



# THE TIGER SIG



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

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

SPRING 2022

## SIGMA CHI COLONY ESTABLISHED AT MIZZOU

### *New Founders Now Working toward Full Chapter Status*

On March 14, the Sigma Chi Colony held its first pledge pin ceremony since HQ approved a return to campus. For now, we are a colony until we build up a sufficient membership who understands Sigma Chi's values and traditions and fulfills the checklist given to them by HQ. Six young men pledged the colony, and upon Xi Xi's rechartering, they will become the new founding members of the recolonized Chapter. We owe a great debt of thanks to the HQ team, headed up by Expansion Director **Desmond Robinson** and Expansion Coordinators **D.J. Gries** and **Jorvis McGee 'YR**, for the month they spent recruiting six new members for our spring pledge class. Next fall, we will recruit another quality pledge class.

The colony held pledge meetings, called Preparation for Brotherhood meetings, weekly on Sunday nights. Under the new rules, pledgship ends after five weeks, where the pledges will remain associates until the Chapter is rechartered, in approximately 2024, after they have met all the requirements from HQ. At that point, they will be formally initiated under the watchful eye of expansion coordinators from HQ.

Why is pledgship only five weeks? Pledgship has a twofold purpose: to educate the pledge class on the values and traditions of Sigma Chi and to bond the pledge class together in a brotherhood in preparation for initiation.

Some alumni might not be aware of this shortened pledgship. You may remember a pledgship that went into the second semester before initiation occurred. This was changed



*Our new pledges, who will become founding members of our recolonized Chapter. Ethan Oelze (Nashville, Ill.), Evan Langdon, (Liberty, Mo.), Harmon Colvett, (Memphis, Tenn.), Owen Bartle, (Wildwood, Mo.), Greg Goetz, (St. Louis, Mo.), and Tyler Thomas, (St. Louis, Mo.)*

several years ago in an effort to reduce hazing that was prevalent with longer pledgships. Today, potential members are interviewed and recruited based upon the Jordan Standard; we look at grades, leadership, and philanthropy. Like a job interview, these characteristics can be measured by past behavior.

**Since grades are a large part of why students are in school and how their success is measured, Sigma Chi is starting the 500 Club to reward members for academic achievement. Pledges may apply for scholarships awarded each semester that are dependent upon performance. Kevin Deptula '01 is in charge of the 500 Club Scholarship Awards, which run through the Sigma Chi Xi Xi Foundation, our 501(c)(3). In the past, Xi Xi had, what we believe, the largest scholarship program in the Greek community nationwide—awarding as much as \$30,000 per year—leading us to earn the Chancellor's Banner for top three**

in grades. There is no reason Xi Xi cannot reclaim its past as one of the top Chapters on campus.

**We need alumni mentors for these pledges. Do you know of anyone who might be a candidate? Or do you know of any Sigma Chis who have transferred to Mizzou and would like to play a central role as a founder in this new organization? Please forward their contact info to the email below.**

We cannot wait for this new chapter in Sigma Chi history here at the University of Missouri, and we hope to incorporate as much alumni involvement as possible.

In hoc,  
**Kevin Deptula '01**  
Recruiting Committee Co-Chairman  
kdeptula@buildersbloc.com



## Sean McDowell Announced as Colony Advisor

Grand Praetor Rob Westrich recently announced the appointment of our new Sigma Chi Colony Advisor, **Sean McDowell, Theta Iota '21**. Brother McDowell's undergrad chapter is at Saint Louis University. Shawn is currently in law school at Mizzou as a J.D. candidate 2024.

In accepting this appointment, Sean said, "[I am] grateful and humbled by Rob's appointment. Sigma Chi has and continues to mean so much to me, so

when the opportunity presented itself to give back, I had to take it. I would like to thank Brother Westrich, for the trust he has placed in me. I look forward to advising these young men as they strive to establish a culture at Mizzou based upon our 7 Values and our Three Great Aims of Friendship, Justice, and Learning. IHSV."

Sean welcomes support from all alumni and looks forward to meeting as many of you as possible.

## Meet Our New Board of Directors

A new Board of Directors, also known as the house corporation, was elected through membership voting. The first election was held in October, followed by a confirming election in November 2021. Each elected board member is serving a three-year term.

Thanks to these Brothers for serving our Xi Xi Alumni Chapter as leaders:

President  
**Dave Knight '74**

Vice President  
**Paul Courter '72**

Secretary  
**Eddie Greim '99**

Treasurer  
**Kirk Payne '12**

**John Qualy '70**  
**Richard Steele '75**  
**Mike Barnett '76**  
**Jeff Comparato '84**  
**Steve Richardson '87**  
**Jeremy Terman '16**  
**Nathan Willett '18**  
**Joe Saracini '19**  
**Kent Williams '83**  
**Kevin Schlitzer '85**  
**Alex Lindley '15**

A special thanks to Brother  
**Larry McMullen '53**  
for recruiting!

## Introducing the 500 Club

### *Become a Member Today!*

Six Xi Xi alumni have stepped up to become the founding members of the 500 Club. These are the very first donors to this new fundraising effort for the Sigma Chi Educational Foundation of Missouri, a 501(c)(3) foundation. A big THANK YOU to these Brothers:

#### Five-Year 500 Club Members (\$2,000)

Christopher Lewellen '91  
(Chris was the very first donor!)  
John Qualy '70  
Kevin Deptula '01

#### Two-Year 500 Club Member (\$1000)

John Walker '60

#### One-Year 500 Club Members (\$500)

Larry McMullen '53  
Dave Knight '74  
Jay Shields '76  
Dan Slickman '77  
Eric Fritsche '01

You can also become a member today by going to [goxixi.com](http://goxixi.com) and making a tax-deductible donation! There are membership levels from \$25 to \$2,000, or you can choose to donate any amount. Helping to bring the Xi Xi Chapter back to Mizzou is its own reward, but you will also receive a gift for different giving amounts!

Thank you for your continued support. You can find more information about the 500 Club on page 4 and at [goxixi.com](http://goxixi.com).





# LEADING XI XI THROUGH HARD TIMES

## *Thank You, Paul Courter '72 and the Brothers Keeping Us Afloat*

A huge debt of gratitude is owed to our immediate past president of the house corporation, **Paul Courter '72**. Brother Courter was serving as alumni president when our Chapter hit troubled waters and our Board of Directors agreed, in cooperation with Sigma Chi International and the University, to halt Chapter operations. The announcement Paul made in-person to active Chapter members was understandably unpopular.

Paul dove into the myriad of details required to close and secure the house, relocate Chapter members, and fielded thankless hours upon hours of telephone calls and emails from the parents of active members. With the sudden loss of revenue from a no-longer-active Chapter with no tenants, Paul juggled limited finances to negotiate and settle debts, close accounts, and begin repairs to the house. He also successfully renegotiated our loan with the bank and our property insurance, both to our benefit.

Emotions were high and money was tight, but we survived with our house intact thanks to Brother Courter's leadership through a difficult time of triage. He is due a loud round of snaps for his dedication to Xi Xi. Paul continues to serve as Vice President of the house corporation and donates his talent and business resources to the Chapter alumni.

### THANK YOU DONORS

Gratitude is also due to a small group of donors who generously kicked in to help settle Chapter debt to Sigma Chi HQ for unpaid past dues, which was required before any comeback efforts could commence. The group was led by Brother **John Walker '60** and included Brothers **John Qualy '70**, **Kevin Deptula '01**, **Larry McMullen '53**, and **Jay Shields '76**. Thank you, Brothers!

### HOUSE AND PROPERTY

500 College Avenue is temporarily leased to

the Delta Chi Fraternity. As the lessor, we still have significant responsibilities for repairs and maintenance of the house. A tremendous amount of thanks is due to Brother **Jeff Comparato '84** for many, many hours of ongoing leadership service in working with the tenants, vendors, and service suppliers while also providing his own labor! We could not manage our current situation without Jeff's experience and willingness to serve. Thank you, Jeff! A small group of current Board members is now working with Jeff to manage our property for the near and longer-term future: Brothers **Kent Williams '83**, **John Walker '60**, and **Dave Knight '73**. Thank you!

We also thank Brother **Dave Bear '65** for stepping up to manage immediate repairs the house required in the transition stage while it was unoccupied. Dave has provided his services to 500 College many times in the past, and he was more than willing to help once again. Thank you, Dave!

## Have You Heard from These Xi Xi Brothers Recently?

Help us find the following Xi Xi alumni by providing a physical mailing address to [updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com](mailto:updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com). Email addresses and phone numbers are great as well, but we want to make sure as many Brothers are possible receive hard mailings like this one. Thank you for helping keep our database up to date and Xi Xi Brothers connected beyond college!

John J. Leahy '80	Steven M. Widlund '83	Daniel A. Neiman '87	Scott W. Caprio '91	Mitchell L. Page '95	Derek White '98
Victor R. Cascella '81	Peter J. Mohs '84	Bill E. Pruitt '87	Joseph M. Bonadonna '92	Bryon A. Burgin '96	Andrew J. Espe '99
Eugene W. Christy '81	William M. Shea '84	David P. Williams '88	David A. Lehmann '92	William B. Chapman '96	Chad J. Hamilton '99
Paul F. Imboden '81	Kevin A. Kloepple '85	Brian C. Adkinson '89	James N. Calhoun '93	John D. Mueller '96	Bill Morton '99
Dave Fogel '82	John W. Oliver '85	Brett W. Loethen '89	Michael R. Ringgenberg '93	Erik W. Svendsen '96	James B. Sterner '99
Darryl W. Nicholson '82	Jeffrey W. Pudivitr '85	Michael J. Vojvoda '89	Chris Usselman '93	Randy Broyles '97	Jonathan T. Van Meter '99
Christopher A. Weinrich '82	Neil C. Schanbusch '85	Richard E. Burnett '90	Mac Powell '94	Matt Graham '97	Tony Muhlenkamp '00
Richard A. Eschenroeder '83	Charles P. Withers '85	Clayton A. Gray '90	Christopher Wright '94	Sam Beys '98	Matthew G. Schmid '00
David A. Mattox '83	James W. Andrews '86	James G. Mueller '90	Jeff Boyer '95	Nathan M. Stallings '98	Ryan J. Schultz '00
Daniel L. Millar '83	J. J. Brechnitz '86	Jim D. Sheedy '90	Jeffrey T. Hough '95	Chris Weber '98	Thomas J. Shea '00
James E. Siegel '83	Stephen G. Eisenhauer '86	Mark A. Armstrong '91	Steven R. McArtor '95		
Kurt J. Weinrich '83	Kevin C. Downey '87	Bryan D. Benecke '91	Josh T. Olsen '95		

(Continued on page 4)



## McGuff Moving Up

*Congratulations, Jonathan McGuff', on Your New Role!*

Xi Xi alumnus **Jonathan McGuff '15** has recently accepted a position with Sigma Chi International as the Assistant Director of Development for the Sigma Chi Foundation. Still based in Columbia, Jonathan will travel frequently to oversee fundraising and major gift cultivation in the Central/Great Plains region of the U.S., including Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Iowa, Nebraska, and the Dakotas. Brother McGuff has been a dedicated volunteer leader of Sigma Chi and Xi Xi, both as an undergraduate and alumnus, including a stint as Chapter Advisor. He previously worked for the University of Missouri in fundraising.

# Have You Heard from These Xi Xi Brothers Recently?



# THE TIGER SIG



(Continued from page 3)

Jason Cerdeog '03	Zach M. Horn '14
Michael Christian '03	Timothy J. Johnson '14
Jason Kraft '04	Kevin J. Riganti '14
Ryan Smith '04	Nathan D. Stobie '14
Joseph R. Hirlinger '05	Jeff J. Duchardt '15
Brad Laramie '05	Anthony T. Agrusa '16
Dan Albertsmeier '06	Hardin C. Cox '16
Matthew T. Yogdt '10	Thomas P. Keller '16
Adam J. Boisclair '11	Kevin N. Leeker '16
Gregory D. DeFeo '11	Jake R. Shea '16
Matthew John Hickey '11	Clayton J. Sherrillo '16
Timothy J. Hosie '11	Jackson C. Stephens '16
Christopher C. Jones '11	Griffin F. Brennan '17
Christopher M. Looney '12	Dillon T. Jones '17
Alexander B. Skelton '12	Brendan C. Laughlin '19
Kyle M. Disney '13	Connor D. McAteer '19
Andrew P. Gates '13	Jackson W. Randle '19
Kayvan W. Carroll '14	

**Xi Xi Chapter of  
Sigma Chi Fraternity  
at the University of Missouri**  
P.O. Box 22548  
Kansas City, MO 64113-2548

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STAY CONNECTED



[xixichaptersigmachi.com](http://xixichaptersigmachi.com)



@SigmaChiXiXi

## It's Time to Put the White Cross Back on 500 College Avenue!

A dedicated group of alumni has been working to bring Sigma Chi back to Mizzou. With the full support of Sigma Chi International and the University of Missouri, a Sigma Chi Colony has been established—and we have a first pledge class! Recruiting will continue in the spring.

The goal is to attract young men of good character who are interested in establishing a brotherhood of leadership, academics, and service. To reward them for the hard work ahead, we need to be able to provide them with educational assistance, including scholarships and additional academic support.

**That's where you come in! As a Xi Xi alumnus, we are asking you to consider**



**becoming a member of the new 500 Club by donating to the Sigma Chi Educational Foundation of Missouri. Your tax-deductible contribution will help establish the club as a group of alumni who annually contribute to the Foundation for ongoing support of our undergraduate Brothers. In appreciation, you can select a gift with the new 500 Club logo.**

Click on the [goxixi.com](http://goxixi.com) link to learn more, join the club, and add the link from the website to your social media channels, including LinkedIn and Facebook!

Please send the [goxixi.com](http://goxixi.com) link to your Xi Xi contacts and encourage them to "Join the club."

## SIGMA CHI 500 CLUB

*Bringing the White Cross  
Back to 500 College*

If you have questions or want to be involved, please email one of the Comeback Committee Co-Directors:

- **Kevin Deptula '01** at [kdeptula@buildersbloc.com](mailto:kdeptula@buildersbloc.com)
- **Jay Shields '76** at [jayshields@schaefferoil.com](mailto:jayshields@schaefferoil.com)

Please spread the word by sending the [goxixi.com](http://goxixi.com) link to your friends.

**You can donate by visiting the website above, or mail a check to:**

**500 Club  
Sigma Chi Educational Foundation of  
Missouri  
P.O. Box 22548  
Kansas City, MO 64133**