

A-G-Z NEWSLETTER

LAMBDA CHI ALPHA @ USD

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I N T R O D U C T I O N

A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR(S)



The Alpha-Gamma Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha has decided to write a bi-monthly newsletter to keep alumni, family, friends, and any other Lambda Chi enthusiasts in the know. Sent out at the end of every other month, we will highlight the events that occurred, let you know what's to come, and maybe give you some fun – or not-so-fun – facts about the chapter and our members. The goal of the A-G-Z Newsletter is to showcase all that these men do, not only in the chapter, but also on campus and in the community.



INITIATION

The Spring 2017 Semester started a week early for the men of Alpha-Gamma Zeta as Associate Members were invited back on January 2nd to prepare for their initiation. On January 7th, we officially welcomed these 15 young men into our brotherhood:

Andy Holmes AΓ 1920, Conrad Mohr-Eymer AΓ 1921 Nate Jones(not pictured) AΓ 1922, Jack Seitz AΓ 1923, Taylor Wipf AΓ 1924, Nick Rise AΓ 1925, Jared Roland AΓ 1926, Michael Kopren AΓ 1927, Seth Reinke AΓ 1928, Keegan Donelan AΓ 1929, Conner Paulsen AΓ 1930, Chase Wright AΓ 1931, Clayton Carbert-Sandberg AΓ 1932, Mubarak Kadir AΓ 1933, and Glen Clark AΓ 1934. Great things will be accomplished in the next 4 years!

RECRUITMENT

Through tabling at student organization fairs and other ways of recruiting, Lambda Chi Alpha has brought in four new associate members this semester. The new associate members pictured left to right are Loïc Gomes (majoring in Business Administration), Ross Bellefeuille (majoring in Mathematics), Ethan Walker (majoring in Molecular Biology), and Cole Kocmick (majoring in Physics). Our chapter is thrilled to have these gentlemen and excited for their future within our chapter! We are currently working towards a Spring Rush Weekend to hopefully find potential new members, and we are looking forward to continuing our recruitment of the most quality men on campus here at USD.



SOCIALS

The gentlemen of Lambda Chi Alpha have been striving to better their relations with other clubs and sororities on campus this semester! We have hosted multiple social events with the sororities of Kappa Alpha Theta, Alpha Xi Delta, and Alpha Phi, and we have more planned in the upcoming months. We had a rock and roll themed social with the Thetas where we dressed as rock stars (Jimi Hendrix and ACDC to name a few), played the video games Rockband and Guitar Hero, and sang Karaoke. We also had a robe-themed social with Alpha Phi where we wore robes and pajamas. Some upcoming social events that we have are a St. Patrick's Day themed social as well as our Spring Formal. Our gentlemen and their dates will be going to Lake Panorama in Iowa the weekend of March 24th - 26th. It will definitely be a weekend to remember!





CHAPTER HOUSE REPAIRS

During Initiation Week, several brothers started the deconstruction of the current study room by removing the old furniture, tearing down dry walls, tearing up the floor, and taking out insulation. Thanks to the help of alumni Michael Roach and Brad Peterson, as well as some current brothers, electrical outlets were fixed and lights were installed!

We are extremely grateful for the hard work that these gentlemen have been putting into our house. We are planning to remodel this room into a new study room with a table for collaborative work, as well as install a few desks for individuals looking to study. Lambda Chi hopes to finish this renovation by the end of the semester to clear up more time for other house projects during the summer.

WE WOULD LIKE TO
THANK THE
GENEROUS DONORS
THAT PROVIDED
FUNDING TO REPAIR
OUR KITCHEN AFTER
A PIPE BURST!



HIGH ZETA RETREAT

"TOGETHER, THEY CAN
CULTIVATE THE
FUTURE OF ALPHA-
GAMMA ZETA"

The Alpha-Gamma Zeta officers were in Sioux Falls January 20th - 22nd for the annual High Zeta Retreat. They underwent a weekend of leadership training, semester preparations, and strategic planning over the three-day span. Epicosity, a digital marketing firm in Sioux Falls, was generous enough to let the High Zeta use their modern, innovative office space as the retreat facility, and it provided a great atmosphere for learning and persevering throughout the long days. Between the planning and programming sessions, the officers were able to let loose and play a quick 9 holes on the indoor mini golf course or relax and enjoy the company of brothers while using the indoor swing. Alumni Advisory Board members Mike Roach, Brad Fowler, and Nick Bratvold also joined the High Zeta Officers for Saturday's programming, and Alumni Advisor Nick Bratvold had this to say after the weekend: "We were more than impressed with the new High Zeta. Each officer is motivated and prepared; together, they can cultivate the future of Alpha-Gamma Zeta."



HIGH ALPHA SUMMIT

"I LEARNED ABOUT MYSELF AND
THE TYPE OF PERSON, BROTHER,
AND LEADER I WANT TO BE."

Jace Jerome attended the High Alpha Summit in Indianapolis, Indiana January 12th - 14th as Alpha-Gamma Zeta's new chapter President. The High Alpha Summit is a time for Lambda Chi Alpha's chapter presidents to coalesce, learn about upcoming duties, and foster the maturation of members, chapters, and the general fraternity. When they weren't in the classroom, brothers could be found volunteering at the local food pantry or sharing knowledge and stories from their chapters back home.

Jace had this to say upon his return: "It was an experience I will never forget, and I know there will be enduring benefits for the rest of my life. I was actually the first High Alpha to attend from our chapter, and I will definitely recommend it becomes a tradition. I learned a lot of applicable leadership theory; but, predominantly, I learned about myself and the type of person, brother, and leader I want to be."

A photograph of a stone archway sign for The University of South Dakota. The sign is light-colored with the university's name in dark, serif capital letters. To the right of the name, it says "EST. 1862". The sign is set against a background of green trees and a clear sky.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

EST. 1862

EMERGING LEADERS INSTITUTE

LEADERS AT USD

During February, Lambda Chi sent Nick Rise and Andy Holmes to the 2017 Spring Emerging Leaders Institute held in Bloomfield, Nebraska. We also had representation through facilitators Lucas Lund, a current member of our chapter, and Nick Bratvold, an alumni currently at USD in Graduate School. Lucas and Nick served to help guide the attendees as they learned how to define leaders and how to be a leader. The Emerging Leaders Institute was comprised of multiple workshops that were aimed at developing current strengths, as well as focusing on each individual's strengths rather than their weaknesses. Lambda Chi is excited to continue to build upon the leadership skills that these gentlemen have to offer not only to our chapter, but to USD.



BROTHERS ABROAD

LEADERSHIP IN IRELAND

"I WAS ABLE TO SHARE THE EXPERIENCE WITH TWO OF MY BROTHERS"

Over Winter Break, Jace Jerome, Lucas Lund, and Nick Bratvold went on a two-week study-abroad to Ireland. The course topic was leadership, and experiential learning took them to the major cities of Dublin, Belfast, and Galway - while also venturing geologically acclaimed landmarks Giant's Causeway (pictured) and Cliffs of Moher. Jace had these comments after the trip: "It was an amazing experience. We balanced fourteen days of learning with equal nights of Irish fun, and I was able to share the experience with two of my brothers. The only unfortunate part was our two-day flight delay coming back to America. However, we ran into some Lambda Chi brothers also delayed in the Dublin airport, and we passed the time getting to know them! It was a crazy, "small world" experience and an ironic way of the world balancing itself out." We are happy to have our brothers safely back in the States, and we are already seeing benefits from their leadership experience.





FEEDING SOUTH DAKOTA

Lambda Chi Alpha has had a busy January and February. Our chapter reached out to the food pantry, and we are happy to say we have established an awesome connection. Every week, three to four brothers go to the pantry, and they help with some of the deeper cleaning around the food pantry. Since the food pantry is part of our national philanthropy, Feeding America, it is a good way to give back in Vermillion.



We also were given the opportunity to help with the Backpack Program here in Vermillion. The Backpack Program provides food for local students to eat over the weekend, and we understand the importance of having good, quality meals for each young student. We had an excellent turnout with multiple brothers spending their afternoon working towards the common goal of supplying local students with food and improving their brotherhood along the way! We were also told that we were the first members of greek life to attend as an organization!



We plan to continue with philanthropic events over the next few months with events that include an Easter Egg Hunt, Lambda Chi Hy-Chi, and a Watermelon Smash.



DONATIONS

Listed below are projects around the house, funds for future events, and ideas that we think would improve our chapter. We would appreciate any support you can provide: time, talent, or treasure. If you would like to make a donation, click on any of the hyperlinked circles to be redirected to the GoFundMe page. If you have time or talent that you would like to donate to the chapter, contact Jace Jerome at (605) 280-4078. Alpha-Gamma Zeta thanks you for your continued support and generosity, helping provide new opportunities for our 100 year old chapter.

Basketball & Volleyball Courts

Our current basketball court and hoop are in poor condition, so we want to re-cement the court and purchase a new hoop. And wouldn't a volleyball court be great for the house? The "Lambda Chi Sports Complex" would allow for brother bonding, physical activity, and recruiting amenities!

Re-Seed The Yard

It's been years since the yard had a good re-seeding, and we have the intent and manpower to do it!

Re-Felt The Pool Table

The pool table is a great way for us to socialize and de-stress. Whether it's before a chapter meeting, after a big test, or every time we realize there isn't much to do in Vermillion, we put the pool table to good use, and it's starting to show!

Social Fund

We are constantly looking to have more social events with fellow USD sororities and other organizations, but we do not always have the budget to make this happen. A donation would help fund future socials with USD sororities and non-Greek organizations.

Recruitment Fund

We are continually recruiting quality gentlemen here at USD, and we are hoping to host some informal spring rush events in the upcoming months. Donations will help expedite our search for the best and brightest.

Philanthropy Fund

We love to put on different philanthropy events; but, sometimes, we have insufficient funds to purchase all of the necessary supplies. A donation would allow us to create new events and continue our support of Feeding America.