

# Gamma Pi News

December 2009

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*16 new brothers were initiated in the fall, bringing the number of active brothers up to 35.*

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## Gamma Pi Initiates Sixteen This Semester

Sixteen new brothers were initiated on the night of October 30<sup>th</sup>, bringing the current number of undergraduate active brothers up to 35 as of December 10<sup>th</sup>. Hard work and dedication of all the chapter members helped achieve this goal.

An intangible benefit to the chapter was having two brothers attend the 147<sup>th</sup> anniversary convention in Chicago this past summer. At convention, a number of recruitment workshops were held by headquarters and Phired Up productions. Attendees from convention were able to take this knowledge back to the chapter and implement it, which was an intangible benefit to recruitment.

Theta Xi's recruitment motto was "Top Your Best," and Gamma Pi has done just that in terms of recruitment. We are well on our way to coming close to, if not exceeding, the 50 man mark in 2010. Chapter records have been broken in the past two years in terms of recruitment numbers, and the chapter has high hopes for 2010. Special thanks to John Thomas, recruitment chair, and the rest of the chapter for their hard work and dedication.

## Getting involved on campus

Theta Xi recognizes the importance of giving back to the campus, and this fact is not lost among the undergraduate brothers. Several of them are active in campus organizations other than Theta Xi. Rich English helped found the Rugby club on campus, which traveled throughout the southeastern U.S. to compete with other teams. Ben McDiarmid, Andrew Fetch, and Jordan Sawyers are actively involved in the Mass Communications department, and work behind the scenes to produce shows featured on television and radio. Stephen Lubeck continues to work his way up the rankings in Army ROTC. Adam Hughes works as a Resident Advisor on campus and was recently inducted into Sigma Alpha Pi, a leadership honor society. Alex Hudson has been working to give back to the community by participating in the Leadership and Service Opportunities program. As you can see, several brothers are involved in campus/community organizations, an important part of working to justify Theta Xi's positive image throughout the campus and community. Expect to hear more about what we're doing to build our relationship with the campus and community as things get underway for the Spring semester.

## Mixers, Cookouts, Football!

Warm weather combined with the fall semester at UNCP meant that the chapter could be spotted throughout the campus participating in a variety of social events. Perhaps the highlights of these events were the football games and tailgating. Theta Xi was the only fraternity present at all home football games, rain or shine. A special committee was set-up to handle the popular demand for these events, and some alumni were able to visit and tailgate with us as well. The football games witnessed a great turnout by the brothers, and we are very excited to put on a more spectacular tailgating event in 2010.

Additionally, the chapter hosted several cookouts at the University Courtyard apartments. We couldn't forget about the sororities, however; a disco mixer with Sigma Sigma Sigma was held, as well as an 80's disco mixer with Zeta Tau Alpha. Special thanks to those on the social and tailgating committees for their hard work in planning these events.

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*Theta Xi was the only student organization to tailgate at all home games. Attending sporting events allows the chapter to gain valuable Chancellor's Cup points.*

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## From the Alumni Relations chair

Brothers,

What an exciting time in Gamma Pi right now! Our chapter has undergone tremendous changes throughout the semester and I'm very excited for what's in store for the spring. To begin with, several new goals have been implemented as part of my role as Secretary. This includes: insuring that we are on track with all requirements for accreditation well ahead of time, working towards winning back the Chancellor's Cup, and working towards winning campus Greek awards, a process that will commence next semester.

Additionally, as webmaster, several changes have taken place on our chapter website recently. Other chapter websites simply present information to visitors. Ours is different in that it allows you to contribute to it as well as network with fellow brothers. This can be accomplished via the Meebo chat bar, which allows you to instant message other brothers who are online, the Wiki, which provides dynamic, up-to-date information of the goings-on in our chapter, and Thetabook, which allows you to create a profile and network with other brothers in a private setting. We also now have PayPal set up, which allows you to conveniently make donations of any amount at anytime to our chapter account. I invite you to check out the newly redesigned Members Area, which contains content exclusive to you!

A variety of exciting changes are occurring in your chapter, and I encourage you to please make a visit to see all that has taken place since you were a student. I also encourage you to make a small donation to the chapter using the PayPal icon on the home page of the website. This will help us achieve the goals mentioned in this newsletter. As always, I welcome any feedback or suggestions as to how we can better serve you as alumni. I encourage you to take an active role in your chapter, and plan a visit sometime. We wouldn't be where we are today without you. As always, we appreciate your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you soon.

YITB,  
Adam Hughes  
Gamma Pi 136



*Theta Xi brothers tailgating during the homecoming football game vs. Webber International University*

## Philanthropy Events

Throughout the semester, the chapter took time to give back to the community through a variety of Philanthropy and Community Service projects. As part of their required *Alpha Nine* project, the Fall 2009 Associate Member class followed in the footsteps of the previous Fall semester classes in hosting a "Homeless for Habitat" fundraiser, in which the Associate Members camped out on the lawn for 24 hours outside the University Center. This project raised well over \$300 for the Ocean Isle Beach chapter of Habitat for Humanity.

A new endeavor involved raising money for Rich English's (Gamma Pi 124) marathon in Charlotte in December. Rich, along with several other brothers, is running in the Thunder Road Marathon in order to raise money for The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

And to wrap up the semester, the chapter headed to the Humane Society of Robeson County, a local philanthropy that the chapter supports annually. Started a few years ago by alumnus Mike Mitchell (Gamma Pi 115), the chapter walked the dogs, cleaned cages, and helped with the upkeep of the facilities. Take a moment to visit the Photo and Video Galleries of our chapter website to see what kinds of fun we had at the shelter. Look for us to step up our Philanthropy efforts in the Spring with Relay for Life, Multiple Sclerosis awareness events, and much more!

## Intramurals

Once again this semester the chapter was well-represented on the Intramurals front. For the fall semester, the chapter fielded two intramural teams: flag football and volleyball. The flag football team saw some impressive and close games in the beginning of the season. Although the beginning of the season was rough, an emotional and well-fought win against Phi Kappa Tau fraternity rounded out the team's 1-3 season.

After flag football, the chapter headed indoors to compete in volleyball. In this sport, the chapter walked away with a 1-2 record, but once again saw some close, and pretty intense, matchups.

## Chancellor's Cup Update

One of the goals of the chapter has been to win back the Chancellor's Cup trophy that was won just a few years ago by the chapter. Recently, the Office of Student Life released the Chancellor's Cup point standings. Theta Xi is currently in 3rd place out of all the other student organizations at UNCP, with 295 points earned so far. Phi Beta Sigma is in 1st place with 650 points, Zeta Phi Beta in 2nd with 300 points. For more information about the Chancellor's Cup, its requirements, and what the top three student organizations will win, log on to the Members Area of our website.

## Spotlight on...

If you've recently gotten a new job, promotion, just had children, or had another significant event occur in your life, we want to know! When you go to update your information, be sure to include what you've been up to so we can include it in this newsletter, and send it off to headquarters to be included in the *Unicorn*. Watch this section to learn about future achievements of the alumni and undergraduate members of this chapter!



*The Fall 2009 Associate Member class.*



*Brothers helping out at the local Humane Society.*



*Intramural Football*

## Looking forward... how you can help

To pretend that this semester was not a learning experience for the chapter would be frivolous. Many unexpected issues popped up concerning chapter operations, finances, and the brotherhood, requiring quick, swift action from the executive board. Needless to say, such decisions were not easy to make nor did they have the support of the entire chapter, but they were necessary. As pointed out on this newsletter, a lot of positive events took place in this chapter. Still, more remains to be done, such as continuing to rebuild the chapter's finances, grades, and the brotherhood as a whole.

This is where you come in. Many events took place throughout the fall which saw fantastic alumni support, and similar events will occur in the spring as well. However, more alumni support is needed in order for this chapter to function more effectively. As most of you know, alumni support is a key component of a successful chapter and the accreditation process, and it can be very difficult for us to receive recognition in that area without your support. We urge you to take a more active role in your chapter as an alumni member and help with its growth and development. Please go to the Alumni Support page on the website for more information on how this can be done.

## Upcoming Events

We've planned a preliminary calendar for the first half of the Spring 2010 semester. Be sure to check <http://www.txgp.org/events.htm> to see what we have in store, and stay tuned to learn about more events, such as semi-formal!

## 2010 Executive Board

Congratulations to our newly elected e-board members!

Rich English- Gamma Pi 124	President
Alex Hudson-Gamma Pi 148	Vice President
Carmin Trasente- Gamma Pi 156	Treasurer
Adam Hughes- Gamma Pi 136	Secretary
Cameron Jenkins- Gamma Pi 140	Senior Steward
JT Thomas- Gamma Pi 154	Junior Steward
Trey Archer- Gamma Pi 144	Scholarship Chairman

A special thanks goes out to our departing e-board members, especially Ty Cecil and Casey Starling, for their hard work in helping to re-build the chapter. As you may know, Ty did all this while still having to deal with being a victim of a stabbing, and Casey stepped right in and not only helped run things, but also helped fix the most recent financial crisis in Ty's absence. Great work, brothers!

## Contact Information

Call, click, or come by.

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