

## CHAPTER NEWS

We'd like to recognize our chapter brothers who volunteer weekly at the Boys and Girls Club of Bethlehem this semester.

Also, **Keith Morris** and **Harry Caruso** attended a Greek Leadership seminar on October 3, 2010.

## RECONNECT

Would you like to reconnect with a long-lost brother? Let us know who you're looking for, and we'll do our best to put you back in touch!

Send an email to our alumni office at [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention LXA at Lehigh) with the full name and class year of who you're looking for, and they'll reply with the contact information we have on file for him.

## ON THE WEB

### ***Are You Registered on Our Alumni Web Site?***

If not, get your username and password today for full access to our online alumni community.

#### ***It's easy!***

- Go to [www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com).
- Click on First Time Login.
- Enter your last name.
- Select your record.
- Enter your Member ID. You can find this printed above your name and address on this newsletter.

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA FRATERNITY

# THE GAMMA-PSIDER PRESS

GAMMA-PSI ZETA ♦ LEHIGH UNIVERSITY ♦ BETHLEHEM, PA.

[www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com)

December 2010

## ALUMNI REPORT

### Staying Connected with Lambda Chi in Our Alumni Years

*By Anthony Franchina '95; [anthony\\_franchina@yahoo.com](mailto:anthony_franchina@yahoo.com)*

Looking back on my college years, I can wholeheartedly say that Lambda Chi played a significant part of my life. I'm happy to say that the fraternity experience did not just last for my four years at Lehigh, but continues to be a part of my life today.

In this issue of *Gamma-Psider Press* you'll read the stories of how Lambda Chi continues to influence the lives of other alumni too. Some still fondly recall the best memories from their fraternity days. Others rekindle their bonds in their adult years by planning reunions with brothers from their era. And others realize the significant impact Lambda Chi has had on their lives, and how they wouldn't be who

they are today if it weren't for the Gamma Psi experience.

I encourage you to renew your participation in your alumni years too. It's easy to do. Share a story, update or photo for publication in our next newsletter. Register on our web site and update your email address so we can stay connected with you. And most importantly, make a gift to the annual fund to ensure that we can continue to keep you in touch with Lambda Chi and the friends you met there.

Feel free to contact me at any time with questions or for ways you can get involved. I'm looking forward to staying connected with you in our alumni years.

## ON THE WEB

### Send Us Your Email Address!

By updating your email address with Gamma Psi, you'll get much more than just our monthly eLetter communications.

#### *Other benefits include:*

- You'll be reminded when we're about to publish a newsletter, so you can submit your news, photos and stories
- Your email address will be available to other alumni in our (password protected) online directory

- You'll help the alumni association save money on paper, printing and postage (and be utilized for other things!)
- You'll be the first to know of the latest news, updates and event details from the alumni and active chapters

As a reminder, our database is used solely for Lambda Chi communications. Update your email address online at [www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com), or send it to [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention Lambda Chi at Lehigh).

## 2010 ANNUAL FUND HONOR ROLL

Thank you to the following alumni for their contributions so far in the 2010 giving year.

### Gold (\$250 - \$499.99)

Steve E. Ploder 1991  
Christopher - Scott 1994  
David J. Stillman 1994

### Green (\$100 - \$249.99)

H. Stanley Stoney Jr. 1959  
Charles A. Cosgrove 1968  
James H. Pressler 1969

### Purple (\$50 - \$99.99)

Robert J. Hunter 1955

Robert DeMoyer Jr. 1966  
Glenn P. Wagner 1975  
Thomas W. Neff 1990  
Christopher M. Marschall 1992

### Donor (Up to \$49.99)

Archie S. Robertson Jr. 1965  
Erwin B Jenschke Jr. 1974

*Reflects gifts received as of December 3, 2010.*

### Make a Gift

Please show your support of our annual fund as we approach the end of our 2010 giving year.

#### ***There are three ways to make a gift:***

- Log on to [www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com).
- Call 800-975-6699.
- Mail a check payable to "B.G.P.Z. Inc." to:  
Lambda Chi Alpha  
Lehigh University  
P.O. Box 7007  
Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

## ALUMNI UPDATE

### '00s

#### Michael Kleeblatt '01

(6906 Bright Ave., McLean, VA 22101; Kleebs15@gmail.com) Hope everyone is doing well! I am still living just outside of DC with my wife Katie (Lafayette Class of '02). We had our first child in October 2008 (Fordham Michael Kleeblatt). I have been at Booz Allen Hamilton for seven years now, and everything is going very well. If you are in the area, feel free to shoot me an email

#### Ross Trachtenberg '02

(2429 Locust Street #402, Philadelphia, PA 19103; RTrachtenberg@friendscentral.org) My wedding took place on May 30th, 2009 to Lori Sexton in Pittsburgh, PA. Fellow brothers: **Ross Hurwitz, Nate Krieger, Matt Booras** and **Frank Chartier** were in the wedding party. **Scott Garrett, Zak House** and **Jon Trenkle** were all in attendance as well. Lori and I live in Center City, Philadelphia.

#### Keith Janosky '00

(132 Fawn Hill Road, Upper Saddle River, NJ 07458; kljanosky@yahoo.com) My wife, Kate, and I are proud to announce the birth of our son, Nolan James on April 9th. He and Kate are doing well. His big sisters Avery (5) and Mackenzie (3) are enjoying having a little brother. Hope all of you are well.

*What's new with you? Share your news, stories, updates and photos online at [www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com).*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Love old photos?

So do we! That's why we need your help to preserve the best moments from our chapter's history that have been captured on film.

Send the best pictures from your era to [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention LXA at Lehigh), or mail them to the return address on this newsletter. We'll feature the best submissions on our web site or in an upcoming newsletter.

**In this photo:** Hugh Brown and Al Shepard with some friends in 1967. Photo submitted by Jim Krop.



## ALUMNI PROFILE

### "Take All You Can from Your Experiences with Lambda Chi"

#### Ross Trachtenberg '99 Shares How Gamma-Psi has Carried with Him in His Alumni Years

Ross Trachtenberg '99 joined Lambda Chi Alpha in his freshman year and credits the rush process with helping him get to know the active brothers more closely.

"The brothers really impressed me with their consistent values," Ross said. "They seemed to care about a healthy balance between work and fun. It was a really diverse group of good guys that enjoyed each other's company and cared about their school work and doing well on campus. That group had lots of campus leaders in their ranks."

Ross also noted the respect that the brothers showed toward one another.

"They respected each other, which was a big thing, even if we weren't all best friends everyone respected each other," Ross said. "I met with easily 25 other fraternities during the rush process and found that a lot of other clubs and fraternities were very cliquish and segregated, but I didn't find that at all with Lambda Chi."

He formed a close bond with his "Big" Ross Hurwitz '98 during the pledge process, and later he served as his Big's assistant pledge chair and associate pledge master. He went on to work a lot with the Interfraternity Council (IFC), chaired the Greek Week Committee, and during his junior year into his senior year served as rush chair for the chapter. The bond between the two Rosses remained strong and Ross Hurwitz was the Best Man for Ross' wedding.

#### Charity and Service

The charitable activities of Lambda Chi stand out in Ross' memory, including the Can Drive the chapter would support to benefit the Boys and Girls Club surrounding the Thanksgiving holiday.

"It never felt like work to support the Can Drive," Ross said. "You would find a friend who had an SUV and just drive

around town picking up the cans. It was fun because you were doing it together. Of course, we supported the Boys and Girls Club throughout the year. We would visit afternoons and play dodge ball with kids and help them with their homework. The brothers looked forward to it."

#### Experiences that Shape the Future

While at Lehigh, Ross also worked with the Admissions office providing tours to prospective students, an experience which would later influence his career path.

"My major was accounting and I went into public accounting for a big firm for a couple of years, but I found that I missed working with people," Ross said. "Eventually, I left the firm and work in a High School now where I coach baseball and do tours. I put in a lot of hours, but I enjoy my life. I use my degree but on my own terms."

When asked what advice he would impart to active brothers, Ross said he believes the focus should be on happiness.

"Enjoy college. Get everything you can. I got a ton of experience by giving tours and recruitment and it's turning out to help me in some ways more than my degree. Likewise, take all that you can from your experiences with Lambda Chi. It's a great group of capable guys and you can learn a lot from them," Ross said. "Ultimately, it's more important to be happy than it is to have a job that is considered prestigious. Like me, you may just find that the big firms and big paychecks that go with them may not be what makes you happy."

#### Supporting the Future of Lambda Chi

Ross also believes strongly in supporting Lambda Chi, with donations of all kinds.

"Donations can come in a lot of different ways. Monetary donations are obviously needed. Alumni donated when



I was a brother so I appreciated how they made things possible for us when I was in school. Now, we donate what we can to provide those same opportunities to a new generation," Ross said. "However, I think if you can't contribute money you can always contribute something else. It can be a matter of donating time. Even showing up at a football game and talking to guys that you know can be even more helpful, showing support from brothers that did it five or 50 years before."

Now that he is more deeply immersed in the world of recruitment, Ross did note the valuable role of monetary donations to help attract the best new brothers.

"The monetary piece keeps the frat alive but it also keeps great brothers coming in. Upgrades to house will help attract new kids coming in and help us compete for the highest caliber of new brothers."

Ross is currently living in Philadelphia where he works at his old high school alma mater, the Friends' Central School, as assistant director of admissions. For this small private school, he also serves as head coach of varsity baseball.

*Reconnect with Ross at [RTrachtenberg@friendscentral.org](mailto:RTrachtenberg@friendscentral.org).*

*Do you know of a Gamma Psi alum who would make a good profile subject? If so, contact our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention "The Gamma-Psi Press" in the subject line).*

## REMEMBER WHEN?

There are, indeed, many memories but two events always flash back when I think of those amazing Lambda Chi days. Both in the fall of '57.

The first was when the pledges arrived at 515 Delaware Avenue, in early September, four or five days before classes started to engage in various work duties to spruce up our decadent fraternity house (not yet on campus) and endure the brothers foul humor.

The killer was not the work or the harassment by the brothers but the incredible fatigue resulting from practically no sleep for the better part of a week. It was at this point, just before classes began that we faced the agony of the deadly 3-legged race around an endless block including Delaware Avenue.

Each two-man team was to be timed from start to finish with two brothers sending us on our way and greeting us at the finish. So it began. My left leg was tied to the right leg of another pledge. I don't remember who my

team mate was, although it could have been **Bill Albertson** or **Ned Raynolds**.

The pain was not only in the physical running of the race (which was ungodly) but also the psychological pressure of not finishing last and risking the wrath of the brothers. The very first step was torture.

At each agonizing lurch forward, I thought I would fall down and carry a scarred psyche for life. Somehow we kept our feet and moved on. We turned one corner. The pain of exhaustion was now totally excruciating. We turned another corner muttering words of empty encouragement to each other. There was no question now that I would collapse at the next step. Or the next. Or the next (at the risk of sounding melodramatic, the poem 'If' comes to mind, 'If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew...'). Miraculously, the two brothers (one was Dick Thunberg) were now suddenly in sight--only 20 yards to go. Ahhhhhhh...made it!

Thunberg was smiling, 'You guys had the best time!' Unbelievable. To this day I don't know how we completed the race.

- **William Schaefer '61**

"Circa 1970. We moved our sofa out to the sidewalk on Delaware avenue so we could sit, drink beer and watch the PIKES across the street set up their sofa on the opposite sidewalk for the purpose of holding a scantily dressed female department store mannequin to the delight of passing traffic. That is, until the police drove up the street with lights on and sirens blaring at which time we further enjoyed watching one of the PIKES sprint full speed up their fraternities steps holding the half dressed mannequin under his arm.

- **Jim Abel '72**

*What are YOUR best Lambda Chi memories? Share them on the message board at [www.lxalehigh.com](http://www.lxalehigh.com).*

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**Lehigh University****LAMBDA CHI ALPHA**

*In this Issue...How to Stay Connected with Lambda Chi  
in Your Alumni Years!*

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