

# Gamma-Alpha Update

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

September 2017

## Extraordinary Exciting News:

### The Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation (GAEF)

### Our Own 501(c)(3), Now Fully Operational!!

The GAEF is **NOT** the National Fraternity's scholarship program, but our very own! Over the past two years, the GAEF has awarded \$16,000 in grants to our undergraduate brothers, while establishing a wholly local capital account for future scholarship support that is second to none in the Kappa Sigma nation.

#### Key Points:

- All contributions to GAEF are *tax-deductible*.
- All gifts benefit *only* qualifying undergraduate members of Gamma-Alpha.
- Up to \$10,000 will be awarded each March for spring-term tuition and textbooks.
- The application process follows the same guidelines as Kappa Sigma's national scholarship program.

• Undergraduates can apply to, and are eligible to benefit from, both GAEF and National awards.

#### Ongoing contributions from alumni are *critical!*

Why? IRS regulations! In order to maintain our 501(c)(3) status, we must campaign to raise added funds through contributions.

#### How can we sustain our status?

Each year's ongoing campaign will involve notices requesting support, including updates to this newsletter, personal requests, and opportunities to donate at alumni social events. Long-term strategies may include estate bequests, matching-gift challenges, and pledges to be paid over time.

Much work remains to be done. Your GAEF all-volunteer board is totally

committed to the long-term success of this worthy program to assist our most deserving undergraduates.

As the cost of education continues to skyrocket, your support of "our own" Gamma Alpha Educational Foundation is needed, and greatly appreciated.

#### Total Scholarship Awards and Recipients to Date:

##### March 2016 (\$6,000 total):

Theodore Lack  
Spencer Kupish  
Andrew Caraballo  
Daniel Langan  
Ian Herricks

##### March 2017 (\$10,000 total):

Spencer Kupish  
Austin Smith  
Collin Clarke  
Troy Romstad  
Ben Ludwin  
Jacob Grassoover  
Brian Strang  
Jordan Thierry  
Ian Herricks

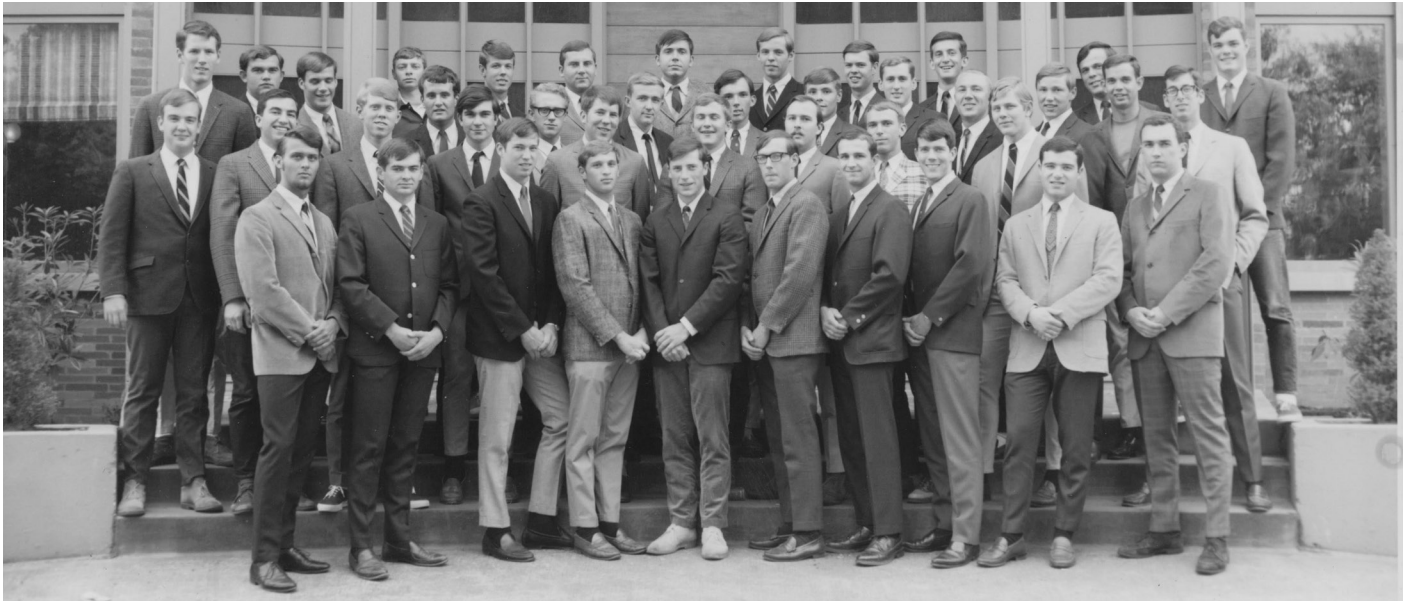
Thanking all who have offered generous support in the past, and all who plan to donate in the remainder of 2017 and beyond, we are your GAEF volunteer board:

Jeff Chase, [jeff@pattisfj.com](mailto:jeff@pattisfj.com)  
Jerry Keene, [jerrykeene@aol.com](mailto:jerrykeene@aol.com)  
Damon Bull, [damonbull@yahoo.com](mailto:damonbull@yahoo.com)  
Michael Orlando, [mjorlando@yahoo.com](mailto:mjorlando@yahoo.com)  
David Zechnich, [davezechnich@gmail.com](mailto:davezechnich@gmail.com)  
John Runyan, [flyingjar@aol.com](mailto:flyingjar@aol.com)



Sale of the former Kappa Sigma chapter house at 1090 Alder St., Eugene, provided the initial capital for our new Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation.

## Gamma-Alpha in 1968



**Front Row, L-R: Darry Salerno, Curtis Bilyeu, William “Greg” Stelzer, Stephen Kantor, Donald Lindly, Daniel Heuvel, Wayne Conn, John Runyan, William Rogers, and Jay Oakman.**

**Second Row: Thomas McClung, Gregory Jenks, Robert Foote, William May, Andrey “Steve” Stevenson, Peter Schulz, Michael Rudd, Kip Amend, James Orjala, and Louis Jaffe.**

**Third Row: Thomas Roots, Larry Walker, Michael Wentworth, Duane Epton, Ernest Niemi, David Steele, Terry Turner, Brian Kelly, Dennis Gerke, Terry Logan, and Paul Tuttle.**

**Back Row: Timothy McClain, Rodney Pitcher, Steven Shelton, John Reeder, Jeffrey Martine, Kevin McDonald, Tim Dagner, Albert Depenbrock, Robert Tosch, and Rodney Sawyer.**

## Help Us Find These “Lost” Brothers!

The following individuals have had mail returned by the Post Office as “undeliverable.” If you are in touch with any of them, or know their whereabouts, please inform the Alumni Office using the enclosed alumni news form, or send e-mail to [addresses@comcoa.com](mailto:addresses@comcoa.com).

Howard G. Little	1927	266	John A. Clarke	1970	1019
Edward H. King	1929	298	Richard C. Johnson	1973	1060
Thomas M. Waltman	1938	457	Laurence A. Jensen	1975	1091
Neil J. Stackhouse	1938	462	Russell L. Hughes	1977	1144
Walter P. Dickey	1941	514	Bruce M. Bauer	1978	1200
James B. La Fon	1941	526	Benjamin J. Brown	1980	1233
James F. Lloyd	1942	545	Scott R. Adams	1981	1260
Bob S. Cox	1942	547	Timothy P. Hand	1981	1264
William L. Bishop	1947	599	Anthony S. Frost	1982	1271
James S. Snyder	1947	612	Michael J. Hansen	1982	1274
Lyle R. Morrison	1949	664	Stuart A. Miller	1983	1296
Charles M. Lairy	1952	715	Earl J. Fletcher	1984	1311
Thomas A. O'Connell	1954	746	William M. Ryan III	1984	1317
Charles J. Harrell	1955	753	Ross W. Parkel	1985	1343
Michael S. Johnson	1956	773	Richard C. Abel	1986	1347
Murphy L. Clark	1957	778	Scott J. Glass	1987	1377
Michael E. Kurtz	1959	803	Douglas A. James	1988	1413
Michael C. Clark	1959	813	Aaron S. Brown	1989	1434
Thomas H. Taylor	1959	818	Andrew J. Roessler	1990	1435
Douglas E. Collinson	1960	830	Philip H. McLaughlin, Jr.	1993	1493
William R. West	1960	833	John A. Nava	1995	1532
James D. McCoy	1962	874	Nathan J. Hawthorn	1996	1546
James S. Johnson	1963	881	Joe L. Hernandez	1996	1548
David C. Williams	1963	900	Mason A. Welp	1996	1561
David B. Kincaid	1964	905	Brian D. H. Nguyen	1997	1585
Michael P. Felts	1965	916	Jay Snyder	2003	1673
Douglas B. Morrison	1965	921	Kyle R. Smith	2011	1726
Randy R. Akers	1965	928	Davis W. Wolfe	2011	1733
John C. Kelly, Jr.	1966	937	Derek R. Kopp	2012	1748
James E. York	1966	950	Christopher E. Larsen	2014	1801
John O. Schulz	1966	956	Alan J. Meza	2015	1842
William E. May	1968	986			
Robert A. Harley	1968	1004			



**Alumnus Norman Van Brocklin (center) visited in 1970. Here he is flanked by undergrads Rick DeNeffe (L) and Kevin McDonald (R).**



**July 1971: Terry Hutchens, Greg Jenks, Evan Austin, Mitch Cramer, and Fred Koelling.**

### Send us your e-mail address!

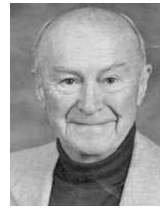
To keep alumni informed of events and activities, periodic announcements will be sent out via e-mail. To make sure you are on the list, return the enclosed alumni news form or write to [addresses@comcoa.com](mailto:addresses@comcoa.com). Be sure to state that you are an Oregon Kappa Sig.

## Obituaries

**Vernon L. Kelly, '41-519**, died November 11, 2015, in Portland. He was the third of four sons, born in 1922 in The Dalles. Growing up, he helped on the family's wheat ranch. He attended the University of Oregon, but left to enlist in the Army Air Corps during World War II. He married Lucille Thouvenel in 1943, and they honeymooned on the train to Salt Lake City, where Vernon reported for duty two days later. After his basic training, Lucille joined him in Texas. He attended flight engineer school, eventually becoming a flight instructor, and was lucky enough to stay stateside during the war. He was discharged in 1946, and he and Lucille returned to The Dalles where they raised three sons and Vernon worked on his wheat ranch until his retirement in 1969. Vernon and Lucille loved to travel and were always "on the move." Vernon was a member of St. Peter's Catholic Church and the Knights of Columbus, and, in his earlier years, volunteered on The Dalles City Planning Commission. He enjoyed golfing, fishing, and hunting, and loved spending time with his children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Vernon is survived by his sons, Paul, Tom, and Doug; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and a brother, Ken. His wife and brothers, Jim and **Wilbur ['41-520]**, predeceased him.



**Walter H. Girdlestone, '41-524**, passed away July 26, 2016, at his San Carlos, California home. A native Californian, Howard spent his early years in Marin County. He graduated from Mt. Tamalpais High School, attended Menlo College, and graduated from the University of Oregon in 1942 with a BA in economics. Seven days after graduation, Howard reported for military duty in Hollywood, Florida. He became a pilot in the Marine Corps, and for nearly two years flew transport missions in Northern China. He was proud of his service to his country, and shared countless stories of his adventures here and abroad. In 1945 he married his college sweetheart, Lorraine Davidson. They had two children, Lester and Wendy. Following a brief time in Fresno, the family moved to San Carlos where he spent the remainder of his life. Lorraine passed away in 1999. In 2002, Howard married Martha Miller of Los Altos Hills, with whom he shared the last 15 years of his life. Howard worked for 37 years in the financial district in San Francisco as an insurance executive, first with the American Home Assurance Company, then American International Group and Cravens Dargan, retiring in 1985. Much of Howard's life was spent acquiring and managing retail and office properties in and around San Carlos. Howard became a benefactor to the local community, especially supportive of local youth and civic improvement projects. His legacies include the stage and water squirt in Burton Park, a remodeled kitchen for The Boys and Girls Club, new buildings for the Eaton Hills/San Carlos 4-H, and a replica of The Wright Flyer, which hangs in the lobby of Hiller Aviation Museum. His lead gift helped fund Sequoia Hospital's new addition. He was a board member of The Sequoia Hospital Foundation, the San Carlos Parks and Recreation Foundation, the San Carlos Youth Center Foundation, and Youth & Family Enrichment Services. He was honored as San Carlos Citizen of the Year in 2001 and Silicon Valley Community Foundation's Philanthropy Citizen of the Year in 2008. Howard is survived by Martha; his son, Lester Girdlestone; his daughter, Wendy; and two grandsons.



**Grant D. Beardsley, '43-550**, of Salem, Oregon, passed away October 26, 2015. He was born in 1922 in Eugene. Don attended Harvard University from 1940-1942, where he met his future wife, Jeanne Robinson. In 1943 he returned to finish studies at the University of Oregon, and married Jeanne in 1946. Don completed his medical education and urology residency at the UO Medical School in Portland through an accelerated program to prepare physicians for the Korean War. As a Captain in the Army, he was stationed at Madigan Army Medical Center at Fort Lewis, Washington. Don and Jeanne moved to Salem where he practiced urology for 36 years until his retirement in 1989. He was a faculty instructor in urology at UO Medical School (1961-62). He served as President of Salem Hospital Medical Staff (1970). After retirement, Don pursued his many interests including travel, music (especially Big Band), photography, trains, reading, and geologic studies. Don was predeceased by Jeanne in 1988. He is survived by his four children: Gail Herzberg, Grant, Carol Grimwood, and Pam Beardsley. He is also survived by his six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

**Leslie S. Collier, '47-619**, passed away on January 5, 2016 in Georgetown, Texas, just shy of his 87th birthday and next golf game. Les was born in Oakland, California, in 1929, graduating from Piedmont High in 1947. He attended UC-Berkeley and the University of Oregon, graduating in 1951 with a BS in Business Administration. Les worked for several companies after college. While working in San Francisco, he met Arlene Jones and they were married in 1955. From the late 1950s through the 1970s, Les was the owner of Sports Unlimited in Orinda, California, and Colliers Sports Village in Walnut Creek. He was a member of the Rotary Club. Arlene passed away in 1998. Three years ago, Les moved from California to Texas to be closer to his daughter. Here he met Lorraine Miller, with whom he shared the last two years of his life. With Lorraine by his side he danced, shared a love of reading and learning, and traveled to Pennsylvania, Italy, and Costa Rica. Les is and survived by children David and Diane, three grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

**Edgar D. Harvey, '48-646**, of Portland, passed away on March 20, 2017. Ed was born in Portland in 1929 and graduated from Beaverton High School in 1947. He had been a standout athlete in football, basketball, and track, editor of his high school newspaper, and vice president of the Oregon High School Press Association. In 1951, he received a football scholarship to the U of O, and finished his college career at Lewis and Clark College. In 1953, he was inducted into the Army and was stationed in Europe as a cryptographer, where he earned the National Defense Service Medal. After completing his service in 1954, Ed began building boats with local aircraft designer George Yates, and formed Harvey Boat Works shortly after. He was an innovative boat designer and builder, recognized for building the first fiberglass fishing dory. His business, Harvey Marine, is the home of the 26-foot Harvey Rabbit, which has been waving at passersby for over 40 years. In 1959, Ed met Judy de Freitas. They were married in 1961 and had four boys. Ed was a big supporter and sponsor of youth sports, coaching West Sylvan Little League, Beaverton Babe Ruth, and Beaverton Youth Basketball. He served as president of Sunset Pop Warner Football. Ed was preceded in death by his son, Todd. He is survived by Judy and sons, Paul, Eric, and Mark.





**Dan L. Duncan, '49-660**, of Meridian, Idaho, died February 17, 2017. Dan was born in 1927 in Tacoma, Washington. He loved sailing weekends at Spring Shores reservoir and spent summer vacations sailing in Canada with his family and friends. He spent most hunting seasons with his friend, Jerry Chapman. Dan enjoyed cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, fishing, camping, and playing his clarinet and saxophone. He worked for Blue Cross of Idaho for 27 years, becoming president before retiring in 1989. After his retirement, Dan and his wife of 35 years, Sidney, set sail for a seven-year adventure that began in California and ended in Florida. They returned to Idaho and settled in Crouch to build their dream home. They would live there until Sidney became ill. Dan dedicated his life to caring for Sidney for 10 years, until the day she died. Dan is survived by his children, Sue Duncan Huskey, Melissa Duncan, and Jeff Anderson, and by six grandchildren.

**James E. Bushnell, '50-669**, of Tualatin, Oregon, died April 25, 2015, at age 84. He is survived by daughters Linda Berning, Karen Ross, and Kristi Bushnell, and two grandchildren.



**Lee A. Perry, '50-676**, of Costa Mesa, California, died December 6, 2016. Born in 1925, he graduated from Washington High School in 1942, joined the Army, and served in infantry combat in Europe and with the Army of Occupation in Japan. He graduated from the University of Oregon in 1950. While in college, he met Joy Miller. They were wed in 1950 and had one daughter, Julie. While in high school, he was a master counselor of DeMolay. He has been an Elder and a Deacon at the Eastminster Presbyterian Church. He was a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and a supporter of Snocap. Lee worked for General Motors in their credit and collection department until his retirement. He loved reading, gardening, and traveling. He is survived by his wife, daughter, two grandsons, and a great-grandson.



**James C. Nelson, '52-728**, of Tillamook, died November 23, 2015, at age 85. He graduated from Gresham High School in 1949 and from the University of Oregon

in 1953. During summers, he worked at Quicksal and Stone and for the Obrist family dairy in Gresham, and also served in the Army Reserves. Jim met the love of his life, Carol Jean Broeren, at the U of O. They married in 1953 and started their family in Tillamook, where he owned Nelson Brothers Distributorship with his brother, Bob. Jim helped his community by volunteering for 32 years on the Solid Waste Advisory Committee. He served 16 years as a Tillamook City Councilman, and was an Elks member. He was the last charter member of the investment group, Prudent Plungers. His free time was spent gardening, golfing, fishing, or clamming. He wintered in Palm Desert. He is survived by his wife; his son, Jeff, and daughter, Jan Ottman; four grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

**F. Harold Nickila, '53-735**, of Belmont, California, died November 3, 2009. Born in Sparta, Minnesota, in 1931, he lived in the Silverton, Oregon, area for the last 40 years of his life, and had a chiropractic practice in Salem for 35 years. He was a member of Silverton Elks and Silverton Immanuel Lutheran Church. He is survived by daughters Nikki Depold and Jamie Streeter, and two grandchildren.

**Michael R. Leming, '82-1275**, of Beaverton, Oregon, died June 25, 2016, in a BASE jumping accident in Norway. Born in 1963, he worked at Nike for 15 years, recruiting some of the company's top talent. He left to have more time to pursue his thrill-seeking outdoor passions. He BASE jumped around the world, using a parachute or wingsuit. The extreme sport is considered highly dangerous because

of the low altitudes from which people jump. He is survived by the love of his life, Erin Jacobson, and numerous relatives and friends. According to friend **Curtis Melcher '83-1295**, "About a dozen of us gathered at his memorial in Portland in July. Those in attendance included **Joe Watts '84-1323**, **Damon Bull '82-1268**, **Keith Skille '82-1281**, **Brett Bayne '82-1266**, **Frank Stroud '84-1321**, **Mike Gustafson '83-1293**, **Ed Bondurant '79-1226**, **Phil Sholian '82-1280**, **Ron Wolf '80-1243**, **Ron Sherman '84-1318**, **Andrew Peterson '82-1278**, **Mark Makler '82-1276**, and myself."

## Gamma-Alpha Updates

**John A. Runyan, '68-998**, is Senior Vice President with Morgan Stanley. His daughters, Jessie (32) and Ali (30), are both University of Oregon graduates. "I enjoy travel: bicycling distances, skiing, sailing, spending time with family, and following UO sports. Go Ducks! My daughters are enjoying their careers with Nike and Columbia Sports Wear. All is well!" Write to John at 2602 SW Fairmount Blvd., Portland, OR 97239 (flyingjar@aol.com; 503-936-4570).

**Chad A. Turner, '88-1431**, "relocated from Klamath Falls, Oregon, to Everett, Washington, in July 2012 to pursue a job opportunity as Vice President of Achilles USA, a large manufacturer in the plastics industry." He and Jennifer (DG-U of OR) are parents of Mattison and Makena (identical twins, 21) and Haley (18). Write to Chad at 10701 62nd Pl. W., Mukilteo, WA 98275, or send e-mail to cturner@achillesusa.com.

## 2016-17 Honor Roll of Contributors

During the 2016 program year, 34 brothers contributed a total of \$3,260 to the alumni communications program. One brother has contributed so far in 2017. 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.		
William W. Evans	48 0	H. Lee Felling	63 896
Edward M. Anderson	48 623	Richard J. Gunderson	65 925
Wallace B. Eakin	49 661	Kevin E. McDonald	68 997
Waldon B. Byers	50 670	John A. Runyan	68 998
James C. Cecil, Jr.	50 671	Samuel H. Kress	70 1026
Harold C. White	50 689	Jeffrey L. Chase	72 1041
Jerry L. Kershner	56 768	Patrick J. Kilkenny	72 1044
John L. Shea	56 774	Douglas E. Strand	75 1096
Edward H. Stark	57 789	David W. Zechnich	75 1112
August E. Parlier	58 792	Edward T. Bondurant	79 1226
Tom B. Mitchell	59 812	Michael R. Leming <i>in memoriam</i>	82 1275
Dennis E. Wisby	59 817	Kurt A. Boerner	83 1302
John J. Natt	61 842	Chad A. Turner	88 1431
Joseph Cechmanek III	61 855	Michael P. Kubas	00 1626
Robert A. Carmichael	62 858	Nicholas R. George	15 1831
James C. Jacobsen	63 880	Adrien S. Detchmendy	15 1843
George J. Tichy II	63 894	Conor T. Lloyd	15 1862
		Tyler J. Reickerd	15 1867