



AKA
ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA

Delta Dispatch
University of Kansas
Fall 2023



AKL'S NEW HOME!

On Saturday, October 28th, we held the official Grand Opening celebration for our new chapter house at 1505 Sigma Nu Place.

If you were not able to attend this event, you can view a video of the special ribbon-cutting ceremony to commemorate this exciting new era for Delta Chapter at KU.

Link to Ribbon Cutting: https://www.dropbox.com/scl/f/x29p152cjbc3dn2wn8gq4/IMG_0031.MOV?dl=0&rlkey=buyky1lg017aapg51ayy7vjy1

The house looks amazing as all elements of Phase I (first floor & back deck) have now been completed and we are hoping to begin work on Phase II (lower level Brotherhood Activity Room) featuring a unique, multi-functional Sport Court for indoor Futsal, Pickle Ball, and Floor Hockey. Our goal is to create the very best “fraternity living experience” at KU and we’ve made great progress, but we still need your help.

Please join me in thanking the many brothers who have stepped forward to lead and contribute financially to this project to-date:

Recognition for campaign leadership

Tim Barton Mark Mears Joseph Prelogar William Taylor John Yorke

CONTRIBUTORS LOGOS

Tim Barton Dave Ferdman Bob Russell
David Booth Jay Litteken William Taylor
Steve Craig Tim Reed John Yorke

DELTA

Steve Buchner Kent Dickinson Chuck Frickey Peter Levy Greg Payne
John Creighton Duane Drake Steve Harman Mark Mears Joseph Prelogar
Bob Denzel Barry Duwe Kevin Jackson Mike Miroslaw Martin Ufford

OREAD

Brian Arensberg Michael Heck Pat Murphy Don Ringstrom Walt Stromquist
Christopher Chadick Dave Henry Kevin Pavicic Gerry Roberts Richard Willard
Steven Cochran Stephen Hill Greg Rieke Jim Rumsey Roger Williams
Bruce Coffey Richard Jones Dick Ringstrom Pat Sirridge Kevin Winkley

If you have not yet done so, I hope you will carefully consider making a generous year-end donation that will create a “living” legacy for the men of AKL today and for many generations to come.

By Credit Card: <https://donorbox.org/akl-delta-chapter-new-house>

By Check: AKL Building Association
Attn: Buzz Prelogar, Treasurer
10307 Garnett St.
Overland Park, KS 66214

If you have any questions, please reach out to Buzz Prelogar at buzz@thefactory-kc.com

New AKA Chapter House

Phase I – Exterior/Interior Property Refresh, Signage & Basketball Court



New Shutters, Study Room Blinds, Crow's Nest Railing & Paint plus new Stackable Washers/Dryers



Basketball Court



Entry & Signage



New AKL Chapter House

Phase I – Living Room w/ Stone Fireplace & Wood Flooring plus House Director Suite



Phase I – Dining Room, Parlor, Exec Conference Room & Trophy Cases



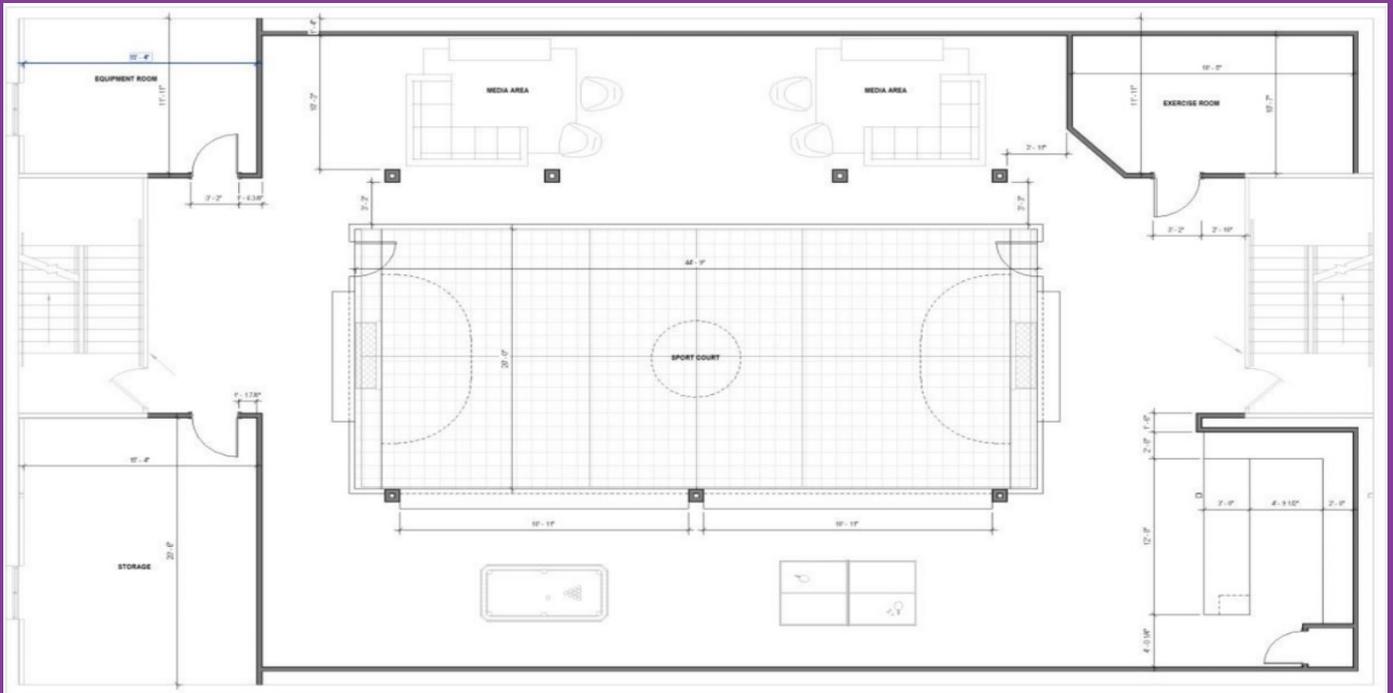
New AKL Chapter House

Phase I – Spacious Back Deck w/ Tables, Adirondack Chairs, Gas Grills & Fire Pits



New AKL Chapter House

Phase II – Lower Level Brotherhood Activity Room
w/ Multi-Use Sport Court





Chairman's Report

Mark Mears

Delta '81

Wow! Just **“WOW!”** What a momentous year we have enjoyed within Delta chapter of Alpha Kappa Lambda. Here are just some of the many highlights:

- **Founder's Day** – This past April, we toasted the storied legacy of AKL's Delta chapter, which has earned its position as a leading fraternity at KU for now over 100 years! Based upon a rock-solid foundation representing our Five Ideals—**Judeo-Christian Principles, Scholarship, Leadership, Loyalty** and **Self-Support**—Delta chapter has stood for excellence in these areas that have resulted in fulfilling our mission: *Men of Character, Committed to Making a Difference.*
- **Sorority & Fraternity Life Awards** – In May, we announced the categories in which AKL was awarded a mark of Excellence in Academic Achievement, Civic & Community Engagement, Personal & Professional Development and Holistic Wellness, while also earning a mark of Distinction in Diversity & Inclusion.
- **Strategic Planning Teams** – In late July, the alumni board and members of the chapter exec board came together to plan out the year. To maximize member engagement, create leadership opportunities, and establish succession planning, every member of the house has been assigned to one of our strategic planning teams representing our *Five Ideals* and other key priorities.
- **Scholarship Dinner** – In early October, we held our 2nd annual AKL Scholarship Dinner, which celebrated several men who earned high GPA distinction during the spring semester. Each of those men received cash scholarships from the Ochino Foundation based upon their level of academic performance. We also announced the recipient of the 2nd annual Dr. Robert C. Jacoby Memorial Scholarship Award – Jason LeFleur – as selected by the Ochino Foundation board.



- **Homecoming/Grand Opening Celebration** – In late October, we celebrated not only a historic Homecoming victory over OU, but the official Grand Opening of our new chapter house at 1505 Sigma Nu Pl. In addition to breakfast and libations served on the spacious back deck, we took alums and their families on a tour showcasing Phase I of our Improvement Plan. Special thanks and appreciation for all alums who have generously provided donations in support of this project so far.
- **Leadership Dinner** – In November, we held our 2nd annual AKL Leadership Dinner which recognized both the outgoing and incoming Executive Board. Congratulations to outgoing chapter president, Mike McDermott and his Exec Board for the many important contributions they made over this past year to help establish a new era of growth and prosperity for Delta chapter.
- **Community Service & Philanthropy** – This fall, AKL men have been very active in the Lawrence community and on campus at KU as well as supporting causes such as the Lawrence Humane Society, “These Hands Don’t Hurt” and PanCAN – the national organization for providing Pancreatic Cancer research. This added up to hundreds of man-hours served as well as thousands of dollars raised.
- **Holiday Luncheon/Annual Meeting** – On December 8th, we will host our K.C. Holiday Luncheon that also serves as our Annual Business Meeting. Again, we have a lot to celebrate and be grateful for, so we look forward to seeing as many alums as possible reunite with one another at this very festive luncheon event.

On behalf of the AKL Building Association Board of Directors, I want to wish you and your families the happiest of holidays and best wishes for a healthy, happy and prosperous new year!

Fraternally,

Mark Mears, Delta ‘81

Chairman, AKL Building Association Board of Directors



President's Report

Michael McDermott

Delta '22

The Delta Chapter of Alpha Kappa Lambda has built a tradition of Leadership and Excellence through the consistent applications of our 5 Ideals: Judeo Christian Principles, Leadership, Scholarship, Loyalty, and Self Support.

Our 5 ideals were expressed throughout the past year through Philanthropy, Brotherhood, Leadership, Community Service, and social events. Some key highlights were moving into the new AKL Chapter house, our annual Homecoming event, and the "Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer" Philanthropy event.

The new AKL Chapter House at 1505 Sigma Nu Place welcomed 60 men into its doors at the beginning of the 2023 fall semester. A successful move in the process was thanks to our house director, Sara Russell, and new House Manager, Hunter Audano. The Chapter House has a finished first floor with spectacular plans for the basement which will make AKL the best fraternity living experience.

The grand opening of the chapter house took place on homecoming weekend, where alumni from around the country came together for the ribbon-cutting ceremony. After warm words from Mark Mears and Mike McDermott, Buzz Prelogar cut the ribbon and welcomed in a new era of AKL. Chase Schieber, Loyalty Chair, and Roger Williams worked together to create an unforgettable homecoming experience for alumni and students alike.

AKL hosted "Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer" in late November. Raising \$2,389 for the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, Eli Wurster organized a philanthropy event for the history books. AKL's two best cooks, Liam McAuliffe and Mike McDermott partnered up with friend Tyler Kraines to cook hundreds of pancakes and breakfast tacos. People from all walks of campus stopped by to make donations and enjoy delicious pancakes. The event was a massive success and set a blueprint for future executive boards to follow through with.

Delta Chapter began the transition process for the incoming executive board. Leading the effort is President Braden Hoffman. Braden previously served on the board as Recruitment chair, where he helped recruit a record-setting number of men for the fall 2023 semester.

I am proud to report our efforts have been recognized as AKL was well-represented at the recent Sorority & Fraternity Life Awards Ceremony this spring. We received a mark of Excellence (the highest honor!) in all categories except one in which we received a mark of Distinction.

Academic Achievement – Excellence
Civic & Community Engagement – Excellence
Diversity & Inclusivity – Distinction
Personal & Professional Development – Excellence
Holistic Wellness – Excellence

Fraternally,

Mike McDermott



2023-2024 Elected Executive Board



President:
Braden Hoffman



Vice President:
Ryan Grimsley



Treasurer:
Drake Doser



Secretary:
Logan Eaton



Co-Recruitment:
Blake Fries



Co-Recruitment:
Ben Anderson



Loyalty:
Jackson Kuhl



Co-Social:
Julian Sanchez



Co-Social:
James Murnane



House Manager:
Hunter Audano



Co-New Member Ed:
Cadynce Marlow



Co-New Member Ed:
Spencer Hill



Philanthropy:
Lucas Reiter



Chaplain:
AJ McDonald



Scholarship:
Hani Ibrahim



Risk Management:
Jake Martin



Community Service:
Nate Hesse



Communications:
Daniel Woo

2023 Fall Recruitment Update



Our chapter has found a lot of success in recent semesters in recruiting high quality men from the Chicago and Kansas City suburbs and this semester was no different. Co-chairs Braden Hoffman and Reice Kennedy did a great job recruiting these men during their second semester as the Recruitment Chairmen. We are happy to announce that this fall new members had their formal initiation on December 4th, and it went wonderfully.

If you know anyone interested in AKL for this upcoming spring semester please have them contact one of our Recruitment Co-chairs:

Blake Fries - blakejeff412@icloud.com - (815)-641-6500

Ben Anderson - 23andersbe@ku.edu - (636)-692-1511

Meet the Fall 2023 New Members





Ben Anderson
St. Louis, MO
Pre Med Human Bio



Evan Bannister
Lawrence, KS
Physical Education



Hudson Brawley
St. Louis
Architecture



Sam Castro
St. Louis, MO
Marketing



Gabe Charles
Derby, KS
Pre-Nursing



Evan Colbert
Lenexa, KS
Electrical Engineering



Will Duncan
Springfield, MO
Pre-Business



Anthony Ellis
Omaha, NE
Accounting



Blake Fries
Frankfurt, IL
Accounting



Ryan Gray
Kansas City, MO
Finance



Colin Griffith
South Bend, IN
Supply Chain



Michael Helinski
Greenwich, CT
Business



Nate Hesse
Wichita, KS
Pre Med Biology



Jackson Kuhl
Olathe, KS
Civil Engineering



Jake Martin
Omaha, NE
Mechanical Engineering



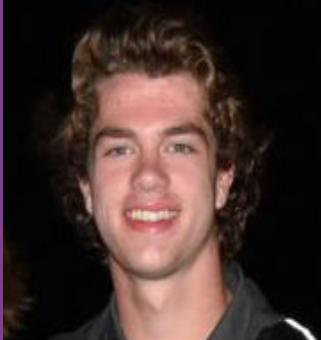
Will Maxey
Naperville, IL
Finance



Charlie Mofatt
St. Louis, MO
Architecture



James Murnane
Houston, TX
Finance



Macklin O'Malley
St. Paul, MN
Graphic Design



Lucas Reiter
Shawnee, KS
Exercise Science



Julian Sanchez
Warren, NJ
Finance



Ian Watkins
Colorado Springs, CO
Finance



Lance Weigal
Lees Summit, MO
Business Analytics



Daniel Woo
Omaha, NE
Business



Pearce Zuba
Overland Park, KS
Political Science

Homecoming 2023



What a great way to kick off the grand opening of our new AKL home! On October 28th, the men and alumni of Alpha Kappa Lambda got an early start, with breakfast and bloody marys before the game. We were finally able to cut the ribbon on the doors of 1505 Sigma Nu Place, and what better way to cap off an event like this than a Kansas football win!



Alumni Spotlight



Buzz Prelogar AKL '65

This semester's Alumni Spotlight features Buzz Prelogar. Buzz was born and raised in Grandview, Missouri and joined Alpha Kappa Lambda in 1965 and lived in the house until he graduated in 1968. While living in the AKL house, Buzz was a pledge trainer at the house. Before coming to KU, Buzz spent a couple of years in Colorado Springs at the U.S. Air Force Academy in flight school. There he was also involved in athletics such as Track and Field and Soccer.

After his time at AKL, Buzz worked at an International CPA firm for 18 years. He then began to start taking over troubled companies and turning them around. He was an ambassador for the American Royal for 25 years and was involved in that community as well. Buzz joined the AKL Alumni Board in 2005 as treasurer and was a large part of the recolonization of the house in 2010 at the time the fraternity was off campus. In 2018, Buzz was deeply involved in the short-term lease of the DU house serving as its property manager while seeking a long-term housing solution for the fraternity that we enjoy today.

For his efforts in leading the new chapter house improvement project, the board has voted to name the Executive Conference Room in his honor.

Brother Spotlight

Michael McDermott

AKL '22



This semester's brother spotlight is on Mike McDermott. Mike is a junior from La Grange, IL majoring in Accounting. This year he was the President of the house. If you ask anyone about Mike, they will talk about how hard of a worker he is when it comes to his presidential duties, as well as weighing that with his two jobs that he consistently puts many long hours into as he always seems to be doing something and staying busy.

When Mike isn't working, you can sometimes find him out back on the deck, grilling on the blackstone as his skills as a chef precede himself.

Congrats Mike on the spotlight we are very proud of you!

Philanthropy

A message from our Chairman: Laszlo Sagi



This October is our national philanthropy month for the domestic abuse campaign “These Hands Don’t Hurt”. Along with having a banner hung up all month, we had a pumpkin carving event, which the brothers participated in. Shoutout to sophomore Reice Kennedy for carving the best pumpkin! The philanthropy team also collaborated with community service to put on the Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer.



Brotherhood

Fall Formal - Table Rock Lake

This fall the men of AKL took their formal trip down to Branson and Table Rock Lake in the middle of September. There we enjoyed beautiful weather, views and housing, all thanks to our social chairs Matt Austin and Danny Talavera! We were able to enjoy a boat ride and a day out on the lake Saturday afternoon, followed by a lovely formal dinner that night on the Branson Belle!



3v3 Basketball Tournament

Earlier on in the semester, the men of AKL were able to host a 3v3 basketball tournament, with the winners taking home the pool of cash and signing the first ever trophy. This event had the entire house outside for the day, Congrats to Owen McAuliffe, Jack Payne, and Will Maxey on the win!



Dad's Weekend

Over the weekend of October 6th to October 8th, we were able to have our dads up to Lawrence for a few days to visit. Friday night we held an auction at Dempsey's, and Saturday we were able to have a tailgate before heading to the Kansas football game together! Once again a big thanks to Matt Austin and Danny Talavera for planning this wonderful weekend.



Scholarship



The Ochino Foundation

The Ochino Foundation supports our Scholarship Team by inspiring the highest levels of academic excellence among the men of Delta chapter.

The Ochino Foundation would like to recognize the following scholarship recipients for their outstanding classroom performance in the 2023 spring semester, including four with a 4.0!

Name	GPA	Scholarship Award
Aidan Bannister	4.0	\$600
Ryan Grimsley	4.0	\$600
Jason LaFleur	4.0	\$600
Chase Schieber	4.0	\$600
Dylan Bart	3.95	\$400
Trevor Holloway	3.94	\$400
Benjamin Groebe	3.94	\$400
Michael McDermott	3.94	\$400
Robbie Metz	3.93	\$400
Lukas Oparinas	3.93	\$400
Mark Sessions	3.93	\$400

Scholarship Recipients



Aidan Bannister



Ryan Grimsley



Robbie Metz



Chase Schieber



Jason LaFleur



Dylan Bart



Trevor Holloway



Ben Groebe



Mike McDermott



Lukas Oparinas



Mark Sessions

Ochino Foundation Contribution Options

There are 3 tax-deductible ways to support Ochino scholarships:

- For general scholarship purposes, by check to Ochino Foundation, c/o Jeff Bennett, 9414 W. 157th Court, Overland Park, KS 66221
- For general scholarship purposes, by check to KUEA, Gift Processing Department, P.O. Box 928, Lawrence, KS 66044-0928 (indicate Ochino Foundation Scholarship Fund, acct. #42859 in the Check Memo)
- For the Jacoby Memorial Scholarship, by check to KUEA, Gift Processing Department, P.O. Box 928, Lawrence, KS 66044-0928 (indicate “Dr. Robert E. Jacoby II Memorial Scholarship” in the Check Memo) or online at

Thank you to the many generous contributor

Stephen Buchner, Bob Denzel, Barry Duwe, Ralph Latshaw, Kevin Pavicic, Ric Prater, Tim Reed, Jim Rumsey, Rusty Smith, Tom Snyder, Bill Taylor, Roger Williams, and Kit Chadick

If you have any questions, please reach out to Mike Heck at michael.heck77@outlook.com

Scholarship Dinner



The Dr. Robert Jacoby II Memorial Scholarship is an endowed award that is given out each year to the most outstanding member of Delta chapter as voted on by the Ochino Foundation board of directors. This year's recipient, Jason LeFleur will receive a \$2,500 scholarship. This year's meeting also featured appearances from guest speaker Dave Henry '69, and the naming of Mike Heck as the President of the Ochino Foundation Board of Directors.



Community Service

A message from our Chairman: Eli Wurster



This semester, the community service team of the Delta Chapter Executive Board worked hard to program events that engage all brothers of the fraternity with the Lawrence community. The highlight of this fall was our Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer event, where we were able to raise over \$2,300! Delta Chapter had a great time with the all you can eat pancakes and breakfast tacos, made by our very own chefs Mike McDermott and Liam McAuliffe. This semester we also participated in a food drive for the Lawrence Community Shelter, and had brothers participate in Super Service Saturday.

Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer



2nd Annual Leadership Dinner



On November, we held our 2nd annual AKL Leadership Dinner which recognized both the outgoing and incoming Executive Board. Congratulations to outgoing chapter president, Mike McDermott and his Exec Board for the many important contributions they made over this past year to help establish a new era of growth and prosperity for Delta chapter.

Alumni Board Chairman, Mark Mears '81 gave a speech on the importance of leadership based upon his best-selling book, *The Purposeful Growth Revolution: 4 Ways to Grow from Leader to Legacy Builder*.



Gallery



Dad's Weekend



Dad's Weekend



Block Party



Block Party



Block Party



Block Party

Gallery



Block Party



Fall Formal



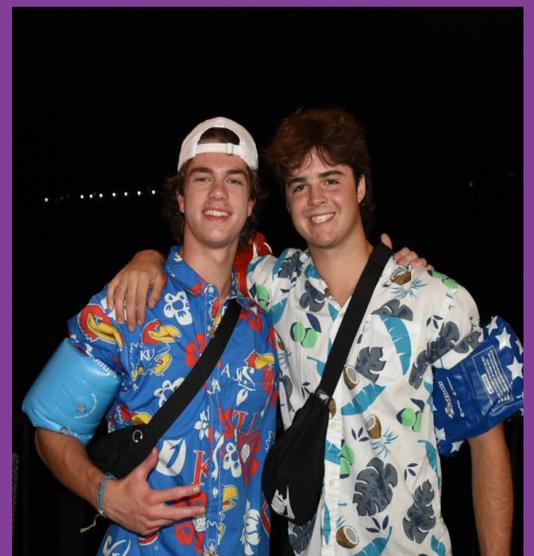
Fall Formal



Fall Formal



Fall Formal



Fall Formal

Upcoming Events:

Founder's Day Golf Outing - TBD Spring 2024

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