

Theta-Zeta Chapter of The Kappa Sigma Fraternity



# THETA-ZETA TIMES

[www.ThetaZeta.org](http://www.ThetaZeta.org)



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# Letter from our Grand Master

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Brothers,

I hope everyone is doing well and I would like to highlight some of the recent accomplishments of the Theta-Zeta Chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. The Theta-Zeta Chapter just won its' 20th consecutive Founders Award of Chapter Excellence (FACE), which is given to the top 20-25 chapters in Kappa Sigma for overall chapter functions. We also received our 14th consecutive Founders Circle Award, which is the highest award given in Kappa Sigma, with only 7 chapters receiving this prestigious award. The brothers also won numerous other awards at Grand Conclave, as well as winning the Ritual Competition and Installation of Officers Competition. These competitions are held every year for the right to initiate a brother and to install the Supreme Executive Committee in front of the entire Conclave.

This past spring, Theta-Zeta rushed 22 men, bringing the total for the year at 101, the second consecutive year the chapter has rushed over 100 men which is a first in chapter history. Theta-Zeta has also been successful in scholarship, being above the all men's GPA once again. We also had a great Black and White formal this past spring with over 100 undergraduates, dates, and alumni attending the event.

Theta-Zeta also just recently just celebrated its' 50th anniversary last fall and would like to invite any alumni who would like to attend the 51st anniversary celebration during ENMU's homecoming October 4th-6th. The undergraduates are looking forward to pushing Theta-Zeta to new heights and to maintain the standard of excellence that was set over twenty years ago. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me.

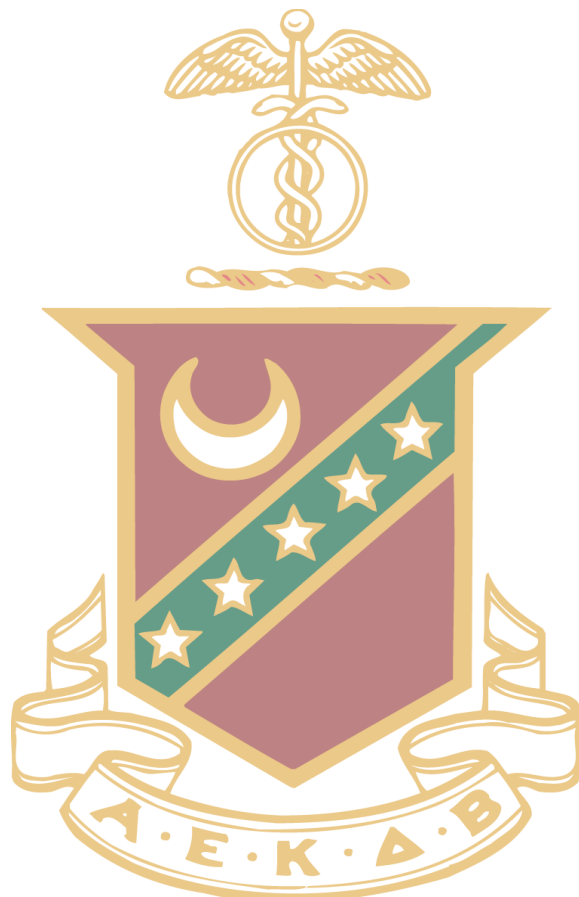
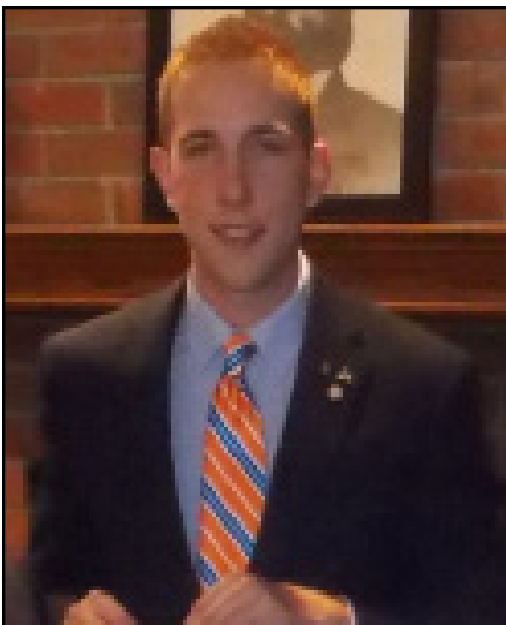
AEKDB

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# *Theta-Zeta Completes \$250,000 Remodel*

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Theta-Zeta completed a remodel of it's current home this past year and has made it a fitting home of a champion. The \$250,000 remodel included a complete cosmetic update as well as a total modernization of the electronic infrastructure of the house. One of the changes that has made the Chapter house more fun is the addition of a full court sand volleyball court which now gives the Brothers both Basketball and Volleyball in the backyard. There was an additional bedroom conversion so that another Brother can experience living in the house and a state of the art conference room was created.

The front of the house received a makeover as well with a new covered entry way being added. It now allows for protection from the elements as you enter the chapter house and really creates a grand facade. With the porch and new landscaping the chapter house has tremendous curb appeal. In addition to these items all the HVAC system was replaced and updated, new window treatments were installed, new flooring through out, all new furniture, and four interactive tv's have been put in. This truly makes the Theta-Zeta house number one second to none.



Newly Remodeled Chapter House



# Theta-Zeta Celebrates 50 Years



On November 16, 1962, twenty-eight men came together with help from alumni brothers, PWGS Colonel James R. Mahoney (Delta-Delta, University of Florida, '39), Past DGM Odis L. Echols, (Epsilon-Phi, Texas Tech University) and Past AA Dr. Martin B. Goodwin (Epsilon-Epsilon, University of British Columbia, '41) to found the Theta-Zeta Chapter of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. Kappa Sigma was the first fraternity on Eastern New Mexico University's campus. Fifty short years later, the men of Theta-Zeta gathered at ENMU's homecoming from September 27-30, 2012, to commemorate the occasion.

Over 125 alumni brothers made the journey to Portales, New Mexico including WGP Hugh M. Robert (Epsilon-Mu, University of Tulsa, '95), WGS Gregory S. Hunt (Beta-Upsilon, North Carolina State University, '79), PWGM Kevin S. Kaplan ('82), PWGM Thomas P. Bishop (Alpha-Beta, Mercer University, '79), PWGM Donal L. "Pops" McClamroch Jr. (Eta, Zandolph Macon College, '74), PWGS Jody L. Bailey ('88) and Champion Quest Commissioner Justin A. Hansen (Xi-Beta, Northeastern University, '01). Theta-Zeta alumni from every generation were in attendance, including Brothers Paul W. Zicker ('63) and Peter C. Serena ('65), members of the Chapter's first pledge class. The weekend was filled with events that encouraged alumni and undergraduate interaction. A "Past Meets Present" reception with alumni and undergraduates opened the weekend. The 21st Annual "Bird Dog Bowl" (Alumni vs. Undergraduate flag football game) always holds much anticipation, with the crafty Alumni capturing a 21-13 victory. A local "Piano Bar" act gathered everyone together for a fun filled evening of singing, dancing and plenty of laughs.

One of the surprises of the weekend was the announcement that Theta-Zeta initiate, and Past Grand Master, Doug J. Shaw ('86), was to make a \$50,000 donation to the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund to create a named Scholarship/Leadership award. Brother Shaw was also a major contributor to the Theta-Zeta house renovation. The Chapter would like to thank Brother Shaw for his continued leadership and support.

The 50th Anniversary Banquet was the highlight of the celebration. Over 250 brothers and guests gathered to honor Theta-Zeta's history and accomplishments. Brother Stephen F. Pickett (Epsilon-Phi, Texas Tech, '59), a 1959 initiate of the Epsilon-Phi Chapter, was on the initiation team that installed the Theta-Zeta Chapter. Brother Pickett shared stories of Theta-Zeta's beginnings. PWGM Kevin S. Kaplan delivered the keynote speech, which recognized numerous Theta-Zeta leaders for their contributions to the fraternity. Brother Kaplan also highlighted the Chapter's accomplishments such as 19 consecutive Founder's Awards of Chapter Excellence, 19 consecutive George Miles Arnold Ritual Proficiency Cups, 13 consecutive Founder's Circle Awards, 1,264 Ritual Proficiency Certificates, 97 Masters of the Ritual and 121 brothers who are "One of Jackson's Men." The evening closed with a video produced by Brothers Robert D. Springer ('93) and Eric D. Smith ('01) titled "Semper", which was filled with memories of the past 50 years. It was truly an evening filled with Kappa Sigma pride.

The Chapter would like to thank everyone who attended the 50th Anniversary Celebration and made the weekend such a success. Celebrations like this may only come

once in a life time, and we are truly proud of the continued efforts, of Alumni and undergraduates alike, to maintain Theta-Zeta as one of the top chapters in our Fraternity.



Theta-Zeta Grand Masters Gather at the Chapter's 50th Anniversary Celebration

# *Theta-Zeta Makes Great Showing at 2013 Grand Conclave*

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Brothers,

I hope this message find you well and excited to be a Kappa Sigma! Over the last 20 years, our chapter has experienced unparalleled success and is widely known as the best chapter in the international fraternity. This success has been the result of an absolute dedication to each other and an unwavering belief in protecting what so many before us have established.

Well brothers, I write to you to report some very special news. A milestone in the annals of our great chapter has come to fruition. During the 69th Biennial Grand Conclave in Las Vegas, NV (July 24-28, 2013), our chapter celebrated 20 Years of Dominance. With 21 undergraduate and 19 alumni brothers in attendance, we were awarded our 20th consecutive Founders Award of Chapter Excellence and our 14th consecutive Founders Circle Award (winning this award every year of its existence). The recognition of these milestones was made more special by our undergraduate brothers winning the ritual competition. The benefits of this competition allowed our brothers to perform the model initiation in front of 1200+ brothers. We were also given the special honor of installing our newly elected Supreme Executive Committee.

I can't tell you how unbelievably proud we should all be of our undergraduates. Everyday they push and do whatever it takes to ensure the success of this chapter. This is what an being an initiate of the Theta Zeta Chapter is all about. I have no doubt our chapter is in good hands for many years to come, and I'm as proud as anyone to be associated with these young men.

Lastly brothers, I invite you to stay in contact and let us know how you're doing. A new and improved website is currently under construction ([www.thetazeta.org](http://www.thetazeta.org)) so I invite you drop us a line and get updates on chapter events. You can also follow us on Twitter @Theta\_Zeta1962. And if you're in the Portales area, drop on by.

Daric Garbutt  
Distric Grand Master  
AEKDB



Theta-Zeta's Executive Committee  
Accepting the Attendance Cup



Theta-Zeta with the F.A.C.E. Award,  
The Founder's Circle, and the Attendance Cup

# ENMU Homecoming 2013

ENMU's 2013 Homecoming is the weekend of October 3 and 6 in Portales, New Mexico. We would like to invite you to join Theta-Zeta during this celebration. Last year's Homecoming was a great success and we want to keep that going. We will again have our Undergraduate/Alumni flag football game, the Bird Dog Bowl, and celebrate Theta-Zeta's Finest Hour.

There will be plenty of fun and great Brotherhood. For any questions, more information or to RSVP contact Richard Snodgrass, Grand Master, at [richard.snodgrass@enmu.edu](mailto:richard.snodgrass@enmu.edu) or 505-321-2819 or contact Mark Zuniga, Homecoming chair, at [mark.zuniga@enmu.edu](mailto:mark.zuniga@enmu.edu) or 956-240-9510.

## Theta-Zeta Dominates Rush



Rush began in the fall with Rush Workshop. Here the Alumni shared their wisdom and helped teach the undergraduates what it takes to have a successful rush.

During the fall the undergraduates worked tirelessly, and Theta-Zeta was able to recruit 77 quality men during the fall semester.

The fall semester was very successful, but the spring semester brought with it the challenge of another rush. The spring rush lasted three weeks, and with undergraduate's efforts, 24 men were pledged in the spring.

This last year Theta-Zeta was able to once again pledge over 100 men, and again, put us in contention for the Jackson's Cup.

**Kappa  
Sigma**  
**THETA-ZETA**  
**FALL RUSH**  
**2013**



# Alumni Spotlight



Henry Varela was born and raised in the small town of Pecos, New Mexico. Attending Eastern New Mexico University on a full Cross Country Scholarship, he was initiated into the Theta Zeta Chapter of the Beta Phi Pledge Class of 1997. During his years as an undergraduate Brother Varela won multiple Scholarship Leadership awards, was elected Grand Scribe and Grand Procurator, and became a Master of the Ritual. Graduating from Eastern New Mexico University in 2002, He took the timeless lessons of hard work, organization, perseverance, and leadership from my time in Kappa Sigma and went into the workforce knowing that he was prepared.

During the 2010 election cycle, Henry was the Campaign Manager for his fellow Kappa Sigma Brother Matthew Chandler, who ran for Attorney General of the state of New Mexico. In 2011,

under New Mexico Governor Susana Martinez and was later promoted in February of 2013 to Communications Director/Public Information Officer of the Children, Youth and Families Dept. working with New Mexico media outlets on all stories and inquiries, while also handling all communications work for the agency.

Along with a successful professional life, Brother Verela is happily married to Margaret Varela and they have two beautiful girls. Henry is an outstanding Brother, and volunteer Alumnus. Our chapter and Fraternity are better for knowing him.

## A.E.K.Δ.B.