

# THE GAMMA-RHO GAZETTE

WINTER 2008

## WE HAVE COME A LONG WAY AS A CHAPTER... **BUT THE WORK IS NOT DONE!**

Looking back, it is amazing how far we have come as a chapter. We were closed for most of the 1970s. In the 1980s we had around 35 - 40 members and lived in a house on Cherry Avenue that housed 10 members. We had a great group of guys but we really struggled to survive from semester to semester. With nothing more than a vision to be recognized as a campus leader and a core group of alumni volunteers, we found a way to return the Gamma-Rho Chapter to prominence. Today, we have around 170 undergraduate brothers, we continue to win awards on campus and nationally, and are truly considered the best fraternity on campus.

### How Did We Get There?

There are probably a lot of reasons we were able to get Gamma-Rho to its current level of success, but the most important ones are:

- The chapter advising of Charlie Sullivan '61, George Jenson '82 and Matt Noble '84, amongst others. The immense amount of hours put in by these guys in the early years while we were trying to "climb the mountain" made a difference.
- Moving into a new house in the middle of all those sororities in 1994 gave us an incredible opportunity to thrive.
- A strong House Corporation that has had many key volunteers but especially the leadership of Pat Murphy '65 and the property management of Steve Dean '84 and Taylor Heidenheim '71 is why we still have one of the best campus facilities.
- The numerous volunteers and 507 donors who have pledged nearly \$1.3 million. A special thanks goes to the handful alumni who really made impact gifts (including those who helped purchase the El Capitan House while we were still growing in the 1990s): Mike Cagalj '58, Don Harris '60, Gary Foster '62, Carl Russell '62, Tom Keating '63, John Pfeffer '66, and Fred Ferreira (social member).
- Resident Advisors George Jenson '82, Alex Alcantara '93, and Tony Marksch '94 enabled us to have volunteer support for the undergraduates on-site for most of the last two decades.
- A committed program to alumni relations that has remained steady since 1987 (newsletters, e-news, website, events like homecoming, and the A. L. Slonaker Hall of Fame).
- We can not forget Mary Phelan, our cook. Having two meals per day that allow our members to just hang out



*(Continued On Page 3)*

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Tucson, AZ 85719, or  
KappaSigma@Gamma-Rho.org

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

*Grand Master:* Matt Mayberry '05  
*Grand Procurator:* Brad Thomas '06  
*Grand Master of Ceremonies:*  
Ronen Cohen '05  
*Grand Treasurer:* Austin Gates '06  
*Grand Scribe:* Marc Joiner '06

### ADVISORY BOARD

*Alumnus Advisor:* David Blair '90  
*Assistant Alumnus Advisors:*  
Jordan Brown '87  
Mark McLearn '88  
Greg Mammana '90  
Pat Moran '92  
John Carson '93  
Will Lewis '93  
Eric Vorrie '93  
Craig Lowden '96  
Joshua Surridge '00

### HOUSE CORPORATION

*President:* Patrick Murphy '65  
*Vice President:* Thomas Keating '62  
*Secretary:* Ryan Anderson '94  
*Treasurer:* David Stallings '67  
*House Committee Chair:*  
Taylor Heidenheim '71  
*Board Members:*  
Frank Barreca '46  
Donald Harris '59  
Carl Russell '59  
Steve Huntsberry '62  
John Turner '70  
Andy McEldowney '83  
Steve Dean '84  
Matt Noble '84  
Tony Self '89  
Scott D. Gimple '90  
Nicholas Haney '97  
Dave Gosselin '01  
Charlie Hall '01

# REPORT FROM THE GRAND MASTER

Brothers,

Since our chartering on the University of Arizona campus 93 years ago, Gamma-Rho has always been a successful and dominant fraternity on the University of Arizona campus. Today, that still holds and by all standards Kappa Sigma remains the number one house on campus. More men rushing fraternities choose Kappa Sigma over any other house. This fall alone nearly 800 potential members passed through our doors in hopes of joining our order. Of these 800 men all were scholars, athletes, leaders, and above all else; GENTLEMEN. Those 800 men were cut down night by night and in early September we were happy to pin 53 brand new pledges. Over the last 10 years, Gamma-Rho has ranked in the top 10 in pledge class size, pledge retention, and overall recruitment.

The chapter has also seen success outside of recruitment. This past summer while attending the Bi-annual Conclave in Miami, Florida, Gamma-Rho walked away with the third most awards of any Kappa Sigma chapter. We were awarded for our outstanding pledge program, recruitment, academics, community service, communications, intramurals, and alumni involvement. Our GM, GP, and GMC were all recognized for their outstanding achievements in their respective positions and each took home commemorative awards for their hard work and dedication. The chapter also received the Outstanding Chapter Management award from the university, and George Jenson '82 was inducted into the Arizona Greek Life Hall of Fame.

As mentioned before, Gamma-Rho has always been a force on the U of A campus. I stand before you today to let you all know that not much has changed. Our intramural program is the best on campus having achieved Greek League and school-wide championships in football, basketball, soccer, and softball. We are all looking forward to this semester's softball and basketball teams which will compete for two more campus championships. Over 80% of our membership is involved in one or more campus clubs or groups and another 10% has an affiliation with a campus athletic team.

While Gamma-Rho has seen a tremendous amount of success in the last decade, it is the commitment of our alumni, both young and old, who make our order what it is. On behalf of current brothers I would like to thank all of you for your life-long commitment and dedication to Kappa Sigma.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,

Matt Mayberry '05  
Grand Master

with each other is something that those of us in the 1980s and early 1990s did not have.

- Finally, the quality of our undergraduate brothers. On the most part we have had great Grand Masters and other officers and we have become a great recruiting chapter because of the success of our undergraduates.

## How Do We Maintain Our Success?

They always say it is easier to “get to the top” then it is to remain there. It took us from when we returned to campus in 1980 to about 2000 to be considered the campus leader. It was a slow but steady rise during those 20 years. However, from 2000 to now, while we have mostly remained on top, it has become much more difficult to remain there. Why? Because more chapters are building new houses on campus; we have lost some of our most important volunteers to untimely deaths (Mike Cagalj '58 and Stew Elner '60); other volunteers have moved on after 15 - 20 years of service; we have struggled to find a committed Gamma-Rho to serve as Alumnus Advisor recently; we still have a large debt of \$900,000 to payoff our mortgage; and campus policies are getting tougher and tougher for undergraduates to operate a fraternity under.

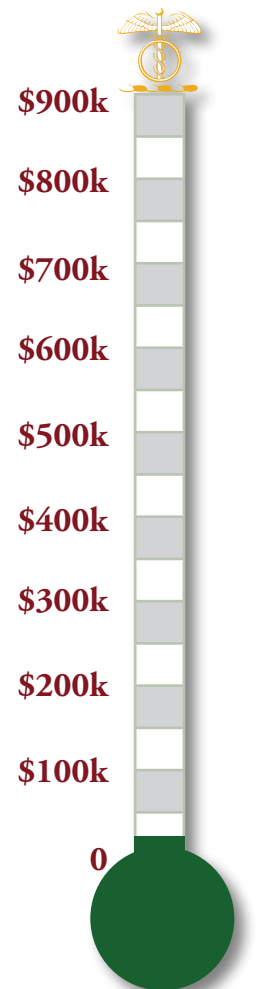
So how will we continue to thrive? Our vision is as follows (call Pat Murphy '65 at 623.937.2795 if you are willing to help in any of these areas):

- Find a new committed resident advisor who will help get us through the next 3 - 5 years. The job search has now begun.
- Find a few committed Kappa Sigmas (preferably Gamma-Rhos) who will step up and serve on our Advisory Board. Those that have led the chapter as advisors during the last 20 - 25 years need other alumni to step up. There are many of you who live in Tucson and Phoenix and we just need a little of your time. We are hoping to create an advisory board of 3 - 7 alumni so that the commitment is not resting on the shoulders of just 1 - 2 volunteers.
- Raise \$900,000 by 2015 (our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary) so we can pay off our housing debt. This will free cash flow of \$50,000 - \$75,000 per year that can be put back into improved facilities as well as educational programs and scholarships. Expect to hear much more about this over the coming years.
- Find 7 - 9 alumni to join our House Corporation Board. Our plans are to hold meetings beyond Tucson in Phoenix, San Diego, L.A., and San Francisco as we move forward. The goal will be to hold the annual meeting in Tucson during Homecoming Weekend and the remaining 2 - 3 meetings in the Phoenix and California markets (we will rotate based on the hometowns of our board members).
- Raise \$1 - \$2 million over the next few decades to create an endowment to help fund more scholarships, to help fund the resident advisor position, to help fund more educational programs, to create a small fund for the Advisory Board to use, and to establish a new Chapter Excellence Fund that awards the chapter for sustained excellence.

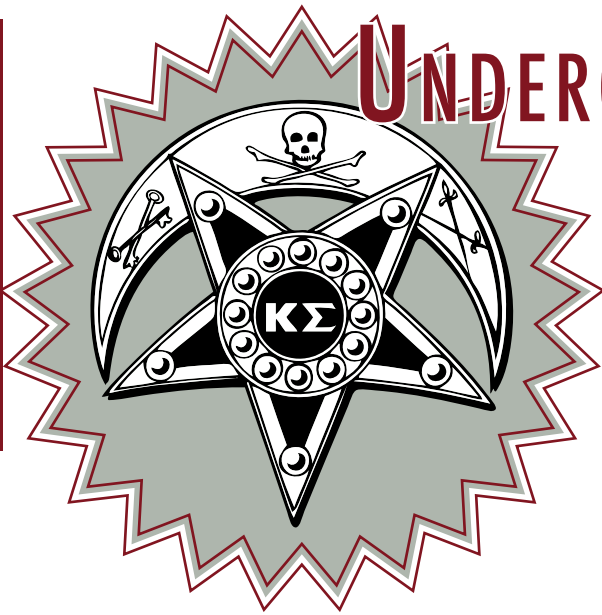
The bottom line is Gamma-Rho has come too far to settle for a slow slide back down the mountain. There are 1,031 alumni and parents with good addresses who can still make a difference in us maintaining our excellence. Even more important, there are 503 alumni who have graduated since 1980 whose time and/or dollars are needed to help us continue what 20 - 30 key volunteers have built and maintained for 25 years.

Think about it. Has Kappa Sigma played a role in you finding some lifetime friends, introducing you to your future wife, helping develop your leadership, organizational, and social skills, to starting you on the right path to a successful career? If the answer is yes, please let us know how you can support Gamma-Rho as we approach our century of excellence on campus. Contact Matt Noble '84 at 520.990.3250 or [Matt.Noble@FMGTucson.com](mailto:Matt.Noble@FMGTucson.com)

### Housing Debt Payoff



We have currently raised \$20k towards our house debt and will reach our goal of \$900k with your help. Thanks in advance for your support!



# UNDERGRADUATE ACHIEVEMENTS

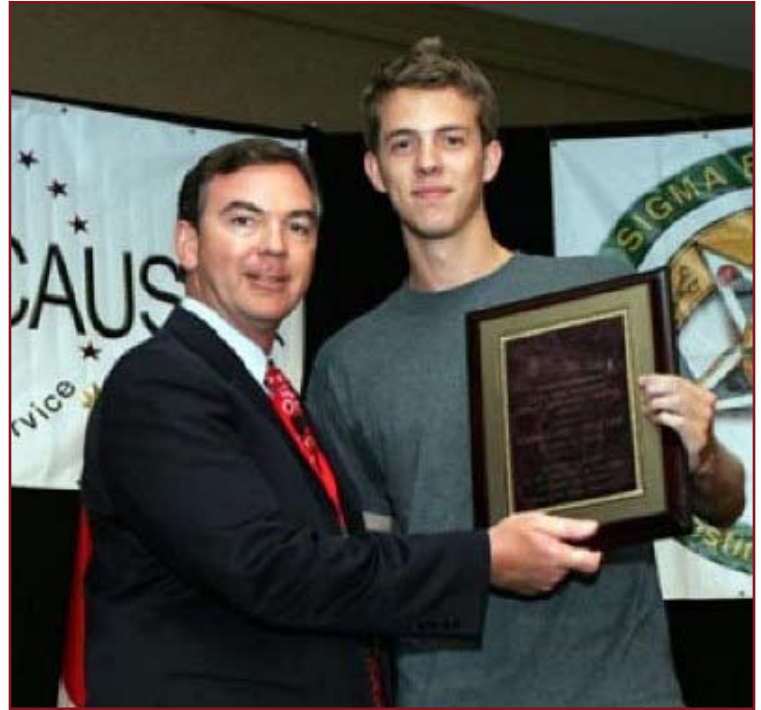
## Gamma-Rho Awards Won at Conclave:

- Top 25 Recruiting Chapter (#7)
- Outstanding Brothers In Action for Pledges Program
- Outstanding Single Community Service Event
- Outstanding Communications Program
- Outstanding Single Communication
- Chapter Intramural Achievement
- Outstanding GM Joel Balzano '05
- Outstanding GP Brian Freuler '05
- Outstanding GMC Matt Mayberry '05

*Scott Schindler '04, Joel Balzano '05, Jason Fisher '05, and Skylar Hauswirth '06 and all won SLA scholarships.*

**The following brothers were recognized by headquarters as being outstanding scholars for achieving a 3.5 GPA or higher:**

- Remington Franklin '03
- Tim Laskoski '03
- Ryan Seidel '03
- Timothy Vega '03
- Brent Williams '03
- Chris Bistany '04
- Dustin Cavanaugh '04
- Jason Hunt '04
- Jon Rough '04
- Ricky Tribble '04
- Joel Balzano '05
- Aaron Hogue '05
- Tyler Maly '05
- Alex Marvin '05
- Matt Maxwell '05



- Paul Nisson '05
- Taylor Robinson '05
- Brandon Weiss '05
- Colby Young '05
- Tim Johnson '06
- Matt Lind '06
- Scott Nugent '06
- Danny Fossey '07

## Philanthropy Update:

To-date we have raised \$3,275 and donated 2,025 hours. Some of these service projects include Catwalk, Red Cross Blood Drive, Ronald McDonald House, AIDS Walk, and KUAT.

## Intramurals and Athletics:

Greek League and school-wide champions in basketball.

Our football team took 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Greek League, won the school championship, and then traveled to ASU to compete in the West Coast Regionals. We took 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the tournament and were awarded the "3<sup>rd</sup> Best Team on the West Coast." 21 teams from 15 different West Coast schools participated in the tournament.

# VORRIE VEGAS VOODOO

Over the weekend of January 11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup>, over 25 Gamma-Rhos, spanning 15 class years and from as far away as Tampa, Florida descended into Las Vegas to celebrate the bachelor party of Eric Vorrie '93.

The familiar "VORRIE!" cry rang out from Caesar's Palace to O'Shea's to the Voodoo Lounge on the 51<sup>st</sup> floor of the Rio, and ultimately from a passing limo driving down Mel Torme Way.

The highlight of the weekend was definitely the filet mignon dinner for 35 at the Voodoo Lounge where 25+ Gamma-Rhos as well as a few of Eric's co-workers gathered in a socially positive manner to commemorate the passing of Brother Vorrie's bachelorhood and celebrate his impending marriage to Suzanne Leyvas, whom he met in 2002 while working at ScriptSave. They dated for four years before they officially tied the knot on January 26<sup>th</sup> of this year.

This Mötley Crüe managed to leave town without incident, so don't expect to see any familiar faces in *Police Beat* or on an episode of *Cops: Las Vegas* any time soon.

Special kudos should go out to Best Man Robert Dingwall '93 who went one step beyond in orchestrating the chaos and arranging for dinner.



# COMMERCIAL TRUCKS FAST-TRACKS EXPANSION

Although a Commercial Trucks branch manager position interested Ross Bloom '00, he had the same hesitation many people feel when considering a new opportunity: Should he leave the more established Daily Rental division for a new business line beginning the Tucson Group?

A discussion with his vice president/general manager, who detailed how launching Daily Rental in Vancouver had provided the most rewarding experience of his career, changed Ross' mind. Ross saw parallels in Tucson's fledgling Commercial Trucks business — he would have the chance to help pioneer a new division from the ground up and create its infrastructure — so he made the move in July 2005.

After two years helping build a solid foundation in Tucson, Ross again jumped at an opportunity this past January and was promoted to area manager in the Chicago Group.

His new role mirrors that of a Daily Rental area manager: Ross is responsible for the daily operations of six Commercial Trucks branches, which includes helping build relationships with new and existing accounts. The chance to really develop his marketing and sales skills, he says, is one appealing aspect of a career in Commercial Trucks.

“The phone always rings in Daily Rental branches because Enterprise has such an established presence in that business,” he says. “In Truck, the phone rings because you are out there marketing. You personally make it happen.”

Commercial Trucks Vice President Allen Serfas agrees the division puts its employees in the driver's seat.

“As a young business, employees have an opportunity to make a noticeable difference,” says Allen. “They can leverage what they have learned and achieved in Daily Rental to mold our business for the future.”

Just nine years old, Commercial Trucks continues to expand across the United States providing customers — most often manufacturing companies or those in wholesale and retail distribution — with three-quarter to one-ton pickup trucks and cargo vans, as well as 16 to 26-foot box and stakebed trucks.

In fiscal 2007, the group opened 20 new locations across six new groups. For the year, the division grew by almost 8 percent on-rent (while competitors faced steep fleet declines) and surpassed 10,000 trucks in its fleet — all while measuring yearly ESQi for the first time and attaining an 83 percent.

For 2008, Allen says the division remains focused on its expansion and growth, while staying nimble in light of challenges that a slowed economy and new government regulations bring.

- Rhonda Sciarra (excerpt from *Free Enterprise* employee magazine)



*Ross Bloom '00, Area Manager in the Chicago Group, didn't let some initial hesitation prevent him from pursuing a career in one of Enterprise's newer business lines. He now oversees daily operations for six Commercial Trucks branches, putting his marketing and sales skills to the full test.*

## 2007 COMMERCIAL TRUCKS ACHIEVEMENTS

- Added its website to the main navigation of Enterprise.com, achieving more than 60,000 monthly visits in its first year.
- Rolled out updated Customer Relationship Management tool to assist with sales and marketing.
- Introduced new tradedress on trucks, which collectively provide more than a billion advertising impressions a month. (One truck makes 101 visible impressions each mile it travels, and on average travels 3,000 miles a month.)
- Launched Exceptional Achievement Award criteria for the division.
- Remarketed 15 percent of its medium-duty vehicles, up from 8 percent the previous year.

# ALUMNI UPDATES

## **Thomas Fannin '63**

Tom is a consultant for Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage. Tom is living in Phoenix, Arizona with his wife, Marianne and has two grown children, Tamara and Mary.

- 77 E. Missouri #23
- Phoenix, AZ 85012
- Home: 602.264.3960
- E-mail: [tfannin@cox.net](mailto:tfannin@cox.net)

## **Raymond E. Flood '69**

Gene graduated in 1972. He is self-employed in Newport Coast, California. Gene is married to his wife Jeanne and has two grown children, Jim and Ashley.

- 10 Fairwind
- Newport Coast, CA 92657
- Home: 949.464.3809
- E-mail: [thefloodman@earthlink.net](mailto:thefloodman@earthlink.net)

## **William Kroeger '72**

Bill graduated in 1975. He is currently living in St. Louis, Missouri and is the director of labor relations at AGC of St. Louis. He has a wife, Sue, and two grown children, Christopher and Anne

- 11525 Lakeshore Dr.
- St. Louis, MO 63141
- Home: 314.997.6516
- E-mail: [bkroeger@agcstl.org](mailto:bkroeger@agcstl.org)

## **Steven M. Fullmer '75**

Steve graduated in 1978 from Willamette University in Oregon. He is self-employed in Phoenix, Arizona. He has a wife Rhonda, and two children, Wesley (13) and Sierra (11). Though not a Gamma-Rho initiate, Steve truly appreciates being included in Gamma-Rho updates. Having spent almost two years as the chapter's trustee during a difficult time in our history, he is proud of our accomplishments and privileged to be included amongst the men we consider brothers. He feels that our alumni efforts continue to demonstrate the life-long value that Gamma-Rho places on brotherhood.

- 1019 West Kaler Drive
- Phoenix, AZ 85021
- Home: 602.331.0882
- E-mail: [steven@bluespheresoln.com](mailto:steven@bluespheresoln.com)

## **David B. Shefter '83**

David graduated in 1987. He works for the United States Golf Association with the title of staff writer/media relations. David lives in Stewartsville, New Jersey with his wife, Christina and daughter, Veronica (4).

- 376 Hamilton Drive
- Stewartsville, NJ 08886
- Home: 908.454.9059
- E-mail: [dshefter@usga.org](mailto:dshefter@usga.org)

## **Joshua Dworman '94**

Josh graduated in 1997. While at the University of Arizona, Josh worked one semester for FMG and was in charge of interviewing alumni for the *Gazette*. He moved back to his hometown of West Hartford, Connecticut in August of 2002 and got married to his wife Brittany on May 25, 2003. They now have a 17 month-old son, Tyler. Josh started off as a financial advisor for seven years but now has been selling Porsches for Hoffman Porsche for the last four years. Yes, Josh says he will hook up any alumnus with a sweet deal!

- 27 Fairfield Rd.
- West Hartford, CT 06117
- E-mail: [josh.dworman@hoffmanauto.com](mailto:josh.dworman@hoffmanauto.com)

## **J. Aaron Young '96**

Aaron graduated in 1999. He is currently living in Phoenix, Arizona with his wife, Tina. Starting September 1, 2007, Aaron and Tina started traveling the world and will for the next 18 months. You can follow their adventure at [www.YoungsAroundTheWorld.com](http://www.YoungsAroundTheWorld.com).

- PO Box 16283
- Phoenix, AZ 85011
- Home: 602.212.0857
- E-mail: [jayoung43@yahoo.com](mailto:jayoung43@yahoo.com)

## **Jeffrey Gerber '03**

Jeff graduated in 2006. He is currently living in Surprise, Arizona where he is a financial advisor for Smith Barney.

- 14616 W Port Royale Ln.
- Surprise, AZ 85379
- Home: 623.266.8774
- E-mail: [jeffgerber@hotmail.com](mailto:jeffgerber@hotmail.com)

# CALL FOR 2008 GAMMA-RHO HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS

If you know of a brother who you feel should be nominated for the Hall of Fame,  
please contact Craig Lowden '96 at:  
Craig.Lowden@FMGTucson.com or 800.228.7326,  
or visit [www.Gamma-Rho.org](http://www.Gamma-Rho.org) and submit the nomination online.



## SAVE THE DATE! HOMECOMING 2008

Saturday, October 25, 2008

USC vs. Arizona



Gamma-Rho Chapter  
Kappa Sigma Fraternity  
c/o Fraternity Management Group  
2660 North 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue  
Tucson, AZ 85719

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