



ALPHA GAMMA RHO

CRESCENT

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER • KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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SPRING 2014

2013 Founder's Day

One of the biggest events for our chapter every year is the annual Founder's Day celebration. Again this year, like last year the event was held in the fall to better accommodate the alumni who come back to K-State for football games. Our chapter was very honored and privileged to have AGR Grand President Arlen Wonderlich attend and bring remarks on behalf of the national organization. As for the football game, the Wildcat football team was very impressive as they put up a 41 to 7 score up on the Iowa State Cyclones. Roughly 40 parents also attended the celebration, making it one of the largest Alpha Gamma Rho events we have hosted.

The weekend started out with the quarterly board meeting of the Alpha Zeta alumni board. Elections were held and it was determined that the officers for the following year will be as followed: President, Jerrod Westfahl; Treasurer, Ben Brent; Secretary, Jeff Sutton; VP of Fundraising, Steve Slusher, VP Chapter Relations, Jason Grady; VP Property Management, Roger Johnson; VP Awards, Adam Baldwin; Director 1, Chad Case; Director 2, Ken Smith; and Director 3, Rick Perkins. We look forward to these gentlemen leading our house to new heights.

Friday night was the main banquet where the Kansas weather also showed up, bringing with it hail and heavy rain. Luckily for us, we were able to have our event at the International Grains Program building located on K-State's campus. Tours of the brand new O. H. Kruse Innovation Feed Mill and Kansas Wheat Association buildings were available for guests to attend before the banquet started. Brother Dalton Henry #1570, who serves as the Governmental Affairs Specialist for



Members and Guests enjoying Dinner



Grand President Arlen Wonderlich



Brothers Garrett Kays, Arlen Wonderlich, and Reagan Kays



Nobel Ruler Will Longinaker giving Opening Remarks

Kansas Wheat, was gracious enough to provide tours of the building and greenhouses. Staff members of the International Grains Program center provided the tours of the feed mill, flour mill and grains science center. Fortunately, these building were close enough that guests managed to move from building to building in the harsh storm.

The dinner was served in the atrium of the International Grains Program that was decorated in K-State purple and AGR green and yellow. The meal was prepared by the Kansas State University Animal Science students, who excel in cooking great steaks. One other special guest in attendance was ag policy professor, Barry Flinchbaugh, who was very grateful for the opportunity to attend and see several of his past students. President, Will Longinaker, gave opening remarks and served as the master of Ceremonies. Lora Longinaker, president of the Mom's Club gave an update on recent donations they have made to the house including the new lighted sign on the front of the house, new scanner, and improved security system. Bob Broeckelman, chair of the capital campaign, talked about the continued success of our capital campaign and gave introductions to three new scholarships our alumni are giving to undergraduate members. While he was talking, \$12,500 was raised from the floor from gracious supporters. The key note speaker of the night was the Grand President himself and he opened with a remark about his alma mater of Iowa State playing our Wildcats the next day. Wonderlich spoke on the state of our fraternity and how we are a strong but growing fraternity that is looking at options of expanding into Canada as

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About AGR Connect

AGR Connect is a fairly new system to Alpha Gamma Rho, but more importantly it isn't highly known by our alumni what it actually is. It is an online system that compiles information from every chapter around the nation to one location. The system is extremely helpful for our undergraduates. The undergraduate officers each have their own tool box where they can save and store documents for other chapters to look at and post other new ideas for events like recruitment weekends, Founders' Day, senior nights and scholarship banquets. Our recruitment and alumni vice noble rulers have been using the templates to keep better track of alumni and potential new members.



Other undergraduate members have the ability to learn more about our national organization through a series of courses that provide information about our fraternity. However, it is not only for our undergraduates; there are also several tools that can be beneficial to our alumni. There are mini courses in goal setting and action plans. The alumni are also welcome to take the membership development courses to brush up on new information about our fraternity. I encourage anyone who is interested to try it out. The link can be found at alphagammarho.org. The username is our chapter code of 030- and then your PIN. The password is your last name, in lower case.

State of the Fraternity



Will Longinaker
Noble Ruler-2013

As we start another great semester here in Manhattan, I have much to report. We had several milestones that exemplify Alpha Zeta. The first milestone was the reception of many awards from our national office this past summer. We were also lucky enough to have another brother receive the Undergraduate Achievement Award and several more receive national scholarships. The next milestone was initiating 23 new members that show a great deal of promise. Our next accomplishment came when our homecoming paring won the Kansas State University homecoming competition. We were incredibly happy that all

of our hours of hard work paid off. However, the celebration was short lived, as we only had a week to get the house back into perfect order for Founders' Day. I would like to personally thank all of the alumni, undergraduates and families that attended and helped make Founders' Day such a resounding success. A success that was epitomized by a remark that Arlen Wonderlich, Alpha Gamma Rho's Grand President, made while he was talking with Ben Brown, VNR Alumni Relations. Arlen made the remark that he knew we had a good chapter, but he didn't know it was this good. Our most recent milestone was the election of a new executive council that has a very deep pool of experience and ability. My successor will be Ashton Yoder and I believe he will continue to lead our chapter along the road of success. It's been a great year serving as the Noble Ruler and I look forward to the continued success of Alpha Zeta.

ALPHA ZETA OF ALPHA GAMMA RHO ALUMNI BOARD

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New Campaign Gifts Will Support Scholarships

With the mortgage to be retired as soon as 2017 and priority house improvements completed, Campaign Treasurer Ben Brent '56 says new gifts should support our scholarship endowment – our third and final campaign priority. This would ensure AGR's ability to extend upward of \$30,000 in awards annually for years to come. Although all campaign gifts are appreciated, with a minimum total contribution of \$25,000, Alpha Zeta alumni are joining up to recognize the specific contributions of their peers and mentors. Consider the Howard R. Bradley Agriculture Education Scholarship made possible by The Morgan Family, Darrell Cardell '70 and Eunice Bradley. Similar efforts are underway to support:

1. The Ben Brent Award for Excellence
2. The Del Allen Animal Science Award
3. The Scott Schaaque Agriculture Competition Award

4. The Noble Ruler Award

Randy Stoecker '66 has issued a challenge. Already a capital campaign donor, he will contribute \$5,000 to the Noble Ruler Award IF an additional \$20,000 can be secured.

To participate in this historic project, complete a pledge card available on our website (www.ksuagr.org) and remit to Ben Brent at PMB Box 339, 1228 Westloop, Manhattan, KS 66502-2840. If you are interested in supporting any one of these scholarship initiatives, please include a check addressed to the Educational Foundation of AGR. In the memo section of your check, please indicate which scholarship you are choosing to support. Contact Jennifer Noble Campaign Coordinator, at 217-840-9684 if you have any questions or have an interest in founding your own scholarship at the \$25,000 level.

And the 2013 Homecoming Winners Are. . .

From a student's perspective it's a strange burdensome feeling when homecoming preparation starts eight full months before the actual week and an even stranger feeling when float building, Wildcat Request Live practices and Pant the Chant practices start three months before. However after all of the work, planning, long sleepless nights and intense practices the taste of winning feels all so good. That is what our members along with Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha of Clovia, and Alpha Kappa Lambda "A Team" felt this year after winning the 2013 homecoming competition. This was the first time Alpha Gamma Rho had won homecoming in several years and for members of Alpha Clovia and Alpha Kappa Lambda this was the first time ever winning. For some of our alumni these events might not sound familiar so a brief example will be given for some of the events that contain a large portion of the scoring. Pant the Chant is a chant that involves stomping and stepping. It is highly scored



on precision, unity and creativity. Wildcat Request Live is a dance contest with lots of flips lifts and extreme stunts. Paint the Ville is probably the oldest tradition where each pairing is assigned a certain business in Aggieville to decorate. The rest of the events are pretty self-explanatory. The week started out with the annual Pant the Chant contest, where the "A-Team" took third place. In Paint the Ville, our first number one placing was earned. In Wildcat Request Life the "A-Team" once again took third place. The children's carnival, which is a favorite for most people was once again successful for us as we claimed top honors. First place was also earned in the parade spirit contest. Along with several fourth and fifth place honors the "A-Team" was the only pairing that placed in every event, showcasing our consistency. The women of Alpha Delta Phi were very thankful for our dedication and several of the seniors claimed that we were the best chapter they have had the privilege of working with.

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2013 Founder's Day

well as other United States schools. He talked briefly on the option of starting a national philanthropy. The highlight of his speech was when he stated, "I knew there was a good chapter at Kansas State, but I didn't know it was this good." This is a huge testimony to our undergraduates, alumni board and alumni of our goal to be a premier fraternity.

Saturday was a relaxed day with causal interaction at the chapter house by the alumni and the semiannual meeting of our Moms' Club. The Moms' Club voted in favor of buying new couches to put around the new pool table and to tune the piano in the formal living room. Members and guests

then had the privilege to attend the College of Agriculture Alumni tailgate, where again it was a reunion time for many of our alumni who haven't seen their class mates in several years. The Wildcats nearly shutout the Cyclones before Iowa State scored with one minute left in the game.

All together, it was a great weekend spent by those that attended and a wonderful showcase of what our chapter has to offer to the national fraternity. Several of the attendees had not been back to Kansas State University since the day they left and were amazed with the changes. K-State is a strong and growing university and our chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho is improving just the same.



Repairs to the House Made Possible by Alumni

It's easy to see that after several years of a house full of young men the house can start to show signs of wear. The house is usually kept at its cleanest, but even at that there are 56 plus people walking up and down the hallways and stairs. Our carpet and tile definitely take the blow every year when the homecoming float is being built. When the campaign began in the fall of 2011, priority needs included parking lot/driveway improvements, carpet replacement and improved bathroom floor drainage. Then after a break in during the spring academic 2012 semester, a need for a new security system was evident. Our alumni and mom's club have been extremely helpful in making our house one of the nicest chapter houses on campus. This last year \$45,000 from the capital campaign made the following improvements possible.

New Door Security System and Door
Improvements to the Parking Lot

Additional Spots added to Parking Lot
New Lighted AGR Sign
New Paint Coat to Back Deck
New Kitchen Roll-Up Doors
Replacement of Ceiling Light Fixtures
5 team Cleaning of Kitchen and Bathrooms
Repair of East Door Awning
A new Barbeque Grill
Dining Room Table Repairs
Replaced Window Shades
Yard Landscaping
New Paint in some of the House

During the annual pride day, there were 20 undergraduate members, Roger Johnson, Josh Roe, Peter Tomlinson, and Keith Westervelt that came and helped make these improvements possible.



New Driveway Entrance



New Lighted AGR Sign



Back Deck and New Grill

Brother Kays Serves in the National Spotlight



**Reagan Kays,
National
Undergraduate
Director**

Reagan Kays, a senior at Kansas State University, was initiated in 2010 to Alpha Gamma Rho and served our chapter as VNR of Alumni Relations in 2012. Brother Kays was selected to serve as an undergraduate director on the Alpha Gamma Rho National Board of Directors. There are four of these positions selected from around the country displaying the significance of this achievement for both him and our chapter.

Reagan's service to agriculture is evident through his membership in the Kansas and National Junior Angus Association, and for traveling abroad to the Czech Republic and Brazil to study

agricultural economics. He is involved with numerous other organizations and associations as well. He hopes to attend the University of Arkansas Law School to secure a degree in food and agricultural law. He intends to be a positive advocate for agriculture and make a significant contribution to the industry by assisting individual producers and agriculture businesses.

He chose to attend Kansas State University for three reasons: the great College of Agriculture, the family-like atmosphere K-State provides and because many of his family members are Wildcats. Kays stated, "I was familiar with Alpha Gamma Rho, but when I joined, I had no idea what an impact it would have on my life. We would like to congratulate Reagan on his achievement of being selected to the National Board of Directors and wish him continued success on other aspects of his life."



AGR Helps Earn A National Title, Again!

The Kansas State University Crops Team recently captured the title of national champion for the fifth year in a row. K-State teams have won the crops contest championship in 12 of the past 15 years. To win the 2013 national title, the team won both the Kansas City American Royal Collegiate Crops Contest on Nov. 19 and the Chicago Collegiate Crops Contest on Nov. 23.

K-State placed first at both contests in plant-and-seed identification and grain grading, and second in seed analysis. Individually, the three K-State team members completed a rare sweep of the top three places in both contests. For their performance, the team received a team scholarship award from the competition sponsors at Kansas City. The CME Group provided individual scholarships to the top five students.

Official members of the K-State team were Jeri Sigle, senior, Council Grove; Nathan Larson, sophomore, Kensington; Morgan Halderson, senior, Delphos; Brother Sam Knauss #1704, Paola; Tyler Herrs, Linn; and Ben Coomes, Girard. All are agronomy majors except Sigle, who is majoring in agricultural education with a minor in agronomy. Dr. Kevin

Donnelly, professor in Agronomy, once again coached the team. This was Dr. Donnelly's fifth title since returning back to Kansas State after a teaching stint at Oklahoma State.



Brother Sam Knauss helps Kansas State University to another championship.

Brother Sam Knauss said, "I really enjoy being a part of the Kansas State Crops Judging Team because it gives me the ability to learn from the older members and the ability to continue learning identifying features of plants that will help me later in the workforce." He also said, "It was fun being a part of a winning team and that Dr. Donnelly always encourages us not to be the team that breaks the streak."

Alpha Gamma Rho members at Kansas State have had a long tradition of helping the KSU crops team earn the title of national champions. To this date we are not sure of how many brothers have assisted in these teams but there is evidence that the tradition dates back several years. Currently we are working to update our databases for contest teams at Kansas State. If you were an AGR and competed on the crops judging team or any other judging team at Kansas State, we would like to get your information to update our plaques. You can email Ben Brown at bpbrown@ksu.edu or call 1-660-492-

AGR National Convention

Make plans now to attend the largest gathering of Alpha Gamma Rho alumni and members of the year. August 1st – 4th has been set as the dates of the biennial national convention. The convention will once again be returning to the heartland of the Midwest by being held in Indianapolis, Indiana. Convention is a great way to meet other AGR members from the around the nation and to participate in several key discussions that have serious impact on the betterment of our fraternity. Several tours will be available



as well like: the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, the National FFA Center, Indiana Horse Racing Track and several other interesting tours. If you would like to register, there is information on AGR's website of alphagammarho.org. AGR does not handle room reservations, but the group rate is available several days prior to and after the convention dates at the Indianapolis Marriott. Our chapter has the opportunity to receive several awards and we would be honored to have our alumni there.

2014 Alpha Zeta Executive Council

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What I've learned from successful agriculturists



Loren Kruse

By Loren Kruse #669

I am honored to be asked by Brother Ben Brown to write a *Crescent* article reflecting on my 36-year career at *Successful Farming* magazine. I could write a book. But I won't. Instead I will share a snackable portion of a favorite theme: What I've learned from successful agriculturists.

With the promise of success embedded in my magazine's title, I made the study of success in agriculture a daily focus. Of course, all of us every day think about things that will further our success. Research studies show people rate success as the No. 1 most-coveted result they want from their work and life.

AGRs are known for achievement and success. The Purpose of AGR doesn't mention success. But the Purpose's intent is clearly to prepare men for honorable and successful lives. What exactly is success? And what metrics do you use other than a dollar sign? Below are just six of dozens of attributes that I have observed in successful agriculturists. Each of these attributes fits under a broader description I simply label *Successful agriculturists are growers*.

Successful agriculturists: Grow their passion. Psychologists tell us that people pursue with the most passion what they dream about. Sadly, studies indicate that only 20% of people say that's the case for them in their current work. Successful agriculturists, however, feel truly called to their careers. They see agriculture not as a job but as a calling of purpose, significance and meaning. That view is clearly evident in one definition of *vocation* I found in the dictionary: "A summons from God to an individual or group to undertake the obligations and perform the duties of a particular task or function in life; a divine call to a place of service to others in accordance with the divine plan."

Upshot: Those words fire me up for my role in the world's most important industry. How about you?

Grow their choices. Earned ability to choose is powerful. One attribute of successful agriculturists is that they choose to outwork the vast majority of people. High achievers plan for and then do what the vast majority of people may only think about, but never do.

K. Anders Ericsson, professor of psychology at Florida State University, is known as the world's most prominent expert on expertise. Ericsson's vast research refutes the conventional wisdom that top achievers in any endeavor possess extraordinary talent or aptitudes that the rest of us don't have. Says Ericsson: "I have yet to find a talented person who didn't earn their talent through hard work and practice."

While I admire hard work and achievement, I admire even more people who have put themselves in position to be sought and chosen by others. Early in my career I asked a professional farm manager how he chose new operators for farms he managed. He said he first assembled a list of operators who had strong track records of high performance, good stewardship and integrity. "Then," he said, "from that list I simply choose somebody I'd really like to work with."

Upshot: Successful agriculturists not only grow the competencies that make them stand out, but they also grow attributes, such as genuine likability, that draw others to want to work with them and to follow them as leaders.

Grow by storm. How you behave with uncontrolled adversity storming around you distinguishes you as a person and as a leader far more than how you behave with the equivalent of a bumper crop in the field and limit-up prices on the Board of Trade. One of the great preachers of all time, the late Adrian Rogers, said this about life's storms: "There are three kinds of people: Those who are in the middle of a storm, those who are emerging from a storm, and those who will soon be in one."

When facing difficult circumstances, successful agriculturists call time-out and confront the



challenge. I call it the halftime rule: Halftime scores are totally irrelevant! If you pay attention to box scores, note how often the team behind at halftime wins the game — more often than you may think. That's because the team behind at halftime makes changes — often significant changes. They adjust to do something different.

Upshot: Call timeout when needed, get help, and make deliberate changes that can lead to an improved outcome for your situation or career.

Grow friends everywhere. Successful agriculturists seek and build genuine friendships in at least five other states and the world. Friends away from home both within and outside agriculture help them maintain a healthier mental and emotional attitude and expose them to a broader worldview.

Friendships yield other benefits as well. *The Luck Factor* is a book that tries to explain why some people are luckier than others. One explanation is called the Spiderweb Structure. It means that people who are often thought of as lucky also usually have a high number — a spiderweb — of friends. In this big spiderweb they catch more ideas, tips and scraps of information leading to more opportunities and better decisions.

Upshot: While our friends at home are important, friends away from home give us additional balance and perspective. AGRs have a worldwide spiderweb of brothers. I never traveled from my office on business or to give a speech without first checking my AGR national directory.

Grow value. Successful agriculturists increase their own value with a commitment to learning. While many of us wish the pace of change and flow of new information would slow, successful agriculturists accept that learning takes forever. They aggressively and deliberately seek to learn from any and all sources. They continually upsize their skills and knowledge to match their dreams and goals while focusing more on what's next than what's now.

Successful agriculturists also drive to increase value in every endeavor, enterprise or group in which they contribute or lead. As they grow value, such as in a business enterprise, it benefits everybody.

Upshot: Maintaining satisfactory performance and value requires constant upsizing of skill and knowledge. It is doing dozens of things efficiently. The most appreciated of all successful agriculturists, however, are those who are highly effective as well as efficient. Effective agriculturists provide the ideas that advance, expand and grow the value of the enterprise or entity. Businesses measure this value as profitable new revenue growth. A group, such as AGR, can measure effectiveness in membership growth or even by increased demand for AGR job seekers, who the marketplace recognizes as better men and better equipped because of the AGR experience.

Grow others. Successful agriculturists are caring, encouraging and kind. They are known for lifting others up in a world that cries for positive, inspiring leadership. They add to the joy of any task or meeting just by showing up.

Successful agriculturists remember each boost given to them along their journeys just as good shooters in basketball give shout-outs to good passers. Marcus Foster is K-State's leading scorer and one of the top freshman players in the nation. But no matter how great Foster is, he can't score one point until another player passes him the ball.

Truly successful agriculturists always remember who tossed them the ball. They honor those people and groups that have made a significant impact in their lives. They give of their resources so that others who follow behind them might have the same personal and life-building experiences they enjoyed in such groups as 4-H, FFA and AGR.

Alpha Zeta Chapter is near the end of a successful capital campaign that will benefit future brothers for years to come. The percentage of brothers contributing is significant but should be much higher. If you have not yet given, please call time-out. Reflect on how the AGR experience helped make you a better and more successful man. If you are like me, you can never fully repay AGR.

Upshot: But try anyway! Write a check of any size, pass the ball to a young AZ AGR shooter, and earn this "assist" in your box score: A happier and healthier life for practicing generosity. Research studies confirm it!



Study Abroad Opportunities Continue for Members

Students who want to take risk, push themselves to try something new and experience a whole new culture that otherwise may never have been discovered, these are the students who often find themselves looking through and trying to decide on a study abroad program that is a perfect fit for them. Kansas State's College of Agriculture offers many opportunities and options for students who wish to get a little more out of their college experience. Whether it is a two-week trip with Dr. Andrew Barkley, professor of Agriculture Economics, to China or a semester spent in Amsterdam on your own, College of Agriculture students, including members of Alpha Gamma Rho, have taken hold of some truly incredible study abroad experiences over the past few years.

Nathan Laudan had the extreme privilege of studying abroad this past summer in France through the College of Ag's exchange program with École d'ingénieurs de

Purpan in Toulouse, France. This program is unique to most study abroad programs at K-State as it includes an internship component on top of studying at the campus. Nathan spent his first month in France studying viticulture and enology on campus in Toulouse.



Nathan Laudan -
Burgundy, France

Viticulture and enology is the study of growing grapes, vines and producing wine and due to his study abroad experience in an industry that he hopes to someday have a career in. Classes for him consisted of learning the general wine culture in France, wine tasting and touring different wine facilities throughout all of France. His group also had classes in French language, culture and animal production as it related to France and the European Union. They had planned excursions built into their schedule where Nathan had the incredible opportunity to hike the Pyrenees Mountains, spend a day on the beach in Barcelona and explore the city of Marseilles.

You may say, this kid has wine tasting as a class and on weekends is going to Barcelona. Sounds like a pretty complete study abroad experience to me. You would be correct and up until his second month he believed it too. The month of July, Nathan lived and worked at Domaine Févre. His internship allowed him to experience everyday life with a French family working in the vineyard and was a month full of memories Nathan won't forget. Whether it was his host family having to constantly translate the

stream of French the co-workers were yelling or celebrating Bastille Day, French Independence Day, with the village and shooting off fireworks Nathan won't soon forget his summer abroad with his gracious hosts.

Nathan can probably go on and on about his summer abroad but so can our other brothers here at Alpha Zeta who have had the chance to visit overseas and experience new cultures for themselves. Kurtis Clawson, Will Longinaker and Michael Porter explored South Africa and the incredibly diverse environment it has. Not only is it



Will Longinaker, Michael Porter, and Kurtis Clawson -
Blyde River Canyon, South Africa

becoming an up and coming agricultural leader it also offers some incredible wildlife that they took in on an African Safari. Andrew Strasburg spent a semester in Amsterdam studying agricultural economics. While there, not only did he meet friends from all across the world but spend time all across Europe seeing many of the sights that

are popular for European travelers. Reagan Kays spent a summer in the Czech Republic learning about the agriculture industry, studying in Prague.

While each of us has different stories to tell and different memories we will keep, one thing we do agree on is that studying abroad exposes you and



Andrew Strasburg -
Rotterdam, Netherlands

challenges you to think critically in the world we live in. It shows you truly how global our changing world is and impacts you for the rest of your life. So to not only the undergraduates but to our alumni and friends reading this article. Take a chance, challenge yourself and plan a trip abroad. You never know what you may discover.



Advisor Report - Fall 2013



**Josh Roe,
Advisor**

Greetings!

I hope this finds you well. It's hard to believe that another fall semester has flown by so fast. This past semester started out with an almost record sized initiation class. I often times worry about such a large class, but due to some great leadership by every older member in the house, especially the Executive Council, our retention rate is superb! Speaking of the Executive Council, chapter elections were recently held and we have a very

impressive slate of new officers. However, they have quite a

bit to live up to because this outgoing Executive Council was without a doubt among the best that I have been involved with.

I really have nothing "advisor specific" to report except that if you are reading this and maybe you either feel out of touch with the active chapter or would like to get involved there's never been a better time than right now! You hear about all of the accolades this group is receiving, please come and meet them for yourselves. The guys would love for you to stop by! As always, do not hesitate to email roe@ksu.edu or call (785) 410-0958 if you have any questions or just want to catch up.

Fraternally,

Josh Roe, #1413

Giving Appreciated Property

Our recent capital campaign was a major success, establishing funds for mortgage reduction and scholarships to enable to recruit and retain the best students for Alpha Zeta. However, our charge doesn't just come every ten years in major campaigns. Annual giving to the Foundation for Alpha Zeta should be something that we all consider and there are many ways to accomplish this goal. Over the next few editions, we will discuss different charitable giving techniques. These techniques, when done correctly, can greatly benefit Alpha Zeta and allow our donors to achieve their estate and tax planning goals.

Obviously, an outright gift of cash is the most popular type of charitable gift. Because of the immediate charitable deduction, the net cost to the donor who makes a cash contribution will be lower than the face value of the gift. This technique immediately benefits

both the Chapter and the donor.

A viable alternative to a cash gift is a gift of appreciated property. With careful planning, charitable gifts of certain types of assets will provide even greater tax benefits to donors than gifts of equivalent value in cash. In addition to receiving a charitable deduction for the fair market value of the gift, the donor escapes any potential capital gain tax and sales commission that would be payable upon the sale of the asset. In addition, contributions of farm commodities can benefit the donor two-fold. Not only does the donor not claim the income derived from the asset, but they can claim expenses of raising/growing the product.

If you have any questions about planned giving opportunities or would like to make a gift, please contact Ben Brent at 785-539-6101 or Chad Chase at 785-537-7200.

Recruitment Report



**Shane Meenen
VNR of
Recruitment**

Recruitment for the fall 2014 class is off to a great start. In the fall we had a full house, but due to graduations and some other untimely circumstances we had five open spots for this spring. We were able to fill one of those spots with Jackson Wingert. Interest in the house continues to be high; however, it is always very difficult to fill the house with quality men for the spring semester. For the fall semester we expect to have our normal amount of open spots of 25. For those that have recommended potential new members in the past, I greatly

appreciate it. I encourage all of our alumni that know of a great young man of outstanding character to get his name to me as soon as possible so we can invite them to the house for our recruitment weekends. The recruitment weekends work well because as a house, we are able to interact with them and they are able to interact with us. This provides for a better relationship from the start. I am pleased to be able to grant several incoming recruits with scholarships. We also have a new recruitment video available that allows us to showcase our house to members that live out of state. With recruitment being vital to our chapters continued success it's important that it is a joint effort on behalf of the undergraduates and alumni.

Fraternally, Shane Meenen, VNR Recruitment

785-288-1099, smeenen@ksu.edu

recommended potential new members in the past, I greatly



Alumni Spotlight

Brent Boydston #1355 was inducted into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1997. He currently serves Colorado Farm Bureau as the Vice President of Public Policy. He is originally from a diversified farm outside of Centerville, Kansas, where his family raised cattle, corn, wheat, hay, soybeans and red clover. He graduated from Kansas State University in 2001, and began his career on Capitol Hill in 2002 as an intern for Sen. Pat Roberts (R-KS) and Congressman Jerry Moran (R-KS). Brent also served on the original staff of Sen.



Brent Boydston

Norm Coleman (R-MN) as a legislative correspondent and Congressman Steve King (R-IA) as senior legislative assistant. He and his wife, Alison, now reside in Highlands Ranch with their son Beau. In his free time, Brent enjoys golf, hunting, fishing, skeet shooting and showcasing Alison's cooking abilities by hosting dinner parties.

Clint Mundell #1549 was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in 2006. He graduated Kansas State with a major in Animal Science in 2008. Since graduating from Kansas State Clint has returned to the family's commercial Angus operation in Walsh, Colorado to help with the management on the ranch. He and his wife, Lauren, run a small herd of cows and have also started a custom wheat grazing business. Clint is also a field representative for Superior Livestock Video Auction. When asked about Alpha Gamma Rho, Clint



Clint Mundell

responded that he appreciated the friends that he was able to make during his time in the house. He also added that these friends will stick with you longer than some of the things you will learn in class.

David Roney #734 graduated from KSU May 11, 1973 with the degree in feed science and management. He has worked hard in his career and is presently consulting and establishing his own business, Ambi-dri, Inc. David was issued his first patent on dietary fiber #664556 in 2003. One of his passions is seeing the young men of Alpha Gamma Rho flourish. While living in Gilroy, Ca. he would hire and mentor KSU grain science and feed milling Students while they interning at Gilroy



David Roney

Foods - most of them were from this chapter. It was a highlight to him to speak at the Alpha Zeta Chapter in November.

Gregg Doud #1099 was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1987 and graduated Kansas State with a major in Animal

Science and a master's degree in Agricultural Economics. Gregg was raised on a dry-land wheat, grain sorghum, swine and cow-calf operation near Mankato in North-Central



Gregg Doud

Kansas. He also owns part of the more than 100 year-old family farming operation and is a partner in a cow-calf operation. He recently joined the Commodity Markets Council, as president, after spending the past two years as a senior professional staff member of the Senate Agriculture Committee for Senator Pat Roberts and most recently Senator Thad Cochran. Gregg was part of the team that crafted the 2012 Senate Farm Bill. Prior to joining the Senate Agriculture Committee staff, Doud spent eight years as the chief economist for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association in Washington, D.C. As the president of the Commodity Markets Council Gregg will continue to work with regulators and lawmakers to ensure that agriculture and energy futures, options and swaps markets will remain globally competitive risk management tools for hedgers and end-users.

Michael Doane #1203 was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1992 and received a Bachelor's of science degree from Kansas State University in Agricultural Business in 1995. He later earned a Master's degree in Agricultural Economics in 1999. Michael grew up in Downs, Kansas and was a member of 4-H where he exhibited woodworking and breads, he also showed steers. After college, Michael was an intern for Representative Pat Roberts in 1994, where he implemented constituent response and agricultural issues research. For the Kansas Association of Wheat Growers



Michael Doane

he was the membership development manager, public affairs director, and executive vice president. At Monsanto, he has been a business team leader, the manager of the U.S. Wheat Industry Affairs, director of Global Industry Affairs, director of Global Biotechnology Acceptance, Area Sales Manager, director of Sustainable Agriculture and Economics, and currently serves as the vice president for Sustainable Agriculture Policy. As the vice president of Sustainable Agriculture Policy, Michael establishes corporate strategy and external leadership on sustainable agriculture policies, thereby positioning the company to reach essential global business objectives. Some of his awards include K-State Agriculture Distinguished Young Alumni 2008, Monsanto's Global Public Affairs Achievement Award 2003, Alpha Gamma Rho National Achievement Award 1995, and Kansas State University Fraternity President of the Year 1994.



Alumni Spotlight

Michael E. John #888 was inducted into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1976. He is a 1980 graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Science. Mike manages John Ranch, Inc., a commercial cow-calf growing and retained ownership headquartered in Huntsville, Missouri. Since 2000 he has also been director of Missouri Farmers Association Health Track Beef Alliance in Columbia, a feeder cattle source and process verification program. John has been a beef industry leader at the national, state and local levels. In 2006 he served as president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and has served as chairman of the



Mike John

membership and association services committee and was group chair of industry and producer services. At the state level, John was president of the Missouri Cattlemen's Association and Chairman of the Missouri Beef Industry Council. He has also served as a board member and scholarship chair of the Missouri Cattlemen's Foundation. Mike and his wife, Dara, have three children, Hayley, Hunter and Paden.

Scott Shuey #1063 was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in 1986 and graduated from Kansas State with a Bachelor of Science in Animal Science in 1989 and a masters in Veterinary Medicine in 1995. He grew up in Tecumseh, Nebraska. Today, Scott is a practicing senior and managing partner of Southern Hills Veterinary Service that has a staff of 9 veterinarians and 35 employees in 4 locations in southwest Iowa. Beyond the veterinary practice, he is a partner in the family's 400 commercial Red Angus herd. He and his wife, Karin, are 4-H leaders at the local club along with being active members of the



Scott Shuey

local United Methodist Church and the Adams County Cattlemen's Association. Scott has served as the president of the school board at Southwest Valley Community School. He has three children: Ryan, Madison, and Morgan. Ryan is an AGR at Iowa State and is currently studying Veterinary Medicine.

Alpha Zeta New Member Class of 2013

Recruiting great men into our fraternity is always our number one goal and this year wasn't any different. For this fall we had a new member class of 24 great young men. It is a long challenging process to make sure that there is mutual satisfaction between the current members of the chapter and those



The New Member Class of 2013

interested in joining our fraternity. Each spring, we hold recruitment events to interact with prospective members, these events are always open to our alumni and we encourage their participation. We have also had continued success recruiting during the summer enrollment process. The 2013 recruitment class includes the following members: Blake Brown, McPherson, Kansas; Braxton Butler, Virgil, Kansas; Bret Lynn, Monmouth, Oregon; Bryan Ottott, Washington, Kansas; Caden Lynch, Lawrence, Kansas; Chase

Boots, Great Bend, Kansas; Craig Archambeau, Winfield, Kansas; Craig Griswold, Unionville, Missouri; Ethan Fowler, McPherson, Kansas; Gage Woodard, Maize, Kansas; Hayden Guetterman, Bucyrus, Kansas; Jacob Bergland, Louisburg, Kansas; Landon Cook, Hope, Kansas; Logan Drake, Winfield, Kansas;

Luke Garrison, Auburn, Kansas; Luke Sankey, Andale, Kansas; Maison Rickerd, Clovis, California; Mat Jenkins, Bucyrus, Kansas; Matthew Hadden, Taylorville, Illinois; Nathan Smart, Moran, Kansas; Nick Schmedemann, Boerne, Texas; Wyatt Pracht, Westphalia, Kansas; and Zach Louk, Moran, Kansas. These young men have completed their brotherhood program and are already successful members of our fraternity. As always if you have recruitment recommendations please let us know.



Alpha Zeta Chapter Awards and Senior Night

The last formal chapter of the year is dedicated to recognizing those seniors that will be graduating in the fall semester and for those individuals that will be recognized for being outstanding undergraduates. Every year a plaque is given to the Noble Ruler for his year of service to the fraternity. Will Longinaker, junior in Agriculture Economics, received the award for his service.

The "Letter to Garcia Award" is given each year to an Executive Council member. Roger Johnson the house manager reads the executive council a short story about a man who is given an assignment by U. S. President McKinley during the Spanish American War. He is to deliver a letter to General Garcia. Without asking how, or being told how to accomplish this, and against great odds and deplorable conditions, he accomplished the job. This year's recipient was Ben Brown, junior in agriculture economics, who served as VNR of Alumni Relations.

Two Rising Star Awards are given each fall. The first goes to an undergraduate who has shown exemplary leadership through service to the AGR chapter



Winners of the Alpha Zeta Chapter Annual Awards

and its members. He is willingly helpful when asked and looks for opportunities of service even without being asked. This award went to Jared Bourek, sophomore in Animal Science. The second award is presented to an undergraduate for his distinguished representation of AGR through on-campus involvement at KSU Garrett Kays,

sophomore in agriculture economics, was the recipient of this award for his involvement as a College of Agriculture Senator, Agriculture Ambassador and member of Student Foundation.

We also recognized two seniors that graduated in December of 2013. Those seniors were Kendal Clawson # 1640 and Daniel Hess #1632. Kendal is from Satanta, Kansas and a graduate of finance and agricultural economics. He will be working as a market analyst for Koch Industries in Wichita. Daniel is from Desoto, Kansas and a graduate of agricultural technology management. He will be pursuing a

job in Kansas City. We wish both of these seniors a bright and prosperous future.



Daniel Hess and Kendal Clawson

Editors of the Spring 2014 Crescent



Editor
Ben
Brown
#1701



Co-Editor
Logan
Britton
#1644



Summer Board Meeting in Independence

Twenty-four alumni, family and friends gathered in Independence, Kansas for the annual summer board meeting to tour local sights and hear updates from both the undergraduate chapter and the alumni board. The weekend started off with a tour of the John Deere Coffeyville Works factory, which produces Powershift Transmissions for the 20, 30, and R series John Deere tractors. The group also toured Reichenberger Farms and Marty Reichenberger's agritourism venture,



Brothers Engaging in the Business Meeting

of 150 years. The board meeting was well-attended by both alumni and undergraduates, who reviewed the house financial standings, the capital campaign and other topics of discussion.

After the board meeting, a small group of alumni toured Dr. Richard Barta's veterinary practice. They provide digital X-rays, in-house blood services, and a new system of performing C-sections for

breeders of English Bulldogs. "We're always happy to see brothers and show them how we do things in southeast Kansas," said Barta.

On August 15, Gizmo-Barta's pet monkey-celebrated her 24th birthday. Her mother was brought to the practice from the local zoo in comatose state, and her handlers were unaware of her pregnancy. Gizmo was born the next morning, and Barta soon became her full-time parent. "My wife says that she and I are pretty much full of the devil at times, but she's my buddy," Barta said. The next summer board meeting is expected to be in north-west Kansas.



Dr. Barta at the Barta Animal Hospital



Dr. Richard Barta #605 and Gizmo

where guests can walk through a corn maize and pick their own pumpkins. The corn maze featured the Kansas State University 150 logo in honor of our university's celebration

Dates To Remember

Event

Date

March 1

Pink Rose; Manhattan, KS

March 21-22

Recruitment School; Kansas City, MO

March 29

Recruitment Weekend; Manhattan, KS

April 5

Kansas State University Open House; Manhattan, KS

April 12

Recruitment Weekend; Manhattan, KS

April 11-12

AGR Barbecue Contest; Lebanon, TN

August 1-4

AGR National Convention; Indianapolis, IN



Lost Brothers

Unfortunately we have lost touch with these brothers. If you have their address and phone number would you please send this 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!

391	Garman Breitenbach	802	Robert Giess	1207	Brett Bishop	1360	Jason Rethman
392	William Smalley	816	Stephen Combs	1209	Martin Lane	1366	Douglas Slawson
423	Mason Ely	817	Edward Reece	1211	Glenn Herrmann	1395	Ryan Breiner
426	Mark Drake	822	Rodney Tinney	1229	Albert Popp	1401	Kurtis Frick
429	Richard Hartman	824	Lawrence McCorgary	1232	C. Shane Dicks	1403	Ryan Garrett
432	David McKnight	834	Peter Fletcher	1234	Christopher Royston	1434	Ben Hansen
433	James Drolte	838	James Williams	1254	Quentin Brands	1439	Eric Lomas
492	Alfred Baker	945	Evan Mai	1263	Garrett Vanzee	1441	Tim Pralle
495	Roger Tointon	991	Mark Baker	1278	Jacob Debolt	1442	Ben Winsor
524	Rudolf Titsworth	1015	John Smith	1290	Frank Beesley	1449	Ethan Peck
546	Rodney Symes	1017	Randall Chrisler	1298	Raymond Hare	1452	Jeff Long
572	Jack Hendrix	1022	Michael Torrey	1318	Adam Balzer	1466	Eric Niehues
591	William Reed	1048	Christopher Gooding	1319	Sam Weinhold	1480	Kyle Rockhill
621	Stephen Reedy	1084	Kyle Vanover	1323	Ryan Meyer	1497	Zach Mueller
682	Donald Johnson	1109	James Hahn	1329	Aaron Dunn	1500	Chris Hunter
696	Thomas Gatz	1135	Darin Barta	1332	Curtis Stockdale	1523	Ben Williams
721	Robert Harmon	1144	Thomas Smith	1348	William Buckles	1547	John Priest
735	Larry Winstead	1170	Randal Schmidt	1351	David Newby	1553	Chris Holderman
790	Thomas Klaassen	1202	Joseph Miller	1356	Michael Mazouch	1603	Chris Cox

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:
VNRs Recruitment
Shane Meenen
785-474-3283
smeen@ksu.edu

1919 Platt Street
Manhattan, KS
66502



Please Attend Pink Rose on March 1st

All alumni are invited to attend the annual Pink Rose Formal which will be held on March 2 at R.C. McGraw's, 2317 Tuttle Creek Blvd., Blue Hills Shopping Center, Manhattan, Kansas. We will be in the Blue Hills Room next to the main restaurant. This will mark the fifth year that the Pink Rose Formal will be a joint undergraduate and alumni event and we look forward to your continued support. The itinerary of the weekend is listed below.

Friday February 28

- 12:00 PM Informal Lunch at Colbert Hills Golf Course
(5200 Colbert Hills Dr.)
- 4:00 PM Tour of AGR Fraternity House
- 5:30 PM Social Time at Blue Hills Room- Cash Bar
(2317 Tuttle Creek Blvd. next to R.C. McGraws)
- 7:00 PM Dining with Donors and Honoring Noble Rulers at Blue Hills Room – Casual Dress

Number Attending _____ x \$30.00 = _____

Donor and Guest _____ no charge

Noble Ruler and Guest _____ no charge

Saturday March 1

- 10:30 AM Alumni Committee Meetings
(AGR House 1919 Platt)
(House Improvement, Scholarship, and Alumni Relations)
- 11:30 AM Brunch (AGR House, 1919 Platt)
- 12:30 PM Alumni Board Meeting
- 2:00 PM Tour of Flint Hills Discovery Center
(Meet at 315 South 3rd Street in lobby of building)
- 5:30 PM Pink Rose Formal Social Time at Blue Hills Room
(2317 Tuttle Creek Blvd.) Cash Bar
- 7:00 PM Dinner and Dance – Dress is Coat and Tie
(Keynote Speaker- George Teagarden #601)

Number Attending Brunch _____ x \$10.00 = _____

Number Attending Pink Rose _____ x \$30.00 = _____

Sunday, March 2

- 8:30 AM Breakfast at Early Edition, 419 E Poyntz Ave, Manhattan, KS

Return registration to: Roger Johnson
1931 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502
(785-537-1631) wrjohn@ksu.edu



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

National AGR website: www.alphagammarho.org



WANTED: ALUMNI NEWS

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

Ben Brown
bbpbrown@k-state.edu

1919 Platt St.
Manhattan, KS 66502