

Old South Bricks Presented to Honor Two \$5,000 Gifts and Donors

By El Ahlwardt (Gamma Rho/Florida State '73), Director of Development



Commemorative Old South Barracks bricks are presented to alumni who make a \$5,000 contribution to the Fraternity through its public foundation. A plaque that identifies each brick as coming from the foundation of the Old South Barracks, birthplace of Theta Chi Fraternity on April 10, 1856, is affixed to a wooden base upon which is placed each brick, sitting on a protective cork pad, inside a transparent lucite box. An image of the Old South Barracks is etched into the underside of the removable top of the box.

The Leadership Fund, one of several endowed funds within the portfolio of assets belonging to the Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, Inc., has recently grown in value, following a pair of \$5,000 contribution to it. A commemorative mounted brick, excavated in 1988 from the foundation of the Old South Barracks, was presented to each of the two donors to honor their very generous gifts, which were made to help the undergraduate members of Theta Chi Fraternity.

The presentation of the beautifully mounted Old South Barracks bricks to these donors

reflected a decision to do so, when appropriate, that was made in the summer of 2000 by the Board of Directors of the Fraternity's public foundation. Earlier that same summer, the Foundation's Board accepted ownership of 200 of the bricks from the President of Norwich University, Dr. Richard W. Schneider (see Fall 2000 *Rattle*) as Historic Artifacts of Theta Chi Fraternity. The majority of the 200 bricks were prepared for presentation to the Fraternity's undergraduate chapters, while ten were designated for presentation to honor future donors who made any single contributions of \$5,000 or



Carmine Torella, right, accepts an Old South Barracks brick in recognition of his recent \$5,000 contribution to the Fraternity's public foundation. Making the presentation to him, on behalf of the foundation's Board of Directors, is Board Treasurer, David Foltz.

more to the Foundation.

Carmine Torella (Rutgers/Beta Delta '90), made his \$5,000 gift in March, 2003, to the Leadership Fund, from which grants are made to fund leadership and educational programming for the benefit of the Fraternity. Board Treasurer David Foltz (Beta Sigma/Lehigh '80) presented Torella his Old South Barracks brick in late-March, 2003.

In May, 2003, Mrs. Alan T. Lockard, widow of the late-Alan Lockard (Alpha/Norwich '44) completed a \$5,000 contribution to the Leadership Fund that Brother Lockard indicated in 2001 would be made in phases, beginning later that year and ending in 2004. Lockard was then advised by El Ahlwardt (Gamma Rho/Florida State '73), Director of Development, that it was the intent of the Board of Directors of the Fraternity's public foundation to recognize his generous gift to the Foundation's Leadership Fund, when completed, with the presentation of one of the commemorative Old South Barracks bricks.

Tragically, Lockard entered The Chapter Eternal in July, 2002 (see Fall 2002 *Rattle*). Mrs. Lockard opted to have the Fraternity retain her late-husband's Old South Barracks brick in the Alpha Chapter Conference Room at the International Headquarters. A plaque that reflected the desires and sentiments of Mrs. Lockard was affixed to the base upon which the brick was mounted, and it went on display in Indianapolis on Memorial Day, 2003.

Theta Chi Fraternity was founded inside the Old South Barracks (originally built in 1819) on April 10, 1856, which was then the major structure of Norwich University when it was located in Norwich, Vermont. The Old South Barracks was completely destroyed by fire in March, 1866, and the University was relocated to Northfield, Vermont, where it is today. ■



ABOVE: At the request of Mrs. Alan T. Lockard, a special plaque was affixed to the brick belonging to her late-husband. In addition to wording that notes the brick is a tribute in Loving Memory of Lockard, the plaque reads "Presented to Theta Chi Fraternity on Memorial Day, 2003, As an inspiration for others to do as Alan did: To Extend a Helping Hand to All Who Seek It." **RIGHT:** Alan Lockard's Old South Barracks brick, as displayed in the Alpha Chapter Conference Room at the International Headquarters.