

GAMMA + Rho ver

A LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ALUMNI PUBLICATION
♦UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA♦



Gamma-Rho Zeta Celebrates Chapter House Grand Opening *Our Work Is Not Done—\$1,500,000 Needed to Alleviate Debt*

October 26, 2013, was the date and 904 College was the place for a great celebration of the Lambda Chi Alpha Chapter House at the University of Oklahoma. Gamma-Rho celebrated the completed remodel of the Chapter House with a ribbon-cutting ceremony. One-hundred yards of purple, green, and gold ribbon were stretched around the entire front yard and provided the opportunity for everyone present to participate in the cutting of the ribbon. Featured speakers of the day were **Don Sherman, IP 374**, **Bob Canfield, IP 876**, **Raj Patel, IP 1120**, and **Rennie Cook, IP 1547**, who, combined, represent nearly 50 years of Gamma-Rho's history. Grand High Iota and Chapter High Pi **Rodger Lalli, IP 1894**, shared congratulatory greetings from Grand High Alpha Drew Hunter and from the Grand High Zeta.

While there was rain during the day, our celebration and Homecoming festivities attracted over 300 actives and alumni to the house to take tours, enjoy great food, and celebrate the brotherhood. The complete overhaul of the house is a testament to the brotherhood and the hard work of our alumni.

As exciting as it is to see our Chapter House come to life, we must not forget about one of

the most important components of our project: fundraising. In order to pay down our bank loan as quickly as possible and avoid leaving a burden of debt upon our undergraduate members, we must achieve our fundraising goal of \$3 million.

One special way you can be involved is through the Carol Roberts Society. Mom Roberts has served Gamma-Rho for over 20 years and continues to do so today. She has impacted the lives of hundreds of Gamma-Rho men and many cannot imagine the Chapter without her. By pledging a gift of \$1,000 or more (designated to the Carol Roberts Fund), your name will be included on the Carol Roberts Society plaque, which will be placed prominently in the newly renovated Chapter House.

We are still urging brothers to make five-year pledges of \$2,500 or more. With nearly \$1.5 million needed to properly alleviate our debt, it is essential that every brother do what he can. We are aiming for an overall participation rate of 25%. We're currently at 15%; if 114 more brothers contribute, we will reach our goal of 25%. Even further, if 114 brothers pledge \$2,500 each, that would bring in an additional \$285,000!

We are deeply grateful to every brother who has contributed a one-time gift, made a pledge or



THANK YOU, LOYAL DONORS — PG. 2-3

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHTS — PG. 4-5

STRENGTH IN ACADEMICS — PG. 5

GRAND OPENING — PG. 6

SPRING 2014

A rainy day didn't deter hundreds of alumni and families from attending the ceremony.

increased their pledge. If you have been waiting to come aboard, now is the time. As you can see from the figures, your participation is greatly needed.

We ask that you consider prioritizing Lambda Chi Alpha in your life and commit to this historic initiative today. Even if you were not able to make the grand opening event, someday you *will* return to campus and see the newly renovated Chapter House. We hope you will be able to look upon it with pride and know that because of your support we were able to achieve this milestone.

Please return the enclosed pledge card or go online to easily set up monthly payments at www.oulambda.com. We know that together we can conclude our project successfully.

In Z.A.X.,

Don N. Sherman, IP 374

Campaign Co-Chairman

Raj K. Patel, IP 1120

Campaign Co-Chairman

James R. Jones, IP 490

Honorary Campaign Chairman



BUILDING ON OUR TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

THANK YOU, LOYAL BROTHERS AND FRIENDS, FOR COMMITTING \$1,491,064 TO GAMMA-RHO ZETA

We are deeply grateful to the 312 donors listed below for committing \$1,491,064 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 Above)

Gamma Rho Zeta Undergraduate Chapter
Don N. Sherman, GP 374
Raj Patel, GP 1120
David J. Magstadt, GP 1168

The Alfred P. Murrah Society

(\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Matthew S. Porter, GP 1615

The Thomas S. Winton Society

(\$25,000 to \$49,999)

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Conrad J. Masterson Jr., GP 581
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In memory of
David C. Cameron, GP 874
Philip E. Lewis, GP 881
E. Cary Williams, GP 1145
Carrie Lou and Jim L. Draper, GP 1421
In memory of
Garrett Draper, GP 1310
Chris H. Lloyd, GP 1550
Mike Dicus Memorial Room
Chris J. Minton, GP 1406
Travis J. Carter, GP 1422
Dr. Kevin M. Hook, GP 1427
David L. Willis, GP 1431
John M. Weaver, GP 1435
Timothy D. Clay, GP 1466
Darren D. Loftiss, GP 1486
Scott P. Mabrey, GP 1498

The David C. Cameron Society

(\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Austin H. Bell, GP 334
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David C. Cameron, GP 874
Dennis C. Cameron, GP 1043
W. Scott Winton, GP 1148
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The Garrett L. Draper Society

(\$10,000 to \$14,999)

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O. Maurice Joy, GP 447
Gilbert C. Scriver, GP 488
Ann and Jim Dicus, GP 537
In memory of
Mike Dicus, GP 1430
Jerry J. Ransom, GP 612
John N. Goodman, GP 642
Hal Cook, GP 657
In memory of
Doug Conn, GP 659
Charles L. Tefertiller, GP 765
W. James McCarthy III, GP 794
In memory of
Judd Oualline, GP 822,
David Cameron, GP 874, and
Max Cameron, GP 2239
Andrew R. Turner, GP 877
Martin G. Howerton, GP 933
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(Up to \$4,999)

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Max Cameron, GP 2239
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The Collins Family
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Campaign Status

At-a-Glance

As of March 11, 2014

Goal: \$3 Million

**Total Raised:
\$1,491,064**

**Number of Contributors:
312**

Keith and Jane Kleid
The Laptad Family
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Dale and Sarah Williams
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Scott H. Yarberry, GR 875
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Max Cameron, GR 2239
Rains Family Gift
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Rusty Rains, GR 1221
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Grant Terry Todd, GR 1180
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and William L. Scheirman
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In memory of
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Hugh "Bob" Bumpas, GR 246
Roy V. Bynum, GR 235
Thomas R. Wiggins, GR 244
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Pepper Haraway, GR 368
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John T. Van Loon, GR 410
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Mrs. Mary O'Connor
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Jim C. Bass, GR 472
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William F. Frenzley, GR 492
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Charles M. Evans, GR 532
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Allen Harris, GR 541
Charles F. Hull, GR 546

William W. Hutchinson, GR 553
In memory of
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Jack P. Gatewood, GR 560
Thomas C. McKee, GR 563
James Derryberry, GR 564
T. Michael Weaver, GR 568
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John M. Weaver, GR 1435
John R. Reid, GR 574
In honor of
Scott E. Reid, GR 1266
Roger C. Clapp, GR 580
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James K. Howard, GR 591
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E. Mike McDanel, GR 592
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Charlie Snider, GR 627
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Jim R. Dodd, GR 636
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Michael R. Harkey, M.D., GR 648
James N. Gibson, GR 662
In memory of
Doug Conn, GR 659
John A. Wright, D.D.S., GR 666
In memory of
Jerry Benson, GR 620,
Roy Sikkink, GR 623, and
Doug Conn, GR 659
Dale A. Stevens, GR 667
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Bill Hodde, GR 589
Noah H. Ewing, GR 683
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Samuel M. Griffin, GR 788
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David Cameron, GR 874
Peter L. Riley, GR 838
James O. Wood III, GR 864
Stephen W. Graeber, GR 891
In memory of
Park McCalley, GR 951
Steve H. Rugeley, GR 895
In memory of
David Cameron, GR 874 and
Max Cameron, GR 2239
Gary T. Gagnon, GR 903
Bill Kyle Jr., GR 904
In memory of
Rob Rodgers, GR 906
David M. Mahvi, GR 910
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Vance C. Gilmore, GR 921
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Rick Greene, GR 914
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Larry R. Rodgers, GR 1006
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Rob Rodgers, GR 906
Mark A. Langenberg, GR 1012
George W. Mahoney, GR 1036
Joel S. Lason, GR 1047
L. Alan Tiedeman, GR 1078
Michael A. Struffolino, GR 1117
Dr. Eddie James, GR 1129
Eric W. Olivo, GR 1133
Randy Savage, GR 1132
Brad M. Ellis, GR 1136
Thomas M. Osborn, GR 1143
In memory of
David Mustain, GR 1130
D. Oliran Johnson, GR 1140
Thomas W. Samaras, GR 1144
Jay M. Williamson, GR 1167
Tim S. Holt, GR 1173
John G. Camp, GR 1182
Tim Rasnic, GR 1183
Todd R. Schlosser, GR 1186
Thomas "TJ" Jones, GR 1190
Gregory S. Hill, GR 1196
Steven "Kai" Harrison, GR 1225
Greg N. Tomlinson, GR 1226
In memory of
Garret L. Draper, GR 1310
Bryan B. Brooks, GR 1228
Taylor T. Foreman, GR 1271
Brian M. Ringer, GR 1296
C. Bryan Pettigrew, GR 1340
Scott S. Fish, GR 1342
Barry T. Feuerborn, GR 1349
Todd R. Neaves, GR 1350
Robert S. Patton, GR 1351
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Scott A. Wenaas, GR 1372
Mark T. Thompson, GR 1374
Michael J. Loomis, GR 1383
Jonathan D. Holt, GR 1394
Will Staedke, GR 1402
John M. Weaver, GR 1435
Christopher J. Kopecky, GR 1440
Trent N. Neaves, GR 1468
In memory of
Jim Benson, GR 1464
C. Shane Hume, GR 1469
Jon T. Hayes, GR 1497
Edward W. Eckart, GR 1503
W. Brad Kruse, GR 1536
Kenneth E. Wagner, GR 1555
In memory of
Grant T. Todd, GR 1180
Ryan M. Smith, GR 1575
Adam P. Clinton, GR 1582
Jay A. Eshelman, GR 1647
Dr. Stephen D. Confer, GR 1665
Scott C. Weatherholt, GR 1700
Brad Ruttman, GR 1703
Chad D. Hamilton, GR 1707
Daniel P. Hare, GR 1747
Joey S. Stauffer, GR 1757
Michael D. Horton, GR 1775
Keith A. Anderson, GR 1798
In honor of
Mom Roberts
Daniel J. Broadfoot, GR 1885
Matthew B. McCoy, GR 1892
Rodger M. Lalli, GR 1894
Trey Cooper, GR 1902
John D. Wadley, GR 1908
Wesley K. Anderson, GR 1958
M. Scott McCoy, GR 1966
Kyle Bertholf, GR 2018
Adam M. Doty, GR 2064
Jimmy Reece Dyer, GR 2099
Cole Youngman, GR 2103
Jeffrey M. Ragan, GR 2112

Carol Roberts Society
(\$1,000 gifts)
In honor of
Carol Roberts
James P. Bohanan, GR 1092
Robert T. Elmburg, GR 1414
Dr. Kevin M. Hook, GR 1427
Jimmy Anderson, GR 1750
Zach Punnett, GR 1895
John M. Krattiger, GR 2094
Cody Moorese, GR 2111
Brian M. Russell, GR 2158
Michael Nash, GR 2253



Former Ambassador Gives Back to ΛΧΑ

It was the combination of maturity, focus, and fun that drew **James Jones, IP 490**, into Lambda Chi Alpha as he started college. Though working his way through school and pursuing a double major, service to the fraternity became an important part of his experience. As recruitment chairman and then High Alpha, James traveled Oklahoma meeting high school graduates and promoting Lambda Chi. His tenure included finishing half of the Chapter House, doubling the number of brothers who could live in the house.

"I felt a bit like a coach, proud of our team as I watched them grow. It was an expensive proposition to finish the house, but I had faith that we would continue to grow and so I decided to get all of the approvals to borrow the money to complete the work. It paid off with an even better Chapter going forward."

Today, James is chairman of ManattJones Global Strategies, a business problem-solving firm assisting U.S.-based companies in foreign markets, but his experiences in both public service and business have built the foundation for where he stands.

In public service, he served at the White House as President Lyndon Johnson's last chief of staff; as a member of Congress for 14 years; and as U.S. ambassador to Mexico. In business, his resume includes CEO of the American Stock Exchange in New York; president of Warnaco International, a fashion company in New York; partner in a law firm; and co-founder of a private equity firm and a software company.

While in the midst of these rich experiences, James continues to draw from his own history, including his time in Lambda Chi. **"A life lived to the fullest is a series of giving back for the advantages you have been given."** I was a relatively poor kid from Muskogee who grew considerably by the help of brothers both contemporary as well as those who preceded me. It is important that Gamma Rho be able to offer those advantages to brothers in the future. Part of that is to provide a physical living experience that continues to attract the best of those studying at OU. Now it is my turn to give back to help make that happen."

James lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Olivia. They have two sons, Geoffrey and Adam.



ALUMNI DOING MORE

In his 28th year at OU, **Matt Hamilton, IP 1168**, has some perspective on the value of a college experience. Having dedicated nearly three decades to higher education, Matt's experiences have run the gamut from recruitment to financial aid to working with alumni. Now, from his seat as registrar and vice president of enrollment and student financial services, he can reflect on not only the cost of a college education, but also the true worth of those four years.

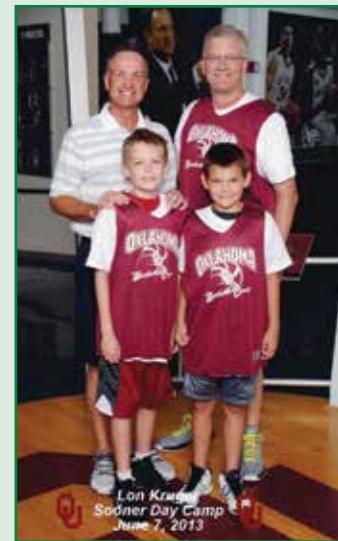
"I came to OU from a small town in Oklahoma, wearing a clip-on tie through recruitment. Lambda Chi was absolutely a foundational experience for me and I learned a lot about being a professional. I discovered how relationships could work, and through my experiences at 904 College, I also became more tolerant about others beliefs and choices. You didn't have to give up any foundational value of who you were in order to be a part of this fraternity, and I realized the blessing in being part of an organization with a diversity of individuals."

Remembering back to those days in the house, Matt recalls the physical structure where his memories were made. The small renovations and improvements that were made gave the members a great sense of pride, but there were still maintenance issues to be addressed. "Although more recent, I do remember a few years ago when the dining room ceiling collapsed on Ambassador **James Jones, IP 490**, while he addressed the active membership. Thankfully no one was injured and the ambassador was in good spirits about the situation.

"It was an old house even when I was an undergrad and there were times when we, as young idealistic fraternity brothers, said things like 'when I'm an alum, I'm going to make a difference for this house.' My hope is that individuals will remember those times when we wished we could do something and recognize that this is the chance for us as alumni to do more."

"There are three historic building projects in 904 College's history (four if you count the Struffolino "Memorial" Basketball Complex). In the past there was the building of the new house and then adding a new wing. This is obviously a more costly project than those other two combined, and we have our opportunity right now with this third monumental moment. I want to do something for our active fraternity brothers who are trying to further the influence of Lambda Chi Alpha. There were outstanding young men in the fraternity back in my day and there are outstanding young men in the fraternity today. Now is the time to make a difference!"

Matt and his wife, Joni, have four children: Luke (12), Jack (9), Anna (8), and Rachel (4). They keep busy with homeschooling and the kids' sports teams, but Matt still enjoys a game of ping pong and would be happy for a rematch against **Mike Struffolino, IP 1117**. Matt can be reached at mhamilton@ou.edu.



At Lon Kruger's basketball camp.

Building a Reputation

As a very recent alumnus, **Michael Nash, TP 2253**, can clearly see what alumni have done for Lambda Chi. There's a deep sense of appreciation for those who have come before and, already, an understanding that membership in Lambda Chi is for more than four years.



"The opportunities that we had were because of something that those before us did. As chapter president, I always thought it was important to emphasize that the reputation of Lambda Chi rested on those of us who were currently in the Chapter. Successes build off of one another and it was our turn to leave Gamma-Rho better than we found it."

As an active it was easy to see that the house needed improvements, but despite the older house, the quality of men and the experience Lambda Chi provided was still top notch. Now, as an alumnus, Michael chose to give back to the Chapter in a new way by contributing to the capital campaign.

"It's amazing how many capital campaign projects are going on in OU's Greek community. It is such an incredible benefit to have the renovation and expansion of our house occur, showing others that the quality of our house matches the quality of the guys inside.

"I'm sure that everyone who has been a part of Gamma-Rho has at least one friendship, opportunity, or experience that, if they hadn't joined Lambda Chi, wouldn't have happened. Giving what you can is one of the best ways to contribute and impact the members today. For me it has also been an opportunity to honor those who have had such an impact on the chapter. I personally wanted to honor **Max Cameron, GR 2239**, who we lost far too early, and to honor Mom Roberts, who continues to serve as Gamma-Rho's house mom. I'd encourage everyone to join the Carol Roberts Society to honor all that Mom Roberts has done for us."

Michael still hears the goings on of Lambda Chi as he works in the president's office at OU as the press secretary and special assistant to the president. He plans to go back to school in the future to build on his degree in entrepreneurship and venture management. For now he enjoys staying in touch with Lambda Chi friends, many of whom have taken float trips and even met in New Orleans for the Sugar Bowl. He can be reached at michaelthomasnash@gmail.com.

Ray Wolber, TP 2467, (left) and Ben Laptad, TP 2424, (right) were both members of the Homecoming court. Ray was chosen as the Homecoming king.



A Lambda Chi intramural football team after the semi-finals. The Chapter dominated in fall performance, winning nearly every event.



Strength in Academics and Campus Involvement Continues

Lambda Chi Alpha continues to excel at every level at OU. From intramurals to community outreach, Lambda Chi is setting the standard by which other organizations measure success.

This past year Lambda members had a GPA of 3.15, which was once again higher than both the all-campus GPA as well as the fraternity overall GPA. Our associate class once again ranked in the top three highest for new member GPAs, furthering the great tradition of academic success Lambda Chi has established over the years.

Our members strive for development of not only themselves, but also the campus and community. Lambda Chi members hold some of the highest leadership positions on campus, including student body president, Big Event chairman, OU Cousins student director, College Bowl chairman, SGA chief of staff, and OU IFC president (the fourth Lambda Chi in the past five terms to hold this position). Our members hold more than 80 campus leadership positions, once again showing our commitment to the values of Lambda Chi Alpha.

In addition to our largest philanthropy, The White Rose Pageant, VP **Patrick Bass, GR 2536**, has organized two more philanthropies for this spring, which we hope will raise more than \$10,000 dollars for Feeding America.

Our 21st intramural championship is all but guaranteed after a dominating fall performance where Lambda Chis won almost every event and lead the rest of the fraternities by over 130 points.

We are very appreciative to all the alumni and families who have donated to the campaign and we are confident that this will put us in a great position when measured against other fraternities on campus. We encourage you to tour the completed house and hope this will be a time for you to reconnect with other alumni of Gamma-Rho Zeta.



In Z.A.X.,
Jimmy Kaczmarek, TP 2430
High Alpha
jim@ou.edu

Welcome, New Members

Emeka Amaefule
Spring, Texas

Anthony Custable
Southlake, Texas

Hunter Lambert
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Michael Swearingen
Plano, Texas

Zach Van Dam
Tulsa, Okla.

**2014 Loyd Harris LXA
Alumni Golf Tournament
Saturday, May 17**

Golf Tournament & Box Lunch
Registration begins at 11:30 a.m.
Shotgun Start - 1:30 p.m. at the
Jimmie Austin Golf Course
Tournament Format - 4-man
Scramble (2 flights)
Two Mulligans, Two Raffle
Tickets, Post Tournament Awards



Paid registration must be received by May 3 to hold your spot. Individual Golfer: \$180

Make checks payable to: LXA Alumni Golf Tournament and send to 3010 Carnoustie Dr., Norman, OK 73072.

For questions, contact **Craig Parrish, TP 1541**, at (405) 204-6451 or rparrish@mac.com or **Todd Kahoe, TP 1619**, at (405) 623-3107 or tkahoe99@yahoo.com.

**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 4, 2014, at 3:30 p.m. 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, TP 876**, at (405) 364-2931.

LXA Online

Keep up to date or make a donation on the web.
www.oulambda.com

Clockwise from left: Rodger Lalli, GR 1894, Bob Canfield, GR 876, Rennie Cook, GR 1547, Raj Patel, GR 1120, and Don Sherman, GR 374, cut the ribbon on Gamma-Rho's renovated home. Active members await the ribbon cutting. Scissors are distributed for brothers and friends to share in this momentous occasion.

**GAMMA
+ Rhover**

Gamma-Rho Zeta
c/o Don Sherman
P.O. Box 721891
Norman, OK 73070

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