

ALUMNI LEADERSHIP

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Gamma Zeta News

Gamma Zeta Chapter of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity

University of Illinois

www.atoillinois.com

September 2018

HOUSE CORP. NEWS

Jim Bremhorst '81 to serve as House Corporation President

I was asked to join a winning team. A team that has won back-to-back True Merit awards at the ATO National Congress. How could I say no? My goal is to help them to a three-peat. I'm honored to be serving as the House Corporation President for the next few years. I want to start by thanking **Greg Scott '76** for serving in this role for the last five years and doing an outstanding job. The recent Alumni leadership team, under **Jack Klues' '77** direction, has truly positioned Gamma Zeta for a bright and lasting future.

It had been a while since I visited the house for any length of time. The house is in good shape. The common areas are still the highlights of the house. The living rooms are still classic. Add to that Club 77 and the impressive study room and we've got a venerable facility. A lot has changed since I was a phroque. Very few pledges live in the house, if any. There is no dorm. The bedrooms have been altered significantly to make them safer, and we've lost a lot of uniqueness in the process. No seniors live in the house. The food service has been outsourced, along with the cleaning and maintenance. Risk management is a priority. But... it all works. It's just different. We've been able to manage our costs to still be less expensive than campus housing and we offer much more. This fall we will have 53 guys living in the house and 25 out of house (mainly seniors). We will be looking to recruiting another select pledge



class so we can add a few more to these numbers.

All that being said, the house is aging and is going to require some significant repairs. Things like the roof, the electrical system, Wi-Fi, plumbing, tuck pointing,

windows, HVAC, and sleeping spaces are reaching the end of their lives and will need to be replaced soon. Knowing this, we have created a Capital Campaign Visioning Team. This team is made up of several Alumni that have years of experience in architecture, engineering, construction, real estate development and campus housing. They have been working since early June and anticipate delivering 3-4 options in the early fall. From this we expect to begin a significant Capital Campaign to support the best option. Stay tuned.

I accepted this position with some hesitancy. But after I got the chance to meet many of our undergraduate officers at a summer Board of Trustees meeting I was convinced that it was a wise decision. The energy, dedication, intellect and desire to learn that I saw in these guys will position them all for success in their fields and the community. If we can support this model to develop great leaders just like those before us did, we are doing a great thing.

If you want to help please shoot me an email.

L&R,

Jim Bremhorst '81

jimbremhorst@yahoo.com

INTRODUCING MENTBRIDGE

Gamma Zetans Join Forces

After successful careers in entrepreneurship, philanthropy, and fund raising, Wade Garard and Kaki Garard realized that they had enough of the deliberate pace of colleges and fraternal organizations regarding their professional development and alumni engagement programming. The Garards decided to join forces with Gamma Zeta Alum, **Jack Klues '77**, to launch a new app-driven initiative called "Mentridge," to accelerate the pace of progress and improvement in this increasingly important part of an undergraduate's life.



The stated purpose of Mentridge is "to forge a trusting and productive lifelong relationship between Alumni and Undergraduate members of any collegiate fraternal, educational, or athletic organization using their shared passion for professional career development and leadership at its core."

Its highly-customizable and interactive mobile platform is designed to encourage sharing insights, ideas, and advice toward the ultimate goal of our members— entry-level job placement.

It should provide the necessary connective content and accompanying "just in time learnings," to strengthen our existing Gamma Zeta Mentoring Program as led by **Dan Passerella '13** and joined by over 80 Alumni participants.

Components will include Network Building, Self-Assessment (Birkman), Learning Job Search Techniques, and be able to more easily locate/ access relevant internship and full-time work opportunities.

The combined app launch and associated workshops will be launched as a "Beta" Test in five ATO Chapters across the country, including Gamma Zeta this fall. It has the full endorsement of ATO National CEO Wynn Smiley and Director of Chapter Services, Jaden Brown. They hope to adopt Mentridge as part of their National HQ-branded pursuit leadership initiative.

"I am very excited to see my personal vision for such a program come to life at a time when fraternities are in critical need for more caring, adult guidance and must publicly demonstrate their continued relevance as a viable part of today's student collegiate experience." **Jack Klues '77**

HOMECOMING SCHEDULE

See you in Champaign!

*Gamma Zeta Classes of '67, '68 and '68, led by **Jim Frakes '68** have a huge 50th Reunion planned for Homecoming weekend. Over 37 guys from those classes plan to attend. Please stop by the house for the cookout prior to the game to say hello!*

Friday, October 12

5:00–7:00 PM **BOT Meeting** at Chapter House

Saturday, October 13

10:30 AM–11:30 AM — **Open house/coffee/house tours**

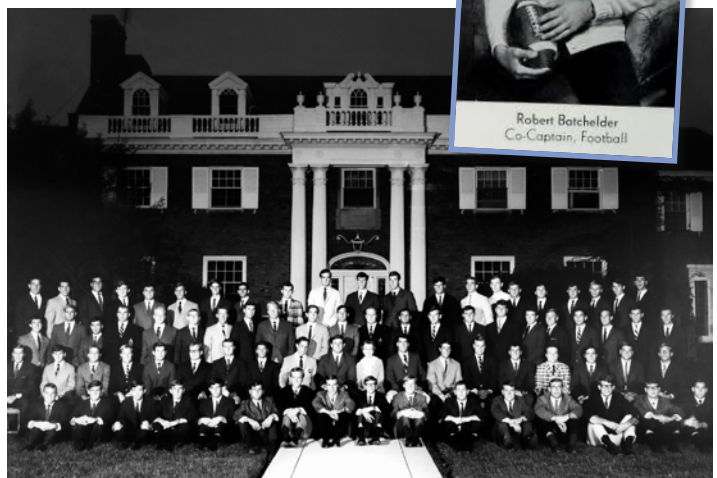
11:30 AM–1:00 PM — **Cookout/tailgate at the Chapter House** (all welcome)

1:00 PM–1:30 PM — **Ceremony at Chapter House**

- Awarding of Timson, Clausing, Simonds, Heldman, Sinnock and Philbrick Scholarships
 - Awarding of the "Tau Madness" Trophy for last spring's NCAA basketball pool tourney champion Heldman Trophy for ATO winner of Sinnock Golf Tourney
 - Recognition of '67s, 69s and 69s celebrating their 50th reunion
 - Capital Campaign and plans for Chapter house update
- 2:30 PM–5:30 PM — **Illini vs. Purdue* Football Game**

Coincidentally, Purdue was also the Illini opponent on Oct. 26, 1965 when Gamma Zeta Worthy Master and Illini Co-Captain **Bo Batchelder '68** (pictured above right), stole the ball four times against Bob Griese and Purdue within a 20-minute stretch to spark a 21-0 Illinois victory. He recovered two fumbles and made two interceptions.

Sports Illustrated described his "most spectacular play: a 55-yard run after a theft from Bob Griese's hands." Bo plans to be in town for the reunion and hopes to inspire another Illini victory!



Chapter photo circa 1968

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN EVENT



Fall 2017 Feed My Starving Children MobilePack event in U of I Armory

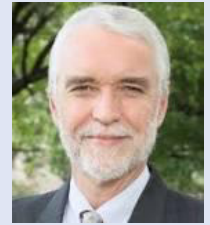
For the third year in a row, Gamma Zeta will be leading a MobilePack event in Champaign for Feed My Starving Children. This year's event will be held September 23rd at the ARC (used to be IMPE). Our chapter will be gathering 500 volunteers to help pack over 100,000 meals for needy, hungry children around the world. All alumni and their families are invited and encouraged to participate either in person or by making a donation. Here's a link for donations, to

register to volunteer and for additional details – <https://give.fmssc.org/campaign/1809-226au-champaign-il-university-of-illinois/c171592> This is a very impressive event for a worthy cause. It would be a meaningful and fun activity for your whole family. Please consider volunteering in person or making a donation.



PRESIDENT KILLEEN TO VISIT CHAPTER

University of Illinois President Timothy Killeen will be joining our chapter for dinner on Sunday, October 7 at 6:00 PM at the Chapter House. After dinner, we'll share with President Killeen a presentation on ATO's impact on the University of Illinois since our founding in 1895 and he'll address our members with his observations about the university since joining and his priorities going forward. Alumni are welcome to attend. If interested, please email daneluhrsen@gmail.com by September 24 so we can plan accordingly. As fraternities come under fire nationwide, this is an important opportunity for us to show President Killeen what is possible and the value that fraternities can bring to our university and its students.



CHAPTER ETERNAL

A Farewell to Our Brother

Robert E. Vogele '50, of Burr Ridge, IL, passed away on Friday, August 3, 2018. He was 89. He was born in Chicago on September 28, 1928 to Violet and Albert Vogele.



Bob Vogele '50 at Homecoming last fall (second from right)

Do a quick online search for designer Robert Vogele and terms like "local legend" and "internationally recognized" will appear. An avid fisherman, Bob enjoyed any day on the water spent with his children, grandchildren and even great grandchildren.

He is survived by his beloved wife of 65 years Ruth Gorman Vogele; his children and their spouses Tom and Jennifer Vogele (of Carmel, CA), Mark and Lisa Vogele (of Carbondale, CO), Bruce and Tammy Vogele (of LaGrange, IL) and Nancy Vogele and Lynn Feenan (of Manchester, NH); his grandchildren, Britta, Margit, Patrick, Taylor, Ross, Adam, Felix, Mikkel, Lucas, Alex, Ariel, and Lily; and his great-grandchildren, Maddox, Bo, Warren, Jude, Aidan, Olivia, Amelie, and Link.

ATO Brother Thomas Steven Frank '68 Served His Country With Honor



On April 23, 2018, **Thomas Steven Frank '68** conquered his 25 year battle with Parkinson's Disease and passed away in peace.

He was born on May 13, 1946 in Peoria, the son of Orville and Sylvia Matarelli Frank. He married the love of his life, Constance ("Connie") Marie Frank on June 15, 1968 in Peoria, IL. Surviving family includes his wife and two spectacular

daughters, Sara (Marc) Brewen of Norfolk, VA and Lisa (Bob) Gates of Peoria, IL; two incredible grandchildren, Alessandra ("Alex") Gates and William ("Bo") Brewen; his brother, Orville (Linda) Frank of Peoria, IL; sister-in-laws Kathleen (Bob) Hand of Moline, IL and Jacqueline Frank of Peoria, IL; nephews Tom (Amy) Frank, Brian (Kay) Frank, and Dan (Angie) Frank all of Peoria, IL; niece Laura Hand of Minneapolis, MN and numerous grand-nieces and nephews.

Always quick with a smile and a well-timed one line joke, his warm and generous personality was immediately noticed by every person that met Tom. He was so noticeable and well known, in fact, that Connie was thrilled when he joined her in Miss Walsh's Ballroom Dancing Class in 1958. They danced together once 60 years ago and never let go.

ATO ACTION IN PHOTOS



'82s get together for mini-reunion in Chicago – **Jim Thompson, Brian Leonard, Dean McAllister, John Aymond** (honorary) **John Cochrane** and **Greg Ewert**.



'82s pledge walkout ... haven't changed a bit!



Congrats to **Billy Hanson '16, Sal Fratto '16, Alex Karl '15,** and **Jimmy Kowalczyk '16** – for finishing 3rd at the 17th RG Swedo '96 Golf Outing on August 25th. With the lowest score of the 12 ATO teams, they are the winners of the 2018 Heldman '98 Trophy. Thanks to **Matt Massucci '96** for coordinating this great event which raised just under \$7k for scholarships – putting the total raised at nearly \$260k since it started 17 years ago! There were over 30 ATO Alumni that played, ranging from 1981s to 2012s.



Five outstanding University of Illinois alumni were inducted into the Order of Omega Alumni Hall of Fame on April 21, 2018 including our own **Jack Klues '77**. Jack joins **Thomas Arkle Clark** as our second member of this prestigious group. Congrats Jack!



Jack Butzow '20, Sean O'Malley '20, Cameron Taylor '21 and **Jack Klues '77** represented Gamma Zeta at the ATO National Congress in Orlando in August. We were recognized with our 2nd True Merit Cup in a row, that's our 22nd overall and ATO National Excellence Awards for Recruitment, Scholarship, and the Upper Alpha for Board of Trustees. Congrats guys! Great work!

Congrats to the big winner of the Tau/Gamma Phi Madness NCAA BBall Tourney Bracket Challenge – Feed My Starving Children who will receive a nice donation of \$3,065 from our participants. Thanks to all who played and donated!! Congrats to our other winners:

- 1st – Quinn Carlson '98**
- 2nd – Matt Menna '93**
- 3rd – Joe Patrevito '02**



There's always something happening at Gamma Zeta!

Check us out at www.atoillinois.com