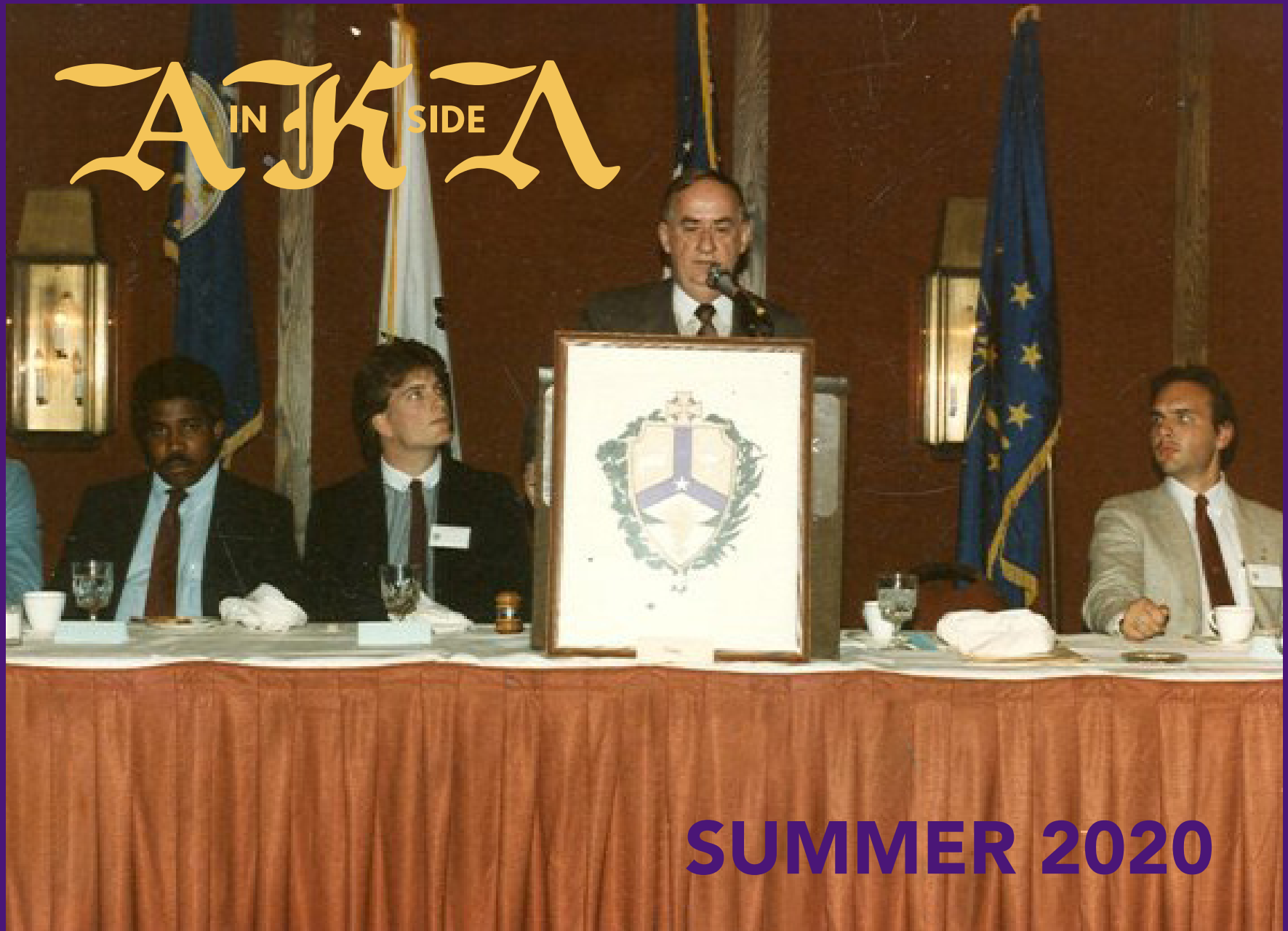


# INSIDE A



**SUMMER 2020**

# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brothers,

As we approach the Fall semester we approach a lot of unknowns. Will we be on campus or virtual? Will the virus restrict how we operate? Will our traditional housing and social models work with the new normal? How do we recruit while socially distancing? The scary reality is that we don't have the answers to any of these. It is probably the first time in a very long time where we (the Fraternity) can't predict what will happen, fix what isn't working or identify how to work past these problems.

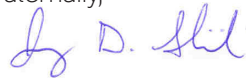
This doesn't mean we are hopeless though. We know our members can be creative and they will need to be. We know that our members will seek the bonds that Fraternity naturally fosters and we will find ways to build the bridges needed for those to continue. We know there will be men on campus, and virtually, looking for a home. These men will be looking for others to connect with. We will be there to provide those connections.

AKL staff has begun a program called "Men of Character Pop-Up Conversations." The intent is to host conversations about real time concerns, issues, and ideas. It helps to know we are not alone and to try to work together to problem solve our issues. It also demonstrates what Fraternity is when you can't meet face to face or have a social event. Our chapters are going to learn that when we say social "is only part of the experience" we mean it. There is a lot more to Fraternity and that will be the focus for us until social distancing isn't necessary anymore.

It will be a challenging semester but we are hopeful a very good one.



Fraternally,



Jeremy Slivinski,  
Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director

*Front Cover: A look back at the 1985 AKL National Conclave in Indianapolis, Indiana.*



## WHO WE ARE

InsideAKL 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](#)

### *Creative Director/Editor*

William "Trey" Nunnally III, Beta Nu at VCU

### *Contributing Writers*

Guy Davis, Beta Nu at VCU

Jeremy Slivinski, Beta Nu at VCU

Jeff Szumanski, Gamma Iota at EMU

### *Statistics*

Active Chapters & Colonies: 30+

Undergraduates: 1,000+

Alumni: 26,000+

### *Contact Us*

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Carmel, IN 46032

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[www.AKL.org](http://www.AKL.org)

## New Chapter at Kutztown

### Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

*"At first I didn't think I would join a fraternity,"* said Carson Crouse, the President of AKL's newest Provisional Chapter at Kutztown University of Pennsylvania. "I decided to attend Kutztown because my sister went here. She actually founded her chapter of Delta Phi Epsilon, and has been one of my main inspirations for starting the AKL Kutztown Provisional Chapter."

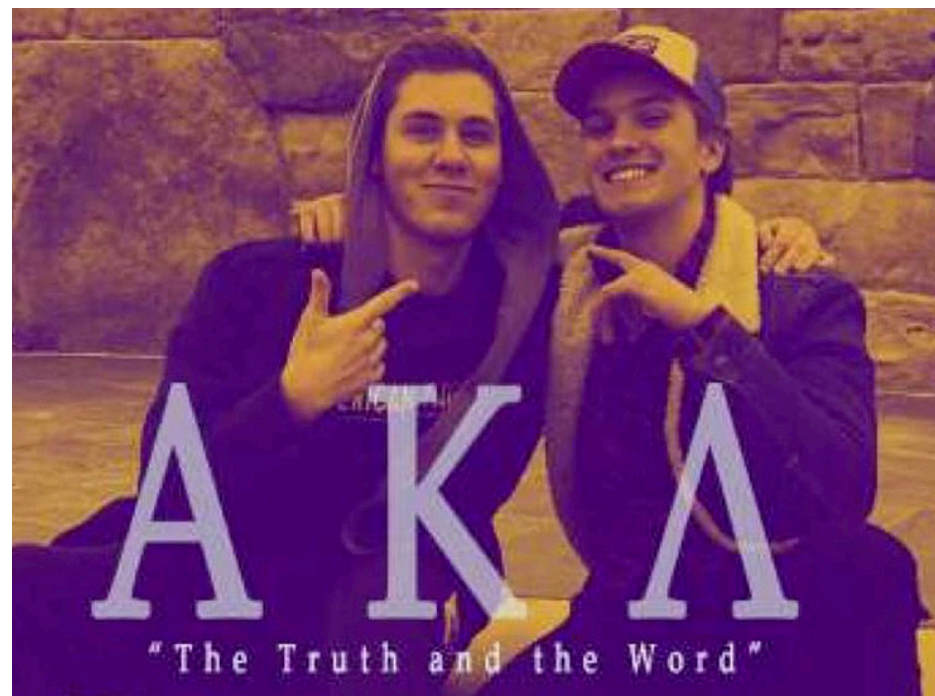
Earlier this year, a group of young men enrolled at Kutztown University contacted AKL National Headquarters about forming an interest group. "One day I was in my dorm when three of my friends came by with the idea to start a fraternity," said Carson.

"Our current Vice President, Eric Granitzski, came with the idea to reach out to AKL," Carson continued. "I did my own research on what a fraternity could do for me and realized the possibilities are endless. What really stood out to me about AKL was the national philanthropies. "Men of Character" also stood out because I already try to be that on campus."

Eric Granitzski, AKL Kutztown Provisional Chapter Vice President, said "Throughout my life, I've always had a group of guys that had my back each year. During my first year of college, I wanted to have the same kind of group of guys watching my back and looking out after me. I went to each fraternity at my school and none of them were really the right fit for me."

"I was lucky enough to find a group in my dorm that soon became really close," Eric continued. "They had the same opinion about the fraternities on our campus. I think it was the beginning of November where we decided we should start a fraternity that allows men to experience what brotherhood meant to us."

When asked "Why AKL?" Eric said "We searched up many fraternities that aligned with our ideals and I came across Alpha Kappa Lambda. Seeing "Men of Character Committed to Making a Difference" grabbed me. Alpha Kappa Lambda's creed fit



***Eric Granitzski (left) AKL Kutztown VP and Carson Crouse (right) AKL Kutztown President in the Provisional Chapters first Instagram post. Follow them on Instagram and Twitter @AKLKutztown***

perfectly for what we wanted to give to the community here on our campus."

Carson added "It's been a wild ride with lots of ups and downs. I came in as Vice President, and in the beginning there was structure but not like we are now. When I stepped up as President I knew I would take charge and make this happen, I decided I wasn't going to let these guys down."

Eric agreed "My experience while starting this will be something I will always remember. Since November

we had a lot of ups and downs at one point, I thought it wasn't going to happen because we started losing members fast. Carson was able to motivate me to not give up on this and sure enough, we started getting members again."

When asked how they keep the momentum going, Carson said "When Covid hit, it looked down for us. But I knew it could still happen. We're continuously looking to grow."

***Continued on next page...***



***Other AKL Kutztown Founding Fathers (left to right) Jeremy Cornier – Social Media Manager, Nathan Boyd – Secretary, Dominick Maloney – Sergeant at Arms, and Ethan Flanagan – Treasurer.***

"We're working from progression to progression. All us Founding Fathers were pretty much friends before this. We're all still best friends."

"Because of Covid there really hasn't been many official recruitment events," Carson said. But we're posting on social media and made a website to direct potential new members to. My brothers are driven and I told them to go for it."

Jeremy Cornier, AKL Kutztown Provisional Chapter's Social Media Manager, has been working hard to build a social media buzz. "Carson and Eric were listing positions that needed to be filled," Jeremy said. "One of them being social media manager. Earlier this year, I got a social media manager position for a small company near me that sells guitar strings and

instruments. With that experience, I contacted Carson for the position and began by creating our Instagram page and our Twitter page."

When asked what advice he would give to chapters starting new or looking to revamp their social media, Jeremy said "First I would say don't post everything at once right away. A mistake I made was posting like 5 posts a week and then starting to run out of ideas. Try posting at least 2 times a week so that you have stuff spread out and not all at once bombing your followers."

Jeremy added "Something I have learned along the way I would say would be that the more you trust yourself and try to do something, the more confident you become and then you'd be able to achieve more. I would

also say advertising the fraternity is a big thing you want to do. You don't even have to pay for ads. Just get all the members of the chapter to share the profiles and the posts so that anyone and everyone possible has access to your socials and can check you out easily."

"The thing I'm most excited for with AKL is the connections," Jeremy said. "Already a month out the gates with our social media presence and we are already being welcomed by other fraternity brothers. Having such a warm welcome shows that we're going to grow long lasting friendships, not just with the brothers from my chapter but from other chapters as well!"

Eric added "I've learned a lot since this idea became a reality. Motivation allowed me to keep pushing forward

and not give up on starting this. Being able to leave my comfort zone and I began to start through myself out there. I cannot wait to watch the fraternity grow each year and see new leaders take our organization and make it better. I can't wait for this year my sophomore to begin setting down a foundation of what we want this fraternity to become."

Carson said "We're most excited for what we can do for the community. We plan to focus on AKL's national philanthropies. We want to leave a positive impact on campus. We want to be the organization that is known for our philanthropy and leave a legacy that lasts longer than us."

Alethia Kai Logos and welcome to the brotherhood gentlemen! We look forward to see how these young men use their inspiration and motivation to lead as Founding Fathers.



## Evan Ridenour

**Gamma Tau Chapter at Indiana University  
AKL NHQ Coordinator of Growth**

*Recently graduated, Evan Ridenour is excited to join AKL National Headquarters staff! Evan sat down with InsideAKL to tell us more about his time as an undergraduate member and what he's looking forward to next.*

### **Evan, tell us about yourself.**

"I just graduated from Indiana University this past May studying Health Care Management and Policy. I'm originally from South Bend, Indiana, and my interests vary but anything you can do outside I enjoy. Every weather except rain, I just enjoy being outside and active."

### **What was your undergraduate membership like?**

"When I came to college in fall 2016, greek life wasn't even on my radar. I had met friends but none of them were interested in greek life. Brock Patterson, Gamma Tau's first Vice President, was actually my orientation leader. And in spring 2017 I met some guys from South Bend who

were Founding Fathers of Gamma Tau Chapter at IU. From meeting them I joined and started to really get involved."

"I worked my way up the ranks, I held a bunch of chair positions and my junior year I joined Exec. Junior year was the first year I lived with all brothers, and it was the peak of my creativity in AKL. I lived with the Recruitment Chair at the time and we were constantly throwing ideas around."

"Senior year was my last semester on Exec and this past semester, spring 2020, didn't go as planned. Our new Exec was thrown to the wolves so us as old Exec worked with them to transition to online classes, chapter academics, and focused on building alumni relations."

### **What leadership positions did you hold in the chapter?**

"From all my experiences, what I learned helped me when I got my exec position. My goal was to put the



person in the chair position after me to be better than the person before. That way we were constantly building. When the chapter gets the opportunity to move on campus housed then we already have systems built."

"Starting August 2017, I served as Housing Chair for a year. We got our first house that semester and I was thrown into it. I knew starting with the goal for a house on greek row wasn't realistic. Instead let's get brothers living together and build from there."

"Starting August 2018 I began as Marketing Chair, and from there began weaving my way into exec. Living with the Recruitment Chair we would stay up, probably later than we should, brainstorming different ways to recruit. We came up with the idea for a semester theme. Apparel, graphics, social media, etc. would all be based on this theme. This way PNMs saw the chapter as one united front."



"November 2018 is when I was elected Secretary and began serving on exec. I was more rigid with attendance, began a house points system, and built other frameworks. These were passed down to my successor but my advice was to build off what we did but make it your own. Don't mimic, the chapter will survive if we keep adapting."

### **What interested you about joining AKL NHQ staff?**

"When I saw the position, I thought this was something I had been doing for the past three years. What really interested me was the opportunity to help implement what experience I had at other schools."

*Continued on next page...*



*Above: Evan outside Gamma Tau's Chapter House in Bloomington, Indiana.*

"I had such a positive experience as a Founding Father. I didn't have to worry about conforming. We had such open minded guys, such quality "Men of Character" you could be who you were and there was always someone to support you."

### **What are you excited about as Coordinator of Growth?**

"I'm excited to get in the flow of things. Learn more about AKL national operations. Learn more about other chapters. I had met brothers from other chapters, Purdue, Saginaw Valley, Kansas, and learned how they did things but there's so many more brothers to learn from."

### **What has your transition from undergrad to alumni been like?**

"Covid really sped up my alumni process. One important thing to remember, a lot of people have a hard time grasping when you graduate you're not going to be around your brothers 24/7. Our chapter has already seen one brother get married, and it's looking toward those big events which is exciting as an alumni."

"It's important to build strong alumni relations. We have an alumni group chat. We're excited to come back for homecoming. We still want to see what's going on in our house, at the end of the day this is our legacy we leave on campus."

### **What advice would you give to younger you or a member joining AKL today?**

## NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS NEWS **CONTINUED**

"If I could go back to 2017 when I joined, I would tell myself to grind on my grades early. As far as fraternity I should have joined AKL sooner."

"Someone new joining today, I would advise to join the house you can see yourself for the next four years. People forget that the experience is about you. AKL might not be for everyone but we market ourselves as we are and find the new members that want to be a part of what we're about."

"As a chapter, we've had a lot of ups and downs. But we've been consistent. When we got our first house, we all made a lot of memories there. You were never the only guy at the house. We made our chapter not just the house, but a home away from home."

*Thank you Evan for sharing! We look forward to see what you accomplish!*

*Below: Evan post graduation at Sample Gates at Indiana University.*



# Back to School Guide

## Housekeeping: Prepping for the Fall Semester

*2020 has changed how as a brotherhood we are working together to navigate the new fraternity landscape. With the fall semester approaching there are a few points of business to complete from a spring semester cut short.*

### Fall Roster Adjustments

- Update roster with graduated/ alumni members, abroad, student teaching, or intern as necessary.
- If a member is enrolled in on campus or online classes, they must remain on the roster. There is no "Senior" status, if they are enrolled they must be billed National Dues/Fees, and Insurance.
- Adjustments will not be allowed after September 7th, 2020. Make sure to adjust both Member Status and Billing Status on OmegaFi.

### Fall Initiation Timeline

- Follow Social Distancing guidelines based on your state. All efforts should be made to hold Initiation Ceremony within first 3 weeks of start of school.\*
- All paperwork should be submitted via OmegaFi no more than one week after Initiation Ceremony.
- Open OmegaFi Vault, Click "AKL," Click "Member Initiation Reporting," Click "View Member Initiation Reporting," Click "Create Initiation Report." Members who have not completed OmegaFi set-up and documentation cannot be included in report until they do. It is vital they complete this set-up and documentation.

## Fall Expulsion Timeline

All membership expulsion votes must take place within 2 weeks of start of school.\*\* Vote may be conducted virtually. All paperwork must be submitted withing 30 days of vote. Delay will result in chapter voting again. Must be voted on in New Business. Chapters can use the following in minutes and send back to AKL NHQ at info@akl.org

- The motion is made to expel (NAME) for (REASON- ACADEMIC, FINANCIAL, BEHAVIOR, DISINTEREST)
- "Motion made by brother \_\_\_\_\_ and seconded by brother \_\_\_\_\_"
- Get members to make and second, cannot be the chapter president.
- "In favor (#) \_\_\_\_\_ Opposed (#) \_\_\_\_\_ Abstentions \_\_\_\_\_" (must pass by 2/3s vote)

## Fraternity Calendar

August 1  
National Dues, Fees, & Insurance  
Billing Date

August 1  
National Award Nominations Due

August 8  
2020 Virtual Conclave

September 7  
Final Day for Chapter Roster  
Adjustments

January 15 - 17, 2021  
2021 Presidents' Academy &  
Officers' Institute



# Chapter & Colony Dues, Fees, and Insurance

*As the fall semester approaches, it's never too early to start thinking about chapter activities including recruitment, philanthropy, and social events. All of which require a budget and accurate local billing. Below is all national dues, fees, and insurance that each member must be billed with the addition of any local dues and fees.*

## New Member

**\$425**

*upon joining*

National Membership Entry Fee = \$320.00  
National Membership Dues = \$105.00  
Meetings Fee = \$0.00

## Fall 2020 Semester

**\$205**

*per member, plus local dues & fees*

National Membership Dues\* = \$105.00  
National Insurance\* = \$100.00  
Meetings Fee = \$0.00

\*surcharge or incentive may apply

## Spring 2021 Semester

**\$235**

*per member, plus local dues & fees*

National Membership Dues\* = \$105.00  
National Insurance\* = \$100.00  
Meetings Fee = \$30.00

\*surcharge or incentive may apply

## National Membership Entry Fee

This is a one-time National Membership Entry Fee to join the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda. The National Membership Entry Fee must be paid along with the National Dues within 30 days of joining. Full or partial payment of all charges prior to Initiation Ceremony is strongly encouraged. While individual new members are responsible for paying their balance, the chapter is responsible for making sure the Membership Entry Fee and National Dues are paid in full. If a member drops or is removed from the roster, the chapter is still responsible for making sure that individual pays, otherwise it is the responsibility of the chapter.

## National Membership Dues

The National Dues are billed twice a year and are to be collected from every man on the roster. Billing occurs in August and January. The National Dues must be paid along with National Insurance within 15 days the start of the semester.

## National Insurance

The National Liability Insurance is billed twice a year and is to be collected from every man on the roster. Billing occurs in August and January. The National Insurance must be paid along with National Dues within 15 days the start of the semester.

## Meetings Fee

The Meetings Fee is billed once a year and is to be collected from every man on the roster. Billing occurs in January. The Meetings Fee must be paid along with the National Dues & National Insurance within 15 days of the start of the semester.



# National Award Nominations

*Alpha Kappa Lambda national award nominations can now be submitted online* at [www.AKL.org](http://www.AKL.org) for 2020 recognition! There are both chapter and individual member awards available to recognize the hard work our brothers are putting in. All national award recipients will be announced during the summer of 2020. Award nominations must be submitted [here](#) prior to August 3rd.

## *Chapter Awards*

### **Founders' Award**

For outstanding performance in all categories, this prestigious award is presented to the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda's most outstanding chapter in all areas of performance. Consideration of recruitment performance, financial management, campus leadership, risk management, scholarship, and community service are but a few of the areas examined in determining the recipient of AKL's highest award.

### **Outstanding Campus Activity Award**

This award is presented to the chapter which exemplifies outstanding involvement and activity on campus. Possible examples include campus service projects, musical/theatrical productions, university ambassadors, and other projects which are consistent with the objectives of the Fraternity and the particular host institution where the chapter is located.

### **Outstanding Community Service Award**

The award is in recognition of quality, interactive philanthropic programming with the community. This includes both hands-on service and any funds raised. Chapters which illustrate concern for the promotion of human welfare and the surrounding community are eligible for this award.



## *Individual Awards*

### **Clarence E. Brehm Leadership Award**

Created in 1982 in honor of Clarence E. Brehm (Iota '32). This award is presented to the individual collegiate member who has illustrated superior abilities in leadership. This award is based both on performance within the Fraternity, and participation in campus activities.

### **Holmes Award**

Established in 1954, this award is named in honor of Brothers Fred Gooding Holmes (Alpha '15) and Fred Weber Holmes (Alpha '38). Each chapter may nominate one senior or recently graduated member for this honor. The member must have graduated within the last six months. It is presented to the member considered to be the Fraternity's "most outstanding undergraduate member."

### **Henry T. Moon Outstanding Advisor Award**

Renamed in 2015 after Henry T. Moon (Tau '57) long time advisor to Tau Chapter at Penn. State. This award is given to the individual who consistently fulfills and goes beyond all obligations and duties required of a chapter advisor. This award was originally created to recognize volunteers who rise above the call of duty, and guide the chapter effectively toward fulfilling the Fraternity standards and expectations.

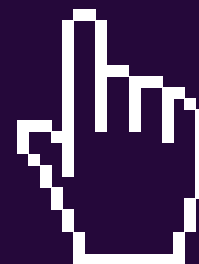
### **Athlete of the Year Award**

The recipient is selected from undergraduate members who participate in intercollegiate athletics. The athlete with the most outstanding personal record in his respective sport will be selected.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SAVE THE DATE  
FOR 2020 VIRTUAL CONCLAVE?



YES



SAVING



AUGUST 8TH, 2020  
12:00 PM - 3:00 PM EDT

FOR MORE NATIONAL  
CONCLAVE UPDATES,  
[CLICK HERE](#)

# Covid-19 Planning

## Thrive: Creating an Environment for Fraternities to Emerge Stronger After Covid-19

*The North American Interfraternity Conference (NIC ) has put together a guide for fraternities and chapters to adjust to a new fraternity landscape. Complete with videos from professionals and discussion points for chapters to move forward, topics have been assembled to initiate planning discussions among inter/national fraternity headquarters, chapters, advisors, housing corporations, interfraternity councils and vendors. The full guide can be found [here](#).*

### Public & Individual Health

Any gathering over 10 people will be a risk this fall, including philanthropy, meetings, parties. Must have a way to isolate and treat students who get sick when they return to campus. Encourage students to report if they are feeling unwell and not be scared of the stigma.

How can we establish a culture of hand washing in our chapters? Students will need access to supplies, processes for facility cleaning, commitment to offering hand sanitizer stations.

### Housing/Facilities/Meal Prep

Budget for additional operations funds for cleaning and related services. Consider health screenings for employees and staffing needs. How can you help team members avoid getting sick?

Review a process for determining who should be permitted in the chapter facility? Residents? Staff? Chapter Members? Guests? Treat the kitchen like a quarantine zone. Keep the foot traffic to only the people that have to be in day in and out.



NORTH AMERICAN  
INTERFRATERNITY  
CONFERENCE



## Recruitment & Chapter Operations

Building interpersonal relationships can be challenging over video and phone. Shifted focus on social media and video calls after major summer events already canceled. Financial strain on families is a concern and affordability of fraternity membership. Establish regular touch points with new members, particularly at new colonies.

Form new committees and expand number of brothers in volunteer roles to increase engagement. Strategic planning for maintaining brotherhood in various scenarios (limitations on group sizes, how to bond online, what if some live in the house and some don't.) Restructure study groups and academic support systems to virtual. Start to plan now for fall philanthropy events, especially if transitioning to online.

Expand size of recruitment committee and ensure it has tools to take action. Create strong presence for your chapter through campus communication channels and social media. High school seniors are less busy than normal right now since major events like prom and graduation are canceled, so they're looking ahead to fall and excited to think about university experiences.

### Student Life

Recognize that students are more comfortable with technology than organizations are. Provide tools for chapters to continue operations, philanthropy and service. Shorter is better, students will not be willing to sit through long virtual experiences. Find ways to retain personal touch or students won't connect well.

ALPHA KAPPA LAMBDA



EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda Experience has never been more important than it is today. On college campuses, in small towns, and big cities alike, society needs men committed to the Five Ideals of AKL: Judeo-Christian Principles, Leadership, Scholarship, Loyalty, and Self-Support.

The same issues which affect the world also affect Alpha Kappa Lambda. Our organization can help shape the future leaders of society by providing programming, scholarships, and guidance to our members.

We must bring ideals and values to the leaders we will depend on to make the world a better place – but we need your help!

[Click Here to Donate to the AKL Education Foundation](#)



When you give to the Alpha Kappa Lambda Education Foundation you help educated and empower young men who are committed to making a difference in their communities by learning, embracing and exemplifying AKL character.

All gifts to the Alpha Kappa Lambda Education Foundation are tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law.

### Create Academic Success



Expand and endow our academic scholarship program. We cannot teach and provide young men with the AKL experience if they can't afford to attend college.

### Develop Our Chapters



Instill our values and fortify and strengthen the young men in every chapter across the United States.

### Flexibility for the Future



As history has shown, it's impossible to predict how the needs of students and society will evolve over the next century.