

TAU CHAPTER OF THETA CHI



CELEBRATING THE LEGACY  
FORGING THE FUTURE



*“My best friends are also my brothers. I feel truly honored and privileged to have the opportunity to extend a helping hand to Tau Chapter in its time of greatest need. The new house will provide a solid foundation for our Fraternity over the next 100 years at the University of Florida.”*

**–George M. Kramer '96 T'1749, Campaign Chairman**



# PRIDE IN OUR PAST

Since our founding in 1916, the Tau Chapter of Theta Chi has been an important part of the University of Florida. With more than 2,200 brothers initiated, Tau Chapter continues to influence the lives of numerous men and cultivate a lasting brotherhood.

Our proud history speaks for itself with academic achievement, campus involvement, and community leadership. While our brothers have gone on to successful and distinguished careers in business, medicine, law, military and countless other fields, the bond of our brotherhood, as well as our principles and values, remains. The early training received through our Fraternity, including leadership, organizational, and social skills and learning to “extend a helping hand,” has been integral to our successes.

Theta Chi has a long-standing tradition at the University of Florida that has endured for nearly a century. All alumni can be proud of the legacy we have helped create and the enduring quality of our Chapter. Enjoying a past filled with rich tradition and history, Tau has never been stronger.

## NOW IS THE TIME

Leading the way in 1957, Theta Chi was the first fraternity to build on UF’s fraternity row. And 10 Fraternity Row has served as a home away from home and a living and learning center for generations of young men. However, for Tau Chapter to continue its record of accomplishment and remain competitive at the University of Florida, we must build a new Chapter House. With our past and present secure, **we must lead the way for the next generation of Theta Chi brothers.**



The Top Five – These are the men who make the wheels of Tau Chapter turn. In front is President Bob Kreimer, and in back from left to right are: Vice Pres. Lawson Spare Pledge Marshall Clayton Garet, Treasurer Ron Acree, and Secretary Joe Vastine.

## \$2,000 ADDED TO FURNITURE FUND

With a silver dollar weighing 2 oz., the brothers of Tau voted two tons of money, \$2,000, into the furniture fund on Wednesday, September 30, 1959. This now gives us a total of 4,200 pounds, \$2,100, in the furniture fund. About \$2,500 more is needed.

Tau’s furniture fund was started last year when President Bob Kreimer explained in the 1958 fall issue of Tau Topics the need of new dining room and living room furniture. Donations from various alumni started to come in, and things were under way.

When President Kreimer, Treasurer Don Riopel, and Steward Jim Anderson along with 43 other brothers of Theta Chi returned to school in September, 1958, we had a \$1500 debt to worry about.

Because of February graduation Joe Holmes took over the job of Steward and George Lanier became Treasurer.

With efficient chapter planning by these five men and excellent cooperation from the brothers and pledges, Tau emerged at the end of last school year with \$3,200 in the bank.

After depositing \$2,000 in the furniture fund, the chapter spent \$600 on a new freezer. The brothers decided to keep the remaining \$600 to start off this year’s expenses and to make minor repairs in the chapter house.

Tau’s financial success was paralleled by equal success in almost everything the brothers and pledges did last year.



# THE NEED TO REBUILD

**G**rowth is happening all around Florida's flagship university: current enrollment is more than 50,000; the University is building and renovating residence halls; apartment complexes are popping up around town; our peer fraternities have spent millions of dollars building or renovating their facilities. It is clear we must make a major investment in our housing to provide a beneficial educational experience and a competitive facility that will serve our brothers.

**MODERNIZATION** The age of our Chapter House necessitates a significant investment of time, energy, and, most critically, dollars in order to maintain it. While we have been able to patch, refurbish, and reconfigure for a number of years, the reality of modern living and code compliance will not allow us to do so for much longer. The need for a state-of-the-art home for our brotherhood is critical, if Tau Chapter is to maintain its excellence at University of Florida.

**COMPETITION** Today, students and their parents expect more for their housing dollars. New or renovated residence halls and fraternity houses (including Alpha Epsilon Pi, Alpha Tau Omega, Beta Theta Phi, Kappa Sigma, Sigma Phi Epsilon, and Phi Delta Theta), as well as new apartments, pull our members and potential new members away from the Theta Chi Chapter House by offering more space, privacy, and new amenities. As a result of this campaign, Tau Chapter will set a new standard of excellence in Greek housing and allow us to continue recruiting quality men that the Chapter needs to ensure our strong legacy for the future.

**COMMUNITY** Theta Chi's importance to the University of Florida cannot be understated. Theta Chi helps create a lifelong tie to UF by providing a sense of belonging and community within the larger University. While the university continues to grow, it is more important than ever that Tau Chapter be the thriving home away from home for its undergraduate members and the foundation for its alumni members' connection to UF.

The new Chapter House will provide a warm and inviting environment for all alumni and their families to enjoy during football weekends and throughout the year. Our home will provide a common meeting place for all and will strengthen the bonds of brotherhood for both actives and alumni. Most importantly, it will finally provide Tau Chapter with a home that is as strong and inspiring as the brotherhood that lives within it.





# OUR PLAN TO SECURE OUR FUTURE

A new era for Tau Chapter has begun. Ensuring the academic success of our members and assisting the Chapter in recruiting and retaining quality men are top goals of our leadership. Our Chapter House undoubtedly plays a significant role in achieving these goals and serves as a symbol of our shared vision of excellence.

## THE RESEARCH IS COMPLETE

The Theta Chi Realty Board has spent years assessing the facility to determine the best possible solution to address Tau's need for necessary housing improvements. Additionally, the needs and desires of today's undergraduates and our alumni were studied along with the trends in Greek housing and the University of Florida's campus housing.

## OUR PLAN IS SET

The result is a detailed, well-planned project that will address all the critical issues of our current situation. The Realty Board has

engaged the services of Cunningham & Associates, which specializes in Greek housing, to develop plans for our new Chapter House at 10 Fraternity Row.







## PROJECT HIGHLIGHTS

- Suite-style bedroom and bathroom spaces
- Single, 2- and 4-man suite options
- Increased occupancy for 60 members
- More common spaces to facilitate fraternal activities
- Exceptional interior aesthetic finishing with new furniture and furnishings
- Modern technology with wireless Internet
- Fire-safety sprinkler system and security features
- ADA-compliant features
- Comfortable house director accommodations
- Modernized kitchen and dining room with capacity of 100 members
- Larger laundry facility
- Private and group study room
- Ample storage space

## SECOND FLOOR





# YOUR CHANCE TO GIVE BACK TO TAU CHAPTER

**W**ho among us has given more than we have taken from Theta Chi? You are the only one who can place a value on your Tau Chapter membership—on the lifelong friendships, the development of your values and principles, and the many ways Theta Chi enhanced your college years. Your participation is the single most important way that you can honor all that Tau Chapter has done for you.

At the advent of this project, a small group of alumni made early commitments and stretched their gifts to demonstrate the importance of this project. We urge you to do the same and consider a significant gift to the campaign.

## TAX DEDUCTIBILITY

The Internal Revenue Service will allow exclusively educational space in the newly constructed Chapter House to be funded with tax-deductible dollars that are gifted through the TTX Foundation. As a benefit to donors, all gifts of \$5,000 and more will be eligible for tax deductibility through the TTX Foundation.

With only a portion of the project meeting this stipulation, the need for non-tax-deductible gifts is great. Gifts below \$5,000 are to be given to the separate new Chapter House building fund through Theta Chi Realty Board (not tax deductible).

## PAYMENT OPTIONS

To maximize the giving potential of each donor, a five-year pledge period is available. Donors are encouraged to take full advantage of this to maximize your support. Donors are able to establish a payment schedule that is best for you (annual, quarterly, or monthly options) and automated credit card payments can be established upon request.

## MATCHING GIFTS AND TAX BENEFITS

If your employer offers a matching gift policy, your gift to the TTX Foundation may be eligible, thus doubling your support to the campaign. Gifts of securities are encouraged as there are often significant tax advantages to you. (For professional advice, please consult your tax advisor.)

## RECOGNIZING LOYAL TAUS

Special naming opportunities will be offered to alumni considering gifts of \$25,000 and above. All donors contributing \$2,500 or more will be recognized on a prominently displayed plaque in the new Chapter House. All donors will be recognized in campaign publications. Gifts in honor or in memory of brothers, as well as family and pledge class gifts, are welcomed. Recognition in such cases will be given to both the donor and the honoree.





## GIVING LEVELS

LEGACY SOCIETY  
\$250,000 AND ABOVE

FOUNDERS' SOCIETY  
\$100,000 TO \$249,999

HELPING HAND SOCIETY  
\$50,000 TO \$99,999

BUILDER OF CHARACTER SOCIETY  
\$25,000 TO \$49,999

SNAKE AND SWORD SOCIETY  
\$15,000 TO \$24,999

1916 SOCIETY  
\$10,000 TO \$14,999

BROTHERHOOD SOCIETY  
\$5,000 TO \$9,999

TAU SOCIETY  
\$2,500 TO \$4,999

RED AND WHITE SOCIETY  
\$1,000 TO \$2,499



# HELP US SECURE TAU CHAPTER'S FUTURE

Your investment in the future of Tau Chapter will ensure the continued success of our Fraternity. University of Florida fraternities play a critical role in shaping the lives of young men. Today, perhaps more than ever, it is important that we provide young men with a group-living environment that offers them a solid foundation for their education and also affords them opportunities for high academic achievement and the development of leadership and social skills.

Together with our active brothers, who have already made their own commitments to the campaign, the volunteer alumni leadership is committed to this major undertaking, which will allow us to build a new Chapter House and maintain our high standard of excellence at UF.

## WILL YOU EXTEND A HELPING HAND?

With your support, Tau Chapter will continue to provide a quality living environment that supports, nurtures, and develops outstanding young men with the skills and confidence to face an ever-changing world. Our new house will enable Tau Chapter to endure as a producer of great men and provide a lasting physical legacy of architectural significance on the University of Florida campus.

The commitment we make today cannot be underestimated—it will have a ripple effect on the lives of Theta Chis for years to come.





J. Bernard Machen  
President

226 Tigert Hall  
PO Box 113150  
Gainesville, FL 32611-3150  
(352) 392-1311  
Fax (352) 392-5275  
www.ufl.edu

Tau Chapter of Theta Chi  
10 Fraternity Row  
Gainesville, FL 32603

Dear Alumni of Theta Chi:

Congratulations on your decision to rebuild the Tau chapter house at 10 Fraternity Row. Theta Chi members are known for their campus leadership, academic achievement and dedication to their community – both within the fraternity and well beyond the UF grounds. As the first residence built on Fraternity Row, the Tau chapter house is in dire need of improvement. Your new house plans provide architectural significance and embody the traditions of the University of Florida and its Greek community.

The University of Florida supports all student organizations that build character and develop leadership. Success or failure for fraternities rests squarely on the shoulders of the undergraduate brothers and alumni to provide a solid foundation for life. It is important that all fraternities provide safe and desirable housing for their active members. Today's students require appropriate space and technology to support their complex lifestyles and dynamic academic needs. I am pleased to see the commitment Theta Chi has made to provide a safe and attractive living environment for its brothers and new members.

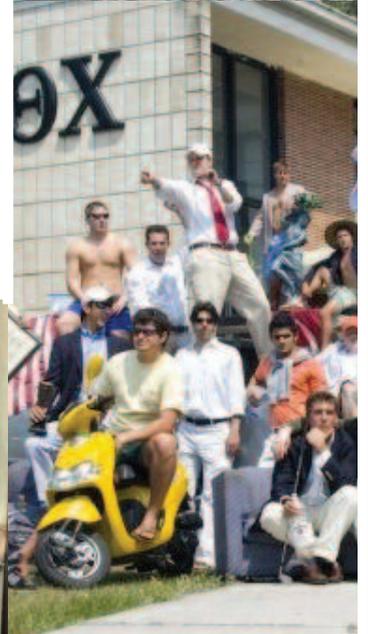
I applaud the launching of a capital campaign for the chapter and wish you much success in achieving the goals of the campaign. I hope the alumni of Theta Chi will respond to the capital campaign with a degree of generosity that reflects an appreciation for what Theta Chi and the University of Florida have done for them and a desire to see the chapter be a positive factor in the lives of young men for generations to come.

Your new chapter house will be a worthy setting for Tau Chapter's centennial anniversary in 2016. I wish you the best of luck in this effort and I look forward to visiting the finished product.

Sincerely,

J. Bernard Machen  
President

*The Foundation for The Gator Nation*  
An Equal Opportunity Institution

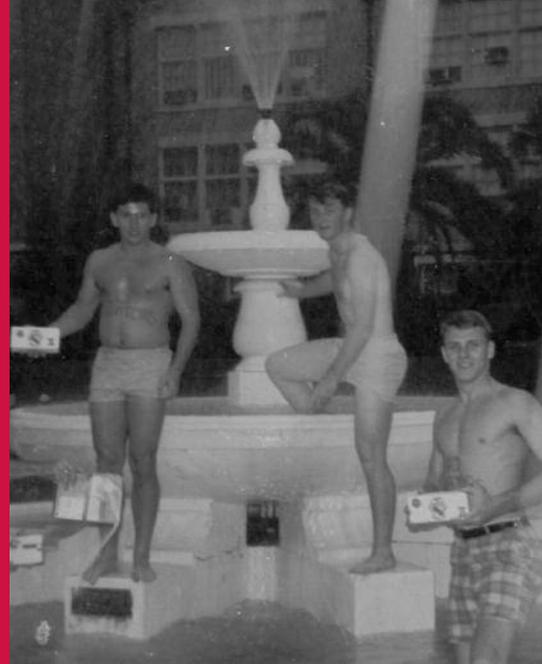


*“I am the fourth University of Florida student body president in the last 15 years to emerge from Theta Chi Tau Chapter. Our Fraternity has a history of leadership and service because of the brotherhood that brings together past and present generations. The values of truth, temperance, and tolerance unite our brothers and make us all better men. It is imperative that we do our part to ensure that future generations of leaders can be guided by the Fraternity that has defined so many of our lives.”*

**–Ben Meyers '08 T'2168**

UF SG President 2011





## CREED OF THETA CHI

I believe in Theta Chi, its traditions and its ideals. Born of sturdy manhood, nurtured by resolute men, ennobled by high and sacred purpose, it has taken its place among the educational institutions of America as a promoter of knowledge, an advancer of culture, and a builder of character.

It inspires true friendship: teaches Truth, Temperance and Tolerance, extols virtue, exacts harmony and extends a helping hand to all who seek it. I believe in the primacy of alma mater: in the usefulness of my Fraternity, in its influence and its accomplishments, and I shall do all in my power to perpetuate its ideals, Thereby serving my God, my country and my fellow man.