

Phi Gamma Delta Chi Alpha Chapter History

It was not until 1959 that the first fraternities and sororities arrived on campus. In the 1970s, they became recognized as national fraternities and sororities. Clemson had a strong military heritage but in 1955 the first women undergraduates arrived campus. By 1955, civilians had arrived on campus and soon fraternities and sororities were an idea in demand. In 1959 the Board of Trustees approved the development of the first sororities and fraternities. Eight men's fraternities and two sororities were founded between 1956-1966.

The fraternities/sororities operated under local names until 1970 when Clemson allowed national Greek organizations on campus. In 1956 the Numeral Society (Sigma Alpha Epsilon) was the first fraternity established on campus. From 1958 to 1966, seven more fraternities were recognized by the university, in order of founding: (national affiliation shown in parentheses): Phi Kappa Delta (Kappa Alpha Order), 'Deacons' Delta Kappa Alpha (Alpha Tau Omega), Kappa Delta Chi (Sigma Nu), 'Zetas' Sigma Alpha Zeta (Pi Kappa Alpha), 'Snappers' Kappa Sigma Nu (Kappa Sigma), Delta Phi (Phi Delta Theta), and Sigma Kappa Epsilon (Beta Theta Pi). Followed by Alpha Gamma (Sigma Phi Epsilon & Alpha Gamma Rho) and Chi Lam (Theta Chi) in 1969 and Phi Gamma Delta (FIJI) in 1971.

Chi Chi Chi, was the first sorority later changing their name to Delta Theta Chi (Tri Delt). The second sorority was Omicron Zeta Tau (Kappa Kappa Gamma) followed soon after by Sigma Beta Chi. By 1969 three local sororities and 9 local fraternities could be found on campus. On February 1, 1970, Zetas (Pi Kappa Alpha) became first nationally recognized fraternity on Clemson's campus followed soon after by Phi Kappa Delta (Kappa Alpha Order). Sigma Beta Chi choose to affiliate with Chi Omega, Delta Theta Chi with Delta Delta Delta and Omicron Zeta Tau with Kappa Kappa Gamma. These sororities would become the first three national sororities on campus. Delony choose to house the affiliated women in their own dorms instead of building sorority and fraternity houses. The sororities continued to grow in number, the fourth sorority being Kappa Alpha Theta followed by Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Kappa Alpha and Pi Beta Phi.

Chi Alpha is called Chi Alpha because the C represents Clemson University and the Alpha comes from Clemson being the first chapter in South Carolina. Chi Alpha was first founded at Clemson University in the spring of 1972 as the Delta colony of Phi Gamma Delta. Chi Alpha chapter chartered April 6, 1974. The president at the time was Bruce Magurno. Chi Alpha was kicked off campus in the Spring of 1987. The last graduate of Phi Gamma Delta at Clemson University was John R. Shirley who graduated in 1991.

Chi Alpha returned to the campus of Clemson University as a colony once again in October 15, 2015. The recolonization was lead by two IHQ Field Secretaries Jack O'Neill and Matt Farrell. A major turning point in greek life at Clemson University occurred in the fall of 2014 when Tucker Hipps, a pledge of the Sigma Phi Epsilon fraternity, died tragically. Clemson greek life was changed forever after this incident. It was at this time that Chi Alpha was recolonized and we

were tasked with the challenge of changing the standard of what it means to be the best fraternity at Clemson. Bryce Conti was the first president of the new Chi Alpha colony. At the date of chartering, March 11, 2017, Tyler Hawthorne Reid was president. 53 Founding Fathers of the newly re-chartered Chi Alpha chapter comprised of the Alpha, Beta, and Gamma pledge classes. Bill Bracewell (Georgia) presented the Chi Alpha chapter with its charter in 1974 and again in 2017. Chi Alpha wins the 2017 IFC Chapter of The Year award, representing the best overall IFC chapter.

History of the Chi Alpha Chapter of The Fraternity of Phi Gamma Delta

- # of initiated brothers of the chapter: 97
- # of current undergraduate brothers of the chapter: 98
- Current Chapter President: Chad Bureau (Gamma)
- XA Chapter President Lineage
 - John Stephen Hooks Jr. - Spring 1971
 - Anthony G. Mollica, Jr. - December 1974
 - Paul M. Moscati - December 1978
 - Patrick J Hanson
 - Robert P. Hogan - December 1979
 - Val W. Ruoff - February 1981
 - William H. Huling - January 1982
 - Michael J. Buhmeyer - November 1982
 - Russell D. Ragan - November 1983
 - William R. Hurley - January 1985
 - Eric C. Unger - November 1985
 - Jeffrey M. Karmilovich - November 1986
 - Steven P. Blisnuk - January 1988
 - Daniel "Bryce" Conti - October 2015
 - Jack O'Reilly - April 2016 (Removed from chapter 2016)
 - Tyler Hawthorne Reid - May 2016 - November 2017
 - Chad Andrew Bureau - November 2017 - Current

Spring 2016

- XA welcomed its first self-recruited pledge class, Beta class. Beta numbered 10 men strong.
- XA had its first social function. It was a "Cheeseburger in Paradise", Jimmy Buffet themed mixer with Sigma Nu, Alpha Chi Omega and Kappa Kappa Gamma.
- XA was then put on social probation in March of 2016 by IHQ. This would be in effect until the end of the semester.
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Fall 2016

- XA leased its first Chapter housing with the Pike Road house. Located off of College Ave (Six Mile Highway) A compound by nature, the property consisted of several buildings and large open spaces where social events were held. No brothers were ever housed on the property due to its remote location in the woods.
- XA brought in its largest pledge class to date, the Gamma class, which numbered 21 young men.
- XA held a clean-up/renovation at Safe Harbor House. Brothers helped improve the living environments of women and children who were victims of domestic violence.
- XA participated in football tailgates at the infamous "White House" located at 220 N. Clemson Ave. The house formerly belonged to Sig Ep and later Sig Pi, both fraternities have since been kicked-off of campus.
- XA teamed up with Gamma Phi Beta sorority and Beta Upsilon Chi fraternity for homecoming and spent all week building the homecoming float.

Spring 2017

- After getting out of the Pike road house lease in late fall, three houses occupied by brothers at "The Pier" become the new home for numerous brotherhood and social events for XA.
- 3/11/17: 53 Colony brothers are initiated as brothers of the Chi Alpha chapter. Chi Alpha regains its charter at the 2017 Frank Norris Pig Dinner.
- Chi Alpha wins 2017 Clemson IFC Chapter of the Year
- The chapter secures a compound of 3 houses formerly occupied by Phi Kappa Tau on Laverne Court for the upcoming year.
- XA teamed up with Alpha Phi sorority and Tau Kappa Epsilon fraternity for Greek Week and brought home the gold.
- XA hosts its first away weekend formal since rechartering in Myrtle Beach, SC

Fall 2017

- XA takes over Phi Delta Theta's quad spot on the 3rd floor of Donaldson Hall.

General Information for Pledges

- This book is dedicated to all who wear the White Star of XA.
- Each pledge and brother must show LSD (Loyalty, Service, Dedication) to the chapter and fraternity to which we belong.
- The White Star represents purity and a new beginning.
- What is the latin motto of the fraternity and what does it mean.