



the G-OLite KΣ

A Publication of the **Gamma-Omicron Chapter** of Kappa Sigma
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Undergraduates, Alumni preparing for Homecoming

The Board of Directors of Gamma-Omicron, Inc. met as scheduled on April 19 in Lawrence to receive reports and conduct routine mid-year business of the corporation. Board membership has been reduced by the recent departure of **David Edgar '92**, who has become a partner in a newly established family law firm that will consume his attention for the immediate future. We thank Dave for his years of service and wish him the best in his professional endeavors.

The active chapter and particularly the fall pledge class marked a sharp upswing in academic standings. This was a welcome turnaround from disappointing results last spring. Gamma O-is back in the middle of the academic pack and poised to break into the top quarter. Though the house occupancy rate fell, putting strains on the chapter's financial operation and social activities, the chapter is not threatened financially. The importance of exercising close control of expenses and conducting constant recruiting has been made clear to the young men leading the chapter.

In all other endeavors, the active chapter is clearly in excellent condition. Please see the undergraduate report on page 3 to learn about the chapter's incredible successes and accomplishments!

We were pleased to have **Matt Christensen**, the recently appointed DGM for District XXXV, in attendance. Matt is a former U.S. Marine and an alumnus of Tulsa University, where he was initiated. He will be entering Law School at KU this fall after working in Kansas City. Matt is anticipating substantial association with Gamma-Omicron and was impressed with both our physical plant and the high quality of our chapter's undergraduate leadership. The Board welcomes Matt's enthusiasm and strong commitment to Kappa Sigma. *(continued on page 2)*



Brother Howard Engleman '38 at his jersey-retirement ceremony. Read about the event on page 5

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The G-oLite

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.

2003 Undergraduate Officers

Grand Master:

Billie Brandtonies '02

Grand Procurator:

Clint Jones '01

Grand Master of Ceremonies:

John Jennings '01

Grand Scribe:

Adam Browne '02

Grand Treasurer:

Mark Cole '02

Gamma-Omicron Housing Corporation

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Fred K. Green '61

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David Edgar '92

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Rich Guthrie '59

Bill Textor '59

Jerald Pullins '61

Bill Axcell '66

Mike Tamburini '74

Assistant Treasurer:

Ed Grass '76

Alumnus Advisor:

Andy Klein '95

Director Emeritus:

Frank Godding '42

HOUSE CORPORATION REPORT

(continued from page 1)...

The Board was also very pleased to learn that our current House Director (Mom) Helen Lierz and our, cook, Cindy Post have accepted renewed contracts for the 2003-2004 academic year. Their years of experience and loyalty through both good and times are very much appreciated. The Board gratefully accepted an offer from an electrical contractor (the father of an active member) to donate and install a commercial grade in-ground spotlight to illuminate the flags on the recently erected flagpole.

Among other routine business, we authorized the change of property insurance carriers and the reduction of coverage limits. Research indicates that we can obtain fully adequate and comparable Guaranteed Replacement Cost Coverage for less than 50% of current policy costs. This projected saving, expected to exceed \$12,000 annually, will provide some budget flexibility to deal with the increasing level of maintenance needed as the renovated property experiences the inevitable wear and tear of full use.

KU junior **Jason Plagman '01** was named Chapter Man of the Year for 2002-2003. He will be formally recognized at Homecoming '03 for his outstanding achievements, which includes a 4.0 GPA. Suffice it to say that Gamma-Omicron is extremely proud of Jason and happy to note that both honorable mentions **Clint Jones '01** and **Billy Brandtonies '02** will be back as strong competitors for the coming year. The Board reauthorized the individual Academic Achievement Awards program and approved the offer of a Chapter Academic Incentive in the amount of \$1,000 should the Chapter exceed the all-men's GPA for the fall semester.

The Board approved a slate of nominees for induction into Gamma-Omicron's Hall of Fame this fall. Our agent, Fraternity Management Group, will conduct interviews to ascertain the acceptance and availability of the candidates prior to a final vote of the Board and announcement of the '03 inductions.

Lloyd Hanahan '56, the corporation's Treasurer and Chairman of Campaign, was directed by the Board to establish a committee to plan for the transition of the capital campaign into a permanent program to support Gamma Omicron's Educational Foundation. With our mortgage now at an acceptable debt service level, it is time to turn alumni attention to funding a meaningful scholarship and financial assistance program for the Chapter. Other KU fraternities have found such programs to be not only a valuable recruiting incentive but also a way of producing quality membership, retaining active members in residence and reinforcing financial strength of the active chapter.

In summary, the state of the Corporation and the Chapter is strong! Let's keep it that way!

- Fred K. Green '61

UNDERGRADUATE REPORT

This first semester as Grand Master has been very busy given all the wonderful things we are doing. I never knew that this position would bring about such a large load, but it has been the greatest semester of my college experience. When I took this position over in late November from **Chris Hartley '00**, I received the order in the best shape that it has been in in years. With the help of the brothers and many of the alumni in the house, we have run with this opportunity and are looking forward to becoming the top house on campus in the fall.

In the past semester, the brothers made a significant jump in the all-fraternity grades rave. We jumped up seven spots, putting us above the All-University Men's Average and putting us .05 of a point away from the All-Fraternity Average. Last semester's pledges moved up seven spots as well, placing them .3 points above the All-University Freshman Average. I am extremely proud of this improvement.

Along with the improvement of grades, we made great strides at the Annual Greek Recognition Night and walked away with three top awards. Junior **Jason Plagman '01** won the Adopt-A-School award. This award is presented to the individual that demonstrates the most outstanding community service in the Lawrence area. Freshman **Daniel Klein '03** was presented the Most Outstanding New Member Award. This is the second year in a row that a Gamma-O brother has brought home this award. As for the Chapter House, we received Honorable Mention Chapter Excellence Award.

As for rush, we have already started recruiting some outstanding young men for the fall semester. On March 1, we had 20 prospective members come by and check out the Chapter House during our first rush event. If you know any current or future college students that you believe to be a worthy addition to the chapter, please see the information below.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you all for your outstanding support and dedication to this order. I am looking forward to the future of the chapter as we grow together and continue to follow the path of outstanding success. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to email me at **kukappasig@yahoo.com**.

A.E.K.Δ.B.

Billy Brandtonies '02



*Grand Master Billy Brandtonies '02 and
"Outstanding New Member" Daniel Klein '03.*

Campaign Gamma-O Update

Campaign Gamma-O is preparing to transition from the Capital Campaign to pay for the rebuilding of the chapter house (renovation completed in 1998) to a Capital Campaign to provide a chapter scholarship/leadership endowment (The campaign is yet to be named, but something like Endowment Gamma-O). The "Endowment" will be to fund scholarships for active chapter academic/leadership incentives/recognition. The "Endowment" would be funded by transferring the 'external' debt (now with a Bank) to the 'internal' debt (to be held by the "Endowment" fund). The debt transfer would be funded by donations to the endowment fund and active chapter debt servicing. As the 'external' debt diminishes, the endowment fund increases, commensurately.

The chapter's debt service capacity would thereby become the long term funding source (endowment) for payments to incentivize/recognize academic/leadership achievements of the active chapter, collectively as a brotherhood and for individual brothers who live in the chapter house. If the minimum achievement level is not met, then no payout for that semester. That is the idea. More details will be shared as the concept is planned and finalized in more detail in the coming months.

A special thanks to all who donated, and to those who continue to do so! A dramatic testimony about our Love for our Order! This is a major achievement via donations from about half of the Order's nearly 1,000 living alumni and the active chapter's debt servicing since 1998. My hope is that the pledges pending will be honored. Once the "Endowment" campaign has been fully defined, we will announce both the new campaign and the interface with Campaign Gamma-O. Of course, we encourage/appreciate the payment of all existing and new financial pledges. An \$800,000 endowment fund is our tentative goal, which would fund \$50,000 in annual awards, depending upon the interest rate variables. Actually, offering such incentives is becoming important, competitively. Some other fraternities are doing it now.

The Alumni Chapter (House Corporation) and Active Chapter finances are very tight, and highly interrelated, as we finish this semester. The "tightness" is due to the chapter house occupancy being currently at 63, instead of the optimum level of 76. At a house bill rate of \$2,650/person/semester, one can see the dramatic impact of lower occupancy. The active chapter is focused on filling the chapter house when they return for the fall semester. Such action is most essential. Any Rush (now called 'recruitment') prospects from alumni is sought and appreciated.

Campaign Gamma-O financial status since 1989

Total Pledges

\$2,297,899.28

Total Received

\$2,085,159.57

Pending

\$ 212,739.71

Bank debt

\$ 678,930.67



Looking for information?

**Check out Gamma-O on
the Internet**

www.gamma-o.org

User Name: AEKDB

Password: AEKDB

Brother Steve Maseda '64 investigates the noise coming from the girls' apartment above in 1967. Steve and Brothers Dave Evans '64 and Jim Carter '64 never officially complained.

Gamma-Omicron

Alumni in the news



Brother Howard Engleman '38 has Kansas basketball jersey retired



Brother Howard Engleman '38 speaks to a sold-out Phog Allen arena during his jersey-retirement ceremony.

Howard Engleman stood at center court at KU's Allen Fieldhouse on March 1 and let himself go for a little bit.

That's right, "Rope" got all knotted as the Jayhawks retired his No. 5 jersey in front of a capacity crowd, then proceeded to defeat Oklahoma State 79-61.

"It was great," Engleman said. "My children and grandchildren were there. The best part (was) beating Oklahoma State."

To the current Brothers of Gamma-Omicron, the ceremony was a chance to see one of the pillars of the fraternity, basketball and legal worlds be honored in front of a capacity crowd.

"He seemed really flattered by the whole thing, really honored," **Clint Jones '01** said. "It was a really nice ceremony. He reacted in a way that showed he was really, really flattered by the

whole thing."

Engleman's retirement ceremony was a long time coming.

After enrolling at KU and pledging Kappa Sigma in 1937, Brother Engleman joined the basketball team under the tutelage of legendary coach F. C. "Phog" Allen, and rose to become the nation's top player during his junior season, when he was selected captain of the All-American basketball team. That season, his last-second shot KU defeat Southern California in the NCAA semifinals. The game is still considered one of the greatest upsets in tournament history.

During his senior season, Engleman broke the Big Six scoring record, was named All-American for the second time, and was the Jayhawk tennis team's No. 1 singles player.

But Brother Engleman is more than a talented athlete: he's an American hero as well.

After graduating from KU, Brother Engleman served three years in the US Navy. He returned to the United States, and enrolled at KU's law school in 1946. He was elected president of the All-Student Council that fall, and took over as the Jayhawks' basketball coach when Dr. Allen fell ill.

Since then, he has been a lawyer in Salina, Kan., and serves as a partner in the law firm of Hampton, Royce, Engleman and Nelson.

Gamma O Briefs

Annual Meeting of the Corporation scheduled for Oct. 18

Gamma-Omicron, Inc., will hold the Annual Meeting of the Corporation on Saturday, Oct. 18 at the Chapter House. The primary business of the Corporation will be the election of new members to the Board of Directors and election of corporate officers for the following year. Following the Corporation meeting, the Board of Directors will convene to conduct routine business and receive reports.

Homecoming and Hall of Fame Induction

KU Homecoming festivities and the Annual Gamma-Omicron Hall of Fame induction ceremony will take place on Saturday, Oct. 18 in conjunction with the Corporation Meeting. The Jayhawk football team will face the Baylor Bears in a Big XII matchup. Mark your calendar now and watch for details in a subsequent invitation.

Corporation Board Seeks New Directors

Gamma-Omicron, Inc., is actively seeking alumni members willing to serve on the Board of Directors. At elections next October, we need to fill three existing vacancies as well as three expiring terms on the 15-member board. Some incumbent directors have indicated willingness to serve additional terms, but they are prepared to step down in favor of a "youth movement." Specifically, the Board is encouraging the participation of brothers initiated between 1975 and 1995. Service as a director is not onerous. It requires attendance at two regular meetings annually. Further involvement as a corporate officer or committee chair is optional. Volunteering is a noble thing to do. Contact any current board member or FMG if you are prepared to serve the fraternity.



The Undergraduates show their patriotism and support of US troops.

Chapter GM hits two home runs!

Chapter Grand Master **Billy Brandtonies '02** was "arrested" recently for the Lawrence-area Muscular Dystrophy Association fundraiser. Billy, representing Kappa Sigma, arrived at the "jail" with \$1200 cash in hand to pay his bail. He immediately walked away as a free man to the surprise and joy of the MDA staff and volunteers. Thanks to those who supported the MDA fund raising effort. Billy also attended the Kappa Sigma Area IV Leadership Academy in Dallas this winter and was one of three delegates honored as "Most Valuable Participants". Congratulations to Billy!



Alumni Updates

News From Your Brothers Around the Nation

Robert Guthrie '55 graduated in 1958 and went into the U.S. Army, where he served before moving on into the insurance brokerage business. He owned his own brokerage firm before selling to BB&T in 1999. Although he is now retired, Brother Guthrie spends his free time collecting fountain pens and working with non-profit organizations. He and his wife Pickett live in Raleigh, N.C., and are the proud parents of two grown children. 1904 Banbury Rd., Raleigh, NC 27608, (919) 781-4428, email: rlguthrie@mindspring.com.

Jim Carter '63 is embarking on a new business venture, American Horse Products, with his wife, Diane. The two now offer horse products from their offices in Laguna Niguel, Calif. The business is nothing new to Brother Carter, who had previously founded a pair of businesses, Interfab Coporation and Educalc. He has one son, Drew Carter – a Gamma-O alum – and two daughters, Brooke and Brittney. In his free time, Brother Carter enjoys golf, racquetball and horseback riding. (28041 Modjeska Grade Rd., Modjeska, CA 92676, (714) 649-3002, jimeducalc@tio.com).

Darrell Webber '55 worked for the Bureau of Reclamation after graduating from KU in 1956. He went on to work as an Assistant Commissioner of Engineering and Research before retiring. In his free time, Brother Webber does volunteer work and spends time with his grandchildren, the product of his two grown sons. He and his wife Louise have been married since 1956. Though he lives 600 miles from Lawrence, Brother Webber still stays in contact with Gamma-Omicron alumni by attending the annual alumni meeting in Denver. (17016 W 71st Pl, Arvada CO 80007, (343) 422-3050, dwebber2@aol.com)

Scott Teagarden '97 has spent his time since graduating in 2002 by following his major. For Brother Teagarden, that means golf, golf and more golf! After spending time at the Kansas State University turf school, Brother Teagarden became a Superintendent at the Deer Trace Golf Course, where he serves as a golf course maintenance supervisor. In his free time, Brother Teagarden likes, well, golf. (RR2 Box 142, LaCygne KS 66040, (913) 757-2295)

Scott Waddell '99 continued his education after graduating from KU by heading to law school. Brother Waddell, currently a lawyer at Michell, Kristi and Lieber in Kansas City, still keeps in contact with his old pledge class. When he isn't litigating, Brother Waddell enjoys golfing. (609 Central St. #1410 Kansas City, MO 64105-1643, (816) 472-7788)

John Crump '46 graduated with a degree from Kansas State in 1950 and taught school before entering the U.S. Army. He then served on the U.S. Foreign Service and in the State Department, serving abroad in New Zealand, Germany, the Netherlands, England and Israel before returning home to Washington, D.C., and then Colorado Springs. Brother Crump and his wife, Mona, have a daughter, Anne. (P O Box 284, Lakin, KS 67860, (620) 355-6486).

Col. Robert Kline '51 graduated in 1954 and enrolled in the Air Force, where he served 168 missions in Vietnam. Now retired after spending 10 years as a church administrator, Brother Kline spends time with his wife and raises show dogs. (585 Timberlane Rd., Wetumpka, AL 36093; (334) 567-3061, ivy eagle@aol.com).

Undergraduates continue to shine!



(from left) Grand Master Billy Brandtonies '02, Corporation Board President Fred Green '61, former GM Chris Hartley '00, Grand Procurator Clint Jones '02, and "Outstanding New Member" Daniel Klien '02.

The undergraduates received recognition for their efforts last semester at the Annual Greek Recognition Night, earning three top awards. Junior **Jason Plagman** won the **Adopt-A-School Award**, presented to the individual that demonstrates the most outstanding community service in the Lawrence area. Freshman **Daniel Klein** was presented with **Most Outstanding New Member Award**, the second year in a row that a brother has brought home this award. As for the house, Gamma-Omicron received **Honorable Mention Chapter Excellence Award**.

Note to Parents: If your son is still attending Kansas University, this newsletter is intended for you. He will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he is no longer in school, please send us his permanent address. Thank you!

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