



the G-OLite $\text{K}\Sigma$

A Publication of the **Gamma-Omicron Chapter** of Kappa Sigma
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Gamma-Omicron still right on track

The Corporation Board met immediately following the Annual Meeting on Saturday, October 18th to elect officers, receive reports and conduct routine business. Grand Master **Billy Brandtonies '02**, Grand Treasurer **Daniel Klein '95** and Pledge Educator **Nick Lombardi '03** reported on the state of the active chapter. Promising reports were received from all corners. Our recently appointed Alumni Advisor **Steve Slaughter '99** was also in attendance for the first time. The financial reports, while always somewhat speculative and sometimes tenuous, were good. The active chapter did an excellent job with first semester collections and has every prospect for remaining on budget. Six to ten second semester pledges would put the Chapter in tall cotton.

The Corporation financial condition is strong. Retiring Treasurer Lloyd Hanahan provided the following summary. The Chapter has a single first mortgage (no second) that secures both a 1st note (fixed at 5.8%) and a second "revolving" note (floating at prime). At this writing the first note balance is \$465,451 and the second note balance is \$0. The function of the second revolver note is to permit us to pay it down to \$0 at the start of the school year when many members pay their full year house bill (and all pay the full first semester). The Corporation then draws against the revolving note as needed to pay normal operating expenses during the school year. The second note will increase to approximately \$200K by the end of the school and reflect our actual indebtedness of about \$665K. The second note has an excess capacity for use in case of an emergency repair or refurbishment need. Our "debt-to-bed" ratio remains well below the level recommended by fraternity management gurus. Assuming most beds are filled most of the time, the Corporation should be in an excellent



Fred Green '61, Roy Knapp '59, Rich Guthrie '59, Bill Textor '59, Jerry Pullins '61, Randy Nollette '60, Lloyd Hanahan '56.

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The G-O Lite

Published by Gamma-Omicron of Kappa Sigma, established May 1912 in Lawrence, Kansas. Please direct all news for *G-O Lite* to the alumni office at P.O. Box 25251, Overland Park, Kansas 66225.

Undergraduate Officers 2003-2004

Grand Master:

Adam Browne '02

Grand Procurator:

Nick Lombardi '03

Grand Master of Ceremonies:

Billie Brandtonies '02

Grand Scribe:

Jarrett Simpson '03

Grand Treasurer:

Daniel Klein '03

Gamma-Omicron Housing Corporation

President and Chairman:

Fred K. Green '61

Resident Agent:

Jim Wright '57

Second Vice President:

Andrew Klein '95

Secretary:

Bill Beck '80

Treasurer:

Tom Robinett '69

Directors:

Bill McEachen '52

Bill Buck '53

D.A.N Chase '55

Bill Textor '59

Jerald Pullins '61

Bill Axcell '66

Curtis Baum '76

Cecil Witt, Jr. '77

Chris Palmer '87

Pat Ferguson '96

Assistant Treasurer:

Ed Grass '76

Alumnus Advisor:

Steve Slaughter '99

Director Emeritus:

Frank Godding, Jr. '42

Board Resolutions

The following resolutions were adopted at the Gamma Omicron, Inc. Board of Directors' Meeting on October 18, 2003:

Ratify refinance:

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of Gamma-Omicron, Inc. does this date approve and fully ratify the actions taken by the Executive Committee to restructure the Chapter House mortgage financing and to create a revolving credit facility in the maximum amount of \$244,500.00 with US Bank.

Campaign Gamma-O transition:

Be it resolved that it is the sense of the Board of Directors that Campaign Gamma-O, having successfully renovated the Chapter House and having reduced external debt to a sustainable level, is now ready to transfer primary focus to funding and operating a Leadership Development Program. To this end this Board recommends the appointment of Brother **Lloyd Hanahan '56** as the Chairman of a Grants and Awards Committee of Kappa Sigma's Gamma-O Education Foundation for the purpose of instituting scholarship incentives and leadership development programs and for securing new monies and memorial gifts to said Foundation.

Internet maintenance upgrades:

Be it resolved that Brothers **Ed Grass '76** and **Jared Klinghoffer '00** are authorized to expend up to \$2,000 for the purpose of acquiring and installing additional hardware and software to permit a system network manager to remotely monitor and troubleshoot the current internet system in the Chapter House.

Kappa Sigma "Code of Conduct":

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of Gamma-Omicron, Inc., having been informed that the International Fraternity assembled in Grand Conclave in Tampa, Florida has adopted a new, comprehensive Code of Conduct for Kappa Sigma, notes the content thereof and reminds the Gamma Omicron Chapter that adherence to the Rules and Policies of the International Fraternity is and remains a continuing condition of occupancy and use of the property at 1045 Emery Road, Lawrence, Kansas.

Gamma-Omicron Alumni News

page one continued...

position to handle repair and refurbishment as needed and begin building the endowment for the Educational Foundation.

Major items of business considered included the presentation and unanimous adoption of four resolutions that follow this report (page 2).

The active chapter presented a proposal to extend the concrete patio area on the south lawn into a crescent shape, add industrial strength concrete table and bench furniture and install an appropriately screened large barbecue grill facility. The entire project will cost approximately \$10,000 that will be fully funded from monies already available through the annual Parent's Day auction proceeds. The board gave unanimous approval to the project and as of this writing, the new concrete has already been poured and the tables and benches have been placed. The patio is a very attractive and functional addition to our home. Thanks to the parents of the active chapter.

The Property Committee was asked to urgently pursue options concerning floor-covering alternatives for the upstairs hallways and rooms. The current carpet is in its sixth year and is no longer amenable to successful cleaning. Consensus seems to favor replacement at semester break if possible as the current condition is a clear disincentive to successful recruitment. The Committee was also asked to consider options for replacement of study room furniture that has been lost, damaged and destroyed over the past five years.

The Board accepted and thanks the parents of Clint Jones '01 for the donation and installation of exterior lighting for the flagpole that permits nighttime display of the US and Kappa Sigma flags.

The Board remains busy and productively focused on our mission of providing a home for Kappa Sigma at KU and thanks our loyal alumni and friends for their continued contributions of time, talent and treasure. Keep it coming, Brothers.

AEKDB

Fred K. Green '61, Chairman

ANNUAL MEETING AND CORPORATION BOARD ELECTION RESULTS

The Annual Corporation Meeting was held on Saturday, October 18, at the Chapter House. Six new directors were elected to the Board: **Tom Robinett '69, Dr. Curtis Baum '76, Cecil E. Witt, Jr. '77, Chris Palmer '87, Andrew Klein '95, and Pat Ferguson '96.**

Brother **Bill Beck '80** was reelected to his own vacancy. The election of these directors brings the Board back to the full complement of 15 and includes members from every decade of the past half century. This represents a truly remarkable spread of interest, experience and talent added to the Board.

Officers elected by the Board for the coming year are: President and Chair **Fred Green '61**, **First Vice President Jim Wright '57**, **second Vice President Andrew Klein '95**, **Secretary Bill Beck '80**, and **Treasurer Tom Robinett '69.**

Retiring Directors include **Lloyd Hanahan '56, Richard Guthrie '59 and Mike Tamburini '74** all of whom served in excess of 12 years and contributed immeasurably during Campaign Gamma-O and the House redevelopment. They are each men of special dedication and exceptional zeal.

GAMMA OMICRON ALUMS HIT A KU TRIFECTA IN 2003

In what probably marks a unique first in KU history, both Brothers **Robert J. Dole '42** and **Robert Eaton '59** were honored in 2003 with the naming of major new KU campus buildings: the Senator Robert J. Dole Institute of Politics and Eaton Hall (School of Engineering). Bob Dole is former majority leader of the United States Senate and Bob Eaton is former Chairman of the Chrysler Corporation. Both men have previously been named Kappa Sigma Man of the Year.

Rounding out the 2003 blast from the past, a third Gamma-Omicron alumni was honored by KU when Jayhawk Basketball All-American **Brother Howard Engleman '38** watched his jersey retired and hoisted into the rafters at Allen Field House last March. (see Spring '03 Go-Lite)



2003 GAMMA-OMICRON HALL OF FAME

12th ANNUAL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION

*Following the Jayhawks' Homecoming victory over the Baylor Bears the active Chapter, alumni, family and friends of Brothers **Richard Guthrie '59**, **Roy Knapp '59**, and **William Textor '59** gathered in the Crest Room for the induction and reception honoring the three pledge brothers for their outstanding achievements and service to their professions, their community and their fraternity. Each man was accompanied by his wife. Diane Guthrie, Judy Knapp, and Mary Textor have been good friends, loyal supporters and Kappa Sigma Sweethearts since college days. Biographical sketches of the inductees follows:*

Bill Textor '59

As a soldier, businessman and father, Brother Bill Textor has been a success.

After graduating from KU in 1964, Brother Textor served in the Vietnam War as Company Commander and was awarded The Bronze Star for his service in the U.S. Army's Corps of Engineers.

He then returned to Kansas, where he went to work as a Project Architect for Black and Veatch Consulting engineers. From there, he switched careers, becoming a realtor. Since then, he has worked for Kroh Brothers Realty, J.D. Reece Realtors, and Reece and Nichols Realtors, where he is currently employed as a Broker and Associate.

Though he has worn many hats, Bill is still most identified as a loyal brother.

As an undergraduate, he was student member of the AIA, was active in Tau Beta Pi engineering society, a member of the Scabbard and Blade military society, and was a member of the honor roll. He was named Cadet Colonel of Army ROTC.

He was also actively involved in the fraternity, serving as Grand Treasurer for two years. He was a cast member of the award-winning Rock Chalk Revue, as well.

But his greatest accomplishment as an undergraduate is his wife, Mary. In fact, Bill proposed to Mary, a G-O Sweetheart First Alternate, at the 1962 G-O Spring Fling party.

Together, they have had two children.

Despite his success, Brother Textor hasn't lost touch with Kappa Sigma. As an alumnus and parent of son



2003 Hall of Fame Inductees Richard Guthrie '59, Roy Knapp '59, and William Textor' 59

Matthew – who was past President and Undergraduate Man of the Year – Brother Textor served two years as President of the Kappa Sigma Parents' Club. He has also served as a member of Gamma-O's Corporation Board for the past 15 years. He has also been a member of the Chapter House Building Committee.

The reason for his volunteering is simple: he wants to give back to something that provided him with such great memories.

"Gamma-Omicron immediately gave me the warmth of brotherhood and the financial opportunities to allow me to put myself through school," he said. "G-O Brothers and Kappa Sigma have been a lifetime of great joy and enrichment for me."

Richard Guthrie '59

Though it's been more than 40 years since he graduated with a degree in business administration, Rich Guthrie still considers KU and Kappa Sigma his second home.

After all, many of the skills that helped him become a successful business man, influential lobbyist and community leader were learned as a member of Gamma-Omicron.

"Being a Kappa Sigma is always a source of pride and accomplishment for me," Brother Guthrie said, adding that the chapter "provided the training, discipline and social skills for managing relationships that I've used all my life. This is a very special place!"

And, what a life it has been.

After graduating from KU in 1962, Brother Guthrie began his business career working for the Kansas Power and Light Company before moving on to Southwestern Bell in 1968. His Bell career spanned 25 years where he rose from Unit Manager to District Manager to Regional Manager where he was in charge of the company's public affairs and government relations for Kansas. He retired from Bell in 1993 and for the next 10-years was the Director of Government Affairs for Health Midwest in Kansas City.

Rich is currently self employed, and lives with his wife, Diane, in Overland Park, Kansas. They have four grown children.

But, Rich isn't just a business success; he is a community leader as well. He is currently president of the Overland Park Chamber Foundation and serves on the board of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry. He's a former President and Board Member of the Johnson County Community College Foundation; served as President of the Chamber of Commerce in Dodge City and Hutchinson; and as a Board Member of many civic and philanthropic organizations across the state. He is one of a select few to be named an "Honorary Deputy Marshall" of Dodge City.

Brother Guthrie was active on campus as a representative on the KU Statewide Activities Committee along with serving as a Delegate on the Student Union Activities committee, playing in the KU Marching Band, and serving as Rush Chairman.

As an alumnus, he is a life member of the KU Alumni Association and Jayhawk Society, and is a long time supporter of the Williams Educational Fund. Rich has continued his service to Kappa Sigma, serving on the Gamma-Omicron board for the past 15-years.

Roy Knapp '59

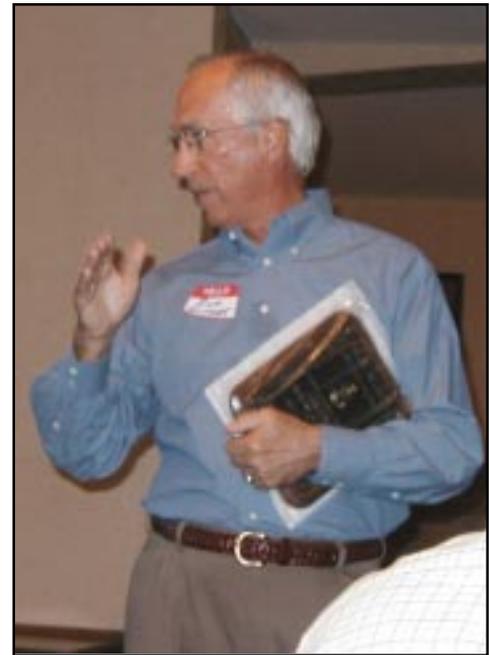
Brother Roy M. Knapp teaches for a living. He has been involved in education for more than 30 years.

And yet, Brother Knapp can see the impact that Kappa Sigma – one of his greatest teachers – has had on his life. A farm boy from Gridley when he enrolled at KU in 1958, Brother Knapp graduated with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering in 1963.

"Kappa Sigma was a great introduction to a bigger world of people with different ideas," he said. "For a green farm boy from Gridley, that was an important step toward growing up."

He enjoyed life in Lawrence so much that he decided to stick around for awhile. Brother Knapp added a Master's in petroleum engineering in 1969, and after more than six years with Northern Natural Gas in Omaha, he tacked on a Doctorate of engineering degree in 1973.

By the time he left Lawrence, Brother Knapp was ready for the real world, to say the least.



Brother Guthrie just after accepting his award

From KU, he took a job as an Assistant Professor at the University of Texas, where he stayed until 1979, when he became an associate professor at the University of Oklahoma.

Brother Knapp has remained in Norman ever since. In 1979, he was named Director of OU's School of Petroleum and Geological Engineering, a position he held until 1988. After spending the better part of the 1980s as a Professor, he was named the Curtis W. Mewbourne Professor in 1993, and has held the position since.

In addition to his classroom work, Brother Knapp has supervised 13 Doctoral dissertations and 35 Masters theses. He also owns a pair of patents, and has written 110 publications and papers. He is a member of six different scientific and professional societies. He has served his profession through many committees for the NRC, DOE, and the Society of Petroleum Engineers who named him a Distinguished Member in 1991. Currently, he is a member of the Academic Advisory Committee for the College of Engineering at the United Arab Emirates University and also continues to serve on the Alumni Advisory Committee for the Department of Chemical and Petroleum Engineering at KU.

But, like most Kappa Sigs, Brother Knapp has been successful in his personal life, too.

He and his wife Judi have three adult sons, Richard, Michael and Charles. When he's not working Brother Knapp is active in the McFarlin United Methodist Church, where he has been on four separate boards. He is also active in the University of Oklahoma's Music Theater-Opera Guild, the Norman Lions Club, the Student of the Month Committee, the American Cancer Society, and the Norman Citizens' Sewer Planning Coalition.

And to think: it all started with Kappa Sigma, a place where Brother Knapp met friends and learned lessons that have lasted a lifetime.

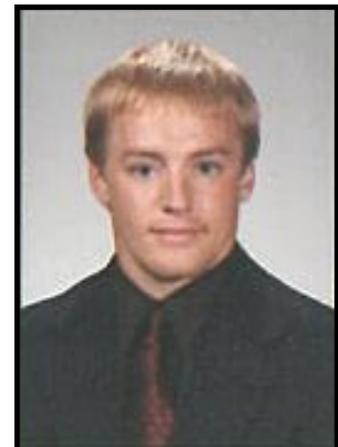
"During my four years in the house, I found brothers who have remained close friends for the 40 plus years since we first met," Brother Knapp said.



Roy and Judy Knapp, Bill and Mary Textor, Diane and Rich Guthrie

JASON PLAGMAN '01 AWARDED GAMMA-OMICRON UNDERGRADUATE MAN OF THE YEAR

The Board of Directors of Gamma-Omicron Chapter named Senior Jason Plagman '01 Kappa Sigma Man of the Year for the 2002-2003 academic year. Jason received an award of \$500 and a recognition plaque at the recent chapter Hall of Fame ceremony. Jason edged out the competition with a truly remarkable 4.0 GPA for his first six semesters. In addition to his academic prowess, Jason served the Chapter as Grand Procurator and IFC Representative, wrote for the Greek newspaper the Oracle, chaired the Adopt-a-School program for the Greek community and was honored as volunteer coordinator of the year at the Greek Recognition Night ceremonies in March. Jason served as in-house math tutor for many brothers and as a role model for all to emulate.



Jason Plagman '01

Read Jason's bio online at www.gamma-o.org



Alumni Updates

News From Your Brothers Around the Nation

Herschell Murry '57 is still working in the high tech world as the Director of Engineering at Polhemus. He tries to travel when he can and recently visited Morocco, his 46th country. Brother Murry had the pleasure of representing Kansas University at the spring installation of the new president at The University of Vermont. He sends his best to the alumni and undergraduates of Gamma-Omicron.

491 Perry Lea Rd., Waterbury, VT, 05676; H: (802) 244-7347, W: (802) 655-3159, Email: hfmurry@aol.com.

Donald Foster '59 couldn't handle retirement for very long after leaving his position from the US Department of Justice in 2000. He is now an integral part of law national law enforcement as a consultant for the US Treasury Department. First, he helped train investigators and prosecutors in emerging economies about money laundering, corruption and economic crime. Since Sept. 11, his focus has been in intercepting terrorist financing. Brother Foster has been stationed in numerous countries, most recently in Zambia and the Republics of Georgia and Macedonia. He graduated in 1962 with a political science degree.

10107 Harp Rd., Walkersville, MD, 21793; H: (301) 898-3719; Email: edonaldfoster@yahoo.com.

Louis Unrein '88 has been enjoying the California sun since graduating with a political science degree in 1991, although he has seen the world while on assignment with the US Navy Ops Department on the USS Constellation. He recently spent time deployed in the Arabian Gulf. He and his wife Stacey have two children, with daughter Monica coming up on her first birthday.

3279 Corporal Dr., San Diego, CA 92124; H: (858) 576-5028; email: tsmun@earthlink.net.

Chris Rittenmeyer '97 has already made a nice career with his business management degree that he earned in 2000. He is currently helping other businesses as a Business Development Consultant at EDS. He still stays in contact with other Gamma-Omicron brothers including **Scott Waddell '96**, **Zach Fee '98** and **Brad Williams '97**.

4569 Turnberry Ct, Plano, TX, 75024; H: (972) 618-3514; Email: chris.rittenmeyer@eds.com.

Zach Fee '98 graduated last year and is out in the real world. He is a commercial financial administrator at UMB Financial Corporation.

8204 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO, 64114; H: (785) 760-2545, W: (816) 860-8548; Email: zach_fee@yahoo.com.

Don't forget to check out Gamma-Omicron online!

- Update your contact information
- Find contact information for fellow G-O alumni
- Check out and submit recent photos
- Read bios on previous award winners
- And much, much more

www.gamma-o.org

Username: **AEKDB**

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WGM VISITS GAMMA-OMICRON, IMPRESSED WITH CHAPTER

My Brothers,

Thank you for the outstanding hospitality extended to me during my visit. I was extremely impressed the quality of brothers and your magnificent home. Kappa Sigma is alive and well at Kansas University. I believe that the chapter's best days are ahead and very much look forward to my return.

I would also like to thank you for the wonderful picture of the Gamma-O house and the Dole Institute visor and shirt. The picture will be proudly displayed in my study.

There is no doubt in my mind that Gamma-Omicron will meet the 25-man pledge class goal. There is an enthusiasm and dedication that was very apparent. I encourage you to work closely with your District Grand Master Matt Christensen. He is a fantastic brother and has the full confidence of the Supreme Executive Committee.

Please keep me abreast of happenings at the chapter. Kappa Sigma is better because of the Gamma-Omicron chapter. I am proud to call you my brothers.

AEKΔB

Kevin S. Kaplan, Worthy Grand Master



Chapter GM Billy Brandtonies presenting a framed picture of the Chapter House to WGM Kevin Kaplan



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