

G-O Lite

A Publication of the Gamma-Omicron Chapter of Kappa Sigma at the University of Kansas - Winter 2006

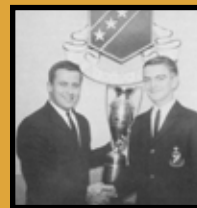
Trusteeship Removed, Gamma-Omicron Returned to Good Standing!

Over the weekend of October 21st, four Gamma-Omicron undergraduates, GM Cory Sims '04, GMC Bobby Lutz '04, GT Brian Harrison '04, and Community Service Chair T.J. Trum '03, traveled to Boise, Idaho for the winter meeting of the SEC. The chapter had completed the requirements of trusteeship and was appearing at this meeting to determine their status for the future.

It was the unanimous decision of all five SEC members that our chapter be removed from trusteeship, the sanctions repealed, and all normal fraternity activities allowed to resume. The undergraduates at the meeting were questioned for a short period about our programs ranging from scholarship to brotherhood development, in order to demonstrate to the other chapters in the room how things should be done

right. After the decision of the SEC was revealed, the brothers in attendance received a standing ovation from everyone at the meeting and were invited to shake hands all around. After they returned to their seats, the efforts of the chapter and the overall turnaround were constantly referred to as an example to the other chapters appearing for disciplinary reasons.

It was through the hard work of all of the undergraduate members, the leadership of the Corporation Board, the district grand master, and the chapter's trustee that the chapter has returned to such good standing at the University and with our nationals. The chapter members look forward to using this success as a starting point for future endeavors, and to continue its climb to the "top of the hill".



Jay Skinner '84

Jay Skinner is presently living in The Woodlands, Texas. He is married to Susan and they have two children: Jared (8) and Ryiannon (5). Jay is working as a geophysicist at Anadarko Petroleum Corporation.

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Jason Howard '98

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G-O LITE

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Executive Committee

Grand Master:

Cory Sims '04

Grand Procurator:

Nick Norwood '04

Grand Master of Ceremonies:

Bobby Lutz '04

Grand Treasurer:

Brian Harrison '04

Grand Scribe:

Justin Hughes '04

House Corporation

President and Chairman:

Fred Green '61

First Vice President &

Registered Agent:

Jim Wright '57

Second Vice President:

Andrew Klein '95

Secretary:

Chris Palmer '87

Treasurer:

Tom Robinett '69

Assistant Treasurer:

Ed Grass '77

Directors:

Bill McEachen '52

Bill Buck '53

Dan Chase '55

Jerry Pullins '61

Walter Thompson '68

Curtis Baum '76

C.E. Witt '77

Brian McDaniel '89

Matt Textor '90

Pat Ferguson '96

Alumnus Advisor:

Billy Brandtonies '02

Grand Master's Report

This fall's Grand Master's Report is presented with elation, much more hope, and higher expectations than the report from last spring. The greatest accomplishment is our early release from trusteeship and the accolades received from the Supreme Executive Committee for our extraordinary achievements over the past year. The chapter has improved in every respect from grades, to rush, to campus involvement. We have literally done too much over the last year to cover in the space available. That said, I will focus on the major points of academics, community service and philanthropy, fundraising, and finally, the release from trusteeship.

Concerning academics, the chapter has improved significantly over previous years. In one semester, we jumped up 0.3 in our GPA and 9 spots in the standings from 20th to 11th. We are only 0.25 away from placing in the top three fraternities. We were also recognized at the Greek Awards night for having the most improved grades and scholarship programs. This semester we are pursuing our goal of bringing the pledges above a 2.5 and the whole chapter over 3.0. If we achieve this, and I predict we will, it will be only the second time in fifteen years.

Community service and philanthropy efforts have also increased significantly. We have nearly half of our members involved in continuous community service programs. We will surpass last year's record of 1,200 hours. For philanthropy, we have participated in more campus fundraising events than in any recent year. Our chapter band won the Delta Gamma Battle of the Bands and raised \$2,000. We held our first annual Halloween philanthropy event. This event treats local children to trick-or-treating, pumpkin carving, and face painting at the chapter house. We worked with the newly re-established Parents' Club to get their much appreciated help organizing the event. We partnered with the women of Chi Omega for this effort and conducted a social mixer when the children departed.

Fundraising has also been very successful this semester. We raised over \$6,000 at the Parents' Day auction. The first weekend in October we worked at the NASCAR race at Kansas Speedway and earned over \$4,000 for our work there. Also, we have sub-let some of our extra parking spaces to neighboring sorority girls and have collected over \$1,100. Thus far this year, all chapter activities such as Parents' Day, Homecoming, IFC activities, Yell-In, and Halloween have been funded completely on our own outside of the regular operating budget.

Finally, the release from trusteeship is very gratifying. Our DGM and trustee certified that we had met all the conditions for reinstatement and we were placed on the calendar to go before the fall SEC meeting in Boise, Idaho. We prepared an impressive binder containing a full presentation of our accomplishments and forwarded copies to the SEC in advance. Three brothers accompanied me to Boise for the oral presentation that went very smoothly. As reported previously, the SEC commended us highly for our achievements, lifted all sanctions, and returned the chapter to good standing and full self-governance.

At this point, the chapter has an opportunity to achieve more success than has been possible in the last few years. We have a very competent core of 30 active members and 26 pledges living in and running all aspects of the house. After my term is complete, we have many eligible candidates for GM and the rest of the Executive Committee, and they will surely continue on the trail of success that we have been on over the last year. With the prospect of having several seniors live in next year for the first time in three years, the house will definitely approach or exceed capacity, thus eliminating the financial constraints of the last two years. Brothers, it is truly a good time to be a Gamma-Omicron.

A.E.K.A.B.,

Cory Sims '04

Grand Master, FO

Chuck Dobson '63



Colonel Sanders & Chuck Dobson '63

"Ex-A's Pitcher Keeps on Move"

Former big-leaguer has done a lot and traveled the world in the years since he left baseball. Check the website for the full article as it appeared in the *Kansas City Star*.

www.gamma-o.org

HOUSE CORPORATION BOARD REPORT

Gamma Omicron, Inc. held the annual meeting on October 7th in conjunction with Homecoming activities, and returned all board members and corporate officers to office for the coming year. Immediately following elections, the board convened to conduct its regular fall meeting. In addition to the regular receipt of reports from the active chapter and review and approval of the financial statements, the board heard from Alumnus Advisor Billy Brandonies '02 and District Grand Master Shane Kammerer '96 (Xi-Zeta, Northwest Missouri State) concerning progress made under the trusteeship. Both predicted that the chapter would meet all prerequisites for release from sanctions prior to the next scheduled hearings and urged the board to support a small delegation to appear before the SEC in Boise. This was unanimously approved and funded by the board. The board also approved a financial incentive for next year's seniors to remain in residence for eight full semesters. Any member who has fully paid for seven consecutive semesters will be granted a final semester without charge. Brother Chris Palmer '87 was tagged to become newsletter editor and Brothers Ed Grass '77 and C.E. Witt '77 agreed to co-chair the chapter Hall of Fame program.

Jayhawk Kappa Sigma in the Driver's Seat as Ford CEO

Alan Mulally '64 last month

became the new chief executive officer of Ford Motor Company. Mulally, 61, most recently served as executive vice president of Boeing Co..

The Lawrence native is the second KU graduate (and Gamma-Omicron alumnus) to lead one of the nation's top three automakers. He

joins Robert J. Eaton '59, Chrysler

Corp. Chairman Emeritus and retired DaimlerChrysler AG Chairman, as a top auto industry executive.



"Alan Mulally has soared to the top of both the aviation and now automotive industries," Chancellor Robert E. Hemenway said. "Some may see Kansas roots and a KU degree as humble beginnings, but actually they are just the solid foundation needed for a remarkably successful career in two of the most innovative and competitive industries in the world. We are proud Alan Mulally is a Jayhawk."

Mulally comes to a company in transition, and along with Executive Chairman Bill Ford, he recently announced the "Way Forward" plan to turnaround Ford's North American operations. His professional history includes 37 years at Boeing Co., where he also served as president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes since 2001. Mulally is co-chair of the Washington Competitiveness Council and serves as an adviser to NASA, the University of Washington, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and the U.S. Air Force Scientific Advisory Board. He is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Engineering and a fellow of England's Royal Academy of Engineering.

At KU, Mulally is a longtime member of the School of Engineering advisory board. He has received several honors, including the Distinguished Engineering Service Award and the University's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Citation. Mulally has been honored with induction into the Gamma-Omicron Chapter of Kappa Sigma Hall of Fame.

HELEN LIERZ HONORED

RETIREMENT CRUISE FUNDED BY ALUMNI GIFTS

Helen Lierz, mother of two Gamma-Omicron sons, Steve Lierz '81 and Mark Lierz '82, and house mother for approximately 375 initiates over the past 15 years, was honored at Homecoming. In a surprise move, the House Corporation inducted Mom Lierz into the Gamma-Omicron Hall of Fame and conferred the honorary title of "House Mother Emeritus." In the presence of her sons, their lovely wives, and Helen's beautiful grandchildren (including some promising legacy members), as well as a crowd of alumni and actives, House Corporation President Fred Green '61 lauded her loyalty and steadfast service. Especially noteworthy was the period of chapter house reconstruction during which Helen was the glue that kept things together. Mom Lierz hosted dinner gatherings and supported other social activities while the men were spread out around campus. The Corporation also presented Helen a retirement gift of \$5,000 and directed that she take a winter cruise. Helen now resides in Seneca, Kansas. Thanks, well-done, Godspeed, and Bon Voyage!



Helen with sons Steve '81 and Mark '82



Fred Green '61 presenting Helen with a retirement gift

House Corporation Remembers...

Edna Stewart

Mrs. Edna Stewart entered service with Gamma-Omicron back when house directors were still "house mothers" and sorority women were still "girls". For 19 years, she taught us etiquette and enforced table graces, planned our meals, supervised the kitchen, chaperoned our parties, and helped heal busted heads and broken hearts. She held sway at 1045 Emery Road during the fabulous "fifties" and the tumultuous "sixties," and the men of Kappa Sigma were blessed to have her steady hand at the wheel. Pledges of the era will recall beauty parlor transport, Sunday church service, as well as dinner escort duty. Mom Stewart was with us from 1950 through her retirement in 1969. The Corporation Board unanimously approved posthumous induction into the Gamma-Omicron Hall of Fame.



Fall Pledge Class 2006

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Glenn Brandt | Arlington Heights, IL |
| David Brinker | Leawood, KS |
| Corey Carr | Leawood, KS |
| Justin Cohen | Leawood, KS |
| Kyle Combes | Overland Park, KS |
| Mark Hersh | Topeka, KS (Legacy Father FN, Washburn) |
| Jack Hodes | Leawood, KS |
| Derek Hoefler | Prairie Village, KS |
| Ryan Jones | Troy, KS (Legacy Brother Clint Jones '01 GO) |
| Neil Likens | Overland Park, KS |
| Jake Mai | Grapevine, TX (Legacy Grandfather Rich Mai '50 GO and Uncle Kurt Mai '80 GO) |
| Ethan Marshall | Overland Park, KS |
| David McNally | Overland Park, KS |
| Reine Nola | Goddard, KS |
| Jimmy Oades | Leawood, KS |
| Nick Pham | Goddard, KS |
| Mitch Plummer | Paola, KS (Legacy Father Stan Plummer '70 GO) |
| Michael Powell | Topeka, KS |
| Erik Sandbeck | Lenexa, KS |
| Chandler Sidwell | Amarillo, TX |
| Matt Steinwart | Overland Park, KS |
| David Tanner | Overland Park, KS (Legacy Grandfather ΔX, Mississippi State) |
| Mike Thompson | Paola, KS |
| Andy Whitehead | Leawood, KS (Legacy Brother Tom Whitehead '04 GO) |
| Max Zimmerman | Overland Park, KS |



Welcome, *Suzanne Tomlinson* New House Director Joins Gamma-O

The chapter welcomed our new House Director Suzanne Tomlinson (Mom Tom) on return to campus this fall. Suzanne takes up her duties at Gamma-Omicron following previous service at our neighbors, Kappa Delta, our sister sorority Chi Omega, and with the Sig Ep house all here at KU. Her experience with young people includes 12 years as a house director following a teaching career at high schools in Wichita, Topeka, and Kansas City, Missouri. Suzanne's daughter was a KU Tri-Delt and her son is a Fiji. She knows the Greek scene in Lawrence, is very familiar with the various vendors and service providers, and has taken care of business without missing a beat. Mom Tom was here to greet the new pledges and parents when they arrived and was a very gracious hostess at Parents' Day and Homecoming. She was instrumental in re-establishing a long dormant Parents' Club this fall and has instituted a monthly birthday dinner for the men of the chapter. Both the Corporation Board and the Chapter are delighted to have Suzanne aboard. Alumni are urged to drop by and introduce themselves when visiting Lawrence.



2006 GAMMA-OMICRON HALL OF FAME



J. Tom Gee '56

Brother Tom Gee's involvement with Kappa Sigma has not just been limited to serving Gamma-Omicron. Tom was initiated into Gamma-Omicron in 1956 and had many wonderful times, including pouring 10 pounds of soap suds into the air ducts in the School of Education building. While he never held an Executive Committee position as an undergraduate, he did represent Kappa Sigma in a number of campus activities and organizations, including student government and Greek Affairs.

Upon graduating in 1959, Tom joined the United States Army, where he spent 30 years before retiring at the rank of Colonel in 1988. He then went to work as a retirement relocation consultant for Prudential/Carruthers, Inc.

As an alumnus, Tom has continued to be involved with Kappa Sigma, serving as the alumnus advisor for Kappa-Phi Chapter (George Mason) from 1999-2002, the assistant district grand master for Central Virginia from 2002 through present, and as the acting district grand master for Washington, D.C. from 2003-2004. He was named the Outstanding Alumnus Advisor of the Year in 1996, as well as Outstanding Assistant District Grand Master of the Year in 2003 and again in 2005. He was also presented with the Stephen Alonzo Jackson 10 Year Award by Kappa-Phi in 2000.

Even with all the time devoted to family and fraternity, Tom is still active within his community, serving as the president of his community's Homeowner's Association, as a church vestry member, lay minister, and lay ministry director. He is also a 32nd degree mason and sojourner.

"Gamma-Omicron provided the basic training in teamwork and leadership that has stood the test of time and served me well in my professional and social endeavors. I have found the shared experience of Kappa Sigma to be a universal bond of fellowship and trust among brothers I have met all over the world and in all walks of life. Kappa Sigma represents brotherhood at its best. My most important and memorable experience was serving as the grand master of ceremonies for the initiation of my son at Kappa-Phi in 1988."

E. Donald Foster '59

Brother Don Foster has had a long and successful career in the field of justice that has seen him grow from trying cases in Wichita to traveling the world.

Don was born in August of 1940. As a young man, he decided to enroll at the University of Kansas. He pledged Gamma-Omicron in 1959 and graduated with a Bachelor of Art's in political science in 1962. He continued with his education earning a Juris Doctorate from Washburn University in 1965.

Brother Foster's career saw him start in the Office of the District Attorney in Wichita, where he was an assistant district attorney between 1965 and 1969. He tried over 1,500 bench cases and 120 jury trials, of which 30 were major homicides.

Don then spent several years with the Legal Aid Office in Wichita where he was able to have certain Kansas pre-judgment property practices declared to be unconstitutional.

Next, Don spent four years with the National Consumer Law Center in Boston, including serving as deputy director from 1972-1974. He moved on to work with the National District Attorney's Association Economic Crime Project in Washington, D.C., where he served as a senior counsel.

In February of 1977, Brother Foster started a 13 year employment with the United States Department of Justice. He worked in Fraud and Economic Crime Enforcement, serving as deputy chief for policy and management, Fraud Section, from 1982 until 2000.

Finally, Don served as an advisor for the United States Treasury Department in the Office of Technical Assistance, Law Enforcement, from 2001 through 2004. As an advisor to this international anti-money laundering program, Don found himself traveling on a part-time basis to all corners of the globe. Some of his destinations included Albania, Soviet Georgia, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Zambia, and Kazakhstan.

Even with a very busy professional life, Don and his wife Trevella have raised six children: Lisa Shriver, Kevin Foster, Sharon Chaney, Nancy McDonald, Hunter Shriver, and Karen Foster.

He has also remained very active within the local community, as the current finance team chair for the Faithpoint United Methodist Church, where he is also a certified lay speaker.

Brother Foster credits Kappa Sigma with helping to teach him "better study discipline that certainly assisted me in making my way through college, law school, and later in life. It also enabled me to form some lifetime friendships."

Fred W. Frailey, Jr. '63

Brother Frailey has spent his life fascinated with, and informing others about, the worlds of investing and economics.

Fred enrolled in KU and pledged Gamma-Omicron in 1962, graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in journalism in 1966.

Fred worked for the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Kansas City Star*, and the *Sulphur Springs Daily News Telegram* in Texas before spending 16 years at U.S. *News and World Report*. He started at U.S. *News* as Chicago bureau chief at age 26, then was a labor writer and transportation writer before becoming an assistant managing editor, ultimately directing its business coverage.

In 1987, Fred joined the staff of *Kiplinger's Personal Finance* magazine as deputy editor, the number-two position, where he oversaw investment coverage. In 1994, he created an annual newsstand publication, *Kiplinger's Mutual Funds*, published each January. Since 2000, Brother Frailey has been editor of *Kiplinger's Personal Finance*. KPF's goal is to help people manage their finances, invest for their future, and spend their money smartly.

There's more: Brother Frailey has led a dual life as perhaps the nation's best-known writer about railroads. He has written dozens of cover stories for *Trains* magazine (most recently its current issue), and authored five railroad-related books including *Twilight of the Great Trains*, about the collapse of passenger-train service before the advent of Amtrak.

Fred came to KU not knowing a soul. He credits Gamma-Omicron with giving him the stability and friendships that helped him mature both at the University and in the years that followed. He is also proud to be a Gamma-Omicron legacy; his dad, Bill Frailey, a Texas newspaper editor, was a Kappa Sig who graduated from KU in 1932.

Dick Smith '52

Chapter Celestial

J. Richard "Dick" Smith, 73, succumbed to cancer at his home in Albuquerque, NM on June 22, 2006. Dick's Kappa Sigma involvement is a point of pride for the Fraternity. He is a member of the Hall of Fame and was instrumental in the rebuild of the chapter house after the 1970's fire. To review Dick's full obituary as it appeared in the *Kansas City Star*, please visit:

www.gamma-o.org



R.I.P Carl the Duck



Carl the Duck



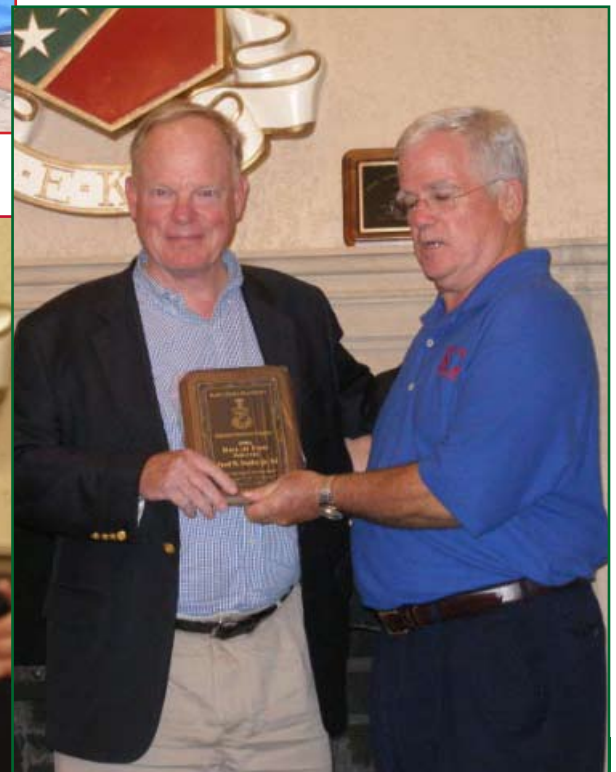
"The line-up"



Helen Lierz honored



Hall of Fame inductees: Fred Frailey '63, Tom Gee '56, and Don Foster '59



Fred Frailey '63 honored



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APRIL 28, 2007 IS

ALUMNI DAY

&

SPRING HOUSE

CORPORATION

BOARD MEETING