

# Between the Columns

Kappa Alpha Order at the University of Georgia • Athens, Ga. • April 2000



## UGA Seeks to Change Housing Conditions

**H**ello from Athens. The revived alumni newsletter, *Between the Columns*, is designed to keep you updated on events in the chapter and on campus as well as to give you, the alumni, a way to keep track of each other (since we all are good about keeping in touch). The most pressing issue is the university's desire to improve the housing conditions of on-campus Greek houses. Most of the houses are 40 or 50 years old and in need of significant renovations. The Alumni Advisory Group, along with the chapter, has worked extensively with the university to meet and exceed every safety standard they have set or recommended.

A Greek Housing Steering Committee has been formed by UGA President Adams. They have put forth three options as ways to change the current paradigm that exists at most of the on-campus fraternity houses. They proposed first that UGA exit the Greek housing business and the 15 groups currently on campus obtain their own facility that meets their needs. Second, create a Greek Park which they would own; we would be allowed to use land or buildings within the park. The final option would be to stay where we are and perform significant renovations. The catch here is President Adams is not currently in favor of extending any long-term leases under this scenario. This stance seems to be based on his desire to reshape the university under the new master plan.

I have been invited to serve on the committee and represent the interest of all the on-campus houses. I will use this newsletter to keep all of you posted as I learn more. If you have any thoughts or concerns, you can contact me at [mark.cross@ijl.com](mailto:mark.cross@ijl.com) or via mail at 113 West Lake Ct., Athens, GA 30606.

Fraternally,

Mark Cross '82  
Alumni Corporation President

## Gamma Remains Constant in the Midst of Change

By Hunter Hopkins '97, Number 1

**G**amma chapter is currently the oldest active chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order, making us the "Mother Chapter." Not only are we the oldest active chapter, but we are also one of the largest active chapters. Gamma chapter is geographically diverse in that brothers are from Alabama, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Louisiana as well as from Georgia. The brotherhood is very strong and seems to be getting stronger.

At a time when the University of Georgia's Greek system seems to be losing ground due to the changing face of UGA, Gamma chapter remains constant. We consistently recruit high caliber individuals who are dedicated to first learning and then living the ideals of Kappa Alpha. This fall semester's rush has been one of the best in recent years. We have pledged 30 of some of the best men this year's freshman class has to offer.

Many of our brothers are involved in numerous campus organizations and honor societies, including Interfraternity Council, the Student Government Association, Leadership UGA, the Arch Society, Beta Alpha Psi, Order of Omega, Omicron Delta Kappa, Order of the Greek Horsemen, and Gridiron Secret Society. We are not only members of these organizations, but we are also leaders in them. Gamma chapter emphasizes the importance of getting involved not only in Kappa Alpha activities, but also in other organizations, which gives brothers the opportunity to gain leadership skills and apply them. These skills are invaluable in preparing them for life after college.

We focus on community service every semester and strive to produce as many hours as possible. Several brothers regularly volunteer at Safe Campuses Now and the Athens Tutorial Program. In 1998, we provided clothes and Christmas presents to the needy children of the Rock Springs Housing Community (see photo below). We spent about \$5,000 making this event a success, and hope to make it even better in the future. The many thanks we received from the families of the children and from the community for this project have encouraged us to plan to make it a yearly tradition.

As the chapter has excelled, the house has also made many new improvements. Thanks to the help of Roby Redwine '82 and the House Corporation, we have been

*(Continued on Page 2)*



Number 1 Hunter Hopkins '97 gives Jevaris Hill a winter coat before Christmas during KA's Project Outreach at the Rock Springs Community Center in 1998.

## Gamma Officers

Number I  
 Hunter Hopkins '97  
 Thomastown, Ga.  
 Finance and Marketing

Number II  
 Richard Whitworth '97  
 Athens, Ga.  
 Finance

Number III  
 Bartly Rhodes '97  
 Atlanta, Ga.  
 Finance

Number IV  
 John Johnson '00  
 St. Simons, Ga.  
 Finance

Number V  
 Cory Bennett '97  
 Albany, Ga.  
 Accounting

Number VI  
 Zachary Cowart '97  
 Valdosta, Ga.  
 Political Science

Number VII  
 J. Yates Anderson '98  
 Newnan, Ga.  
 Landscape Architecture

Number VIII  
 Rhett Deal '97  
 Albany, Ga.  
 Political Science

Ritualist  
 Sam Dunlap '98  
 Gainesville, Ga.  
 Economics

## House Renovations Done in the Summer

*By Roby Redwine '82, House Chairman*

Summer 1999 was a busy period in terms of house renovations. A number of pressing areas of concern were addressed. The upstairs bathroom was completely retiled. New carpeting throughout the upstairs (second-floor quarters) was installed, along with padding for the interior bedrooms. Electrical work was done to bring 294 South Lumpkin up to code as well as make the living quarters more efficient.

Various other external and internal projects were accomplished. A new handicap ramp and new access from our pledge lot is now available to members as well as guests. Due to deterioration of the columns, some patch work was performed. Several new doors were installed, including a coded-lock door for the entrance to the deck. Constant window, as well as moisture problems, were also addressed. There were also two single rooms on the second floor that were converted to one room to accommodate two members.

Of utmost importance to our female guests, a new restroom facility has been installed on the first floor with several wash basins, utilizing space that was going unused as an old closet. The renovations were all contained within the existing structure of the female restroom and newly converted closet space. The renovation got rave reviews. On a lesser note, our fireplace has been sealed off to lessen the risk of fire.

*We didn't want to miss thanking Barton W. Baldwin '68 or Calvin S. Hopkins III '72 for their contributions to the 1998-99 giving year. It is contributions like these that keep our alumni relations program, which includes this newsletter, going.*

*Thanks to your contributions, **Between the Columns** is published for the members and friends of the Kappa Alpha Order at the University of Georgia. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions are always welcome and may be mailed in the enclosed envelope or sent to Kappa Alpha Order, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 161188, Atlanta, GA 30321-1188.*



*Undergrads cleaned up the Oconee Hill Cemetery as part of KA Clean-Up.*

## Gamma Chapter Remains Constant, Continued

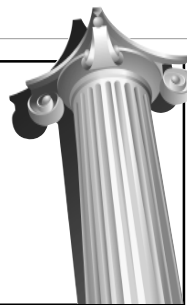
able to get the house in better shape than it has been in the past few years. This past summer, we spent a great deal of time and money relandscaping the yard and making several changes to the interior and exterior of the house (see related article above). I invite you to stop by any time that you are in town and see the improvements for yourself.

The future of the KA Mansion at 294 South Lumpkin Street is unclear. The chapter, as well as the House Corporation, does not know what the university is

planning to do in the near future. Greek housing has been a hot topic on campus for the past couple of years, yet nothing permanent has come out of any of the discussion. The chapter is currently occupying the house on a year-to-year basis. We hope in this next year to be able to make some long-term decisions regarding the house. We are looking at several different options, but we are far from making the choice. Our decisions will be based on what the university offers the chapter for a long-term housing option.

Gamma chapter is not just operating, it is performing. We are and continue to be one of the top chapters on campus. The enthusiasm of the executive officers and the chapter as a whole makes it a pleasure and an honor to serve as Number 1. Although my term as president of Gamma chapter is just about over, I will never regret having served in the position to the best to my ability. I have much confidence in the new officers, and look forward to helping them carry Gamma chapter into the next millennium.

# Alumni News



Eighty-eight-year-old **Charles J. Thurmond '30** (1765 Riverside Dr., Gainesville, GA 30501), chairman of Frantee Inc., continues to develop and sell real estate that he owns in Hall County. "It's fun and keeps me busy."

**N. Pratt Secrest '42** (111 Ivanhoe Dr., Thomasville, GA 31792; pratt@rose.net) is retired after 50 years of timbering and real estate and 34 years as superintendent of Elsoma Plantation. Hobbies he enjoys include music composition, creative writing, fishing and photography. Pratt and his wife, Sarah, have three daughters, nine grandchildren and a great-grandson.

**Calvin P. Stephenson '46** (1954 W. Lyle Ave., College Park, GA 30337) sold his company, Stephenson Chemical Co. Inc., a few years ago. He is now a consultant to the new owner.

Last spring, **Paul H. Walker Jr. '46** (515 E. College St., Griffin, GA 30224) had a good time in Athens at the 50-year reunion of the Class of 1949.

Our condolences to **Wilder G. Little '48** (564 Bouldercrest Dr. S.W., Marietta, GA 30064) on the loss of his wife of 47 years, Peggy Anne, in September 1998.

**Thomas T. Shealy '49** (320 Amador Cir., Atlanta, GA 30350) is a lecturer at UGA's College of Business Administration and serves as president of the Blowing Rock Country Club.

**Harold M. Morris Jr. '50** (910 Battlefield Trl., Chattanooga, TN 37409) is married to Linda and has five granddaughters. In undergraduate days, he was rush chairman and put out a newsletter titled *Kappa Alpha Journal*.

**Frederic G. Jones '52** (101 Holly Ridge Dr., Anderson, SC 29621; twitty@infoave.net) is a consultant to medical staffs. Last May, he was elected to a distinguished fellowship in the American College of Physician Executives.

Since retiring in 1998, Betty Ann and **Edward H. Hopson '56** (P.O. Box 56,

Bluffton, SC 29910; hopson@hargray.com) have enjoyed traveling and visiting their children and grandchildren. "Tom" and his former roommate, **Bob Mills**, took in a football game last fall.

Carolyn and **Guy C. Arnall '57** (One Snowy Egret Rd., Hilton Head Island, SC 29928) are enjoying their first grandchild.

**Clarence A. Abbott '60** (1200 Moss St. N.E. Orangeburg SC 29115) will be retiring this June after 35 years as a pharmacist. He writes that his pharmacist partner, district manager and next-door neighbor are all KAs. "The Order lives!"

**Alfred N. Bell Jr. '60** is chairman of Palmetto Chemicals Inc. (P.O. Box 26449, Greenville, SC 29616; jabellsc@netscape.net) and the owner of an import/export business, Global Resources. He has three children.

We heard from **William W. Kidd '60** (P.O. Box 70847, Albany, GA 31708) last spring. He, **Wesley Harris '60**, **John Walden** and their sons were planning to travel to Argentina in July for dove hunting.

Attorney **Paul V. Kilpatrick Jr. '60** is a partner in Pope McGlamry Kilpatrick & Morrison (318 11th St., Columbus, GA 31902). His Kappa Alpha experience taught him about long-lasting friendships, duty and responsibility, and the importance of being a gentleman.

**Gene Drennon '62** (3207 Henderson Mill Rd., Apt. L-4, Atlanta, GA 30341), now retired, is active hunting, fishing, boating, traveling, playing golf and with his church. He reports that **John Wright '60** is the owner of Wright's Gourmet in Dunwoody, Ga. (John is on our lost list. If you have an address for him, please send it our way.)

**J. Albert Wade Jr. '62**, CEO of Hilton Mortgage Corp. (P.O. Box 4411, 540 S. Perry St., Montgomery, AL 36104), serves on the board of directors and has been elected president of the Alabama Mortgage Brokers Association.

Correspondence for **F. Sprague Exley '64** can be sent to R.R. 1, Box 166-D, Hardeeville, SC 29927; exley@premierweb.net. He is an investor, director and officer in Intermodal Consulting Inc.

After selling his 13-year-old staffing business in 1998, **Gary F. Nichols '64** (422 Jefferson Cir., Atlanta, GA 30328; gnichols@cor-tech.net) started a new enterprise, Cortech. He spends time at his second home in St. Simons Island and enjoys family, golfing, hunting and fishing.

**Joseph S. Champion Jr. '68** (415 Partridge Dr., Albany, GA 31707) works in sales at Georgia Industrial Supply. His son, **Josh**, is the third generation in the family to be a Gamma chapter brother. Joseph's daughter, Hayley, is married to a second-generation Kappa Alpha, **John B. Manderson '91**.

We heard from **Christopher K. Withers '68** (658 Starlight Ln. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30342; chriswithers\_99@yahoo.com) in October. His son, Matt, was pledging Gamma.

**William L. Brown Sr. '71** (4613 McAlpine Farm Rd., Charlotte, NC 28226), president of Baxley Group Inc., was presented the Silver Beaver Award from the Mecklenburg County Council of the Boy Scouts of America in April 1999. He is married and has two children.

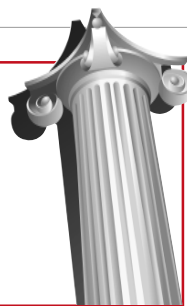
"The house and the yard look great," noted **George W. Fry Jr. '80** (754 River Oaks Ct., Columbus, GA 31904; bud\_fry@checkcare.com) in October after visiting the fraternity during football season. "I parked there for a game and was treated very well by the brothers who were outside. Nice young men!"

Pharmacist **J. Bent Gay Jr. '82** (120 Woodland Trl., Dublin, GA 31021; bgay@nlamerica.com) is the owner of Gayco Health Care Management. He reports that **Neil Weaver '82** is a new father and that **Steve Young '82** has welcomed a second child to his family.

"Kappa Alpha is one of the best things I remember about college," writes **Fred M. Sims Jr. '82** (3229 Ramsgate Rd., Augusta, GA 30909; fsims17016@aol.com).

**H. Benton Doster Jr. '83** (200 Pine Crest Dr., Monroe, GA 30655; bdosp@bellsouth.net), a broker, is the owner of Ben Doster Real Estate. He and Anne Nelson were planning to be married in July 1999.

# Alumni News



**Roy H. Fickling '84** is president of Fickling & Co. Inc. (P.O. Box 1976, Macon, GA 31202; rodeo214@bellsouth.net). He has been elected to the board of trustees of Wesleyan College and appointed by the governor to the Georgia Rail Passenger Authority.

**Michael W. Ivey '84** (4682 Dudley Ln. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30327; micacity@aol.com) is the founder and president of Capital City Mortgage Corp., a company specializing in residential mortgage lending throughout Georgia.

A graduate of the Mercer University School of Medicine, **Andrew G. Freeman '85** (710 Glen Burne Ln., Ridgeland, MS 39157; andrewagf@mindspring.com) is now a surgical resident at University Hospital in Jackson.

**William I. Bowen Jr. '86** (2005 Hall Ave., Tifton, GA 31794) is the owner of Bowen-Donaldson/Bowen Farms. He was a member of the 1999 Leadership Georgia Class.

**R. Rhett Butler '87**, an agency manager for State Farm Insurance (1498 Klondike Rd., Ste. 103, Conyers, GA 30094; rhettbutler45@hotmail.com), will be opening a State Farm agency in Athens this June.

**Joseph R. Neal '87** (512 Telfair St., Augusta, GA 30901), a trial lawyer, is the father of Joseph R. Neal III, who is 18 months old.

Natalie and **James W. Childs '88** (495 Pine Forest Rd. N.E., Atlanta, GA 30342; jimchilds@mindspring.com) now have two children. Jim is president of an acquisition-oriented technology staffing and consulting firm.

**Joseph T. Stubbs III '88** (308 E. 51st St., Savannah, GA 31405), who is in obstetrics and gynecology, serves as vice chief of staff at Liberty Regional Medical Center.

When he last wrote, **Robert S. Wilder '90** (2911 North Hills Dr., Atlanta, GA 30305) was looking forward to opening

the new midtown-Atlanta office of A.G. Edwards & Sons and serving there as branch manager. He was also anticipating the birth of his first child.

**John S. Browne '91** (1027 Dean Dr., Atlanta, GA 30318) writes that he hopes the KA house will stay in its current location.

**Walker P. Johnson III '91** has been living along the Mexican border in Laredo, Texas, and employed as an agent for the U.S. Border Patrol. You can write to him at 5752 Kentucky Downs Dr., Macon, GA 31210.

Financial consultant **John R. Nicholson '91** (3889 Bennigan Ln., Duluth, GA 30097) has been named complex sales manager of Merrill Lynch, North Atlanta Complex.

**James P. Ferguson Jr. '92** (754 Forrest Trl., Atlanta, GA 30318) is a third-year student at Mercer Law School. He and his wife, Amy, have a young son, Jack.

**John C. Neal '92** (106 Bentwood Cir., Macon, GA 31210) has completed five years of service with Ferguson Ent., Inc. and is now pursuing his own business.

**Jason O. Ritchason '92** (4500 Post Rd., #E-53, Nashville, TN 37205), director of packaging sales at American Paper & Twine Co., reports that both **Charles Jones '92** and **Will Chapman '92** have graduated from Samford Law School. (We need addresses for Charles and Will. Can anyone help?)

Letters for **Lee G. Chisolm '93** can be sent to his address at 2216 Pinetree Rd., Augusta, GA 30904. He informs us that **Jeff Burnette '93** has opened a Gold's Gym in the area.

Last spring we heard from **William P. Davis '93** (56 Rice Mill Rd., Hartwell, GA 30643), a staff writer for *The Hartwell Sun*. He and Cassie were planning to marry in November 1999. William had attended the wedding of **Blake Thompson** earlier in the year.

When he wrote in May 1999, **Stuart R. Sherrill '93** (94 Lakeland Dr. N.W., Atlanta, GA 30305; stuartrs@mindspring.com) announced his engagement to Cameron Fortner. Stuart was also present at the wedding of **Blake Thompson**.

**John W. Stephenson Jr. '94** (6200 Weatherly Dr., Atlanta, GA 30328), a third-year law student at the University of Georgia, is a member of the Georgia Law Review and the National ABA Moot Court Team.

After completing his second year of law school at the University of Virginia in the spring of 1999, **Judson H. Turner '94** (172-C, Georgetown Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22901) spent the summer working for two law firms, one in Atlanta and the other in Birmingham. He is married to Courtney.

From the early 1970s, **Frank H. Barron** remembers the delicious meals prepared and served by Belle, Julia and Coot. He also has fond memories of ping pong, foosball and intramural basketball games with the brothers. These days, Frank is president of Lindsey's Inc./Realtors (14 Jackson St., Newnan, GA 30263; frankb@lindseysrealtors.com).

**Lovic J. Marbury**, a banking officer with SunTrust Bank, now resides at 1405 W. Second Ave., Albany, GA 31707. E-mail for him can be sent to lovicmarbury@yahoo.com.

After 13 years in Rocky Mount, N.C., **Milton B. Pope** has moved to 114 St. James Pl., Macon, GA 31204. He is manager of market development at Eastbank Textiles and receives e-mail at mickpope@bellsouth.com.

**Gordon S. Varnedoe** (P.O. Box 3531, Savannah, GA 31414; gvarnedoe@aol.com) is executive director of the Savannah Waterfront Association. His grandfather was head coach of the Georgia Bulldogs in 1899.

We regret to inform you of the death of **Don T. Smith** (6/21/98), **W. Stokely Pound '30** (11/98), **E. Perry Burrus '43** (6/18/98), **M. Dean Hall '46** (3/11/99), **Thomas L. Horne '46** (2/11/00), **Leon D. Lovett Jr. '48** (5/7/99), **Deval L. Henderson Jr. '63** (10/21/98), **Patrick N. McGee '70** (4/99) and **Richard K. Winston**.

Kappa Alpha mourns their passing and sends condolences to their families and friends.