

# GAMMA CRESCENT

GAMMA CHAPTER OF ALPHA GAMMA RHO FRATERNITY AT PENN STATE | SPRING 2020

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## GAMMA CHAPTER MAINTAINS FRATERNITY SUCCESS

### BROTHERS GIVE BACK DURING PANDEMIC

While the semester was abruptly cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Gamma Chapter was still able to accomplish a lot before school closed, and we are managing to operate in a new and adaptive way, where we use this global crisis as a new direction for fundraising and philanthropy.

Brothers were involved in a Red Cross blood drive before school was closed. The brotherhood has already begun fundraising for COVID-19 relief, along with many other fraternities and sororities at the university, and doing our part in helping with what we can. Lately, brothers have taken both individual steps in fundraising and getting more people involved as a supportive community through social media.

We are proud to have another successful academic year of being above the university's all-fraternity GPA, earning a 3.23. Gamma Chapter has maintained its high ranking of excellent academics, with 33 brothers making Dean's List in the fall semester. As a response to the ongoing epidemic, the university's grading policy, like many schools around the country, has been changed to pass/fail. This helps students be more selective about what grades from this semester will impact their GPA.

Unfortunately, many events we planned for the spring semester are not happening now like spring formal, our annual Blue and White alumni tailgate, and parents weekend. We had a great Founder's Day call with alumni earlier this semester on February 8, which would have allowed us to have a better time at the planned tailgate in the spring with alumni.

Luckily, we still had THON. This year, we raised over \$100,000 with our partnered sorority, Phi Sigma Sigma, a huge achievement for us. VNR Membership Development



*Dylan Patrick '20 (Γ1850), Joey Romano '20 (Γ1851), Declan Evans '19 (Γ1816), and Patrick Fitzsimmons '19 (1817) at the AGR Regional Leadership Seminar in Baltimore.*

**Declan Evans '19 (Γ1816)** participated the entire 46 hours of THON. Declan and I attended the National Leadership Conference this year in Baltimore along with two newly initiated members that were interested in running for executive board positions in the future.

While the semester finished sooner than anybody had expected and hoped for, Gamma Chapter manages to stay in touch with each other and remain involved.



Fraternally,  
**Patrick Fitzsimmons '19 (Γ1817)**  
Noble Ruler



Chapter Website  
[www.agrgamma.com](http://www.agrgamma.com)

Connect with  
Gamma Online



Chapter Twitter  
[@AGRPennState](https://twitter.com/AGRPennState)



*Hard work pays off for the best looking Homecoming float.*



## VNR ALUMNI RELATIONS RECAPS EVENTS

This past year, the brotherhood was paired with the Phi Sigma Rho sorority for the Homecoming parade. The Homecoming committee chose farm as the theme for this year's float. Thanks to the committee of both the brotherhood and Phi Sigma Rho, we had one of the best looking displays on College Ave. The Gamma Chapter tailgate was held three weeks prior when Penn State faced off against Pitt. Thanks to all those who contributed that weekend and set up an awesome tailgate in a great spot behind the Pennsylvania State University sign in front of Beaver Stadium. Looking forward to the fall.

Founder's Day was done a little bit different this year. The event was split into two pieces: one being a teleconference to provide updates on the state of the chapter, and the other being the Blue and White Game tailgate in the spring. The teleconference took place on February 8 and was open to any undergraduates or alumni that wanted to dial in. The call primarily discussed the state of the house, finances, and the planning of future events. Unfortunately, the Blue and White Game was canceled due to the coronavirus, but a virtual tailgate was held on Zoom for those who wanted to join.

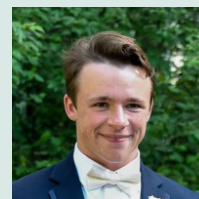


Fraternally,  
**Carson Lortz '19 (Γ1824)**  
VNR Alumni Relations

## Chapter Finances

Finances for the semester were solid considering the effects of the pandemic. We decided to do partial refunds to brothers on their rent and dues. Although it is hard to part with money that could have otherwise been saved, we wanted to keep their families in mind and give as much back as we could. Fortunately, our alumni board has prepared us well for emergencies such as this, and we will be coming into next semester strong.

Next semester we have 29 brothers living in-house. Our rent prices are tiered based on grade, with seniors paying \$3,100 per semester, juniors \$3,300, and sophomores \$3,500. This compares favorably to the costs of living in the dorms at school. The average two-person, renovated dorm is \$3,828 per semester.



Fraternally,  
**Ben Hankey '19 (Γ1821)**  
VNR Finance

Renovated Residence Halls		
Double	\$3,828	2
Single	\$4,805	1
Triple	\$3,427	3
Supplemental	\$3,062	4

## HOUSE PROJECTS FORGE ONWARD VNR M&O REPORT

This year the brotherhood had 44 members living in our house during the fall semester, with slightly lower numbers for the spring term after many brothers decided to spend a semester abroad. The house is in good condition and currently still improving as the undergraduates have completed some projects and are still working on many others.

First, due to the increased number of brothers in the house, new benches were constructed for all the tables in the dining room so all brothers could sit and eat at dinner. We hired our new cook, Chef Chad, to cook these dinners as well, and most brothers agree his talent in the kitchen has been one of this year's most welcomed additions to the house.

Great hall saw the rebuilding of the crescent this semester, along with the repair of some older

composites, allowing them to be displayed for the first time in years. Second floor was home to well over 20 brothers this year, many of whom worked to completely refurbish and update our social room, known to many as gamer, which has hosted many brotherhood events and birthdays since its completion. Third floor housed over 20 brothers for most of the year as well and saw its own improvements. Brothers worked to patch and sand any holes and dents in the hallway, then repainted the entire floor. Professional help was also brought in to repair the bathroom, which required attention due to a design flaw that pitched any water from the showers in the wrong direction. The brotherhood also has begun to construct a new group of brothers who will work under the VNR M&O and other executive members to increase accountability and appreciation toward our valued house.

The brotherhood is working on many projects as well, although the pandemic has caused a halt in most of them. The rack is currently having all plaster repaired and the entire floor repainted, as is the second floor hallway. Once these are completed, the same will be done for great hall and dining room walls over the summer. A small group of brothers and the current Vice Noble Ruler Maintenance & Operations plan to return to the house as soon and as safely possible to complete the work.

Over the summer we also plan to work to refinish the house's hardwood floors and repair some cement work outside. The M&O and VNR Alumni Relations plan to create another house tour video prior to move in this summer, to follow up the one created in February and showcase the new improvements.



Fraternally,  
**Camerin Gallagher '19 (Γ1834)**  
VNR M&O



# MEET OUR NEW MEMBERS

## VNR MEMBER DEVELOPMENT REPORT



### Michael Assouline

Major is kinesiology with an intended minor in health policy and administration. Hometown is Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Hobbies include playing sports with friends and video games.



### Cade Bartos

Major is advertising/public relations with a minor in sports marketing. Hometown is Washington, D.C., a couple of hobbies include playing football and basketball.



### Matthew Bonner

Major as of now is undecided. Hometown is Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He swam four years in high school and works at a cheesesteak shop in Philadelphia. His older brother Mike is a senior graduating this spring.



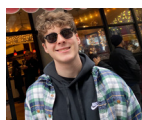
### Collin Campbell

Major is biological engineering; hometown is Easton, Pennsylvania. His hobbies include playing and watching baseball and IM softball.



### Jack Fascowich

Major is industrial engineering; he is originally from Mexico but lives in Miami. Hobbies include soccer, basketball, video games, and hanging with friends.



### Kyle Ferguson

Major is mechanical engineering and hometown is Marlton, New Jersey. Hobbies include most sports but he watches and plays soccer the most.



### Jeffrey Fichter

Major is landscape contracting and hometown is West Chester, Pennsylvania. Hobbies include fishing and playing sports with his friends.



### Brendan Kearns

Major is security and risk analysis; His hometown is Mendham, New Jersey. Hobbies include basketball, baseball, and hanging with the brothers at the house.



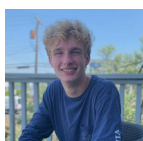
### Bronson Kilroy

Major is undecided as of now but wants to do aerospace engineering. Hometown is Pottstown, Pennsylvania. Hobbies include golf, hockey, and chilling with friends.



### Dylan Patrick

Major is undecided as of now and hometown is Reading, Pennsylvania. Hobbies include fishing, skating, snowboarding, and playing Call of Duty with friends.



### Matthew "Joey" Romano

Major is undecided as of now. Hometown is Collegeville, Pennsylvania. Hobbies include snowboarding and basketball.



### Matthew Saghir

Major is undecided but interested in doing marketing. Hometown is 30 minutes outside of Boston. Hobbies include playing sports, betting on sports, and listening to music.



### Jacob Schindler

Major is supply chain management. Hometown is Atlanta, Georgia. His hobbies include watching and playing football, hanging out with friends, and playing poker.



### James Twomey

Major is engineering; hometown is Moorestown, New Jersey. Hobbies include building things and fishing. His older brother is **John Twomey '18 (F1776)**.



Fraternally,  
**Declan Evans '19 (F1816)**  
VNR Member Development

## GAMMA CHAPTER WELCOMES RECRUITMENT CHANGES

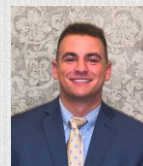


### AN UPDATE FROM VNR RECRUITMENT

Before I dive into our recruitment process this year, I would like to mention that Penn State University has made new regulations for recruitment. This was the first semester that students were mandated to visit a minimum of 10 houses to be eligible for a bid. That being said, we turned out a great number of men to the open house with over 500 potential new members (PNMs) attending the house tour and meeting the brothers.

After our zone day, with the help of my recruitment committee, we narrowed down the list of PNMs we thought would be a good fit for Alpha Gamma Rho to 250. We then cut the list in half and formed two events where we hosted a dodgeball tournament with PNMs and brothers. After narrowing down the list again, we had around 100 PNMs that we invited to a football viewing party in the main hall where we ate and got to know the PNMs better. From there, we had one last event on the deck where we held a barbeque.

After this final event, we had a good idea of the 25 men we would like to extend bids to and give them the opportunity to join the brotherhood of Alpha Gamma Rho. We hosted a bid dinner for these select students where we ate and had brothers, as well as PNMs, share their favorite story from their Penn State experience thus far. Overall we ended up having 17 PNMs accept bids and are excited to welcome them into our brotherhood!



Fraternally,  
**Will De Filippis '18 (F1809)**  
VNR Recruitment

# *Our Hats Off to You!*

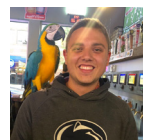
## Congratulations, Graduating Seniors



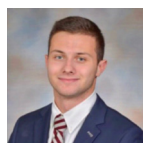
**Aiden Fitzpatrick '16 (F1740)**  
Major: Landscape Contracting Management; Small Business Fundamentals Certificate  
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.  
Hobbies: Soccer and Basketball



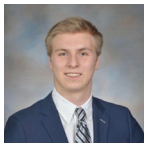
**Gavin Figurelli '17 (F1774)**  
Major: Landscape Architecture  
Hometown: Killingworth, Conn.  
Hobbies: Photography, music, and baseball



**Andrew Richey '17 (F1750)**  
Major: Agribusiness Management  
Minor: Information systems management  
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.  
Post-Graduation: Working for APR Supply Co.



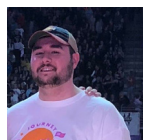
**Nick Pagonis '16 (F1747)**  
Major: Economics  
Hometown: Roslyn Heights, N.Y.  
Hobbies: Playing lacrosse, reading, going to Pmans,  
Post-Graduation: hoping to pursue career in health finance



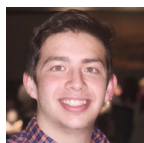
**Jack Frantz '16 (F1746)**  
Major: Economics  
Hometown: Wayne, Pa.  
Hobbies: Skiing  
Need Picture



**Chase Robina '17 (F1758)**  
Major: Electrical Engineering  
Hometown: Basking Ridge, N.J.  
Post-Graduation: Working for STV Inc. in New York City



**Liam Barr '17 (F1773)**  
Major: Supply Chain Management  
Hometown: Branchburg, N.J.  
Post-Graduation: Accepted full-time position with Ingersoll Rand - Trane Technologies in their operations development program.  
Hobbies: Kayaking, fishing, and cooking



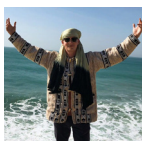
**David Gold '17 (F1768)**  
Major: SRA with a minor in IST  
Hometown: Centreville, VA  
Plans after college: Risk Advisory Consultant for Grant Thornton



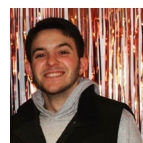
**Evan Rooney '17 (F1769)**  
Major: Telecommunications with Management  
Minor: Digital Media Trends and Analytics  
Hometown: Westfield, N.J.  
Hobbies: playing the guitar and spending time with brothers.



**Nick Bhaskar '17 (F1764)**  
Major: Finance  
Hometown: Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Hobbies: Meditating, reading, working out, and hanging with brothers



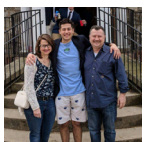
**Max Harley '17 (F1765)**  
Major: Marketing  
Hometown: Wilton, Ct.  
Post-Graduation: Working in Boston



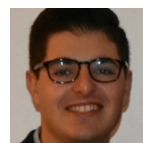
**Alex Shapiro '17 (F1762)**  
Major: Public Relations  
Hometown: Marlboro, N.J.  
Hobbies: Sports, video games, politics, and watching comedy movies



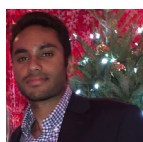
**Mike Bonner '17 (F1770)**  
Major: Accounting  
Hometown: Philadelphia, Pa.  
Post-Graduation: Accepted offer in Grant Thornton's Advisory Practice in Philadelphia.



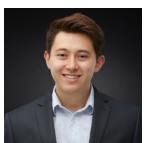
**Nick Litak '17 (F1759)**  
Major: Chemistry  
Hometown: Collegeville, Pa.  
Hobbies: sports



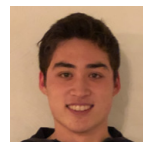
**Zak Zeff '17 (F1772)**  
Major: Finance  
Hobbies: Watching Pittsburgh sports and hanging with friends



**Sid Chandran '17 (F1771)**  
Major: Computer Science  
Hometown: North Wales, Pa.  
Hobbies: Coding, soccer, and cooking



**Austin Marrazza '17 (F1761)**  
Major: Psychology, Neuroscience Option  
Hometown: Bridgewater, N.J.



Fraternally,  
**Nick Moore '19 (F1825)**  
VNR Planning



**Evan Martin '17 (F1760)**  
Major: Supply Chain Management  
Minor: International Business  
Hometown: Doylestown, Pa.



**Charles McAinley '17 (F1766)**  
Major: Accounting  
Hometown: Sewell, N.J.  
Hobbies: Sports

Not pictured:

**Nathan Beauregard '17 (F1755)**  
**Dominick Caprarola '17 (F1763)**  
**Patrick Nolan '17 (F1756)**



## RECOGNIZING ACADEMIC ACHIEVERS

Coming off the momentum from several strong academic semesters, the brothers put forth another excellent academic performance for the fall 2019 semester. Red Lounge is also now a fully functional study room with several desks and a printer. Due to the unexpected closure of the school in March, we were unable to capture a picture of all of the brothers who made Dean's List for the semester. They still deserve a shoutout though. The following brothers made the Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester, and earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

### SENIORS

**Aidan Fitzpatrick '16 (Γ1740)**  
**Jack Frantz '16 (Γ1746)**  
**Parker Mulholland '16 (Γ1752)**  
**Nick Pagonis '16 (Γ1747)**  
**Ibi Agba '18 (Γ1788)**  
**Riley Bakes '17 (Γ1763)**  
**Liam Barr '17 (Γ1773)**  
**Nick Bhaskar '17 (Γ1764)**  
**Sid Chandran '17 (Γ1771)**  
**Gavin Figurelli '17 (Γ1774)**  
**David Gold '17 (Γ1768)**  
**Max Harley '17 (Γ1765)**  
**Nick Litak '17 (Γ1759)**  
**Austin Marrazza '17 (Γ1761)**  
**Evan Rooney '17 (Γ1769)**  
**Nolan Smith '17 (Γ1743)**  
**John Theodoropoulos '17 (Γ1751)**  
**Zak Zeff '17 (Γ1772)**

### JUNIORS

**Colin Blewitt '18 (Γ1793)**  
**Matthew Cavadas '18 (Γ1775)**  
**Justin Connors '18 (Γ1797)**  
**Will DeFilippis '18 (Γ1809)**  
**Luke Dion '18 (Γ1804)**  
**Joe Dolan '18 (Γ1796)**  
**Mike Donohue '18 (Γ1806)**  
**Ben Essig '18 (Γ1787)**  
**Danny Glickman '18 (Γ1791)**  
**George Goetz '18 (Γ1801)**  
**Ryan Hofmann '18 (Γ1814)**  
**Peter Nelson '18 (Γ1795)**  
**Miguel Rios '18 (Γ1777)**  
**Noel Sheridan '18 (Γ1792)**

### SOPHOMORES

**Carson Lortz '19 (Γ1824)**  
**Jake Smith '19 (Γ1831)**

## ACADEMIC AND COMPARATIVE STATISTICS

Fall 2019

Overall Chapter GPA: 3.23  
 New Member GPA: 2.68  
 Ranked 9th of 44 Fraternities  
 All-University GPA: 3.25  
 All-Fraternity GPA: 3.17  
 All-Fraternity/Sorority GPA: 3.35

## Brothers Reach a New THON Record

### A Word from VNR Activities

This semester we were able to host only a few socials because our time was cut short, but they all went very well. We had our bid acceptance party for the new members, partnered with Delta Gamma sorority, and it was also the first night out for the new members of Delta Gamma. We have strong relationships with both Delta Gamma and Phi Sigma Sigma sororities and have hosted socials with each of them.

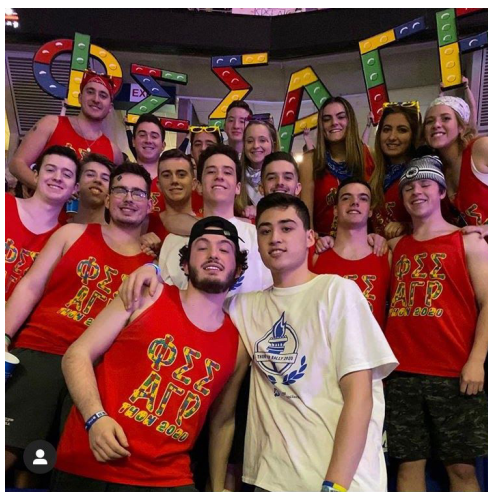
For this year's IM sports, we had teams competing in basketball, flag football, ultimate frisbee, and soccer. All of our teams performed very well. The 5v5 basketball team was a very solid group, and made it to the playoffs, but suffered a tough one-point loss in the first round of the playoffs to AEPi. The 3v3 basketball team made it into the second round of the playoffs before being eliminated. Flag football also made it into the playoffs, losing in the semifinals to Delta Chi, and ultimate frisbee

made it to the playoffs, only losing one game all season. Sadly, I don't have any great action shots from any of the games, but rest assured there was plenty of action.

THON this year was very exciting; for the first time ever our pairing of AGR and Phi Sigma Sigma broke the \$100k mark. In total, the school raised almost \$11.7 million, and everyone was very happy with our contribution. Big shout-out to our three senior dancers, **Evan Rooney '17 (Γ1769)**, **Jack Frantz '16 (Γ1746)** and **Liam Barr '17 (Γ1773)**, as well as VNR Member Development **Declan Evans '19 (Γ1816)**, who stood in the stands for the entire 46 hours—a truly aggressive effort!



Fraternally,  
**Zach Labrecque '19 (Γ1823)**  
 VNR Activities



Brothers enjoying their time at THON showing off their decorated happy letters.



Brothers posing for St. Patty's Day, a Penn State tradition to make up for a Saint Patrick's Day among students.





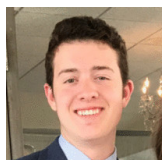
## A Brotherhood Far and Wide

My fellow Gamma alumni,

I hope this new social distancing way of life is treating you all well. Here's something cool to enjoy during this chaotic time we find ourselves in. Seven of us undergraduates were in Aruba for spring break, enjoying the beach, when we see this man walking past us in a Penn State shirt. After striking up a conversation, he asks us if we're in a fraternity at school. One coincidence after another and we discover we're talking with **Ron Bracciante '60 (Γ805)** on the beaches of Aruba.

If you don't know Ron, he is an absolute legend, played on the '62 lacrosse championship team for Penn State. He and his wife, Angela, were both the coolest and nicest to talk to. Funny enough, there are exactly 1,000 brothers in between his member class and mine 1798-1814. How's that for perspective? "Minds blown" would be an understatement to describe how we felt after this run-in.

Ron, it was an absolute pleasure meeting you and your wife. Here's to more random encounters just like this one. Stay safe out there brothers.



Fraternally,  
**Mike Donohue '18 (Γ1806)**  
VNR Scholarship



*Brothers with Ron Bracciante '60 (Γ805) in Aruba.*

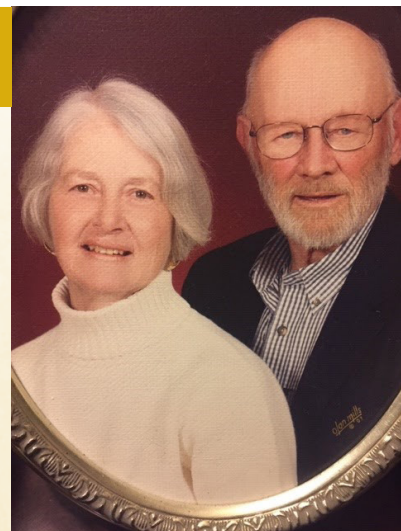
## A MARRIAGE TO ENVY



*Ken Ketterer '61 (Γ802) and his wife, Joann, on their wedding day.*

**K**en Ketterer '61 (Γ802) from Bucks County and Joann Buterbaugh from Indiana County met as undergraduates at Penn State in 1961. Ken majored in animal husbandry, was active in the Block and Bridle Club, and had just joined AΓP, pledging with the likes of Brothers **William Buzby '61 (Γ818)**, **Kenneth Dixon '61 (Γ811)**, **Wallace Haulik '61 (Γ820)**, **William O'Brien '61 (Γ804)**, **Glenn Morrison '61 (Γ801)**, and **Wilbur Avril '61 (Γ819)**. Some of Ken's favorite stories came from judging the Little All American at Penn State.

Upon both graduating in 1963 (Joann with honors), Ken asked Joann to marry him, and with that accomplished, they started working. Within a few years Ken found a job working for the Eisenhowers on their farm in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with the President's famous Black Angus cattle herd. Following that, Ken and Joann bought a farm in Newville, Pennsylvania, and named it Bourbon Springs. She got a job teaching home economics at Cumberland Valley and then at Shippensburg Area High School; they both worked for Penn State Extension, and Ken did market reports for the Pennsylvania Department of Ag. Ken judged the Little I many times for many years and was a regular attendee at the winter business meeting.



In his free time, Ken hunted and especially enjoyed going to Colorado for elk, mule deer, and buffalo. He shot a huge Buffalo in South Dakota on the ranch where the movie *Dances with Wolves* was filmed. First and foremost, Ken and Joann were farmers, raising cattle and hogs and in later years they crop farmed.

Their marriage lasted 54 years, until Joann passed away in 2017. Ken, born December 25, 1941, in East Rockhill Township, Bucks County, passed away January 7, 2020 at home in Newville. They spent their life together doing what they loved with the people they loved. Their lives well lived are an example for us all.

Respectfully submitted by **Jesse Hallowell '97 (Γ1392)**



## Help Us Stay Connected Digitally!

Over the past couple years, we have increased e-mail contact with our alumni. E-mails include what is going on at the house, online happy hours for groups of alumni, and talks of exciting stories of things we experienced at the house. Below is a list of brothers who were initiated between 1950-69 who we do not have e-mail addressed for. To update your email, please visit the following link: [www.alphagammarho.org/update-info](http://www.alphagammarho.org/update-info) or e-mail [jschroer@ecolab.com](mailto:jschroer@ecolab.com).

Bill Craig (Γ599)	Russell Beatty (Γ711)	Stephen Witmer (Γ812)	Robert Parsons (Γ872)	James Herron (Γ928)
Ralph Watts (Γ609)	George Olmstead (Γ715)	Manuel Zunino (Γ813)	Carl Blair (Γ877)	David Nesbit (Γ930)
Boyd Wolff (Γ626)	Joseph McCahon (Γ721)	Victor McNeel (Γ816)	George Brown (Γ878)	Edward Hartline (Γ931)
Richard Bowman (Γ627)	Richard Havens (Γ722)	Wil Avril (Γ819)	Donald Bashore (Γ880)	Dennis O'Hare (Γ932)
Lowell Lewis (Γ636)	Charles Glidden (Γ739)	Joseph Weigner (Γ824)	Peter Duncan (Γ882)	Thomas Strite (Γ933)
Edward Pangarsis (Γ640)	Don Gould (Γ741)	Oliver Brower (Γ832)	Dale Whitenight (Γ886)	John Leonard (Γ937)
Lawrence Ecklund (Γ642)	Richard Campbell (Γ747)	Richard Sprenkle (Γ835)	Robert Price (Γ888)	Allan Bash (Γ939)
William Aulenbach (Γ645)	Benjamin Smith (Γ753)	David Wilson (Γ837)	Joseph Strite (Γ889)	Edward Steckler (Γ942)
Wilmer Wise (Γ649)	Robert Harrison (Γ754)	Harold Smith (Γ838)	Thomas Steinmeyer (Γ890)	Henry Ferris (Γ943)
Jerry Edwards (Γ658)	John Callenbach (Γ755)	Arthur Moeller (Γ844)	Rae Sweeney (Γ892)	Lewis Palmer (Γ944)
William Tyson (Γ661)	Lynn Bowes (Γ758)	Glenn Ressler (Γ847)	Bernard Taylor (Γ899)	Robert Osmun (Γ945)
Norman Paul (Γ665)	Ronald Dietz (Γ773)	N. Kenneth Dries (Γ848)	Bruce Brown (Γ901)	Frank Skacel (Γ947)
David Seyler (Γ666)	David Hill (Γ783)	Robert Elmer (Γ853)	James Ulrich (Γ904)	Barrie Moser (Γ948)
Kenneth Smith (Γ671)	John Seldomridge (Γ784)	Thomas Bosiljevac (Γ856)	Patrick Good (Γ906)	Bryan Yoder (Γ950)
Robert Rugaber (Γ672)	Richard Parvel (Γ785)	Dale Earl (Γ857)	Craig Alpaugh (Γ913)	Dennis Gouldy (Γ951)
Ron Carlson (Γ680)	Raymond Smith (Γ789)	Stephen Horsley (Γ858)	Bill McCord (Γ917)	Jay Ramsey (Γ953)
Daniel Van Duyne (Γ684)	Fredrick Foreman (Γ790)	Ned Conklin (Γ859)	H. Dunlop (Γ919)	Allen Dorchester (Γ954)
Charles Telfer (Γ685)	Ronald Muse (Γ800)	Roger Stoner (Γ860)	Steryl Grove (Γ920)	Robert Musser (Γ959)
David Allen (Γ705)	Glenn Morrison (Γ801)	Robert Gore (Γ861)	Ronald Kmetovicz (Γ924)	George Myatich (Γ965)
Girdon Buck (Γ709)	Ronald Bracciante (Γ805)	Leon Austin (Γ862)	Peter Giangulio (Γ925)	
John Williams (Γ710)	Ronald Weeter (Γ810)	David Hieter (Γ870)	David Himmelberger (Γ926)	

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

**Warren Davis '50 (Γ614)** entered Chapter Eternal on July 4, 2019, at the age of 92. Born July 14, 1926, in Lake Ariel, Pa., he was the son of the late Edward J. and Edna Bidwell Davis. He was a graduate of Lake Consolidated School, earned his bachelor's degree in animal husbandry from the Pennsylvania State University and his doctorate in veterinary medicine from the University of Pennsylvania. He was a United States Air Force veteran where he served as a captain in the Medical Corps. Prior to retirement, he was a veterinarian in Lake Ariel for 53 years. He was a member of the American Pennsylvania Northeastern Veterinary Medical Association, past member of the Board of Directors and Advisory Council of community health concerns of Wayne Memorial Hospital, Board of Directors of the Lake Ariel Boy Scouts of America, Board of Directors of the Lake Ariel United Methodist Church, and past president and treasurer of the Lake Ariel Lions Club.

**William Santel '50 (Γ608)**, age 89, entered Chapter Eternal at his home in Pleasant Hills on September 2, 2019. Bill is survived by his beloved sons, William M. (Linda) Santel and David J. (Marcy) Santel; granddaughters, Emily (Jorge) Garcia and Carlee Santel; brother, Martin (Ann) Santel; as well as nieces, nephews, loving friend/caregiver Sherri Kearns and his beloved puppy, Allie. He was preceded in death by his loving wife of 60 years, Fern Haughton Santel,

and sister, Betty Bojanowski. Bill was a U.S. Army veteran. He graduated from Penn State in 1954 where he was a varsity wrestler and proud member of Alpha Gamma Rho. He was a lifetime member of the Penn State Alumni Assn. and Penn State Letterman's Club. Bill was the proud owner of Santel's Exxon Station in Large, Pa., for 37 years.

**James R. Metzler '55 (Γ701)** entered Chapter Eternal on October 4, 2019. He was born April 22, 1935, in Mount Joy, Pa. After graduation, he proudly served his county in the United States Navy with a rank of LTJG. Because Jim never met a stranger, he was a successful salesman and worked in specialty advertising, having won numerous sales awards over the years. He was a member of Fort Caroline Baptist Church. Jim loved his football, was an avid Nittany Lions fan, and in 1995 became a Jaguars fan as well. However, he always made sure everyone knew how his Nittany Lions were doing. He also enjoyed genealogy, traveling, Sudoku puzzles, and entertaining everyone with his stories, often laughing before finishing the story or delivering the punch line. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

**Kenneth Ketterer '61 (Γ802)** entered Chapter Eternal on January 7, 2020, at his home, surrounded by his caregivers and friends. Kenneth was a member of the Zion Lutheran Church,

Newville. He was a lifelong farmer and was at the forefront of progressive conservation and modern farm practices in Pennsylvania. Kenneth also worked for the Department of Agriculture and was a Penn State Extension Agent for Cumberland County. He also was employed at Ike and Mamie Eisenhower's Farm in Gettysburg, watching over their prize cattle. He enjoyed hunting and fishing.

**William Prizer '65 (Γ883)**, who founded The William Mann Company, entered Chapter Eternal on August 7, 2019, while visiting family and friends in New Hampshire and Connecticut. He was 74. Bill attended the Haverford School and received a bachelor's degree in business from Penn State University. Gifted with a keen talent for financial trends, as well as notable acumen in basic business practices, he began work in the Trust Department of Casco Bank in Portland, Maine, before starting his own investment service in Nashua, N.H.

**Edward Maguire '66 (Γ910)** entered Chapter Eternal in November 2019, under hospice care at his home. Edward was a native of Miquon/Conshohocken, Pa., the son of the late Henry Boas and Susan Bennet Maguire. He served in the U.S. Army in the 19th AVN Co. 8th Army. Edward worked for the Unisys Corporation for

(Continued on page 8)

# THE 1966 FIRE

*Jim Kessler '66 (Γ905)  
Recounts That Fateful Day*

In 1966, the chapter house burned from an electrical fire. The brothers were forced to relocate to a Nittany Halls until the house could be repaired. Only a few items inside were saved. The house's interior was soon rebuilt to its current state in 1968.

The newspaper says that there were two members living in the house at the time of the fire. I was one of those members. I am Gamma 905. Here is what happened.

I was sleeping on the second floor room closest to the stairwell over the TV room. I remember someone yelling "FIRE, FIRE" in the middle of the night. I thought I should get up and see what was going on.

The nonmembers were roomed on the third floor so I went to check on them. The hallway was filled with smoke down to about two feet off the floor where there was still some clean air. I crawled down the hallway checking each room. I found one person asleep on his bed. He was totally nonresponsive. I grabbed him by the collar and dragged him as I crawled back down the hallway to the stairway. As I continued dragging him down the stairs, he began to cough, gag, and resuscitate. By the time we got outside, he was breathing, and talking, sort of.

Then I was able to make a trip back to my room and get my books, supplies, and an armload of clothes for the next day. I was not able to make another trip because of the now intense heat. And by then the fire department was there. A year later we were able to back into the house for the fall term of classes.

Keep up the good work with the chapter and the building.

Fraternally,  
**Jim Kessler '66 (Γ905)**

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

*(Continued from page 7)*

28 years, retiring as the director of real estate in 1999. He then enjoyed 20 years of retirement, traveling and spending time with family and friends on Lake Gaston. Edward was an active member of the Wissahickan Ski Club and the Philadelphia Swimming Club, and was a life member of the Penn State Alumni. He loved both snow and water skiing, golf, and working on projects in his garage. He was always willing to help fix a lawnmower, car or boat. Edward was a football and NASCAR enthusiast and was a loving friend and husband.

**Bruce Hoskins '69 (Γ938)** entered Chapter Eternal on December 13, 2019, at his home in Canby, Oregon. He will be missed.

# GAMMA CRESCENT

**Gamma Chapter Alumni Association  
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**ATTENTION:** *This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents. If your son is still attending Penn State, 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.*

## A Family of Farmers Matthew Strite Receives Grower Award

**M**atthew Strite, partner/owner of Strite Apple Orchard in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, was presented the 2019 Outstanding Grower Award by the State Horticultural Association of Pennsylvania (SHAP).

SHAP President Chris Baugher, who presented the award during the annual Fruit and Vegetable Growers Banquet, said Matt was honored for his outstanding contributions to the tree fruit industry and the association.

The Strite family has been farming in the Harrisburg area since 1843. The first fruit trees and vegetables were planted by Joseph C. Strite in 1917. His son, Earl, would eventually join him in the business and over time expand the farm to over 250 acres.

Earl sold his produce at markets in the city of Harrisburg and door to door in nearby Hummelstown. In 1950, the original market was opened on the farm. Earl's sons, **Joe '65 (Γ889)** and **Tom '68 (Γ933)**, joined their father on the farm and added greenhouse operations. All three received the honor of being named Master Farmers over the course of their careers.

In 1994, a new farm market and bakery were built and the farm was expanded to 300 acres. 2011 was the inaugural year for Strite's community supported agriculture (CSA) program that allowed business to deliver produce throughout the greater Harrisburg area to participating members.

Current family members actively involved on the farm are brothers Joe and Tom, wives Sharon and Sheryl, and children Jonathan and Matt, who received the SHAP recognition at the banquet held January 28.

