

# WISCONSIN THETA CHARGE

FALL 2026 | THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



## 125 YEARS OF BROTHERHOOD

*Celebrating our legacy. Building our future.*

**CHAPTER NEWS**  
Fall in Platteville

**BROTHERHOOD**  
A journey to Greece

**GET INVOLVED**  
Grow the AVC

# A legacy worth carrying forward

*Wisconsin Theta Charge • Fall 2026*



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**“Celebrating 125 years is not only about looking back. It is about deciding what kind of brotherhood we will leave for the next 125.”**

## A note to our alumni

The best parts of fraternity life do not end at graduation. They continue through the friendships we maintain, the lessons we pass along, and the support we give the next generation of Wisconsin Theta brothers. This issue celebrates the experiences shaping our chapter today—and invites alumni to help shape what comes next.

### CHAPTER NEWS

## Fall Has Arrived in Platteville

*A new academic year brings fresh momentum for Wisconsin Theta.*



Fall is officially here at UW–Platteville, and campus is looking as beautiful as ever. The changing leaves are a familiar sign of a new season—and, for Wisconsin Theta, another opportunity to build on the strong momentum established at the end of the spring semester.

The chapter had plenty to celebrate this spring. Eleven brothers earned a spot on the Spring Dean’s List, while two brothers were recognized on the Chancellor’s List. Six brothers also celebrated an important milestone as they graduated and transitioned to the alumni phase of the SigEp brotherhood.

That momentum carried into another successful recruitment season, as Wisconsin Theta welcomed eight new brothers to the chapter. We look forward to seeing these new members become an important part of the chapter’s continued growth and tradition.

Homecoming is a chance to bring the undergraduate and alumni communities together. This year during homecoming, the undergraduates partnered with KAΣ and had a great week participating in many events. The week culminated with both SigEp and the KAΣ’s taking first place, and securing the top Greek honors.

The university itself continues to move forward. UW–Platteville was recently recognized as one of the top 15 public universities in the Midwest in the U.S. News & World Report rankings released in September 2026. The university has also begun work on a redesign of its brand and website, intended to better connect with prospective students and their families.

Athletics will expand as well. Chancellor Evetovich announced that UW–Platteville will add two NCAA sports—women’s wrestling and men’s golf—beginning in fall 2027. As another academic year gets underway, there is plenty happening in both Platteville and Wisconsin Theta.

We look forward to keeping alumni connected to the chapter, the university, and the traditions that make our time as Pioneers and brothers so meaningful. We hope to see many of you back in Platteville this fall—and, as always, we look forward to sharing more Wisconsin Theta news throughout the year!

**11 brothers on Spring Dean’s List • 2 on Chancellor’s List • 8 new members**

#### BROTHERHOOD • NATIONAL PROGRAMS

## A Journey to Greece

Ty Meyer reflects on representing Wisconsin Theta as its first Tragos Scholar.



This summer, I had the opportunity to represent WI-Theta as our chapter’s first Tragos Scholar. Tragos was a trip unlike anything I had experienced throughout my time in SigEp. There was no “shop talk” or structured

development time. Instead, it was simply an opportunity for us to explore abroad, learn about history and philosophy, and spend time reflecting on ourselves and the experiences around us.



*Ty Meyer represents Wisconsin Theta on the Tragos Quest to Greece.*

Tragos took us on a 10-day loop around central Greece, visiting incredible places like Athens, Olympia, Delphi, and more. Each stop gave us the chance to hike, explore ancient sites, and connect what we were seeing to the philosophy lectures we had each morning with Dr. Hunt from Baylor University. In the evenings, we came back together to discuss what we had experienced and how it had impacted us individually. Our mentors—Aaron Cromer, Dale Werts, Jeff Back, and Kevin Otero—got to experience Tragos right alongside us, participating in those conversations not just as facilitators, but as fellow participants.



*Tragos scholars and mentors explore Greece together.*

Two of my favorite memories came from the very beginning and very end of the trip. On our first day, we hiked to the Temple of Poseidon and later got to float on our backs in the sea, looking up at the mountains above us. It was incredibly peaceful. On our final day, we visited one of Bill Tragos' favorite restaurants, located high above the Athens skyline. The wind was so strong that wine glasses were literally flying out of our hands and into each other.

**"Tragos gave me an entirely new perspective on what being 'Greek' really means."**

— Ty Meyer



*A view from the Temple of Poseidon and the Aegean coast.*

Leaving Tragos, two things have really stuck with me. First, I did a lot of reflecting on what I want in a career—not necessarily what I want to do, but more importantly, who I want to do it with. The mentors throughout the trip really pushed me to think less about finding a specific role after graduation and more about the types of people, companies, and environments I want to surround myself with. Arete: excellence.

Second, SigEp (and fraternities as a whole) are considered "Greek Life," but that phrase never really clicked for me until this trip. Throughout our time in Greece, our incredible tour guide would unprompted and unknowingly use phrases like "Sound Mind, Sound Body" and "Virtue and Diligence" to describe what we were looking at. Seeing how deeply our ideas and values are woven into Greek art, architecture, philosophy, and culture gave me an entirely new perspective on what being "Greek" really means. Tragos was an experience I am extremely grateful to be selected for. I really hope we get more WI-Theta brothers in the future to go on this once-in-a-lifetime trip.



# Leadership That Lasts

*A Wisconsin Theta brother reflects on the Ruck Leadership Institute.*



My name is Tobias Hua, and I am an undergraduate brother from the Wisconsin Theta chapter. This past summer, I had the opportunity to attend the Ruck Leadership Institute at the University of Richmond in Virginia, the birthplace of SigEp. I joined 158 other undergraduate brothers from across the country.

My schedule was booked from the moment my plane touched the ground. Small-group discussions explored how effective leaders make change by modeling the way, inspiring a shared vision, challenging the process, enabling others to act, and encouraging the heart. I also tackled Richmond's rope course, grew closer with my group, and heard parents share how their lives had been changed forever by hazing.

I learned more about how the fraternity was founded at Richmond and how it has grown throughout its 125 years. The five days would have been enough to make the experience life-changing, but for me, the trip would have been meaningless without my brothers beside me.

The small group I joined included nineteen other brothers from different states and backgrounds. We did not share a race, religion, or creed. The one thing we had in common was that we were brothers.

From my time at Ruck, I discovered how deep the ties of this fraternity go. Every member of that group was someone to look up to, and the words and stories they shared still inspire me months later. They showed me what it means to be a leader, to be in a fraternity, and to be able to call someone brother.

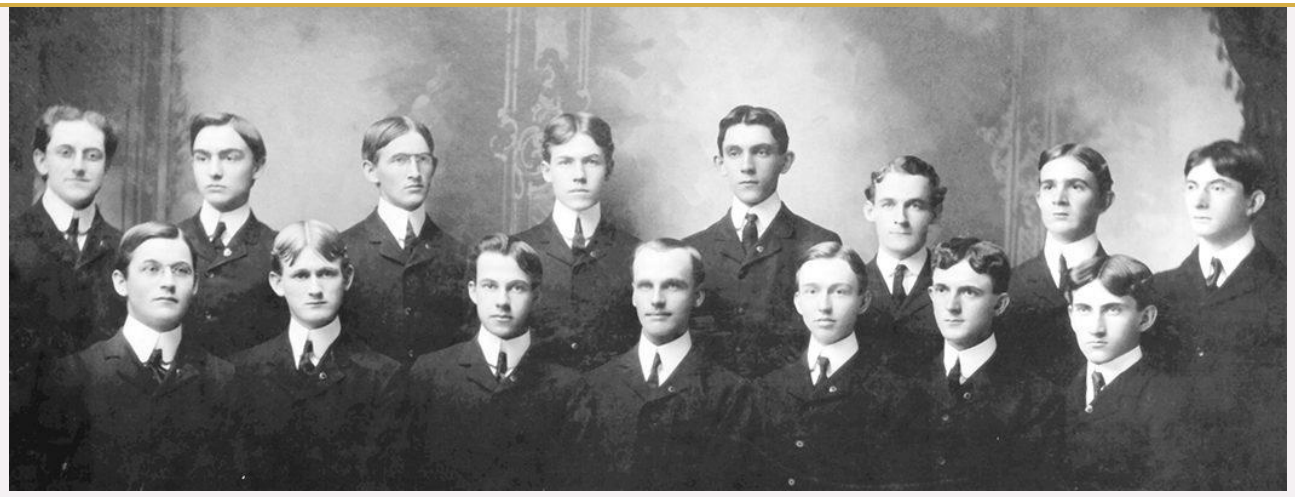
**“They showed me what it means to be a leader, to be in a fraternity, and to be able to call someone brother.”**

— Tobias Hua

## NATIONAL ANNIVERSARY

# 125 Years of SigEp

*Founders Day • November 1, 2026*



On November 1, 2026, Sigma Phi Epsilon marks 125 years since twelve founders established the fraternity in Richmond, Virginia. The anniversary begins a yearlong celebration centered on a promise that has guided SigEp since its earliest days: “This Fraternity will be different.”

The national fraternity is calling this milestone the “125th Anniversary Era,” with the theme “Keeping the Promise.” It is an opportunity to celebrate the brothers and chapters that have shaped SigEp, reconnect with alumni, and consider how today’s members will carry the fraternity forward.

For Wisconsin Theta, the anniversary is a reminder that the future of the chapter is built through everyday actions: undergraduates investing in one another, alumni staying connected, volunteers sharing their experience, and brothers continuing to live the values that brought them together.

The national anniversary will be marked by stories, chapter activities, reunions, scholarship fundraisers, and community service opportunities. It is also a chance for Wisconsin Theta alumni to reconnect with the chapter and help strengthen its next chapter of history.

## Founders Day of Giving: November 1–2

This year’s Founders Day of Giving takes on special meaning as SigEp celebrates its 125th anniversary. The national campaign runs from November 1 through November 2 and supports the Annual Fund, which helps power leadership development, brotherhood, career readiness, and mentorship opportunities for undergraduates.

Alumni can participate by making a gift and selecting Wisconsin Theta in the chapter challenge process so their contribution is credited appropriately. Gifts to the national Annual Fund support the broader SigEp experience; alumni interested in local chapter priorities should also connect with Wisconsin Theta's AVC to learn about opportunities to volunteer and support the chapter directly.

### TAKE PART

Founders Day of Giving • Nov. 1–2, 2026

Visit [sigep.org](https://sigep.org) and search “Founders Day of Giving.” Select Wisconsin Theta when prompted to credit your gift to the chapter challenge.

**Official resources:** Founders Day of Giving — <https://sigep.org/about/who-we-are/foundation/giving-options/founders-day-of-giving/>

ALUMNI • VOLUNTEER • COMMUNITY

## The Future of Wisconsin Theta Starts With Us

*Help grow the AVC and keep alumni connected to the undergraduate experience.*



Graduation changes a brother's day-to-day relationship with Wisconsin Theta, but it does not have to end it. The Alumni and Volunteer Corporation (AVC) gives alumni a way to stay involved, support undergraduate brothers, and help guide the chapter's long-term future.

A strong AVC creates continuity. Undergraduates benefit from the perspective and experience of alumni who have navigated life after college. Alumni, in turn, have a meaningful way to stay connected to the people, traditions, and chapter that helped shape their own college experience.

Growing the AVC is important because a larger, engaged alumni network expands the people power available to Wisconsin Theta. More members can mean more mentors, more professional connections, more help with events and communications, and a broader range of experience when the chapter is making plans for the future.

You do not need to have served as a chapter officer—or live near Platteville—to make a difference. Alumni can contribute in different ways: mentoring an undergraduate, sharing career advice, helping with communications or events, supporting housing and long-range planning, or simply reconnecting and lending a hand when needed.

The goal is not just to grow a membership list. It is to build an active community of alumni who want Wisconsin Theta to thrive for the next generation.

**“The chapter helped build your story. The AVC is one way to help shape what comes next.”**

## How you can help

- Join the AVC and stay informed about chapter priorities.
- Volunteer for a committee or a short-term project.
- Offer to mentor an undergraduate or share career experience.
- Attend Homecoming and alumni events when you can.
- Invite a fellow Wisconsin Theta alumnus to reconnect.

## Be part of what comes next

Interested in joining the AVC or learning more about volunteer opportunities? Contact the Wisconsin Theta AVC at [INSERT AVC EMAIL / CONTACT LINK]. Add your name, share your interests, and help us build an alumni network that can support Wisconsin Theta for years to come.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Insert the current AVC contact, membership link, dues details, and any committee information before publication.

### AROUND THE FRATERNITY

## From the SigEp Journal

*A few national stories connected to Wisconsin Theta's next chapter.*

The SigEp Journal is the fraternity's official magazine and online source for feature stories, chapter news, alumni and volunteer updates, and commentary. These brief reading recommendations add national context while keeping the focus on Wisconsin Theta.

### Keeping the Promise

In its anniversary commentary, SigEp's 125th Anniversary Task Force describes the "125th Anniversary Era," beginning on Founders Day, November 1, 2026. The story encourages chapters to mark the milestone through reunions, scholarship fundraising, and community service—and invites brothers to reflect on the promise that the fraternity would be different.

Read the article: <https://sigep.org/sigepjournal/125th-anniversary-ushers-in-era-of-celebration/>

### A legacy built through alumni investment

A national Journal feature, "Brother's gift leaves a legacy for future chapter leaders," highlights how one alumnus invested in mentoring and supporting brothers over time. It is a useful companion to Wisconsin Theta's call for AVC growth: alumni involvement can be expressed through relationships and steady service, not only financial contributions.

Read the article through the SigEp Journal: <https://sigep.org/sigepjournal/>

### Lessons beyond the classroom

A September 2026 Journal feature follows an alumnus reflecting on the friendships and lessons that began during his undergraduate experience. The story is a reminder that fraternity connections can remain meaningful long after graduation—and that alumni stories can help current undergraduates see the long view of brotherhood.

Find it in the Journal: <https://sigep.org/sigepjournal/>

## Explore more national stories

Browse the latest articles, chapter features, alumni stories, and national updates at [sigep.org/sigepjournal/](https://sigep.org/sigepjournal/). Consider featuring one new national story in each issue of Wisconsin Theta Charge.

### STAY CONNECTED

## One brotherhood. Generations of impact.



Wisconsin Theta's story is still being written. From academic achievements and new member recruitment to national leadership experiences and the 125th anniversary of SigEp, there is plenty to celebrate—and plenty of opportunity for alumni to help.

Reconnect with the chapter. Share an update. Volunteer your time. Support an undergraduate. Invite another brother to get involved.

**JOIN THE AVC**  
[givebutter.com/WIThetaAVC2026Dues](https://givebutter.com/WIThetaAVC2026Dues)

**FOUNDERS DAY**  
Nov. 1–2, 2026

**READ SIGEP NEWS**  
[sigep.org/sigepjournal](https://sigep.org/sigepjournal)

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An alumni publication of Sigma Phi Epsilon • Wisconsin Theta • UW–Platteville