



# GAMMA GAB

ALPHA TAU OMEGA • PENN STATE UNIVERSITY • WINTER 2015



*The chapter house decorated with Christmas lights for the annual Holiday Lights Celebration.*

## GAMMA OMEGA CONTINUES TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

### Great Start to the Year

With the spring semester of Penn State underway, the undergraduate and alumni brothers of ATΩ plan to improve upon their success from the fall semester—academically, socially, and also in the community.

### Scholarships Fully Funded

As a testament to the hard work of undergraduates and alumni alike, we are proud to announce that we have officially received enough pledges to fully fund the endowment accounts at the ATΩ Foundation for upcoming scholarships. These scholarships will incrementally grow in value and will be awarded to two deserving ATΩ undergraduates on a yearly basis.



*ATΩ alumni tailgating for the Homecoming game.*

### Supporting Gamma Omega

Undergraduates have been hard at work continuing the tradition of excellence in THON with our partners, Zeta Tau Alpha. Keep an eye out for any fundraising materials, and remember to donate if you can, For The Kids.

Alumni support is also crucial to continue providing important services for our undergraduates. We ask that you consider making a contribution of \$100, or more, to Gamma Omega so that we can achieve our annual fundraising goals. These valuable gifts will help us ensure the next 100 years at Penn State. Donations can be sent to **Aric Wagner '90** at P.O. Box 7925, Fredericksburg, VA 22404-7925.

### Join Us in October

Keep your schedules open for the PSU vs. Army game on October 3, 2015, as this is the designated ATΩ Brotherhood Weekend. We will be doing our part to have as many alumni and undergraduates as possible present to celebrate our history and forge new relationships.

Congratulations to all on a successful first semester. Get excited for what 2015 brings.

VTL,  
**Damion Spahr '92**  
Corporation Board President  
dspahr@reynoldsconstruction.com



# House Corporation

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(Alumni Relations)

**John Frain '89**

Richboro, Pa.

johnfrainjr@verizon.net

## Alpha Tau Omega Celebrates Another Successful Semester

The chapter had many things to be proud of during the fall semester. Our chapter GPA was over 3.0 for the fourth semester in a row, and brothers continue to represent Alpha Tau Omega in a variety of extracurricular activities. Additionally, the Gamma Omega Chapter received the Impact Award for outstanding philanthropic contributions at the National Congress this summer, as well as excellence awards in scholarship, recruitment, campus involvement, and leadership development. We are all very proud of the strides we have made for the betterment of the chapter, and we are dedicated to keeping up with our tradition of excellence.

### GAMMA OMEGA WELCOMES 15 NEW MEMBERS

The Penn State recruitment process started early this year with our zone day during the second week of classes. This year, we had around 300 potential new members come to 321 East Fairmount to tour the house and meet the brothers. After a week and a half of events where we narrowed down our list and got to know the recruits, the process ended with 15 quality men accepting bids to the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity. I would like to give special thanks to Recruitment Chairman **Colton Saska '16** and Assistant Recruitment Chairman **Kevin Riley '15** for their hard work and dedication to recruitment.



ATOs lifting the lion at a football game.

### TAUS CELEBRATE HOMECOMING

The brothers of Alpha Tau Omega began the 2014 Homecoming celebration by building a float with our partner, Alpha Xi Delta sorority. Homecoming Chairmen **Zach Gokhman '15**, **Luke Herber '15**, and **Wes Dickson '15** organized construction of the float with help from the ATΩ and AΞΔ new

members, and our organizations were represented proudly in the parade. The brothers also hosted an alumni cocktail dinner the night before the Homecoming game. Undergraduates had the chance to meet alumni who traveled to State College for the game.



Brothers Hunter Eckrod '17 and Wes Dickson '17 with their dates at our fall date function.

### WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT

Our chapter is proud of everything that we've done over the past year, and we are always grateful for the positive support we receive from our alumni. **Our fraternity would not be where it is today without the hard work and dedication of past and current brothers, and I would like to genuinely thank all of you for your support.** As always, if you ever find yourself in State College, feel free to stop by 321 East Fairmount.



Love and Respect,

**Mike Stavrakos '16**

2014 Chapter President

m5867@psu.edu

## Welcome, New Mem

**Henry Anderson**

Wilton, Conn.

**Wylder Conoly**

Corpus Christi, Texas

**Chris Campbell**

Pembroke, Mass.

**Michael Dischmann**

Lloyd Harbor, N.Y.

# CHAPTER TO HOST ANNUAL THON EVENT

*Your Support Is Needed to Reach Our Goal*

Every year, the brothers of Alpha Tau Omega and the sisters of Zeta Tau Alpha come together with one goal in mind—conquering childhood cancer. From your time spent at Penn State, I'm sure it is easy for you to recall all of the positive experiences THON gave you and how important the charity is to each and every member. As a result of our efforts last year, we raised \$375,811, contributing to THON's record-breaking total of \$13.3 million for children battling cancer.

In the fall, our brotherhood participated in three canning weekends, as well as a tour of the Hershey Medical Center. We give our unwavering support to these children, and now we are asking for your help. If you are interested in making a donation to THON you can mail a



*Stevie Sharon '17, Alex Hall '17, Dom Rotella '16, and Andrew Keilar '16 with a sister of Zeta Tau Alpha and our THON children, Kai and Cambria Sanborn.*

check, made out to Penn State Dance Marathon, to P.O. Box 1228, State College, PA 16804.

If you would rather contribute online, please send an e-mail to [atoztaftk@gmail.com](mailto:atoztaftk@gmail.com), and we will send you the link to donate along with instructions. THON weekend is February 20-22. If you are interested in making a donation, please try to do so before then. We would greatly appreciate if you continue to join ATΩ and ZTA in the fight to end pediatric cancer by making a gift to THON 2015 today.

For the Kids,  
**Alex Hall '17**  
**Dominic Rotella '16**  
**Andrew Kielar '16**  
 Alpha Tau Omega THON Chairmen

## THE VALUE IN GIVING BACK

*Q&A with Rich Kuegler '89*

As a member of Gamma Omega, **Rich Kuegler '89** has served in several leadership roles. His brothers not only inspired him to hold multiple positions as an undergraduate, but also to become a member of the Board of Trustees and vice president of the board.

**Q: Why did you decide to join Alpha Tau Omega?**

**A:** During rush, I met some great guys who demonstrated a very close spirit of friendship and had a common purpose to achieve excellence. I saw in those ATΩs a great opportunity to be part of something special with a group of guys who were special. The opportunity to contribute, to lead, and to work together was unmatched anywhere on campus.

**Q: Why did you decide to become a volunteer as an alumnus?**

**A:** It was a chance to give back, to help further the vision of ATΩ at Penn State. It also offered me a way to say thank you to those alumni who were so important in my development at Penn State and at the chapter (**Dann Cornali '72, Greg "Hawkeye" Pierce '73, Billy Hughes '80** — thank you).

**Q: Did volunteering help you keep in touch or reconnect with your fraternity brothers?**

**A:** Selfishly, it was a very important reason to be involved. I feel very fortunate to have been given a great opportunity to reconnect with brothers who have been, and will always be, great friends.



*John Frain '89, Rod Hutter '89, Aric Wagner '90, Rich Kuegler '89, and Rich Goldbeck '89 at the Pinstripe Bowl.*

**Q: Why do you feel it is important for all alumni to stay in touch with the chapter?**

**A:** Our Gamma Omega years as undergrads were only the start of our ATΩ experience. This is a lifelong journey and, whether you are sharing successes or suffering through challenging times, your ATΩ brothers are there for you. In the words of many famous Gamma Omega alumni, including **Chris "Chicken" DeVol '89**, "ATΩ is for a lifetime."

**Q: What advice would you give to undergraduates or to younger alumni who are early in their careers?**

**A:** Make a conscious decision to get involved and stay involved. If you are able to support Gamma Omega, please do so — the future of our chapter depends on strong leadership. For those not able to return to Penn State and support the chapter, find some way to get involved in your community, church, charity, or other ATΩ chapters where you can best use your God-given talent to help others.

*Rich resides in West Chester, Pennsylvania, and works for Clear Capital, an information services and technology management company. He enjoys playing soccer and coaching his four children. Rich and his wife, Jillann, a Chi Omega, have been married for 24 years. He can be reached at [kuegler1@comcast.net](mailto:kuegler1@comcast.net).*

## bers

**Jacob Fellus**  
 Ambler, Pa.

**Andrew Jeffries**  
 Falmouth, Maine

**Alex Lotito**  
 Hillsdale, N.J.

**Robert Newman**  
 Phoenixville, Pa.

**Michael Opacic**  
 Coraopolis, Pa.

**Connor Wilson**  
 McLean, Va.

**Alan Hord**  
 Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Mike Lewis**  
 New Hope, Pa.

**Peter Munger**  
 St. Louis, Mo.

**Shea O'Neill**  
 Ambler, Pa.

**Jacob Rehm**  
 Mechanicsburg, Pa.



# GAMMA GAB

ATΩ Gamma Omega  
c/o Damion Spahr  
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Fredricksburg, VA 22404

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**ATTENTION:** *This newsletter is intended for alumni and pparents. If your son is currently attending Penn State University, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

## Join Us Online



ALPHA TAU OMEGA  
[www.ato.org](http://www.ato.org)



GAMMA OMEGA CHAPTER  
[www.psutaus.org](http://www.psutaus.org)



FACEBOOK  
ATO-Penn State



TWITTER  
@ATOPennState

## SAVE THE DATE

### THON Weekend

February 20-22

### ATΩ Annual Brotherhood Weekend

October 2-4

Rooms have been blocked for the PSU vs. Army game. Details to follow.

