



PIKE PRESS

Gamma Chi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha
at Oklahoma State University



SUMMER 2014

Foundations Firm as House Corporation Plans for Future Now Is the Time to Reconnect with Pi Kappa Alpha

Upon graduating from Oklahoma State University, we all leave Pi Kappa Alpha with high hopes of keeping our fraternal bonds intact. However, we quickly find that many new interests—careers, families, and civic activities—can create valid diversions. The day-to-day activities of life take over and, before long, we fall out of touch and begin to wonder what happened to our brothers. Fortunately, the House Corporation of Gamma Chi Chapter willingly gives its time to help Pike remain strong on the OSU campus.

With this in mind, we have decided to launch production of the *Pike Press* newsletter. This focus will help our members stay in touch and will cultivate awareness and involvement with Gamma Chi Chapter. It is important for all brothers to stay informed about the collegiate chapter and what our younger brothers are

accomplishing on campus and in the community. While there may be some differences in today's chapter compared to the one you knew, there is an unbroken chain of ΠΚΑs at Oklahoma State. In order to preserve that legacy, now is the appropriate time to look into securing our future.

Today, perhaps more than ever, college fraternities play a pivotal role in shaping the lives of young men. We all know that Pi Kappa Alpha can provide a solid foundation for young men by offering a small-group living environment and opportunities for high academic achievement and the development of leadership and social skills. As alumni, it is our duty to continue providing those opportunities for future generations.

Our beloved chapter house has been the heart of our brotherhood for more than 30 years and has provided a home away from home for

generations of Gamma Chis; however, as the university continues to invest in modern, updated dormitories, the House Corporation must address our need to provide a safe, competitive, and modern facility on the OSU campus.

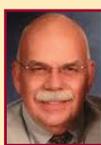
We recognize these challenges and are dedicated to providing an educationally conducive environment and a modern facility for college men well into the future. So as Gamma Chi continues to send outstanding young men to post-college life, we maintain a solid foundation on Pi Kappa Alpha's principles housed at 221 South Lincoln Ave.

Fraternally,
Larry Ricker '65
House Corporation President
(405) 372-7617
larry.ricker@gmail.com

INTRODUCING THE GAMMA CHI HOUSE CORPORATION

The House Corporation for Pi Kappa Alpha at Oklahoma State University is a 501(c)(7) not-for-profit corporation, formed with the purpose of planning for and working toward providing competitive housing on campus for Gamma Chi. The manner in which the house corporation seeks to accomplish this is by buying, selling, receiving, exchanging, leasing, renting, granting, improving, developing, repairing, and at times maintaining a mortgage on the real and personal property of the Gamma Chi Chapter.

House corporations are governed by a board of alumni volunteers, elected by their peers. While some house corporation board members have a background in real estate, the most important qualification is having a passion for the chapter's housing. At OSU, the Gamma Chi chapter house competes with some of the best fraternity housing structures in the nation, competition which becomes increasingly fiercer as the surrounding fraternities are currently engaged in capital campaigns to renovate or completely rebuild their living spaces. A strong house corporation is critical to the longevity of Pi Kappa Alpha as it faces these challenges. Our house corporation board is composed of the following members:



House Corporation President
Larry Ricker '65
Auto Parts Specialist, NAPA
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Rich Young '80
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S. Shane Pate II '00
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Chapter Advisor
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Brothers at the Big Event community service project in the spring. Students from the entire university worked on various projects to help families in need.



Many brothers participated in the blood drive this year.



Dinner on the patio with the women of Phi Mu.



Hog Roast Night before International Work Day.

Generations of Gamma Chi Strive for Excellence

Gino Demarco '80 Reflects on His Pike Experience

Every man's reason to join a fraternity varies. Whether following a family legacy, joining high school friends, or simply needing to find a home away from home, each brother chooses Pi Kappa Alpha for a multitude of reasons. The bond that keeps all Gamma Chi generations together is the leadership and brotherhood that can't be found in any other chapter at OSU. **Gino Demarco '80** had just returned from Marine boot camp and learned that his freshman year roommate had pledged Pike. Not knowing much about fraternity life, Gino got to know the other brothers over his first semester of school and eventually pledged as well.



The experience that Gino gained as an undergraduate was invaluable. "I was always focused on achievement and knew that I needed more than just grades on my resume. Being associated with the guys in Pike helped me with my personal development. We had some really driven guys and they helped me understand what it would take to be successful—how to dress, how to interview, how to act in public.

"A lot of what I took from Pike was the influence of the others in the chapter. We all came from different places, and I think the different experiences and strengths we brought with us helped create an experience that was beneficial to us all. Another thing that I took was the concept of a team and how we worked together. We had adversity and came together to get the job done. To this day, my pledge brothers and I still stay in contact and reminisce about our experiences. The fraternity forced us into that dynamic, but it's remarkable how it can be applied to one's professional career," Gino said.

Gino was a member during one of the most exciting and significant times for Gamma Chi. He believes the choice to build a new chapter house his sophomore year brought the chapter to a new level. "The brotherhood that existed at the time was pretty unbelievable. We were a small chapter and we all faced the common threat of going under. We worked together to build it into a chapter house and then the group after us took it to the next level. The things that I learned and the people I met have kept me grounded throughout the years," Gino shared.

"Every Gamma Chi Pike can look back and identify a handful of folks who were instrumental in keeping the chapter around. There are three brothers who come to my mind: **JL Sanderson '39**, who has stepped up many, many times when we needed help; **Terry Hyatt '65** has given so much personal and professional resources; and **Hoby Ferrell '82**, whose recruiting skills were why we were able to go from a third-tier chapter to a first-tier on campus."

After graduation, Gino worked for Deloitte for two years. "I picked a tough time to go into accounting in Oklahoma as the oil and gas bust hit just as I started. Seeing how I was the youngest and least experienced, I started to pick up the basics of the personal computer and Lotus software. This skillset allowed me to create a niche in the company." Eventually Gino and **Rick Holder '78** bought a company together and were able to sell a part of the company to Chesapeake in 2011.

Gino lives in Nichols Hills, Oklahoma, with his wife, Valerie, and their four daughters: Tara, Haley, Brianna, and Sophie. E-mail: gvthbs@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Eternal

Ronald Owen Remke '65, of Bartlesville, Okla., entered Chapter Eternal on Tuesday, September 17, 2013. While at OSU he was active in the Air Force ROTC program and following his graduation in 1966 he entered active duty with the U.S. Air Force. Ron was a combat reconnaissance fighter aircraft commander-RF4 captain senior pilot with combat flying over North and South Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. He loved the outdoors, was an avid fisherman, and was proud of the fact that he had the opportunity to fish in numerous countries during his military career.

UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS PLAN FOR SUCCESS

Join Us for the Alumni Banquet this Fall

Dramatic Improvement in Scholastics

The Gamma Chi Chapter has been working hard to improve our overall grade point average. These efforts include housing discount initiatives, class-specific tutoring programs, and required study hours for all members. After incorporating these changes our chapter has moved up six places in the overall GPA rankings and received a 3.03 average last year.

Making a Point to Give Back

This past year's philanthropic endeavors have been wildly successful, including the popular Welcome to the Jungle exotic animal petting zoo and sorority powder puff football tournament. Additionally, the Gamma Chi Chapter has contributed more than \$13,000 toward various charities in Stillwater and Oklahoma.

Community Involvement in Stillwater

The chapter's goal for the past year has been to increase the number of community service hours completed each year. Our team has put together a program that allows each member to achieve a minimum of 56 volunteer hours each semester, while not over-committing our members. With this approach, our chapter has given 4,987 hours of service toward the Stillwater community.

Strategic Plans for Recruitment

The past recruitment produced numerous involved members, many of whom are now members of our new executive team. Recruitment is the foundation of the fraternity and is taken very seriously. This summer's recruitment efforts are more ambitious than those of previous years. Our target house minimum capacity is 70 members, with a total maximum capacity of 78. We intend not only to meet these goals but also to fill the house with the best men attending OSU this coming fall.

Successful Alumni Events

Our alumni association hosted a successful alumni banquet with stories from the past, laughs, business in looking toward the future, and great food. Our chapter looks forward to the banquet every year and we hope to see it grow in years to come. Additionally, early in the upcoming fall semester, our chapter is hosting a BBQ event, and we look forward to meeting with alumni again as we start up a new school year.

Fraternally,

Geoff Kibble '11

Chapter President / geoffkibble@gmail.com



Our impressive Homecoming float from last fall.



The intramural soccer team after another win.

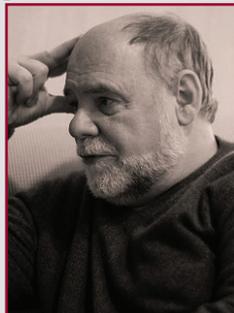


Construction for the annual Shipwreck event.

Gordon Eubanks '65 Encourages Entrepreneurial Careers

How Pi Kappa Alpha Helps Men Succeed

Many people don't realize that joining a fraternity is much greater than four years of general camaraderie. Living in a chapter house provides opportunities for personal development, a superior environment for academic success, and is where the heart of lifelong friendships is developed. **Gordon Eubanks '65** shares that his undergraduate experience in Gamma Chi gave him the chance to develop relationships that spanned years, not just semesters. He joined Pi Kappa Alpha because of the great people he met and stayed because of the bond from the brotherhood. "I learned a lot about teamwork and leadership. There were a lot of tough challenges because this was during the time that the chapter house burned down. It took a while to fully appreciate how much it meant to be part of Gamma Chi, but it certainly had a lasting impact."



After graduation, Gordon served as a Navy submarine officer. "I went to Officer Candidate School (OCS), and then spent nine years in the Navy. The Navy recruiter who helped me get into OCS was a Pike. Without his help it would not have happened. The Navy sent me to graduate school to get a master's degree in computer science in 1976, which opened up a long-term opportunity."

Gordon became involved in the computer software industry in Silicon Valley. "I spent 17 years as CEO of Symantec, a security software company. Certainly what I enjoyed most about working was building a company that has endured more than 30 years creating thousands of jobs."

(Continued on page 4)

Save the Date

Third Friday Each Month

Happy Hours in Tulsa, OKC,
Dallas, and Kansas City

Details on times and locations dispersed via e-mail. If you do not receive the e-mails, please contact Alumni Association President **Nick Johnson '02** at osupike21@yahoo.com, visit www.osupikes.org, or "Old School Gamma Chi Pikes" Facebook page.

August 16

Annual Alumni Association Meeting

10205 E. 117th Street
South Bixby, OK 74008

August 23

Undergraduate Meet and Greet
Alumni vs. Member Flag Football
Pike chapter house in Stillwater, OK

Fall 2014 Football Schedule

Alumni Association Tailgates at
all OSU home football games

September 6 - vs. Missouri State Tailgate

September 13 - vs. UTSA Tailgate

October 4 - vs. Iowa State Tailgate

Pike Reunion Tailgate

October 25 - vs. WVU Tailgate

Homecoming

December 6 - Bedlam Watch Parties in
KC, OKC, and Tulsa

Spring 2015

Founders' Day Hall of Fame Banquet

Details TBA

Gordon Eubanks '65

(Continued from page 3)

He advises undergraduates to think entrepreneurially and to stay in touch with brothers after college ends. "Ask yourself how you can take advantage of technological or environmental factors to change how something is done, to give someone a better experience. I believe that driving change is critical and it should start early. College is a time of great change and it is important to stay connected with the people that help shape you as you go out into the world."

Even though Gordon lives in Pebble Beach, California, he still makes an effort to keep in touch with many of his pledge brothers. He and his wife, Ronda, have a son, Keith, and they all love to travel and never miss a Giants baseball game. E-mail: gordoneubanks@gmail.com



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Gamma Chi Chapter of Pi Kappa Alpha
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Address Service Requested

Attention: This newsletter is intended for graduate brothers and parents. If your son is still attending Oklahoma State University, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

Founders' Day 2014 was a great success with nearly 200 guests in attendance!



We apologize for the typographical error in the recent Gamma Chi mailing.