



The BATTLEFIELD SIG

Spring 2022

THETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT GETTYSBURG COLLEGE

CONQUERING OUR HARDSHIPS

Sigma Chi Perseveres in 2022

As the spring semester wraps up for students at Gettysburg, the House Corporation Board remains hard at work. We are proud to continue supporting the undergraduates and connecting our alumni through events—and this newsletter. After hearing the call from brothers of all ages, we have established a scholarship fund, which will help remove some financial barriers to joining our order. We hope that this will help us create a more inclusive Greek community and highlight the academic and extracurricular successes of our undergraduate brothers.

The HCB also assisted our brothers in raising over \$50,000 for Derby Days to support the Huntsman Cancer Foundation. In recognition of this achievement, Huntsman once again named Theta “Smallest Undergraduate College in the 50k Club.” Despite all the disruptions caused by the pandemic, the chapter was thrilled to initiate 18 new brothers in the fall, followed by eight more this spring. This semester, the undergraduates resumed normal housing, studies, and social life on campus thanks to decreased restrictions. Theta also honored late Brother **Jeffrey Gier '23**, whom you can read more about in our undergraduate report on page 3.

The friends I made in college, along with the memories we made together, gave me a wonderful college experience that continues to influence my life. Years after my graduation, my best friends are still those who I met at Gettysburg. Theta's greatness is defined by that sense of brotherhood that transcends years, location, and age. This is why I choose to stay involved with the House Corporation, and why we each continue the work of connecting our alumni and supporting the chapter. On behalf of the entire HCB, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to serve you all, and I hope that you will join us in finding ways to reconnect to the chapter—and one another—in 2022!

To that end, we are excited to announce the return of a full in-person alumni event calendar in 2022. These events include Homecoming and Reunion Weekend at Gettysburg as well as several regional events throughout the year in Washington, D.C., Harrisburg, and Philadelphia. Further details can be found on the back page.

None of our projects, be they alumni events or scholarship opportunities, would be available without your loyal support. I am thankful for the generous spirit our brothers have displayed through the pandemic, and I hope that you are able to support our work as we rebuild our programming and support this year. You can support the House Corporation and view our website at www.gettysburgsigmachis.com. For donations to our scholarship fund, or to purchase a paver in the brick garden, please reach out to Treasurer **High Garst '20** at hgarst4@icloud.com and he will give you more details.

Here's to another great year at Theta.

In Hoc,

Chris Severini '18

President, Theta House Corporation

cseverini12@gmail.com

(203) 505-3069



Sam Gohn '19 and Chapter Advisor Richard Krisch, Pittsburgh '73 visit the Space Needle in Seattle, Wash.



Sam Sheldon '20 finishes first in the Sole of the City 10K in Baltimore, Md.

SPRING 2022 NEW MEMBERS

Antonio Abate '24
Northvale Abate, N.J.

John Caruso '24
North Arlington, N.J.

Dylan Hewitt '24
Sag Harbor, N.Y.

Russell Midgley '23
Scarborough, N.Y.

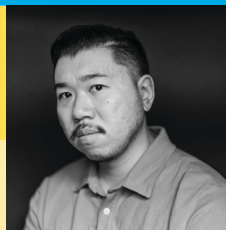
Joseph Binko '24
Shrewsbury, Pa.

Aidan Cohen '24
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Zachary Hoffman '23
Upper Saddle, N.J.

Henry Schmeltzer '24
London, England

Welcome to Sigma Chi!



A Picture-Perfect Fit

How Eric Lee '15 Developed Skills for Success as a Freelancer through Sigma Chi

"All these stories let me not only photograph people, but also talk to them and hear what they have to say."

Brotherhood is built on unity and dedication. When he arrived on campus at Gettysburg College, **Eric Lee '15** searched for a group that fit his ideals and goals for college life. "Being received warmly by a group of people dedicated to ideals such as friendship, justice, and learning was all I wanted in a community," Eric said. During fall 2012 recruitment with best friends **Cameron Smith '15** and **Ryan Bonner '15**, it felt like a sign that the brothers would join Theta Chapter of Sigma Chi.

Eric held numerous positions within Sigma Chi that helped him to develop skills for his current career. In the roles of philanthropy chairman, social chairman, and risk manager, he learned how to problem solve, budget, and communicate effectively on behalf of the chapter. Eric now works as a freelance photojournalist, which required him to learn new skills like how to be his own boss and manage time wisely.

"I always loved photography. My father would give me his camera to take photos of family and scenes on our trips. I enjoyed the process of making an artistic image but also loved how it let me interact with the people around me," Eric explained. He turned his passion into a career through an internship at NPR in Washington, D.C., after taking photos for the school and organizations at Gettysburg College. "I learned at NPR that I could use my photography to document stories of identity, injustice, and change."

As a freelancer, Eric faces similar challenges to any small business. "The work can come in waves, with one week being mostly administrative and the next covering Capitol Hill for five days. While it is a challenge to balance, I love that I have diversity in my daily life," he said. Ranging from COVID protests to dogs at Halloween, Eric's work covers a broad spectrum of subjects.

Eric's greatest accomplishment in photojournalism is his graduate school thesis, *Where We're Really From*, which documented the life of an Asian American family with two children in Maryland. (It can be viewed at www.wherewerereallyfrom.com.) "It was picked up and published by NPR; seeing people respond from around the world was inspiring. It's made me confident in pursuing stories that I want to tell."

Though quite different in tone to his other work, Eric also considers covering the demonstrations after the killing of George Floyd and the January 6 insurrection as two landmarks of his career. "It took a lot of recovery for me to heal from those photographs—some of which still haunt me," he added. Eric has also had the honor of photographing for *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Atlantic*, and more. "Whether it be a personal story on COVID-19 or anti-Asian hate or the happenings on Capitol Hill or how voters are feeling before a general

election ... all these stories let me not only photograph people, but also talk to them and hear what they have to say."

As a member of Sigma Chi, the unity and ideals Eric shared with his brothers empowered him to turn a passion into a career. While it took time and effort to figure out what he wanted to do after college, Eric learned to say yes to every opportunity and stick to his principles.

Eric currently lives with his partner, Carrie, and their dog, Augie. They enjoy time outdoors, trying new food, and spending time with friends. For Eric, many of those friends are Sigma Chi brothers he still talks to today.

"I've traveled the world with brothers, worked with them in professional settings, and celebrated at their weddings. I've also met and worked with previous headquarters staff and befriended brothers in Canada, many of whom I still talk with and even see on occasion. My favorite bar in D.C. is Sig owned, and my current realtor is a Sigma Chi. While my undergraduate career is certainly over, these friendships and connections will last a lifetime."

You can connect with Eric at ericjleephoto@gmail.com and learn more about his photojournalism career at www.ericlee.co.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Consul
Connor Heath '23

Pro Consul
Brett Travis '23

Magister
Erick Miller '23

Risk Manager
Josh Myers '23

Quaestor
Matt Rau '23

Annotator
Logan Sodl '24

House Manager
Hayden Johnson '24

Kustos
Connor Elliott '23

Historian
Mike Baehre '24

Tribune
Sam DeBrandt '24

Recruitment Chairman
David Goldman '24
dgold2829@gmail.com
(914) 467-9460

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
Chairman
Harrison Moore '23

Philanthropy Chairman
Peter Halsey '23

Peterson Chairman
Anthony Sanchez '24

Chapter Editor
Alex Kagan '24

High Priest (Ritual Chairman)
Rieser Faller '22

Social Chairman
Cole Bayesa '23

Brotherhood Chairman
Andrew Weinbrum '23

Scholarship Chairman
Malcolm Lathrop-Allen '24

Interfraternity Council
Representative
Conor Vienneau '24



Ben Johnson '22, Palmer Anderson '23, Brett Travis '23, and Josh Myers '23 admire Sigma Chi and the Latin American Student Association (LASA) holiday-themed "CAN-Struction" build.



240 Carlisle Street, festively decorated for the holiday season.



Brothers held a White Rose ceremony for Jeff Gier '23 at the chapter house following his memorial service at Gettysburg College.

Courage, Wisdom, and Ambition

Brothers Make the Most of Life Back on Campus

The Theta brotherhood finds itself in a strong state as Gettysburg College fully returns to residential life. After a long year spent communicating remotely, it's been a joy to resume in-person meetings and events, and simply to gather under the same roof again.

This spring, we celebrated the life of Brother **Jeffrey Gier '23**, who tragically passed away in January. Theta held a school-wide memorial service and a White Rose ceremony to honor his life and memory. Brother Gier was one of the most active members in not only our chapter, but also in our college community. He was always there to lend strong arms to brothers in need. His charismatic energy and kind heart boosted the morale of the chapter, exemplifying what it truly meant to be a Sig. He will be dearly missed, and our thoughts and prayers are with his family during this difficult time.

Last fall, we initiated 16 promising new members into our ranks (followed by eight more in March). We are proud to call each of them brothers and eager to see the men they become. Theta also elected a new executive board in the fall. The chapter appreciates the former board's hard work and has high hopes that the newly elected brothers will achieve their goals. This leadership makes Theta a top chapter within Sigma Chi.

In December, we held our annual Mac and Cheese Cook-Off with Alpha Delta Pi, jointly raising over \$1,000 for the Ronald McDonald House and the Huntsman Cancer Foundation. Our brothers conversed and enjoyed all the delicious entries, including an incredible mac and cheese pancake recipe by **Jack Kenyon '21** and **Luke Matzke '21** (voted best in show). Our chapter also worked to strengthen ties with other student organizations by co-sponsoring a service event with the Latin American Student Association (LASA) in November, and again with LASA for the Campus Kitchen's CAN-Struction food drive. Theta proudly won first place with an exceptional holiday-themed build.

As always, Theta Chapter is truly thankful for your support and generosity as alumni. We look forward to seeing you at chapter events and Homecoming!

In Hoc,
Samuel DeBrandt '24
Tribune



Brothers co-sponsor a service event with the Latin American Student Association (LASA). Back row: Peter Halsey '23, David Wiener '22, and Anthony Sanchez '24. Sitting: Ben Johnson '22 and Matthew Rau '23.



Mac and Cheese Cook-Off champions! Jack Kenyon '21 and Luke Matzke '21 present their winning mac and cheese pancake recipe.



Our fall 2021 graduates: Christian Rodriguez '21, Luke Matzke '21, Dylan McKeever '21, and Jack Kenyon '21. They will be sorely missed.



High Garst '20 and Pat McKenna '20 attend a Hershey Bears hockey game in Hershey, Pa.

Deserving of Pomp and Circumstance

Spring Graduates Share Their Plans

Ryan Barrera plans on pursuing a career in private contracting government analysis.

Angus Brouillard hopes to pursue a career in public history, such as museum curation, national park operations, or archival storage.

Patrick Canty wants to become a park ranger upon graduation.

Shane Carley is looking for careers in publishing.

William Combs is excited to get a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in psychology.

Giacomo Coppola hopes to find a career in government and public services.

Theodore Davis is seeking business consultant or a data analyst jobs in the Philadelphia area.

Sean Gallagher plans to pursue energy-efficient and renewable project development, consulting, and implementation.

Thomas Gilman hopes to research biophysics at graduate school or in a lab.

William Hopkins has signed a contract to work for HIS Markit in GMG client success.

Paul Ivans has secured a position working in human resources for a digital marketing consultancy company.

Samuel Jagolinzer plans on entering the public service field with the federal government.

Benjamin Johnson intends to enter law, educational, or emergency medical services.

Angelo Magliochetti is applying to business schools and hopes to be admitted into Troy University School of Business.

John Moore has signed a contract to work for HIS Markit in GMG client success.

Christopher Peterson is pursuing a career in the music industry.

Thomas Ramsey is interested in pursuing a career in data science or analytics—and potentially enrolling in graduate school.

Shane Shannon is entering a rotation leadership program at a risk management company.

Jacob Singleton plans to teach high school English and has been applying for alternative education certification tracks.

John Swartz is interested in becoming a union boss.

David Weiner will be working abroad doing agricultural work through the company WWOOF. Then he'll pursue a Psy.D. in clinical psychology to work as a therapist.



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SIGMA CHI

Gettysburg College

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*Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents.
If your son is still attending Gettysburg College, he will receive a copy at the chapter house.
If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

Alumni News

Harry Pebley '50 lives in San Diego, Calif., and will be 95 years old in July. If any fellow alumni are 95 or older, please reach out!
Phone: (619) 460-0251

Murray K. McComas '58 served as Grand Praetor of Theta's province (West Virginia and western Pennsylvania) for several years. He has many enjoyable memories of visiting Theta Chapter in the 1960s (when **Les Etler** was advising the chapter) as well as trips to Gettysburg, Dickinson, and so on. Murray lives in Russel, Pa. Email: mkmquakersig@penn.com

Andy C. Ward '04 and his wife, Katherine, are the proud parents of two girls. They own two restaurants as well as a property management business. The family lives in Wilson, Wyo., where they love the outdoors and playing in the Teton Mountain Range. They ski regularly, and Andy invites Theta brothers to come visit! Email: andrewward01@yahoo.com

SAVE THE DATES

Theta Events for 2022

April 9

Happy Hour
Harrisburg, Pa.
Time and Location TBD

April 28

Happy Hour
Philadelphia, Pa.
Frankford Hall – 5:30 p.m.

June 4

Reunion Weekend
Gettysburg College

September 17

D.C. Hangout
Washington, D.C.
Time and Location TBD

October 15

Homecoming
Gettysburg College

*More details to come by email.
Stay tuned!*