The mission of Pi Alpha Xi is to promote high scholarship, fellowship, professional leadership and the enrichment of human life through plants.

Edited by Ryan Contreras, 2016-17 National Vice President, Iota 564

WITH APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY OF THE ISSUE!
Dear Pi Alpha Xi Members,

I hope that you are all enjoying winter. In Maine, we are just beginning to see our first true snow storms of the year. The gardens look lovely and peaceful covered in snow waiting for spring.

We have inducted many new members to Pi Alpha Xi at our chapters throughout the country. Congratulations and welcome to our newest members. We hope that you enjoy the fellowship of our group of horticulturists; from my experience, Pi Alpha Xi members are a great, supportive group of people.

For new members and those of us who have been members for a while, a great chance to meet other Pi Alpha Xi members is at our annual luncheon, which is held at the American Society for Horticulture Science meeting each year. This year, the luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, September 21st from 12-2 pm. The American Society for Horticulture Science meeting will be held in Waikoloa, on the Big Island in Hawaii this year, so it should be a beautiful location and a chance to see some unique horticulture.

We are looking forward to another great year for the Pi Alpha Xi Photography contest. As last year, you will be able to register for the contest online when you register for the American Society for Horticulture Science Meeting. Please look for more details from us regarding the photography contest soon. In the meantime, for all you photography fans out there, I encourage you to take some great pictures for the contest. It is always a treat to see the photos from our talented entrants. Thank you so much to Dr. Paul Thomas and the members of the photography committee for all of their work on organizing a great contest every year.

Best regards,

Stephanie Burnett

Tau 52
JOIN US IN GORGEOUS HAWAII!

The ASHS National Meeting is being held September 19-22 at the Hilton in Waikoloa Village, Hawaii. If you attended in 2011, you know this is a lovely place to convene to share information, see long time colleagues, and make some new connections.

THE PI ALPHA XI LUNCHEON WILL BE HELD SEPTEMBER 21 FROM 12-2. BE SURE TO SIGN UP FOR THIS EVENT WHEN REGISTERING FOR THE CONFERENCE.

SEE YOU THERE!
Updates to Constitution and By-laws

In September 2016, we took a vote and approved proposed changes to the constitution and by-laws for National Pi Alpha Xi with 17 active chapters voting in favor of the changes included below, for your convenience.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current Language</th>
<th>Proposed Language</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Changes to the Pi Alpha Xi CONSTITUTION</strong></td>
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| (1) ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section I: Eligible Institutions  
Any university or college offering four years of baccalaureate instruction in horticulture is eligible to establish a chapter. | ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section I: Eligible Institutions  
Any four year university or college offering four years of instruction in horticulture is eligible to establish a chapter. | Suggested revisions after the review of the new chapter establishment process. |
| (2) ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section II: Voting for New Chapters  
A petition for the establishment of a new chapter is presented to the Board of Directors through the National Secretary-Treasurer. Upon consent of the Board of Directors, the petition is referred to all active chapters, by referendum at the Annual Business Meeting or by mail or electronic correspondence. Upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of the active chapters, the President notifies the new chapter of its acceptance. | ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section II: Voting for New Chapters  
A petition for the establishment of a new chapter is presented to the Board of Directors through the National Secretary-Treasurer. Upon consent of the Board of Directors, the petition is referred to all active chapters, by referendum at the Annual Business Meeting (two-thirds affirmative vote by the members present) or by mail or electronic correspondence. Upon affirmative vote of two-thirds of the active chapters, the President notifies the new chapter of its acceptance. | Added text to clarify voting |
| (3) ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section IV: Inactivation of Chapter  
An active chapter of Pi Alpha Xi may be declared inactive by the National President or by the Board of Directors | ARTICLE II: Chapters  
Section IV: Inactivation of Chapter  
An active chapter of Pi Alpha Xi (those current on national dues) may be declared inactive by the National President or by the Board of Directors | Added text to define active chapter: needed for clarity in voting due to the number of inactive chapters due to non-dues payment. |
| **Changes to the Pi Alpha Xi BY-LAWS** | | |
| (4) ARTICLE VIII: Annual Business Meeting  
Section II: Voting at the Annual Business Meeting  
Society business needing a vote will be approved by at least two-thirds of members present at the Annual Business Meeting, or be approved by two-thirds of chapters by written ballot. The President, with the advice of the Board of Directors, will decide if the business requiring a vote will be by written ballot to chapters or by individual members present at the Annual Business Meeting. | ARTICLE VIII: Annual Business Meeting  
Section II: Voting at the Annual Business Meeting  
Society business needing a vote will be approved by at least two-thirds of members present at the Annual Business Meeting, or be approved by two-thirds of active chapters by written ballot. The President, with the advice of the Board of Directors, will decide if the business requiring a vote will be by written ballot to chapters or by individual members present at the Annual Business Meeting. | To be consistent and specify voting is by active chapter. |
| (5) ARTICLE IX: Amendments  
Operational procedures may be found in the Pi Alpha Xi Operations Manual. | ARTICLE IX: Amendments  
Operational procedures may be found in the Pi Alpha Xi Operations Manual. | This sentence will be added to the end of the amendments section of the Constitution to reference the Operations Manual. |
| (6) SECTION X: Amendments  
Operational procedures may be found in the Pi Alpha Xi Operations Manual. | SECTION X: Amendments  
Operational procedures may be found in the Pi Alpha Xi Operations Manual. | This sentence will be added to the end of the amendments section of the By-Laws to reference the Operations Manual. |
Update from Alpha Rho Chapter

In Oregon we have had quite the wild winter including hail, snow, rain, fog, and sunshine on the same day. Such is the Willamette Valley.

Activity over the past year or two with Alpha Rho has come in fits and starts. Much of this is due to the advisor, like those for many (all?) chapters, having many demands on his time. However, like the rest of you I value Pi Alpha Xi and the recognition of excellence among our students and the chance to join with them in celebrating our shared passion for horticulture.

I hope to reinvigorate our program again in 2017 with many more activities. I’m inspired by such active programs as Tau Chapter at University of Georgia, who had a record breaking initiation last year. Dr. Thomas and his students are giving us all something to shoot for.

Even though activities in and around Corvallis were down compared to past years, we did have some horticulture fun! Above, you see several members of Alpha Rho in the midst of replanting the bed just outside of the Agriculture and Life Sciences Building, which is home to the Horticulture Department. Plant material was obtained through a variety of means including donations from area nurseries, donations from the Ornamental Plant Breeding Program, as well as purchasing material using funds obtained from a grant to support student activities. A big kudos to Alison Reeve, former President, who obtained that E.R. Jackman grant, as well as Helen Coskey (second from right above), who tackled the lion’s share of bed design and obviously helped with installation. The new garden has been extremely well-received even though we have not seen it in spring! So, hooray for PAX making people’s lives better!

Students also had the honor and pleasure of visiting former Department head Conrad “Bud” Weiser’s (holding the bonsai) private garden for a tour of his plantings, highlighted by detailed
discussion of his extensive and growing bonsai collection. Students (and advisor) were wowed by the dizzying array of forms of bonsai that Dr. Weiser has created over the years. We got to see many species of maples, elms, cotoneasters, and of course many amazing conifers. It was fascinating to learn that Dr. Weiser did not take up the art until after retiring. His initial plants were purchased from the late Jim Baggett, who was the long time vegetable breeder at Oregon State. Dr. Weiser is now perhaps the largest supplier of bonsai to retail sources in the Willamette Valley and beyond. His plants are sold in stores from out on the coast in Newport to retail garden centers around Portland, as well as here in Corvallis. I think I speak for us all when saying that all members of Alpha Rho left feeling inspired to go get started immediately on our own bonsai! I for one will be starting out with training wheels, as I hope to purchase this gorgeous cotoneaster that was phoenix grafted onto a failed juniper from Dr. Weiser…but I have to check my piggy bank!

Ryan Contreras, Iota 564
Advisor, Alpha Rho
Committee Members for 2016-18

Fellows committee:
Karen Panter
Doug Needham
Mary Albrecht
John Peterson
Stephanie Burnett (ex officio)
David Zlesak

Student activities:
Brian Trader
John Peterson
Steve Newman
Chad Miller

Membership services:
Stephanie Burnett
Holly Scoggins
Janet Cole

Photography committee:
Paul Thomas
Karen Panter
Steve Newman

Nominations committee:
Tina Marie (Waliczek) Cade
Paul Thomas
Stephanie Burnett

Rules committee:
Richard Harkess
James Klett
Ryan Contreras
Alice LeDuc

From the Vice President’s Desk

I want to apologize for the delay in getting the Lotus Leaflet distributed. This edition comes as I have taken on a new course but haven’t we all taken on extra tasks? I will do my best to get future issues out on time.

The other, more important item, is to request updates from YOU on the AMAZING and CREATIVE horticultural activities you are pursuing at your respective chapters. We all want to hear about it and be INSPIRED!

Send any relevant items to me for inclusion in the next issue of the Lotus Leaflet.

Ryan Contreras, ryan.contreras@oregonstate.edu
Roster of Pi Alpha Xi Chapters

1. Alpha - Cornell University, chartered June 1, 1923
2. Beta - University of Illinois, chartered April 2, 1924
3. Gamma - Penn State University, chartered May 29, 1926
4. Delta - Michigan State University, chartered April 12, 1929
5. Epsilon - Ohio State University, chartered January 6, 1929
6. Zeta - Rutgers University, chartered November 16, 1933 -
7. Eta - Washington State University, chartered March 12, 1949
8. Theta - University of Maryland, chartered September 14, 1949
9. Iota - North Carolina State University, chartered February 15, 1957
10. Kappa - Virginia Polytechnic & State University, chartered June 1, 1968
11. Lambda - University of Minnesota, chartered May 28, 1968
12. Mu - University of Florida, chartered May 16, 1974
13. Nu - Auburn University, chartered May 30, 1974
14. Xi - New Mexico State University, chartered December 1, 1974
15. Omicron - Purdue University, chartered February 23, 1975
16. Pi - Clemson University, chartered April 17, 1975
17. Rho - University of Wisconsin-Madison, chartered March 1, 1975
18. Sigma - Southern Illinois University, chartered April 2, 1975
19. Tau - University of Georgia, chartered May 30, 1975
20. Upsilon - California Polytechnic State University, chartered September 1, 1975
21. Phi - South Dakota State University, chartered October 29, 1975
22. Chi - Colorado State University, chartered May 29, 1975
23. Psi - Texas A&M University, chartered May 31, 1978
24. Omega - Kansas State University, chartered March 16, 1979
25. Alpha Beta - University of Tennessee, chartered May 26, 1980
26. Alpha Gamma - University of Nebraska-Lincoln, chartered April 23, 1982
27. Alpha Delta - Oklahoma State University, chartered April 24, 1983
28. Alpha Epsilon - University of California-Davis, chartered Spring 1984
29. Alpha Zeta - University of Wisconsin-River Falls, chartered May 16, 1985
30. Alpha Eta - Delaware Valley College of Science & Agriculture, chartered Spring 1985
31. Alpha Theta - Iowa State University, chartered November 6, 1986
32. Alpha Iota - Texas Tech University, chartered March 24, 1988
33. Alpha Kappa - Mississippi State University, chartered Spring 1990
34. Alpha Lambda - Florida A&M University, chartered February 1, 1992
35. Alpha Mu - Temple University, chartered Spring 1992
36. Alpha Nu - Utah State University, chartered June 2, 1995
37. Alpha Xi - Texas State University-San Marcos, chartered April 18, 2005
38. Alpha Omicron - University of Arkansas, chartered May 2, 2006
39. Alpha Pi - University of Wisconsin-Platteville, chartered May 4, 2006
40. Alpha Rho - Oregon State University, chartered 2011
41. Alpha Sigma – University of Wyoming, chartered October 13, 2015
42. Alpha Tau – University of Maine, chartered September 21, 2015