

Gamma-Alpha Update

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

May 2022

Gamma-Alpha Education Foundation (GAEF) 501(c)(3) Scholarship Awards, Spring 2022



Front row, L-R: Bridger Costello, Alden Felstiner, Max Birch, Harrison Teague, and Anthony Giannini.

Back row, L-R: Jordan Brewer, Jack Porter, Walker Dechant, and Andrew Slominski.

This is the seventh year of GAEF scholarship awards. This year's awards totaled \$27,000. This is the largest amount awarded to date, and an increase from last year's \$19,000. Six scholarships of \$4,000 each were awarded to seniors Bridger Costello and Alden Felstiner; juniors Walker Dechant and Jordan Brewer; and sophomores Harrison Teague and Anthony Giannini. Three \$1,000 awards of merit were presented to juniors Jack Porter, Max Birch, and Andrew Slominski.

In addition, financial assistance is provided to officers attending regional leadership meetings and to a limited number of delegates to National Conclave. Since 2016, \$102,000 has been granted in scholarship awards alone.

Through generous alumni gifts and market performance, GAEF endowed assets have continued to grow significantly since inception in 2015. Our financial support means a great deal more today than ever to outstanding undergraduates, given the dramatic escalation in costs of tuition, books, and living expenses.

Many thanks are due to all who have contributed. A very special acknowledgement goes to Michael Orlando, who handles most of the time-consuming application process. He does an outstanding job of gathering and evaluating applications submitted. Thank you, Michael!

The GAEF Volunteer Alumni Committee

Jeffrey L. Chase, '72-1041
jeff@pattisfj.com

Damon R. Bull, '82-1268
damonbull@yahoo.com

Michael J. Orlando, '85-1338
mJORlando@yahoo.com

Keith A. Skille, '82-1281
keith@gbdarchitects.com

Scott D. Gray, '82-1284
kmsg40@earthlink.net

Jeffrey M. Weiner, '82-1289
jmwpharm@sbcglobal.net

John A. Runyan, '68-998
flyingjar@aol.com

Take Advantage of a Tax "Loophole" . . . and Help GAEF Too!

If you are having to take your annual IRA Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) each year, a unique opportunity is available.

If you donate all or part of your IRA RMD directly to the GAEF, you get credit for taking the distribution, but you don't pay any income tax on it! The IRS allows you to instruct your IRA plan administrator to directly make the contribution to GAEF for you. You don't receive the funds, so it is not taxed as income. A \$1,000 distribution goes to GAEF as \$1,000, so you get credit for \$1,000 RMD and pay NO taxes on it!

It's a win for you, a win for the GAEF, and only the IRS comes up short of your taxes! Questions? Contact any of the above committee members.

Central Oregon “Father-Son” Legacy

A recent visit to Thomas Subaru of Bend, Oregon, brought together a remarkable story about Gamma-Alpha brothers Pat Thomas (1932-2013) and his son, Matt Thomas (1961-). Both men, in their own times, have been extraordinarily successful Central Oregon business leaders and auto dealership owners, with a family dynasty spanning more than 85 years.

Pat Thomas (Gamma-Alpha 1952) was born July 15, 1932 in Madras, Oregon. He was the son of William “Bill” and Loma Thomas. Bill opened the Shell Company Service Station and a Dodge-Plymouth dealership (Madras) in 1937. Those businesses became the Thomas Sales & Service Company (T.S. & S. Co.) and remain such today.

Following high school in Madras, Pat studied at the University of Oregon, where he joined Gamma-Alpha. It was there that he met and married Joan Heartt of Gresham in 1952. They raised three sons in Madras. Pat was in Air Force ROTC at UO. Following his active duty, he retired in 1961 from reserve duty, a USAF Captain. His military experience and expertise focused on radar technology.

Pat followed his father, Bill, into the Madras-based family business. By 1977, Pat and Joan, working together, had grown the company to include six Dodge/Chrysler dealerships in central Oregon. Joan played a key role in management of T.S. & S.

Pat was highly regarded nationally in his industry, and served as president of the Dodge National Dealership Association. Pat eventually expanded into Subaru, building the large Bend dealership just east of Bend Central on Highway 20. Pat passed away in July 2013, followed by Joan in November 2019. Both were devoted UO alumni.



L-R: Sons Mark and Bill, father Pat, and son Matt.

and began working with his family’s business as a teenager. Matt has four children, including his son, Jake, who has joined the family business.

Attending the UO, Matt pledged Kappa Sigma at his dad’s suggestion, and was initiated in 1984. Matt was a social activities coordinator for the chapter, and during his time in that role, many fun times were had. Matt acknowledged that those were some of his most enjoyable times! One story mentioned was about the “liberation” of two large concrete lions from the entry of a certain rival fraternity house. Apparently the lions “wanted” to go for a swim in the Mill Race!

Matt remains a devoted booster of the UO Athletic programs, annually making significant donations. Thomas Sales & Service Co. donates new automobiles each year for the University’s use. As a season ticket holder and Duck Club member for many years, Matt regularly attends home and away games/events. In addition, Matt and T.S. & S. Co. contribute significantly to the Bend/Madras regional community needs, including “Every Child Central Oregon” and “Oregon Adaptive Sports.”

All in all, this is quite a Gamma-Alpha legacy story. Thank you, Matt, for sharing!

Gamma-Alpha Spring 2022 Update

By the conclusion of spring rush, we had recruited 15 pledges. We accepted 50 bids through the year, which beat our 47 from last year. Last year at the Conclave, we were ranked the 15th largest chapter out of more than 300, and will probably surpass that rank with our number this year! We are incredibly excited about our growth, even not being affiliated with the school. Along with new members come the responsibilities of grades: our current GPA minimum requirement for pledges and members is 2.75, and we have had no issues upholding that standard. With 15 out of the 86 brothers achieving a 3.5 or higher, we feel confident that grades will continue on an upward trend.

The chapter has accomplished a lot this year! Along with our continuous growth, we have put in many hours of community service, and have raised the minimum required service hours. We volunteered many hours to Food for Lane County. We also work with the Huckleberry Patrol team of the

Eugene police department, removing graffiti and stickers from items such as dumpsters and phone poles. Other community service efforts include river cleanups and trash pickups around Eugene.

Our chapter is currently focused on planning the alumni football tailgate next fall. We aim to hold it on UCLA week: updates will be provided. We held a successful alumni golf scramble recently, and look forward to hosting more in the future. We fielded an intramural team for every sport, and made it as far as the semifinals.

Our goals are to continue our academic progress, do even more community service, and get more involved with our alumni. Overall, we had a successful year, and look forward to the next one.

— Josh Sarason, GM

Brother Stephen “Steve” Kantor, ’68-994

May 22, 1949 - Nov. 14, 2021

We had planned to feature Steve in a near-future *Gamma-Alpha Update* as our alumnus of focus. Sadly, Steve passed away last November, following a long battle with prostate cancer. He is survived by Elaine, his wonderful wife of nearly 50 years, his daughters Ali and Lindsay, and extended family. Steve graduated from Sunset High School in 1967, where he was named “Friendliest Man of The Year” of his graduating class. Steve went on to U of O and joined Gamma-Alpha, where he made many great friends with whom he kept in touch throughout his life. Too many to list! He met fellow student Elaine Londer, whom he married following graduation. Steve went on to earn his law degree from Lewis & Clark, and also earned his CPA designation. He then joined the law firm of Samuels, Samuels & Yoelin, which today is Samuels, Yoelin & Kantor.



Steve also gave much back to his wide community. He was a founding member and Past President of The Oregon Jewish Community Foundation and Past President of Jewish Family and Child Services.

He served as President of Ronald McDonald House Charities of Oregon and SW Washington. He was a member of the University of Oregon Foundation Endowment Committee, as well as committees of the Robison Home and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Institute. He held board positions with numerous organizations, including The Nature Conservancy, Play It Forward, and too many others to list.

Steve played hard, was an excellent chef, and greatly enjoyed entertaining family and friends with his wonderfully prepared meals. He loved golf with his family and friends. But above all, he most especially enjoyed time with Elaine and family. His smile, great sense of humor, and positive outlook were always present.

Steve leaves a legacy that will never be forgotten in his broad-reaching circle of professional colleagues, many dear friends, and family. Steve was simply one of kind, who never forgot his UO Gamma-Alpha friendships.

Steve had a remarkable career, receiving many honors including the Oregon State Bar’s Presidential Award, The Oregon State CPA Speaker of The Year Award, and Best Lawyer of The Year in Taxation. He made the list of Best Lawyers in America, and was a fellow of The American College of Trust and Estate Counsel.

Help Us Find These “Lost” Brothers

The individuals listed below have had mail returned by the Post Office as “undeliverable,” and we would like to get them back on the mailing list! If you are in contact with any of them, or know of their whereabouts, please notify the Gamma-Alpha alumni office. You can use the enclosed Gamma-Alpha Updates form, or send e-mail to addresses@comcoa.com.

Charles M. Laury	1952	715	Benjamin J. Brown	1980	1233
Thomas A. O’Connell	1954	746	Scott R. Adams	1981	1260
Charles J. Harrell	1955	753	Ronald N. Pierce	1981	1263
Michael S. Johnson	1956	773	Timothy P. Hand	1981	1264
Murphy L. Clark	1957	778	Anthony S. Frost	1982	1271
Michael E. Kurtz	1959	803	Michael J. Hansen	1982	1274
Michael C. Clark	1959	813	Stuart A. Miller	1983	1296
Thomas H. Taylor	1959	818	Torben Hage	1983	1304
William R. West	1960	833	Earl J. Fletcher III	1984	1311
James D. McCoy	1962	874	William M. Ryan III	1984	1317
James S. Johnson	1963	881	David W. Giles	1984	1326
David C. Williams	1963	900	Ross W. Parkel	1985	1343
David B. Kincaid	1964	905	Richard C. Abel	1986	1347
Michael P. Felts	1965	916	Scott J. Glass	1987	1377
Douglas B. Morrison	1965	921	Vaughan W. Reynolds	1989	1434
David C. White	1965	927	Andrew J. Roessler	1990	1435
Randy R. Akers	1965	928	Brett M. Lawrence	1992	1469
John C. Kelly, Jr.	1966	937	John A. Nava	1995	1532
James E. York	1966	950	Nathan J. Hawthorn	1996	1546
John O. Schulz	1966	956	Joe L. Hernandez	1996	1548
Jens C. Housley	1967	971	Brian D. Hy Nguyen	1997	1585
William E. May	1968	986	Tyler L. Wintermute	2002	1665
Robert A. Harley	1968	1004	Jay Snyder	2003	1673
Robert H. Morgan	1969	1009	Devon G. Decembre	2011	1688
John A. Clarke	1970	1019	Davis W. Wolfe	2011	1733
Blair T. Pallesen	1971	1031	Christopher E. Larsen	2014	1801
Richard C. Johnson	1973	1060	Sean M. Thomson	2014	1802
Laurence A. Jensen	1975	1091	Alan J. Meza	2015	1842
Russell L. Hughes	1977	1144	Brenan M. Joy	2016	1876
Esley N. Davis	1978	1191	Rees M. Kamp	2016	1893
Bruce M. Bauer	1978	1200	Julian Kakwaya	2016	1896
Brian K. Burright	1978	1201	Faiz Kamran	2016	1901
Matthew L. Owen III	1979	1214			

Chapter Celestial

Norman K. Bishop, '47-598, died May 22, 2021, in Yachats, Oregon. He was born in 1926 in Salem, Oregon, and graduated from Beaverton High School, where he had been Student Body President. He then served in the Air Force as an airplane mechanic and typist. Following WWII, Norman attended the U of O and Portland State College, where he met Jean Evelyn Lumijarvi. They married in 1948 and settled in Lake Oswego. Norman began his career in automobile sales before switching to insurance with Northwestern Mutual, where he earned recognition as a member of the Million Dollar Roundtable. He returned to the auto business in 1966, as principal partner and president of Norm Bishop Volkswagen, Porsche, Audi, in Boise, Idaho. A lifelong Episcopalian, Norman helped establish William Temple House in Portland. He had an enduring appreciation for music, which he and Jean passed along to their five sons. Norman also enjoyed playing tennis and skiing. He was predeceased by his brother **William [’47-599]** and a son, Bartley. He is survived by Jean; sons Norman, Theodore, Gregory, and Jayson; ten grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Allan E. Inglis, '47-607, passed away on April 15, 2021. Born in Seattle in 1926, he grew up in Dallas, Oregon, where he enjoyed horseback riding, fishing and hunting. He guided pack trips on the Pacific Crest Trail, and was a member of the Oregon Mounted Horse Posse. Allan became a world-renowned orthopedic surgeon at Hospital for Special Surgery (HSS) and double professor at Weill-Cornell Medical College. He received Lifetime Achievement Awards from the Arthritis Foundation in 2001 and the New York Society for Surgery of the Hand in 2013. The Allan E. Inglis MD Professorship in Orthopedic Surgery was established at HSS. While in medical school, he visited New York City for the first time and committed to make it his home. Soon thereafter he married Helen Elizabeth Uebel. After moving to Rye, New York, he and Helen joined the American Yacht Club. He is survived by Helen; their children, Allan, Jr., Jennet, Jamie, Steven, Captain Matthew, Vicki, and Suzanne; and six grandchildren.

Thomas Midgley IV, '55-757, of Santa Monica, California, died May 22, 2021. Born in 1935 in Columbus, Ohio, Thomas moved to Los Angeles in 1942. He graduated from Chadwick School,



where he was the football quarterback, led in track and field, and was lead golfer. He graduated from University of Oregon in 1958, where he ran the fastest recorded 100-yard dash during his freshman year. He graduated from the Navy's Officer Candidate School, and was commissioned an Ensign in 1959. He authored *From The Periodic Table to Production*, a biography of Thomas Midgley, Jr., the inventor of ethyl gasoline and freon refrigerants. Sandy, his wife of 54 years, predeceased him in 2017. He is survived by his children, Michael, Jennifer, and William, and three grandchildren.

Bret D. Hokkanen, '80-1236, of Portland, Oregon, died January 13, 2020. Born in 1960 in Portland, Bret graduated from Sunset High School in 1978 and Oregon State University in 1983, where he met



his wife Lin. Bret obtained his MBA in 1990 from The University of Portland and worked as an investment professional for the past 37 years, most recently as Director of Sales for Hood River Capital Management. Since childhood, Bret played tennis and golf and was an avid outdoorsman. Skilled at fly fishing and snow skiing, his love for the outdoors led him to serve on the Board of Directors of LEAP Wilderness Adventures. He also served on Committees for the Portland Golf Club and The Multnomah Athletic Club. He taught his sons to fish, golf, wakeboard, and ski at a young age. Bret is survived by Lin and sons Erik and Bryn.

Alexander S. Krafve, '15-1823, of Tualatin, Oregon, passed away unexpectedly on November 19, 2021. Born in 1995, Alex attended the University of Oregon as a business major. He acquired an internship with the Athletic Department and led guided tours of the football facilities for guests and dignitaries. He will be remembered for his beautiful engaging smile, artistic ability, subtle wit, and kind heart.



Gamma-Alpha Updates

Jules A. Marine, '73-1054, writes: "Dear Brothers: You guys are doing a great job at Gamma-Alpha. Have a great summer!" Write to Jules at 551 Vista Flora, Newport Beach, CA 92660.

Corey Michael duBrowa, '85-1342, graduated from the U of O School of Journalism and Communication in

1988. He became Google's vice president of global communication and public affairs in April 2018. Prior to that, he was executive vice president and chief communications officer at Salesforce. He had also served as senior vice president of global communications for Starbucks. He has earned multiple industry awards over the past 20 years, including four Sabres, two PR Week Global awards, three PRSA Silver Anvils, and the UO Alumni Association's Jeanne Johnson Service Award. In 2016, he established the Michael T. duBrowa Memorial Scholarship for advertising and public relations students who are first-generation college attendees. He served as the UO Alumni Association president from 2008 to 2010, served on the SOJC's Journalism Advancement Council from 2012 to 2015, and is currently on the Arthur W. Page Society's Board of Trustees. He receives mail at 105 El Camino Real, Berkeley, CA 94705.

Derek W. Kazee, '91-1453, is an IBM Technology Sales Executive. He was Kappa-Sigma's GT in 1993 and GM in 1994. He and Sandi have a son, Luke, who is 14. "We're living and working in San Francisco, raising our son in the Lower Haight district. Luke is heading to Saint Ignatius in the fall, and plans to go out for football, basketball, and baseball. I encourage all the brothers to write and let us know what's up with you!" Derek has requested that no contact information be included in this note.

Honor Roll of Contributors

During the 2021 program year, 20 brothers contributed a total of \$3,430 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.	
Jack S. Countryman	48	644
James C. Cecil, Jr.	50	371
Harold C. White	50	689
John L. Shea	56	774
August E. Parlier	58	792
Tom B. Mitchell	59	812
John J. Natt	61	842
James C. Jacobsen	63	880
Thomas C. MacDonald	66	938
John A. Runyan	68	998
Russell R. Kilkenny	69	1015
Samuel H. Kress	70	1026
Jeffrey L. Chase	72	1041
Patrick J. Kilkenny	72	1044
Jules A. Marine	73	1054
Scott S. Cohn	77	1155
Curtis E. Melcher	83	1295
Aaron K. Ensign	89	1434
Derek W. Kazee	91	1453
Kevin S. Kilkenny	94	1511