

THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE



WEARING THE SIGMA CHI BADGE WITH HONOR

ELECTRONIC MEDIA LINKS FOR ORDER OF CONSTANTINE INFORMATION.

DEDICATION

This booklet is dedicated to Douglas A. McWhirter, Beta Omega Chapter 1958. Doug was Sigma Chi's 60th Grand Consul (1997-1999). During his lifetime, Doug has performed extensive work as a volunteer on behalf of both The Sigma Chi Fraternity and The Order of Constantine.

The original bylaws for The Order of Constantine were drafted in 1950. They were amended in 1975, again in 1993 and most recently, in June of 2018. Soon after becoming a member of OOC in 1991, Brother McWhirter took it upon himself to substantially revise and update the OOC bylaws, which led to him being recognized as the Official Parliamentarian on behalf of OOC.

We are grateful to the Sigma Chi Foundation for its contribution toward funding of this booklet.

Visit <https://sigmachi.org/the-order-of-constantine> to view the Current Membership of OOC, OOC Members in the Chapter Eternal, Current and Past Officers of OOC, and Current OOC Bylaws.

Visit https://sigmachi.org/sites/default/files/white_rose_ceremony.pdf for Official Script to Perform White Rose Ceremony for OOC Members.

Visit https://sigmachistore.merchorders.com/sigma_chi_members__search__constantine to order OOC Officially Licensed Merchandise.

Email awards@sigmachi.org to order an OOC Plaque.

Email awards@sigmachi.org to order an OOC Headstone medallion.

Visit <https://microsites.sigmachi.org/Order-of-Constantine> to make a donation to OOC Leadership Fund (#4072) through The Sigma Chi Foundation.

Email awards@sigmachi.org for any other information regarding the OOC.



Grand Chapter June 2019

We are honored to present this booklet of the history of The Order of Constantine. Induction into The Order of Constantine is the highest honor that the Sigma Chi Fraternity can bestow upon a member for service to the fraternity.

Since the inception of The Order in 1948 at the 47th Grand Chapter, The Order has sought to honor Sigma Chi Brothers who display exemplary service on behalf of the Fraternity. Joseph C. Nate, (Illinois Wesleyan 1890) was Sigma Chi's Ninth Grand Consul and the fraternity's longstanding Grand Historian. He often referred to members of The Order as the "Eighth Founders."

Today, members of The Order are known as "Constantine Sigs." They are proudly recognized for wearing the White Cross in a manner the Seven Founders would have deemed commendable. By their actions and through the example they set for others, they bring great honor to Sigma Chi, to their families, to their communities and to those who know them.

In Hoc Signo Vincas,

Craig Brewerton
President

Jeff Muir
Vice President

Dick Burns
Treasurer/Secretary

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HISTORY OF THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE

In 1948, the Fraternity recognized the need to honor those alumni of Sigma Chi who had devoted long and distinguished service to the Fraternity. These are the brothers to whom long-time Grand Historian and Ninth Grand Consul Joseph C. Nate (Illinois Wesleyan 1890) often referred as the "Eighth Founders" of our Fraternity.

With the enthusiastic approval of then Grand Consul, Major-General Patrick J. Hurley, a formal plan for the founding of The Order of Constantine was devised. The Executive Committee gave its unqualified endorsement to the plan on July 21st, 1948 and directed that it be submitted to the next Grand Chapter. A month later, the program was adopted at the 47th Grand Chapter held in Seattle, Washington in August, 1948. The Order of Constantine became a formal part of Sigma Chi when it was unanimously approved by the 48th Grand Chapter, held in Columbus, Ohio in June, 1950 and authorized by an amendment to the Fraternity's Statutes. The Order commenced functioning, however, immediately after its approval by the Seattle Grand Chapter in 1948 when 47 charter members were inducted.

Originally, The Order had two officers, a President and a Secretary. Grand Consul Sam C. Bullock appointed Past Grand Consul, Dr. W. B. "Daddy" Ricks as the first President of The Order in recognition of his role as the prominent Sigma Chi spokesman of the U.S. South, where the Constantine Chapter of the Confederate States originated in 1864. Chester W. Cleveland was appointed as the first Secretary of The Order. Subsequently, the office of Vice President has been added and the Secretary's role expanded to that of Secretary/Treasurer. Officers are elected by the membership of The Order at a meeting held in conjunction with each Grand Chapter.

Members of The Order of Constantine are known as Constantine Sigs. At their induction, usually at a Grand Chapter or Grand Council, they have received a cherished medal which attests to the fact that the recipient has worn the White Cross in a manner the Seven Founders would have commended. More recently, the medal has been replaced by a personalized plaque displaying an OOC medallion. In addition, each new member receives a unique OOC lapel pin and an engraved Certificate of Membership. The current

design of the lapel pin is based on the badge fashioned by Harry St. John Dixon for the Constantine Chapter of Sigma Chi in recognition of the heritage of The Order.

Membership into The Order of Constantine is self-perpetuating. Worthy alumni are received into The Order upon their selection by a Selection Committee appointed by the President of The Order. The committee selects candidates from those who have been nominated by a petition of five brothers, at least three of whom must be members of The Order. Normally, those selected will have been active alumni for twenty or more years.

As originally conceived, The Order was limited to a total of no more than 100 active members, the approximate number of undergraduate chapters then in existence. This was achieved by limiting the number of newly-selected members to seven in each Grand Chapter year. As the total membership of the Fraternity grew and the number of undergraduate chapters increased, the limitation of 100 active members was removed in 1955. In 1983 the number of newly selected members was increased to a maximum of fourteen each year. More recently, in 2018 this was increased to a maximum of twenty-one each year. As of this printing there have been 779 brothers inducted into the Order since inception, 346 members are still living.

The first bylaws of The Order were drafted in 1950 and revised in 1955. They have been amended periodically since that time and were updated completely in 1993. There was a change to the bylaws in 2018. The objectives, structure and operation of The Order, however, have continued since its founding in a manner that remains consistent with the vision of its founders.

HISTORY OF THE OOC INSIGNIA

BY

JAY MINTON JR.

Insignia

The current insignia package of the Order of Constantine consists of four items. New inductees shall receive:

- The Certificate of Membership
- A personalized Plaque with Headstone Medallion
- OOC Medal
- A Lapel Badge (Pin)

The Certificate of Membership indicates the recipient's name and the chapter at which he was initiated into the Fraternity. The certificate is signed by both the president and the secretary of the Order of Constantine. A duplicate copy is sent to the recipient's chapter following his induction.

The form of the certificate has remained unchanged since it was designed in 1948.

Prior to the creation of the Order of Constantine's personalized plaques, inductees were given an engraved medal. The medal was designed by the L. G. Balfour Company in 1948.



The medal was inscribed with the words "The Order of Constantine Sigma Chi Fraternity" and it carried the image of Sigma Chi's large #1 badge. The reverse side bore the wording "Awarded to (the name of the recipient) who has worn the White Cross in a manner the Seven Founders would have commended," and it included the year of presentation. The OOC Medal was first approved in 1950 and was presented to each new member until 2008 when new members began receiving a more-visible walnut wall plaque with a newly-designed OOC medallion.

In August, 1950, at the 48th Grand Chapter in Columbus, Ohio, a vote of the convention officially approved and established The Order of Constantine. The members drafted the first bylaws, and published a resolution titled *Policy-The Order of Constantine*. The paragraph of the *Policy* just before the closing specifies, "The Constantine Medal and Certificate of Membership shall be presented to new members at an appropriate time and with appropriate ceremonies." There was no consideration of a lapel pin.

1965-- THE FIRST AUTHORIZED BADGE (PIN)



In 1965, seventeen years after being introduced to the Fraternity membership, the Order still had no lapel pin identification. However, at the Grand Chapter in Denver, Colorado, members of The Order considered a lapel pin design submitted by L.G. Balfour. It was to resemble the pledge pin, the purpose being to emphasize the heritage of the members of The Order. The official description was "a plain white cross on a light blue background with a circular gold perimeter adorned with laurel leaves." The members voted to adopt the design. Jay E. Minton and Harry Wade personally funded the cost of the die for the new badge. Each member paid for his badge.

1974-- THE SECOND AUTHORIZED BADGE (VERTICAL CLASP)



By late 1973, the majority of OOC members were in agreement that the pin needed to be re-designed. Elton Hill suggested a seven-sided badge. Jay Minton insisted the words "Order of Constantine" be clearly marked on the badge. The Order asked L.G. Balfour to submit a drawing of the heptagonal pin. The members approved the design. The first run of the design was limited and was immediately perceived to be unacceptable. The pins were struck from sterling silver, but were finished with an oxidized coating that gave them a brownish appearance. None of these were distributed to the members. Once again Minton and Wade picked up the tab for the die cost.

1974-- THE THIRD AUTHORIZED BADGE (VERTICAL CLASP)



In 1974, using the die from the second badge, a second run of the heptagonal pin was produced. They were gold-plated sterling silver. It was described as being "a seven-sided gold-colored pin, containing a plain white cross, with a double circular perimeter surrounding the cross. The cross contained the inscription 'EX'. The words 'THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE' were inscribed within the twin circles." The Order distributed the third badge without cost to its members.

1979--THE FOURTH AUTHORIZED BADGE (VERTICAL CLASP)



In 1979, members of OOC received a memo with a photograph of three badges with a request for them to vote on which one should be the new badge. Number three was declared the winner. The Fraternity paid for the die. In the center of the badge, on a gold background, was the coat of arms of the Fraternity surrounded by gold laurel leaves. Above the coat of arms, around the perimeter of the pin, on a blue background were the words THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE. Around the perimeter, below the coat of arms were the words "IN HOC SIGNO VINCES". As it was with the previous badges, this badge was struck out of sterling silver, then gold plated. The Order distributed the new badges without charge to the members.

1985- THE FIFTH AUTHORIZED BADGE (VERTICAL CLASP)



In 1985, at the 65th Grand Chapter in San Diego California, members of The Order approved the badge designed by Jay Minton and resolved that it would be the "official" design for the duration. The badge displayed a white Sigma Chi cross with a light blue arch originating at the bottom points of the horizontal arms and crossing over the points of the top arm. The words "THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE" were engraved inside the arch. Like the arch, the center oval had the light blue background with gold letters. The badge was secured by a vertical clasp. The status of "official" simply meant that until such time as the members decided to approve a final version, the Fraternity would not order any badges of the older designs. The Order designated all previously authorized badges as "approved" for members to wear at any time. Jay Minton and Dr. George Jones split the cost of the die.

1986 THE SIXTH AUTHORIZED BADGE (PIN)



Early in 1986, Minton and Jones donated the dies to the Fraternity. The Fraternity underwrote the cost of the first "official" run of the Minton badge. The new dime-sized badge was struck in sterling silver, the only enamel on it being white enamel for the cross and for the center oval, in which the letters are visible. The badge was secured by a vertical clasp. It had a safety link attached near the edge of the back of the pin. The badges were distributed to new inductees without charge.

1989-- THE SEVENTH AUTHORIZED BADGE (PIN)



In 1989, as the supply of badge #6 became depleted, the Fraternity placed an order for a new supply. These were to be secured by a pin rather than by clasp. That decision was made for two reasons: first, it was less expensive to produce; second, it was easier to attach to a jacket lapel. The new badge further differed from its immediate predecessor in that it had no enamel in the center oval. The Order awarded this badge to new inductees through 2007.

2007--THE EIGHTH AUTHORIZED BADGE (PIN)



In 2007, at the 76th Grand Chapter, held in San Jose, California, OOC members unanimously approved a new “authorized” badge created by the officers of OOC Phil Olsen, Rick Lewandowski and Bill Bringham, Sr. Each OOC member in attendance at the meeting received one of the new badges. The updated design incorporated Minton’s original vision that the OOC badge should be about the size of a penny. The larger size made the inscription more readable and the badge itself more distinctive.

Olsen re-instituted the use of gold highlighting, as was used in some of the earlier badges, including Minton’s. The base of the White Cross is slightly longer, a change that was necessary to bring the emblem into better proportions and to enable it to more accurately reflect the design of the “official” Sigma Chi badge. Another change in this design was the use of a navy-blue background behind the White Cross rather than the traditional sky blue. The effect of the darker color made the White Cross stand out in striking contrast to the darker background. The badge is secured by a pin.



2008--PERSONALIZED OOC PLAQUE

In 2008, the officers of OOC Phil Olsen, Mike Ursillo and Jerry Nelson created the design for a much larger brass OOC medallion using the recently adopted OOC badge design. The larger medallion was designed with a dual purpose in mind: it could be mounted on a plaque to recognize new OOC members and, when the member passes on to the Chapter Eternal, the medallion could be removed from the plaque and be permanently attached to their headstone.

The attractive walnut plaque replaced the smaller OOC medallion that had been presented previously.

If you are interested in ordering a new or replacement plaque, please email awards@sigmachi.org for cost and ordering details.



2008--OOC Headstone Medallion

In 2008, the officers of OOC Phil Olsen, Mike Ursillo and Jerry Nelson created the design for a brass OOC medallion modeled after the recently adopted OOC badge design. The medallion was designed so that it could be removed from the member's OOC plaque when they enter the Chapter Eternal. (Or, if desired, an additional OOC medallion could be ordered.) The medallion has a threaded bolt on its reverse side which enables it to be permanently attached to a member's headstone.

If you are interested in ordering a new or replacement Medallion, please email [**awards@sigmachi.org**](mailto:awards@sigmachi.org) for cost and ordering details.

The Order of Constantine Nomination and Selection Timeline

July 1st – Nominations for new members are open.

November 30th – Nominations are closed.

February 15th – Selection of the annual OOC class has been completed.

February 28th – Notification of new members has been completed.

April 1st – A professional headshot of each new member plus a 2-3-minute video has been received by Sigma Chi Headquarters.

May 1st – Each OOC Inductee has notified Sigma Chi Headquarters of their preference to receive their honor at Grand Chapter, at Grand Council, or at a local Sigma Chi event. (One or two may choose to receive their award at KTLW.)

May 1st – Every two years, the current President of OOC selects a Chairman from the membership of OOC to lead the Nominating Committee. Thereafter, the Chairman chooses an additional two members of OOC to serve on the Nominating Committee with the responsibility to review potential candidates for OOC leadership. Upon completion of the committee's review, the Nominating Committee then presents a slate of proposed officers for a vote of approval at the OOC bi-annual membership meeting.

**ORDER OF CONSTANTINE PAST
OFFICERS**

Officers of The Order of Constantine

Year	President	Vice-President	Sec./Treas.
1948 -50	Dr. Wm. B. Ricks		Chester W. Cleveland
1950 -52	Ben S. Fisher		Sam C. Bullock
1952- 55	Sam C. Bullock		Alfred W. Gross
1955 -57	Sam C. Bullock		Alfred W. Gross
1957- 59	Sam C. Bullock		Alfred W. Gross
1959- 61	Dr. Roy B. McKnight		M. Craig Nason
1961 -63	Dr. Roy B. McKnight		M. Craig Nason
1963 -65	Dr. Roy B. McKnight		M. Craig Nason
1965 -67	Dr. Roy B. McKnight	Frank S. Proudfit	M. Craig Nason
1967- 69	Dr. Roy B. McKnight	Harry V. Wade	M. Craig Nason
1969 -71	Dr. Roy B. McKnight	Harry V. Wade	Dr. Erwin L LeClerg
1971 -73	Dr. Roy B. McKnight	Donald E. Walker	Dr. Erwin L LeClerg
1973- 75	Bolon B. Turner	Jay E. Minton	Dr. Erwin L LeClerg
1975- 77	Bolon B. Turner	Jay E. Minton	Dr. Erwin L LeClerg
1977 -79	Bolon B. Turner	Floyd R. Baker	Dr. Erwin L LeClerg
1979- 81	Floyd R. Baker	William J. Wade	LeClerg/McComas
1981 -83	Floyd R. Baker	Roy M. Teel	Murray K McComas
1983- 85	Rob't W. Davies QC	James L Beattay Jr.	Murray K McComas
1985- 87	Rob't W. Davies QC	James L Beattay Jr.	Murray K McComas
1987- 89	Rob't W. Davies QC	James L Beattay Jr.	Murray K McComas
1989- 91	Rob't W. Davies QC	James L Beattay Jr.	Murray K McComas
1991- 93	James L. Beattay, Jr.	Robert W. Helmholz	Murray K McComas
1993- 95	Robert W. Helmholz	Dr. George H. Jones, Jr.	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
1995- 97	Dr. George H. Jones, Jr.	Lincoln W. Pavey	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
1997- 99	Lincoln W. Pavey	Edward L. Ihling	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
1999- 01	Edward L. Ihling	Thomas C. Roberts	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
2001- 03	Thomas C. Roberts	Steven A. Jensen	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
2003- 05	Steven A. Jensen	Richard J. Lewandowski	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
2005- 07	Richard J. Lewandowski	Phillip V. Olsen	Wm. T. Bringham, Sr.
2007- 09	Phillip V. Olsen	Michael A. Ursillo	D. Jerry Nelson
2009- 11	Michael A. Ursillo	Robert J. Shortle, Jr	D. Jerry Nelson
2011- 13	Robert J. Shortle, Jr	D. Jerry Nelson	Richard A. Mayoh
2013- 15	D. Jerry Nelson	Richard A. Mayoh	Richard A. Burns
2015- 17	Richard A. Mayoh	Craig H. Brewerton	Richard A. Burns
2017- 19	Craig H. Brewerton	Jeffrey S. Muir	Richard A. Burns

THE CONSTANTINE CHAPTER MEMORIAL

Constantine Memorial



N33° 27'17.7"

W84° 19'39.8"

11001 Tara Blvd
Hampton, GA 30228

Sigma Chi, like many great movements, has roots in the past. Of vast importance is our heritage taken from the Roman Emperor Constantine and the Constantine Chapter, which was established by Sigma Chi Confederate soldiers during the Civil War.

During the third century, Rome was engaged in a struggle against the entangling coils of decadence. The entire era was one continuous war, with the army perpetually shifting support from one leader to another.

The confusion and chaos provided opportunity for a strong man to rise to power. Flavius Constantine accepted the challenge.

The historian Eusebius credits Constantine's eventual success to a mystical experience Constantine had on the eve of the decisive battle with Maxentius. Constantine saw a fiery white cross in the sky and the words *In Hoc Signo Vinces*, which means, *In this Sign You Will Conquer*.

And so it was, 15 centuries later. A great country, this time the United States of America, was torn by tragic civil war. Brother fought against brother, and father fought against son. This young but strong country seemed doomed to complete disintegration.

Out of this disunity, a young Confederate soldier named Harry St. John Dixon assembled a small band of dedicated Sigma Chis in a little log cabin outside Atlanta on Sept. 17, 1864, to conduct an Initiation.

Pledged to high ideals, these men were ready to fulfill them, even when death seemed imminent. From their meeting sprang new hope for reunifying their Fraternity—North and South.

Sigma Chi sought unity, even during intense division. And it would survive the Civil War through the acts of Dixon and his inspiration.

The words *In Hoc Signo Vinces* bridged the Mason-Dixon line, and Sigma Chi was united again.

The Emperor Constantine and Harry St. John Dixon, two warriors separated in time by centuries, were joined by the White Cross in the spirit of brotherhood eternal.

Near the site of the Constantine Chapter meeting place is a beautiful marble memorial monument in the shape of a Sigma Chi badge.

To read more about the Constantine Chapter and the creation of the Constantine Memorial in this [pdf](#) by Ralph McGill, Vanderbilt 1921, Pulitzer Prize winner and former columnist and editor of *The Atlanta Constitution*. Here:

https://history.sigmachi.org/files_resources/Constantine-Chapter-Memorial_McGill_1939.pdf

Visiting the Constantine Chapter Memorial Monument

If you have questions concerning the Constantine Chapter Memorial Monument, or you need information on visiting the site, please contact the site's warden, Robert S. Petry at (706) 882-4816. A Google map, GPS coordinates, and the monument's address have also been provided to aid you in your quest. Seen here is a replica of the monument that can be purchased from Brother Robert Petry, with funds going to the preservation of the memorial.

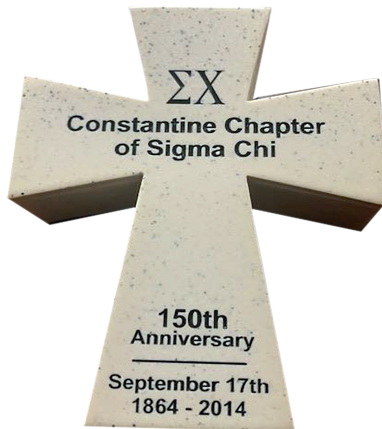


CONSTANTINE CHAPTER MEMORIAL 150TH GATHERING

CONSTANTINE CHAPTER MEMORIAL



CONSTANTINE CHAPTER MEMORIAL REPLICA



Please send email to Rob Petry at Rob@Sigmachi.com if you wish to purchase a Constantine Memorial Replica.

ORDER OF CONSTANTINE BYLAWS
(As updated and amended June &6, 20&%)

Governing Laws and the Bylaws of the Order of Constantine

Governing Laws

The Constitution and Statutes & Executive Committee Regulations of the Sigma Chi Fraternity as adopted July, 1975 states:

Honors to Members and Chapters:

8.02 There shall be an Order of Constantine, composed of alumni members of the Fraternity selected on the basis of long and distinguished service to Sigma Chi. The Grand Consul on assuming his office shall become a member of the Order of Constantine. The selection of members of the Order shall be under the direction of a committee of seven members of the Order of Constantine, at least three of whom shall be members of the Grand Council. This committee shall be appointed by the President of the Order of Constantine.

BYLAWS (1993) OF THE ORDER OF CONSTANTINE OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY LAST AMENDED JUNE 26, 2021

The Order of Constantine was formed in 1948 by a resolution of the 47th Grand Chapter held in Seattle, Washington. It is a self-perpetuating order whose members are selected from alumni of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The purpose of the Order of Constantine is to recognize and honor certain chosen members of Sigma Chi Fraternity who have devoted long and distinguished service as alumni to the Fraternity and to afford them special recognition as an acknowledgment of their dedication and service. The members of the Order are known as Constantine Sigs.

2. OFFICERS

2.1. There shall be three officers of the Order, namely:

- * President
- * Vice President
- * Secretary/Treasurer

2.2. The President shall preside over all meetings of the Order at which he is in attendance and shall make such appointments and initiate such actions as are specified herein.

2.3. The Vice President shall perform the functions of the President in his absence or otherwise at his request.

2.4. The Secretary/Treasurer shall prepare minutes of all meetings of the Order, collect and disburse funds as required for the operation of the Order, solicit nominations for membership in the Order, assemble files for consideration of candidates for membership in the Order and inform members of their selection.

2.5. These three officers shall constitute an executive committee which shall conduct the affairs of the Order between meetings.

3. TERM OF OFFICE

3.1. The President shall be elected at a meeting of the Order, held contemporaneously with a Grand Chapter, and shall serve until the following Grand Chapter at which time he shall not be a candidate for re-election. In the event of the death of the President or his inability to serve, the Vice President shall succeed to the Presidency. In the event that the President assumed that office in mid-term, he shall be eligible to be elected to a full term at the following Grand Chapter.

3.2. The Vice President shall be elected at a meeting of the Order held in conjunction with a Grand Chapter, and shall serve until the following Grand Chapter at which time he would normally but not necessarily succeed as President. He shall not be a candidate for reelection as Vice President except that, if he were appointed Vice President in mid-term he shall be eligible to be elected to a full term at the following Grand Chapter.

3.3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall be elected at a meeting of the Order, held in conjunction with a Grand Chapter, and shall serve until the following Grand Chapter at which time he shall be eligible for re-election with no limit to the number of terms which he may serve.

3.4. In the event of the death or inability of the Vice President or the Secretary/Treasurer to serve in their respective offices, the President in consultation with the Nominating Committee shall appoint a Vice President or Secretary/Treasurer as the case may be.

4. MEETINGS OF THE ORDER

4.1. Contemporaneously with each Grand Chapter there shall be a meeting of the members of the Order who are in attendance. At such meeting the Nominating Committee shall present its report and the members in attendance shall elect the new officers of the Order and shall conduct any other business which is properly brought before the meeting.

4.2. It is desirable that at each Grand Chapter and Grand Council there be an informal reception in order to welcome new members of the Order.

5. DECISIONS OF THE MEMBERSHIP

5.1 All decisions of the membership shall be effective following a simple majority vote of those in attendance at a meeting of the Order held contemporaneously with a Grand Chapter unless such decisions are specified herein as ones requiring Special Approval.

5.2. Certain matters as specified herein are of such significance to the Order that decisions on such matters shall only be effective following Special Approval of the membership. Notice of a motion relating to such a matter shall be sent by the Secretary/Treasurer to all known members of the Order not later than sixty days prior to the deadline date for votes to be submitted and counted. The notice shall include the proposed motion, the rationale for the motion and a simple ballot which members may return to the Secretary/Treasurer prior to such deadline date. For a decision on such matter to be effective an affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of those who have voted shall be required.

6. NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

6.1. No later than ninety days prior to each Grand Chapter the President shall appoint a Nominating Committee consisting of three members of the Order who, in his judgment, are representative of the members of the Order and shall designate one of them as Chairman. The Nominating Committee shall propose one candidate for each of the elected offices at the next meeting of the Order, held in conjunction with a Grand Chapter. The Nominating Committee shall have satisfied itself as to the willingness of each of the proposed candidates to serve in the office for which he is nominated.

6.2. At the meeting of the Order, held in conjunction with a Grand Chapter, the Chairman of the Nominating Committee or his designate shall present the report of the Nominating Committee.

6.3. The President shall invite further nominations from the floor prior to the election of each officer. Election of officers shall be by simple majority of the members present and the officers shall be elected in the following sequence: President Vice President Secretary/Treasurer

6.4. A candidate who is not elected for an office shall be eligible for nomination for any of the offices for which an election has not yet occurred.

7. APPOINTMENT OF SELECTION COMMITTEE

7.1. Within ninety (90) days of his election, the President of the Order shall appoint a Selection Committee, which shall serve until the following Grand Chapter. The Selection Committee shall be responsible for selecting the candidates for induction into the Order each year, which normally will occur at the next Grand Council and/or Grand Chapter.

The Selection Committee shall consist of no less than seven (7) members of the Order and it shall have no more than eleven (11) members of the Order. Committee membership shall include the current President, Immediate Past President, Vice President, and Secretary/Treasurer of the Order. At least one member of the Committee shall be from Canada. At least two (2) members of the Committee shall be members of the current Grand Council, one of them being the then current Grand Consul of the Fraternity or a current Grand Officer or past Grand Consul selected by him. In the event the Grand Consul designates a different member, he will still be included on all Selection Committee communications and invited to all meetings.

8. NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES

8.1. Candidates for membership in the Order may be nominated by any member of the Fraternity in good standing. A completed nomination of the candidate in the prescribed form shall be submitted (go to Sigmachi.org to access the Order of Constantine nomination system).

8.2. In order for a candidate to be considered for membership, the Selection Committee shall require a completed nomination and a minimum of the four and a maximum of five letters of endorsement shall accompany the nomination. Each nomination must be supported by at least three current members of the Order, either as the nominator or with a letter of endorsement.

8.3. All nominations, endorsements and supporting documents shall be submitted to the Order of Constantine online nominating system at Sigmachi.org by the required due dates as published.

8.4. If a candidate, whose file is complete, has not been selected for membership in the Order during a period of three consecutive years, the Secretary/Treasurer shall request that the original nominator, or the endorsing brothers, update or arrange to have such nomination updated. If such update is not received by the next meeting of the Selection Committee, the Secretary/Treasurer shall return the nomination file to incomplete nomination file.

8.5. Due to the uncertainty of a candidate's selection for membership in the Order, he normally should not be informed of his nomination.

9. CANDIDATE SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

9.1. The Selection Committee shall select and notify members of each new class no later than March 1st.

9.2. The Committee shall consider all candidates whose nominations are complete, who satisfy the criteria set out below and shall select candidates who, in their opinion, have best served the Fraternity as alumni and who have "worn the White Cross in a manner the Seven Founders would have commended".

9.3. The Selection Committee normally shall consider only candidates who have been alumni for twenty or more years.

9.4. The Committee may select any number of candidates it considers qualified provided that the number of new members for induction in any one year should be no more than twenty-one.

9.5. The membership of the Order may authorize an increase or decrease in the authorized number by Special Approval of the membership as provided in Article 5.2 of these Bylaws.

9.6. There shall be no honorary or posthumous membership in the Order and the nomination file of any brother who passes into the Chapter Eternal prior to his selection shall be withdrawn. Any brother who passes into the Chapter Eternal after his selection but prior to his induction shall, however, be recorded as a member of the Order.

10. FINANCES

10.1. It is intended that the Order shall be financially self-sustaining. To this end, the Secretary/Treasurer is authorized to request, from time to time, a nominal contribution from the members of the Order in order to defray incidental expenses.

10.2. Neither the officers of the Order nor the members of the Selection Committee shall be entitled to any reimbursement for costs incurred in traveling to or attending meetings relating to the Order unless they are otherwise entitled by virtue of an office in the Fraternity which they hold.

10.3. Members are encouraged to designate a percentage of gifts made to the Sigma Chi Foundation to benefit the Order of Constantine Leadership Fund (#4072). Such contributions shall help fund those Leadership projects of the Fraternity deemed appropriate by the current officers of the Order.

11. INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

11.1. Candidates selected for membership in the Order are deemed to be members following their selection.

11.2. The Grand Consul, if not already a member, shall become a member of the Order on assuming his office.

11.3. Induction of new members to the Order may occur at a Grand Chapter, an International Fraternity hosted recognition event, or at a local ceremony of the member's choosing. It will be conducted in a manner that will ensure that the honor being conferred upon the new members will receive the greatest possible recognition from the attendees.

11.4. The induction ceremony will be conducted by the President or, in the event of his inability to be present, his designate who shall be another member of the Order. The ceremony may take the form deemed most appropriate by the President but shall include the presentation of the Membership Certificate, Lapel Pin, and any other recognition materials.

11.5 Following the induction of a new member, The Secretary/Treasurer shall cause a copy of such new member's Certificate of Membership to be forwarded to the undergraduate chapter by which he was initiated in order that it can be placed on display.

12. AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS

12.1. These bylaws may be amended by Special Approval of the membership as provided in Article 5.2 of these Bylaws.

Originally Compiled: D.A. McWhirter B.Ω.'58 June,1993

Last Updated June 26, 2021