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The Rose & Star

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ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

A Heartfelt Thank You

By Alex Brown GA 1759



Typically when we pull together our newsletters, mailers, and various other communiqués, the focus is to inform, celebrate, entertain, and encourage support for the chapter. This time I would like to take a different angle and simply offer a heartfelt Thank You.

Thank you to all the tireless volunteers who donate countless hours, fight traffic, and sacrifice time from work and family to be actively involved with the Gamma Alpha Alumni Association – your support of the chapter is crucial and a wonderful reflection of the high character we seek to encourage.

Thank you to the leaders in the active chapter who embrace the guidance and leadership from our involved alumni. I cannot describe how refreshing and impressive it is to see our smart, sharp chapter actively striving to evolve and improve each year, not just simply settling for status quo...they are always working to improve the quality of the chapter and the impact we have on Georgia Tech and the community.

Of course, I cannot offer thank-you's without mentioning one of THE most important components of Sigma Nu: our amazing wives and girlfriends and sweethearts! While we can all agree that the men of Gamma Alpha are blue chip specimens, I will admit that on rare occasion you might have to put

up with a very tiny amount of mischief or nonsense. For this we thank you.

Last but not most, I want to thank ALL of our alumni...not just the brothers who have been able provide financial support, but all of our wonderful alumni who cherished their time at 750 Fowler Street.

Thank you to the brothers who read our emails...thank you to the guys who remind us when we send too many emails. Thank you to the guys who come to football games and stop for a drink at the house, and then ignore the messy chapter room after the game while they are waiting on traffic to die down. Thank you to the guys who make sure we know how messy the chapter room was. Thank you to the brothers who help our actives and young alumni find jobs. Thank you to the colorful characters you only seem to meet in fraternity houses who provide endless comedy and wonderful texture to the college experience.

Thank you to the alumni young and old who still get together to hang out and reminisce and laugh over the good ol' days. Finally, thank you to all of the brothers who have served our country and communities and their families and continue to make us all proud to be Gamma Alpha's. We are an amazing group.

THANKS TO ALL. Cheers and Go Jackets!

LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER

Alumni & Parent Support Helps Chapter Focus on Being Its Best

With 2014 well underway, we are hopeful that this upcoming year will be historical for Gamma Alpha. With a renewed focus on serving the community, scholarship, and campus involvement, Gamma Alpha is making strides to maintain itself as the top fraternity on Georgia Tech's campus. None of this would be possible without the support and assistance of our Alumni Association. Contributions from the Capital Campaign, individual donations, and support of every alumnus are helping to build a better Sigma Nu. Without the support of our alumni, we would not have been able to accomplish as much as we have.

This past Fall, Gamma Alpha continued to be a leader among the fraternities at Georgia Tech by being named the most philanthropic fraternity on campus while maintaining a 3.15 GPA. Our brothers also continue to hold influential positions external to Sigma Nu within organizations on Georgia Tech's campus. Brother **Daniel Furman (GA 2111)** was recently elected to serve a term as the COO of the Georgia Tech Student Foundation and Brother **Eric Keener (GA 2088)** was elected to serve a term as CFO of the Georgia Tech Student Foundation. The brothers of Sigma Nu continue to hold multiple executive positions within IEEE, the Undergraduate Judiciary Council, and Tech Beautification Day Committee.

In conjunction with the Alumni Association, the active chapter started a mentorship program in which 13 active members were

matched with Gamma Alpha alumni to foster lifelong relationships. Under the leadership of Brother **Grant Norwood (GA 1673)** and former alumni chairman **Matt Aaron (GA 2091)**, Sigma Nu was able to bring back the annual Golf Tournament with proceeds benefiting the Wiskott-Aldrich Foundation. This spring, Brother **Gary Jones (GA 1290)** was chosen as 1 of 6 Greek Alumni to join the inaugural Greek Hall of Fame for his service to Georgia Tech, the community, and Greek Life. Gamma Alpha continues to have a deep bench and fully expects more of our brothers to join Brother Jones in the coming years.

Moving forward in 2014, Gamma Alpha is refocusing its efforts on increased campus involvement, community service, and brotherhood development. We are hopeful through the hard work put in by the active chapter and the effective leadership of former commanders **Joe Gammie (GA 2032)** and **Pete George (GA 2036)**, Gamma Alpha will be able to bring home its first Rock Chapter award at the 66th Grand Chapter in Nashville.

Through the support of **Alex Brown (GA 1759)** and the members of the Alumni Association as well as Tenley Stephens (Brother Boice McGrew's Mom) and the Parents Club the brothers of Gamma Alpha are able to focus on representing Sigma Nu as the best chapter on campus.

—Jay Patel (GA 2076)

2014 ANNUAL FUND GOAL SET AT \$30,000

Thank you to all the brothers who donate each year!

When we made the decision to join a fraternity, it was a lifetime commitment to enter into a very special brotherhood. The experiences we had during our time at Georgia Tech were often shaped by the relationships we formed as members of a remarkable organization: the Gamma Alpha Chapter of Sigma Nu!

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 are asking for your renewed support this year to raise \$30,000.

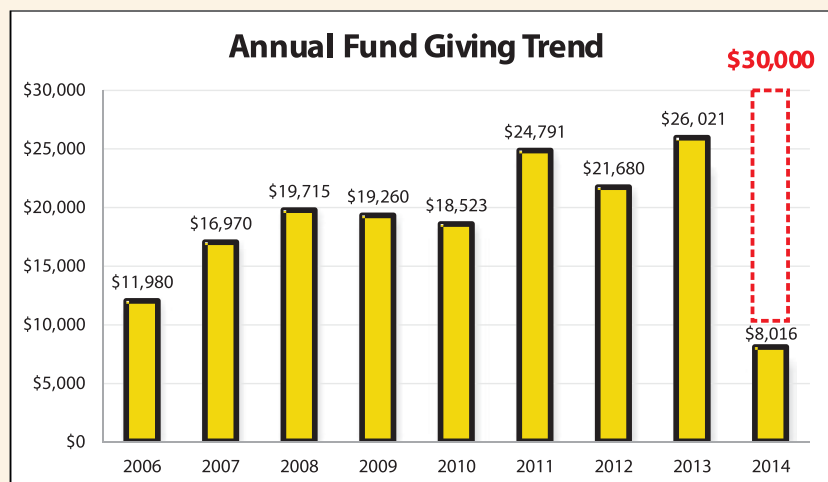
It is our goal to have every brother give \$100 a year, every year, at a minimum.

Currently, only about 140 of our 1,255 active alumni contribute to the annual fund (about 10% of our living alumni). Just imagine what we could do if we raised that to 20%...or 50%...or 100%.

Please help us meet our goal in 2014 and make your donation to the annual fund.

Fraternally,

Josh Roberts (GA 1810)
Annual Fund Chair, Sigma Nu Alumni Association
joshuadavidroberts@hotmail.com



ANONYMOUS CHALLENGE FUND

Two-For-One Match On Your Pledge; \$50,000 Match Expires June 1, 2014

In order to encourage those Brothers of Gamma Alpha who may have fallen behind on their pledges, we have been able to round up several Brothers who would like to fund and issue an ANONYMOUS CHALLENGE MATCH to those Brothers who make a payment on their pledge before June 1, 2014.

Simply put, if you still owe \$2,000, for example, on your Capital Campaign commitment and pay \$1,000 before June 1, 2014 the fund will match your gift and pay off your remaining balance of \$1,000. If you can only pay \$500 towards your balance the

Fund will match the \$500 and reduce your balance to \$1,000.

Of course if you can fulfill your pledge in total and pay the \$2,000 the fund will match your gift and you will now receive credit for the extra \$2,000 for a total addition of \$4,000. Whatever you pay you double your gift.

Either way, you're a winner... more importantly GAMMA ALPHA of SIGMA NU is a winner. And every single dollar goes towards paying down the mortgage.

Two reasons to HURRY: The CHALLENGE MATCH FUND currently has \$50,000 in it- so the first \$50,000 in pledge payments will receive the MATCH. Secondly, the MATCH EXPIRES JUNE 1, 2014- so you better act quickly. Please send your check in now to take advantage of this two-for-one opportunity.

Make payable to: SNGT HOUSE CORP and mail to:

Gary T. Jones
42 W. Brookhaven Dr., NE
Atlanta, Ga 30319

CHAPTER NEWS

Thank You & Farewell, Miss Choo-Choo!

Undergrads Desperately Seeking New Über Parent Replacement for Food For Finals

Food For Finals week next year just won't be the same without the loving work and cheerful spirit of Tenley Stephens, the mother of active brother Boice McGrew who is graduating this spring. Tenley is better known to actives as "Miss Choo-Choo," a nickname lovingly bestowed upon her as a derivation of her son's nickname "Chooch," which he acquired playing baseball.

A HUGE thank you to Tenley who has spearheaded this great effort to provide meals, snacks and a bit of conviviality to the actives during finals week since 2009. Not only did she provide nutritious meals and plenty of snacks while their cook took vacation, but also she created opportunities for parent involvement at Sigma Nu and provided a bit of stress relief for the guys during finals week.



Since she lives close to Georgia Tech, Tenley helped prepare and serve food, along with other parents, as well as planning and organizing the meals, events and volunteers, and running a mini e-mail campaign to engage everyone in the fun, and to collect donations from those who couldn't participate at the house. She even took pictures and posted them for download on Snapfish. Big shoes to fill, indeed.

The actives are looking for alumni or parent volunteers to champion Food For Finals and keep them fueled during finals week 2015. "If they don't find someone, I guess I'll have to adopt a pledge!" said Tenley. If you're interested, please contact tenley.stephens@lionbank.com.

ALUMNI UPDATES

Congratulations to **Clint Strickland (2005, GA 1953 clint.strickland3@gmail.com)** and wife Samantha on their new baby boy! Born February 16th at Northside Hospital, Mason Eli Strickland came in at 8lbs 11oz and was 21 inches long.

Brandon Mackie, (2006, GA 1996) launched his investment blog towards the end of 2013 and has grown quite the impressive following on moatology.com. His interest in core value investing supplements his full time work as a Chemical Engineer at Chevron in Houston, TX.

In addition to his work recording another Seven Handle Circus album, **Stephen Bledsoe (2004, GA 1933)**, has recently entered into the role of Sales Engineer at Airwatch in Atlanta. Steve was one of the first 10 original employees of Wandering

Wifi and watched the now \$1.5 billion company grow out of a garage when he worked there as a co-op at Georgia Tech.

PJ Bain (GA1982 pjbain@yahoo.com) is serving as the CEO of Prime Revenue and is aggressively working to growth that business. He employs several Gamma Alpha brothers both on a full time and co-op basis. He and his family recently moved to their home in Buckhead and is enjoying raising his son and daughter with his wife and former little sister, Susan Rappa Bain.

Lenny Zaprowski (GA 1661), was recently elected as a City Councilman for the City of Johns Creek. He also contributes to the health and well-being of his community by working full time as a Doctor of Chiropractic as owner of Chiropractic Health Center of Alpharetta and HealthSource Chiropractic. He is actively raising his daughter who is a

Junior at The Marist School and is the star goalie of the soccer team.

Congratulations to **Alex Brown (GA 1759)** who was recently named the Georgia Tech Mentor of the Year! Brother Brown received this honor for his outstanding service in the Georgia Tech MentorJackets program, which matches GT students with alumni mentors for academic and career guidance. Keep up the great work, you make us proud!

Brother Gary T Jones (GA 1290) continues to excel! Next time you see him please congratulate him for being inducted into the Georgia Tech Greek Hall of Fame! This is its inaugural year and Brother Jones was among a very select group of impressive Georgia Tech Greeks who have made exceptional contributions to the betterment of school and community. Thanks for all you do Gary!



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In this Issue of The Rose & Star...

- **Thank You!**
- **Farewell Miss Choo-Choo**
- **Take advantage of Challenge Fund now!**

Email Crisis!

We Only Have Email Addresses for ¾ of Our Brothers!

You may be missing out on important Sigma Nu communications!



The Gamma Alpha Chapter Alumni Association Board sends monthly eNewsletters packed with updates, information, and photographs to you every month. Each electronic newsletter features stories on scholarship, philanthropy/social, athletic events or achievements, house renovations, alumni updates, and upcoming alumni events and reunions. Ensure you're receiving your copy of these eNewsletters by verifying your email address today!

We currently have active email addresses for just 78% of our living alumni. If your email address is one of the 22% we're missing, please update it on the form below or by emailing our alumni relations office with your full name, grad year, and "Sigma Nu GT" to feedback@affinityconnection.com.

The more email addresses we have, the more we can keep you in the loop throughout the year. Thanks for helping us to stay connected with you more frequently!

We're Searching for 150+ Alumni

Help Us to Bring these Brothers Back in the Loop

There are 171 alumni in our database who do not have active mailing addresses on file. This means that they are not receiving The Rose & Star and other print publications. If you recognize any of the names on this partial list, please send their updated contact

information to our alumni relations office at feedback@affinityconnection.com (mention Sigma Nu GT in the subject line). Our chapter database is used solely for Sigma Nu communications and will never be traded or sold.



Gerald K. Taylor '49
Robert Bohannon '56
Michael Iversen '64

Robert Meyer Jr. '74
Trent Jordan '78
Michael McGowan '87

Patrick Chambers '90
Thomas Epps '99
Matthew McNeil '03

Chase Brown '08

Make Your Gift
There are three ways
to donate:

Make check payable to: GAMMA ALPHA ALUMNI ASSN & mail to our processing center:

Sigma Nu at Georgia Tech, Alumni Relations Processing Center, P.O. Box 7007, Albert Lea, MN 56007-8007

Online at:
www.sigmanugt.com

By calling:
800-975-6699