

Gamma-Alpha Update

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

May 2021

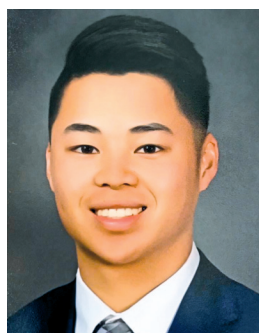
Gamma-Alpha Education Foundation (GAEF) 501C-3 Scholarship Awards, Spring 2021



Jackson Lee
Portland, OR
Psychology



Casey Estes
Orinda, CA
Geography



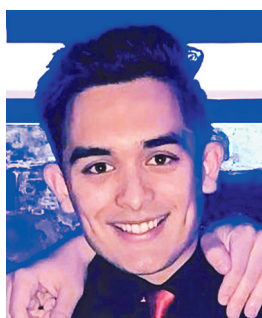
Kevin Yee
San Jose, CA
Finance



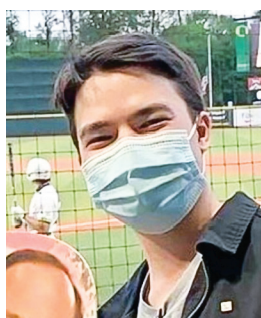
Dylan Conway
Portland, OR
Journalism



John Heinsohn
Laredo, TX
Psychology



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Pasadena, CA
Human Physiology,
Pre-med



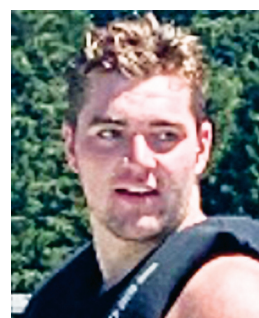
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Tacoma, WA
Finance

This is the sixth year of our scholarship grants, with the largest total amount awarded to date. Awards criteria remain in line with the National's scholarship program, but our amounts are much larger. We award \$19,000 total to ten individuals. Six of the awards are of \$2,500 each, and four are for \$1,000. Two awards go to seniors, five to juniors, and three to sophomores.

In addition, financial assistance is provided for officers attending regional leadership meetings and to a limited number of members attending National Conclave, held this year in Nashville. Since 2016, over \$75,000 in scholarship/leadership grants have been given.

GAEF assets have grown significantly since inception in 2015 through generous alumni donations and investment performance. Many thanks to all who have contributed! It means a great deal to our outstanding undergraduates, given the ever-rising cost of tuition, books, and living expenses! *All contributions are tax-deductible.*

GAEF Committee Positions Open

Here's your opportunity to become involved, and support the outstanding young men of Gamma Alpha! Very little time commitment is required for this rewarding experience: three to four meetings to attend in person or virtually!

Please e-mail any of following committee members for more information:

Jeffrey L. Chase, jeff@pattisfj.com

Damon R. Bull, damonbull@yahoo.com

Michael J. Orlando, mJORlando@yahoo.com

Keith A. Skille, keith@gbdarchitects.com

Please see the Chapter Update on page 2.

Gamma-Alpha Chapter Update

Despite the challenges presented by COVID-19, the Gamma-Alpha Chapter has achieved much over the past year. After a hiatus of a few years, we resumed our Kappa Sigma Sweethearts program. We selected six Sweethearts to be on our composite, and plan to continue selecting Sweethearts in the future.

Winter term, the weather and lockdowns restricted community service efforts, so we focused on philanthropy. On MLK Day, we raised over \$900 for Human Rights Watch. Toward the end of the term, we were able to resume our community service. We started with a trash pickup around Eugene, and ended the term with a cleanup in Blue River to clear ash and debris from last September's forest fires.

Spring term got off to a much better start. We made several trips to Blue River to help the Cascade Relief Team clean up properties. We are planning a virtual philanthropy with Delta Delta Delta on May 22. People who have signed up to run in our virtual 5k will run five kilometers on their own and upload their times online. It costs \$15 to sign up, and all of the money raised will go to Saint Jude's.

Current membership stands at 91, and spring term also brought us a new pledge class of 19. Our rush events consisted of online poker, March Madness watch parties, and meeting the brothers. The new pledges are learning from the *Bononia Docet* online over Zoom.

We use Zoom not only for recruitment, but also for chapter meetings and socials. Not too long ago we had an online function with Chi Omega. It was a "speed dating" themed social, where members were put into breakout rooms, talked for a little bit, and then switched rooms to meet someone else.

Intramural sports such as soccer and softball have started up, and we have teams for both sports. School sports like lacrosse and baseball have also started back up with limited spectator capacity. We are looking forward to what the rest of spring term holds and hopefully we will be able to reopen this fall!

AEKDB,

— Jordan Brewer, GM

Chapter Celestial

Lawrence A. Aschenbrenner, '52-711, of Anchorage, Alaska, passed away September 5, 2020. Born and raised in Spokane, Washington, the son of a Methodist minister, he learned from his parents to treat all people fairly regardless of race, and went on to a distinguished career as a civil rights lawyer. His book

Civil Rights Lawyers in the South, The untold Story! The Movement, Its Lawyers and the Civil Rights Revolution published shortly before he died, tells the story of his later work in the South during the Civil Rights Movement. "Lare" served in the Army during the Korean War. Soon after his graduation from the University of Oregon Law School in 1957, he accepted the first of his positions in public service. In 1967, Lare spent a month in Jackson, Mississippi, as a volunteer attorney for the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. His focus shifted to the protection of Native American rights upon returning to Oregon, and he spent the next 34 years seeking to establish and protect the rights and powers of Native American tribes. His work was instrumental in the Federal Government's recognition of 226 Tribes in Alaska. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Catherine; children Ted, Dan, Connie, and John; and three grandchildren.

William R. Carsillo, '54-740, passed away at his Menlo Park, California home on September 28, 2020. Bill graduated from the University of Oregon before returning to the Bay Area to begin working in real estate. He later began a distinguished 46-year career with the U.S. Department of the Navy, Closure and Relocation. He received the Meritorious Civilian Service Award and Medal in 2002 and 2011. He just celebrated his 54th wedding anniversary with the love of his life, Beth, with whom he shared a devotion to the arts. Bill is survived by Beth; daughters Jennifer and Lori; and three grandchildren.

David G. Stringer, '54-743, of Honolulu, Hawaii, passed away on November 5, 2020. Born in Los Angeles in 1933, he attended South Pasadena-San Marino High School and then accepted a football scholarship from the University of Oregon. He served overseas during the Korean War and was honorably discharged as a disabled veteran. Upon returning home, he attended the University of Southern California School of Architecture and married his high school sweetheart, Virginia Schoolcraft. In 1967, the Kaiser organization contracted with David to design an office building in Hawaii, and in 1969 he permanently relocated with his family. Over his 60-year architectural career, he won numerous awards for design excellence. David served as the Commissioner of Culture and the Arts for the City and County of Honolulu, was President of The Hawaiians WFL football team, and coached youth soccer teams. He is survived by Virginia; daughters Gail and Anne; and three granddaughters.

John P. Hickox, '55-755, of Girdwood, Alaska, died September 22, 2016, at age 83.

Ted J. Holden, '66-OR St., of Merida Yucatán, Mexico, passed away December 29, 2020. After graduation from OSU, Ted earned a certification in Landscape Architecture from University of Oregon, where he lived in the Gamma-Alpha chapter house and had many good friends. He was in the National Guard for six years during the Vietnam War. Ted worked for the Seattle Parks Department and retired as a Senior Landscape Architect.

Gamma-Alpha Updates

Harold C. White, '50-689, has retired as a Professor of Management at Arizona State University. His wife, Lucille ($\Delta\Gamma$ -Whitman College) is deceased; their daughter, Angela, is 66. He moved to a retirement community two years ago. He is a member of Knights of Columbus, and enjoys church, reading, and spending time with his friends and two great-grandchildren: "Not much more I can do." Write to "Dub" at 2625 E. Southern Ave., Unit C282, Tempe, AZ 85282. Call 480-831-3645, or send e-mail to haroldwhiteaz@gmail.com.

Thomas C. MacDonald, '66-938, and Nancy ($\Gamma\Phi\beta$ -U of OR) are parents of Theresa, Jeff, and John. Tom receives mail at 104 NE Marmot Lane, Prineville, OR 97754. Call 541-480-3566, or send e-mail to thomasmacdonald@gmail.com.

Honor Roll of Contributors

During the 2020 program year, 25 brothers contributed a total of \$3,300 to the alumni communications program. So far in 2021, two others have donated. 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!

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