



AKA

ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA

Delta Dispatch
University of Kansas
Spring 2023



AKL's New Home

As previously announced, the AKL Building Association has entered into a long-term lease on a new 60-man chapter house located at 1505 Sigma Nu Pl. This includes a 25-year term based upon a series of 5-year renewal options at a negotiated rate below standard cost of living adjustments. Given there are no more lots zoned for Greek housing in Lawrence, this presents a very unique opportunity for Delta chapter to remain a housed fraternity for years to come! We are also very glad to announce that our current house mom Sara Russell will be joining us in the new house!

While the property is only five years old and in excellent condition from a structural integrity perspective, there are several areas that need improvement to achieve our goal of providing men with the very “best fraternity living experience” at KU:

- Exterior Upgrades (Curb Appeal)
- Entry / Living Room Upgrades (“WOW!” Factor)
- Expanded House Director Suite
- Expanded Dining Room
- New Back Patio & Deck
- New Lower Level Game Room

Please watch the Zoom recording of our Founder’s Day Celebration to review the proposed floor plan and design treatments. To accomplish our goal, we are taking a phased approach that will prioritize the projects that must be completed before our men move into the house in August, followed by other projects based upon the success of our fundraising efforts. To that end, we are officially kicking off a Fundraising Plan that will allow us to raise enough money to complete all phases of this important project. This is being led by Tim Barton ’85. The “good news” is we have already established a significant foundation of seed money pledged by several brothers; however, we need YOUR help to bring this vision to reality. If you make a donation – and reach out to 5-10 other brothers in your network – we will be successful!

Please do your part to create a “living” legacy by making a generous donation to:

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

AKL's New Home

Attached below are a few renderings of the interior of the new house.





Chairman's Report

Mark Mears

Delta '81

As we toasted during our recent AKL Founder's Day Celebration via Zoom, Delta chapter has built a storied legacy as a leading fraternity at KU for now over 100 years!

Originating as the Oxford Club at KU in 1916 and later the Ochino Club in 1919 after WWI, in 1922, the fraternity petitioned the University for inclusion as Delta chapter of the first national fraternity formed west of the Mississippi—Alpha Kappa Lambda.

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.

While we have occupied many different houses in Lawrence during this time—including our new chapter house at 1505 Sigma Nu Pl. we will be moving into this fall—those are just buildings. Truly the “heart” of AKL is the thousands of brothers who have paved the way for our current and potential new members. Over the past century, Delta chapter has endured a few set-backs, but in each case, we came back stronger and better than ever!

Today, there is a palpable new sense of energy and excitement within the AKL house under the outstanding leadership of Chapter President, Mike McDermott and his Exec Board. 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.

Each team features an alumni board member serving as a mentor for the chapter exec board member accountable for leading their respective team within each of the following areas:

- Judeo-Christian Principles (Philanthropy, Community Service & Brotherhood)
- Scholarship
- Leadership
- Loyalty
- Self-Support
- PNM Recruitment
- Social Activities/Risk
- Communications
- Treasury
- Property Management



If you would like to get involved in some way, please reach out to me at mmears@airmail.net.

Fraternally,

Mark Mears, Delta '81



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 our Lawrence Humane Society event, our "These Hands Don't Hurt" Philanthropy event, and our in house "AKFL" football league.

Our Lawrence Humane Society Community Service event in the first semester was a huge success. The Lawrence Humane Society brought merchandise and two dogs to the chapter house. Robbie Metz, our then community service chairman, hosted the event with our neighboring sorority Delta Gamma. The men of AKL and the women of Delta Gamma came together and raised a lot of money for a great cause!

There was never a shortage of brotherhood in AKL over the past year. Featuring multiple 3-on-3 basketball tournaments and the AKFL – an in-house football league with 8 teams of 8 men – AKL's brotherhood has never been stronger. Our chaplain, Luke Meyer, has had a successful semester with his team in planning multiple basketball tournaments. His ability to organize and carry out the behind-the-scenes work for an event has served the chapter well. AKL's Delta Chapter also hosted a successful Mother's and Father's weekend, raising money through fun filled auctions.

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



2022-2023 Elected Executive Board



President:
Michael McDermott



Vice President:
Ebrima Gomez



Treasurer:
Will Johnson



Secretary:
Dylan Bart



Co-Recruitment:
Braden Hoffman



Co-Recruitment:
Reice Kennedy



Risk Management:
Owen McAuliffe



Co-Social:
Daniel Talavera



Co-Social:
Matthew Austin



House Manager:
David Davis III



Co- New Member Ed:
Jake Racki



Co-New Member Ed:
Jason Butler



Philanthropy:
Laszlo Sagi



Chaplain:
Luke Meyer



Scholarship:
Cody Erickson



Loyalty:
Chase Schieber



Community Service:
Elijah Wurster



Communications:
Dan Mannella

2023 Spring 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 first semester as the Recruitment Chairmen. We are happy to announce that this semester's spring new members had their initiation on May 1st, and it went wonderfully.

If you know anyone interested in AKL for this upcoming fall semester please have them contact one of our two Recruitment Chairmen.

Braden Hoffman - hoffman.bradenw@gmail.com - (785) 760-5904

Reice Kennedy - kennedyreice@gmail.com - (913) 424-9346

Meet the Spring 2023 New Members

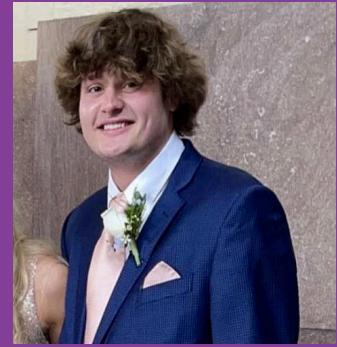




Colin Cahill
Overland Park, KS
Business Analytics



Drake Doser
Shawnee, KS
Business



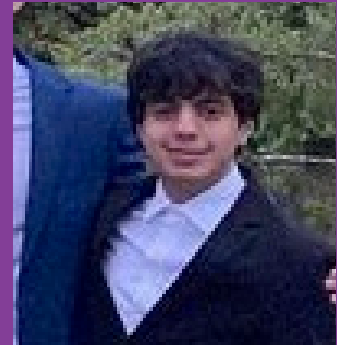
Spencer Hill
Overland Park, KS
Business



Cadynce Marlow
Shawnee, KS
Sports Management



Gabe Jarombek
Olathe, KS
Exercise Science



Hani Ibrahimi
Overland Park, KS
Biology



Abhishek Moorjani
Miami, FL
Finance



Fischer Unruh
Shawnee, KS
Philosophy



Andrew McDonald
Shawnee, KS
Sports Management

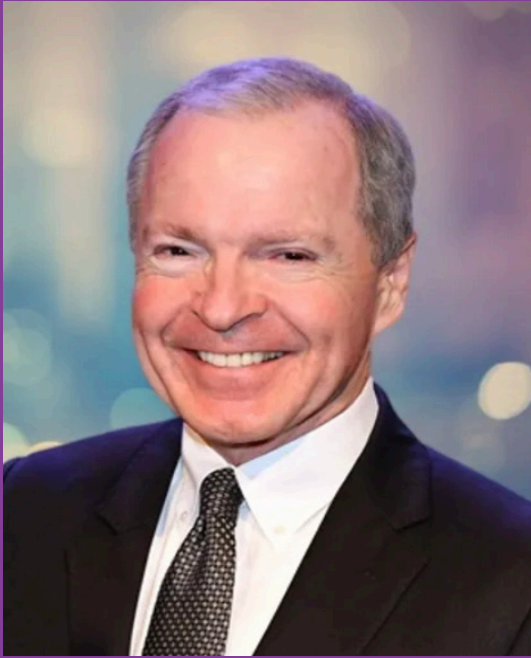


Logan Eaton
St. Louis, MO
Business



Ryan Grimsley
Dallas, TX
Computer Science

Alumni Spotlight



Bill Sampson AKL '64

This semester's Alumni Spotlight features Bill Sampson, who rushed Alpha Kappa Lambda in 1964 and lived in the house until he graduated in 1968. While living in the AKL house, Bill was a key part of the Rock Chalk Revue Theater Group that won three separate years. He also spent a year as a Recruitment Chairman and a year as Chapter President of our fraternity.

After his four years of college, Bill stayed at KU and attended law school until 1971. After college, Bill practiced law, and has tried more than 80 cases in federal and state court. In December of 2021, he officially retired after a very successful career. One thing Bill is very passionate about is writing, as he said that is a key aspect of being good in the field of law. He has also recently written a novel called *Wheat Fields*, a story that follows two students who have recently moved to Lawrence and are finding their way through the year. I highly encourage everyone to check out Bill's website of his recently published book:

<https://www.billsampson-author.com/>

Post-retirement, Bill has picked up skiing once again for the first time in 30 years with a group of friends from Boston. He is also trying to stay an avid golfer.

Brother Spotlight

Peter Dillon

AKL '20



This semester's brother spotlight is on Peter Dillon. Peter is a junior from St. Louis, MO majoring in Aerospace Engineering. Last year he was the Vice President, and the year before he filled in as Scholarship Chair. If you ask anyone in the house where Peter is, they will most likely say the library. As an aerospace engineering major, Peter works harder than anyone else when it comes to school, and we know his hard work is going to pay off in the future.

When Peter isn't studying, he likes to run in his free time, usually 3-4 miles a day. In the summers, he works at a beach club in Delaware.

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

Philanthropy

A message from our Chairman: Laszlo Sagi



We recently held an AKL car wash to help support our philanthropy, “These Hands Don’t Hurt”. It was a massive success, as we were able to raise a few hundred dollars towards our cause. The gentlemen of AKL also had a great time hanging out, washing cars, and grilling hot dogs. This event is definitely something we want to keep doing in the future.



Brotherhood

Spring Formal - Grand Lake

This spring the men of AKL took their formal trip to Grand Lakes Oklahoma in the month of April. 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.



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, and everyone liked the idea so much that we held another tournament a few weeks later as a recruitment event. Congrats to Dylan Bart, Anthony Lappiana, and Braden Hoffman on the win!



Mom's Weekend

Over the weekend of April 14th to April 16th, we were able to have our moms up to Lawrence for a few days to visit. Friday night we held an auction at Dempsey's, and Saturday we were able to enjoy an experience at Crescent Moon Winery! Once again a big thanks to Matt Austin and Danny Talavera for planning this wonderful weekend.



Scholarship

The Ochino Foundation

This semester the men of AKL had the honor of having alumni Michael Heck come to the house and reveal this semester's Ochino Foundation scholarship recipients. We are looking forward to next semester's scholarship dinner, where the second annual Dr. Robert Jacoby II scholarship winner will be announced.



The Ochino Foundation would like to recognize the following scholarship recipients for their outstanding classroom performance in the 2022 fall semester:

Name	GPA	Scholarship Award
Parker Barton	3.88	\$300
Will Johnson	3.81	\$300
Jack Naughton	3.80	\$300
Mark Sessions	3.88	\$300
Tanner Stones	3.87	\$300
Robbie Metz	3.94	\$400
Cameron Knauss	4.00	\$600

Ochino also wishes to recognize the following Brothers who have generously contributed to the scholarship fund since December 2022: Bob Denzel, Fredric Prater, Ralph Latshaw, Bill Taylor, Barry Duwe, Jim Rumsey, Roger Williams, Kevin Pavicic, Tim Reed, Rusty Smith.

Scholarship Recipients



Cameron Knauss



Robbie Metz



Parker Barton



Jack Naughton



Tanner Stones



Will Johnson



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 or online at <https://securelb.imodules.com/s/1312/lg21/form.aspx?sid=1312&gid=1&pgid=349&cid=945> (indicate “Ochino Foundation Scholarship Fund, acct. #42859” in the “Other purpose” online box or 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 kuendowment.org/JacobyScholarship

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

Community Service

A message from our Chairman: Elijah Wurster



The community service and philanthropy chairmen of the Delta Chapter Executive Board work together to program events that engage all brothers of the fraternity with the Lawrence community. As seen from our successful Brothers-n-Shovels program, the AKL x DG Humane Society event, blood drives, Pancakes for Pancreatic Cancer, frequent donation to the Willow Domestic Violence Center, stocking food pantries, and more, the effects of having two positions work towards the one goal of providing every member with an opportunity to create change can be seen in our work.

Semester Photos



Spring Break



Mom's Weekend



Spring Break



Car Wash



Basketball Tournament



Spring Formal

Semester Photos



Spring Formal



Spring Formal



Hawk Formal



Spring Formal



Spring Formal



Spring Formal

Upcoming Events:

Homecoming at the new house: October 28th

Holiday Luncheon at Jack Stack: December 8th

Connect with Us:



@akl_kansas