



GEORGIA ALPHAN

THE NEWSLETTER FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF GEORGIA ALPHA CHAPTER OF PHI DELTA THETA FRATERNITY AT UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA - SPRING 2022



Brother John McGoogan #1485 hosted the annual Founders Day/Golden Legion event at Capital City Club-Brookhaven with record attendance. Sean Wagner, fraternity CEO, conducted the Golden Legion ceremony with assistance from undergraduate brothers.

Looking Toward the Future

CAB Recaps an Exciting Year and Sets Sights Forward

On behalf of the Chapter Advisory Board (CAB), we are happy to report another great year for Georgia Alpha. As you know, 2021 represented the 150th anniversary of the founding of Georgia Alpha, which marks the longest PΔT chapter in continued existence. Many of you attended the events we hosted this past November in recognition of this historic achievement, which climaxed with the dedication of the Six Ninety Veranda at Terry College of Business' Ivester Hall on November 6, 2021. We are excited to report that an article will be forthcoming in the *Terry Magazine* later this year that will make note of how the fraternity came together to do what no other Greek organization has ever done in the entire Georgia University system.

ACTIVE BROTHERS THRIVE

Inside this newsletter, you will find a report from President Reed Stout #2538 as well as others on the executive board. The chapter has achieved many of its goals, including having the top cumulative GPA for two of the past three semesters. While making good grades never goes out of style, the undergraduates have plenty of other areas they have been very successful at, including a full social schedule and initiating a class of 33 young men this past fall.

PHILANTHROPY WORK

Also enclosed is a report from CAB member Matt Smith, *Mississippi Beta '95* highlighting the philanthropy work Georgia Alpha has done supporting local families impacted by ALS. Matt has been a great addition to CAB. He is a Phi from Ole Miss living in Athens, Georgia, and has worked directly with our undergraduate brothers and the impacted families.

I have been involved as a member of CAB for nearly 30 years and am proud of many of the accomplishments the chapter has made during that time, but none are impressive as the amount and quality of time our young men have spent helping these families with things their loved ones can no longer handle. I don't know about the rest of you, but I am sure I was way too immature and self-centered to use my free time to help others in need like they have chosen to do.

UPGRADING THE HOUSE

That being said, we really need your support in finishing up our replacement of worn-out furniture in the dorm area of the house. We are in the process of getting this ordered soon so that we have it (hopefully) by move-in this fall. Please visit gaalpha.com to donate securely online, or if you want to pay by mail, a donor form is included on page 4.

In closing, we are hopefully to the point in the pandemic that all in-person events can be held this year. We will again host our alumni luncheon in Athens in late summer and Founders Day/Golden Legion ceremony in the fall. Announcements will be forthcoming prior to the events.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any feedback or suggestions.

Yours in the Bond,
Mark Chandler #1618



The Terry College of Business dedicating the Six Ninety Veranda at Ivester Hall. Ten brothers donated the required funds to earn naming rights for this 1,700-square-foot open space that is virtually the footprint of the previous chapter house at 690 S. Lumpkin.



Strong Brotherhood

Executive Board Sheds Light on Undergraduate Accomplishments

President

Reed Stout #2538

What a year to be a Georgia Bulldog! As the football team pulled off a historic season—breaking our 42-year drought—and the Braves brought home their first Championship in this century, there has been a lot to celebrate in Athens. Beyond these incredible runs, campus is back alive with classes in person as we adjust to the closest thing to normal we've had since spring 2020. As a chapter, we've enjoyed being able to host events once again and come together as brothers.

We celebrated our 150th anniversary on campus with an awesome weekend, including our Golden Legion conference, a date night on Friday, and a veranda dedication on Saturday morning. I want to thank each one of you who helped make that happen, as that was something I'm sure we will remember forever.

Last semester, Phi Delt came away with the highest GPA in all of IFC, and we hope to continue that trend in this coming semester. We also came home with multiple awards from the national conference in Oxford, including the St. Louis Fraternity Education Trophy and awards in philanthropy, chapter reporting, and academics.

I am settling into this new role of leading this fraternity as president for the next year. I hope to leverage my past experiences on the executive board to help our new officers and keep open communications with UGA, Phi Delt national, and our chapter support. This fraternity has been the backbone of my college career, and I look forward to helping continue to build our strong position socially, academically, and philanthropically.

Brotherhood Chairman

Will Gladden #2576

As the world continues to recover from the impacts of the pandemic, life as we know it is beginning to return to normal. As brotherhood chairman, I am excited to help our brothers navigate the return to open socialization and continue to develop and strengthen the common bond we all share.

While caution cannot be thrown to the wind, changing conditions and sentiments have allowed us to expand the scale and scope of our brotherhood-focused events. We have expanded beyond small-group activities to get larger numbers of brothers involved at once—while still abiding by all posted regulations and suggestions. These activities range from watching baseball games from the backyard of a brother's house to outdoor tournaments for cornhole and basketball.

We are not totally out of the woods with the pandemic, yet I foresee a bright future for the ability of our brothers to fully enjoy each other's company and will do my best to ensure we are able to continue bettering each other and the world around us.

Philanthropy Chairman

Connor Kastner #2552

The pandemic has changed our college experience in many ways, but we are thrilled that we've been able to keep up with our philanthropy efforts. Luckily, we have been able to continue by following COVID precautions, such as wearing a mask and mainly doing work outside the home, to ensure that our adopted families are comfortable. Although we'd love to spend more face-to-face time together, we are fortunate that we have been able to find many ways to safely help our families, such as hanging Christmas lights, doing yard work, and playing kickball games. All our brothers have enjoyed being able to make an impact in any way we can.

We have also continued our tradition of fundraising for ALS, keeping our chapter at the top for Ironphi. In the fall, I enjoyed meeting every member of our new pledge class, and I was thrilled at how many took our chapter's culture of philanthropy to heart. Near

the beginning of the semester, we cleaned up our local Adopt-A-Highway on Fourth Street. Many of our brothers also volunteered for Camp Hope Loves Company, which provides a weekend getaway for families affected by ALS.

We are also lucky that many of our brothers are involved in other philanthropy organizations on campus, such as **JR Bingel #2567**, who founded Thirst Project at UGA, which helps provide clean drinking water to rural communities in Africa. He has gotten many of our brothers to join, and it has helped the culture of philanthropy we maintain in our chapter.

Recruitment Chairman

Jack Tucker #2590

Recruitment this summer was a success. Summer and formal recruitment returned to normal, which was a significant shift from the recruitment dynamic of last summer.

It used to be expected to bring potential new members (PNMs) up during the spring semester to start the recruitment process early; last spring, however, we could not do that on the usual scale. Being unable to use the house during the first month of summer, the legitimate recruitment process started in early May. This included events on weekends at brothers' off-campus houses that were smaller events primarily for men personally known and recommended by brothers. As the summer progressed, we started to have men come up for orientation, something I was unfamiliar with, as my recruitment process took place last year without in-person orientation. Orientations allowed us to have more events during the week and meet more PNMs. These events were at the house, off-campus houses, and a variety of venues, such as our rafting trip.

This year, the formal recruitment process was also different, consisting of a more traditional approach. We had multiple events, which allowed us to meet most of the out-of-state members of the new pledge class. Additionally, we finished our recruitment process with more events just for new members, allowing the latest members to meet and socialize with one another.

I am proud of the work of Georgia Alpha Chapter of Phi Delta Theta, which has continued its tradition of recruitment success by adding 33 successful, determined young men to our chapter. This could not have been done without the efforts of the rest of the recruitment team: **Brock Thrasher #2554**, **Logan Kelly #2575**, **Bruno Anez #2577**, and **Connor Sosica #2587**.

Phikeia Educator

Charlie Turner #2591

With the side effects of the pandemic beginning to subside, we were able to get back into the old ways of Phikeia education. We had a bigger class this year compared to our normal size and ended up initiating 33 Phikeia into the brotherhood. Overall, it was great seeing brothers interact and get to know new Phikeia in-person again as well as getting to teach them the history of Phi Delta Theta in-person rather through online modules.

Going into the next class, I am looking forward to taking over the role of Phikeia educator and continuing to teach the new Phikeia about our traditions—both our past and what the future could look like. With tradition and legacy being very important to Phikeia education, I intend to thoroughly teach our traditions and history to this new class and get them involved in our network of Phis smoothly over the course of the education period. Another two things I look forward to improving are Phikeia's participation in philanthropy around campus and getting to interview and meet each brother before they are initiated. I really look forward to a new, strong 2022 Phikeia class and am excited to watch them grow and become a part of the brotherhood.



A Worthy Cause

Brothers Work to Support the ALS Community

In 2018, Phi Delta Theta launched the LiveLikeLou Foundation, a standalone 501(c)(3) entity with a national scope, a renewed purpose, and three goals: raise awareness of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), raise funds to support ALS patients and their families, and raise funds to find a treatment and/or cure. The Georgia Alpha Chapter immediately became a national leader in all three phases.

Georgia Alpha emphasizes raising funds through the fraternity's Iron Phi program and ultimately surpassed their goal of \$150,000 by the chapter's 150th anniversary. The fundraising efforts have led to several annual Clark Jackson Awards as the top fundraising chapter.

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

In November 2018, Georgia Alpha became the pilot chapter for LiveLikeLou's Adopt a Family Program when they partnered with the Collins family of Madison, Georgia. Preston Collins was 41 years old when he was diagnosed with ALS in 2015. He was the husband of Lara and the father of then 10-year-old Alana. The first request from Alana was to decorate the family house with Christmas lights, a task Preston had been unable to do since his diagnosis. Since 2018, our brothers have regularly visited the Collins to play basketball, softball, kickball, or fulfill any other request they receive from Alana.

When Preston was admitted into hospice in fall 2020, the chapter provided meals and support and continued following Preston's passing. Decorating the Collins' house has become an annual Christmas tradition for Georgia Alpha. Lara Collins was quoted in the *Scroll* as saying, "The guys were awesome—they lifted our spirits and took our minds off ALS. They have done so much, including bringing fun to our home. We thank them so much for being there for us."

In December 2019, Georgia football legend Steve Greer, of Athens, and his wife, Susan, became the second family adopted by the chapter. The guys provided meals and helped Susan with chores around the house and yard. The Greer household became a popular destination, as it always concluded with football stories from Steve. "From the first time the guys came to visit, Steve and I realized they were here because they wanted to be," Susan stated. "We always looked forward to their visits."

EXPANDING SUPPORT

Last November, the chapter volunteered for Hope Loves Company (HLC) in Rutledge, Georgia. HLC is a free-of-charge camp for families battling ALS centered around providing the children of ALS patients a much-needed chance to escape the everyday pressures the disease puts on families. The brothers were able to paddleboard, zipline, and play kickball with around 20 kids and had a chance to hold conversations with ALS patients to understand their struggles and the importance of volunteer efforts in the ALS community.

Georgia Alpha's innovative and dedicated efforts to raise funds, awareness, and community involvement in ALS philanthropy has been described as one of a kind by members of the ALS community. Even after the loss of Preston and Steve, the chapter has continued to support and strengthen relationships with their families and expand its role in the ALS community.

If you are interested in supporting the chapter's involvement in the LiveLikeLou Foundation, please contact **Connor Kastner #2552** at connorkastner1@gmail.com or (770) 710-3242.

Yours in the Bond,
Matt Smith, *Mississippi Beta '95*
Philanthropy Chairman

Chapter Advisory Board

Chairman
Ashley Dillard #2108
stad10@yahoo.com

Treasurer
Howard Guest #2119
hguest3@yahoo.com

Scholarship Chairman
David Boohaker #2092
david.boohaker@gmail.com

Alumni/Recruitment Chairman
Mark Chandler #1686
markc@hpiinc.net

Housing Corporation President
John McGoogan #1485
jmc@prestwickcapital.com

Philanthropy Chairman
Matt Smith, *Mississippi Beta '95*
msmith@bdo.com



A big shoutout to our brothers who helped put up lights and decorations at our adopt-a-family's home.

2022 Executive Board

President
Reed Stout #2538

Vice President
Jack Tucker #2590

Secretary
Declan Cleaver #2599

Treasurer
Camden Sutherland #2586

Social Chairmen
John Brunner #2593
Logan Kelly #2575

Brotherhood Chairman
Will Gladden #2576

Academic Chairman
Hugh Stacey #2598



Recruitment Chairman
Connor Socia #2587

Philanthropy Chairman
Connor Kastner #2552

Risk Management
Cole Schmittlein #2584

Warden
Ben Tharp #2578

Help Us Find Lost Alumni!

*Keep GA Alpha
Brothers Connected*

If you can help us identify any contact information for the lost alumni listed below, it would be greatly appreciated. Please email updates to our database assistant at kunderdown@penningtonco.com.

- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| James Boswell '65 | James Williams III '89 |
| Gordon Maier '65 | Joseph Berta '90 |
| Walter Warne Jr. '66 | Charles Collins '90 |
| Charles Cox '67 | Mac Newell '90 |
| Robert Geer '67 | William Pearson '90 |
| James Langham Jr. '67 | Paul Tatum '90 |
| Robert Patterson '68 | Frederick Young '90 |
| George Sanford '68 | William Diehl '91 |
| Seaborn Curry Jr. '69 | Thomas Garner '92 |
| David Mrachek '69 | Brian Currie '94 |
| Harold Clayton '70 | Jason Duncan '94 |
| Charles Harkey Jr. '70 | Phillip Greene Jr. '94 |
| Samuel Vandiver III '70 | Christopher Horne '94 |
| James Orndorff Jr. '71 | Jason Mackenzie '94 |
| Clyde White '71 | Adam Perry '94 |
| James Maret '72 | Mark Staiano '94 |
| Wallace Brumby '73 | Jason Paine '95 |
| Richard Lewis '73 | Kyle Puckett '96 |
| Bruce Agnew '74 | Todd Taylor '96 |
| William Hope II '75 | Edward Forrester III '97 |
| Stephen Rymer III '75 | Jeffrey Gates Jr. '97 |
| Robert Benson '77 | Hassan Zakaria '97 |
| William Foster '77 | Ernest Kimball '98 |
| John Fendt '78 | Daniel Kluza '98 |
| Rodney McLendon '78 | Marcus Miller '98 |
| John McArthur '79 | Daniel Hale IV '00 |
| Bradford Smith '79 | Joseph Walker '00 |
| Eugene Chambers III '80 | Thomas Zachry Jr. '00 |
| William Coley '81 | Benjamin Nash '06 |
| Brannon Lesesne III '81 | Walter New Jr. '08 |
| James Scott Jr. '81 | Patrick Leed '09 |
| William Barron '82 | Samuel Maxwell '09 |
| William Haynes Jr. '82 | Wade Andres II '12 |
| Ian Hamilton Jr. '83 | James Byrd '12 |
| William Knott '83 | Raymond Graves '13 |
| David Handy '85 | John Posin '13 |
| Kevin Rosemond '85 | Jonathan Trebble-Greening '13 |
| John Davis '86 | Austin Walls '13 |
| Jason Tamblin '86 | Nate Bryan '15 |
| Robert Tharpe III '86 | Charles Lovett '15 |
| Britt Pilcher '87 | Benjamin Thornton '16 |
| Paul Sutter '87 | Tommy Keough '17 |
| Christopher Theobald '87 | Michael Yang '17 |
| Reed Wislar '87 | Anibal Amaya '18 |
| John Bracy Jr. '88 | Benjamin Gladstone '18 |
| William Ramsbottom Jr. '88 | Matthew Mewbourne '18 |
| Michael Robinson '88 | Max Siris '18 |
| Lee Branch '89 | James B. Riley '19 |
| John Burgamy '89 | Gil Herrera '20 |
| James Loftin IV '89 | |
| Edward Newell '89 | |



Phi Delta Theta
University of Georgia
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

Address Service Requested

PRSRST STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MAILED FROM
ZIP CODE 66044
PERMIT #570



GEORGIA ALPHAN

Spring 2022

Yes, I Want to Support the 2022 Georgia Alpha Annual Fund!

Please clip and return this form or make your payment online at gaalpha.com.

I wish to pledge:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 - 1871 Society | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 - 690 South Lumpkin Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$2,500 - McGoogan Society | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 - Azure And Ardent Society |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 - Burch Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: \$ _____ |

Name _____ Bond Number _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ Phone (W) _____ Email _____

Payment Amount: _____

Check - Made payable to: Georgia Alpha

If you would like to make a credit card payment, please visit gaalpha.com.

Please clip this form, place it in a stamped envelope and send it to:

Phi Delta Theta, University of Georgia
P.O. Box 2187 | Columbus, GA 31902

