

ALPHA
GAMMA
RHO

NURTURE.
GROW.
GIVE.
REPEAT.

**2015 Alpha Phi
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THE ALPHA PHI CRESCENT

SPRING 2015

Alpha Phi Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
South Dakota State University • Brookings, South Dakota • sdagr.org

NOBLE RULER REPORT



Greetings Brothers,

The Alpha Phi chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho has had a very successful spring term here on the campus of South Dakota State University. We came back from Christmas break learning that our chapter had received a 3.0 overall GPA for the fall semester, a goal that we had set at the beginning

of the school year, and which ranked highly among Greek organizations and campus in general. In January, chapter members and alumni of our chapter participated in a strategic planning session hosted by Zane Akins, a prominent company strategist in the agricultural industry. We created a 1 year and 5 year plans for our chapter, which we now consider our bread and butter to success on and off campus and as a Greek organization.

We started the months of February and March, arguably our chapter's busiest months, with our 51st annual Pink Rose- Founders Day formal in Bloomington, MN. Here active members and alumni mingled while celebrating this year's chapter's accomplishments. Returning from Pink Rose, the Alpha Phi chapter sent 11 active members to one of several National Alpha Gamma Rho leadership seminars in Chicago, Illinois, where members gained key leadership, personal growth and chapter growth knowledge from speakers and other AGR chapters in attendance. At this seminar, Alpha Phi's own Nathan McMullen was appointed as a National Undergraduate Director, a position where Nate will compile

and report useful information about activities, recruiting, education and scholarship events from chapters across the country to our National Home Office in Kansas City, Missouri, where it can be distributed back to the nation's chapters.

The next week after our the Chicago leadership seminar, AGR combined recently with SD-SU's Block and Bridle club to host our Jackrabbit Memorial, a jackpot steer and heifer show, in its 15th year of existence. The combined efforts of these two organizations created the opportunity to have a 1 day, 2 show ring event, drawing in close to 200 livestock entries, along with awarding 4 scholarships in memory of the prominent cattlemen who lost their lives in a fatal plane crash last fall, as well as 1 scholarship in memory of Lisa Johnson, who was known and respected by both organizations. The show itself was a success, being referred to by one of the judges that day as the newly crowned largest jackpot cattle show in the state of South Dakota. We look forward to working with Block and Bridle in the future to continue the success of this show for the college of SDSU, and the state of South Dakota as a whole.

Recently, the events of the 92nd Little International came to a close this past weekend, with Alpha Gamma Rho having a great showing by our members in this event. Brother John Weber was elected as the 92nd Little I manager, with brother Adam Krause elected as the assistant and future 93rd Little I manager. Along with many members competing and showing in very successful livestock competitions, AGR was honored to receive the High Point Club award for the 92ND Little International, a coveted award in its own right amongst competing clubs and Greek organizations.

(Continued on Page 3)



Alex Spinler
VNR-Alumni
Relations

Greetings Brothers,

Spring is always one of the busiest times of the year, and this year was no exception. For those of you who don't know we improved our chapter GPA from a 2.9 to a 3.00. As a chapter we were very happy with this goal that we set at our brotherhood retreat last fall. We feel that we had a very successful fall semester.

Earlier this semester, John Wies was elected as our new Alumni president. Doc Johnson stepped down because he had other obligations, and he felt that he couldn't give his full attention to AGR at this time. Joining John Wies on the Alumni Board this semester is Tyler Peterson, he recently graduated from SDSU in the fall of 2014.

Throughout the semester we have all been very busy. We had

a very successful steer show this year, partnering with the Block and Bridle club. Together, we put on one of the best Jackpot shows in all of South Dakota. One judge even said that this is the biggest jackpot show in the state. Later in the semester came Little International. AGR was well represented at Little I this year. With the 92nd Little I manager being one of our very own, John Weber, and the Assistant Little I manager being also one of our own, Adam Krause. During Little I, as a club we won the high point club competition.

Next semester we will be holding our first annual hog roast on September 12th. The game will be against Utah State, with the game time is still being determined by the University. Please come support this event,

to reconnect with other brothers young and old. This event will also be honoring Cal Williamson, the Grand President of the National Board of Directors.

We would also like to remind you to check out our website at www.sdsuagr.com and like us on Facebook as well. If you know of anyone that is not receiving their Crescent or hasn't heard from us recently, please bring this to our attention. All of our alumni are very important to us. As always we want to hear back from you. Please fill out the form on the back of your Crescent and send it back to us so we can feature you and your accomplishments in the next issue of the Crescent.

Fraternally Submitted,
Alex Spinler #1042
VNR Alumni Relations

ACTIVITY REPORT

Greetings Brothers,

During the spring of 2015, The Men of Alpha Gamma Rho have been plenty busy. We started off with the 51st annual Pink Rose which took place in Bloomington, MN this year. I must say it was a successful Pink Rose we enjoyed hearing stories from alumni of old and new. We also put on a successful steer show this year at the Swiftel Center, this year we used the main building and had close to two-hundred head of cattle, this is now being considered the largest jackpot show in all of South Dakota we can't wait to see where it heads next year. Aside from our main events during the semester we've been extremely active with other things, too. We've all been very busy with intramural sports, Greek-life activities and now that the weather is starting to warm up we are all itching to get out into the field. We would like to wish all brothers the best of luck in the field this spring and remember to stay safe during planting.

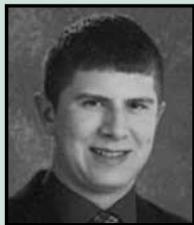
Fraternally,
Andrew Bregel #1051
VNR-Activities

A NOTE FROM HOUSE MOM RIGGS

As I start to pack for my move to Colorado I feel many different emotions. I am thrilled to be near my family. The long drives will be over and of course they are happy I am moving out there.

I have been so blessed by the men of Alpha Phi for the 12 years I have been the housemother. I will think about all of you with the many memories that were created during these years quite often. It is such a joy to watch you come in as freshmen and see the growth you achieved during your time here, there is much potential in all of you. Keep on the path you are on, continue to have a lot of fun together, continue to grow and be the best men you can be.

Thanks for the great ride.
Edie Riggs
Housemother



BEN CHOUDEK

My name is Ben Choudek and I graduated with as a Dairy Production major. I joined AGR in the Fall of 2011. I really enjoyed my time here. The things I liked the most was the brotherhood, networking, involvement on campus and community, relationships constructed, and intramurals. I have a lot of memories such as the Steer show, Leadership, hanging out in house, and the social life with brothers. I will be returning home to help on farm, eventually taking over and expanding. I am hired by Northland Farm Systems of Owatonna, MN as a cow comfort sales specialist for those remodeling, expanding, or building new dairy facilities.



LOGAN DERUNGS

My name is Logan DeRungs and I am an Agribusiness major from Ramona, SD. The thing I like the most about AGR is the common interest in the agricultural industry. I have made lifelong friends here in AGR and that is my best memory.



RYAN EFFLING

My name is Ryan Effling and I will be graduating this Spring with a degree in Animal Science with minors in Ag Business and Ag Marketing. I joined Alpha Gamma Rho in the Spring of my freshman year. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time here as a member. The networking and brotherhood I have experienced is something that I cannot ever forget. I feel that the people I have met through AGR have made life lasting impressions on me. Upon graduation I will be accepting a job with Select Sires to work as an AI technician along with helping a neighbor cow-calf producer.



ERIC FRITZ

Name: Eric Fritz | Year: Senior | Hometown: Reading, MN | Major: Agricultural Education

I joined Alpha Gamma Rho in the spring of 2013. Some of the best AGR memories that I have would be just the times sitting around the house with the brothers or hanging out at pink rose celebrations. After graduating, I will be the 2nd Ag teacher in Madison, SD.



DANNY ZENK

Danny Zenk, from Webster, SD, Graduating with an AgriScience Major. Initiated in Fall of 2011. Favorite thing about Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Phi Chapter was the numerous leadership opportunities, retreats, and brotherhood events. Future plans hold a Sales Agronomist position in SD and hopes to continue the farming operation.

Noble Ruler Report continued

HOG ROAST ON THE HORIZON

(Continued from Page 1)

Next fall, we look forward to having a very large pledge class, with promising new members who are eager to learn and join our fraternity. We also have in the works, the 1st Annual Alpha Phi hog roast, which is currently being scheduled for a football game early in the school year. Stay tuned for additional information during the summer and fall months.

The Alpha Phi chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho has accomplished many outstanding goals and events this past year, showing that we stand as leaders here

at South Dakota State University, as well as in the Agriculture Industry that every one of our members is so deeply passionate about. We eagerly look forward to the future of our chapter within the coming years, and to live by our motto every day of "Making Better Men, and through them a broader and Better Agriculture". I wish you a successful spring planting season, and a prosperous growing year to all.

Fraternally,
Daniel Larson, #1025
Noble Ruler, 2015

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

1929 Eighth Street
Brookings, SD 57006

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

August 24 First Day of Fall Classes
September 7 Annual AGR Tractor Pull

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ATTENTION ALUMNI

The brothers of Alpha Phi would like to know what you have been up to lately! Please let us know by using this form and sending it back to AGR. This way we can keep up on what you are doing and give you some publicity in The Crescent. Also feel free to let us know of any recruits from your area. Thanks for your help in advance!

Name _____ Stud # _____ Year Initiated _____

Home Address _____

Email Address _____

Current Place of Employment _____

Family _____

What have you been doing since you graduated from SDSU? _____

Recruits _____

Other _____

This form can be sent to 1929 Eighth Street, Brookings, S.D. 57006
or email it to us at: www.sdagr.com