

# Gamma-Alpha Update

A Publication of the Gamma-Alpha Chapter and Alumni of the  
Kappa Sigma Fraternity at the University of Oregon

August 2016

## The New Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation Established



This past April, our own new Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation awarded scholarships to five outstanding Gamma-Alpha brothers, one for \$2,000 and four for \$1,000. L-R: Brothers Theodore Lack, Spencer Kupish, Andrew Caraballo, Daniel Langon, and Ian Hericks were presented with the 2015-16 awards by Foundation Board members Jeff Chase, '72-1041, and Michael Orlando, '85-1338.

The Gamma-Alpha of Kappa Sigma Educational Foundation is now officially established, following confirmation from the IRS granting 501(c)(3) status in April 2016. Our Educational Foundation is Gamma-Alpha's alone, and is domiciled separately from our National scholarship program. We understand that our new Foundation is one-of-a-kind within Kappa Sigma.

Our Gamma-Alpha Foundation is endowed with fund proceeds that have been carefully invested and managed since the sale of our property more than 10 years ago. The endowment is intended to continue into the future, and is anticipated to grow through tax-deductible alumni contributions.

Undergraduate members may apply for and possibly receive scholarship support from both the Gamma-Alpha and National programs: the application forms for Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation and National scholarships are nearly identical.

Foundation scholarships will be awarded based on merit and involvement in academics, campus life, and the fraternity, under the following terms:

- Up to \$10,000 will be awarded each March for spring term, with the application date and process matching the National fraternity's procedure.

— Continued on Page 2

## Past Worthy Grand Master Henry L. Bauer Joins the Chapter Celestial

Past Worthy Grand Master Henry L. Bauer joined the Chapter Celestial of Kappa Sigma Fraternity on Tuesday evening, March 22, 2016. Brother Bauer was an April 19, 1947, initiate of the Gamma-Sigma Chapter at Oregon State University, was a member of the Gamma-Sigma House Corporation, and served as Gamma-Sigma Chapter's Alumnus Advisor. Brother Bauer also served as District Grand Master for the Oregon District.



Brother Bauer served on the Supreme Executive Committee from 1973 until 1979 and served in the offices of Worthy Grand Master of Ceremonies (1973-1975), Worthy Grand Procurator (1975-1977), and Worthy Grand Master (1977-1979). Brother Bauer was Vice Chairman of the Kappa Sigma Endowment Fund and also served as Secretary for the Endowment Fund. He served the Endowment Fund as a Trustee from 1993 until 2003. Hank was one of two members of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity to serve as President of the National Interfraternity Conference.

Brother Bauer's son, Tom, is a May 30, 1981, initiate of the Theta-Epsilon Chapter at Portland State University.

Brother Bauer was an active leader at the local and national level for the Boy Scouts of America. He was a well-respected leader in the Portland community and had an established law practice throughout his career, Henry L. Bauer & Associates PC.

Brother Bauer was one of the most significant modern day leaders of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. The Kappa Sigma Fraternity extends its most sincere condolences to the members of the Bauer family. We keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

AEKΔB, Lee Batson, Gamma-Sigma '74

*(Hank graduated from Grant High School in 1946, OSU in 1950, and the University of Oregon School of Law in 1953. He was proud of his military service, and practiced law in Portland for more than 60 years. In 1994, he received the E. B. Lemon Distinguished Alumnus award from the Oregon State University Alumni Association.*

*It is vitally important to acknowledge Brother Bauer's decades of support for Gamma-Alpha, through his personal donations and the countless hours of volunteer counsel he provided on many challenging issues, including our new Educational Foundation. Gamma-Alpha will be forever grateful for his unswerving commitment to our chapter and Kappa Sigma.*

*He is survived by his sons, H. Stephen and Thomas; and three grandchildren.)*

— *Scholarships, continued*

- Up to eight \$1,000 scholarships, and one \$2,000 scholarship, will be awarded, based on the ranking of all applications received.

- Scholarship awards will be deposited directly to each recipient's U of O account the first week of March, for credit toward spring term.

A big thank-you goes to the several alumni who volunteered many, many hours of their time to see this great program come to fruition! The intent is to grow and sustain the Foundation for the benefit of many generations of Gamma-Alpha brothers to come.

We encourage all Gamma-Alpha alumni and undergraduates to support the growth of our endowment with your potentially tax-deductible contributions. Consider supporting the Foundation through your estate plan, or by giving appreciated securities. As our endowment grows, so will the amount awarded each year. Look forward to more updates in the years ahead!

— *John A. Runyan, '68-998*  
*flyingjar@aol.com*  
 503-936-4570

— *Jeff Chase, '72-1041*  
*jeff@pattisfi.com*  
 503-807-2485

## National Scholarships

Nationally, The Kappa Sigma Endowment fund gives away hundreds of thousands of dollars to undergraduate brothers all across the country.

Through Kappa Sigma's national Scholarship-Leadership Awards, young members are honored for their outstanding journey in education. Since 1947, the Scholarship-Leadership Awards have remained the Endowment Fund's hallmark program, boasting nearly \$5 million in disbursements benefiting thousands of brothers demonstrating excellence in academics, campus involvement, and fraternity leadership.

Award recipients are named each Founders Day (December 10) and merit recognition for: academic performance; fulfilling fraternity and campus leadership roles; participating in varsity athletics and other collegiate programs; demonstrating Kappa Sigma ritual proficiency; and taking part in honor societies and other activities.

## Gamma-Alpha 2016 Boot Camp



Each year, Gamma-Alpha hosts a four-day campaign to raise money for the Fisher House foundation. This foundation, established in 1990, provides low-cost homes for the families of injured service men and women.

This year, Gamma Alpha raised a total of \$5,800 for Fisher House through four main events:

- A pig roast on the Oregon campus, with admission tickets sold to raise money.
- An online "gofundme" campaign that was advertised to family, friends, and local businesses.
- A multi-day tabling project outside of the Duckstore, with Kappa Sigma dog tags sold to raise money
- A half-day boot camp event, in which sorority teams pay to compete in various competitions.

Our philanthropy this year, led by junior Drew Stoll, was a huge success, and was a great opportunity for our chapter to bond together in fellowship while serving a good cause.

We congratulate the beautiful ladies of Kappa Delta for being this year's boot camp champions and winning a function with us!

In addition to philanthropy, all of our members participate in various community service events every term. We partner with local retirement homes, food banks, fundraisers, and animal shelters to organize events where we can give back to our community. We are proud to announce that for the 2016 school year, our chapter averaged 5.2 hours of community service per member, per term. This means that we are at a total of over 1400 hours of community service for this year alone!

## 2015 Fall Pledge Class



During Fall Rush 2015, we recruited and initiated 27 new brothers. These gentlemen exemplified our four core values: leadership, fellowship, scholarship, and service. A huge shout-out goes to Adrian de la Rosa and Jordan Thierry, our Rush Chairmen. Additionally, we thank Andrew Weinhart, a senior who stepped up as our Pledge Educator to help teach men to become exemplary members of our fraternity.

We have since initiated another 19 men, raising our total membership above 90 and making us one of the largest fraternities at the University of Oregon and one of the largest Kappa Sigma chapters in the Western States.

Our current Rush Chairman is *Timmy Vaughan*, who can be reached at [tvaughan@uoregon.edu](mailto:tvaughan@uoregon.edu). If you know a young man who will be attending the U of O in the fall, who would be a suitable candidate for Kappa Sigma membership, please send his contact information to Timmy.

### Send us your e-mail address!

To keep alumni informed of events and activities, periodic announcements will be sent out via e-mail. To make sure you are on the list, return the enclosed alumni news form or write to [addresses@comcoa.com](mailto:addresses@comcoa.com). Be sure to state that you are an Oregon Kappa Sig.



# Welcome, Recent Initiates!

## Initiated December 5, 2015

- Frederik S. E. Larsen ..... West Linn, OR
- Dominique A. Reid ..... Eugene, OR
- Jack Nicholas Farlo ..... Manhattan Beach, CA
- Mitchell James Iafrati ..... Canby, OR
- Cesar Roman Zamora ..... Canby, OR
- Daniel James Blexrude ..... Oregon City, OR
- Albert Benjamin Ludwin ..... San Diego, CA
- Conor Thomas Lloyd ..... San Diego, CA
- Tyler Christian Millan ..... Thousand Oaks, CA
- Parker James Belan ..... Tualatin, OR
- August Stevens Wunderlich ..... Honolulu, HI
- James Grant LaBar ..... West Linn, OR
- Tyler Joseph Reickerd ..... San Jose, CA
- Collin Russell Clarke ..... West Linn, OR
- Parker David Young ..... Newport Beach, CA
- Ben Tuan Vo ..... Eugene, OR
- Philip John Engel ..... Tigard, OR
- Jacob Aran Grassauer ..... Eugene, OR
- Jacob Scott Seligman ..... San Jose, CA
- Andrew Mare Saenz ..... San Jose, CA
- Aditya Mehta ..... Bellevue, WA
- Brenan Matthew Joy ..... Carmel, IN
- Austin Ronald Olsen ..... Tualatin, OR
- Matthew Scott Rodakowski ..... Eugene, OR
- Elijah Matthew Stewart ..... West Linn, OR
- Austin Andre Cuttone ..... Fresno, CA
- Christian Daniel Medina ..... Granada Hills, CA
- Timothy Nicholas Vaughan ..... Los Angeles, CA
- David Benjamin Halperin ..... Peoria, AZ

## Initiated April 10, 2016

- Willie Thomas Amen ..... Walnut Creek, CA
- Thomas Vincent Montalbano ..... Calistoga, CA
- Sebastian Eduardo Lopez ..... Los Angeles, CA

## Initiated June 4, 2016

- Grayson Gordon Oviatt ..... Newberg, OR
- Carson Jay Albo ..... Newberg, OR
- Sina Abdi ..... Anaheim, CA
- Kelly Leo Thackery ..... Beaverton, OR
- Steven John Davidson ..... Ventura, CA
- Eric Daniel Levenson ..... Menlo Park, CA
- Rees Macaulay Kamp ..... North Haven, CT
- Alex Sale Jaffe ..... Oakland, CA
- Shady Abdellatif ..... South San Francisco, CA
- Julian Gakwaya ..... Gresham, OR
- Duncan Kaito Boone ..... Chesapeake, VA
- Daniel James Bryan ..... Seattle, WA
- Nick Jonathan Ruiz ..... Parkville, MO
- Tyler William King ..... Naperville, IL

## Alumni Advisors



Kevin Sasaki is a 1988 Oregon Kappa Sigma alumnus. He lives in Portland, and participated in our 2015 National Conclave with some of our brothers. He is an avid cook, and has been actively involved with our local and national fraternity since his undergraduate years.

David Giles is a 1986 Oregon Kappa Sig alumnus. He is based out of Portland, where he has his own law practice. David is an awesome advisor. He comes down for many football games, as well as parents weekend, and joined us in Orlando, Florida, for the 2016 national conclave.



Alec Shelby is a 2013 Kappa Sig Alumnus from Willamette University. He is our newest alumni advisor, and is a Sheriff's Deputy for Benton County.

## Obituaries

**Don R. Belding, Jr., '41-510**, of Escondido, California, died May 30, 2015, at age 93.

**John E. Meeke, Jr., '46-584**, of Beaverton, Oregon, passed away July 4, 2016. Jack was born in 1926 in Hardin, Montana, and moved with his family to Portland in 1930. He graduated from Beaverton High School in 1944, enlisted in the Air Force, and was training to fly B29 bombers when the war ended and he was discharged. He then enrolled at the University of Oregon, which he attended for two years. He married Laurie Jensen in 1960, and they had several business ventures, developing Mobile Home Corral in Beaverton in the early 1960s and starting their own insurance agency, Jack Meeke Insurance, which they sold in 1990. Among Jack's interests with his wife and children were golfing, skiing, boating on the Columbia River, taking trips in their motor home, and spending time at their cabin at Mt. Hood. Survivors include his son, Johnny Meeke; daughter, Heidi; two grandchildren; and three stepchildren.



**Michael Popovich, '51-702**, of Depoe Bay, Oregon, died June 1, 2015. Born in Chicago in 1927, Mike served in the Navy from 1944 to 1946. Upon his return, encouraged by his younger brother Joe to use their swimming talents to earn college scholarships, they headed to California. They both attended Santa Monica City College, and because there was no swim program there, they started one. Joe went on to swim for UCLA, and Mike accepted a scholarship to the University of Oregon where he played football and swam. He went on to earn both Bachelor's and Master's degrees there. In Eugene, he met and married Karen Terry. He often flew to Chicago to visit all of his relatives there, and often felt torn between his roots in Chicago and his love for Oregon. In 2008, he played a huge role in helping his granddaughter, Lindsay Calmettes, start her business, Beatnik Studios, in Sacramento. It began as a photographers' co-op and quickly morphed into a flourishing event venue. In August 2014, he was an honored guest at the sixth-year Anniversary and grand re-opening of the building Lindsay purchased in August 2013 to house the new and improved Beatnik Studios. Mike was preceded in death by Karen in 1992 and his youngest son, Terry, in 2009. He is survived by his son, Michael; his daughter, Karen; seven grandchildren; and his great-grandson.



**James A. McClaskey, '59-805**, of Vancouver, Washington, passed away February 20, 2016. Jim was born in 1940 in The Dalles. He was a graduate of the University School in Victoria, B.C., the University of Oregon, and Willamette University College of Law. During his school years, Jim was heavyweight boxing champion of his high school, wrestled for the University of Oregon, and played rugby. In 1965, Jim began practicing law in Portland, but decided to enjoy some adventure before becoming immersed in his career. So off he went to Saudi Arabia, where from 1967 to 1971 he was a deep sea diver and eventually the chief operating officer of Algosabi Diving of Saudi Arabia. Jim met his future wife, Kay, from Dublin, Ireland, in Saudi Arabia. He and Kay were married in Dublin in 1973. In 1975, Jim formed his own firm, McClaskey, Greig, Troutwine and Stoker, in Portland. In 1985, Jim merged his law firm with a Seattle firm, and from 1988 until his retirement in 2005 practiced with the Landerholm law firm in Vancouver. Jim served on the boards of numerous civic organizations, and he and Kay were named Philanthropists of the Year for Southwest Washington in 2013. Jim is survived by his wife, Kay; sons, Matt, Mark, Paul, and Dan; and four grandchildren.

**Charles Corbitt, Jr., '64-913**, of Newton, Kansas, passed away December 3, 2014. He was born in 1944 in Flushing, Queens, New York, grew up in Kensington, California, and graduated from the University of Oregon in 1966. He served in the National Guard reserves after college. He then worked for the Bank of California, was a grip man on the cable cars in San Francisco, and later was an elementary school teacher in Richmond, CA. He is survived by his brothers, Carter and Steven.



**Jay C. Oakman, '67-962**, a retired Commander in the Coast Guard, passed away unexpectedly at his home in San Francisco on April 10, 2016. Jay was born in 1945 in Portland, and graduated from the University of Oregon. Enlisting in the Coast Guard in 1968, he was commissioned an Ensign in 1970. Jay completed Navy Flight Training; served on the CGC Sherman; graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School; attended the Armed Forces Staff College; served as Coast Guard Liaison at the Pentagon, and held various assignments in Hawaii, Washington, DC, Governor's



Island, NY, and California. He holds multiple commendations and achievement medals. After retiring from the Coast Guard in 1993, Jay served as President of the Goldmine Hill Board of Directors. He was a loyal fan of the SF Giants, Golden State Warriors, SF 49ers, and the Oregon Ducks. He is survived by Cathy, his wife of 35 years, and his son, Brett Lorentzen, along with grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

**Mark E. Sciarretta, '71-1037**, passed away July 1, 2015, at his home in Vancouver, Washington, after a courageous 7-year battle with cancer. Born in Blairmore, Alberta, Canada, in 1951, he moved to Portland with his family in 1953, graduated from Central Catholic High School, and was a graduate of the University of Oregon. Following graduation, Mark taught school in the Portland area before beginning his career in insurance management. He was an avid sailor, with a sailboat on the Columbia River and later on San Diego Bay during his working career. Following his retirement as vice president of the Arrowhead Group of Companies and Executive Vice President of Insurance Express in San Diego, Mark devoted much of his time to sailing his live-aboard sailboat. He sailed the coastal waters of California and Mexico, throughout the Caribbean, through the Panama Canal, and to Hawaii with his friends. He is survived by his wife, Debra.



## Gamma-Alpha Updates

**Waldon B. Byers, '50-670**, is a retired Air Force Colonel. He and Evalyn (AΦ-U or OR) are parents of Mike (61)

and Kim (60). "We just moved from Medical Lake near Spokane, and are trying to cram 3500 square feet of stuff into 1500 square feet of space. Almost overwhelming!" Write to "Brock" at 2919 SE Village Loop, Vancouver, WA 98683, or call 509-299-3774.

**Wilson E. "Bill" Fitch, '65-924**, is retired from the Navy. He and Jessica have a daughter, Anna, who is 19. Write to Bill at 2341 Parkview Dr., Eugene, OR 97408 (541-505-9930; bill.fitch3@frontier.com).

**Edwin R. Closs, '75-1107**, has been with Wells Fargo for 24 years and is a Vice President of Investments. "I love riding bikes, playing golf, watching sporting events, and fishing. I love my job, family, and friends, and cherish my health after replacing my right hip recently." He and Deb (OSU) have a daughter, Kasey, who is 23. Write to "Rob" at 2470 Wembley Park Rd., Lake Oswego, OR 97034 (503-860-3825; robcloss@me.com).

**Curtis E. Melcher, '83-1295**, enjoys hunting and fishing, and reports: "After 28 years with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, I was appointed Director in February 2015." Curtis and Kevleen (U of OR) are parents of Anna (19) and Erin (16). They receive mail at PO Box 521, Colton, OR 97017 (cemelcher@me.com).

**Scott D. Curry, '94-1505**, has been owner of Curry Landscaping, Inc., since 2002. He and Christina (SJSU) have two sons, Kai (10) and Kellen (2½). Write to Scott at 1038 Winding Ridge Rd., Santa Rosa, CA 95404 (scott@currylandscaping.com).

**Dominic V Gatto, '98-1591**, is a Customer Service Manager with Nike Athletic Centers. He recently moved to 4824 SE Fieldcrest St., Milwaukie, OR 97222 (dominic.gatto@nike.com).

## 2015-16 Honor Roll of Contributors

Through the 2015 and 2016 program years, 26 brothers contributed a total of \$1,975 to the alumni communications program. Your generous support made possible the publication of this issue of the *Gamma-Alpha Update*. Help us keep you informed: the alumni communications program is funded solely by your donations!

Name	Init. Yr. & No.		
Julian E. Hultgren	49 663	H. Lee Felling	63 896
Waldon B. Byers	50 670	Louis D. Jaffe	66 936
James C. Cecil, Jr.	50 671	Thomas C. MacDonald	66 938
Harold C. White	50 689	Kevin E. McDonald	68 997
Richard H. Haake	52 725	John A. Runyan	68 998
James C. Nelson	52 728	Jeffrey L. Chase	72 1041
John L. Shea	56 774	Jules A. Marine	73 1054
Edward H. Stark	57 789	Rob Closs III	75 1107
August E. Parlier	58 792	William S. Whitehead	79 1225
James A. McClaskey	59 805	Edward T. Bondurant	79 1226
Dennis E. Wisby	59 817	Curtis E. Melcher	83 1295
John J. Natt	61 842	Scott G. Thurman	89 1432
James C. Jacobsen	63 880	Scott D. Curry	94 1505