



ALPHA GAMMA RHO CRESCENT

ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER ♦ KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

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SUMMER 2014

Leaders in Agriculture and of Campus

The Alpha Zeta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho has had an outstanding history of leadership on campus of Kansas State. That same leadership prepared our members for their careers in the agricultural industry. This includes a line of our members being elected student body president, beginning with RD Harmon in 1971-1972, Sam Brownback in 1978-1979, Todd Johnson in 1989-1990, Tim Riemann in 1997-1998, Dalton Henry in 2009-2010 and most recently Brother Reagan Kays was elected to serve as the 2014-2015 student body president. These brothers left a dramatic impact on our campus from working toward the renovation of Hale library to putting in place a statewide medical amnesty policy.

Kays and his running mate ran on three main platforms: 1. streamline campus tutoring and make it more accessible for all students, 2. implement technology for campus organizations to use to make communication and engagement easier, and 3. implement a medical amnesty policy which will “give students the ability to call for medical help in emergency situations without fearing alcohol-related penalties.” Kays will now work with campus faculty and administration to work toward accomplishing his platform items.

“AGR has a deep tradition of leadership on campus and in the agriculture industry. To be elected by fellow students and serve as student body president like many brothers before is an incredible honor. Previous AGR student body president’s serve as role models to me in their transformational leadership to help

K-State. I hope to represent AGR and K-State well in my year of service” says Kays.

Our members have a history of leadership because of our upbringing and family development. There are exponential opportunities within agriculture and our involvement in organizations such as 4-H and FFA have taught us to take advantage of these opportunities. When we pledge to “make better men” we already have a foundation among all of us that is second to none, and that is agriculture. Agriculture and 4-H is what brought Kays to Kansas State. “I saw high achieving; passionate individuals attending K-State and majoring in agriculture. I found that same passion and a greater love for our industry”, said Kays. Alpha Gamma Rho brings leaders from all aspects of agriculture and ignites a brotherhood different than any other.

Whenever we pledge to “build a better agriculture”, we are not only advancing our industry but using that same passion to lead others outside of agriculture. Sam Brownback, current governor of the State of Kansas and a 1976 Alpha Zeta initiate, has taken his background of agriculture and used it to lead the State of Kansas and represent us on a national basis when he served as a U.S. Senator and Congressman before being elected Governor.

What do all of these leaders have in common? All of them have the foundation of agriculture and all of the guiding principles we learn. Because of our background, we strive to make a “broader and better agriculture”, and to lead in other areas to have a greater impact on people.



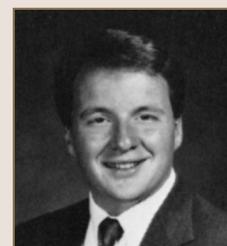
Reagan Kays, '14-'15



Dalton Henry, '09-'10



Tim Riemann, '97-'98



Todd Johnson, '89-'90



Sam Brownback, '78-'79

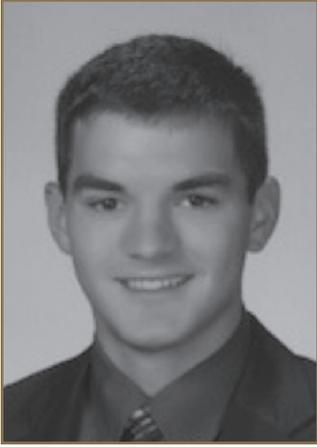
Picture of RD Harmon not available

Dates to remember:

• November 1st- Founder’s Weekend and Mom’s weekend. More details to come.

• July 18th & 19th, All AGR Summer Fun Fest, Norton, page 5

From the desk of the Noble Ruler, Ashton Yoder



As the days get warmer each week, it makes me realize how fast summer is approaching and how quickly the semester has gone by. The 2014 spring semester truly has been excellent for Alpha Zeta. In particular, areas related to philanthropy, community service, and accomplishments on campus.

Sell-A-Fella was once more successful than ever. Raising a total of \$5000 to benefit the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. The University Fraternal Excellence Awards took place this spring and as a Chapter, we are very pleased of our accomplishments. Alpha Zeta received a number of awards including: "Outstanding Community Service Event", with Adopt-A-Highway; "Outstanding Educational Program", Alpha Gamma Rho Brotherhood Program; as well as the "Dean's Award" for Fraternal Excellence. This is the second most prestigious award given to a Chapter in the spring (One tier higher than last year). Community Service is an attribute of Alpha Zeta that has been significantly improved this semester. Over the past few months we have volunteered at numerous events such as: the Lee Elementary Children's Carnival, Great

Strides Walk, Adopt-A-Highway, and Change the World Day for the First United Methodist Church. A highlight of how Alpha Zeta is performing on campus includes Reagan Kays being elected as Student Body President. We are very proud of Reagan and will continue to support him in any way we can as a chapter. Also, Logan Britton has been selected as a National Undergraduate Director for Alpha Gamma Rho and Ben Brown will serve as the 2014 College of Ag Ambassador President. Also, we have many other members selected to be Ag Ambassadors and club officers. We also have four out of seven of the College Agriculture Student Senators.

The future of Alpha Zeta is looking very promising. It seems each year we improve in different aspects and we plan to continue this trend. To fill the house this fall we need 24 new members and it is looking very likely that this will happen. Our house image is looking superb and many of our guests are astonished by how nice our house is set-up and how well kept it is. We are thankful to have all that we have because of our Alumni. We would not be able to do all we do, if it was not for your support! Founder's Day will be held November 1st and the Cats will take on Oklahoma State. We look forward to seeing you this fall!

Fraternally,
Ashton Yoder, Noble Ruler





Another way to give back



Giving to Alpha Zeta isn't just a once-a-decade event. As alumni brothers, we should always be thinking about helping our fraternity be the best chapter in the nation. One way to do this is through volunteering your time, recommending AGR to area youth, and giving of your assets both now and in the future. As we continue this series on planned giving, I'll highlight a technique using a Charitable Remainder Trust.

A Charitable Remainder Trust (CRT) is an irrevocable trust used to enable donors to give money or property to charities, while continuing to receive income from the property for life or for a period of time up to 20 years. The grantor, and/or other beneficiaries receive distributions from the trust annually, and the charities (the remainder beneficiaries) receive the assets remaining in the trust when the trust ends. The grantor gets an immediate income tax deduction for the remainder interest (subject to the usual limitations), defers or avoids capital gains tax on the donated assets, and gets gift or

estate tax deductions for the remainder interest.

To illustrate this, let me give you an example of how a local farmer established a CRT to ultimately benefit the KSU Foundation. This farmer owned land in Riley County, had no children, and needed to step away from farming for health reasons. He and his wife created a CRT funded by 450 acres and named The Trust Company as Trustee. The Trustee sold the property for \$525,000 more than the original purchase price and because the Trust is tax-exempt, paid no capital gains tax. The proceeds from the sale were then invested and the farmer and his wife will receive income quarterly for their lifetime. These distributions are taxable to the farmer, some at ordinary rates and some at long term capital gains rates. When the farmer and his wife pass away, KSU Foundation will receive a large donation.

A Charitable Remainder Trust is not the appropriate giving vehicle for everyone, but for those of us who have highly appreciated assets, want/need lifetime income, and would like to benefit Alpha Zeta, this might be a tool for you. 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.

Written by Chad Chase

10 Things to Know About AZ's Capital Campaign

It's Not Too Late to Give!

1. 266 alumni have answered the call and become campaign contributors. That's 21% of AZ's 1,225 living alumni.
2. With 71 total donors, graduates of the 1960s beat all decades in terms of campaign participation. The class of 1967 takes individual honors with a total of 12 donors, followed by 2012 (11), 1996 (10), 1963 and 1969 (9 each). The "King of all Classes" in terms of total dollars raised, 1961 contributed \$112,550. The Class of 1967 (\$90,932) took second place.
3. The undergrads contributed individually and as a group (\$10,000).
4. The chapter has received \$225,747 in commodity gifts, ranging in size from \$500 to \$50,000. Contact Ben Brent '56 at 785-539-6101 or bbrent@flinthills.com for more information.
5. \$102,700 has been contributed to fund new scholarships to honor specific brothers and friends. 30 additional awards have been distributed at Pink Rose since 2011 totaling \$30,000. Contact Roger Johnson '63 at 785-537-1631 or wrjohn@k-state.edu for more information.
6. \$92,000 has been invested in chapter house improvements including: carpeting, bathroom improvements, parking lot upgrades, security, installation of dining room cabinets, and furnishings.
7. Our mortgage debt - originally \$660,000 - will be retired as soon as 2017.
8. Over 100 volunteers have been involved in the project since 2010.
9. 13 alumni donors will name key locations within the chapter house. 17 opportunities remain, including: Living Room & Donor Recognition Wall, First Floor, Second Floor, Parking Lot, Brotherhood Program, Mentoring Program, and 10 three-man study rooms. All donors contributing \$5,000 or more to the campaign will be permanently acknowledged at the chapter house. Contact Bob Broeckelman '67 at 316-259-4761 or bob.broeckelman@FCCservices.com for more information.
10. We've raised 96% of our \$1.2 million goal, and collected almost 70% in 3 years.

There's still time to give. Go to www.ksuagr.org to download a pledge card or call Jennifer Noble at 217-840-9684.

Written by Ann Shephard

AGR Brothers on K-State's NAMA Competition Team

Alpha Gamma Rho and the National-Agri Marketing Association (NAMA) Competition Team have a long-standing relationship at K-State. There have been numerous AGRs on the NAMA teams through the years, and this past year was no exception. Brothers Kurtis Clawson and Will Longinaker represented AGR as members of the K-State NAMA team at the 2014 NAMA Conference in Jacksonville, FL.

The NAMA team is an organization that provides students an opportunity to be on a competition team that is more focused on marketing and business, rather than the traditional livestock and crops judging teams. An abridged version of what the NAMA team does is to select an agricultural product and work up a fictional marketing plan for that product. They then present the marketing plan to a panel of judges at a national competition. Their marketing plan includes aspects such as: market analysis, a competitive analysis, a business proposition, an action plan, an income statement, monitoring and measurement.

This year, the K-State team selected beef bacon as their product. They made it to the semi-finals, but were unable

to advance to the finals. This still made them part of an elite group of 12 teams out of 40 to advance past the preliminary round. Other schools that competed included: Purdue, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa State, Ohio State, and Florida.

After the team returned from Jacksonville, new NAMA officers were elected, and both AGR brothers were elected to serve NAMA in leadership roles for the next year. Kurtis was elected as the Team Captain, and Will as Treasurer. An interesting side note is their faculty advisor, David Lehman, is an honorary AGR brother from the Theta Chapter at the University of Missouri. He served as a chapter advisor there while completing his MBA before coming to K-State as a professor in the College of Business. David was selected as the NAMA Advisor of the Year for 2014. Kurtis and Will are already busy recruiting younger AGRs to continue the NAMA team tradition, and to pass along the lessons and fun that NAMA has provided them. They are also looking forward to next year's competition in Kansas City, where they hope to bring home first place.

Written by Will Longinaker



Brother Kurtis Clawson- furthest to the left in front row, Brother Will Longinaker- Second from left in back row



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: <http://www.ksuagr.org/home>

National AGR website: www.alphagammarho.org





Pink Rose Weekend

This year, the Pink Rose Formal had record attendance and went incredibly well. Roger Johnson, Alpha Zeta alumni board, Maison Rickerd, VNR of Activities and Garrett Kays, VNR of Alumni Relations coordinated the event.

The weekend activities began on Friday with tours of the AGR house and a casual lunch for the early attendees. The evening before the event, we invited all Noble Rulers and campaign donors to come back and celebrate the progress on the capitol campaign. Ann Shephard, our capital campaign advisor from Ivy Partners, was present this evening for the event. She shared comments regarding how great it was to work with our AGR alumni; and the leadership and accomplishments of the undergraduates make the campaign a lot easier. It was announced at this time, that we are only \$56,000 short of the \$1.2 million goal.

Saturday morning began with alumni board meetings in which future house projects, scholarships, and many more topics were discussed. That afternoon included a tour of the new Flint Hills Discovery Center in Manhattan. The center is a very impressive educational exhibit about the Flint Hills. It consists of an 'immersive experience theater' that gives a vivid depiction of the Flint Hills, as well as exhibits about native grasses, soils and wildlife. The evening consisted of a social event, dinner and program held at the Blue Hills Room in Manhattan. Brother Garrett Kays emceed the event, while Brother Ashton Yoer, Noble Ruler, and Jerrod Westfahl, alumni board president welcomed our guests. George Teagarden served as our keynote speaker shared some comments about the value of the relationships he has built through Alpha Gamma Rho. The most climactic point

of the evening was when the alumni board decided to induct Steve Burgess and George Teagarden into the Alpha Zeta Hall of Fame. Alumni from reunion classes 50 years (1964), 25 years (1989) and 10 years (2004) were recognized for their dedication.

Another great aspect of this year's Pink Rose was the academic achievements of the undergraduates this past year. Brothers Roger Johnson and Ethan Fowler, VNR of Scholarship, presented this year's scholarships. Our Chapter GPA last semester was above a 3.0, which was higher than the All University Men and All University Combined GPA averages. All of this success by our undergraduates doesn't go unnoticed. It is rewarding to announce that we gave out approximately \$31,500 dollars in scholarships to qualified undergraduates at Pink Rose this year. The continued support of our alumni has been nothing short of outstanding. Through my experiences with everyone in the house, it means a great deal to the undergraduates to be rewarded for all of the hard work that they put into their studies is put into their studies.

This year was also unique because we had several alumni and their sons attend the event including Jim Garrison and his son Luke. "...really great to see the amount of scholarship dollars and the number of recipients! Alpha Zeta alumni can be proud of the undergraduate efforts towards scholarship achievement. Extraordinary energy put forth by most members to balance scholarship, leadership, and social aspects of their college career is not going unnoticed. I am pleased that Luke has found a great college experience at 1919 Platt." according to Jim Garrison, Alpha Zeta initiate of 1986.

This year's Pink Rose was a huge success and would not have been possible without the contribution of many. Having AZ alumni travel from across the country to attend the Pink Rose was very motivating. The stories from interactions between alumni are impactful, and help pass down the history and passion of our fraternity. We would encourage all of you to attend next year. Our goal is to make the event even larger and better every year. We hope you will make plans to attend.

Written by Ethan Fowler and Garrett Kays



The Pink Rose Weekend was a blast, so join us for the AGR Summer Fun Fest for more good times! Stop by on your way to Colorado

Calling all AGR Alumni & Chapter Members

AGR Summer Fun Fest ♦ Norton, Ks. ♦ July 18th and 19th

Friday, July 18

- 11:30 A.M. Lunch at Pfonz' Grill, 402 S. State St. (South end of Main St. across from the football field)
- 12:40 P.M. Meet at Sleep Inn Motel, 201 E. Holme (US 36)
- 12:50 P.M. Leave for tour of Nelson Family Farms
- 7:00 P.M. Dinner, socializing & AGR tales at Brother Terry Nelson's home in Almena. In Almena, turn East at HWY 383 and Bryant Street

Saturday, July 19

- 9:15 A.M. AGR Board and Committee Meeting, First State Bank in Norton, 105 W. Main, Norton
- 12:30 P.M. Lunch (location to be decided)

Headquarters Motel: Sleep Inn in Norton, 785-874-5151

For accommodations: until July 5th there are rooms blocked under Alpha Gamma Rho

Please RSVP by July 15, 2013 to Ron Hirst, ron.hirst@yahoo.com 620-921-0128 or 620-662-9447 and leave a message

Undergraduate Philanthropy Hits Home for Alumni



The Alpha Zeta's Annual Sell-A-Fella Philanthropy was a huge success this year. We raised over \$5,000 towards the Great Strides Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in honor of our lost Brother Dave Sewell. During this event we had a big turn out. Neighboring sororities were present, as well as the University of Nebraska AGR's came to witness this extraordinary event. It was the involvement of the Greek community that we have here at K-State that we must show our appreciation to. This event couldn't be as successful as it was if it wasn't for them.



Bob Whearty and daughter Megan

Raising that many funds every year in memory of brother Dave Sewell always makes it an impactful event, but this effort had a direct impact on one of our own brothers. Brother Bob Whearty, currently an Agriculture Education instructor teacher at Riley County high school, served as a Noble ruler in 1986 and left a great impact on the

house through his leadership. In addition, the undergraduate members left an impression on him. Undergraduate members volunteered at the Great Strides event to help with the logistics of the event and to present our donation. When recognizing sponsors of the event, Alpha Gamma Rho was recognized and Bob acknowledged his fellow brothers through conversation, and through this I realized that Bob's daughter has been diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis since she was two days old. Megan Whearty is a current senior at Kansas State University and will be graduating this spring with a Bachelor's in Family Studies. "I refuse to let CF slow me down and take over my life. I am better than my disease" said Megan about her diagnosis. "It was heartwarming to see your fraternity, that you have a brotherhood with, have an impact on your very family, flesh and blood" said Bob. Megan has undergone 12 to 13 surgeries during the duration of her condition. Megan and her fiancé are buying a house in Newton, KS and plan to get married next June. Bob is proud of the fact that Megan has survived this long, yet has been successful in many things she has done and will continue to do.

Written by Maison Rickerd and Garrett Kays



2014 Graduating Seniors

Chris Berg

Lawrence, Kansas
Feed Science and Management
Quality Assurance Manager, Wells Pet Food

Cody Burke

Genoa, Nebraska
Animal Sciences and Industry
Commodity Trader, MGM Business Partners

Colton Deutsch

Chase, Kansas
Agronomy
Returning to family farm

Greg Harris

Abilene, Kansas
Agriculture Technology Management
Input Salesman, Tri Rotor Spray & Chemical

Colton Lynch

Eudora, Kansas
Animal Sciences and Industry
Sales Representative, Elanco Animal Health

Chad Nuelle

Higginsville, Missouri
Agriculture Technology Management
Seed Sales Trainee, AgReliant Genetics

Andrew Scherrer

Matheson, Colorado
Agronomy
Seed Salesman, Pioneer Seed

Landon Schneider

Logan, Kansas
Animal Sciences and Industry
Returning to family farm

Michael Welch

Haddam, Kansas
Agronomy
Large Ag Marketing, John Deere



Multi-year Strategic Plan: Yes, It Relies on You.

In January, eighteen alumni and undergraduates gathered at the K-State Alumni Center for a day-and-a-half session to refresh the chapter's strategic plan. Zane Akins, former Alpha Gamma Rho National Grand President, facilitated the session.

The group crafted an action-based plan around the following goal areas: Recruitment, Engagement, AGR Values, Fraternity of the Future, Finance, and Fraternity Leadership Development and Encouragement. Already several smaller group efforts have launched to specially focus on key actions.

Where do you come in? Achieving the plan will take all of us. No matter your strengths or life situation there are ways to be part of the effort, short or long term, out front or behind the scenes, official or unofficial, financial or non-financial. Contact any of your Alumni Board representatives to learn more, or check out the full plan details on the Facebook group page.



Written by Jerrod Westfahl

AGR's from across the country!

- 1.) **Brett Lynn**—Monmouth, Oregon; Sophomore in Agronomy
- 2.) **Maison Rickerd**—Fresno, California; Freshmen in Agricultural Economics and Animal Sciences
- 3.) **Andrew Scherrer**—Matheson, Colorado; Senior in Agronomy
- 4.) **Nick Schmedemann**—Boerne, Texas; Freshmen in Sociology
- 5.) **Cody Burke**—Genoa, Nebraska; Senior in Animal Sciences
- 6.) **Jake Robertson**—Roca, Nebraska; Sophomore in Animal Sciences
- 7.) **Jared Bourek**—West Point, Nebraska; Sophomore in Animal Sciences
- 8.) **Will Longinaker**—Randolph, Iowa; Junior in Agricultural Economics
- 9.) **Ben Brown**—Appletown City, Missouri; Junior in Agricultural Economics
- 10.) **Michael Porter**—Harrisonville, Missouri; Junior in Agricultural Economics
- 11.) **Chad Nuelle**—Higginsville, Missouri; Senior in Ag Technology Management
- 12.) **Craig Griswold**—Unionville, Missouri; Freshmen in Biological Systems Engineering
- 13.) **Garrett Swanson**—Mason City, Illinois; Sophomore in Agribusiness
- 14.) **Matt Hadden**—Taylorville, Illinois; Freshmen in Animal Sciences



by Logan Britton

Alpha Gamma Rho Regional Leadership Conference

We were excited to be given the opportunity to attend one of the four annual Leadership Regional Conference Events. The Alpha Zeta Chapter made its way to classic Kansas City this past February. Although Kansas City is right down the interstate, it was still a unique experience for our Executive Council. We were fortunate enough to stay at the Marriott Hotel located on the Plaza. The nine of us took full advantage by exploring the Plaza experiencing all the lights, people, and the delicious aroma of Kansas City's finest food. Touring the Plaza was a great experience, but corresponding with other chapters and alumni at the conference was unforgettable.

The conference was an eventful two days. Each day workshops, meetings, and relaxing with the other Chapter's took place. It is always great to hear how chapters across the Country are excelling at their University. We take a lot of pride in representing Alpha Zeta and it is great to know that other chapters have that same pride.

On that short drive home our Executive Council reflected on what we had learned in the exciting two days, ready to spread all we experienced to the entire Chapter. We took home a great deal of knowledge. We hope to utilize this knowledge gained to help improve our chapter in many ways, improve communication and networking effectively. We realize how very fortunate we are to be a part of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Our Executive Council has grown as a whole and we expect great things to come for the future of our Fraternity.

Ashton Yoder,
Noble Ruler



Professional Development Day

This spring, alumni, faculty and members of the community contributed to the inaugural Professional Development Day for the undergraduate members. Mike Smith #922, Rick Perkins #1045, Dr. Kris Boone and Mindy Weixelman presented to nearly 30 members. Smith, President and co-founder of Ag 1 Source, discussed what is important to agribusinesses when hiring students, ways to prepare for interviews updating your resume. Perkins, Vice President and Senior Relations Manager at Rabo Agrifinance, discussed simple finance issues including credit scores, loans and retirement plans. Dr. Boone, Department Head of Agriculture Communications and journalism at Kansas State University, made a presentation regarding professional etiquette and how to best interact with employers. Lastly, Weixelman, Senior Director of Annual Giving and Student Life Programs at the K-State Foundation, addressed how to be involved in an organization longer than four years and keys to great membership. All of our speakers were outstanding and brought different aspects to educate our members. Feedback on the first time event was positive from both our members and

speakers that we look forward to continuing this program for our chapter next semester. If you would be willing to serve as a presenter next fall, please let a member of our undergraduate chapter know.

Written by Garrett Kays



House Mother's Letter



Where did the year go? We have had our last formal dinner for the semester and it was senior night. It seems like only yesterday when they were moving in as freshmen.

It has been another great year at the AGR house. What's been going on this year? A new sign was posted on our house. It is attached to the house and lights up the letters AGR. It makes us easier to find. Also, we have new couches in our rec room. I would like to thank our Mom's Club for

the purchase of the sign and couches.

Our Pink Rose Formal was a great success again. Weather was very bad, but the turn out was the best we've ever had. Thank you Roger Johnson and all of the guys that helped you. If you have never to Pink Rose, we really would like to invite you to attend next year.

We had our annual fundraiser in February called Sell-A-Fella and raised more than \$5,000 for Cystic Fibrosis. The guys have also completed Adopt A Highway. Great job gentlemen.

I have had another wonderful year with the gentlemen of AGR. I know I say that every year, but it is a pleasure to have them call me mom. If you need to contact me for any reason, please call my cell phone 785-410-6041. Please stop by and see us anytime!

Sincerely,
Carolyn Sadler



Alumni Board Update



We've been in the weeds of the day-to-day on several things over the past three years, so let's lift our heads and recount where we are in the long arc of things.

Finances and housing are the blocking and tackling of our alumni organization, so I'll start there. Unless you've been totally off grid you've noticed our significant focus on the recently celebrated capital campaign, which put us on a path to retire the current mortgage by 2017.

Alumni Treasurer Ben Brent happily reports that our mortgage lender has said several times (with a smile) that the bank's margin on our note is very thin. By aggressively paying down the principal as we did, our overall finances should reach a significant cash-positive position later this decade. That position will give us an essential springboard to jump into our next major capital project when it arises.

On the physical plant side of things, we are caught up on the major projects list after replacing and expanding the parking area around the chapter house last summer. Roger Johnson's leadership in this area (and others) has been ongoing and tremendous. Give him an appreciative slap on the back next time you see him. Thanks also to the Mom's Club for sponsoring the new lighted sign on the north face of the house and for Richard Chase's leadership a few years ago on the landscaping that is now mature. These three things tie the property together nicely. To sum up, we are in a good spot for the next few years. That said, we recognize time marches on. A special task force is in the early stages of looking 5+ years ahead to anticipate our next set of significant capital improvement needs. Stay tuned for that group's findings and recommendations over the next years.

Beyond bricks, mortar and mortgages, things continue to go well on the people side of things. The recent capital campaign spurred growth in our scholarship program for the undergraduates. Notably, several additional scholarship funds will reach fully-endowed status in the next few years and thereafter be available to spin out even greater annual scholarship grants. We are blessed to have a high level of academic maturity, leadership inclination, and service-mindedness in our current undergraduate ranks. Attracting and retaining future classes of similar young men will be easier due to our scholarship program. Thank you to the brothers who have supported scholarships historically and in response to the recent campaign call to action.

Our young brothers' character and achievements continue to be recognized inside and outside the fraternity, with a litany of honors and awards ranging from Undergraduate Director for the national AGR Board (1 of 4 positions nationally), KSU Student Body President, and old stand-bys such as FFA leadership, academic fellowships, and service organization involvement.

I'll close with two invitations. One, repeated in a separate note in this issue, is to take a look at our refreshed chapter strategic plan and contemplate how you can bring your skills to bear in achieving it. The other is to take a look at the calendar for the rest of 2014. We have three solid upcoming opportunities to connect with brothers: the summer alumni gathering this July in Norton, National AGR Convention Indianapolis in early August, and Founders Day this fall. I invite you to participate in at least one of them.

As always, if you have any ideas, questions, celebrations or concerns to share please reach out to me or other members of your Alumni Board of Directors.

Fraternally,
Jerrod Westfahl

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's Recruitment
 Shane Meenen

 1919 Platt Street
 Manhattan, KS
 66502



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dr. Tom Knappenberger



Dr. Tom Knappenberger graduated from Kansas State University in 1956 with his degree in Arts & Sciences. He continued his education and attended vet school at Kansas State, where he graduated in 1956.

Knappenberger was born in Hutchinson, Kansas but grew up in Olathe where his family raised cattle and hogs. After achieving his DVM, he completed a Master's degree and spent two years in the Army. He then started his

own veterinary practice, Knappenberger Veterinary Clinic in Olathe, where he has been for forty-nine years.

He has taught veterinary science to 4-Her's for many years, served on and been president of the Johnson County Fair Board and the Johnson County Extension Board. In addition, he has been a project leader and community leader for the Sharon 4-H Club; served on his church council; active in the Olathe Noon Rotary, twice receiving the Paul Harris Fellow Award.

Over the years Dr. Tom has had many animals himself, including: Airedale and Welsh terrier dogs, Hereford and Simmental Cattle, hogs, and cats. In 1968, he married his wife Shirley. Together they raised four children and six grand children. His son, Dr. Todd Knappenberger an Alpha Zeta initiate of 1989, joined the practice in 1999 and is a third generation practicing veterinarian. Rex Harrison, another one of the four children, is a member of the initiation class of 1983.

Roger McClellan

Roger McClellan and his four siblings grew up on the family farm in Palco, KS. He attended Kansas State University as a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, eventually becoming Noble Ruler in 1987. McClellan was also active on campus as a member of Chimes and Blue Key honoraries. He graduated with a Bachelor degree in Agriculture Economics and pursued a law degree at Washburn University where he graduated with Dean's Honors. Afterwards, Roger partnered with the law firm Martin Pringle, taking cases as far as the Kansas Supreme Court. In 2006, he joined Sherwood Construction (a contract construction firm with locations throughout Kansas and Oklahoma) as Director

of Human Resources and General Counsel. He transferred to Sherwood's affiliated company, Wildcat Construction, in 2012. He was named President of Wildcat on January 1, 2014. Today, Roger lives in Wichita, Kansas with his three children. McClellan keeps his roots firm with K-State by serving as an Officer of the Alumni Association Board and on the President's Athletic Advisory Council. Through all of his accomplishments, Roger still keeps his role model parents close to heart and maintains a passion for volunteering in his community which is evident as he serves as a Trustee for the Kansas 4H Foundation.

Written by Luke Garrison

Tim Luginsland



Tim Luginsland is a 1985 graduate of Kansas State with a degree in Agricultural Economics. He grew up in Hutchinson, KS and after graduating from KSU he went on to he received a Master's degree in 1987 from the University of Arizona. He has served on both the KSU and U of A Agricultural Advisory boards.

Tim initially worked for Bank of America in a private client group managing and investing in farms, ranches and other real-estate for high net worth clients.

Currently he lives in Lenexa, KS and has worked the past 15 years as an economist for Wells Fargo Bank. He travels basically the entire country evaluating larger food and agricultural related companies. He determines how their business strategy fits into the industry and makes an internal recommendation on the companies' future performance.

Tim has three children: Drew, Tyler, and Megan. They have kept him busy spending the last 15 years coaching their youth sports teams along with involvement in numerous committees in his church and community.

He was named one of the Alpha Gamma Rho Brothers of the Century, which is awarded to less than 1% of the total members in the country. He considers this to be one of his most valued achievements. Tim also currently serves on the AGR National Finance Committee. He commented that in his professional life he routinely meets AGRs from other chapters and that it immediately creates a good working relationship as well as a friendship. Also, he said that the longer he is out of the house, the more he has come to appreciate just how much of a positive impact the fraternity has on its members.

Written by Ben Brown



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Richard W. Wilcke



Rich Wilcke (Alpha Zeta 1962) is retiring in 2014 after two decades as an instructor, and director, of the Equine Industry Program (EIP) in the University of Louisville's College of Business. The EIP, established in 1986, offers the only AACSB-accredited degree in business administration with a major in equine business. Prior to joining UofL's faculty, Wilcke served as the executive vice president of the Maryland Horse Breeders Association; as president of

the Council for a Competitive Economy in DC; as director of information for the Kansas Livestock Association; and as Farm Editor for WIBW TV-Radio-FM in Topeka. A graduate of Kansas State University where he was on the livestock judging team, he later did graduate work in history at the State University of New York at Albany. He and his wife, Janet, of 47 years, have a cattle and horse farm at Bethlehem, Kentucky.

Young Alumni Award

This winter's strategic planning session provided an opportunity to look at where Alpha Zeta is and where it would like to be in future. One of the ideas that came out of the session was the development of a Young Alumni Award. The Alpha Zeta Young Alumni Award seeks to recognize alumni, under the age of 40, who continue to live the values and principles of Alpha Gamma Rho. Nominations for the award will be evaluated in four key areas:

- Involvement in AGR as an undergraduate and alumni member
- Living the covenant and values of AGR
- Career success
- Contributions to community and agriculture

The recipient of the Alpha Zeta award will then be nominated for the Alpha Gamma Rho Grand President's award. The undergraduate chapter and alumni boards are excited to recognize the success of our younger alumni. The recipient of the award will be announced at Founder's Day and will be encouraged to share their experiences with the undergraduate chapter following the Wednesday evening formal dinner. Alumni are asked to nominate deserving Brothers before July 15, 2014 using the online application form found at <http://alphagammarho-alphazeta.celect.org/agr-alpha-zeta-young-alumni-award>. If you have questions, please contact Garrett Kays, VNR Alumni Relations kgkays@ksu.edu or Peter Tomlinson, Chapter Advisor (ptomlin@ksu.edu).

Written by Peter Tomlinson

Peter Tomlinson Wins 2014 Grand President's Award



Brother Peter Tomlinson is one of four outstanding individuals that were selected to receive the Alpha Gamma Rho Grand President's Award. Tomlinson was honored as a 2014 recipient at the Regional Leadership Seminar in Philadelphia, PA. Alpha Gamma Rho honors brothers for business excellence and professional achievement through this award. The Grand President's Award is only awarded to alumni age 40 or under that have shown noteworthy success in their professional careers. This award highlights Tomlinson's commitment

to AGR, leadership and impactful work in the extension service.

Tomlinson remarked about receiving the award, "Having been selected as a Grand President's Award winner was truly an honor. My involvement in Alpha Gamma Rho was a natural extension of my involvement in 4-H and, provided many opportunities to develop my leadership skills. These skills have proved invaluable so far in my career and I credit my involvement in Alpha Gamma Rho and 4-H to my professional success".

Tomlinson graduated from the University of Connecticut with

his Bachelors of Science degrees in animal science and agronomy. While he was an undergraduate member at Alpha Nu Chapter, Peter served as Noble Ruler. He also served as an undergraduate director on the AGR national board while in college. After graduation Tomlinson continued to serve AGR, by going on staff at the home office as a chapter consultant from 2000 to 2002. After serving the national fraternity he decided to continue his education and attended the University of Arkansas completing his master's and doctoral degrees in crop, soil and environmental sciences.

Tomlinson is an assistant professor in the Kansas State University Agronomy Department. He delivers information and extension programming across the state of Kansas in the areas of soil biology, and soil, water and air quality. His research focuses on environmental quality.

Involvement as a brother of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity did not stop after his employment at the national fraternity. Tomlinson is still very involved with AGR as a volunteer for the national organization. He assists with multi-media production, recruitment schools and AGRconnect training. The Alpha Zeta Chapter has been fortunate to have Tomlinson serve as an advisor for our chapter since he arrived in Manhattan. Congratulations to Brother Tomlinson on receiving this well deserved award for his commitment to AGR and the agriculture industry.

Written by: Reagan Kays



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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.



Sent to:

VNR Alumni Relations

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