



THETA CHI

FRATERNITY

R. Kenneth “Ken” Updegrave, Jr. (Delta Rho/NC State 1990)
Nominated by: Delta Rho/NC State

Education:

B.S. – Accounting, North Carolina State University

Summary of Professional Background:

I have been a licensed Mortgage Lender for the last 21 years, specializing in Reverse Mortgage Lending for the last 15. Prior to that, I worked for a CPA firm for several years, providing consulting services and implementing Accounting & HR Systems. While I was attending NC State University, and for nine years afterwards, I worked in the beverage distribution business where I managed the sales office and also the purchasing division of the company. I currently am licensed as a CPA, but that license is in an inactive status, and I also am a licensed Real Estate Agent in NC.



Summary of Service to Theta Chi as a Collegiate Member:

During my collegiate years, I served two terms as Treasurer and one term as Chapter President.

Summary of Service to Theta Chi as an Alumnus:

I am currently serving on the Delta Rho Alumni Corporation board and served as President of that board from 2008-2014. During that time frame, the chapter grew from less than 30 brothers to over 80 brothers.

I was also instrumental in structuring the sale of our existing chapter house in 2016 and the purchase and financing of the new chapter house in 2018. That structure included owner-financing from Zeta Tau Alpha and a NNN lease-back to them until the Delta Rho Chapter was Reinstalled in 2019 and ready to occupy the chapter house in 2021.

I have served as President and Vice President of the Delta Rho Chapter Advisory Board and was a 2019 graduate of Theta Chi’s Chapter Advisers Institute.

I was involved in the successful effort to get the Harrison Kowiak Anti-Hazing legislation passed and signed into law in North Carolina

I have facilitated the January Leadership Conferences for Vice President of Health and Safety (Our Sacred Purpose) twice and the Initiative Academy twice.

I attended three International Conventions and have been an Alumnus Delegate twice.

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Awards: George T. Kilavos Alumni Award (from the Grand Chapter); David E. DeVol Award; Silver Legion

Honorary Memberships: Xi/Virginia, Gamma Sigma/Durham, NC, Zeta Beta/Adrian, Iota Alpha/UNC-Wilmington

Summary of Volunteer Service Beyond Theta Chi:

I have served two terms as president and two terms as vice-president of the Raleigh Sports Club (membership of 200+).

I also have been involved in local Kiwanis & Rotary Groups and served one-term as president of the Kiwanis Club.

I have formerly been an alumni representative for the NC State Wolfpack Club for more than a decade and have taught a number of different courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at NC State University.

Summary of Vision for Theta Chi's Future:

Given the changing demographic nature of college-aged men and the impact this is going to have on smaller educational institutions, I think it is going to be vitally important for the leadership of Theta Chi to continue to utilize the resources available to them to continue to grow the organization. That challenge means being more selective with where we site chapters and at schools with demonstrated large enrollments and established success with large chapter size in their current Greek system. Success in that will require being prepared to provide housing commensurate with the current Greek Housing on campus and will require additional financial commitments. I've advocated for looking at alternative financing options in addition to Norwich Housing Corporation to include private investment and the opportunities that might be presented from there to build opportunities for end-of-life donations to the Foundation Chapter associated with those investments.

I have been continually impressed with the leadership training offered to both our collegiate brothers and our alumni volunteers and would like to see that remain a high priority.

The health and safety of our brothers is of paramount importance and I'd like to have Theta Chi continue to take a leadership role in helping their members balance their academic careers with positive social experiences that enhance both their mental and physical well-being. Mental health of our members is a high priority, as well as continuing to focus on the overall safety of our young men.

Additional Relevant Background/Experience that Qualifies for Service on the Grand Chapter:

I think my background in real estate, lending, and finance along with decades of experience in working with college-aged young men as brothers gives me a perspective that would bring to the Grand Chapter at a critical time for creating & maintaining healthy environments for fraternal living.