



# THE STEEL JACKET

# SIG



GAMMA UPSILON CHAPTER OF SIGMA CHI AT MISSISSIPPI STATE UNIVERSITY \* SPRING 2020

## Pursuing Greatness Gamma Upsilon House Corporation Provides Chapter Updates

The Gamma Upsilon House Corporation is excited to bring you the spring edition of *The Steel Jacket Sig*, our alumni newsletter, to update you on recent events and chapter news.

### CHAPTER UPDATES

Consul **Jonathan Boone '21** provided an excellent update on chapter activities since our last newsletter and you'll be proud to know that we continue to lead in the classroom, on campus, and in the community.

### ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER

Be sure to mark your calendars for Saturday, August 8, for our Annual Jackson Metro Area Golf Tournament, which will be held at the house of Brother **Ted Kendall '82** in Bolton,

Mississippi. There will be a dinner afterward at the Mississippi Cattleman's Association in Jackson. It's always a fun time getting together for golf and fellowship!

### THE MISSION OF SIGMA CHI

From time to time when preparing for these newsletters, I like to revisit the core values of our fraternity to see if we live up to them. The Sigma Chi Mission Statement reads: "Our mission is to develop values-based leaders committed to the betterment of character, campus and community."

In the pursuit of these high ideals, Gamma Upsilon Chapter offers tremendous value in augmenting the collegiate experience and supporting the lifelong journey of each of its members.

We hope to assist brothers in becoming men of character, caring husbands, compassionate fathers, and community leaders.

Through the outstanding leadership of our chapter advisors, **Charlie Winfield '94** and **Doug Cater '96**, I believe we are following through on this mission and I'm excited about where we are as a chapter. As always, we welcome your questions, input, and involvement and I hope you enjoy the rest of the newsletter!

In Hoc,  
**Carey Edwards '00**  
House Corporation President  
(662) 308-3187  
carey.edwards@bxs.com

## SUPPORT GAMMA UPSILON'S PROMISING FUTURE

### Thank You, Generous Alumni

We would like to thank our generous Gamma Upsilon alumni who continue to support our chapter through their kind contributions. Your support makes a difference in the lives of our undergraduate brothers as they grow as young men and as a brotherhood. We are in the business of creating leaders, leaders who will go on to be productive, influential members of society. If you would like to offer your support with securing the chapter's continued success now and into the future, please consider making a donation to the chapter today.

Please make checks payable to the Gamma Upsilon House Corporation and send to Sigma Chi, Mississippi State, P.O. Box 80001, Starkville, MS 39759. You can also make your online donation to Gamma Upsilon by using the following link: <https://bit.ly/2H8EBjp>.

Gifts are not tax deductible, and a receipt will be provided. Every gift is significant and makes an impact on the lives of our brothers.

## Follow Us Online



Please join our alumni  
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Mississippi State Sigma Chi  
Official Alumni Page



See what is going on  
with the chapter on  
Instagram: [msusigmachi](#)



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# Family Ties to Sigma Chi

## Ted Kendall III '58, Ted Kendall IV '82, Tom Kendall '89, and Whit Kendall '16 Share Legacy Experience

Hailing from Jackson, Mississippi, **Ted Kendall III '58** was the first Sigma Chi in his family. His father was a Phi Delt, but without a chapter at Mississippi State University, Ted III started the Kendall Family legacy at Gamma Upsilon Chapter more than 60 years ago. With a rather substantial group of men from the Jackson community at Gamma Upsilon, it was a natural fit for him. Much to his pleasure, his sons, **Ted Kendall IV '82** and **Tom Kendall '89**, and his grandson, **Whit Kendall '16**, followed suit, although not without a little nudge from Ted III.

“When my oldest son went to MSU, I wasn’t paying close attention,” he said. “I had a call from one of my classmates who said, ‘You better do something about your son or he’s going in another direction.’ Thank goodness I was able to get him turned back around to Sigma Chi.”

It’s been exceptionally meaningful for Ted to see his sons and grandson follow in his footsteps and share in the Sigma Chi bond. The unique experience has allowed him to see what’s changed and what’s stayed the same with the chapter over the years and with each new generation.

“The values of Sigma Chi are mostly the same and some of the objectives, like trying to make good people and leaders,” he stated. “One thing that’s changed is the size of it; it has changed considerably. It was a big chapter then, but it’s much bigger now.”

From the perspective of Ted IV, the size and diversity of the chapter were positive experiences.

“I attended a very small high school in a rural area; therefore, I knew very little about fraternities. Either my father didn’t talk much about Sigma Chi, or I didn’t listen,” he shared. “So, when I went to MSU, I didn’t know what to expect from fraternity rush. My father didn’t pressure me but relayed to me that he thought Sigma Chi was a great place to be.”

Despite changes being constant in college and with fraternities, one thing hasn’t changed: Gamma Upsilon continues to be one of the best fraternities on campus and a great place to be.



“It still recruits and enlists some of the best and brightest young men,” Ted IV said. “The fact our family has continued the legacy that my father started with Gamma Upsilon is really neat, and there are so many other families that have these same ties.”

Tom was familiar with Sigma Chi prior to going through recruitment, and it was a logical fit for him as well. During recruitment, it was special knowing that both his father and brother went through a similar experience. It was also a privilege when his nephew, Whit, joined the chapter.

“It’s just really special to be able to share that bond over three generations,” Tom shared. “We are already a very close family but having four Sigma Chi men has added a commonality to our overall relationships and our relationship to MSU.”

The biggest changes Sigma Chi has experienced are the location and the house itself. When Ted III was at MSU, he lived off-campus while Ted IV and Tom lived in a ’70s-style house that was replaced by a newer dormitory building several years after Tom graduated. Whit on the other hand experienced living in the newer buildings.

“The chapter has changed as far as the number of members and the physical building itself, but the character of the members has stayed the same,” Whit stated.

All four Kendall men were afforded the same opportunities to make lifelong friends, gain leadership experience, and have an enjoyable and memorable time in college. It also further strengthened their familial bonds, and for Tom introduced him to his wife.

“Joining Gamma Upsilon Chapter meant a lot because I know how much Sigma Chi meant to my family, and I knew I would be making them proud following in their footsteps,” Whit said. “Knowing we have been through the same process makes our family bond even stronger.”

Ted IV and his wife, Libby, live in Bolton, Mississippi. Their daughter, Anna, recently delivered twins (a boy and a girl) this spring, and Ted IV is “eagerly waiting for the day when my grandson will have the opportunity to join the men of Sigma Chi!” He can be reached at [tk4@bellsouth.net](mailto:tk4@bellsouth.net).

Tom and his wife of 28 years, Susan, live in Meridian, Mississippi. They have two daughters: Claire, who graduated from MSU in 2017 with a degree in civil engineering; and Madison, a senior at MSU studying industrial engineering. Connect with Tom at [tkendall@trustmark.com](mailto:tkendall@trustmark.com).

Ted III and his wife, Mary, reside in Bolton. He can be reached at [thkoi@aol.com](mailto:thkoi@aol.com).

Whit also lives in Bolton, and you can connect with him at [whitrkendall@gmail.com](mailto:whitrkendall@gmail.com).



# A HELPING HAND

Help Us Welcome New House Director Laura West



**L**aura West was born and raised in Natchez, Mississippi, and was a member of the Delta Omega Chapter of Kappa Delta at Mississippi State. “My

sorority experience was very positive and prepared me for life in many ways,” Laura said. “It’s one of those things that expanded my horizons and made me more confident.”

While at Mississippi State, Laura was also a Sigma Chi little sister as her father and brother were both members of Gamma Upsilon Chapter. “Sigma Chi has always had a strong reputation on campus,” Laura said. “The brotherhood has meant a lot to my family over the years.” After graduating, Laura worked as an elementary school teacher in Memphis for 30 years before her recent retirement.

Laura knew that after retiring she still wanted to work with young people, but she wanted a change of pace. She became interested in getting the opportunity to return to campus as her nephew is a member of Gamma Upsilon. Laura decided to reach out to **Charlie Winfield '94** to see how she could get involved. “Charlie helped me get the ball rolling,” Laura said. “After talking to him I was so excited to accept the position!”

Now that she is back on campus, Laura is excited to establish relationships with active members while being a positive influence on them. “I’m ready to help these young men in any way I can,” Laura said. “It’s so great to be back in Starkville.” She feels the electricity on campus and has enjoyed getting more involved with Kappa Delta’s Alumni Association.

Additionally, Laura communicates with other housemothers to keep in touch with what’s going on in the Greek community on campus and to share ideas. Give Laura a warm Sigma Chi welcome for us by emailing her at [lauralee1964@bellsouth.net](mailto:lauralee1964@bellsouth.net).



Left: Mississippi State Fraternity and Sorority Life awarded Gamma Upsilon with the 2020 Greek Collaboration Award at this year’s Ritter Awards. Pictured: Taylor Reeves '20, Jonathan Boone '21, Spencer Williamson '21, and Drew Windham '20. Right: Brothers at the Derby Days Open inaugural joint golf tournament with The University of Mississippi’s Eta Chapter of Sigma Chi, benefiting Huntsman Cancer Institute.



## Leaders On and Off Campus Gamma Upsilon Actives Hold Highest GPA on Fraternity Row

**G**amma Upsilon Chapter continues to pave a positive path for Greek Life at Mississippi State. Last semester, we excelled in academics yet again, having the highest GPA on fraternity row with a 3.10, while our 78 new members put up a 3.07, also the top among new member classes.

### UNIVERSITY LEADERSHIP

Our members not only show leadership in the Greek community, they are also involved in a vast number of organizations on campus like student associations, athletics, alumni delegates, and many more. We encourage our members to stay active on and off campus with organizations of all kinds. Several brothers were elected to the Student Association Senate, Road Runners, College Ambassadors, and other organizations. **Ethan Utterback '21** was elected the Interfraternity Council president and has made a tremendous, positive impact on fraternities and sororities.

### MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Gamma Upsilon continues our commitment

to philanthropy, community service, and Greek collaboration throughout campus and the Starkville community. Mississippi State University Fraternity and Sorority Life awarded Gamma Upsilon the 2020 Greek Collaboration Award at this year’s Ritter Awards for our philanthropy event with Phi Mu and Kappa Alpha Psi last fall—another great example of Sigma Chi taking leadership in today’s Greek community.

### FORGING ONWARD

As always, we look forward to another successful year at Gamma Upsilon, completing our goals as a fraternity, bettering our members, and continuing our leadership. This wouldn’t be possible without the support from our alumni. We thank you all for your commitment and loyalty to Gamma Upsilon.

In Hoc,

**Jonathan Boone '21**

Consul

(601) 624-7050

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## Celebrating Achievements

In May 2018, **Patrick Biglane '76** was elected as the 2018-19 chairman of the Louisiana Bankers Association. Patrick serves as president and CEO of Concordia Bank and Trust in Vidalia.

The Louisiana Bankers Association was founded in 1990 and its mission is to help banks grow and prosper in Louisiana while providing bankers with professional development opportunities, revenue-enhancing products and services, governmental relations, and public advocacy.

# Missing Brothers' Addresses

## Help Us Add Them to Our Mail List!

Help us find the following Gamma Upsilon brothers by providing an email or mailing address to [msstatesigmachidatabase@gmail.com](mailto:msstatesigmachidatabase@gmail.com). We also ask that you please send your email and mailing address to the email above if either have changed in recent years. Thank you for helping keep our database up to date!

Robert E. Ford '60  
Donald A. Kelly '61  
C Mark Smith '62  
William P. Edgar '63  
Thomas J. Williams '64  
Ben K. Brummett '65  
Daryl L. Cooper '66  
Robert M. Carpenter '67  
Waldo S. Stuckey Jr. '68  
Robert L. Clement Jr. '69  
Thomas J Watts '70  
Nicholas J. Owens '72  
John R. Jackson '73  
Martin J. White '74  
William M. Jamieson Jr. '75  
Glenn B. Richardson Jr. '76  
Ralph F. Neely Jr. '77  
Terry Anderson '78  
W. Victor Crain '79  
Dee Witt C. Evans IV '80  
Thomas D. Bateman III '81  
Edwin J. Wolverton '82  
Charles D. Maxwell '83  
George C. Howard '84  
Gregory H. Tew '85  
Lee A. Davis II '88  
John M Schroepel '89  
Bradley G. Ball '90  
Barry R. Artz '92  
John D Houston '93  
Jim P Gray '94  
Chad F.J. Hoge '95  
William C. Walker Jr. '96  
Robert A Bredford '99  
David L. McPhail '00  
Chad J. White '02  
Daniel E. Lee '03  
Stephen B. Bowen '04  
Derek Austin Spooner '05  
Marshall R McCollum '06  
Brandon Ross Toms '07  
William Charles Gates '08  
Reed C. Storey '09  
William S. Cox '11  
Logan M Karr '12  
Evan L. Buckner '13  
Phillip E. Duckworth '14  
Ruben A. Burke '15  
John L. Peebles IV '16  
Jack Schmidt '19



# THE STEEL JACKET

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## Chapter Officers



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Pro Consul  
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Quaestor  
**Spencer Williamson '21**



Magister  
**Charlie Greer '21**



Annotator  
**Max Kirchgessner '21**



Recruitment Chairman  
**Jace Correro '22**  
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Kustos  
**Dalton Ford '21**



Risk Manager  
**Noah Methvin '22**



Chaplain  
**Cody Dinkelacker '21**



Social Chairman  
**Michael Hughes '20**



House Manager  
**Adam Noland '21**