

## ANNUAL FUND

Thank you to all of those alums who have donated to the 2016-17 fund thus far.

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## CHAPTER UPDATE

### Theta-Pi Leads Campus in GPA During fall semester

Lambda Chi Alpha was the bigger winner among the Greek fraternities this past semester. **Theta-Pi led Gettysburg in GPA** with a term average of 3.22, finishing comfortably in front of runner-up Sigma Chi (3.12).

The average for the student body for the term was 3.17, while the Greek average was 3.16.



# THETA PI NEWS



Lambda Chi Alpha at Gettysburg College • [www.lambdachigetgettsburg.com](http://www.lambdachigetgettsburg.com) • January 2017

## ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

### Jeff Bullard goes the extra mile for a brother

Brother **Fran Cannon '78** lives and breathes Theta-Pi. He's been a dedicated brother from the moment he was initiated. Recently, Brother Cannon sent us a story that perfectly encapsulates why his brothers at Lambda Chi Alpha mean so much to him.

"A few weeks ago, my oldest daughter, Mary Catherine, was to drive to Birmingham, Ala., for a new job. It was a very long drive and she wanted to drive the first 11+ hours to Knoxville, Tenn. I was overly concerned since it was New Year's Day, traveling by herself, and traveling with two dogs in her car. Just a Dad worrying and being concerned. Long way by yourself.

I remembered that a fraternity Brother, **Jeff Bullard '80**, lived somewhere near Knoxville. I knew this because Jeff constantly needles me each and every Alabama game that they stink, etc. Just a bit of rivalry between the two of us for the last few years. Again, only via Facebook and during the football season, as my wife LOVES Bama and was born and raised there, and went to school there in Tuscaloosa.

I decided to call Jeff's Brother, Bob, Class of 1975, in Kansas City the day before she left to get his number. Bob was my Big Brother at Gettysburg College at Lambda Chi.

I called Jeff to ask if he lived near the hotel that my daughter was to stay. He IMMEDIATELY said, 'Yes, about 15 minutes away and what can I do?' I asked if there was any way he might consider driving over to surprise her and greet her with a smiling face, and assist her to her room and with two dogs.



Jeff Bullard came through for his brother on New Year's Day.

Now, here is where it gets better. Jeff jumped all over this: On New Year's Day!

He said he would be most happy to meet her and asked if he could bring her a hot Bar-B-Que meal from Tenn., veggies, etc., so she would NOT have to get in the car again. Then, kept texting me the next day for her arrival time, and telling me there were 2-3 places she could stop for meals, and 'does she like this or that.' Then,

suggested that he should wear his Gettysburg College sweatshirt so she would not be alarmed meeting someone in the lobby of a hotel and be upset. Added to the 'credibility,' as he said.

In the end, he was there early sitting and waiting for her in the lobby, sweatshirt and all, and with a hot meal. Jeff even offered to walk her dogs.

So, why am I telling you this? He did this on New Year's Day, a day when he could be sitting home watching games, meeting someone he never met, going out of his way to get hot food, and doing this for ME, and guy he barely talks to over the last 35 years, etc. Why, because being a member of a fraternity is a Brotherhood that goes on for life. He dropped everything for me, and because he cared enough to help, and put himself in my shoes!

This is why I write you and wanted everyone to know that even as the years go by, yes, this Brotherhood 'thing' that we all talk about and cherish, yes, it actually works. It never stops.

Thank you, Jeff. I will never forget what you did for me, and her!"

## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

### A Q&A with the man who organized our 100th-anniversary party

Brother Robert Blomberg '76 was an instrumental part of the planning committee that made the 100th-anniversary celebration a success last fall. Robert recently answered a series of questions about organizing the big event.

#### What exactly did the 100th-anniversary weekend entail?

RB: Fran Cannon led a committee which involved brothers from many different decades and which worked hard to prepare for the weekend. The committee had dozens of conference calls to plan all details of the weekend. We relied heavily on alumni support from Gettysburg College – in particular College Alumni Director Joe Lynch, Joe's staff, and Joe Guerreri '08 from the Gettysburg College staff. They were instrumental and were a tremendous help to all of us and the committee.

We had many events scheduled throughout the weekend. While we dealt with heavy rain all weekend, it didn't dampen the enthusiasm of the returning Lambda Chi brothers and their families.

We kicked it off with a golf event on Friday afternoon where we had 36 golfers.

We had a Friday evening social event at the Gettysburg College Alumni House. Well over 130 brothers and their spouses attended.

On Saturday, we had a lunch which had the largest returning number of brothers and their families – more than 400 attended.

In the late afternoon, we had a dedication



of mental chairs to brothers no longer can get with us; we also had the opportunity for a group photo as well as photos by class and/or by decade.

Saturday night's dinner for almost 200 included former U.S. Presidential Candidate Ron Paul '57 and Lambda Chi National President Bill Farkas.

#### Who did you reunite with that you haven't seen in years? What was the best part about seeing them again?

RB: What was great was that we had brothers return from classes in the 1950 through the 2010's. Most of the people from classes where I had overlap (1973-1979) I had seen in prior reunions. But for many returning brothers, they got to reconnect with brothers they hadn't seen since their respective graduations. One brother, Tom Ehrhart '77, returned from Thailand for the reunion.

#### Do you think you laid the groundwork for making the alumni association even stronger down the road? In what ways?

RB: The turnout was fantastic and much networking occurred, which will benefit the Alumni Association in future years.

#### Did you know Ron Paul would be there before he walked in the door?

RB: Yes. We knew Ron would be attending as the committee worked with the college staff to coordinate his visit. What was also great was that

Ron met with several other Gettysburg College student groups throughout the weekend.

#### Did any other alums express any thoughts/concerns about the direction of either the active chapter or alumni association? How so?

RB: The focus on the weekend was celebrating our 100 Years of Brotherhood at Lambda Chi. While tours of the current Lambda Chi house occurred and many memories were shared, the focus was more on the past with the anticipation that the past will drive the future direction for the house.

#### Why does Lambda Chi Alpha continue to be so important to you?

RB: The Gettysburg chapter of Lambda Chi was a huge part of my college years and the friendships which began there continue through today. It was also an important driver in influencing the person I am today.

## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Brother Harry Fones '15 goes to work for RNC

The biggest national story of 2016 was the presidential race, and Brother **Harry Fones '15** was right in the middle of it. Fones, a former member of the Gettysburg College Republicans, works for the Republican National Committee in Washington. The history/political science major is a research analyst.

"If you had told me when I first got to Gettysburg that I would end up working for the RNC, I never would have believed you," Fones told the Gettysburg College web site. "Now, I get to do what I love. And that's a really neat feeling — to be 23 and to be doing something I love."

Fones attended the annual Conservative Political Action Conference



in Washington while he was an undergrad, where he met Rick Santorum and Newt Gingrich, among others.

"That's where I really started to dip my toe into the political arena," Fones said. "And that's when I really started to get involved." But when Fones wasn't interacting with conservative heavyweights, he was also learning under Gettysburg professors like Don Tannenbaum and Ken Mott.

"No one cared what I thought as long as I could explain why," Fones said in describing their debates. Two other Gettysburg alums – **Liz Oberg '15** and **Mia Phillips '16** – work with Fones at the RNC. Fones got an interview when he ran into Oberg on the D.C. metro. "So much of D.C. is being in the right place at the right time," Fones said.



# CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

Take a look at this photo collage of our 100th birthday party!!





## ALUMNI UPDATE

### LXA Develops a Leader in Brother Chain



Jack Chain '93

Brother **Jack Chain '93** credits Lambda Chi Alpha with helping him develop the necessary skills to excel in his career. "My life as a Theta-Pi had me taking on administrative and managerial tasks at a relatively naive age. The skills I learned through leadership positions, with real life consequences for failure, helped me be the stronger leader I am today in my current profession, as well as in my personal life," said Jack.

*"These experiences, and many others, laid the foundation for my managerial style."*

As an undergraduate, he served as house manager and quickly learned that it was a role that took true leadership skills and organization to maintain a property with 30 people. Jack also served as an alumni representative for the house. "This role allowed me to plan and organize events for returning alumni and develop methods of communicating with them. These experiences, and many others, laid the foundation for my managerial style. They also strengthened my organizational skills and served me well in my career as an educator," he said.

## ALUMNI REUNION

### Two Theta-Pi brothers meet on Broadway

Brother **Brad Westfall '85** submitted the following tale in 2009. It's such a great story, we decided to re-run it here.

"What a terrific reunion! Last spring I took my family to New York City for a long weekend. During our visit, it dawned on me that I should have tried to call my college roommate and fraternity brother, **Rick Holmes '85**, who I knew was living in the Big Apple. Although I had a vague idea what he was up to, I hadn't talked to him in several years and hadn't seen him in at least 20!

"So, I took a chance and dialed the only number I had. I got his voice mail, left a message and before you know it, we were



Rick Holmes '85, second from left.

having dinner together at a little French restaurant right off Broadway. It was great catching up and remembering our days at Gettysburg and at Lambda Chi. It was also great to be able to introduce to him my wife of 21 years and three daughters, ages 18, 16 and 12.

It quickly became apparent that he was on

a first-name basis with many in the restaurant and when I inquired as to why, I learned that he starred in "Spamalot" on Broadway until the show closed. This was one of the places that he frequented with fellow cast members after the show. I knew he had toured with the show years before, but did not know he had hit the "big time" playing Sir Lancelot in the Broadway hit! I was disappointed that I did not get to see him in the show when it was on Broadway, but then I found out that he might be opening the show in Los Angeles later in the summer. I got great tickets (to the L.A. show) and ... I haven't laughed that hard, that much, and that out loud for a very long time."

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

### The Late Norm Henry '60 Learned Much at Theta-Pi

We have learned that **Brother Norman H. Henry '60** died this past June in Colchester, VT. Norman had an amazing personality and was instantly adored by anyone he met. He is survived by his son Dean and his wife Kathy of South Hero, VT, son Guy Henry of California and his daughter Charlotte Barrowman of Huntington, VT, his grandchildren Cole, Lindsey, Lief, Madison and Alexa. He is also survived by his twin brother Pat, his brother Brian and his sister Rusty.

We were going through our archives, and we found this letter from Brother Norman, which he wrote in 2007. At this time, ten years later, we felt that it was worth remembering Brother Henry's words.

"I can just say that the camaraderie with my LCA fraternity



brothers was a very important part of my four years at Gettysburg College. One story includes being a pledge who was four years older than the other pledges, so I was as old as the seniors. (I worked for two years and then did two years in the Army, including one year in Korea, before entering college.) I was reminded by the LCA President in my pledge year of 1956 that notwithstanding my "advanced age," I was expected to respect the brothers as I did my meal service and other work as a pledge. It was a good learning experience that I carried forward in my life. My experience as a Lambda Chi Alpha brother was a very memorable part of my great four years at Gettysburg College.