

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### HOMECOMING 2014

**Saturday, Nov. 1**

*Reception at 1:00 p.m. Prior to Kickoff Against Virginia*

Homecoming kickoff against the Cavaliers has been announced for 3:30 p.m. on Saturday! Please make plans to join us in the chapter room at the house at 1:00 p.m. for a reception honoring our esteemed commanders through the years. Additionally, we will be celebrating all of the efforts leading to the reception of the Rock Chapter Award.

**Sunday, Nov. 2**

**Sigma Nu Golf Tournament**  
1:00-6:00 p.m.  
North Fulton Golf Course

Please join us for the Second Annual Sigma Nu Golf Tournament to benefit the Wiskott-Aldrich Foundation (formerly the "For Pete's Sake Foundation"). Register as a foursome captain, join another foursome or register as an individual (and we'll find you a foursome). For more information and to register, go to the tournament website, <http://sigmanugt.kintera.org/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=1123572>.



# The Rose & Star

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## CHAPTER RECOGNITION

### Gamma Alpha Wins Top Award From National

*By Alex Brown GA 1759, Alumni Association President*

It is with great pride that I bring to you the news that our very own Gamma Alpha Chapter at Georgia Tech has earned the highest honor awarded by Sigma Nu National fraternity — The Rock Chapter Award! What is the Rock Chapter Award? Check out this excerpt from Sigma Nu HQ:

*The Rock Chapter Award honors collegiate chapters that have achieved excellence in all areas of chapter operations. To be granted the award, a chapter should be expected to attain the ideals or a nearly perfect state across a broad range of areas of fraternity operations. It should also be noted that risk management and behavioral issues are included in the judging process. In*

*addition, to win the award, a chapter should be expected to maintain a state of excellence for a given period of time, not just for a semester of one school year. Furthermore, the award once granted, should not be considered recognition for future achievement (i.e. once a Rock Chapter, always a Rock Chapter), but rather recognition for past achievement with an appropriate date inscribed indicating the precise year which the award represents.*



Countless hours and years of hard work by our active chapter and alumni made this great honor possible. Many thanks to former Regents Robert Durham and Joe Gilman for their wisdom and counsel, as well as to all the dedicated Gamma Alphas who

worked so hard to make this happen. Make plans to come back for Homecoming and share in our celebration of this great honor. I am proud to be a Gamma Alpha! Go Jackets!

## Our Alumni Are Making Headlines!

**As Sigma Nu brothers, we are obligated by our Creed**

**"... to welcome the achievements of art and science, religion and learning, labor and law, under whose radiant banners battle the hosts of progress ..."**

In this edition (pages 2-3), we celebrate some remarkable achievements of our alumni brothers who have made headlines. Please join with us in our congratulations to them as they uplift our Sigma Nu ideals.

## ALUMNI MAKING HEADLINES

### Alum Recognized for Product Design Excellence

**Clint Mayhue ΓA 1807** started working as a co-op for Avon Protection Systems in his second year at Tech, making the daily commute from 750 Fowler St. up to Lawrenceville, Ga., every other quarter throughout his time at Tech. He was hired on as a design engineer after graduation as an ME in 2001, where he designed respiratory protection equipment and thermal imaging cameras used by fire fighters, law enforcement and military personnel. Avon Protection Systems designed and supplies every branch of the U.S. military with the Joint Services gas mask and filters, protecting our warfighters from chemical and biological weapons.

For the last five years, Clint has run the engineering department at Avon Protection and was responsible for the design and launch of the Deltair — the latest and most advanced self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) for fire fighters. The product was the brainchild of Brother Mayhue and took 3.5 years of work to see it to completion.

On August 13, 2014, the Industrial Designers Society of America held their

annual awards ceremony recognizing the top designs across all industries designed in the past year with the coveted IDEAs (International Design of Excellence Awards). The Deltair SCBA was awarded the Gold award in the Research category for the unique and in-depth front end of the design process. Brother Mayhue was in attendance in Austin, Texas, to give an acceptance speech for the award.



The surprise of the night came at the conclusion of the ceremony when the night's most prestigious award was presented: the People's Choice

Award: the award is voted on by all of the designers across the world for the best product design. Products from major corporations such as BMW, Samsung, Tesla, Apple, Nike, Yakima, Microsoft, were all part of the over 2000 products considered for the award. Much to the shock of Brother Mayhue, he was called back on stage to accept the People's Choice Award for the Deltair SCBA as the winning product!

To see a video of the development, go to [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH--76xzfZw](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VH--76xzfZw).

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are making great progress with house financing and our capital campaign. Here are a few updates:

- With the help of Brother Adam Fuller GA 1701, we were able to finalize permanent financing with a long-term mortgage of \$1,775,000.
- Our match program initiated at the end of March has been a smashing success. When all is said and done, we will have raised over \$35,000 in payments from over 40 donors to help pay down the mortgage prior to our refinancing.
- We will continue to pay down this mortgage. Several brothers have shared that they were not in a position to help a few years ago but that things have changed. We continue to receive pledges payable over a five-year period. As we work to get this mortgage down to \$1,000,000, we hope that you will consider making a pledge.

## PLEDGE UPDATE

We are pleased to announce that following a very successful fall rush season, Gamma Alpha has added 24 new pledges this fall. We welcome the following new pledge class:

Philip M. Anschutz  
NRE; Conyers, Ga.

Brian A. Connolly  
IE; Warwick, N.Y.

Adam W. Garlow  
ME; Decatur, Ga.

Ian Mathison  
MSE; North Palm  
Beach, Fla.

Caleb T. Platt  
BE; Seattle, Wa.

James W. Bland IV  
AE; Atlanta, Ga.

Connor Verlock Cudney  
ME; Flowery Branch, Ga.

Saqlain Golandez  
CS; Atlanta, Ga.

Michael J. McGugan  
CE; Ridley, Pa.

Nick A. Shapiro  
CE; Eden Prairie, Minn.

Kerem B. Caglayan  
ME; Savannah, Ga.

Alexander M. Fleming  
Eng.; Savannah, Ga.

Cameron D. Greer  
ME; Atlanta, Ga.

Israel Chi Sean Miller  
IE; Orlando, Fla.

William H. Stith  
CS; Smyrna, Ga.

Ryan S. Carr  
AE; Cumming, Ga.

Adrian M. Franzone  
CE; Boca Raton, Fla.

Lee M. Gross  
ME; Atlanta, Ga.

Anthony R. Mistretta  
BA; Suwanee, Ga.

Alex S. Zdanov  
EE; Zurich, Switzerland

Connor J. Castellon  
ME; Dover, Del.

Jordan R. Gamble  
CE; Atlanta, Ga.

David Linder  
ID; Stockholm,  
Sweden

Matthew J. Owens  
IE; Cary, N.C.



## MORE ALUMNI MAKING HEADLINES

### Brother Mike Skrynecki GA 1600 Wins 2014 “Invest in Others” National Award

We have all read our Sigma Nu Creed. But have you read it lately? Brother **Mike Skrynecki GA 1600** may not have actually read it lately, but he is living it — one phrase in particular which asks each of us to have “a compassion that, giving the world its gospel of human service, saves men to the end that they may serve their fellowmen.”

In 2002, Mike started this philanthropic journey by creating the For Pete’s Sake organization. In 2010, the Georgia-based For Pete’s Sake merged with the Wiskott-Aldrich Foundation. Today, the foundation “is the only organization dedicated solely to helping thousands of families worldwide who have children with Wiskott-Aldrich Syndrome (WAS), a rare and life-threatening genetically inherited disease for which the only known cure is a risky and expensive bone marrow transplant.”

Mike, a certified financial planner and financial advisor with Morgan Stanley Wealth Management in Atlanta, serves as the foundation’s chairman of the board. In this capacity, he has encouraged the participation of numerous volunteers, including several of his fellow Sigma Nu brothers (listed to the right). Additionally, he has been instrumental in raising over \$1 million for the support of approximately 100 families whose children

suffer from WAS and to launch the nation’s first WAS research program.



*Mike shares in the excitement of the 2014 Invest in Others Catalyst Award with his wife during the Invest in Others Community Leadership Awards dinner this fall.*

In recognition of his efforts, Mike was presented with the 2014 Invest in Others Catalyst Award on Sept. 18 during the eighth annual Invest in Others Community Leadership Awards dinner held in New York.

We congratulate Mike for his most impressive honor. To find links to other stories about Mike and his foundation work, go to our website, [www.sigmanugt.com](http://www.sigmanugt.com).

#### Gamma Alpha Alumni on the Wiskott-Aldrich Foundation Board

**Mike Skrynecki GA 1600**

**John Mize GA 1560**

**Pete Lyle GA 1605**

**Brennan Robison GA 1666**

**Kirk Leverone GA 1803**

#### *Past members:*

**Scott Hall GA 1754**

**Tracy Haas GA 1551**

**Ron Dover**

**PJ Bain GA 1682**

**Craig Marmon GA 1603**

**Bob Kramlich GA 1575**

**Stosh Bennett GA 1657**

**Joe Ozmer GA 1578**

*Note: Several Sigma Nu alumni serve as active volunteers but do not sit on the board.*

## ... AND MORE FROM SOME OF OUR YOUNGER ALUMS

### Alumni Band’s Video Featured on Conan

You may have seen our small article in our September eLetter. If you did, then you know that a video of Seven Handle Circus, an Atlanta-based “bluegrass” band comprised



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of several Gamma Alpha alumni, was recently featured on “Conan.”

“We are not really a bluegrass band” says Seven Handle Circus’ lead banjo player Brother **Colin Vinson GA 1958**. “We have these instruments, these acoustic sounds, but we really just play whatever we want.”

Other Sigma Nu brothers involved in the band include **Shawn Spencer GA 1967** and **Stephen Bledsoe GA 1933**. To see when Seven Handle Circus is coming to a town near you, go to [www.sevenhandlecircus.com](http://www.sevenhandlecircus.com).

### Alumni Help Drive Nutrition Revolution

It’s called Soylent. You may have already heard of it — it is getting quite a bit of

media attention. A product innovated by Gamma Alpha Brothers **Rob Rhinehart GA 2005** and **Matthew Cauble GA 1997** (co-founders of L.A.-based Rosa Labs), Soylent is “the first macronutritious food replacement beverage customized for you. It possesses everything the healthy body needs.”

After receiving \$1.5 million in seed funding (and pre-orders), Rosa Labs was successful in rolling out its first production of Soylent in April 2014. What has been the response?

As with many new food products, some are finding it to be the answer to all of their nutritional needs while others are choosing to use it as an occasional meal supplement. Watch for more from these brothers at [www.rosalabs.com](http://www.rosalabs.com).



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## In this Issue of The Rose & Star...

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- Which Alumni Are Making Headlines?
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## ALUMNI UPDATES

**Adam “Dude” Dudenhoeffer (GA 1921)** is now a project engineer at Surfaces Group, a turnkey hardscape contractor based out of Marietta, Ga. In April, he got married to Nicole Van Levan, and they are living in Reynoldstown with their dog and cat.

At the start of 2014, **Derryl Carter (GA 1956)** resided in his hometown of Los Angeles, writing software for a small startup. Apple acquired his employer in February, and he now works at Apple headquarters in Cupertino, Calif., commuting 40 miles each way from San Francisco. He’s living with his girlfriend of three years, working on various side projects and generally enjoying life.

**Shane Sandridge (GA 1994)** lives in Chicago and works as an analyst in Real Estate Corporate Debt Products at Bank of America. He makes frequent trips to New York to visit Kevin Wei and his girlfriend, Jordan Rowley (ADPi 2008). His next trip is planned for early November when he will run in the New York City Marathon.”

**Kevin Wei (GA 2006)** moved back to New York this summer. He is an advisory consultant at Ernst and Young (he’s the one going to China for new years).

**David Bader (GA 1977)** is currently a distribution specialist for Kimberly Clark Professional and has worked at KCP for over three years. He lives in Atlanta, Ga.

**Philip Potter (GA 1991)** moved this summer from Florida back to Atlanta, Ga. He is now a project engineer at Whiting-

Turner Contracting Co.

**JD Hamill (GA 1992)** currently works as a mechanical engineer at GTP Consulting Engineers. He lives in Atlanta, Ga.

**MC Mercer (GA 1995)** recently moved to Houston, Texas, and took a job as a project engineer for McCarthy Building Companies, Inc.

**Brad Raber (GA 1959)** is in his second year of his MBA program at the University of Virginia and loving every minute of it. While applying for asset management positions, he has found time to enjoy the finer aspects of Charlottesville including serving as president for the Adam Smith Society, perusing local wineries and cheering on the Jackets every fall Saturday.

**Jay Morris (GA 1894)** was too busy waiting in line for that “It’s A Small World” ride to give any updates right now, or edit ones submitted by his pledge brothers. Hence, now everyone knows that he was in Disney World with his family, and also recently took up video games again in spite of the marital risks involved with that decision. Cool stuff, Jay!

**Brent Reid (GA 1507)**, CEO of The Winter Construction Company, recently attended the Best Places to Work in Atlanta awards banquet, where his company was named #17 on the yearly list.

**Kirk Leverone (GA 1803)** is celebrating the birth of his firstborn, Talia Lynn Leverone, who was born on March 4, 2014. Congrats to the Leverones! Kirk is currently involved

with program management for Business Intelligence and Enterprise Applications for Porsche Cars North America. In his free time, he enjoys being the captain of an ALTA tennis team and cooking.

**Houston Feaster (GA 1769)** is busy building new homes in Brookhaven and Buckhead.

**Trace Tidwell (GA 1911)** completed half ironman competitions this summer. He now works at Southwire as a development engineer and lives in Carrollton, Ga. Trace also participated in the Around The Park Relay with fellow brothers John DiRico (GA 1929), Greg Harding (GA 1922), Jared Eisner (GA 1914) and Marc Zawko (GA 1916).

**Camp Scudder (GA 1926)** is in first place in his fantasy football league, most likely due to the strong name choice of Beast Mode for his team. This is how he stays in touch and flaunts his NFL knowledge with brothers **Wes Wrath, Colin Vinson (GA 1958), Doug Wells (GA 1978), Zach Higbie (GA 1973), Clint Strickland (GA 1953), JD Hamil (GA 1992), Tommy Wasmund (GA 1970), Jeremy Atcheson (GA 1960), Brandon Reed, Anthony Knost (GA 1957) and Nick Parsa (GA 1942).**

**Anthony Knost (GA 1957)** tied the knot this month with his longtime gal, Jenna! Please send electrolytes his way as he’s likely still recovering from his stag party in Vegas.

**Will Coffey (GA 1815)** and Bailey are awaiting the birth of their first child. Will the name be Oompa Loompa, Jr., or Nancy?