

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brothers,

My topic for you this month is simply a business matter, dues. This year we have seen a substantially higher amount of individual members not pay their dues to their chapters on time or at all. This is the basic building block for the Fraternity experience. Without that dues revenue a chapter's basic operations is greatly hurt. As one might expect it leads to a domino effect.

If a chapter doesn't have dues revenue it cannot have a lot of activities, at least activities the chapter pays for. Fewer activities leads to less of an experience. The guys that pay their dues feel like they wasted their money. The guys that haven't paid then don't because they didn't get an experience either. This all breeds apathy and leads to guys quitting and chapters falling apart. If a chapter doesn't fall apart it finds itself scraping by or falling into debt with others. Money becomes the primary topic of almost every conversation and the real Fraternity experience gets lost.

There is an easy solution to all of this. For over 100 years men participating in Alpha Kappa Lambda (and every other Fraternity) paid their dues on time. Doing so allowed the chapter to focus on having all the activities and experiences that one would expect in a Fraternity. Paying dues is an expectation of membership, it can be an expectation of our Loyalty and Self Support Ideals. It is the general concept of almost every association you may consider joining in your adult life. We need to educate our members on this, hold them accountable when they don't do this and seek men out to join that understand this is part of being a Brother.

No one likes to talk about money but the reality is money is needed to make a lot of what our chapters want to do happen. You have to put money into the Fraternity to get an experience out of it. If you are a member that is waiting to see what the chapter does before he pays his dues understand this, you are the reason your chapter can't do what it may want to do. You are the reason your chapter is failing. You are hurting your Brothers. If you don't like your experience you are the primary reason it for it. I know this is a tough message but it needs to be said.



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Jeremy Slivinski, Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director



<u>InsideAKL</u> is a monthly, educational publication by the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, for undergraduates and alumni. Brothers and friends are encouraged to submit news, articles and photographs of chapter events, philanthropy and service projects as well as other notable achievements. Correspondence can be submitted using the link below.

Online Event/Article Submission Form

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Statistics

Active Chapters & Colonies: 35+ Undergraduates: 1,100+ Alumni: 25,000+

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Alpha Omicron Chapter at University Colorado Boulder

April 5th, 2019, the Alpha Omicron Chapter of Alpha Kappa Lambda Fraternity was chartered at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Thirty-five undergraduate members were initiated and signed the chapter's charter alongside National Fraternity representatives and local alumni.

Ritual and the chartering ceremony were both held off-campus at the Flatiron Renaissance. Alpha Kappa Lambda National President Rich Cruz and Executive Director Jeremy Slivinski were in attendance to present



the former colony with their chapter charter. Alpha Omicron Chapter's Senior Chapter Advisor Russel Stone was also present and delivered a speech during the ceremony.

Chapter President Sam Arellano noticed a theme from the colonization process to Ritual itself: brotherhood. "Ritual was very interesting. I feel it emphasized something that I like to focus on and that is brotherhood," said Sam. "I feel ritual symbolized the brotherhood that we all share through the ups and downs of life."

Reflecting on the road from colony to chapter, Sam said "I was accepted last fall, so I have been around for one of the two years we were a colony. From my observations, the road has not been easy, but the members of this chapter saw what we could be and worked tirelessly to get AKL there.

"Our colony becoming a chapter was a milestone in our history and affirms that we are moving in the right direction. The atmosphere of Ritual was one



(Above) Alpha Omicron Chapter and alumni. (Left) National President Rich Cruz (Front Left) and Executive Director Jeremy Slivinski (Front Right) present Alpha Omicron Chapter with their charter.

of relief and accomplishment," said Sam. "The members of our chapter have worked relentlessly to make our chapter what it is today.

"They have donated many personal resources into seeing this grow and succeed so I feel that they were very happy with achieving this milestone." Looking forward, Sam said he's most excited "to see how our chapter grows and experiencing the best and worst life has to offer with my brothers. We are made up of some of the best guys I know, and I know the best has yet to come!" Congratulations brothers!





Saginaw Valley State University

> Donald Bachand, President of Saginaw Valley State University, adds his hand and takes the pledge during Gamma Upsilon Chapter's Promise Wall



Rutgers State University

Gamma Gamma

Gamma Gamma Chapter at Rutgers University partnered with the women of Alpha Chi to raise awareness for domestic violence with a Promise Wall and donations.



Mu Chapter at The Ohio State University hosted their These Hands Don't Hurt Promise Wall on campus. The chapter partnered with tOSU's Take Back the Night organization to raise money for a local women's shelter.





(Top Left) Lambda Chapter after Emporia State University's Greek Week Basketball Tournament Event.

(Top Right) Gamma Tau Chapter at Indiana University compete in the University's "Little 500."

(Bottom Right) lota Chapter at Kansas State University enjoy the University's Spring Game.

(Bottom Left) Sigma Chapter at the University of Central Missouri welcome their three newest members. Alethia Kai Logos!







(Right) Two Gamma Omicron chapter brothers at Dalton State College, Hank Carmical (Bottom Right) and Alex Powell (Top Right,) participate in "Alpha Male on Campus" hosted by the women of Alpha Sigma Tau and benefiting the Sexual Assault Victims Advocacy Center. (Left) Alpha Zeta Chapter at Northwest Missouri State University at Alpha Sigma Alpha's "Mr. Northwest Pageant." Congratulations to brother Marcus Williams for winning Mr. Congeniality!











(Top Left) Gamma Lambda Chapter at Temple University host a food drive with the women of Delta Zeta.

(Bottom Left) Gamma Kappa brothers at Fairleigh Dickinson University partner with the Green Club for a campus cleanup. (Above) Alpha Phi Chapter at the University of Idaho gives back to the community on Easter Sunday with a highway cleanup. Several Chapters celebrated with a Mom's Weekend including (Top Left) Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas, (Top Right) Gamma Chapter at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana, and (Bottom Right) Gamma Alpha Chapter at the University of Missouri.

(Bottom Left) Gamma Delta Chapter at the University of Montevallo celebrated Family Day and debuted their new chapter house they have been renovating all semester.











(Left) Upsilon Chapter at the University of Northern Colorado celebrate the end of another semester with their Yellow Rose Formal.

(Bottom Left) Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville celebrate with a Formal in Memphis, Tennessee with dinner, awards, and a new sweetheart.

(Bottom Right) Gamma Theta brothers from Boise State University at their spring formal.





FEATURED ARTICLE Summer Break Safety

Originally published at <u>www.HolmesMurphy.com</u>

Summer break, or the months of May through August, is a high risk period of time for chapter houses. It is important you take the time to properly prepare your chapter house for the summer break period. The leading risks to a chapter facility during the summer break period are:

| Fire | Vandalism | Theft |
|------|--------------|-------|
| Wind | Water Damage | Hail |

Only two perils on the list are truly unavoidable, that being wind and hail. However, the risks and resulting claims from wind and hail often occur to the roof and structure of the facility, emphasizing the need to have the facility inspected by a professional on a regular basis.

Most incidents involving water damage could have been minimal if someone had taken the time to prepare the house for break. The plumbing issues creating damage often went unchecked for days, weeks and even months. As a result, what would have been a few hundred dollars in clean up and a small plumbing repair turned into a costly claim.

Avoiding a claim can make a significant difference in the cost of property

insurance and ability to provide a safe and healthy environment for undergraduate members.

The benefits of preparing your house for summer break include:

- Avoid the expense and the time associated with a claim and restoring the damaged area.
- With a large loss, you may risk having an uninhabitable house for the fall semester.
- Water damage can lead to mold
- Many insurance policies limit coverage in this area.
- Protect your history from thieves and vandals, A price cannot be put on sentimental value

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Use the Summer Break Checklist to help prepare your chapter facility!

Summer Break Checklist

- Inspect all rooms, document damage and deduct from security deposit
- Complete routine maintenance on furnace/boiler/AC
- Clean and inspect all roof drains and gutters (contact a local professional)
- Repair all broken windows and doors to prevent damage from inclement weather; ensure that doors latch completely
- Have a roofing contractor inspect the roof, provide a written recommendation, and repair any immediate concerns
- Contact emergency service company to conduct an inspection and service emergency lighting, alarm equipment, fires suppression and sprinkler systems
- Clean exterior and interior of chapter house and check security/safety lighting
- · Clean/service fireplace and chimney and check for defects or debris
- Inspect the hot water heater and exposed water lines and pipes for slow leaks
- Remove and dispose of debris outside the facility, especially near the dumpster
- Unplug and store unused appliances
- Service and clean stoves, ovens, hood ranges and other kitchen equipment
- Inform the host institution (college/university) as to whether the residence will be occupied or not and provide proper contact information for the facility

If the chapter facility is unoccupied over the summer:

- Securely lock the property and limit access to only designated alumni/ alumnae or undergraduates
- Have a responsible alumnus, undergraduate or professional property management company check the property daily to ensure a loss has not occurred. A consistent daily presence will deter thieves and vandals.
- Inform local police and/or campus security the property will not be occupied. Provide them with access to the facility and ask them to patrol frequently
- If it will not affect the function of your fire sprinkler system or other systems, turn the water off at the main supply line (contact a professional for this service)
- When not in use, remove all hoses and store preferably inside facility
- If the property will not be occupied in the fall, contact Holmes Murphy to ensure you are meeting the necessary conditions required of a vacant property to not limit coverage in the event of a loss
 - Hire a mature caretaker to reside in and look after the property in exchange for free/reduced rent if a house mother and/or resident advisor is not available



