



# GAMMA GAB

ALPHA TAU OMEGA • PENN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2016

## Alumni Support Needed to Update Our Alpha Tau Omega Home

Join Us September 9-10 in Pittsburgh

It has been a busy year for the Gamma Omega Chapter at Penn State! Congratulations to our undergraduates on being leaders on campus in academics, recruitment, and placing first in Greek division fundraising with team partner Zeta Tau Alpha for the 2016 Dance Marathon!

Our men continue to lead the chapter forward, all while being under the increased scrutiny of the university, national fraternity, and media headlines about the fraternity system. The realities of the Greek system continue to be a focus in today's social media world. Gamma Omega continues to work with our national fraternity to address these issues as proactively as possible as we also await Penn State President Eric Barron's Greek task force report.

### Join Us September 9-10 in Pittsburgh

**PJ McGuigan '92** has planned a great reunion weekend for September 9-10, 2016. We hope you will join us for a Pirates vs. Reds baseball game on Friday and the Penn State vs. Pitt football game on Saturday. An ATΩ room block is reserved at Omni William Penn Hotel, so we hope you will make a weekend of it. For full details, turn to page 4 or contact PJ at [mcguigan.pj@gmail.com](mailto:mcguigan.pj@gmail.com).

Also, mark your calendar for Homecoming on Saturday, October 8. More details will follow.

### Investing in the Chapter House

It has been a busy year for housing repairs and restoration. We spent \$165,000 of contributions under the direction of our architect, **Shepard Restoration Services in Media, Pennsylvania**, and lead contractor **Structural Maintenance Systems in Malvern, Pennsylvania**.

Our upgrades include: new hardwood floors in the dining room, new ResTek flooring for the upstairs kitchen area and third-floor bathroom, complete plumbing upgrade for center code commercial kitchens for the kitchen areas, roof parapet stones fully replaced with copper flashing, chimney brick repointed and both chimney vents capped, new side venting system installed with privacy cage, 20 slate roof shingles replaced, new red room entrance/staircase to

code, new parking lot bollards installed to code, and side porch restorations.

### Make Your Gift Today

Next up are the pillars. For this \$150,000 project, we need your continued financial support! Please remember the future of Gamma Omega and your memories from your college days when you decide where to send your contributions for 2016. **To make an immediate impact, please visit our secure online giving form at [gammaomegagiving.kintera.org](http://gammaomegagiving.kintera.org).**

Donations may also be sent to:  
Gamma Omega House Association  
c/o Richard Goldbeck  
P.O. Box 235  
Newtown Square, PA 19073



*Rich Goldbeck '89 and Aric Wagner '90 celebrate a 39-0 Halloween home victory over Illinois.*

Again, on behalf of all Gamma Omega brothers—past, present, and future—thank you for your interest in and support of our fraternity. This is a historic time for Gamma Omega, and I look forward to reconnecting with you all this September in Pittsburgh.

Love and Respect,  
**Richard Goldbeck '89**  
Gamma Omega Alumni Board, President  
[rgoldbeck@comcast.net](mailto:rgoldbeck@comcast.net)

## HOUSE CORPORATION

President  
**Richard Goldbeck '89**  
[rgoldbeck@comcast.net](mailto:rgoldbeck@comcast.net)

Secretary  
**PJ McGuigan '92**  
[mcguigan.pj@gmail.com](mailto:mcguigan.pj@gmail.com)

Housing  
**Greg Sansone '07**  
[gsansone6@gmail.com](mailto:gsansone6@gmail.com)

**Dan Cornali '72**  
[dcornali@hrline.com](mailto:dcornali@hrline.com)

Past President  
**Damian Spahr '92**  
[dspahr@reynoldsconstruction.com](mailto:dspahr@reynoldsconstruction.com)

Vice President  
**CJ Koluch '09**  
[cjkoluch@gmail.com](mailto:cjkoluch@gmail.com)

Treasurer  
**Mike Walter '09**  
[m5025@psu.edu](mailto:mw5025@psu.edu)

Members-at-large  
**Louis Gomlick '57**  
[Loupima@aol.com](mailto:Loupima@aol.com)

**John Frain '89**  
[jfrainjr@verizon.net](mailto:jfrainjr@verizon.net)

**Dan Faust '08**  
[dof103@psu.edu](mailto:dof103@psu.edu)

Join Us Online

Gamma Omega Chapter - [www.psutaus.org](http://www.psutaus.org) Online Giving - [gammaomegagiving.kintera.org](http://gammaomegagiving.kintera.org)  
Facebook - [ATOPennState](https://www.facebook.com/ATOPennState) Twitter - [@ATOPennState](https://twitter.com/ATOPennState) Alpha Tau Omega - [www.ato.org](http://www.ato.org)



# LIVING THE VALUES OF VIRTUE, TRUTH, AND LOVE

## Matt Cabrey '88 Follows the Alpha Tau Omega Way of Life

When talking with **Matt Cabrey '88**, it's easy to tell that he is a passionate storyteller. He is able to recall events with vivid detail and enthusiasm, putting the listener in that moment with him. One story that he recalls well is how he decided to join Gamma Omega. It was a moment of chance; Matt and **Sean Flatley '87** were walking on campus and came across a flyer inviting men to learn about bringing a fraternity back to Penn State. "It was a meeting to regain the charter for Gamma Omega," Matt says. "The most appealing aspect was that we had a chance to create something new, shaping an organization that would emphasize leadership and character building. We formed an interest group and then achieved the status of a colony by completing a series of community service projects and related requirements in order to earn the privilege of receiving our Gamma Omega charter from our national office. Through this process—meetings, projects, and getting to know the other young men who all had this shared vision—it became more compelling to me, and I, along with the other young men, grew enthusiastic about delivering on our goal."



Matt as he got to reconnect with alumni. "These men chose to infuse new life into Gamma Omega," he says. "They created and fostered a specialness that extended beyond the bricks and mortar of a building. As young men helping to shape a new beginning, we really connected with this inspiring vision."

Following his days at Penn State and Alpha Tau Omega, Matt followed his own vision. A career in public relations and corporate communications led him to his current role as executive director of Select Greater

Philadelphia, an organization that infuses a new economic vibrancy across the 11-county neighborhood of Greater Philadelphia. He is the chief storyteller for the region, showcasing its business assets to inspire organizations from around the world to establish and grow their business in Greater Philadelphia.

He has come a long way from his first job after college when he worked the overnight shift at a radio station in Avalon, New Jersey. Matt scored that job by going to the station unannounced and asking for it. That experience and many others taught Matt how to be successful. "When I speak with college students and recent graduates about their careers, I share the importance of being the positive person in the room, setting goals, tapping your network, and that it's OK to ask for help," he says. "Most importantly, young people launching their careers have to go for it! You're only going to get that job, meet that person, or achieve a positive outcome when you go for it."

The more he learned about the principles of Alpha Tau Omega—Virtue, Truth, and Love—the more they resonated with Matt, and they continued to define his experience as he met more of the brothers. "The biggest thing I learned was empathy," he says. "How we relate with others, how we learn from what others are experiencing. We had misunderstandings and disagreements, and we needed to identify the issues and overcome them. Gamma Omega helped me grow by providing those experiences."

Matt credits the dedication and vision of a core group of alumni who came before him for breathing new life into Gamma Omega. These brothers from 1950-80 saw something that others did not: a bright, positive future for Gamma Omega. They guided a new era of young men, helping them understand and appreciate the values and understand what it means to be an Alpha Tau Omega brother. Homecoming weekends resonated with

*Matt lives in Exton, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Terry, and their three children: Alex, Courtney, and Luke. In his free time, he enjoys biking along the boardwalk in Ocean City, New Jersey, the Chester Valley trail in Chester County, and Kelly Drive in Philadelphia. He also enjoys playing paddleball in the winter and sand volleyball in the summer. Matt encourages undergraduate brothers to reach out to him for career guidance at [mattcabrey@outlook.com](mailto:mattcabrey@outlook.com).*

## 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!

**Fairmont Avenue Club**  
(\$1,000 to and above)  
Dennis H. Smith '72  
David Robbins '90  
PJ McGuigan '92

**Life Loyal Club**  
(\$250 to \$499)  
Mark C. Whitmore

Keith D. Mekenney '90  
Karl L. Vavrek '90  
Joel Brous '92  
Bryon Correll '96  
Michael D. Gardner '96  
Brian G. Phiel '96

**Gamma Omega Club**  
(\$500 to \$999)  
Rodney S. Hutter '89

**Nittany Lion Club**  
(\$100 to \$249)  
George T. Geiser '42  
Jack S. Reno '57  
Benjamin Olewine IV '66  
Richard W. Kunkle '73  
Rodney S. Hutter '89  
Russell Troutman '89

**Brotherhood Club**  
(Up to \$99)  
Ronald Coleman '52  
Ernest A. Smith '65  
Keith D. Mekenney '90



*Shea O'Neill '17 and Nicole Orie, president of Zeta Tau Alpha, accept awards for last year's fundraising efforts in the Penn State Dance Marathon.*

## Gamma Omega Incorporates the Pursuit Program

**Undergraduates Help Raise \$257,678 for THON, Excel in Academics and Intramurals**

This year, Gamma Omega underwent serious changes. As a chapter, several problems occurred early in the fall semester. The chapter was alerted by our national fraternity of several serious risk management violations, resulting in a social probationary period. Shortly after this probationary period was implemented, a new executive board took the reins of the chapter. These issues and difficulties forced us all to open our eyes and improve all aspects of fraternity life.

Today, I can proudly say that as a chapter we are positively responding and benefitting from the changes. Our house corporation and national fraternity aided us throughout this process as we worked with consultants Dave Westol, founder of Limberlost Consulting, **Bryan Murray, Marietta College '14**, and **Jaden Brown, Indiana State '11**, to help us find our way and improve our brotherhood through the Pursuit Program. This program aims to have the leaders of the chapter regain control and start directing our actions more in line with the values of the Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity.

The executive board transitioned during a tumultuous time and adjusted to these tough changes. After taking the advice of our consultants, the chapter reached out to alumni in an effort to coordinate events and make the entire brotherhood stronger. The consultants informed us that a major problem in our brotherhood was a division between pledge classes. The executive board took this seriously and started coordinating events for the entire chapter. We are emphasizing the meaning and importance of brotherhood. Young men join a fraternity to be a part of a complete and unified chapter. We fully intended on providing this unparalleled and incomparable experience. This past fall, we hosted a paintball event, ski trips, movie showings, sporting event viewings, and much more. These events showed great success and were the first step in bringing everyone together. We upgraded our dining and chapter rooms with furniture, rugs, and televisions. It is great to see a more unified chapter that feels a lot more like a brotherhood.

This year, we celebrated the 25th anniversary of our THON partnership with Zeta Tau Alpha. Our organization ranked first among all paired Greek organizations for the 22nd year in a row. THON 2016 fundraising efforts helped raise an astounding \$257,678. The chapter GPA is consistently in the top five on campus and remains there this year. One of the great things our consultants informed us of was that we, as an Alpha Tau Omega chapter, raise the most money for philanthropy, and we have the fourth highest GPA of all Alpha Tau Omega chapters. Our intramural teams have been spectacular, with our basketball team leading the way with an undefeated record entering the playoffs. Our softball and soccer



*Jake Rex '17, Alex Reed '19, Chad Rex '19, Robert Newman '18, and Scott Zelle '17 (with Robert's dogs, Jackson and Jon) canvas to fundraise for the annual Penn State Dance Marathon.*



*Tyler Smith '19, Alex Hall '16, Chad Rex '19, Steve Sharon '17, and Nick Pihluj '19 shave their heads to show support for the THON families.*



*Brothers with the Zeta Tau Alpha women share their favorite stories about THON at the annual Pennies event the day before THON.*

teams also saw great seasons by traveling deep into the playoffs. Last, our pledge classes continue to increase in size as we recruit the men who we believe are the best on campus and will carry out our values.

I am proud to say Gamma Omega is becoming noticeably stronger. We are experiencing a time of change and reform, but we see a great future for our chapter because of the changes we make. As president, I can proudly say that the Gamma Omega Chapter at Penn State is headed in the right direction and will become a chapter of excellence at Penn State and chapter of true merit in our national fraternity.

I would like to thank my brothers for their help, understanding, and loyalty throughout this process. Our efforts would not be complete without the support of this brotherhood. Thank you for your hard work, dedication, and positive outlook. The Gamma Omega executive board is excited to watch this chapter excel and grow our leadership in Happy Valley.

Love & Respect,  
**Shea O'Neill '17**  
 Worthy Master  
 sheaoneill18@gmail.com

**WELCOME,  
 NEW MEMBERS**

**Joshua Bazzano**  
 Doylestown, Pa.

**Colin Hill**  
 West Caldwell, N.J.

**Colten Kepner**  
 Hughesville, Pa.

**Keenan O'Hearn**  
 Evergreen, Colo.

**Myles Pilsbury**  
 Haworth, N.J.

**Tanner Shaffer**  
 Latrobe, Pa.

**George Tyndall**  
 Franklin Lakes, N.J.

**Nigel Bullard**  
 Alexandria, Va.

**Rhett Karopoulos**  
 Allentown, Pa.

**John Morrison**  
 Allison Park, Pa.

**Austin Paxton**  
 Hershey, Pa.

**Christopher Russo**  
 New Rochelle, N.Y.

**Ian Solomon**  
 Basking Ridge, N.J.

**Robert Villano III**  
 Smithtown, N.Y.

# GAMMA OMEGA

## INVADES PITTSBURGH

Renew the Pitt Rivalry September 9-10 with a Weekend in The Burgh!

### Hotel Reservations

A block of 20 rooms is reserved at the Omni William Penn Hotel for \$219/night, two-night minimum stay required. Please reserve your room by calling 1-800-The-Omni (800-843-6661) and refer the group name PSU-ATO or online at [www.omnihotels.com/hotels/pittsburgh-william-penn/meetings/psu-ato](http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/pittsburgh-william-penn/meetings/psu-ato).

### Pittsburgh Pirates vs. the Cincinnati Reds

Please join us on Friday, September 9, for the Pittsburgh Pirates vs. the Cincinnati Reds baseball game at PNC Park. Game time is at 7:05 p.m. We have space for 70 people on the Miller Lite Deck. Pre-game happy hour starts at 5:30 p.m. with food and beverages included with ticket. Reserve your tickets by contacting **PJ McGuigan '92** at [mcguigan.pj@gmail.com](mailto:mcguigan.pj@gmail.com).

### Penn State vs. Pitt at Heinz Field

The rivalry is back! Join your Gamma Omega brothers as we travel to Heinz Field for the Penn State vs. Pitt football game on Saturday, September 10. We will tailgate prior to the game. Time and location are TBD. Contact PJ for more information at [mcguigan.pj@gmail.com](mailto:mcguigan.pj@gmail.com).

### Homecoming Football Game

Mark your calendars for Penn State's Homecoming football game on Saturday, October 8. Watch the Nittany Lions take on the Maryland Terrapins at Beaver Stadium. More information will follow.

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

**Robert K. Reitzel '67** entered Chapter Eternal on February 20, 2015, at MS Hershey Medical Center, Hershey, Pa., at the age of 71. He attended York College before transferring to Penn State, graduating with a bachelor of science in business administration and marketing, and was also a graduate of the Central Atlantic School of Trust at Bucknell University. Bob was actively involved in the community. He retired from Hershey Trust Company before joining Orrstown Bank. He was a member and treasurer at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Carlisle. Bob is survived by his wife of 45 years, Deborah, two daughters, three grandchildren, and a sister.

**Robert A. J. Loyd '82** entered Chapter Eternal on December 30, 2015, at the age of 58. He was a self-employed craftsman and an avid pool player. Robert is survived by his son, one brother, and many friends.



# GAMMA GAB

ATΩ Gamma Omega  
c/o Richard Goldbeck  
P.O. Box 235  
Newtown Square, PA 19073

Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
LAWRENCE, KS  
PERMIT #570

## RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATIONS

**W**e're always looking for young men who have the character to make great ATΩ brothers. If you know someone who would be a great member, please pass along his contact information to us. Who knows, this may be the first step of a lifelong relationship! Please send your recommendation to the recruitment chairmen below. Or, fill out the form below and mail it to ATΩ Gamma Omega, c/o Richard Goldbeck, P.O. Box 235, Newtown Square, PA 19073.

Recruitment Chairmen

**Scott Zelle '17**

(610) 551-7008 • [szelle5151@gmail.com](mailto:szelle5151@gmail.com)

**Jon Winter '17**

(484) 350-1901 • [jxw458@psu.edu](mailto:jxw458@psu.edu)

Prospect name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Does prospect have an ATΩ relative? \_\_\_\_\_

High school: \_\_\_\_\_

Reference submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_