizing the chance of hazing by having freshmen live out of the house. This program in nearly all respects continues to be well accepted.

What about initiation before GPAs are definite?

Xi Xi Consul **Berry Brooks '18** indicates the Chapter checks grade statuses as well as it can up to I-Week. If grades are low, the new member is removed from the initiation list and/or if grades take a dip later in the semester, the individual is put on probation. If unsatisfactory performance continues, removal from the Chapter ensues.

How has the Chapter responded?

A good deal of selling the new program to the Chapter by the Executive Committee was required. Information presenting the new program had been furnished in 2015, so its Chapter introduction started last February. The younger members, who lived out of the house as freshmen, were immediately more receptive. Seniors and fifth-year members were a tougher sell, particularly since having lived in the house as freshmen, they had experienced tougher pledgeships. With a few minor exceptions, such as out-of-house members wanting their apartment cleaned, things have run smoothly.

A minor miracle

Rent collection and avoiding past due accounts have been significant problems for years. Last year, for the first time in modern Xi Xi history, the Chapter was totally current at the end of school. The same, so far, has held true this semester. It appears that moving freshmen out of the house and smoothing personal experiences due to the new program is having unforeseen positive effects on cash control. It, of course, also required excellent performances by Quaestor **Michael Parisot '17** and **Jack Noble '88**, the alumni financial advisor.

What are the results so far?

In late October, 41 out of 41 initial Xi Xi pledges were initiated into Sigma Chi. This is remarkable since, in the past, the normal pattern has been early attrition due to young men feeling uncomfortable with the change to fraternity life

or being resentful of totally different treatment from what they received during recruitment.

A university official recently told us that Xi Xi is looked at as a model of operation for fraternities on the MU campus. Our combination of out-of-house freshmen and the new pledge program is proving to be most successful.

House Director Nuptials



Looking up at their future, as they should, are just married Doug and Sally Lane. Their ceremony at our Chapter House last May was the first in Xi Xi history. Doug and Sally, née Mason, have squeezed into the house director's headquarters since school started and seem to be surviving the flow of fraternity life outside their door.

The Gift to His Grandson from a Man of Great Character

Few may exceed the first tenet of the Jordan Standard, but in the case of **Ken Lambert '60**, great is the appropriate designation. We ask that you read the letter offered here, written by Ken's grandson, Oliver Rayner. You will see how dedication and love gave a child the most meaningful gift possible: a realization of his full potential. After reading Oliver's words, it is highly likely that the challenge, "do it right, or do it again," will remain with you for your lifetime. Certainly Ken, a former Xi Xi consul and successful orthopedic surgeon, proved a man never reaches so high as when he stoops to help a child.

Right and Again *What I Learned in Boot Camp*

By: Oliver Rayner

I was over 2 and still not talking when my parents consulted a specialist who told them, "I am sorry, but your son seems to have a developmental delay which may make speech and coordination problematic. He may never gain fine motor skills."

To prove his point, I guess, the doctor handed me a ball. I threw it back—hard—at his head. He wasn't expecting the return, but did not modify his assessment. Regrettably, he felt there was little hope for the chubby toddler standing before him.

Outside the office afterward, my grandfather, who was at the meeting, growled to my parents: "He doesn't know what he is talking about. Did you see that throw? Oliver can develop better skills than that guy says." This led to what my grandfather and I would later call Toddler Boot Camp.

Every day I would wedge my fat little feet into sneakers, which I mostly put on the wrong foot, and would be led by my mom across the street to my grandparents' house. First I would be commanded to jump up and down from the couch many, many times. Then came a modified football tire drill, with me stumbling through rubber rings, over and over. Next came wriggling on my belly through a pop-up tunnel. Then my grandfather marched me to nearby woods for Wilderness Trail Fitness. Stepping over rocks, jumping over tree limbs, and running up hills was a sweaty warm-up for what was to come after—The Training Camp.

To develop my hand-eye coordination, my grandfather would endlessly throw balls of different sizes to me. I would have to toss them back or aim them in various buckets and baskets. He would encourage competition (or was it temper tantrums?) by pitting me against my older sister, who would smugly outperform me. Whining didn't get me very far. "There are two ways to do things," he told me. "The right

way and again." I was learning early that giving in to frustration or self-pity was not an option.

Finally sometime after age 3—to my sister's despair—I began to talk. I was a bossy kid at first, ordering my friends around, telling them where to stand and what to do. Since they hadn't put me in charge of them, they were no good at following my commands. This communication task was as hard as the hand-eye drills. I had to pay attention to others and work on abstract skills like self-control and modesty.



Boot Camp progressed to climbing walls, climbing trees, and jumping on trampolines. I learned to swim and ski. Life was an adventure. My grandfather no longer had to push me. Throughout grade school and middle school, I tried nearly every sport I could—baseball, track, tennis, football, and basketball—but I didn't yet feel as though a sport chose me until my second year at Classical High School.

I am now a middle on the varsity volleyball team—a position that requires lightning reflexes, precise blocking, good timing, and placement for spiking. The game is inconsistent and unpredictable, and what I particularly love is that everyone has to work together and always play our hardest, especially when we are losing. Thanks to the years of Boot Camp, my coordination and fine motor skills could not be better but—more importantly—as I begin my senior year,

I am team captain and a leader because my grandfather believed in me and taught me, day after day, to believe in myself.

When I was 2, the doctor who predicted my future did not know how my family would meet the challenge. He could not know how hard we could work. I was probably right to throw that little ball at his head. He didn't see what was inside us. He didn't see what was inside me.

Shootout Raises \$18,000 for Scholarships

The coffers of the Xi Xi Scholarship Fund enjoyed a significant boost thanks to alumni support given to the annual Shootout hosted in October at Columbia Country Club.

More than 75 Xi Xi actives and alumni—a new high for players—participated in the event with **Rich Elias '72** donating the \$10,000 Title Sponsorship. Other major donors included **Rick Murphy '71**, **John Qualy '70**, **Jay Shields '76**, **Chris Spencer '95** and Don Busse in honor of his recently deceased father, **Bob Busse '50**.

The \$500 closest to the pin winner was **John Noblit '91**. The first place team in the scramble format was **Sean Burrell '11**, **Ryan Miller '10**, **Adam Noteis '07**, and **PJ Witzofsky '11**.

One of the strangest foursomes was the oldest with an average age of 77. It was composed of **John Walker '60**, **Dan "The Kid" Slickman '77**, **George Gale '54** (who only putted), and **Larry McMullen '53** (who got lost in a sand trap and was never found). With a superhuman effort by Walker and Slickman, the twosome/threesome/foursome

shot a six under par 66. If they just had a 2-year-old Sigma Chi in the foursome, they might have shot their age.

The afternoon was beautiful, the course demanding but fair, and the general facilities of the Columbia Country Club, our new venue, proved more than comfortable. Thanks to all who planned the event and participated in the tournament. Special recognition must go to **Paul Courter '73**, who supervised the event's design and managed the Shootout. The Scholarship Fund particularly thanks all of you.

Xi Xi Chapter Initiates 41 out of 41 New Members

During fall 2016, the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Chapter began the semester with 41 new members; these young men were the first to participate in the Sigma Chi P4B new member program. The most significant changes between the old and new programs are the elimination of I-Week and the shortening to a strict eight-week schedule. The transition was challenging, but thanks to Magister **Johnny Galvin '18**, we initiated all 41 new members.

We were paired with Alpha Chi Omega for Homecoming, and our skit theme was Rapunzel. **Jack Gamble '18** directed an amusing skit about fairytales in modern times, and it earned sixth place along with best supporting actor for **Sam Willoh '17** as the character Broom. The Chapter also wants to recognize **Neil Hunt '19** for all of his hard work organizing everyone during the Homecoming season. While we did not place overall, we were successful in the house decorations and appeal categories along with the skit and dance.

During Halloween, the Chapter volunteered to run a haunted house for the Boys and Girls Club of Central Missouri. It was a fun event that lasted more than four hours. We were even asked to return to help out again next year.

We are once again on track to achieve a Chapter GPA above the university all-male average, and the Chapter recently elected a new and promising Executive Committee, led by Consul **Sam Pottenger '19** and Pro Consul **Jake Decker '19**, of whom will continue facilitating the goals of our organization. **Alex Boyd '17** and **Nick Jenness '18** were selected to be members of the Greek Week Steer Committee next semester, with Alex as chairman of the committee, and **Nathan Willett '18** was elected as VP of diversity and inclusion for IFC. The Chapter also has seven members studying abroad in Europe next semester.

We are excited about the leadership our brothers are demonstrating and wish them luck in their new roles.

In hoc,
Berry Brooks '18
 Consul
 bbbggc@mail.missouri.edu



Even though initiation is now held some two months into the school year, in line with the new P4B program, it is remarkable that every man pledging Xi Xi was initiated. The ceremony was held again at the United Methodist Church in Columbia, which gives the Chapter appropriate space and atmosphere for ritualistic presentation.



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THE TIGER SIG



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CHAPTER ETERNAL

Ron Mills '49 died on April 16 at the age of 87. He was a proud Mizzou and Sigma Chi alumnus. He was a halfback for the Tigers and was part of the 1946 Cotton Bowl team. Ron went on to serve as a lieutenant and pilot in the U.S. Navy, while also playing baseball for them. After a distinguished naval career, Ron worked side-by-side with his father before establishing and growing the Cole Harford Company. Ron remained with Cole Harford for 36 years before retiring in Arizona with his wife, Betty. While in Kansas City, Ron was an active member in the Vanguard Breakfast Club. He enjoyed entertaining family and friends at their lake houses. He was a role model and mentor to his entire family.

William S. Chase '51 died on December 7 at the age of 86 in Plano, Texas. He served proudly in the U.S. Army from 1951 to 1953. He was a 33rd Degree Master Mason, receiving his 50-year pin in 2002. Bill was in the textile business his entire working career, moving from Kansas City to Chicago in 1959 and to Dallas in 1974.

Gordon M. Roberts '51 died on May 16 at the age of 86. He proudly served as a U.S. Marine in the Korean War. Gordon worked for AM International as an executive for 35 years. His life was enriched by his deep love of family and friends; he was a loving husband and father.

Guy B. Davis '54 died on May 4 at the age of 83. He arrived in the Territory of Hawaii in 1959 after a Navy career as a flight instructor during the Korean Conflict. Guy continued his career in various aviation-related businesses, all nurturing his passion for flying. In 1961, he set the world record for time aloft in a glider, 71 hours and five minutes, flying over Windward, Oahu, a record that still stands. Guy, generally in partnership with his wife, Jeanne,



Looking back: It is interesting to note that the total cost of our first house at 500 College was less than half the expense of rebuilding the front staircase during our recent renovation. Ah, give use the good old days. Well, not all of them.

accumulated a trove of medals and awards from crossing the finish line in 115 local triathlons, biathlons, marathons, and other biking, swimming, and/or running events, including 26 Tinman Triathlon races, finishing the last Tinman at age 81 as the oldest person in the race.