

## From Burdett to The Opry: Be Grand in What You Do



*Joe Miller performing as the bassist for Reckless Kelly at the Grand Ole Opry.*

Success can be measured in a variety of ways and in the same sense, our members have achieved a multitude of success. From CEOs to researchers to board members to philanthropists to teachers, the breadth of our chapter's success reaches far and wide. Often our members might find success in ways they never imagined in college. This is especially true for Joe Miller who fulfilled a lifelong dream

of playing at the Grand Ole Opry this April.

His story begins in the small town of Burdett, Kansas (population 250) where he started playing drums professionally in high school. For his first few years in the Little Apple, Miller studied Journalism but realized how much he missed the agriculture industry and its people. With a group of 10 other men, he joined Alpha Gamma Rho during the spring of his junior year.



*Years in the making- Joe played the drums in multiple bands before signing to Reckless Kelly.*

This big transition was also greeted with his transition back to music with two ag peers. Around the age of 22, Miller and a few others started an old school country band called Rio. For the next five years the band played in the surround areas around Kansas and the Midwest.

Balancing the band with school and AGR was difficult, but also rewarding and includes stories of performing multiple nights during finals week. That

idea of having a strong work ethic and balancing social, work, and fraternal responsibilities is what he gained the most from being an AGR. Eventually, the attraction to Rio began to dwindle and Miller played for various bands searching for the right one.

In 2012, fortune played its hand and Joe signed on as a bassist for the alternative-rock/roots band Reckless Kelly. Signing into the band was a move that brought countless opportunities and greater financial security. He explains, "I wasn't looking for superstardom. I was just looking for something I could make a living with. I couldn't have picked a band that I would enjoy as much as this one." And while Miller's upbringing in Western Kansas was different than the musically trained brothers who founded the band, his experiences have helped shape the Reckless Kelly to this day.

For the last 7 years, Reckless Kelly has toured in over 40 states plus Germany and Switzerland. The unique mix of rock, "red dirt" country, and alternative chords has made the band so appealing to a wide variety of listeners. A normal month includes touring for weeks in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas, then maybe a few trips through the Midwest or Pacific Northwest. The band has grown its reputation tremendously and its fanbase includes loyal supporters from all across the US and the world.

Of course, with such great success comes exceptional moments that make all of the hard work worthwhile. Performing at the Grand Ole Opry fulfilled a dream that he never expected to come true. Just as impactful was returning to a packed house at the Wareham Opera House in Manhattan, which showed how his career came full circle to where he began. Even without the big-ticket performances, Miller says that, "When the crowd is singing the song back, that feeling is awesome."

Reckless Kelly will continue to showcase their talent as they wrap up their tour season and gear up for the next round. Hundreds of shows across the Midwest are still in store for the band and Miller is excited to find his way back to Kansas for the Tumbleweed Festival in Lacygne.



*Reckless Kelly's latest tour logo*



## From the Desk of the Noble Ruler



Greetings Brothers,

My name is Cooper Imthurn and I have been given the opportunity to serve as Noble Ruler for the 2019 term. I was born and raised on a small farm outside of Maple Hill, KS where we operate a backgrounding feedlot and raise a few crops for feed. At Kansas State, I am majoring in Animal Sciences and Industry with hopes to return home after graduation. I have thoroughly enjoyed the friendships

and experiences I have gained in my time here after joining the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity in the fall of 2017, and I look forward to our fraternity's bright future.

As the end of another successful spring semester has arrived, it's nice to take a minute to look back at what the chapter has accomplished. As everyone was returning to campus after winter break, our officer team was busy attending the National Recruitment School as well as the National Leadership School. Early in February we hosted our annual philanthropy Sell-A-Fella which raised over \$8,500 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in memory of Brother Sewell. Later in February we held our annual Pink Rose event at which over \$47,000 in scholarships was given

to the undergraduate chapter. On behalf of the chapter, thank you again for your generous donations and support towards our education. That weekend we also hosted the Ag Symposium on campus at the Staley School of Leadership. The topic this year was Technology in Agriculture and once again this led to a very informational discussion. If you haven't been able to attend an Ag Symposium yet, I strongly encourage you to do so.

The chapter has also been busy with recruitment this spring looking for the best and brightest young men in agriculture. Over the course of the semester we have held three recruitment events that have all been well attended. This year we have been fortunate to award over \$5,500 in scholarships to incoming new members. I again urge you to reach out to anyone in your area that you feel would be a great asset here at the Alpha Zeta Chapter.

As I look forward to this Fall semester, I wanted to remind you that this year Founder's Day will be November 15th at the Bluemont Hotel. We hope everyone who is able to attend will do so and this event will continue to grow. As always don't hesitate to get ahold of me with any questions or concerns.

*Fraternally,*

*Cooper Imthurn #1824*

*(785) 249-5196*

*cimthurn@ksu.edu*



## Brother Recognized as Distinguished Young Alumni



Few can relate to the same level of success as Dr. Charley Cull has obtained within his short, but prosperous career. With almost a decade of experience in academia and research, he has undoubtedly made an impact in animal research, biotechnology, and the agricultural industry. This year, Kansas State recognized Dr. Cull as the University's Distinguished Young Alumni, one of the highest

honors K-State can bestow upon its alumni under 35 years of age. It is our honor to recognize Brother Cull as not only an outstanding member of our fraternity, but an outstanding role model for our members and our society.

As a 5th generation farmer, Dr. Cull grew up on a diversified cow-calf/row crop operation in Oakland Nebraska. After joining the house in 2007 with an interest in research and veterinary medicine, Cull found himself soon rising

to leadership roles such as VNR Recruitment. For many undergraduates, balancing college can be challenging; however, Dr. Cull shares that his most influential part of college was the ability to narrow his interests and focus on his goals.

By doing so, Cull graduated as the first student enrolled in the dual degree scholarship program to complete his DVM and a PhD in Pathobiology. With the intention of conducting contract research, Dr. Cull found himself in gaining exposure in the field through various experiences. Eventually, he became the director of stocker and grazing cattle operations for Midwest Veterinary Services Inc. and Central States Research Centre Inc. of Oakland, Nebraska.

Dr. Cull can be described by many as focused and dedicated towards asking questions, analyzing solutions, and taking steps to solve large scale issues. His leadership in the industry and within the house has left an impact on those who worked with him. We wish Dr. Cull and his wife, Dr. Brooke Cull, congratulations and best regards.



## Giving the Gift of Service- to Country and University



A commitment to service lasts a lifetime- especially during changing roles and life aspirations. This is certainly the case for brother Tim Oswalt (#1131) who found his calling in the US Navy; subsequently this calling led to 23 years of service. That same level of service continues as Oswalt continues to give back through the K-State Alumni Board and Alpha Gamma Rho. He is one of three AGRs who currently serve on the KSU Alumni

Board.

A '93 graduate of Kansas State University, Oswalt was raised in the small town of Little River, Kansas. Upon graduating high school, Oswalt was committed to Kansas State on an agricultural engineering scholarship and eventually graduated with a degree in business finance and philosophy. Oswalt was involved in campus leadership with Student Alumni Board all the while managing his own martial arts school. After graduating, he found himself doing booking for a talent agency in Denver, Colorado.

After having the reoccurring curiosity about joining the Navy all through college, Oswalt decided to take the chance and gave up his desk job for a career in the military. This chance would later provide him with two decades of experiences like none other. Flying across the world, serving as the Naval Attaché in Pakistan, and obtaining two master's degrees just to name a few experiences.

The same dedication is evident by his decision to give back to his alma mater. A few years ago, when offered a position on

the K-State Alumni Board, Oswalt was ecstatic to give back to the university that provided him so much. Finishing his second year of the two-year term this June, Oswalt has been known as the board's longest commuter having spent over 40 hours to fly from Pakistan to Manhattan.

The extra hours in the air, however, are worth it to Tim as he explains that the Alumni Board connects students with successful alumni across the world. It is the direct line and liaison between the students and alumni which creates a valuable partnership on programs like the Traveling Wildcats, Wabash Cannonball, Wildcats for Life, and funding for Hale, Bramlage Coliseum, and Bill Snyder Family Stadium. Fostering these connections to make a better K-State has been a motivating factor to serve on this board. His legacy of service will continue for the remainder of his term and beyond.

Serving alongside two fellow AGRs on the K-State Alumni Board shows that the connections to the brotherhood continue for a lifetime. Despite years of travel, the bond of brotherhood is not broken between his undergraduate brothers. Upon reflecting on his time in the house, Oswalt shares that,

*"Brotherhood isn't just about dressing up on Wednesdays and following the same ideals. It's about brothers holding you accountable when you misbehave and being there to pick you up when you're down."*

He accredits his success in the Navy and at K-State to the lessons learned while living in the Alpha Zeta house. Oswalt's lifelong dedication to giving back to country and university is more than commendable, and there is no doubt he will continue to leave successful outcomes for the United States and Kansas State University.

DATE CHANGE

**FOUNDERS DAY  
'19 WILL BE  
NOVEMBER 15TH**

Mark you calendars and consider joining us for the celebration





## Big Transitions and an Even Bigger Legacy



Buying your first vehicle, graduating high school, graduating college, first job, marriage, etc. All of these milestones might affect us in different ways. The announcement to retire is no different as it provides a time to reflect on a legacy of hard work and dedication to the agricultural industry. This is exactly what many brothers, friends, coworkers, and fellow cattlemen have done in response to brother Kendall Frazier announcing

his retirement from the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). With such a big transition comes an even bigger legacy of nearly 34 years serving the beef industry across the United States.

The story of how this Winfield Kansas native became the CEO of NCBA begins on his family's diversified cattle and grain farm in the 1950s and 1960s. After graduating high school and finding an interest in Alpha Gamma Rho through FFA and friends, Frazier joined the ranks of Alpha Zeta membership in 1969. Soon after graduating with a major in agricultural economics, he found a career in farm broadcasting and ran communications for the Kansas Livestock Association. After a few years, his career in the beef industry took flight when he started working for the NCBA (still known as the National Cattlemen's Association at the time).

Upon reflecting on his 34 years working for NCBA, Frazier explains that his main contribution was helping the beef industry focus on building consumer demand and protecting the business climate for beef producers across the nation. "All

sources of wealth in the beef industry starts when the consumer purchases our products," Frazier explains, "and more consumers are asking 'How do you produce food?'" His leadership lifted the beef industry by creating checkoff programs during difficult periods when consumer demand had plummeted.

Serving as the CEO for the last four years has met Frazier with challenges and overwhelming rewards. His most recent role has created a fond respect for the responsibilities and decisions that come with such a title. On the other hand, this role has brought wonderful opportunities to meet the hardworking men and women involved in the beef industry across the nation. Fostering these relationships also included reconnecting with fellow AGRs. Besides the lifelong relationships built during his time in AGR, Frazier is most thankful for the diversity of agriculture within the house. He acclaims AGR for increasing his knowledge and appreciation for all types of agriculture.

This element of inclusion has been a vital tool and will continue to play an impact as he serves as the K-State Alumni Board Chairman next year. His experience with the board has already been marked with connecting well managed individuals from different eras of Wildcats. His legacy of service will continue as he gives back to K-State though his work supporting and advance the university. Mr. Frazier is excited to start a new chapter in his life; moreover, this one will be marked by spending more time with his wife of 44 years, Cindy. Travel is a major objective and Kendal plans to travel to other places in the US including the Grand Canyon, Glacial region, and Pacific Northwest in order to finally visit all 50 states (only four remain). His legacy and positive impact will remain present in countless aspects of the beef industry, K-State, and Alpha Gamma Rho for ages.

### ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER NEW MEMBER 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

Riley Sleichter

rsleichter@ksu.edu

1919 Platt St.

Manhattan, KS 66502



## Recruitment Update- Riley Sleichter



Happy Spring,

After a long harsh winter, many of us were relieved to see the snow melt away and grass green again; it feels great to see cows out on pasture and corn sprouting in rows. Similar to the great feeling production agriculturalists are experiencing, we are thriving as an undergraduate chapter from a recruitment prospective due to a successful recruitment committee, support from alumni, and a healthy

incoming fall class.

This past fall we established a Recruitment Committee consisting of nine undergraduate brothers representing a diverse group of personalities we have within AGR. The committee took the idea of recruitment from being an individual responsibility of VNR Recruitment to a joint effort, allowing more input from the undergraduate chapter on Potential New Members (PNMs). One of the first priorities the committee conquered was the establishment of a Values Based Selection Criteria (VBSC) for PNMs to meet before they are considered for membership within our brotherhood. A copy of this VBSC can be found on the next page. These standards were discussed and passed by the chapter and presented to all PNMs during visits to the chapter house. These standards along with our revised recruitment process elevated our quality and quantity of PNMs. The Recruitment Committee worked hard throughout the spring by mailing and

calling every one of the 300+ people on our names list developed by the College of Agriculture and alumni tips.

This spring we also had a great outreach from alumni who shared leads on PNMs from across the nation. Alumni support proves beneficial on our end as we get a great place to start looking for those high-quality young men who would be great brothers in our fraternity. If you know any young men who would fit our VBSC and be a positive addition to our chapter, please reach out via phone call or text at (785) 280-9375.

Due to the success of our Recruitment Committee, this fall we have established a class of 23 high quality young men from California to Illinois. We have reserved three additional bids to potentially present to some of the interested men we have this summer or hold over until this fall incase we find another great PNM on campus. The success of our committee has allowed us to be more selective and intentional with PNMs this spring, leading us to be very optimistic for our incoming class this fall!

### 2019 AGR Recruitment Committee:

Riley Sleichter-Chair, Abilene, KS; Sam Reno-Vice Chair, Cheney, KS; Cooper Lancaster, Ottawa, KS; Stetson Herzog, Valparaiso, IN; Bryce Kramer, Sabetha, KS; Kalen Richardson, Linn, KS; Cooper Imthurn, Maple Hill, KS; Tanner Duncan, Paola, KS; Tyler Cloud, Garden City, KS

*Fraternally,*  
Riley Sleichter  
#1811

## Alpha Gamma Rho-Alpha Zeta

### Values Based Selection Criteria

Values	Standards
Social	-Demonstrated leadership in 2+ organizations, teams, AND/OR associations
Mental	-21 ACT AND -3.0 High School GPA OR -3.0 College GPA OR -Have conversation with recruitment committee on how they will succeed in college
Moral	- 4+ brother from Recruitment Committee speak on his behalf OR- 1+ Alumni speak on his behalf FOR HIS: -Responsibility -Grit -Integrity
Agricultural	-Demonstrate future career plans in Agriculture OR -Involvement in Agricultural Organization or Activity (FFA, 4-H, Junior Breed Associations, ect.)

#### Guidelines:

- All standards must be met AND
- These values serve as the benchmark for all candidates being considered for membership
- Standards and Values will remain in valid until voted on by chapter



## Providing Meaning for Our Giving

It is easy to fall into the mindset of tradition and of simply following through the actions just because that is simply the way it has always been done. Our Sell-a-Fella philanthropy at the Alpha Zeta chapter is no different, raising over \$8,500 this year. A longstanding tradition which dates back years ago, Sell-a-Fella auctions off the young men of AGR. After the auction, sold brothers spend time with/for their buyer which, depending on the buyer, can include going on a date, covering crews, or helping with various tasks.

This tradition has brought students of K-State together, but the most important part is that all of the proceeds are donated to our philanthropy: The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Our chapter has had a direct connection with the foundation through Brother David Sewell who was diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis and faced challenges with the disease throughout his time at K-State. Unfortunately, Sewell passed away, peacefully, in 2009 at the age of 29 and his memory continues to give our chapter meaning to support the CF Foundation.

While this story shows the somber reason why we support, it is just as important to look towards our positive impacts. Bob Whearty (#1053) is a 1985 initiate who quickly found himself serving as the Noble Ruler the following year. After serving the house and graduating from K-State, Mr. Whearty taught agricultural education for 34 years at Riley County High School.

During that time, Mr. and Mrs. Whearty encounter many challenges together. Twenty-five years ago, their daughter Megan was born with Cystic Fibrosis and was only expected to live until her teens. A disorder that affects over 30,000 people in the US, Cystic Fibrosis is characterized with the inability for the pancreas to produce key enzymes for the lungs and digestive tract. This often leads to issues with digestion and large mucus build-ups in the lungs.

Naturally, this devastating announcement began with worry but ended with hope. Having sought advanced medical care from the KU Medical Center and over 13, Megan is now 26, graduated from K-State, married, raising an almost two-year-old son, and working as a title officer in Newton, Kansas. How did such an incredible turnaround occur? Mr. Whearty credits the

Cystic Fibrosis Foundation's dedication to research.

He explains that, "The foundation has helped our family. Every dollar is going towards research that is phenomenally changing our lives for the better." The Cystic Fibrosis Foundation has played a crucial role in funding cutting edge research that allows patients like Megan to live a normal life. Hearing Brother Whearty's story helps to give us purpose for raising nearly \$10,000 annually for the foundation. This tradition will undoubtedly continue for years to come and our chapter will remember and respect the stories of those who have been affected with Cystic Fibrosis.



*Bob and his daughter Megan*



*Alpha Zeta members volunteered once again at the 2019 Great Strides Walk to end Cystic Fibrosis*





## 2019 Executive Council



**Noble Ruler**  
Cooper Imthurn #1824  
cimthurn@ksu.edu



**VNR Operations**  
Caleb Schultis #1837  
cjschultis@ksu.edu



**VNR Finance**  
Eli Ohlde #1812  
eohlde@ksu.edu



**VNR Activities**  
Tanner Duncan #1849  
tlduncan87@ksu.edu



**VNR Membership Development**  
Chase Regehr #1819  
regehr98@ksu.edu



**VNR Planning**  
Tate Wickstrum #1847  
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**VNR Recruitment**  
Riley Sleichter #1811  
rsleichter@ksu.edu



**VNR Scholarship**  
Stetson Herzog #1839  
dherzog22@ksu.edu



**VNR Alumni Relations**  
Michael Dowd #1836  
mdowd3@ksu.edu

## 2019 Alumni Association Board

### President

Jim Garrison #1067  
jim@jimgarrison.biz

### VP Fundraising

Mike Smith #922  
mikesmith@ag1source.com

### Advisors

Josh Roe #1413  
Jroe445@hotmail.com

### Treasurer

Chad Chase #1364  
chad@cgnadvisors.com

### VP Awards

Justin Hagedorn #1605  
hagedornjd@gmail.com

### Peter Tomlinson

ptomlinson@k-state.edu

### Assistant Treasurer

Ben Brent #478  
bbrent@flinthills.com

### Director 1

Jeff Cather #1660  
Jcather12@gmail.com

### Garrett Lister #1616

garrett.c.lister@gmail.com

### Secretary

Chad Nuelle #1641  
cmnuelle@gmail.com

### Director 2

Will Longinaker #1683  
wlonginaker@gmail.com

### VP Chapter Relations

Jason Grady #1325  
gradylimousin@yahoo.com

### Director 3

Rick Perkins #1045  
Rickperkins42@att.net





## Letter from House Mother Dianna Philippi



one of them will carry a special place in my heart.

Another year in the books. The saying "the days go by slow and the years go by fast" is certainly true for me. Four years ago, I came on board with 25 new freshmen. I will see those young men walk across the stage to receive their diplomas. It is a happy but emotional event for me. I look forward to following their careers and future personal achievements. A sincere thank you to the parents for sharing your sons with me the last four years. Each

I have accepted the offer to return for the 2019-20 school year. I am thankful to have many of my sons returning to live in the house and welcome the 20 plus new incoming freshmen.

Again, my door is always open and my phone never leaves my side, so please feel free to call me any time if you have questions or concerns. I encourage all alumni to stop by to visit with our young men. Please know you have an open invitation to share dinner with us at 5:30 p.m.

Have a great summer, and I look forward to visiting with you all in August.

-Mom Dianna  
(785) 210-4150



**STAY CONNECTED TO AGR**

Follow us on Twitter: @AGRAAlphaZeta



Check us out on Facebook at: Alpha Gamma Rho-Alpha Zeta Chapter

Check us out on our website: <https://www.ksuagr.com>

National AGR website: [www.alphagammarho.org](http://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/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/ksuagr/).





## Spring 2019 Graduating Brothers



**Dean Adcock**, Assumption, Illinois  
Major- Agronomy  
Farm Manger for Walther Farms at their Indiana location



**Mitchell Duer**, Onaga, Kansas  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minor- Animal Science  
Paragon Ag Advising



**Del Adcock**, Assumption, Illinois  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Working for Bartlett Grain Company as part of their KC origination group.



**Ross Dudley**, Higginsville, Missouri  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minor- Agronomy  
John Deere Marketing Rep Program; Moline Iowa



**Colby Baker**, Lancaster, Kansas  
Major- Animal Science  
Undecided



**Lane Forge**, Saint George, Kansas  
Major- Animal Science  
Will be attending Veterinary School at Kansas State to pursue his DVM



**Brandon Beim**, Wichita, Kansas  
Major- Feed Science and Management  
Working for Purina in Florida



**Aaron Hendrickson**, Hanover, Kansas  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minor- Agronomy  
Accepted a job with FNB bank for a loan officer position in Washington KS



**Nils Bergsten**, Holton, Kansas  
Major- Agribusiness  
Minor- Business Administration  
Inside Sales Advisor for Spring Venture Group



**Preston Jueneman**, Hanover, Kansas  
Major- Agricultural Technology Management  
Integrated Solutions Consultant for 21st Century Equipment LLC.



**Jace Bowen**, Auburn, Kansas  
Major- Agronomy  
Minor- Plant Pathology  
Sales Agronomist at Farmers Cooperative



**Dean Klahr**, Holton, Kansas  
Major- Animal Science  
Minor- Agricultural Economics  
Graduate School, K-State Animal Science



**Josh Caudle**, Atchison, Kansas  
Major- Finance  
Working as an analyst for Heartland  
Opportunity Partners in Kansas City



**Parker Maloney**, Kingman, Kansas  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minors- Business and Agronomy  
Accepted position for Koch Industries in Wichita.  
Will be in their fertilizer division



**Kyle Cooney**, Union Bridge, Maryland  
Majors- Mechanical Engineer  
Industrial Engineering  
Product Verification and Validation Engineer with John Deere



**Michael McKinney**, McPherson, Kansas  
Major- Feed Science and Management  
Will be a Career Development Trainee for Pig Improvement Company in Des Moines, Iowa



## Spring 2019 Graduating Brothers (continued)



**Zach Otott**, Washington, Kansas  
Major- Agribusiness  
Commodity Broker at Paragon Ag



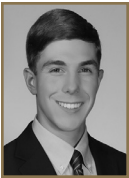
**Anthony Tirri**, Fort Scott, Kansas  
Major- Agribusiness  
Minor- Business  
Go home for the summer to do hay and then get a job at the end of hay season



**Reed Sage**, Dover, Kansas  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minor- Finance  
John Deere Marketing Development Program



**James Wilson**, Walsh, Colorado  
Major- Agricultural Economics  
Minor- Business  
Will work at a feed yard.



**Morgan Scilacci**, Baker City, Oregon  
Major- Animal Science  
Minor- Agricultural Economics  
Attending Graduate School at K-State for Ruminant Nutrition

Congratulations to our graduates and best of luck on their future plans.  
We are thankful to share this college experience with each of you.



## Alumni Board Update- Jim Garrison



that, your alumni supporters commend you.

Thank you to Michael Dowd and his committed team of brothers for pulling off a well-attended Pink Rose Formal in February. Although the Kansas winter weather was a challenge, it was a pleasure to see so many deserving young men receive scholarships from our sizeable alumni generosity. Brother Bob Broeckelman was honored as an inductee into our Alpha Zeta Hall of Fame and delivered a spot-on commentary as to the value of individual relationships as we all grow and mature in our leadership responsibilities. As a rookie in this role of president, I have the distinct opportunity to get better acquainted with many

of our AGR brethren. I am blessed with so many that can give of their time, talents, and treasure to benefit the active chapter and the future of Alpha Gamma Rho in Kansas. Along those lines, Mike Smith and I are establishing a dialog with our new National Chief Development officer, Carol Johnson.

And with that, I do have a couple of requests. If you as an alumnus have been considering getting back into the AGR routine after raising family and/or working hard in your career, I would love to hear from you. We currently have a board position opportunity available.

Also, our summer meeting is scheduled for June 14th and 15th, in northwest Kansas. The agenda is being finalized but blocks of hotel rooms are available at the following Norton hotels: Sleep Inn - 785.874.5151, and Brooks Motel - 785.877.3381. Please don't delay in making your reservation, as the block of rooms will be released at least a week before our summer event.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to me: CELL 785.220.0804 or jim@jimgarrison.biz. I certainly look forward to the mindful evolution of Alpha Gamma Rho, and how, we as alumni can remain "plugged in".

*Brotherly Regards*  
Jim Garrison, Topeka, KS



## Pink Rose Weekend Recap

The Alpha Zeta chapter at Kansas State University is setting a culture of excellence through multiple events. On the February 22, the chapter hosted the fourth annual Agriculture Symposium which invites K-State students to hear remarks and ask questions to a panel of 4 industry experts. This year's topic was "The Changing Role of Technology in Agriculture" and speakers included Casey Niemann, cofounder of Agrisync, Kevin Heikes, cofounder of IN10NT, Chris Brant, CEO of K-State Research Foundation, and Dr. Kelly Lechtenberg, founder of Midwest Veterinary Service and the Veterinary and Biomedical Research Center. During the three-hour event, each speaker gave an overview about their company and how changing technology has adapted their line of work. Attendees were given an hour to ask questions to the panel and received insight on what it takes/means to be an entrepreneur, how to be innovative and profitable, and what challenges exist between agriculture and technology. After the event, speakers and attendees were invited to a social hour to continue conversations and make connections. The weekend's events continued on Saturday 23 and after the Alumni Board Meeting

in the morning, members and alumni were invited to the 92nd annual Pink Rose formal. Dinner was served and remarks were given by Dr. Bob Broeckelman who generously stepped in as the keynote speaker. After sharing his story and life lessons learned between state FFA, AGR, agricultural education, and his work in the private sector, Bob Broeckelman was inducted into the AZ Hall of Fame. A more than deserving induction as Broeckelman has been a major supporter of our fraternity since he became a member in the fall of 1966 and has served as VNR Recruitment among other roles. This special recognition was followed by the recognition of our hardworking in-house members who received scholarships on behalf of our generous alumni supporters. In total, \$47,000 worth of scholarships were presented to 30 in-house members who displayed premier academic and leadership qualities in AGR and on campus. JD Hagedorn and Stetson Herzog presented the awards and shared that the program has grown tremendously since its start. Our chapter is grateful for such a strong group of alumni brothers who are selflessly willing to help our undergraduates reach success in AGR and in college.



*Bob Broeckelman (right) is this year's inductee into the Alpha Zeta Hall of Fame*



*The top 12 brothers for in-house rank received one of the 30 scholarships offered this year. JD Hagedorn (left) is the VP of Awards for the Alpha Zeta Alumni Board and chaired the scholarship ceremony.*

## Alpha Zeta Mom's Club Update- Stephanie Imthurn

To kick off mom's weekend, the AGR mom's club met on April 13 at the AGR house. Lea Welch, our president, shared the purpose of the club:

1. Network with other moms.
2. Raise money for scholarships.
3. Raise money for creature comforts in the house, which includes Christmas decorating, Valentine treats, Finals treats and furniture/equipment purchases.

At the 2018 Founder's Day dinner and auction, the mom's club raised \$4200. It was unanimously approved to sponsor 2- \$750 scholarships for the 2019 school year, new couches for the house and a water fountain with a water bottle



attachment. Flowers were also purchased and planted at the house.

The moms enjoyed a potluck lunch with their boys, a tour of Blueville Nursery provided by Keith Westervelt, a visit to the LiquidArt winery, and a spring football scrimmage.

Next meeting will be on Founder's Day weekend which is November 15th. We encourage any mothers whose sons are in the AGR house to considering joining to help us support AGR's calling to make better men.

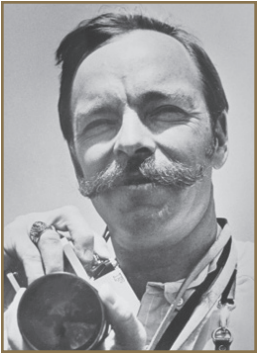
To join the mom's club, contact Stephanie Imthurn at [stephanieimthurn@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanieimthurn@yahoo.com) or 785-633-7768.





# ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

## Chet Peterson #484



Few people have the authority to critique the Crescent like Chet Peterson. As a man who has spent decades of his career as an editor, freelance writer, and communicator, Chet has covered assignments in 48 states and six countries. His connection to agriculture begins at the age of five when he remembers milking cows full time for his father. During his senior year, he had an inclination to attend college, and without hesitation, his

father was ready to enroll at the dean's office the next morning.

During his five years at K-State, Chet studied both agriculture and journalism, and he was initiated into the fraternity in 1956. Some of his fondest memories from the house include learning



*"Tractors of the 60s" is one of Chet's many nonfiction publications*

etiquette and engaging in the usual shenanigans with his pledge class (for instance: a prank involving dairy manure and Ed Dillinger's sports car). He also was heavily involved in the K-State Dairy Team and strongly encourages undergraduates to judge while in college.

After graduating with two degrees, Peterson debated attending graduate school, but soon found himself starting his career at

Successful Farming instead. Describing his career in journalism as extensive is an understatement since he has written articles in hundreds of magazines. His work has taken him all across the world and has led him to meeting countless kind, genuine farmers and agriculturalists.

For 13 years, Chet covered 95% of John Deere testimonial assignments in the US and Canada. The time spent on these assignments has left him with stories from farmers about hiding moonshine in a 600 series combine or the added benefits of the extra seat in the 800 series combine.

While Peterson does not enjoy traveling, he does enjoy flying and has flown over 3,300 hours in 52 years. With this much experience, he has received the FAA Wright Brother's Master Pilot award and has served 32 years on the Kansas Aviation Advisory Committee.

He continues to generously give back through funding physics lecture series and multiple scholarships for various types of students. His biggest message for undergraduates is to reach for the stars and ignore the negativity that other generations have for your generation. Chet and his wife reside in Lindsborg, Kansas and will continue to be active on campus and in agriculture.



*A frequent flyer- Peterson has logged more than 3,300 hours in 52 years*





## Obituaries

### *In Memory of Our Great Brothers*



#### **Arnold Pierce Appleby**

Dr. Appleby grew up on a farm near Formoso, Kansas and attended Kansas State University for Agricultural Education in 1957 and earned a M.S. degree in Agronomy in 1958. At Kansas State, he was a member of Alpha Gamma Rho agricultural fraternity since '54, was president of Blue Key, senior men's honor society, and was named a Senior Leader of the university.

After working in the industry and going back to grad school, he received the PhD degree in 1962.

He received numerous teaching and research awards during his career and contributed to advancing research in weed control measures. In retirement, he enjoyed visiting and corresponding with friends from around the world; reading novels, U.S. history, and spending half-days at the Crop Science Department, where he maintained an office and served as Building Manager. He was invited to serve on the Board of Directors of the Agricultural Research Foundation in 1995.



#### **Sherlund D. Prawl**

Sherlund was born on November 8, 1932 in Severance, Kansas the son of Samuel H. & Elizabeth (Dittemore) Prawl. Sherl entered into the United States Army in 1954 and proudly served his country for 20 years. He served 2 tours in Vietnam and one in Korea prior to his retirement in 1974 at the rank of Major. Following his retirement from the Army, he worked as a financial advisor for Edward Jones

for almost 15 years. Sherl was proud to share his love of the Lord and was an example of a loving husband and father. He took pride in being a mentor to his sons' friends. He also enjoyed meeting with his morning coffee group of local businessmen. Sherl served in several positions at Grace Baptist Church over the years, helping the church in any way that he was needed. The family enjoyed their annual golf and ski trips. He was also known for backing and supporting the K-State Wildcats.



#### **George "Gene" Raymond**

Gene Raymond was born July 8, 1942, in Garnett. He graduated from Kansas State University with a bachelor's degree in animal science and became a member of Alpha Gamma Rho in 1964.

Gene had a big heart, a smile, and a laugh for everyone that crossed his path. He was a man that truly knew no strangers. He was passionate about many things – Limousin cattle, people,

and of course, Kansas State University. Over the years, Gene was actively involved in many organizations supporting the youth, men and women of the livestock industry, not only locally, but nationally as well. No matter how busy he was, he always took the time to talk, whether in the truck feeding or late at night. He was a loving husband, father, mentor and coach to many. A good, hardworking man that will be missed by all whose lives' he touched.



## 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. Robert Alexander	623
Mr. Mark Baker	991
Mr. Dustin Beck	1526
Mr. Frank Beesley	1290
Mr. Brett Bishop	1207
Mr. Charles Brackney	260
Dr. Quentin Brands	1254
Mr. William Buckles	1348
Mr. Harold Carroll	272
Mr. Randall Chrisler	1017
Mr. Allen Clark	146
Mr. Stephen Combs	816
Mr. Robert Condon	291
Mr. Dillon Cook	1623
Mr. Chris Cox	1603
Mr. Jacob Debolt	1278
Mr. Tyler Dechant	1581
Dr. F. DeHoff	673
Mr. Colten Deutsch	1648
Mr. C. Shane Dicks	1232
Mr. Calvin Dix	1636
Mr. Mark Drake	426
Dr. James Drolte	433
Mr. Mason Ely	423
Mr. Seth Farrell	1567
Mr. Peter Fletcher	834
Mr. Kurtis Frick	1401
Mr. Harold Gentry	347
Mr. Robert Giess	802
Dr. Wayne Good	220
Mr. Christopher Gooding	1048
Mr. William Griffing	228
Mr. Raymond Hare	1298
Mr. Robert Harmon	721
Mr. Richard Hartman	429
Mr. Jack Hendrix	572
Mr. Eric Herrs	1163
Mr. Christopher Holderman	1553
Mr. Craig Huffhines	1543
Mr. Brady James	1620
Mr. Patrick Johnson	1097
Mr. James Kirkeminde	317
Dr. Edwin Kline	206
Mr. Roland Kruse	181
Mr. Martin Lane	1209
Dr. James Laughlin	414
Mr. Vance Long	1157
Mr. Jeff Long	1452
Mr. Darren Macfee	1242

Mr. Grayson Magner	1425
Lt Col Evan Mai	945
Mr. Michael Mazouch	1356
Mr. Lawrence McCorgary	824
Mr. Francis Menghini	453
Mr. Ryan Meyer	1323
Mr. Joseph Miller	1202
Mr. Terryl Mueller	1458
Mr. Zach Mueller	1497
Mr. G Mullen	207
Mr. Michael Murphy	380
Mr. Kent Nichols	1446
Mr. Eric Niehues	1466
Mr. Shea Obermeier	1613
Mr. Ethan Peck	1449
Mr. Donald Peterson	439
Mr. Tim Pralle	1441
Mr. John Priest	1547
Mr. Edward Reece	817
Mr. William Reed	591
Mr. Stephen Reedy	621
Mr. Jason Rethman	1360
Mr. Max Roberts	227
Mr. Kyle Rockhill	1480
Mr. Martin Ropp	1054
Mr. Christopher Royston	1234
Mr. Randal Schmidt	1170
Mr. Jay Schneider	1219
Mr. Jason Simon	1432
Mr. William Smalley	392
Mr. David Smith	259
Mr. John Smith	1015
Mr. Thomas Smith	1144
Mr. Curtis Stockdale	1332
Mr. Andrew Strasburg	1624
Mr. Richard Teagarden	616
Mr. Rodney Tinney	822
Mr. Rudolf Titsworth	524
Mr. Roger Tointon	495
Mr. Zachary Trumpp	1284
Mr. Warren Van Gunay	913
Mr. Garrett Vanzee	1263
Mr. Clint VenJohn	1609
Mr. Wayne Ward	212
Mr. David Ward	1264
Mr. Sam Weinhold	1319
Mr. James Williams	838
Mr. Benjamin Williams	1523
Mr. Ben Winsor	1442





## Schedule of Upcoming Events

### June 14th - 15th, 2019

- Annual Alpha Zeta Alumni Summer Meeting
- Location: Terry Nelson's place (close to Almena, KS)
- All alumni are welcomed to attend. This meeting is meant to be an opportunity to reconnect and interact with different eras of AGRs while also conducting Alumni Board objectives
- For more info, contact Jim Garrison at 785-220-0804

### August 26th, 2019

- First Day of Classes for Fall 2019 Semester

### October 19th, 2019

- Founder's Day Registration DUE
- Find the paper registration below or go to [www.ksuagr.com](http://www.ksuagr.com)

### November 15th, 2019 (\*\*DATE CHANGED\*\*)

- 92nd Founder's Day and Parents' Banquet
- At the Bluemont Hotel (1212 Bluemont Ave, Hartford Room- 5th Floor)
- Bluemont Hotel Room Block: \$269/night, 785-473-7091 (use group code: AGR1019)
- Parkwood Inn & Suites Room Block: \$186/night, 785-320-5440, 505 S. 17th St. (ask for group code)

### December 13th, 2019

- Last Day of Fall 2019 Classes

### February 1st, 2020

- Registration for Pink Rose 2020 DUE via online form or fall Crescent form (TBA)

### February 21st, 2020

- 5th Annual Agricultural Symposium, Manhattan, Kansas

### February 22nd, 2020

- 93rd Annual Pink Rose Scholarship Banquet
- At the Hilton Garden Inn
- Room block and complete schedule TBA

### RSVP for the 92<sup>nd</sup> Founder's Day (November 15, 2019)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Number attending Dinner: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Send your Registration to:*

Michael Dowd  
1919 Platt St.  
Manhattan, KS 66502

(913) 680-8222  
[mtdthe3rd@gmail.com](mailto:mtdthe3rd@gmail.com)



ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER  
PMB 339  
1310 WESTLOOP PLACE  
MANHATTAN, KANSAS 66502-2840

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## 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:

**Spread the Word-We Want to Know!** What successes, events, special memories, or people have impacted your life?

Would you be interested in receiving a Bi-Monthly Update E-Newsletter from the Alpha Zeta Chapter?

**Get Digital:** Would you like to receive a digital copy of the Crescent?  
If so, please visit [www.ksuagr.com](http://www.ksuagr.com) to sign up for an emailed version!

Please take time to fill out the questionnaire. By filling this out you will be helping to improve our alumni relations and contribute to the further connectedness of our chapter.



Send to:

### VNR Alumni Relations

Michael Dowd  
1919 Platt St.  
Manhattan, KS 66502  
[mdowd3@ksu.edu](mailto:mdowd3@ksu.edu)