

The Grip

Fall 2017



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Introduction

Brothers,

I hope this new issue of the *Grip* finds you well. When I first began to revive this project almost a year ago I had two purposes in mind: to bring back a much needed newsletter to strengthen the Brotherhood of our beloved Fraternity, and to provide a historical record of our doings so they may be properly preserved in the larger compendium of our official history book. They seemed to fit my job descriptions as Editor of the *Grip* and Historian of the International Board of Directors (IBOD). It was after some delays that we finally had a new issue published for the first time in nearly two and a half years this past summer. I am extremely grateful for the warm reception it received from the Brotherhood.

Due to the amount of Fraternity events and relevant news that was due to occur in the coming months, such as Convention, the IBOD decided that a follow-up issue in the fall was necessary to continue keeping as many Brothers in the loop as possible. It has now become our goal that future issues will be published on a seasonal, quarterly basis. The success and dedication of our current IBOD members gives me no reason to believe that this goal will not be meant.

As many of you know by now, the Fraternity voted to pass a new set of bylaws for the IBOD at our annual Convention. Part of these new bylaws involved a major restructuring of the IBOD's positions and each position's respective duties. Our Convention summary article, which you will read in a bit, will explain these bylaws and restructuring in detail, and why we believe this was a necessary step forward. Under this restructuring, the duty of publishing future issues of the *Grip* has fallen under the responsibility of our new Communications Director, Kyle Dobry (Eta #104). The future of this newsletter is more than safe in his hands. I have will be continuing my involvement with the IBOD as one of the new Executive Vice-Presidents alongside Alex Collie (Eta #103) providing general counsel, administrative duties, historical and other chief executive needs for the Fraternity.

Things are looking brighter than ever for the future of Gamma Psi, and it is an honor to be a part of the process of spreading the virtues of tolerance, scholarship, social poise, and citizenship. I can't wait to see what this next year brings.

Yours in Brotherhood,

Matthew "Rex" Hrozencik

International Board of Directors – Executive Vice-President

Eta Chapter #107

International Board of Directors Report

Brothers,

As another successful convention comes to a close, a regenerated feeling of optimism fills the Gamma Psi Spirit inside of me. I want to start off by thanking all the Brothers of Gamma Psi and Gamma Delta Psi for making it down to Longwood for an awesome weekend of business and bonding. Special thanks go out to the Brothers of Eta chapter for helping to coordinate and host everyone who came to Farmville

In evaluating the state of the Fraternity, I like to look at it from the perspective of “past, present, future.” Gamma Psi has gone from an unincorporated fraternity to a fraternity with legal corporate standing. We have gone from a disorganized structure to a structure that operates in unity. We have gone from a Fraternity with no expansion plan to a Fraternity with an expansion plan we can deploy nearly anywhere. Most importantly, we have gone from no support structure, to an organization with a governing body of directors.

Presently, we have updated bylaws, Constitutional amendments, and instituted a new risk management policy. We have a stronger and more dominant presence at Bridgewater and Longwood. We are working at expanding to other schools and trying to build a network from the ground up.

In the future, Gamma Psi is looking to grow. We are working to continue to build the fraternity. We are working at giving brothers potential internships in order to help brothers grow and prosper in their career and to help the fraternity grow. We are looking to continue to build relationships with the campuses that we operate on.

Overall, I am very excited. We have a unique opportunity to build and brand Gamma Psi as something different from what is out there. I sense that a desire for change is in the air on college campuses, and we plan to hopefully capitalize on that. I am proud of Gamma Psi’s past, happy with where we are presently, and extremely excited for the future

Michael Albrecht

Gamma Psi International Board of Directors – Chief Executive Officer

Dundee #92 Eta Chapter

Eta Chapter Report

By Cody Slaughter

So far for Eta chapter during the Fall '17 semester, we've taken 7 new members: Aaron Burstein (Tinker), Ridge Christian (Coach), Steve Farnor (Slinky), Cole Milliron (Falco), Dustin Pechart (Morty), Danny Scott (Dice), and Kyle Stone (Ness). Eta chapter's cumulative GPA has also taken a dramatic rise among other fraternities at Longwood; with Eta chapter jumping up two ranks in regards to academics. We've established ourselves as a well-known organization on campus since our days of first being recognized by the school. Our presence has become known amongst fellow Greeks as well as non-Greeks. In recent months we've reconnected with our chapter history, tracing back family lines as well as establishing connections between actives and alumni. This semester has been off to a bright start and we expect even more great things in the time to come.

Active Roster:

#100 Zach Bowen

#109 Joshua Willis-Jones

#110 Carter Johnson

#112 Brandon Brinsfield *Historian*

#114 Jose Escobar

#115 Justin Ferranto *Pledge Educator*

#116 Sterling Foster *Sergeant at Arms*

#117 Brian Hrozencik *Corresponding Secretary*

#118 Joe Hyman *Vice-President*

#119 Cody Slaughter *President*

#121 Nick Conner *Treasurer & Fundraising*

#122 James Gallagher *Community Service*

#123 Ben Kaiser *Recruitment Chair*

#125 Austin Van Horn

#126 Isaiah Wiggins *Risk Management*



Iota Chapter Report

By John Moran

Iota Chapter is working on expanding, both in size and in our community. One goal we have for this year is to do at least one community service activity a month. Current groups we intend to work at are the Bridgewater Retirement Center, Virginia Wildlife Refuge, and Local High Schools. We are down to 9 active brothers and currently have 3 members in our pledge class. Our goal for this semester is to improve upon the quality of our pledge process, better define our traditions and the things that make being in Gamma Psi memorable.

Gamma Psi Softball

On July 30th, 2017 the Brothers of Gamma Psi meant at Richard Bland College, the home of Beta chapter, to play a game of soft ball and cook out. The event was attended by a great amount of Brothers from all generations, and from many chapters, and the IBOD hopes to host another one soon.



Gamma Psi 757 Takes On Top Golf

On August 15th, 2017 the Gamma Psi Brothers in the 757 area code meant up for a couple rounds of golf and beer at Top Golf. They have already begun arranging more events like this for alumni to meet up and reconnect. The 757 covers most of Southeast Virginia, including Virginia Beach and parts of Williamsburg, and Newport News.



Convention Report

By Matthew Hrozencik

On the weekend of September 29th to October 1st, 2017 the Brothers of Gamma Psi convened for our annual Convention in Farmville, Virginia at Longwood University. This Convention easily became one of our most busiest and productive, being our first weekend long event in a long while. The Brothers rolled into town early Friday night before meeting up for a game of basketball, followed by socializing and catching up.

Everybody reconvened early Saturday morning for Convention at Hull Auditorium a little after ten o'clock. Brother John Slate was gracious enough to serve as our Sargent at Arms for the entire duration of the event. Chapter reports for Eta and Iota, as you've read above, showed that both chapters are continuing to make major improvements and producing Brothers that are invaluable assets to Longwood and Bridgewater. Furthermore, restarting Beta Chapter at Richard Bland College is looking more and more like a possibility with a small group of students taking serious interest in starting a Crescent Club.

One of the IBOD's greatest accomplishments this past year was achieving our status as an incorporated non-profit fraternal organization. Thanks to the hard efforts of our IBOD Chief Executive Officer, Michael Albrecht, Gamma Psi is now a legally recognized Fraternity. In addition, the IBOD also put on two successful Brother Education Weekends. Currently, the IBOD is also focusing on increasing the amount of alumni events that it hosts.

One of the most important pieces of business that took place at Convention was the IBOD's presentation of its new bylaws. These bylaws consist of 12 articles that outline how IBOD and Fraternity in general operates itself. To keep consistent with our incorporation status the IBOD used a general template for how a non-profit organization orders itself and customized it to fit Gamma Psi. The IBOD is also looking into purchasing insurance for the Fraternity, but we need acquirable funds.

The second piece of important that the IBOD presented was our new Risk Management policy. This policy covers every one of the Brothers, so that we are legally protected. There will be a representative at every Induction ceremony to ensure that all new Brothers sign on to this policy. This is something that the IBOD will be strictly enforcing.

The next item on the agenda was passing constitutional amendments. Article 4's sections 1 and 16 were amended to update the Fraternity's official publications and Risk Management policy. Additionally, Article 5 section 6 had amendments on active chapter membership and outlined length of active membership now that we are a legal entity. Thirdly, Article 6 Part A Section 10 on chapter officers was amended to outline the role of the Risk Management. Amendments to Article 7 were voted to allow a restructuring of the IBOD officer positions to

resemble that of a legal entity. Section 8 on the IBOA was also amended so that two IBOA members serve three year term, two serve two year term, and two serve a one year term.

Finally, it was voted to amend several articles in section 9 on the appointment and duties of District Deputies. The last amendments were to Section 11 on the IBOD submitting resolutions one week prior to Convention .

The IBOD also made the proposal of a Garnet Opt-In Program to help it generate revenue, which allows an active brother to pay an additional \$10 to their dues. If they opt in to this program they will receive membership cards and a hard copy of the Grip. This option is also being given out to alumni for \$20. Semester dues were voted to be raised to \$15 for each active Brother at Convention and Brother Education Weekend. This will go into effect the spring semester of 2018.

Another piece of business was discussing a Gamma Delta Psi service program that the IBOD is proposing. Under this proposal we could start Gamma Delta Psi back up as a community service program with a big brother-little brother system. There would still be pins and inductions, but we would be able to market Gamma Delta Psi in today's political and social climate. We believe that this program would be extremely beneficial for high schoolers in low income areas, and could target high schools close to Longwood and Bridgewater.

It was after a short recess that the IBOD voted to make Brother Troy Adams the 9th member of Rho Alpha Chapter. Elections were then held afterwards.

The following brothers were elected to IBOD positions:

Michael Albrecht *Chief Executive Officer*

Anthony "Bud" Weyland *Chief Operations Officer*

Kyle Dobry *Communications Director*

Alex Collie and Matthew Hrozencik *Executive Vice-Presidents*

The following Brothers were elected to the IBOA:

Tony Weyland – 3 year term (Chairman)

Shane Grissom – 3 year term

Grand Brother Randy Picardat – 2 year term

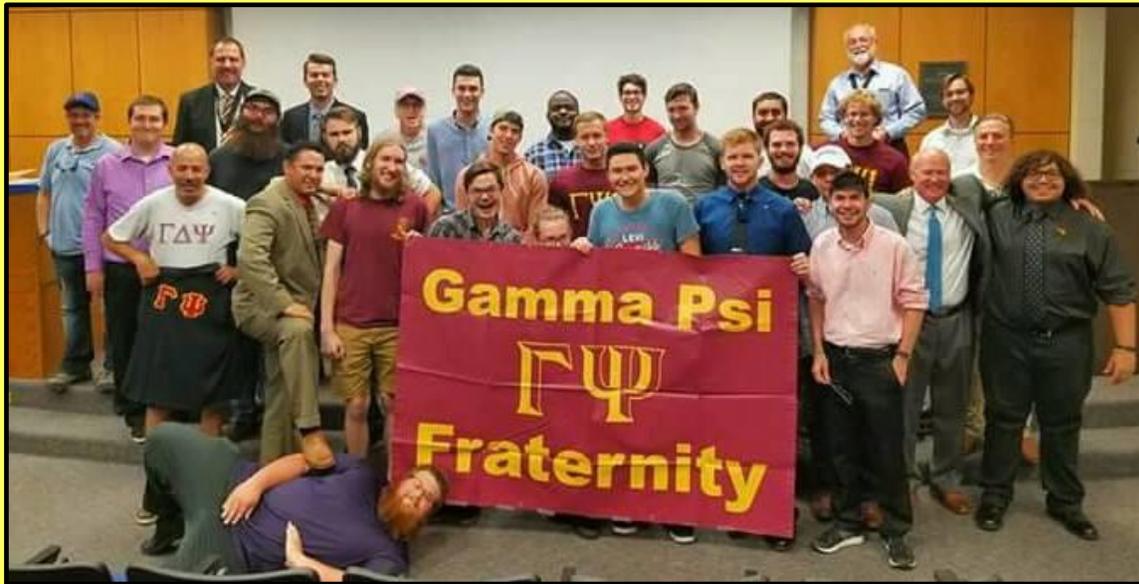
Trent Armitage – 2 year term

Grand Brother Larry Belcher – 1 year term

Mike Kuch - 1 year term

Additionally, Grand Bothe Danny Wyatt was elected to be an all time at large advisor.

Convention concluded with the swearing in of the new IBOD. Afterwards, the Brothers reconvened at Third Street Brewing for an evening of beer and relaxation after a long day. The next morning, the IBOD hosted a cook out before everyone set out back home.





Gamma Psi Fraternity International Board of Directors 2017 -2018

(Left to Right) Michael Albrecht, Matthew Hrozencik, Bud Weyland Kyle Dobry
(Not Pictured: Alex Collie)

Gamma Delta Psi

Historical Society Report

This article was read aloud at Convention

The Gamma Delta Psi Historical Society was founded in October, 2011 when a group of history-minded brothers from Canada and the U.S. assembled in Chester, Virginia and vowed to concentrate our talents, energies and efforts toward the goal of researching, recording and preserving the documents, publications, artifacts and oral traditions from our glorious past.

After six years of intensely focused effort, it is our pleasure to announce that we have accomplished our primary goals involving projects utilizing all known public and fraternity records. Individual items of historical interest will be disseminated as they appear, but the main body of research is believed to have been completed. Of course, there's always the delightful possibility that some "holy grail" item from our past such as the 1879 Charter for Alpha Chapter or an engraved pin that once belonged to a Founding Brother might appear. In the meantime, the brothers who have dedicated so much time and energy to the dissemination of our glorious history are in a stand-by mode pending new developments.

Unfortunately, the mass of chapter records listing full membership over our history of 138 years have been lost or destroyed. If they ever surface they will be scanned and shared. Sadly, many young brothers could not foresee the value of their chapter rolls, photographs and minutes of meetings when the chapters became inactive. It is likely those records were discarded and lost forever. For that reason, there are glaring gaps in our overall history which will not likely ever be retrieved. The majority of the surviving archives have been transferred from Canada to the custody of Bro. Parker Simmons in Dinwiddie, Virginia, who has agreed to protect and preserve them. Additional items still in the custody of Bro. Dorsey Howard will be transferred to Bro. Simmons once they have been thoroughly examined and digitally scanned for posterity.

By far the most time and energy consuming work done by the Historical Society was accomplished by Bro. David Bartlett who copied and forwarded the voluminous records of the Obituaries of Gamma Delta Psi Brothers at Yale University. Numerous fascinating histories of the lives of our long-ago brothers have been emailed over a period of many months. We sincerely hope that every brother has enjoyed reading these inspiring biographies.

Our gratitude is expressed to those brothers who have worked so hard to make the Historical Society a success. Brothers Dave Bartlett, Grand Brother Mike Kuch, Joe Italia and Grand Brother Kevin Stockdale have dedicated many hours of their personal time to research,

writing and editing, website management and consulting in order to assemble and distribute our historical data. Thanks brothers, for a job well done.

We are very much open to the idea of the election or appointment of a slate of younger brothers to assume the duties of the members of the Historical Society in order to facilitate the survival of our group far into the future. Time marches on and we older generation brothers are well aware that our time is limited. The exemplary work done by Grand Brother John Cobb in collecting and preserving the history of Gamma Psi Fraternity needs to be given permanent recognition and support by a Historical Society composed of younger brothers who have many decades to devote to assisting him in his noteworthy projects.

We who compose the core founding membership in the Historical Society will always be available to assist in the research and dissemination of historical information for the brotherhoods when the opportunities arise.

Wishing Gamma Psi Fraternity International every success in the years to come.

With Warm Fraternal Regards,

Bro. Dorsey Howard – Beta Alpha # 58

Acting Chairman- Historical Society

“Furthering Brotherhood Beyond School”

By Brandon Brinsfield

My name is Brandon Brinsfield #112 from Eta Chapter of Gamma Psi, and I am the current Historian for the Fall 2017 semester. The position of Historian entails collecting information from the chapter and documenting their endeavors for further use in the future. While it may appear that Historian is a low-risk position, it has become increasingly important, considering the growth of both Eta Chapter and the IBOD as a whole. Failure to document records and events important to Gamma Psi Fraternity International can lead to many disasters that could potentially damage the Fraternity. The Historian’s role is to preserve the traditions and records of Brothers that make Gamma Psi unique, including but not limited to keeping records of all the Brothers after they leave college.

The necessity of maintaining records of all the Brothers leads into my current project. I am in the process of working with the IBOD to compile a complete database for Brothers of Gamma Psi. My ultimate goal is to create as close of a database of all the Brothers of Gamma Psi from every chapter. Because that is a long-term goal, I am primarily concerned with compiling the information from the brothers of Eta chapter first. I am more than open to collecting information from brothers of other chapters though.

Upon the completion of my project, Brothers will be better able to connect and network in the professional world beyond college. This will make it more beneficial for Brothers in the sense they will be able to enjoy the mutual benefits and social enjoyments of our Brothers outside of our school years. The database would also contain records of any notable positions the Brothers held and also contain an informal big/little list of all the brothers. I was able to start this list with the help of Cody Slaughter and his project in 2016, which focused on putting together a family tree for the Brothers of Eta chapter.

I am always open to more help from other brothers in completing this database. If you are reading this and would like to fill this form out, please type in the link below or message me on Facebook through the International pages for a chance to fill out the form. It should only take thirty seconds of your time and I strongly urge all brothers to share this link with anyone that may not necessarily prefer to use social media to access it.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfjurzR1IAAt47xDwzFwORXLUcexOt9F7jfDL_qqepi1WG9JzQ/viewform?c=0&w=1

Nirvana Chapter Report

by Dorsey Howard

This article was read aloud at Convention and followed by a moment of silence

Greetings Brothers. It is with the utmost solemnity and reverence, and with the fondest warm fraternal memories, that we present the names of the brothers who have passed into our Nirvana Chapter in recent months and years. This memorial was last presented in Toronto, Ontario, Canada at the assembly of brothers held in May, 2016. All chapters mentioned are from Gamma Delta Psi Fraternity International. From the records of the Historical Society:

(Alpha Eta Chapter – Niagara Falls, New York – 1910 – 1977)

SHAWN HALE – Alpha Eta

(Alpha Phi Chapter – Mimico, Ontario – 1954 – 1975)

Grand Brother DOUG JAMIESON – Alpha Phi #62

NEIL “BUDDY” JOHNSTON – Alpha Phi # 32

RON WEEKS – Alpha Phi # 76

(Alpha Chi Chapter – Oakville, Ontario – 1955 – 1977)

JOHN WORTHINGTON – Alpha Chi

BRYCE DENNIS – Alpha Chi # 210

(Beta Alpha Chapter – Hopewell, Virginia – 1956 – 1992 & 2009 – 2015)

WILLIAM “BILL” ELLIOTT – Beta Alpha # 37

FRANKLIN EMERSON – Beta Alpha # 46

(Beta Alpha Chapter Continued next page)

TERRY DAIL – Beta Alpha # 107

JAMES DALE KITCHEN – Beta Alpha # 115

MIKE CUNNINGHAM – Beta Alpha # 126

DAVID ATKINS – Beta Alpha # 138

DAVID ALAN POWROZNIK – Beta Alpha # 158

NATHAN LEE – Beta Alpha # 180

(Beta Gamma Chapter – Chester, Virginia – 1957 – Unknown Year)

DONALD EDWARD GRAVES – Beta Gamma

LINWOOD OSTERBIND – Beta Gamma # 66

(Beta Pi Chapter – Colonial Heights, Virginia – 1964 – 1992)

DONNIE BELCHER – Beta Pi

DONALD BARNES – Beta Pi # 50

RICK MCCOOL – Beta Pi

(Beta Sigma Chapter – Toronto, Ontario – 1965-1977)

BRIAN “BENJI” AUGER – Beta Sigma

(Beta Tau Chapter – Dinwiddie, Virginia – 1965- Unknown Year)

JOHN CORSENTINO – Beta Tau

(Gamma Alpha Chapter – Rexdale, Ontario – 1966 – 1990)

ALFRED “FRED” WILKINSON – Gamma Alpha # 79

(Gamma Epsilon Chapter – Matoaca/Chesterfield, Virginia – 1968-1977)

Jim Chitwood – Gamma Epsilon

(Gamma Theta Chapter – Petersburg, Virginia – 1968 – 1982)

JOHN BURGESS – Gamma Theta # 1-Charter

MARK “WEASEL” ASHBY – Gamma Theta