



MANIFESTO

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HOMECOMING 2007: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AROUND, AND LOOKING AHEAD

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Bob Carroll '88

Compared to the drive home from Homecoming, when the overwhelming emotions are equal parts pride and relief, the drive down to Peoria is always an amalgamation of about 15 different things, ranging from concerns about the logistics of the events for the weekend, worries over attendance, to anxieties from a myriad of other issues. Homecoming 2007 was no different, as the concerns slowly faded away and presented me the chance to enjoy the weekend for what it is: an opportunity for Bradley graduates, and especially the men of Theta Chi Fraternity, to look back, look around, and look ahead.

I am not by nature a nostalgic person; I do not hoard possessions or record the weekend in photographs, though I am getting better at the latter since I finally purchased a digital camera. My prized possessions and favorite photographs are my memories. Rather than tell stories of my own, however, I always receive the chance to listen to the stories of others when I attend the annual Golden Guard Luncheon the Friday of Homecoming weekend. Every year, without fail, 20 to 25 of our senior brothers and their wives, who have some memories of their own from their collegiate experience from a time when it was still considered unusual for a woman to improve herself with higher education, gather together to break bread and exchange memories. Our esteemed organizer of this yearly event, John Johnson, recounts those experiences in another article in this newsletter, but suffice it to say that when I make this pilgrimage to present the current state of the chapter and the alumni corporation, I am always struck by how little some things change. The Brotherhood has always been about friendship and fun, but the Fraternity is still serious business. Those of you brothers reading this who have never heard the stories of the lawn decoration or Homecoming parade float contests, which were more hotly contested than the IFC all-sports trophy back in the day, are missing out on a vital piece of the heritage of the Gamma Upsilon chapter. So Friday is my day to look back on what was our chapter.

Sunday, by contrast, was my day to look around at what is our chapter. The undergraduates prepared a sumptuous, though decidedly unhealthy, brunch buffet for alumni on Sunday morning; the American Heart Association did not approve this meal. It did, however, provide the opportunity for alumni to walk around the chapter house and talk with the undergraduates to see if the bedrock values upon which our chapter has rested (personal ambition and initiative, respect for and responsibility to others, and pride in both the collective group and its individual members) are perpetuating themselves. The physical appearance and current activities of the chapter and its members are outward manifestations of these values; they are not the values themselves. Having an active intramural program for the chapter is important not because sports are inherently cool but because they reflect a pride in representing the chapter in a competitive arena and the camaraderie created by the group working toward a common goal. Beat LCA! Beat Teke! Beat TEP!

HOMEcomings 2007: LOOKING BACK, LOOKING AROUND, AND LOOKING AHEAD (cont.)

Anyone in the know would read those last words of the previous paragraph with a sense of irony. Lambda Chi Alpha left campus in 1991, Tau Kappa Epsilon in 1995, and Tau Epsilon Phi in 2006. The heritage created by several generations of dedicated brothers can be destroyed very quickly and easily by the misguided actions of only a few undergraduate brothers. To prevent this doomsday scenario from occurring and to prevent the chapter from falling into a boom and bust pattern, the first and foremost charge of the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation is to act in the best long-term interests of Theta Chi Fraternity at Bradley University. It is the board of directors of the alumni corporation that has the responsibility to determine what the best long-term interests of the Fraternity are. On Saturday, the GUAC board of directors continued to look ahead by discussing those interests during its annual business meeting and biannual elections. All six sitting alumni members of the board were reelected to their current positions, a positive for continuity and development, and one new alumnus, Tom Howard, was elected to the board. The board also consented to the creation of a new forum for working exclusively with the undergraduate chapter: the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Advisory Board (GUCAB). This council, which already has five alumni members including its chairman, current chapter advisor **SEAN DONCARLOS '03**, is the perfect opportunity for young alumni to get involved; either to work directly with the chapter on several major issues or to prove themselves worthy of additional service on the board of directors. It also allows the GUAC to focus on serving our alumni brothers and stewarding the chapter housing facility. All brothers interested in joining the GUCAB should contact Sean for further information. The mission of the GUAC and the GUCAB is to look ahead by planning for the future and assisting in the determination of what will become of the chapter.

We have a collection of very talented undergraduate brothers and very dedicated alumni brothers. We have the ability to do whatever it is we determine we want to accomplish, so long as we have the will to continue down that path. We can become nothing less than the best chapter and alumni organization on the Bradley campus and one of the best chapters and alumni organizations within Theta Chi Fraternity. Brother, are you with us? Will you take your oath of lifetime membership, service, and loyalty seriously? Are you still a Theta Chi for Life?

GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER ALUMNI CORPORATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2007-2009

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Director: **J. THOMAS HOWARD '05**;

925 Atlantic Avenue #C/Hoffman Estates, IL 60169; 847.682.1671; tom@thehowards.name

2007 GOLDEN GUARD LUNCHEON SUMMARY

JOHN W. JOHNSON '53 (309.589.8577 OR BIGJOHNPEO@AOL.COM)

Well, another Bradley Homecoming has come and gone. The annual luncheon (Friday, September 28), at the Lariat Steakhouse for a second straight year, went well. There were a total of 32 people attending. They were: WALT BASELT '52, Joan and TOM FARR '57, Marian and JOHN FERRELL '51, DICK GILLETT '56, LYNN GUNDERSON '57, Judy and ROGER HILL '59, WILLIS HUNZIKER '53, JOHN JOHNSON '53, Juanita and HAMMY JONES '51, FRED KNOP '54, BILL KOHLER '58, Nan and BILL MARTIN '52, Betty and RON ROBERTS '54, ROGER ROSZELL '57, BOB SPRINGER '54, HAL TURLEY '54, Jan and MIKE UNRUH '57, Audrey and BOB WALL '58, Marcia and BUDD WILKENING '52, Roberta and CARL WOERNER '56, the alumni corporation president BOB CARROLL '88, and the undergraduate chapter steward ANDY GERACI '10. SAM PUINTI '57 showed up at 2:45, just in time to chat briefly with several of us who were the last to leave.

Now to all of you who did not attend, isn't that an illustrious list of your college friends and fraternity brothers, and wouldn't you have just loved to have been there as well, and doesn't it make you resolve to be there next year? We hope so.

Of course, the real reason guys come back to such an event is not only to renew old acquaintances, but also to reminisce about memorable homecomings of the past with their legendary house decorations and floats, the lumber we "borrowed" and the sleep we sacrificed building them, and the agonies when we were not awarded the trophy we felt we deserved.

Carl Woerner reminded me, and the rest of the group within earshot, that when I was feeling more than normally mellow, I would entertain the group with that legendary school song, "National Embalming School." Fortunately, everyone has seemed to have forgotten "Honky Tonk Angels."

Hope everyone made it home all right and we'll see you again next year. The Golden Guard luncheon is always at noon on the Friday of Homecoming weekend. We hope to have it at the Lariat Steakhouse again in 2008!

A NOTE FROM A BROTHER

WALTER JOHNSON '84, TURTLEILL@AOL.COM

My daughter Samantha Johnson died on July 15, 2007, one day short of 17 months old. The cause could not be determined. Through the grieving process we found an organization called SUDC an acronym for Sudden Unexplained Death of a Child. For more information visit their website at www.SUDC.org.

My family and I would like to thank everyone for helping us get through this very difficult time in our life.

THE MANY REPORTS OF SCHEVE

GUAC TREASURER REPORT

MIKE SCHEVE '02, GUAC TREASURER (309.453.4705 OR MSCHEVEO2@YAHOO.COM)

The last three years have been decent for the Alumni Corporation, financially, particularly due to the introduction of the Capital and Annual Campaign drives. Through these campaign drives and through aggressive investment strategies, we have been able to protect the assets of the alumni corporation these past three years, while investing over \$42,000 into the chapter house on repairs and improvements.

I first want to thank all of the donors that are signed up to the Capital Campaign drives. Without this support, the past several years of improvements we've made to the chapter house would have been very difficult to undertake, and would have depleted our reserve funds to almost nothing. If you are not a part of the annual campaign, I urge you to contact **PAT CARMODY '01** to get involved. A small yearly investment makes a HUGE difference in our budget, and allows us to operate without tapping into our reserve funds.

The GUAC has changed how we handle our funds during the past few years. All donations and funds from the Annual and Capital Campaigns go into a savings account and the brokerage account. These funds are only used for improvements and large scale repairs to the chapter house facility. The GUAC operates from revenue generated from chapter rental income. This income goes toward minor chapter house repairs, the *Manifesto*, insurance, and alumni social events. Funds left over at the end of the year are rolled over into the Capital account, or the board can decide on an alternative investment strategy for these monies.

We have worked very hard at maintaining and improving the chapter house facility, but with the age and present condition of the house, our funds limit us severely when completing these necessary repairs and upgrades. And with the addition of Sigma Chi's new \$3.4 million dollar house just three doors down Fredonia, offering a quality living environment for our undergraduate brothers is paramount.

The overall health of the GUAC finances can be rated as fair. We have been able to keep the ship afloat, but that's about it. We see large future expenses related to maintaining and improving the chapter house coming up in the near future, which will certainly deplete all of our reserve funds and force us to take out loans to cover these expenses. Our hope is that we will get more donors signed up for the Annual and Capital Campaigns, and be able to generate more revenue from chapter rent in order to cover these expenses.

FACILITY MANAGER REPORT

MIKE SCHEVE '02, GUAC FACILITY MANAGER (309.453.4705 OR MSCHEVEO2@YAHOO.COM)

In 2007, the GUAC invested over \$20,000 in the chapter house on repairs, upgrades, and required maintenance. The largest of those expenses included a complete remodeling of room 4 and a new fire alarm system.

Maintaining the chapter house is one of the most important jobs we have to perform as an alumni corporation. We have to ensure we have enough reserve funds available in the event of an emergency. We have to keep the building in a safe and habitable condition at all times. And we have to plan for major repairs and upgrades on a regular basis.

This past summer one of the projects we undertook was the renovation of one of the downstairs rooms. The room was completely gutted, including the ceiling and carpet. We had the room painted and installed a drywall ceiling with a new light fixture. New carpeting was installed, and finally, a loft with a desk and wardrobe was put into the room. The furniture was installed by a professional company that specializes in dorm furniture and products that will last even in a heavily abusive environment.



Mike Scheve '08

We also upgraded the fire alarm system in the chapter house. The old fire alarm system had fallen into a state of disrepair. The expense of repairing the old system was greater than the installation of a new system, so the choice was simple. This new system brings our facility up to code with new pull stations and sensors, and is designed to protect our facility from serious fire damage.

This winter we are planning on completing many plaster repairs in the L-Room. These repairs are required due to a leaky roof which was repaired in 2006.

There are also many long-term improvements and renovations we are currently quoting and working on. These renovations include converting the barracks room into 6 lofted rooms and heating this space, adding central air conditioning to the facility, renovating the bathroom and the kitchen, and completing remodeling of the remaining nine rooms downstairs.

These projects are not low in cost by any means. Our current reserve funds will only cover a small portion of these renovations. And with other fraternities on campus completing full-scale renovations and constructing brand new facilities, staying competitive has become increasingly important. That is why contributing to the Annual and Capital Campaigns is so important. Please contact **PAT CARMODY '01** to find out how you can get involved.

GUAC NOW ACCEPTING HVAC BIDS

MIKE SCHEVE '02, GUAC FACILITY MANAGER (309.453.4705 OR MSCHEVE02@YAHOO.COM)

I have been approached by many people over the past five years in this position that if the chapter were to undertake an HVAC (Heating Ventilation and Air Conditioning) project, they or someone they know should be contacted to give the fraternity the best deal. Well that time has come.

We are now accepting bids on performing HVAC work and installing a new system/systems into the chapter house. We are going to be accepting quotes for three options:

1. Replacing and expanding the current boiler system to include the barracks room.
2. Installing forced heat in two zones (upstairs and down) with the removal of the boiler and boiler lines.
3. The addition of central air to option number two.

For further details please contact me at mscheve02@yahoo.com or at 309.453.4705 by February 1, 2008. After this deadline the GUAC will open up the bidding to other preferred contractors in the Peoria area and make a decision. Thanks!

GUAC WACHOVIA SECURITIES INVESTMENT ACCOUNT MONTHLY PERFORMANCE (SINCE 10/18/2005)

Month	Starting Value	Finishing Value	Net Change	% Change	Withdrawals
December					
November	64,151.73				
October	58,831.34	64,151.73	5,320.39	+8.29%	
September	53,815.64	58,831.34	5,015.70	+8.52%	
August	64,504.36	53,815.64	(1,248.72)	-2.32%	9,440
July	61,916.84	64,504.36	2,587.52	+4.18%	
June	60,464.91	61,916.84	1,451.93	+2.40%	
May	54,316.06	60,464.91	6,146.85	+11.32%	
April	52,811.22	54,316.06	1,504.84	+2.85%	
March	51,535.91	52,811.22	1,275.09	+2.47%	
February	51,816.40	51,535.91	(280.49)	-0.01%	
January 2007	51,051.17	51,816.40	765.23	+1.50%	
December	50,864.51	51,051.17	186.66	+0.37%	
November	48,384.08	50,864.51	2,480.43	+5.13%	
October	48,232.13	48,384.08	156.04	+0.32%	
September	58,990.62	48,232.13	(758.49)	-1.55%	10,000
August	59,149.34	58,990.62	(158.72)	-0.27%	
July	59,362.65	59,149.34	(213.31)	-0.36%	
June	59,361.22	59,362.65	1.43	0.00%	
May	60,701.98	59,361.22	(1,340.76)	-2.21%	
April	57,319.16	60,701.98	3,382.82	+5.90%	
March	55,094.37	57,319.16	2,224.79	+4.04%	
February	56,465.61	55,094.37	(1,371.24)	-2.43%	
January 2006	51,376.07	56,465.61	5,089.54	+9.91%	
December	49,610.95	51,376.07	1,765.12	+3.56%	
November	47,675.98	49,610.95	1,934.97	+4.06%	
18 October	49,951.78	47,675.98	(2,275.80)	-4.56%	

The previous alumni corporation savings account was with Morgan Stanley until it was closed on October 18, 2005.

This long-term savings account serves three primary purposes:

1. potential down payment on housing facility improvement loan; and
2. emergency reserve for unbudgeted capital projects (boiler replacement, mandated compliance, etc.); and
3. source of revenue for operating budget should revenue streams evaporate (chapter rent, alumni donations, etc.).

INTRODUCING A GUAC NEOPHYTE

J. THOMAS HOWARD, MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Greetings brothers! As the most recent addition to the GUAC board of directors, I feel that it is important that I introduce myself to those alumni that I have not yet had the opportunity to meet. For the past several years I have assisted the undergraduate chapter with various technology initiatives, and together we have established several security and data recovery standards—among other things. I have also begun developing our alumni website as a communication tool and began testing other technologies that may assist us in keeping connected. Further, I have headed up the initiative to acquire food and drink for our GUAC picnic in Chicago for the last couple of years.



Tom Howard '05

My primary focus on the board will be to promote and develop technology for the Chapter and our GUAC. This will help keep our bonds of Brotherhood strong, continuing support of the active chapter's technology initiatives, and developing and maintaining our own web-space.

I have two major initiatives:

1. Promote technology use among Theta Chi Gamma Upsilon alumni.
2. To improve our Internet presence.

I attended Bradley for two years before leaving to start a career in information technology. Today, I have more than a decade of experience in the information technology industry now, and have filled rolls from support and instruction to managing teams and projects involving massive networks and data centers. In 2003, I returned to Colorado Technical University where I graduated Summa Cum Laude in Business Management with focus on Information Technology.

For several years I was an undergraduate student at large (CTU did not have a Greek system), which gave me the opportunity to form a relationship with many of the undergraduates. At the same time I was working with the GUAC as an alumnus brother, filling the roll of Technology Advisor to the Undergraduate Chapter while reporting to Brother **SEAN DONCARLOS '03**. This situation has given me an interesting view on Chapter/Alumni relations that I think will be an asset to the GUAC board. I look forward to putting my experience to work for you.

THE TECHNOLOGY CORNER

J. THOMAS HOWARD '08, MEMBER, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

As part of my initiative to help brothers utilize technology in order to better stay in contact with one another, I plan to discuss technologies that could be of interest:

MUST HAVE TECHNOLOGY:

The technology sales pitch for this *Manifesto* relates to a website (<https://thetachi.affinitycircles.com/>) that was recently published by Theta Chi's International Headquarters. It is what I would call "MySpace for Theta Chi," but is formally known as the Theta Chi's Circle of Brotherhood site. I see this as yet another way that technology can help us to come together. This is exciting because we can easily self-maintain our accounts in much the way that the Alumni Database helped us in the past. I know what you are thinking, "I already have a MySpace page, and I don't need another one" or "What's a MySpace?." Either way, I encourage you to register at this website and check out the Gamma Upsilon group that has already been established. For brothers that already have a MySpace page, Google is currently working on a tool to allow you to update both through a standard template. More on that as it develops. Special thanks to Brother **JEFF JARMOC** for relaying that information to me.

UPCOMING TECHNOLOGY OF INTEREST:

I am currently evaluating Google's "Google Apps" to see if it is a viable option for buox.org hosted email for the undergraduate chapter. Hosted email would also allow us to offer alumni to procure an "@buox.org" email address, which would run through Google's "Gmail" application. With sufficient funding, this could also become an opportunity for everyone to have a buox.org account, so keep those donations coming!

I understand that a number of brothers are not completely comfortable with computers, but I hope to make them more comfortable with this while offering another reason to come to alumni weekend next year. If there is a desire, I will offer a short seminar during alumni weekend to walk you through how to set up an email account on Google Mail, how to set up a Circle of Brotherhood account, etc. If you are interested in this technology and would like assistance with it, please feel free to contact me at tom@thehowards.name.

RELEVANT LINKS:

[HTTP://WWW.BUOX.ORG](http://www.buox.org)—The Theta Chi Fraternity—Gamma Upsilon Chapter Website

[HTTP://ALUMNI.BUOX.ORG](http://alumni.buox.org)—The GUCAC Website

[HTTP://WWW.THETACHI.ORG](http://www.thetachi.org)—The IHQ Website

[HTTPS://THETACHI.AFFINITYCIRCLES.COM/](https://thetachi.affinitycircles.com/)—Theta Chi Circle of Brotherhood site

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



CHAPTER ADVISORY BOARD LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS

SEAN M. DONCARLOS '03, CHAPTER ADVISOR (618.977.3244 OR SDONCARLOS@GMAIL.COM)

For a great many years now, the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation (GUAC) has taken on the role of being the primary source of advice and guidance for the undergraduate chapter, mainly through the office of the Chapter Advisor. While this has worked more or less well in the past, depending on the composition of the undergraduate chapter and of GUAC, this model is starting to show signs of needing an overhaul. The recent explosion of growth in the chapter has brought with it many new challenges as well as many rewards, and to meet these challenges, the GUAC has decided to form a new alumni entity specifically to address advising the undergraduate chapter and dealing with day-to-day concerns. This new entity is the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Advisory Board (GUCAB).

The GUCAB is composed of alumnus and possibly non-Theta Chi volunteers (such as parents) and will vary in size according to the needs of the chapter. Each member of the GUCAB will be paired with one of the officers in the undergraduate chapter and advise that officer regarding issues concerning that office. For instance, the advisor specializing in member education would work with the Marshal, and the financial advisor would work with the Treasurer, and so forth. The GUCAB is chaired by the Chapter Advisor, who will remain a member of the GUAC. As such, the Chapter Advisor will be a liaison between the two alumnus bodies and the chapter, and will be responsible for maintaining a free flow of communication between them. The Chapter Advisor will also coordinate the efforts of the various members of the GUCAB as needed. With the day-to-day advising duties handled by the GUCAB, we expect that the GUAC will be more free to turn its efforts toward being a housing corporation and focusing on efforts to improve/renovate the physical chapter house.

Being a volunteer organization, we now respectfully ask for you to lend us the Helping Hand and help us get the GUCAB off to a great start. We currently have five members on the GUCAB so far: SEAN DONCARLOS '03, CHRIS VIRGIN '03, MARK BEYER '04, NICK BARTLETT '06, and RYAN PHELPS '06. Please do not be misled by the relatively recent graduation dates of the current members, we are actively seeking members from all age groups in an effort to broaden our experience and, therefore, the quality of our advising. All that we ask of our members is that you are willing and able to maintain phone and email contact with your counterpart in the undergraduate chapter, that you take an active interest in advising the chapter on its activities in your area of influence, and that you be available for one in-person meeting each year (the date is TBD, we will probably aim for Homecoming or some other event that alumni already attend).

The GUCAB was first formed back in October, and I have been mostly preparing the foundations for the GUCAB since. We are looking to take an active role starting in the Spring 2008 semester. If you would like to join us in our quest to solidify the gains of the undergraduate chapter in the last few semesters and to lay the groundwork for the future, please call or email me. I look forward to working with you for the Good of our Fraternity.