



THETA CRESCENT

A PUBLICATION FOR ALUMNI OF THETA ★ ALPHA GAMMA RHO ★ UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI

WINTER 2026

Capital Campaign Passes \$750,000

Join the Future of Theta Today!

Our capital campaign for a house renovation—*Theta: A Proud Past, Promising Future*—recently surpassed the \$750,000 milestone in dollars pledged. The chapter is well on its way to our \$1.2 million goal before the end of 2026, but plenty of work remains to stay on target. Many brothers have generously donated to the campaign by completing their pledge forms, to which we say a heartfelt, “Thank you!”

During its February meeting, the Building Association will finalize the details of the renovation’s first phase, taking place over the summer of 2026. **More details will be shared at the Founder’s Day celebration on March 7.** The total project will be completed over a successive period of summer breaks while the undergraduate chapter is on break. Additionally, this will allow the BA to invest all campaign proceeds as they come in rather than incurring further debt.

If you have not yet had the opportunity to donate or pledge to the campaign, you can do so online at agrmizzou.causevox.com. Pledges can be made over a five-year period to fit your schedule and means. There are also many naming and recognition opportunities available—if interested, contact me for more information!

Fraternally,
Cord Harper '89
Campaign Chairman
cordharper@hotmail.com
(573) 489-3647



FORGING THETA’S FUTURE

Michael Peterson '83 Generously Supports the Chapter House

As a young man with a rural Missouri background, **Michael Peterson '83** joined AGR to share common interests and make friends at Mizzou. He appreciates Theta Chapter’s influence on his personal success and is leading the way for alumni supporting *Theta: A Proud Past, Promising Future*.



Michael (second from left) with friends and family at a Mizzou tailgate

PERSONAL GROWTH

“I think AGR allowed me to be more comfortable in the college environment early on,” Michael said. He made great memories with his brothers in college and fondly recalls his pledge class walkout to a Mizzou vs. Nebraska football game in Lincoln.

Michael pursued an agricultural processing career beyond college, spending two years with ADM in the Midwest and later working for 10 years with Purina Mills across the country. Following a corporate role in St. Louis, he moved into the pet sector and managed purchases for 23 different pet food production plants.

“In 2008, I then took a leap of faith and started my own business providing ingredients and supply chain solutions to the pet sector bringing products in from all over the world and providing to all major producers in the North American market. In 2023, I sold the business to The Andersons and am currently the profit center manager.”

FRATERNAL DEVOTION

Michael’s career success motivated him to make a significant contribution to Theta’s capital campaign in honor of his formative fraternity experience. He knows an exceptional chapter house will attract upstanding young men to AGR, and he encourages fellow alumni to consider their own potential impact on the campaign.

“I think everyone has their own means, and there are many ways and opportunities to support organizations that you feel are or were meaningful to each of us. Do so in any way you can, as it will be meaningful to yourself and others.”

From industry connections to social bonds, Michael continues to value Theta’s alumni network and hopes his brothers join him in supporting the campaign. You can connect with him at mpeterson8944@gmail.com.



Alpha Gamma Rho
**THETA: A PROUD PAST,
PROMISING FUTURE**

A Proud AGR at Heart

Dr. Mike Tumbleson, Lambda '64
on Fraternity Involvement,
Value of Alumni Connections

For Mike Tumbleson, Lambda '64, the Alpha Gamma Rho brotherhood has shaped his personal connections and volunteer commitments long after his collegiate years at the University of Minnesota. He contributed two decades of time and effort as a Theta Chapter advisor and encourages fellow alumni to consider the impact their support can have.

DEVELOPING THETA CHAPTER

"The national secretary of Alpha Gamma Rho called me and said Theta Chapter didn't have an advisor," and when Mike first arrived at the chapter house in 1966, he recognized the need for clearer rules and committed alumni involvement. Mike vividly recalls speaking to one active member about treating his university experience as a job, which motivated that brother to commit to his studies and eventually earn his Ph.D.

Living just two blocks from the chapter house, Mike would arrive early each morning to meet with the house cook and visit with brothers about issues like ensuring they understood the importance of attending study halls. "I had the opportunity to work with a whole bunch of students."

Due to his involvement with Theta Chapter, Mike was named president of the Montessori Board. "I would have never had that privilege if I wasn't so active with Theta Chapter, and I still go lecture Montessori kids about staying good and not making mistakes."

GROWING THE FRATERNITY

Beyond Theta Chapter, Mike was a member of AGR's first national board of directors. Thanks to his commercial pilot's license and more than 18,000 hours of flight experience, he would fly his own airplane across the country to visit different chapters in need of guidance.

"I was involved with placing the first fraternity chapter at Texas A&M—that was a learning curve," he added. Mike stressed the importance of volunteering behind the scenes with integrity, always putting Alpha Gamma Rho's best interests first rather than seeking praise for his personal efforts.

"There's no other opportunity like volunteering for Alpha Gamma Rho."

KEEPING BROTHERS ENGAGED

Mike drew a clear distinction between graduates and alumni, citing the need for AGRs to stay engaged with their chapter beyond college. He cited numerous Alpha Gamma Rho chapters as examples of graduates getting more invested as AGR alumni and steadily developing advisory councils for fraternal guidance. During the past decades, he has been privileged to call upon hundreds of alumni throughout the country with positive responses for assistance.

"You get someone involved at a level they can handle," he said. "You have to look them in the eye, take them from where they are, and bring them into the fraternity in a way they can help someone and their community."

PERSONAL CONNECTIONS

Mike's decades of AGR involvement have cultivated lifelong friendships that he continues to cherish today. In his personal life, Mike has two successful adult daughters from a previous marriage and a daughter with his current partner of 19 years. He also has multiple grandchildren, including two who are college graduates.

At 88 years old, Mike is an emeritus faculty member at the University of Illinois following 20 years of veterinary biosciences and agricultural engineering research. You can connect with him and discuss AGR connections at mtumbles@illinois.edu.

SHAPING SUCCESS TOGETHER

THANK YOU TO OUR LOYAL DONORS

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the brothers who have contributed over \$750,000 toward *Theta: A Proud Past, Promising Future*. Their generosity fuels the momentum for a stronger, more vibrant future for Theta Chapter. If your name is not yet on this list, we'd love for you to join us today! Alumni involvement is crucial for the success

of our campaign. Together, let's build a stronger and brighter tomorrow.

Donors of \$1,000 and above will be recognized in appropriate giving categories in all campaign publications unless otherwise requested. Pledges of \$5,000 and above will be displayed on a permanent donor plaque at the house.



Alpha Gamma Rho THETA: A PROUD PAST, PROMISING FUTURE

If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 so that we may make a correction. Thank you for your support!

Crescent Society
(\$100,000 and above)
Michael A. Peterson '83

Theta Society
(\$50,000 to \$99,999)
Brown Family
Clyde Brown '36
Phil Brown '67
Jim McRoberts '68
Wilson Family Gift
Troy C. Wilson '87
Grey C. Wilson '20
Matthew S. Wilson '24
Cord Harper '89



Better Men Serve Their Community

THETA'S MIZZOU IMPACT

This past year marked a period of exceptional achievement and growth for Theta Chapter, highlighted by academic excellence, impactful philanthropy, strong campus involvement, and meaningful alumni engagement. Through dedication and unity, the chapter upheld the values of Alpha Gamma Rho while strengthening its presence within the community.

Over 20 brothers earned placement on the dean's list, reflecting the chapter's emphasis on accountability and academic success. Structured study expectations, peer mentorship, and a culture that prioritizes education contributed to another strong year in the classroom, reinforcing the importance of balancing fraternity involvement with academic responsibility.

PHILANTHROPY GROWS

During Homecoming week, every member donated blood through the American Red Cross, creating a powerful collective impact while supporting a critical national cause. The chapter also participated in Flapjacks and Quarterbacks alongside Kappa Alpha Theta, strengthening fraternal relationships while supporting charitable efforts. Additionally, AGR organized a large-scale food drive that collected 2,500 canned food items, providing meaningful support to local families and community organizations.

PROUD TO BE TIGERS

Campus involvement was another area of distinction for the chapter. During Homecoming, Theta earned second place overall, along with multiple first-place finishes in individual categories. These accomplishments reflect

strong participation, teamwork, and pride in representing the fraternity and university. Brothers consistently supported campus traditions and remained engaged in student organizations and leadership opportunities.

Signature events and alumni engagement further strengthened the chapter. The AGR Classic cattle show, held February 20-22 of this year, serves as a cornerstone event that highlights our agricultural roots while bringing together students, alumni, and industry supporters. Additionally, the chapter enjoyed a successful Dad's Weekend and Alumni Week during the Texas A&M football game on November 8, fostering meaningful connections across generations of brothers.

CHAPTER GROWTH

Recruitment remained strong, as the chapter welcomed more than 15 new members for the second consecutive year. Through mentorship and intentional brotherhood programming, these new brothers have been successfully integrated into the chapter.

Overall, this year exemplified Theta Chapter's continued dedication to excellence in academics, service, leadership, and brotherhood. We can't wait to see how we'll grow in 2026.

Fraternally,
Beau Triplett '25
VNR Alumni Relations

Campaign Status at a Glance

Campaign Goal
\$1.2 Million

Total Raised
\$764,240

Donors
56

602 Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

- Steve Barnes '80
- John E. Pfaff '83
- Triplett Family Gift
- Jamie L. Triplett '89
- Chad E. Triplett '91
- Curt D. Triplett '92
- Maltsbarger Brothers
- Richard Maltsbarger '93
- Robert Maltsbarger '95
- Ryland Maltsbarger '97
- Kayden Kent Guymon '13

Rho Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

- Matthew Renkoski '74
- Lynn Fahrmeier '81
- Cary D. Sayre '88

Pink Rose Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

- Stephen D. Barr '69
- Donald L. Cupps '75
- In memory of
- Thomas W. Henderson '75
- Robert M. Thompson '80
- Sid Johnson '84
- Aaron D. Atkins '88

- Tony Robertson '89
- Grant DeShon '90
- Matthew Thomas Henderson '04

Shield Society (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

- Hegeman Heritage LLC
- Zane V. Akins '59
- Larry Ray Warren '65
- Jerome C. Graeser '68
- Jerry D. Gibson '71
- Bev and Jim Edwards '73
- David M. Dougherty '83
- Scott R. Eitel '88

- Bill Hayen '89
- Robin and Matt Horstmeier '90
- Thad Koenigsfeld '98
- Kevin E. O'Farrell '02
- Chase Monte '17

Green and Gold Society (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

- Thomas B. McCartney '68
- Ken McClure '72
- James Powell Carman '81
- Dean Small '85
- Bryan P. Setzer '86
- Andrew K. Kapp '87

Harvest Society (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

- Lowell F. Mohler '57
- John S. Payne '63
- John W. Wheeler '63
- Jackson L. Burke '69
- Leon C. Busdieker '75
- David W. Bonderer '77
- Michael T. Jobe '82
- Justin L. Pfaff '91

Brothers gather during our Chapter Etiquette Night in 2025.



THETA CRESCENT

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THETA: A Proud Past, Promising Future

Our campaign just reached an exciting milestone. Learn more about Theta's 2026 plans inside—and get ready for Founder's Day!

FOUNDER'S DAY RETURNS MARCH 7, 2026

Theta Chapter invites alumni, undergraduates, families, and friends back to Columbia this spring for the 2026 Founder's Day celebration—an annual tradition honoring brotherhood, leadership, and the enduring legacy of AGR. This year's event will be held **Saturday, March 7**, at the **Bradford Research Farm** (4968 South Rangeline Road, Columbia, MO 65201). Registration and additional information can be found at agrtheta.org/founders-day.

MU President Mun Choi is this year's keynote speaker, who will discuss modern university dynamics, Mizzou student life, and an update on the university's strategic plan. A new member from Norborne, Missouri, will be inducted, and alumni from classes 1975, 2000, and 2015 will celebrate initiation anniversaries.

Founder's Day remains one of the chapter's most meaningful gatherings, bringing together generations of brothers to celebrate achievements, welcome new members, and support the future of the fraternity.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Noble Ruler
Nathan Stever '24

VNRs Recruitment
Cade Arnold '25
Dane Dunn '25

VNR Activities
Gavin Rhode '24

VNR Membership
Development
Lake Reid '23

VNR House Manager
Kabe Hamlin '24

VNR Finance
Cole Peters '24

VNR Risk Management
Garrett Boedeker '24

VNR Planning
Gavin Ridings '25

VNR Alumni Relations
Beau Triplett '25

VNRs Scholarship
Anderson Brown '24
Slade McCauslin '24

CHAPTER GOALS

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Maintain a chapter GPA above the all-Greek average while increasing the number of brothers on the dean's list through mentorship and accountability.

PHILANTHROPIC IMPACT

Expand community service efforts by increasing participation and measurable impact via food drives, blood donations, and collaborative charity events.

BROTHERHOOD AND GROWTH

Sustain strong recruitment and retention while strengthening brotherhood and agricultural tradition through events like the AGR Classic and alumni engagement.