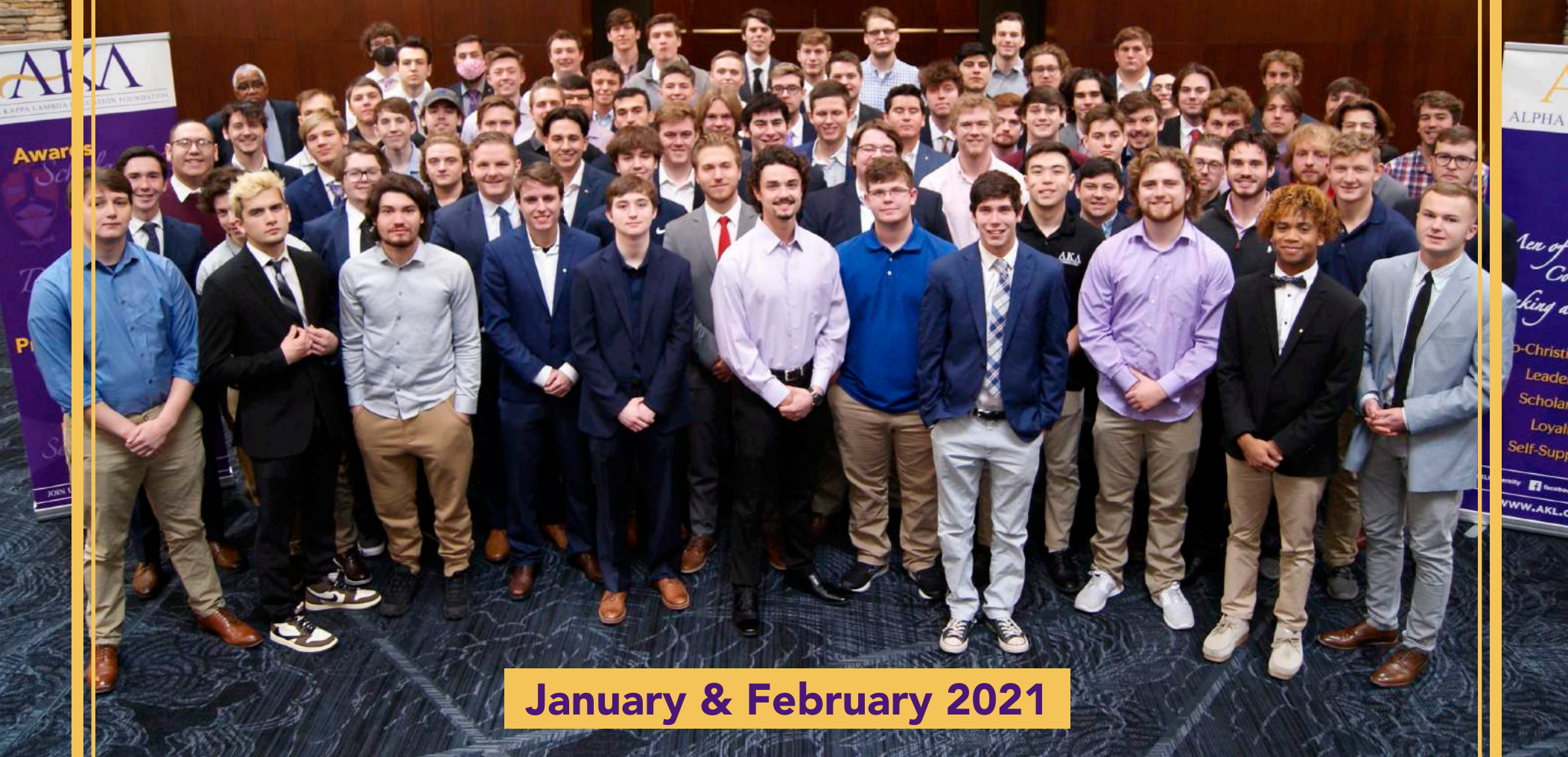


AKA IN THE SIDE A



January & February 2021



***"Men of Character Committed
to Making a Difference."***

@AKLFraternity

From the Desk of the Executive Director

Dear Brothers,

As you will see in this issue we had a very successful 2022 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute and Emerging Leaders Initiative in January. This marked the first large scale face to face National event for the Fraternity since the beginning of the pandemic. I cannot express in words how amazing it was to get back to this format. I need to especially thank the staff and volunteers that made this happen. The amount of time and energy that goes into making an event like this successful is significant. Activities like this are the reason we are a National Fraternity.

We have a lot of exciting things on the horizon. I expect in a month to be sharing a new opportunity for our alumni that I think will be exciting for our members while also reflecting on the history of our organization. We also have National Conclave this summer. Our hope is that the event is a successful mix of business, education, and fun. We highly encourage you to mark your calendars for this event. The experiences in Williamsburg, Virginia, are endless. There are family activities, golf, beaches close by, and many attractions to see.

Thank you for staying connected with us and I hope you enjoy this edition of Inside AKL.



Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "J. D. Slivinski".

Jeremy Slivinski,
Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director

2022 Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute and Emerging Leaders Initiative

The Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda has proudly hosted the Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy and Officers' Institute for over a decade. This annual event provides leadership training to newly elected chapter officers, as well as a focus on national brotherhood.

Beginning in 2007, the event's mission was to provide a weekend of professional development for incoming Chapter Presidents. Additional tracks were added beginning in 2014, growing steadily the last several years.

Due to the participation from our undergraduate officers & chapters, as well as time and experience donated by our volunteers, facilitators, alumni, professional partners, and AKL National Executive Council, the Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy and Officers' Institute is Alpha Kappa Lambda's largest national event!

The Fraternity was eager and excited to return to an in-person event following the 2021 Virtual Clark-Thompson

Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute. In addition to the regularly programmed tracks for Presidents, Vice Presidents, Risk Managers, Treasurers, and Recruitment Chairs, this year's event hosted the inaugural Emerging Leaders Initiative.

The Emerging Leaders Initiative was geared towards the Fraternity's newest and most motivated members who are looking to take on leadership within their chapter, on-campus, or in the larger community. Registration was open to any undergraduate members but highly encouraged for members who had joined the Fraternity in the last 24 months to attend.

This leadership development training program focused on each participant's individual strengths as a leader and how to leverage those to be a leader and teammate while also developing strong professional development skills. Participants learned through activity-based programming which included both small group and large group discussions over the weekend.



2022 Officers' Academy and Emerging Leaders Initiative Participants.

The weekend began with larger education sessions before officers divided into their specific officer programming. All members were welcomed at Orientation, led by Jeff Szumanski, AKL NHQ Assistant Executive Director, and followed by the Opening Brotherhood Dinner.

After dinner, members engaged in a group discussion "Living the Creed of AKL" led by Trey Nunnally, AKL NHQ Communications Manager. The evening concluded with Jeremy Slivinski, AKL NHQ Executive Director, giving a presentation on "The Business of Fraternity."

For Presidents, Vice Presidents, and Risk Managers the remainder of the weekend saw many presentations

including several "Five Ideals" presentations, led by Jeff, each with a focus on one ideal at a time. Guy Davis, Director of Education Programs, and Katie Brady, Recruitment and Expansion Specialist, presented on "Membership Education and The Truth & The Word."

The event also boasted a National Executive Council (NEC) Open Forum where undergraduate members had the opportunity to directly ask questions and engage with visiting NEC Officers. The Open Forum featured Stephen Hladik, National President, Dan Maloney, NEC Director, and Jeremy Slivinski, National Secretary.

Continued on next page...



Thank you to our facilitators and Volunteers! (Left to Right) Jen Akright - Alpha Sigma Alpha, Drew Hopson - Phi Kappa Psi & Triangle, Heather McDonald - OmegaFi, Shannon Ducker - OmegaFi, Evan Ridenour - AKL Gamma Tau, and Tom Healy - Sigma Alpha Epsilon & LaunchPoint.

Treasurer training began back in December 2021 with two virtual webinars. This Phase 1 Treasurer Training focused on "Roster Management and Billing Setup."

Phase 2 of Treasurer Training was in-person at Officers' Academy where Treasurers spent the weekend with representatives from OmegaFi, Heather McDonald, Director of Professional Services, and Shannon Ducker, Senior Professional Services Specialists. Phase 2 continued building on Phase 1 including learning

about budgeting, collecting dues, and more. Treasurer Training concluded with Phase 3 in early February with a follow-up webinar from OmegaFi.

Recruitment Chairs went through Recruitment Boot Camp led by Tom Healy, LaunchPoint CEO & Co-Founder. Additionally, Evan Ridenour, AKL Alum, Gamma Tau '17, and past AKL NHQ staff, volunteered as a facilitator. Recruitment Boot Camp focused on recruitment skills training and event planning through large group and smaller breakout groups.

2022 Officers' Academy: Continued

The new addition to this year's schedule was the Emerging Leaders Initiative, spearheaded by AKL NHQ Staff Katie Brady. Facilitators Jen Akright and Drew Hopson helped lead large group discussions and small breakout groups.

When asked about the inaugural event, Katie said "The overall goals were to give our newer members a chance to identify their personal leadership skills, use them in team-based activities, and to get to know other brothers from other schools!"

Undergraduate members also made great use of their down time to network and bond with brothers from other chapters. During education sessions, participants were encouraged to sit next to brothers from other chapters, which they then extended to meals and breaks as well. Undergraduate members were able to share ideas and tips about chapter events.

They also took advantage of the reserved conference spaces in

the evening by hosting impromptu brotherhood events and streaming sports games together. From a first hand experience, it was awesome to see so many undergraduate members connect and utilize their time together at our first in-person event in two years.

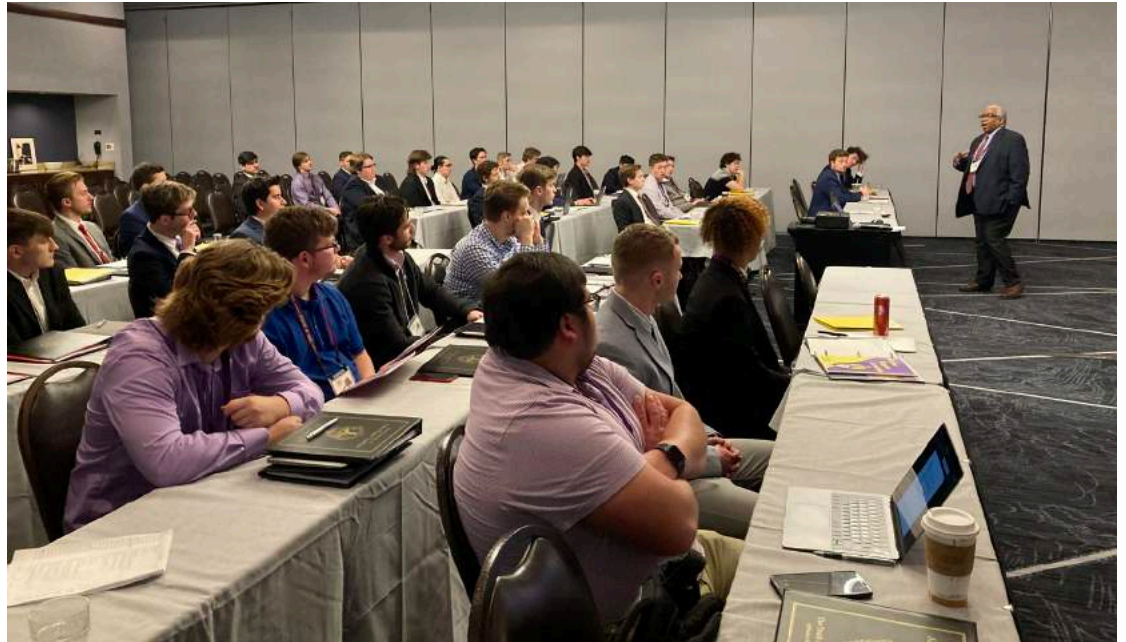
The weekend concluded with "It Rests With You..." a debriefing of the weekend that focused on what officers were taking away from the weekend and the goals they set after a long but rewarding weekend.

The last session of the weekend was a walk-through training and discussion regarding Alpha Kappa Lambda's Ritual & Initiation. Chapter Presidents filled all the roles and led the performance of Ritual & Initiation while NHQ Staff Trey Nunnally added commentary on how to properly perform and adjust Ritual & Initiation to chapters' needs.

Thank you to all participants, partners, facilitators, alumni, and volunteers! We could not have done this without you!

Educational Programming

(Clockwise from Top Right) Guy Davis presenting to chapter officers. Stephen Hladik, National President, Dan Maloney, NEC Director, and Jeremy Slivinski, Executive Director, speak about the fraternity during the National Executive Council Open Forum. Tom Healy shares a motivational message to wrap up day two of the weekend. Delta Chapter officers from the University of Kansas give a presentation to their peers.



Educational Programming

(Clockwise from Top Right) Emerging Leaders Initiative participants working hard in a small breakout group. Treasurers learn about budgeting and expenses from OmegaFire representative. Recruitment Chairs during Recruitment Boot Camp breakout groups Officers' Academy participants continue networking and sharing brotherhood even during breaks!



Men of Character

(Clockwise from Top Right) Gamma Omicron Chapter at Dalton State College, Alpha Phi Chapter at the University of Idaho, and Gamma Sigma Chapter at Old Dominion University.

"Meeting other chapters really inspired my officers and I, as well as helped show us that we aren't the only ones going through a hard time. We also got some good advice and learned a few traditions that had been lost to our chapter. Overall, networking with the other chapters was my favorite part of Officers' Academy!"

– Jerron Phifer, Gamma Omicron Chapter President



Men of Character

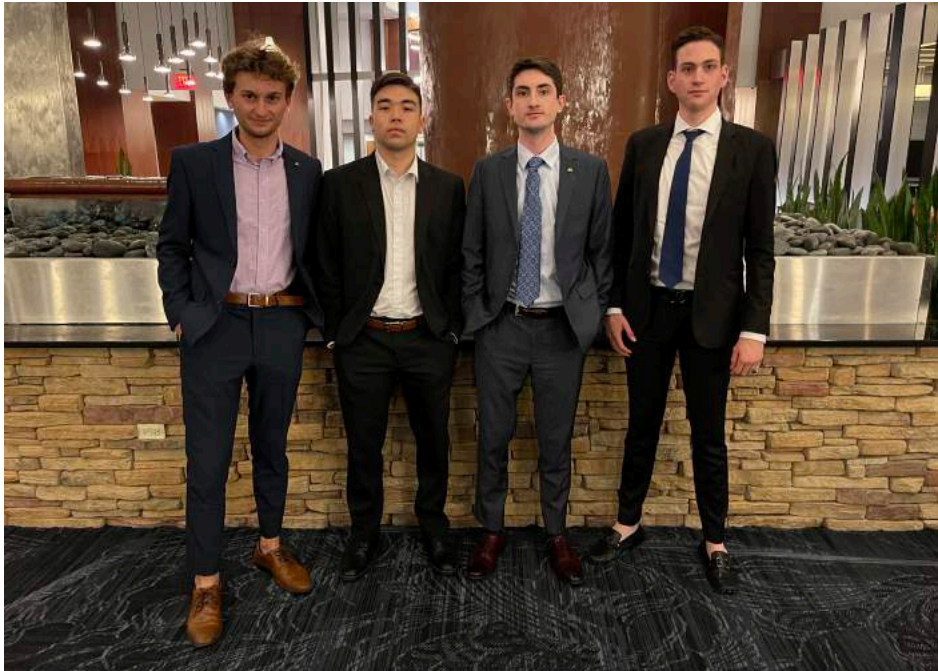
(Clockwise from Top Right) Chi Chapter at California University of Pennsylvania, Gamma Tau Chapter at Indiana University, and Gamma Rho Chapter at Arizona State University.

"My favorite part of Officers' Academy was connecting with the other chapters. Meeting and bonding throughout the weekend was a great experience."

– Simon Kusniar, Chi Chapter President

"My favorite part was meeting AKL brothers around the country from outside my own chapter and sharing our stories and experiences."

– Matthew Wachter, Gamma Rho Chapter President



Visiting National Headquarters

After Officers' Academy concluded, National Headquarters staff opened up NHQ for brothers to visit if their travel allowed time. (Clockwise from Top Right) Gamma Alpha Chapter at the University of Missouri, Sigma Chapter from the University of Central Missouri, and Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

"My favorite part of Officers' Academy was meeting guys from around the country who all believe the same Five Ideals that I do. One thing I learned from talking with other chapters was how involved they were on campus other Greek Life. That way we can continue to build relations with other chapters on campus."

– Peyton Long, Sigma Chapter President



Visiting National Headquarters

After Officers' Academy concluded, National Headquarters staff opened up NHQ for brothers to visit if their travel allowed time. (Clockwise from Top Right) Gamma Pi Chapter at the University of Connecticut, Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas, and Gamma Sigma Chapter at Old Dominion University.

"My favorite part of Officers' Academy was the environment and the bonds and connections that were created with other AKL members throughout the country. It was an amazing learning experience and I am glad that a few members of my Executive Board were able to experience it with me."

– Tyler Gelsomino, Delta Chapter President



NEC Undergraduate Representative

Ryan Wainscott, Gamma Tau '20

The National Executive Council (NEC) Undergraduate Representative is a position held by an undergraduate member elected by his peers at the annual Clark-Thompson Presidents' Academy & Officers' Institute. The NEC Undergraduate Representative's primary objective is to give insight based on undergraduate experiences and provide feedback based on his own personal involvement in Alpha Kappa Lambda.

This year, Ryan Wainscott from Gamma Tau chapter at Indiana University (IU) was elected as the NEC Undergraduate Representative! Ryan is from Lawrence, Indiana, and is currently a sophomore at IU. He is majoring in Finance with a minor in Outdoor Recreation, Parks, and Human Ecology. He currently serves as Gamma Tau Chapter President and has previously served as his chapter's Social Media Chairman.

What are you most looking forward to as the NEC Undergraduate Representative?

"As the NEC Undergraduate member, I am looking forward to learning what it takes to keep a national fraternity running and provide the perspective of a member still experiencing first hand the changes that the NEC implements."

Were you always interested in joining a fraternity? Why did you join AKL?

"Originally I wasn't interested in joining a fraternity. My older brother was the chapter president at a larger house at IU, and I had mentally established what a traditional 'fraternity' was and I didn't think it was for me."

"Once I got to campus in the fall of 2020, I realized that due to the restrictions the university had put in place due to covid, I was in desperate need of a community. A good friend and member of AKL recommended that I at least come check out the chapter and meet some of the members. I felt that sense of community instantly and haven't looked back since."



What is your favorite AKL memory?

"Although it may sound a little cliché, my favorite moments from my time at AKL have been the small events that I've gotten to share with my brothers, the tailgates, golf outings, intramural sports, pitch-in dinners, and the goofy group photos."

"It's impossible to put a value on my time with the Gamma Tau chapter, but I know I have over 100 brothers for the rest of my life."

Why did you choose to run for the NEC Undergraduate position?

"I chose to run for the NEC position in order to bring my perspective to the national level in hopes of helping other chapters continue a tradition of excellence."

Left: Ryan Wainscott: Brother, Gamma Tau Chapter President, and now NEC Undergraduate Representative!

What was your favorite part of Presidents' Academy?

"The best part of President's Academy was meeting other chapters. While none of us had ever met each other and come from all over the country, the sense of brotherhood was instant. The sharing of stories, traditions, and ideas to take back to our own chapters has already made an impact for us at Gamma Tau."

What was the most helpful thing you learned at Presidents' Academy?

"One of the biggest things I took away from President's Academy was all the resources that National Headquarters can provide. It's hard to utilize something when you don't quite understand it, so moving forward I know that I'll be able to lean on the experience and expertise of the national office and staff."

We look forward to seeing what you will accomplish, congratulations Ryan!

A New Attitude

How to Change Fraternity Education and Avoid Hazing

The Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda has a zero tolerance policy regarding hazing. The goal of fraternity education is to develop the future leaders of the chapter in a responsible and harmless manner.

What is Hazing?

No chapter, colony, student, or alumnus should conduct, participate in nor condone hazing activities. Permission or approval by a person being hazed is not a defense. Hazing activities are defined as:

"Any action taken, or situation created, intentionally, whether on or off fraternity premises, to produce mental or physical discomfort, embarrassment, harassment, or ridicule. Such activities may include but are not limited to the following: use of alcohol, paddling in any form, creation of excessive fatigue, physical and psychological shocks, quests, treasure hunts, scavenger hunts, road trips or any other such activities carried on outside or inside of the confines of

the chapter house; wearing of public apparel which is conspicuous and not normally in good taste, engaging in public stunts and buffoonery, morally degrading or humiliating games and activities, and any other activities which are not consistent with academic achievement, fraternal law, ritual or policy or the regulations and policies of the educational institution or applicable state law."

A Change in Mindset

As "Men of Character Committed to Making a Difference" we aim to offer responsible and safe education by updating and adapting new member and continue education processes. There always is resistance to change. No matter how imminent the danger or how great the risk, some are always opposed to change. With the fraternity education process, it is no different. People will still ask questions and make statements such as the following:

1) "We've never had any problems or gotten in trouble."

This excerpt was taken from the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda's Risk Management Manual, the full manual can be found [here](#).

- 2) "What is fraternity going to be like?"
- 3) "AKL and the fraternity are doing this to cover themselves."
- 4) "This is not the same fraternity that I joined/was four years ago."
- 5) "What's the point of being in a fraternity?"
- 6) "They're just doing what I did, and I liked it."
- 7) "It is a bonding experience."
- 8) "The new members want (or expect) to be hazed."
- 9) "You can't make it too easy for them to make it into the fraternity."
- 10) "It is necessary to be a good brother (sister) and to understand respect for the brotherhood (sisterhood)."

These questions and statements all miss the point of hazing and of fraternity education. New members desire many things when they become full members, and they expect them during their education period.

If the chapter offers these things, it has a successful program; and there are many activities that lead to such a program. Remember, if you have any

doubt whether something is hazing or not, do not do it. Find an alternative!

What do Members Want?

- 1) To make friends.
- 2) To have a positive experience with their chapter.
- 3) To learn about the organization.
- 4) To feel wanted and needed.
- 5) To be informed as to what the chapter expects from them.
- 6) To join an organization, not a disorganization.
- 7) To be respected as individuals and members.
- 8) To be helped in adjusting to campus life, college classes, and chapter responsibilities.
- 9) To have fair treatment and not be subservient to initiated members.
- 10) To do only the work that initiated members do.
- 11) To respect older members.
- 12) To have initiation requirements, but not to have to earn active status through personal favors, competition, or juvenile activities; and
- 13) To have lots of fun.



Gamma Lambda Chapter Temple University

Gamma Lambda Chapter at Temple University volunteered at the Carve 4 Cancer Festival in the Pocono Mountains! The organization's mission states they are "shredding blood cancer through actions sports events and awareness campaigns." Prior to the event, chapter brothers raised around \$200 for blood cancer research by tabling on campus.



Crisis Management

Risk Management and Emergency Planning

The intention of risk management is not completely eliminate risk, but to reduce the probability of risk and prepare an emergency plan. In the event of an emergency, after 911 has been called, the additional steps that should be taken.

- The Chapter President (or officer next in line if the President is not present) takes charge.
- Cooperate fully with the needs of any public safety organization (police, medical or fire personnel).
- Contact appropriate officials (Advisor, AKL National Headquarters, University, etc.).
- Restrict access to the chapter house. The President (or officer in charge) must have complete control of the situation and be aware of who is in the area. Permit only your members and appropriate officials to enter.
- Assign one or more responsible members to calmly guard the door.
- Do not tamper with any part of the area involved in the incident, specifically things that might

be construed as evidence or areas involved with the incident/emergency.

- Assemble your members in a group (in case of fire, assemble outside, in front near the street). All should remain calm.
- Remind members that only the President or Chapter Advisor can speak for the Fraternity. Members are not to speak to anyone (including friends, significant others, parents, the university) about the crisis.
- Do not discuss details, speculate on events or otherwise elaborate on the situation.
- Submit all requested information about the incident to the proper authorities.

Dealing With The Media

- Depending on the circumstances, the National Headquarters may take over any direct contact with the media including the issuance of a press statement.
- If contacted, only the President or Chapter Advisor should speak



Originally published at www.HolmesMurphy.com

for the chapter if the National Headquarters provides this direction and guidance.

- Avoid “no comment” as it leads to speculation. Instead, make a simple statement: “We are aware that an incident occurred and are cooperating fully with all parties who are investigating.”

Serious Injury Or Death Of A Member

Do not notify the parents. Medical or police personnel who are trained in this will notify the family. After you know that the family has been notified, it is appropriate for a chapter representative to call and share your concern.

- Do not let members enter the room.
- In the event of a death, do not remove any personal items from the room. Allow only authorized personnel to enter the room. If possible, keep the door locked.
- Ask the family what their wishes are in regard to the member's

possessions. You may offer to pack them in boxes, but it is more likely that the family will want to do this themselves.

- Before they arrive, be sure that any borrowed items are returned. When the family arrives, have empty boxes available and offer your help.
- Understand that this is a difficult time for them and they may want privacy.
- If the family allows member attendance during any moment of this process, chapter officers can provide details for members.
- In the case of serious injury or illness, find out the visitation wishes of the family and coordinate this with members of the chapter.

Follow-Up

University staff is usually available for member counseling and general assistance. Individual and group counseling is strongly recommended following any crisis. The National Headquarters will often have mental health and/or counseling resources available for members.



Delta Chapter University of Kansas

Delta Chapter at the University of Kansas gave back to the KU and Lawrence, Kansas, community by volunteering to shovel snow from local driveways and walkways. The chapter said "It was an awesome and fulfilling experience and got us even closer as brothers and friends while also doing service to our school."



AKL 101



Housekeeping: New Members, Initiation, and Paperwork

One of the duties as a chapter officer is roster management. As membership statuses change, the following steps can help keep your chapter roster tidy.

New Member Reporting

After new members have accepted their bid to join the Fraternity, Chapter Presidents or Treasurers must report new members online at Vault via OmegaFi. An individual has not officially accepted his bid and become an member of Alpha Kappa Lambda until he is reported online.

To report new members, the officer submitting new member reports must have each new member's name, email, and phone number.

To report new members:

- Login to www.myAKL.org and open Vault.
- Under the "Chapter" tab, click "Add New Members."
- You can "Add Members in Mass" by downloading and filling out a template to upload. Or you can

choose to "Add Member" one at a time. Be careful to click "Save."

Membership Entry Process

The Fraternity's membership entry process is a five day (120 hour) timeline that focuses on working with new members to complete their online profiles on Vault, fraternity education, and concluding with Ritual & Initiation.

Ritual & Initiation

Ritual & Initiation needs to be performed within the five day (120 hour) membership entry process. Failure to do so can result in chapter suspension until new members have been initiated and an Initiation Report has been submitted.

Initiation Reporting

After Ritual & Initiation has been performed, Chapter Presidents or Treasurers must submit an Initiation Report online at Vault via OmegaFi. In order for new members to be reported

as Initiated, they must have completed their OmegaFi profile and filled out all online forms.

To submit an Initiation Report:

- Login to www.myAKL.org and open Vault.
- Under the "Chapter" tab, click "Member Initiation Reporting."
- If there are new members that have an "Incomplete Registration Status" they need to fill out their online forms and complete their OmegaFi profile.
- If you click the red "Incomplete" next to their name you will see what forms have been completed and what forms are incomplete. A reminder email can be sent by clicking the mail icon next to their name, which will prompt them to login and complete the forms.
- When new members have filled out all their forms and are eligible to be reported as Initiated, you will see their names under "Eligible For Initiation Report."
- To submit an Initiation Report, click "Create Initiation Report" and follow the three steps to properly submit.

- To verify the Initiation Report has been submitted, if you return to the "Member Initiation Reporting" page you will see a confirmation notification stating when the report was submitted.

Pending Expulsions

To submit an expulsion:

- Complete a member expulsion form for each pending expulsion [here](#).
- At the next chapter meeting have a member make and different member second the following motion for the expulsion of each member.
- Motion to expel: The motion is made to expel _____ for not fulfilling his financial obligations (or disinterest, behavior detrimental, academic ineligibility.)
- Motion made by brother _____ and seconded by brother _____ (members cannot be the president)
- Vote Count of those: In-Favor, Opposed, and Abstentions (must pass by 2/3s vote)
- Email the meeting minutes to NHQ staff Guy Davis at guydavis@akl.org

2022 National Conclave

Business, Brotherhood, and Bonding

National Conclave is the largest national Alpha Kappa Lambda event in terms of chapters and members represented. This biennial event brings together undergraduate members, alumni members, the National Executive Council, National Headquarters staff, as well as family and friends together for a weekend of business, brotherhood, and fun.

Following the 2020 Virtual National Conclave, the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda is excited to return to our in-person National Conclave! This year the event will be held in Williamsburg, Virginia from July 27th through July 31st, 2022.

For more information and to stay informed, visit www.AKL.org for National Conclave updates as they continue to roll out!

Each chapter has two Undergraduate Delegates and one Alumni Delegate for legislative sessions. However additional undergraduates and alumni can attend as a Non-Delegate.

How to Register *Registration Open Soon!*

- Go to MyAKL.org and log in using your username and password.
- Once logged in to myAKL, navigate under the "Communications," and click "Events."
- Under "Upcoming Events," "2022 National Conclave," select either "Register Myself Only" or "Register Myself and/or Others." Make sure to select the correct "Participant Type" from the choices available.
- Those attending as a Non-Delegate/Guest can select a meal package that includes "All Meals," "No Meals," or purchase individual meals followed by a payment screen.
- If you have any questions about National Conclave, registration, or anything else please contact AKL National Headquarters.
 - Phone: (317) 564-8003
 - Email: info@AKL.org



Save the Date!

JULY 27TH - 31ST, 2022

WILLIAMSBURG, VA

Registration

OPEN SOON AT MYAKL

Tentative Schedule & Programming

Wednesday July 27th: Early Arrivals to National Conclave

Thursday July 28th: National Conclave Registration, National Executive Council Meeting (NEC Only), National Conclave Orientation, Dinner, National Conclave Opening Ceremony, Legislative Session

Friday July 29th: Legislative Session, Undergraduate Education, Alumni Education, Lunch, Legislative Session

Saturday July 30th: Keynote Presentation, Initiation Ritual and Omega Ceremony, National Conclave Photo, Lunch, Legislative Session, National Conclave Closing Banquet

Sunday July 31st: Departures from National Conclave

Alumni Support

Interested in sponsoring an undergraduate member's travel, registration cost, or programming? Check out our article "Giving Back to Your Fraternity" in this same issue for more information on how you can support brothers attending AKL national events like National Conclave!

2021 – 2022 National Chapter Dues, Fees, and Insurance

'21 - '22 New Member

\$425

upon joining

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

Fall 2021 Semester

\$215

per member, plus local dues & fees

National Membership Dues* = \$105.00
Insurance* = \$110.00
Meetings Fee = \$0.00
*incentive or surcharge may apply

Spring 2022 Semester

\$250

per member, plus local dues & fees

National Membership Dues* = \$105.00
Insurance* = \$110.00
Educational Programming Fee = \$35.00
*incentive or surcharge may apply

Incentives & Surcharges

- 10% National Membership Dues increase for Spring 2022 semester for chapters 10% below their Fall recruitment minimum. (increase of \$10.50)
- 10% National Membership Dues decrease for Spring 2022 semester for chapters 10% above their Fall recruitment minimum. (decrease of \$10.50)
- 10% National Membership Dues increase for chapters out of compliance. This is a failure to complete compliance requests and/or semesterly Risk Management Report. (increase of \$10.50)
- 10% surcharge on Insurance for chapters that had a Risk Management violation the previous semester. (increase of \$11.00)

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 in full 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.

Educational Programming Fee

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

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 Insurance within 15 days of the start of the semester.

Insurance

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 of the start of the semester.

The Adventure of a Lifetime

Tom Tierney, Gamma '61

"I accept membership in Alpha Kappa

Lambda as affiliation that is binding for life." The Fraternity lives on through the connections and stories that brothers share. Thomas "Tom" Tierney, Gamma Chapter '61 at the University of Illinois, is not only sharing brotherhood memories with the fraternity but internationally as well!

InsideAKL sat down with Tom to discuss the recent publication of his book "FIVE GUYS IN A BEETLE - The Grandest Grand Tour - Europe, 1963" based on a trip of a lifetime he shared with his brothers. Tom also spoke about his undergraduate and professional careers.

Tell us more about your time at the University of Illinois and how you got involved with AKL.

"My time at the University of Illinois was certainly a highlight in my life and provided a great launch into my future work as well as a place for building lasting friendships, mostly via my association with AKL."

"My maternal grandfather as well as my mother were both University of Illinois graduates, and that was the initial inspiration to choose that university. I began as an architecture student, but after my first year decided to spend more time toward my interest in music, I wrote my first song in the 5th grade. While studying music on the side, I ended up with undergraduate and master degrees in Communications."

"Since my mother had been part of the fraternity and sorority system, I was interested in that idea. I began my freshman year in a boarding house, and began rushing during that year, pledging AKL in 1961 in the final semester of that freshman year. Even though I visited many fraternities and had opportunities to join others, there was something about the quality of men at AKL and their philosophy that won me over. And I've always celebrated the decision to join AKL."

What inspired you and your brothers to embark on this adventure?



Tom and his wife Maureen, who helped inspire Tom and write the chapter intros.

"Toward the end of my junior year, five of my fellow AKL's were planning a summer tour of Europe in 1963. They planned to buy a Volkswagen Beetle in Paris and travel for two and a half months. Turns out that one of them had to withdraw because of family commitments and they were seeking a replacement."

"When they approached me, of course I was interested, but had to convince my parents of the value of this, as opposed to a summer job. Fortunately the European tour won! The purpose was to take in the culture and history of Europe, and of course have a bit of fun along the way."

What inspired you to write your book and share your adventures?

"Because this was considered a special opportunity, I decided to write



a diary about my daily adventures, and figured the best way to do this was to write letters home. So I wrote a letter for each day, and what started out as a simple exercise in recording daily events, turned out to be a detailed description of these events, including costs of lodging and meals as well as touristy reactions to cities, monuments and people we met."

"I ended up writing far more than I originally intended, often keeping me up half the night to complete the letters. Fortunately my mother saved each letter and postcard and preserved them carefully. It was only in recent years that some of my fellow AKL travelers suggested that these letters might become a book, given the historical nature of these events nearly 60 years later."

Continued on next page...



How do you keep in contact with other alumni?

"Mainly through email. Several of the AKL's from my era have gathered these email contacts and regularly post happenings."

"The five of us from that summer of '63 have scheduled regular reunions through the years, starting in 1993, 30 years later, and repeating ever since. Including a 50 year reunion in 2013 and five year reunions since then. Several of us live or spend some time in Florida now, so we try to have informal get-togethers annually."

What was the book writing process like? What about the editing and publication process?

"Based on encouragement to consider publishing the letters from a fellow '63 AKL traveler, I scanned them, including postcards, and had them transcribed

into a Word document. When I went to a publisher friend for advice about the viability of this idea, he asked that I send him a few of the letters and he would tell me what he thought. Surprisingly, Jim Smith at Sunstone Press in Santa Fe, New Mexico, gave the idea a thumbs up and offered to publish the letters."

"My wife Maureen inspired the idea of creating chapters and she agreed to write the chapter intros as well as help edit and pull the project together. We spent a good part of the summer of 2020 working on the final version. I did very little editing of the letters and at the publisher's advice, changed the names of my fellow Beetle travelers."

Your book was a departure from your music career, which includes some amazing accomplishments!

Can you tell us more about your background in music and how it

compared to your ventures in the book writing process?

"I began writing songs very early, 5th grade and 7th grade, but became more serious about it after my grandmother took me to the film *The King and I* while in high school. I was inspired with the idea of 'a story with songs,' hence my love for writing musical theater. And basically I've been writing music since then."

"That eventually led me to New York City and while looking for opportunities to write musicals, I found myself writing songs for company corporate events. They were often "mini" musicals for company meetings and after a stint with AT&T in public relations, I started a music producing company doing this kind of work. But I also continued writing musicals, many of which have been produced and published."

"This musical aspect of my work is quite different from writing the *FIVE GUYS* book. The main thing it has in common is the need to be careful with

Alumni Spotlight Continued

detail and proofread everything very carefully before launching it out."

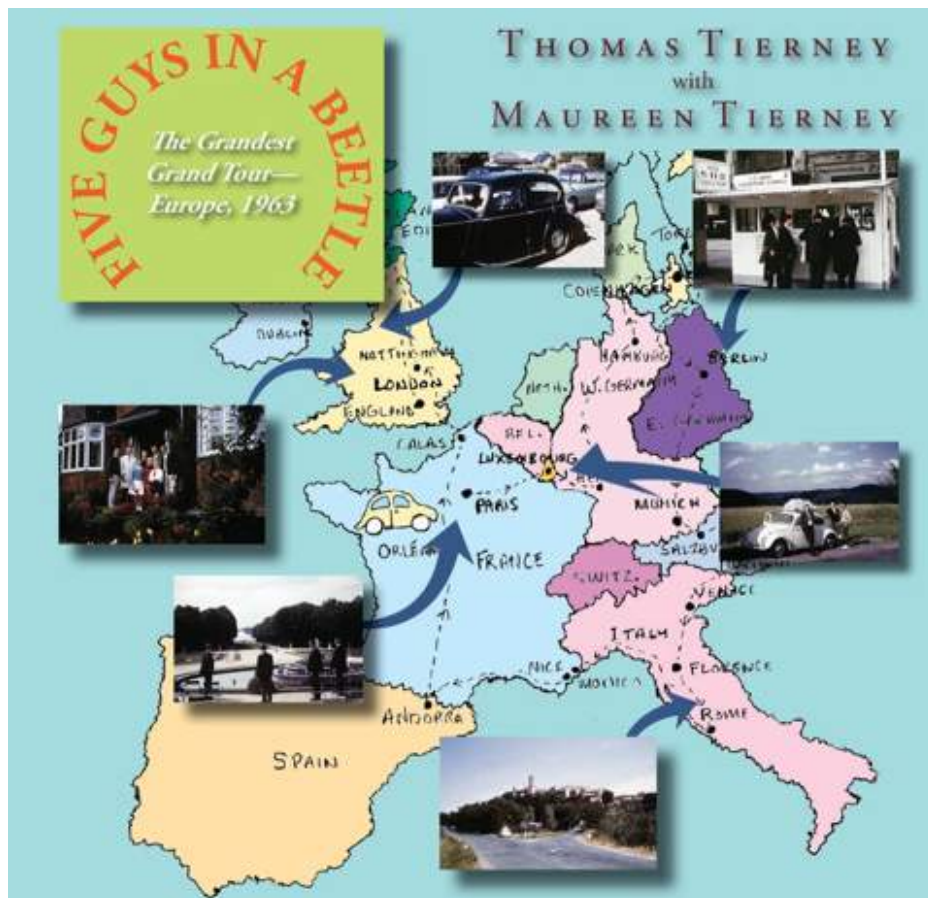
What advice would you like to share with our readers?

"The main advice is to follow your dreams even when they seem out of reach, and to keep trying to make them happen, especially when you believe those dreams have merit. Be true to yourself."

Thank you Tom for sharing your story with us and congratulations again!

Continued on next page...





Dear friends and fellow AKL's,

Something surprising happened this year: letters I wrote home many moons ago were published; *FIVE GUYS IN A BEETLE - The Grandest Grand Tour - Europe, 1963* is a about a two month trip with four Alpha Kappa Lambda college friends, a life-changing adventure of exciting discoveries and vivid memories.

My wife Maureen provided the chapter intros and this summary:

They wore white shirts, dark suits, some had crew cuts...all found themselves adrift in a strange new world. Five American college boys, for some their first time outside of their native Illinois, squeezed into a Volkswagen in the summer of 1963. Minus the technical wizardry of GPS, smartphones, and today's numerous apps, they took off—as novices—relying on the now outdated services of the American Express office for news from home.

Little did they know that their journey through post-war Europe would provide a treasure-trove of experiences that would have a lasting influence on their lives. This one trip not only opened their eyes to the culture, tastes and customs of Europe, but it became the source of laughter, shared memories and multiple group reunions for decades to come. The five guys came of age that summer. All became folks you would like to know and be friends with.

- Tom Tierney, Gamma '61

Visit Tom's Website [Here!](#)

Get Your Copy of *FIVE GUYS* [Here!](#)

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Why AKL?

Gabe Kasper, Gamma Upsilon '18

Why AKL? In short, AKL completely changed my life, college experiences, career path, and gave me some of the best friends I could ever ask for. Fraternity and Greek Life were far from my intentions when starting my collegiate experience. I was so focused on school, adjusting to college, and different honors programs that I didn't care about anything else. Sure, I made some connections with my roommates and classmates, but I really only went to class and came back to my room every day. As a result, I limited myself and my potential.

All of that took a turn about 3 months into the Fall semester when an old friend from High School told me about the fraternity that he got involved with, AKL. They were the newest addition of Greek Life at SVSU, had only 5 guys, and were working toward chartering.

I was able to meet with them and it was evident that they were amazing people and had a true want to make a change in the community. It took me a week, and I had some reservations,

but I knew I had to accept my bid and become a brother of AKL. It didn't take long before I had multiple Executive Board positions including serving as President when Gamma Upsilon chartered in 2018. Chartering is one of my favorite memories, my brothers and I worked hard to make AKL an incredible organization and seeing that hard work come to fruition was monumental.

AKL propelled me into leadership positions across campus and job opportunities, provided awesome social events (like a Paint and Foam Welcome Weekend campus event,) and gave me a community of brothers that I could rely on for anything. That community spanned across the nation as I attended events like Officers' Academy and National Conclave in the Bahamas. AKL and the people in it allowed me to see a potential in myself that I never could have thought I had alone. Joining this organization is one of the best decisions I have ever made.

- Gabe Kasper, Gamma Upsilon '18



Top Left: Gabe being awarded the "Clarence E. Brehm Leadership Award" at the 2018 National Conclave in the Bahamas from then National President Rich Cruz.

Center: Gamma Upsilon Chapter Chartering Ceremony back in 2018.

Bottom Left: Gabe at one of Gamma Upsilon's biggest campus welcome week events, Glo-Hard.

Want to Get Involved?

Staying Involved and Connected as an Alumni Member

Alpha Kappa Lambda understands how vitally important our alumni and volunteers are to the success of a chapter. There are several different ways to volunteer with the Fraternity. If you are not currently a volunteer but want to get involved with and active chapter or during an upcoming expansion, contact us at info@akl.org

Staying Involved With The Fraternity

More information about volunteer and advisor roles can be found at www.AKL.org

Chapter Advisor

This person would spend the most time with the members, attending meetings when possible, and providing guidance as needed.

Chapter Office Mentor

Anyone is suited for this role that enjoys working with students. This person can assist with as many or as few members as they see fit for their schedule.

Housing Corporation Board

If already in a house, or planning to be housed, as Housing Corporation Board must be established separately from the Chapter Advisory Board.

Virtual/Remote Advisor

Want to help but not local to a chapter? This person would help with achieving chapter goals, oversight, and providing guidance as needed.

Chapter Advisory Board

A Chapter Advisory Board is comprised of volunteers and advisors that can support and work in conjunction with the Chapter Advisor.

Parents' Club

Any interested parents can form a Parents' Club to support the chapter through special activities such as "Mom, Dad, or Parents' Weekend."

Chapter Advisor & Volunteer Monthly Conversations

Chapter Advisor & Volunteer Monthly Conversations are held to serve as an opportunity to connect with the Executive Director of the Fraternity, fellow advisors, and volunteers. All conversations take place the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm EST.

For more information and the meeting link, [click here!](#)

January 11

February 8

March 8

April 12

May 10

June 14

July 12

August 9

September 13

October 11

November 8

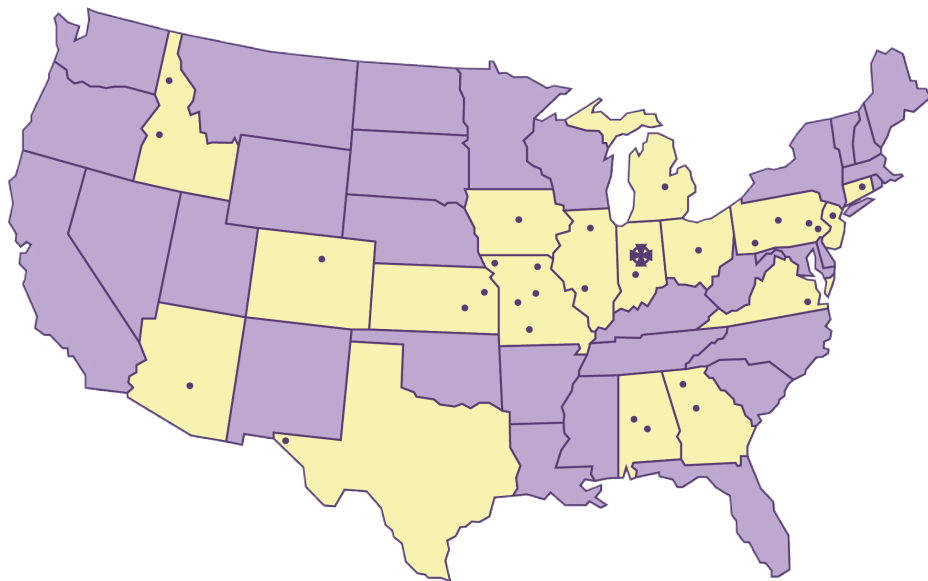
December 13

Volunteer Interest Form

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities and how to get involved with the fraternity, fill out a volunteer interest form [here!](#)

Recommend a Potential New Member

If you know someone that would make a great Alpha Kappa Lambda member, recommend a potential member [here!](#)



Want to get involved with a specific chapter or upcoming growth opportunity in your region? Check out the fraternity's current active chapters and upcoming growth!

Upcoming Growth

Spring 2022: Zeta- University of Michigan - Founded: February 9, 1924

Fall 2022: Kappa- Purdue University - Founded: May 20, 1934

Spring 2023: Beta Nu- VCU - Founded: September 14, 1985

Fall 2023: Upsilon- University of N. Colorado - Founded: May 12, 1957, Spring

2024: Phi- Oregon State University - Founded: January 25, 1958

Spring 2024: UNC-Wilmington - New Institution

Fall 2025: Towson University - New Institution

Fall 2026: Alpha Iota- University of Wyoming - Founded: May 24, 1964

Unscheduled: Eta- Washington State University- Founded: October 15, 1927

Unscheduled: Loyola University New Orleans - New Institution

VOLUNTEER & ADVISOR OPPORTUNITIES CONTINUED

Want to Get Involved?

Active Chapters

Delta Chapter – University of Kansas

Lambda Chapter – Emporia State University

Mu Chapter – The Ohio State University

Xi Chapter – Truman State University

Sigma Chapter – University of Central Missouri

Tau Chapter – Pennsylvania State University

Chi Chapter – California University of Pennsylvania

Psi Chapter – Iowa State University

Alpha Zeta Chapter – Northwest Missouri State University

Alpha Lambda Chapter – Northern Illinois University

Alpha Omicron Chapter – University of Colorado Boulder

Alpha Rho Chapter – University of Texas-El Paso

Alpha Phi Chapter – University of Idaho

Beta Tau Chapter – Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Beta Psi Chapter – Missouri State University

Gamma Alpha Chapter – University of Missouri

Gamma Beta Chapter – University of Alabama

Gamma Gamma Chapter – Rutgers University

Gamma Delta Chapter – University of Montevallo

Gamma Theta Chapter – Boise State University

Gamma Lambda Chapter – Temple University

Gamma Xi Chapter – Clayton State University

Gamma Omicron Chapter – Dalton State College

Gamma Pi Chapter – University of Connecticut

Gamma Rho Chapter – Arizona State University

Gamma Sigma Chapter – Old Dominion University

Gamma Tau Chapter – Indiana University

Gamma Upsilon Chapter – Saginaw Valley State University

Kutztown Provisional Chapter – Kutztown University

Omega Chapter

Remembering Our Brothers

"Brothers and friends, we are assembled to remember those once among us who have received their calling from on high and passed into the eternal Omega Chapter of the Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda."

This is at once a time of sorrow at the loss we have all sustained, and the celebration of the many happy memories we will hold dear forever.

The fraternal tie that binds is a lasting bond; yet, a place once filled among us is now empty; a voice once known to us is now silent; the form we grew to know, and welcome will no longer be seen by us in this life.

Yet, these Brothers are alive in the hearts and the memories of us all and will ever be held dear in the 'halls of Alpha Kappa Lambda.'

It is fitting that we here pause and reflect upon the transience of life and remember those who have come and gone before us.

And we answer for every Brother named, 'Present' for though we can no longer grasp their hands in friendship nor look them in the eye, they are seen and heard with the eyes and ears of faith... the faith that someday we will meet again."

- Excerpt from the Omega Ceremony

"The fraternal tie that binds is a lasting bond; yet, a place once filled among us is now empty."

Xi Chapter Truman State University

William C. Durow, 1966
James Dean Thompson, 1961

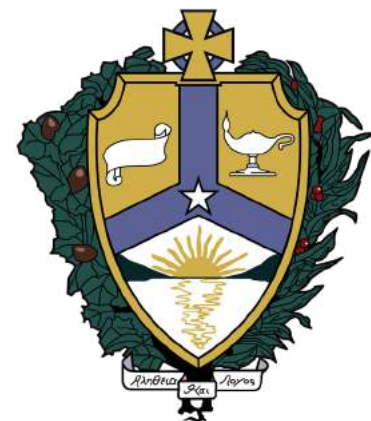
Tau Chapter Pennsylvania State University

Robert George Misko, 1970

Beta Tau Chapter Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Nicholas James Steinke, 2006

These members have been reported since the 2021 November & December Inside AKL Issue.



"These Brothers are alive in the hearts and the memories of us all and will ever be held dear in the 'halls of Alpha Kappa Lambda.'"

As an undergraduate member, you may be most familiar with myAKL as the OmegaFi portal where you completed your membership paperwork upon joining, accessed the online AKL Education, and had the option to make payments on your fraternity dues, fees, and insurance.

As an alumni member, you will continue to have access to myAKL and all its features! In our digital age where re-connecting and networking is as readily available online as it is in person, myAKL is your tool to stay connected with Alpha Kappa Lambda. Below are a few of the features available to all brothers that we want to promote and see our members utilize.

Brotherhood Job Board & Postings

AKL Online Education

Chapter & Association Search

Member & Alumni Search

Fraternity Calendar

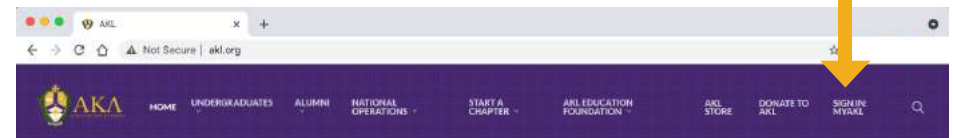
National Event Information

Chapter Information

And Many More!

myAKL: How to Login

1) Visit www.myAKL.org or access myAKL at www.AKL.org



2) Enter your email and password

3) Forgot Password? Click "Forgot Password" link, enter your email, click continue. Forgot email? Contact AKL NHQ.

4) Need Access? Click the "Get Access" link, select "myOmegaFi," select "Alpha Kappa Lambda," select "Alumni Enrollment," and enter your information to find your profile.

Questions?

Contact National Headquarters at info@AKL.org or (317) 564 - 8003

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



To adjust to whatever challenge may come our way, we must be nimble enough to react to the needs of today's generation and tomorrow's.

AKA

IN SIDE

January & February 2021