

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

If you haven't made a pledge or if you can increase your pledge, we need 100 brothers to donate \$5,000 each to pay down the mortgage. We need to raise \$500,000.

CHECKS CAN BE MADE PAYABLE TO to "SNGT House Corporation" and mailed to:

SNGT HOUSE CORPORATION
Affinity Connection
P.O. Box 296
State College, Pa 16904-0296

THANK YOU

Special thanks to Mrs. Nell Johnson, widow of **Joel E. Johnson GA #960**, who was initiated in 1956, for her very generous donation to the capital campaign of \$5,000 in memory of her husband Joel. "Joel loved Georgia Tech and Sigma Nu and would be proud to know the chapter continues to succeed."



The Rose & Star

Gamma Alpha • Sigma Nu Fraternity • Georgia Tech
Atlanta, Ga. • March 2013 • www.sigmanugt.com

CHAPTER REPORT

Gamma Alpha Builds Upon the Success of the Past Year *Outstanding Pledge Class, Most Improved Chapter Award and a High GPA Showcase Recent Accomplishments*

By Commander Pete George GA #2036

Heading into 2013, we couldn't be more excited for the opportunities that lay ahead for the Gamma Alpha Chapter. Before moving forward, we must recognize the great strides taken last year. Accomplishments include winning the Most Improved Chapter award at Grand Chapter, putting on our largest fundraising effort yet with the help of Seven Handle circus, boasting a GPA above 3.0, and the long-awaited initiation of Colonel George Smith. We are fortunate to have had the leadership of **Joe Gammie GA #2032**, **Sam Eichenblatt GA #2025**, and **Chase Brown GA #2042**.

Most importantly, it is with great pride that we announce the initiation of the 2012 pledge class. These brothers truly are the finest men on Georgia Tech campus. Each student immediately became involved in other student organizations on campus and collectively they earned a 3.2 GPA. Through the tireless efforts of Pledge Marshall **Nick Robson GA #2037**, they are more prepared to carry on our strong tradition than ever before. Our past leadership's passion for Gamma Alpha certainly burned strong from the beginning to the end without diminishing, and it is my honor and responsibility to carry the torch from here.

Last month, I had the privilege to attend the College of Chapters in St. Louis, Mo., where I was able to interact with my fellow Commanders from across the country. This was a tremendous opportunity to learn and establish goals for the year while getting a feel for how other chapters operate. It was of no surprise to me to learn that we not only have the best alumni on Georgia Tech campus but also within the Sigma Nu National Fraternity.

It is a blessing to receive continued support from every Gamma Alpha alumnus. Whether on the Capital Campaign, in the professional

world, or in an advisory role in the chapter, your reliable contributions help continue the tradition of excellence that you helped set forth. Close relationships with **Alex Brown GA #1759**, **Gary T. Jones GA #1290** and the

entire Alumni Association provide our active chapter with strong examples that the brotherhood and love of Sigma Nu never ends. Be on the lookout for some exciting new events our alumni chairs have in mind for this year.

This is going to be a great year for the Gamma Alpha chapter. In the next month, many of us will be raising money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation and shaving our heads in solidarity for children's cancer. We continue to gain campus leadership positions. Whether in GT Ambassadors, the Student Government Association, Undergraduate Judicial Cabinet, or GT Gymnastics Club, we are bringing our unique stamp to Georgia Tech today. Our academic achievements and goals continue to push the boundaries of what Georgia Tech's rigorous curriculum will allow.

We are not satisfied with maintaining our current level of success. We will strive to push even further to remain the best chapter on campus. We can't wait to see the exciting things that this year will bring for all of Gamma Alpha and we look forward to hearing from you.

Go Jackets!



Commander Pete George
GA #2036

OUTGOING COMMANDER'S UPDATE

Sigma Nu to be Represented on the National Level

By Joe Gammie GA #2032, Outgoing Commander

It is hard to believe that my time serving as commander of Sigma Nu fraternity has come to a close, but the office could not be in more competent hands than Pete George's. I am truly inspired by this group of gentlemen and look forward to a bright future for our chapter.

"I am taken aback by the flood of encouragement from my fellow brothers."

It is my humble honor to report that Gamma Alpha will be well represented at the national level this coming year. I will have the

privilege to represent our undergraduate members across the nation as an appointed Collegiate Grand Councilman. As I begin working with Regent **Charlie Eitle**, Executive Director **Brad Beacham**, and the rest of the High Council towards fulfilling the strategic plan of Sigma Nu, I am taken aback by



the flood of encouragement from my fellow brothers and Alumni Association. Without the tireless support our chapter receives from our outstanding Alumni Council, Sigma Nu would not have been able to achieve the great strides that we have made over past years.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your effort and contributions. We certainly appreciate your willingness to help build men of Love, Honor and Truth at Gamma Alpha.

PHILANTHROPY NEWS

Brothers to Go Bald in the Fight against Pediatric Cancer

March 14th will be the last day of spring break and the start of a new look for Gamma Alpha; a lot of bright red bald heads around the house! For the third year in a row the active brothers are participating in a St. Baldrick's (stbaldricks.org) event two days before the start of Spring Break.

The basis of the event is to shave your

head and raise money in solidarity of children with cancer. Over the past two years, we have raised \$5,400 and have had 19 Sigma Nu heads shaved. This year we have a goal of \$3,000 in donations, and 10 brothers shaving their heads.

If you would like to watch the event, it is held at the midtown RiRa Irish Pub location

on March 14th at 6 p.m. To make a donation toward our efforts, follow the link at www.sigmanugt.com. All donations go to local hospitals and fellowships (Emory University, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, and the Children's Oncology Group). Scalp friendly sunscreens can be dropped off at the house.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Brother Brent Reid Was Recently Named to Atlanta Business Chronicles WHO'S WHO

Reid Runs a General and Environmental Contractor Company

Brent Reid GA #1507, president and CEO of The Winter Companies, continues to make a difference one brother at a time. This past month, Brent was named to the Atlanta Business Chronicles WHO'S WHO among business leaders who drive commercial real estate in metro-Atlanta, recognizing him as one of the most influential real estate personalities in the southeast.

Brent graduated from Georgia Tech in 1982 with a B.S. in civil engineering. He received his MBA from the prestigious University of Chicago and joined The Winter Companies in 1984, where he started in an entry level position and became president and CEO in 2001. He now runs all of The Winter

Companies (comprised of both Winter Construction and Winter Environmental), which is a major general and environmental contractor throughout the southeast.

Brent continues to give back as a board member of Midtown Alliance and serves on the advisory board for the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech. He and his lovely wife Darcelle have three wonderful children: Brooke, age 24; Matthew, age 20; and Audrey, age 14.

Brent is proud of his affiliation with Sigma Nu and continues to support the Alumni Association and the Housing Corp. He still stays in touch with many of the brothers of this era and is certainly proud of

the following DNA: **Matt Mckenna GA #1447, Bob Moore GA #1452, Steve McLeod GA #1460, Steve Schatzel GA #1465, Jonathan Sangster GA #1467, Mike Edenfield GA #1480, Major General Kelly McKeague GA #1493, Christopher Troutman GA #1514, Greg Stevens GA #1522, Doug Sylvester GA #1532, Mark "Grandpa" Fouraker GA #1550, John Mize GA #1560, and Mike McCloud GA #1562.**

Who says this is the LOST GENERATION? MAJOR "ATTA BOY" for BROTHER BRENT REID, GA #1507. Another brother who walks in the way of honor. Thanks, Brent, for all you do to MAKE US PROUD !

There's Strength in Numbers

Your Ongoing Support is Crucial to the Brotherhood

By Josh Roberts GA #1810, Annual Fund Chair, Sigma Nu Alumni Association

They say there's strength in numbers. And we'd like to celebrate the influx of annual fund contributors we've seen in the past two years! Thanks to their support, we have been able to increase annual giving, enabling us to do more to keep you connected with Gamma Alpha of Sigma Nu.

As you know, the annual fund is a way to keep the chapter thriving and a way to give back to the brotherhood we chose to join. It allows us to ensure those same experiences and many more are offered to future generations. Annual fund donations—no matter the amount—allow us to continue to strengthen the relationships we have built as brothers and to foster new ones.

We closed 2012 with a total of \$21,580 from 139 brothers (about 10% of our brotherhood). Just imagine what we could do if we raised that to 20%...or 50%...or 100%.

Remember, it is our goal to have every brother give \$100/year every year at a minimum.

It takes all of our support to run the Gamma Alpha of Sigma Nu Alumni Association. All of the funds we raise through

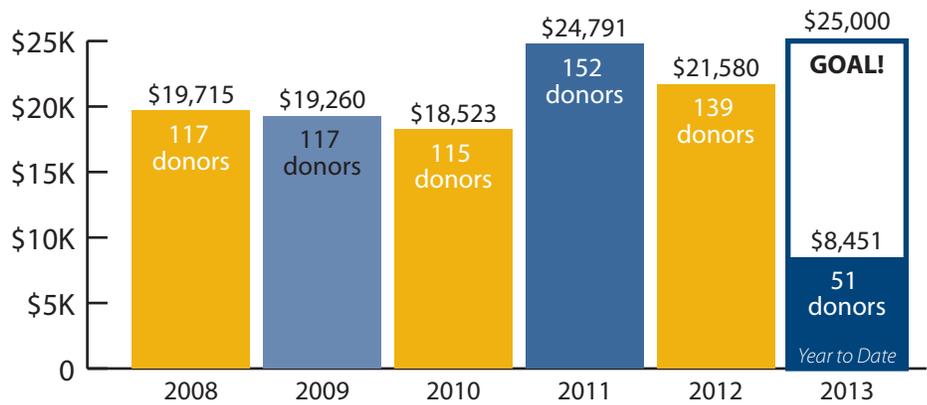
the annual fund go directly into our operating budget and enable us to:

- Publish the *Rose & Star* newsletter.
- Maintain our web site, www.sigmanugt.com.
- Keep our alumni database current.
- Host alumni events to include pledge class reunions, Homecoming activities, cookouts at the house, fishing and golf

tournaments, pool parties, Ramblin' Wreck Parade, etc.

Our goal this year is to raise \$25,000. Help us to further strengthen our numbers. Please make your gift for 2013. You can do so online or by mailing a check payable to "Gamma Alpha Alumni Association" to the return address on this newsletter (mention Sigma Nu at Georgia Tech).

Annual Fund



FROM THE ARCHIVES

Nothing beats a walk down memory lane!

Thank you to the alumni brothers who have helped to build our online archives through their submissions of great old photos.

If you have great pictures from your Sigma Nu days that you'd like to share, please upload them at www.sigmanugt.com, email them to content@affinityconnection.com, or mail them to the return address on this newsletter. Be sure to mention "Sigma Nu GT" on your correspondence.

Gamma Alpha ski trip with brothers from 1988-92. 25 Years and counting...Tempus fugits... Where's their hair?



Meet Your Alumni Association Officers

These Brothers Have Been Working Hard to Ensure the Quality of Your Alumni Experience



President **Alex Brown GA #1759** is a proud member of the fall 1992 pledge class. He is originally from Americus, Ga., and currently resides in Dunwoody with wife Stacy

(Ga Tech ZTA) and daughters Kelsey (5) and Lainey (1). Upon “getting out” of Tech with a B.S. in management in 1997, Alex went on to become a founding partner of I.T. staffing firm Hunter Technical Resources and currently serves as CFO. During his time at Sigma Nu, he held the offices of house manager, recorder and Lt. Commander, and had the memorable experience of living through the chaos of the house renovation for the 1996 Olympics. Favorite pastimes include spending time with family, fly fishing and working on vintage cars.



Vice President **Grant Norwood GA #1673** gladly volunteers his time to support Gamma Alpha while also serving as president of the House Corporation. He entered GT in the fall of 1987 and was, therefore,

a part of the one of the best pledge classes of all time—1988. He graduated with a B.S. in management in 1991 and went on to earn an MBA from Mercer University in 1995. While at 750 Fowler St., he served as kitchen manag-

er, Lieutenant Commander and Commander. He also played for the GT tennis team (for two weeks) and earned a varsity letter in swimming. Currently, Grant lives in Atlanta with his wife Stacey and their four children: Connor (12), Makenna (11), Maddie (10) and Mallory (7). He works as the managing executive of Hays Companies of Georgia and provides consultation to large group health plan sponsors. For fun, he coaches his kids’ sports teams (all-time winning percentage=.848), plays a few sports, authors books on children’s health, and attends a few annual events with fellow Gamma Alphas, including the Sigma Nu FL Summer Meetings, a Super Bowl ski trip and a highly competitive Ryder Cup-style golf even each spring.



Treasurer **Adam Fuller GA #1701** is also treasurer of the House Corporation and is looking for a sharp young alumnus to help in that roles. He was in the pledge class of ’88, gradu-

ated in ’93, and managed to get in six football seasons before moving on. During his many years in the old house, Adam lived in the Pit after an extensive summer renovation, the Red room and Mom’s room. However, he didn’t attain the lofty status of Corner Man or the longest undergrad attendance in his pledge class, both of which are held by more

deserving brothers. While in school, Adam held numerous jobs including multiple summers working with other brothers at the Fun Company, driving around the country throwing parties and enjoying some good times along the way. After leaving Tech, Adam completed a graduate degree in finance at GSU. Today, Adam is married to Linda and has two boys: Jackson (13) and Austin (9), who keep him very busy. As a sign of his old age, Adam has never opened up a Facebook account and hasn’t logged into Twitter in years. During the day, Adam is a principal at Homrich Berg, an independent wealth management firm.



Annual Fund Chair **Josh Roberts GA #1810** is also communications chairman for the Gamma Alpha Alumni Association. He “got out” of GT in 2002 with a degree in industrial engineering and is working as the director of integration and transformation with Piedmont Healthcare Corporation in Atlanta.

Chapter Advisor **Al Etheridge GA #1723** graduated with BSME/MSME in ’95-’98 and currently works to develop early stage technologies from laboratory to industry as a director at IP2Biz, LLC. Al is married to Karen Borrelli Etheridge and they have two children: Annie and George. The Etheridges reside in Midtown Atlanta.

Gamma Alpha Leadership Seminar Continues to Promote Excellence

More than 60 Alumni and Actives in Attendance at the Recent Event

On Sunday, January 27, the Gamma Alpha Alumni Association hosted its 4th Annual Leadership Seminar in the College of Management. The purpose of this event is to pass along valuable management advice and counsel from our alumni to the active chapter. Our first session was in 2010 and was such a huge success that we have continued the tradition each year, following the election of the new slate of officers. There were more than 60 alumni and actives in attendance for the three-hour session. The crowd was divided

into teams, and each team responded with interactive dialogue to best-practice presentations by several of our alumni, covering a number of topics, including fiscal responsibility, house/property management, recruitment and risk mitigation.

As an Alumni Association, we continue to explore ways in which to provide meaningful interaction and guidance between the alumni and the actives. We also recognize the importance of helping the chapter understand the “big picture” in terms of presence, image, and

tradition on campus and among the Georgia Tech community. We have seen wonderful results from our efforts as the chapter continues to mature and evolve. We offer a heartfelt thank you to all of our alumni who donate their time and expertise to make this event possible. We couldn’t do it without you!

If you would like to become involved with the alumni association, please contact **Alex Brown GA #1759** at alex@htrjobs.com.

Sigma Nu Helped Chuck Freeny Fit In as an “Out-of-Stater”

Thanks to **Chuck Freeny GA #1449** (init in 1976) for participating in our Q&A.

Why did you join Sigma Nu over other fraternities?

Because I really liked the diversity of people, from jocks to preppies, they were all good guys. People who were interesting and fun.

How did Sigma Nu help make you into the man you are today?

It made the college experience fun and easier for an out-of-stater (Texas) as there was a place and people to hang with. Most folks need a group to belong to, even those who are “loners.”

What is your most memorable moment from your undergraduate days?

Too many and memories fade. Setting the Beta’s dumpster on fire, Stillwell shooting his books after his last test, pig roast smell wafting up the hill...

Tell us about a brother who was a role model to you.

More than one. I looked up to several. **Spyros Dermatas GA #1394**, **Chuck Darsey GA #1395**, **Duke Claussen GA #1436**, **Ralph Elliott GA #1413**, **Mike Harrell GA #1437**, **Sam Allison GA #1432**. Lots of guys demonstrated qualities worth noting and learning from.

What’s the best advice you’ve ever received, and from whom?

Being “right” is not the goal, the goal is getting the job done.

How do the values you learned at Sigma Nu make an impact in your life today?

Diversity is a good thing. Harder sometimes to organize, but better, in the end.

What’s new in your life today?

I had a great ten-day bicycle tour in Chile and Argentina last spring and a super bike tour in Big Bend National Park. One more year and the last two kids are (hopefully) off the payroll. One will be a Stanford chemical engineer (anybody hiring—contact me) and one will be a Texas A&M veterinarian with an equine focus. After that, retirement looks a lot more possible.

Brothers can reconnect with with **Chuck at CFreeny@tx.rr.com**.

George York Remembers the Values He Learned from Sigma Nu

Thanks to **George York GA #1077** (init in 1960) for participating in our Q&A.

Why did you join Sigma Nu over other fraternities?

I joined Sigma Nu for two reasons: 1) I was a legacy (my brother, **Guy York GA #928** was a Sigma Nu at Tech). 2) Sigma Nu had a reputation for being the best fraternity on the Tech campus.

What is your most memorable moment from your undergraduate days?

My most memorial moment was the fun we had at the White Rose Formal when we had Chuck Berry and Elvis Presley’s back-up band.

How did Sigma Nu help make you into the man you are today?

Sigma Nu taught me leadership, which has stayed with me.

Tell us about a brother who was a role model to you.

The best role model I ever had was **Bill McKee GA #967**, my big brother. Bill was one of the smartest Brothers in the fraternity, was respected by everyone, and went on to serve as Commander.

What’s the best advice you’ve ever received, and from whom?

The best advice I received was from my Sigma Nu roommates, **Bob Tyree GA #1072** and

Fred Felte GA #1037 on how to dress and groom myself.

How do the values you learned at Sigma Nu make an impact in your life today?

Sigma Nu was a big help to me in my career when I was working, through the business contacts I made. Now that I am retired, I am enjoying going back to the fraternity house for football games, reunions, etc. The values I learned at Sigma Nu have helped me appreciate the importance of maintaining relationships with old friends and giving something back to the community.

Brothers can reconnect with **George at gwoltzyork@yahoo.com**

ALUMNI UPDATES

This Just In...News Reports from the Lives of Sigma Nu Brothers...

Justin Grinder GA #1819

(jgrinder@grindertaber.com) and his wife, Cara, are enjoying time with their seven-month-old baby boy, Cray, in



Memphis, Tenn. The pictures are of his first Halloween! Justin is vice president of Grinder, Taber, & Grinder, Inc., a contracting and design builder firm. Justin (init in 1997) and his Brother Brett Grinder GA #1743 (init in 1991) are both PROUD of their Sigma Nu heritage.

David A. Thompson GA #1905

(davidustingt@gmail.com) was recently promoted to associate in Institutional Fixed Income Sales at KeyBanc Capital Markets. He lives in Charlotte, NC.

Gamma Alpha brothers want to hear from you! Submit your own alumni update to content@affinityconnection.com and we will share it with the brotherhood. Please mention Sigma Nu at Georgia Tech in your email.

CHAPTER PROGRESS

New Projects, Including a House Maintenance Program, Will Ensure The Future of Our Valuable Asset

Chapter Filled with Strong Leaders and Diverse Personalities

By Grant Norwood GA #1673

The brothers are back in school after a much needed break between semesters. The colder winter semester allows for intense study time ahead of what is sure to be a welcomed spring Island Party. The chapter as a whole is progressing well academically and landed an overall GPA of 3.02 for the fall semester, setting them ahead of the campus average of 2.9 and the fraternal average of 3.0.

Joe Gammie GA #2032 handed over the Commander's gavel to **Pete George GA #2036** and the chapter will continue to develop and improve under his leadership. The chapter is on pace to achieve status as a Sigma Nu "Rock Chapter," which would be the first in Gamma Alpha history. Joe was elected to High Council, which is a first for a Gamma Alpha. Congratulations to you for your personal achievements, Joe, and for leading the chapter in the right direction.

This semester, in addition to their focus on academics and philanthropy projects, the chapter (with support from the alumni association) will launch a house maintenance program to ensure that our valuable asset on 750 Fowler Street is being well taken care of in a cost effective manner. A complete systems review along with a detailed maintenance schedule will be the outcome. Understanding the breadth and depth of maintaining the property, the Alumni Association has granted its full support and active cooperation with this endeavor to "protect the investment."

Additionally, with respect to alumni involvement, it is expected that the much anticipated Gamma Alpha online career site will be launched this winter. Simply put, this tool will allow actives and alumni to share career and business opportunities.

Unlike what was available during most of our time as actives, alumni are now available to mentor brothers, provide career advice, and participate in Leadership Council sessions. The interaction has proven to be a two-way street as the actives are now reaching out to various alumni and are planning events to involve the alumni, like golf tournaments and parties.

Having just completed a Leadership Development Meeting that included 95% of the active chapter and a group of alumni, I can tell you that the chapter is in good shape and is full of strong leaders and a diverse set of personalities. They have recruited a strong group of honorable young men as pledges and are expected to have a 100% retention rate with this group. You all should be proud.

Gamma Alpha has a rich history! Contribute your piece to our long legacy. Read more on page 5.



- In this issue of The Rose & Star...*
- Learn more about Brent Reid GA #1507, President and CEO of The Winter Companies
 - Find Out About the House Maintenance Program
 - Meet Your Alumni Association Officers

P.O. Box 7007 • Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007
Address Service Requested

Sigma Nu
GEORGIA TECH

