

In the Life of Theta Chi

Editor's Note: Reading about some of the unexpected, personal, and positive ways that Theta Chi Fraternity touches lives can be enjoyable, interesting, affirming, and an unexpected source of inspiration. This regular feature, reflecting selected correspondence and emails received by the editor of The Rattle, or by the Staff of the Fraternity's International Headquarters, continues to help us enjoy the impact of the Brotherhood of Theta Chi around the world.

Non-Verbal Communication at Its Finest!

Since you never know where you'll meet a Brother, it always pays to "advertise" the fact that we are Theta Chi's. Last November I took my family on a vacation to Disneyworld, the first for my children, then ages 8, 6 and 4. It turned out to be a wonderful trip, made even better by the following incident:

One day while going through the park (I happened to be wearing one of my many Theta Chi t-shirts), we came upon the characters from "Toy Story" who were signing autographs and posing for photos. Because this is one of the kids' favorite movies, my wife, Diane, and I thought it would be a good opportunity for a memorable family picture. We took the picture, and I turned to thank "Woody" for providing a great memory. In return to my words, he never spoke, as I guess is required by Disney policy. However he did take my hand and give me "the grip," as if to say "you're welcome, Brother."

"Woody," if you read this, or recognize our photo, I have to tell you that meeting you was one of the highlights of an already great trip. Thank YOU, Brother, for making that day one to remember.

Fraternally,
Jim McQuade
Beta Sigma/Lehigh University '84



Bruce Johnson, right (Gamma Upsilon/Bradley University '66) received the Alumnus Award of Theta Chi Fraternity at a reception held in his honor earlier this year by Bradley University and the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Alumni Corporation. The award recognizes Johnson's leadership in a recent project to landscape and beautify the front lawn of the Gamma Upsilon chapter house and for his historically strong support of the chapter. Presenting the award is the Gamma Upsilon Chapter Alumni Corporation is its president, Bob Carroll ('88).



"Toy Story" becomes a Real Story for Jim McQuade and his family during a recent visit to Disneyworld.



Alabama Legend Retires from Alma Mater: Earlier this year, past National President of Theta Chi Fraternity, Dale Taylor (Alpha Phi/University of Alabama '69) retired from the University of Alabama, thereby drawing to a close 27 years of service to Student Affairs and Financial Affairs. To commemorate Taylor's many contributions to the University of Alabama, a young Shumard Oak was dedicated and marked with a granite marker in the Woods Quadrangle on campus. University Vice Presidents and Administrators, Friends, and many Theta Chi undergraduates and alumnus members attended the ceremony.

Gamma Xi Founders Keep in Touch

Between sixteen and twenty alumnus brothers of Gamma Xi Chapter at San Jose State University (all founding fathers of the chapter) meet semiannually at a local restaurant and lift our glasses in memory of our good times of the past, and 'toast' our brothers who have passed away during the past year. Enclosed are a couple of pages of our semi-annual [newsletter] called "Frat Chat" and that is published by one of our regulars.

Fraternally,
Paul Castoro ('48)

Josh Gomes' Indomitable Spirit Lives On

The Fall, 1998, issue of *The Rattle* provided an article entitled "Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome: Life with AIDS," that focused on Brother Josh Gomes (Gamma Lambda/University of Denver '01). Gomes described his own fears and hopes as he battled the disease, acquired through a blood transfusion in the early 1980's, with a determination that inspired all who read his words. Before his entry into the Chapter



Theta Chi Marines Meet in Iraq: Major John Carson (right, Delta Upsilon/Arizona State University '89), and Major Jerry Kalogiannis (Alpha Chi/Syracuse University '88) meet on the front lawn of the Presidential palace this past summer, while in the Green Zone of Baghdad, Iraq. Both Marines serve with the 1st Marine Division.



Dale A. Slivinske Remembered

Interfraternal and Fraternal Brothers, and friends, of the late-Dale A. Slivinske (Gamma Sigma/Duke University '68) met recently to remember him, and celebrate his life and service to Theta Chi Fraternity, at the 15th Annual Slivinske Dinner, held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Attendees at this year's event included (standing behind Theta Chi Fraternity's Executive Director Emeritus Howard R. Alter, Jr. (Omega/Pennsylvania Sate University '41, seated), are (first row, left to right) Ralph D. Daniel, Executive Director Emeritus, Phi Kappa Psi Fraternity; George A. Beck, Executive Director Emeritus, Pi Lambda Phi Fraternity; Marvin L. McConaghy (Alpha Phi/University of Alabama '72); Dale Taylor (Alpha Phi/University of Alabama '69); and Richard L. Simon (Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity and Past President of the North American Interfraternity Conference). Second row, from left to right, were: James E. Greer, Jr., Executive Director Emeritus, Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity; Wilford A. Butler, Past Executive Director, Delta Upsilon Fraternity; Richard L. McCauley (Delta Kappa/Ball State University '64); Reverend Dr. John Lolla (Beta Omicron/University of Cincinnati '77); and P. Alan Bulliner (Beta Sigma/Lehigh University '65). Third row, from left to right, were: James R. Thompson (Beta/Massachusetts Institute of Technology '79); William K. Booth; David L. Westol (Beta Zeta/Michigan State '73), Carlton F. Bennett (Zeta Pi/Old Dominion University '72); Kenneth Simon, President, Zeta Beta Tau Fraternity; and, Henry Poor, Past Executive Director, Psi Upsilon Fraternity.



Eternal on May 31, 2001, at the age of 21, Gomes celebrated many birthdays, and graduated as valedictorian from his Denver High School. In late August of this year, Brother Gomes was remembered by many friends and family members as they joined almost 8,000 people in Denver who walked in the area's Annual 5K Walk and raised almost \$800,000.

Army Comrades Discover Theta Chi Bond In Iraq

After I completed the U.S. Army Ranger School in April 2003, I had the opportunity to attend the 75th anniversary celebration of my chapter being on the Syracuse University campus. As I left Syracuse to return to Ft. Benning prior to my departure for Germany, I wondered when I would again have the opportunity to exchange stories about Theta Chi.

I left for my first duty station in central Germany in June of 2003. For the next several months, we trained and prepared for our deployment to Operation Iraqi Freedom II. We deployed to Kuwait in February, and eventually arrived in Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, Iraq, in March. Shortly thereafter, my unit's new executive officer arrived after completing a previous assignment.

After a long day of operations and meetings, there were several officers, including myself, having a conversation in our unit's conference

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Mike Morrissey (left) and Phil Cala

room. We somehow ended up talking about college, whether we went to the Academy or whether we were commissioned through ROTC, and what our extra-curricular activities were.

At this point in the conversation, I mentioned that I had lived in my fraternity house for three years. In addition to living with 20 of my best friends, having a house cook, contributing to the financial stability of the chapter, the Chapter also had fairly reasonable rent for the accommodations we were provided.

Our executive officer, MAJ Mike Morrissey, asked me what fraternity I belonged to while at Syracuse. I told him, "I'm *in* Theta Chi." He then mentioned, on his way out of the room that he had been through Syracuse on occasion and that he also knew some Theta Chi brothers.

When MAJ Morrissey came back into the room, I chose to confirm an instinct that I had about him. I began a conversation with him, asking where he had gone to college. I then challenged him, and confirmed my instinct. The great part about the challenge was that it was completely transparent to everyone else in the room. MAJ Morrissey and I are still the only ones that share the stories of Freeman and Chase and the Old South Barracks.

MAJ Morrissey is a founding father and past-President of Theta Lambda Chapter at Bloomsburg. I served in several positions during my tenure at Syracuse, most notably as Marshal for 3 semesters.



ROTC CADETS CONNECT AS BROTHERS

Recently, our Army ROTC Battalion at the University of Tampa hosted its annual military ball. Our Battalion consists of 96 Cadets, and 12 of us are Theta Chi Brothers! Our chapter at the University of Tampa, Epsilon Zeta, is proud of its military history, and we are ready to be leaders in the United States Army and United States Air Force.

From left to right are: Martin Robles-Taylor, Christopher Clones, Eric Prazinko, Frank Trinidad, Joe Gould, Justin Coe, Trevor Chambers, Daniel Rosario, Ryan Hamel, and Ben White. Not pictured are Pedro Cortes and Lewis Moore.

We are expected to redeploy to central Germany after the New Year, having been in Iraq for around one year by the time we return.

Fraternally,

First Lieutenant Phil Cala (Alpha Chi/Syracuse University '02)

Major Mike Morrissey (Theta Lambda/Bloomsburg University '90)

A Helping Hand Means Life

A pair of alumnus brothers from Delta Theta Chapter at the University of Toledo have more between them now than they probably ever imagined. Jacob Cady, the young son of Ron Cady ('87) is alive because Tom Dusza ('89) gave Jacob a new liver in March of this year, or as Jacob described it to a friend who asked "How did you get that big cut on your stomach?" Jake explained, "It's from when I got my new belly. My dad's friend, Tom Dusza, gave me a new belly."

This heart wrenching and concurrently heart lifting experience is documented at Jacob's "CaringBridge" website www.caringbridge.org/oh/jacoblouis. Any Theta Chi who reads this demonstration of the words of our Creed, "It inspires true friendship: ...and extends a helping hand to all who seek it" in action will be truly moved by the courage of young Cady, the love of Brother Dusza, and the gratitude of his brother,



Tom Dusza and Jacob Cady

Tom, and the Cady family. Jacob's mom, Christine, aptly described the experience this way: "I am often asked how Ron and I are doing. Our faith in God, the time we spend with our two wonderful children, and knowing how many people care about Jacob and our family is what gets us through the days and the long sometimes sleepless nights. Thank you again for all of your prayers, I log onto this site every morning and see who has written, it is truly inspirational and a great way for me to start the day. Take care and God Bless you all."



Indiana State Alumni Catch Up

Recently, some of the alumni of the Delta Pi Chapter of Theta Chi at Indiana State University got together to catch up on events that have transpired since their last reunion about four or five years earlier. These are many of the brothers who were instrumental in building the Delta Pi Chapter to campus prominence in the 60's and early 70's. While spread apart in years at Indiana State, they are all still very good friends. These men exemplify the Helping Hand, and have pledged to continue to support Delta Pi in any way possible. They envision that a 1960's reunion will be held at Homecoming, 2006. The alumni corporation and members of today's chapter thank them for all their support given so freely over the years.

In the group, seated, are: Gene Hauenstein ('62), Fred Stump ('64), Clarke Dippell ('62), and Dennis Fach ('65). Standing are Kent Caldwell ('66), Lloyd Biodie ('66), Jerry Joab ('65), Tom Alward ('64), Phylis Junker, Philip Junker ('62), Jim Stratton ('65), and Dave Fouty ('64).

Fraternally,
C. Craig Simpson ('81)
President, Delta Pi Alumni Corporation



"We Are Family"

We met in 1971 during the pledging phase of our indoctrination to Theta Chi Fraternity at Zeta Nu Chapter at Parsons College, and have remained friends ever since. Over the past thirty-three years, we have share life's ups and downs, and have simultaneously seen each other's children grow, treating them as nephews and nieces. Theta Chi made us brothers, and although we may not be blood, we are family!

In the front row, left, are Jim Funderburg (Alpha Tau/Ohio University '71) and his wife; and right, Jeff Marrs (Zeta Nu/Parsons '75) and his wife. In the back row, left, are Steve Mattix ('75) and his wife, and my wife and me on the right. The picture was taken at the wedding of Brother Marrs' son last year. My wife and I traveled from Dubuque, Iowa, and Brother Mattix from Bremerton, Washington, to attend this wedding in Piqua, Ohio.

Fraternally yours,
Bob Bucko (Zeta Nu/Parsons '74)

Undergrads Attend UIFI on Scholarships from Foundation Chapter



Theta Chi brothers take time out for a photo during Session #9 of the Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute (UIFI) held this past summer at Indiana University, in Bloomington, Indiana. They participated in the week-long institute, sponsored by the North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC), learning about value-based leadership, the importance of Ritual, and staying committed to the Fraternal bond. From left to right are: Alex Pena (Zeta Pi/Old Dominion University '07), Jared Brown (Eta Zeta/Edinboro University '99 and UIFI facilitator), Casey Taylor (Epsilon Phi/Central Missouri State University '07), Drew Wise (Epsilon Phi/Central Missouri State University '05), Ben White (Epsilon Zeta/University of Tampa '06), and Mike Schwaller (Epsilon Phi/Central Missouri State University '06). The Foundation Chapter of Theta Chi Fraternity, Inc., provided 12 full scholarships (\$395 each) to undergraduate members attending UIFI.