



GAMMA THETA TIMES

SIGMA CHI FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA

Making a Difference—Brothers, We Need You

GAMMA THETA CAMPAIGN CRESTS \$2 MILLION



As ambitious individuals, we often draft lists of goals with the hopes of bettering ourselves—get into shape, buy a new car, spend more time with family—and all too soon we set things aside. *It can wait until later.*

However, to celebrate the Gamma Theta legacy and to build our chapter's future—waiting is not an option. The campus climate at the University of Florida is one of competition for the best and brightest. Across the country, fraternities are focused on improving their facilities to meet the expectations of undergraduates and compete against other campus housing. At Florida specifically, 4 major fraternities have built new houses, and 7 have renovated, giving our peers a competitive advantage. Our time for this endeavor is now, and we will not be left behind.

Since we first announced these plans, we've nearly doubled the number of brothers who have chosen not to wait. Their generous contributions have helped us reach \$2,165,346 in pledges toward our \$3 million goal. Our timeline for construction however, has been impacted by the rising construction costs and the COVID pandemic. Our House Corporation revised the plan for a construction date in Q4 2023 with a targeted completion date still in time to celebrate our 100th anniversary.

To meet this timeline, we need the nearly 90% of our alumni who have yet to contribute to act now!

Remember, gifts of all amounts are valued and will help us succeed. If you are able to make a commitment of \$500/year for five years, your name will be prominently displayed on a permanent plaque in the chapter house. There

are also naming opportunities available for gifts of \$25,000 or more. Simply return the form enclosed in this newsletter or visit ufsigmachicausevox.com to make your pledge today.

If we don't give back to chapter now, then when? It is hard to place a value on our Sigma Chi experience, but by making a pledge today, we demonstrate what our experience has meant to us. Let's not wait to recommit to Gamma Theta.

In Hoc,
George Stuart '68
 Campaign Co-Chairman
george.stuart@att.net | (407) 716-4215

Jim Springer '93
 Campaign Co-Chairman
jimspringer01@gmail.com | (941) 539-3000

Celebrating 100 Years, Building for 100 More

Preserving Our Core Values

Why Gamma Theta Continues to Matter to Significant Sig John Kampfe '80

With over 20 years' experience at Turner Broadcasting (including meeting Ted Turner himself), **John Kampfe '80** has had quite the unique career; nonetheless, being recognized as a Significant Sig was an astonishing experience. "It's truly humbling when I look at the accomplishments of the brothers who have also received this honor," he said.

Joining the Brotherhood

John visited several fraternities his freshman year, but he decided to wait a year to ensure he could balance his grades with the commitments of fraternity life. The following year, two of his friends from Jacksonville had joined Sigma Chi and helped guide him through recruitment in the winter quarter. Though John's time in the chapter house was shorter compared to some brothers, he has fond memories of chapter meetings, meals with brothers and their housemother, Mom Woods, and celebrating initiation and Derby Days.

"I have always aspired to the values of Sigma Chi: Courage, Wisdom, Integrity, Ambition, Self-Control, Courtesy, and Fidelity," John said. "The brotherhood reinforced those values during my time at Florida, and I have tried to instill them in those that I have encountered in both my personal and professional life."

Working with the Greats

John had 22 great years at Turner Broadcasting System working as SVP, controller, and chief accounting officer as well as EVP and CFO later on. He personally interacted with Ted Turner at least a dozen times in those years—before each meeting Ted attended, he would walk around the table and introduce himself to each person he did not already know. About 10 years into John's career, he stood up to greet Ted at a meeting, who looked John in the eye and replied, "I know who you are."

"In that moment, I knew I was going to have a long career at Turner," John said. Coincidentally, Ted's personal assistant was Dee Woods—the daughter-in-law of Mom Woods! He made sure to tell Dee how wonderful it was to have Mom Woods at Gamma Theta.

John traveled to many incredible events while working at Turner—from holding the sound dish at an NFL game to attending Final Four and MLB playoff games to seeing the production activities for movies, the Open Championship at Turnberry, and the Conan O'Brien show—but one event he'll



"I have always aspired to the values of Sigma Chi."

never forget was visiting CNN's master control room in Atlanta on the fateful morning of September 11, 2001, and watching the staff and on-air talent handle the unfolding tragedy. "All my personal experiences were enhanced by the fantastic professional people I worked with while I was at Turner Broadcasting," he said.

The Brotherhood Endures

While John has not kept in direct contact with many brothers since graduating, he has provided occasional financial support through the years. Then, a few years ago, Gamma Theta volunteers asked John for his support in sending the leadership team to the Balfour Leadership Training Workshop at Bowling Green State University. He accepted the invitation as an observer, meeting Sigma Chi brothers from all over as they discussed the fraternity curriculum and worked to install a new chapter at Bowling Green.

Seeing such devotion to the fraternity inspired John to make an additional, more generous donation when he learned about Gamma Theta's capital campaign. "It's important that they have the facilities needed to develop future leaders and remain a top fraternity at Florida."

As an alumnus, John is also thankful for the efforts of **Bruce Barnes '80**, who runs a mailing list with brothers from the late '70s and early '80s and organizes an annual weekend gathering in Gainesville. "I haven't made it to a reunion yet, but I really enjoy reading the emails from those brothers and hope to visit in person someday soon."

Where Is He Now?

John earned his CPA license about a year after graduating, and in 2013, he received the Distinguished CFO Award from the Broadcast Cable Financial Management Association. Today, he lives in Atlanta, Georgia, and serves on the University of Florida Foundation Finance Committee. He has also worked with the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, both on the international board and the local Georgia board; he considers these to be his biggest accomplishments.

"I could not have enjoyed all these successes without the support of my wife, Jill," John said. "She has been my biggest supporter over the last 31 years."

If you'd like to connect with John, he can be reached at jkampfe0264@aol.com.

THANK YOU, LOYAL BROTHERS

Your Support Preserves the Sigma Chi Legacy

We extend our deepest gratitude to the following brothers and friends who have already raised more than more than \$2.1 million toward our \$3 million campaign goal. Your efforts are making a tremendous difference in the future of Gamma Theta at the University of Florida.

Each of us played a part in the history of Gamma Theta, and we would like to see each brother be recognized through the campaign. Every donor who contributes \$2,500 or more will have their name placed on a prominently displayed plaque in the chapter house. Room naming opportunities start at \$25,000. If you feel an error has been made in recording your gift, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 with any corrections.

William Lewis Lockwood Society *(\$100,000 and above)*

William D. Olinger II '64
Joel A. Pellicci '65
The Boone Family
Jeffery A. Boone '80
Stephen K. Boone '80

L.G. Balfour Society *(\$50,000 to \$99,999)*

John M. Nabers '60
Kirkpatrick Family Gift
John W. Kirkpatrick III '64
Kenneth B. Kirkpatrick '91
Vernon Swartzel '65
John C. Briggs '67
Geoffrey A. Frazier '89
James "Clancey" Bounds '91

Friendship, Justice & Learning Society *(\$25,000 to \$49,999)*

Shapiro Family
Mark Shapiro, *Alpha Eta* '93
Jack Shapiro '23
Charles "Chic" Holden Jr. '62
Henry W. Haeseker '63
In memory of
Sweetheart Nancy Sue Wilson '63
Hartman Family Gift
William T. Hartman '65
Michael S. Hartman '70
Frank W. Hartman, *Beta Psi* '71
David L. Echols '66
William F. Shewey '67
George L. Stuart Jr. '68
The Moody/Fulcher Family Gift
Jim Moody '69
Bill Moody '70
Jamey Moody '00
Ryan Fulcher '04
Marion "Bubba" Nelson Jr. '69
David L. Holbrook '70
Todd Family Gift
Walter Todd '70
Tommy Todd '73
Michael Todd '01
John J. Flad '71
Bergert Family Gift
Fred L. Bergert, *Beta Psi* '59
James W. Bergert, *Beta Psi* '61
Glen F. Bergert '72
Robert F. Stuart Sr. '75
Mike Carroll '76
Patrick C. Everett '77
Robert T. Hawksley '79

Mark A. Rosser '79
Scott G. Hawkins '80
John E. Kampfe '80
James C. Polkinghorn '80
David A. Black '81
In memory of
Deedy and Rodd Carrier '81
Henry B. Hostetter '81
Robert E. V. Kelley Jr. '81
In memory of
Mom Woods
Mark A. Sessums '83
J. Daniel Singleton Jr. '83
Lucas Fleming '84
Richard R. Alexander '86
In memory of
John B. Cato '86
J. Kyle Bachus '89
Robert L. Castillo '89
Frank F. Fernandez III '89
Michael T. Hoyt '89
William C. Guthrie '90
W. Todd Menke '90
Jim Wetzel '90
Gregory D. Prysock '91
Edward "Alex" Santos '93
James L. Springer Jr. '93
Rodrigo Bolanos, M.D. '94
Richard T. Highfield '94
Grier Pressly '96
Hunter Family Gift
Bill Lowery, *Gamma Chi* '50
Brian Lowery, *Gamma Nu* '79
Josh Hunter '99
Theodore S. Kypreos '99

Constantine Chapter Society *(\$15,000 to \$24,999)*

Pearce Family Gift
Robert J. Pearce Jr. '74
Kem M. Pearce '81
R. J. Pearce III '07
Jay B. Starkey III '85
Jim Thames '89
Kevin S. Probel '93
Ryan P. Evans '94

Gamma Theta 1924 Society *(\$10,000 to \$14,999)*

Culpepper Family Gift
P. Bruce Culpepper '63
J. Bruce Culpepper '88
Brad Culpepper '92
Council "Butch" Wooten Jr. '64
W. Russ Mathis '65
Frank P. Saier '67

Louis "Kipp" Minter '73
Charles S. Stuart '73
George J. Albright '78
The Connelly Family
Paul M. Connelly '79
Michael J. Connelly '80
Robert T. Klingbeil Jr. '79
Dellecker Family Gift
Robert H. Dellecker '81
John R. Dellecker '09
Michael S. Caudill '83
In memory of
Lenny Cruz '81
Troy F. Storey '83
In memory of
John D. Bank '82 and
Charles A. Morehead '82
Steven S. Perry '86
Paul B. Ellis '88
Henry Gonzalez III '90
Vincent C. Horton '93
John "Cater" Randolph '94
John V. Marra '95
The Weinberg Family
Mark H. Weinberg '97
Michael N. Weinberg '03

White Cross Society *(\$5,000 to \$9,999)*

Anthony E. De Los Santos '66
Ken Norrie '68
Curtis T. Jones '69
Kenneth P. Mingleдорff '69
G. Frederic Joy '72
Mahler Family Gift
Frank G. Mahler '76
Michael B. Mahler '03
Kevin S. Mahler '05
Richard A. Johnston Jr. '79
David S. Lewis '79
Bright Family Gift
P. Blaise Bright '88
Paul Bright '24
John T. Cash III '90
Brant Fleming '90
Lee Chojnacki '91
Todd Menendez '91
Jeffrey "JC" Wells '91
John W. Reaves Jr. '92
Steve Fernandez '93
Steven J. Vinci '93
Jeffrey M. Sullivan '96
Brad T. Bassler '98
Timothy G. Anderson Jr. '02
Albert F. Kaminsky '13
Paras S. Saxena '15

Tyler L. Cameron '19
Jack S. McCall '19

Blue & Gold Society *(\$2,500 to \$4,999)*

Leonard M. Vincenti '64
Bill Roachat '65
M. Wayne Johnson '68
Thomas A. DeMarco III '70
R. David Kerrins Jr. '71
Mark W. Goodson '73
Blake L. Stichter '74
Robert H. Buck '75
James R. Patrinely, M.D. '76
John "Jay" Caffey III '78
Lee Ritenbaugh '79
In memory of
John Stock '79
Eric P. Carlson '84
In memory of
Carl G. Carlson '55
Page Family Gift
Robert Draughn Page
Gregg A. Page '84
Allen L. Johnson '85
In memory of
Bob Burge '85
Derrick E. Cox '86
Bruce H. Denson '89
William B. Wiltshire '89
David R. Horrell '93
Scott M. Benke '95
Gregory "Scot" Grooms '96
Max R. Macon '98
Taylor C. Kessel '01
Ryan T. Hyde '03

George Ade Society *(\$1,000 to \$2,499)*

George E. Greene III '58
In memory of
Jack M. Wallace '57 and
Claude I. Allen Jr. '58
Russell W. Carpenter '63
Carl D. Collins '64
William W. Wright '64
Michael R. Zern '70
Robert W. Revels '73
Richard A. Chazal, M.D. '74
Robert D. Hummel '79
David R. Tienstra '80
David C. Arnsparger '87
James W. East '95
William A. Yaegers '97
J. Olivier "Oli" Larrauri '99



Our spring 2022 executive committee.



Brothers in Nashville for the 2022 Formal.

AN UNFORGETTABLE YEAR

BROTHERS CELEBRATE OUR CHAPTER'S BRIGHT FUTURE

Gamma Theta is making the most of 2022. This spring has been a philanthropic one, to say the least, after raising more than \$74,000 through Dance Marathon and our revamped Derby Days. Men of Gamma Theta have also maintained their leadership roles all over campus, from Florida Blue Key to the new UF Cryptocurrency and Alternative Assets Club. Rest assured, the men of Sigma Chi are continuing to uphold the seven standards of Isaac M. Jordan himself.

Sigma Chis continue their stronghold over Dance Marathon, the largest student-run organization at UF, raising over \$40,000 and having brothers in many of the high leadership positions. Derby Days this year was also a spectacle. We rebranded the event to increase participation and make it more exciting on campus. Alumni always talk about how exciting the event was, and its revamp was geared toward maximum participation within the chapter and on campus. These efforts were very successful in helping us raise \$34,000 for the Huntsman Cancer Institute, securing our spot as one of the top UF Greek philanthropies in the last 10 years. This number will help put us in contention for the most money raised by a fraternity philanthropy in the last 20 years.

We also continue to have a strong influence on the UF campus. Former Consul **Drew Goodwin '22** was elected vice president of the Interfraternity Council. Sigma Chi had over five brothers in executive positions for Project Makeover. The UF Cryptocurrency and Alternative Assets Club, started by five brothers, is a finalist for New UF Business Club of the Year. We are currently fourth out of 25 fraternities in GPA

and second in new member GPA. We also have back-to-back head agents of Nightlife Navigators, four senators in UF Student Government, and three Florida Cicerones.

Socially, Gamma Theta is excelling as well. We had a great Bikers Bash in the fall, a wonderful Christmas dinner in December, and took over Flagler Beach with our shipwrecked date function in April. We participated in socials with all the top sororities at UF and have been selected by Delta Gamma for what should be quite the Homecoming this fall. Over 70 brothers and their beautiful dates raided the city of Nashville in a Formal to be remembered, as we listened to music and roamed Broadway Street.

All that we've done over this past year, and all that we will continue to do in the coming years as UF's most prestigious organization, wouldn't be possible without the alumni who came before us. As you all know, the Gamma Theta Chapter is a special one. No matter what our brothers do on this campus, in the workforce, or overseas defending our freedom, we all hope to leave Gamma Theta better off than it was before. We thank you for your continued support, and as I join you all as an alumnus this spring, I can't wait to watch with you as Gamma Theta Chapter continues to grow and prosper.

In Hoc,
Chase Herron '22
 Outgoing Alumni Relations Chairman



Brothers visit Las Vegas for spring break 2022.



Congratulations to Sigma Chi Derby Days' first-ever Derby Girl: Cat Liska of Zeta Tau Alpha.

Congratulations to Our Graduating Seniors

Josh Avera '22

Plans: Officer for the United States Army in Fort Benning, Ga.

Roy Gilfix '22

Positions held: Derby Days Chairman
Plans: Finance analyst for Wells Fargo in Charlotte, N.C.

Chase Herron '22

Positions held: Alumni Chairman, PR Chairman, Homecoming Chairman, Recruitment Chairman, Asst. Recruitment Chairman
Plans: Investment banking analyst at Truist Securities in Atlanta, Ga.

Jackson Honroth '22

Plans: Revenue consultant for The Alexander Group in Atlanta, Ga.

Mack Hummel '22

Positions held: Formal Chairman
Plans: Software engineer for The Walt Disney Group in Bristol, Conn.

David Kays '22

Positions held: Kustos
Plans: Oracle Sales in Austin, Texas

Alex Kruljac '22

Plans: Tech Sales for Gong.io in Atlanta, Ga.

Derek Leonhardt '22

Plans: Software engineer for Capital One in Mclean, Va.

John Mazanec '22

Positions held: Spring Rush Chairman
Plans: Oracle NetSuite Sales in Austin, Texas

Connor McCarthy '22

Positions held: Assistant Magister, PR Chairman, Spring Recruitment Chairman
Plans: UF Law School

Adrian Mercado '22

Positions held: Social Chairman, Derby Days Chairman, Asst. Recruitment Chairman
Plans: Pursuing a master's degree in mass communications and starting work for Trout Advisory Group in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla., in marketing and brand imaging

Alejandro Pascual '22

Positions held: Magister, Asst. Recruitment Chairman
Plans: Pursuing a master's degree in computer science and blockchain technologies; founder of Gwei Gators UF NFT Collection

Will Sawarynski '22

Positions held: Pro Consul, Risk Manager, Asst. Recruitment Chairman
Plans: Sales engineer for Trane Technologies in Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Francisco Sheno '22

Positions held: Formal Chairman
Plans: Nursing in the cardiac ICU at Shands Hospital in Gainesville, Fla.

Jeffrey Shoenfelt '22

Plans: UF Law School

Corey Stepanek '22

Plans: Finance analyst for Siemens in Orlando, Fla.

Senior Quotes

"Gamma Theta gave me everything I could have asked for and more during my college experience. It truly is a lifelong membership into the most prestigious group of people that I have ever met. This place changed my life, and I will continue to uphold the standards that I learned here as I progress through the stages of life. I cannot wait for the upcoming plans this chapter has and to support them as I become an alumnus." —**Chase Herron '22**

"Gamma Theta gave me the best friendships and resources to succeed. I will forever cherish the memories I made here." —**Jackson Honroth '22**

"Joining Sigma Chi, especially the Gamma Theta Chapter, has been integral in my development as both a leader and a student. The relationships formed over the past four years are sure to last a lifetime, and I believe that, to grant the next generations the experience we all had it, is vital that we invest in the future of Gamma Theta." —**Will Sawarynski '22**

"Being a Sigma Chi at UF was the experience of a lifetime, and I wouldn't trade it for anything else. I am sad to leave, but I am excited to help and watch as Gamma Theta continues to grow and maintains its status as the most elite fraternity at UF." —**Connor McCarthy '22**

"The fruitfulness of being a Gamma Theta on UF's campus is immeasurable. Aside from giving me truly lifelong friends, this chapter has opened doors for me to thrive as a leader within the chapter and on campus. Through lessons in camaraderie, mentorship, and personal development, Gamma Theta made my four years the best they could have been at UF." —**Adrian Mercado '22**

Chapter Officers

Consul
Trevor Isakson '24
Pensacola, Fla.
trevorisak15@gmail.com
(850) 619-9693

Pro Consul
Ben Glassman '24
Gainesville, Fla.

Questor
Dylan McHugh '23
Fort Meyers, Fla.

Annotator
Jake Lynch '24
Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Magister
Brendan Patacca '24
Jacksonville, Fla.

Social Chairman
Quinn Garrity '24
Philadelphia, Pa.

Recruitment Chairman
Hector Monforte '24
St. Petersburg, Fla.
hectorchrism@gmail.com
(727) 729-1557

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Nicolas R. Giraldo '25*
Bradenton, Fla.
(Brother **Antonio Giraldo '24**)

Thomas S. Haag '24*
Boca Raton, Fla.
(Grandfather **Benjamin Kennedy '83**, Cousin **Benjamin Kennedy III '18**, Cousin **Michael Kennedy '21**, and Brother **Ryan Haag '22**)

Alejandro Hoyos '24
Weston, Fla.

Patrick Lacey '25
Wall, N.J.

Connor W. Mackay '25
Naples, Fla.

Matt Marcelo '25
Miami, Fla.

Clay A. Miller '25
Jupiter, Fla.

Logan B. Richardson '25
Derby, Vt.

Grant Thomas '25
Minnetonka, Minn.

Patrick C. Wilson '24
Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.

*Legacy; relation in parentheses

Celebrating 100 Years, Building for 100 More

Our capital campaign has made incredible progress since last fall—but Gamma Theta needs help from ALL of us to keep up that pace and preserve our future at UF. If you have not yet made a gift, please donate within your means today.

More details on page 1!

Campaign Status at a Glance

As of May 13 2022

\$3 Million Goal

\$2,165,346
Written Commitments

72%
of Goal Raised

159
Total Contributors

7.4%
Participation



GAMMA THETA TIMES

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Attention: *This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Florida, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

Stay Connected at Gamma Theta! sigmachiufl.com | Instagram: [@ufsigmachi](https://www.instagram.com/ufsigmachi)

Consul's Corner

Former Consul Todd Menke '90 Calls Upon Brothers to Reconnect and Rebuild

Going through rush in 1986, former Consul **Todd Menke '90** simply wanted to find a fraternity that fit him best. "If you asked my loyal pledge brothers about me joining, they'd jump at the opportunity to tell you, 'Menke was a legacy, so they had to let him in,'" he joked. "I was really searching for the right group of guys to hang out with, and looking back now, my Gamma Theta brothers accepted me into their lives, changed my life, and launched me into life."

Todd was elected Consul in the fall of 1989 after a stint as alumni relations chairman for two years, through which he connected with many alumni who helped the brotherhood. The position of Consul had a lasting impact on Todd's problem-solving skills and attributes as a leader. "I joke about it, but I'm actually serious when I say that being Consul was probably the best class I ever took at the University of Florida."

After college, Todd went into banking thanks to Sigma Chi brothers paving the way. He realized shortly afterward that he had a passion for real estate, and he has now been involved in the industry for the past 30 years. Todd is a partner in a development company that invests in Florida, North Carolina, and South Carolina. Several Gamma Theta brothers have influenced Todd's career path, especially his old roommate **Robert Castillo '89**. "He's been a close confidant and dear friend since we left room 25!"



Todd keeps in contact with alumni brothers as much as possible, and he is proud to help with the campaign to build a new house for Gamma Theta. "This campaign has reconnected me with brothers and brought back some great memories. I have really enjoyed being a part of this effort, and I'm even making plans to see some of my pledge class brothers at a Gator game this fall." When this campaign started, Todd was mindful that this was the second new house campaign in Gamma Theta history. "Brothers in the 1960s gave their time, talent, and treasure to build the house that most of us called home for four years at UF. It served us well, but it has outlived its lifespan and needs to be replaced. It's long past time for our generation to do the same for the next generation of brothers to follow."

Among many things, Todd even has Gamma Theta to thank for his marriage, as Brother **Mike Potapow '89** and his wife, Tobi Davidson, set Todd up with Kellie Scott at UF Homecoming in 1993. They have been married since 1995 and have three children, Grace, Edward, and Millie. Todd and Kellie will soon begin a new chapter as empty nesters, and they look forward to trips together with plenty of running, hiking, and stand-up paddleboarding. You can connect with Todd and ask him about helping with the Gamma Theta house campaign at wtmenske@gmail.com.

Former Consul? Want to be featured in the next "Consul Corner?" Contact our communications coordinator at cmoore@penningtonco.com.