



THE HUSKER SIG

Alpha Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Chi
at the University of Nebraska



PRO-CONSUL CHAPTER UPDATE



Brothers gather outside 1510 Vine following the initiation of the Fall 2018 pledge class

Brothers, as I write you, there is a feeling of excitement in the house at 1510 Vine for so many reasons. The advent of a new semester and the new opportunities and challenges it brings. The feeling of accomplishment given the great work we did last semester — initiating 23 new brothers, raising thousands of dollars for the Huntsman Foundation to use in the fight against cancer, and for cracking the top 10 chapter GPAs of the entire Interfraternity Council (including 3 brothers who earned a perfect 4.0 GPA average) and, of course, the return of friends and memories made within these walls.

As we enter 2019, I am excited for what lies ahead for Alpha Epsilon. We have outlined our clear focus on philanthropic and scholastic excellence. Last semester, philanthropic events such as Vals with Pals where we served Valentino's pizza at the Kappa Delta chapter house, commanded our attention and efforts. It was extremely gratifying for me to see our

brothers rally around our philanthropic cause, creating another charitable event on our own at our chapter house, called Caramel for a Cure. We served caramel apples and decorated the house with a fall theme, adding to our philanthropic support of the Huntsman Foundation.

Academically, we developed or refined programs such as our pledge mentorship system, study hours, and a renewed vigor for excelling in our classes. This led to our highest scholastic average in years, a 3.15 overall GPA. Again, I cannot wait to see what we can do in Spring 2019 as we've decided on a goal to raise the bar again — this time to a 3.2 GPA, which would place us firmly in the top 5 of chapters. I think we have the men and the culture to achieve it.

Beyond philanthropies and scholastics, this semester we have so much to look forward to. We currently have six Spring Semester pledges who are Jordan Standard quality men through and through. When they are initiated, they will

bring a great deal of value to our fraternity. We are also looking forward to hosting a Parent's Weekend on Sunday, April 7th. Spring will also bring back our unique and iconic Derby Days, a campus happening to be sure...and one that will further enable us to add to our philanthropic efforts.

Lastly, Brothers, I want to make myself available to you. Should you want to give me your thoughts, concerns or ask me a question, I will gladly respond. I can be reached at tyler.rademacher12@gmail.com or at 970-443-2424. I welcome the opportunity to speak with Sigma Chi alumni, especially those of Alpha Epsilon who have walked these walls before us.

I'm eager for everyone to see the dividends of our work!

In hoc,
Tyler Rademacher '20

GREATER NEBRASKA AREA ALUMNI CHAPTER NEWS

Brothers, your Greater Nebraska Area Alumni Chapter continues to support our Alpha Epsilon in ways to insure it continues to thrive. As always, the best way to keep up with developments at the Chapter are to get involved with our activities. We are particularly underrepresented by the 25 – 45 age group and specifically invite you to come on board as a due-paying alumni. We need and value your participation as you're the future of GNAAC!

We continue to have two alumni luncheon meetings a year in which we typically include leaders of the undergraduate chapter. These meetings are an invaluable way to learn about the culture of the house, the progress of our young brothers, and the challenges we face. We also update the state of the Alumni Chapter at our luncheons. Besides these business-related matters covered in these luncheons, we enjoy the all-too-rare opportunity to reconnect with alumni brothers from our past. Plan to join us at our next luncheon to be held on March 14, 2019 at the Resort at Firethorn. Look for e-mail announcements which are typically sent out a month in advance to accommodate your scheduling.

We are pleased to report that calendar year 2018 saw a record number of due-paying Sigs support our alumni chapter. While we

almost doubled our due-paying members in 2018, there is plenty of room for additional support. We are most grateful for the support we receive from Lincoln-area alumni but also strongly encourage those living out-state and out-of-state to become a part of our support underpinnings. These modest (\$50) annual dues are enormously helpful to us as we support our International Fraternity with dues, plan events to engage alumni and undergraduates and, importantly, publish the twice-annual Husker Sig. The next dues notice will be sent to our roster of 1,150 Alpha Epsilon Sigs on or about August 1, 2019.

Given sound financial footing of the Chapter, we are pleased to report that we will also host an alumni/undergraduate reception for Homecoming in 2019. While the planning of a Homecoming event is somewhat hampered by the University's policy of not announcing a Homecoming date until the Fall, we typically manage to have enough time for Sigs to make travel plans to Lincoln. We can speculate that likely candidates are October 5th (Northwestern) or October 26th (Indiana), but stay tuned for more information and announcements from us. Meanwhile, our website, www.unlsigmachi.com is a good source of information.

We will also participate in a Parents Event currently being planned by our undergraduates in 2019. And we will hold our festive annual Holiday Party in Lincoln in December.

In other news, we are looking forward to rebooting undergraduate scholarship rewards in 2019. The Landis Scholarship in memory of "Harry D. Landis", The Alpha Epsilon Generosity Award in memory of "Mick Drago" and The Donald T. Meier Scholarship in honor of "Donald T. Meier".

Finally, we are pleased to report on behalf of the Sigma Chi Building Corporation that the financial position of our revered property at 1510 Vine Street remains healthy. We are paying down a very manageable level of debt on schedule, enjoying break even cash flow despite running a little below resident capacity and looking forward to full capacity and incremental revenue as the impact of the large 2018 fall pledge class is realized.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in and about Lincoln, brothers!

In hoc,
**Curt Denker, AE '77, President
Greater Nebraska Area Alumni Chapter**

"GETTING TO KNOW YOU" UPDATE: MIKE COVER

Alpha Epsilon Chapter is fortunate to have a highly engaged Co-Chapter Advisor, Dr. Michael Cover, in Lincoln. Mike's older brother, **Dr. Greg Cover**, is an AE from the class of '76.

Mike graduated from the University of Wyoming in 1990 and was an active brother in Sigma Chi, Gamma XI Chapter. He served as Magister for the chapter and also served two terms as Consul. Dr. Cover also earned a number of impressive postgraduate degrees from UNL, and most recently his Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Kansas State University. He currently practices small animal veterinary medicine at Nebraska Animal Medical Center in Lincoln.

Brother Mike has other important AE connections. His son Caleb is an undergraduate, serving as the current Magister. Mike is part of the Chapter Advisor Team with brother Dave Clawson, Oregon State '79 who lives

in Bellevue and also has a son, Dave Jr., in our Alpha Epsilon chapter. The two Chapter Advisors collaborate well together and provide a thoughtful point of view when it comes to chapter direction and leadership.

Mike is enthusiastic and a "hands on" Chapter Advisor, regularly attending Sunday Executive Team meetings and Monday Chapter meetings, which is invaluable to our undergraduate brothers in leadership positions. Dr. Cover has spent a great deal of time this past year learning from past Chapter Advisor Trey Pittenger and "Woody" Denker, President of the Greater Nebraska Alumni Association. Stepping directly into the fire, he has also closely worked with Grand Praetor Sean Boston, advocating on our behalf to mitigate the unfortunate off-campus alcohol related incident in early 2018, which was handled in an exemplary way and is now thankfully behind us. Importantly, he has also led the formation of a new risk management policy going forward which has been fully

endorsed by UNL Greek Affairs and Sigma Chi Headquarters.

The strong efforts made by our highly committed Co-Chapter Advisors this past year have helped our chapter achieve a new leadership trajectory. Their overarching goal is for the Alpha Epsilon Chapter to be in serious consideration for a Peterson Award again this year. Thank you, Mike-- and Dave-- for your stellar leadership. We look forward to more from both of you in the Husker Sig about the progress of the Alpha Epsilon in the day ahead.

Looking forward to seeing you soon in and about Lincoln, brothers!

In hoc,
The Nebraska Sig





AE GIVING BACK: PHILANTHROPY THRIVES

This past fall semester, we organized and held two significant philanthropies: Val's with Pals and Caramel for a Cure. Together they



Brothers David Cluche '19, Jake Barry '21, Cameron Svoboda '19, and Jeremy Webb '22 master the art of making caramel apples

generated \$5,650 to be donated to our ongoing commitment to support of the Huntsman Cancer Research Institute.

“Val's (Valentino's Pizza) with Pals” was our first philanthropy last semester, held on October 11, 2018. We partnered with the Kappa Delta sorority, selling slices of Valentino's iconic pizza and drinks at the KD chapter house. Brothers contributed to the cause by designing and creating banners, making t-shirts, selling tickets, and participating in the event itself. Not only did we sell a lot of pizza and soft drinks for the cause; we made some terrific connections with the Kappa Deltas in this successful philanthropic event.

“Caramel for a Cure” is Sigma Chi's newest philanthropy, envisioned and created by several

brothers who are especially passionate about ending cancer. Brothers served Caramel apples and hot chocolate to eager customers trying to warm up in our cold winter weather.

This, our inaugural event for “Caramel for a Cure” took place on November 7, 2018 at the Sigma Chi house. Just like Val's with Pals, brothers across the chapter contributed their time to ensure maximum towards our cause.

This spring semester, we will also hold two additional philanthropies (details of which will be provided at a later date) along with our highly popular Derby Days, which will be held Saturday, March 30th.

In hoc,
Austin Baber '21

ALPHA EPSILON INITIATES LARGE ENTHUSIASTIC PLEDGE CLASS

On Saturday, October 6, 2018, Alpha Epsilon initiated 25 brothers who successfully graduated from our PB4 pledge program to join the ranks of active brothers. These new brothers come from locations all over the United States – Chicago, Omaha, California, and places in between. Out of these 25 recent initiates, 9 of them have already earned positions of leadership in the chapter. We're also pleased to report that the Fall '18 Pledge Class has high participation levels in campus activities.

Unlike in some recent past recruiting periods, this time we decided not to limit the size of our Fall '18 Pledge Class provided the young men met the strict criteria outlined in the Jordan Standard. This large class will bolster our numbers and underpin the leadership of the house as they pursue their college degrees.

Austin Anderson, Lincoln, NE

Austin Barber, Hickman, NE

Bobby Martin, Omaha, NE

Brett Bowar, St. Paul, MN

Conner Lauber, Lincoln, NE

Derek Moore, Sussex, WI

DJ Cain, Lincoln, NE

Dominic Petro, Lincoln, NE

Garrett Sanders, St. Charles, IL

Jackson Schad, Rapid City, SD



Fall 2019 AE Pledge Class

Jake Berzina, Rapid City, SD

Jake Lessig, Highlands Ranch, CO

Jamil Fakhoury, Chicago, IL

Jeremy Webb, Boise, ID

Jon Brown, Chicago, IL

Joseph Arram, Kearney, NE

Joshua Long, Kearney, NE

Lucas Khubchandani, Chicago, IL

Nick Barber, Crete, NE

Noah Griffin, Imperial, NE

Parker Merwick, Lincoln, NE

Peter Alfini, Elmhurst, IL

Riley Wood, Orange County, CA

Ryan O'Connell, Omaha, NE

Ulysses Rooney, Fort Sheridan, IL

These new brothers have already shown outstanding efforts to contribute to our chapter. We have high aspirations for these men to climb the ranks of Alpha Epsilon. Congratulations to our Rush Chairs, Lane Schopp and Cameron Svoboda for an outstanding job!

In hoc,
Bobby Martin '22

STRONG SIG INVOLVEMENT ON CAMPUS

As Sigma Chi's, we're called to be leaders of men — and through involvement in chapter leadership, we can become leaders within the fraternity. Another rich opportunity — one that brings more diversity and

community involvement — is pro-actively engaging on campus. Getting meaningfully involved beyond 1510 Vine Street gives our brothers the opportunity to work in areas they're passionate about with other students to reach a common goal, a lesson that is mirrored in our own chapter. Alpha Epsilon is taking impressive advantages of these opportunities by setting the tone on campus through our campus involvement.

currently serves as Secretary to the Big Red Investment Club. Finally, **Griffin Overbeck**, 2020 serves as the entertainment chair for Relay for Life, an extension of the American Cancer Society.

We're extremely proud of our all of our brothers who have made a personal commitment to making the University of Nebraska a better place through their campus activities and spreading the values of Sigma Chi in the process.

In hoc,
Calen Griffin '19

This last semester, we had nearly 50 brothers involved in other organizations on campus, an unprecedented commitment to the University. Impressively, four of our brothers held executive leadership positions within important campus organizations.

Trevor Wood, 2019 is the President of Advertising Club and serves as an Account Executive to UNL's National Student Advertising Competition team. **Elijah Sherman**, 2021 is President of UNL PREVENT: Sexual Assault and the Law, a group dedicated to ending sexual assault and rape on campus. **Mitchell Krohn**, 2020



*(Bottom left to upper right)
Hollman '20, Lane Schopp '21, Billy Seeger '19, Caleb Cover '21, Dane O'Dell '21, Jeremy Webb '22, and Garrett Sanders '22 are accompanied by Sweetheart Rachel Novicki in walking across Lincoln in support of I've Got A Name, an organization which aims to end sex trafficking*

A "FROSTY" HOMECOMING

Nothing like homecoming to get the Big Red spirits engaged! This fall, we hosted three other Greek organizations in an effort to build the best float on Greek row — FarmHouse, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and Pi Alpha Chi, where we all joined together in the impressive building effort. This group effort at 1510 Vine Street produced a phenomenal job a high-quality float depicting Number 7 Scott Frost for the University and all the alumni to see.

Connor Mellick '19 led the way as homecoming chair, making sure that the house had enough people in attendance at required events for homecoming week, as well as designing the homecoming float.

Almost every night prior to the Homecoming event, Sigs and their fraternal teammates worked long, hard hours to finish the float by Friday morning. Members of FarmHouse, Kappa Kappa Gamma, and Pi Alpha Chi all spent multiple hours helping to construct the float.

All in all, Sigma Chi did a great job in leading the effort. Both actives and pledges put many hours into our team's float, making sure



Brother Garrett Sanders '22 adds the finishing touch by attaching the gate for the tunnel walk

that Sigma Chi looked its best. Even though the Huskers fell to the Purdue Boilermakers during the game, the homecoming display was a great success.

placed third overall through the combination of high marks in the float, dance, and community service.

In hoc,
Jeremy Webb '22

Following the festivities of homecoming, the results of the week were announced and we



NEW HOUSE DIRECTOR, A NATURAL FIT

Chris Burma, a Columbus, NE native and Alpha Epsilon Alumni, has been named House Director (more affectionately known as “House Dad”) for the chapter. His appointment was effective in August of 2018. Chris succeeded Alfonso Cooper Jr, who served as Director for two strong years, providing counsel and guidance and friendship to three graduating classes of Sigs. Alonzo has moved on to continue his post graduate studies in music at Penn State University.

Chris is a 2016 graduate whose experience of living in the house was pivotal to his experience as an undergraduate Sigma Chi. His undergraduate degree was in the School of Business, with an emphasis in marketing and management. He currently is the Director of Operations for LocalAnyDay, a Lincoln based marketing technology company located in the Haymarket.

In response to the question he often gets...“What exactly do you do as the House Dad?”, he replies: *“Good question! My main responsibilities on paper include being the liaison and voice between the undergraduate brothers, the Alumni Chapter, and the Chapter Advisors. But what is most satisfying to me is providing the brothers with on-site academic, financial, and ‘life skills’ advice. I’m, of course, primarily responsible for the safety of the brothers to make certain they have access to resources necessary to their physical and emotional well being.”*

Chris, of course, knew several of his charges during his undergraduate year, but hadn’t considered the idea that he might move back into the house once he graduated. But when the opportunity presented itself, he was immediately enthusiastic about the opportunities.

When asked by The Husker Sig what this

position means to him on a personal level, he quickly mentioned both his faith and his affection for Sigma Chi. *“As a Christian, I have an opportunity to be a reflection of Christ’s grace and love for me. In my new role as House Dad, I am particularly blessed to connect and grow alongside these young Sigs through these valuable years of growth for them. Great things are happening inside the walls of 1510 Vine Street, and I’m honored to be able to give back to Sigma Chi in this capacity.”*

Chris obviously has a very strong connection to the house and cares about it thriving. We are pleased to have him in this critical role. He can be reached at (402) 860-0585 or chrisburma@yahoo.com if you wish to get in contact with him.

In hoc,
The Nebraska Sig

LEADERSHIP & SIGMA CHI

A significant aspect of Sigma Chi is its stated commitment to “develop the foremost leaders on campus”. Not surprisingly, our fraternity has developed cutting edge, amazing resources in the realm of leadership.

In my time as an undergraduate in Alpha Epsilon I have been honored to attend two such programs, the Horizons and Balfour Leadership Seminars. Both provided me an opportunity to engage and develop my love for Sigma Chi and learn about myself as a leader. The end goal is to be able to pass along some of the principles learned to my brothers here at 1510 Vine.

I attended Balfour this past summer in 2018. I was fortunate enough to be selected to attend with the extra spot we earned from our Bell Chapter status. The Fraternal culture created on campus thanks to Brother Keith Krach, our former Grand Consul was unlike anything I had experienced before. Seeing more many collect Brother in one room with optimum leadership potential and stories was astounding. It was like I had an instant connection with all roughly 2,000 undergraduate Brothers who had attended.

Balfour was an excellent way to connect with all chapters and come together to improve both resources and experience of Sigma Chi. The Balfour workshop was organized by positions within Sigma Chi to focus on job function, ranging from magister to consul.

I personally attended the Ritual Session where I learned more about the Ritual and its purpose/

meaning to implementing the ritual. My favorite part was our collaborative small group time with just our chapter where we were able to strategically envision our upcoming year with our Alpha Epsilon brothers. It was an experience I wish all Brothers are able to have because working with one another was a fantastic way to foresee the year and make goals. Having all Brothers would’ve been beneficial to have more input on what they wanted to accomplish for the year.

I also was selected to attend Horizons in the summer of 2017 following the spring semester. Horizons is designed to allow leaders within the undergraduate chapters of Sigma Chi across all of North America to come together and grow as a leader through various activities, group discussion, and reflection.

Held at the beautiful Snowbird ski resort in Utah, the Horizons experience was possibly one of the most rewarding weeks in my life. The entire week was dedicated to personal self improvement through leadership and self-reflection. I was a time to reflect on one’s calling as an individual and what impact you can make, something they referred to as “going over the mountain”. It was also a time to personally connect and learn from other aspiring chapter leaders. I was fortunate enough to bond closely with my small group, similar to the experience of connecting to those in my pledge class during pledgship. We grew closer than we had ever imagined and

still remain in contact today by doing check-in, group calls, and seeking help sometimes.

By attending Horizons and Balfour it placed confidence within me to realize the change starts from within. In our hopes to keep Sigma Chi as great as a place as it is at 1510 Vine settling is never an option. I had a fire lit within me to make positive change to the house and I went into the both years head on ready to make an impact. I had become more involved to show off these qualities that I had obtained. Opportunities that I have taken since then have been assistant magister three times, j-boards representative, brotherhood chair, and derby days chairmen, and installing a new philanthropy this past fall, Caramel for a Cure. The biggest area I found myself creating a push for in the house was our philanthropic efforts in supporting the Huntsman Cancer Institute. I believe we can achieve more and if people are able to find what they are passionate about as did I in philanthropy, then they will be able to do great things even if they have not attended any previous workshop.

Overall, the experience was almost therapeutic and immensely introspective. I will never forget Horizons and what I learned in becoming a leader by understanding my own leadership style through skill development and creating memories that will last a lifetime

In hoc,
Griffin Overbeck ‘20



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VISIT AE ONLINE

We publish a hard copy of *The Husker Sig* twice a year with support from your annual dues to the Greater Nebraska Area Alumni Chapter. We hope you enjoy it. Remember to “fill in the blanks” between the printed editions of *The Husker Sig* by visiting our website, which is dedicated to undergraduate and alumni interests alike. We’re working on getting better and faster at posting news, and the more you use it, the better we’ll get! Visit Alpha Epsilon at www.unlsigmachi.com.

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LARGE NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS ELECTED FOR SPRING SEMESTER TERM

It takes a lot of enthusiastic brothers to run the day in and day out affairs of Alpha Epsilon. The Chapter held spirited elections on April 8, 2019, filling no less than 25 leadership positions. We’re pleased to announce that the following men are serving Alpha Epsilon in key roles. Their terms of office run from April 15, 2019 to November 19, 2019, which is when the elections for the Spring 2020 semester will be taking place.

Consul

Colin Crayne '20, Minnetonka, MN
colincrayne28@gmail.com

Rush Chair

Dane O'Dell '21, Lincoln, NE
odell.dane@yahoo.com

Risk Manager

AJ Abrevaya '19, Philadelphia, PA
aabrevaya96@gmail.com

Steward

Carter Nabb '22, Overland Park, KS
carternab@gmail.com

Pro-Consul

Caleb Cover '21, Lincoln, NE
calebcover24@gmail.com

Rush Chair

Bobby Martin '22, Omaha, NE
bobbymartion263@gmail.com

Philanthropy Chair

Jack Moreland '21, Omaha, NE
jmoreland050@gmail.com

Involvement Chair

Mitchell Krohn '20, Omaha, NE
mitchellkrohn@gmail.com

Annotator

Collin Hinds '21, Chicago, IL
collin.hinds717@gmail.com

Rush Chair

Sean Gohman '21, Waconia, MN
seangohman8@gmail.com

Tribune

Austin Barber '21, Hickman, NE
barberaustinc@gmail.com

Brotherhood Chair

Collin Richards '21, Bellevue, NE
collinrich2017@gmail.com

Quaestor

Bobby Martin '22, Omaha, NE
bobbymartion263@gmail.com

House Manager

Peter Alfini '22, Elmhurst, IL
peternalfini@gmail.com

Public Relations

Spencer Stewart '22, Wildwood, MO
spencerstew3@gmail.com

Derby Days Chair

Jeremy Webb '22, Boise, ID
jr99webb@gmail.com

Magister

Garrett Sanders '22, St. Charles, IL
garrettsanders0427@gmail.com

Social Chair

Joshua Long '22, Kearney, NE
josh.carter.long@gmail.com

Service Chair

Calvin Jenkins '21, Eden Prairie, MN
cal.jenkins1@gmail.com

Intramural Chair

Dane O'Dell '21, Lincoln, NE
odell.dane@yahoo.com

Scholarship Chair

Keller Barry '22, Parker, CO
kgb316@gmail.com

Kustos

Nick Koslaphirom '21, Omaha, NE
nick.koslaphirom777@gmail.com

Historian

Noah Griffin '22, Imperial, NE
noahreidgriffin@gmail.com

Greek Weekend Chair

Joshua Long '22, Kearney, NE
josh.carter.long@gmail.com