



# GAMMA OMEGA

ALPHA TAU OMEGA • PENN STATE UNIVERSITY • SPRING 2019

2019

## Treasurer's Report

We successfully completed the transition from the University Bursar to OmegaFi for billing and collections during 2018. Our "go live date" was June 1, 2018, and feedback from parents and students has been very positive.

### 2018-19 House

#### Improvements Update

The Board approved the following projects, which have been completed.

- Restoration and painting for portico, railing, columns, and bases.
- New code compliant side entrance doors in the chapter room, increasing our capacity from 98 to 140.

#### Legal Environment on Campus Update

Based on the current lack of due process environment we are facing on campus, the Gamma Omega House Corporation has retained the services of Kathleen Yurchak of the State College firm of Steinbacher, Goodall, and Yurchak to represent ATO Gamma Omega in the current University environment.

Initially hired by **Aric Wagner '90** in 2011, Kathleen will represent the Board in all 2019 University legal matters. Representation is necessary with a trending uptick in "anonymous" complaints being received and investigated by the University Compliance and Office of Student Conduct against fraternal organizations on campus. The Board is very appreciative of Kathleen's representation and results in 2018-19.

Fraternally,  
**Rich Goldbeck '89**

Treasurer  
Gamma Omega House Corporation  
rgoldbeck@comcast.net

## A BROTHERHOOD OF ONE

Without question, Greek systems across the country are under constant duress and scrutiny. Change isn't just coming, it's already arrived. This is especially the case at Penn State, with multiple houses and chapters being forced to close their doors due to an inability to pivot and change with the times.

Thanks to the legacy created by past undergraduate presidents and current leadership, led by **Ryan Geruolo '21**, Gamma Omega is poised to finish the year on a strong note. We have accomplished this by being true leaders on campus by finishing fourth overall in GPA in the IFC, by continuing our impressive philanthropy streak with Zeta Tau Alpha, and by serving in the community. We have challenged the undergraduates to rise to the occasion and be the example for our National counterparts to call upon during these times. We are proud to say they have met and exceeded expectations.



However, now is not the time to rest on our laurels. With an eye to the future, we have successfully received commitments and have filled the house for the fall 2019 semester. Our rush and new member programs have proven to be a continued strength for us, as we identify high quality candidates to lead Gamma Omega into the future. Our steadfast housing manager Donna Ray has worked diligently to preserve our house as she celebrates her 20th year as matriarch of Gamma Omega. The House Corporation contains years of experience, as we work in cooperation to preserve our history.

I write this to you in challenging and unique times, but with optimism as we look forward.

Fraternally,  
**CJ Koluch '09**  
Gamma Omega House Corporation President  
cjkoluch@gmail.com

## GAMMA OMEGA HOUSE CORPORATION

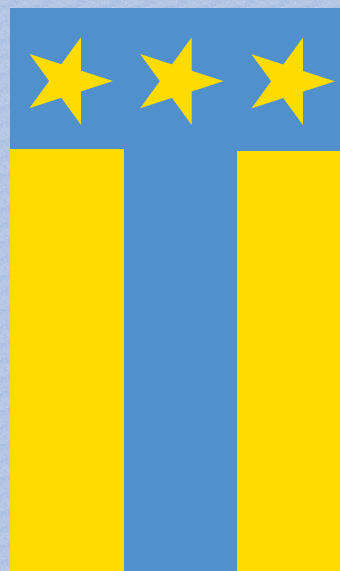
President  
**C.J. Koluch '09**  
*Baltimore, Md.*

Vice President  
**Damion Spahr '92**  
*Phoenixville, Pa.*

Treasurer  
**Rich Goldbeck '89**  
*Newtown Square, Pa.*

Secretary  
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*State College, Pa.*



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*Aberdeen, N.J.*

**Dan Cornali '73**  
*State College, Pa.*

**Aric Wagner '90**  
*Fredericksburg, Va.*

General Counsel  
Kathleen Yurchak  
Steinbacher, Goodall,  
Yurchak  
State College, Pa.



# EXECUTIVE BOARD SHARES EXCITEMENT FOR FUTURE OF GAMMA OMEGA

This past year has been a roller coaster of excitement and fond memories.

I can speak for all the executive board that we have been running on all cylinders ever since taking office. I believe we have been guiding the chapter in a positive direction and have been implementing ideas and strategies that can make our chapter flourish even after our term is over. I cannot express how proud I am of my brothers for their willingness to put in countless hours of work and time to make our chapter be the best that it can be.

THON this past year was by far our largest and most gratifying success that we had, as it is ev-

ery year. Our recruitment goals were met, and we brought in a class of gentlemen who I trust will run this chapter well and strive for greatness when it is their time.

Most importantly, our brotherhood is as close as it can be. The men in this chapter are not only my brothers, but they are my best friends and there isn't any other group of men I would rather want to lead.

Fraternally,  
**Ryan Geroulo '21**  
Chapter President  
rgeroulo@gmail.com

## WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

**Doug Chirite '22**  
*Great Falls, Va.*

**Owen Concannon '22**  
*Bethesda, Md.*

**Ryan Danastorg '22**  
*Newtown, Pa.*

**Mike Dinacci '22**  
*West Chester, Pa.*

**Matt Donofrio '22**  
*Lansdale, Pa.*

**Kevin Dougherty '22**  
*New Hope, Pa.*

**Ryan Ebel '22**  
*Chevy Chase, Md.*

**Andrew Furman '22**  
*Wyckoff, N.J.*

**Mason Gattuso '22**  
*Shavertown, Pa.*

**Michael Gingrich '22**  
*Exton, Pa.*

**Joe Hauck '22**  
*Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Carter Johnson '22**  
*Langley, Va.*

**Daniel Kerns '22**  
*Washington, D.C.*

**Josh Kiser '22**  
*Breinigsville, Pa.*

**Zach Kleppe '22**  
*Phoenixville, Pa.*

**Mike Kohler '21**  
*Lansdale, Pa.*

**John Maier-Breed '22**  
*Lumberton, N.J.*

**Patrick Norton '21**  
*West Chester, Pa.*

**Ryan Quinn '22**  
*Sandy Spring, Md.*

**Hayden Wilson '22**  
*Windham, N.H.*

**Domenic Zangrilli '22**  
*Pennington, N.J.*

**Matt Zehner '21**  
*Lewes, Del.*

## Alumni Update

### Chapter Eternal

**William L. Barwis Sr. '47** entered Chapter Eternal on August 8, 2017, at age 92. Bill enlisted in the U.S. Army during World War II, serving in the 5th Army in North Africa and Italy. After the war, Bill married his high school sweetheart, Eleanor Koltes. Bill launched his successful career with Barwis Music Center and then Barwis Paints. He eventually joined the M.A. Bruder Paint Company. Bill served as the president of the Kiwanis Club of Old York Road. He was a faithful member of Abington Presbyterian Church for more than 25 years. Bill and Eleanor enjoyed spending winters in Florida and summers at Penn Lake in the Poconos. They celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary in September 2016.

**Earl R. Crowe '83** entered Chapter Eternal on March 29, 2015, at Harrisburg Hospital at the age of 54. Earl was a former administrator with Penn State Hershey Medical Center. He was a member of St. Theresa Catholic Church and Raider's Booster Club of York. Earl was active in Milton Hershey School Project Fellowship.

### Alumni News

**George Greer '54** still serves as the chair and president of the Eden Hall Foundation.

**Merice Nelles '54** and his wife, Mary, are dwelling in Athens, Ala., with their daughter, Erika, and her husband, Bob. Athens State University is their neighbor, which had an ATΩ Chapter many moons ago. Merice is hopeful that the chapter will be reinstated.

**Dick Muckinhaupt '55** reports that his brother, **Fritz Muckinhaupt '60**, passed away in February 2018. All who knew him miss him deeply. Dick is retired and enjoying life with his wife, Victoria, his six children, and their families. Dick and Victoria spend their winters in Florida and summers in Meadville and Cambria Springs, Pa. ATΩ is a memory that he'll always hold true in his life. Email: dickvick75@hotmail.com  
*(Continued on page 4)*



Brothers join with Zeta Tau Alpha to raise more than \$254,000 at THON, which benefitted childhood cancer research.

## ATΩ, ZTA Team Up to Raise More Than \$254,000 at THON for Childhood Cancer

For the past 24 years, ATΩ has teamed up with Zeta Tau Alpha sorority to be the top fundraising organization in Penn State's annual THON to benefit kids with cancer. Over the last couple years, however, it has become more and more challenging to meet our goals. With the absence of canvassing/canning for a lot of this past year, we had to get creative in how we fundraised. To replace the number of canvassing weekends that we lost, we had to increase the time we spent on other areas of fundraising, such as donor drive, THONvelopes, and corporate soliciting.

We have an alternative funds committee made up of about 50 ATΩ/ZTA members that has sent out thousands of THONvelopes and endorsed ATΩ/ZTA donor drives to get donations. In total, ATΩ raised a little more than \$102,000 for the kids. That amount ATΩ with ZTA's \$152,000 brought

our total to more than \$254,000 for childhood cancer! This amount was \$80,000 more than any other organization that participated in THON.

We are very proud of the work that we have put in and even more proud of our seven dancers that we had this year. **Shane Heacox '19, Tyler Smith '19, Matt Holloway '19, Nick Pilhuj '19,** Alyssa Fairweather, Braelen Kralowetz, and Natalie Wagner danced for 46 hours straight and represented ATΩ/ZTA in a great fashion! Their hard work and dedication to this cause is unmatched and they paved the way for us to turn around and do it again this year. These graduating seniors will surely be missed!

Fraternally,  
**Robby Schweitzer '20**, THON Chairman



Former Penn State football captain Lee Rubin spoke to Gamma Omega chapter members on February 21. He encouraged the brothers to rally around a common goal and build a positive culture from the opportunities in front of them.

**Thank You,  
Donna!**

Congratulations to  
**Donna Ray**  
for 20 years of service  
to Gamma Omega!

# SAVE THE DATE



**First Day of Classes  
for Fall Semester**  
AUGUST 26



**2019 Home Football  
Games**  
AUGUST 31  
vs. Idaho

SEPTEMBER 7  
vs. Buffalo

SEPTEMBER 14  
vs. Pitt  
(100th Game)

OCTOBER 19  
vs. Michigan

NOVEMBER 16  
vs. Indiana

NOVEMBER 30  
vs. Rutgers



# GAMMA GAB

**Gamma Omega House Corporation**  
**P.O. Box 383**  
**State College, PA 16804-0383**

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## CHAPTER OFFICERS

President

**Ryan Geroulo '21**  
*Schnecksville, Pa.*

Vice President

**Martin McHugh '21**  
*Manasquan, N.J.*

Treasurer

**Matt Rigolizzo '21**  
*Radnor, Pa.*

Chaplain

**Darius Andrews '21**  
*Nanuet, N.Y.*

Head Risk Manager

**Anthony Saitta '21**  
*West Pittston, Pa.*

Secretary

**Quinn O'Neill '21**  
*Ambler, Pa.*

Head New Member Educator

**Tyler Pohl '21**  
*Hainesport, N.J.*

Annals

**Marc Cohen '21**  
*Manasquan, N.J.*

## Alumni Update

*(Continued from page 2)*

**Edward Schwar '58** and his wife, June, spent most of their summer at their beach house in Bethany, Del. Their activities are limited due to health problems, but they still do a lot of crabbing and some fishing.

**Eugene Curry '59** has been enjoying life since retiring seven years ago. Gene enjoys skiing in the winter in Utah and playing golf in the summer. He has been doing volunteer work for his church and Penn State to help provide scholarships. Email: [genecurry@comcast.net](mailto:genecurry@comcast.net)

**Lewis Brown '61** visited a rundown lighthouse on Campobello Island, New Brunswick, Canada, 20 years ago and remembers telling his wife, "This is a world-class spot. Why doesn't somebody do something." The next year he joined a group of seven people who have restored the lighthouse. Whales are seen regularly when he takes tower tours.

**John Horne '67** is looking forward to traveling to Southeast Asia. He's planning to move south when he returns, most likely to southern Texas. Email: [jenroh0@icloud.com](mailto:jenroh0@icloud.com)

**Brian Houser '90** still sees **Chris Georgulis '91** often because they work together at NetJets. Email: [b.allen.houser@gmail.com](mailto:b.allen.houser@gmail.com)

**Karl Vavrek '90** completed a slow morph from being a Penn State-educated structural engineer to California College of the Arts-educated architect. He became licensed in California at the end of 2016 and has worked full-time at DNM Architecture for the past three years. Karl's oldest child, Zöe, is applying to colleges. His son, Max, is a freshman in high school. Karl's wife, Carolyn, was pinned on the main stairs in 1990! They've been married for 25 years, and life is good! Email: [karl.vavrek.sf@comcast.net](mailto:karl.vavrek.sf@comcast.net)



**Gamma Omega Chapter**  
[www.psutaus.org](http://www.psutaus.org)



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**National Website**  
[www.ato.org](http://www.ato.org)