

# AKA IN THE SIDE A

Summer 2019



# FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Brothers,

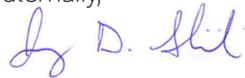
In less than a month most of our chapters will be returning to campus. I hope all of our undergraduates have had a great summer. Whether you went on vacation, worked, or completed an internship, it is nice to take a break from school. Hopefully, whatever you did rejuvenated you for the upcoming school year. We have a lot of work ahead! Recruitment is just around the corner and all other campus activities will be in full swing soon.

For our alumni, now is a good time to reengage with your chapter or a chapter near you to offer support. There are never enough advisors and, as it has always been, the stronger the alumni support the better a chapter does. Please feel free to contact us at the National Headquarters if you would like to connect with a chapter.

Have a great final few weeks of summer!



Fraternally,



Jeremy Slivinski,  
Fraternity of Alpha Kappa Lambda, Executive Director

*(Cover Photo) Beta Tau Chapter at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville celebrated their local Founders' Day and 30 years on campus with undergraduate and alumni members.*



## 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: 35+  
Undergraduates: 1,000+  
Alumni: 25,000+

### *Contact Us*

(317) 564-8003  
354 Gradle Drive  
Carmel, IN 46032  
[info@akl.org](mailto:info@akl.org)  
[www.AKL.org](http://www.AKL.org)

# Rich Keilholtz

## Beta Upsilon at the University of Iowa

*The transition from undergraduate to alumni member of Alpha Kappa Lambda* can be a bittersweet yet exciting one. Your brothers and friends aren't just on the other side of campus, but continue to grow and build a career after college.

Looking back can be a fun trip down memory lane, which is what InsideAKL did with Beta Upsilon alumnus, Rich Keilholtz. Rich currently works as the Chair of Social and Behavioral Sciences, Education, and Criminal Justice Department at Pueblo Community College in Pueblo, Colorado.

### What officer roles did you hold or how did you get involved with your chapter?

"It's been a long time, but I know I served as house manager and also as the chapter representative to the Inter-Fraternity council. I was also involved in homecoming, Greek Week, and other campus events."

"I worked a lot to help pay my way through school, so looking back, I might have been more involved in the day to day, but I really enjoyed the work and the chapter we were helping to build at Iowa."

"I also participated in campus political and ministry organizations."

### What is your fondest AKL memory?

"The lessons I learned about brotherhood and commitment to a cause. I think of the Five Ideals, and how much of an impact those had on my life. Perhaps more so later than while I was going through college. I was in many ways a naïve and unfocused kid, but I learned lessons through AKL that have stuck with me for my entire life."

"Many of those lessons were learned through the friendships I built, and some of the conflict that arose through those relationships helped sharpen my character and my ability to work with those different from me. Initiation ceremonies, pledge road trips, football

***"The best thing we can do is mentor the young people we come in contact with, whether in the fraternity or elsewhere."***

games, and our sorority formals were all events that stand out as awesome memories."

### What did you do after graduating undergrad and how has your career path grown since then?

"I almost immediately took a job as a staff assistant to a US Senator from Iowa, and two years later applied to and attended law school at Southern Illinois. I've been fortunate to have the opportunities to practice law and also to fulfill my dream to teach. Now I have the daily privilege and responsibility to help prepare the next generations for success in work and life."

"I've lived in several places and held many jobs since college, but I have enjoyed every stop along the way and learned a great deal, sometimes as much from failure as successes. I now chair a college department with over 400 full time enrollments, and my current position keeps me busy but never bored."

### Tell us about your family and home life?

"I grew up in a working class family. There were times growing up where we had been considered truly poor. I went from, at one point, living in a house with no indoor plumbing, to being the first in my family to graduate from college, and I take a lot of pride in that."

"I wasn't really prepared for the rigor or social aspects of college, so it took me a while to figure things out. But I think those struggles made me stronger. Now I am married to the kindest person I've ever met and have four terrific kids, who already have it together more than I ever did at their ages."

"I have the life I've always wanted, and I know the Lord has even still better things in mind for me. Sometimes I just need to get out of His way!"

*Interview continued on next page.*

**Have you kept in touch with brothers?**

"Many of them yes, mostly through Facebook. It is great to see how everyone has grown and succeeded in careers and family. My best friend is an AKL from another chapter, and we are still close today. He's the one who actually convinced me to pledge AKL."

**How does life as an undergrad member differ to being an alumni member of AKL?**

"It's a classic case of 'if I knew then what I know now.' I look back with amazing memories but also missed opportunities. Balancing work, college, and fraternity life was something I did well at times, not so well at others."

"I feel the years, experiences, and some hard knocks have offered me a chance to impart wisdom to help others. The best thing we can do is mentor the young people we come in contact with, whether in the fraternity or elsewhere. We can't assume that they are getting that wisdom from somewhere. Lord knows I didn't have a lot of it back then!"

**Looking back, what's one piece of advice you received during your undergraduate years (either from AKL, school, family, or life) that you've carried with you?**

"Don't give up. I believe that the reason I've succeeded to the extent I have is because I chose to believe those who

believed in me, and to tune out those voices of doubt that tried to attack from within. I had a lot of people who didn't quit on me, and who motivated me to persevere even though I doubted at times that I had it in me."

**If you could go back, what's one piece of advice you'd share with your undergraduate self?**

"More readily seize opportunities to serve others. And to take academics more seriously my first year!"

*Thank you Rich for taking the time to sit down and chat with us! If any readers have an alumni they'd like to see featured in a future issue, please email [info@akl.org](mailto:info@akl.org)*





*(Top Left) Lambda Chapter at Emporia State University hosted an alumni versus undergraduate dodgeball game. Congrats alumni on winning 101 - 72!*



*(Top Right) Gamma Lambda Chapter at Temple University finished the spring semester with a These Hands Don't Hurt event, raising awareness about sexual assault on college campuses.*

*(Bottom Right) Alpha Zeta Chapter at Northwest Missouri State University celebrated Founders' Day.*





*(Top Left) Alpha Phi Chapter at the University of Idaho recruit 365 by inviting potential new members out riding in Boise, Idaho.*

*(Top Right) Brother Daniel Trentman of Xi Chapter at Truman State University brings some Alethia Kai Logos to Ireland.*

*(Bottom Left) Brother Tommy Engel of Alpha Lambda Chapter at Northern Illinois University visits the Swiss Alps during summer break.*

*(Bottom Right) Beta Nu alumni from Virginia Commonwealth University celebrate Brother Andrew Tolley's wedding.*



# Chapter & Colony Dues, Fees, and Insurance

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*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

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**\$425**

*upon joining*

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

No increase from 2018 - 2019

## Fall 2019 Semester

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**\$205**

*per member, plus local dues & fees*

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

No increase from 2018 - 2019

## Spring 2020 Semester

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**\$235**

*per member, plus local dues & fees*

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

No increase from 2018 - 2019

## National Membership Entry Fee

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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

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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

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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

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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.

# Recruiting 365

*With recruitment right around the corner*, Alpha Kappa Lambda focuses on recruiting 365 days a year. A successful business doesn't wait to recruit a new hire until it needs to replace an outgoing employee or are ready to grow a division. That business is continually on the lookout for potential candidates for when the moment is right to make a job offer.

Fraternity recruitment should be looked at the same way. Formal recruitment is not the only time to give out bids. Every event your chapter has is an opportunity to introduce potential new members to Alpha Kappa Lambda. Even on summer and winter breaks, brothers can meet potential new members and get to know them. After all, recruitment into fraternity should be an extension of friendship.

The easiest way to turn a friendship into a bid into Alpha Kappa Lambda is through the "Five Steps of Recruitment."

## Five Steps of Recruitment

**1) Meet him:** In class, on campus, a referral from a friend, etc. Start by inviting men you already know who aren't in a fraternity to your events.

**2) Make him your friend:** Look for common interests, hang out, study together, would you be friends?

**3) Introduce him to your friends:** These friends are your brothers. If you know a PNM plays a certain sport/has a hobby your brother does, introduce them. By this point, we haven't even talked about fraternity, we've been meeting new people.

**4) Introduce him to your fraternity:** After meeting your brothers, introduce the PNM to AKL's history, national philanthropy, the events you have, etc.

**5) Ask him to join:** Give him 2-3 days to decide then follow up, if you give a PNM a week or more to decide chances are they will decline the bid.

## Recruitment is the lifeblood of fraternity.

### Common Objections & How to Respond

#### "I want to make my grades first."

- Introduce potential new members to the chapter's scholarship plan and academic standards for membership, including GPA requirements.
- Make him aware that Scholarship is one of our Five Ideals.
- Be sincere communicating that academic support is the reason that fraternities sustain themselves.

#### "I can't afford to join a fraternity."

- Whether your chapter is housed or brothers live together, analyze comparative costs between AKL and other forms of living. Explain the benefits of fraternity living compared to residence hall life.
- Be upfront that joining a fraternity is a financial commitment. Ensure all potential new members are aware of all dues and fees.

#### "I want to see other houses first."

- Ask potential new members for specifics on what they are looking to gain from their college and fraternity experiences, emphasize those areas your chapter excels in.
- Encourage prospects to visit other fraternities, do not talk down of other fraternities. Share your story why you joined AKL.

#### "I'll have to talk to my parents first."

- Acknowledge it is good to inform parents of making such decisions.
- Offer to answer any questions parents have via email or phone call. If you have a Parent's Club, or a parent member of your Corporate Board, have them contact the potential new members' parents.

# Brotherly Bonding

## Find new ways to engage members

*From year to year, it may feel like your chapter is repeating the same brotherhood events. While building tradition is important and unique to every campus, chapters may also find benefit from trying something new. Here are a few ideas to engage initiated brothers and new members from our insurance partners at Holmes Murphy's list of ["101 Non-Hazing Activities for New Members."](#)*

1. Participate in a leadership retreat/ weekend with a ropes course and team building activities.
2. Incorporate team building activities into regular meetings of the new member class and solicit the participation from chapter leadership.
3. Develop a community volunteer service project for the chapter to be performed on a regular basis.
4. Create a senior recognition ceremony, demonstrating the continued involvement of members and commitment to the organization.
5. Sponsor or host a career skill development and planning workshop for all members (can be held in conjunction with campus resources.)
6. Attend an educational speaker as a chapter with the new member class, and discuss what was presented as a large group.
7. Institute a book club focused on leadership and growth, comprised of all members of the chapter.
8. Invite alumni and chapter advisors to lunch with new members.
9. Have a discussion facilitated by a chapter advisor, Fraternity representative, or chapter officer in relation to the values and purpose of the organization.
10. Sponsor or host a study skills workshop for the chapter membership (can be held in conjunction with campus resources.)
11. Host an alumni speaker each week for formal dinner and/or chapter meeting.
12. Host and plan an arts and crafts/ construction session, contracting items for needing organizations.
13. Participate in a recruitment retreat and/or workshop with the entire chapter membership.
14. Invite officers of the IFC/PHC or the undergraduate leaders of the Greek community to speak about governance, involvement and relationships of the community.
15. Invite the Greek Affairs advisor to speak about the resources available from his/her office.
16. Host a dinner and movie for the new member class and/or the chapter membership.
17. Have new members shadow a chapter officer and assist in planning/ executing of a program/event.
18. Provide opportunities for undergraduate members to shadow an alum/advisor in individual fields of study to promote networking.
19. Develop semester/annual goals and objectives for the chapter and a series of action plans and strategies for accomplishing these benchmarks.
20. Plan and execute a fundraiser to help offset initiation cost and membership fees.
21. Include all new members in chapter meetings or a portion thereof.
22. Include all new members and chapter membership in regular programming and activities.
23. Host or sponsor a speaker on health and fitness.
24. Encourage members to become involved in activities in the community and campus outside of the organization.
25. Evaluate the new member process, before, during, and after (ask for the opinions of constituents and those outside the organization.)

*If your chapter has any special brotherhood events or traditions you would like to share with other chapters, please email [info@akl.org](mailto:info@akl.org)*

# Upcoming National Events

**CLARK-THOMPSON  
PRESIDENTS' ACADEMY**  **& Officers' Institute**

**January 17 – 19, 2020  
Renaissance Hotel  
Carmel, Indiana**

**CLARK-THOMPSON  
PRESIDENTS'  
ACADEMY**   
**& Officers' Institute**

*National Conclave 2020*   
WILLIAMSBURG, VIRGINIA

**July 30 – August 2, 2020  
Williamsburg Lodge  
Williamsburg, Virginia**

