



MANIFESTO

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER OF THETA CHI FRATERNITY AT BRADLEY UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2014

SAVE THE DATE: 65TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION! OCTOBER 3-5, 2014

The organizing committee has released this tentative schedule to provide you with enough information to make travel plans to reach Peoria on October 3-5, 2014, and join in the celebration with your chapter brothers from all classes and from all around the country. The dates are set firm, but the events themselves are still subject to change. Look for the formal invitation in July that will have the final schedule.

The chosen weekend is the first of two weekends of the annual **Spoon River Drive**, a famous event in Central Illinois since 1931, and an opportunity to see the sights, hear the sounds and inhale the smells of central Illinois in the fall harvest season. Any brother wishing to drive his car or motorcycle around the area to investigate historic sites, cultural attractions and arts and crafts shops, is welcomed and encouraged to do so.

The weekend begins **Friday, October 3, 2014**, with the annual Golden Guard Luncheon at 12:00 p.m. at the Lariat Steakhouse (see the article on page four for more details). Later that same afternoon will be the opportunity to visit the Bradley Museum at the Hayden-Clark Alumni Center and enjoy a guided tour of campus with the fall colors out. The day will wrap up with a welcome reception at the

host hotel, the completely renovated and refurbished Peoria Marriott Pere Marquette (501 Main Street, Peoria, IL 61602, www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/piamc-peoria-marriott-pere-marquette), at 7:00 p.m. The block of rooms is under the name of Bradley University, Theta Chi Fraternity.

On **Saturday, October 4, 2014**, the day begins early with a golf outing at 8:30 a.m. at the Weaver Ridge Golf Club (5100 N. Weaverridge Boulevard, Peoria, IL 61615, www.weaverridge.com). Later that morning, at 11:00 a.m., an open house will commence at the chapter house (1308 W. Fredonia Avenue, Peoria, IL 61606) and continue until 5:00 p.m. It will feature complimentary snacks and beverages for all alumni and guests. At 2:00 p.m., alumni interested in a tour and tasting at JK Williams Distillery (526 High Point Lane, East Peoria, IL 61611, www.jkwilliamsdistilling.com) will gather there. By 5:00 p.m. the more formal festivities kick off with a pre-dinner reception, followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m. in the Hayden-Clark Alumni Center.

Finally, the weekend concludes on **Sunday, October 5, 2014**, with the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation's annual business meeting at the chapter house at 11:00 a.m., followed by a farewell luncheon.

All living brothers for whom we have a good address will receive a printed invitation to the reunion with a finalized schedule in July. The invitation will provide costs and explain how to register in advance for these events. Save the date on your calendar today - we hope to see you then!



Tentative Schedule

Subject to change. The final schedule will be included in the formal invitation.

Friday, October 3

12:00 p.m. Golden Guard Luncheon Lariat Steakhouse
7:00 p.m. Welcome Reception..... Hotel Pere Marquette

Saturday, October 4

8:30 a.m.Golf OutingWeaver Ridge Golf Club
11:00 a.m.Morning Campus Tour.....Hayden-Clark Alumni Center
2:00 p.m.Distillery TourJK Williams Distillery (East Peoria)
3:00 p.m.Afternoon Campus Tour.....Hayden-Clark Alumni Center
5:00 p.m.ReceptionHayden-Clark Alumni Center
6:00 p.m.Anniversary DinnerHayden-Clark Alumni Center

Sunday, October 5

11:00 a.m.GUAC Annual Meeting Chapter House
12:00 p.m.Farewell Luncheon..... Chapter House



Badges of Theta Chi



ALUMNUS PROFILE: MIKE VALDEZ '78

Presents winning slogan at the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue in Baku, Azerbaijan



Valdez's slogan was chosen from hundreds of submissions from across the world. Valdez presented his slogan to more than 50 foreign ministers, members of the United Nations, government officials in Azerbaijan and hundreds of participants.

"Last May, I entered the United Nations' Alliance of Civilizations sponsored slogan contest on their *Do One Thing for Diversity and Inclusion* Facebook page," said **Mike Valdez '78**. "The contest was part of the second meeting of the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue that was to take place in Baku, Azerbaijan, a former Soviet republic that gained its independence with



Mike Valdez '78

the collapse of the former Soviet Union."

"My slogan, *Everyone is diverse, only you make it inclusive*, was selected as a winner from hundreds of people around the globe who entered," continued Valdez. "I was only one of two recipients selected by the committee; the other winner was from Australia. I was flown to Baku as an official guest of the government of Azerbaijan and was able to present my slogan and its meaning to the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue on May 29-31, 2013. I presented my win-



Mike Valdez '78 presented his slogan, *Everyone is diverse, only you make it inclusive*, during the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue held May 29-31, 2013, in Baku, Azerbaijan.

ning slogan to more than 50 foreign ministers, members of the United Nations, government officials of Azerbaijan and hundreds of participants."

Valdez suggested, "If you go to a country you've never been to before and don't know the language, then go as an invited guest of the United Nations. I was given both an interpreter and a driver during my stay. It was an experience of a lifetime!"

Editor's Note: Brother Valdez is a great advocate for diversity and inclusion. He currently serves as global president of the Asian Leadership Business Resource Council at the Northern Trust Company. Previously, Valdez has served as co-chairman of the Wealth Management Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Council, treasurer for the National Association of Asian American Professionals and as a member of the Asian Affinity Group Leaders of Chicago.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OFFICERS FOR 2014 CALENDAR YEAR

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Chairman of the Recruitment Committee

Kevin Oyster
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NEW MEMBERS PLEDGED BY GAMMA UPSILON – SPRING 2014

Welcome to Bradley University, Theta Chi Fraternity and Gamma Upsilon Chapter - your home away from home for your collegiate experience.

Jeremy Flaven

Wenda, IL
Mechanical Engineering

D. J. Grotts

Chicago, IL
Television Arts

Justin Widd

Elmwood Park, IL
Elementary Education/
English

GRADUATING SENIORS OF GAMMA UPSILON – MAY 2014

Welcome to the ranks of Gamma Upsilon alumni! Best of luck to you as you continue your journey down the path you make in this life.

Onsel Badur

Moline, IL
BSCE - Civil Engineering

Jeffrey Baumgartner

Naperville, IL
BS - Accounting

David Deluna

Chicago, IL
BS - Criminal Justice

Matt Farbota

Elgin, IL
BS - Biochemistry & Psychology

Evan Fitzer

Naperville, IL
BS - Interactive Media

Emery Halverson

Peoria, IL
BSME - Mechanical Engineering

Matthew Olivero

Peru, IL
BSME - Mechanical Engineering

Matt Pasternak

Gardner, IL
BSEE - Electrical Engineering

Tim Reilley

Stillman Valley, IL
BSEE - Electrical Engineering

Colby Tapling

Chicago, IL
BA - Elementary Education/
Mathematics

Nick Wright

Homewood, IL
BSME - Mechanical Engineering

Communication support and assistance provided by:
OmegaFi
800.276.6342 | omegafi.com

GAMMA UPSILON ANNUAL CAMPAIGN SUMMARY FOR 2013

Submitted by: Bob Carroll '88, GUAC President (708) 254-2058 or woocarroll@aol.com

In 2013, the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation completed its ninth annual campaign. The news for the year was quite encouraging. Thirty-six brothers contributed to the campaign in 2013, eight more than in 2012. Total donations almost doubled - up \$4,025 or 46.1% from the previous year.

2013 marked our second annual campaign to be operated by OmegaFi. It would appear that some of the confusion that plagued giving efforts in 2012 were averted or solved and that alumni brothers enjoyed the convenience of donating in new methods. As detailed in the solicitation letter for the 2014 campaign, OmegaFi can accept payments via methods GUAC could not, such as credit and debit cards, and can establish automatic deduction programs whereby a set amount is charged to or debited from an account each month or quarter or year on a standing date. In the long term, this will significantly expand our fundraising efforts by making it easier and more convenient for alumni to donate. We hope that you will continue to take advantage of these extended opportunities to give.

We would like to close by recognizing all brothers who contributed to the campaign in 2013 and those brothers who have contributed a total of \$1,000 or more since 2005. We thank you again for your continued support. Without alumni assistance, the ongoing improvement of the chapter over the past nine years would not have been possible.

| | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|--|----------|----------|---------|----------|
| Annual Contributions (as of 12/31/2013) | \$9,025 | \$5,550 | \$4,700 | \$8,725 |
| Actual Change (in dollars) | +\$2,092 | -\$3,475 | -\$750 | +\$4,025 |
| Percentage Change | +30.2% | -38.5% | -13.5% | +46.1% |
| Annual contributors | 25 | 29 | 28 | 36 |
| Actual Change (in donors) | -4 | +4 | -1 | +8 |
| Percentage Change | -13.8% | +16.0% | -0.34% | +22.2% |

2013 THETA CHI FOR LIFE CAMPAIGN - \$8,725 pledged

Platinum Level
\$1,000 - \$5,000
Dru A. Neikirk '88
Richard G. Sterling '58

Gold Level
\$500 - \$999
Robert W. Ahlgrim '54
John R. Boehm '84
John W. Lynch '86
Ronald J. McGauvran '55
Randall W. Moulton '92

Silver Level
\$250 - \$499
Gregory L. Fletcher '70
Michael G. Friedel
Terence S. McGraw '83
Michael G. O'Neill '82

Bronze Level
\$100 - \$249
Robert D. Bruce '87
Thomas Caldwell '85
Richard L. Drobnick '67

Lynn E. Gundersen '57
Richard J. Heller '62
Roger H. Hill '59
John W. Johnson '53
Hamilton I. Jones '51
James D. Mason '62
Daniel W. McGhiey '88
Michael S. Mueller '70
David R. Peltz '85
Lester A. Podgorny '54
William K. Pratt '59
John R. Rice '80
Richard G. Rieckhoff, Jr. '54
Frank F. Rowell '62
Michael A. Scheve '02
David D. Tauer '61
Arno A. Wehr, Jr. '63

Participant Level
\$1 - \$99
Edward P. Erdman '75
William H. Haynes '60
William R. Kohler, DDS '58
Craig M. Sjurset '73
Ronald H. Snyder '58

GAMMA UPSILON LIFETIME DONATION CLUBS

(January 1, 2005 to December 31, 2013)

Platinum Level
\$10,000 or more
Dru Neikirk '88

Gold Level
\$5,000-\$9,999
Jerry Smith '54

Silver Level
\$2,500-\$4,999
Sean DonCarlos '03
Randy Moulton '92
Dick Sterling '58
Arno Wehr '63

Bronze Level
\$1,000-\$2,499
Carl Birkelbach '62
Bob Carroll '88
Geoff Dixon '95
Tom Howard '05
John Lynch '86
Ron McGauvran '55
Paul Moore '62

2013 SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC: IT IS A SMALL WORLD AFTER ALL!

Submitted by: Bob Carroll '88, (708) 254-2058 or woocarroll@aol.com

The 13th Annual Summer Family Picnic was held Sunday, July 28, 2013, in Grove #28 of the Ned Brown Forest Preserve in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. Because attendance has hit a plateau for this event over the past several years, the decision was made to (a) move the picnic from Saturday to Sunday, with hope that there would be less conflict with family activities and plans for Saturday evening and (b) move the picnic from the first

weekend of August (the weekend of the Lollapalooza Music Festival in Chicago) to the last weekend of July. The event brought out the usual collection of characters but was marked by more small children than the past. While their parents sat and talked and caught up on things, the children enjoyed flying kites (it was a rather windy day), tossing bean bags (as did some adults), drawing with colored chalk, blowing bubbles and running

around screaming and laughing. The big bag of fun toys kept everyone occupied until late in the afternoon when the grills cooled and things began to wind down.

Thanks again to Brother **Ken Lombard '99** for organizing the event and using his own children as guinea pigs to ensure that toys were child safe and friendly and that games were enjoyable for tots of all ages.

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The 13th Annual Summer Family Picnic held Sunday, July 28, 2013, was a success. The picnic was held in Grove #28 of the Ned Brown Forest Preserve in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. Attendees and their children enjoyed a great day of grilling, blowing bubbles, flying kites and running around.



Theta Chi Fraternity
Gamma Upsilon Chapter #1886
PO Box 2187
Columbus, GA 31902-2187

Help us keep our alumni records up-to-date! Edit your member profile online at www.gammaupsilon.org or clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send to: Theta Chi Fraternity, Gamma Upsilon Chapter #1886, PO Box 2187, Columbus, GA 31902.

Name _____

Graduation Year _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

2013 GOLDEN GUARD LUNCHEON

Enjoying Old Memories and Making New Ones

Submitted by: Bob Carroll '88, (708) 254-2058 or woocarroll@aol.com

The recently refurbished Lariat Steakhouse was home to the Golden Guard Luncheon for the eighth consecutive year. The event, held Friday of Homecoming weekend, fell on the third Friday in October, which appears to be the new weekend of choice by Bradley University for Homecoming festivities. Attendance was down a little, as several brothers have voiced the opinion that the first weekend in October is a more attractive weekend for Homecoming (as it was for the years 2003-2010). Present that afternoon were **Lou Deardorff '58**, **Bob Duchild '61** and Tanya, **Dick Gillett '56**, **Bill Griffin '57**, **Allene Gundersen '57** and Lynn, **Roger Hill '59** and Judy, **Willis Hunziker '53**, **Tom McClintick '52**, **Ron McGauvran '55**, **Bob Springer '54**, **Mike Unruh '57** and Jan and **Budd Wilkening '52** and Marcia. Also present was Alumni Corporation President **Bob Carroll '88**. As always, a brief update on the Fraternity, the chapter and the alumni corporation was

presented. However, most of the time was spent talking to alumni or listening to alumni talking to other alumni, asking questions about brothers not present or missing for several years and providing each other updates as to what everyone was doing now.

Given another pleasant and sunny but slightly cool afternoon that has become customary, the luncheon was filled with the usual, but unforgettable, stories of past Homecomings, of lawn and house decoration contests and parade float creation parties and of dreamgirls past and present. A topic that seemed to creep into conversations frequently this year was chance meetings with chapter brothers in the years after Bradley, such as at military service posts, job interviews or professional conventions.

The success of this year's event was due to its organization and management by two committed members of the Golden Guard, **Dick Gillett '56**, (309) 657-1945, and



The 2013 Golden Guard Luncheon was held October 18 at the Lariat Steakhouse.

Mike Unruh '57, (217) 877-2806 or golfguy@comcast.net. Please contact them if you have questions or want to provide input on next year's event, which they are already busily preparing.

The **12th Annual Golden Guard Luncheon** is definitely on the calendar at the **Lariat Steakhouse** on **Friday, October 3, 2014**; the Friday of the 65th Anniversary Reunion weekend. As that weekend will also feature an all-chapter reunion to celebrate the 65th anniversary of the installation of Gamma Upsilon

into Theta Chi Fraternity, it will be a much larger and festive event than those in recent years. We are presently looking for an alumnus brother from the Class of 1964 to organize a 50th Anniversary Reunion for his graduating class for that weekend, which would use the Golden Guard luncheon to kick off the festivities. We are also looking for a second alumnus brother who was initiated during the 1964 calendar year to recruit his fellow newest members of the Golden Guard to attend the luncheon and stick around that weekend for the remaining festivities.