



# The Red & White

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## Omicron Xi Fraternity

# Est. 1947 Summer/Homecoming Edition

### From the President:

Thanks to all of you who have contributed your input via the survey to further the bond between Okies of past and present. As you will see on the bottom of this newsletter, your contributions are being put into practice as we develop and grow a formal alumni association to keep the bonds of our fraternity tight.



*Okies and their Sweetheart at the Spring Formal*

We begin our 63<sup>rd</sup> year of brotherhood as one of the biggest fraternities at Grove City College. Our size and diversity gives us the chance to strongly impact the campus through a wide variety of involvement and leadership.

As a social fraternity we also strive to provide many opportunities to impact college life through some of the most well-known events on campus: Okie-palooza and the Okie-Pi Christmas party.

Still, we seek to develop deep lasting relationships among our members through the bond of the fraternity and more importantly through our bond in the body of Christ.

We look forward to each and every chance we get to reconnect with those who also cherish our rich history: the alumni, and we are excited for your return this year at homecoming.

I would like to invite you to stop by our tent homecoming day, pick up an OΞ shirt, and connect with Okies of all ages. In the evening we will have a more formal dinner where we will talk in more depth about the plans and future of Omicron Xi.

For the Brotherhood and what is Right,

Travis Miller



*Alums and actives at our nation's capital!*

### From the Alumni Committee:

Dear Alumni of Omicron Xi,

Over the last three years, we have seen the actives make specific strides in their newsletters, homecoming events, and overall effort to reach out to alumni.

Whether it is our 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration a few homecomings ago, or simply a visit to the Okie hall, when brothers of Omicron Xi come together, actives and alumni, we all have fun.



*Tim P. and Evan A. showcase Okie pride and swagger during homecoming*

Last year [www.OmicronXi.org](http://www.OmicronXi.org) was created with a dual purpose of reconnecting alumni to each other and to the actives. Throughout the school year, we saw videos, pictures, and hilarious – sometimes informative – articles about what is going on in the fraternity right now.

*Continued on Page 3...*

## Inside Look: Okies Rafting in the Rockies

Every summer Okies disperse across the globe in pursuit of internships, jobs, women, evangelism, adventure, or some combination of the above. This summer marks the second installment of Adventure for Garrett Cichowitz and David Cole (Big/Little respectively). They are working as wilderness adventure guides in Buena Vista, CO for Noah's Ark Whitewater Adventure



*Okies "being around other Okies" at Senior Night*

Rafting Company.

We spend most of our time during the summer serving as rafting guides. The short version of a typical day is get up early, get jacked rowing 20 miles of class 3-4 whitewater, and get a ridiculous tan.

We adhere to a strict dress code as well: smelly river clothes, a gnarly looking lifejacket, and a river knife at the ready (usually on the front of the lifejacket).

Showering is optional. When we are not on the river, we work as wilderness backpacking guides and lead guided rock climbs and rappels.

I am sure Dave would tell you the same thing, but if I had to boil my summer job down to the single most significant and exciting facet, I would tell you it is the ministry.

Being here at Noah's has been the most challenging and growing experience I have faced yet in life. It has stretched to me to look beyond myself, and to cast a vision for my own life and the lives of others in light of the hope the Gospel brings.

Garrett Cichowitz '11

## Sin Título: Red Box Missions in Spain

How does one describe an experience so personal and unique to others who are not sharing in the same experience? Well to be quite honest I haven't even been able to describe the experience to myself yet, so I really have no idea. But for you dearest alumni and current members of Omicron Xi, I'm going to attempt a description of my time thus far as a Red Box Missions volunteer in Spain.

Life in Spain is much more laid back than in the States. I've been constantly told to be flexible and this has proven to be good advice. My time thus far in Spain has been amazing. I've seen the sights, met some great people and had some really good food. But

most importantly, my life has been touched already by the experiences I've had and the lessons I've learned.

I'm learning that being faithful in the little things, in the everyday activities, is an essential part of being a Christian. Character is not built through catastrophic events, but revealed in them. It's through the daily decisions to be faithful and do the right thing that God begins to do a work in your life. The missionaries I'm staying with have been a great example of this.

So it's been the normal and mundane that I've been doing, but when you have an attitude that these very things are bringing glory to God, they suddenly become extraordinary. So whether it's been cutting out hundreds of small paper flowers or getting

water balloons thrown at me by Spanish children, I've seen myself grow to understand that these small gestures, if done with the right attitude, can be a catalyst in advancing God's kingdom.

Carl  
Laamanen,  
'11



*Carl showing off his best face...*



*On the other side of the world, Okies celebrate Mike G. ('09)'s wedding.*

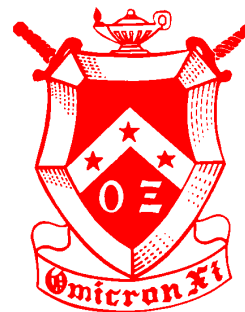
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## A Note from Your Alumni Representative



Jon C., Ryan M., and Matt M. all dressed for greek sing

The rushing experience. An integral part of the fraternity bid process, perspectives from all around campus flock the hall. For a month or more, actives seem to have seventy new freshmen best

Those who are selected are chosen to carry down the **legacy**. Your legacy is what represents your fraternity today. The current actives love their history and yearn to learn more from those who return. As part of the respect we have for our heritage and our fraternity, the actives are combining with the newly created alumni association to bring you our first annual **Homecoming Dinner**. Think of it as a time to catch up with old friends, a time to meet new ones, and most of all a time to just *be around other Okies*. Okies graduate but they never stop being Okies.

- Ryan McMorrow

friends. Nowadays, O Xi is one of the most competitive, if not the most competitive fraternity during this time. Freshmen say they respect the pride each and every one of us has for our colors and the zeal we have for the Lord. As a result of this, they wish to be part of our family.

P.S. Your responses to the interest sheet are not being ignored! Be on the lookout this coming year for some of the things we have in store!



Tim W. '07 and Craig C. '10 at Homecoming

## From the Alumni Committee (cont.):

...In addition to the website, we received an Omicron Xi Alumni Association newsletter and survey. After analyzing the many replies, the one constant request from alumni of all decades is a willingness to attend an organized homecoming event.

Officially, the newly formed Omicron Xi Alumni Association and the Actives of Omicron Xi invite all alumni to our first annual Homecoming Celebration.

This dinner will serve as the official kickoff of the Omicron Xi Alumni Association. We will hear from the active president and those organizing our alumni network about how we can work together to preserve our tradition and brotherhood.

In Brotherhood,

Omicron Xi Alumni Association

**Thank you to our recent alumni who have committed to annual lifetime dues of \$25. We appreciate your giving. If you are interested in joining them please contact us. We also thank those who have supported us in the past, your generosity is much appreciated.**

### Fraternity officers for 2010-2011

President—Travis Miller, 2011

Vice President—Jonathan Althausen,  
2011

Secretary—Carl Laamanen, 2011

Treasurer—Garrett Cichowitz, 2011

Social Chair—Kirk Gagliardo, 2012

Sergeant-at-Arms— Andrew Dymski, 2011

Alumni Representative— Ryan McMorrow,  
2011



# Omicron Xi Homecoming Dinner

**When:** Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 pm.

**Where:** The Pew Memorial Room, located on GCC's campus in the Pew Fine Arts Center

## RSVP:

Please reserve your meal by following the Homecoming link on

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

**OR**

Send a check made out to Omicron Xi for \$25 at the following summer address (payment also available by credit card online) –

ATTN: Omicron Xi  
Alumni Office  
100 Campus Drive  
Grove City, PA 16127

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# of Attendees (\$25 per person): \_\_\_\_\_

T-Shirt Size(s): \_\_\_\_\_