

# GAMMA + Rhoever



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A LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ALUMNI PUBLICATION

♦ UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ♦

FALL 2008

## Lambda Chi Alpha Approaches 100 Years Gamma-Rho Zeta Encourages Alumni Communication

Greetings from Sigma Phi. At this writing, the dog days of August have left Norman, Oklahoma. Shortly, as I sit on my deck in late summer evenings, I will hear the distant sounds of the Pride of Oklahoma as they go through pre-season drills on south campus. As I listen to the sounds of *Boomer Sooner*, I think of crisp autumn afternoons and Molly Boren's mums on the south oval.

This also signals the beginning of a new academic year at OU. The house has reopened and the active members have spruced up the house for the fall semester. The Chapter enjoyed great success last year in intramurals, grades, and both Chapter and individual achievements. They will continue to excel as the top fraternity at OU.

This is a special year for Lambda Chi Alpha. Our Fraternity will start to celebrate its centennial anniversary during the spring of 2009. The National Fraternity, in conjunction with local chapters, will host events throughout the year to commemorate this great milestone. Stay tuned for communications from us and the National Fraternity.

The Lloyd Harris Golf Tournament was a huge success last spring. The golf committee is planning a tailgate party at the Chapter House prior to a home football game this fall. The date is not yet determined, but the committee will send out announcements so all alumni can plan their game day around this event.

This edition of the *Gamma Rhoever* contains the first of an expanded alumni news section, including individual alumni profiles, updates on our alumni giving fund, and other news of interest to our alumni base. We hope in the future to have alumni updates as we receive communications from you, including individual updates on career changes, family, and messages to lost brothers. Any suggestions for items you would like to see in the *Rhoever* are welcomed and appreciated. An alumni update insert is included in this mailing, so feel free to send in information about yourself or anything you think might be of interest to our readers.

In closing, I would like to thank all who contributed last spring to our new Gamma-Rho Zeta Alumni Loyalty fund. These individuals are listed within this publication with more information on this effort to involve alumni to help support our Chapter. As always, if you enjoy receiving the *Gamma Rhoever* and appreciate being updated on our Chapter, please help us out by contributing to this fund.



In Z.A.X.,  
**Bob Canfield, IP 876**  
President, S.P. Holding Co.  
bcanfield76@aol.com

## Sigma Phi Holding Company Announces Restructure

### ALUMNI ORGANIZATIONS DEFINED

Sigma Phi Holding Company, an Oklahoma non-profit corporation, is the official alumni organization of Gamma-Rho Zeta, and every alumnus of our Chapter is a member by virtue of their alumni status. Over the past year, the board of directors of S.P. have been researching various options to restructure this corporation to better serve the active membership, alumni base, and to better protect our principal asset, the Chapter House at 904 College. As a result of our research, we are in the process of restructuring the alumni housing corporation as follows:

**S.P. Holding Company (Sigma Phi)**  
The current bylaws and articles of incorporation

of this corporation were amended to make its corporate purpose limited to owning and maintaining the Chapter House, leasing it to the new alumni corporation during the school year, and administering our undergraduate scholarship program. S.P. Holding Company will have a board of directors elected by the corporation members (Gamma-Rho Zeta alumni) and will have monthly meetings.

**Gamma-Rho Zeta Alumni Corporation**  
A new Oklahoma non-profit corporation will be chartered to function as the traditional alumni organization for our Chapter at OU. This corporation will fill the traditional function of an



alumni advisory/support board. All Gamma-Rho Zeta alumni are also members of this corporation as a function of their alumni status. Gamma-Rho Zeta Alumni Corporation will have monthly meetings with Chapter officers, the house-mother, and alumni adviser. It will coordinate the printing of the newsletter and operate as an

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## OU Associate Vice President Considers Gamma-Rho Zeta a Valuable Experience

### *Spotlight on Matt Hamilton, GP 1168*

For **Matt Hamilton, GP 1168**, Lambda Chi Alpha was a learning experience that he still cherishes today. “Lambda Chi Alpha represents a bond that I think in some ways is stronger today than even in college. It connects those of us that were really close in college, even if we don’t get the opportunity to interact as often as we’d like. However, when we do get together, it is as if we pick up right where we left off. I know of no other foundation that can bind a group of brothers together in any more meaningful way.” As an undergraduate, Matt won Gamma-Rho Zeta’s first Duke Flad award, Lambda Chi Alpha’s highest undergraduate award. Gamma-Rho has had four Duke Flad award winners, more than any other Lambda Chi Alpha chapter.



Although Matt remembers the parties, retreats, and gavel sessions that go along with fraternity life, many of his favorite memories are of simply spending time with his brothers. One of his favorite memories is when **Brad “Conan” Bolinger, GP 1098** was sunbathing on top of the house, climbed over a ledge and was trapped on a steep slope. “The fire department had to come with a big ladder truck to get him down. Just before they arrived, about 50 Lambda Chis could be heard taunting Conan in the street and yard by meowing at him.”

*“I know of no other foundation that can bind a group of brothers together in any more meaningful way.”*

Matt clearly remembers “the intensity of **Mike Struffolino, GP 1117**, the humor of **Jim Merriken, GP 1104**, the lingo of **Jay Fields, GP 1170**, the talent of **Rick Grizzle, GP 1172**, the creativity of **Mike Thompson, GP 1149**, the passion, consistency, and charisma of **John Primrose, GP 1134**, and the servant-leader heart of **Tim Rasic, GP 1183**.” Matt thinks the most important lesson he learned from all of his brothers was synergy. “The whole is greater than the sum of the parts. When you are working together as a team, you can accomplish anything. We were very successful—winning grades, intramurals, and Sooner Scandals. We won more awards than any other fraternity.”

Matt is the registrar and associate vice president at OU. He works with and coordinates the activities of admissions, registration, academic records, financial aid, the bursar’s office, and recruitment services. Matt’s favorite part of his job is “definitely working with students and trying to make a difference at a place I really enjoy. I guess the reason I love it here is that I believe a lifelong pursuit of education is one of the great keys for the advancement of our society and culture, second only to the pursuit of the Christian faith and adopting its principles of love, forgiveness, and charity for others. I fall way short of my ideals, but I am very happy I get to work in the educational environment.”

In addition to his work at OU, Matt is still actively involved in Lambda Chi Alpha. He serves as the sponsor for scholarship accounts and as a non-voting member of S.P. Holding Company.

Matt and his wife, Joni, live in Purcell, Oklahoma. E-mail: mhamilton@ou.edu

## Sigma Phi Scholarship Committee Announces 2008 Recipients

The Sigma Phi scholarship committee announces the following scholarships awarded for the spring 2008 academic semester:

### Malone Scholarship

**Tyler Coker, GP 2210**  
**Jake Krattiger, GP 2094**  
**Ben Bigbie, GP 2148**  
**Brian Russell, GP 2158**  
**Zach Wszolek, GP 2172**

### Winton Scholarship

**Robert Carlsen, GP 2226**  
**Michael Nash, GP 2253**  
**Hassan Essaili, GP 2252**

### Harris Scholarship

**Eddie Coates, GP 2250**

Congratulations to these men for their academic achievements!

## Gamma-Rho Zeta Has Best Grades on Campus

### 2007-08 IFC GRADE REPORT

Rank	Chapter	Spring 2008	Fall 2007	Average
1	Lambda Chi Alpha	3.189	3.110	3.150
2	Sigma Phi Epsilon	3.163	3.133	3.148
3	Beta Theta Pi	3.248	3.005	3.127
4	Phi Delta Theta	3.166	2.962	3.064
5	Alpha Tau Omega	3.157	2.818	2.988

## RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Alumni, we value your referrals, please send recommendations to:

**Kyler Dawson, GP 2220**

Gamma-Rho Zeta  
c/o McClain Bank  
P.O. Box 722800

Norman, OK 73070-9131

## LLOYD HARRIS ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT A GREAT SUCCESS More than 120 Alumni Participants

The annual Lloyd Harris Alumni Golf Tournament was held on April 26 at the Jimmy Austin OU golf course. More than 120 alumni brothers participated and enjoyed a day of food, fun, and fellowship. The weekend began on Friday night with a reception sponsored by Sigma Phi at 747 Restaurant. Appetizers and refreshments were enjoyed by several alumni on the second floor balcony room overlooking historic Campus Corner. The tournament teed off the next day at noon with great weather and record-setting scores. Following golf, the participants sat down to a barbecue dinner and an awards presentation.

This has become our premier alumni event thanks to the hard work of the golf committee and the generous contributions of our many sponsors. For a complete sponsor list, please visit the *Gamma Rho* Web site at [OU.edu/lxaalum](http://OU.edu/lxaalum).

Many thanks to the golf committee for their hard work: **Jared Arrington, GP 1624, John Benson, GP 1630, Todd Kahoe GP, 1619, Nathan Lockhart GP, 1518, Craig Parrish, GP 1541, Preston Treat, GP 1614, and Jason Willeford, GP 1720.**

Congratulations to the committee and golfers. We will see you next year!



*Gamma-Rho alumni gather at the Lloyd Harris Alumni Golf Tournament at the Jimmy Austin OU golf course on April 26.*



*Russ Gibbs, GP 968, and Jeff Hermen, GP 992 at the 747 Reception.*

### GOLF TOURNAMENT RESULTS

#### A Flight

First Place: **Dikran Tourian, GP 1669, Tanner Landrum, GP 1723, John Millspaugh, GP 1437, James Stanley, GP 1674**  
Second Place: **Kris Price, GP 2029, Grant Skinner, GP 1969, Zack Skinner, GP 2009, Ernest Willis, GP 2072**

#### B Flight

First Place: **Russ Gibbs, GP 968, Greg Krall, GP 975, Fred McKenzie, GP 963, Doug Sandridge, GP 971**  
Second Place: **David Howell, GP 955, Dan Lott, GP 858, Eric Olivo, GP 1133, Rick Roman, GP 947**

#### Longest Drive

**Mark Reeves, Jason Mohler, GP 1502**

#### Closest to Pin

**Ross McElroy, GP 1560, Colton Dowdy**



*Steve Graeber, GP 891, Fred McKenzie, GP 963, and Sidney Canfield at the 747 reception.*



*Rick Romano, GP 947, Ben Malone, GP 953, Dan Lott, GP 858, and Susan Lott chat at the Lloyd Harris Alumni Golf Tournament reception at 747 Restaurant.*



*Craig Parrish, GP 1541, David Ridgway, GP 1544, and team members at the awards barbecue following the tournament.*

# Recruitment Successful Thanks to Support from Alumni and Parents

## Gamma-Rho Zeta Welcomes 49 New Members



Recruitment is the lifeblood of any chapter. Lambda Chi Alpha at the University of Oklahoma has been one of the top fraternities on campus throughout its existence and one of the top chapters in our national Fraternity. This summer's recruitment effort, aided by alumni, parents, and current members, resulted in another successful formal recruitment at OU.

Over the summer we had several recruitment events in Dallas, Norman, Tulsa, and everywhere in between. The help of members, parents, and alumni in staging these events contributed to our success and the help is gratefully appreciated by the recruitment team.

Formal recruitment was held the week of September 1 with the traditional bid day. We offered bids to 49 outstanding men who are now associates of Lambda Chi Alpha. Congratulations to all who participated to make this year's recruitment a success, and congratulations to our new associates!

In Z.A.X.,  
**Kyler Dawson, IP 2220**  
High Delta  
kyler.n.dawson-1@ou.edu

## Welcome, New Associates

**Jeff Abbott**  
Tulsa, Okla.

**Evan Fielder**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

**Braden McCaleb**  
Edmond, Texas

**Daniel Rehmert**  
Allen, Texas

**Brian Simms**  
Scottsdale, Ariz.

**Braden Anderson**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Zak Hensley**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Jason McDaniel**  
Plano, Texas

**Landon Reiter**  
Plano, Texas

**Tyler Smith**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Brian Barrett**  
Norman, Okla.

**Garrett Hinojosa**  
Waco, Texas

**Miles McDougal**  
Fort Worth, Texas

**Brock Rogers**  
Flower Mound, Texas

**Chad Thedford**  
Coppell, Texas

**Scott Barrett**  
Shawnee, Okla.

**Alexander Kaiser**  
Plano, Texas

**Evan McGrath**  
Nichols Hills, Okla.

**Darwin Roman**  
Broken Arrow, Okla.

**Pablo Vial**  
Plano, Texas

**Patrick Cargill**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Benjamin Lancaster**  
Highland Village, Texas

**John Medina**  
Tulsa, Okla.

**Patrick Ryan**  
Plano, Texas

**Andrew Whitthorne**  
Coppell, Texas

**William Dakil**  
Norman, Okla.

**Matthew Nash**  
Ponca City, Okla.

**Kale Melton**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

**Lemar Safi**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Collin Wilkinson**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Lahne Douglas**  
Marietta, Okla.

**Khoi Nguyen**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Cody Mitchel**  
Seminole, Okla.

**Cameron Saner**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

**Edward Williams**  
Dallas, Texas

**Andrew Edmonds**  
Yukon, Okla.

**Charles Nicek**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

**Alexander Paker**  
Norman, Okla.

**Ryan Schweighart**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Andrew Young**  
Tulsa, Okla.

**William Eischeid**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Addison Martel**  
Edmond, Okla.

**Wesley Pendry**  
Mansfield, Texas

**Spencer Selby**  
Norman, Okla.

**Robert Elliott**  
Norman, Okla.

**Jacob Matthews**  
Parker, Texas

**Logan Perryman**  
Springdale, Ark.

**John Senor**  
Plano, Texas

## LAMBDA CHI ALPHA TOP FRATERNITY AT OU

### *Collegians Excel in Academics, Intramurals*

The 2007-08 school year saw the men of Gamma-Rho Zeta excel again in all aspects of campus life at the University of Oklahoma. The intramural trophy still resides at 904 College, as it has for much of the last 20 years. Strong finishes in both softball and soccer, traditionally our strongest spring sports, sealed the overall championship.

Also, the year saw the return of our Chapter to the top in grades among fraternities with an overall 3.15 G.P.A for both semesters. The Chapter finished second in the President's Trophy and third in Sooner Scandals with the women of Kappa Alpha Theta.

Several of our members achieved recognition on campus for individual honors. **Eddie Coates, GP 2093** was named Homecoming King. **Ben Bigbie, GP 2148** was named Outstanding Junior, while **Tyler Coker, GP 2210** and **Michael Nash, GP 2253** were named Outstanding Sophomore and Outstanding Freshman, respectively. Finally, former High Alpha **Jake Krattiger, GP 2094** was named Outstanding Big Brother of the Year.

With summer recruitment finished, the membership is excited to be back in the house and starting another banner year for our Chapter under the guidance of Mom Roberts and

High Pi **Rodger Lalli, GP 1894**. All alumni are welcome to stop by any time you are in town to tour the Chapter House and meet the undergraduates.



In Z.A.X.,  
**Yousef Essaili, GP 2252**  
High Alpha  
Yousef.A.Essaili-1@ou.edu

## GAMMA-RHO ZETA ACTIVES WIN AWARDS AT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### Chapter Advisor Honored with Order of Merit Award

The Lambda Chi Alpha General Assembly was held in July in Phoenix, Arizona. As usual Gamma-Rho Zeta walked away with its share of Chapter awards, including Best Recruitment and Best Campus Involvement.



*Order of Merit  
Award Winner  
Rodger Lalli,  
GP 1894.*

The capstone of the assembly for our Chapter was the recognition of High Pi **Rodger Lalli, GP 1894**, with the prestigious Order of Merit Award for his service to our Fraternity. Rodger joins other Gamma-Rho Zeta Order of Merit winners **Pepper Haraway, GP 368**, **George Orr, GP 295**, and **Don Sherman, GP 374**. Congratulations, Rodger, and thanks for all you do!



## Holding Company Announces Restructure

*(Continued from page 1)*

alumni fundraising tool to supply financial aid to the Chapter as needed and available.

As always, we are on the lookout for alumni interested in giving of themselves to assist our active membership. Due to travel, of course, this is limited to brothers in the Oklahoma City/Norman area. Please contact us if you wish to serve on one of these boards or to act in an advisory capacity for the Chapter to help our High Pi. You can e-mail High Pi **Rodger Lalli, GP 1894** at [rodger@sowensgroup.com](mailto:rodger@sowensgroup.com) or S.P. President **Bob Canfield, GP 876** at [bcanfield76@aol.com](mailto:bcanfield76@aol.com).



*Sigma Phi Board Members ( L to R) Rodger Lalli, GP 1894, Pepper Haraway, GP 368, Steve Scott, GP 1139, Carol "Mom" Roberts, Don Sherman, GP 374, Bob Canfield, GP 876, Rennie Cook, GP 1547, and Mike McDanel, GR 592*



Gamma-Rho Zeta

c/o McClain Bank  
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Norman, OK 73070-9131

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**Attention:** This newsletter is intended for Lambda Chi Alpha alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Oklahoma, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. If he is no longer in school, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

## GAMMA RHO LOYALTY FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

### *Thank You, Gamma-Rho Zeta Alumni*

Thank you to all the alumni who contributed to Gamma-Rho Zeta after the publication of the spring 2008 Gamma Rho Zeta. The Alumni Corporation supports the publication of the newsletter, contributes to recruitment expenses to keep our Chapter competitive on the OU campus, contributes to our scholarship funds as needed, and does other support for our Chapter and Chapter House.

The Alumni Corporation has a loyalty fund for alumni contributions with cumulative giving levels as detailed below. We will track donations over time and report those alumni who support us with their generous donations. Thank you alumni for your loyal support!

The donors listed to the right represent brothers who have contributed to the annual appeal and are listed in their cumulative giving levels. This list does not reflect any previous campaigns or gifts. If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift(s), or if we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving records are needed, please send them to Gamma-Rho Zeta, c/o McClain Bank, P.O. Box 722800, Norman, OK 73070.

Thank you, again, for your generous support toward Gamma-Rho Zeta—it is making a difference!

#### **Pearl Level**

*(\$5,000 and up)*

#### **Gold Level**

*(\$1,500 to \$4,999)*

#### **Green Level**

*(\$500 to \$1,499)*

#### **Purple Level**

*(Up to \$499)*

Jack Austerman, GP 212  
Joseph Cook, GP 356  
William Pitts, GP 603  
Larry Tibbets, GP 737  
Philip Lewis, GP 881  
Gary Gagnon, GP 903  
Matt Hamilton, GP 1168  
Lucas Richardson, GP 1870  
Adam M. Doty, GP 2064  
Michael S. McCoy, GP 1966  
Roy V. Bynum, GP 235  
George E. Orr, GP 295  
Jimmie L. Litton, GP 290  
Harry A. Wright, GP 345

Ronald G. Maples, GP 357  
Donald N. Sherman, GP 374  
E. Trice Laird, GP 468  
Thomas C. McKee, GP 563  
Jack P. Gatewood, GP 560  
Robert C. Parrott, GP 646  
Robert M. Canfield, GP 876  
Gerald H. Badgett, Jr., GP 868  
James O. Wood III, GP 864  
Stephen W. Graeber, GP 891  
Steven W. Hermen, GP 969  
Greg A. Vlahos, GP 972  
Brian D. Adler, GP 1016  
Richard K. Mitchell, GP 994  
Gregory W. Raynor, GP 1022

