





Stories Inside

Capital Campaign Up-

The Alpha Gamma Fellowship

for Lambda Chi Alpha Alpha Gamma Zeta Alumni Association

Volume 6 | Issue 1

Summer 2023

After careful consideration, the Housing Corp Board votes to raze old house

The Alpha-Gamma Zeta Housing Corporation Board voted unanimously on June 11 to proceed with razing the old house after July 4.

Ever since the 2019 Spencer Ruff & Assoc. engineering report, we've been on a countdown to getting our undergraduate brothers out of the building.

A number of additional factors helped the Board determine that now was the right time:

House is no longer safe—while great care has been taken to ensure building safety during the entire history of our chapter house, the Board no longer believes the house to be safe for our Undergraduate Members.

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The original Alpha Phi letters above the front door at 327 N. Pine Street (Brandon Wilsey)

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> Editor: Logan Lamphere (AF 1596)

Final construction cost comes in higher than hoped

The Building Committee, chaired by Mike Runge (AF 1379), has worked diligently over the last year to obtain a construction cost that would meet our initial fundraising goals and achieve a mortgage-free outcome post construction. After a competitive bidding process and several design iterations, the construction

Razing the House (continued)

Upcoming maintenance costs—we must replace the boiler and have a number of other high cost repairs coming due

High insurance costs—our insurance rates have drastically increased, and if the house was left empty, rates would rise even more.

Vermillion codes precludes a remodel—we discovered on April 21 that had we pursued a remodel, we would not have been able to meet Vermillion City Codes (§ 155.083 NON-CONFORMING USES AND STRUCTURES. (F) No existing nonconforming use or structure shall be enlarged, moved, or structurally altered except to change to a permitted use. This is not to include normal repairs and maintenance, which do not enlarge, move or structurally alter a nonconforming use. (Ord. 1189, passed 7-7-2008; Am. Ord. 1409, passed 12-2-2019)).

Actives won't live in it next Fall—the Active Chapter informed us before the end of the Spring 2023 semester that none of them intended on living in the old house next fall, citing safety and cleanliness concerns.

High construction costs (continued)

costs to build the new House are coming in at \$3.5 million versus our initial projections of \$3.0 million.

With additional costs such as furnishing, fundraising, and potential bridge loan interest, we need to better close the gap before we begin construction.

With your help, we hope we can pay off the bridge loan soon after the construction has been completed, without taking on a long-term mortgage.

A more detailed look at our financial model from our Finance Committee led by Randy Sorensen (A Γ 989) will be forthcoming in the next month. The Building Committee continues to work industriously to find ways to stay in budget. Detailed construction costs will also be communicated as we solidify them.

We are so fortunate to have construction and finance professionals on our team!

Help us meet our goal by donating at <u>Lambda-ChiAlphaAtUSD.org!</u> Consider extending your pledge through 2025 or accelerating your pledges to help us over the finish line!



Brandon Wilsey (AF 1653) led a team on June 17 to take out all remaining furniture and trash. Zach Ciurej (Active -AF 1990), Griffin Petersen, (Active-AF 1998), Rob Anderson (AF 1019), Darrell Mueller (AF 979), and Neil Fossum (AF 1681) helped move out 15 couches, 20 air conditioning units, assorted tables and chairs, all the kitchen and pantry contents, all closet contents, and countless garbage cans full of trash. Wilsey plans one more work day on June 24. (Brandon Wilsey)

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 June 16, 2023.
- Ω Denotes a Brother who has passed away.
- This list does not include 2023 annual donors to the Housing Corporation for regular house operations; that list is published on Page 22.
- 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+

Michael L. May AΓ 1467	Robert E. Anderson AF 1019	James W. Abbott AF 782
Michael J. Runge AΓ 1379	Kenneth Duncan A	James F. Hart A 656
G. Mark Mickelson AF 1337	David J. Gardner A ₹ 938	
Harry D. Roberts AF 1185	Roger W. Mjoen AF 790	
	\$50,000 - \$99,999	
E. Paul Amundson AΓ 1213	Louis H. Hogrefe AF 806	Douglas L. Estes AΓ 684
Harry Christianson A € 889	Doyle D. Estes AΓ 805	
Brian Darnall A 808	Edward J. Pluimer AF 803	

Home Away From Home Campaign Donor Wall (continued)

Corey H. Peters AF 1471

Chris E. Ekstrum AF 1448

Jeffrey W. Post AΓ 1445

Karl Adam AF 1330

Nicholas J. Magera AF 1269

John Lake AF 1177

William L. Baker A ☐ 1145

\$25,000 - \$49,999

Bradley D. Hammer AΓ 1053

Kevin D. Horner AΓ 1026

Kevin Garvin A

□ 1021

Scott Heidepriem AF 1018

Roger Werth A

□ 1017

Mark Knight AΓ 1004

Kevin P. Brady AF 999

Ω Brad Gullickson AΓ 996

Terry M. Schmidt A ☐ 984

Alan K. Pearson AΓ 972

Jeffrev K. Williams AF 947

Van Hines AF 844

Robert Murphy AF 773

David R. Gienapp AF 667

Frank L. Trotman A ☐ 643

\$10,000 - \$24,999

Brandon Wilsey AF 1653

Brian Landry AF 1530

Joel L. Konrad AF 1343

Craig Mischo AΓ 1322

J. Tyler Haahr AΓ 1284

David G. Hurrell A 1244

Charles A. Nelson AF 1199

Scott G. Stern AF 1178

Duerre Family

Blake W. Duerre AF 1143

Ω Charles D. Nass A Γ 670

 Ω Faris G. Pfister A Γ 486

Ω Faris F. Pfister A Γ 66

Thomas J. McDowell AF 1141

Douglas Mulder AF 1056

Kevin Whitelock AΓ 1037

Gregg Carlson AΓ 1020

Thomas Bower AΓ 1016

Dan J. Cheever AΓ 1008

Randy J. Sorensen AF 989

Douglas A. Sandvig AF 977

Gordon Peterson A

□ 955

Daniel MacRandall AF 950

James Morrison AF 930

Dennis M. Daugaard AΓ 917

John Wollner AF 915

Thomas J. Schaefer AF 914

David W. Landry A ☐ 867

Marcus Gullickson A € 860

Ω Thomas J. Storms AΓ 787

Richard E. Brown A ↑ 688

Craig E. Knudson A 636

Ω Jerome B. Lammers AΓ 587

Allen B. Brown AΓ 532

Loren Amundson AF 459

Home Away From Home Campaign Donor Wall (continued) \$5,000 - \$9,999

Tordsen Family Quinton J. Tordsen AF 1974 Troy D. Tordsen A \(1876 \) Tyler L. Tordsen AF 1863 **Zachary S. Williams** AF 1893 **Thomas Henderson** AF 1382 **Gavin Zimmerman** AF 1888 Nicholas R. Bratvold A 7 1881 Van J. Carmody AF 1790 Cody J. Siewert AF 1725

Lance Elshere AF 1581 Milo R. Carley AΓ 1465 Jeffrey W. Post AF 1445 Randal J. Osterloo AF 1388 Daniel L. Rausch AF 1365 **Doug Christensen** AΓ 1349 Joe Krall AF 1345 Mark Simmons AF 1339

Michael J. Neuroth AF 1308 Steven Pint AF 1290 **Protexter Family** James R. Protexter AF 1263 William Protexter A ☐ 1130 Thomas B. Burchill AF 1223 Daniel Radigan AF 1035 Stephen L. Hebert AF 941

Thomas F. Truhe AF 924 Ross D. Lamphere AF 888 Curtis J. Liedtke AF 886 **David Padrnos** AΓ 862 Glen A. Severson AF 850 Fred W. Romkema AF 799 Joe Egger AF 796 Charles W. Cooper AF 760 Wilson Kleibacker AF 759

\$1,000 - \$4,999 **Ω Scott Schoppert** AΓ 1267 James Protexter AF 1263 **Brian Stern** AF 1253 Tim Teslow AF 1246 Jim Edman AF 1228 Thomas Burchill AF 1223 Steven M. Dexter AF 1198 Benedict G. Mahowald AF 1197 Kevin G. Kane AF 1193 Mark A. Culhane AF 1174 Michael A. Roach AF 1159 John A. Reaney AF 1151 Paul M. Rickert AΓ 1147 Craig Viehweg AF 1146 Jeffrey Jares AΓ 1131 Bill Protexter AΓ 1130 Scott Schuknecht AF 1128 Michael Fox AF 1122 Thomas Kennedv AF 1105 J. Kevin Croston AF 1087 James W. Miller AF 1072 Mark Kontz AF 1062 Carroll Fullerton AF 987 Scott Schaeffer AF 976

Steven Beyer AF 969

Russ Pearson AF 962 Jay Anderson AF 957 William Grant AF 948 Neil Hoversten AF 944 Scott E. Bell AF 943 Doug Lind AF 937 **Ω Greg Smeenk** AΓ 935 Jeffrey Stavenger AF 933 Randall B. Kasch AF 922 Ronald Erickson AF 920 Donald Rusch A ☐ 919 David Bell A F 913 Lyle H. Castle AF 912 Jim Plucker AF 896 **Ω George Sappingfield** AΓ 895 Wesley D. Shelton AF 893 Thomas J. Froning AF 881 Ω Robert Bartz AΓ 874 John Eickman AF 870 Steve Wobbema AF 866 Gary Pommer AF 865 Mike Brummer AF 853 Patrick Seager AF 847

Thomas Assmus AF 831 Roger C. Roskens AF 824 John E. Leuthold AF 821 Leland Hoekstra AF 820 Ω Rick Holm AΓ 810 Thomas Duncan AF 804 Bryan H. Bennett AF 792 Ron Dvorak AF 789 Ω Peter E. Binder A Γ 786 Ted Richardson AF 785 Dean L. Rasmussen AF 781 Kris J. Kober AF 779 Milne J. Duncan AF 772 George Strandell AF 758 Jeff Esbenshade AF 757 Richard Schneider AF 736 Victor G. Raphael AF 726 Thomas V. Conway AF 725 Gerald Baldwin AF 639 Clark Absher AF 633 Jerome Andersen AF 629 **Thomas Johnson** AF 618 Courtland Swenson AF 573 Thomas E. Aman AF 551

Anonymous Anonymous Anonymous Lucas G. J. Lund AΓ 1910 Derek D. McBride AF 1892 James Gulbranson AF 1870 Jordan Schumacher AF 1862 Jordan M. Smith AF 1858 Ryan Griffith AΓ 1822 Jeff Johnson AF 1737 Wade Foreman AΓ 1608 Jeremiah Johnson AF 1601 **Brad G. Delperdang** AF 1595 Tanner Musick AF 1544 Steven Andrzejewski AF 1395 Ryker Lammers AF 1386 James Hieb AF 1369 Robert N. Seuntjens AF 1361 John A. Smedsrud AF 1356 Anthony Macke AF 1351 Joe Smedsrud AF 1281 Gary R. Jaeger AF 1278 Darrell A. Jesse AF 1273

John R. Gulbranson AF 838 Truman A. Schwartz AF 530 Barry Buehler AF 835 5

Chapter Houses over the Years

When we move into our new chapter house, it won't be the first time Alpha-Gamma Zeta has transitioned into a new building. In fact, this will be our fourth home, but it is the first purposebuilt fraternity house in our USD history.

The first home was the C.M. Ruyan house at 101 Prospect Street, two blocks south of campus.



Our first home at 101 Prospect Street, originally just the second floor (~1915 Coyote Year Book)

The second house was almost a mile south of campus at 401 Park Lane on the bluff overlooking the Vermillion and Missouri Rivers. What a

view! But what a walk to campus! Roger Mjoen (AΓ 790) spoke with the current owners in May 2023 and discovered that the previous owners reduced the size by one third because it was "too big," and they added a garage.

Our current chapter house at 327 N. Pine Street was originally



101 Prospect Street apartments today (Roger Mjoen)

built in 1931 as the Alpha Phi Sorority house. We purchased it from the A-Phis in 1937. Jim Hart (AF 656) recalled that his aunt was an A-Phi and had the same room he had above the front door (second floor, first on the right)!

On May 20, Brandon Wilsey (AF 1653), Dave Landry (AF 867), Logan Stone (AF 1979), and Triston Curry (AΓ 1989) met to remove composite photos, plaques, trophies, the fireplace hood, and other items

continued on next page



401 Park Lane today (check out that view to the right!) (Roger Mjoen)

Chapter Houses (continued)

and carefully put them into storage during the construction of our new house.

Upon removing the letters from above the front door, the original Alpha Phi letters were discovered engraved into the keystone. We plan to clean up the stone and present it along with a framed blueprint to the A-Phis during Dakota Days 2023.

Black Hills Mixer August 17

The next Black Hills area mixer will be in Sturgis at the new Sturgis Brewing Company on Thursday, August 17, from 5 to 7 p.m.

The brewery is right off Exit 32 at 600 Anna Street, and has great food and beer, a cool atmosphere, a tree-covered lawn, and is promised to be biker-free by August 17! The crowds will have cleared out, so it will be a nice time to visit Sturgis—and maybe buy some leathers on sale!

The Annex in ~spring 1990. Senior Willings often took place on the steps of the Annex; parking spaces were to the north; a seldom used volleyball court was to the east. (Steve Tumbleson)

The Annex: The Other House

First purchased in 1967 to provide additional housing for members, the Annex across Madison Street from the "Brown House" served the fraternity (pretty) well for over 30 years. Generally used as housing for seniors or fifth-years, the (usually) quieter Annex was a great way to keep upperclassmen engaged with the fraternity without as many loud Thursday night parties outside your bedroom door.

Financially, the Annex was an incredible success, costing us little in the purchase or upkeep, and bringing in another seven to eleven house bills or so. Jeff Esbenshade (A Γ 757) recounts the years of the Annex, which was sold in 2000.

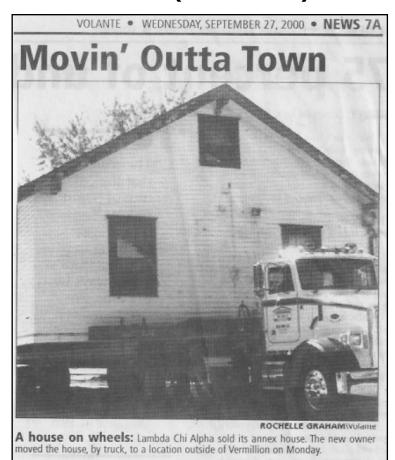
The property was sold to the University for \$42,000 to create additional parking spaces, 15 of which are earmarked for Lambda Chis.

Believe it or not, the Annex lives on! After being purchased for \$1,500, the building was moved to north Greenfield Road by a farmer for his hired man to live in. It has a walk-out basement, new windows, new siding, and French doors that open to the front porch. Esbenshade said that the farmer gave him a tour and that he did a really nice job on the kitchen and bathrooms. Roger Mjoen tried to take a photo, but the trees are too thick from the road.



continued on next page

Annex (continued)





The Annex at its new location in the country, living its best life, on Greenfield Road northeast of Vermillion

Helping Kids Round First

Lambda Chi's continue to be involved in philanthropic projects well after their years at USD. In 2009, Craig Severtson (AF 904) founded "Helping Kids Round First," a non-profit organization that provides baseball equipment and instruction to youth in rural Nicaraguan communities. Baseball is the most popular sport there.

"Baseball has a unique ability to both bring together different cultures and teach life lessons helping to provide a foundation on which to improve lives," according to their website Helping-KidsRoundFirst.org.



Craig Severtson (AF 904) founded "Helping Kids Round First," which provides baseball equipment, health care, education, and farming know-how in Nicaragua (HelpingKidsRoundFirst.org)

Severtson developed the organization as a way to continue professional baseball player Roberto Clemente's legacy of giving underprivileged youth opportunities through baseball. Brother Jim Plucker (A Γ 896) is also on the non-profit's board.

Plucker, who first went to Central America in 1969 on a mission trip, said that over 250 families have gone from dry land farming to irrigated farming, and have built poultry sheds providing fresh eggs for children. Two shipping containers of supplies are sent annually.

Their annual banquet is Thursday, November 16 at the Sioux Falls Hilton Garden Inn. The keynote speaker is John Randle, Hall of Fame defensive tackle for the Minnesota Vikings.

Active Chapter News

Active Chapter Update: A Brotherhood Separated, but Strong

Summertime at last! On behalf of the active Alpha-Gamma Zeta, I hope that the 2023 *Summer Alumni Fellowship* Newsletter finds you well! Just a month and a half ago, we finished another phenomenal school year, leaving campus with fond memories and many accomplishments to be proud of. This past year has been bittersweet for all of us as we said our final goodbyes to our beloved chapter house at 327

North Pine. While we eagerly await the completion of the new house, the majority of our members will be living off campus. While this may separate us physically, rest assured that it will not separate our bond in full.



Our brotherhood remains strong, and we cannot wait to see what new successes are in store for us during the 2023-2024 academic year. Below are just a few quick updates on what our members were up to in the Spring of 2023. As always, it is great to have such a strong and supportive network of alumni who we can always count on for anything. I remain incredibly honored to serve as the liaison between our chapter and its distinguished alumni, and it is my pleasure to keep you informed on all the happenings of the Alpha-Gamma Zeta. Hope you all are having a wonderful summer so far!

—Griffin Petersen, AΓ 1998, High Rho

Lambda Chi Alpha Ranked 2nd in Grades

For the Spring 2023 semester the chapter grade point average of 3.291, which put Lamb-

da Chi Alpha as second overall among USD's seven fraternities. In addition to ranking higher than five other fraternities, the Alpha-Gamma Zeta also had a higher GPA than both the Pi Beta Phi and Alpha Xi Delta sororities.

"I'm so incredibly proud of all our members and their accomplishments in their academics," said High Sigma Eli Crane (AΓ 1994). "Before becoming the High Sigma, I knew we, as a chapter, were all smart guys, and to see us achieve 2nd place is amazing. I know all our brothers have what it takes to achieve 1st place in grades, and I'm looking forward to our academic achievements next year."

After successfully implementing its new academic support plan and continuing its weekly study tables, the active chapter was able to bring its academic ranking from the 5th spot in Fall 2022 to the 2nd spot this past semester. We have had a great year of academics, and we cannot wait to get back into the classroom in the fall!

Three Actives Enlisted in Army National Guard

Three members of the active chapter are currently enlisted in the Army National





Max Mickelson (AΓ 1986) is at Basic Training this summer

elson (AF 1986) and Jordy Martinez (AM) are members of the South Dakota Army National Guard and will be off continued on next page

Active Chapter News (continued)



Jordy Martinez (AM) is at Basic Training this summer

so very proud of our three active members for their service to our country!

Initiation Week Scheduled for August 14-19

Our second initiation week of the year will be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Ver-



Values, we are

Josiah Sholes (AM), Nebraska Army Nat'l .Guard

million on August 14-19. Four of our associate members, Cody Burris (Sellersburg, IN), Nicholas Larson (Council Bluffs, IA), Jordy Martinez (Sioux Falls, SD), and Josiah Sholes (Stanton, NE) will become fully initiated brothers of Lambda Chi Alpha and received Alpha Gamma designations 2006 through 2009. We are so excited for our Associate Members to initiate, and cannot wait for our next I-Week!

Second Annual Watermelon Bash a Great Success

On April 18, the active chapter hosted its Second Annual Watermelon Bash fundraiser in conjunction with our sister sorority Alpha Xi Delta at Prentis Park. Several USD students and Vermillion community members alike were treated to great food, yard games, and a cornhole tournament. In total, we raised over \$700 for the United Way of Vermillion, a local food pantry that serves tens of Vermillion residents every day. It was one of our most successful spring philanthropy events yet, and it was a fun afternoon for all who were involved!



Active Chapter News (continued)

Fall Rush August 28 to September 1

This year's Rush Week will look much different than previous years as USD's Office of Sorority and Fraternity Life (SFL) looks to boost new membership in Greek life during the next academic year.

Instead of holding fall fraternity rush week during the first week of classes like in previous years, it will instead take place during the second week of school, with sorority recruitment set to take place the following week. During the first week of the semester, members of Greek life will instead volunteer at Move-In Day and attend student programming for new freshman as a way of getting to know potential new members ahead of rush events. This plan is all part of an effort by SFL to emphasize 365-day recruitment as opposed to regularly scheduled recruitment times.

While this upcoming rush week will look especially different for the men of Lambda Chi Alpha without our chapter house, we are very excited to welcome the gentleman of USD's Class of 2027, and we remain confident in our ability to attract bright and talented individuals to our brotherhood!

Actives Receive End-of-Year Awards and Nominations

High Alpha Max Mickelson (AF 1986) and High Rho Griffin Petersen (AF 1998) were among the recipients of some of USD's most prestigious awards given at the end of each academic year. Petersen received the Most Outstanding Fraternity New Member of the Year at SFL's annual awards banquet and was one of four nominees for the New Student Leader of the Year Award

at the 2023 Coyote Excellence Awards.

Mickelson received the Outstanding Leadership Award at this year's Coyote Excellence Awards and was nominated for Outstanding Sophomore Man of the Year at SFL's awards. He was also selected as one of three winners of the USD Student Government Association's Student Servitude Award.



High Alpha Max Mickelson (AΓ 1986) received the Outstanding Leadership Award at this year's Coyote Excellence Awards

Additionally, former Interim High Alpha Ethan Riswold (A Γ 1978) was nominated for the Greek Man of the Year Award at the SFL Awards, which honors high-achieving juniors who have distinguished themselves among their chapters and have lived up to the highest ideals of fraternity brotherhood. We are so proud of these brothers for their recognition at the university level and commend them for all their achievements during the 2022-2023 school year!



Tordsen Completes First Session as State Representative; Petersen Serves as Legislative Intern

By High Rho Griffin Petersen (AΓ 1998)

The 98th South Dakota Legislative session came to an end on March 9 as state lawmakers wrapped up their regular work for 2023. While this year's session was held in high regard by many in the South Dakota political sphere, it also stood as a testament to our chapter's continued involvement in the lawmaking process.

Two of our brothers, an active and an alumnus, played integral roles in the success of the 2023 South Dakota legislative session. One of these brothers was Representative Tyler Tordsen (AΓ 1863), a 2015 graduate of USD who currently serves as the High Pi (alumni advisor) of our chapter. Tordsen, who resides in Sioux Falls and works as the Southeast Regional Director at the Office of U.S. Senator Mike Rounds, was elected to represent the people of District 14 in the state House of Representatives in November of 2022. After completing his first session as a legislator, Tordsen had many good things to say about his experience.

"I thought it was awesome. It was very humbling, exciting, chaotic and pretty much everything I expected it to be plus so much more.

Taking my oath, being able to sit on the floor, voting on legislation, and being a part of the process was very cool." Tordsen carried five bills this past session, all of which were approved by both chambers and sent to Governor Noem's desk. The bills dealt with subjects ranging from election security, commerce, tribal relations, and workforce initiatives. However, when asked about what interested him the most

this session, the freshman legislator stated that the budget was what garnered most of his attention and that he was proud to have been a part of the discussion on it.



Representative Tyler Tordsen (AF 1863) and legislative intern Griffin Petersen (AF 1998)

"When the dust had settled, we had delivered a balanced budget that gave tax dollars back to the people and took care of what we needed to take care of." Tordsen was among a small group of legislators under the age of 35 and credits both his education and membership to Lambda Chi Alpha as

Legislative Alumni (continued)

what inspired him to seek public office at such young age.

"When I joined Lambda Chi Alpha, I didn't realize how much of a political legacy we had. I think that our fraternity, our culture, and our people produce leadership qualities among all our brothers. I'd really give credit to USD and Lambda Chi Alpha for the alumni network I was able to meet early on and for giving me so many opportunities to be a leader in a number of different capacities." Tordsen is a former two-term High Alpha of the Alpha-Gamma Zeta and has continued to live by the Seven Core Values of our fraternity, even in his current role as a state representative.

When asked about the values that are most pertinent to serving in the Legislature, Tordsen said candidly, "All of them, really. I think integrity, service and stewardship, and respect would be the three that stand out most. Obviously, there is a sense of duty to it as well. Anyone can have the personal courage to run and throw their name into the mix, but if you are not doing it with integrity and respect for the people you represent, you may have considerably less success."

Despite it being his first year as a member, Tordsen is no stranger to the South Dakota Legislature, having served as an intern for then-Senate Majority Leader Russell Olson (ΑΓ 1479) as a USD junior during the 2013 session. Olson is also an alumnus of Lambda Chi Alpha who helped Tordsen receive "the best internship experience possible." The experience opened up many other job opportunities for him, including

an internship at the governor's office under alumnus Dennis Daugaard (A Γ 917) in the Summer of 2013.

The South Dakota legislative internship program continues to attract service-minded students from colleges and universities across the state. Among this year's pool of interns was me (High Rho Griffin Petersen, AF 1998)! During the session, I was assigned to Majority Leader Will Mortenson of Pierre, and my tasks included conducting policy research, reaching out to constituents for feedback, and assisting the House Republican Caucus with other daily tasks.

I greatly appreciated the opportunity to witness the legislative process firsthand and I very much enjoyed being able to work alongside our current High Pi in the halls of the South Dakota Capitol. Given both of our involvement in the session this year, it is clear that Lambda Chi Alpha continues to produce the next generation of state and national leaders with its robust alumni network and its core teachings!



Join our LinkedIn Group

Are you looking for a new job? Or perhaps your company is hiring?

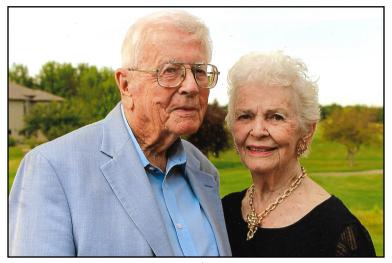
We have a Group on LinkedIn, the business networking site, just for Lambda Chi's from USD. This could be a good way to find that new job or fill that open position!

To join, go to: inkedin.com/groups/6629299/.

Alumni Spotlight: Milt Husby (AΓ 389)

Written down by Milt's daughter Deb Husby, February 2023

Editor's note: Milt is one of our oldest living alumni



Milt Husby (ΑΓ 389) and his wife Mary

Sioux Falls has always been my home except when I was in college or in the service. I graduated from Washington High, then spent two and a half years in the Navy during World War II.

My first year for college was at Augustana. The next year my friend Wayne Townsend (A/ 398) and I decided to go to USD. Later we had the opportunity to pledge Lambda Chi and we joined the fraternity.

Wayne and I moved into the house. At least half of the members at that time were World War II veterans. We had a house mother and a full-time cook. At mealtime we all stood behind our chair until Mrs. Hunt was seated. We were responsible to cook our own breakfast.

We received an honorable mention plaque for a Strollers Act. The fraternities and sororities had a Mother's Day songfest at the park. After much practice we sang "Blue Skies" and we did well. There were parties and dances and other social events and real bonding with others who became lifelong friends.

I later became engaged to Mary Eloise Brown. I graduated in June 1950. The Korean War began a few weeks later and as I was in the Navy Reserve. I received a call that I was recalled for active duty and was assigned to a troop ship. We decided to get married before I went overseas, and Mary moved to San Diego, my home port while I was gone.

The summer of 1952 I was home and found a bookkeeping job at a large printing firm that also sold office furniture and machines. A few years later I was hired to manage the Credit Bureau of Sioux Falls. I retired from the Credit Bureau after about 40 years.

We enjoyed traveling throughout our lives. Wayne and I biked across lowa 25 times in the *Des Moines Register*-sponsored Great Bike Ride Across Iowa. I also skied, swam, played tennis, and racquetball.

We have three children, seven grandchildren, fifteen great-grandchildren and three great-great-grandchildren.

We have lived and continue to live independently in a retirement community for the last eight years where we enjoy a pool, exercise classes, play bridge and fellowship with the other residents.



tions. Twelve brothers reached the rank of Lt.

Colonel or above in the military. We have had a

Rhodes Scholar, a Fulbright Scholar, and one

particularly popular USD President.

Notable Alumni Added to Website

USD's Lambda Chi Alpha chapter has produced successful people in multiple fields covering diverse facets of life for over 100 years. We wanted to call attention to their achievements on our revamped website, LambdaChiAl-

Of course, most of us are familiar with our four brothers that became South Dakota Governors.

phaAtUSD.org.

But did you know that over a dozen brothers have been the president

or CEO of a bank? Numerous doctors have risen to become leaders of their health care organiza-

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA

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Our Leaders >

Our Manual

Events & Newsletters

BUSINESS

MEDICINE & HEALTHCARE

PUBLIC SERVICE

RELIGION

FRATERNITY

VOLUNTEERS

We've had a member of the South Dakota Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, an artist who designed many of our license plates, and a world-class fiddler! A USD Lambda Chi event became a famous Iditarod racer and Alaskan mayor! Check them out on our website, and let Logan Lamphere know if we've missed anyone.

The Class of '83 held a 40th Reunion event in Branson, Missouri, on June 9. L to R, Tom Carpenter (ΑΓ 1190), Steve Ochsner (ΑΓ 1182), Harry Roberts (ΑΓ 1185), Steve Dexter (ΑΓ 1198), Scott Stern (ΑΓ 1178), Chuck Nelson (ΑΓ 1199, Clark Hurrell (ΑΓ 1191), Ben Mahowald (ΑΓ 1197), Brad Fowler (ΑΓ 1139).

Founders Day held April 15

The Active Chapter had a nice turnout of over 50 people for Founders Day 2023 in Sioux Falls.

Thanks to Alumni donations over the years, \$19,000 in scholarships were presented to over 25 Active members who demonstrated the core values of Lambda Chi Alpha on and off campus.



Sioux Falls "Bored" Meetings

Brother Nick Magera (AF 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 Wednes-

day of each month at 6:00 p.m.

You can email Nick at nmageraj@gmail.com (new address!) to get on his mailing list.

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

- July 5
- August 2
- September 6
- October 4
- November 1
- December 6

Alpha-Gamma Man of the Year Ethan Riswold (ΑΓ 1978), Alumni of The Year Tyler Tordsen (ΑΓ 1863), Outstanding Fraternity New Member of the Year Griffin Petersen (ΑΓ 1998), High Alpha Max

Mickelson (ΑΓ 1986)



Over 50 people attended the 2023 Founders Day in Sioux Falls held April 15 at the Casetta event space.

Dakota Days 2023 Schedule, October 5-8, 2023

Thursday, October 5

3:00PM - 6:00PM: Sioux Falls Welcome Back Kickoff - AXA 2023 Dakota Days

- The Country Club of Sioux Falls, East Ballroom (formerly Westward Ho), 3400 W. 22nd St.
- · Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar
- Hosted by Dave Landry (AΓ 867), Class of '73 (50th Reunion!!!)
- RSVP Logan Lamphere (AΓ 1596) llampher@hotmail.com

Friday, October 6 View: 327 N. Pine Street Work-In-Progress!

8:00AM – 5:00PM: USD Alumni Association Events: usdalumni.com/events

11:00 – 2:00PM: 3rd Annual Weapons of Grass Destruction Best Ball Scramble (back 9 only)

- Bluffs Golf Course, four-person team event, wives and significant others included
- 11:45AM group photo
- 12:00PM noon shotgun-start

2:00PM - 5:00PM: Carey's - Meet & Greet (cash bar)

5:30PM – 8:00PM: USD Unleash Your Legacy Alumni Awards, MUC (complimentary hors d'oeuvres)

8:00PM - 10:00PM: Post Legacy Tailgate Party at Prairie Inn Hospitality Room

Saturday, October 7 View: 327 N. Pine Street Work-In-Progress!

8:30AM - 10:30AM: USD 109th Annual Dakota Days Parade, meet at USD President's House

10:30AM – 12:00PM: Brunch at Pizza Ranch, 912 N. Dakota St. (across from Dakota Dome)

12:00PM – 2:00PM: Coyote Nation Tailgate Party Outside Dakota Dome

2:00PM - 5:00PM: Dakota Day Football Game - Murray State vs USD

2:00PM - 5:00PM: Meet & Greet at Valiant Vineyards, 1500 W. Main St. (cash bar)

5:00PM - 6:00PM: Happy Hour - Valiant Vineyards (cash bar)

6:00PM - 6:15PM: AXA Group Photo for Brothers

6:15PM – 8:00PM: AXA Buffet Dinner/AGZ Housing Corp Meeting – Valiant Vineyards Winery

Sunday, October 8

8:00AM - 12:00PM: Hail & Farewell Breakfast at Valiant Vineyards Winery;

As always, brother Tom "Frog" Froning has reserved a block of rooms at the Prairie Inn. Contact him at froning9@aol.com or (701) 261-7879. Other options include the Kelly Inn Yankton and the Hotel on Phillips, Sioux Falls.

Omega

Brad Gullickson, AΓ 996



Brandon, SD ~ **Brad L. Gullickson**, age 67, died of a heart attack on Saturday, December 24, 2022 at his home in Brandon.

Brad Lee Gullickson was born in Flandreau on June 27, 1955 to Bob and Faye (Sayles) Gullickson. Brad adored his family of five brothers and sisters, dozens of aunts and uncles and 65 first cousins -- most of whom lived in Moody County. He spent most of his youthful years on the farm, playing baseball, and listening to the New York Yankees on transistor radio. He received his education in Egan and following high school, followed his siblings to the University of South Dakota where he was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha fraternity. His love of Vermillion and the University remained constant through his life, even though practical education was better suited to his learning style. While in Vermillion, Brad met the love of his life, Colleen Ann Flynn. The couple were united in marriage on March 11, 1978 in Vermillion and were blessed with four children.

Brad was an entrepreneur and problem solver at heart. In the too short 67 years he spent with us, there was no idea too daunting for him to turn into reality. In-between industrial developments, car projects, or fixing Hamm's beer signs, you might find him trying to get lost on Black Hills trail rides, attending Coyote events, or pulling his grandkids behind the boat at the lake. He'll be missed most for his love, kindness, generosity, wit, and for the friendly banter he'd share with anyone he met – lifelong friend or stranger in Coyote gear.

Brad loved his family, and friends were family to him. He had a gift for knowing the exact right thing to say at the exact right time in the exact right way and you could always count on him for advice, humor, accountability, plans, help with DIY projects, and most of all joy creation. Whatever Brad was doing, the rest of us wanted to join. He'll be missed as the fun ambassador, but also as the guy who paired project adventures with every social event. These adventures nurtured lifelong friendships and created memories that we will cherish forever.

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial donation to South Dakota (Alpha Gamma) Fund at the Lambda Chi Alpha Educational Foundation, (10 W. Carmel Drive, Suite220, Carmel, IN 46032) or Midway Church Cemetery Fund (220 36th St. S, Brookings, SD 57006).

Grateful for having shared his life are his wife, Colleen A. Gullickson, Brandon, SD; four children, Leigh (Todd) Zirbel, Brandon, SD, Roy (Renee) Gullickson, North Liberty, IA, Martin Gullickson (Andréa Barbara), Dell Rapids, SD, and Jane Gullickson (Ryan Hochreiter), Sioux Falls, SD; ten grandchildren, Brady, Faye, Jack, Lily, Eli, Mimi, Bailey, Noah, Allison and Jaxson; three siblings, Julie (Bob) Connors, Grand Rapids, MI, Marc (Cathy) Gullickson, Grand Rapids, MI, and Kristi (Craig) Tamash, Centerville, MA; one brother-in-law, Manny Jason, Marston Mills, MA; many, cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Brad was preceded in death by his parents, Bob and Faye Gullickson; one brother, Bobby Gullickson; and one sister, JoEllen Jason. (GeorgeBoom.com)

Omega

Hon. John B. Jones, AΓ 388



January 30, 2023: John Bailey Jones was born March 30, 1927, in Mitchell, SD, to John B. and Grace (Bailey) Jones. Eldest child of a Lyman County homesteader, John grew up in Presho with his sister Margaret Jones Konik and his brother Kenneth Jones. John enlisted in the US Navy in 1945, taking a bus to boot camp immediately upon graduating from Presho High School that year. John saw service in the naval occupation forces in Japan, as the war ended while he was enroute on a ship. While there, he received a Pacific Fleet Appointment to the US Naval Academy in Annapolis. After attending the Naval Academy Prep School for only one semester, he concluded that his future was in South Dakota, not in service as a naval officer. Following his honorable discharge, John enrolled in the University of South Dakota (go Yotes!), Vermillion, where he obtained a degree in Business Administration in 1951 and a Law degree in 1953. While attending college, John met a lovely young nursing student from Yankton, Rosemary Wermers, whom he married in 1950. Between 1951 and 1958, the young couple were blessed with six children.

After graduating from Law School, John established a solo law firm in his hometown of Presho. That same summer, he was appointed County Judge of Lyman County and his lifetime of public service began. In 1956, the voters elected him to a two-year term in the SD House of Representatives, electing him again in 1958. John continued to practice law until he was appointed to the South Dakota Circuit Court in 1967 by Governor Nils Boe. He presided as a state judge, with his office in Kennebec, SD, until 1981, when President Ronald Reagan appointed him to the federal judiciary as a United States District Court Judge for South Dakota, assigned to the Sioux Falls federal court. John took senior status in 1995, reducing the amount of time he spent on the bench. In 2002, the South Dakota Trial Lawyers association presented Judge Jones with the Fred J. Nichol Award for Outstanding Jurist. Judge Jones was respected as an intelligent, humble, patient, quiet, gentle man who treated everyone fairly and courteously. Attorneys and other court personnel considered him to be a firm but fair judge, and an excellent mentor.

John held many leadership roles on judicial committees and commissions, as well as state and local Bar Associations. including State Bar Commissioner from 1965-1968. Some of John's service memberships include the Elks, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, Lions Club, Presho Methodist Church, Lambda Chi Alpha social fraternity and Phi Delta Phi legal fraternity. He also served as a Boys State Counselor and president and vice president of the South Dakota Boys State Corporation. Even after moving from Presho, he frequently returned to assist in the maintenance of the Presho Cemetery, continuing past his eightieth birthday.

Family ranked highest among John's priorities as he and Rosemary lovingly raised their six children: John Jr. (Shirlene), Bill (Ruth), Mary Lou (Don) Schuh, Dave (Gerry), Judy (Brian) Bauman, and Robert. The young family spent many memorable summers camping together throughout the country and even ran their own campground, giving

the children summer jobs and responsibilities. He adored his sixteen grandchildren: Becca (Jeremy) Risty, Matt (Libby) Jones, Liz Jones, Debbi (Bobby Kooiman) Jones, Eric Jones, Chris Jones, Jim (Janeen) Schuh, John (Mary) Schuh, Jeremiah Jones, Nathaniel Jones, Rachel Jones, Scott Bauman, Brett (Jessica) Bauman, Hillary (Robbie) Morgan, TJ Jones, and Juli Jones and his twelve great-grandchildren Anna, Thomas, Emeline, Grace, Luke, Nick, Andrew, Michael, Anne, Emily, Peter, and Thomas. In a scheme to keep their children and grandchildren close, he and Rosemary organized many week-long family reunions throughout the country, once taking the whole crew on a Caribbean Cruise. The grandchildren remember him as "a joyful, calm presence in our lives. He loved dancing at weddings, being with his family, watching the news before falling asleep in his armchair, and saying "yep yep yep yep" in conversation. He spoiled us grandkids with orange pop, pizza, and his stash of M&Ms." John never missed a family graduation or wedding. He was best friends with his brother Ken Jones (Kay James) of Yankton, with whom he enjoyed many fishing trips and lively political discussions. He also enjoyed a close friendship with fellow Presho attorney Frank Brost and wife Martha.

John's loving wife Rosemary passed away in 2004 after fifty-four years of marriage. For the past several years, he was blessed with special friend and traveling companion Pauline Buckstead. John enjoyed life fully, whether golfing, gardening, baseball (Twins and Canaries), traveling, fishing, or frequenting local restaurants. During his last few years, he lost a lot of his memories but never, till his dying day, did he lose the essence of himself – he was ever kind, considerate, patient, and polite. The family is extremely grateful to the staff at the Inn on Westport, where John lived the last four years, for caring for him with dignity, respect, and compassion and for helping him through the last few days prior to his passing on January 30, 2023.

John was preceded in death by his wife Rosemary, parents John B. and Grace Jones, sister Margaret Konik, and grandson Scott Bauman.

Reprinted from Heritage Funeral Home

Omega

Greg Smeenk, AΓ 935



Gregory Stanley Smeenk, age 70, took his last breath on this side of heaven on Easter, April 9th, 2023. He was surrounded by his family. He was born February 23rd, 1953, in Rapid City, SD as the youngest of 2 children. He grew up as the 3rd generation on the family ranch.

He attended Newell High School, was active in football, bull riding and met his wife Sherry in high school. At the University of South Dakota, he earned a double major Bachelor of Science in Psychology and Sociology with an emphasis in Criminal Justice and was a member of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity where he earned the title of "The Governor." He worked as a police officer in Vermillion and Rapid City after college.

From 1977 until 2005 his family owned and operated a ranch in northern Butte County, approximately 8,000 acres in size, a livestock operation consisting of cattle, sheep, and buffalo. The total number of cattle was about 400 head, sheep numbers ranged from 500 to 1,200 head, and the buffalo cow herd was 300 head. He also rented pasture and ran beef cows and sheep with neighbors on a share basis.

He became a licensed private pilot for a single engine aircraft in 1974. He flew his plane to check livestock daily with his most memorable flights being a snake falling into his lap from the ceiling when he was in the air and flying a loop with his uncle Mac.

For 15 years, he operated a hunting enterprise on his ranch taking in deer and buffalo hunters. Greg shot a world record buffalo on his ranch in 2004 which was recorded in Safari Club International with a total scoring of 79 2/8".

He was in many movies, Ford commercials, magazines and books with his most memorable movie roles in "Thunderheart" with Val Kilmer, "Roads," "Lakota Woman," and supplying horses for the movie "Dances With Wolves."

He got his real estate license in 2004 and just 2 years later, became a broker and started his own real estate company, Dakota Properties of Belle Fourche. For the year 2008, he was the Top Producer for the Northern Black Hills Association of Realtors out of 153 realtors and was recognized by the South Dakota State Legislature.

He had a commercial real estate business in the Black Hills of South Dakota and Oklahoma. In 1987 he purchased his first apartment building, a 15-unit residential complex. Since that time, he added more apartment units and storage rental buildings, all of which he was the general contractor for. His most recent business venture was building a wedding venue, The Barn Out West.

He was a member of the Northern Black Hills Association of Realtors, President of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association, Director of the South Dakota Sheep Growers, Black Hills Round Up Club and Western South Dakota Buckaroos.

We could fill the Grand Canyon with stories about Greg. To know him was to love him. He was larger than life and impacted more people than he probably knows. He lived by the cowboy code and always said "Do what you say and say what you do." He built ranches, buildings and businesses, but he took the most pride in building his family and friendships. He was a leader, prankster, full of life and energy, always greeting people with a smile and if you were around him long enough, a deep laugh. He was an inspiration and will continue to be.

Loving survivors include his wife of 45 years, Sherry Smeenk; children, Trisha Shields (Dustin), Jenna Smeenk, Jed Smeenk; grandchild, Avery Shields; brother, Randy Smeenk (Marnie) and numerous nephews, cousins and other family.

He is preceded in death by his parents: Kathleen and Stanley Smeenk.

Reprinted from KinkadeFunerals.com

Omega

Jerry Lammers, AΓ 587



Jerome Bryce Lammers passed peacefully in the company of his wife of 60 years, Nancy, in the early hours of May 9, 2023, at the age of 85. Funeral services will be 2:00 PM, Saturday, May 13, 2023, at St. John Lutheran Church in Madison. Burial will follow at Graceland Cemetery. Visitation with the family present will be 4-6 PM, Friday, at the church, with a prayer service at 6.

Jerry was born in Madison, to Jerry (J.H.) and Regina (Kramer) Lammers in 1937. After graduating from Madison High School in 1955, Jerry attended undergraduate and law school at the University of South Dakota, finishing in 1961, before joining his father in the law practice he had established in Madison in 1923. Jerry continued practicing "country law" until 2021.

In 1960, Jerry talked his high school sweetheart, Nancy Jones, into returning to South Dakota from Washington state to be his wife. They were married in Madison on October 6, 1961. Jerry and Nancy were blessed with a son, Ryker, in 1968 and a daughter, Heather, in 1971. Ryker and Heather both went on to get law degrees at the University of South Dakota, following the family tradition started by Jerry's father in 1914.

Jerry's professional and political accomplishments were varied and many. The highlights included: State Bar Commissioner (1973-1975), 16-year representative in the South Dakota State Legislature (1977-1992) with stints as Speaker of The House (1983-1984) and House Majority Leader (1986-1992), Chairman of the Executive Board of the Legislature Research Council (1979), and Member of Board of Directors for the South Dakota Cement Plant Commission (1995-2010).

In 2012, Jerry was inducted into the Dakota State University Innovators and Influencers Hall of Fame, an accomplishment that was especially sweet for him, as he had been a champion of (and largely responsible for) changing the University's mission to technology continued on next page

focus in 1984.

While Jerry was certainly proud of his professional achievements, where he found the most joy was in spending time with family and friends, as well as indulging in his hobbies and charitable ventures. Jerry bought his beloved Piper Dakota low wing four-seater plane in 1977 shortly after he and his wife learned to fly. In addition to commuting to Pierre for the legislative sessions, he enjoyed flying to various places throughout the country, often with the family in tow. In 2002, Jerry and Nancy flew to New York as part of the Flight Across America tribute to the victims of 9/11. In the 1980s, Jerry and Nancy began volunteering for AirLifeLine, an organization that helps medical patients get to treatment centers that are too far away for them. When it was time to return to the lake home that he and Nancy owned since they were wed, there was always a Corvette in the garage, one of his few, true self-indulgences.

Jerry was also active on many local organizations and boards in Madison. His life-long commitment to the Kiwanis organization is just one of the ways Jerry showed a steadfast commitment to the community he called home.

Jerry is survived by his wife, Nancy, his son, Ryker (Molly) Lammers of Honolulu, Hawaii, daughter, Heather (Jay) Lammers Bogard of Spearfish, and grandchildren Regina Lammers, Nicolai Lammers, Kjellen Bogard, and Breon Bogard.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Jerry H. Lammers and Regina Lammers, as well as his brother, Gerard Lammers.

Reprinted from EllsworthFH.com



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 us know at alphagammazetaaa@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."

2023 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.

Our fiscal giving year is January 1 through December 31.

Platinum Donor (\$1,000 and above)

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The Alpha Gamma Fellowship Archives

Vol 1: Issue 1 (2017)

Alumni newsletter created

Lambda Chi Alpha Alpha Gamma Zeta Alumni Association

Vol 1: Issue 2 (2017)

Dr. Rick Holm encourages colonoscopy



Vol 1: Issue 3 (2018)

Sue and Dick Brown on SDPB



Vol 2: Issue 1 (2019)

Dakota Days 2018



Vol 2: Issue 2 (2019)

Jim Hart shares study-break pics



Vol 3: Issue 1 (2020)

St. Paul gathering



Vol 3: Issue 2 (2020)

Covid Edition



Vol 3: Issue 3 (2020)

New House Capital Campaign Begins



Vol 4: Issue 1 (2021)

Oyler named Fulbright Scholar



Vol 4: Issue 2 (2021)

USD's first Native American fraternity man: John Artichoker



Vol 5: Issue 1 (2022)

Brady retires



Vol 5: Issue 2 (2022)

E.Y. Berry Library expands



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Lambda Chi Alpha at The University of South Dakota