



MANIFESTO

VOLUME 58, EDITION I

GREETINGS FROM IRAQ! FROM A ΓΥ ALUM

AL SPRINGSTEEN '04 (SPRINGDING25@YAHOO.COM)

Editors Note: Al Springsteen is a recent Gamma Upsilon alumnus who was a member of the Army Reserves before he was deployed to Iraq in Fall of 2006. We'd like to thank Al for this update and we wish him all the best and a safe return home.



Al Springsteen '04

I heard that you were asking how I've been doing, and stuff like that, in Iraq. I've been in Iraq since November and was in Kuwait for about a month in October. I'll be honest in saying that Kuwait was worse than Iraq. Currently I'm in the IZ (insurrection zone) in Baghdad. With what I'm doing I don't get to leave the camp very much, however, since the camp is located on the edge of the IZ, we hear a lot of activity in the form of gunfire and explosions from the Red Zone everyday. I can't give out too many details about what I'm doing for security reasons. However, what I can say about what I'm doing is that I showed some interest in a certain position and have done such an outstanding job that I was assigned for the rest of the deployment by the Sergeant in charge. He cited that I have some of the best people skills in the squad and have been doing a good job at making first impressions on visitors who come to our facility. Another Sergeant who is attached to us in an advisory position gave me a positive counseling statement for my performance. This statement in any soldier's packet is a good thing because it shows that I've been standing out from my peers in an area that all the other soldiers have said they absolutely hate doing. A few have even asked me why I like doing it so much. I said that it's the only job where I'm outside all day. Working inside 12 hours a day would give me cabin fever. But our camp is fairly small and we have all the important stuff, like a decent mess hall, a gym and Iraqi shops at which we can get decent stuff for cheap. For example, a carton of cigarettes would normally cost around \$30 in the States. Some of the Iraqi brands can run about \$4 a carton! Even Marlboro cartons are only \$10-\$18. My platoon has one of the harder missions as far as hours that we work, 12-hour days with a day off every 3-5 days. Sometimes on our days off we've had to fill in with our escort squad when they have missions that run up to Camp Victory. Even though it's a short route and one of the safer routes we can go on, it still goes "outside the wire," which means that we go out of the IZ. Since we don't have too much else to do besides work, I've been working out quite a bit (almost every day) and probably been in the best shape of my life. Probably second to when I went home for Christmas during Basic Training.

Even though I'm still early in my initial enlistment, I am looking forward to enhancing my military career. First thing is getting promoted to Sergeant. Earning a college degree allowed me to enter the Army as an E-4 (Specialist). So there is a lot I have to learn first before I can go to the promotion board. I've also entertained the idea of utilizing my degree and getting a commission and becoming an officer. Since I work with some people attached to us from the Air Force, I've been asking the Lieutenant there about doing the Green to Blue Program, which would be becoming an officer in the Air Force. I would look at Security Forces since I already am working on experience as a Military Police Soldier. I've also looked at the possibility of staying enlisted and making a career out of that. Just some options to explore. I don't know if I'd be getting ahead of myself in exploring these options when I am only a year out of Basic Training.

Other than that nothing really exciting happens, even though we had a close call. The other day we heard two rocket shots that hit our outside wall by one of the nearby checkpoints. I think that the attack was intended for the checkpoint and they missed. But no one in my platoon was hurt, thankfully. But to be honest that scared the living #@?&! out of me.

ANNUAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

PATRICK CARMODY, '01, DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING, GUCAC, (630.276.8248, CARMODY56@YAHOO.COM)

As many of you know, in late 2005, we launched our Annual Capital Campaign. I would like to thank the following 35 brothers who have donated a total of \$8,000 so far and have made a combined commitment of over \$5,000 annually already:

KEITH BANE '61	GREG FLETCHER '70	MICHAEL MUELLER '70	MICHAEL SCHEVE '02
CARL BIRKELBACH	BUD FOREST '60	JOHN MUSKARA '85	CRAIG SJURSET '73
DONALD BRIAN '56	KEN HOLLMAN '54	DRU NEIKIRK '88	THOMAS STOREY '49
JACK BROCKMAN '64	TOM HOWARD '05	BOB O'FARRELL '54	DAVID TAUER '61
CARL CAMPAGNA	JOHN JOHNSON '53	ROBERT OGIBA	DWAIN WEESE '59
PATRICK CARMODY '01	HAMILTON JONES	MIKE O'NEILL '82	ARNO WEHR '62
ROBERT CARROLL '88	ROGER KOEHLER '70	ORVILLE PELLETIER '54	ALEX WOLF '85
GEOFFREY DIXON '96	JOHN LYNCH '86	LESTER PODGORNÝ '54	MERRILL YORK '68
SEAN DON CARLOS '95	THOMAS MOONEY	DAVID ROSS '63	

We are now reaching out to the rest of you and asking for your cooperation and participation. This campaign does not require a significant donation from any one brother. What we are asking each of you is to pledge a fixed dollar amount over a fixed number of years. This provides the Alumni Corporation with a reliable yearly income to leverage financing and to budget for future projects.

The income from this Annual Capital Campaign will be used specifically for capital improvements to the chapter house facility. We have been discussing a total rehabilitation project for the chapter for several years. Upon completion, this project will increase chapter house capacity and make the house more of an appealing place to live. Our original goal was to have this project completed by the beginning of the school year in 2010. However, due to the membership surge of the undergraduate chapter and a need for increased house capacity we are determined to complete this project two years ahead of our original schedule. Only with the moral and monetary support of our alumni brothers will we be able to finance and complete this project.

Please take a moment to complete the Annual Campaign form attached to this issue of the Manifesto. Drop it in the mail, along with a check to the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Alumni Corporation (GUCAC). Our goal is to have an annual income from this program of \$12,500 per year, so please donate what you can. You will truly be making a difference and will be personally responsible for marking a milestone in the history of our chapter.

If you have any questions about the program or would like more details about what your donation will be used for, please do not hesitate to call me.

THETA CHI/GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER ANNUAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Name _____

Initiation Year _____ Graduation Year _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

E-mail Address _____

Here is what is new with me _____

Check one of the following:

- Standard Annual Gift (\$100)
(\$2,500 over 25 years)
- Deluxe Annual Gift (\$200)
(\$5,000 over 25 years)
- Accelerated Annual Gift I (\$250)
(\$2,500 over 10 years)
- Premium Annual Gift (\$300)
(\$7,500 over 25 years)
- Accelerated Annual Gift II (\$500)
(\$2,500 over 5 years)
- Capital Gift (\$_____) (one time only)
- Other _____

Please make check payable to:
Gamma Upsilon Chapter Alumni
Corporation (or GUCAC)

Return to: PAT CARMODY '01
2100 Gallant Fox Circle
Montgomery, IL 60538

HERE'S WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH ME...

PATRICK CARMODY, '01, DIRECTOR OF FUNDRAISING, GUCAC, (630.276.8248, CARMODY56@YAHOO.COM)

I strongly encourage brothers to fill out the "Here's What's Happening With Me..." section of the Annual Campaign donation form. Here is what is happening with several of the brothers who have donated this year.

BROTHER LESTER PODGORNEY '54:

"I met a Theta Chi in an art history class we are both attending at The University of Washington. He's invited me to the chapter house for lunch and I will probably take him up on it. P.S. This is my third year at UW taking one class a quarter. The class has 270 students...four are senior citizens."

BROTHER MICHAEL MUELLER '70:

"I recently retired from Pfizer, Inc."

BROTHER ROGER KOEHLER '70:

"I moved back to the Chicago area a couple of years ago. I've survived Leukemia, hip replacement and the "Big D." Is anyone interested in an evening with the 1968-1972 classes?" If you are interested in talking to Roger about an evening out, contact **PATRICK CARMODY '01** for contact information!

BROTHER GEOFF DIXON '96:

"My wife, Julie, and I had our second child on September 27, 2005, a boy, Tyler Dean. He joins our daughter Isabella JoAnne."

BROTHER JACK BROCKMANN '64:

"I sold my company, Erecta-Rak, Inc. in January 2006 and am fully retired. I spend 6 months a year at my home in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (October 25-April 27) and the summers in North Riverside, Ill. I still have my boat in New Buffalo, Mich. for summer weekends."

BROTHER DONALD BRIAN '56:

"I moved to Florida in Feb. '06 to live with my son and daughter-in-law. I keep busy with Seniors at Lunch, The German American Social Club and doing family genealogy research. I was the first president of the student senate in 1955-56."

BROTHER THOMAS MOONEY:

Brother Mooney donated \$500 to the capital fund in memory of Brother **JAMES L. OLSON '51**.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THE PICNIC!

KEN LOMBARD '99

The 2007 Gamma Upsilon Family Picnic will be held on June 9th in Grove 2 of the Busse Woods Forest Preserve in Elk Grove Village, Illinois. All alumni and their family and friends are encouraged to come! The picnic will start at Noon and go until dusk. The cost will be \$15 per brother, \$10 per guest, and \$5 per child over 5 years old. This fee helps cover the cost of the event and gets you food (hamburgers, hot dogs, sausages, sides and snacks), drink (water, soft drinks, beer), and also games and prizes for kids and adults alike.

An RSVP is not required, but is encouraged. Simply fill out and send the registration form below along with your payment. Included in the registration form is your opportunity to purchase tickets for our 50/50 raffle. 50% of the proceeds will go toward covering the costs of events like the family picnic and Homecoming in September. All in all, it's a great time to meet up with brothers you haven't seen in a while. We hope to see you there!



Summer Picnic Registration and 50/50 Raffle Entry Form

Brother's Name: _____ Attendees: # of Adults: _____ # of Children: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____ Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Would you like to enter into the 50/50 raffle? YES NO (TICKETS ARE \$25 each or 5 for \$100)

Number of tickets: _____ Raffle Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

If I am unable to attend the picnic at the time of the raffle drawing and I win, please contact me via:

E-MAIL POSTAL MAIL PHONE: _____

STATE OF THE CHAPTER ADDRESS

JARED ABRY '08, PRESIDENT

~ This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it. ~
—Psalms 118:24

Much is to be said about the direction of Gamma Upsilon as the Spring 2007 semester progresses. A surplus of ambition has found its way through the doors as the chapter continues to strive for excellence not only in the Greek community, but also within each man's individual contribution to the Fraternity. Beset by the demons in its past, Gamma Upsilon has overcome countless and unfortunate handicaps, and each passing day provides the opportunity for the chapter to readily prove its worth through hard work and persistence. Fortunate, indeed, Gamma Upsilon has been proactive in seeking positive public relations with other fraternities and sororities, recruitment techniques, and philanthropic events. Many a conference has been attended, notes have been taken, and fresh ideas have done much to keep the chapter on its feet.



Jared Abry '08

The social program has exploded with the leadership of junior physics major Ben Blomberg, social Chair, pledge class of Fall '06. Such events have included a semester-kickoff brotherhood retreat and two sorority exchanges. Plans for two more sorority exchanges are still in the works.

Under the direction of senior accounting major Jeffery Albrecht, pledge class of Fall '04, the philanthropy committee has outlined a detailed framework for volunteering opportunities. This year, he has supervised the undertaking of hosting a Battle of the Bands at the chapter house on April 8th, where all proceeds will go toward the Peoria's Children Foundation. The Fraternity is also sponsoring a self-named team during Bradley's Relay for Life ceremony in late April.

A paragraph of mention about the success in recruitment certainly will not do the program justice. Sophomore management and administration major Ryan Moylan, pledge class of Spring '06, has prepared an original approach and technique to recruitment tactics. Everything from dressing up every third Friday, or Theta Chi Friday as it is better known, to sponsoring movie nights and weekend activities on the quad, to handing out tissues during flu season, brother Moylan has certainly exemplified what is meant by the name of Theta Chi. Thus far, three men of acute selection have expressed their desire to pledge the Fraternity. They are, in alphabetical order,

- Edgar Ortiz, a sophomore electrical engineering major from Aurora, Ill. His pledge father is Ben Blomberg.
- Tyrone Smith, a junior administration of criminal justice major from Glendale Heights, Ill. His pledge father is Carson Cornelius.
- Robert Wise, a sophomore multimedia major from Roscoe, Ill. His pledge father and roommate is James Kirchhoff.

The chapter will unfortunately be losing one man to graduation at the end of the Spring semester. Ryan Phelps, political science and pre-law major, has done much to provide his insight and experience to the younger brothers during his active status at Gamma Upsilon. He has certainly seen the evolution of the chapter in the three and half years he has served the chapter. The chapter has confidence that success will find its rightful place in his career. Best of luck Gambler!

Whether it be attaining the highest fraternal G.P.A. for the third semester in a row, 3.15/4.00, or whether it be winning a philanthropy at a Bradley Braves game known as "Wipeout for a Cause" for the second time, Gamma Upsilon unquestionably remains the Fraternity that brothers Freeman and Chase would be more than proud to see today. All credit is befittingly due to those brothers who have sacrificed and served the chapter with benevolence. Only time separates the chapter and its continued success, and in keeping with the best interest of the Fraternity, "may we always respect thee, and may our faith ne'er die, and may we all uphold the name of dear old Theta Chi."

THETA CHI, GAMMA UPSILON: PAST TO PRESENT

RYAN PHELPS '07

(A Seniors perspective on the last 4 years).

Looking back almost four years ago, it is hard to believe the progress and changes that have occurred in the Gamma Upsilon Chapter of Theta Chi. When I, Ryan Phelps, joined before the winter of 2003 there were only six men left in the chapter. Many people believed this to be the final 6 men that Gamma Upsilon would have in Theta Chi, especially after a disappointing formal rush. However, the resolve and determination of these six men, combined with the ambition of four new recruits, ignited a flame that has continued to grow to this day. Almost every aspect of the chapter has changed for the better. Recruitment, public relations, philanthropy, just about every function has increased and thrived.



Ryan Phelps '04

Recruitment was definitely the hardest and most intense aspect of being in a nine man fraternity four years ago. Everything else took a back seat to attracting quality men to the fraternity. Formal rush is not a friendly process for such a small body of men and the results showed. The men that were recruited were through informal means and involved a great deal of work by the active brothers. It was a continuous struggle to both attract and retain quality men. There was constant pressure of being closed down and every setback really affected the chapter and morale. To say the least, recruitment was extremely stressful. This year, however, recruitment has been much more successful and a lot less stressful. We were able to gain 10 new members through formal rush in the Fall and this took a great deal of pressure off our backs. To have 25 active men in the house is a blessing for the older brothers because of the amount of work that was put in to achieve the results.

With the new members in the house, tremendous changes were able to occur. Social programming exploded and brotherhood events were exponentially better. When I joined the fraternity, we did not have any exchanges with sororities and we were basically ghosts on campus. No one knew who Theta Chi was or what they were about. Today, we are gaining back a good reputation as being diverse and are being noticed on campus. We have had two exchanges already this semester which is more than my first year and a half in the chapter. Philanthropic events have increased and are increasingly more creative. Poker tournaments used to be all we were able to put together for philanthropies because of the lack of man power. We are hosting a Battle of the Bands at the house to benefit impoverished children and a committee has been created to start planning for Queen of Hearts next semester.

Brotherhood events and morale have also been at an all time high with events every week. This included a weekly movie night, paint balling, sporting events, and other activities that are planned by committees. Sports have also been revitalized by the new members and we are increasingly participating in more A and B league intramurals than ever before. We are also actively participating in every IFC sporting event and performing well. This was not possible when the house was under 10 men and Theta Chi sports teams did not exist without outside help.

Positions and committees have also been greatly expanded, which is a great relief to the senior brothers. Everyone used to hold about three or four positions every semester because of our low numbers. This was incredibly taxing and wore down the operations of the chapter. Nowadays everyone is mostly able to hold only one position and focus solely on that job and its necessities. This makes it much easier to balance our schedules between school the fraternity and has finally allowed us seniors to relax after three hectic years.

Overall, I believe that the fraternity will only continue to grow and prosper because of the hard work and dedication of both the past and present brothers. I am currently graduating in two months and my four years in Theta Chi are coming to an end. Although I have tried to give a little insight into the last four years, I cannot possibly put into words how successful I believe we have been. To take a fraternity from six men to 25 seems like simple math but it is so much more. It is an accomplishment for all the brothers involved, including the Alumni, for their continued support through hard years. It has been an experience that I will never forget and one that has changed my life. I can honestly say that I believe in Theta Chi, and I believe in Gamma Upsilon.

THETA CHI AND THE GREEK COMMUNITY AT BRADLEY UNIVERSITY

TENIELL TROLIAN, DIRECTOR OF FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE (309.677.2428 OR TTROLIAN@BRADLEY.EDU)

If you've visited Bradley recently, you know that a lot has been happening on campus and in the Greek Community. Fredonia Avenue is undergoing a great deal of change with the recent demolition of the former Tau Epsilon Phi house and Hillel, and the construction of the new Sigma Chi facility where both buildings used to stand. The entire street has seen the demolition of several community homes to make room for new facilities and parking areas, and it will continue to see additional change with the implementation of a Fredonia Avenue Beautification Project this summer.

In addition to all that's happening on Fredonia, the University has also finalized plans for the Markin Family Student Recreation Center, which will measure 130,000 square feet and will be located along Bradley Avenue between Glenwood and Maplewood. A detailed video highlighting the plans for the Center can be found online at www.bradley.edu.

Amidst these many changes, our Greek Community continues to make positive strides toward becoming one of the most well-known and recognized communities in the country. The Interfraternity and Panhellenic Councils recently took home 11 awards at the Mid-American Greek Council Association Conference, including the Linda A. Wardhammer Kaleidoscope Award for excellence and innovation in community programming. Additionally, the community's Chapter Officer Leadership Conference was recognized by the American College Personnel Association's Commission for Student Involvement as its 2007 Program of the Year.

The Gamma Upsilon chapter also had much to celebrate this Fall, with the addition of 10 new members at the end of the Fall recruitment process and the number-one academic raking among fraternities for the second semester in a row. Since the Fall, the chapter has been working to continue its recruitment efforts, increase chapter social activities and educational programming, and build brotherhood among its new member class. The men of the chapter continue to make significant advances as an organization, and I am eager to see what they have in store for the coming academic year.

As we celebrate our community's many successes, we continue to address our challenges as well; facing issues in recruitment and academic achievement. The men's Fall Formal Recruitment process saw the highest number of new chapter members in three years, but continues to fall short of our expectations. A thorough review of the recruitment policies and process has begun this semester and proposed changes will be voted on by our fraternities in the coming month. We hope to take several significant steps forward which will enable our fraternities to recruit more actively while using values-based recruitment practices.

Our community's academic achievement has remained consistent at best; as both our fraternities and sororities have continued to attain a collective grade point average below the all-male and all-female student averages. A community-wide academic skills program, the Greek Academic Progress (GAP) program, was implemented this year to begin assisting students with academic achievement issues, and chapter scholarship chairs have been meeting regularly to discuss academic issues and share their successful programs and resources with one another. With continued support and programming, we hope to take our community's academic ranking to new heights.

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY MOVES HOMECOMING TO SEPTEMBER!

KEN LOMBARD '99

After holding Homecoming festivities on Halloween weekend the last few years, Bradley University has decided to move Homecoming to the end of September to help avoid conflicts with Halloween weekend. Homecoming this year will be held Thursday, September 27th through Sunday, September 30th. The Gamma Upsilon Chapter will be simultaneously hosting alumni weekend that weekend as well. Below is a tentative schedule of events for the weekend including the Golden Guard Luncheon on Friday as well as the Class of '57 Reunion Luncheon and Chapter Dinner on Saturday.

BRADLEY UNIVERSITY HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 27—FOUNDERS' DAY

- **Founder's Day Convocation, 10:00am**
Dingledine Performing Arts Center
(installation of Bradley Centurions)
- **Founder's Day Luncheon, 11:30am**
Michel Student Center Ballroom
(presentation of BUAA Recognition Awards)
- **Bradley 50+ Club Reception, 4:00pm**
Michel Student Center Ballroom

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- **Theta Chi Golden Guard Luncheon, Noon,**
Lariat Steakhouse, 2232 W. Glen Avenue (309.691.4731)
(John Johnson at 309.589.8577 or bigjohnpeo@aol.com)

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

- **Tippet Memorial 5K Run, 8:30am**
Michel Student Center

- **IFC/PHC Greek Games, 10:00am**
Meinen Field
- **Bradley University Class of '57 Reunion Luncheon, 11:30am**
Mount Hawley Country Club
(800.952.8258 or alumnirelations@alum.bradley.edu)
- **Theta Chi Alumni Corp Meeting and Elections, 3:00pm**
1308 W. Fredonia Avenue
(Bob Carroll at 708.720.2397 or woocarroll@aol.com)
- **Theta Chi Alumni Dinner, 6:00pm**
The River Station, 212 S. Water Street (309.671.7000)
(Alex Wolf at 847.797.6692 or closer25@aol.com)

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

- **Homecoming Brunch, 10:00am**
Michel Student Center Ballroom
- **Theta Chi Open House Brunch, 11:00pm**
1308 W. Fredonia Avenue
(309.672.5851 or thetachi@bradley.edu)



Lynn Gundersen, Roger Roszell, Lou Deardorf, Bruce Bagge and Bob Duchild gathering together to plan out the Golden Guard dinner and luncheon.

THETA CHI FRATERNITY
Gamma Upsilon Chapter
1308 West Fredonia Avenue
Peoria, IL 61606



A LETTER FROM OUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

SCOTT THOMAS—DELTA KAPPA/BALL STATE UNIVERSITY '97, REGIONAL DIRECTOR, THETA CHI FRATERNITY

As the Regional Director, a volunteer position, for Theta Chi Fraternity's Midwest Region, it is my pleasure to assist with all of the chapters in Kentucky, Indiana, and Illinois. In my role, I work with a network of volunteers referred to as Regional Counselors to assist the 10 chapters within our region, including Gamma Upsilon.

On February 3rd, I was asked by fellow volunteer and Gamma Upsilon alumnus member, **BOB CARROLL '88** and Gamma Upsilon's Chapter President, **JARED ABRY '08**, to plan and conduct a retreat for members of the chapters Executive Board and Chairman.

It was a full day as the group worked through a variety of exercises to explore the current state of the chapter and to establish goals for the remainder of the spring and for the rest of 2007. I was very impressed with the men I worked with and how they took an honest approach to the state of the current chapter and goals that, if reached, would improve Gamma Upsilon at Bradley University.

In my nine years of professional (I was a member of the International Headquarters Staff from 1998 to 2002) and volunteer work for Theta Chi Fraternity, I have had the opportunity to work with well over 75 Theta Chi Fraternity Chapters. I have worked with the best of the best and the worst of the worst. I'm proud to say that from my perspective Gamma Upsilon is much closer to the former than the latter, but like all chapters there is room for improvement. As I shared with the group, I would encourage them to continue focusing on recruitment, both informally and through formal recruitment, and working with the GUCAC on fraternity house matters and improving alumni relations.

The work that was completed on the day of the retreat is only one part of the work that has to be done to continue to improve Gamma Upsilon. The hard work started on February 4th when the leadership had to implement and work toward completing the goals they outlined for themselves on February 3rd.

I trust that with the ongoing support of alumnus members, the work of the GUCAC, and the leadership of the undergraduate Executive Board the Gamma Upsilon chapter will do nothing but continue to improve.

As always, I'm more than willing to answer any specific questions you may have regarding my work with the chapter. Please feel free to reach out to me via e-mail at sthomas@exacttarget.com or by phone at 317.937.9646.