

# Gamma Chi Alumni Association of Pi Kappa Alpha



## Upcoming Events

- March 1, 2014  
Founder's Day Alumni Banquet  
Location: Stillwater
- Summer 2014 (TBD)  
Alumni Association Meeting/BBQ  
Location: Tulsa
- June 2014 (TBD)  
Alumni Hosted - Undergraduate Pledge  
Signing Day Events  
Location: Tulsa and Oklahoma City
- August 2014 (TBD)  
Undergrad Meet & Greet/BBQ  
Location: Stillwater
- Fall 2014: Alumni Tailgate at ALL OSU  
Home Football Games  
\*Note the annual Large Pike Reunion will  
be held on a game day which is TBD.
- Fall 2014  
Annual Alumni Beer Pong Tournament  
Location: Oklahoma City
- Alumni Happy Hours  
3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month  
Location: Oklahoma City and Tulsa  
\*Specific locations and times are  
generally available the week before the  
event.

## Message from the President

Nicholas Adam Johnson

As we open a new year, it is my pleasure to announce that the Gamma Chi Alumni Association is running strong due to continuing efforts from men like you. After our initial establishment, we have come to a point where we can begin hosting and planning more brotherhood events for our many great alumni. I encourage each of you to come out to any of the planned events or to suggest other possible events in the future. I and the other Alumni Association Officers are here to serve you and are always open to input and volunteers to help us plan and facilitate the assorted events.

As you can see for yourself from the undergraduate update and other sections of this newsletter, the Chapter remains focused on meeting and exceeding the expectations needed to bring home the coveted Robert Adger Smythe Award.

In addition to our tailgates from the past OSU football season (which we have combined with the undergraduates in an effort to increase Alumni and undergraduate interaction), in October, we started Alumni Happy Hours in Oklahoma City and Tulsa on the third Friday of every month. Announcements on locations are sent out via email, so

watch your emails for details. I would encourage each of you to attend when you can and to spread the word to others. I have personally attended each Oklahoma City Happy Hour and have very much enjoyed seeing brothers I hadn't seen in a while and meeting brothers from different eras.

In closing, I admonish each of you to make plans to attend our Annual Founder's Day Banquet, which is to be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014. Last year, we had our biggest showing ever, and this year we hope to surpass those numbers with several distinguished guests in attendance. More details can be found enclosed with this newsletter or by contacting one of the Alumni Association officers. I look forward to seeing each of you in the near future.



## Mailing Address:

**Gamma Chi Alumni Association**  
P.O. Box 4216  
Tulsa, OK 74159

## Web Site:

[www.osupikealumni.com](http://www.osupikealumni.com)

## Facebook Group:

"Old School Gamma Chi Pikes"

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**Nick Johnson, President**

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**Michael Price, Vice President**

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**Brandon Lux, Secretary**

brandonlux10@gmail.com

**Zach Morrison, Treasurer**

zach.g.morrison@gmail.com

*"Behold, how good  
and how pleasant it is  
for brothers to dwell  
together in unity!"*

*Psalm 133:1*



## Recent Association News/Activities

### Gamma Chi Alumni Association Wins International Award!

At the 2013 Pi Kappa Alpha International Awards Luncheon in Memphis, Tennessee, the Gamma Chi Alumni Association won its *second consecutive* "William R. Nester Alumni Association of the Year" Award. The Nester Award is the highest honor an Alumni Association can receive at the International Convention.

### Founders' Day Hall of Fame Banquet

Over 180 guests were in attendance for our Alumni Founders' Day Hall of Fame Banquet Saturday, March 9, 2013. Scotttrade Founder and CEO and 1964 Gamma Chi initiate, Rodger Riney was the featured guest speaker for the association's annual marquee event. Brother Riney was inducted into the Gamma Chi Hall of Fame. **This year's event has been scheduled for March 1, 2014.** We expect attendance to be larger than ever as we celebrate 75 years of Gamma Chi. The guest speaker for the event will be Gordon Eubanks (1965 Gamma Chi Initiate). Brother Eubanks is an American microcomputer industry pioneer. The banquet will be held in Stillwater, OK at the OSU Alumni Center. Overnight reservations can be made at the Atherton Hotel at OSU under the group name "Pi Kappa Alpha." Andrew Wiggins and the Kansas Jayhawks will be in town to take on Marcus Smart and the Oklahoma State Cowboys basketball team after the event. Tickets are sold out, but we will host a Watch Party immediately following the event at the OSU Alumni Center. Bar service will be available and the game will play on the huge screens. This is the Alumni Association's annual marquee event, please see the inset of this mailer for more details or email any of the association officers.

**The due date to RSVP with a paid plate (guests welcome) is February 15, 2014. You can pay via the website with Paypal (no paypal account needed) or mail in your payment. Association Members and their guests receive a discounted rate.**

### Annual Meeting/BBQ

The Alumni Association annual meeting was held on Saturday, June 29, 2013 in Edmond, OK at the residence of Shane Pate. In conjunction with the meeting we had BBQ, played yard games, and caught up with friends.

New officer elections were held. The new officers are President - Nick Johnson, Vice President - Michael Price, Secretary - Brandon Lux, and Treasurer - Zach Morrison. Items discussed were the past year, the budget, and events for the coming year. The meeting minutes are posted under resources on the association website. The next meeting will be held in the summer of 2014. **Food at this event is free to Association Members and their guests.**

### Alumni/Undergraduate Meet and Greet

On August 18, 2013, the Alumni Association hosted a Meet and Greet in Stillwater for the undergraduates. Alumni Association members were on hand to meet the undergraduates at the Pike House shortly after they moved in for the semester. The Alumni Association members cooked burgers for the undergraduate members. The next meet and greet will be held in August 2013. **Food at this event is free to Association Members and their guests.**

### OSU Football Tailgates

Every Saturday in the 2013 Oklahoma State Football season, hundreds of alumni, family, and friends from all generations attended the Gamma Chi Alumni Association Tailgates. The Large Pike Reunion was held the weekend of the Kansas State football game on October 5, 2013, with a huge attendance. Stop by the tailgate next fall and have some great food and hang out with other alumni before and after the game. Keep up to date with the "Old School Gamma Chi Pikes" Facebook page and ensure you are subscribed to our email to continually receive updates. **Food at tailgates is free to Association Members and their guests.**



### Other Association Events

In the Fall of 2013, the Alumni Association began hosting Happy Hours on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of every month in both Oklahoma City and Tulsa. Generally, the Happy Hours involve meeting at a restaurant and/or low key bar for a few hours. This is a great time for alumni to get together and continue the brotherhood started years ago. These monthly events will continue indefinitely, so be on the lookout for details! **These events are free to Association Members and their guests.**

In October 2013, the Alumni Association hosted the 5<sup>th</sup> annual Beer Pong Tournament. A few dozen elite "athletes" competed for the top prize in Oklahoma City, OK. The next Beer Pong Tournament will be held in the Fall of 2014. **Food at this event is free to Association Members and their guests.**

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*"Live out of your  
imagination, not  
your history"  
– Stephen Covey*



## Alumni News

### Dr. William J. Carson Gamma Chi '51



Dr. William J. Carson, 82, passed away on September 3rd. William was born in Orange, NJ in 1931. His family moved to the Panama Canal Zone when he was 7 years old. Bill graduated from Balboa High School in the Canal Zone in 1949. He attended Oklahoma State University earning his DVM, Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine. While in college, William met the love of his life, Katherine, and they were married in 1957. Bill served for two years in the Air Force in Del Rio, Texas. He continued his career in Veterinary Medicine by working for the Department of Agriculture in Beltsville, Maryland. Bill and Kay relocated to Miami in 1959 where Bill began caring for small animals with Charlie Bild until 1978. For the next 35 years, he practiced under the name of Bild Animal Hospital, loving and healing the animals of South Florida. Doc's kindness and compassion towards dogs, cats and their owners was evident through his many loyal clients and continued until his passing at the age of 82. William's quiet kindness will be missed by all. Predeceased by son Steven. Survived by wife Katherine (Kay); son William J., III (Michele); daughter Stephanie (Andrew) Baumann and grandchildren William, Timothy, Megan, William, IV and Ashley.

Donations in his memory can be made to the Humane Society of Broward County, Wayne Huzienga Shelter or to The School of Veterinary Medicine of Oklahoma State University.

## How to join the Association

Your membership in the Gamma Chi Alumni Association of Pi Kappa Alpha is the single most powerful way to make Pi Kappa Alpha stronger at Oklahoma State University, as well to expand and enrich your own experiences with the fraternity that helped mold you into the person you are today.

There are several ways to join the association. You can write us via our mailing address listed to the left, email one of our officers, visit our website, or join in person at any Alumni Association event! Association dues are set at \$50 per year. Send payments to the mailing address or pay at our website via a secure PayPal transaction.

### Ways to Get Involved with the Local Chapter

#### Alumni Advisory Board

One of the foremost indicators for the success of a Pi Kappa Alpha chapter is the presence of an alumni advisory board. This team of advisors can provide the mature advice and perspective that will take a chapter from the middle of the pack, to the top of their campus. The presence of an active Alumni Advisory Board is one of the requirements for a Pike chapter to receive the coveted Smythe Award. If you'd like to learn more about becoming a part the Alumni Advisory Board, please contact Shane Pate at [pika\\_boy\\_1868@yahoo.com](mailto:pika_boy_1868@yahoo.com) or Nick Johnson at [osupike21@yahoo.com](mailto:osupike21@yahoo.com).

#### Housing Corporation

The undergrads at Gamma Chi are still in need of additional board members on the Housing Corporation! House Corporations are 501c(7) not-for-profit corporations, formed with the purpose of planning for, and working towards providing competitive housing on campus for their respective chapters. The manner in which the Housing 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 Housing Corporation is critical to the longevity of Pi Kappa Alpha as it faces these challenges.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a part of Housing Corporation, please contact Lee Wilson at [cowboylee89@aol.com](mailto:cowboylee89@aol.com) or Larry Ricker at [larry.r.ricker@gmail.com](mailto:larry.r.ricker@gmail.com).



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*"Don't go to the grave  
with life unused."*

*-Bobby Bowden*



## Featured Alumnus

### Question and Answer with Lee Wilson (Gamma Chi '86):



**1) What made you join PiKA? Was there a specific person that convinced you to pledge Pike?**

*I was considering Sigma Phi Epsilon and Phi Delta Theta and was asked at the last minute to attend a rush party at the Pike house. I had a lot of fun there at the party, some members took me upstairs to the Library during the party and applied some "heat" and I signed on the spot. Joe Chris Loy is who convinced me to join Pike. He was really the only Pike I talked to prior to the party I went to. He was the rush chairman.*

**2) What is your most memorable story from living in the Pike house?**

*There are lots of them (Carmella stirring the pot of soup in the kitchen, getting thrown into Theta pond, pledge sneak to Dallas to name a few). I think one that I can tell is the only fight I have ever been in occurred my Freshman year in 1985 in front of Fargo's when Chris Mountford and Bob Cruepper got into some kind of argument with some guys from another Fraternity. The disagreement spilled out on the sidewalk in front of Fargo's. I was a still a pledge, but somehow got pulled into the very brief fight that I think we won!*

**3) What was the biggest challenge you faced in college and how did PiKA help you overcome it?**

*My biggest challenge was being disciplined enough to study just enough to make my grades and graduate in four years with a degree in business. I was easily distracted by "other activities". I lived in the house all four years. The guys that were around me (both upperclassmen and guys in my class) that did well in school and studied served as a model to me and applied enough peer pressure to keep me on track.*

**4) What do you miss most about your college days?**

*EVERYTHING!! I would go back today "Rodney Dangerfield style" if I could. I miss the brotherhood I felt with the guys in my pledge class; going to The Fox, Joes, Murphy's and Tumbleweeds; football game weekends and just walking to class down Greek Walk.*

**5) What did you do after college?**

*I went to work at Wal-Mart as a manger in one of their Distribution Centers in Bentonville, AR.*

**6) What do you do today?**

*I am a Senior Manager at Wal-Mart in the IT division. I have been with Wal-Mart in several different capacities for 24 years.*

