



# Centennial G-O Lite

Summer 2013

## Centennial Celebration A BIG SUCCESS

**Gamma Omicron was officially chartered on May 18, 1912 and is now the fifth-oldest among KU's 20+ fraternities.** Our centennial celebration got off to a great start with beautiful fall weather, and the day's events prompted visiting WGM Christian Nascimento to say in a follow-up email to Dave Steen, "it was one of the very best Kappa Sigma functions that I have ever been to." The activities began with a Kappa Sig-only reception at the Dole Institute, attended by ~100 alums and chapter members; the Institute's staff arranged for the permanent display's materials regarding Kappa Sigma to be supplemented by archival items such as paddle boards and the like. A docent described the facility and its contents spanning Bob Dole's youth through the early 2000's, and it was particularly fitting that the audience included Roger James and Reed Hoffman, both '41 and contemporaries of Brother Dole.

Those attendees, including Brother Nascimento and Justin Hansen, Director of Champion Quest (national recruitment), then proceeded back to the chapter house to be joined by ~130 others for a barbecue lunch. A highlight of that event was the "unveiling" of an incredible historical display covering KU and primarily Gamma O life from 1909 until spring of 2012. Some highlights of the contents of custom-built "shadow boxes" include:

- The April, 1912 summary by the SEC of the case for awarding a charter to "the Sasnak Club", including comments from KU faculty about the men, such as those from James Naismith
- Kappa Sig memorabilia including:
  - Dance cards (names of girls with whom the owner danced and what types of dances) from "smokers" and invitations to parties,
  - Editions of "The Kappa Sig Jayhawker", the chapter newsletter ca 1912-1920, with one 1914 story headlined "The Germans aren't the only ones who are active about the need for a new house to keep up with the other KU fraternities"
  - Pages of photos from a scrapbook assembled by Reed Hoffman's dad, a charter member of Gamma O
  - KU yearbooks from 1909 to 1920 with fantastic color, art deco pages and a 1914 photo of the "Basket Ball" team showing Naismith as coach and Allen as assistant
  - Kappa Sig rush books from the late 40s to mid-60s
  - A reprint from KU archives of a fascinating public radio story about the use of the house in 1944 as a sorority, when there were virtually no able-bodied males available to

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- reside there (a safe bet is that no one reading this knew about that)
- Memos of Chapter Exec meetings including one in which Skip Gast jokingly comments about the behavior of Darcy Domoney including his carousing with questionable coeds

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## UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS

**Grand Master**

*Michael Harrison '11*

**Grand Procurator**

*Nick Snow '11*

**Grand Master of Ceremonies**

*Sean Cameron '11*

**Grand Treasurer**

*Daniel Kusmin '11*

**Grand Scribe**

*Anthony Rittorf '11*

## HOUSE CORPORATION

**President and Chairman**

*David Steen '68*

**Secretary**

*Curtis Baum '76*

**Treasurer**

*Todd Witt '07*

**Directors**

*David Bennett '01*

*Bill Buck '53*

*Pat Ferguson '96*

*Rob Hagg '98*

*Mike Helbert '70*

*Nicholas Lombardi '02*

*Bobby Lutz '05*

*Brian McDaniel '89*

*Chris Palmer '87*

*Tom Robinett '69*

*Matt Textor '90*

*Walter Thompson '68*

**Alumnus Advisor**

*Billy Brandtonies '02*



## REPORT FROM THE Grand Master

Gamma-Omicron has continued the success of recent years during the fall semester and are doing the same for the spring semester. Gamma-O has been rewarded for our success in the in the community, risk management, classroom, and chapter management with distinction in all categories of Greek Awards and excellence in the chapter management category, which was only awarded to a select few chapters.

Also, Chris Ottinger '12 was awarded with new member of the year at Greek Awards. In addition, we have brothers running for IFC Executive Positions with Mike Harrison '11 recently elected to the IFC Judicial Board. Many of our freshmen are also extremely active in the Junior Greek Council, especially with the planning of the Junior Greek Council Greek Olympics which take place in our own backyard.

Gamma-O is constantly reshaping and bettering our rush program with different events and strategies. With the work of our Rush Chairmen (Tom Wittler '11, Kevin Jury '11, and Daniel Kusmin '11), we are continuing to sign excellent men. This spring, Gamma-O hosted a open house for rushes and their parents to come to the house for a house tour and refreshments, held dinners in

Kansas City and Wichita, and organized various other events to meet potential new members. The Rush Chairs have already signed 9 pledges for the Fall 2013 pledge class and have 10 bids out to potential pledges with likelihood of signing many of them. We are planning on having a pledge class of around 22 for next fall and leaving around 4 spots open for Formal Rush this summer. It will

be a smaller pledge class because of the number of upperclassmen choosing to live in the house, which is always great to have. We have already received many great rush recommendations from alumni and we ask any alumni that know of a possible rush to please send us their contact information through the Chapter's website, [www.gamma-o.org](http://www.gamma-o.org). We greatly

appreciate all rush recommendations and they are a great resource to our Rush Chairmen.

We make an effort to support all of the other Greek houses on campus by participating in their philanthropies and many brothers are involved in Greek affiliated community service organizations. The brothers at Kappa Sigma work very hard to support the community and our campus. Each brother pledges to donate \$20 and 20 hours of community service per semester. I'm proud to report this goal

“We are planning on donating more than \$1000 to Kappa Sigma's National Military Heroes Campaign.”

has been matched once again! The Brothers at Gamma-O achieved their goal of 20 hours apiece in many different ways, including Greek Tutoring, The Big Event, Natural Ties, Habitat for Humanity, and in many other exceptional ways that better the community. Natural Ties is an organization that partners a mentally handicapped person to each Greek chapter. Gamma-O always has devoted participation in the organization and currently has four Natural Ties. Field Engle '11 and Mitch Clifford '10 have held positions on the Executive Board this year. We also have brothers participating in Habitat for Humanity with Joel Rosenberger '12 holding a position of their Executive Board. Finally, Gamma-O is devoted to its involvement in Greek Tutoring, a program which provides students free tutoring by fellow members of the Greek Community and currently have two Greek Tutors in Sean Cameron '11 and Jared Shafer '12.

In addition to our member's individual goals, Gamma-O is planning on donating more than \$1,000 to Kappa Sigma's National Military Heroes Campaign. We plan to obtain the donations through our spring philanthropy which is a 5K run through campus called, A Run For Our Finest, which will take place the last weekend of April. All the members of the house are either volunteering or running in the race. The Military Heroes Campaign is a great cause, and its efforts go directly to the Fisher House Foundation. The Fisher House Foundation builds housing, known as Fisher Houses, in which the families of injured soldiers can stay for free while their loved one receives long-term treatment in a military hospital.

The chapter achieved a 3.08 GPA for the fall semester, which is a bit disappointing in that it reflects a slight decline from the last two semesters. We feel that we are taking the necessary steps to get it back to where it should be. Even so, our house GPA remained above the freshman Greek average, the men's Greek average, and KU's campus average, and we still ranked in the top



third of major KU fraternities. It is our hope and belief that our Chapters grades will not only increase this semester but also bring us back into the top 3 on the Hill.

Another successful area for Gamma-O is intramural participation. Driven by an ultimate goal of bringing home another championship trophy this spring, the Chapter fields teams in all campus intramural sports and competes against teams from every fraternity on campus. Fall 2012 was an especially phenomenal semester for intramurals. We won championships in Volleyball and Floor Hockey! Kappa Sigma has a reputation as a fraternity that opponents do not want to compete against!

I would like to take this time to thank the two seniors who live in the house for their hard work and dedication over the past four years. They are: Dustan Boleski and Derek Ellis. These men have forever changed this house in all aspects. Not only did they excel in numerous positions such as Grand Master, Grand Master of Ceremonies, and Pledge Educator, but they also went above and beyond all requirements for the betterment of our chapter. Without their leadership and desire to improve themselves and Kappa Sigma, the house would not be where it is today. I wish them all the best in their future happenings as I know they will be successful in whatever they chose to do.

I would also like to thank our excellent staff at the house in Mom Harbaugh and Cindy Post. Mom (Patricia) Harbaugh has been exceptionally helpful since her time at Kappa Sigma and that has continued this year. Mom Harbaugh goes beyond her job description every day and is a big reason for the success of Gamma-O. Cindy Post has been a crucial member of the staff for years now and has continued to ensure the kitchen is always running smoothly. Both Cindy and Patricia are truly beneficial to the Gamma Omicron Chapter of Kappa Sigma and we are very thankful to have them both. I would also like to recognize our Parents Club for all they have done this past year as well. They are currently funding the efforts for our crest to be put in the tile in the front entry way this summer.

Although the spring semester is a very busy time of the year, Gamma-O has found time to hold many social events throughout the semester. Our social calendar included our Black & White Formal, Caddyshack with Pi Beta Phi, Ski Lodge, and our year-end Margaritaville party. In addition to our parties, we also held a dinner exchange with the ladies of Delta Gamma. We also held our annual Mom's Day bowling event and dinner at The Eldrige

along with our Dad's Day golf outing at Alvarar, both of which were a huge hit with both the parents and sons. The undergraduate brothers of Gamma-O are also very thankful for our first annual Mentoring Night with alums from the 60s to the 00s on February 6th. The night was filled with alums coming back to the house for a dinner and mentoring to current chapter members in their perspective professional fields. The undergraduates always have a great time learning from alumni and hearing stories about their time in the house.



Gamma-O has several brothers registered to attend the Kappa Sigma Conclave this summer in Las Vegas on July 24-28. We are confident that we will bring home the FACE Award (Founder's Award of Chapter Excellence), and are excited to have a good time in Vegas. The FACE Award is the highest honor awarded by the Kappa Sigma Fraternity to its chapters. Having won the FACE Award four out of the last five years, we have set a standard of meeting the award's requirements. I consider this a tribute to the strength of our Chapter and all of the hard work and dedication that is put forth throughout the year.

The Spring 2013 semester has been another great semester for the undergraduates at Gamma-Omicron. We have experienced and continue to experience wonderful success as a fraternity at KU. Gamma-O has 70 members living in and close to thirty members living out of the house, making us one of the largest fraternities on campus. Gamma-O continues to excel and strives to continue this success in the semesters to come.

A.E.K.Δ.B.

Mike Harrison '11  
Grand Master

Rush is going smoothly this year. We have been incredibly busy, but we've successfully stayed on top of our workload. Due to the unusually high number of guys living in next year, the Fall 2013 Pledge Class will have around 22 quality men. This should be more than attainable since we've recruited 25+ new members in the last few years. The plan is to have at least 18 men signed before Formal Rush and then add the others during Formal Rush to round out the pledge class and fill the house.

Going into the year, our high school GPA requirement for potential new members was lower than it should have been. We felt this was negatively affecting the House so we instituted a new one, we will only recruit young men with an overall HS GPA of at least 3.0. This change makes our Rush process more selective but this should improve other aspects of the House, specifically Scholarship.

Our Rush events have all gone well. Throughout the year, we held dinners with Kansas City schools, as well as, one Wichita dinner for those interested in rushes. Earlier this spring, we decided to hold an Open House for both rushees and their parents. It was a huge success and we garnered a lot of interest and impressed a lot of parents.

Since next year's pledge class is going to be small, we have been very selective, thoroughly discussing each potential pledge before offering him a bid. After all, we only want the best. Up to this point we have signed nine guys, 10 more currently have bids and we are confident we can land the majority of them. But we would be eager to know any young men that our alums recommend. A reference is invaluable because we'd have a great deal of faith in it. In conclusion, we are excited about next year's pledge class. They have a strong leadership potential and we are confident they will be successful both academically and socially.

A.E.K.Δ.B.  
Tom Wittler '11  
Rush Chair

## CORP BOARD

# Chairman's Report

Since this edition is brimming with many items, this report will cover many topics but do so as concisely as possible.

Academically, eight men achieved all As in the fall semester (Begley, Cameron, Clifford, Harrison, Kilgore, Rittof, Snow, and Vogel), the second-largest number to do so in the chapter's history.

Plus, the latest Caduceus shows that Gamma O members (Angotti, Begley, Boleski, and Colbert) received more scholarships from the national Endowment than all but six other chapters, with Begley receiving two.

Alums occasionally wonder how the chapter is doing socially-being concerned that such pursuits might get overlooked in pursuit of academics, leadership, etc. In this edition you'll see photos to arrest any concerns - their social calendar is busy and their parties are reportedly (and from my brief observation of two), events of note. Even with ample partying, the chapter and Mom Harbaugh have kept the neighbors in mind, to the extent that we recently received a note out of the blue from Amy Long in KU administration saying she'd talked with one of our neighbors about something unrelated to us but in the conversation the fellow interjected favorable comments about the chapter's attention to cleaning the general area after different events.

The Board recently recognized Dustan Boleski '10 as Chapter Man of the Year and unanimously decided to dedicate the award to Lloyd Hanahan in recognition of his unmatched contributions to the welfare of Gamma Omicron. The award will now be the Lloyd Hanahan Award, given to the Man of the Year, and we hope that recipients of that award will function in their post-college years with the dedication and consistency that Lloyd has shown.

A unique and very well-received event occurred in February-the first annual Mentoring Dinner. Alums representing many different career disciplines shared dinner with undergrads with like interests, and then everyone adjourned to continue their discussions about the demands, rewards, and employer expectations in many different areas. The men of the chapter expressed appreciation

and enthusiasm for the event and strongly urged that it be an annual occurrence. Thanks are in order to the following alums who joined in: Brad Harrison and Todd Witt (accounting); Bob Robinett (architecture); Skip Gast and Bob Lutz (engineering); Brian McDaniel and Chris Palmer (entrepreneurism); Bill Coughlin and Brian Harrison (finance); Darcy Domoney, Tom Robinett, and

T J Trum (law); Dave Steen (marketing); and Curt Baum, Bill Buck, and Colin Kitzerow (medicine). Education was another interest, and Rueben Perez, Director of KU's Student Programs handled that topic. Rueben was so impressed that he sent an email to higher-ups at KU, saying among other things "...I want to share a very positive experience... the men of Kappa Sigma are doing something right...(they) were wonderful in conversation not just about education but a number of topics..." We were

"I want to share a positive experience...the men of Kappa Sigma are doing something right... (they) were wonderful in conversation not just about education but a number of topics."

- Rueben Perez, Director of KU's Student Programs

surprised by the email as it was unprompted, unexpected, but quite pleasing to receive. I received emails from all of the alums in attendance, commenting on their enjoyment of the evening as well. We will be hosting another event next school year, so anyone who lives close to Lawrence, who'd like to participate, be sure to email me (steen-d@sbcglobal.net); chances are very good that it'll be an interesting, unusual, and fun evening.

Congrats are in order to the Palmers, Nick is a third generation Gamma O, preceded by dad Chris and granddad Jerry, and also to the Harrisons, with Mike being the third and last member of his family elected to be GM, he was preceded by Brian and Brad each about two years apart.

So overall the chapter seems to be "hitting on all cylinders"; the house is fully occupied with young men who seem to have the right priorities which include having a good time. Of course with recent publicity of stupidity at other houses, we are just a brain-dead act away from embarrassment, but the chapter Exec and many of the men are aware and are determined to maintain our reputation as one of the three or four best overall fraternities on the Hill.

A.E.K.Δ.B. - Dave Steen, for the Board



*Three generations of Gamma-Os: Nick Palmer with his dad, Chris, and granddad, Jerry.*

## Centennial Celebration

*Continued from page 1.*

- Recent newspaper and KU Alumni magazine articles about the chapter

Elsewhere in this GO-LITE is a scan of the Sasnak Club's description of their group, provided to the SEC as part of the petition to be Gamma Omicron. If you have occasion to be in the vicinity of the house, be sure to allocate some time to view this remarkable grouping, there may not be anything like it in Lawrence. Big thanks go to Reed, Lloyd Hanahan, Fred Green, and Ted Pugh '01, and Dave for their efforts compiling and storing the remarkable memorabilia.

Next came the induction of Tom Creel '56 as the 83<sup>rd</sup> member of the Gamma Omicron Hall Of Fame. Lloyd Hanahan reminisced that when Tom drove to Lawrence to start school, his journey required five hours to complete due to the temperamental nature of his auto and the winding conditions of old K10. Tom described how he visited the house only to accompany a friend going through rush and who didn't want to be alone, and then he was so impressed that he pledged after learning that he could obtain a housebill subsidy through working. Tom recently retired as the Managing Partner of the largest international intellectual property law firm in the U.S., and now resides in upper Manhattan with his wife Carol.

The evening's events took place at Adams Alumni Center; our group of almost 200, occupied the entire facility. We started off with outstanding appetizers accompanied by an automated video slide presentation compiled, programmed, and hooked up by film production major and GM Dustan Boleski.

The World Famous (or maybe not) Kappa Sigma Chorale sang the dinner song, prompting every-

one to head upstairs for the banquet and program. Corp Board Chair Dave Steen '68 recognized several people important to Gamma O including the

Kappa Sigma Dream Girls, House Director Patricia Harbaugh, the most senior Cook on the Hill Cindy Post, and Margaret Shirk, widow of David Shirk '36 and proprietress of Shirk's Barn, where Kappa Sig is now the only Greek organization allowed and the home of the Red Dog Party. Dave then presented a plaque to Bill Buck recognizing Bill's five decades as Alum Advisor and Board member of Gamma O, commenting that when the house burned in 1970 Bill contributed magnificently to the move and rebuild effort despite his busy OB/GYN practice and then 42 years later Bill was still contributing as the senior member of the Board.

Following dinner the aforementioned (and no doubt now a model of decorum) Darcy Domoney acted as MC for the evening's entertaining program, with occasional contribution of Kappa Sig songs by the World famous Chorale. It turns out that 1912 was a momentous year for KU because besides the charter of Gamma O, KU officially designated the Jayhawk as our symbol. So it was only fitting that Becky Schulte, KU Archivist, presented slides and an oral history of the Jayhawk. Reed Hoffman also spoke briefly and humorously about his memories of Kappa Sigma and drinking beer and pondering his future at the Hawk, after Pearl Harbor. Dale Seufferling, Director of KU Endowment described the remarkable support given by the university "family", a necessity due to the significant decline in funding from the state over the last few years. Christian Nascimento followed by proudly recounting the accomplishments of Kappa Sigma nationally and paying strong compliment to Gamma O while mentioning our "Big Three" of Bros. Dole, Eaton, and Mulally. The last speaker was Tim Caboni, KU Vice-Chancellor for Public Affairs who delivered a light-hearted, brisk and upbeat summary of the university's impressive plans. It bears mention that despite their comments about their own fraternities (Sig Ep and Sigma Nu), Messrs Seufferling and Caboni were treated with the courtesy extended by all Kappa Sigs to those less fortunate.

Perhaps the most memorable part of the program came when all Kappa Sigs stood to warble the Sweetheart song, intended to thrill the ladies in attendance but actually resulting in unbridled laughter at the rendition which was surely unlike anything ever heard in public in Lawrence. As people departed they picked up eye-catching mementoes of the evening- wine glasses hand painted with the Crest by Kelly Setter, another mom.

Other highlights of the celebration included George Stoeppelwerth '52 spending most of Friday with guys in the chapter, comparing notes on, among other things, the "friendliness" of coeds during his time at KU vs 60 years later. And alums came from far-flung locales, Victor Zuercher '61 and Richard Webster '59 from Hawaii, and Marc Nicolas '81 all the way from The Netherlands. Curt Baum '76 graciously paid for five members of the chapter to attend, and moms Anne Harrison (mother of three chapter GMs, Brian, Brad, and new GM Mike) and Colleen Waechter made great contributions in preparing name lanyards and assigning tables, a job made more challenging by an attendee list that changed throughout the day. Brother Nascimento handed out about two dozen 50 year pins, and two 70 year pins to Reed and Roger James.

While not wanting to morph into Angie's List, it's appropriate to comment about people who made the event so successful. Kelly Setter's wine glasses were exceptional and she also photographed the event, check it out at [www.kellysetterphotography.com.instaproofs.com](http://www.kellysetterphotography.com.instaproofs.com) (PW Jayhawk). As they did with the National Man of the Year celebration for Alan Mulally, James printing delivered exceptional quality programs, with Evan James '75 contributing considerable time in research and design. The Adams Center proved to be a superb venue and KU Alumni Association a pleasure to engage in planning and executing the arrangements; and KU Catering outdid itself in food quality and value, no surprise given the same performance for the Mulally banquet. Anyone who contemplates an event in Lawrence should give strong consideration to KU's services; Kelly Setter's for anywhere in the area; and James Printing for printed materials anywhere. Team 100 (Steve Bader, Curt, Darcy, Pat Ferguson, Bob Lutz, Mitch Plummer, Cory Sims, and Dave) really delivered, as did Mom Harbaugh planning the centerpieces and organizing the guys to act as hosts, key chapter members Dustan Boleski, Nick Waechter, and Tom Witler, and many other moms who contributed behind the scenes.



# Centennial Celebration





## AN UPDATE FROM THE Parent's Club

As the school year comes to an end, I wanted to take a moment to share some of this year's Parents' Club activities and acknowledge those who made it all possible.

We kicked the year off by assisting Dustin Boleski (Chapter President) and Mike Harrison (Pledge Educator) with their annual summer orientation/open house for the new pledge class members and their parents. The PC provided refreshments and helped answer the many questions that new parents have about fraternity life!

Up next was Family Day in early September. Rosemary Begley, Ame Colbert, Monica Grosdidier, Anne Harrison, Mary Lou Ryan and Colleen Waechter worked with Johnny Ryan (Family Day chairman) on the day of the event with checking-in families, distributing T-shirts and setting up the silent auction for the terrific day enjoyed by all of the Kappa Sigma members and their families.

Our final activity of the fall semester was a wonderful Sunday in November organized by Ame Colbert. A group of PC moms decorated the Chapter house for the holidays and provided a huge lunch including homemade chili, soups and treats for all the guys who helped decorate (it never hurts to bribe them with food!). The house looked beautiful. The centerpiece of the decorations was the new 8' pre-lit Christmas tree purchased for the house with PC funds.

Spring semester brought Mom's and Dad's day. Nick Romans (chairman) and I worked together to organize a day of shopping and bowling for the moms. The day culminated with a wonderful catered dinner at The Eldridge which was enjoyed by over 150 moms and sons. Nick tackled Dad's day on his own and did a great job. The day was filled with golf, the KU football Spring football scrimmage, target shooting and watching The Masters golf tournament and ended with a catered BBQ at the house.

In keeping with our annual tradition, the PC organized a full spread of food and treats for each night during fall and spring finals to sustain the guys through the late nights of studying! Monica Grosdidier coordinated

for the fall finals and Allyson DiNitto for the spring finals. They received more treats and money for purchase of food than in any previous year thanks to the donations from our wonderful Kappa Sigma parents! We capped off the year by hosting a lovely breakfast at the house, planned by Colleen Waechter, for the graduating seniors and their families before they "walked down the hill" on Commencement Day.

As a result of many parents' generosity in contributing to our PC dues and Family Day auction, we were able to provide Sunday pizza dinners during finals and Mom's Day Sunday morning brunch. In addition to the Christmas tree, we also made an "emergency" purchase of a laser copier, scanner, fax machine last fall. Apparently the old machine wasn't adequate enough to handle the workload for the 75 guys living in the house! Our final purchase is one we hope to accomplish this summer. We are in the process of hiring a contractor to install an inlaid tile Kappa Sigma crest in the front hall foyer. We hope it will be a beautiful, lasting gift to the Chapter house.

### The History of the Sasnak Club .....

In closing, I wanted to personally thank Mom Patricia for all she does to assist the Parents' Club in our efforts to provide the "extras" that help enrich the year for our sons; and to thank all the parents who graciously gave of their time and resources to help make this a terrific year! You are all appreciated!!

Anne Harrison  
Parents' Club Board Member

#### History of the Sasnak Club.

THE founding of the Sasnak Club was occasioned by that peculiar blending of psychology and circumstance, which has so often drawn men together only to result in the formation of new and unexpected friendships. The natural inclination which everyone must feel towards the society of another, to whom he is bound by mutual ties of taste, inclination and temperament, when shared by several, will naturally be exhibited in either a close organization, or in informal companionship and association.

When the original members of our society found themselves thrown more or less into each others company in the numerous phases of university life and activity in which they are engaged, each experienced the greatest satisfaction and enjoyment because of his association with the others, and it soon became apparent that this could be furthered by some manner of organization. Accordingly, upon the evening of September 24, 1910, five men met at 1042 Tennessee street, and perfected the organization of the present society. The original members present upon that occasion were: John C. Hoffman, Charles E. Hawes, Roy S. Springer, Daniel H. Campbell, L. Loyde Smith. One and all pledged themselves to the promotion of goodfellowship, together with a mutual understanding of the constant maintenance of clean living, morality, and scholarship.

It was at first intended to make this organization only an informal one, but later this idea was amended, and the present constitution and by-laws were adopted. Meetings were held at regular periods, at which university affairs were discussed, the order of business transacted, and the eligibility of possible new members dwelt upon. Naturally enough, the society was constantly upon the lookout for congenial fellows to whom it would be desirable to extend an invitation to membership. From time to time as new men proved available, they were taken into the organization, fully satisfying our expectations as to their honor and integrity, and meriting our confidence in them as good students and gentlemen.

That the members of our organization are taking an active part in those affairs connected with university life, other than mere scholarship, is attested by their presence upon the football, baseball, and basketball, track, and tennis teams. We are also represented in dramatics, among the debating societies, the honorary class societies, and upon the glee club.

The entire number of members whose names are upon the roll call of the club, and all of whom are engaged in carrying full work in the various schools of the University, is as follows: Charles E. Hawes, John C. Hoffman, Ross Beamer, Fred C. Campbell, Glen C. Calene, Eugene W. Davis, Leo S. Madlem, Roy S. Springer, L. Loyde Smith, Daniel H. Campbell, and Alonson R. Busick.

During the past spring months the club has had access to a number of rooms at the home of A. R. Busick, 1040 Kentucky street, where meetings could be held and social times enjoyed, as well affording a convenient place for the occasional entertainment of our friends.

Every member of the organization feels that the society has a future, closely connected with that of the University of Kansas. In life, and thought, and deed, it shall be in accord with, and a party to the high aims and lofty ideals of the institution which the people of Kansas have reared as a monument to their undying zeal in striving after the better and nobler things of life; even the name of club, harsh as it may fall upon the ear to whom it has no significance other than that of the written or spoken word, is in reality but the name of our institution and state, the form of which has been reversed.

The Sasnak Club was founded upon a principle of friendship and association, far too vital ever to allow of its passing away. Whether the society remains in its present status, or is extended an opportunity to enter one of a higher and broader nature, such as Kappa Sigma has the power to offer and afford, it will in either case be found always earnestly striving to perform each and every trust to which it is committed, and to make itself a factor in the realization of those ideals of friendship, clean living, and scholarship, so important to the fullest development of a university life and career.



# Tom Creel *Class of '56*



Brother Creel is a bit of a renaissance man. Tom has logged over 30 years as a first chair intellectual property litigator and counselor in New York. He is also admitted to the Michigan and District of Columbia Bar, and listed in the Euromoney Guide to the World's Leading Patent Law Experts, the Euromoney Guide to the World's Leading Trademark Law Experts and Chambers USA: America's Leading Lawyers for Business. Mr. Creel is also listed in The Best Lawyers in America and Super Lawyers. These publications select lawyers for inclusion after conducting extensive surveys of lawyers and clients.

In addition to practicing law, he taught patent and trade secret law at Columbia University for nearly 20 years, and used to develop his own curriculum for his courses. He has also written about law, having just finished a legal treatise on a major area of patent law which will be published this fall. Currently, he is often retained as an arbitrator to resolve intellectual property disputes and he is an advisor to an investment banking firm which provides funds to finance litigation.

Brother Creel is also an actor. You might have seen him on the Onion News Network, appearing as the fictitious Representative Gary Nelson, and he will be appearing in the movie "Excuse Me For Living", alongside Christopher Lloyd, Jerry Stiller, Wayne Knight, and Robert Vaughn, scheduled to open in October. He also co-hosts a weekly radio show on controversial national issues named "Wow! I Didn't Know That!" which you can find on iTunes.

"I worked my way through KU. I received a Kansas City Star scholarship, but no family funds. So when I originally arrived at KU, a fraternity was out of the question. However, upon my arrival, a high school friend said he was going to Kappa Sigma for pledge week. I tagged along.

Apparently the fraternity liked me. I received an invitation to become a pledge. I was impressed by Kappa Sigma but I declined. I would not have enough money to be in a fraternity. But Gamma Omicron offered me a waiter position that would essentially cover my room and board.

So I accepted and was a waiter for my entire four years in the house (I was probably the only one to ever do this). The waiter job, plus washing dishes at a local restaurant, working in the University library, a summer job, the scholarship and the money paid to take ROTC classes gave me enough to live on. And the greatest of these by far was the Gamma Omicron assistance.

Regardless of how important the GO monetary assistance was, it was the life experiences which really mattered- learning how to get along with others in a working, study and living environment; leadership; appropriate responses in social situations; how to balance learning and relaxation activities; etc."

In addition to serving dishes, he served justice as Grand Procurator.

"Gamma Omicron/ Kappa Sigma was truly a life changing experience. I arrived at KU with only a Model A Ford roadster (one which could be seen at the head of pep rallies prior to KU Football home games) and no money. Because of Gamma Omicron/Kappa Sigma, I left being ready to handle life's challenges... but still with no money. Being a part of Gamma Omicron/Kappa Sigma is right up there with births, deaths, marriages, first job, etc. as a seminal, life-altering event. Without it I certainly would never have had the career I have had."

Tom lives in New York City, is married to Carol Creel, has five children and four grandchildren.

## Gamma-Omicron Chapter Partners with Greek Ladders

Gamma-O and Fraternity Management Group (FMG) has partnered with Greek Ladders to develop a career preparation and leadership development program for our undergraduates, internships and full-time jobs for students & graduating seniors, and a lifetime career network for our alumni. We have always said that the Kappa Sigma Fraternity is a lifetime network, now we mean it, and for being a long-time FMG chapter, we pay nothing.

### The program will offer the following:

- Academic, career and leadership coaching to our undergraduates.
- A 4-year career preparation/ leadership development program that includes on-line resources as well as in-person programs.
- A career day that has career and graduate school panels, resume and cover letter workshops, mock interviews, a networking event with employers, and actual interviews.
- Alumni and parents will be able to serve as mentors, serve on career or graduate school panels, and/or advertise internships for free in the chapter network.
- Lifetime career networks for our alumni based on our chapter network as well as talent communities based on major/career type.

To learn more, go to [GreekLadders.com](http://GreekLadders.com) or contact Pete Parker at 775-745-1325 or [pparker@greekladders.com](mailto:pparker@greekladders.com).

# Thank you...

We'd like to thank the following brothers for their support of Gamma-Omicron's Scholarship Leadership Program. If you'd like to add your name to our list of supporters, please contact Craig Lowden at Fraternity Management Group. You can reach him at 520.390.0506 or at [Craig.Lowden@FMGTucson.com](mailto:Craig.Lowden@FMGTucson.com)

Reed Hoffman '41	Jim Wright '57	Charlie Hartmann '68
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Bob Kralicek '57	Steve Bader '68	Justin Ladden '04
Fred Leport '57	David Steen '68	
Gary Schwenk '57	Walt Thompson '68	

## KUKS ALUMNI UPDATES

### Dr Antony Merz (Tony) '50

Tony is happily married to Peggy Merz and is his biggest pleasure to share that over the past few decades the diabetes he was diagnosed with at age 18 has continued (with refinements such as insulin pump requiring refill every 2-3 days) until age 80. "Even my MD is surprised, and my second biggest news is that my softball pitching which tapered off at Stanford when I won lots of games at age 38, two years before I earned the PhD in Aeronautics and Astronautics, pitching for the Stanford chapter of Kappa Sigma. Best wishes to former classmates."

270 Willowbrook Drive, Portola Valley, CA 94028  
[tonymerz@yahoo.com](mailto:tonymerz@yahoo.com)

### David "Dan" Chase '54

Dan is happily married to Kay Eplee Chase.

4120 West 94th Terrace Apt 111, Prairie Village, KS 66207

### Herb White Jr '55

Herb is happily married to Joanie, Joanie and Herb have recently received the Lifetime Achievement Award for over 35 years of fostering a total of 120 (and counting) infants. And W. Herbert White & Co., Inc. for which Herb serves as President is raising an investment fund to help commercialize technology development in the Midwest.

664 Lincoln Avenue, Winnetka, IL 60093  
[whwco@aol.com](mailto:whwco@aol.com)

### James C. Wright '57

Jim is happily married to Patricia Slider and was recently self employed as a lawyer, but is inactive now due to health concerns.

5100 SW Redbud Lane, Topeka, KS 66606  
[jimwrightlaw@hotmail.com](mailto:jimwrightlaw@hotmail.com)

### Richard Kline '59

Dick is happily married to Lesta. In May, he will be heading back to Norton Kansas to attend his 55th high school graduation reunion on May 24, and on the 25th of May, he will be joined by brother, Bob (1951 Gamma O initiate from Wetumpka, AL) for an "all years" school reunion.

9 Galaxy Way, Lompoc, CA 93436  
[dnl9gw@verizon.net](mailto:dnl9gw@verizon.net)

### David Butts '59

Dave is happily married to Nancy Noyes Butts, Nancy and Dave celebrated their 50th Anniversary in December and took their kids and Grandkids on a cruise. Playing golf twice a week and enjoying life.

They give thanks for their good health, and are optimistic about their next trip in August to the Baltic.

4 W. Garrison Pl., Hilton Head, SC 29928  
buttsku@aol.com

### **Robert Monk Jr '63**

Bob is currently divorced.

4271 NE 11th Ter, Pompano Beach, FL 33064  
robertmonk@att.net

### **Ronaid Odegard '66**

Ron is single, and is currently serving as the aviation safety inspector for the Federal Aviation Administration.

18744-SE Jupiter River Drive, Jupiter, FL 33458  
odegardrs@aol.com

### **J Robert Brookens '69**

Bob is married to Anita, is the owner of Brookens Law office, LLC. He didn't run for re-election to the Kansas House of Representatives in 2012---went back to work full-time in the law office. Anita and Bob now have their first grandchild---Austin---who just turned 1. He is awesome, and makes them wonder why they didn't have grandkids first. All 4 of their sons are doing well with one in Kansas (4 miles from home), 2 in Nebraska, and the youngest in Minn. The youngest, Michael, is one of the lead singers for Six Appeal, a vocal band with.... 6 singers; they were asked to and did sing the Nat'l Anthem for the Sugar Bowl 2013.

201 Meadow Lane, Marion, KS 66861-1104  
bcjrb@sbcglobal.net

### **Blaise Plummer '69**

Blaise is divorced and is currently serving as a city Attorney for the city of Emporia.

1010 Mechanic St, Emporia, KS 66801  
blaiseplummer@hotmail.com



### **Michael Tamburini '74**

Mike is happily married to Joan and currently sits in the OF council for Polsinelli, PC.

5545 Falmouth Road, Fairway, KS 66205  
mtamburini@kc.rr.com

### **Cecil Witt Jr '77**

C.E is single and is currently serving as the vice president of CompTech Medical Management, Inc.

19408 W. 98th Terrace, Lenexa, KS 66220  
cewitt@kc.rr.com

### **Dave Gast '79**

Disco is now divorced and holds a position in sales for GE Healthcare. Great news is that his son Andrew is now attending KU.

14600 W. 86th Street, Lenexa, KS 66215  
dgast3@kc.rr.com

### **Todd Hershberger '83**

Todd is happily married to Alison and works for CBIZ MHM LLC as Manager Director of Business Development.

15426 Ironhorse Circle, Leadwood, KS 66224  
thershberger@kc.rr.com

### **Justin Gesling '01**

Justin is now divorced and works for Chameleon Integrated Services as an IT Specialist after switching careers from meteorology to IT. He is still storm chasing when he can, but right now working for the USDA IT Department and enjoying living in the KC area once again.

1136 East Cothrell St, Olathe, KS 66061  
JMGesling@gmail.com

### **John Domoney '01**

John is happily married to Courtney and currently works for the Blue Valley Kansas School District as a High school French Teacher.

402 Lakeview Drive, Louisburg, KS 66053  
johnld3@hotmail.com

### **Cory Sims '04**

Cory is single and working for Cerner Corporation as a senior delivery consultant. He moved to Charleston, SC from Kansas City in August, 2012, and he loves it. He travels every week because of his job, and he had to fly from KC to the Southeast and back each week. Now, He can just drive a few hours, and gets to spend more time exploring his new city. He also started a college sports and travel blog. "CollegeVisits.org showcases the campuses and schools I visit during my work travels. I have attended many great college football and basketball games in the past year, and have eaten and drank at dozens of unique local spots. If you find yourself at a college campus, please consult the blog for good recommendations on where to go."

1047 NE Forest Ave, Topeka, KS 66616  
corysims@gmail.com

### **Nicholas Barr '08**

Nick is currently single and working for Nationstar Mortgage as a corporate accountant. In the summer, he will be taking trips to Kansas City and Minnesota as well as setting time aside to get knee surgery for a torn ACL/meniscus.

152 Oakbrook Dr., Coppell, TX 75019  
nickbarr9@gmail.com

### **Robert Lutz '09**

Bobby is happily married to Jessica and is currently working for Westar Energy as a plant/project Engineer.

5500 Neosho Lane, Fairway, KS 66205  
bobbyjhawk@gmail.com



**Gamma-Omicron Chapter  
Kappa Sigma Fraternity**

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*More details to come as the date approaches!*