

Gamma-Alpha Update

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

April 2018

A Kilkenny Family Story Friday Night High School Lights ~ Heppner High School

On Friday September 1, 2017, *The Oregonian* published an article by its well-known sports writer, John Canzano, featuring a heart-warming front sports page story about Mr. Robert 'Bob' Kilkenny of Heppner.

The article was about his lifelong commitment toward strong family and community values and very specifically about his love of small town Heppner High School football. Bob Kilkenny, who passed away at 86 years of age in the summer of 2016, was father to Gamma Alpha alumni **Russ, '69-1015, Pat, '72-1044, and Kevin, '94-1511**. Those three brothers span three decades of very active Gamma Alpha history, 1970's on to the 1990's. Russ served as Gamma Alpha GP, Pat as GM, and Kevin as Scholarship Chair. Their brother John a Theta Chi - UO, and sister Kelly an Alpha Phi- UO. In recent years, Pat served as an outstanding Athletic Director for the UO.

The article is such a wonderful tribute to Bob Kilkenny and his caring commitment for the small community of Heppner- population 1,295. It is also a recognition of his daughter and four sons, all devoted and successful individuals in their respective lives as was their dad. Quoting about their Dad and Heppner, the following:

"That (*Oregonian*) article really sums everything up perfectly about Dad and growing up in rural America. Heppner is a special place like many small towns across the country. Dad was so proud of



The Kilkenny family: The late Bob Kilkenny is front and center, with daughter Kelly beside him. Standing behind them, L-R, are Kevin, Russ, Pat, and John. Nike designed state-of-the-art uniforms to honor Bob Kilkenny and Heppner's historic high school football success.

the town and all the kids who went through the schools there. It is truly a community and we all enjoy going back and helping with the legacy Dad started. He was not a selfish person and always tried to help his neighbors--he had so many great values that we all benefited from."

The full article is well worth reading and can be found online at:

The Oregonian Heppner — Canzano: "Custom high school uniform captures football, a father, and a small Oregon town."

The Gamma-Alpha Educational Foundation (GAEF) ~ Our Own 501(c)(3)

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.

- 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.

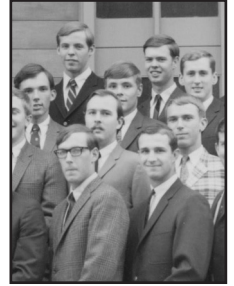
Ongoing contributions from alumni are critical! Why? IRS regulations! In order to maintain our 501(c)(3) status, we must campaign to raise added funds through contributions.

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.

Gamma-Alpha Updates

in the September 2017 *Gamma-Alpha Update*. In the back row of the photo, Tom was identified as “Kevin McDonald,” and the brother standing next to him, Jim Degner, was identified as “Tim” Degner. Alumni office staff apologize for the error. Tom added, “Just for the record, wish I had that hair back! AEKDB.” Tom can be reached at 104 NE Marmot Lane, Prineville, OR 97754.



Curtis E. Melcher, '83-1295, wrote: “I just finished my third year as Director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. I still benefit from four years at the Gamma-Alpha Chapter and reflect upon it regularly.” Curtis is a fan of UO athletics and enjoys hunting and fishing. He and his wife, Keveleen (UO), have two children, Anna (21) and Erin (18). Get in touch with Curtis via e-mail at cemelcher@me.com; or by phone at 503-824-2029 or 503-201-5269. He receives mail at PO Box 521, Colton, OR 97017.

KΣ

2017 Honor Roll of Contributors

Many thanks to the 26 brothers listed below, who contributed a total of \$3,025 in the 2017 program year. Alumni support makes *Gamma-Alpha Update* possible.

Name	Init. Yr. & No.
Edward M. Anderson	48 623
Julian E. Hultgren	49 663
Waldon B. Byers	50 670
James C. Cecil, Jr.	50 671
Jerry Kershner <i>in memoriam</i>	56 768
John L. Shea	56 774
August E. Parlier	58 792
Tom B. Mitchell	59 812
Dennis E. Wisby	59 817
John Julian Natt	61 842
Robert A. Carmichael	62 858
James C. Jacobsen	63 880
George S. Lagusis	63 889
Richard J. Gunderson	65 925
Thomas C. MacDonald	66 938
John A. Runyan	68 998
Jeffrey L. Chase	72 1041
Philip F. Sherburne	74 1071
Mark L. Stubstad	75 1097
David W. Zechnich	75 1112
William S. Whitehead	79 1225
Curtis E. Melcher	83 1295
Jeff W. Krusee	87 1381
Chad A. Turner	88 1431
Kevin S. Kilkenny	94 1511
Adrien S. H. Detchmendy	15 1843

Julian E. “Stretch” Hultgren, '49-663, wrote:

“Dear Gamma Alpha Kappa Sigs, I want to compliment you on your robust and active membership. I was GM in 1950-51 and know how hard it can be to keep things going at a high level. I find the *Gamma Alpha Update* interesting and informative. It is a welcome contact with alumni, no matter how young or old. Keep up the good work.

“I haven’t a whole lot to report on the personal side. I was an attorney in San Francisco and my last job was as a Deputy City Attorney in the San Francisco City Attorney’s office. I specialized in real property issues and advised several city departments relative to property related issues. I liked the job and retired in March 1992. Pat and I have lived in San Francisco since 1956. We met here, even though Pat had also graduated from Oregon (1953, Alpha Phi). We have three children, Caroline, David, and Charlie, and four grandchildren — Paul, Natalie, Will, and Ellie. That’s about where everything stands right now, and I’m looking forward to more good things from the grandkids.

“I am in touch occasionally with a few of the surviving members of my vintage: **Larry Aschenbrenner [’52-711]** in Alaska; **Wally Eakin [’49-661]** in Hood River; **Bill Evans ’48** in Portland; **Jim Cecil [’50-671]**

in Camarillo, California. If anyone knows the whereabouts of **Gary Canova [’52-722]**, let me know.”

Julian can be reached at 1400 Geary Blvd., #1407, San Francisco, CA 94109.

August E. “Gus” Parlier, ’58-792, is retired. He reported, “We took our first cruise this year to Alaska. My wife Janey won’t allow me on ladders anymore.” Gus is a member of the Knights of Columbus and, he wrote, “AEKDB . . . something about drinking beer.” Write to him at parlier@freeland.net or 5285 Mutiny Bay Rd., Freeland, WA 98249, or call 360-331-5398. Gus and Janey raised a family of three: Andrew, Samantha, and Noelle.

Richard J. Gunderson, ’65-925, retired Director of Leisure Services for the City of Portland, reported that he enjoys traveling and playing golf. “I survived two cancer scares. I’m now back to golf and still on several Boards involving parks and the environment. Also doing some traveling to Hawaii, Mexico, and Europe.” Contact “Gundy” at 503-493-2500 (home), 971-227-8924 (cell), or richgun1@comcast.net. He and his wife, Laurel, live at 5717 NE 55th Ave., Portland, OR 97218. They have a daughter, Laura (44).

Thomas C. MacDonald, ’66-938, commented that he was identified incorrectly in the photo, “Gamma-Alpha in 1968,” published

In Memoriam

John N. Edlefsen, ’29-296, of Culver City, California, died December 30, 2016 at the age of 106. His family wrote that brother Edlefsen “was alert and up and about until the end.”

Robert E. Prowell, ’43-565, longtime resident of Cypress, California, died August 3, 2017, at age 95. He was born in Wenatchee, Washington, but grew up in Long Beach, California. His family reported that Bob was very proud to be a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He worked as a lifeguard in Long Beach during the summers for many years, and while he was a student in Oregon, he worked as a lifeguard on the beaches of Seaside, Oregon. He swam around the Tillamook Lighthouse in Oregon, against the current in 55-degree water. Back in Long Beach, he continued lifeguarding and began to teach swimming at Wilson High School. After a successful career in real estate, he opened Drapery Fair, Inc., in 1969, manufacturing soft window coverings for the hospitality industry and apartment owners throughout California and surrounding states. He closed Drapery Fair in 1992, but continued a small retail business until December 2015 when, at age 93, he decided it was time to relax. Bob is survived by his wife of 43 years, Sue; daughter, Erin; son, Rob; brother, Court; and two grandchildren.

John D. Templeton, ’52-730, of Seattle, Washington, died May 2, 2015, at age 81.

Jack H. Murray, ’53-734, died August 26, 2016, in Thousand Oaks, California, at age 83. After graduating from the University of Oregon in 1955, he joined the Army for two years and then volunteered with the Air Force Reserve. In 1959-1960, he was honored as Airman of the Year. Jack started working for Wilshire Oil Company – which later became Gulf Oil in Los Angeles – in 1958. He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Dorothy; son, Jack; daughter, Elise; two grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

Jerry L. Kershner, ’56-768, of Eugene, Oregon, died March 16, 2017, at age 80. At the University of Oregon, Jerry played left tackle for the Ducks and played in the 1958 Rose Bowl. He was recruited by the Green Bay Packers, but honored his Reserve commitment to the Marines and became a career military man, reaching the rank of Lt. Colonel. After retiring from the military, Jerry and his wife, Ann, returned to Eugene, where he worked in Exotic Wood Importing and real estate, but more importantly enjoyed his avocation as an avid Duck fan through regular attendance at U of O football, basketball, and track events. Ann passed away in February 2017. Jerry is survived by his three children, nKaren Kistler, Chuck Kershner, and Kate Cochran; and five grandchildren.

Frederick A. Williams, ’57-788, died November 12, 2002, in Vancouver, Washington, at age 64. He had been a Eugene resident for a number of years.