

LEADERSHIP TEAM

HIGH ZETA
HIGH ALPHA
MAX MICKELSON,
SIOUX FALLS

HIGH BETA
ZACH CIUREJ,
PAPILLION, NE

HIGH THETA
SETH KNOER,
SPENCER, IA

HIGH GAMMA
HARI
KADARKARISAMY
VERMILLION

HIGH TAU
KARTER KNAACK,
CORRECTIONVILLE,
IA

HIGH IOTA
COLIN CARSTENS,
CORRECTIONVILLE
IA

HIGH KAPPA
ISAIH SCHOTT,
SIOUX FALLS

HIGH DELTA
TRISTON CURRY,
PIERRE

HIGH PHI
CARTER NORRIS,
CORRECTIONVILLE
IA

HIGH SIGMA
ELI CRANE,
SIOUX CENTER, IA

HIGH EPSILON
CARTER
SHACKLETON,
RAPID CITY

HIGH RHO
GRIFFIN
PETERSEN,
ONIDA

HIGH PI
TYLER TORDSEN,
SIOUX FALLS

HOUSE MANAGER
LOGAN STONE,
DELL RAPIDS

HIGH JOCK
JAKOB LOGAN,
IRENE

EXECUTIVES
COLIN CARSTENS
ETHAN RISWOLD
REED LENKER

Alpha-Gamma News

Spring 2023



Welcome: Busy 2022-23

Greetings brothers!

On behalf of the entire Alpha-Gamma Zeta, I hope that the 2023 *Spring Newsletter* finds you well!

It has been an eventful year for the active chapter, and we have much to celebrate as we near the end of the 2022-2023 academic year. Inside you will find the latest statistics on our grades and philanthropic activities from the current High Alpha, new Associate Members, upcoming events, some final remarks from graduating seniors, an interview with Alpha Gamma 2000, donations for the building fund and operating fund, and updates from our Housing Corporation.

So, without further ado, let's take a look at all that Alpha-Gamma Zeta has accomplished during its last school year in our chapter house at 327 North Pine!

—Griffin Petersen, AΓ 1998, High Rho



Mickelson: AΓZ Has Good GPA, Leaders

The men of Lambda Chi Alpha have had a busy year!

In 2022, we volunteered over 2,500 hours and raised \$8,000 as a chapter, most of which benefited Feeding South Dakota. We were able to recruit 10 great new members this fall and another 4 so far this spring, which helped boost our chapter GPA to 3.23.

Members are very involved on campus, as 86% of us participate in at least one other student organization, and 18% are on the executive board of student organizations ranging from College Republicans and the Student Government Association to Special Olympics. Our efforts have not gone unnoticed, with Griffin Petersen awarded Outstanding Fraternity New Member of the Year and Tyler Tordsen the Outstanding Alumnus of the Year Award at the annual Sorority & Fraternity Life banquet. Overall, we are very proud of our chapter's academic, recruitment, and philanthropic efforts this past year and can't wait to see what else is in store in the years to come!

—Max Mickelson, AΓ 1986, High Alpha



Founders Day April 15 in Sioux Falls

The Active Chapter invites all alumni and parents to Founders Day 2023 on Saturday, April 15, 2023, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Casetta event space in Sioux Falls at 201 West 37th Street.

Annual scholarships and awards will be presented, as the event returns to an undergraduate emphasis.

Updates will also be given to Alumni on the Home Away From Home campaign.

Light hors d'oeuvres, beer, and wine will be available.

To register for this free event, go to LambdaChiAlphaAtUSD.org and click on Events & Newsletters.

Visit us Online at www.LambdaChiAlphaAtUSD.org

Help us Meet, and Exceed our Goal!

\$3.1 Million Raised in Just 19 Months

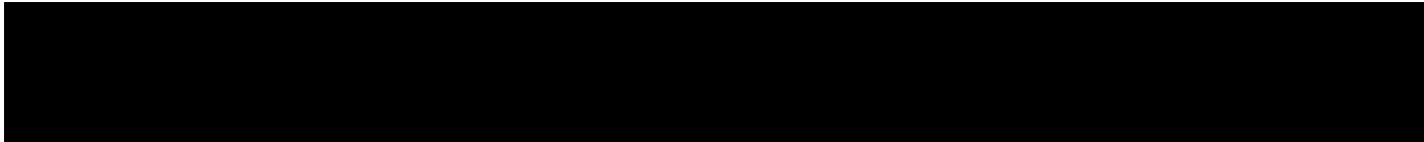
Many thanks to these Brothers and their families for supporting the Home Away From Home campaign to build a new Chapter House for the next 100 years of Lambda Chi Alpha at USD!

The list below includes only those who have committed their support to the **Building Fund**. Ω Denotes a Brother who has passed away. The list is current as of March 24, 2023, but does not include 2023 annual donations to the Housing Corporation for regular house operations; that list is published on Page 7.

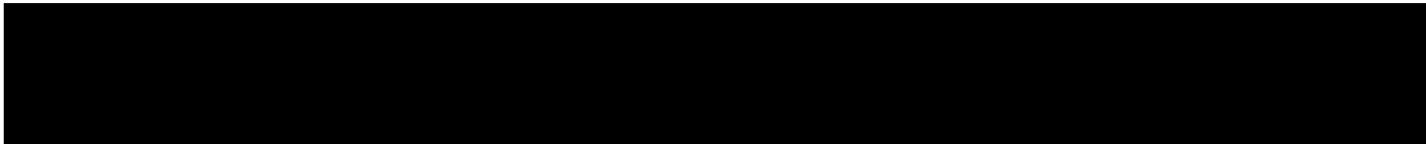
This list does not include donations towards our scholarship funds.

If your name is missing or the amount is incorrect, please contact Randy Sorensen at rsorensen4@mac.com.

\$100,000+

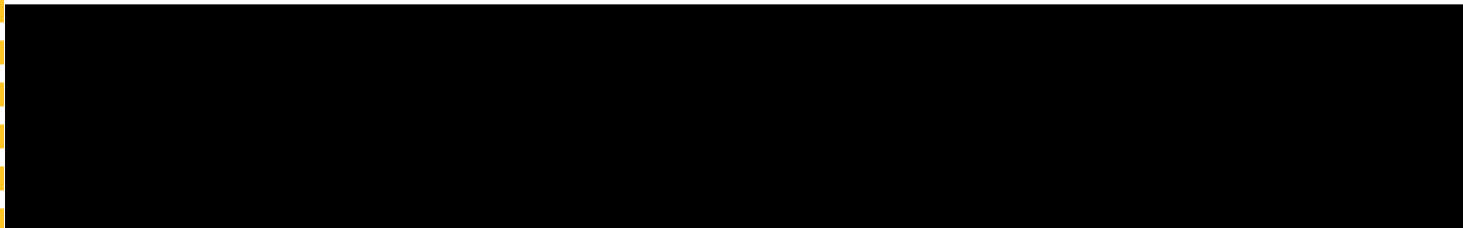


\$50,000 – \$99,999

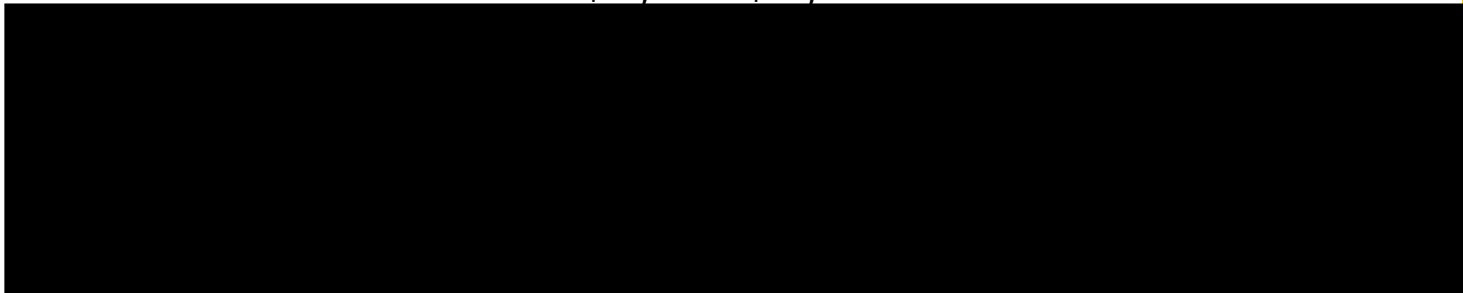


Louis H. Hogrefe AF 806

Douglas L. Estes AF 684
\$25,000 – \$49,999



\$10,000 – \$24,999

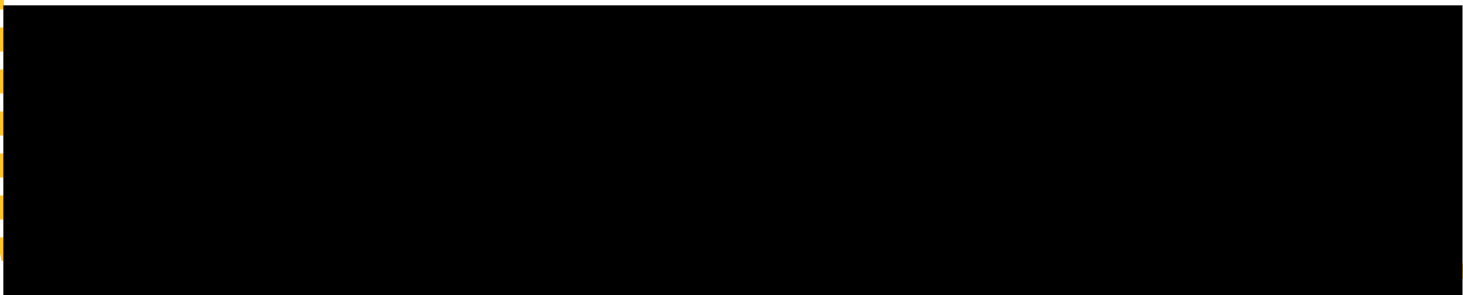


Ω Faris G. Pfister AI 486

Gordon Peterson AI 956

\$5,000 – \$9,999

Thomas J. Storms AI 787



Willie R. Carney AI 1465

Doug F. Christensen AI 1343

Curtis J. Lieckre AI 888

Continued on Page 3

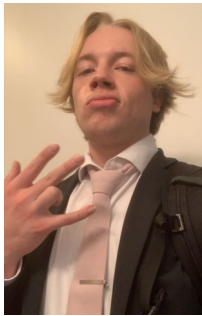
Goal: \$250,000 Match Until May 1

\$1,000 – \$4,999



Final Remarks from Graduating Seniors

Tyler Ezra, AΓ 1973: I am a Kinesiology major concentrated in Exercise Science. I plan on attending physical therapy school at Briar Cliff University. After PT school, I will navigate my way around the profession and eventually open my own private clinic specializing in an industry niche. As a freshman, I came to USD not knowing very many people. Eventually, I came upon Lambda Chi Alpha because my roommate at the time knew one of the guys. While stepping into the house for the first time was a huge step outside my comfort zone, it ended being one of the best decisions of my life. My advice to newer members: don't be afraid to take that leap of faith because you nev-



er know where it might take you. I enjoyed my time in Lambda and grew a lot as a young man entering adulthood. I wish all of my brothers the best of luck and for great success in life!

Tayte Gleason AΓ 1967: I am a Finance major. My future plans are to attend law school at the Sandra Day O'Connor School of Law at Arizona State University with an emphasis on business law. Lambda Chi Alpha has taught me what it truly means to be a leader. Through practicing and exemplifying our core values, I grew into a greater and more dependable man alongside my lifetime brothers.



Alex Kolbeck, AΓ 1968: I graduated from USD this past Fall with a degree in accounting. Currently, I am enrolled in the MPA program, and I plan on moving to Rapid City next January for a tax internship with Ketel Thorstenson! A few of my favorite memories from Lambda include Dakota Days my junior year and having late-night talks with my brothers in the hallways of our chapter house!



Tate Nielsen, AΓ 1980: I am a senior studying Finance. My plans after college are to go into business with my father, Shawn, at his hometown business, Fast Auto Glass. My time in our great fraternity has come and gone like the blink of an eye, yet I have gathered a lifetime of memories. The relationships I made feel as

Upcoming Events

April 14:

Brotherhood Olympics, Lambda Chi Alpha House, Vermillion

April 15:

Founders Day, Casetta Event Venue, Sioux Falls

April 18:

Watermelon Bash fundraiser, Prentis Park, Vermillion

May 5:

Spring Semester Ends

June 8-13:

Class of '83 40th Reunion, Ridgedale, Missouri

August 21:

Fall Semester Begins

October 5:

Class of '73 50th Reunion, Sioux Falls

October 6-8:

Dakota Days, Vermillion

Past Events

March 23:

Arizona Winter Reunion, Mesa

March 18:

Southwest Florida Winter Reunion, Naples

Continued on Page 5

Associate Members

Bjorn Holm
(Saint Bonifacious, MN)

Jordy Martinez
(Sioux Falls, SD)

Josiah Sholes
(Stanton, NE)

Nicholas Larson
(Council Bluffs, IA)

Cody Burriss
(Sellersburg, IN)

Macagen Moser
(Vermillion, SD)

New Initiates

Griffin Petersen
(AG 1998)

Nicholas Diersen
(AG 1999)

Hari Kadarkaraisamy
(AG 2000)

Pierce Sword
(AG 2001)

Karter Knaack
(AG 2002)

Cedric Garcia
(AG 2003)

Jakob Logan
(AG 2004)

Wayne Boerner
(AG 2005)

Recruitment Update

We have six Associate Members and initiated eight Active Members this past Winter. Four of our AMs were added during Spring rush, while two were added during Fall Rush 2022.

Letter from Randy Sorensen, AGZ Housing Corp Treasurer

Brothers,

As we head toward Founders Day, it is an important and exciting time for our fraternity. With that, I thought I would draft you a note from your Treasurer and Finance Committee regarding our current financial position.

As the President often states, "The State of our Union is strong."

We have accomplished a lot over the years thanks to our alumni support with their generous donations of money, time and talent. The transition to a more formal governance structure is an ongoing work in progress as we continue to work on improving the living conditions for our current and future brothers attending the University of South Dakota. Our new "House" will also provide for a place for all alumni to gather and be proud of continuing the Lambda Chi tradition of developing young men for continued leadership roles.

As you may already know, the Board of the Housing Corporation has formed a Finance Committee, of which I am the Chair. Current members of the Finance Committee are Roger Mjoen, Bob Murphy and Ken Duncan. We are always looking for new members if you are interested in serving. The finance committee is in the process of recommending various policies and procedures to the Board to ensure we have adequate internal controls and proper oversight of our funds. An example of one of those policies regards our "Investment Policy". The primary tenants of our investment policy are safe, secure

and liquid investments while earning a current return.

We have two primary accounts, our Operating account and are Capital account.

Operating funds are kept in our operating account and the primary sources of those funds come from our annual Alumni donations and the rent we charge the current brothers living in the House. We have seen an increase in our annual Alumni donations in the past few years due to increased communication and improved contact information with our alumni. Historically our annual donations averaged between \$10-14,000 per year coming from approximately 80 number of alumni for an average of \$158 per contribution. The last few years our average has been \$31,740 coming from 138 number of alumni for an average of \$231 per contribution. Our current rent collections are \$20,000 annually or \$10,000 per semester.

Our current balance in our operating funds account is \$136,752 of which \$22,931 is in our checking account for meeting any current expenses/expenditures and \$113,821 is in our money market savings account, currently just over 4%. These operating proceeds also include approximately \$45,000 from the sale of the Annex. The finance committee has under consideration recommending to the board to move the Annex sale proceeds to our Capital account to be used for purposes of capital improvements and/or building of the new House.

The balances of the operating

funds are used to pay property taxes and insurance. Historically and currently these funds are also used to maintain the current house, such as a recent \$2,500 to make repairs to our boiler system. Currently the property insurance costs \$14,404 annually and our property taxes are currently \$5,098.

Overall are operating funds are in good shape primarily due to the alumni contributions and the proceeds from the sale of the Annex. The



Housing Corp Treasurer, Randy Sorensen (AG 989)

annual rent from the House is currently sufficient to pay the property taxes and insurance.

Capital funds account was established with the onset of our Capital Campaign to build a new House. We are in the final stages of reaching our initial target of \$3.5 million in cash and signed commitments. As of this writing we have \$2.5 million committed to the Capital Campaign, of which \$800,000 is in cash and \$1.7 million is in signed commitments. The signed commitments are generally to

Continued on Page 5

Graduating Seniors (cont'd)



though I've known them for my entire life, and the ideals we believe have created the foundation upon which I will build my adulthood. For this, I would like to thank the brothers who've come be-

fore me. Without those brothers, I would not have the opportunity I was given.

Riley Riggs, AF

1975: I am a Communication Studies and Media and Journalism major with an emphasis in Strategic Communication. I plan on moving to Denver next year to work



for an advertising/marketing agency in Social Media Strategy. Lambda gave me the opportunity to explore my interests and to further harness my specific strengths. It also gave me lifelong friendships within our brotherhood.

Isaih Schott, AF

1970: I am an Elementary Education major with a minor in Health Sciences. My plans for the future are to finish my student teaching next year and begin teaching fourth grade! The thing that I learned most from Lambda Chi Alpha was to never brave anything alone.

There is always someone out there willing to help and many Lambdas, alumni and active, have pushed me to be the best that I am!



2nd Annual Watermelon Bash, April 18

Our chapter will be hosting its annual Watermelon Bash fundraiser for the second year, this time in conjunction with our sister sorority, Alpha Xi Delta!

The event will be held at Prentis Park on April 18, from 5-7 p.m. Attending students and community members will be treated to a cookout, a cornhole tournament, and, of course, the opportunity to smash a watermelon!

The proceeds from this year's event will be split and given to two philanthropic organizations—the Community Center Project of United Way and The Foster Network of Sioux Falls. The proceeds of last year's event went to United Way, and we are thrilled to partner with them again to help raise money for the many different services they provide for the Vermillion community.



Carving it up at last year's Watermelon Bash philanthropic fundraiser

We are also very excited to bring our sisters from Alpha Xi Delta aboard in support of their philanthropic efforts as well.

Overall, we are hoping for a great turnout for the Second Annual Lambda Chi Alpha Watermelon Bash!

Treasurer Letter, continued

be paid in installments over the 3-4 years. Our Capital Campaign tracker has approximately \$700,000 in verbal commitments and while an important indicator we are unable to count those verbal commitments as cash or cash equivalents to be used in financing the construction of the House. We have preliminary indications from two banks willing to finance the construction of the House based on using the signed pledges along with the real estate on a non-recourse basis to the Housing Corporation.

Therefore, you can see how important it is to convert the verbal com-

mitments to signed pledges over a multi-year period.

The active chapter will be undertaking a calling campaign to reach out to some 800 alumni who have yet to be contacted to inform them of the Capital Campaign and ask for their support in getting us to our initial goal of \$3.5 million.

The Finance Committee is actively reviewing the status of the Capital Campaign and the efforts of the Building Committee as they are in the final stages of design and obtaining the related construction costs. We anticipate having these costs by the end of March and

will be reviewing with the Board our financial status and any recommendations regarding timing related to the beginning of construction.

So, all in all a successful Capital Campaign to date thanks to the efforts of Nick Bratvold and others that have been willing to sponsor and reach out to the brothers. However, we need to put in the extra effort to finish what we have started to create a new chapter in the history of Lambda Chi Alpha at USD!

Yours in ZAX,
Randy (Zeke) AF 989

Connecting Brothers Nationwide

Dear Brothers,

We continue to build out our **Housing Corp**, recently electing a full board of 10 members from five decades—thank you volunteers! They are Terry Schmidt, '77, Chair; Nick Bratvold, '16, Vice Chair; Randy Sorensen, '77 Treasurer/CFO; Logan Lamphere, '99, Secretary; Doyle Estes, '71, General Counsel; Brandon Wilsey, '01, CEO; Tyler Tordsen, '15, High Pi; Roger Mjoen, '70; Ken Duncan, '77; and Mike Runge, '88. Meet them at LambdaChiAlphaAtUSD.org.

We had another great winter of events, with **reunions** in Naples, FL, on March 18, and Mesa, AZ, on March 23. Nick Magera continues to host monthly “Bored Meetings” on the first Wednesday of the month in Sioux Falls, and Jeff Esbenshade meets with a group for coffee every Tuesday from October to May in Sun City, Arizona. In Orlando, I host a quarterly meet-up for Lambda Chi’s of any chapter, and several South Dakotans have connected here.

The Alpha Gamma Chapter invites you and your family back for **Dakota Days 2023, October 5-8**. Welcome back to the Classes of '73, '83, '93, '03, and '13! As always, we’ll have all the traditional homecoming activities.

Additionally, the **Class of '73**, hosted by Dave Landry, will meet at the Country Club of Sioux Falls on Thursday, October 5, from 3 to 6 p.m. All are welcome, and other classes may be holding reunions, too.

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

We are so close to our goal of \$3.5 million! The **\$250,000 MATCH** lasts until May 1, so please donate now at LambdaChiAlphaAtUSD.org! Many thanks to the leadership of the Steering Committee, Building Committee, Development Committee, and Housing Corporation for their depth of experience in construction, fundraising, lending, budgeting and legal work!

Check out the **latest rendering** from Fiegen Construction of Sioux Falls. Floor plans are on our website. A finalized budget is nearly ready to share, and (preliminary) interior finishes have been selected! We are on track to raise the old house around June 1, but will let you know first.



Yours in ZAX,

Logan Lamphere, AF 1596
AFZ Housing Corp Secretary
alphagammazetaaa@gmail.com
605-490-0732



New Spring 2023 Associate Members
(from left to right) **Jordy Martinez, Bjorn Holm, Josiah Sholes, and Nicholas Larson**



New YouTube Video Explains Why Lambda Chi Alpha is a Good Investment

Have you seen our videos yet? Led by Roger Mjoen (AF 790) and the Class of 1970, we now have three videos on our YouTube channel, including this fantastic one from Dakota Days 2022, explaining why Lambda Chi Alpha is a good investment.

Go to [YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search for “Lambda Chi Alpha South Dakota.”

Check them out!



Kadarkaraisamy Initiated as ΑΓ 2000 at I-Week 2023

This past I-Week marked a huge milestone for Lambda Chi Alpha as we initiated our 2000th member. Vermilion-native Hari Kadarkaraisamy, a freshman medical biology student at USD, was chosen by the active chapter as the designee for Alpha Gamma 2000 after initiation activities had concluded on January 7, 2023.

Applicants for the designation were judged based on their submitted platforms as well as their overall academic performance and involvement within and outside of the chapter during the Fall 2022 semester.

While the spot is certainly an incredible honor, Kadarkaraisamy was just glad to have initiated alongside his fellow brothers, saying "Everyone in our class was

more than deserving of Alpha Gamma 2000. After all, it's just a number and doesn't change who I am as a person. I still hold everyone in my class true as brothers, and I don't feel that being Alpha Gamma 2000 puts me above anyone else in our brotherhood. That said, it was still a very good feeling to have been chosen for this by the rest of the chapter."

Going into his first semester at USD, Kadarkaraisamy was not planning on rushing a fraternity at all. However, after coming to the Lambda



house for the first time, he changed his mind.

"When I first talked to my parents about going through rush, they discouraged me from doing so because of the stigma surrounding Greek life in

general. Then, Cedric Garcia brought me to the house where I met some of the guys. They were some of the coolest people I had ever met, and they really accepted me for who I was. Lambda was the only house I went to during rush week, and I didn't think they would even give me a bid because I was so focused on coach-

ing soccer at the time. Then, when I received one, I talked to my parents about joining and said that the rumors about frats were not true and that Lambda Chi Alpha was living proof of that."

After that talk with his parents, Hari signed his bid, and the rest was history. When asked what his favorite experience in Lambda has been thus far, Hari said that regular brotherhood events have been the most fun. He also explained that many of the other Lambdas enjoy playing soccer, which Kadarkaraisamy played all throughout high school, adding yet another layer to the fun times that Lambda has given him thus far in his undergraduate education.

About Initiation Week itself,

Continued on Page 8

2023 Alumni Donor Wall

Support your Fraternity – Be an alumnus in good standing!

*This donor wall reflects annual donations to the **Operating Fund** of the Alpha Gamma Zeta Housing Corporation for annual operations.*

Our fiscal giving year is January 1 through December 31, so the Donor Wall resets January 1.

Platinum Donor (\$1,000 and above)

Ken Duncan

Roger Mjoen

Logan Lamphere

Terry Schmidt

Doyle Estes

Mike Runge

Nick Bratvold

Tyler Tordsen

Brandon Wilsey

Gold Donor (\$500 - \$999)

Silver Donor (\$250 - \$499)

Thomas Conway

Roger D Sullivan

Bronze Donor (\$100 - \$249)

John E Leuthold

Jeff Steichen

Annual Alumni Donation (\$50 - \$99)

Thomas J Carpenter

John S. Slaba

Thank you for your annual donations!

Hari: AΓ 2000

(continued)

Hari explained that it was nothing like he'd expected. "One of my brothers told me beforehand that it is the best week that you'll never want to do again, and I think that's the best description I've heard of I-Week."

Kadarkaraisamy's family is no stranger to new experiences, with his parents having immigrated to the United States from India in 2001. Now, as a lifelong Vermillion resident and as Alpha Gamma 2000, Hari plans to attend medical school and become a practicing care physician. He explained that being in Lambda Chi Alpha has already garnered him a number of connections in the medical field who have

expressed their willingness to help him on his career path. "I've talked to a couple doctors who were in Lambda and are currently working at Avera and Sanford in Sioux Falls.

I plan to study abroad this summer and some of our alumni have already offered to pay a portion of my expenses. This fraternity has offered me a

great network that will help ease my transition into medical school and put me on the right path toward becoming a doctor."

As a chapter, we are so very privileged to have Hari as a member of our brotherhood and we are proud that he is our AΓ 2000!



2023 Initiates (left to right): Griffin Petersen (AΓ 1998), Nick Diersen (AΓ 1999), Karter Knaack (AΓ 2002), Cedric Garcia (AΓ 2003), Pierce Sword (AΓ 2001), Wayne Boerner (AΓ 2005), Hari Kadarkaraisamy (AΓ 2000), and Jakob Logan (AΓ 2004)

Visit us Online at www.LambdaChiAlphaAtUSD.org

Alpha Gamma Zeta House Corporation

% Randy Sorensen, Treasurer
1317 Helford Lane
Carmel, IN 46032

Place
Postage
Here



<Insert Mailing Address>