

A year of Unprecedented Service and Giving

Members of the Alpha Zeta Chapter have certainly been busy this past year working with the Manhattan, Kansas community through a wide variety of philanthropy and community service events. Michael McKinney, 2016 Vice Noble Ruler of Planning, brought with him many new and creative ideas.

The first effort our chapter took on was to coordinate the annual Sell-A-Fella Philanthropy, an auction in which freshmen and sophomores are “auctioned off” to raise money and awareness for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. This foundation was selected in memory of Brother David Sewell, who lost his fight to the unfortunate disease (full story in the previous Crescent). We are proud to say that this year we were successful in reaching our goal of raising \$5,600. New this year, \$1,000 of the proceeds were donated to a family of the Clifton-Clyde community in Kansas, whose young daughter has been battling cystic fibrosis. The remaining \$4,600 was donated to our local Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

The next goal brought to the chapter was to create a second philanthropy for the fall semester. This goal became a reality when the Kappa Alpha Theta sorority asked to partner with them for their 20th annual WildKat Chase 5K and 1K Run. The result was terrific; we helped raise more than \$17,000 in funds for the Sunflower Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) in Manhattan. C.A.S.A. or

Court Appointed Special Advocates, is an organization in Manhattan whose main goal is to advocate for abused or neglected children in the court system, by providing them with a safe, permanent environment. We are certainly proud to support such an outstanding program for the community.

Our biggest accomplishment this year though has been to arrange the Kansas State University Greek-wide community effort to volunteer to ring the Salvation Army bells for the holidays. The Alpha Zeta chapter spearheaded an initiative across the entire Greek community and were able to organize more than 3,000 volunteers to take the place of paid help at four main locations in Manhattan, in order to raise more money through the local Salvation Army.

In addition to these main events, the chapter has also been working with members of the community through individual community service. Each member was required to get a record 15 hours each semester this past year, and that was achieved. They gained hours through the clean-up of Seth Childs Road outside of Manhattan on Highway 24, helping the K-State recycling center process game day rubble, and through other miscellaneous acts, such as leaf raking, working with local churches and schools, and helping to set-up Kansas Farm Bureau events. In total, there were more than 655 man hours of community

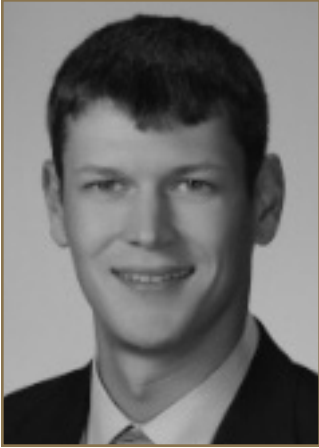
service performed this past semester alone, not to mention the nearly 1,400 hours of community service performed by brothers since January. We are all thankful for the opportunity to have been able to help better the Manhattan community as we are a part of it, and we are proud to further our education in such a wonderful place. Our motto is to make better men, and the Alpha Zeta Chapter continues to build men of the highest character through dedicated service to our brothers, school and community.



Gameday Recycling at the K-State Recycling Center



From The Desk of Noble Ruler



Greetings Brothers,

As the semester and 2016 is winding down, it is my pleasure to write my final update to everyone on the happenings of Alpha Zeta. Over the summer, we traveled to the AGR National Convention in Omaha with more than 30 undergraduates and alumni members. I am proud to announce that we were named as the Maynard H. Coe Chapter Efficiency Award runner up, and took home an award in every category, including highest

honors, the top ranking, in the following categories: Most Committed Alumni Corporation, Best Crescent, Featured Story, and Living the Promise and Values. I would also like to recognize Mom Dianna, as she took an honorable mention in every house mother category, including: Housemother Management and the Social and Cultural Development award.

We had the pleasure of welcoming 20 new brothers into the chapter this fall, all of whom are showing great potential and are already getting involved across campus and in the chapter.

Five of these members have already been elected to the Executive Council. This semester we were also invited to partner with Kappa Alpha Theta on their WildKat Chase 5K philanthropy, benefitting the Manhattan Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) program, providing safe and adequate resources for children.

New this year, we will be revamping our officer transitions in January. We would like this ceremony to now include our advisors and alumni, so if any of you are interested, please reach out us, so that we can best organize the efforts of our officers in their 2017 terms. For your convenience, we have also included the names and emails for all of the elected executive council in this issue of the Crescent.

Finally, I would like to express to you all my appreciation to serve the chapter in this truly humbling office. It has had many highs and lows and has given me a world of experience. As I get ready to leave this office, I offer you the assurance that our chapter will maintain its momentum from national convention and will continue to rise toward excellence. I also challenge each and every one of you to re-engage or, for those of you currently involved, please continue to pledge your time and efforts with us.

*Merry Christmas,
Will Ohlde #1756*



Professionals Program

Alpha Zeta is always looking for new ways to utilize our most important resources: our undergraduate and alumni members. The creation of the Professionals Program over the past year is a direct result of the determination to lead our members by example. The Professionals Program centers around a mentor-style relationship, where undergraduate members are paired with an alumnus that has similar career and personal interests. The first step to a successful relationship is for the mentor and mentee to get to know each other on a personal basis. Many mentees have enjoyed emailing, talking over the phone, and even going to a K-State game with their mentors. I have had the privilege of getting to know my mentor, Kane Hittle, through numerous interactions in person during his visits to Manhattan. Founders' Day and K-State football tailgates have been great environments for Kane and I to get to know each other and share about our experiences in AGR. We are also able to keep in touch through email and text messaging.

As an undergraduate, I can attest that mentors have been very beneficial in providing career advice and exposure, industry insight and expanding your personal network. My interest in biofuels is what led to Kane becoming my mentor as he is a project manager at an oil refinery. He recommended that I talk to his company during the All-University Career Fair, and I had

the opportunity to conduct a phone interview with them. I had never done a phone interview before, so it was great to receive that experience and make a contact within the industry. Kane has also offered to have me down to tour the refinery and to get a firsthand view of what he does.

We are the first AGR chapter in the country to have a program of this nature and of this magnitude. Our hope is that we will lead AGR by example and establish a fine-tuned model that can be used throughout chapters across the nation.

Many thanks should be given to Brothers Jerrod Westfahl, Jason Grady, Ashton Yoder and Kyle Cooney for all their hard work in making this idea a reality.

There are currently 41 pairings and we are hoping the Professionals Program continues to grow. We would encourage any alumni even somewhat interested in participating in this program to please contact Dr. Jason Grady at gradylimousin@yahoo.com, Jacob Peters at peters72@ksu.edu or Kyle Cooney at kylecooney@ksu.edu, so we can get you more information about the program. This pioneering Alpha Zeta initiative can only be as great as the men who make it up.

*Fraternally,
Jacob Peters #1743*



2016 National Convention

The 2016 Alpha Gamma Rho National Convention was held in Omaha, Nebraska, this past August. The Alpha Zeta Chapter had a very strong showing with 14 undergraduate members in attendance along with a number of alumni. The chapter was also very fortunate to have our house mother, Dianna Phillipi, attend the convention. Mom Dianna was recognized for her hard work with the young men of Alpha Zeta and received two awards herself. The undergraduate and alumni chapters also won numerous awards, including highest honor for Alumni Engagement and Highest Honor for Living the Promise and Values. We were also fortunate enough to be recognized as the Maynard H. Coe Chapter Efficiency Award runner-up, an award that we won two years ago, proving our continued success as pioneers for the fraternity.

The convention started on Wednesday, August 10, with committee meetings in the morning. The goals of these committees were to address a few bylaw changes in the national constitution and to nominate brothers for the National Board of Directors and a new Grand President. The afternoon session consisted of a state of the fraternity address from Grand President Cal Willemssen. Brother Willemssen had many positive things to say about the direction of the national fraternity and announced that membership was at an all-time high. The evening commenced with a brotherhood celebration at the Durham Museum. There, brothers were able to socialize with others from around the nation, and tour the museum and the wide variety of exhibits it held.

Thursday morning began with a breakfast sponsored by Monsanto. Vance Crowe spoke about the role young men would have in the future of agriculture and how all members of Alpha Gamma Rho would play a vital part in this. The rest of the morning consisted of breakout sessions with a variety of topics, ranging from table manners to transitioning from college to the workplace. One of these sessions focused on alumni engagement and was moderated by Alpha Zeta alumnus, Jerrod Westfahl. During the awards luncheon, Alpha Zeta brother John Niemann provided a keynote address and spoke about the opportunities in agriculture and encouraged members to broaden their perspective through the different opportunities they would have in their lifetime. A career fair was held in the afternoon followed by an evening event at the Strategic Air Command Museum.

The following day, more breakout sessions were held involving topics such as housing trends and empowering leaders. Alpha Zeta alumnus Nathan Laudan led one of these sessions speaking on how members of AGR could take what they've learned during membership and translate it into future success. The week concluded with an awards banquet. At this session, the undergraduate chapter was recognized as runner-up for the Maynard H. Coe Chapter Efficiency Award. Alpha Zeta alumnus Loren Kruse was inducted into the Alpha Gamma Rho National Hall of Fame. Making this an all-around great National Convention that will certainly be one to remember, and now we turn our attention to doing even better at the 2018 National Convention in New Orleans.



Alpha Zeta takes on Omaha



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Check us out on our website: <http://www.ksuagr.org/home>

National AGR website: www.alphagammarho.org

Join the Alumni Facebook Page

Keep up to date with alumni news through the alumni Facebook page.

Search for K-State AGR Alumni on Facebook, or visit www.facebook.com/groups/ksuagr/.





2017 Ag Symposium

Mark your calendar – February 24, 2017 will feature the third annual AGR Agriculture Symposium. This year's topic will be Consolidation, Trade, and the Changing Landscape of Global Agriculture. With all of the major mergers, trade agreements, and political upheaval, agriculture is sure to experience an interesting next couple of years. This symposium is sure to be an exciting one, with Shane Masters, Roger McEowen and Bob Young as speakers. An additional two speakers will present as well.

Shane Masters hails from South Australia and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Adelaide and an executive MBA from HEC in Paris. Masters joined AGR Partners in 2014 and focuses on the management of new investment opportunities, specializing in agribusiness development and legal counseling.

Roger McEowen is a professor of agricultural law and taxation at Washburn University School of Law. He has been a professor at many universities, including K-State. McEowen is well-published in multiple scholarly articles and a leading author on the income taxation of cooperatives.

Bob Young is the chief economist for the American Farm Bureau. In this role, he coordinates the activities of the Economic

Analysis Team, which helps to improve policy and provide a long-term future for agriculture. Before his tenure at AFBF, Young was the co-director of the University of Missouri's Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute (FAPRI), and the former chief economist for the U.S. Senate Committee on Agriculture where he helped with the Farm Bill.

We are very excited for this year's symposium and are sure that it will be informative as well as challenging. The format will be very similar to last year, with each speaker giving remarks, then an open forum following. We invite you to join us, ready for an exciting time!



Hello, my name is Nathan Welch, I am the newly elected VNR Recruitment. I am a freshman majoring in Agronomy from Haddam, KS.

This year I have the privilege to serve as the recruitment chair of our chapter and face the challenge of bringing in a great group of new members into our fraternity. This is a position that I will not take lightly because of the importance of filling our house with

members that will help our chapter maintain excellence. The issue is that I can't bring in men that I don't know, so I am asking

for help from each of you. If you know of any potential brothers that plans to attend Kansas State University and think that they could be a good fit for our organization, please send me their information. Also, I ask that you reach out to them, as well, and give them your experiences and success achieved from being a part of the Fraternity to help spark an interest. I am excited to be able to serve Alpha Zeta and have the support of such great alumni. Thanks, and I wish you all the best.

With best Regards,
Nathan C. Welch
785-541-1170
natewelch@ksu.edu

RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Alumni are an integral part of Chapter recruitment. With your help, AGR can recruit high-quality members that will continue the tradition of success that is held by the Chapter. Any information you can provide us is extremely helpful. During the spring, we may be contacting some of you to aid us in the recruitment process; look for further information at a later date.

Prospect's name: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Name of parent(s)/guardian: _____
High school attended: _____
Academic status (incoming freshman, JUCO transfer, etc.): _____
Does the prospect have an AGR relative? List name, relationship, chapter: _____
Reference submitted by: _____
Phone _____ Email: _____

Send To:
VNR Recruitment
Nathan Welch
natewelch@k-state.edu

1919 Platt St.
Manhattan, KS 66502



Alpha Gamma Rho National Hall of Fame

The Alpha Gamma Rho National Hall of Fame began in 1974 as a tool to recognize a lifelong commitment to our fraternity and agriculture. Every other year at our national convention, the selection of two to four brothers is based on the evaluation of those nominated across the nation. The purpose of the Hall of Fame is to honor those alumni who have made outstanding contributions to the fraternity, outstanding service in their professional work and exceptional service to mankind. Inductees should be held in high esteem as other AGRs reflect on the brother's stature. Once inducted, each brother is then entrusted with the responsibility to ensure fraternal excellence across the nation and serve as leaders to represent our organizations as those who exemplify our values.

This year we are proud to celebrate the induction of Brother Loren Kruse, #669, into the national hall of fame. Kruse was welcomed into the Hall of Fame at the National Convention in Omaha this past summer. The selection committee stated that Kruse was a clear inductee, with more than 50 years of service to AGR that continues to this very day. He has served as a leader in AGR during his time as an undergraduate and now as an alumnus serving on the Sickles & Sheaf Advisory Board, all while being extremely involved in agriculture and the communications sector as chairman of the national visitors committee for the National Science Foundation and serving as the editor-in-chief of *Successful Farming* magazine. Currently, Kruse and his wife, Elizabeth, live near Grundy Center, Iowa, on a Christmas tree farm and, in spite of his national involvement in numerous professional organizations, his heart and values remain rooted in the soil of Iowa. Kruse joins two other Alpha Zeta brothers in the AGR National Hall of Fame, Ivan Strickler #258 and Warren Nichols #434.

Brother Ivan Strickler, #258, was a native Kansan from the small farming community of Lola in southeast Kansas and a graduate of Kansas State University in 1947 with a degree in dairy science. His collegiate career was interrupted by serving 33 months in the U.S. Navy during World War II in active duty on a P.T. Boat in the South Pacific. Later in life, Ivan served as

president of the National Holstein Association, Mid-American Dairymen, Inc. and the National Dairy Shrine Club. He has judged dairy shows throughout America as well as in Columbia, Brazil, Argentina, Ecuador, Australia and Mexico. In addition, he has made 24 trips throughout the world as a representative of the U.S. State Department, Foreign Agricultural Service and the National Holstein Association. He was appointed to the first National Dairy Promotion and Research Board and served as its first chairman for five years. His three sons, Steve #761, Tom #800 and Doug #937 were also all AGR's here at K-State. Ivan passed at the age of 87 in December of 2008 in Lola, KS.

Brother Warren Nichols, #434, was initiated into Alpha Zeta in the fall of 1953. He went on to receive his DVM from Kansas State University in 1958 and afterward owned and operated the Washington Veterinary Medical Clinic, Germantown Hills Animal Clinic and a boarding and grooming kennel located in Washington, Illinois. Warren has always been very active with AGR, he assisted in the establishment of Beta Delta chapter, his adopted chapter, at Illinois State University and served as its alumni board president for several years. He has served the national fraternity as a member and chairman of the Housing Resources Trust and later was elected to the National Board of Directors, where he served as Grand President from 1990-1992. Nichols went on to complete a six-year term on the Educational Foundation Board for AGR. When inducted into the National AGR Hall of Fame, the committee stated that, "Dr. Nichols' life and career richly embodies the AGR challenge to each of us, that is, a "lifelong" commitment to Alpha Gamma Rho". Warren has retired from his professional life and his wife, Naomi, are the parents of two sons, Brian and Peter #1005, and two daughters, Martha and Angela.

We are all very proud of our alumni who have been inducted into the national Hall of Fame and thank them for their efforts and lifelong commitment to our fraternity. With three brothers in the hall of fame, our chapter is well within the top 10 chapters with the most inductees, showing that at Alpha Zeta, we are certainly building better men.

Alumni Update: In the Shoes of an Undergraduate

The Numbers Shocked Me

It was a casual conversation at one of the Wednesday evening meals at the chapter house recently. As usual, I was trying to get some insight into college life in 2016. "What's tuition these days, anyway?" I asked. The answer more than surprised me. I was shocked now that I think about it. For those of us who haven't sent a child through college within the last decade or more or whose kids aren't yet beginning to plan university visits, there's not much reason to pay attention. Well, here's the answer: \$10,462 for a thirty credit-hour year. That's in-state tuition and privilege fees for a Kansas resident taking College of Ag classes. Add in books and sports tickets for another thousand. Then the house bill from AGR and miscellaneous other reasonable living expenses and the cost approaches \$20,000 per academic year. That's \$80,000 for a four-year degree from our alma mater — if it only takes

four years! WOW. Times have changed. The education is still great, but I made the mistake of assuming today's costs were essentially the same as my time on campus, with a little adjustment for inflation plus a smidge. Wrong. My point is this: If you are like me, it's time to stop underestimating how important our financial support is for our undergraduate brothers. Thanks to many of you for your past support of our various scholarship and house improvement programs. Let's all keep some awareness of just how important it is to continue and extend that support whenever possible. I hope to see you at Pink Rose and the AGR Spring Ag Symposium in February.

Fraternally,
 Jerrod Westfahl #1240
 Alumni Board President



Founders' Weekend

This year was certainly a Founders' Weekend to remember. A record number of alumni, undergraduates and family members gathered at the Bluemont Hotel overlooking campus and Aggieville. Brothers and families traveled from across the nation to spend time with the men of Alpha Gamma Rho.

The weekend began with a scholarship committee meeting, where the discussions honed in on preserving and growing our fiscal capital to aid our undergraduate brothers in their scholastic pursuits. It was truly humbling to meet with alumni who are so passionate about ensuring the affordability of our educations. (More about scholarships in the Alpha Zeta Giving Legacy article).

Later that evening, our reception took place in the ballroom on the top floor of the Bluemont Hotel. Beginning with a social hour, alumni members were able to catch up and undergraduates were able to spend time with some of their alumni mentors. The

Moms' Club kicked off the event with its live auction featuring custom items donated from families and alumni of all sorts. In total, the Moms' Club was able to raise more than \$3,400. Members of the chapter have already seen this generosity put to work with holiday gift bags under our tree at the chapter house and the promise of a riding lawn mower to allow us easier upkeep of the lawn.

On Saturday morning, undergraduates, alumni and family members all sat down for breakfast together, sharing memories and building new relationships. Then, we broke out into the Alumni Association meeting and the Moms' Club meeting to take care of our quarterly business and elect new members to the alumni board. Later that day, we enjoyed the K-State versus Texas Tech game in the newly renovated Bill Snyder Family Stadium, where the 'Cats pulled out an awesome victory after a seesaw battle.



Alpha Zeta's Legacy of Giving

At Alpha Zeta, we strive to live up to the ideals of Alpha Gamma Rho and its purpose which is summed up by its mission statement "Nurture. Grow. Give. Repeat." This year our giving portion of that mission is what we wanted to focus on expanding. With a record number of community service hours preformed, adding a second philanthropy to benefit children in our community, and even adopting two families this winter to ensure they have a wonderful Christmas. And our giving doesn't stop there.

We are fortunate enough to have quite possibly the strongest alumni association in all of AGR, who certainly don't

forget undergraduate brothers when it comes to giving. Each year at our Pink Rose celebration, Alpha Zeta has over \$35,000 in total scholarships to provide. This outstanding amount of giving from our alumni is truly inspiring to each and every member that the brothers before us care so deeply about our educations, they help curve that ever expanding cost. Below is list of all the scholarships offered by Alpha Zeta, and the names of their donors. We want to thank each and every one of you for your monumental support of our chapter, through funding our educations.

Randy Stoecker	Noble Ruler Scholarship	\$2,000.00
Mike Smith	Recruitment Scholarship	3,000.00
Ben Brent	Finance Scholarship	1,000.00
Dale Rodman	Top 4 New Members	2,000.00 each
Steve Burgess	Upperclassman	1,000.00
Doug Weyer	New Members over 3.0 GPA	500.00 each
Roger Johnson	Operation Scholarship	2,000.00
Elmer & Byran Pelton	Upperclassman	1,000.00
Ron Hirst	Judging Team	500.00
Ed Dillinger	Most Improved Grades	500.00
Bill New	Family Upperclassman	1,000.00
	10 Top Rank Scholarships	1,000.00 each
Larry Stuckey	Top Moral Scholarship	1,000.00
Scott Schaake	Competition Scholarship	500.00
Dell Allen	Animal Science Scholarship	500.00
Bob Broeckelman	Ag. Education Scholarship	1,000.00



New Executive Council

We would like to welcome our new officer team and wish them well in their terms for 2017!



(L to R): Row 1: Del Adcock, Rogan Tokach, Lane Forge, Nathan Welch, Reed Sage. Row 2: Matt Powers, Dean Adcock, Derrick Nelson, Coleman Nordhus

Noble Ruler:

Del Adcock #1763
deladcock@ksu.edu

VNR Finance:

Reed Sage #1768
reedlsage12@ksu.edu

VNR Recruitment:

Nathan Welch #1791
natwelch@ksu.edu

VNR Alumni Relations:

Coleman Nordhus #1783
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VNR Membership Development:

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VNR Planning:

Derrick Nelson #1802
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VNR Scholarship:

Rogan Tokach #1792
rttokach@ksu.edu

VNR Operations:

Dean Adcock #1794
adcockdean1@gmail.com

VNR Activities:

Matt Powers #1795
mjpowers@ksu.edu

Homecoming 2016 "Growing Up Purple"

Homecoming afforded the opportunity to promote comradery amongst brothers all the while forging new relationships with the women of Gamma Phi Beta and men of Kappa Alpha Phi. Sunday morning many members embraced homecoming week in its fullest by partaking in a 5K race. It would not make for a full Sunday without the unveiling of our spirit sign and the famed Pant the Chant. Our artistic abilities were put to the test Tuesday evening as we spread the theme of homecoming to Aggieville by painting a storefront window. From the 'Ville' we proceeded to Bramalage Coliseum where homecoming partnerships performed their Wildcat Request Live routine. Thursday brought a day of community engagement as we joined other greeks to host a children's carnival.

With countless hours and tremendous sweat equity Friday was upon us and our float symbolized the end of a week long journey. We marched proudly with our homecoming partners through the streets of Manhattan. As we made our grand entry into Manhattan City Park to discover the results a wave of emotions were felt by all. When the smoke settled the results were as follows:

- 3rd Place Overall
- 2nd Children's Carnival
- 3rd Homecoming Float
- 4th Pant the Chant

None of this would have been made possible without the assistance of Brother Brandon Biem. His resolve not only as Float Chair but to all elements of homecoming provided the boost we needed. Our efforts were greeted with a giant thank you as the Cats triumphed 24-21 over the Texas Longhorns.

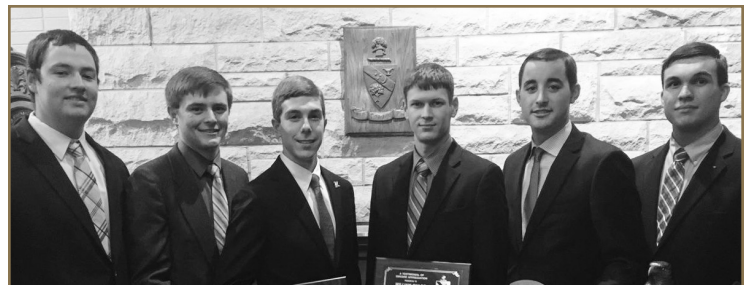
*Go Cats,
Coleman J. Nordhus, #1783*

Editor's Note: Coleman Nordhus is a sophomore from Wichita studying Agronomy. In the spring he will succeed Kyle Cooney as VNR Alumni Relations for 2017.



Annual Undergraduate Awards

Each year the alumni association and advisors present the undergraduates with awards for involvement both in the fraternity, and on campus. This year's recipients were presented to (From Left to Right) Brandon Beim-In House Involvement, Dean Klahr-On Campus Involvement, Morgan Scilacci-Distinguished New Member, Will Ohlde-Noble Ruler Award, Del Adcock-Phoenician Award and Kyle Cooney-Letter to Garcia Award.



(L to R): Brandon Beim, Dean Klahr, Morgan Scilacci, Del Adcock, Kyle Cooney



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Stewart Duncan

Stewart "Stu" Duncan, Ph.D., #855 is a born and raised Kansan who grew up on a small farm in Osage County, Kansas. Stu was initiated into Alpha Zeta in 1976.

After a period away to focus on family and career Stu is reengaging Alpha Zeta to invest his time in an organization that has given so much to him, through his joining of Alpha Zeta's latest initiative, the Professionals

Program. Jace Bowen, sophomore in agronomy has profited greatly from Stu's mentorship. The duo have exemplified what the mentorship program seeks to attain; as Stu has introduced Jace to both colleagues and opportunities in the field they may have gone unnoticed otherwise.

Stu is able to facilitate such chances, in part because of his charm, which complements his extensive background in civil service to the producers of Kansas. 1978-1986 marked Stu's tenure as a county extension agent. To expand his effective impact on Kansas crop growers, he returned to his alma mater to earn his Doctorate of Philosophy. Subsequently, he stayed put serving as the Northeast Area Extension Agronomist. Stu is well respected by colleagues for his pragmatic approach in all his dealings. Likewise, he has become a fan favorite, appearing in courses, such as crop growth and development, to impart his wisdom regarding the cotton industry in Kansas.

When not performing the job that he loves, Stu can be found relishing the outdoors, settling in to a nice history book or spending time with his wife. We are excited to have Stu as a familiar face once again and encourage you to say hello the next you spot him at an Alpha Zeta event.



Todd Johnson

Todd Johnson #1162 was raised on a diverse farming and cattle operation that included both a commercial cow herd and backgrounding feedlot in Central Kansas near Marquette, and to this day is still being operated by his parents, brother and nephews. Todd came to K-State in 1990 and joined AGR where he "was shaped by a set of men with common beliefs, a foundation in agriculture and a desire to be leaders in

industry". One of Todd's fondest memories while in the house was the turnaround of the K-State football program. During his freshman year, their "sneak" took place during a home football game that they decided wasn't worth staying for, during his senior year Coach Snyder had led the team to their first bowl game appearance, the 1993 Copper Bowl. After this, Todd and his roommate even decided to delay their graduations until December, to spend one more football season in Manhattan, and allowing him to see all the Cat's home games, and only missing one away game, to attend Dan Moser's #1110 wedding.

Todd graduated from K-State in 1994 with a degree in Agricultural Economics. After graduation, Todd started his career at the American Hereford Association as the Director of youth activities. Eight months later, Todd joined the Kansas Livestock Association in 1995, as a coordinator of membership recruitment and was a pillar of the government relations team, specifically serving as a lobbyist for the established beef industry trade organization. In 2004, he joined the staff of the Kansas Beef council working with the beef checkoff program to educate consumers about the benefits of beef.





ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

In 2009 he accepted a position at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association in Denver. Currently, Todd is the Senior Vice President of Federation Services and Governance, working directly with the 40 state beef councils across the nation. His efforts focus on providing guidance for strategic planning and programs that build the demand for beef. While also serving as counsel with the board of directors and officers to help guide the organization as the beef industry continues to evolve.

Todd married the love of his life, Mandy in 2009. She hails from Texas and serves as a research scientist also at NCBA. They live in Highlands Ranch, Colorado frequently traveling to Texas and Kansas to keep in touch with family, and after 25 years, still continues many relationships with his Brothers at Alpha Zeta.



Steve Slusher

Dr. Steve Slusher, DVM #630 was the second generation of his family to be born on a farm and ranching operation in Council Grove, Kansas. Their farm consisted of two locations where they raised beef and dairy cattle, pigs and horses. Steve's father held positions at various

other farms, allowing Steve and his siblings to help around the farm, and fostering Steve's interest in horses. They then moved to the Wichita area, first in the city in 1956 and on a farm just outside of town in 1960.

After graduating from Wichita East High School in the spring of 1963, Steve went straight to K-State that summer to work towards a veterinary medicine degree. He moved into Goodnow Dormitory when he first came to Manhattan, then moved to an

apartment for his freshman year. In the fall of 1964, Steve moved into 1919 Platt; he, along with just three others were initiated into Alpha Zeta. While at K-State, Steve was also very involved on campus, competing on the wool and dairy judging teams and was active in the student chapter of the American Veterinary Medical Association.

He received his DVM from K-State in 1970 and earned his master's degree from Oklahoma State University in 1984. Steve also became accredited by the American College of Theriogenology. After graduating, Steve joined the United States Air Force Veterinary Corps as a major, serving at the Minot Air Force Base. He moved to Tulsa, OK in 1972 and worked in a private practice until 1978, when he joined the faculty at Oklahoma State University as a professor of equine medicine and surgery. While at OSU, Steve initiated the Barren Mare Program in the early 1990's, with a focus of providing clinical diagnostics, treatments, and controlled breeding management for older mares to assist them in conceiving and carrying their pregnancies to full term. Consisting of both a clinical service as well as ongoing research this program was the first of its kind, and relied heavily on a strong trust between clients and participating veterinarians, allowing Steve to represent OSU as an industry leader. Of course that was not enough to keep Steve busy, so he also worked at the McConnell Air Force Base in Wichita, KS from 1980 to 2001. When in 2001 Steve traveled to the United Arab Emirates to work in the Dubai Equine Hospital until 2007. Since his return to the United States, he retired and now is working part time at a small animal practice in Tulsa, and is a Track Veterinarian for the Will Rogers Downs, in Claremore, OK.

Steve currently lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma with his wife Nancy, and loves spending time with his daughter Amy, his son Scott and their four grandchildren. He and Nancy are able to enjoy their time by traveling across the country, and have made it to every event with Alpha Zeta that anyone can recall.

Pink Rose 2017



We are excited to announce that for the second year in a row, our Pink Rose celebration will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn. We will have our Agricultural Symposium on the afternoon of February 24, discussing the topic of Consolidation, Trade, and the Changing Landscape of Global Agriculture. Our Pink Rose reception will be February 25 at the Hilton, the link provided below is available for anyone who would like to be in our block of rooms available at the Hilton Garden Inn for the weekend at just \$99 a night.

http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/M/MANGIGI-AGPR-20170225/index.jhtml?WT.mc_id=POG

Don't forget to register at: www.ksuagr.org



Letter from Mom Dianna



It's been another great semester at AGR. We are all looking forward to some well-deserved down time. The house moms at K-State meet a couple of times a month to vent and brainstorm. We call it "WINE AND WHINE"! While I enjoy the wine I don't have anything to whine about. I am proud of my sons in how they represent AGR and the greek Community. Again, thank you for sharing you sons with me.

The highlight of this semester is AGR's partnership for the first time ever with our local Salvation Army. The Salvation Army has always been special to me. When

I learned that our local Salvation Army had to pay people to ring bells I approached Michael McKinney, our Philanthropy Chair, and discussed how AGR could step up and get the greek community involved in volunteering as Bell ringers. The Salvation Army was both surprised and appreciative of the greeks covering the first two weeks in December. What a big financial blessing this is for the Salvation Army. The men of AGR are determined to make this an annual commitment. Just another proud Mom moment.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to your family. I pray for safe travels for my son's as they join family and friends.

*Sincerely,
Mom Dianna*

Lost Brothers

Unfortunately we have lost touch with these brothers. If you have their address and phone number would you please send it to us at 1919 Platt, Manhattan, KS 66502. Attn.: Alumni Relations.

We would really appreciate your help in getting back in touch with these brothers!

Mr. Mark Baker	991	Mr. Robert Giess	802	Mr. Eric Niehues	1466
Mr. Adam Balzer	1318	Dr. Wayne Good	220	Mr. Ethan Peck.	1449
Mr. Darin Barta	1135	Mr. William Griffing DVM	228	Mr. Tim Pralle	1441
Mr. Frank Beesley	1290	Mr. James Hahn Jr.	1109	Mr. John Priest.	1547
Mr. Matthew Beyer	1521	Mr. Raymond Hare	1298	Mr. Edward Reece	817
Mr. Brett Bishop	1207	Mr. Robert Harmon.	721	Mr. William Reed.	591
Mr. Weylan Bosse	1384	Mr. Richard Hartman	429	Mr. Stephen Reedy.	621
Mr. Charles Brackney	260	Mr. Jack Hendrix	572	Mr. Jason Rethman	1360
Dr. Quentin Brands.	1254	Mr. Glenn Herrmann	1211	Mr. Max Roberts	227
Mr. Garman Breitenbach	391	Mr. Eric Herrs.	1163	Mr. Kyle Rockhill.	1480
Mr. William Buckles	1348	Mr. Chris Holderman	1553	Mr. Christopher Royston.	1234
Mr. Harold Carroll	272	Mr. Brady James.	1620	Mr. Randal Schmidt.	1170
Mr. Randall Chrisler	1017	Mr. Grant Johnson	1028	Mr. Jason Simon	1432
Mr. Allen Clark	146	Mr. Patrick Johnson.	1097	Mr. Douglas Slawson.	1366
Mr. Wade Colgrove	1370	Mr. Thomas Klaassen	790	Mr. William Smalley.	392
Mr. Stephen Combs	816	Mr. Martin Lane.	1209	Mr. David Smith	259
Mr. Robert Condon.	291	Dr. James Laughlin DVM	414	Mr. John Smith	1015
Mr. Chris Co	1603	Mr. Eric Lomas.	1439	Mr. Thomas Smith.	1144
Mr. Jacob Debolt.	1278	Mr. Jeff Long	1452	Mr. Curtis Stockdale	1332
Mr. Tyler Dechant	1581	Mr. Darren Macfee.	1242	Mr. Rodney Tinney Jr.	822
Mr. Colten Deutsch.	1648	Capt Evan Mai.	945	Mr. Rudolf Titsworth.	524
Mr. C. Shane Dicks	1232	Mr. Michael Mazouch	1356	Mr. Roger Tointon	495
Mr. Mark Drake.	426	Mr. Lawrence McCorgary	824	Mr. Michael Torrey	1022
Dr. James Drolte	433	Mr. Francis Menghini	453	Mr. Garrett Vanzee.	1263
Mr. Aaron Dunn	1329	Mr. Ryan Meyer	1323	Mr. Wayne Ward	212
Mr. Mason Ely	423	Mr. Joseph Miller.	1202	Mr. Sam Weinhold	1319
Mr. Peter Fletcher.	834	Mr. Zach Mueller.	1497	Mr. James Williams.	838
Mr. Kurtis Frick	1401	Mr. Michael Murphy.	380	Mr. Benjamin Williams.	1523
Mr. Ryan Garrett	1403	Mr. David Newby	1351	Mr. Ben Winsor	1442
Mr. Harold Gentry.	347	Mr. Kent Nichols	1446		



Alumni Association Board Update

Ken Smith #732 announced this fall that he will be retiring from our Alumni Association Board, after many years of dedicated service to Alpha Zeta. Ken served as one of three directors at large for the board, and is noted by the board as being a passionate member who was always willing to put any amount of time or effort into the house. We would all like to thank Ken for his decades of service to house, as he truly is living the charge "four years and a lifetime".

Will Longinaker #1684 was elected to the open position of director at large, at the fall Alumni Association Board meeting. Will graduated from K-State in the spring of 2015 with a degree in Agricultural Economics, and has since returned to manage the

family farming operation in Randolph, Iowa. Will's addition to the board brings a new input from the next generation of Alpha Zeta alumni. Also joining the Alumni Board this fall, is **Jim Garrison** #1067 who was elected to the open position of Vice President of Fund Raising. A position that truly fits him well. Jim's son, Luke is a senior majoring in Chemical Engineering, and led the efforts to develop the Roger Johnson Patio. Lisa, Jim's wife is the President of the Chapter's Moms' Club that works to make 1919 Platt feel more like a home to every Brother. Thank you to both Will and Jim for committing their time and effort to help keep Alpha Zeta as one of the top chapters in the Nation.

Thank You



On behalf of Alpha Zeta, thank you Ken Smith for a lifetime of commitment.

Alumni Association Board

President

Jerrod Westfahl #1240
Jerrod.westfahl@gmail.com

VP Chapter Relations

Jason Grady #1325
gradylimousin@yahoo.com

VP Awards

Justin Hagedorn #1605
hagedornjd@gmail.com

Director 3

Rick Perkins #1045
Rickperk42@att.net

Treasurer

Ben Brent #478
bbrent@flinthills.com

VP Fund Raising

Jim Garrison #1067
jim@jimgarrison.biz

Director 1

Chad Chase #1364
chad@cgnadvisors.com

Advisors

Josh Roe #1413
jroe445@hotmail.com
Peter Tomlinson
ptomlinson@k-state.edu
Garrett Lister #1616
garrett.c.lister@gmail.com

Secretary

Jeff Sutton #1341
jeffsutton@gmail.com

VP Property Management

Roger Johnson #607
wrjohn@ksu.edu

Director 2

Will Longinaker #1683
Wlonginaker@gmail.com



Farewell to Our Graduating Seniors

Denver Johnston #1690 will be receiving his B.S. Agriculture with a major in Agricultural Economics and is pursuing a career in law enforcement. Sam Knauss #1704 will be conferred a B.S. Agriculture with a major in Agronomy with the distinction of Magna Cum Laude. Sam will return to his hay enterprise in Paola following graduation. Nathan Smart #1723 will be awarded a B.S. Agriculture with a major in Agricultural Economics- also receiving the distinction of Magna Cum Laude. Nathan will remain in Manhattan as he pursues a Master's degree under Brian Briggeman in the Department of Agricultural Economics. This semester we have relaunched a lost Alpha Zeta tradition of having some of our local alumni take our graduating seniors to dinner before they walk across the stage, to offer last pieces of advice, and to encourage continued involvement with Alpha Zeta.



(L to R): Row 1: Jerrod Westfahl, Jeff Sutton, Jason Grady, Ashton Yoder.
Row 2: Denver Johnston, Roger Johnson, Sam Knauss, Nathan Smart



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Name: _____ Year Initiated: _____ Year Graduated: _____

Address: _____ Major: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Telephone: _____ Wife's Name: _____

Children (names, ages, etc.) _____

Suggestions to improve Alumni Relations:

Please tell us any information about what is going on in your life:

Please take time to fill out the questionnaire. By filling this out you will be helping to improve our alumni relations.



Send to:

VNR Alumni Relations

Kyle Cooney
1919 Platt St.
Manhattan, KS 66502
kylecooney@k-state.edu