



TEXAS DELTS

Gamma Iota Chapter | Delta Tau Delta Fraternity | The University of Texas at Austin | Spring 2022

CONSTRUCTION HAS BEGUN

*New structure construction started;
existing house renovation starts 2023*

With the help of 649 loyal donors who pledged over \$9.89 million, the only thing left is to renovate the existing house and build the new study pavilion! These new and renovated facilities will help ensure Delta Tau Delta remains a premier fraternity at the University of Texas. We on the building committee are strongly anticipating this new home for our brothers, as I'm sure our alumni are, and we have a few updates to share on obstacles in our way and what can be expected in the future.

We have experienced a few issues that have prevented us from breaking ground right away. It has been difficult to secure permits, particularly during COVID-19, which has been a primary cause of the delay. Additionally, the city of Austin continues to be overwhelmed with the amount of construction in the area.

Furthermore, building restrictions have been further modified by the city of Austin, creating more complexity for any development in flood zones. This has proven to be an issue for us, as about one-eighth of the existing Shelter was built on a floodplain. With these delays in construction, we plan to begin work on the main structure in the summer of 2023. The existing structure renovation is targeted to be complete prior to the start of the fall 2024 semester; however, we do not have a specific timeline yet.

While we have had to modify our plans slightly, there is something else we can look forward to—our new lot/study pavilion and a reoriented sports court! **That's right, the building committee finalized the contract in early May and construction has begun.** The goal is to have these completed by the Alabama game this fall, barring any major delays.

While we have experienced more complications than we had hoped in expanding our Shelter, we look forward to beginning construction next summer. Thank you for your continued support of Gamma Iota; it's because of our loyal alumni that we are able to complete this project. We will keep you updated as more information becomes available.

Fraternally,

Scott Benkendorfer '90

President, Gamma Iota Building Association Board
Building Committee Leader



BUILDING COMMITTEE

Scott Benkendorfer '90, Committee Leader

Bill McMeans '80

Wes Ritchie '80

Steve Stodghill '83

Steve Rigby '86

Jamil Alam '88

Jason Nix '91

Kyndel Bennett '92

Ellis Winstanley '03



TEXAS DELTS LEAD THE WAY

Brothers Engage in Campus and Community Organizations



Gamma Iota brothers at the Texas vs. Louisiana tailgate. Pictured: Casper Belaïter '24, Jacob Grossman '24, William Rigby '24, Jack Richter '24, John Kearney '23, and Dan Sabra '24.



Gamma Iota secures the intramural basketball championship. Pictured: Ian Riley '24, Grant Stapleton '25, Casper Belaïter '24, Matthew Stuempfig '23, Pierce Blankinship '24, Rohan Gudipally '25, and Austin Wesneske '24.



Members have a blast ringing in 2022 at the chapter's New Year's party. Pictured: Shaunak Divine '24, Stephen Young '24, Garrett Karbs '24, Preston Lewis '24, Luke Hindman '24, George Webster '24, and Matthew Howell '24.

I hope 2022 has been treating everyone well thus far. I would like to introduce myself as the new alumni relations chairman. I'm very excited to take on the role and am extremely thankful for my predecessor, **Menton Murray '23**, and all the great work he has done for the chapter.

Per usual, the brothers of Gamma Iota are hard at work on and off campus. Texas Delt has partnered with the Neighborhood Longhorn Foundation to pair our new members with disadvantaged youth at Wooldridge Elementary to provide mentorship, help with schoolwork, and help build a better future for them. Philanthropy Chairman **William Florer '24** shares, "It's an exciting opportunity because it could be the foundation for something we do with every new member class in the future."

I would like to congratulate Forty Acres Scholar William Florer for his continued success in the program, and **Wes Mizel '23** and **Jay Dempsey '23** for their induction into the Silver Spurs fall 2021 rowel class. Additionally, congratulations to Menton Murray, **Grant Stapleton '25**, and William Florer for their election to IFC Judicial Board, Scholarship Cabinet member, and Operations Cabinet member respectively. On campus, **Daniel Sabra '24** is the founder and president of the Texas Future Investors Group, where he leads and works with a large and diverse body of students to help grow their knowledge and capability with investing. I am also proud of our fall 2021 softball and spring 2022 basketball intramural teams for becoming champions.

The young men of Gamma Iota are heavily involved with their faith on campus, with many holding leadership positions in organizations such as Young Life, STUMO, and Texas RUF. Through these organizations, our brothers have been able to strengthen and develop their faith as well as the faith of others on campus.

Faternally,
Stephen Young '24
Alumni Relations Chairman
stephenyoung@utexas.edu



Members after winning the intramural softball tournament. Pictured: Koen Kissinger '23, Hayden Lowrance '22, Chris Orifici '22, Scott Griffin '22, Mason Bettes '22, Trent Nevins '22, Tommy Wehmann '22, Brandt Sobczak '22, Preston Lewis '24, and John Withers '23.



Brothers enjoy watching the Longhorns beat Texas Tech. Pictured: Jacob Grossman '24, George Webster '24, Jared Driggers '24, Jack Richter '24, and Milo Kern '24.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

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DELTA TAU DELTA - GAMMA IOTA CHAPTER
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Alumni Updates

Chapter Eternal

Donald G. Dunbar Jr. '51 – December 28, 2021

Alumni News

Tom Eubank '54 has a grandson, Luke, who is a freshman at UT Austin. Tom was a vice president and house manager in 1953 and 1954. He wishes the best to all his fraternity brothers. He lives in Houston, Texas. Email: neubank@sbcglobal.net

Robert T. Herrin '55 has 12 grandchildren and one great-grandson. "Life is good for now!" He lives in Houston, Texas. Email: herrin_robert@yahoo.com

Ed S. Harris '62 shares that his brother, **Bart Harris '63**, lived in Dallas, Texas, until his death in October 2019. His son, Bartow, was a Delt at Texas Tech and now lives in Denver. Ed resides in Fort Worth, Texas. Email: edwin.harris2227@gmail.com

Bill F. Klug '62 has a son, Bill, who graduated from Texas in 1988 on a swimming scholarship. His daughter, Elizabeth, also graduated from Texas in 1988. Bill retired in 1996, and he and his wife, Mary, have traveled extensively—they last counted 115 countries. They live in Naples, Fla. Email: wfkiv828@gmail.com

The Hon. Michael E. Keasler '64 received the 2001 Lifetime Achievement Award from the State Bar of Texas Judicial Section on September 22, 2021. He lives in Austin, Texas. Email: mekeasler@yahoo.com

George M. Spear '64 enjoys spending his winters at his home in Tucson, Ariz. He lives in Malaga, Wash. Email: geospear@live.com

Gerry A. Solcher '66 is a Vietnam veteran who was released with the rank of captain. He resides in San Antonio, Texas. Email: gsolcher@gmail.com

Chal D. Barnwell '73 enjoys chapter updates. He lives in Bay City, Texas. Email: cb@lcbtx.com

JK Leonard '85 has opened a solo practice after maintaining an active trial practice over the past 33 years. His practice is devoted entirely to mediation and the resolution of private civil disputes. He can be reached at jkladr.com and information is available at www.jkladr.com. James resides in Shavano Park, Texas. Email: jkleonard210@gmail.com

Jim Stanislaus '93 is proud to have his son, Mason Stanislaus, in the Gamma Iota Delt fall 2021 class. Mason is studying chemistry. Jim resides in Austin, Texas. Email: jim@austinlt.com

Matt M. Breidenbach '13 works at Google full time and serves the U.S. Navy Reserves part time. He lives in Austin, Texas. Email: mmb1119@gmail.com



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