

A Part of History

By James J. Moylan, President of the Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, Inc. (Gamma Lambda/University of Denver '69)



We have known for a long time that this issue of *The Rattle* would be devoted to coverage of the 150th Anniversary Convention at Norwich University in Northfield, VT over the days of June 8–11, 2006.

Kudos to Al Calarco and the 150th Anniversary Convention Committee for making this all happen. Thank you to the IHQ staff, Norwich University, the towns of Northfield and Norwich, VT, and all the volunteers who made this such an historic event for Theta Chi Fraternity and such a memorable event for each of the participants. I, and I think all of us who were there, truly felt a part of Theta Chi history in the making.

While there were many poignant, memorable, and “wow” events that will be chronicled in this issue, for me, Jim Hardwick’s (Phi/North Dakota State University ’87) remarks at the Closing Banquet should live forever in the hearts of every Theta Chi.

A special thank you to our donors who contributed \$150 to our Annual Campaign to commemorate the 150th, and to those meeting the Chapter Challenge and the Big Brother Challenge. Your financial support enabled the Fraternity to make this an absolutely Class A event.

So, that is all I am going to say about the 150th Anniversary Convention. I will leave it to the others who have submitted the articles and to the pictures published in this issue to tell the rest of the story about our historic time at Norwich University.

Now, I would like to talk a little bit to all my Brothers about our Annual Campaign. The income from our Annual Campaign enables us to carry out all the fundraising projects we employ to sustain the Fraternity’s educational and leadership programming activities for our undergraduate brothers during the school year. Over the past three years, we have had an average of 2,478 contributors to the Annual Campaign out of 130,788 known living Theta Chi Fraternity alumni. The average gift over the past three years is \$70.05.

Brothers, we can, and **must**, do better.

Simply increasing our average gift to \$100 per year will yield a 43% increase in our Annual Campaign with our existing base of donors. Increase donors 10% at the \$100 level and our Annual Campaign experiences a 57% gain.

Looking at it another way, if the average Annual Campaign gift were \$150, slightly over \$12.50 per month or \$2.88 per week, with our existing donor base, the Annual Campaign could generate \$371,700. Increase the number of donors by 10%, and our Annual Campaign total could reach \$408,870. With that funding, the Foundation Chapter can fulfill its mission of “Brothers Helping Brothers.”

So, Brothers, if you have not contributed to the Annual Campaign, please consider doing so. If you are a contributor already, please consider ratcheting up your annual donation. It sure will help us all to be “Better Because of Theta Chi.”

Finally, it is with deep regret that I announce the resignation of David Foltz (Beta Sigma, Lehigh University ’80) from our Board of Directors. Dave joined the Board of Directors of Theta Chi Funds for Leadership and Education, Inc., (“Funds”), in 2001. Dave served ably as Funds’ Treasurer and a Director. Dave did yeoman’s work, along with our Chief Financial Officer, Jim Powell, and Directors Warren Hoffman on the Funds’ side and Jim Morgan on the Foundation Chapter’s side, in effecting the merger between Funds and Foundation which became effective July 1, 2003. Dave came on the Board of the “new” Foundation Chapter, serving as Treasurer, a Director, and as Chairman of the Investment Committee. Thank you, Dave, we are all better because of your service to Theta Chi.

Better Because of Theta Chi.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be the name 'Jim' followed by a stylized flourish.