

FALL 2008 PLEDGE CLASS

Aarian Afshari
Jimmy Anderson
Andrew Arnold
Devon Ball
Addison Beall
Jon Chalkley
Taylor Cook
Bob Cowsert
Andrew Davis
Davis Dedwylder
Will Evans
Billy Fickling
Ben Fuller
Joseph Gaines
Zac Hauther
Will Jeremiah
Carter Johnson
Jacob Kitchen
Dodger Lambourn
Leland McCluskey
Andy McLaughlin
Anthony Montes de Oca
Denis Murrel
Becht Neel
Zack Peffer
Ryon Plummer
Asa Porter
Inman Porter
Aaron Retterbush
Sloan Sanders
Christopher Schatzman
John Simmons
Travis Tipton
David Trice
Christopher Wade
William Weston

**Visit www.kauga.com to
see the hometowns of our
fall pledge class!**

Between the Columns

October 2008

www.kauga.com

Kappa Alpha Order at The University of Georgia • Athens, Ga.



CAMPAIGN UPDATE

KA Has the Finest Fraternity House in the United States

We Need 100% Participation to Finish the Project

By Larry Knox '65

Yes, we have the finest fraternity house in the entire United States. We have set the Gamma Chapter up for the next 100 years. Hopefully our sons and grandsons and other fine young men will enjoy and respect this wonderful new facility. Think of the future leaders of Georgia and of the country who will pass through the halls of the Gamma Chapter at The University of Georgia.

Many people have worked long and hard to make this dream a reality. Many Kappa Alpha Brothers dug deep financially to help fund this project. We can all be proud. Now, we must finish the job of paying for what we have. Over 530 men and women have made pledges to this campaign. But more than 1,000

Brothers have not yet pledged. Let's strive for 100% participation. Our fundraising goal has always been \$4,500,000. We are currently at \$3,200,000. We can do it. We must do it.

"Over 530 men and women have made pledges to this campaign."

We encourage all of you to visit the new house at 755 West Hancock Avenue this fall. You won't be disappointed. Remember the friends we made at Kappa Alpha and the impact it had on our lives? It's time to give some back.

Fall 2008 Pledge Class is 14 Legacies Strong!



Standing Row (L-R): Asa Porter, Dublin, GA; Andrew Arnold, Perry, GA; William Weston, Augusta, GA; Inman Porter, Dublin, GA; Becht Neel, Atlanta, GA; Billy Fickling, Macon, GA; Andrew Davis, Tallahassee, FL; Will Evans, Augusta, GA; Taylor Cook, Clinton, SC; and Bob Cowsert, Athens, GA.

Kneeling Row (L-R): Aaron Retterbush, Valdosta, GA; John Simmons, Tallahassee, FL; Joseph Gaines, Athens, GA; and Jimmy Anderson, Nashville, TN

HOUSE REPORT

Adding to KA's Dominance at UGA

New House, Large Pledge Class, Numerous Legacies and High Scholarship put Gamma Ahead of the Rest

By Hunter Hopkins '97

Gamma Chapter has officially kicked off the 2008-2009 school year in its new home! The new house at 755 West Hancock opened in early August and the Chapter has fully moved in. All of the actives seem to really be enjoying the new facility. Unfortunately, the mansion at 294 South Lumpkin has already been torn down, and the lot now serves as a parking lot. As much as we'll miss 294 South Lumpkin, our new facility at 755 West Hancock will serve our Chapter as one of the best houses on campus for years to come. I know all of this is hard to believe, but you have to come to Athens and see it for yourself!

Thanks to the leadership and hard work of brothers such as **Mark Cross '82, Hoppy Hopkins '69, Bill Huff '63, John Jones '02, Larry Knox '65, Malcolm Liles '71,** and many others heavily involved in the process, Gamma Chapter has a new home well equipped to carry the Chapter into the future. Thanks to the financial contributions of many

of our alumni, Gamma Chapter has been blessed with the newest and nicest fraternity house on UGA's campus. We all know that Gamma Chapter is one of the top fraternities on campus, and this new house at 755 West Hancock can only add to KA's dominance at

"This particular fall is extremely special due to the current ranking of our beloved Bulldog football team as well as the celebration of Gamma Chapter's new home at 755 West Hancock."

UGA. With strong leadership in place within the undergraduate Chapter, a large new pledge class full of several Gamma legacies, a brotherhood made up of some of the sharpest young men on campus, and this new house, Gamma Chapter's continued success this year

is guaranteed.

Currently, I am in process of putting together an alumni board for Gamma Chapter. This new board will allow more alumni to be involved in the everyday operations of the Chapter. It will also take most of the pressure off of one person acting as sole alumni advisor. With the aid and guidance of the National Office, we are putting together a top-notch committee to help guide Gamma Chapter into the future. I will be sure to keep you posted as to how this process continues.

As you all know, the fall is an exciting time in Athens. This particular fall is extremely special due to the current ranking of our beloved Bulldog football team as well as the celebration of Gamma Chapter's new home at 755 West Hancock. I hope to see you in Athens at some point in the next few months.

CHAPTER REPORT

KA Boasts Largest Pledge Class on Campus

Thirty-Six Men, Including 14 Legacies, Make Up Fall Pledge Class

By William Hodges, Number 1

The 2008 fall semester at The University of Georgia is perhaps the most exciting in the history of Gamma Chapter. With a newly constructed fraternity house and a preseason #1 for the Dawgs, there has never been a better time to be a Gamma and a Bulldawg.

After a summer of hard work, our rush chairs landed the chapter with the biggest pledge class on campus, as 36 students accepted bids to become Gammas. Nine states, as far west as Texas and as far north as Kentucky, are represented by this year's pledge class as well as 14 Kappa Alpha legacies.

Academically, our collective 3.23 GPA this spring saw us yet again above the average fraternity GPA of 3.05, as well as above the overall Greek GPA of 3.19. In the spring we also waved goodbye to our former location at 294 South Lumpkin Street. The house's last

Old South parade was held on April 16 as we brought our dates back to Lumpkin Street for mint juleps with parents and a band party that evening. To bid farewell to Lumpkin, the entire last Saturday of April housed a daylong band party on the front yard to allow us to make our final memories at the house we called home for nearly 60 years.

In April, Gamma hosted the Hardeman Province Council for all the Georgia chapters of Kappa Alpha Order. By the Council's completion, Gamma had been awarded a scholastic award and yet another Ammen Award to hang upon the walls of the new house. After our recognition, the Gamma officers met with a representative from the national office in Lexington, and decided to pursue the status of making Gamma a Crusade Chapter.

After years of hard work and excitement, the gentlemen of Gamma have finally moved into our new location at 755 West Hancock Avenue. The four-story house sleeps an entire pledge class, has a state-of-the-art security system, a study room, and a separate facility that serves as a multi-purpose room and allows us to hold social functions away from the main house. Our housing committee, Gamma Trustees, Inc., has worked tirelessly to provide Gamma with the best, and the finished product exceeded well beyond the Chapter's expectations. Thank you to our alumni as well as our advisors for everything you have done for the house as well as the Chapter.

We invite all alumni to come to Athens this fall. Go Dawgs!

ALUMNI PROFILE

A Successful Real Estate Broker, Rusty Epperson '67, Enjoys His Supportive Role in Kappa Alpha Order

A Spur of the Moment Trip to New Orleans and Initiation are Cherished Memories

Staying involved with Kappa Alpha Order is very easy for **Rusty Epperson '67**. His experiences at the fraternity were some of the best in his life. They were experiences that he has taken to heart and wants to make sure that the young men of today have the same opportunities that he had so many years ago.

The moral character and stability of Kappa Alpha Order were the qualities that initially attracted Rusty to the fraternity. He felt comfortable there as a "son of the south." A few familiar faces were also an attraction. A high school friend, **Mike Boling '65**, introduced Rusty to the character of Kappa Alpha Order. When he entered the house for the first time, he met another friendly face, **Larry Knox '65**.

You could almost call it love at first sight," said Rusty about his first feelings for the Gamma chapter.

"You could almost call it love at first sight," said Rusty about his first feelings for the Gamma Chapter. With a hometown friend and new friendships forming, what else could Rusty do but become a part of the tradition that he values so much.

One of Rusty's favorite memories occurred during his initiation. Remembering the brothers' names and where they were from would seem to be a simple task. Since Rusty was on the football team, he was required to spend a great deal of time at the athletic dorm and on the practice fields, so he didn't get to spend as much time at the house as the other pledges. During initiation, the first name on the list was Brian Brown from Baxley, Georgia. A little bit nervous, when it was his turn to start reciting names, he stated Brian Baxley from Brown, Georgia. Told to go back to the dorms and study the names some more, Rusty wasn't going to let the next opportunity fail him.

The next time around he was prepared. Asked by the brothers to go to Lexington, VA, Rusty and a few of his pledge brothers decided to drive to New Orleans instead. They drove all night long, and had beignets in downtown New Orleans Saturday morning and drinks at Pat O'Brien's at noon. They then bought a portrait of Robert E. Lee and drove back to Athens for initiation. The portrait of Robert E. Lee hung in the Gamma Chapter house for many years.

The experiences at Gamma have definitely influenced Rusty's life and how he is living it. Without the networking that the fraternity provided, he may not have become a member of several worthy civic organizations. Rusty is a member of the Gridiron Society, the Touchdown Club of Atlanta, and the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, and former director of Downtown YMCA. Also a member of Peachtree Presbyterian Church, Rusty is involved with the fundraising efforts for the new youth center.

"... he enjoys being in a supportive role to help these boys bridge from high school into college, as gentlemen and responsible young citizens."

Rusty's life would not be complete without his family. He has been married for 28 years to his wife, Mary Beth, who he definitely fell in love with at first sight. They have three children, David, Patrick, and Hallie, of whom they are very proud. David graduated as a KA from Washington & Lee in 1996. Patrick is a fishing guide and chef in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. They just said their good-byes to their daughter Hallie, who is spending the next six months in Africa working with orphans on a mission trip.

Rusty's passion in life is his real estate business with Wilson, Hull, and Neal.



Rusty Epperson '67

A hard-working man who likes to do business the old-fashioned way, he has been successful in commercial real estate for the past 32 years, winning the Phoenix Award with 11 "Million Dollar Years." He most recently received the 2008 Post Graduate Achievement Award from the National Football Foundation.

Creatively using his background as a football player, Rusty prints his business cards with his picture and the UGA football schedule on one side and his contact information on the other. It is an excellent conversation starter that has enabled him to gain great contacts in the industry.

It is a thrill for Rusty to see young men enter The University of Georgia and join the Kappa Alpha Order. They are "just kids," and he enjoys his supportive role helping these boys bridge from high school into college as gentlemen and responsible young citizens. His association in supporting these young men is the reason he still supports the outstanding organization of Kappa Alpha Order.

Look at How Far We've Come!



*From 294 S. Lumpkin to
755 W. Hancock, KA Proves
that We're as Strong as Ever!*



September 2007

February 2008

March 2008

Go to www.kauga.com to see many more pictures of our new home



YOU are the Reason We are Now Able to Call 755 West Hancock "Home"

Opportunity to Donate a Tree as Your Official Imprint on the New Property

By John Jones '02

Following 15 months of construction, I am happy to report that Gamma Chapter's new home is now complete! The Chapter officially moved in on August 1, and we are now able to call 755 West Hancock Avenue "home." The new house is one of the largest on UGA's campus, with nearly 20,000 square feet of commercial construction including materials used such as concrete, brick, steel, and industrial grade sheet rock. Thirty-five Brothers reside in the house, including **William Hodges** (Number I), **Rob Forrester** (Number II), and **Shepard Smith** (Resident Advisor), bringing us to full occupancy.

Gamma Trustees, Inc., the housing corporation, hired a full-service property management firm, Parker and Associates (a local Athens company who has been in the property management business for more than 30 years), to manage the house and handle everything from securing lease agreements, to collecting rent and handling

maintenance calls, to conducting property inspections two times per month. This will fulfill the housing corporation's promise to protect our investment and protect what our donors have made possible, as the firm will provide a measure of accountability for Brothers living in the house.

Moving forward, the final step in completing the approved property development plan is installation of landscaping, mainly trees and shrubbery, which we have delayed due to drought concerns and watering restrictions in north Georgia. We hope to complete this final phase in the next 60 to 90 days. As we prepare to begin this installation, we want to give each Gamma alumnus and parent the opportunity to donate a tree to the property in memory of, or in honor of, a Brother or son. Our landscaping plan is extensive, and there are plenty of great trees that will be added to the property and existing old growth trees for which we

can reserve naming rights. Every tree that is donated will be marked with a placard recognizing the donor and the person that the tree was donated in honor of or in memory of.

We would like nothing better than to have each tree given in recognition of someone who was a part of Gamma Chapter. If you would like to donate a tree, please contact me at 404-379-0061 or jdjonesjr@gmail.com.

It is imperative that everyone understands how much of a team effort completing this project has been. I have been overwhelmed by the show of support, especially throughout the last few months of construction, and I cannot express my gratitude enough towards Gamma Chapter's Alumni, parent, and undergraduate base. YOU are the reason that we are able to call 755 West Hancock our new home.

A sneak peek into 755 West Hancock... see inside this newsletter and online at www.kauga.com for many more photos of our new home!



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**GAMMA CHAPTER OF
KAPPA ALPHA ORDER
UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA**



Kicking off 2008-09 at our Brand-New Home... See Inside for Details!