



TEXAS DELTS

Gamma Iota Chapter | Delta Tau Delta Fraternity | The University of Texas at Austin | Spring 2017

Gamma Iota Demonstrates Excellence on All Levels Alumni Involvement Generates \$112,000 for Mom Abbott, Awards Academic Scholarships

It's been a very busy year for Gamma Iota. I want to start by thanking all of our amazing alumni for really stepping up financially in 2016. A year ago, we were walking out of our annual offsite weekend on the Texas coast with a long list of topics/issues that needed to be accomplished, and I think we checked almost every one of them off the list or at least started preparing a long-term plan. We heard from the chapter on the competitiveness of the Shelter compared to other fraternities on West Campus. In response, the Alumni Association is working to develop a long-term plan for transforming the Shelter by retaining the services of a national consulting company and **Jay Corder '94**, who volunteered his time to prepare architectural plans/renderings. We heard the chapter on the need to support recruitment and the alumni raised \$37,000 to supplement the chapter budget. The alumni and some parents and friends generously supported our beloved housemother, Mom Abbott, with a substantial retirement gift. Having this alumni involvement the past year has demonstrated to the chapter that the alumni are a very impressive driving force for Gamma Iota—something that as an undergraduate, many of us probably did not appreciate or understand.

The chapter has also done its part. They successfully transitioned taking over the day-to-day maintenance of the Shelter from Mom Abbott—a huge thanks to House Manager **Jeremy Martens '18** for working tirelessly with **Scott Benkendorfer '90**, **Bill McMeans '80**, and **Russell Douglass '81** on the \$85,000 worth of improvements that were made this past year to the Shelter, in addition to keeping the trains running on time for regular maintenance. I told you in the fall that the chapter had recruited a solid 43 pledges. In the fall, when I reported this, we didn't know for sure how good they were and I was a little disappointed in the number—the target was 50. But based on the feedback from the officer retreat, there have been multiple reports from sorority women on campus and



Tom Ryan '87 traveled from Houston to participate in the Leaders and Legends Speaker Series, sharing his business experiences and Delt memories at a chapter meeting.

even some other top fraternities admitting that the Delt pledge class is the BEST on campus. That makes me proud and I know the money we raised helped the chapter be successful and the recruitment captains did their job. I'm also really proud of the culture shift in supporting legacies. We had eight legacies in the fall pledge class—four were father-son. At the offsite in January, the chapter president, recruitment coordinator, and alumni relations officers were all father-son legacies. This was unheard of in the '90s when I was in school.

The weekend of January 28-29 we had our seventh annual alumni/chapter officer offsite at Falcon Point Ranch in Seadrift, Texas. We had 20 alumni and 23 officers in attendance—the most ever for alumni and officers. I've included a summary of the weekend on page 2; this was the best one yet. We covered a ton of ground, we now have officers who attended this event seven years ago and more recently wanting to come back, and we continue to introduce new alumni to the weekend who say they are amazed at the quality of the officer group and men in the chapter now. See the summary for their comments.

Gamma Iota has momentum. Our alumni are energized and the chapter is in a very good spot.

We need to stay focused. This year needs to be another strong recruitment year. All of the recruitment captains were at the offsite. **Kyle Varni '18**, who is a legacy, is the recruitment coordinator this year and manages the six recruitment captains and the additional six area recruitment captains. He has big shoes to fill and we need your help. We need to raise another \$35,000-\$40,000 this year for recruitment. We already have the support of **Steve Stodghill '83** again, stepping up big both financially as well as hosting a barbecue at his house the weekend of Dallas state last summer. Can you help with recruitment? If so, please contact Kyle at kvarni@utexas.edu or **Trent Koen '18** at trentkoen@gmail.com. See Kyle's appeal to alumni on page 11.

Mark your calendars now for the fall Alumni Weekend in Austin the weekend of October 21 (OSU game). We had two volunteers at the offsite, **Lance Abbott '91** and **Brandon White '06**, agree to work with their pledge classes to organize reunion events around the broader alumni weekend activities. We are also enlisting the support of **Steve Stodghill '83** and **Dick Francis '84** to help promote some key athletes for the sports forum on Friday night at the Shelter.

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OFFSITE EXPERIENCE LEAVES MEMORABLE IMPRESSION ON ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATE OFFICERS

The weekend of January 28-29 was the seventh annual alumni/officer offsite at Falcon Point Ranch. It was the best one yet—we had 20 alumni and 23 chapter officers in attendance. We discussed the status of Gamma Iota on campus, recruitment, how recruitment funds were spent this past year, what worked and didn't work with recruitment, risk management, and an update on the Shelter improvements and planning for larger-scale projects down the road. It has now been about 15 years since the last renovation, and the Shelter is in serious need of upgrades, primarily due to age and normal wear-and-tear. The \$85,000 of improvements this past year were greatly needed and should be sufficient while we undergo the planning for the larger project. Additionally, the chapter updated us on the activity in West Campus with the aggressive remodeling, rebuilding, and new building trend with other fraternities.

I'm sure anyone who was in the Shelter last fall noticed the improvements, including a complete upgrade to the open courtyard, all new furnishings, tables and chairs, refreshed paint throughout the interior and exterior of the Shelter, cleaned and polished floors, and new TVs. Additionally, the Alumni Association retained a consulting firm and architect to begin thinking about long-term options for 2801 San Jacinto. This work has been ongoing since April/May, and hopefully we will have updates to share with the broader alumni group in the coming weeks and months. Here is what our alumni had to say about their experience at the alumni/officer offsite:

"One of the most engaging groups of Texas Delt undergraduates I have been around in 37 years."
— **Russell Douglass '81**

"We have separation in age, but a bond that can't be separated." — **Scott Benkendorfer '90**

"I am always pleasantly struck by the common motives and experiences these young men have with our alumni—current members, five-year, 10-year, 20-year, or in my case, close to 40 years since pledging—the commonality bond in building quality young men is very reassuring for our future." — **Bill McMeans '80**

"It is always a pleasure to come back and interact with the active chapter. I am consistently impressed with the quality of our officers and their maturity in the way they are leading our fraternity." — **Aaron Trull '00**



"This year was my first to attend the Texas Delts offsite conference. My primary takeaway was that the chapter is in good hands. The young men serving as officers were well prepared for our meetings and the weekend was much more productive than I expected it to be. It is difficult to carve out time from family and business for this event, but I am glad I made the time and I will return." — **Lance Abbott '91**

"The retreat was a great opportunity to meet the current chapter and also to connect with Delts from different generations. It's great to see the active chapter is made up of a great group of men and I look forward to getting more involved!" — **Scott Thelander '05**, 2004 Chapter President

"It's an impressive group of officers and Gamma Iota is in good hands with their leadership."
— **Rik Lipscomb '91**

"The annual offsites continue to improve with each passing year, and the benefits of these meetings are of increasing value to both the active chapter and the growing number of alumni participants. Gamma Iota alumni can certainly take pride in the quality of the young Delts who take on the many difficult responsibilities of

successfully managing a large fraternity."
— **James Shaddix '68**

"Great to spend time connecting with younger Delts and see that the chapter is in great hands."
— **Brandon White '06**

"Great time at the Delt retreat! Enjoyed visiting with alumni from all pledge classes and really impressed with the current actives. Looking forward to next year!" — **Phil Sanger '02**

"I enjoy having the opportunity to go to the alumni/executive retreat to offer the advice and insights I gained during my time at the Shelter. It's refreshing to meet with the guys and hear what is going on around UT and Greek life at the University. It's also nice being able to engage and network with fellow alumni, especially at an awesome venue on the coast with plenty of time for leisure activities. The two years I have gone to the retreat as an alumnus, I feel as if I gained just as much benefit as the active chapter through the connections made on the trip."
— **Garrett Williams '15**, 2014 Chapter President

"A weekend that was both memorable and productive! Looking forward to coming back next year." — **Matt Asvestas '16**



Thank you to the alumni and undergraduates who attended our 2017 offsite. We look forward to seeing you at next year's event!



"It was a great time seeing the progress of the chapter and working with alumni who have been impacted by our fraternity as much as I have. Looking forward to joining next year!"

– **David Lutito '15**

"This most recent offsite at Falcon Point (Thank you, Russell!) was an amazing opportunity for the alumni to interact with the current and future leaders of Delta Tau Delta. It is clear these young men are facing different challenges than we faced while we were on campus. I was thoroughly impressed with the level of openness and candor between the undergraduates and alumni, and I think continuing this type of collaborative interaction will help guide the organization to a prosperous future."

– **Andrew Barnes '08**

"This executive retreat was particularly productive because we not only got to talk about improving Delt, but also network with over 20 alumni as well." – Chapter President **Dax Benkendorfer '18**

"I've made more valuable connections in the energy industry in these three days than I have in my two years studying petroleum engineering at UT." – External VP **Nicholas Staviski '18**



"The retreat was once again a success. It was very exciting to see the alumni turnout reach an all-time high." – Internal VP **Griffin Anderson '19**

"The most valuable part of the weekend for me was listening to all these accomplished alumni talk to us about how they got where they are now using what they learned during their time as Delts. But most surprisingly, that they are still close with a lot of guys from the pledge classes."

– Treasurer **Michael Boodee '18**

"I thought this weekend was really beneficial for the whole executive board to hear what thoughts alumni had for us. I really liked our discussion on recruitment and the unique perspective that many alumni working in sales brought. I also thought the executive board benefitted by aligning our focus with the alumni." – Assistant Treasurer **Adam May '18**

"It was so special to meet and interact with older Delts who had been in our shoes years before. This fraternity has undoubtedly impacted the lives of many over the years, and I am fortunate to experience this unrivaled brotherhood every day." – House Manager **Jeremy Martens '18**

"The retreat was a great experience, getting to meet so many distinguished alumni members and

Brothers of All Generations Enjoy a Fun-Filled Alumni Weekend

Alumni returned to the Shelter the weekend of October 28, 2016, for a reception Friday evening and a tailgate Saturday afternoon. Former Alumni Relations Chairman **Mitchell Johnson '17** hosted a football forum during the reception Friday, with Bill Frisbee and **Joe Cook '16** of *Inside Texas*, both making several accurate predictions about the remainder of the Longhorns football season. During the tailgate, **Bill McMeans '80** and his wife, Tracie, presented the chapter with an antique ammo box in memory of their son, **Austin McMeans '17**. A surprise Longhorn win against Baylor topped off a great weekend of festivities in Austin.



Be sure to mark Alumni Weekend 2017 on your calendar—October 20-21, 2017!

discuss the future of Delt. I think the weekend was a great success and hope that more alumni members can attend in the future." – Assistant House Manager **Robby Loving '19**

"Going into the weekend, I knew I was in for a good time, but after getting advice from distinguished alumni, having amazing food, skeet shooting, and overall just having a blast, I can say that it exceeded all expectations."

– Alumni Relations Chairman **Trent Koen '18**

"The most prevalent thing I took away from the retreat was that Delt really can be a great network for the future. Hearing all of the alumni talk about their careers and businesses, and how involved they were with other former Delts across many pledge classes, was eye-opening in that respect." – Pledge Trainer **John Novak '16**

"The thing that stood out to me the most was the large distribution of age within the alumni who attended. Seeing guys who I knew in school when I was a pledge, along with members of pledge classes of the '60s, taught me a lot about the lasting impact that this group can have on a person. Thank you for all you and the other alumni do to help out the active chapter. I'm looking forward to working with you all throughout the upcoming year."

– Pledge Trainer **Adam Lowell '18**

"This weekend really exposed and emphasized to me the valuable network within the Delt chapter. I was amazed how many of the alumni conducted business together and who were willing to help a brother out."

– Honor Board Chairman **Will Davenport '18**

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OFFSITE EXPERIENCE

(Continued from page 3)



“Here’s my favorite quote from the alumni weekend: ‘If we could weave this web, we could create something great.’ This was in reference to creating a tighter professional network between alumni and the active chapter, and it made me realize just how meaningful this connection could be for everyone involved.”

– Social Chairman **Nico Steimer '17**

“Meeting with alumni of Delta Tau Delta was truly a memorable experience. Not only did I witness the immediate friendship and respect between the alumni and actives, but I also saw the willingness to offer guidance and help from alumni to actives. The fraternal bonds through Delt are everlasting and can make a big impact on one’s life if they utilize what is given to them.” – Social Chairman **Liam Ben-Joseph '18**

“I had a wonderful time at the executive retreat. It was a relaxed environment in which I learned a lot from older Delts who have been out in the real world and have real, hard-earned experience to give and share. It felt good to let the alumni know what’s going on at Delt now and to hear possible improvements that young, inexperienced men like myself would never think of. The ranch house was excellent and the food was phenomenal. It was definitely worth my time and I will try to come back as an established alumnus.”

– Philanthropy Chairman **Andy Poss '19**

“This was my first year attending the executive retreat and I enjoyed meeting many alumni who care as much about this fraternity as I do, if not more.”

– Recruitment Coordinator **Kyle Varni '18**

“One thing that was eye-opening to me was how many alumni put in so much time and effort to improve Delt’s standing at UT. I had no clue

we had such a strong network of alumni doing so much to improve the housing situation. It confirmed my belief that taking a leadership role in this fraternity is bigger than just me.”

– Recruitment Captain **Will Thomas '19**

“The hospitality was incredible and the leadership from the alumni made the future of Delt seem brighter than ever.”

– Recruitment Captain **Alec Jenkins '18**

“It was so refreshing to see all these alumni who still care so much about our fraternity. They all wanted to help us with our careers and networking, which was incredible.”

– Recruitment Captain **Reagan Francis '19**

“As a recruitment captain, it was really interesting to see where previous Delt pledge classes came from compared to the cities and schools we currently target. From what I gathered, older pledge classes had a lot of small-town guys, which was eye-opening because we don’t put as much emphasis on that now.”

– Recruitment Captain **Brendan Legas '19**

“Having alumni with that much experience was very helpful to us as officers, and I think the chapter will see the benefits of this experience as we move forward with the ideas discussed that weekend.”

– Recruitment Captain **Charles Mize '18**

“Offsite weekend was an eye-opening experience. It was nice to get to collaborate with Delt alumni and have open conversations about the future of the chapter. More so, it was awesome to hear from those who came before us and have gone on to do great things in the world.” – Recruitment Captain **Tripp Arnold '19**

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Earl J. Brewer, M.D. '49 entered Chapter Eternal on March 19, 2015. He was a pioneer of pediatric rheumatology locally, nationally, and internationally. He founded and was chairman of the pediatric department of Kelsey Seybold Clinic for 22 years; founded and was chairman of the Rheumatology Section and Division at Texas Children’s Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine for 30 years; and was also a clinical professor at Baylor. Earl was a prolific writer and authored many medical papers and several medical, nonfiction, and fiction books. As founder and chairman of the Pediatric Rheumatology Collaborative Study Group, he directed over 15 multicenter studies of anti-arthritis medicines, resulting in approval of several new drugs by the FDA.

Wilbur P. Cunningham '58 entered Chapter Eternal on June 6, 2016, as a resident of Big Spring, Texas. Wilbur enlisted in the Army National Guard in February 1959, and was called into active duty during the Cuban Missile Crisis. He was honorably discharged in 1962. After graduating from UT, Wilbur began a 36-year teaching career in Big Spring ISD as a sixth-grade teacher, high school math teacher, and golf coach. Wilbur influenced thousands of students throughout his illustrious career. He is survived by his wife, Donnita; son, Dale; nieces, Cherri, Linda, and Susan; nephew, Robert; and numerous great-nieces and great-nephews.

Frederick E. Westmoreland '76 entered Chapter Eternal on January 6, 2016, after a battle with brain cancer. He lived in Midland, Texas, with his wife, Debra.

Alfred J. “Chip” Bacon Jr. '01 entered Chapter Eternal on October 15, 2015, as a resident of McQueeney, Texas. He will be remembered as a terrific water skier. At ages 12, 14, and 16, Chip qualified to compete in the United States National Water Ski Championships. As a member of the Lake McQueeney Ski Bees, he participated in the weekly ski shows and was also a member of the Ski Bee show team that won a regional championship at Sea World in San Antonio. He was one of the top salesmen in his division at the Fastenal Company. He is survived by his son, Austin; parents, Al and Debbie; brothers, Derrick and Brian; nieces, Caitlyn and Addisyn; grandmother, Helen; cousins, Todd, Holly, and Clint; former wife, Vanessa; and many friends.

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Delta Tau Delta Still Important to Brandon Boehme '86 More Than 30 Years Later



Brandon Boehme '86 and his wife, Cindy, traveled to Australia in 2016.

Many brothers, including **Brandon Boehme '86**, reflect on their decision to join Delta Tau Delta as one of the best decisions they have ever made. "I joined the Delts because I wanted to be involved in what was going on at UT, and the fraternity seemed to be the best vehicle for getting into the social scene," Brandon says. "Most of the guys from my high school were Delts and I really never considered any other fraternities. I have never regretted my time at the Shelter or the friendships I started there. Being part of Gamma Iota has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life."

Brandon was a zealous member from the start and desired to become a leader in Gamma Iota. He served as pledge class social chairman, along with **Bill Cox**

'86, and they both went on to serve as chapter social chairman. Later on, Brandon was elected as alumni relations chairman and vice president. Brandon's remarkable leadership allowed him to branch out and form valuable connections with brothers, many of which have remained intact to this day. "I may not see or talk to a lot of the guys for years at a time, but once we cross paths again, we pick right up where we left off. I am always amazed at how some of the wildest, most irresponsible human beings I have ever been around, myself included, turned out to be doctors, surgeons, lawyers, entrepreneurs, business owners, and highly skilled employees doing incredible work across the U.S. and abroad."

A loyal Longhorn, Brandon makes it a goal to visit UT a few times each year for football games, spend time with family and relatives, and stop by the Shelter to interact with the active brothers. He says, "I wish more Delts would get involved with supporting our chapter and giving back to the young men who are there now. I look around campus and see how so many other fraternities have new, state-of-the-art houses, and I want the Delts to stay competitive so they will be around for generations to come."

After graduating from UT, Brandon attended law school at Baylor and worked as an attorney at Shannon, Gracey, Ratliff, and Miller in Fort Worth, Texas, in 1989, where he practiced for 25 years before retiring in 2013. He has lived and practiced in Fort Worth ever since. "While Austin is a wonderful place, where all my family still lives, I could not have picked a better place to call 'home' than Fort Worth," he says.

Brandon and his wife, Cindy, who is a Texas Tech University graduate, enjoy being active in the Fort Worth community. "Like so many of my Delt brothers, I married way above myself," Brandon says. "Cindy was in retail for many years and even had her own store for a while, but the last couple of years she has been a flight attendant for American Airlines, which has also greatly increased our travel adventures. We have no children, but it has allowed us to pour into the lives of hundreds of children in Brazil and around the world through our non-profit, so we consider ourselves to be the parents of them all!"

Although Brandon no longer practices law, he continues to consult and mentor young attorneys. Brandon and Cindy spend a lot of time in Brazil and Ecuador, where they have a second home. "I make sure I am always in Texas November through February for quail season, and I have a couple of German shorthaired pointers I like to chase all over West Texas," Brandon jokes. "The rest of my time is spent with other men who lift me up and encourage me to keep pursuing Christ. I want to help as many people as I can to be the best they can be, and find the happiness and peace I have found in pursuing a life of service to others." You can contact Brandon at brandon@bbmlaw.com.

John Stuart '58 Encourages Alumni to be Active Participants in the Success of ΔΤΔ

The University of Texas has held a special place in the heart of **John Stuart '58** for many years, particularly because of his unparalleled experience in Delta Tau Delta. "One of the most memorable journeys in my life began more than 60 years ago, when I chose to become a part of Gamma Iota. I joined the chapter because I felt that I was very much at home with the membership, many of whom I knew from the moment I pledged," John says.

Gamma Iota has been, and continues to be, known for its commitment to the highest standards and ranking among the top tier of fraternities at UT, which is something John takes great pride in. He says, "During my time in the chapter, Gamma Iota was the best of the best in every endeavor and made me want to excel at anything I set my mind to. In addition, I always enjoyed the fellowship with my brothers, whether it was during meals, working on projects, or participating in intramurals. We were always working for each other and for the pride of Gamma Iota."

Success is something that Gamma Iota has helped John attain both as an undergraduate and as an alumnus, and he hopes the chapter's commitment to excellence continues for future generations of ΔΤΔ brothers. "The ongoing support from alumni is what helps keep Gamma Iota in the greatest shape possible, and allows our chapter to continue recruiting the best men UT has to offer," John says. "Our undergraduate brothers need our support, and one of the easiest ways to make a difference is by giving back to Gamma Iota, whether it's through finances or volunteering for the chapter. I am a proud supporter of Delta Tau Delta and I hope to inspire others to give back any way they can."

John has played a pivotal role in maintaining Delta Tau Delta's polished appearance on campus over the years. In the 1990s, he served as chairman of Gamma Iota's capital campaign to update the Shelter, which helped him stay in contact with a number of his brothers from the '50s. It is the hard work and dedication from alumni like John that will help Gamma Iota flourish and continue to stand among the most respected facilities at UT.

Earning a bachelor's degree in business administration in accounting allowed John to pursue a rewarding 50-year career in commercial banking, and he now serves as a financial consultant to various clients. Originally, he started in banking in Dallas as a management trainee with Republic National Bank.

John and his wife, Barbara, stay involved with UT through the Texas Exes, Texas Cowboys, and the Chancellor's Council Executive Committee. They are also season ticket holders for sporting events at the University. Their extended involvement allows them to keep in touch with friends throughout the Longhorn nation and have the honor to continue working for UT. John and Barbara also have two children and four grandchildren, and live in Dallas. You can contact John at john.stuart3@att.net.



YOUR DONATIONS HELP GAMMA IOTA STAY COMPETITIVE

Gamma Iota continues our quest to be among the top fraternities in recruitment, scholarship, and housing. Alumni involvement is a critical component of these goals. Your ongoing and loyal support directly impacts the future of Gamma Iota. We thank the 68 donors who made gifts of \$15,850 for our fall 2016 giving cycle.

Gift levels reflect giving by appeal. If an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to Delta Tau Delta, Gamma Iota Chapter, P.O. Box 162731, Austin, TX 78701 or mlisher@penningtonco.com. Thank you, again, for your loyal support—it is making a difference.

Bevo Club (\$5,000 and up)

A. Scott Kidd '85
JK Leonard '85
Van Taylor '92

Big Bertha Club (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Eyes of Texas Club (\$250 to \$499)

Robert T. Herrin Jr. '55
Edward B. Reeves '62
James R. Woodworth '68
Michael T. Casey '71
Stacy G. Hunt '73
Thomas B. Ewing '78
H. Lee Matthews '83
Ross M. Rathgeber '84
M. Lance Abbott '91
Matthew L. Bray '92
Roberto J. Espinosa '92
Jeffery L. Calzacorta '04
Bryan J. Rush '04

Longhorn Club (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Meredith Long '50
Gary S. Farmer '80
Steven H. Stodghill '83

Hook 'Em Club (\$500 to \$999)

William C. Herndon Jr. '50
James N. Haltom '60
Peyton L. Townsend Jr. '62
Clark C. Smith '76
Robert C. Strait '77
F. Russell Douglass '81

Burnt Orange Club (\$100 to \$249)

Marcia Thomson Rounsaville
Robert K. German '47
John T. Stuart III '58
Sonny Rhodes '59
Richard W. Ince '60
Robert N. Abercrombie '61
Herbert R. Jones '63
Lamar E. Lawson Jr. '65
G. Matt Berry '67
D. D. Gillette '68
Stephen A. Morris '68
Richard L. Obenhaus '68
William R. Birdwell,
D.D.S. '69
Jack Gourley Jr. '70
J. Randy Henderson '70
Gregory H. Michaels '71
Val A. Aldred '74

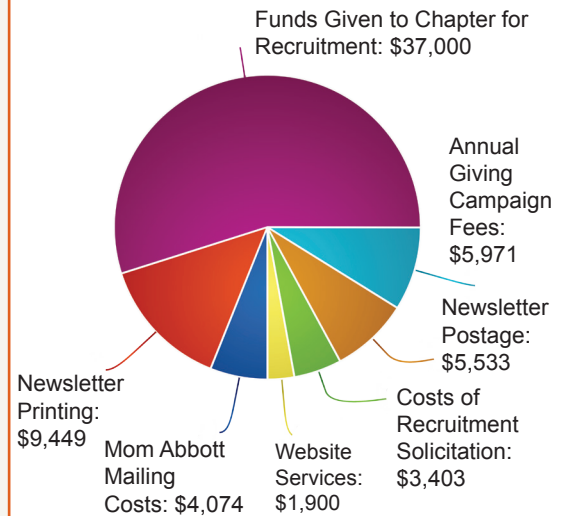
Brad L. Carver '76
Mark M. Jones '78
Mark M. Langford '78
James L. Hailey II '83
Samuel Noel '83
W. Paul Dillard Jr. '85
Mark Strickland '88
Dr. Johnny J. Peet '92
James H. Clarke III '97
Aaron P. Trull '00
Matthew W. Krug '01
Mark D. Warner '02
John M. Martin '03
James W. Wallis '04
David W. DeWitt '07

University Club (Up to \$99)

Frank H. Sherwood '48
Milam S. Johnson Jr. '61

O. Pierce Treadwell '61
John J. Driscoll Jr. '64
George M. Spear '64
Thomas B. Hancher,
M.D. '68
Thomas F. Mastin IV '74
J. Thomas Oshelski '95
Patrick D. Howard '96
Chad M. Touns '00

2016 TDAA Uses of Funds



To help support our recruitment efforts and future projects, visit TexasDeltAlumni.Kintera.org/Donate to make a donation!

Your Gift Counts Anytime!

If you would like to make a gift at any time to our annual campaign, you can do so online or by sending a check with the following gift form to our P.O. Box. Your support of the Alumni Association is greatly appreciated!

Online giving:

TexasDeltAlumni.Kintera.org/Donate

Mail your gift (using this form) to:

Texas Delts Annual Campaign, P.O. Box 162731, Austin, TX 78716

Make check payable to Texas Delts Alumni Association (non-tax deductible). Will be used for alumni communication, recruitment, and Shelter improvements.

Yes! I would like to support the annual campaign!

☐ The following address is my preferred address for all gift acknowledgments and correspondence.

Name: _____

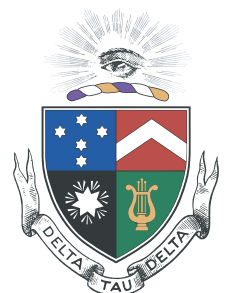
Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Graduation Year: _____

E-mail: _____

☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$500 ☐ Other \$ _____





Alumni Raise \$112,000 for Mom Abbott Retirement Fund

Thank you to the alumni, parents, and friends who donated \$112,000 to our wonderful Mom Abbott. This gift is proof that Gamma Iota is united and came together to take care of one of our own. We will never be able to truly repay Mom Abbott for her dedication to the men of Gamma Iota, but this fundraiser acts as a small token of our appreciation for this incredible woman. Thank you all for your generous support.

Mom Abbott Club (\$10,000 and above)

Lipscomb Family
Richard Lipscomb '68
Rik Lipscomb '91
C. Clark Lipscomb '95
Kelly Lipscomb '01

Bevo Club (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

F. Russell Douglass '81
Mark A. R. Dempsey '90
Gregory D. Ethridge '00

Big Bertha Club (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

James W. Shaddix '68
William V. McMeans '90
Timothy P. Collins '92
W. Stirling Warren '92
Brent L. Korb '94
Bryan J. Rush '04

Longhorn Club (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Anonymous
Peyton L. Townsend Jr. '62
Michael L. Nell '81
Dorian P. Sowell '89
L. Scott Benkendorfer '90
Christopher R. Manning '90
Kyndel W. Bennett '92
Roberto J. Espinosa '92
Homer D. Parkhill '93
Ryan L. Lawrence '97
Samuel B. Edwards '98
William A. Thielhorn '98
Ruchir A. Kadakia '99

Hook 'Em Club (\$500 to \$999)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Jeffrey and Jo Anne Trower
Joe B. Watkins '65
James R. J. Strickler '76
JK Leonard '85
Brandon L. Boehme '86
William W. Durham '89
Christopher J. Gallagher '89
Michael A. Wichterich '89
Jeffrey A. Wolf '89
Rob Berra '90
Charles H. Cotter '90

Jeffrey W. Gurney '90
Jeffrey C. Pitts '90
David W. Richardson '90
M. Lance Abbott '91
P. Matthew Boles '91
Mark B. Hughes '91
Stephanie and Todd Kurio '91
Vance E. Detwiler '92
Edward L. Heartfield Jr. '92
Eric W. Hornsten '92
Amber and Neal Meinzer '92
Dr. Johnny J. Peet '92
Patrick T. Perugini '92
Chris G. Sellers '92
Jim Stanislaus '93
Mark A. Baumann '94
Travis L. Briggs '94
Todd J. Hughes, D.D.S. '94
W. Blake McGowan, M.D. '94
Jason W. Toothman '94
C. Brent Truelove '94
Monty J. Calderoni '95
Matthew J. Long '95
Joel R. Messina '95
Gregory D. Olsovsky '95
Palmer A. Thompson '95
Matthew D. Willcox '97
Christopher C. Clark '98
Stephan A. Prueger '98
Blake J. Box '99
Ryan C. Harrington '99
R. Gavin Worthy '99
Matthew J. Meloy '00
Jeffrey A. Hurst '01
Jonathan C. Worbington '01
John M. Martin '03
Keith P. Cioci '07
Travis L. Robertson '08

Eyes of Texas Club (\$250 to \$499)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Michael J. Broker
S. Lynn Gray '62
Michael P. Carnes '66
T. Neal Worley '76
Robert C. Strait '77
David L. Pratt '80
Kevin C. Roberts '83
Gregory L. Marwill '85
Steve Cecil '90

Eric L. Kraft '91
Jeffrey G. Spencer '91
Robert S. Garner '92
Stacey L. Lawrence '92
Brian W. Watts '92
Timothy M. Abel '93
Tate K. Barber '93
Randall S. Laird '93
David A. Smith '93
Mark R. Gustawes '94
Tim M. Kotas '94
Michael S. Mairs '94
Christopher M. Stanley '94
Wade P. Webster '94
Janet and Kelly Blackburn '95
J. Thomas Oshelski '95
William R. Birdwell Jr. '96
Brian E. Erlanson '98
Travis McDavid '00
Robby K. Phillips '00
Aaron P. Trull '00
Danny E. Savitz '01
Joel A. East '02
Christopher J. Holden '02
Mark D. Warner '02
Jeffrey C. Shaddix '03
Brandon L. White '06
Andrew W. Barnes '08
Dylan Richey '08
Ryan A. Manack '09
Eric C. Pearson '09
Trey Martin '11
Austen Beck '12

Burnt Orange Club (\$100 to \$249)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Anonymous
Julie and Dudley Baker IV
William and Charlotte Booth
Edwin Echols
Jay and Patsy Guest
Jed and Diane Hamilton
Liane Locke
Jeffrey C. Mabry
Jennyne and Robert Markus Jr.
Michael and Mary Meyer
Robert K. German '47
Donald G. Dunbar Jr. '51
Eugene B. Shepherd '57
John T. Stuart III '58
Arthur "Sonny" Rhodes Jr. '59
Mike B. Cotten '62
Preston G. Craig '62
William R. Birdwell, D.D.S. '69
J. Andy Watson '71
Weldon S. Copeland '73
Patrick J. Cook, M.D. '75
H. Lee Matthews '83
Carl T. Cecil '86
John M. Branch '87
Ronald C. McVean Jr. '87
Keith M. Varni '87
Cody D. Hedgpeh '90
Brian C. Frerichs '91
Mark A. Peters '91
Scott D. Anderson '92
Jonathan P. Ayres '92
Braedon D. Box '92
Don C. Gay Jr. '92
C. Matthew Mayes '92
Joel E. Druebert '93
Mark D. Norby '93
C. Michael Lucas Jr. '94
Trey Murray '94
Kollen C. West '96
Christopher C. Ege '97
Michael L. Sands '98
Todd A. Sivie '98
Justin C. Cannon '99
Robert Ghiselli '99
Adam A. Krug '99
Sean P. Lynch '99
Ryan P. Messina '99
Brian R. White '99
Jonathan P. Burks '00
Robert A. Chereck '00
Tory A. Cronin '00
Gregory M. Fields '00
Brock H. Wallace '00
Matthew C. Borowski '01
Dustin E. Hunt '01
Matthew W. Krug '01
Thomas P. Paterson '01
John C. Warren '02
John F. Davies Jr. '03
R. Craig Gleaton '03
Jeffery L. Calzacorta '04

Robert A. DiFulgentiz '04
Joshua B. Neff '04
M. Decker Stanley '04
James W. Wallis '04
Scott B. Thelander '05
Kyle R. Rhodes '07
Jeffrey N. Schwartz '07
Corey N. Crow '09
Matthew S. Edwards '09
Hal W. Hogsett '09
Alexander Kakabadse '09
Andrew M. Yarotsky '09
Riker Everett '09
Justin P. Bustamante '10
Andrew N. Judge '10
BJ Loessberg '10
Bryan D. Mackay '10
Matthew T. Skonezny '10
William D. Brooks '11
Ian Lancaster '12
David Furman '13
Lori and Brady Kreitman '15
Erik T. Stevens '15

University Club (Up to \$99)

Anonymous
Anonymous
Gregory and Deborah Blauser
Frank H. Sherwood '48
Ballard W. George '49
Fred C. Chandler Jr. '50
Robert N. Abercrombie '61
Louis S. Casey Jr. '67
Joseph A. Stanley III '68
Corey F. Bankhead '83
J. Robin Lindley '84
C. Ross Carlson Jr. '94
Patrick D. Howard '96
James H. Clarke '97
Wishard S. Lorimer '99
Mary and Matt Gallery '01
Leonard L. Oliver II '01
Brent M. Worthy '01
Wes W. Parnell '02
Todd Greenbaum '06
William B. Strange IV '07
Mark C. Willey '09
James D. Young '10
Susan Elaine and Grant Waring '12
Thaddeus M. Kull '14
Dylan P. Bragers '15



FRATERNITY EXPERIENCE INSPIRES MEREDITH LONG '50 TO LIVE A LIFE OF EXCELLENCE

Of the many cherished memories **Meredith Long '50** has of Delta Tau Delta, the memory of the beautiful Shelter located at 2801 San Jacinto, one of UT's finest facilities, is the strongest. "Both the house and the Delts who lived there, many of them older than me, provided a warm place to work my way through the University," Meredith says. "Gamma Iota provided a homing nest for

many of the undergraduates during my time, and continues to do so today. I became a more confident, social, and successful person because of the men I was surrounded by in Delta Tau Delta."

One of the most admirable qualities of many of the men Meredith associated with in Gamma Iota was that they were WWII veterans. He says, "Several of the guys in the chapter were veterans coming back from WWII. I wasn't a veteran at the time; I was too young. But these guys had a certain attitude about them, and I became friends with many of them. They were certainly an outgoing bunch, and I have valued these friendships since."

These brothers taught Meredith the ropes in Gamma Iota and inspired him to become involved in many of the activities the fraternity hosted or participated in at UT. Among Meredith's favorites were the evening serenades that Delta Tau Delta performed for young ladies who were Sweethearts of the Delts, as well as when he and **Kleber Miller '51** joined UT's debate team. "We were on the first string debate team of the University of Texas. We debated and won against Oxford University, Cambridge University, and many more. These unforgettable moments with my brothers have stayed with me for a lifetime, which is why I encourage current and future Gamma Iota Delts to be involved regularly with the daily activities and events in the fraternity. You're only an active member for so long; don't miss out on making once-in-a-lifetime memories!"

Meredith graduated from UT with a bachelor's degree in government and went on to become a dealer in fine art, specializing in American art. He was also very honored to be made a member of the Friar Society of the University of Texas. In the right season, you'll likely find him hunting or fishing. Meredith and his wife, Cornelia, live happily in Houston, Texas. He can be reached at long@mlongoffice.com.

Anthony Z. Paduano '13 entered Chapter Eternal on May 5, 2016, at the age of 25. Zane had an infectious personality and a network of friends that extended beyond normal human reach. Without doubt, Zane owned any room he walked into and exuded a certain charm that simply made you love him. He was uniquely blessed to be loved widely and deeply. Zane brought happiness and laughter to the lives of many and will be missed dearly. He is survived by his mother, Lynne; stepfather, Patric; father, Tony; stepmother, Kamille; grandmother, Martha; grandparents, Warren and Jane; uncles, Lain and Taylor; grandparents, Tony, Lettie, and Betty; and aunts and uncles, Ben, Marytess, Vance, and Joya.

ALUMNI NEWS

Richard "Pipe" Bender '41 jokes, "I shot my age 59 times." He had to give up playing golf due to a bad back, but won a recent putting tournament for men ages 85 and older in Hot Springs Village, Ark. E-mail: pipeing@suddenlink.net

Bill M. Fox '46 is the author of *American Values Decline: What We Can Do*, published in 2005, and *Effective Group Problem Solving: How to Broaden Participation, Improve Decision Making, and Increase Commitment to Action* in 2014. He and his wife, Else, have two children,

ALUMNI UPDATE

(Continued from page 4)

Inge and Bates, and live in Gainesville, Fla. E-mail: gryfox@gru.net

Lt. Col. Douglas J. Nelson, Ph.D. '54 serves in the United States Army, where he is a master parachutist, High Altitude Low Opening (HALO) certified, and is Green Beret/Special Ops qualified. He and his wife, Betsy, have three daughters, Kathy, Holy, and Julia, and live in San Antonio, Texas. E-mail: dougnelson1@live.com

Thomas R. Mast '60 enjoys exploring the community in Austin, Texas, staying active with his church, and traveling. He and his wife, Edna, have two sons, Bill and Steve. E-mail: tommast@earthlink.net

Joseph A. Stanley III '68 and his wife, Jackie, have four sons, three of whom are Gamma Iota Delts, and enjoy spending time with their seven grandchildren in San Antonio. E-mail: jastanleyiii@gmail.com

Mark B. Buckner, M.D. '83 is building a free standing ER in Sherman, Texas. His son,

Bryson Buckner '20, attended UT last fall as a freshman is now a member of Gamma Iota. Mark and his wife, Sandy, take pleasure in all the Sherman community has to offer. E-mail: mbuckmd@gmail.com

J. K. Leonard '85 serves as chairman of ALFA International, a global network of independent law firms based in Chicago, Ill. ALFA International has 150 member firms across the U.S. and internationally. You can visit their website at www.alfainternational.com. J. K. and his wife, Georganne, have three children and enjoy the Shavano Park community. E-mail: jkleonard210@gmail.com

Michael L. Sands '98 reports that his brother, **Steve Sands '01**, who is also a Gamma Iota alumnus, co-founded Inverness Lone Star Pharmacy, which is a specialty pharmacy located in the DFW metro area. Mike and Steve are also co-owners of Sands Surgical, LLC, a medical device distribution company, in Dallas. "Keep up the good work, Delts!" Mike says. E-mail: s1sands@yahoo.com

Andrew N. Judge '10 shares, "As brother **Matthew McConaughy '92** once said, just L-I-V-I-N." Andrew lives in Houston, Texas. E-mail: andrew.n.judge@gmail.com



Left: Joe Cook '16, Connor Darling '16, Connor Davis '18, Tyler Potance '16, Matthew Asvestas '16, and Jonathan Broker '17 at the UT vs. Notre Dame football game. Middle: Distinguished alumni Bob Carroza '81, Steve Rigby '86, Greg Laird '92, Coley Clark '67, Greg Abbott '81, and Steve Stodghill '83 throw the Hook 'em Horns sign at an event. Right: Jordan Tuzzo '17, Calvin Witt '18, Connor Johnson '17, Conner Mass '17, Dax Benkendorfer '18, Blake McWhirter '17, Liam Ben-Joseph '18, and Michael Boodee '18 show their Longhorn pride as Spurs of Delt at a tailgate.

Chapter Continues to Rank Among the Best at UT

Gamma Iota wrapped up a successful spring recruitment and looks forward to accomplishing a lot this semester. We finished a successful spring recruitment with 23 new members and we are looking to carry this momentum into the summer. With that being said, please send us names of young men from your hometown who are planning to attend The University of Texas. We want to get the ball rolling as early as possible.

Commitment to Academics Pays Off

After this past fall semester, the chapter has the 10th best GPA, which has increased to a 3.24. The fall 2016 pledge class ranked even higher than this, coming in at seventh with a 3.25 GPA. The chapter's GPA has been on an increase for the past four years, and we plan to continue this positive trend throughout 2017.

Wounded Warrior Project Raises More Than \$24,000

Our philanthropy, Bump-it-high, benefiting the Wounded Warrior Project, raised over \$24,000 for our veterans. The joint event with the amazing women of Alpha Chi Omega was an outstanding success. We had over 900 attendees who competed on sand volleyball teams for various prizes at Volente Beach Water Park on Lake Travis. "This year was the best turnout we have ever had and we look forward to building on its success," Philanthropy Chairman **Andy Poss '19** says.

Recruitment Efforts Boost Chapter Morale

Our membership continues to stay strong as we initiated 43 fall new members, and we just recruited 23 for the spring pledge class. We look forward to growing even more as we anticipate this upcoming fall recruitment and pledge class. "We are expecting to have one of the most competitive and successful recruitments this fall

and I am looking forward to the challenge and fun that comes with it," Recruitment Coordinator **Kyle Varni '18** says.

Brothers Represent ΔTA on Campus

Our 200 members are also very involved throughout the University. Last spring, Treasurer **Michael Boodee '18** and Social Chairman **Liam Ben-Joseph '18** joined the Silver Spurs organization. **Clark Higganbotham '17** is president of Beta Beta Beta this year and was recently admitted to University of Oklahoma Medical School. House Manager **Jeremy Martens '18** is vice president of IFC and a Society of American Engineers scholarship recipient. **Madison Gehler '19** is the cadet platoon sergeant of the Reserve Officer Training Corps. Vice President **Nicholas Staviski '18** is treasurer of the Society of Petroleum Engineers and is the recipient of both the Ralph Nelson UT Presidential Scholarship and IFC New Member Excellence Scholarship.

Alumni and Parent's Weekend End in Success

I want to thank all the parents and alumni who attended the Parent's Weekend and our Alumni Weekend last fall. Alumni and parents are the backbone of this organization, and on behalf of the active chapter, I want to thank you for the constant support that we are so blessed to receive. We recently had the best turnout for the alumni retreat we have ever had, and we hope to continue to increase alumni and chapter interactions. The next Alumni Weekend will be held the weekend of October 20-21 when Texas takes on OSU. We hope to see you all there and hope for a winning season this year. Please do not think that this weekend is the only time you can stop by the Shelter. Alumni are always welcome and encouraged to stop by and share stories whenever you have the chance.

Members Aim for Another Winning Intramural Season

Gamma Iota continues to be competitive on the field as well as on the court. After deep playoff runs in basketball, football, and soccer last year, our teams will continue to be active in the intramural sport arenas and take home awards this spring. This semester, we have teams competing in football, basketball, soccer, softball, volleyball, dodgeball, and more. With the addition of some new members to the teams, the outlook is promising. "This spring semester, it looks like the intramural sports interest to represent Delt is ever-increasing. We have two full roster basketball teams and full rosters for our flag football and soccer teams. Here's to expanding our trophy case and embarrassing Sigma Chi," – Intramural Sports Chairman **Logan Caldwell '19** says.

Stop By 2801 San Jacinto and Reconnect

This past semester, we have experienced tremendous success socially and academically. We would not be where we are today if it wasn't for your generous donations, support, and time. We have been working to connect with more alumni by periodically having speakers come and talk to the chapter about their careers, time in Delt, or any advice that they want to leave with us young men. If you have any interest, please feel free to contact me. Please keep Gamma Iota in mind these next few months as the next round of students attend The University of Texas.



Fraternally,
Dax Benkendorfer '18
Chapter President
(512) 848-2581
daxbenkendorfer@gmail.com



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FALL 2016 NEW MEMBERS



WELCOME, SPRING 2017 NEW MEMBERS

Diogo Chiaramonte '20
Austin, Texas

Sergio Covarrubias '20
Austin, Texas

Montana Day '20
Argyle, Texas

Preston Feagins '20
Cypress, Texas

Matthew Fercher '19
Plano, Texas

Austin Franco '20
Austin, Texas

Jeremy Geist '20
Austin, Texas

Blake George '20
The Woodlands, Texas

Will Grantham '20
Houston, Texas

Matt Harper '20
Cypress, Texas

Weston Huff '19
Three Rivers, Texas

Kapp Japhet '20
San Antonio, Texas

Cooper Kavanaugh '20
Houston, Texas

Andrew Kozicz '20
Toronto, Canada

Brendan Lyden '20
Lewisville, Texas

Spencer McHatton '20
Plano, Texas

Riley O'Hara '20
Houston, Texas

Max Patterson '20
Dallas, Texas

Seth Rodriguez '20
San Antonio, Texas

David Tibaquirá '19
Cypress, Texas

Turner Trcka '20
San Antonio, Texas

Jeik Yoon '20
Houston, Texas

Andrew Young '20
Denton, Texas



Undergraduates Attribute Recruitment Success to Generous Alumni Support

Last summer, we recruited our most successful fall pledge class (since I have been in school), largely due to the immense help received from our alumni. We also have a strong spring class of 23 men. Last summer, with alumni support, we were able to expand all of our state events (Dallas, Houston, and Austin), including adding a night to Houston and adding many smaller local events to build stronger relations early in the summer with our top targets.

The recruitment environment is very competitive with other fraternities, so there is a constant focus on recruitment of quality, balanced with quantity, of pledges. I have six recruitment captains on the team this year, with at least one senior recruitment captain in each major city. Within each city, we have two to three area recruitment captains to assist with local events. We want to involve a larger group of alumni in the recruitment process and this is a big sales point to our prospective members—alumni interaction. Last summer, **Steve Stodghill '83** graciously offered the use of his house for our Dallas state day party and he even participated in several of the bids we gave out that weekend. Mr.

Stodghill has already recommitted to hosting a barbecue during Dallas state weekend for summer 2017.

If you have time and are interested in helping us during our state parties, please contact me and I can connect you with the local recruitment captains. If you have access to a ranch, boat, lake house, sporting tickets, or a venue that we could use for an event during Houston state, and/or you are willing to attend with us, we would greatly appreciate it. In the past several years, we have had huge success recruiting legacies, including myself (Father **Keith Varni '85**), and would love to continue our success of recruiting legacies. If you know any legacies coming to UT or other good candidates who would be interested in joining a fraternity, please contact me at kylevarni@gmail.com, (214) 918-1409, or **Trent Koen '18** at trentkoen@gmail.com.

Fraternally,
Kyle Varni '18
Recruitment Coordinator

2016 H.T. Parlin Educational Foundation Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following five of 10 Gamma Iota members for their phenomenal achievements, which earned them \$10,000 in combined scholarships. (The first five were featured in the fall newsletter.)

Dax Benkendorfer '18 is a junior advertising and real estate finance major, serving as Gamma Iota's chapter president. He was vice president and recruitment captain in 2016 and is interning with Live Oak Gottesman, a commercial real estate developer. "My college experience would not be nearly as rewarding had I not pledged Delt," he says.

Madison Gehler '18 is a cadet in the Reserve Officer Training Corps of Cadets. Both ROTC and his major, international relations and global studies, have allowed him to

travel to Morocco to learn Arabic. Madison says, "Delt has brought me together with many great men with whom I've built lasting friendships and connections. I've grown a lot as a man and a friend since I became a Delt."

Drew Drury '18 is a junior accounting major who is in the University Interscholastic League and the University Innovation Alliance, has his real estate license, and is working on his black belt through SIX Sigma. In addition to the Parlin Scholarship, Drew has also received the Suder Family Scholarship and the ESI Scholarship from the Texas Exes. "Delt has not only given me lifelong friends, but also amazing connections through alumni who I am truly grateful for."

Reagan Francis '19 is a corporate com-

munication major and a recruitment captain. He served as an assistant recruitment captain last year and works for the Center for STEM Education at the University as an accounting assistant. "I like being a part of rush because it's what drives the fraternity forward."

Nicholas Staviski '18 is an honors junior petroleum engineering student serving as Gamma Iota's external vice president. He was the philanthropy chairman in 2016 and a member of the Scholastic Task Force in 2015. He has spent the past two summers interning with Linn Energy and XTO Energy, and will spend the next summer in Houston doing a reservoir engineering internship with BHP Billiton. "The memories I've made at the Shelter will carry me through life. Rah Rah Delt," he says.

Get Connected— Find Gamma Iota Online Today!



Alumni Website

www.TexasDeltAlumni.com



Undergraduate Chapter Website

www.TexasDelts.com



Online Giving

TexasDeltAlumni.Kintera.org/Donate



Facebook

Search for group:
Texas Delts Alumni Association



LinkedIn

Search for group:
The University of Texas Delts



Alumni Yahoo Group

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/texas_delts

You don't want to miss this year's Alumni Weekend October 20-21, 2017! More details will be available as we get closer to this event.

Excellence on All Levels

(Continued from page 1)

In 2016, we collected generous donations totaling \$20,775 to the Texas Delts Alumni Association while another \$112,000 was raised for Judy Abbott's retirement gift. Thank you to **Scott Benkendorfer '90** for his hard work leading this effort to success. Without him, this campaign would not have been as successful as it was. Both sets of donors are summarized in the newsletter by giving level. Several donors elected to remain anonymous and we have respected that decision. Incidentally, I should note that during the process of raising the gift for Mom Abbott, several of us spoke to different fraternities, sororities, and the Delta Tau Delta central office. No one is aware of ANY chapter having ever given a gift like this to a retiring housemother. We should all be proud that not only did we do the right thing for our Mom, we set the standard for all Delts once again. See the summary from Treasurer **Mark Dempsey '90** in this newsletter of the funds collected for the Alumni Association and how those were spent.

Please take a moment to review the background of the remaining five undergraduate members who were awarded \$10,000 in H.T. Parlin Educational Foundation scholarships for exemplary academics and leadership. These awards were presented during the annual Dad's Weekend the chapter hosted last spring and only the first five were featured in the fall newsletter.



TEXAS DELTS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
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AUSTIN, TX 78716

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I am very excited to feature three distinguished alumni spotlights in this newsletter, all having been influenced by Gamma Iota in positive ways. **John Stuart '58** was instrumental in leading the fundraising effort of the last Gamma Iota capital campaign in the late '90s and had a 50-year career in commercial banking. **Meredith Long '50** has fond memories of his time at 2801 San Jacinto, having been shaped by many of the WWII veterans in the chapter. After graduating, he became a dealer in fine art, specializing in American art. **Brandon Boehme '86** believes that joining the Texas Delts was the best decision he ever made. He is an attorney by trade, but owns businesses on the side and is a staunch volunteer for children in Brazil. Each of the spotlights tell their own stories of how Gamma Iota impacted their lives and why they continue to support the chapter today. I also want to thank **Tom Ryan '87**, chairman and CEO of Service Corp International, for participating in the Leaders and Legends Speaker Series organized by chapter Alumni Relations Chairman **Mitchell Johnson '17**. Mr. Ryan traveled from Houston to share his business experiences and Delt memories at a chapter meeting. The Delts were honored to host him for the evening, and his stories and advice were appreciated by all.

As always, I look forward to hearing from you when you have time!

Delts to Be Inducted into RecSports Hall of Honor

This spring, (Saturday, April 22 at 6 p.m. in Gregory Gym), Delta Tau Delta will be inducted into the RecSports Inaugural Hall of Honor at the Centennial Celebration & Reunion—the only fraternity on the list of the four organizations being honored. Lots of Delts have already signed up to attend. Open bar, good food, short ceremony, lots of fun. For more information and to sign up, go to utrecports.org/ccr.

Joe Bill Watkins '65, who majored in intramurals at the Shelter in the early '60s and is one of the individual inductees, would love to see a big Delt turnout. He says, "This event is for all Delts, whether you played on championship teams or on the Mullet teams or just attended the big games and cheered for the Delts." Over this 100 years, the Delts have been a big part of intramurals and intramurals has played an important role in the Delt experience.

Hook 'em,

Greg Ethridge '00

2017 Chairman, Texas Delts Alumni Association
greg_ethridge@yahoo.com

P.S. Please also take a moment to join the LinkedIn and Facebook groups that have been set up to assist us in organizing events online. **Jason Guest '93** is assisting us in our online communications. Also note that the website newsletters are now password protected and the password is gammaiota. Thank you.