



# THE GAMMA-RHO Gazette

GAMMA-RHO CHAPTER OF KAPPA SIGMA OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA | WWW.UAKAPPASIGMA.ORG

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## In Your Face!

This past summer active brothers Dalton Shoemaker, Ben Rabichow, Kevin McClellan, Evan Molnar, Christian Fernandez, and alumni advisor Mark McLear attended the 2016 Kappa Sigma Leadership Conference held in Orlando, Florida. While at the conference each brother attended different educational seminars that covered a broad range of topics. The goals of the seminars were to provide the brothers with ideas that they could bring back to the Gamma-Rho chapter and continue to improve in all areas of the fraternity.

In addition to attending seminars, other highlights of the conference were brotherhood and awards. It is a special experience to be able to meet different members from other chapters around the nation and to get to learn about how

each chapter is unique. With Gamma-Rho being a large chapter it is easy to forget that our fraternity is made up of thousands of men who all share the same values and the conference was a great reminder of this.

While at the conference Gamma-Rho received three awards from Headquarters. The first and most prestigious award was the F.A.C.E. award. This award is given to chapters who excel in all areas of operation. The chapter also received an award for being 100% ritually proficient, which was one of their goals for the 2015-2016 school year. Lastly, Gamma-Rho was recognized for being the 27th best recruiting chapter in the nation by extending a total of 55 bids during the 2015-2016 academic school year.



From left to right:  
Mark McLear '88,  
Evan Molnar '15,  
Dalton Shoemaker '14,  
Ben Rabichow '13,  
Kevin McClellan '14 and  
Christian Fernandez '14





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**Vice President**

Tom Keating '62

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**Alumnus Advisor**

Greg Mammana '90

**Resident Advisor**

Fred Ronstadt

**Faculty Advisor**

Peter Corrigan

We have too many Board members and advisors to thank here! You can find a full list on [uakappasigma.org](http://uakappasigma.org)

# Greetings Brothers,

Gamma-Rho 101 - It's more than an elective credit of study, but an easy reminder that Gamma-Rho has entered into its second century at the University of Arizona. More importantly it is as a way to define the opportunity of what Kappa Sigma can bring through its experiences as an undergraduate. Functioning within a 160 person membership brings each and every Brother a unique experience in both leadership and supportive rolls while operating the Chapter. Gamma-Rho's new member pledge programming is also designed to familiarize both sides of this leader-follower equation. In the end, Gamma-Rho 101 might as well be considered open-ended credit.

In July, I traveled along with 5 Gamma-Rho's to Orlando, FL to participate in the summer Leadership Conference. Gamma-Rho took home some new hardware by being recognized as a Founders' Award of Chapter Excellence (FACE). It has been well over a decade and the Chapters first FACE since re-Chartering. I've reminded them that they have set for themselves a minimum standard from which to build upon, with a goal of reaching a Circle of Excellence Chapter, launched in 2015, a celebrated weekend in Charlottesville among an elite handful of Chapter's leaders.

As a reminder to Alumni, the 2017 Conclave will be held in Las Vegas next July. It will be a fun weekend for anyone, open to all alumni that want to experience brotherhood on a national

scale. Maybe I'm drinking a little KappaSig Kool-Aid, but pay your national alumni dues! Don't throw away the annoying outreach because as a huge positive now 50% of contributions go direct into Gamma-Rho's scholarship endowment. Gamma-Rho's is significant, but has slipped to about 30th nationally, so it would be good to see us back in the top 10.

Trust with the Charter is a big part of Gamma-Rho 101, and does not go without challenges for our group of young men. They grow and learn from experiences making hopefully the right choices with what seems like a new set of 200 meter hurdles each semester in the face of beating Greek community negative stereotypes. I'm happy to have, and thank the set of alumni volunteer advisors that help our men navigate these decisions. Each undergraduate Brother can take advantage of what opportunities and tools our Chapter brings to them, building on integrity, character, and instilling Kappa Sigma's four pillars of Scholarship, Leadership, Fellowship and Service. That's what it is all about.

Homecoming Weekend is approaching quickly! If you missed our centennial and have not seen the Chapter house in a while, do visit and see the new historical timeline displayed throughout the lower level. I hope to see as many of you that can attend.

AEKDB.

Mark McLearn, Alumnus Advisor, Gamma-Rho



# One of Our Own... Shane Bacon

(the following appeared in the Marshall News Messenger, June 19, 2016)

For those tuning into the U.S. Open, there's a good chance of seeing Marshall native Shane Bacon, who's covering the event as an on-course contributor for Fox Sports.

## **BACON GRADUATED FROM MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL IN 2002 AND TOOK AN UNTRADITIONAL ROUTE TO GET TO WHERE HE IS TODAY.**

"When I graduated from the University of Arizona in '06, I started a golf blog, blogs were just becoming a thing. I began writing and posting a whole bunch of stuff all the time. From this, I got a part time gig with AOL on a start-up called the 'Fan-House' which eventually turned into a fulltime gig," Bacon said. "Then I went from FanHouse to Yahoo and I helped out with their golf writing and ended up writing for other sports as well. Next, I took a job for CBS when they launched the 'Eye on Golf.'" While working for CBS, I discover I wanted to break into TV.

"I went to a startup in Connecticut called the 'Back 9 Network' which was on Direct TV and I hosted a show for that called 'The Turn,'" Bacon continued. "This was in 2014. I did that for about six months and then I got offered a job with Fox when they got the U.S. Open and the USGA events which obviously includes the U.S. Women's Open, the Senior U.S. Open and all the amateur events. They wanted young guys, so they offered me a gig to announce golf and I accepted. Then last year, I was part of their digital TV coverage. I featured groups for the U.S. Open, the Amateur and other events. This year, there are seven of us who are doing an event. I actually became one of their guys main crew to do TV."

## **BACON HAS MADE A NAME FOR HIMSELF COVERING GOLF FROM SEVERAL MEDIA AVENUES.**

"I still write," Bacon said. "I write for foxsports.com. Just last week I had five or six articles on the website. I have a podcast that I started five months ago called 'The Clubhouse with Shane Bacon' it's on iTunes and Google Play. I've had Gary Player, Joe Buck, Paul Azinger, Justin Thomas and a number of players and media members. It's something I've enjoyed getting into as well."

## **THE MARSHALL NATIVE SAID HE ALWAYS KNEW HE WANTED TO DO SOMETHING SIMILAR TO WHAT HE'S DOING NOW, JUST DIDN'T EXPECT IT TO TURN OUT THE WAY IT HAS.**

"I tried my hand at the mini-tour golf and realized I wasn't good enough. So, I decided to figure out another way to be involved," Bacon added. "This is kind of the next best step for me. During high school, Sports Center was the only option. Wo, when I was 15, 16, 17, I wanted to be on Sports Center. However, now there are so many more options. The internet has been very kind to me which is an ironic thing to say considering the internet can be such a mean place. I've had a lot of fun and I've luckily been successful through it.

It's funny, you go from writing for a blog for fun and get paid for it to doing interviews with the guy who makes the final putt on Sunday in the U.S. Open."

## **GOLF HAS ALWAYS BEEN A BIG PART OF BACON'S LIFE. HE SPENDS A LOT OF HIS SPARE TIME ON THE GOLF COURSE, SOMETHING HE'S DONE SINCE HE WAS A KID GROWING UP IN MARSHALL.**

"I grew up on Marshall Lakeside," Bacon said. "My dad was the president there and he's been a member there about 40 or 45 years. When I was in high school, I played there seven times a week. As my summer job, I washed golf carts for members. Every time I go back, I enjoy being able to slap the ball around because I have so many memories there. During high school, I played the Oak Lawn course. We'd go there to have our matches and battles. In high school if I wasn't playing golf, I was sleeping."

## **BACON PLAYED GOLF FOR ALL FOUR YEARS AT MARSHALL HIGH SCHOOL.**

"I wasn't any sort of a prodigy," he said. "I improved to the point where if I had a good round, I shot in the 70s. I had a couple good national golf finishes as a junior in high school. It was just avenue."

## **WHILE TRYING TO DECIDE ON WHAT COLLEGE TO ATTEND, BACON HAD THE OPTION OF PLAYING GOLF AT THE NEXT LEVEL BUT DECIDED TO GO A DIFFERENT ROUTE.**

"It was random," he said. "I was considered playing golf in college but at the end of the day, I wasn't sure. I wanted to go to enjoy going to college. I was on a limb between Arizona and Syracuse, two schools who couldn't be further from each other. My deciding factor was that Arizona had the #1 basketball team in the country. I thought that would be fun to see. So, I chose Arizona. Then Syracuse wins the National Championship that year. That's my luck."

## **IT'S SAFE TO SAY HE'S HAD BETTER LUCK AFTER COLLEGE THAT HAS HELPED HIM LAND A JOB FOR FOX SPORTS.**

"It's kind of surreal to even think about it," he said. "Being a TV anchor and a sports broadcaster is something I always hoped I could do but you never know if you're going to be good at it. You think you know sports and you think you can talk. I've always talked a lot. My first word when I was a kid was 'ball.' Obviously I was pretty obsessed with sports all my life.

"You have those moments where Joe Buck says, 'Let's go down our main man Shane Bacon,' it's kind of funny to hear that in your ear when they're coming to it," he added. "It's crazy to be sitting at a table with Holly Sonders and Greg Norman or Paul Azinger and Steve Flesch. Sometimes I wonder, 'How did I land this gig,' but hey, I'll ride it as long as

I can. I'm really enjoying it. It's fun and the board has been great. I tell people my favorite hobby is also my job."



# UA Greek Park

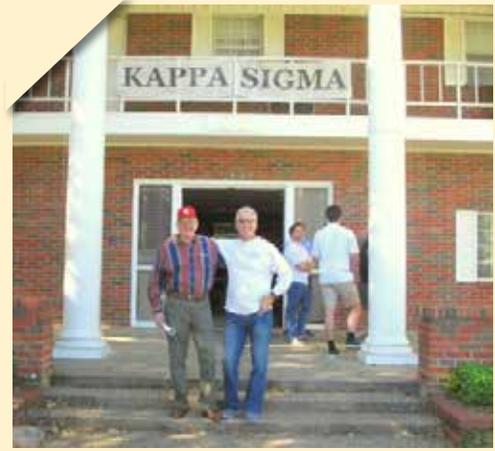
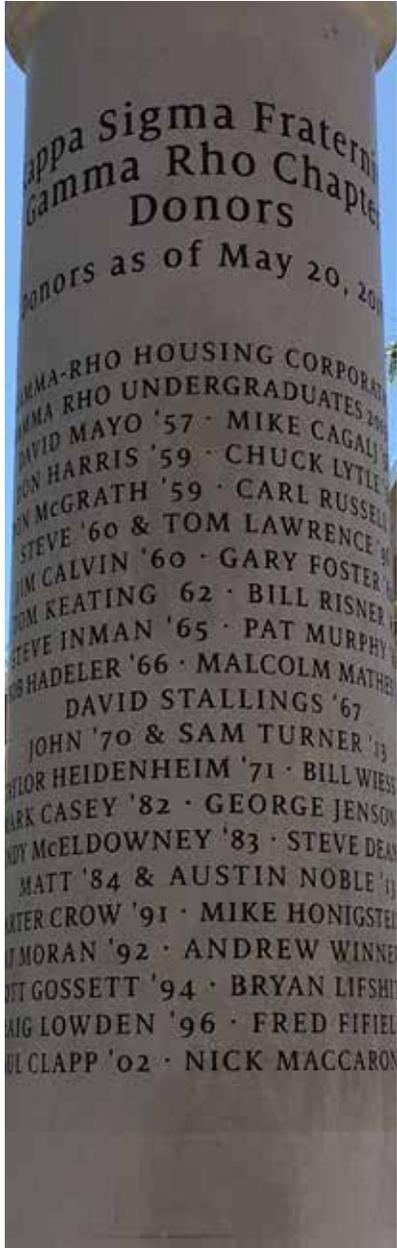
## How can you help?

Kappa Sigma named an arch with two pillars for \$45,000 that we must pay off over five years. The Arch will say: Kappa Sigma Fraternity, Gamma-Rho Chapter, Est. 1915. One pillar will honor all of our past Men of the Year. The other pillar will recognize the first 60 donors (the pillar has room for 60 names) to make a pledge of \$500 or more (you can pay this off with one payment or pledge to pay it off over five years). So if you would like to make an individual pledge or if you would like to combine with some pledge brothers (or even name the gift after your pledge class), please contact Matt Noble at [matt.noble@fmgtucson.com](mailto:matt.noble@fmgtucson.com) or 520-990-3250. For you parents who would like to make a gift in honor of your son, please let us know as well.

Note: the Greek Park has many other naming opportunities as well. Some of our alumni have made a \$500 or more gift to the Kappa Sigma naming area but then made an additional tax-deductible contribution to support the endowment (i.e., naming a paver or bench in the park). We have alumni that have made contributions in the \$1,000, \$1,500, \$2,500 and \$5,000 range in addition to their \$500 Kappa Sigma gift. Please contact Matt Noble with further questions.

- Harold Schwalen '15
- James Calvin '56
- David Mayo '57
- Mike Cagalj '58
- Don Harris '59
- Chuck Lytle '59
- Don McGrath '59
- Carl Russell '59
- Steve Lawrence '60
- Gary Foster '62
- Bill Risner '62
- Tom Keating '62
- Steve Inman '65
- Pat Murphy '65
- Bob Haderl '66
- Malcolm Mathes '67
- John Turner '70

- Taylor Heidenheim '71
- Bill Wiess '80
- Mark Casey '82
- George Jenson '82
- Andy McEldowney '83
- Steve Dean '84
- Matt Noble '84
- Carter Crow '91
- Mike Honigstein '91
- Pat Moran '92
- Andrew Winner '93
- Scott Gossett '94
- Bryan Lifshitz '96
- Craig Lowden '96
- Tom Lawrence '98
- Fred Fifield '98
- Sean Mason '00
- Ricky Paris '00
- Paul Clapp '02
- Connor Abrari '03
- Dan Bistany '03
- Michael Simonoff '03
- Deal Stimson '03
- Chris Bergen '03
- Brandon McKennon '03
- Brandon Cohen '03
- Clayton Jeanette '13
- Nick Maccarone '13
- Samuel Turner '13
- Austin Noble '13



*Karl Johnstone '60, Don Crampton '61, Don Harris '59, Mike Magruder, Terry Leonard '94, Mac Magruder '62. It was 2 hours of laughter. So much laughter we have been asked not to come back!*

*Five members of the House Corporation Board spent a week in Ixtapa Mexico as guests of Brother Keating to discuss the major issues facing the House Corporation, including the refinancing of the existing mortgage and the budget and plans for the next fiscal year. At this annual event, the brothers also found time to play some golf and relax on the beach. On April 20th, the Board conducted its Spring business meeting with six additional members participating by telephone. Minutes of the meeting are available for anyone who is interested.*



*How can you help?*





*Matt Noble '84, Risa and Austin '13 at Astros batting practice at Chase Field. The pitching coach for the Astros was Austin's pitching coach as youth and he invited them to watch batting practice.*



# Q&A

## WITH MATTHEW STAGG

### 1. What made you choose the University of Georgia (think that is where you went) to play football? Why did you choose to transfer?

I went to UGA for two reasons: Zell Miller Scholarship funds and a celebrated football team opportunity as a preferred walk-on. Being two hours from home was just far enough while staying in state as well. I transferred after an injury and personal difficulties in becoming accustomed to college life. The team and I are still on good terms.

### 2. Why did you choose to transfer to Arizona?

I chose Arizona because it's my father's alma mater, I had previously pursued playing football here out of high school. My brother had just been admitted to graduate school here and I could be near my father.

### 3. What influenced you to join Kappa Sigma at Georgia?

I joined Kappa Sigma at UGA because I saw an opportunity to be a leader, work with leaders, and experience Greek life as an athlete.

### 4. When you transferred what made you decide to affiliate with Gamma-Rho chapter?

I affiliated with the Gamma Rho chapter because I feel obligated to finish what I started; I didn't help start a chapter at Georgia just to become inactive for the remainder of my undergraduate career a year later. I also saw a huge opportunity to practice being a leader in the Gamma Rho chapter.

### 5. Is it hard to be a D1 athlete and still be involved in a fraternity?

It can be very difficult to balance time, but so far I have managed to be a guard twice, a couple chairs, and even received nominations for GM, GMC, and GP in the previous election at Gamma Rho. It's less difficult considering I enjoy the chapter.

### 6. What is your major and who do you keep up with that challenging major while also playing football and being in a fraternity?

I am a Biochemistry and Cellular & Molecular Bio double major with a minor in English. It isn't that difficult; I really enjoy

my majors and minor so the only thing that can be troublesome is the volume of work. I make good use of any and all resources provided to me by the athletic academic department

### 7. What does your experience in Kappa Sigma mean to you?

I love being a Kappa Sigma. The Star and Crescent give me a mantra to live by. It's roots with Christianity help as an extension of my faith. So I see it as a daily test to try to be elite in every area.

### 8. What are your post college career plans?

My post college career plans are to determine future athletic endeavors; I dream to be a professional in some sport and I find several to be appealing in the long run. Academically, I am currently applying to medical school for the matriculation term of 2017.

### 9. Share a funny story to two from your football or fraternity experience (stories that are printable).

Most people may be surprised by this, but fights are relatively common on the football field. Cayman Bundage is a former football player for Arizona, a darn tough one at that. One day in practice during my first fall here, we begin scout period. Being a fourth year on scout team, I tended to get on the nerves of some of the lineman, but Cayman didn't have a short fuse; he had no fuse at all. He gives me a friendly post-play shove in the first series, I give him one back, and he latches onto my face mask with both hands. I've met some vicious players, but I swear he was a bulldog in that moment. I respond in kind and we go at it for a moment before the fight is broken up. In the ensuing gentleman's conversation between Cayman and me, a raise my hands and notice my right ring finger is bleeding. The distal phalanx had fractured, and the bone was protruding from under the nail. I asked if we could tape it, but instead, I got surgery that night to prevent infection. I stopped goading Cayman from then on.

### 10. What does this mean to you? Being in Kappa Sigma or Kappa Sigma being in you? Being at UA or UA being in you?

I would say my personal ties are much deeper to Kappa Sigma than to UA. That is NOT to say I lack dedication to my team; I would live and die for that family. But I would be hypocrite to claim I was always a Wildcat when I played for an opposing team just the year before. I play where my best opportunity is, both athletically and academically. But I choose to be a Kappa Sigma to further myself as a man with brothers across the nation.

### 11. Any advice for high school athletes when it comes to making decision to play D1 sports, choose D2 or D3 for more balance or just walk away from sports and go enjoy your college experience?

Absolutely pursue your athletic career. You will see more benefits than any student who focuses solely on academics. Balance yourself; a jack-of-all-trades finds his strengths but also develops his weaknesses. As for D1 or D3, some JUCO and smaller divisions have more benefits than larger programs. I can not speak for that. Observe on a case-by-case basis and listen to advisors and parents. But if you choose a D1 program, be ready for work and be ready for growth. You'll get plenty of both, but the rewards are much greater in hindsight.

### 12. As an alumnus how do you plan to stay involved with Kappa Sigma and UA?

Honestly, I will likely attempt to aid operations at UGA; I feel an obligation to return and benefit the chapter more. But that doesn't mean I won't stay in touch with Gamma Rho. Each is my home. I look forward to learning how I can help as an alumnus at both of my chapters.



MATTHEW STAGG • UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA '17  
Biochemistry, B.S. / Molecular Biology, B.S.  
Minor: English  
matthewstagg@email.arizona.edu

# Alumni Updates

## Charles Sullivan '64

H: (970) 728-4104, E: charlesnride@g.com

Charles is retired in Telluride, Colorado with his wife, Jenny. He has two children, and three grand children, all girls, aged 9, 11, and 14.

## Jonathan (Andy) McEldowney '87

11150 N Canada Ridge Dr Tucson, AZ 85737  
W: (520) 396-4727, C: (520) 358-4625  
E: andy@tucsoninsuranceassociates.com

Andy is married to his wife, Kerry and has 3 children. He works with Tucson Insurance Associates- The McEldowney Agency in his third year as an independent insurance agent. Him and his wife enjoy weekend visits to Flagstaff to see their youngest daughter and have settled nicely into their new home. Life is good!

## Lt. Gregory Mammana '87

12340 E. Barbary Coast Rd. Tucson, AZ 85749  
H: (520) 981-2891, E: gregory.mammana@gmail.com

Greg is a lieutenant for the Tucson Police Department, is married to his wife, Kristen, and they have one child, Nicholas who's 14. In September 2015, Greg graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland

Defense and Security with a Master of Arts in Security Studies. His thesis "Sports-Related Riots: Understanding Group Behavior to Improve Police Strategy" will soon be published in the Homeland Security Digital Library (HSDL)!



Robert Dingwall '93 with his son Mini-Ding.

## Robert Dingwall '93

710 NW 110th Ave. Portland, OR 97229  
C: 619-981-4325

Robert is a videographer for KOIN-TV in Portland. He and his girlfriend, Angela, have a son, Bennett James, 1.5. When not busy with the camera or Bennett, Ding loves cheering on the Portland Timbers.

## Benjamin Graff '01

4537 E. Angela Drive Phoenix, AZ 85032  
W: (602) 230-0600, C: (602) 819-8969  
E: benjamingraff@gmail.com

Ben is a Land Use & Zoning attorney for Municipal and County Government Relations. He works for Withey Morris, PLC and also has 2 children with his spouse Linda. Ben is finally running for office! He is running for a seat on the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board. Five seats will be up for election on November 8, 2016. It's a non-partisan, Maricopa County-wide election. If you would like to help or donate, please go to [www.electbengraft.com](http://www.electbengraft.com) or email him at [GraffForArizona@gmail.com](mailto:GraffForArizona@gmail.com).

## CHAPTER HERITAGE SOCIETY

If you would like to learn more about including the Kappa Sigma Educational Foundation of Arizona in your estate plans, please contact Matt Noble at [matt.noble@fmg-tucson.com](mailto:matt.noble@fmg-tucson.com) or 520-990-3250. Some alumni have already setup plans for seat gifts benefiting educational programs, housing and scholarships. We would love to have more of you join.

## VOTE GAMMA RHO! BEN GRAFF '98



Ben Graff (1998) is running for a Maricopa County seat on the Central Arizona Water Conservation District Board. You may recall Ben was the UofA Student Body President in 2000-2001. The CAWCD oversees the water allocation and rate setting for all of the water Maricopa County receives from the Colorado River. In the very near future, the political decisions associated with water will rise to the top as the most important policy decisions in Arizona. It is a nonpartisan race without a primary, therefore there will only be one general election on November 8, 2016 and anyone in Maricopa County can vote. Ben needs your support and is working hard to receive enough contributions to run a county-wide campaign. Please visit [www.ElectBenGraff.com](http://www.ElectBenGraff.com) to make a contribution today and even volunteer for the campaign.



## Gamma-Rho Chapter Kappa Sigma Fraternity

c/o Fraternity Management Group  
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# Gamma-Rho Homecoming

## OCTOBER 28-29

Watch the University of Arizona Wildcats  
take on the Stanford Cardinals.

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28 - 6:00PM

28<sup>th</sup> Annual A.L. Slonaker Gamma-Rho Hall of Fame,  
held at the Chapter House, 1423 E. First Street.



### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29 - 10:00AM

House Corporation meeting at the  
Chapter House. Open to all brothers.

TBA – Kappa Sigma Alumni Tailgater  
will be back in the alumni  
tailgate area as in the last few  
years out in the mall near the  
Eddie Lynch Pavilion/McKale Center.



Visit [UAKappaSigma.org](http://UAKappaSigma.org) for prices and to RSVP.