

UPCOMING EVENT

**November 1
Homecoming**

Join us at the chapter house
for a post-game reception.

**May 15-17
Alumni Weekend**
Stay tuned for details.

ALUMNI OFFICERS

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IN MEMORY

We have recently learned of
the passing of the following
brothers:

William Livingston Jr. '47
(10/24/13)
Francis Ernst '49 (2/19/14)
Richard Young '51 (7/27/13)

ON THE WEB

**We're missing email
addresses for 200+
brothers!**

If you haven't been getting our
electronic messages, please
update your contact informa-
tion at www.saepath.org.

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON PENNSYLVANIA

www.saepath.org

Newsletter of the Pennsylvania Theta Chapter at the University of Pennsylvania • September 2014

ALUMNI REPORT

7 Great Reasons to Renew Your Participation with Penn Theta this Fall

*Alumni Association Offers Plenty of Ways to Uphold Your
Connections to SAE*

By Steve Saltzman, President, The Penn Theta Alumni Association

There are plenty of reasons to maintain your connections with Penn Theta long after graduation, and I thank the brothers who have remained active in their alumni years. For those of you who may have fallen away from SAE, we've compiled 7 great reasons to make this the year you renew your commitment to Penn Theta.

- 1. Our longstanding legacy at 3908 Spruce St.** The beautiful SAE facility, which is undergoing ongoing major renovations and upgrades, is a gem on campus. Our house serves as your forever home at Penn. Come back to see the latest renovations—which were made possible thanks to the support of hundreds of our brothers—and relive your own memories from living within the walls.
- 2. We like to celebrate.** Join us for a post-game reception at the chapter house during Homecoming on November 1.
- 3. We've graduated generations of brothers who embody "The True Gentleman".** The stories we continually hear from our active and alumni brothers ring true to the virtues and values set forth in our Fraternity's creed.
- 4. The actives are expanding our presence on campus.** Many undergraduates are involved in numerous campus and community organizations and activities outside of SAE—from IFC officers to members of the heavyweight crew team to rugby players, to name just a few.
- 5. We're a more than generous group.** Many of you bonded together to contribute \$400,000 to allow us to begin much-needed capital renovations to the chapter house. That's pretty impressive when you think
- 6. We offer plenty of ways for you to reconnect with old friends and with Penn Theta.** From our frequent events, this newsletter, and our online community, there are great and fun ways to find old friends and make new ones.
- 7. You're the key to our past, and the link to our future.** As a thriving alumni association more than 800 strong, we boast generations of brothers that have contributed to our rich history. We have collectively preserved traditions, enriched lives of young men, and kept a thriving organization going strong at Penn for 113 years. You have a unique place in that history, and are asked to maintain your connections to pay it forward for future generations.



*Penn Theta has a longstanding legacy at
3908 Spruce St.*

about it. There's nothing we can't do as a unified brotherhood.

We've got a great house, a thriving active chapter, a longstanding legacy, and a strong alumni base. If you haven't been involved the past few years, I personally invite you to renew your participation this fall. As you can see, there's no reason not to.

CHAPTER NEWS

Cruisin' for SAE

Penn Theta Brothers Gain Invaluable Knowledge, Skills, and Values at Fraternity's Leadership School

Penn Theta was represented by two brothers, **Harrison Thayer '17** and **Luke Peebles '16**, at the 79th John O. Moseley Leadership School, which was held on a Royal Caribbean cruise during the first week of August. More than 700 SAEs from across North America were in attendance to develop leadership skills to better their respective chapters and their personal lives. Thank you for Harrison and Luke for participating in this Q&A about their experience and the impact that it had on them...

In what ways did Leadership School prepare you to better lead or participate in SAE?

We attended classes on every fraternity-related topic imaginable, but the most important issue this year was learning about the elimination of all pledgship and becoming acquainted with the new program called the "True Gentleman Experience" that is replacing it. We will be educating our chapter on all

of the new requirements and making sure that this new program is followed.

In what ways did Leadership School prepare you for life outside of SAE?

While much of the classes we attended were particular to all things SAE, most of the lessons that we learned can be transferred to daily life. Being confined on a ship with 700 other students having much different backgrounds than our own allowed for our social and interpersonal skills to develop.

Why is it important that alumni support the chapter's efforts to send undergraduate brothers to Leadership School on a continuous basis?



Harrison Thayer (left) and Luke Peebles represented Penn Theta at this year's John O. Moseley Leadership School.

For every chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon to progress and remain relevant nationally, there really does need to be some undergraduate representation at Leadership School to keep each individual chapter up to date on the fraternity and its overall direction. For example, the new "True Gentleman Experience" program is a vital part of the new brand of SAE and if a chapter doesn't follow its specific

guidelines, it could lose its charter. Since we were educated on the significance of the new program and all of its intricacies, we will be able to continue to stay in line with SAE nationally as well as develop as gentlemen.

Read the full profile at www.saepath.org.

ALUMNI PROFILE

"It Was Time for Me to Give Back"

A Lifetime of Memories and Friendships, a Strong Active Chapter, and a Forever Home on Campus are Deserving of Financial Support, Says Adam Feldman '94

We'd like to thank and recognize **Adam Feldman '94** for making his first-ever contribution to Penn Theta's annual fund in 2013-14—20 years after he graduated. In this Q&A he explains why he was moved to show his financial support, tells great stories from his SAE days, and shares his hopes for the future of the chapter.



Adam Feldman '94

growing foliage in the courtyard took away the wall ball court. I'll buy the house a hedge trimmer! Pledging formed lasting bonds of friendship. Living in the house with those guys and then in off-campus housing will always be remembered. At our 20th reunion this spring, I think we all thought we were 20 again! It was a lot of fun! I was very happy to see that our lions still guard the gates of 3908 Spruce St. It's a little known fact, that we buried a time capsule under one of those lions. Hopefully it never gets a chance to be discovered!

You recently made your first-ever gift to Penn Theta's annual fund. Why do you choose to financially support the alumni chapter, 20 years later?

To be honest, I felt a bit guilty on my reunion year for not having contributed sooner. The house gave me a lot...great friends, self confidence, and a home on campus. It was clear at my reunion that the house and current brotherhood at Penn Theta have remained true

gentlemen. It was time for me to give back.

Why would you encourage other alumni to financially support the chapter?

Remember what the house gave you. The current guys deserve the same experience.

Give us some background on yourself (family, where you live, hobbies, your career, etc.).

My wife Jen and I live in the Boston area with our three kids, Robert, Julia, and Justin... all future Quakers, of course. I am a urologic oncologic surgeon at Massachusetts General Hospital. I focus my clinical care and research in prostate, kidney, and bladder cancers. Of course, I'm always happy to chat with and mentor current students or recent graduates about career choices in medicine and the biological sciences.

Read the full profile at www.saepath.org, and reconnect with Adam at afeldman@partners.org.

CHAPTER REPORT

An Award-Winning Chapter

SAE Recognized with Outstanding Brotherhood, Education, Greek Leader and Alumni Advisor Awards

By Matthew Hanessian, Chapter President

SAE ended the spring semester with a bang. We were recognized at the 2014 Penn Greek Awards Ceremony on April 16, as runner up for the Outstanding Brotherhood and Educational Programs award. Also, former Eminent Archon **Dan Riband '14** received an IFC award for Outstanding Greek Leader. **Steve Saltzman '85** was also presented with the Merv Sluizer Outstanding Alumni Advisor Award.

To kick off the 2014-2015 school year, we hosted our Move In for B+. We enlisted

help from 7 other fraternities to help move girls of all years into their new dormitories, apartments, or houses. All in all, we were able to raise over \$1,100 for Penn Theta's current philanthropic partner, the Andrew McDonough B+ Foundation. We also look forward to transforming the chapter house into a spooky dungeon for our annual SAE Haunted House event, which we cohost with Kappa Alpha Theta sorority. For this event, we invite elementary school children from West Philadelphia for a day of fun and fear

with the brotherhood and Theta sisters. For this effort, we were recognized in *The Daily Pennsylvanian* (find a link to the article at www.saepath.org).

SAE as a whole is excited to be back at Penn for another year. We have already begun meeting freshmen and introducing them to our brotherhood to prepare for spring recruitment. This semester, we are aiming to further SAE's stellar reputation on campus through our continued presence in the philanthropic and social arenas.

ANNUAL FUND UPDATE

Donor Participation on the Decline

Get Involved This Year as We Expand Our Base of Supporters

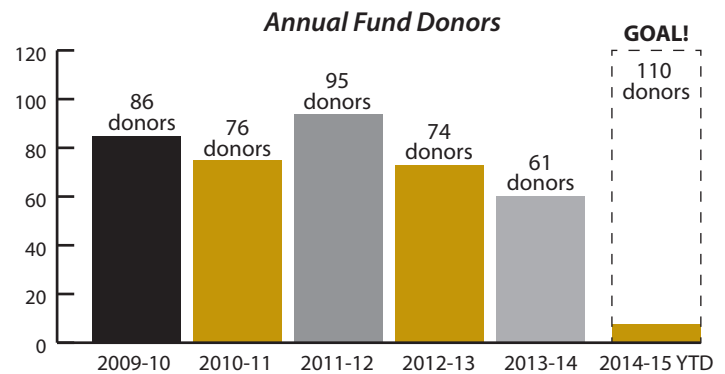
We ended our 2013-14 giving year August 31 with the lowest donor participation levels we've seen in the past 5 years—61 participating donors. Now that our capital campaign fundraising efforts have ended, it is more important than ever to build up our annual fund—the operating budget for The Penn Theta Alumni Association—to enable us to mail communications, host events, maintain our beautiful new house, and do even more to enhance your alumni experience.

We're asking for your help as we have a specific goal to meet this year. In 2014-15 we are fully committed to expanding our base of supporters to include more brothers, and

are striving to add 54 donors to bring our total participation to 115. Can we count you among them?

Make your gift by logging on to www.saepath.org or by calling 800-975-6699. We thank those alumni who have already added their names to the Honor Roll in 2014-15: **Jack D. Neal Jr. '62**, **John Vander Wiele '63**, **William**

Grant '49, **Stanley Mayers Jr. '49**, **Bruce A. Stevens '64**, **Charles Tornetta '53** and **Steven Morris '86**.



NEWSWORTHY BROTHERS

An SAE Alum Gives an Inside Look to Mask and Wig's History



Did you catch the story in the recent *Penn Gazette* on the Mask and Wig, featuring SAE's very own **Steve Goff '62** (pictured on the left)? Serving as the club's active historian, Steve arranged for the magazine's interview with the club's most senior members and gave a glimpse inside the organization's historic clubhouse. Steve has remarkably had a streak of attending

opening night of the spring show for 57 straight years. Dubbed as being "kind of the heart and soul of the club" by a fellow member, Steve is also behind the tradition of Goff Night, where he and a few other older alums buy all the tickets for a single night's performance.

Find a link to the full article at www.saepath.org.



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ALUMNI EVENTS

Yes, the SAE Experience Lasts a Lifetime

Penn Theta Alumni Celebrate Bonds of Brotherhood at 2014 Alumni Day

SAE had a strong showing at Penn's 2014 Alumni Day, especially from the classes of 2004, 1994 and 1989 who all celebrated milestone reunions this year: the classes of 1989, 1994 and 2004.

See larger versions of these photos in the online album at www.saeath.org, and plan to be in attendance at the 2015 Alumni Day celebration May 15-17.



Above: Class of 1989 attendees at the Alumni Day parade. Far Left: Brothers from the Class of 1994. Left: The Class of 2004 celebrates its 10th reunion with more than half of its brothers in attendance.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Doug Calidas '03

(6797 Green Mill Way, Columbia, MD 21044; dougcalidas@gmail.com) I made it back to the chapter house last year for the 10-year reunion and was surprised to see how nice the chapter room is these days.

I got married on December 7, 2013 to Katherine Goldsmith. Three of my pledge brothers—**Jason Choi '03**, **Brian Cooper '03**, and **Randall Kessler '03**—were in my wedding party. **Amit Bhattacharjee '04** was also in attendance.

I started a new job this fall, joining Gavett, Datt & Barish, P.C. in Rockville,

Md. as a litigation associate. Before joining this firm, I worked as a litigation associate at Steptoe & Johnson in Washington, D.C. for six years after graduating from Duke Law.

Joe Fehrman '05

(500 SE 7th St., Apt. 102, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301; jfehrman@gmail.com) I recently wrote a book. It is called *Pirates of Financial Freedom* and it is the first adventure novel to teach personal finance skills to young adults and adults. You can learn more at POFFbook.com.

Michael Karam '06

(2 M St. NE #705, Washington, DC 20002, mikaram@gmail.com) Fall 2014 is a busy time for the class of 2006. Brothers **Mike Siddiqui**, **Mike Seltzer**, and **Jason Vitullo** are all tying the knot in September, November, and December, respectively. There are more weddings on the way for '06, too, as **Bill Chin** recently proposed to his girlfriend and **Elliot Dawson's** nuptials will be held in mid-2015. Congratulations to all!