



BUILDING ON OUR TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE: THE CAMPAIGN FOR GAMMA-RHO



GAMMA-RHO ZETA ANNOUNCES \$1.5 MILLION CAMPAIGN TO UPDATE CHAPTER HOUSE

Over \$825,000 Committed from Loyal Brothers

For the past 80 years, more than 2,200 men have called 904 Colleje home and had the honor of being Lambda Chis while attending the University of Oklahoma. AXA members have a long history of leadership on campus, in the classroom, in intramurals, and as alumni. Our Chapter House has served us well and has been the centerpiece of life as a Lambda Chi at the University of Oklahoma.

Our house is now over 80 years old and has only undergone one renovation since its construction in 1929. It is in serious need of updating to meet the requirements of today's modern students. To remain the top fraternity at the University of Oklahoma, it is essential that Gamma-Rho Zeta provide a safe, comfortable, and attractive home to our undergraduate members that can compete with other fraternities and off-campus housing.

Gamma-Rho Zeta proudly announces the *Building on Our Tradition of Excellence* campaign. Our renovation plans focus on the second and third floor residence halls, which will be gutted and rebuilt with new electrical service and computer connections, plumbing, and fire suppression systems. Common areas including the basement, house-mother's apartment, anterooms to the dining hall, and kitchen will also be remodeled. Should there be additional support beyond our \$1.5 million goal, our plans call for exterior enhancement and new construction where building codes allow and a separate parking facility.

We recognize that Gamma-Rho Zeta would not have its history of campus prominence without the loyal support of its alumni. Many enthusiastic brothers have stepped forward and made early personal commitments totaling over \$825,000 to this vital project. While this is a great beginning, we need your help to reach our \$1.5 million goal.

In the coming weeks, you will receive additional information detailing the project and ways you can help. We hope you will join our growing list of supporters who wish to ensure the lasting impact of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity brotherhood on the lives of undergraduate men at the University of Oklahoma. Alumni who came before us provided the opportunity to join AXA, to live in the Chapter House, and to develop the enduring friendships we enjoy. Now is the time to join your brothers to provide the same unique experience to future generations.

In Z.A.X.,
Don N. Sherman, GP 374
Campaign Co-Chairman

Raj K. Patel, GP 1120
Campaign Co-Chairman

James R. Jones, GP 490
Honorary Campaign Chairman



BUILDING ON OUR TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE:

Ensuring the Success of Future Lambda Chi Alphas Spotlight on Dr. Ron Elkins, GP 393

When **Dr. Ron Elkins, GP 393** entered the doors of $\Lambda X A$, at the behest of Brother **William Savage, GP 257**, the house was nearly 30 years old. Ron was looking for an environment which would encourage growth academically, personally, and professionally. He found that within the walls of Gamma-Rho Zeta.



Ron says his favorite memories as an undergraduate are “too many to list.” However, he thinks highly of his time in the house, with his Brothers, and of Mom O’Connor. The positive experiences Ron had as an undergraduate has led him to feel indebted to Gamma-Rho Zeta.

That indebtedness, coupled with his high expectations for the fraternity, drove Ron to donate to the *Building on Our Tradition of Excellence: The Campaign for Gamma-Rho*. “The previous major addition and renovation [to the Chapter House] was when I was in school. I was treasurer of the Fraternity when we signed the loan note to begin construction.” That was 1957, and Ron knows the house must be brought up to present standards.

Aside from the obvious structural needs of the Chapter House, Ron feels a connection to those brothers who have passed through the halls before him. Becoming part of a fraternity like $\Lambda X A$ is an opportunity Ron

feels others could benefit from. “Allowing members of $\Lambda X A$ to have an environment for academic and social development in a safe, modern environment is important.” Ron goes on to say, “The maturation and development that occurred during my undergraduate days contributed, in many ways, to my success.” Ron wants to ensure as many men as possible have the same opportunities he did.

Ron is a semi-retired physician and remains on the faculty of the Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, College of Medicine. When he has some free time, he spends it fishing, hunting, shooting, farming, and, most importantly, “raising and spoiling my grandchildren.” Ron and his wife, Lida, reside in Oklahoma City.



Undergraduates Make Commitment to $\Lambda X A$

When Alumni Relations Officer for Gamma-Rho Zeta **Matt Shandy, GP 2350**, and the other undergraduate brothers heard of the *Building on Our Tradition of Excellence* campaign, they jumped at the opportunity to invest in the future of Lambda Chi Alpha. On April 4, 2011, Matt and his brothers pledged \$190,000 to the project, a rare action taken by most undergraduates.

“We are proud of Gamma Rho and want to invest in it.”

Matt will be graduating in May 2013. His time in $\Lambda X A$ has taught him to try new things, take advantage of opportunities, and to have a purpose in everything he does. The purpose of the undergraduates is to show their commitment to the Chapter that is providing them with so much, even if they won’t get to reap the benefits of living in a new house. “We are proud of Gamma Rho and want to invest in it.”

The driving force behind the class decision to make a pledge was based on pride. The undergraduates want to show their dedication to the Chapter, much like the classes before them. “Our class was excited to have the opportunity to be involved in a way that would impact the Chapter well into the future,” said Matt. He and his brothers believe their contributions will help preserve the past of $\Lambda X A$ and position the Chapter to continue its leadership role on the OU campus and in the Norman community for years to come.

He understands, though, that raising funds to renovate 904 College isn’t easy. “We are not expecting our alumni to fund this campaign alone,” Matt said. “We are committed to this campaign and hope our alumni will be as well. We look forward to watching the joint effort of alumni and active members result in something we can all be proud of.”

Photo above: *The undergraduates came together to ensure the future of Gamma-Rho Zeta.*

THE CAMPAIGN FOR GAMMA-RHO



THANK YOU, LOYAL DONORS

We are deeply grateful to the 124 donors listed below for committing \$825,000 to the *Building a Tradition of Excellence* capital campaign. This generosity demonstrates that these individuals recognize the importance of ensuring the future of the Gamma-Rho Zeta. Commitments are still needed from our alumni to achieve our goal and complete this major project. If an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. Please notify our campaign consultant at (785) 843-1661.

The Loyd E. Harris Society
(\$100,000 and up)
Gamma Rho Zeta
Undergraduate Chapter

The Alfred P. Murrah Society
(\$50,000 to \$99,999)
Don N. Sherman, GP 374
Raj Patel, GP 1120
David J. Magstadt, GP 1612
Matthew S. Porter, GP 1615

The Thomas S. Winton Society
(\$25,000 to \$49,999)
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E. Cary Williams, GP 1145
Chris H. Lloyd, GP 1550

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David Cameron, GP 874 and
Max Cameron, GP 2239
Andrew R. Turner, GP 877
W. Benson "Ben" Malone II, GP 953
Martin G. Howerton, GP 933
Rick K. Mitchell, GP 994
Marty G. Cain, GP 1220
R. Craig Parrish, Jr., GP 1541
Jason B. Willeford, GP 1720
Dr. Rodney N. Alles Jr., GP 1753
Brian G. Moddelmog, GP 1803

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Russell S. Gibbs, GP 968
Steven R. Scott, GP 1017
Matt W. Hamilton, GP 1168
Timothy A. Heefner, GP 1467
C. Michael Bitsche, GP 1499
William B. Wynn IV, D.D.S, GP 1530
Rennie R. Cook, GP 1547
Trevor J. Tullius, GP 1905

The 904 College Society
(Up to \$4,999)
In memory of
Max Cameron, GP 2239
Helen Bailey
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Jack, Beverly, and Holden
Barnes
Bruce and Nancy Barton
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Yeary, GP 2131
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Dr. Gene Stephenson, GP 399
Barry M. Hudson, GP 470
Charles F. Hull, GP 546
John R. Reid, GP 574
In honor of
Scott E. Reid, GP 1266
G. Michael Lewis, GP 588

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT-A-GLANCE

\$1.5 Million Goal
\$825,000 Committed
124 Contributors
As of September 30, 2011

E. Michael McDanel, GP 592
Virgil "Bill" Stone, GP 593
Joe M. Nunnery, GP 608
Dan Bales, GP 774
Scott H. Yarberry, GP 875
In memory of
Max Cameron, GP 2239
Rodger M. Lalli, GP 1894
George W. Mahoney, GP 1036
Michael A. Struffolino, GP 1117
Eric W. Olivo, GP 1133
Tim Rasnic, GP 1183
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Scott S. Fish, GP 1342
C. Bryan Pettigrew, GP 1340
Brain M. Ringer, GP 1296
Barry T. Feuerborn, GP 1349
Todd R. Neaves '91
Jon T. Hayes, GP 1497
Adam P. Clinton, GP 1582
Daniel J. Broadfoot, GP 1885
Ross Powell, GP 2216



The future Gamma-Rho Zeta.

NOTABLE LEADERSHIP POSITIONS

Daniel Jones, GP 2300
IFC President
(Second year in a row)

Ben Laptad, GP 2424
CAC High School Leadership Conference Vice Chairman

Robert Elliot, GP 2305
IFC Chief Justice

Michael Nash, GP 2253
OU Cousins
Student Director

Matt Nash, GP 2306
CAC College Bowl
Chairman

Michael Williams, GP 2348
CAC University Sing
Vice Chairman



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NOTABLE AWARDS

Michael Nash, GP 2253
Letzeiser Award Gold Medalist

Patrick Ryan, GP 2310
Big Man on Campus

Darwin Roman, GP 2311
Letzeiser Honor List

Chris Ray, GP 2349
President's Award for Outstanding Sophomore

Courtlyn Shoate, GP 2260
Letzeiser Honor List

Matt Nash, GP 2306
Big Man on Campus

Lambda Chi Alpha Rounds Out Spring Semester Successfully

- *Strong Academics High Priority for Undergraduates*
- *Campus and Community Involvement Lead to Success*

The spring semester was another great one for the men of Lambda Chi. We continued our high marks in the classroom, dominance on the intramural field, and made a decision to be 100% behind the capital campaign. The current membership recognizes the next step for Lambda Chi to continue our great tradition and is extremely excited about the plans to renovate our Chapter House.

Gamma-Rho Zeta Dominates Sooner Campus

Lambda Chi just completed another fantastic semester on campus. A highlight of the semester was during Mom's Day weekend. In addition to having the mothers of our members gather at the

house for a celebration, we teamed up with the women of Kappa Alpha Theta to place third overall in Sooner Scandals. Gamma Rho senior **Holden Barnes, GP 2270** was also awarded Sooner Scandals Best Male Lead for the third consecutive year.

Lambda Chi Gives Back

During the spring, Lambda Chi was involved in some great philanthropic work. We hosted our 25th Annual White Rose Pageant on April 7, 2011. For the silver anniversary, we brought in Gamma-Rho's own **Matt Hamilton, GP 1168** to judge the pageant, while another Gamma-Rho alumnus, **Adam Clinton, GP 1582**, hosted the event. We were able to raise over \$6,000 to benefit the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Just five days later we held our Swishes for Wishes event, which is a basketball tournament philanthropy that Lambda Chi co-hosted with the women of Chi Omega. With this event, we were able to raise an impressive \$4,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation. All together, the men of Lambda Chi were able to raise over \$10,000 in five days, benefitting two great philanthropies.

Undergraduates Lead the Pack Academically
Lambda Chi performed great in the classroom yet



On April 7, 2011, Gamma-Rho Zeta hosted their 25th Annual White Rose Pageant.

again. The spring semester saw Lambda Chi win first overall in IFC grade rankings for the second straight semester, with an amazing cumulative grade point average of 3.27. Our new members also ranked first for the second semester in a row, with a GPA of 3.28. A huge factor in Lambda Chi winning first place in overall and new member grades was the 32 members who received a 4.0 GPA for the semester.

Lambda Chi has continued the great tradition that has been built over many years and is proud to say that the future is in good hands. We are looking forward to this semester and continuing our fantastic accomplishments. We would like to extend an open invitation to all alumni and their families to make a visit to Gamma-Rho to meet our youngest brothers.

In Z.A.X,
Matthew Nash, GP 2306, High Alpha
matthew.c.nash-1@ou.edu



Housemom Carol Roberts poses with Garrett Draper Award winner Courtlyn Shoate, GP 2260 and alumnus Rennie Cook, GP 1547.