



OUR REGIONAL QUEST.  
**sampling brotherhood's variety**

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# REGIONAL PLAN

The Regional Plan of Theta Xi was proposed at the July, 1938 Grand Lodge meeting and formally adopted by the Fraternity at the 75th Anniversary Convention at Troy, New York in September, 1939. Several regional directors were appointed in October, 1939, and the first regional conferences were held in 1939-40.

The Regional plan was adopted as a means of providing a more competent and thorough administration of the Fraternity and building a greater Theta Xi by creating a stronger national consciousness through more inter-chapter activities. The founders of the plan believed it should be kept as flexible as possible so frequent changes could be made to meet changing conditions. The details of the Regional Plan, therefore, have never been inserted in the Constitution and By-Laws. It was the consensus of the 75th Anniversary Convention that the plan should not become a political issue and should be supervised by the Grand Lodge. The Grand Lodge, under the Constitution, has the power to define and regulate regions. Acting on this authority, the Grand Lodge has from time to time established various regions and adopted regulations and guidelines governing them. Major changes in boundaries and regulations came in 1947, 1962, 1969, 1978, 1984 and 1990.

The National President, subject to the approval of the Grand Lodge, appoints a director for each region, whose term coincides with that of the National President.

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR

The Regional Director is one of the most important officials in the Fraternity. His advice and suggestions, his help and his efforts, may, in large measure, determine the success or failure of a chapter. His contacts with the chapters in the region will enable him to recognize weaknesses and impending trouble, and his experience will help to correct and overcome them before they become too serious. He is, of course, available for advice and counsel on positive matters as well. His experience within the Fraternity is an asset to the chapters he serves.

The importance of the regional director is evidenced by the fact that he is entitled to vote at National Conventions.

The regional director is a personal representative of the Grand Lodge and must be a combination chapter consultant, chapter advisor, and Big Brother. He must be a man who can act quickly and authoritatively in an emergency, and one who can "size up" a chapter's operations and trends. He should not take sides in factional disputes and he should not be regarded as an espionage agent for the Grand Lodge. He is, instead, a friend who is interested and sympathetic and brings broad experience and perspective to aid the chapter and its members.

One important task for the regional director to perform is overseeing the organization of regional conferences, ensuring that they run smoothly and efficiently and address the needs of the chapter members attending.

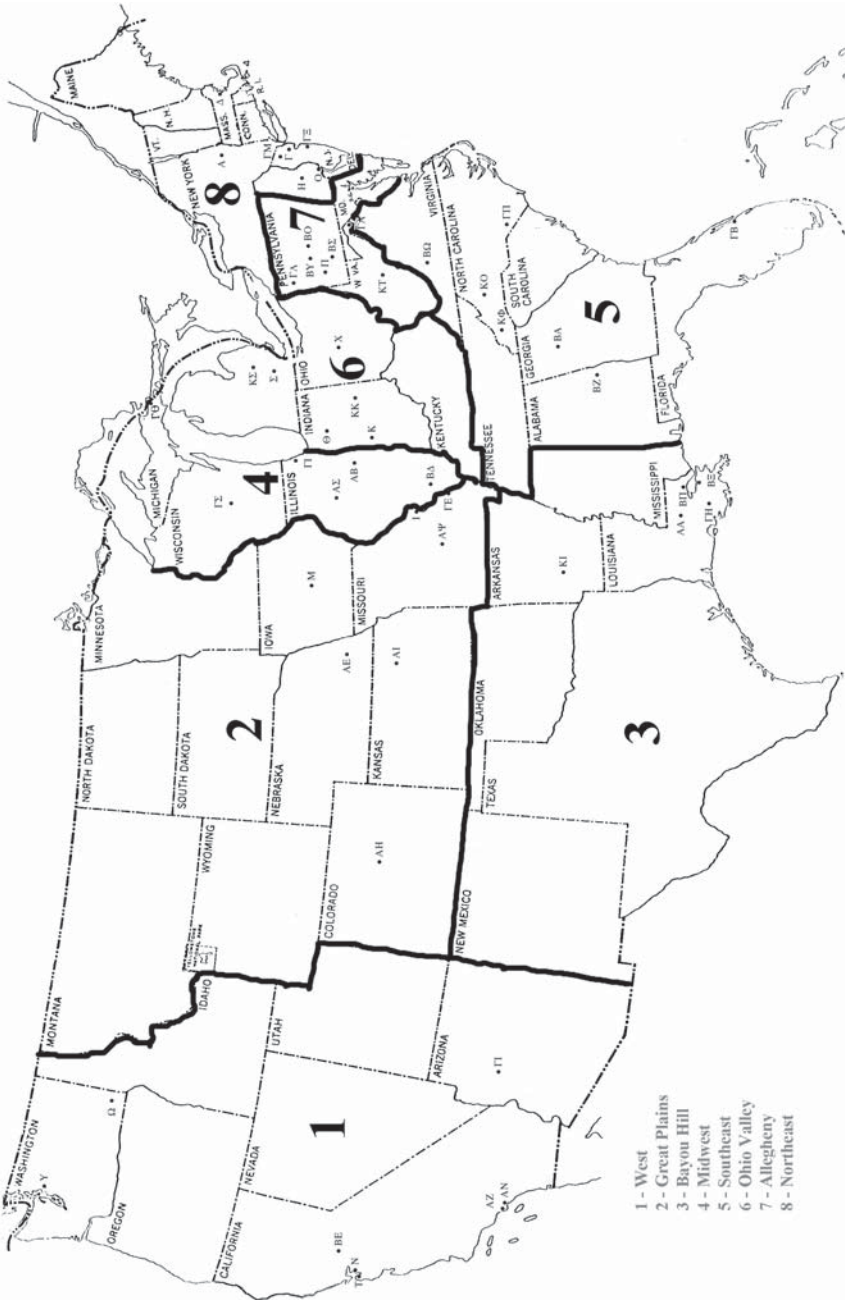
In addition, the 137th Anniversary Convention held in 2001 adopted a strategic plan. This plan, which strives to increase chapter membership and commitment,

expand the chapter roll, and increase alumni involvement, calls for Regional Directors to play a major role in the effort.

## **REGIONAL CONFERENCES**

A major purpose of regional conferences is to create a greater national consciousness by bringing together members of the chapters to meet, work and interact with one another and with officials of the Fraternity. Secondly, they provide an opportunity for representatives of chapters to share their successes and concerns. Thirdly, regional conferences provide educational and leadership programs to aid in the personal development of undergraduate members.

Because of the very nature of the Regional Plan, it is impossible to set down any hard and fast rules for conference programs. Varying conditions will necessitate different program topics. For the most part, Spring conferences emphasize general educational agendas developed to appeal to all members. The goal of all regional conferences, however, is to improve and strengthen overall chapter operations by developing the leadership skills of all attendees.



- 1 - West
- 2 - Great Plains
- 3 - Bayou Hill
- 4 - Midwest
- 5 - Southwest
- 6 - Ohio Valley
- 7 - Allegheny
- 8 - Northeast