

WELCOME, 2011 INITIATES

LOYALTY FUND CONTRIBUTORS — PG. 4

ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT — PG. 5

ALUMNI MAILBAG — PG. 5-6

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ALUMNI PUBLICATION

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA

SPRING 2011 -

FOUNDATIONS FIRM AS HOUSING BOARD PLANS FOR FUTURE

"If you have built castles in the air, your work need not be lost; there is where they should be. Now, put foundations under them." -Thoreau

here is a wide variety in the way Greek organizations exist. On some campuses, fraternities and sororities are social organizations with no permanent residence or structure to call home. At others, sections of university dorms are partitioned for a particular "house," while others have meeting halls but no residence.

At OU we have a campus with a long and strong fraternity and sorority presence, with most, if not all, chapters having their own residences. The fraternity house serves not only as a residence for its members while in school but also a focal point for all social and campus activities involvement.

Changing demographics, markets, and students' preferences have created challenges for chapters in the maintenance of their structures. Today, larger memberships strain existing house occupancies. However, large capital infusions to add on to or build larger houses create financial risk as membership numbers will inevitably decrease at some time. Currently at OU this is offset by more housing options available to students compared to a generation ago. With some



Homecoming King Michael Nash, ΓP 2253 and Queen Morgan Wolber pose with President David L. Boren after the Homecoming royalty celebration at halftime. Michael is yet another example of Lambda Chis as leaders on the OU campus.

percentage of membership that will never live in the house, chapters are challenged to maintain the residential structure as a central theme to the membership.

Your housing board, Sigma Phi, recognizes these challenges and is dedicated to maintaining our Chapter House at a level where we can offer the actives a safe and healthy living environment, with occupancy levels that ensure a financially stable Chapter, and a historical structure that graces the entry to the University along Lindsay Street, as it has for 80 years. So as Gamma-Rho continues to build "castles in the air" and send outstanding young men to post-college life, we maintain a solid foundation on Lambda Chi Alpha's

principles housed at 904 College.



In Z.A.X., Bob Canfield, ΓP 876 Gamma Rhover Editor bcanfield76@aol.com

Chapter Keeps Winning Tradition Alive

CAMPUS-WIDE SUCCESS

The fall semester was extremely successful for Lambda Chi. Homecoming 2010 was a clean sweep for our Chapter. Teaming up with the women of Delta Delta Delta, we won first place overall, and our very own Michael Nash, TP 2253 won Homecoming king. Three of the last four OU Homecoming kings have been Lambda Chis (**Eddie Coates, ΓP 2093** in 2007 and **Ben Bigbie, ΓP 2148** in 2008). In addition, during Dad's Day weekend, Lambda Chi partnered with the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma to win second place overall in University Sing. Gamma Rho Zeta senior Daniel Jones, FP 2300 was

elected to the office of IFC president to serve his second term. Other notable leadership positions:

Robert Elliot, **FP 2305** - IFC Chief Justice

Michael Nash, ΓΡ 2253 - CAC High School Leadership Conference Chairman and OU Cousins Student Director

Matt Nash, TP 2306 - CAC High School Leadership Conference Vice Chairman

Michael Williams, ΓΡ 2348 - CAC University Sing Vice Chairman (Continued on page 2)

Keeps Tradition Alive

(Continued from page 1)

TOP IFC G.P.A.

Lambda Chi did exceptionally well in the IFC grade rankings, winning first overall with a 3.19 G.P.A. Members were also ranked first among all fraternities at OU with a membership average of 3.27. There were 15 members and 12 new members who received a 4.0 G.P.A. for the semester, which was a huge reason for winning grades.

COMMUNITY SERVICE CONTINUED

We continued our Lambda Theta pumpkin carve philanthropy with the women of Kappa Alpha Theta, benefiting the Big Brothers Big Sisters program. We also collected more than 5,000 pounds of canned food for the North American Canned Food Drive.

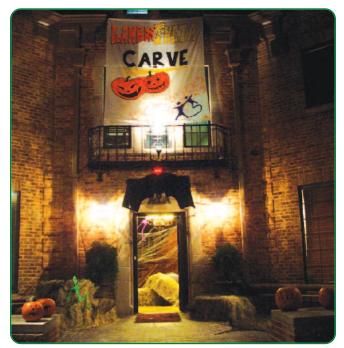
ON TRACK FOR INTRAMURAL **CHAMPIONSHIP**

The dominance of Lambda Chi continues in this year's intramurals. We are well on our way to our 19th championship in 24 years, having racked up 359 points at the end of the fall semester, more than 100 points ahead of the current second place. The

bulk of these points came from winning first place in football, the largest sport of the fall.



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



Lambda Chi joined with the women of Kappa Alpha Theta for the third annual Lambda Theta pumpkin carve, benefitting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cleveland County.



Gamma-Rho won first place in the Homecoming float competition.



Michael Williams, ΓΡ 2348, Michael Nash, ΓΡ 2253, Bijan Azimi, ΓΡ 2269, and Courtlyn Shoate, ΓΡ 2260 enjoyed the Homecoming celebrations. Michael was chosen as Homecoming king, adding to the legacy of Lambda Chi kings (three of the last four years).



More than 100 Little Brothers and Little Sisters from the Norman area attended the Lambda Theta pumpkin carve. The event also featured carnival games for the children to enjoy.

Chapter Officers

High Alpha Matt Nash, ΓP 2306

High Beta Michael Williams, ΓP 2348

High Theta Ernest Ezeugo, **FP 2442**

High Gamma
Trevor Jones, ΓΡ 2377

High Tau Jackson Dean, ΓΡ 2357 High Iota Jack Hardwick, ΓP 2381

High Kappa Chris Ray, FP 2349 Jordan Acock, FP 2412

High Delta **Zach Privett, ΓP 2376**

High Phi Andrew Neill, FP 2353

High Sigma Frank George, ΓΡ 2420

High Epsilon Michael Hodges, ΓΡ 2367

High Rho Matt Shandy, ΓΡ 2350

Executive Committee John Little, FP 2351 Chris Housley, FP 2398 Nick Levi, FP 2373

High Pi Craig Parrish, FP 1541

Recruitment Recommendation

Alumni, we value your referrals. If you would like to recommend someone for membership, please contact our recruitment officer, **Zach Privett, IP 2376**, at (405) 822-0717 or zachprivett@ou.edu.



WELCOME, 2011 INITIATES

Jordan Acock, FP 2412 Shawnee, Okla.

James Barnes, FP 2452 Oklahoma City, Okla.

Brett Benninger, FP 2456 *Houston, Texas*

Brett Bigbie, TP 2425 *Norman, Okla.*

Drew Boehmer, TP 2414 *Grapevine, Texas*

Bryce Burget, FP 2446 Edmond, Okla.

Matthew Burget, **FP 2427** Norman, Okla.

Adin Burns, FP 2431 Edmond, Okla.

Jack Cameron, ΓP 2453 Tulsa, Okla.

Seth Carter, FP 2413 *Wichita Falls, Texas*

Tucker Chonka, TP 2432 Tulsa, Okla.

Ryan Coker, FP 2426 Lexington, Okla.

Brandon Cook, FP 2451 *Norman, Okla.*

Chris Cooke, **FP 2415** Edmond, Okla.

Austin Erb, FP 2436 Houston, Texas

Ernest Ezeugo, FP 2442 Allen, Texas

Nicholas Fennema, FP 2462 Coppell, Texas

Dakota Fischer, ΓP 2438 Bixby, Okla.

Frank George, FP 2420 Austin. Texas

Blake Gregorcyk, FP 2419 Houston, Texas

Chase Griggs, ΓP 2450 Edmond, Okla.

Collin Groves, FP 2441 Oklahoma City, Okla.

Ryan Harpster, **FP 2466** Woodlands, Texas

Hunter Holmes, ΓP 2463 *Bixby, Okla.*

Taylor Howard, FP 2443 *Tulsa, Okla.*

Jimmy Kaczmarek, ΓP 2430 Tulsa, Okla.

Omar Karim, FP 2421 Edmond, Okla.

Taylor Kerrigan, FP 2429 *Houston, Texas*

Drew Knox, FP 2437 *McKinney, Texas*

Matt Kundert, ΓP 2444 Tulsa, Okla.

Wil Landa, FP 2433 Dallas, Texas

Ben Laptad, ΓP 2424 Tulsa, Okla.

Logan McGrath, FP 2439 Nichols Hills, Okla.

Patrick McNamara, FP 2458Coppell, Texas

Jonathan McNeill, FP 2459 Edmond, Okla.

Jordan Marczewski, FP 2428 Edmond, Okla.

Connor Metzger, FP 2434 Flower Mound, Texas

Jaxon Mitchell, FP 2449 Oklahoma City, Okla.

Nick Ortiz, FP 2448 Houston, Texas

Reid Pepper, ΓP 2461 Edmond, Okla.

Blake Pitchford, FP 2465 Flower Mound. Texas Quintin Reynolds, ΓΡ 2445 Edmond, Okla.

Sam Roberts, ΓP 2440 *Edmond, Okla.*

Jared Roden, FP 2460 Coppell, Texas

Ethan Roe, FP 2435 Tulsa, Okla.

John Saint, FP 2422 Tulsa, Okla.

Will Spears, FP 2457 Tulsa, Okla.

John Stanford, FP 2454 Sugar Land, Texas

Tanner Tiedeman, FP 2416 *Norman. Okla.*

Parker Troutner, FP 2455 *Houston, Texas*

Matt Valles, **FP 2447**Dallas, Texas

Chris Waycoff, FP 2417 Coppell, Texas

Neal Yarberry, ΓP 2423 Allen, Texas

Cooper Yates, ΓP 2418 Edmond, Okla.

Colton Zajac, FP 2464 Oklahoma City, Okla.

GAMMA-RHO LOYALTY FUND CONTRIBUTIONS

Thank You, Alumni

hank you to all alumni who have contributed to the Gamma-Rho Loyalty Fund. The fund supports the publication of newsletters, contributes to summer recruitment expenses to keep our Chapter competitive on the OU campus, builds up our scholarship funds as needed, and supports other necessary areas of our Chapter and Chapter House.

The donors below have contributed to the Loyalty Fund and are listed in their cumulative giving level. The list reflects previous sponsors and donations to our annual Loyd Harris Golf Tournament.

Thank you again for your generous support of Gamma-Rho Zeta. It is making a difference!

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- Zach S. Punnett, FP 1895 Trevor J. Tullius, FP 1905 M. Scott McCoy, ΓP 1966 Blake T. Rambo, FP 1971 Brandon R. Dewan, ΓΡ 1980 Paul K. Travis, ΓP 2008 Adam M. Doty, TP 2064 Daniel Hart, ΓP 2213
- * Donor to the fall 2010 appeal



Career in Sports Marketing Combines Business and Passion

Spotlight on Bryan Pettigrew, ΓP 1340

The decision to join Lambda Chi was an easy one for **Bryan**

Pettigrew, IP 1340 as he entered the University of Oklahoma. "I knew I wanted to be a Lambda Chi because my friends told me it was the best fraternity on campus. Everyone directed me there and, after I visited, I didn't attend a recruitment event at another chapter. Lambda Chi was the right fit for me."

"The guys in the Fraternity taught me responsibility and good study habits. There were many guys to look up to that went on to become very successful. My job as house manager was fun because everyone participated and I got to see and interact with everyone. The negotiation and personal skills that I use today are very much like those I learned attending Chapter meetings, making tough decisions at times, and working with a team to accomplish our goals."

Bryan took more than life skills away from his time in Gamma-Rho. He also left with deeply meaningful relationships. "The lifelong friends that I made at Lambda Chi are the people that I work with, have business partnerships with, and would trust

with my life. Every time I see the guys I went to school with it's like we're still in college. They are like family. We pick up right where we left off."

Bryan earned a degree in communications and, combined with his passion for professional sports, this turned into the perfect fit for a career in sports marketing. Beginning in horse racing, Bryan developed his skills and in 2004, started Affinity Sports and Event Marketing in Dallas-Fort Worth. His team handles marketing, advertising, and events for a number of organizations, including the Breeders' Cup World Championships, John Deere, AT&T, and McDonald's.

"My favorite moment working in this field was meeting the queen of England at a racing event. I have the opportunity to meet great athletes, team owners, and people involved in sports. My hobby is my work and I get to see sporting events all over the world with my family and friends. I am doing exactly what I love to do."

At home, Bryan and his wife, Melinda, keep busy with their two children, Carter and Callie. Bryan can be reached at bryan@affinitysportsmarketing.com.

ALUMNI MAILBAG TIRA

Below is a sampling of comments sent in from alumni after our last issue of the Gamma Rhover.

Thanks to all for sharing your news, thoughts, and remembrances.

Clifford Stone, **TP 292** moved to Leawood, Kan., from Denver, Co.

Pepper Harraway, FP 368 writes that he went through recruitment three times. In the summer of 1949 when his brother, **Jack, FP 243**, was rush chairman, he decided at the last minute to go to a smaller college. In the summer of 1950 the Korean War broke out and he was inducted on September 1. In the summer of 1952, after returning from Korea, Pepper pledged and was president of his pledge class. Better late than never, Pepper!

Ron Elkins, Γ P 393 shares that he is very interested in current recruitment activities as he has a grandson that will be at OU next fall. He thinks Λ XA would be a great place for him.

Patrick Pitchford, \GammaP 565 recalls that **Stan Bozarth, \GammaP 539**, rush chairman in 1960, so impressed his mother that she insisted Λ XA was for him. He also remembers the great Sooner Scandals acts by **Curt Schwartz, \GammaP 455** and **Larry Bledsoe, \GammaP 465**.

Bill Pitts, ΓP 603 is looking forward to the 1961-62 pledge class reunion in Norman this May. He already has his hotel reservations.

Gary Farabough, FP 762 was appointed by Governor Brad Henry as a regent for the Ardmore Higher Education Center.

David White, \Gamma P 941 writes that he was summer rush chairman two years in a row when ΛXA went from 10th of 23 fraternities in size at OU to the second largest at his graduation.

Larry Abel, FP 984 went through spring rush, much less formal and frantic than fall rush. President Jim Cunningham, FP 949 and Rush Chairman David Benninger, FP 937 came over to his dorm room in Walker tower to offer him a bid, and "interrupted" him as he was with his Gamma Phi Beta girlfriend at the time. Larry also writes of the great year his design firm had; they appeared on *Oprah* and *Open House L.A.* and produced the première party for *Glee* in September.

Steve Farrar, \Gamma P 1255 writes that he originally pledged Delta Tau Delta in 1985 due to his being a legacy. After realizing his mistake and depledging, he contacted **Dave Mustain, \Gamma P 1130**, the ΛXA rush chairman with whom he attended an intramural volleyball game between ΛXA and $\Delta T\Delta$. We won and he associated; a decision he has never regretted.

(Continued on page 6)

SAVE THE DATE

2011 Loyd Harris

ALUMNI GOLF TOURNAMENT

Jimmie Austin Golf Course Saturday, April 30 Registration - 11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start - 1:30 p.m.

Questions? Contact **Todd Kahoe, IP 1619** at tkahoe99@yahoo.com or **Craig Parrish, IP 1541** at rcparrish@mac.com.

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA



Notice of Annual Meetings

S.P. Holding Company and Alumni Association

The annual meeting of the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association and the S.P. Holding Company, both non-profit Oklahoma corporations, will be held on Sunday, May 1, 2011, at 3:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m., respectively. These meetings will be held at 904 College in Norman, Oklahoma, for the following purposes:

- 1. To elect officers and directors to serve for the ensuing year until the next annual meeting of members.
- 2. To act upon other matters as may properly be heard before the meeting.

These meetings are being held as specified in the bylaws of the corporations. For more information call **Bob Canfield**, **IP 876** at (405) 364-2931.



Gamma-Rho Zeta

c/o McClain Bank P.O. Box 351 Purcell, OK 73080

Address Service Requested

PRSRT FIRST CLASS U.S.POSTAGE PAID LAWRENCE, KS PERMIT #570

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.

ALUMNI MAILBAG

(Continued from page 5)



Craig Parrish, FP 1541 married Amy Logan last summer. Brother Russ McElroy, FP 1560 was best man and Brother Mark Robinson, FP 1534 officiated. Other brothers in the wedding: Rennie Barnes, FP 1535, Drew Leakey, FP 1545, Kevin Ambrose, FP 1540, Tate Woodward, FP 1562, Blaine Coffman, FP 1638, and Adam Clinton, FP 1582. Please join all of us here at the *Gamma Rhover* in congratulating and sending best wishes to Craig and Amy!

Joseph Loy, **FP** 1609 has made partner in his law firm in New York.

Jay Eshelman, FP 1647 thinks that every three to five years we should have an alumni work day at the house to reconnect, remember, and work with current membership to help celebrate Gamma-Rho's continued success.

Jim McElhone, TP 1752 lives in Austin, has earned his MBA, and is engaged to be married.

Adam Miller, TP 1897 moved to Lawrence, Kan., to be the director of student-athlete development at the University of Kansas. His and his family's hearts are still in Norman!