

The Reginald E.F. Colley Award is presented annually by the Grand Chapter and is the highest honor for an undergraduate brother in our fraternity. It is given to the undergraduate member who best demonstrates distinguished service to Alma Mater, Fraternity and chapter. The award, which originally was a trophy, was first presented to the Fraternity in 1929 by Frederick Ladue (Iota Chapter/Colgate University) in memory of Reginald E.F. Colley (Phi Chapter/North Dakota State University), who was a member of the Grand Chapter from 1925 to 1926. The original trophy was retired in 1950 and was replaced by the large plaque used today. Each year, a committee composed of past Colley Award recipients reviews applications and determines the recipient and two runners up.



Kevin Keilly accepts the Alter Award for his chapter, Tau/University of Florida

This year's second (2nd) runner up, Kevin F. Reilly, Jr. (Tau/University of Florida '08) just finished his junior year. In his application this brother said "Coming to college, I had never intended to join a fraternity." But since his initiation into Theta Chi, this brother used his leadership skills and outgoing personality to improve his chapter. He has served on his chapter's Risk Management Committee and Bylaw Revision Committee and as Assistant New Member

The 2007 Reginald E.F. Colley Award



Colley Award Recipient Erik D. Lange (Zeta Kappa/Ohio Northern '07), his parents and National Historian Joe D'Amore (Eta Pi/East Stroudsburg '77)

This year's recipient of the Reginald E.F. Colley award is a graduating senior who has held a 4.0 GPA for the past eight semesters while being his Varsity Swim Team's co-captain, representing Theta Chi as the IFC's Vice President for Public Relations, and serving as his Chapter's President. As a Co-Captain, this brother led his swim team to their third conference championship, winning the 100 breast stroke, 200 medley relay, and 400 medley relay. As the IFC Vice-President of Public Relations, he helped bridge the gap between his chapter and the IFC. When he graduated, he motivated two younger brothers to keep that legacy intact and they are now members of the IFC Executive Board.

Along with being a varsity swimmer and the IFC Vice President of Public Relations, this brother took on the challenge of being Chapter President where he knew he could help save a struggling chapter. Recruitment was an issue and, with his help, the chapter membership nearly doubled growing from 11 brothers to 21. The chapter was struggling academically and this brother pushed every member improve his

Educator, Historian, Assistant Treasurer, Awards Chairman, Social Committee Chairman, and President. As Chapter President, Kevin wanted to make improvements and, by encouraging membership growth, he saw his chapter become one of the largest in Theta Chi. He wanted to improve Alumni Relations, which was accomplished by doubling the size of their alumni data base. He also knew the condition of the house was not the best and, by working with local authorities, increased the safety and quality of living in the house. He played a crucial role in making his chapter's annual philanthropy and helped his chapter raise over \$1,600 dollars during the past two years for their charity.

Kevin is a respected leader on campus and a good role model for all brothers. In his second semester as a student, he was elected to his school's Senate where he quickly became involved and an influential part of his university. Our brother has been inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society and Order of Omega. He is not just a leader in his chapter and on his campus, but also within his community, where he is involved with "Keeping Alachua County Beautiful," and the Alachua County Humane Society.

In his recommendation letter, a fellow chapter brother said "During my time at Theta Chi there have been few people that can command and lead the Brotherhood with such poise and charisma. He has been a dramatic influence on all of our members and specifically on me. It is my pleasure to be able to recommend him for such an Award."



First runner up, Sean Cain (foreground) in his first movie, *Passing Through*.

In one letter of recommendation for our first (1st) runner up to the Colley Award, it was written "His willingness to always extend the helping hand never ceases to amaze me. He sets a wonderful example for all our brothers, and his sense of humor allows him to get along easy with others." In another letter, one of the university's vice presidents said, "He has the strength of character to hold fast in the face of adversity and, given the steps he takes before making a decision, is comfortable with that decision. He seeks advice and is well respected by faculty, staff, senior level administration and the University Board of Governors. He has a certain charismatic quality that draws people to him."

This brother is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society, the National Society of Collegiate Scholars, and the Order of Omega Honor Society. He graduated Cum Laude in his University's Honors College with a 3.71 GPA and was on the Dean's list every year he was in school.

He has been active since his initiation and holds the distinction of being the youngest elected officer for his chapter. He held the offices of Recruitment Chairman, Greek Week Chairman, and Chaplain. He

grades. Since he, personally, held a 4.0 for eight semesters, he expected nothing less from everyone in his chapter. Noting that Theta Chi did not have a very strong presence on campus, this brother changed that by getting involved with IFC and making sure the tradition would continue after he left.

He is also an executive officer for his honorary engineering service society, Tau Beta Pi, and is a member of Phi Eta Sigma and Kappa Phi Kappa Honorary. If that does not seem like enough, he is also very active with his Boy Scout Troop where he achieved the level of Eagle Scout and he volunteers his Sunday evenings teaching young children how to swim. He helped organize the Swim for Cystic Fibrosis this past winter and works the time clock at numerous high school academic competition events.

In his recommendation letter, his Greek Advisor wrote, "His extreme dedication to Theta Chi is very heart-warming to me as a full-time Greek professional. He has worked diligently to keep his chapter running smoothly while consistently juggling all the other aspects of his college career. He has a very kind and gentle demeanor which has helped motivate his chapter members to accomplish the necessary tasks to stay highly involved."

Our recipient attended the Chapter Leadership Conference in Dayton, Ohio and Deranian President's Conference in Indianapolis. He joined us last year at the 150th Anniversary Convention at Norwich University where he was the recipient of the "Shug" Jordan Award.

All of these very impressive attributes are the reasons this member of Zeta Kappa Chapter at Ohio Northern University is the 2007 recipient of the Reginald E.F. Colley Award... Brother Erik David Lange.



Former and present Colley Award winners: Lucas Elgie (Alpha Phi/Alabama '05), Mike Mayer (Epsilon Phi/Missouri State '04), Erik Lange (Zeta Kappa/Ohio Northern '07), Dale Taylor (Alpha Phi/Alabama '69), Brian Rinker (Rho/Illinois '01).



The original Colley trophy, created in 1929 by Frederick Ladue, was resilvered in 2006 through a grant from the Foundation Chapter.

also served on the Ritual Committee, Housing Committee, Finance Committee, and Public Relations Committee. As the Recruitment chairman he increased the chapter's membership 40 percent by implementing new and creative programs.

On campus he oversaw his school's efforts this year to send students to New Orleans for their second annual "Hurricane Katrina Relief" alternative spring break, where in the past two years he was able to send over 150 students to help the people of Bogalusa, Louisiana.

This brother's most outstanding achievement came in April 2006 when he was elected Student Body President. As President, he led a referendum approval process for a \$23,000,000 University Recreation Center. He also created a consortium of student leadership from the 12 public universities in his state to advocate on behalf of higher education at his state capital.

Our first (1st) runner up for the 2007 Reginald E.F. Colley award comes from Missouri State University home of our Iota Beta Chapter, Brother Sean Michael Cain.