



# MANIFESTO

VOLUME 59, EDITION 2

## ANNUAL AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGNS TAKE STEP BACKWARD IN 2008

BY BOB CARROLL '88, PRESIDENT, GUAC (708.720.2397 OR [WOOCARROLL@AOL.COM](mailto:WOOCARROLL@AOL.COM))



Bob Carroll '88

In 2008, the annual and capital campaigns for the Gamma Upsilon chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity took two severe hits. The first was when **PAT CARMODY '01** resigned his seat on the GUAC Board of Directors and his office as campaign director, citing a need to spend more time on his job, education and family. Brother Carmody was responsible for the development of our annual and capital campaigns and much of our recent success can be attributed to his leadership. As president of the alumni corporation, I am now serving as the campaign director and will continue to do so until a brother is elected to the board for this purpose. As I worked with Pat to create the campaigns and as fundraising is one of the responsibilities of the president, I was the natural choice for this role.

The second was the downturn in the economy that has hit everyone's pocketbooks. Contributions, both in terms of numbers and amounts, were down significantly in 2008. The results of the annual campaign speak for themselves: Since its inception in 2005, the annual campaign has raised a grand total of \$9,950 over four years.

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total contributions	\$2,050	\$2,750	\$3,450	\$1,700
Actual (%) change		\$700 (34.1%)	\$700 (25.4%)	-\$1,650 (-47.8%)
Total contributors	17	20	26	16
Actual (%) change		3 (17.6%)	6 (38%)	-10 (-38.5%)

We have 31 alumni brothers, out of approximately 500 living brothers with good addresses, who have announced they have become and will remain, contributors to our annual campaign. This includes 27 standard contributors (\$100/year), two deluxe contributors (\$200/year), and two accelerated contributors (\$250/year). If all 31 of these brothers would fulfill their obligations in 2009, the alumni corporation would realize \$3,600 in income. By comparison, the alumni corporation realizes \$2,750/month in rent from the undergraduate chapter in 2008-9.

Step one in revitalizing the annual campaign is to increase our response rate for contributing brothers. All brothers who pledged to participate in the annual campaign need to make good on their obligation for 2009. Those brothers who, for whatever reasons, did not contribute in 2008, should include a donation to cover both years. The alumni corporation counts on your contribution to help us cover our operating budget for the fiscal year, allowing us to add rental income to our building fund and save it entirely for projects on the chapter house, from small annual repairs to major renovation work, such as the barracks room renovation in the summer of 2009.

Step two in revitalizing the annual campaign is to increase the number of brothers participating. We are, after all, asking for a rather nominal donation from all alumni brothers: \$100 a year. In the true spirit of fraternity, if every man contributes something to the group, no man will be relied upon to contribute everything, or more than his fair share, and all brothers will have done their parts and fulfilled their obligations. Now is the time; the alumni corporation is beginning a series of renovation projects this summer and your assistance is needed at the present, not five years from now. While I understand that many of you were apprehensive about contributing when the future of the chapter was uncertain at best, the articles and reports contained in this issue of *The Manifesto* should assure you that Gamma Upsilon is rightly reclaiming its place of prominence on the campus of Bradley University and within the ranks of Theta Chi Fraternity. We cannot continue this work, however, without your involvement.

In contrast, the capital campaign, while not doing as well as 2007, did not slide as far as the annual campaign in 2008. While the annual campaign is centered around a lot of brothers making small donations, the capital campaign is about a few brothers making large donations of at least \$1,000.

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total contributions	\$ 0	\$2,050	\$6,180	\$5,500
Actual increase			+4,130	-680
Percentage increase			(202%)	(-11.0%)

Since its inception in 2006, the capital campaign has raised a grand total of \$13,730 over three years. Our major contributor for 2008 was **DRU NEIKIRK '88**, who came through with a donation of \$5,000, or, in other words, what 50 brothers would be expected to donate in one year in the annual campaign.

On behalf of all our alumni and undergraduate brothers, the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation would like to recognize our annual contributors for 2008 and our capital contributors.

DIAMOND CAPITAL CONTRIBUTORS

JERRY SMITH '54 BRUCE JOHNSON '66 DRU NEIKIRK '88

CAPITAL CONTRIBUTORS

DICK STERLING '58 CARL BIRKELBACH '62

ACCELERATED ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS 2008

ARNO WEHR '63

DELUXE ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS 2008

GEOFF DIXON '95

STANDARD ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS 2008

HAM JONES '51 JOHN JOHNSON '52 KEN HOLLMANN '54

ORV PELLIETER '54 LES PODGORNÝ '54 DWAIN WEESE '59

DAVE TAUER '61 KEITH ALM '65 MERRILL YORK '68

MIKE MUELLER '70 JOHN MUSKARA '85

BOB CARROLL '88 MIKE SCHEVE '02

ANNUAL CONTRIBUTORS 2008

BILL KOHLER '58

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN THIS FORM TO UPDATE OUR RECORDS, EVEN IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO PARTICIPATE.

THETA CHI/GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER ANNUAL CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Initiation Year \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Year \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Here is what is new with me \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate one of the following:

- Standard Annual Gift (\$2,500) (\$100 over 25 years)
- Deluxe Annual Gift (\$5,000) (\$200 over 25 years)
- Accelerated Annual Gift I (\$2,500) (\$250 over 10 years)
- Premium Annual Gift (\$7,500) (\$300 over 25 years)
- Accelerated Annual Gift II (\$2,500) (\$500 over 5 years)
- Capital Gift (\$\_\_\_\_\_) (one time only; suggested min. \$1,000)
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

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

Return to: **BOB CARROLL '88**  
 182 Hibiscus Circle  
 Matteson, IL 60443-2886  
[woocarroll@aol.com](mailto:woocarroll@aol.com) or  
 708.720.2397

ALUMNI EVENTS 2009

1ST ANNUAL THETA CHI GOLF OUTING

FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 1

Savannah, Georgia

JEREME GRINSLADE ([JEREME@THETACHI.ORG](mailto:JEREME@THETACHI.ORG))

Crosswinds Golf Course

28TH ANNUAL THETA CHI SKI TRIP

FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 4

Mammoth Lakes, California

DAVE DEVOL ([DDEVOL@AOL.COM](mailto:DDEVOL@AOL.COM))

Mammoth Mountain

GAMMA UPSILON 60TH ANNIVERSARY REUNION

MAY 1-3

Saint Charles, Illinois

(800.474.3272 OR [WWW.PHEASANTRUN.COM](http://WWW.PHEASANTRUN.COM))

Pheasant Run Resort

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE XIII

JULY 16-19

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

BILL RUSSO ([BILL@THETACHI.ORG](mailto:BILL@THETACHI.ORG))

Villanova University

2009 SUMMER FAMILY PICNIC

AUGUST 1

Arlington Heights, Illinois

KEN LOMBARD ([BUOXALUMNI@GMAIL.COM](mailto:BUOXALUMNI@GMAIL.COM))

Busse Woods Forest Preserve (Grove #24)

THETA CHI ALUMNI WEEKEND/BRADLEY UNIVERSITY 2009 HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

OCTOBER 2-4

FOR BRADLEY EVENTS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ALUMNI CENTER (800.952.8258 OR [WWW.BRADLEY.EDU/ALUMNI](http://WWW.BRADLEY.EDU/ALUMNI))

Peoria, Illinois

# HOMECOMING AND THEN SOME...

CHRISTOPHER WHITE '97

Three weeks in Peoria doesn't sound that exciting, especially when you are coming from Los Angeles. Fortunately, I had my Theta Chi brothers to keep me entertained.

I arrived in Peoria the Friday of Bradley's Homecoming. It has been a decade since I graduated and almost as long since I last visited the chapter house. I wasn't quite sure what to expect from the "young punks" who now occupy the chapter house that I used to call home. I was pleasantly surprised by what I found: a vibrant and cohesive group of men who are fully committed to strengthening the chapter. I was extremely pleased by the reception that my fellow alumni and I received. Our undergraduate brothers were courteous and welcoming. They picked me up from the airport, offered me a couch to sleep on, and encouraged me to come back. So, I did!

For the next three weeks, I took every opportunity I could to visit the chapter house. After several parties, a chapter meeting, and a whole lot of conversation, I feel like I got to know the active chapter pretty well. I found these men to be thoughtful, respectful, and genuinely interested in my perspective as an alumnus. I was happy to find that the chapter still finds its strength through the diversity of its members. And, I was proud to call these men my brothers.

The trip was invigorating for me and I look forward to my next visit. It's a privilege and an honor to have this "home away from home" that we can always return to. If you haven't visited the chapter for a while, I highly recommend it.

## CHAPTER UPDATE FOR FALL 2008

JOSH RICKARD, VICE-PRESIDENT 2008

Theta Chi was busy on Bradley's campus this semester. For the first time in several years we held Theta Chi's traditional Queen of Hearts Pageant, which raised more than \$2,000 for the American Heart Association, as well as collecting over 300 pounds of canned food for the local Peoria Food Drive. This semester Theta Chi has participated in most intramural and IFC sports including: football, soccer, volleyball, and softball (with Sigma Kappa Sorority). In fact, we take great pride in announcing that we are the Soccer Champs this fall semester!

As usual, our social agenda was quite strong this fall; we have had three exchanges with Sigma Delta Tau, Pi Beta Phi, Gamma Phi Beta, and a blind date event with Chi Omega. Our annual Thanksgiving dinner involving Theta Chis and their dates was a tremendous success. Soon after the dinner we hosted our Christmas party to say farewell to our graduating seniors: **JARED ABRY**, **GREG MARSH**, and **TYRONE SMITH**.

As always we have dedicated ourselves to a strong Scholarship program, which has resulted in seven straight semesters of a cumulative chapter GPA above 3.0; this is also consistently above the all men's GPA. Finally, to make sure you get all the chapter news, we invite you visit [www.buox.org](http://www.buox.org) as it will soon be revamped with new information.

## A WORD ON RECRUITMENT AND INITIATION

MATHEW DELEHANTY, MARSHAL 2008

This November we initiated 9 new brothers; 7 freshmen and 2 sophomores. After six weeks, they went through Initiation Week, which this year coincided with Greek Week, when they (along with the initiated brothers) were grouped with another fraternity (or a boys club for those old school brothers) and a sorority for the Greek games and the PanFra Sing (featuring choreographed lip-syncing and dancing). On the Friday of that week we had I-Night; alumnus brothers **MARK BEYER** and **SEAN DONCARLOS '03**, our Chapter Advisor, took part in the ceremony, which was very successful. We had our new brothers, led by freshman **STEVE POLUS**, plan a brotherhood event for the entire chapter. This was a softball game and cookout at Meinen Field. They also planned an outing, at which the chapter serenaded every sorority with a song, led by the new members. These new members are proving to be extremely enthusiastic about the Fraternity.

# WHY I SUPPORT OUR ANNUAL CAMPAIGN (AND WHY YOU SHOULD TOO)

ARNO WEHR '63

I was recently asked by Brother **BOB CARROLL '88** to respond as to why I support the financing campaign for "House" improvements. This is an easy response and, when given thought, it is a very difficult response. The experiences of being a Theta Chi at Bradley University are so board and full of so many stories. It is a gift that keeps on giving. So how does anyone express the full benefits of being a Theta Chi after 50 years? I'll try...

A couple of years ago, I was in Florida and **BRUCE BAGGE '62** and I were to meet in Punta Gorda for lunch when Bruce called me explaining that **CARL BIRKELBACH '62** was in Tampa visiting **ROGER ROSZELL '57**. As it was also Carl's birthday, Bruce suggested we drive up and surprise him over dinner.

We quickly rearranged our schedules and drove to a little restaurant in Sarasota where Roger was to escort Carl and his wife Lynda for dinner. I haven't seen Carl for almost fifteen years, so Bruce asked me to hide around a corner. As Carl entered he was thrilled to see Bruce, and which time Bruce said "See who else is here!" I then stepped out of the shadows and said "Happy Birthday Brother Carl!" Carl was stunned and barely able to say my name as he teared up. I was also touched by that moment as we both had such of rash of personal memories we shared. We have an unbreakable bond of Fraternal experiences: it is Brotherhood.

So my reasons to financially support the "house" improvements is to extend The Helping Hand and to hopefully be able to pass along, in some small way, these same lifetime Fraternal friendship to our undergraduate brothers.

## SPOTLIGHT ON 2008 GRADUATES

BY **TONY DEDDO**, SCHOLARSHIP COORDINATOR 2008

Congratulations to our graduating seniors! It has been an exciting four or, in some cases, five years for our seniors who are ready to move on to the real world. This semester, three men graduated:

**JARED ABRY (BSME)** Jared completed his undergraduate degree in Mechanical Engineering. His hard work and dedication has given him many job opportunities, but he decided on completely leaving the area and taking a job with John Deere working with their transmission design group in Des Moines, Iowa. He has held many important positions in Theta Chi including: President (2007); Treasurer (2006); House Manager (2005); Risk Manager; Parents Relations Coordinator; Historian; First Guard; and Public Relations Coordinator. We wish him the best of luck with John Deere.

**GREG MARSH (BSEE)** Greg completed his undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering. He will be taking a position with Caterpillar in Griffin, Georgia working in the Electric Power Division; he interned with Caterpillar for three summers and even took a cooperative program one semester to get more engineering work experience. He has also held many important positions in Theta Chi including: President (2006); Vice President (2005); Treasurer (2007); Scholarship Coordinator; Risk Manager; Alumni Relations Coordinator; Philanthropy Coordinator; Public Relations Coordinator; and Second Guard. We wish him the best of luck at Caterpillar.

**TYRONE SMITH (BS)** Tyrone completed his undergraduate degree in the college of liberal arts and sciences: criminal justice and sociology. He is currently looking for a position in the Peoria area, possibly as a probation officer. Tyrone joined Theta Chi his junior year and has served as Philanthropy Coordinator (2008) and Risk Manager (2007). We wish him the best of luck in his endeavors.

We will miss their leadership, expertise, and knowledge of Theta Chi. They have been an asset to our chapter and we hope they return to visit very soon!

# HOW AM I GRATEFUL FOR THETA CHI?

STEVE LINDEE '97

*(This article was written by Brother Lindee in response to an open call for alumni contributions to the Manifesto. Thanks to Steve for his input!)*

A Theta Chi related article. That's pretty easy. Theta Chi was such a big part of my life that about any word I'd write has a bit of Theta Chi in it. I don't often admit it. But I'm at that age when I appreciate better what's made me who I am. You have your parents. You have the friends of your youth. You have college. You have the Fraternity. You have your first job. And your second and third. Your first boss. Your whateverth girl.

You appreciate all these things. Except maybe not all of them care enough to ask you genuinely to share something. That's not all that common.

How am I grateful for Theta Chi?

I'm grateful to Theta Chi for helping make me a leader. I remember the night I was activated. Sitting in the suite, where I'd never really hung out. Everything was so new. And an alumnus who'd come just for the occasion and didn't know me from Adam told me I could be president. Wow. Thank you, Theta Chi, for opening my mind to my own potential in a world that's just fine with you finding it on your own, if ever.

I remember activation week, learning about something awful that'd happened with my family back at home. So stressed. (It wasn't easy then. It was way harder for those who came before me, but it wasn't easy then. There was a discipline that I was too young to appreciate fully at the time.) Two brothers were there for me. They were supposed to be the enemy, the actives, that week. But not then. They were just quiet and supportive and let me freak out. Thank you, Theta Chi, for being human in a world that seems to be only more inhuman.

I remember being president. The trend nationally was clear. Scour out hazing. Reduce your pledge period. Four weeks, they said. We were eight weeks by design at the time, 16+ by practice. The trend in the chapter was clearly the other direction. Alumni fought for it. Older brothers, seemingly so much older, fought for the old ways. And at 20-whatever, leading this organization, you have to make the best decision you can for the organization you love. It means changing what it has been, certainly faster than it can easily handle it, possibly faster than it can and survive. You hope and you pray that it's strong enough. You hope that what really matters survives. Because what's coming cannot be ignored. And you think the faster you can get to biting the bullet and changing, the better chance it has to survive. And that's naive, but you're young. And it's all you can do. So you do it. Knowing that you may never know if you made the right decision. Thank you, Theta Chi, for teaching me about sacrifice in a world that spends zero time teaching about sacrifice and a lot of time forcing it.

I remember who was at my side at that time. Thank you, Theta Chi, for teaching me about partnership and trust and faith in a world that absolutely requires it and spends no time teaching you how to build it.

I remember parties. Good parties. Really, really good parties. I remember my first really, really good party after I was elected president. I remember that moment knowing that it was my name at the front. That if something awful happened at that party, the buck stopped at me. Thank you, Theta Chi, for teaching me about responsibility.

And thank you, Theta Chi, for teaching me about balance, because it would've been easy—given that fear of that buck stopping at me—to stomp on that party. But I didn't. And we all made it through okay. Even me, who had a great time despite my newfound responsibility. I believe we call that temperance.

Truth, temperance, and tolerance.

The Helping Hand.

This is where it gets philosophical.

What came first in me? Theta Chi? Or truth, temperance, and tolerance? What came first in me? The desire to help others? Or Therapusa Kare? (One of probably few things I can type completely from memory. Ironically, the original Greek isn't easy to confirm on the Web.) Thank you, Theta Chi, for retaining some mystery in a world that's so transparent.

I don't feel like I've always been that mindful of helping others. And yet I work now in academic fundraising, raising scholarship dollars for bright, disadvantaged scholars.

That's not coincidence.

Thank you, Theta Chi, for being a haven of like-minded, like-souled individuals in a world full of people driven by all-too-unaltruistic motives.

You never really know what you got into.

(P.S. I do regret stomping out hazing, a little. This world breeds only more wimps. Better to de-wimpify yourself and everyone you care for early. Whatever you're dealing with: I'm sure it's not easy. But it could be worse. Believe me. Be grateful for every thing that doesn't kill you.)

# ALUMNI UPDATE

**KEN HOLLMANN '54** Brother Hollman writes: "When a pledge in 1950, I well remember alumni support for the actives and that was before there were very many alumni. I also remember the assistance we received for our Fraternity Sing. It was that kind of thing that the current alumni need to consider (when asked about contributing to the annual campaign). We had many great times with many great guys and it is payback time in either time, talent, or money. Hope all continues to improve as in the past couple of years."

**BRUCE BAGGE '62** On April 23, 2008, Norwegian American Hospital in Chicago named its new mobile pediatric care unit, a physician's office on wheels with patient examination rooms, laboratory for pulmonary, vision and hearing screening, secure medical records storage, and nursing station the Arthur W. and Harriet A. Bagge Memorial Care-A-Van; for the parents of our brother Bruce. The funding for the mobile medical unit was provided by Children's Care Foundation, where Brother Bagge has spent over 40 years as a member of the board of directors and the last 11 years as chairman; he is also a member of the board of trustees of Norwegian American Hospital. Bruce has always been a strong advocate for accessible, preventative, and quality health care for all children, and even in active retirement, he and his wife Colleen continue to support initiatives to provide children, especially underprivileged children, this fundamental right. They currently live in Punta Gorda, Florida on the Gulf coast, where Bruce admits to fishing on an almost daily basis.

**CARL BIRKELBACH '62** Besides serving as president and chief executive officer of Birkelbach Investment Securities and Birkelbach Management Corporation and a member of the Bradley University Board of Trustees, Carl is a leader in several Chicago area civic and environmental organizations. He is president of RIDE (Recreation for Individuals Dedicated to the Environment), which advocates public access to natural education areas for recreation, education, and spiritual enrichment, and CARE for You (Corporate America Respecting the Environment), which create private-public partnerships to protect the environment. Carl was formerly a member of the board of governors for the Cook County Forest Preserve Council and the board of directors of IMBA (International Mountain Biking Association), but still serves as president of the NPO Friends of the Forest Preserve (of Cook county). And if you have ever enjoyed a free concert at Millennium Park's Pritzger Pavilion or the Grant Park Bandshell, you can thank Carl, as he serves on the board of governors for the Millennium Park/Grant Park Concert Foundation. Brother Birkelbach formerly served as a steward for the famous Old Saint Patrick's Church in Chicago and is a member of both The Olympia Fields Country Club and the Union League Club of Chicago, where he hosted a reception for Bradley President Joanne Glasser on November 20. Those of us who were there can sincerely say, great job, Carl!

**ARNO WEHR, JR. '63** After leaving a management position with Mobil Oil, Arno entered into the world of family resorts in Branson, Missouri. He continues to remain active in the business, which he co-owns with his son, Arno III, and it continues to expand each year. Arno is active in the local Rotary chapter, enjoys hunting and fishing, singing in the local choir, serves on the board of directors for several community organizations, and even writes for a local newspaper. He and his wife Gayle Siemund Wehr '63 recently celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary. His daughter also lives in Branson and teaches at the local high school. An article from Brother Wehr explaining his support for our annual campaign and you, brother, to join him can be found elsewhere in this issue.

**KEITH ALM '65** Brother Alm writes: "My support (to the Annual campaign) is based on the recent demonstration by the active brothers and dedicated alumni to turn around a near terminal chapter of Theta Chi and move it in the direction of a real contributor to the quality of Bradley's campus life. Many faculty and students had written off our chapter during its very difficult times. The tenacity, will and hard work of dedicated brothers, however, restored the Chapter and it is now on the road to real credibility and accomplishment. The work is not done and support from all of us is needed to ensure we fulfill our sustaining mission."

**JEFF GROVES '84** On November 12, 2008 at the Department of State's Annual Awards Ceremony, Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice presented Jeffery Groves the department's **DIPLOMATIC SECURITY 2008 EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR**. The award includes a cash bonus and a certificate signed by Secretary Rice. Jeff is a security technical specialist for the Bureau of Diplomatic Security and is currently posted at the U.S. Embassy in Athens, Greece, but has previously served at postings in diverse and challenging locations such as Kabul, Afghanistan and Hanoi, Vietnam, just to name a few. Brother Groves "was selected by the awards committee for providing outstanding leadership to his staff, exercising initiative to accomplish critical tasks, and promptly responding to customers' concerns while serving at Embassy Kabul. His efforts corrected significant long-term security deficiencies in the post's life-safety systems in one of the world's most dangerous embassy environments." Jeff and his wife Katie, an artist, enjoy the beauty and safety that life in

Greece currently offers them. They add that their current home is perfect for visitors and encourage any brothers in the Mediterranean to stop by for a visit. They add that Brother **MIKE CYGAN '91** has already taken them up on the offer and visited in the early fall.

**NEIL STREMMEL '90** Last year, Neil was named vice president for the United States Bowling Congress, in Arlington, Texas, after serving as its director of research for the past seven years. The USBC has over 2.6 million members and is the governing body for all league play in the country, through the standardization of equipment, allowing comparison of scores from one league to another. As director of research, Neil used his mechanical engineering degree to lead a team that received four U.S. patents in bowling engineering, from equations to biomechanics, actual equipment used to simulate rolling the ball. As vice president, Neil uses his leadership skills as a former president of Gamma Upsilon (1990) to lobby Jacques Rogge, president of the International Olympics Committee, about making bowling an Olympic sport. Brother Stremmel has also appeared in both broadcast (ESPN and NPR) and print journalism (*ESPN the Magazine* and *The Wall Street Journal*), often in the company of Harry, the bowling robot, which Neil's research team perfected. Neil was recently profiled in the Fall 2008 issue of Hilltopics. Neil, his wife Katie and their family are now living in Arlington, Texas.

**JARED ABRY '08** Not to be outdone by Brother Stremmel in the "cool things our mechanical engineering brothers are doing department," Jared completed a high profile project for his Senior Design class in Spring 2008. Jared was part of a team (Team 6) that converted a 1967 Aston Martin DB6 (think classic Sean Connery era James Bond) from a carbureted, internal combustion engine into a fuel injected, flex fuel vehicle. The Aston Martin will actually compete in the 2009 Great Road Race from New York to Paris (traveling west), a redux of the famous race originally held in 1908. Brother Abry was also profiled in the Fall 2008 issue of Hilltopics and is also a former chapter president (2007). Alumni like Neil and Jared are two examples why Bradley's department of mechanical engineering is consistently rated one of the best in the nation.

**DON BRIAN '56 (CHAPTER ETERNAL)** Donald R. Brian passed away on December 1, 2008 at the home of his son, Eric, with whom he had been living for the past years, in Melbourne, Florida at age 74. Prior to moving in with his son, shortly after he was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, Don lived in Denver, Colorado, where he was the president of Eagle Bear Enterprises, an economic development and technology commercialization consulting firm. Brother Brian served in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserves for 20 years, rising to the rank of major before retiring. Besides Eric (Deb), Don is also survived by his daughter Kristin. Brothers **JACK MILNE '54** and **RON ROBERTS '54** recalled recruiting Don to become a member of Theta Chi, while Brother **ROGER HILL '59** remembered being recruited into Theta Chi by Don. Brother **TOM CULLINAN '56** contributed the story of dating his wife, Marilyn Delpire, at Bradley, while **DENNIS BUSCH '56** and Don dated her Gamma Phi Beta roommates, Margaret Collister and Jean Scheidt, respectively.

**CHUCK BRADSHAW '60 (CHAPTER ETERNAL)** Charles E. Bradshaw, 74, of Bellingham, Washington, formerly of Peoria, passed peacefully on November 30, 2008, in Sedro-Woolley, Washington at age 74. Prior to moving to Bellingham, Chuck lived in for many years in Phoenix, Arizona and before that, Peoria. He was born in South Carrollton, Kentucky, but moved to Peoria as a child, graduating from Peoria High School and Bradley University. He was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps and a lifetime member of several different fraternal and community organizations including the Fraternal Order of Freemasons, Order of the Eastern Star (Shriners), and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. Brother Bradshaw enjoyed a long and successful career with Equitable Life of New York. He is survived by his loving wife, Carolyn; sons, David, Mark and John; daughter-in-law, Michal; nine grandchildren; sister, Dee; three stepdaughters, Carol, Cheryl, and Chirley; and eight stepgrandchildren. He was preceded in death by parents E.P. and Carrie; and sister, Marcella.

**BOB SEITZ '64 (CHAPTER ETERNAL)** Robert W. "Bob" Seitz passed away on June 30, 2007, at his home near Oregon, Illinois at age 66. Services were held July 4, 2007, at the Oregon United Methodist Church. He was born September 14, 1940, in Franklin Grove, Illinois, the son of William and Marian Wiener Seitz. He was initiated into Theta Chi on May 20, 1962 and graduated from Bradley University with a BS in business administration in 1964. He owned and operated several rock quarries with his family in northwestern Illinois. Bob married Connie Joynt on January 1, 2000, in Oregon. He was a member of the Oregon United Methodist Church, where he also served on the church board for many years, including several terms as treasurer and assisted in building the chapter in memory of two daughters who predeceased him, Jodie and Kristin. Bob also served on the Riverview Cemetery Board of Trustees, the board of directors of the Illinois Aggregate Producers Association, and was a life member of the American Quarter Horse Association. Besides Jodie and Kristin, Bob was also predeceased by both his parents and his brother Gary. He is survived by: his wife; his three sisters Sharon Seitz (Thomas) Klein, Myrna Seitz (Robert) Hanes, and Nancy Seitz; his son Craig; his daughter Marcy Seitz (David) DeLille and her sons Mason and Landon; and his stepdaughters Pamela Wright and Kimberly Weaver, and Kim's daughters Jessie and Keri.

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

## 2008 GOLDEN GUARD LUNCHEON SUMMARY

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

The sixth annual luncheon, held at the Lariat Steakhouse for a third consecutive year, this time on Friday, October 3, went well, with a diverse group of 32 people participating. Attending were WALT BASELT '52, DICK GILLET '56, LYNN GUNDERSEN '57, WILLIS HUNZIKER '53, JOHN JOHNSON '53, Juanita and HAMMY JONES '51, Joyce and FRED KNOP '54, BILL KOHLER '58, RON MCGAUVRAN '54, Nancy and TOM MOONEY '51, DICK RIECKHOFF '54, RON ROBERTS '54, Claudia and JERRY SMITH '54, Ethyl and BOB SPRINGER '56, HAL TURLEY '54, Jan and MIKE UNRUH '57, Audrey and BOB WALL '58, and Marcia and BUDD WILKENING '52. Also representing the undergraduate chapter were BEN BLOMBERG '09, its president, and SEAN DONCARLOS '03, its alumni advisor. They gave us an excellent update on the status of Gamma Upsilon, which is doing very well now, after surviving some difficult times in the recent past.

Coming after the luncheon a little late, but in time to visit with everyone were BOB CARROLL '88, our alumni president, Meredyth (Boots) and LOUIE DEARDORFF '58, Barb and DICK STERLING '58, and Sharon and JON NELSON '58, all of whom had been attending the Bradley University Alumni Association's Founders' Day Luncheon on the Bradley campus. A nice event, I'll admit, but nowhere near as much fun as our soirée. This year, for a change, everyone made it to the right location at the right time.

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 sure hope so. The day would be even more fun if you were there to share it with us.

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 past Homecomings, 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 trophies we felt we deserved.

Hope everyone made it home safely and we'll see you again next year. The 7th Annual Golden Guard Luncheon is already on the calendar for the Lariat Steakhouse once again for Friday, October 2, 2009; the Friday of Homecoming weekend.

Editor's Note: This past year was the final year that John will serve as our Golden Guard coordinator; we are looking for a senior alumnus brother or brothers to step forward to help plan the event for 2009. This means: contacting the Lariat to reserve the room and set the menu once the date has been decided (always the Friday of Homecoming); contacting brothers via email and telephone calls (and/or snail mail) and asking them to attend; recording affirmative responses, and informing the Lariat about 48 hours in advance of the size of our group. If you are interested, please contact BOB CARROLL '88 (708.720.2397 or [woocarroll@aol.com](mailto:woocarroll@aol.com)).