

MANIFESTO

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER OF THETA CHI FRATERNITY AT BRADLEY UNIVERSITY • FALL 2015

GUAC Completes Main Bathroom Renovation

By Mike Scheve '02, Vice-President (309-453-4705 or mscheve02@yahoo.com)

As an alumni corporation in charge of our own facility, we have to pick and choose projects carefully. We've been able to accomplish quite a bit: we replaced the roof, repaired the fascia, replaced the boiler and replaced all major appliances in the house. We also divided the rack room into six rooms and ensured the safety of the property when Illinois made fire sprinklers mandatory in all college residence halls and dormitories.

A project we have finally been able to address is the main bathroom. After finding a great architect, demolition began this summer - walls were removed, concrete floors were broken up and a new mechanical room was installed that will supply forced heat and eventual air conditioning to the remodeled space. Special attention was given to ventilation and solid surfaces were used in the showers and vanity for easy cleaning and maintenance. We even installed a hose spigot in the shower area so the entire room can be hosed down and cleaned with a garden hose!



A view of the west wall, featuring the new vanity

Theta Chi Night at Kane County Cougars a Homerun!

By Marty Deering '89, President - Elect (847-334-7776 or deerman89@hotmail.com)



Ozzy T. Cougar with Zach and Maddy

however, really made it an event not to miss. Before the first pitch, Michael St. Angel, a nationally known Elvis impersonator, worked a sweat worthy of the King himself as he belted out the hits. After the last out, the Jesse White Tumblers entertained the crowd while crews set-up a fireworks show. Once the sun set, the crowd was treated to a spectacular display.

Brothers attending with their families included **Pat Carmody '01, Marty Deering '89, Mitch Frondal '07, Eric Goeckler '92, Walter Johnson '88, Bill Kauke '93, Eric Kauke '00, Ken Lombard '99 and Pat Rutherford '00.**

Keep an eye out for our next event as tickets to these special Brotherhood Nights are extremely limited and disappear quickly.

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15th Annual Summer Family Picnic Most Successful to Date

By Larry Santello '00, Secretary-Elect
(224-636-3252 or dime0000@gmail.com)

Gamma Upsilon Chapter hosted its 15th Annual Summer Family Picnic on Sunday, July 26. This event is hosted at Busse Woods in Elk Grove Village, just a few miles away from Woodfield Mall.

As I look back on this significant milestone, I can safely say this year was our most successful! We started in 2001 with just a handful of guys - a few from my generation ('96-'00), along with members of the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation (GUAC) Board of Directors, who organized it. A few more people would show up each year as the years progressed, largely relying on word of mouth and our *Manifesto* reminder. We also learned the best way to hold the event at this location - the most critical, in my opinion, was determining which grove number to reserve (as one year, we had to walk nearly a half mile to the nearest bathroom!).

Perhaps due to our matured social media presence, this year saw over 25 brothers attend, with a total of over 40 people present: wives, many of whom are Bradley alumni themselves, kids (some future Theta Chis) and a few friends of brothers. I was glad to see plenty of familiar faces, but thrilled to see several new brothers at the event, including Brother **Jeff Groves '83** visiting from overseas (he works embassy security for the US Department of State) and Brother **John Barlow '89**, in town from Washington, DC.

Although everyone has a different story to tell, one thing remains constant: our experience as a Theta Chi undergraduate was so influential we all find ways to remain involved in our adult lives.



The entire group pictured at Busse Woods in Elk Grove Village

Gamma Upsilon Records Several Significant Accomplishments in 2014-15 Academic Year!

By Sean DonCarlos '03, Gamma Upsilon Chapter Advisor
(618-977-3244 or sdoncarlos@gmail.com)

The Gamma Upsilon Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity continues to assert its influence and accomplishments on Bradley's campus. With a record-setting academic performance and a strong start to recruitment this fall, we still find time to uphold our traditions and our ideals.

Theta Chi began the fall semester with a bang, welcoming 12 new members at this year's Anadeixis ceremony on September 6. With the smallest incoming freshman class at Bradley in decades (only 900 incoming freshmen, counting both men and women) and 15 IFC fraternities on campus, competition in recruitment is tougher than ever.

The undergraduate chapter collectively achieved a 3.19 GPA for the Spring 2015 semester, the highest average GPA earned by Gamma Upsilon in at least 16 years and an improvement of 0.19 over the Fall 2014 semester. This commitment to

academics places Gamma Upsilon in a leadership position among IFC fraternities, tied for first along with Delta Sigma Phi and Sigma Phi Epsilon.

In addition, the chapter's four new members led the way in the spring semester with a 3.43 GPA. New member GPA is even more important than the overall GPA as it shows the academic future of our chapter. We appear to be in good hands! Additionally, Theta Chi Foundation Chapter's Scholarship Selection Committee awarded the current chapter president, **Justin Widd '16**, with the Sherwood and Janet Blue Memorial Scholarship. This is the first time in recent memory a member of Gamma Upsilon earned a Blue Scholarship from the Foundation Chapter. Doing so is extremely difficult; applicants compete against the best and brightest our Fraternity has to offer. Congratulations, Justin!

From the Stage to the Bimah – My Journey

By Rabbi David N. Young '96 (ravpapa@hotmail.com)

...do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly before your God. – Micah 6:8

When I was thirteen and I stepped off the *bimah* (pulpit) after my Bar Mitzvah service, my father gave me a hug and said he thought that I could be a rabbi some day. From that moment on, it was the last thing I wanted to do.

After high school in Cincinnati, I attended Bradley University, joined Theta Chi and majored in theater. My fondest memory of my undergraduate years is waking up one morning to **Sam Burick '96** shouting, "DAVE YOUNG! DAVE YOUNG! WAKE UP!! THERE ARE ROOSTERS IN OUR HOUSE!!!" The pledges of '93 spread hay all over the living room floor, rented a dozen or so chickens and let them loose in the house for their prank.

After college, I moved to LA with some friends from the theatre department and even roomed with a brother for a little while (**Chris White '97**). While I pursued a career in acting (read: bartending), I also taught at a Hebrew school and worked for a program that took teenagers camping for a weekend and taught them Jewish values. It was a lot of fun and I met Natalie Hajnal through this activity, who would eventually become my wife.

In 1999 I came to a crossroads. I was offered the role of Lysander in *A Midsummer Nights Dream* at a place called the Knightsbridge Theatre. Small potatoes, but it was a regular, paying gig, and it came with membership as a company player for Knightsbridge. At the same time, I was talking to my rabbi from Cincinnati and he convinced me to apply for rabbinical school due to my work with Jewish teens. The offer for Lysander came in just after the acceptance letter from Hebrew Union College. No big mystery which one I chose, but when the time came to decide where my life was going, it all just fell into place at the right moment. Natalie and I got married in 2000, and we went to Jerusalem for our first year of school in 2001. She trained to be a cantor (a full member of the Jewish clergy, but focused on music) at the same time I was in school.

My first congregation was in Miami, Florida, and then we moved back to Southern California, this time to Irvine. I have been able to travel extensively for my job. In Moscow, my wife and I led Passover Seders. I led my first congregational trip to Israel earlier this summer. I led teen trips to New Orleans to repair damage caused by the flooding after Hurricane Katrina and plan to do an adult trip there this spring. I also attend an annual seminar in DC with teens called L'taken, which trains them how to lobby, about passionate issues and then helps them speak with their congressional representatives.

Natalie and I have three children: Gabriel (11), Alexander (8), and Isabella (5) and a dog - Orion.



Young on his trek to Israel



David holds the Torah, Judaism's most important text



David and his wife, Natalie in Jerusalem

Do you have news to share?
Add a Brother to Brother note
under the Alumni page at
[www.gammaupsilon.org!](http://www.gammaupsilon.org/)

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2015 Golden Guard Luncheon: Continuing the Tradition

By Bob Carroll '88, Director for Alumni Events - Elect
(708.254.2058 or rcecarroll@aol.com)

For the tenth consecutive year, the refurbished Lariat Steakhouse hosted the Golden Guard Luncheon on Friday, September 25. The event was held Friday of Bradley University's Homecoming weekend to accommodate alumni brothers with family obligations on Saturdays or Sundays. Present brothers included **Dick Gillett '56**; **Bill Griffin '57**; **Lynn Gunderson '57** and wife, Allene; **Roger Hill '59** and wife, Judy; **Bill Kohler '58**; **Ron McGauvran '55**, **Daryl Steele '60**, **Mike Unruh '57** and wife, Jan; and **Budd Wilkening '52** wife Marcia. **Terry Powell '57** attended for the first time after being coaxed into attending by Brother McGauvran. Ron gave him a ride from Terry's home in Sterling to Peoria and back. **Tom Dierks '68** and wife, Juli also attended for the first time. Brother Dierks received his Golden Guard certificate as he notified us in advance he would attend. He provided entertaining and informative stories about a career in the machine-tool industry that included stints working in senior management for American, Japanese and Swiss companies. He made a very generous contribution to the annual campaign, as did Brother Hill.

Alumni Corporation President **Bob Carroll '88**, Chapter Advisory Board Chairman **Sean DonCarlos '03**, Chapter Financial Advisor **Mitch Frondal '07** and Gamma Upsilon Social Chairman **Matt Moccio '17** also attended. A brief update of the status of the fraternity was given and the chapter and alumni corporation were presented, but alumni brothers enjoyed being able to talk directly with Matt about the status of the chapter. Most of the time was spent in conversation about brothers who were not in attendance. This was done through updates on their condition and whereabouts, or with jokes as they were unable to defend themselves or clarify the story in question!

The success of this year's event was due to its organization and management by two involved members of the Golden Guard: Dick Gillet (309.657.1945) and Mike Unruh (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 14th Annual Golden Guard Luncheon** is definitely on the calendar for the Lariat Steakhouse; once we have the dates for Bradley's Homecoming celebration, we will pass it along to you! We are presently looking for two alumni brothers to assist us with this event. One from the Class of 1966 to organize a 50th Anniversary Reunion for his graduating class and a second initiated during the 1966 calendar year to recruit the newest members of the Golden Guard to attend the luncheon and receive their certificates. If you fall into one of the above categories, please contact Brother **Marty Deering '89** at deerman89@hotmail.com.



Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation Elects New Board of Directors for 2015-17 Term

By Bob Carroll '88, Director for Alumni Events - Elect (708-254-2058 or rcecarroll@aol.com)

Every year at Homecoming, the Gamma Upsilon Alumni Corporation holds its Annual Meeting to report progress made toward goals set in the previous year to alumni brothers. When meetings are held in odd-numbered years, the Board elects membership for the next two years. At the Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 26, 2015, the Board elected membership and officers for the 2015-17 term. Elected to the Board were: **Jeff Albrecht '07** (third term); **Bob Carroll '88** (tenth term); **Marty Deering '89** (third term); **Mike Scheve '02** (seventh term); **Larry Santello '00** (first term); and **Alex Wolf '85** (eighth term).

Marty Deering '89 was elected president. Marty served as secretary and director for alumni events during his previous two terms on the Board. Marty is also a recipient of the Silver Legion of Theta Chi Fraternity for twenty-five years of membership and service to the Fraternity.

Mike Scheve was re-elected to his third consecutive term as vice-president.

Mike also served as treasurer and house manager during his membership on the Board.

Larry Santello was elected secretary. This is Larry's first office on the Board, but for the past decade Larry has been a visible presence at all of our alumni events, both in Chicago and Peoria.

Jeff Albrecht was re-elected to his second consecutive term as treasurer.

Bob Carroll was elected director of alumni programming. Bob also served as president, secretary and historian while on the Board. Bob served as a regional counselor for Theta Chi Fraternity and chairman of the Greek Alumni Advisory Council for Bradley University. Upon the conclusion of the meeting, Brother Carroll was presented with the George T. Kilavos Alumni Award for exceptional service to the Fraternity and to recognize his leadership of the Board as president for six terms. Bob is the tenth alumnus brother from Gamma Upsilon to receive the Kilavos Alumni Award. Brothers Scheve and **Sean DonCarlos '03**, the



Brother Carroll receives the Kilavos Alumni Award from Brother Deering

chapter advisor and chairman of the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Advisory Board, are also recent recipients. Bob is also a recipient of the Silver Legion.

Alex Wolf will serve on the Board as director without portfolio, handling tasks on an as-needed basis for the Board. Alex previously served as vice-president and secretary. Alex is also a recipient of the Silver Legion.

Gamma Upsilon Continues Strong Philanthropy Presence

By Sean DonCarlos '03, Gamma Upsilon Chapter Advisor (618-977-3244 or sdoncarloss@gmail.com)

In conjunction with the national Fraternity partnering with the United Services Organization (USO) as Theta Chi's national philanthropy in 2014, the chapter rebranded its signature "Queen of Hearts" philanthropy as "G.I. Theta Chi." This benefits the USO and Wounded Warrior Project instead of the American Heart Association. The chapter held its 2nd G.I. Theta Chi in the spring and raised nearly \$1,000.

Alumni familiar with the original Queen of Hearts fear not - sororities still compete in penny voting and a pageant where a winner is still crowned at a closing function. Not only is she still deemed the "Queen of Hearts," but she also graces the chapter's next composite.

Gamma Upsilon still maintains an oversized presence

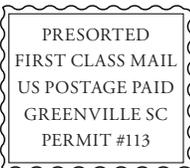
on campus. Several members serve as Resident Advisers and Assistant Resident Advisers in dorms. This is especially critical for recruitment as RAs and ARAs are often the first leaders incoming freshmen encounter at Bradley. Our undergraduates participate in everything from the routine intramural sports to the unexpected, like Engineers Without Borders. The membership's diverse range of interests helps ensure Gamma Upsilon can draw from the widest possible pool of potential new members.

If you have any questions about our undergraduate chapter or are interested in learning about giving back to your chapter by serving on the Chapter Advisory Board, contact **Sean DonCarlos '03** at sdoncarloss@gmail.com or 618.977.3244.



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Alumni Spotlight: Bill Kohler '58

By Bob Carroll '88, Director for Alumni Events - Elect (708.254.2058 or rcecarroll@aol.com) _____

One of most interesting aspects of attending alumni events is not only learning what our senior alumni brothers did as undergraduates (including the good, the bad and the ugly) but discovering what they are doing now while retired or semi-retired. Brother Kohler, a retired dentist, keeps busy with a volunteer schedule that would tire a man half his age. Bill serves as a supervising dentist for the Dental Hygienist program at Illinois Community College. He supervises students during practicum hours in dental offices so host dentists can tend to patients. He also serves as a substitute dentist for ten different practices in the greater Peoria area, allowing practicing

dentists to take vacation time with their families. If that isn't enough, Bill works with Dental Sealants and More, a program that visits local pre-schools and gives free dental check-ups and teeth cleanings to over 9,000 students qualified through local Head Start initiatives. To round out his truly selfless service to others, he serves as a dental consultant to The Bleeding and Clotting Disorders Institute. This organization examines ways to better treat patients afflicted with the genetic conditions of hemophilia (the inability of the blood to clot) or thrombophilia (the excessive clotting of the blood).