



GAMMA GAB

ALPHA TAU OMEGA • PENN STATE UNIVERSITY • FALL 2015



PORTICO AND PILLAR REPLACEMENTS NECESSARY AT 321 E. FAIRMOUNT AVENUE Your Support Is Needed to Make This Project a Reality

The past year has been a busy one for Gamma Omega. We completed an overhaul and replacement of flooring on the first floor, repairs in the first-floor kitchen, and a redesign of the third-floor bathroom. While our chapter house continues to evolve, the undergraduates are also striving for more. In 2015, they excelled academically, philanthropically, and during recruitment.

While there is much to celebrate, our work is far from over.

The portico and pillars—symbolic of Gamma Omega—need to be replaced. As you can imagine, these aren't cheap. It isn't an option whether or not these can be replaced, but due to structural issues, they MUST be replaced. To complete this project as envisioned, we need the support of our entire alumni base. Gamma Omega's chapter house has provided a safe and nurturing environment for our members to learn, grow, and prosper. However, major renovations are needed in order to be sustainable and remain competitive with other Greek organizations and housing alternatives.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

As we embark on this journey to update the chapter house, we thank all of the brothers who have provided early financial commitments. Your investment in Gamma Omega will yield a facility that complements our efforts to produce outstanding members, scholars, and leaders for years to come. As alumni, we understand that our gifts are more than an investment

in our physical structure; they are an investment in the young men of Gamma Omega. Please demonstrate your commitment to our legacy by considering the options below.

- **Make a donation.** Supporting Gamma Omega has never been easier. Our secure online giving form at gammaomegagiving.kintera.org accepts all major credit cards and ACH or e-checks. Donations may also be sent to:
Gamma Omega House Association
c/o Richard Goldbeck
P.O. Box 235
Newtown Square, PA 19073
- **Reach out to your brothers.** We need the support of all alumni to help us complete this necessary project. Please consider contacting your pledge brothers and encouraging their support. Your call may be the motivation they need to join this important initiative.

Brothers, thank you for your careful consideration. We look forward to seeing you again soon at 321 E. Fairmount Avenue.

Love and Respect,
Richard Goldbeck '89
Gamma Omega Alumni Board, President
rgoldbeck@comcast.net



Thank You, Loyal Donors

We are truly grateful to the following alumni who have shown their support to Gamma Omega's annual campaign in the past year. Your contributions will make a difference in the lives of our undergraduate brothers. Thank you!

Azure and Gold Club

(\$5,000 and above)

Join us!

Fairmont Avenue Club

(\$1,000 to \$4,999)

Louis W. Gomlick '57

John T. Frain '89

Aric N. Wagner '90

Jason W. Cave '92

PJ McGuigan '92

Gamma Omega Club

(\$500 to \$999)

James T. Reedy '81

Rodney S. Hutter '89

Michael C. Beliasov '92

Life Loyal Club

(\$250 to \$499)

Mark C. Whitmore

Joseph J. Acuti Jr. '67

Keith D. Mekenney '90

Nittany Lion Club

(\$100 to \$249)

George T. Geiser '42

Harry McKeon Jr. '48

James H. Meyer '53

Eugene R. Curry Jr. '59

David B. McKee '59

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Donald B. Dellinger Jr. '63

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Dennis H. Smith '72

Richard W. Kunkle '73

Thomas C. Shaffer '73

John R. Gray '75

James R. Aberant '84

James H. Buley '87

Jim Galasso '90

Karl L. Vavrek '90

Christopher E. Whorral '90

Scott Hawk '91

Joel Brous '92

Michael Malia '94

Michael D. Gardner '96

Brian G. Phiel '96

Jeff Benzak '99

Brotherhood Club

(Up to \$99)

Ronald Coleman '52

John M. Groves '52

Francis C. Angelo '53

W. Edward Frazer Jr. '53

Al Scheid '80

Mark A. Finby '88

James R. Corbin '93

Matthew M. Sharrer '98

Jon Overhiser '08

Brett J. Howard '14

ONLINE GIVING NOW AVAILABLE

Our new online giving form accepts all major credit cards, ACH, and e-checks. If you have debated sending a gift to Gamma Omega, please consider supporting our annual giving campaign today. Any contribution, small or large, is needed and appreciated.

Please use this link to pledge your support: gammaomegagiving.kintera.org.

RIGHT AT HOME

Alumnus Erik Lawler '10 Finds His Place at Gamma Omega

College is the time to learn, make memories, and grow, but it can often be hard to find a place where you feel right at home. Erik Lawler '10 knew exactly what he was looking for when he came to Penn State, but it took a bit of trial and error before he found his home at ATΩ. "My father went Greek at his school and his best friends to this day are his fraternity brothers, and I wanted a similar experience," Erik says. "During my freshman year, I rushed a couple of different houses, but ATΩ just had 'it.' I couldn't describe it, but I knew it was the place for me."

Erik's years at the chapter house are some of the best of his life. He held several positions, including social chairman, Greek Week chairman, Greek Sing chairman, and chapter president. At ATΩ, there were a collection of people from across the country with different backgrounds and experiences that attributed to the memories and even set Erik up for success. "I learned how to deal with and get along with many different people," he says. "I learned how to incorporate good and bad ideas into something we can all get behind."

Erik maintains close contact with several brothers through e-mails,



texts, Snapchats, and events. They had an alumni hockey weekend during Penn State's spring break and an impromptu and inaugural "This Is What Men Do" golf weekend. Erik's favorite times at the chapter house were the ones after a night out where everyone was eating breakfast, rehashing, and sharing stories from the night before.

Today, Erik is the district manager at the Boston Beer Company and a certified cicerone in charge of the western third of Pennsylvania. He encourages brothers to stay hungry and motivated and to never settle for mediocrity. As Erik remembers his undergraduate years, he realizes how important it is for alumni to stay in touch with Gamma Omega. "When I look back at my four years at State, my time at ATΩ is where my best memories are from," he says. "You don't think about the dorms or classroom or really the bars. It's the days and nights hanging out with my brothers at the chapter house. Gamma Omega is home. It's a place we can always go back to. I had an amazing experience, and it's something that I wanted future students to have as well."

Erik can be reached at erikjlawler@gmail.com.

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GAMMA OMEGA EXCEEDS CHAPTER GOALS

Undergraduates Continue to Impress with Recruitment, GPA, and Fundraising Efforts

As the year comes to an end, the chapter looks back on the successes that we have achieved so far. At the beginning of the school year, we set a series of goals, such as increasing scholarship achievement, brotherhood recruitment, and philanthropy dollars raised per member. The chapter was determined to increase recruitment numbers from 16 to 25 in the fall. While we wanted to recruit more members, we needed to make sure they embodied the qualities of a proper ATΩ gentleman. Not only did we increase the number of new members, but we also surpassed our goal by five, with a total of 30 qualified gentlemen.

The chapter was excited to see the academic report from the Interfraternity Council. In May, the brotherhood received news that we had a 3.32 GPA, the highest of all IFC fraternities on campus!

Lastly, we set out to uphold our philanthropic goal: raise more philanthropy dollars than the previous year. Although we did not meet this goal, we succeeded in raising the most money out of all Greek pairings at Penn State. This great achievement marks the 20th straight year that Gamma Omega and Zeta Tau Alpha raised the highest totals of all Greek organizations. Not only did the chapter set out to do well in the IFC-Panhellenic Dance Marathon, but we also wanted to increase our amount of community involvement. The chapter took first place for

Greek organizations in THON, first prize in Greek Week, and first place in the FIJI Humvee push philanthropy event.

Gamma Omega excelled this year and accomplished several of its goals. The chapter will continue this excellence with the next executive board coming in place. The goals and expectations for the years to come will certainly continue to raise the bar after our accomplishments in 2015.

Fraternally,

Hunter Eckrod '13

Worthy Master

hunter.eckrod@gmail.com



Gamma Omega, with the assistance of Zeta Tau Alpha, raised the most money for THON for the 20th year in a row. The chapter took first place at the event.



Left: Brothers saw many successes in 2015, including highest IFC GPA, 30 new members, and another incredible THON fundraising year For The Kids. **Middle:** Brothers brave the snow to get a picture with one of the Ruh Rah Roadtrip Jeeps as part of ATΩ's 150th anniversary celebration. **Right:** Brothers at the AFSP Walk.

SAVE THE DATE

Please join us for THON Weekend starting at 6 p.m. on Friday, February 19 through 4 p.m. on Sunday, February 21 at the Bryce Jordan Center. Last year, the event raised \$13,026,653. If you are interested in helping us exceed that total, donations in honor of Alpha Tau Omega can be made at donate.thon.org. Visit thon.org today to find out how else you can get involved!



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ATΩ Gamma Omega
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Newtown Square, PA 19073

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www.ato.org



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www.psutaus.org



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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Peter Angelone
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Nicholas Furman
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Tyler Smith
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James Whelan
Northport, N.Y.

Steven DiBiasio*
Anandale, Va.
(**Thomas Dibiasio '16**)

Brian Hillerman
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Chad Rex*
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(**Jacob Rex '14**)

Ronny Young
Whitehall, Pa.

Matthew Holloway
Doylestown, Pa.

Clayton Downey
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Aidan Riehl
Fairfax, Va.

* Legacy; relative
in parenthesis

Adam Evans
Bethlehem, Pa.

Zach Jennings
Livingston, N.J.

Christopher Sanchez
Philadelphia, Pa.

Julian Faranda
Commack, N.Y.

John Lee
Ambler, Pa.

Ryan Schmidt
Bethlehem, Pa.