

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

**HIGH ZETA**  
HIGH ALPHA  
TRE GILLASPIE

**HIGH BETA**  
JIM  
GULBRANSON

**HIGH THETA**  
DEREK KIELTY-  
MCBRIDE

**HIGH GAMMA**  
MIKE POSCH

**HIGH TAU**  
ANDREW KOST

**HIGH IOTA**  
ERIC RUPE

**HIGH KAPPA**  
JOE ERICKSON

**HIGH DELTA**  
CODY REED

**HIGH PHI**  
NICK BRATVOLD

**HIGH SIGMA**  
HARRISON SMITH

**HIGH EPSILON**  
MARK BECKS

**HIGH RHO**  
ERIC ROACH

**HIGH PI**  
BRAD FOWLER

**HOUSE  
MANAGER**  
NICK BRATVOLD

**HOUSE CORP  
PRESIDENT**  
DAVE LANDRY

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
JEFF  
ESBENSHADE

**TREASURER**  
SCOTT STERN

**AT-LARGE**  
MATT BALLARD  
DOYLE ESTES  
CHRIS KIRKEBY  
JACK NICHOLS

# Alpha-Gamma News

## Fall/Winter 2014



## Football Run Revived

All dreams have an origin. At some point in Alpha-Gamma history a Brother had a dream. It was a dream to assist those in need. And his instrument to aid others was carrying the game ball to the site of the USD v. SDSU football game. However, when the on the field rivalry between the two schools ceased, so too did this Alpha-Gamma tradition.

However, the tradition did not die. It just lay dormant waiting for another Brother looking for an instrument to help the community. This past summer amongst discussion of the undergraduate members the seeds of this revival were planted

It would have been easy to dismiss this idea as implausible. One hundred thirty-seven miles separate Vermillion and Brookings, the site of this years USD/SDSU game.

However, with the chapter's increasing membership and the recent colonization of

Lambda Chi Alpha at SDSU after the chapter there closed in the early 2000s there was a belief that this dream was

with the execution of this event and outfitted the entire chapter with sweaters for the event and also provided sweaters for family and friends.



**Lambda Chi Alpha Football Run**

The 137 mile journey began at 8:00AM on Friday, November 21 with Jim Gulbranson, Tre Gillaspie, Harrison Smith, Mike Posch, Joe Erickson, Marcus Becks, Nick Bratvold, and Derek McBride running the initial leg.

within reach.

The chapter's Philanthropy Chairman – Derek McBride laid the groundwork to turn the football run into a reality by reaching out to Teddi Muller from South Dakota Corn, which sponsors the South Dakota Showdown Series between USD and SDSU. After speaking with Muller, McBride learned that South Dakota Corn, also regularly donates to Feeding South Dakota, a subgroup of Lambda Chi Alpha's national philanthropy Feeding America.

South Dakota Corn was eager to assist the chapter

Other Brothers showed up intermittently throughout the journey. With the assistance of the SDSU Lambda Chis, the chapter completed the run the next morning at 11:30 AM. The hard work was capped off with a celebration at the tailgate prior the USD/SDSU game.

The chapter's efforts raised approximately \$4,000.00 for Feeding South Dakota and rekindled a tradition that will be passed on to future generations of Lambda Chis for years to come.

## Alpha-Gamma By the Numbers

### Philanthropy

✚ Pi Beta Phi/  
Lambda Chi Alpha  
Haunted House,  
raised approximately  
\$1,000 for Feeding  
America

✚ USD/SDSU  
Football Run, raised  
approximately  
\$4,000.00 for  
Feeding South  
Dakota

### Membership

✚ 44 Brothers

✚ 27 Initiates

✚ 17 Associate  
Members

✚ 21 Living In-  
House (Spring 2015)

# Bratvold Elected to General Fraternity Board of Directors

At the 2014 Great Plains Conclave, a regional meeting of Lambda Chi Alpha undergraduates, Brother Nick Bratvold was elected to the Student Advisory Committee. The Student Advisory Committee is a committee of undergraduate members with representatives in each region of the country. The committee advises and



**Nick Bratvold (Left)  
being Sworn in**

assist the General Fraternity's Board of Directors (also known as the Grand High Zeta) and the professional staff in their duties and decisions.

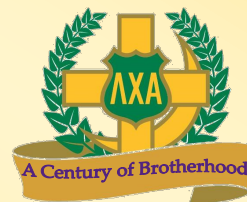
This past October, Bratvold convened with 15 other undergraduate representatives, the General Fraternity staff, and the Board of Directors in New York City.

At this meeting, undergraduate elections to the Board of Directors of the international fraternity were held. Bratvold was elected as the Chairman of the Student Advisory Committee and was shortly thereafter sworn in as the Grand High Sigma. He is one of only two undergraduates who serve on the Grand High Zeta.

In reflecting on this honor Bratvold stated, "Being elected to the Student Advisory Committee and subsequently to the Grand High Zeta has been one of the most incredible opportunities I have had in Lambda Chi Alpha so far. I have met and worked with some of the most incredible individuals and learned life skills that I am sure I will pass on and use for the rest of my life. It might not always be fun, but it has always been rewarding in one way or another. I'm just happy that I can give back!"

Bratvold's term will last until August 2015. Brother Tyler Tordsen has also had the opportunity to serve on the International Board of Directors as the Grand High Sigma and the Grand High Psi.

## Alpha-Gamma Zeta Centennial Celebration



April 8, 2016 and April 9, 2016  
Vermillion, SD



Register Today at [www.usdalumni.com/events](http://www.usdalumni.com/events)

## New Siding affixed to Chapter House

This year the Alpha-Gamma Zeta Chapter House underwent a significant renovation. With the generous support of alumni donors, which totaled over \$22,000.00 in donations, the Housing Corporation was able to re-side the chapter house.

A contractor was tasked with stripping the old stucco and removing the trim boards. The stucco was replaced with cement board stucco and new trim boards. The trim boards were painted brown, which marks a return the chapter house's traditional color scheme.

This renovation builds upon recent Housing Corporation renovations including the remodeling of main floor and complete renovation of 4



**North Side of the Chapter House with New Siding**

chapter house bathrooms. The undergraduate chapter members also took it upon themselves to retille the southeast stairwell and remodel the chapter room.

As a result of your generous donations and house improvements the recruitment numbers have grown

significantly and the entire chapter house is once again full. Thank you for your continued support!

The Housing Corporation's goal is to raise \$20,000.00 in 2015. This money will primarily be used to remodel chapter house bedrooms. Bedroom remodels include a new door, windows, dry wall, flooring, light fixtures, and paint. Please consider making a donation of \$500, \$250, \$100, or \$50.

To donate, send a check to:  
Scott Stern, Treasurer  
2731 East Capricorn Place  
Chandler, AZ 85249

Or donate online at:  
[www.lambdachiatUSD.com](http://www.lambdachiatUSD.com)

## 100th D-Days Celebrated with Alumni Awards

This year the University of South Dakota celebrated the 100th annual Dakota Days. Coincidentally, this Dakota Days fell on the 100th anniversary of the colonization of the Alpha-Gamma Chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha.

The active chapter was happy to host the largest alumni turnout at Dakota Days in the last 5 years.

Notable guests included Lambda Chi Alpha CEO Bill Farkas. Farkas attended this year's celebration to present two awards to two well deserving Alumni.

The first award – the Order of Merit – was given to Brother Scott Stern, AG 1178. Brother Stern was given this award due to his continual dedicated service to Lambda Chi Alpha.

The second award – the Order of

Achievement – was presented to Governor Dennis Daugaard, AG 917. Governor Daugaard received this award for his dedication and service to the citizens of South Dakota and his commitment to the Core Values

Of Lambda Chi Alpha.

We look forward to seeing you at the 2015 Dakota Days celebration and the Centennial Celebration in the spring of 2016!



**Alumni and Active Brothers at D-Days 2014**



## From a Small Acorn Scholarship Funds have Grown into a Mighty Oak

In 1964 Nels Seeley started the Lambda Chi Alpha, Alpha-Gamma Zeta scholarship fund with \$500.00 at the USD Foundation. This past fiscal year the fund started by Seeley was valued at \$96,289.00

In total, the value of all 6 scholarship endowments that benefit undergraduate Alpha-Gamma Zeta members is \$512,629.00.

The USD Foundation will pay out a 4.2% dividend, which will provide chapter members with over \$20,000.00 in scholarships this year!

Thank you to everyone who has ever given a gift to the Lambda Chi Alpha USD Endowments and thank you to the employers who have matched your generous gifts.

Sincerely,

Jeff Esbenshade  
Vice President  
AG Housing Corporation

## From the Desk of the High Pi

Dear Brothers of AG:

My name is Brad Fowler (Taco) AG 1139 (1981), and I am the current High Pi. I have been active at this position for about 6 months now and want to thank you all for giving me this opportunity. I have gotten to meet our new brothers (current house members) and many alumni I have only heard of. I took this position with some reservation but have truly enjoyed the past few months.

Many of you may be sitting out there wanting to

participate or thinking I cannot give enough or do enough to help. This is not a letter to recruit help or money but my confession that I have received many times more from the young men in the house than I could ever hope to give.

So, if you are sitting around and wondering how things are at the house or if you feel like helping in some way you can always start by giving me a call and say hi, I would love to hear what is happening in your life. If you are in the area, feel free to stop by the house or Elk Point and

say hello or call me (605-351-7489) and I will meet you there and we can have a cup of coffee. The house really looks great thanks to the help of our Housing Corp and of course some alumni contributors.

The young men in the house are always welcoming and they are doing us proud by rebuilding the great Lambda Chi tradition that we all remember.

Thanks,

Brad Fowler  
High Pi

## Tordsen Speaks at National Leadership Gathering

If you have read recent editions of the Alpha-Gamma News you are likely familiar with the many exploits of Brother Tyler Tordsen. Tordsen currently serves as the Student Government President at USD. Locally Tordsen has served as the chapter's High Alpha for two terms and also served on the General Fraternity's Board of Directors for two terms.

In light of his collegiate success, Tordsen was invited by the General Fraternity to speak at the inaugural High Alpha

Summit this January. This summit, took place January 8-10, and taught incoming Lambda Chi Presidents across the nation the necessary skills to be successful executives.

The summit also included the following speakers:

- Dr. Mary Ardoin, Director of Student Leadership at UNCW
- Fletcher McElreath, Grand High Alpha
- Murphy Osborne, former Grand High Alpha

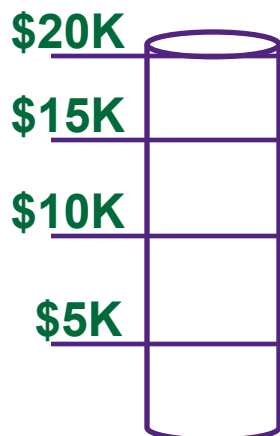


**Tyler Tordsen**

It was an excellent opportunity for both Tordsen and Alpha-Gamma to be nationally recognized for our success.

## Inner Circle Giving Program

**2015  
Fundraising Goal  
\$20,000**



Benefits	Gold Donor \$500 and Above	Silver Donor \$499-\$250	Bronze Donor \$249-\$100	Alumni Dues \$50
Recognized on Chapter Website	X	X	X	X
Recognized in the Newsletter	X	X	X	X
Receive Hard Copy of Summer Newsletter	X	X	X	
Personal Thank You Note from the Chapter	X	X		
Recognized on Plaque in Chapter House	X			

## Thank You For Your Donation!

### Gold Donors \$500 and Above

James Abbott  
Dr. Loren Amundson  
Burnside LLP  
David Hurrell  
Ryker Lammers  
Wilson Kliebacker  
Corey Peters  
Arlo Sommervold  
Roger Sullivan

### Silver Donors \$499-\$250

Karl Adam  
E. Paul Amundson  
Gerry Boocock  
Allen Brown

### Gov. Dennis Daugaard

Steve Dexter  
Todd Douglas  
Blake Duerre  
Chris Ekstrum  
Douglas Estes  
James Hart  
Charles Nelson  
Charles Parkinson  
Edward Pluimer  
Victor Raphael  
Michael Roach  
Michael Runge

### Bronze Donors

**\$249-\$100**

Tom Aman  
Greg Arens

### Thomas Assmus

Bryan Bennett  
Robert Bruce  
Tom Carpenter  
Gary Davis  
Thomas Conway  
Charles Cooper  
Richard Colwell  
Thomas George  
Pat Gulbranson  
Brad Gullickson  
Paul Hauffe  
D. Henderson  
Rollyn Hohweiler  
Steven Holm  
Clark Hurrell  
Thomas Johnson  
John Jones  
Aaron Jundt

### Robert Karlen

Dean Karras  
Craig Knudson  
Thomas Loofe  
Bob Moberly  
Roger Moen  
Douglas Mulder  
John Reaney  
Paul Rickery  
Richard Schneider  
Brian Stern  
George Strandell  
Uldis Sutka  
Larry Swick  
William Tobin  
Troy Tordsen  
Jon Von Wald  
Jeffrey Williams

# Thank You For Your Donation!

## Alumni Dues Contributors \$50

William Adam  
Darold Adamson  
Matthew Ballard  
James Baird  
Lance Bergeson  
J. David Bernard  
Mark Bradshaw  
Dick Brownell  
Ryan Buckley  
Lon Cross  
Ervin Dupper  
Scott Goodall  
William Harold  
Patrick Falenick  
Brad Fowler

David Gienapp  
Michael Goodhope  
John Gulbranson  
Marc Gullickson  
Christopher Healy  
Rocky Hoekstra  
Louis Hogrefe  
Craig Howard  
James Huntsinger  
Paul Husby  
Daniel Jackson  
David Janak  
Kris Kober  
Joel Konrad  
Jerome Lammers

John Leuthold  
Dr. James McGrann  
Dennis Mitchell  
Lorna Moir  
(In Memory of Denny Moir)  
Cliff Mol  
Charles Pancoast  
Fred Romkema  
Scott Schuknect  
Dr. Thomas Truhe  
Stu Van Meveren  
Kip Wagner  
C.W. Wetzeler

\*Reflects donations made from January 1, 2014 to December 20, 2014

Lambda Chi Alpha  
Attn: High Rho  
327 N. Pine St  
Vermillion, SD 57069

<Insert Mailing Address>