

## CAMPAIGN QUESTIONS

If you have questions concerning the Capital Campaign, please contact Barton Lowrey at 706-346-9724 or Jamey Shirah at 229-328-6122.

## UPCOMING EVENT

**Atlanta Alumni Party  
November 12, 2009**

Thursday Night before UGA v. Auburn

Location: 5 Paces  
5:00 - 9:00 p.m.

## ON THE WEB

**Are You Registered at  
[www.kauga.com](http://www.kauga.com)?**

**If Not, be Sure to Do So  
Today!**

If you haven't taken advantage of our online community where you can interact with other Gamma brothers 24/7, be sure to do so today.

**As a registered user, you can:**

- ✓ Search for brothers' contact info in the online directory
- ✓ Browse the online photos and post personal albums
- ✓ Read and share alumni updates
- ✓ Register for upcoming events
- ✓ And much more!

If you don't yet have a username and address for our site, use your Member ID (found above your name and address on this newsletter) to follow the First Time login instructions on the home page.

September 2009

# Between the Columns

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

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



## ALUMNI REPORT

### Kappa Alpha Order Holds Its Place as UGA's Top Fraternity Gamma Boasts Second-Largest Pledge Class on Campus

*By Hunter Hopkins '00*

As Bob Dylan says, "The times they are a-changin'." Athens and the UGA community are changing. The construction of new buildings, the renovations of old ones; budget cut-backs; teachers and administrators coming and going; tearing down old fraternity houses and building new ones; a growing student body. Whatever it may be, anyone familiar with UGA can see the changes that are occurring. With all of these changes, there is one thing that has remained constant. Gamma Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Order continues to excel and hold its place as the top fraternity on UGA's campus.

Gamma Chapter kicks off this school year with the second largest pledge class out of all 26 fraternities at UGA. Once again, KA recruited some of the top males entering UGA to be part of Gamma and help carry on our legacy. One reason that Gamma's rush was so successful is due to your involvement as alumni. Every year, the chapter relies on its alumni to help identify high-caliber young men for possible membership into KA. Gamma's strong brotherhood and 130-member roster are directly related to your involvement in the rush process. Thank you for your efforts.

Our new southern mansion at 755 West Hancock seems to look better every time I visit. The chapter is doing a wonderful job of taking care of the facilities and seeing that they remain in excellent shape. The actives have really done a great job of embracing their new home, and they are working hard to keep it properly maintained. It's a beautiful house that stands above most every other fraternity house in the nation. If you have not had the opportunity to visit the new house yet, I hope that you

will make plans to stop by when visiting Athens this fall.

As some of you may have heard, the new Greek Park located off of River Road recently opened. Four fraternities, Phi Delta Theta, Pi Kappa Alpha, Sigma Nu and Tau Epsilon Phi, have just occupied new houses that were built on the site of the old Sigma Nu house adjacent to Kappa Sigma. While these new houses are great facilities, they are all located within a close proximity of each other with very limited parking. I think we would all agree that KA made the right decision in moving to our present location.

On a personal note, my youngest brother graduated this past summer. **Cam's** graduation brings an end to a 13-year streak in which a Hopkins boy has been in Gamma Chapter. My father, **Hoppy Hopkins**, did his duty of preserving the legacy of Gamma for his three sons. I hope that you will join **Fiske**, Cam, and myself as we work to preserve the Gamma legacy for our future generations.



**Gamma Legacies in the 2009 pledge class. Left to Right: Stuart Williams, Dan Rose, Ben Watson, Caine Halter, Patrick Wilson, Alec Stolz, Bobby Ellison.**

# UNDERGRADUATE REPORT

## KA Achieves GPA of 3.22

### Men of Gamma Chapter Continue to Lead on Campus

By Drew Salisbury

Spring 2009 was another exciting and successful semester for Gamma Chapter. We continued to excel both in and outside the classroom. We raised our GPA to a 3.22, which kept us in the top tier of fraternities on campus and KA chapters through out the country.

We also had a very eventful spring semester socially. In April, we held our first Old South at the new house, which included our annual parade down Milledge Ave. We picked up all of our dates at their respective sorority houses and then headed to the mountains of North Carolina where we rented

boats on the lake and danced to Mo-town music.

***"We are active in organizations such as the Interfraternity Council, UGA HERO, SGA Senate on campus, Food for Life, Hands on Athens and Habitat for Humanity in our community."***

The men of Gamma Chapter continue to be extremely well rounded and hold various leadership positions around campus.

We are active in organizations such as the Interfraternity Council, UGA HERO, SGA Senate on campus, Food for Life, Hands on Athens and Habitat for Humanity in our community.

Our rush chairs worked around the clock this past summer and recruited 39 new members from several states around the South. We are very excited about this new pledge class and we know that they will continue the excellence that Gamma is accustomed to.

## FALL PLEDGE CLASS

### **Alec Stolz**

Atlanta, GA

Andrew Harrah

Greensboro, NC

### **Benjamin Watson**

Savannah, GA

Billy Langhenry

Dallas, TX

### **Bobby Ellison**

Jacksonville, FL

Brad Bentley

Augusta, GA

Brad Bowden

Phenix City, AL

Brent Gafford

Carrollton, Ga

### **Caine Halter**

Greenville, SC

Casey Barber

Greensboro, NC

### **Chase Naples**

Augusta, GA

### **Cliff Timmons**

Greenville, SC

### **Dan Rose**

Dallas, TX

David Bristow

Columbus, GA

Edward Neblett

Dallas, TX

Ethan Vernon

Richmond Hill, GA

George Fullerton

Havana, FL

### **George Haddock**

Charlotte, NC

### **Harper Frankstone**

Columbia, SC

### **Holton Brinson**

Augusta, GA

Houston Self

Fort Worth, TX

Hunter Carr

Tyler, Tx

Jack Quaritius

Jacksonville, Fl

James Fonger

Columbia, SC

Jamie Cooper

Nashville, TN

### **Jim Freeman**

Sylvania, GA

Jim Moore

Memphis, TN

John Randle Anthony

Fort Worth, TX

Justin Fernicola

Columbus, GA

### **Lee Hiles**

Atlanta, GA

### **Patrick Wilson**

Rome, GA

### **Rawson Allen**

Atlanta, GA

Robbie Kelly

Greensboro, NC

### **Stuart Williams**

Savannah, GA

Taylor Brown

Columbia, SC

### **Tyler Robertson**

Louisville, KY

Walker Black

Greenville, SC

West Davis

Charlotte, NC

Will Alligood

Roswell, GA

### **Will Martin**

LaGrange, GA

*Legacies in bold*

## FROM THE ARCHIVES

### Which Era Had the Most Fun

We love coming across great old photos from our chapter's history, including this one from Old South 1972. It makes us wonder...which era had the most fun?

Share the best stories, memories and pictures from your era with the brotherhood! Send them to our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention KA at UGA). We'll publish the best of the best in upcoming issues of our newsletter and on [www.kauga.com](http://www.kauga.com).

Thank you to **Robert Gunn '74** for submitting this picture.



## ALUMNI PROFILE

### Miracle on the Hudson

#### *Gamma Alumnus Survives Infamous Plane Crash*

Everyone wants a second chance, a moment in life that will make you realize life can be short and you can't take anything for granted. Brother **Paul Jorgensen '92** believes he got a second chance at life after a plane crash earlier this year. He says he is taking advantage of every second of that chance.

"I put a new rule in that I want to be better at everything and take advantage of my second chance because I really believed I was going to die," he said.

***"I put a new rule in that I want to be better at everything and take advantage of my second chance because I really believed I was going to die."***

Paul made news as passenger 1A on US Airways flight 1549, which crashed into the Hudson River shortly after takeoff from LaGuardia Airport in NYC on January 15, 2009. After the accident, some of the first people to call Paul were his KA fraternity brothers.

Paul has kept in touch with a lot of his brothers since his college days back in the early '90s and continues to remain an active member of KA.

"Being a brother of KA taught me some valuable ideas and lessons to live by that I still incorporate into my life today," says Paul.

While a brother at UGA, Paul remembers the good times that shaped his college experience and molded the friendships he would keep for a lifetime. Some of his favorites include Cowboy Day and the Old South weekend trip. Practical jokes were a favorite of Paul's, he was never scared to play tricks on his fraternity brothers.

He recalls an instance where he

successfully nailed a brother into his room, forcing him to climb out the front window.

"That was probably my favorite," says Paul.

Life has changed a bit for Paul since days at the KA house. Since then, he has gotten married to wife Meredith and has two young daughters Blake (5) and Ryan (3). In his spare time, Paul's life centers around family and Georgia Football.

"I don't miss a game," says Paul.

He works as the VP of Medical Software Business at Epocrates, Inc. and travels all over the country. This crazy travel schedule is what brought him to LaGuardia Airport this past year.

Paul was traveling from a meeting in NYC back home to Charlotte, NC on Flight 1549.

"I was excited because I got bumped to first class so I had tons of room to get work done during the flight," says Paul.

After taking off and beginning the flight passengers noticed the plane was going down a bit and going back towards the airport. When an unexpected smell of smoke and loud noise from the engine, the passengers started to get nervous. When the flight attendants started to chant, "brace for impact" over and over, Paul knew something was wrong.

"That moment I thought I was going to die. There was nothing I could do, I wasn't panicked, I just thought 'I am going to die.' And then I waited," says Paul as he describes his experience.

After landing on the water and finally



**Paul Jorgensen '92 was among the passengers aboard US Airways flight 1549, which had an emergency crash landing in the Hudson River in January 2009.**

**Photo from [www.time.com](http://www.time.com).**

getting into the ferry, Paul knew he was safe from harm and called his family to tell them he was alright. Paul knew he had to get on another plane that night, even though he had some hesitations. "Alcohol helped a little bit," he said.

After the accident, Paul was very hesitant to participate in interviews about his experience.

"All I did was get on a plane. It's nothing special, what the crew did, that was special."

Paul loves to catch up with some of his KA brothers, and remains active in the chapter. He has great memories and cherishes the people he has come to know and the friends he has made.

"I've had lasting friendships that will continue for the rest of my life. KA was clearly the best group of guys to become a part of and I have great memories from my time with all of them."

*Want to reconnect with Paul? Email him at [pjorgensen@epocrates.com](mailto:pjorgensen@epocrates.com).*

***Do you know of a Gamma alum who has an interesting story to tell? Email a description to our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (mention KA at UGA), and we'll consider him for a feature in an upcoming publication.***

## ALUMNI UPDATES

### Gordon Varnedoe '57

(307 East 44th Street Upper, Savannah, GA 31405; gvarnedoe@aol.com) Martin Huff, son of **William C. "Huffalump" Huff** of Columbus, GA. (a popular Gamma Brother in the early 60s), was recently initiated at Delta Chapter at Wofford College in Spartanburg, S.C. I made the road trip to the initiation with Bill.

### Peyton Keaton '62

(2305 Edgewater Drive, Suite 1722, Orlando, FL 32804; phkeaton@bellsouth.net) I have been married for 39 years to Kaye G. Keaton

### IN MEMORY

*Since publication of our last newsletter we have learned of the deaths of the following brothers...*

**Wallace Glover '67**  
**Samuel George '54** (3/9/06)

of Ocala, Fla. She is a graduate of Florida and was an elementary school teacher until we got married. She then became a full time homemaker and mother, raising our two kids. Our daughter Kristie graduated from Valdosta State Univ., and lives in Roswell, Ga. She is employed by the City of Roswell. Our son had a full basketball scholarship to Stetson Univ. in Deland, Fla. He later, transferred to Florida due to an injury in a game in Louisiana which prevented him from continuing to play basketball. He is now an attorney for Ford & Harrison Law Firm. We are the proud grandparents of a baby girl.

I am a retired Realtor after 30 years in sales and was manager of two Real Estate Companies. I invested in Real Estate rentals and mostly just manage my rentals. I play a little golf, fish on occasion, and am a big fan of my BULLDOGS and the Orlando Magic basketball team!

With our kids being grown and in their own homes, Kaye and I decided to "down size" into our new home at "The Wellesley," a newly built condo in College Park. We love it here and invite my KA brothers to come visit us.

### James P. Ferguson Jr. '92

(2929 Castlewood Drive, Atlanta, GA 30327; jpferguson@duanemorris.com) In September 2008, my wife Missy and I welcomed the addition of our son Gordon Blair Ferguson. Blair joins Jack (10) and Eliza (2) in the family. In December 2008, I was elected to the partnership at my law firm, Duane Morris LLP. I specialize in labor and employment law in the firm's Atlanta office.

### What's new with you?

We want to publish more alumni news and photos in *Between the Columns*.

#### Recently, have you...

- Gotten engaged or married?
- Welcomed a baby into the family?
- Started a new job?
- Moved into a new home?
- Reunited with other KA alumni?

Share your news online at  
[www.kauga.com](http://www.kauga.com)!

*We're on a quest to find the best stories and photos from our chapter's history! See page 2 for more details...*



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



*A Gamma Brother Survives the "Miracle on the Hudson"...Read His Story Inside!*

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