

The Alpha Gamma Fellowship

for Lambda Chi Alpha Alpha Gamma Zeta Alumni Association

Volume 5 | Issue 2

Winter 2022

We've nearly reached our \$3.5 million goal--help us get there by December 31!

Over 160 Brothers and even some Crescents have contributed to the "Home Away From Home" capital campaign to raise \$3.5 million to build a new chapter house in Vermillion!

THANK YOU SO MUCH!!

While we hope to meet this goal by the end of this year, the campaign will continue through the spring to raise an additional \$500,000 for a Maintenance/Contingency Fund. We want to give every Brother, no matter his financial situation, the opportunity to be part of this historic new chapter in Lambda Chi Alpha's history at USD. *continued on next page*



The latest rendering from Fiegen Construction of Sioux Falls

We received sad news on Christmas Day that Brad Gullickson (ΑΓ 996, Class of '77) had passed away at his home in Brandon from a heart attack. Services will be held on Wed., Jan. 4, at 10:30 a.m. at Risen Savior Catholic Church. A memorial honoring Brad is being planned.



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Home Away From Home Campaign Donor Wall

A breakdown of pledges is shown here. Perhaps this will help you in deciding on a donation amount, or perhaps you'd like to increase your pledge. Many brothers are making payments on that pledge over the next several years. Families are also contributing together.

- The list below includes only those who have committed their support in writing or have sent in a one-time gift as of December 9, 2022.
- Ω Denotes a Brother who has passed away.
- This list does not include 2022 annual donors to the Housing Corporation for regular house operations; that list is published on Page 21.
- 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.

Please keep this list within the Fraternity to respect the privacy of our brothers. We have gone to great lengths to make sure your information does not become public so that fundraising companies cannot acquire it.

For more information on the capital campaign, or to donate, visit

lambdachialphaatusd.org/commit.

Many thanks to these Brothers and their families for supporting the next 100 years of Lambda Chi at USD!

\$100,000+

\$50,000 – \$99,999

continued on next page

Home Away From Home Campaign
Donor Wall (continued)

\$25,000 – \$49,999

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

\$10,000 – \$24,999

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Home Away From Home Campaign Donor Wall (continued)

\$5,000 – \$9,999

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

\$1,000 – \$4,999

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Editorial

Alumni Association

Director

Logan Lamphere

ΑΓ 1596



Donor Details, Active Updates, and Why I Give

Dear Brother,

In this edition of *The Alpha Gamma Fellowship*, you will see a lengthy report of all the goings-on from the Active Chapter. Since Dakota Days was so late this year, we decided to send out their *Alpha Gamma News* earlier than usual, but they didn't have as much to report on so early in the semester. So, I made a deal with them and provided extra alumni news in return for their progress report for the Winter *Alpha Gamma Fellowship* alumni newsletter. I was really pleased to learn that nine undergraduates recently obtained jobs or internships because of their Lambda Chi connections!

We also detail the donations to both the Home Away From Home capital campaign, along with our regular annual donations to the Alpha Gamma Zeta Housing Corporation. Included is a statement of financial activity, for your perusal, from our current Housing Corp Treasurer, Randy Sorensen. Please let him know if you have any questions.

While we want to maintain transparency with all of you, we are also conscious of protecting your donation history from fundraising companies, so please do not share this information outside of the fraternity.

As we obtain a detailed construction budget from Fiegen Construction of Sioux Falls, we will share it along with the detailed plans which we hope will be finished by the end of January.

I also asked some of our building committee members to share why they have donated their time and resources to the capital campaign. Personally, I strongly believe in the need for higher education. Our world needs more well-rounded, highly educated young men in particular.

I want to help offset the increasing cost of education by providing a stable, safe living environment, along with a support network of brothers—current, past, and present. The opportunities to learn how to get along with each other, to understand and tolerate different viewpoints, to lead and to follow, can all be achieved at Lambda Chi Alpha at the University of South Dakota, and that is why I choose to donate my time and treasure to this worthy endeavor.

Yours in ZAX,

Logan Lamphere, ΑΓ 1596

Alpha Gamma Alumni Association Director

Active Chapter News

Meet the New High Rho

Greetings brothers! My name is Griffin Petersen, and I was recently elected as the High Rho of the active chapter. I



am a first-year political science and criminal justice double-major at USD, and my future plans are to attend law school following my undergraduate studies and become an attorney.

Below are just a few quick updates from the Active Chapter that I'd like to share with you all. We have had a phenomenal school year thus far, and we cannot wait to interact more with you all throughout the upcoming spring semester! Until then, all of us active members hope you and your families had a very Merry Christmas! — Griffin Petersen, AM, High Rho

Last D-Days Hosted at the Brown House

In its 105-year existence, the Alpha-Gamma Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha has hosted countless successful Dakota Days celebrations at our historic Brown House. That era came to a bittersweet end last fall when we hosted our final D-Days at the current chapter house before it is set to be demolished in May 2023.

Throughout the week, several festivities were enjoyed by actives and alumni alike in honor of the 2022 Dakota Days homecoming celebration. On Thursday, October 20, Jim Abbott and Debby Vander Woude welcomed dozens of our alumni back to Eastern South Dakota with a party at their Sioux Falls home. The following Fri-

day, October 21, the Second Annual Weapons of Grass Destruction Best Ball Scramble was held at the Bluffs Golf Course in Vermillion. Several of our active members were able to join our alumni in a fun afternoon of golf, and the first place trophy was won by the team led by active member Jaron Pesicka (ΑΓ 1969).



Then, on Saturday, October 22, following the 108th Annual Dakota Days Parade, brunch was hosted at 327 North Pine where over 50 of our alumni were able to mingle with members of the active chapter. After some brief remarks from then-Interim High Alpha Ethan Riswold (ΑΓ 1978) and an update from High Pi Tyler Tordsen (ΑΓ 1863), the leader of our "Home Away From Home" *continued on next page*

Active Chapter News (continued)

campaign Nick Bratvold (AF 1881) presented the latest figures in our fundraising efforts for the construction of our brand new chapter house. He reported that since July 2021, Alpha-Gamma Zeta has raised over \$3 million from over 200 of our brothers that will go toward the new house, and that construction is expected to be complete by Fall 2024 Rush Week. From there, our alumni and active members proceeded to the annual tailgate party and homecoming football game at the Dakota Dome.

Our Dakota Days activities were finally capped off by a wine tasting and buffet dinner held at the Valiant Vineyards Winery. Without a

doubt, this past Dakota Days was one of the most robust and fun-filled years yet, and it was great to see so many of our most distinguished alumni in Vermillion for the last Dakota Days at our beloved Brown House!

Lambda Chi Alpha-Pi Beta Phi Haunted House a Smashing Success

On the evenings of October 27 and 28, our chapter, in conjunction with the Pi Beta Phi sorority, hosted its annual Haunted House fundraiser.

Almost 650 USD students and Vermillion residents alike were treated to a dizzying maze of screams and scares as both Lambda Chi's and Pi Phi's dressed as characters from the TV anthology series "American Horror Story," jumped out from various areas of our house in a terrifying display of horror. In total, we raised \$7,164



for Feeding South Dakota in ticket sales for this event—a resounding success and a very fun few nights for our last Haunted House hosted at the Brown House!

Alpha Gamma 2000 to be Designated at Upcoming Initiation Week

During the week of January 2-8, 2023, eight of our eleven new Associate Members will formally initiate into our chapter and receive their individual Alpha-Gamma designations. One of these eight AMs will receive the once-in-a-lifetime honor of becoming the 2000th Alpha-Gamma in our chapter. Our AMs are very excited to initiate and are looking forward to I-Week before the Spring semester begins!

New Officers Elected for 2023

- High Alpha: Max Mickelson (Sioux Falls, SD)
- High Beta: Zach Ciurej (Papillion, NE)
- High Theta: Seth Knoer (Spencer, IA)
- High Gamma: Hari Kadarkaraisamy (Vermillion, SD)
- High Tau: Karter Knaack (Correctionville, IA)
- High Iota: Colin Carstens (Correctionville, IA)
- High Kappa: Isaih Schott (Sioux Falls, SD)
- High Delta: Triston Curry (Pierre, SD)
- High Phi: Carter Norris (Correctionville, IA)
- High Sigma: Eli Crane (Sioux Center, IA)
- High Epsilon: Carter Shackleton (Rapid City, SD)
- High Rho: Griffin Petersen (Onida, SD)
- House Manager: Logan Stone (Dell Rapids, SD)
- High Jock: Jakob Logan (Irene, SD)
- At-Large Executives: Colin Carstens & Ethan Riswold (Dell Rapids, SD)
- Alternate Executive: Reed Lenker (Omaha, NE)

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Active Chapter News (continued)

Active Members Say Λ X Λ Helped Them Get Jobs/Internships

According to a survey conducted among members of our chapter, nine of our 35 active members reported getting jobs and internships as a result of being a Lambda Chi. These include referrals from active members and alumni as well as through connections made from our vast alumni network.

Five members reported getting one job or internship, while four reported getting two. We are so proud of our active members for pursuing employment opportunities and are so grateful to our incredible alumni network for helping our actives achieve success in the professional world!

SDSU-USD Chapters Run 130 Total Miles in Annual Football Run



In the week leading up to the USD-SDSU football game on October 8, the Λ ΓΖ chapter conducted its yearly Football Run along SD Highway 19 in conjunction with our brothers from SDSU. Our chapter set the curve for mileage, running 71 miles to SDSU's 59, giving us a total

of 130 miles ran. In terms of fundraising, SDSU outraced our chapter with a total of \$1,850 raised, while we fell just short of our \$500 goal. Both chapters raised a combined total of over \$2,000, all of which was donated to Feeding South Dakota.

Our chapter is very proud of all the work our brothers put into this fundraiser every year and it shows how much fun we can have while giving back to the communities we love!

Winter Fun



Active Chapter News (continued)

New Associate Members

- Wayne Boerner (Overland Park, KS)*
- Cody Burris (Sellersburg, IN)*
- Nicholas Diersen (Brookings, SD)*
- Cedric Garcia (Vermillion, SD)*
- Hari Kadarkaraisamy (Vermillion, SD)*
- Karter Knaack (Correctionville, IA)*
- Jakob Logan (Irene, SD)*
- Macagen Moser (Vermillion, SD)*
- Griffin Petersen (Onida, SD)*
- Jakob Powell (Pierre, SD)*
- James (Pierce) Sword (Custer, SD)*



USD saw big enrollment increase in 2022

After worrying drops in enrollment in 2020 and 2021, USD has returned to pre-pandemic enrollment levels, growing 7.7% to 9,856 students according to a report from the South Dakota Board of Regents.

This was the largest percentage growth of any public university in South Dakota. The average was just under 1%.

USD enrollment had hovered around 10,000 for the ten years prior to Covid-19, reaching a high of 10,284 in 2012. For comparison, the 1969 enrollment was 5,072 according to the USD course catalog provided by Dr. Daniel Palmer, Associate Vice President for Institution-

al Research. Although headcount criteria have slightly changed over time, there are roughly twice as many students at USD now than in the 1960s.

Women make up 63% of undergrads, with men at 37%, which has changed dramatically over the decades. It still amounts to 3647 men at USD, higher in total numbers than in the past.

The report also stated that USD experienced a record-setting retention rate of 81.7%, showing that students (and the university) are more serious about finishing the degrees they start (it had been 72% in 2017).

Why I Choose to Give Back

The Housing Corporation officers and Building Committee members have donated hundreds of hours over the last six years to this campaign. Some have also made in-kind donations of their construction, financing, legal, communications, and fundraising expertise.

Here are some of the reasons why they have chosen to give back to our Lambda Chi chapter at USD.

Ken Duncan (AG 993)

— Some men I don't even know created the Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. My first introduction was as an 11 year old when I visited my brother David in the mid-60s and saw first hand fraternity life in the 60s. Fast forward to the early-mid 70s, wow, fraternity life was different—no house mom, just a group of boys learning how to live together and become men. Men who learned how to live together and work through issues all the while also enjoying life and being a student at USD.



For me these relationships established during this time are lasting a lifetime and have been there for me during some very difficult life events.

The current house is unlivable as-is and will slowly, unfortunately, disappear from our history and will not be there for the current and future young boys seeking to become men. I am making a contribution as the "House" is a place to gather for both alumni and actives, and Lambda Chi Alpha is a fraternity worthy of continuing to develop young men.

Terry Schmidt (AG 984) — Prior to the centennial event in 2016, I had been almost totally uninvolved with LXA. I sent my annual dues in once in a while.

During, and following that event, I've reconnected with brothers that I hadn't seen or talked to in more than 40 years. Once I got involved in the alumni governance process, I've reconnected with more of my old buddies and developed a whole new set friendships from among brothers of different generations.



I always knew that I was privileged to kind of grow up in college, in the midst of all of this talent and around all these leaders. I knew it was beneficial to me, but the full impact of my Lambda Chi experience didn't become obvious until I got to see all these guys in action, trying to figure out what to do with our little fraternity. This is a pretty amazing bunch of guys. The entire process has been a joy.

When it got down to it, writing a check for this project turned out to be pretty easy. My wife, Brenda, did not attend USD, and I've been particularly gratified that she is as enthusiastic as I am about this commitment. This project feels right, and we can't wait to see the final product.

Nick Bratvold (AG 1881)

— I give because Lambda Chi saved my life and introduced me to many of my closest friends. Lambda Chi continues to positively and significantly affect the lives of young men—and our home at 327 North Pine is where it all begins.



Editorial

Roger Mjoen

AF 790

Alpha Gamma

Housing Corp

Board

Everything happens for a reason!

It was Saturday, October 5, 2019, I just parked my car at the Brown House on my way to the 10:00AM parade start time for the 105th Annual Dakota Day Parade. Unfortunately for me, this was the first year USD moved up the parade start time to 9:00AM, which allowed Coyote Nation more time for tail gating outside the Dakota Dome prior to kickoff.

Needless-to-say I missed the parade, so I made the best of it by touring 327 North Pine from the 3rd floor to the basement prior to the annual LCA House Corporation lunch meeting.

The tour was a double-edged sword, I reminisced about the good times living in the Brown House and I felt sad observing the current condition of every floor in the House. My Dakota Days 2019 top to bottom tour of the Brown House was the last time I did a walkthrough of the entire House.

I was not going to stay for the House Corp lunch meeting, but something inside me wanted to know what was being done about the condition of the Brown House and I decided to stay for the meeting, which was a game changer!

When it was time for the Treasurer's report, Brother Randy Sorensen (AF 989), who I did not know and who I would not meet until Dakota Days 2021, stood up and gave his report, which was my Eureka Moment!

Randy's report included the following: "If you look at the demographics of our alumni, the majority is from the sixties and seventies. We have this bubble in our alumni from those years and many won't be here ten and twenty years from now. If we do not get a new house built now, we probably never will because we will not have the muscle in the alumni to get it done. Our house and our legacy of producing these great leaders will be gone."

After Dakota Days 2019, upon my arrival home, I made a call to Brother Jeff Esbenshade (AF 757) to see if anyone from



Roger Mjoen (AF 790), Vicki Mjoen, and Pat Seager (AF 847) at Valiant Vineyards in Vermillion for D-Days 2021.

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Editorial

Roger Mjoen

ΑΓ 790

Alpha Gamma

Housing Corp

Board

(continued)

the Class of 1970 was Chairing our Fifty-Year Class Reunion at Dakota Days 2020. Jeff indicated he did not know of anyone, so I volunteered my services for a Fifty-Year Class Reunion including the Classes of 1968 through 1972 in-an-attempt to do a dive into the demographics of the SIXTIES alumni.

A funny thing happened on the way to the forum, COVID raised its ugly head resulting in a one-year lock down which canceled Dakota Days 2020.

The key to life is how well you deal with Plan B!

The SIXTIES 50 Year Reunion's Plan B was an attempt to do a deep dive into the demographics of the SIXTIES alumni by expanding the period from four years to the entire SIXTIES Decade plus the Class of '71 and '72.

Brother Dick Brown (ΑΓ 688) was instrumental in expanding the SIXTIES deep dive to include the whole decade as he had acquired a copy of every USD Yearbook for the period 1958 through 1972 from the USD Library.

When Brother Logan Lamphere (ΑΓ 1596), Editorial Alumni Association Director came on board, he was instrumental in getting Capital Campaign information out to the demographics of our alumni via videos produced and Alpha Gamma Newsletter generated.

Brother Nick Bratvold (ΑΓ 1881), Alumni Council Chairman, what can I say, he's the best, keeps us motivated and moving onward and upward, communicating with the demographics until we cross the finish line.

It's been a fantastic three year run and I've loved every minute of it, as unique as it is, working with Brothers from every era!

Technology keeps the communication line open and flowing and LCA Brotherhood keeps the Comradery flowing. Roger Mjoen, ΑΓ 790

Changing of the Guard

From 2020 to 2022, Gary Welter has served as our Housing Corp President during a difficult time for the undergrads as they faced the global Covid-19 pandemic in Vermillion.

Thank you Gary for maintaining the building at 327 N. Pine Street and watching our expenses during the last two years!



*Gary Welter (ΑΓ 966)
outgoing Housing Corp
President*

Terry Schmidt agreed this fall to be our next Alpha Gamma Zeta Housing Corp President, as we plan to transition from the maintenance of our 91-year-old building, to the construction of our new chapter house, along with monitoring interim housing for the undergrads.



*Terry Schmidt (ΑΓ 984)
incoming Housing Corp President*

Naples, Florida, Winter Reunion March 18

Join us in sunny Southwest Florida on Saturday, March 18, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Cypress Woods Golf Club. A nice prix-fixe menu will be offered for only \$22 (paid on site).



Although the event is business casual, colored shirts are required at the club. Agenda:

- 11:00 a.m. – 11:30a.m. Socializing and reviewing new house architect renderings
- 11:30a.m. – 12:00p.m. Home Away From Home capital campaign update
- 12:00p.m. – 2:00p.m. Noon Brunch

Following the event, "Northern" attendees can enjoy a SW Florida afternoon of fun-in-the-sun. Hosted by Roger Mjoen, Jeff Williams and Jim Abbott, we hope to see alumni and spouses this winter!

Founders Day—April 15, 2023

The Active Chapter invites all Alumni to Founders Day 2023 on Saturday, April 15, 2023, in Sioux Falls (venue TBD).

Annual scholarships and awards will be presented, and a Home Away From Home campaign update will be given. Stay tuned for more info!

Annual Winter Reunion in Mesa, Arizona, March 23

The tradition continues of Lambda Chi's meeting up in the Phoenix area for a winter reunion. Hosted by Brother Rich Hinseth (ΑΓ 995), this year's reunion will once again be held Thursday, March 23, 4:00 PM – 9:00 PM MST, at the Red Mountain Ranch Country Club in Mesa (eastern Phoenix).



The evening will include a cocktail hour, dinner, and an update on the Home Away From Home capital campaign.

If you have any questions, contact Rich Hinseth at 605-390-2093 or rohinseth13@gmail.com.

Mark your calendars—we will send out an RSVP closer to the event.

Dakota Days 2023, October 7

D-Days 2023 has been set for October 7! We have already reserved rooms and the banquet hall at the Buffalo Run Winery (Valiant Vineyards).

The Class of '73 will be holding their 50th, and we welcome groups from '83, '93, '03, and 2013. We can help with logistics and communications—we just need volunteers who can help round up brothers. Contact Logan: llampher@hotmail.com.

Sioux Falls “Bored” meetings

Brother Nick Magera (ΑΓ 1269) continues to organize monthly “Bored Meetings” (happy hours) for Sioux Falls area alumni. If you happen to be in town, join them! They get a nice mix of Brothers from different eras.

The informal event rotates around to different Sioux Falls establishments on the first Wednesday of each month at 6p.m..

You can email Nick at magera@sio.midco.net to get on his mailing list.

The 2023 Sioux Falls “Bored” Meetings are tentatively scheduled for the following dates, with locations to be announced:

- January 4
- February 1
- March 1
- April 5
- May 3
- June 7

Lost Brothers: 2000s

If you know the whereabouts of these brothers, please let Logan Lamphere know at alphagammatetaaa@gmail.com or 605-490-0732. We currently do not have email or a physical addresses for them. Also, please let me know about any deceased brothers, as I would like to reprint their obituaries here.

ΑΓ #	First Name	Last Name	Initiation Year
1,747	Anthony	Bullis	2000
1,759	Justin	Iverson	2000
1,760	Jeffrey	Kennedy	2000
1,763	Scott	Beckman	2002
1,767	Dave	Gilles	
1,770	Ryan	Lenhof	
1,776	Christopher	Douglas	2002
1,784	Jesse	Voyles	2003
1,799	Adam	Stoddard	2004
1,813	Ricky	Elliott	2006
1,826	Craig	Regnier	2007
1,992	Paul	Heth	

Refer prospective members

Do you have a son, nephew, brother or neighbor that is going to USD? Would they be a good Lambda Chi? Let High Pi Tyler Tordsen know at tyler.tordsen@gmail.com.

What are we looking for in a prospective member? According to our national fraternity, we look for men with:

- scholastic aptitude
- leadership potential
- strength of character
- dedication to service

At USD, we have always added in friendliness and sociability; is this someone we would want to live with in the house? Are they a “good guy”?

There is also a way to refer prospective members online, even at other colleges and universities: www.lambdachi.org/refer-a-brother/.

Furthermore, according to the National Fraternity, “Letters of recommendation submitted to the Chapter by an alumnus on behalf of a prospective member should be courteously acknowledged by the recruitment chairman. It is then the responsibility of the recruitment chairman to notify the alumnus of the outcome of the recruitment period.”



Join our LinkedIn group

Are you looking for a new job? Perhaps your company is facing the infamous labor shortage affecting the country. Connect with Lambda Chi’s from USD on LinkedIn!

We have a group on LinkedIn, the business networking site, just for Lambda Chi’s from USD. This could be a good way to find that new job or fill that open position!

To join, go to: [inkedin.com/groups/6629299/](https://www.linkedin.com/groups/6629299/).

E.Y. Berry Library Renovation at Black Hills State University

E.Y. Berry (AF 504) was the US Representative from South Dakota's 2nd District, from 1951 to 1971. Berry became an Honorary Alpha Gamma Initiate in 1952.

The library at Black Hills State University in Spearfish is named for our alumnus. The E.Y. Berry Library-Learning Center, which was first constructed in 1973, is planning a \$9.7 million renovation. A large addition is planned on the second floor, with views of Spearfish and Look-out Mountain.



E. Y. Berry Library at Black Hills State University in Spearfish is undergoing a major renovation. Berry (AF 504) was a U.S. Representative from 1951 to 1971. (Photo from bhsu.edu)

E.Y. Berry served ten terms as a Republican from West River, back when South Dakota had two Congressional Districts. According to Black Hills State's website, "he served on the House Interior and Insular committee as well as the Foreign Affairs committee. He worked to pass legislation to help farmers and the betterment of conditions for Native Americans."

Upon his retirement from Congress in 1971, he and his wife Rose returned to their Black Hills home in Hisega and he donated his Congressional Papers to the library at Black Hills State.

Born in 1902, he grew up in Philip, attended Morningside College, and graduated from the University of South Dakota School of Law in



In this relatively well-known photo, South Dakota's congressional delegation in the 87th U.S. Congress is pictured, half of whom were Lambda Chi's.

L-R: Ellis Y. Berry (AF 504), Joseph H. Bottum (AF 96), Karl E. Mundt, and Ben Reifel. (Photo from Office of U.S. Sen. John Thune)

1927. He died in Rapid City in 1999, two months after his wife Rose.

Tordsen elected to SD House

District 14

Tyler Tordsen (AF 1863) was elected in November to the South Dakota House of Representatives from District 14, which represents southeastern Sioux Falls.



Originally from Rapid City, Tordsen is an enrolled member of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Sioux Tribe, and has been our chapter's High Pi for several years.

*Housing Corp
Treasurer's Letter*

*Randy "Zeke"
Sorensen,
AG 989*



A Letter to the Alpha Gamma Zeta Alumni

Brothers,

As we wrap up another year, I wanted to take a moment to send you this message. First, I want to thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer. It has served as a dual purpose for me both causing a reconnection with many of my friends from college, and also introducing me to many new Brothers.

Some I have served with who are engaged in Board and Committees that are working to support our organization and many who have attended some of our meetings and events. It is nice to know that our fraternity continues to produce great members generation after generation. I wish I would have known many of you before, I have found our members are cut from the same cloth as those who I attended school with. Good people and some of the biggest contributors in our society. Makes me proud to be a brother with all of you.

Second, for many years I have chastised myself a bit for not being a better brother when I was an active. I had friends outside the fraternity that I spent a lot of time with, and am still friends with, but did not realize how important the fraternity was to me back then. I did not serve as an officer; I had limited time at the house my Junior and Senior year though I kept my core group of friends in the fraternity. Like many, I find that as I get older (67) the more I need and cherish the people I knew when I was younger.

This also makes me realize how much I missed out on not spending more time at the house. I am finding that maybe I am a better alumnus than I was an active and am feeling good about serving the fraternity now.

Thank you! Brother is not just a word I use anymore; it feels literally so.

I also serve during a most critical time of our history. I know that we can never forget the Herculean efforts by Jeff Esbenshade and Dave Landry to save our fraternity and keep it alive in years past. We were down to almost zero members, and they pulled us through. But now is another critical time in our history.

I think all of us from the sixties and seventies graduated and left expecting our hey days to continue automatically. Almost none of us have gotten involved in recruitment in any form and our fraternity faded. So now our house is old and worn and is working against our recruiting efforts more than helping.

If you look at the demographics of our alumni,

continued on next page

*Housing Corp
Treasurer's Letter*

*Randy "Zeke"
Sorensen
(continued)*

the majority is from the sixties and seventies. We have this bubble in our alumni from those years and many won't be here ten and twenty years from now. If we do not get a new house built now, we probably never will because we will not have the muscle in the alumni to get it done. Our house and our legacy of producing these great leaders will be gone.

Many feel that we no longer have, or can have, the fraternity we used to have. Some of that is true, some not. Yes, it is different. Kids are different. Reality is different. We used to eat together, sing together, and live in a house with 45 guys. Now, student schedules don't revolve around a common breakfast time and noon hour. Everyone lives a more virtual life and schedule. More classes are online and virtual as well. Many of our new members have grown up in a more affluent society and have always had their own room and are not as comfortable with how we used to live with group showers and no internet. But that does not mean that these guys today don't bond together and become great guys like many of us did.

I have gotten to know some of our new members. I am from Parker and was recently there visiting family and found out the entire active chapter was down the street at one of our alumni's house, Mike Miller, having a party and shooting trap off his back porch. They were all there together, 50 miles from the fraternity house, enjoying time together and you could see they were good friends. Think how hard it would have been back in our day to get the entire house coordinated to something like that. Yes, we did it in packs, but not the entire house. In some ways they are closer as a chapter because there are fewer of them. I was impressed.

So, I give, of my time and am donating what I can. It is now, or never and I do not want to let this effort fail. I owe this fraternity for what I experienced and where it has taken me. I will make sure I give both annually to the operating funds and have pledged and donated to the Capital Campaign.

In closing, I will leave you with this. I challenge each of you to consider what I have written here and reflect on your own situation. In addition to my initial pledge, I am offering to match anyone's new pledge donation up to \$5,000 starting now. Bring it boys! Let's get this done.

Your brother in the bond,

Randy "Zeke" Sorensen, AF 989

Treasurer, rsorensen4@mac.com

Annual Housing Corp Budget

Randy Sorensen (AG 989) has been busy handling all finances for the Alpha Gamma Zeta House Corporation in addition to the Home Away From Home capital campaign. To remain transparent with the brotherhood, he has reported the budget from the last 2022 fiscal year (January 1—December 31). Your annual alumni donations go to these Housing Corps expenses and alumni activities. THANK YOU!

This statement also includes both AGZ Capital Donations (monies already received for the Home Away From Home campaign) and Education Fund donations (which are tax-deductible for qualifying education-related building costs).

This statement does *not* include our scholarship funds managed by the USD Foundation, from which we award about \$30,000 in scholarships each year.

Statement of Activity January 1 - December 7, 2022

	TOTAL
Revenue	
Investments	0.00
Dividend, Interest (Deposits)	3,277.02
Total Investments	3,277.02
LXA Education Foundation Income	25.47
New Housing Project Donations	0.00
Restricted Donations	0.00
AGZ Capital Cash Donations	14,351.00
AGZ Capital Pledge Donations	858,200.00
Ed Fund Received Donations	138,267.94
Education Foundation Pledge Donations	0.00
Total Restricted Donations	1,010,818.94
Total New Housing Project Donations	1,010,818.94
Program Income	0.00
Chapter House Rental Income	21,900.00
Membership Annual Donations	25,105.00
Total Program Income	47,005.00
Special Events Income	0.00
Special Events Contributions	600.00
Total Special Events Income	600.00
USD Foundation Donations / Changes	-89,511.32
Total Revenue	\$972,215.11
GROSS PROFIT	\$972,215.11

continued on next page

Annual Housing Corp Budget (continued)

Expenditures	
Balance Adjustments	-1,010.65
Contract Services	0.00
Accounting Fees	150.00
Education Foundation Fees	45,000.00
Total Contract Services	45,150.00
Facilities and Equipment	0.00
Equip Rental and Maintenance	180.00
Property Insurance	11,157.68
Real Estate, Personal Prop Tax	5,097.81
Repairs & Maintenance	688.68
Appliances	180.00
Electrical	239.80
Lawn Care and Grounds	15.98
Radiators	350.00
Total Repairs & Maintenance	1,474.46
Total Facilities and Equipment	17,909.95
<hr/>	
	TOTAL
LXA Education Foundation Expens	617.95
Operations	0.00
Bank Charges	5.00
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	303.04
Computer & Internet Expenses	651.33
Credit Card Fees	1,493.60
Mortgage Interest	1,395.72
Postage, Mailing Service	198.25
Printing and Copying	6,947.14
Total Operations	10,994.08
Other Types of Expenses	0.00
Tax	45.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	45.00
QuickBooks Payments Fees	32.00
Total Expenditures	\$73,738.33
NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$898,476.78
NET REVENUE	\$898,476.78

If you have any questions, please contact Alpha Gamma Zeta Housing Corp Treasurer Randy Sorensen at rsorensen4@mac.com or 317-513-5557.

Omega

Wayne Bridenstine, 74, of Bixby, OK, died Wednesday, November 9, 2022.

*Wayne Bridenstine,
AG 776*

Wayne was born in Tacoma, Washington, to Paul and Margaret Conrad Bridenstine, October 8, 1948.



His father was employed by the Milwaukee Railroad; therefore the family was often transferred. Wayne began Kindergarten in Sioux City, Iowa, attending other grades in Horicon, Wisconsin, Savanna, Illinois, Perry, Iowa, graduating from high school in Mobridge, South Dakota.

After graduation Wayne attended the University of South Dakota majoring in math and then receiving his Masters in Business Administration. While at the University he was a member of the Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity where he met lifelong friends.

Meeting Jane Tuntland his senior year in Mobridge, SD, they met again at the University and were married in 1971. To this union were born two boys, John Russell, and James Frederick.

Wayne spent his career in finance, beginning with Ford Motor Company in Michigan. He continued his career with Miller Brewing Company where he was Controller for their container division in Fort Worth, TX, and then to Tulsa, OK, working for a company-owned Miller distributorship. He retired with Weyerhaeuser, in Federal Way, WA. In retirement, he and his wife returned to Tulsa, OK. He continued to work with his own business, Mobius, dealing with mortgages and notes.

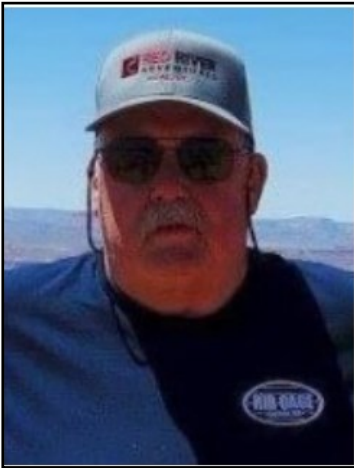
Wayne was always interested in politics. He got involved in a number of campaigns, including his son's campaigns in Oklahoma. Throughout his life, he was active in Boy Scouts and was a member of Kirk of the Hills.

He leaves his wife Jane, two sons, John (Julie) and Jim (Michelle) and 6 grandchildren, Brandy, Ben, Beau, Walker, Sarah and Grant. He also leaves his brother, Jim (Kathy) of Osakis, MN, his nephew, Shane and niece Sunny and their families.

Re-published from Tulsa World on Nov. 13, 2022.

Omega

*Peter Emil "Pete"
Binder,
AF 786*



Mr. **Peter Emil "Pete" Binder**, 74, died Friday, October 21, 2022, at Baptist Memorial Hospital – Memphis. A memorial service will be held Friday, October 28, 2022, at 2:00 P.M. in the chapel of Waller Funeral Home with Rev. Fish Robinson officiating. Visitation will be held prior to the service beginning at 1:00 P.M.

Pete was born August 4, 1948, to the late Jim Sr and Frey Binder. He was a retired Federal Investigator for the Department of Justice U.S. Attorney's Office. Working with the Ole Miss Athletics Department Security Staff, Pete had a natural love of all Ole Miss sports and was honored to help keep all sporting events safe for fans and players alike. While he loved the Rebels, he was also a devout fan of the St. Louis Cardinals. A trivia buff, Pete always had an interesting fact to share with you, or wanted to go head-to-head to see who knew more. He was a gifted storyteller who could easily command your undivided attention with elaborate stories about his childhood growing up in South Dakota or some funny situation he had gotten himself into. On an evening in the Oxford of old, you might find Pete gathered around a table with friends at The Ribcage on the square, enjoying good food and better company.

Pete is survived by his son, Peter Binder and his wife, Brandi of Oxford, MS; sisters, Mary Binder of Yankton, SD and Ann Binder of Tucson, AZ; brothers, Jim Binder and his wife, Ellen of Yankton, SD and Mike Binder and his wife, Jean of Yankton, SD; as well as two beloved grandchildren, Conner and Collins.

Reprinted from WallerFuneralHome.com

Omega

*Shane Birger,
AF 1792*



Shane Allen Birger, age 43, passed away peacefully on Thursday, November 10, 2022, at Sanford Medical Center surrounded by family.

Shane was born on September 8, 1979, in Mitchell, SD to David & Bonnie (Frei) Birger. Shane graduated from Roosevelt High School in 1998 and went on to the University of South Dakota where he studied business.

On March 19, 2004, Shane married Anastasia Gabel and from this union became a proud father to four children. Shane worked as a bar/restaurant manager for the family business at BB's Pub N Grill. Shane brought so much joy and sunshine to everyone he served there and touched the hearts of so many people.

Shane lived his life to the fullest and had fun no matter how silly he looked. He was the life of the party. He was a true friend to every person he met and loved his friends and family so deeply. Those who knew Shane have been blessed beyond measure by his love, kindness, laughter, and all the countless memories we hold so dear to our hearts. He always had an instinct for making people feel accepted and lent a listening ear to anyone who needed to talk which is why so many people gravitated toward him. He had such a big heart and would give the shirt off his back to anybody. He influenced so many lives in his short life. Even in death, his gift of life lives on in others with the donation of his organs.

Shane was an avid sports fan and especially enjoyed watching the MN Vikings and the MN Twins. He was also a competitor and liked to challenge others to a game of foosball, bowling, pool, darts, and bean bags. Shane enjoyed listening to music, showing off his sweet dance moves, spending summers at the lake cabin, celebrating holidays, and spending time with his family and countless number of friends.

Shane is survived by his four children Michael (18), Bo (16), Jenna (12), and Jaxson (12); his girlfriend, Tia Strom; his father and stepmother, David & Barb Birger; his three siblings, Justin (Laressa) Birger, Traci (Scot) Harvey, and Danielle (Chris) Pilch; step siblings; Jay (Kelly) Yungbluth, Lori (Travis) Olson, Jennifer (Vince) Leno; his many nieces and nephews: Katelyn Arneson, Ethan Harvey, Alexis Birger, Joslyn Birger, Taryn Birger, Shay Harvey, Ally Birger, Sean Harvey; his great niece, Cora; many uncles, aunts, cousins, and so many friends.

Shane is preceded in death by his loving mother, Bonnie Birger; his grandparents Joseph & Gladys Birger, and Robert & Betty Frei.

Our family is forever grateful to all our family and friends for their loving support and endless prayers. We also extend our gratitude to the medical staff at Sanford Medical Center who took such great care of Shane in the last two weeks of his life.

The family has requested that those who attend Shane's visitation and funeral wear their favorite sports attire to honor his memory.

SKOL

Reprinted from Heritage Funeral Home

2022 Alumni Donor Wall

Support your Fraternity – Be an alumnus in good standing!

This donor wall reflects annual donations to the Alpha Gamma Zeta Housing Corp for annual operations, as detailed in the budget on pp18-19. Our fiscal giving year is January 1 through December 31.

Platinum Donor (\$1,000 and above)

Rob Anderson	Alan Pearson	Michael Runge	Thomas "Stormy" Storms
Roger Mjoen	Dan Rausch	Scott Shoppert	Memorial

Gold Donor (\$500 - \$999)

E Paul Amundson	David Gardner	Jerome Lammers	Victor G Raphael
Bill Baker	Ralph (Van) Hines	James A Mundt	Fred Romkema
Dennis Daugaard	Steven J Holm	Charles A Nelson	John Smedsrud
Doyle Estes	Kurt E Johnson	Don Patnoe	Tim Teslow

Silver Donor (\$250 - \$499)

Clark Absher	Garrett Cox	Thomas Loofe	Michael Schurrer
Robert (Rob) Barron	Ron Dvorak	G. Mark Mickelson	David W. Siebrasse
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Allen B Brown	Bill Grant	James Rubendall	Adam Swick
Thomas Conway	David G Hurrell	Kendall A. Schmidt	Charles Wetzeler

Bronze Donor (\$100 - \$249)

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Brant DeKruif	Robert Karlen	Harrison Smith	
Blake Duerre	Ken Kopetsky	Ted Steinkogler	

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

Greg Arens	Patrick L Gulbranson	Dennis Mitchell	Danny Smeins
Wayne Bridenstine	Stephen Hebert	Daniel Murphy	Uldis Sutka
James R Buchanan	Clark Hurrell	David W Siebrasse	Stuart VanMeveren
Lawrence Dorr	Ryker Lammers	John S Slaba	

Thank you for your annual donations!

Archives

The Alpha Gamma Fellowship Archives

[Volume 1 : Issue 1 \(2018\)](#)

[Volume 1 : Issue 2 \(2018\)](#)

[Volume 1 : Issue 3 \(2018\)](#)

[Volume 2 : Issue 1 \(2019\)](#)

[Volume 2 : Issue 2 \(2019\)](#)

[Volume 3 : Issue 1 \(2020\)](#)

[Volume 3 : Issue 2 \(2020\)](#)

[Volume 3 : Issue 3 \(2020\)](#)

[Volume 4 : Issue 1 \(2021\)](#)

[Volume 4 : Issue 2 \(2021\)](#)

[Volume 5 : Issue 1 \(2022\)](#)



Donor Card



Lambda Chi Alpha @ USD 2023 Alumni Donor Card (Jan 1-Dec 31)

- Platinum Donor - \$1000 and above
- Gold Donor - \$500 and above
- Silver Donor - \$250 - \$499
- Bronze Donor - \$100 - \$249
- Annual Alumni Dues - \$50

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

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Please make checks payable to: **"Alpha Gamma Zeta House Corporation"**

Alpha Gamma Zeta House Corporation
% Randy Sorensen, Treasurer
1317 Helford Lane
Carmel, IN 46032

Thank you for your donation!

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Lambda Chi Alpha
at
The University of South Dakota