

# GAMMA + Rho

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GAMMA-RHO ZETA LEADING  
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A LAMBDA CHI ALPHA ALUMNI PUBLICATION

♦ UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA ♦

SUMMER 2019

## A Time of Transition: Call for Alumni Volunteers

**T**his summer marks the end of an era at 904 College. After serving as Gamma-Rho's Chapter adviser for 20 years, **Rodger Lalli, GP 1894** has retired from the High Pi position. We can never repay or thank Rodger enough for his dedication to Gamma-Rho. He has mentored hundreds of our brothers who have passed through the doors of 904 College. He has helped shape them into the men they are today. The values he instilled in them have helped build upon a Chapter legacy that all of us can be proud of. Unsurprising to those who know him, Rodger does not seek recognition for his service, nor does he even want this article to focus on him as much as it has already. Suffice it to say, though: thank you, Rodger, for all you have done for us.

Instead of dwelling on the past, however, both Rodger and the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association hope that this time of change will inspire even more of our alumni brothers to pick up the lamp and lead our Chapter into the future. Rodger's retirement is the latest in a series of longtime alumni volunteers stepping down so that others may step up. At the end of last year, **Bob Canfield, GP 876** retired from his position as president of the Sigma Phi Housing Corporation after more than 15 years of loyal service on the board.



With this time of transition comes an exciting opportunity for a new generation of brothers to once again reshape what it means to be an alumnus of Gamma-Rho.

We are in need of a new Chapter adviser—a person who will lead our undergraduate brothers. But don't worry, this term is not for life, nor is it a siloed position. The High Pi will lead the Chapter alongside an Alumni Advisory Board responsible for individually mentoring specific Chapter officers. Lambda Chi Alpha Headquarters requires us to have a Chapter adviser by the start of the fall semester, so if you have any interest at

all—even if just for one year—please contact us. We will help support you in every way we can.

We also want your help in bringing fresh, new ideas to both the Sigma Phi Housing Corporation and the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association—and that help does not mean a huge time commitment. Several of our board members live away from Norman and call in to the monthly meetings. Our vision is, with the help an ever-growing group of alumni volunteers, we can create an alumni presence to match the caliber of our Chapter.

If you've ever thought about reconnecting to Gamma-Rho—whether by attending alumni tailgates, coming back to tour the house, or just reuniting with old friends—now is the perfect time. We would love to hear from you. We welcome any alumni who are interested in building a stronger alumni presence to please contact us at [oklahomalambda@gmail.com](mailto:oklahomalambda@gmail.com). We hope you will join us.

In Z.A.X.,  
Gamma-Rho Alumni Association  
[oklahomalambda@gmail.com](mailto:oklahomalambda@gmail.com)



*A group of alumni at an OU football game day.*

## Join Your Brothers and Cheer on the Sooners

**T**his year the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association will host our alumni tailgate on Sept. 1, 2019. Don't miss this opportunity to reconnect with your Gamma-Rho Zeta brothers.

### More Dates to Keep in Mind

- Fall Formal Recruitment: Aug. 17-20
- Fall Bid Day: Aug. 21
- Fall Family Weekend (formerly Dad's Day): Sept. 27-28
- Homecoming: Oct. 19

*Please join us for one or all of these events! We hope to see you soon!*



# Reflecting Faith, Hope, and Love

## Tim Holt, GP 1173 Reflects on His AXA Years and Future

“My association with Gamma-Rho allowed me to build many lasting relationships that exist to this day. My experience taught me a tremendous amount regarding teamwork, accountability, brotherhood, and respect for others.” **Tim Holt, GP 1173** affirms his time as an undergraduate was incredible and prepared him for a successful career and enriched life.

Some of Tim’s most cherished memories revolve around his time at the Chapter House. “I met and served alongside countless quality men from around the United States.” As an undergraduate, Tim served as High Rho and High Phi. He reflects on his time in leadership positions with pride and recognizes the improved sense of responsibility and accountability he gained. Tim identifies taking the initiative to lead as a young man formed a solid foundation and grounded him to the fact that others were counting on him for the better of the Chapter today and the members of tomorrow.

These preparations for the future involved many members who were fundamental to his development, including the late **Don Sherman, GP 374**, **Tom Winton, GP 343**, and **Dr. Loyd Harris, GP 005**. He also knows he can reach out to **Robert “Pepper” Ray Haraway, GP 368**, **Dr. Jackson Haraway, GP 243** and **George Orr, GP 295** for continued support. “I continue to look up to these men who gave enormous amounts of time, energy, and resources for Gamma-Rho to be one of finest fraternities on the OU campus.”

For Tim, his brothers were invaluable to his growth and he remembers the great adventures while living at the Chapter House. “Being a part of the many ritual teams, helping organize the 75th AXA anniversary celebration,



relationships with my spring association class of 1983, etiquette lessons at formal dinners with Mom Pogue, and a road trip with a stellar group of brothers to the OU-Pittsburgh football game are embedded in my memory.” He also recalls relationships with his Big Brother, **Tom Schovanec, GP 1123**, and three Little Brothers: **Manny De La Paz, GP 1210**, **Harvey Saxer, GP 1278** and **Jeff Rainey, GP 1259**.

Tim sees great promise in the active Chapter at 904 College. “The undergraduate members are very vibrant, and continue a strong tradition of excellence in grades, sports, and community service.” One thing Tim shares with his young brothers is to be selfless, especially in how you approach life. The understanding of the opportunity to be a force for good in the world no matter what status you may

hold. “Your faith, family, and integrity are much more important than any material aspects of life.” A favorite motto that resonates with Tim and he embraces is: “Determine to be a true brother of AXA, using what you learn for the good, not only of the Chapter but for the good of those you touch throughout your life.”

After graduating with a degree in finance from OU, Tim followed his grandfather’s footsteps to a career in banking, later graduating from the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. As the Executive Vice President and Chief Lending Officer for Great Nations Bank, Tim hopes to reflect faith, hope, and love in his everyday life.

Tim resides with his wife of 30 years, DeeAnne (McCombs), in Oklahoma City, Okla. They have two grown children; a son in the OKC area and a daughter in Nashville, Tenn. Reconnect with Tim via email at [tholt@greatnationsbank.com](mailto:tholt@greatnationsbank.com).

## Have You Contributed to Gamma-Rho Zeta’s Milestones? ADD YOUR NAME TO OUR DONOR LIST TODAY

In fall 2018, 26 generous alumni responded to our call for support and donated more than \$19,000 to Gamma-Rho Zeta. These funds were used to provide scholarships and leadership opportunities, to support our capital campaign efforts, to strengthen our alumni relations program, and to create our memorial walkway. Supporting these opportunities helps us continue Gamma-Rho Zeta’s legacy at the University of Oklahoma. Donors are listed in their cumulative giving level.

### Pearl Level

(\$5,000 and above)

Robert S. Stewart, GP 816

### Gold Level

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

### Green Level

(\$500 to \$1,499)

Amb. James R. Jones, GP 490

William E. Pitts, GP 603

Greg N. Tomlinson, GP 1226

Taylor T. Foreman, GP 1271

Dr. Kevin M. Hook, GP 1427

Adam Victor Smith, GP, 1813

Beau R. Brumfield, GP 1909

### Purple Level

(Up to \$499)

Jill and David Pierce

Caroline Pierce

Traci Tucker

Byron J. Bailey, M.D., GP 351

Ronald Sheffield, GP 515

Jack P. Gatewood, GP 560

John A. Wright, DDS, GP 666

Robert L. Gamble, GP 698

Gary W. Farabough, GP 762

A. Browning Waters II, GP 791

Gregory W. Raynor, GP 1022

Robert W. Moehler, GP 1163

Todd R. Schlosser, GP 1186

Erik Channing Anderson, GP 1263

In honor of

the fall 2018 Finals Feast

M. Scott McCoy, GP 1966

Kyle R. Bertholf, GP 2018

Michael Nash, GP 2253



## Gamma-Rho Zeta Leading on Campus

### *Undergraduates Raise \$10,000 for Relay For Life*

In November 2018, the undergraduates of Gamma-Rho Zeta set a goal to raise \$2,500 in a single day for Relay For Life. Our associate and active members raised the bar with nearly \$10,000, leading every organization on campus in funds raised. Several of our members raised over \$500, including **Sammy Cooper, Grant Applebaum, FP 2887, Connor Whitehurst, FP 2882, Colton Chelootz, FP 2906,** and **Isaac Stoops, FP 2910**, who was awarded a prize for most funds raised out of every single person on campus!

### *White Rose Pageant Gives Back to Big Brothers Big Sisters*

We had a very successful White Rose Pageant led by High Theta **Jack Osborn, FP 2821** and emceed by sophomore **Will Fiser, FP 2834**. The pageant was held at Holmberg theater on April 17, 2019. All proceeds were donated to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Norman. Megan Gold of Pi Beta Phi was crowned the winner, and Ashton Clopton of Alpha Omicron Pi was named runner-up. We look forward to continuing to improve this event with the great young leaders of Gamma-Rho Zeta. Additionally, we finished third place in Sooner Scandals this year, led by **Asher Nees, FP 2709** and **Paxton Pennington, FP 2714**.

### *Brother Achieves Mom Roberts Award*

Senior **Ryan Snyder, FP 2725** was awarded the annual Mom Roberts award this past December. This honor is awarded to a senior member whose values resemble those of our housemother, Mom Roberts. His humility and dedication to the house these past four years have been nothing short of amazing. You can likely find him on the intramural softball field making Derek Jeter-esque plays at shortstop, working in the kitchen at 904 College Ave., stealing the show at Sooner Scandals, or doing anything to put a smile on people's faces. His contributions to the house have not gone unnoticed and we wish him the best of luck in the future.

### *Campus Leadership*

We continue to stay involved in organizations on the University of Oklahoma campus. We had 10 executive members on the Relay For Life committee, a member serving as vice chairman of Soonerthon, another member served as chairman of LEAD team, five Gamma-Rho Zetas on the lacrosse team, and many more members play major roles in leading organizations at OU.



*High Alpha Jack Creedon, FP 2825, Mom Roberts, and Ryan Snyder, FP 2725.*



*Isaac Stoops, FP 2910 received AirPods for raising over \$2,000 on Giving Tuesday for Relay For Life. Isaac raised the most money of anyone on campus.*

### *Gamma-Rho Zeta Places Fifth in Academics*

Our Chapter's new member education program continues to instill the values that we hold dear. As the new member program continues to evolve, we fight diligently against the growing stigma associated with fraternity education. Our Chapter is proud to report we finished fifth place in grades with a 3.14, which was above the all-men's average for fraternities at OU.

### *Stay Connected to Your Gamma-Rho Zeta Brothers*

Our Chapter continues to pride itself as the producer of some of the finest leaders on campus, excelling in academics and creating lifelong friendships. It's an exciting time for alumni involvement with many new opportunities for en-

*(Continued on page 4)*

High Alpha  
**Jack Creedon, FP 2825**  
McKinney, Texas  
john.creedon@ou.edu

High Beta  
**Chapman Wise, FP 2823**  
Austin, Texas

High Theta  
**Jack Osborn, FP 2821**  
Miami, Okla.

High Gamma  
**Ben Jensen, FP 2869**  
Flower Mound, Texas

High Tau  
**Jack Shapard, FP 2838**  
Fort Worth, Texas

High Iota  
**Matthew Loftis, FP 2871**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

High Kappa  
**Grant Mettenbrink, FP 2824**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

**Todd Donnan, FP 2902**  
Athens, Ga.

High Delta  
**Cade Cruzen, FP 2836**  
Keller, Texas  
(817) 932-3678  
cade.w.cruzen-1@ou.edu

High Phi  
**Bill Rucker, FP 2826**  
Coweta, Okla.

High Sigma  
**Ryan Rasnic, FP 2870**  
Norman, Okla.

High Epsilon  
**Camden Pierce, FP 2851**  
Oklahoma City, Okla.

High Rho  
**Aidan O'Brien, FP 2822**  
McKinney, Texas

Standards Chairman  
**Dalton Leyden, FP 2841**  
Denver, Colo.

Executive Officers  
**Matt Mills FP, 2819**  
Woodlands, Texas

**Stephen Price, FP 2875**  
Dallas, Texas

**Matthew Dawson, FP 2872**  
Flower Mound, Texas

## Gamma-Rho Alumni Association

**M**ark your calendars to join the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association for this year's tailgate event of the year! Reconnect with your brothers at the renovated Chapter House and cheer on the Sooners on September 1, 2019!

### Gamma-Rho Zeta

(Continued from page 3)

agement with the Chapter. Through collaboration with the Gamma-Rho Alumni Association and High Rho **Aidan O'Brien, GP 2822**, we are coming up with new ways for alumni to reconnect and engage with the Chapter. To stay up to date with alumni events, networking opportunities, and more:

- Join our Facebook page, OU Lambda Chi Alpha Alumni.
- Update your contact information at [www.oulambda.com](http://www.oulambda.com) through the alumni tab on the homepage.
- Contact High Rho Aidan at [aidan.m.obrien-1@ou.edu](mailto:aidan.m.obrien-1@ou.edu).

The Gamma-Rho Chapter finished our academic year strong and we are excited for what the future brings in philanthropy, academia, and service. I would like to thank our incredible housemother, **Mom Roberts**, and outstanding Chapter adviser, **Rodger Lalli, GP 1894**, for their dedication and hard work devoted to the Chapter. Rodger has been an integral part of our chapter and we will miss his presence and guidance sorely!

In Z.A.X.,  
**Jack Creedon, GP 2825**  
High Alpha • [john.creedon@ou.edu](mailto:john.creedon@ou.edu)



*Zane Torres, GP 2904, Evan Arnold, GP 2885, and Brooks Anderson, GP 2846 played in the Sooners 2019 lacrosse season. Not pictured: Jon Schlegel, GP 2899 and Stephen Price, GP 2875.*



### Gamma-Rho Zeta

Alumni Association  
P.O. Box 721891  
Norman, OK 73070

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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 ZETA WELCOMES 47 INITIATED BROTHERS

Grant Appelbaum, GP 2887  
Evan Arnold, GP 2885  
Chase Bell, GP 2876  
Austin Blaylock, GP 2908  
Andrew Bowman, GP 2894  
David Cabrera, GP 2909  
Colton Chelootz, GP 2906  
Josh Cohlma, GP 2879  
Johnathan Cowen, GP 2898  
Matthew Dawson, GP 2872  
Carter Deardorf, GP 2914  
Jeffrey Donnan, GP 2902  
Parker Dugan, GP 2890  
Ryan Francis, GP 2880  
Austin Gifford, GP 2901  
Scott Gipson, GP 2878

Thomas "Trey" Huelskamp, GP 2900  
Ben Jensen, GP 2869  
Matthew Loftis, GP 2871  
Carson Lund, GP 2897  
Kyle Macadam, GP 2893  
Caleb Magness, GP 2873  
Matthew Maier, GP 2913  
Kellen Mayberry, GP 2903  
Harrison McCormick, GP 2911  
Chase McMillan, GP 2905  
John Nork, GP 2886  
Reid Pierce, GP 2881  
Stephen Price, GP 2875  
William Puiggari, GP 2907  
Dustin Raring, GP 2889

Ryan Rasnic, GP 2870  
Cole Reed, GP 2896  
James Rhodes, GP 2888  
Mitchell Ross, GP 2912  
Jonathan Schlegel, GP 2899  
Matthew Sewall, GP 2892  
Isaac Stoops, GP 2910  
Chase Taylor, GP 2884  
Preston Taylor, GP 2877  
Zachary Taylor, GP 2895  
Zane Torres, GP 2904  
Colin Tucker, GP 2883  
Jackson Wagner, GP 2874  
Charlie Warrington, GP 2915  
Michael Werner, GP 2891  
Connor Whitehurst, GP 2882

**Can Your Brothers  
Find YOU?**



**K**eep up to date with Gamma-Rho Zeta and update your contact information on our website at [oulambda.com](http://oulambda.com). We want our brothers to stay connected and receive hard copy mailings like these! Please take a moment to visit the website and make sure your contact information is correct. We want our database to be as accurate as it can be but we need your help.

You can easily update your information anytime online at [oulambda.com](http://oulambda.com) by clicking the "Update Info" button in the top right corner.

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