

# PHI ARROW

FALL 2007





## **Letter From The Phi Chapter President**

Greetings Brothers of Phi Chapter,

I hope this letter reaches you all in good health. The last few months have been filled with all sorts of emotions for both the Active and Alumni members. First, I would like to talk about the spring semester. We were extremely excited to initiate eleven men into our fraternity. All of our hard work paid off in the end as we had one of the largest new member classes in many years. We hope to continue this throughout this year. We have worked hard recruiting throughout the summer and rush week went great. Hopefully by Homecoming and the Bison/Gopher football game we can say that we have many more young men pledging to be a Theta Chi.

On a more serious note, most if not all of you have heard about the violations placed against our Chapter in August. Last May, we had an unfortunate and freak accident involving a drunk driver that left one of our brother's friends dead in a hit and run accident just down the street from our Chapter House on University Drive. This is a very serious and unfortunate accident that led to an investigation and in turn an alcohol violation. The sanction was given because we were breaking the rules stated in the Student Code of Conduct. Sanctions were put on our chapter that included a year and a half probation, which makes the house go alcohol-free, keeps us from hosting campus wide events, formals, participating in Homecoming events and many others. This sanction was immediately put into effect and because of that we were not allowed to host the annual Johnny Holm Dance during the first week of school. We were obligated to pay the \$6000 fee for Johnny Holm, because the contract states that we have to notify him 90 days in advance to get out of the contract. Since we were not notified until August this was impossible for us to do. That will definitely affect our ability to pay bills, but I have been in discussion with you, the Alumni, to try and get things squared away.

Throughout the entire situation this fall I stood my ground and tried to take the high road. I did not want to start a media war with North Dakota State University, because unfortunately we are not going to win. Instead, I optioned to appeal the sanction that was placed on us. On August 27<sup>th</sup>, I submitted an appeal letter to allow us to shorten our probation period to just one year and to allow us to participate in Homecoming events. My rationale behind this was that other chapters at NDSU have received similar violations and only received one year probation and I feel we should only have to serve that length of time for the violation that we made. Also, I wanted us to participate in Homecoming events because these events are put on for all organizations on campus, they are alcohol free, and it is unfair to hold us from showing our Bison Pride.

# THE Θ A X C H I

On August 30<sup>th</sup>, I was called into a meeting to discuss the appeal letter. I am pleased to announce that our sanction was changed. Campus did grant us the opportunity to participate in Homecoming events, but most importantly they even shorted our probation period one semester, now September 15, 2008 instead of January 15, 2009. I was told the reason we were granted this was how the leadership of our Chapter handled ourselves with respect, dignity and poise. They were so impressed with how the chapter acted through a time that may have exploded into a furious feud between campus and Theta Chi. This was definitely not necessary and they rewarded us for our hard work as a chapter. We understand that the Student Code of Conduct still makes us responsible for the events that happened in May, but the morale of the brothers at Phi Chapter have increased tremendously. I am looking forward to see how the rest of the semester plays out and how our chapter learns from this unfortunate accident.

I invite you all back for Homecoming, but this year it is one week earlier than normal. October 6<sup>th</sup>, the Bison Football team plays UC Davis at 1 pm. I hope to see you all at the house to watch the parade earlier that morning. If not, I hope I can meet you in Minneapolis on October 20<sup>th</sup> as the Bison try to get revenge on the Gophers. Regardless, I hope to meet many of you in the next few months so that I can hear the great memories you all have with Theta Chi and North Dakota State University.

It has been my pleasure serving as the President of Phi Chapter. I have gained so much leadership experience, some of which I would have rather not received. But, none the less it is something I will cherish forever. If you have any questions or comments about anything feel free to contact the house at 701-237-5830 or by e-mail at [phipres@yahoo.com](mailto:phipres@yahoo.com).

Love and Respect,

Rick Wilson  
1704  
Active Chapter President



# THE THETA CHI

## **Letter From The Phi Chapter Alumni President**

Greetings Brothers,

Summer has come and gone and now it is time to look forward to Bison football, homecoming, and the many other fall activities that we all enjoy. Homecoming will be here before we know it - October 6. This year the Bison will be playing Cal-Davis so I expect a great game. After the incredibly successful season last fall, expectations are very high. The team returns most of their starters so should be very competitive again, although they still aren't eligible for the postseason after the move to D-I. The format for homecoming weekend will be the same. The usual gatherings at our favorite establishment down the street, coffee and donut social during the parade (10am), and tailgating before the 1pm kickoff. Also, the Bison-Gopher game will be in Minneapolis on October 20. I know many of you went to the game last year and I'm sure there will be a group going again. This year we're going to make that field goal and take down the Gophers (apologies to any of you closet Gopher fans from the cities).

The attendance at Pig Banquet last spring was fairly small. This was somewhat affected by bad weather. It's hard to predict the weather and to work around the many events that time of year. The consensus at the meeting was to continue with the first Saturday in March so it will be March 1<sup>st</sup> this year. Please put it on your calendars. Dale Hetland and others have vowed to recruit for a big turnout this year so be prepared for some e-mails. A highlight of last year's meeting was the burning of the mortgage. Russ Handegard brought the retired mortgage which had been taken out for the repairs after the 1995 fire. The Theta Chi for Life program has been very successful thanks to all of you who have contributed. We need to thank Bryan Schulz and Clint Severance for leading this effort, sending out bills, and collecting the donations. We will continue this program to support new repair and improvement projects that will be needed at the house in the coming years. A number of potential projects were discussed at the meeting. Another topic of discussion was the establishment of a scholarship fund. This subject has been debated numerous times over the years, but we agreed to re-look at it and to put together details of how this would be administered. I know there are a group of brothers very interested in contributing to such a fund.

There is an effort to coordinate some regular after-work alumni social gatherings in the Fargo area. Doug Johnson has been compiling the e-mail distribution list. If you haven't received e-mail about this previously, but would like to be notified please let either Doug or myself know.

# THE T A X C H I

Another subject I would like to address is the mailing of this newsletter. It is and (as I recall) always has been a challenge to get the Arrow in the mail in a timely fashion, especially in the fall before homecoming. The printing and actual mailing generally take a few weeks not to mention are quite costly. In this electronic age I for one, would be more than happy to receive an electronic copy of the Arrow instead of the mailing. If others of you also agree please send me an e-mail ([ajreinholz@aol.com](mailto:ajreinholz@aol.com)). We could probably add a flag in the alumni address database to designate that you prefer to receive an e-copy.

In closing, I would like to make a comment on the active chapter. In my observation they are a strong, dedicated bunch of young men. They are enduring a challenging time with the student code of conduct infraction and resulting consequences. I am impressed with their approach to this challenge and am confident they will continue to be a strong chapter. As we all know it is the tough things in life that make you stronger. Let's continue to provide our support as alumni of Phi chapter. Hope to see many of you at homecoming and pig banquet this year!

Fraternally,  
Aaron Reinholz  
1281



**Homecoming Week 2007 October 1-6**  
**Bison/ Gopher Football game October 20th**

# THE TAXCHI



## **RUSH WEEK ACTIVITIES**

**Monday: Car Smash**

**Tuesday: Lawn Games- Dunk Tank,  
Bean Bags, Volleyball**

**Wednesday: Mini Golf Course in our  
house**

**Thursday: Dodgeball in the Parking Lot**

**Friday: Invite only grill out.**



*The King Greet's people on the front lawn*



*Mini Golf in the House*

# THE TACH I

## **NDSU Renovations**

If you haven't been on campus in a while I would recommend checking out some of the newly renovated facilities. The Memorial Union renovation rededication ceremony is planned for October 2<sup>nd</sup> as part of the Homecoming Week festivities. The renovation included a dining area in the basement fully stocked with a pizza place, Taco Bell and hoagie shop.

Some other things that were added include the brand new ballroom/conference room, office space for student activities, and a large lounge area,

The wellness center expansion is also a large presence on campus the project included an indoor roller hockey rink, a climbing wall, boxing facilities, a new running track and new workout machines.

Both of these projects have been completed but the growth hasn't stopped there. NDSU is working on a new living learning dormitory and some buildings are being added to the downtown campus. With the enrollment at NDSU reaching record numbers every year it doesn't seem like the building projects will ever stop.





## **YWCA Contribution Letter**

Dear Brothers:

As was explained in Rick's letter, the annual Johnny Holm kickoff dance was cancelled due to sanctions by NDSU. This has long been a successful event which has contributed many dollars to charity. The recipient of these funds in recent years has been the YWCA with an amount typically between \$3,000-\$5,000. In addition to losing the source of revenue for this donation, the active chapter is also trying to cope with the financial impact of having to fulfill the \$6,000 contractual obligation to Johnny Holm. The sanctions were handed down too late for the contract to be cancelled or alternative arrangements made.

As a joint effort between actives and alumni it would be outstanding if we could still make a substantial donation to the YWCA in spite of the loss of revenue from the dance. Not only would this help out the YWCA, but it would also provide an opportunity to show the community what Theta Chi is all about. There was a fair amount of negative publicity over this situation which has unfairly portrayed a stereotypical fraternity image for Phi chapter. This is very disappointing to say the least. One way to respond to that is to show that our philanthropy projects are truly an important part of our Theta Chi experience.

A few alumni brothers initiated this idea publicly and committed to raising money to cover the donation to the YWCA. Troy Hedberg, Jason Middaugh, Eric Lembke, Don McAdoo, Adam Homelvig and Travis Gullickson have already pledged to help replace the funds lost to the YWCA. Brother Jon Dickson has pledged \$200, with half going to the YWCA, and half going to help replace operating costs at Theta Chi. In total, nearly \$800 has been pledged so far. Thanks to these brothers for stepping forward and leading the charge. Now we'd like to ask others to help tackle this worthy cause. Please consider sending a donation with the form that is included in this newsletter. We will also be asking for donations at Homecoming and the Bison/Gopher game. Thanks in advance for extending the helping hand!

Rick Wilson, Active Chapter President  
Aaron Reinholz, Alumni Council President



## **Theta Chi Green Initiative.**

Green may become the new cardinal and gold on The Row as Theta Chi opens USC's first environmentally friendly fraternity house.

The chapter's newly renovated Portland Street residence is scheduled to reopen mid-September. It will house 14 members and showcase the first of three green-friendly renovations planned for the site.

They include new flooring in the form of vinyl composition tiles, which are made out of recycled content and use a low-emission adhesive, said Thom Cook, regional director of the Theta Chi fraternity for Southern California and Arizona. The house will also use compact fluorescent light bulbs in place of traditional incandescent light bulbs. Cook said the house design also incorporates solar panels, a green landfill and a recycling program.

"It was tough at first to pitch the green-friendly idea," Cook said. "But when the alumni board saw how the operating costs of the house would be lower due to green incentives from the city and state, they jumped on board." Cook said Theta Chi is the first Greek chapter in Southern California to take on an eco-friendly endeavor. "We want to be a leader for other fraternities to follow"

"Since it was a fraternity house, there was a lot of wear and tear," said Riley John Gibbs, president of Theta Chi and a senior majoring in mathematics. "Things were mostly functional, but the electrical grid wasn't up to par and the flooring was mismatched." Gibbs said he and his fraternity brothers are excited to have a fully functional house.

Robert Foster, a pledge and a freshman majoring in environmental studies, said the new house attracted him to Theta Chi. "I heard the new house is supposed to be amazing," he said. "I was attracted to the house because it is going to be new, and I plan on living in the house my sophomore year."

From: USC The Daily Trojan  
By: Julia Wong

# THE T A X C H I



## Theta Chi for Life YWCA/ Johnny Holmes Fund

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Theta Chi for Life**      **YWCA:**      \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
House Operations:      \$ \_\_\_\_\_

To Be Billed:      ☐ Annually      ☐ Semi- Annually      ☐ Quarterly

☐ Pay by Check

Please Bill My Credit Card:

☐ Visa      ☐ MasterCard

Account # \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_

If Mailing Checks please make them payable to, and mail to:

Theta Chi Alumni  
P.O. Box 163  
West Fargo, ND 58078-0163

# THE THETA X CHI

## **A Letter from the Editor**

I just want to say Thank You all very much for taking the time to read the Fall 2007 edition of the Phi Arrow. Hopefully this reaches you in a more timely fashion than last spring. This is an exciting time to be a part of NDSU and Theta Chi as both are growing by leaps and bounds.

Also I would like to extend a special thanks to the people that helped make this edition possible to Rick Wilson, Aaron Reinholz, Tony Clowe

Hope to see you all at Homecoming. Go Bison!

Love & Respect

Kasey O'marro, 1736