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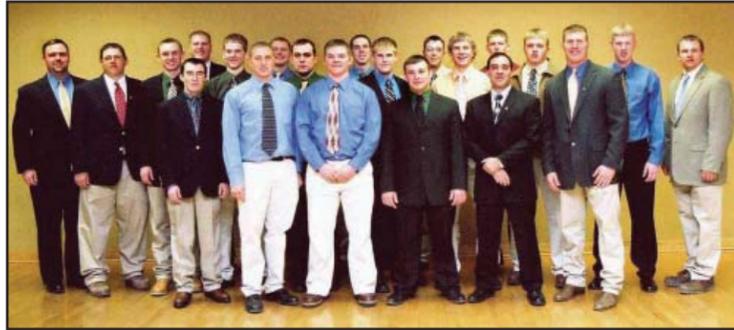
THE MAGAZINE OF
ALPHA GAMMA RHO
AGRICULTURE FRATERNITY

Winter 2006

New Colony Installed at Fort Hays State University

On December 5, 2005 Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity installed a new colony at Fort Hays State University in Hays, Kansas. Members of the Alpha Zeta Chapter of Kansas State University had the honor of installing the new colony. Twenty young men and one faculty member, who will serve as an adviser, were initiated into the colony on that evening in front of the resounding approval and support of several area AGR alumni. Phil Josephson, Executive Director; Thad Koenigsfeld, Director of Chapter Development; and Warren Nichols, Senior Consultant, also attended the event to represent the Home Office. The installation was a big step for the young men who have been working extremely hard the last few semesters to meet the requirements to be an AGR Colony.

Although a young group, the members are extremely motivated and involved. They participated in a 2005 AGR Re-



The charter colony members gather for a pose during their installation ceremony.

cruitment School and the Oklahoma City Leadership Seminar last year. The new colony will also show good representation in Breckenridge, Colorado at the AGR National Convention this August. The group has been heavily involved in the community in many ways including raking leaves for the elderly and disabled members of the community, and raising money and awareness for the newly developed Hays area Habitat for Humanity.

There are two men who are serving in an adviser role for the colony. Mr. Gabe Schlickau, an Alpha Zeta alumnus, has

been instrumental in bringing AGR to Fort Hays State and offering guidance to the fledgling group as adviser. Mr. Kolby Burch became a member of the colony with the undergraduates and is on the faculty at the University as the livestock judging coach.

Congratulations to all that have worked so hard to make this colonization a reality! With continued hard work and persistence, AGR

looks forward to seeing the Fort Hays State Colony become a chapter in the near future.

If you would like to congratulate the new colony members you may contact them or the advisers by any of the following ways: *Fort Hays State University Colony*, Albertson Hall, Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, c/o Kolby Burch, 600 Park Street, Hays, KS 67601
Kolby Burch, phone: 785-628-5880
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Convention Catalyst

A conversation with David Ellicott, Chairman of AGR's 59th National Convention



However you seek inspiration, AGR's 59th National Convention will offer countless venues to enlighten and transform your intellectual and emotional spirit. The Journey Higher to Beaver Run

Resort & Conference Center, Breckenridge, Colorado, is sure to set the course for an unforgettable convention, August 13-16, 2006.

As attention turns to this summer's convention, David Ellicott, Colorado State, Convention Chairman and a Brother of the Century, was asked how the convention is shaping up and about AGR's influence on his career.

Q: Your Steering Committee members represent a wide-range of AGR chapters from across the country. Are you surprised at the number of alumni across the country residing in Colorado?

A: Given the beauty and attractions Colorado offers it isn't overly surprising. We are fortunate that our Convention Steering Committee includes alumni from across the country. They bring a broad range of AGR experiences to the committee and will have a major impact on the convention's success and attendance.

Q: What is your goal for attendance at the convention?

A: The "Journey Higher" will be an once-in-a-lifetime meeting and vacation experience. While 400 to 450 attendees is the average attendance expectation, we hope to attract closer to the record attendance of 800 in Ohio two years ago. If you haven't experienced Colorado, then it's about time and here is a perfect op-

portunity!

Q: The theme for the 2006 Convention is "The Journey Higher." The striking landscape of high rocky summits, lush valleys, canyons and charming mountain towns make this year's convention perfect for summer vacation plans. What are some high country vacation spots you would recommend?

A: Summertime in Colorado offers everything from hang-gliding, rock-climbing, kayaking, ballooning and some spectacular golf courses. Additionally, there are trails and over high-mountain passes providing spectacular scenery and site seeing. There are abundant opportunities for wildlife viewing. I would encourage you to check out the boundless opportunities at www.Colorado.com or www.Breckenridge.com

Q: You served a term as National Undergraduate Director for AGR. Tell us why this convention should be especially attractive for undergraduates?

A: As an undergraduate, there only a couple of "college year" chances to participate in the National Convention process and I would encourage taking advantage of the rare opportunity. Undergraduates will have a chance to network with alumni young and old and make new bonds of brotherhood that will truly last a lifetime.

Q: What can attendees expect to bid on at this year's Convention Auction?

A: We are planning for the silent and live auctions again this year. They have been a traditional part of the convention and we're hoping to raise a lot of money for the AGR Educational Foundation. Chapters and alumni are encouraged to make contributions to the auction. Items specific to contributor's geographic area or chapters are great. Also historical, humorous and items that are a "tad off the wall" add fun and excitement.

Q: You've turned a 25-year meat industry career (King Soopers/Kroger/Red

Oak Farms/Future Beef) into a beef industry consulting business. And you recently started a new food manufacturing and distribution business. Tell us about the new company?

A: My wife, Tami, and I recently founded "Innovative Foods, LLC," which is a Denver based distributor of high quality proteins and specialty food products in Colorado. Our objective is to meet the needs of quality-focused foodservice and retail customers with a focused portfolio of exceptional quality, "branded/brand name" proteins. Additionally, we are preparing to merchandise several products under the "7 Pepper Food Products ®" brand, which are all derived from our homespun recipes.

Q: You graduated in Animal Science from Colorado State University. How active were you in AGR?

A: I was very active as a member of the Rho Chapter. I served the offices of Assistant VNR, VNR-Recruitment, and Noble Ruler. I had the additional honor of serving as Undergraduate Director to the National Board. After graduation, I served subsequent roles as Chapter Adviser, and Regional Vice-President in addition to Rho Chapter Alumni Association positions.

Q: Tell us about your family?

A: My wife, Tami, and I have two sons; Matt, 29, Livestock Judging Team Coach and associate professor at Colby County Community College in Colby, Kansas-married to Sara; and Tyler, 8, future livestock showman, AGR recruit and (hopefully) major league basketball star.

Further details on what this year's National Convention will bring are in the works. We look forward to making a grand welcome for everyone in August. Hopefully this convention will be one of many you will enjoy and that will provide memories to last a lifetime.

Written By: Glen Richardson, Arizona State

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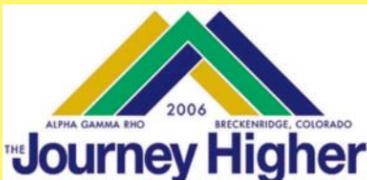
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AGRs and Rodeo

Written By: Amanda Erichsen

Members of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity have been involved in rodeo in many ways since the beginning of the fraternity. Rodeo is a sport admired by many AGRs as spectator, weekend warrior, professional competitor, or those who work the ranch.

It is believed that the every day chores of running a ranch and the spirit of competition started the sport called rodeo in the 1800s. Rodeo is said to be the only sport derived from an industry. Today's standards and practices of the sport have definitely evolved, but the ideals and practices still are valued by competitors.

Rodeo events include, bareback riding, steer wrestling, team roping, saddle bronc riding, tie-down roping, bull riding, barrel racing, among other various events.

Dave Eastlake, Arizona State University

Dave Eastlake became a member of the Alpha Xi Chapter at Arizona State University in 1958. Dave was raised in Phoenix on what was actually an orange grove. They just lived on a few acres of land. After his 8th grade year, his dad bought him his first horse. He began to ride on a regular basis and enjoyed it. His father was involved with horses when he was younger, never with roping or rodeo, but had plenty of horse experience.

Dave's neighbor was a bit of a roper and taught Dave how to rope. He practiced by roping a bucket on the ground. As he continued to learn from his neighbor, he practiced on his own. His interest in rodeo began to grow from there.

In high school Dave started riding bulls and bucking horses. There weren't high school rodeo associations then but there was a junior rodeo association, which he competed in. He never actually competed in roping events during high school.

During high school Dave was active in FFA and his vocational agriculture classes. He also worked on a dairy farm. For his wages his boss gave him a Jersey calf. Dave started taking that calf out and using it to practice roping - just that one calf.

After high school he sold his first horse and bought a horse trained for roping. During college he only competed in riding events, but still had a roping horse and kept up his practice of roping.

Dave earned a degree in livestock production management at Arizona State University. Dave always knew he would pursue a career in agriculture due to his involvement in high school. He worked at the university dairy and poultry farms during all his college years, among other jobs.

"Working is a way of life for me, it's what I had to do. I didn't feel ready to take on a five-day a week job when I got out of college. I wanted to gain the hard working experience no matter what the sacrifice," Dave said.

After graduating college he took the opportunity to work for a feedlot. There he rode everyday. This was a seven-day workweek. He only had one day off every other week. He had to rope and doctor all of the cattle. "I felt good about the experience I gained there," Dave added. After he had to rope everyday at work and gained more experience, he decided to get serious



Dave captures a calf at an National Senior Pro Rodeo Association held in Arizona during 2004.

about roping.

In the '60s Dave had the opportunity to start a new job, which was a regular five-day workweek job. He finally had time to focus on roping. He began competing in the Arizona Rodeo Association. He was state champion in 1965. In 1966 he joined the professional association, what is now the PRCA.

Dave figures his transition was typical, "The junior and college level is where you become seasoned, and focus on learning. Professional rodeo is the next step up the ladder. Now I'm competing with tougher competition, more pressure and higher stakes."

During the span of many years competing in the professional ranks he won or placed at Prescott, Arizona; San Francisco, California; Fort Worth, Texas; Cheyenne, Wyoming; and numerous other rodeos. In 1970 Dave was among the top 15 ropers ranked in the world. **"I feel pretty good about my success for the mild training I had while growing up with my one horse on the small plot of land in Arizona,"** Dave added.

During the '70s Dave moved to Amarillo, Texas to take a new company position. He felt unsure about the move at first, but he decided it would be best to take a chance. "The cattle feeding industry moved from the west to high plains and I came with it. I think it was one of the smartest things I've ever done," Dave added.

At age 40 Dave's father was in Nebraska for a meeting and learned about the Old Timers Rodeo Association, now the National Senior Pro Rodeo Association (NSPRA). His father enthusiastically told Dave that this is what he needed to become involved in. Dave's first reaction was, "No

way! I don't belong in an Old Timers Rodeo Association, I'm a pro guy!"

Over the next year Dave learned more about the association, he gave in and began to compete.

Dave was now competing against others his own age and had a better chance in doing as good as he wanted. Dave went to all the finals events since he began with the association in 1979 through 2005. He qualified for the finals competition every year, except one, because he didn't attend in 1988. Dave attended fifty to sixty rodeos per year with the association.

He won the world champion calf roping event five times, and the team roping and ribbon roping

events one time each.

During 1982 to 1987 Dave served on the board for the NSPRA. He was general manager of the senior national finals for three of those years. He also served as president in 2000, and continues to serve on numerous committees. Dave also served on the committee for the 2005 National Finals Rodeo steer roping event, which was held in Amarillo, Texas.

Dave keeps roping because he can. He added **"I rope every day, it's great exercise and I greatly enjoy it, it keeps me young."**

Dave and his wife have three children and seven grandchildren. One of his grandchildren has become involved in bull riding. Dave served as Vice President for the Commodity's Corporation of Princeton, New Jersey for about 15 years. The corporation kept 10 million dollars of cattle on feed all over the western United States. Dave's wife works full time for an oil company and ranch operation. Dave is retired and runs his ranch, ropes and trains horses. "This has always been a goal of mine, and I thoroughly enjoy how I now spend my time," Dave added. He also served as adviser for the Alpha Xi Chapter at Arizona State University during the 60s.

"Rodeo is a lot of hard work and sacrifice, it's fun and it's what I do. Rodeo is a family business - when you compete and travel together you become family. I'm not out here for the money." Dave

added, "Being a world champion and placing in the professional rankings is great and something to be proud of, but each season you start right back at the same place with everyone else."

ALPHA GAMMA RHO FRATERNITY

Winter Vol. 96-01
Published continuously
since 1910

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SICKLE & SHEAF (ISSN 8750-6866) is published four times a year (Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer) by Publications Office, 10101 N. Ambassador Dr., Kansas City, MO. Members receive life subscriptions with payment of initiation fee. Periodicals postage paid at Kansas City, MO and additional mailing office. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to: Sickie & Sheaf, 10101 N. Ambassador Dr., Kansas City, MO 64153-1395.



Left picture: Keon, left, and Rance, right, take advantage of a weekend off to brand cattle at Keon's ranch. Right picture: Rance, left, and Keon, right, take a break behind the chutes for a picture in Cheyenne before a rodeo.

The members featured in this article all volunteered to participate. Others were contacted and there was opportunity for anyone interested to submit to this article. Thank you to all of those who contributed to this article. — Amanda Erichsen, Communications Coordinator

Keon Holzer and Rance Gerdes, Montana State University

Keon Holzer and Rance Gerdes both joined Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity at Montana State University. They share a close bond of brotherhood through their chapter and the sport of rodeo. Keon became a member of the Alpha Delta Chapter at Montana State University in 1991. Rance became a member in 1995.

After college Rance and Keon began traveling to rodeos together. Rance and Keon went to the amateur rodeos for three to four years before they began to compete in the professional events. Keon and Rance also purchased some mares to practice on, and are dabbling in raising some rough stock prospects. "I guess everyone needs an expensive hobby or two!" Rance added.

Keon Holzer always had a strong interest in rodeo. His grandpa, Jim Carrig, helped develop the first rodeo team at Montana State University when he was going to school. "There were always pictures placed all over their house of him riding rough stock, or receiving a saddle and trophy buckle for a bareback riding title," Keon added. "Plus, just growing up a ranch kid, it's hard not to at least enjoy watching the sport."

Keon didn't start riding broncs until he was 25. **"I realized that I needed to at**



least give it a shot. It's better to find out you're not cut out for it than to be sitting in your rocking chair wondering what if!"

He bought an old saddle, borrowed some gear and went to an open rodeo. He didn't tell anyone, just went. Keon said, **"I got stood on my head in about 10-inches of mud, and came up grinning ear to ear. One of the judges told me I was sunk because anybody who gets planted like that and has a grin that big is a lost cause!"**

I went to a couple of clinics, rodeoing by myself for a year or two, and then hooked up with Rance. We've been traveling together ever since. Keon added, "After that many years in the minors, you've seen about every kind of dirty trick or wreck a horse can hand you. So it was refreshing, however intimidating, to get on National Finals Rodeo (NFR) quality stock, and go to some of the bigger shows like Wolf Point in Montana, or Cheyenne Frontier Days in Wyoming."

According to Keon the main difference between the rodeo levels is the intensity of the whole scene. "The contestants, stock, and even the crowds are just a step up. There's an electricity at the professional shows that doesn't exist at the amateur rodeos. The one thing at the professional shows that was hard to get used to was that, until a guy starts getting good things done, you're just another face. In the minors, things are a little more personable - people are glad to see you show up and compete at their rodeo." He added, **"The one thing that is constant is the camaraderie and friendship between contestants. Everyone may be competing for the same checks, but I've never felt like I was competing against any of them. If I take nothing else from the sport, it's the myriad of steadfast friends and acquaintances I've made behind the chutes and staying at people's places while on the road."**

Keon has always competed solely in the saddle bronc riding. Keon justifies this by adding, "For one, I'm a hideous roper. Two, I absolutely crave the way those horses feel when they peel out of the chute and turn on the juice. Also, I definitely haven't mastered it yet, and I guess I'm just hard headed enough to

keep working at it. While you can have weeks of frustration, suddenly good things will happen and you know you've gained some ground."

Outside of rodeo Keon settles at home on his ranch in central Montana. To make ends meet, he is a sales representative, selling beef semen for Genex. Keon also has a custom Artificial Insemination business in the spring, breeding about 1,000 head of cattle annually. In between all this and rodeo, he takes in colts to ride for extra cash. In the winter he also does carpentry work.

Keon has a daughter, Grace, who will be 5 in February, and was just married to Billie Jo in September. For fun he hunts in the fall, and enjoys spending time with friends and family at their cabin in the mountains.

While in AGR during college Keon served on committees and was very involved with chapter activities. Keon graduated in 1994 with a degree in Agriculture Business.

Rance Gerdes first realized his passion for rodeo at a young age. Riding horses on the ranch for his dad to gather cows, or roping a critter that needed to be doctored was only enough to tease him to the sport.

"My neighbor friends and I were always riding calves at young ages, I eventually graduated to cows and bulls or whatever we could herd into the bucking chutes. Growing up money was tight, so I didn't get to rodeo in high school as much as I would have liked. The real joys came when I started riding saddle bronc horses during college," Rance said. He added that this is when he finally had free time and a little extra money to throw at his dreams. "So I rounded up all the gear (which left a few things to be desired) I needed and nodded for the gate. Several hundred horses, and thousands of miles later I have had the experiences of a lifetime. Oh, the stories that could be told of thrills and spills, rain and snow, or even a simple which way do we go. The sport has brought me lots of joy and many good friends."

According to Rance the sport of rodeo is just really satisfying, **"No matter whether you win or not it is always a rush, and it kind of feels like you are tying your self**



back to the old days of the west. It is always exciting to see what horse you have drawn," he added. Pure enjoyment and the constant physical and mental challenge keep him involved and enjoying the sport. **"It is my goal to ride broncs until I am 65 years young. So with any luck and God on my side, dreams of the perfect eight-second ride will come true."**

Rance served as the Vice Noble Ruler of Operations in 1998 at the Alpha Delta Chapter at Montana State University. He graduated in 1998 with a degree in Animal Science.

Rance recently married a nurse, Christy, which he claims is "handy" for his lifestyle. Otherwise he keeps busy breaking horses and working for Genex Hawkeye West where he collects semen from beef bulls.

Picture above: Rance holds on for another ride at the NRA East Helena rodeo in Montana in June of 2005.

Picture at left: Keon hangs on again at the 3 Forks Rodeo in June of 2003.

Joshua Phillips, Illinois State University

Josh Phillips has been involved with rodeo since he was six. **"It has been said that they took the rattle out of my hand and put a rope into it, so I was pretty much born involved with roping and horses,"** Josh said.

According to Josh, rodeo and roping in Illinois basically started in Edinburg, Illinois, which happened to be 15 minutes from his home. Josh spent many evenings and weekends there even before he started roping. "When you are around something so much, it's hard not to want to be involved. We purchased my first roping horse when I was 12, and I've been hopelessly addicted ever since," Josh added.

Josh started out competing in the Illinois Junior Rodeo group and became involved in Illinois High School Rodeo. "The transition was not really that hard because I was primarily competing against the same kids as I was in the past. The switch was easier because I was also competing at various roping events and open rodeos in the area. The opportunity to compete among kids my age was actually a bit of a relief."

After high school Josh competed in dif-



Josh heels another steer with his roping partner and father.

ferent roping competitions in Illinois, Missouri, Wisconsin and other states. He also went to a couple of international professional rodeo association events. "Those were not really any different for me. It was about going out there and doing the best I could," Josh added. According to Josh, no matter if it's a rodeo or a small roping event, the amount of pressure is about the same.

"What I enjoyed the most about competing was the fun that I had. My first trip to a national event was a trip of a lifetime, not just due to the competition, but the site seeing, adventurous experiences we had, and the people we met along the way." Josh

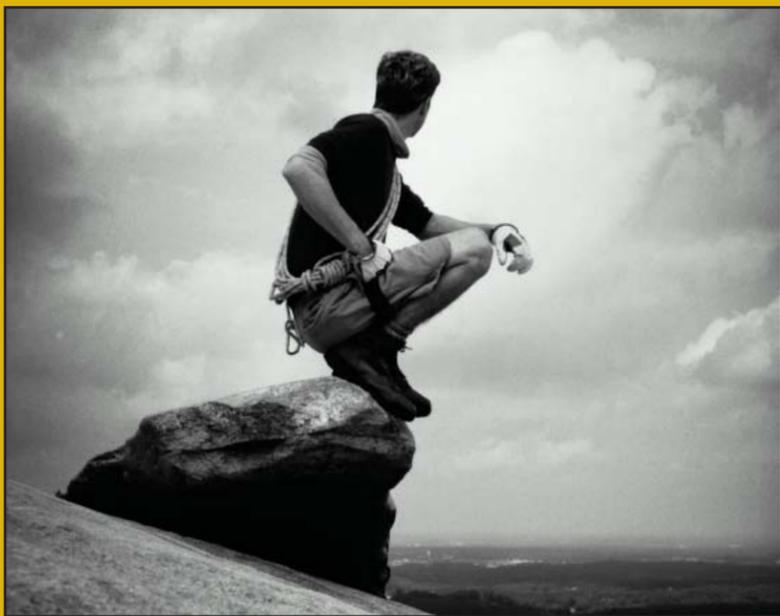
also said, "The people in all levels of rodeo are probably the nicest group you could ever be around."

"I crave the rush of traveling in a headlong chase after a fast moving steer, with the possibility of winning a roping event. To be totally honest, it is very addictive. I would have to say that the social aspects of roping are also something that draws me in. I've made new friends as well as re-connecting with old ones." Josh added that all roping events have something to win, be it money or a new saddle or even a new pickup. He also has become hooked on what is waiting at

the end of the race.

Josh's involvement in Illinois rodeo basically consists of judging one or two of the Illinois junior rodeos throughout their season. Josh said, "What keeps me doing that is the opportunity to help kids in any way that I can. I still go to a couple of open rodeos a year, but not like I used to."

Josh's life outside of the roping pen, pretty much revolves around his horses, family and work. Josh Phillips became a member of the Beta Delta Chapter at Illinois State University in 1999. During college Josh was an active participant in the Beta Delta Chapter and served as Philanthropy Chairman, VNR- Planning officer and Co-Membership officer. Josh graduated from Illinois State University in 2002 with a degree in Agricultural Industry Management with an emphasis in Engineering and Agronomy. Josh works for the USDA/ Natural Resources Conservation Service.



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Brothers Customize Gifts For Chapter Needs

Eckrote Acknowledges his “AGR Experience”

Doug Eckrote, Purdue, steps up to the Century Two Campaign saying “AGR taught me the meaning of brotherhood. When a group of men with one common goal get together, there is simply nothing they cannot do or accomplish.”

Doug’s unrestricted gift of \$50,000 is earmarked for Delta Chapter – taking to heart Chairman Lemon’s innovative approach to the campaign with “It’s Your Gift. You’re in Charge.” Brothers can designate for one chapter, one existing local or national program, assist to create new programs or split it up among all of these. Century Two is an honest to goodness grassroots level rally to the future of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity.

Doug became a member of the Delta Chapter at Purdue University in 1983. He graduated from Purdue in 1986. He is a winner of the AGR Grand President’s Award for 2005. Doug is the senior vice president of purchasing and operations for CDW Corporation and President of CDW Logistics, a Fortune 500 company and leading provider of technology products and services for businesses, government agencies and educational institutions. He lives in Long Grove, Illinois, just outside the Chicago area.

Why did this younger brother commit to The Campaign for AGR? “AGR taught me to live a balanced life and to get involved in activities – to balance school work, activities, fraternity activities and social events. Thanks to my AGR experience, time management and organizing skills have been a real asset to my professional career. I want more and more young men to have this incredible experience while they are in college.”

Doug says the AGR alumni network is unparalleled and he hopes some of his support can be channeled into still stronger alumni programs for his chapter. Leading-edge technology and communication skills’ training for undergraduates is another priority for Eckrote.

His advice to men just joining AGR is, “Get involved, not only in AGR but also in other campus activities and organizations. Employers want to see leadership on your resume. They want to take a look at your ethics, understanding of diversity, integrity – the AGR experience can foster that and get you off to a fast start after graduation.”



Eckrote, center, contributes his thought with his executive committee at CDW at a recent partner summit.

Douthat Sets a Challenge for Louisiana State Chapter

John Douthat is a Florida native and a 1965 University of Florida graduate. He became a member of the Alpha Gamma Chapter at the University in Florida in 1963, though he has called Baton Rouge, Louisiana home since 1976. Moving there he created and built what is now the largest internet site marketing sewing machines (allbrands.com), as well as four brick and mortar locations in Louisiana, including one being rebuilt in New Orleans after the devastation of Katrina.

John’s \$100,000 challenge gift to LSU Alumni “is very similar to rallying after a hurricane. You just help those where you live and work. Their challenges are your challenges. I watched as the men at the LSU chapter took in 26 people (plus some dogs and cats) after the storm. They simply made them part of their family, the same way they have accepted me as part of their family after I moved to their city. AGRs are AGRs. It doesn’t matter if it is where you went for your education or not.”

The Alpha Epsilon Chapter at Louisiana State University named Douthat their chapter adviser six years ago. He has been working with Past Grand National President Zane Akins in developing a long-range strategic plan for LSU. He says: “AGR is facing a challenge of change. We must plan for that...just like the internet changed commerce, technology and innovation are changing the food industry. I am in “textile machinery” now and as close to agriculture as ever via LSU. I hope the chapter can use my gift and the matching funds raised from its alumni to foster even more diversity among its membership through scholarships and house bill assistance for outstanding prospects. AGR must reach out and adapt. We can all step up – the money is in our pockets. We just need to get it out of there and put it to good use for our great Fraternity.”

He knows the 3-year matching challenge comes when many Louisiana State alumni are themselves rebuilding. But John thinks “we all see the same solid future for AGR on the campus of LSU and know that our investment in that very future, even if it hurts right now, will more than pay dividends down the road. We owe it to each other and AGR.”

John Douthat is just one more example of a loyal AGR who is supporting the Century Two Campaign through an earmarked gift -- in his case, a gift that can double in three years.



John Douthat, center, gathers for a picture with the Alpha Epsilon Chapter members at the 2002 National Convention.

For more information on these gift types or other unique approaches, please contact James Ferrell, Director of Development, at the Home Office or by e-mail at James@AlphaGammaRho.org or by telephone at 816-891-9200, extension 21.

While both Eckrote and Douthat gifts benefit their individual chapters, many initial gifts to the Century Two Campaign are being designated for the whole fraternity in their entirety. More of the various gift opportunities available will be featured in future issues of SICKLE & SHEAF.

Written By: Ted Priebe

Design By: Ted Priebe & Amanda Erichsen

THE JOURNEY CENTURY TWO CAMPAIGN FOR AGR

The Four Cornerstones of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

LEADERSHIP

AGRs are known for leadership, whether it's in the chapter house, on campus, in the community, or while working in the high-tech agri-sciences industry or serving our country. The goal of the Leadership Cornerstone is to create an endowment fund that will continue this legacy, supporting the life-long leadership skills in individual members and improving leadership capabilities within the Fraternity itself.

Just one initial idea: Implementing chapter based principle-centered programs. Doing so would allow some of the same leadership techniques taught at broader scope programs to be tailored for a chapter specific experience and permeate the entire membership.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

It is certain that Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity's unique position as a social and professional fraternity has been a key to the organization's historic success. While many fraternities claim to offer "membership for life," AGR delivers on the promise. AGR alumni in the food, bio-products and environmental science industries provide an unparalleled sourced of professional networking opportunities that can span a lifetime. This large and increasingly diverse alumni base can offer invaluable contacts - and can open many doors of opportunity - to AGR's aspiring young professionals and seasoned veterans alike.

Just one initial idea: Sponsor an undergraduate to participate in a Study Abroad Program, opening the world of agriculture to the next generation of leaders.



THE CAMPAIGN FOR AGR

SCHOLARSHIP

Sometimes today's college men lose sight of the principal reason for attending college: to graduate with a degree. AGR is proud to say that our individual members continue to perform well in college. In fact, many of our chapters exceed the all-men's average at their school. But being "average" never was the AGR way. Our Fraternity believes that the AGR experience should encourage and support - not distract from - scholarship. With our renewed emphasis on membership development, AGR continues to lead the pack in scholastic development.

Just one initial idea: Want to be the best? Then bring in the best. Endow a scholarship rewarding the outstanding incoming freshman interested in Food, Fiber, and Life Sciences.

LIFE SKILLS

AGR's Purpose calls for us to surround our members with influences encouraging the development of better mental, social, moral and physical qualities. The significance of this calling has never been greater. In today's world, the young members of AGR face a tremendous challenge in their quest to become better men. They must stand against the current of a popular culture where social intemperance, political corruption, and corporate malfeasance seem the norm rather than the exception.

Just one initial idea: We are by our own charge men of character. Pick up where the class room leaves off and sponsor programs offering guidance in regard to professional ethics.

Your Gift. You're in Charge.

For the first time ever, the National Educational Foundation of Alpha Gamma Rho is conducting a Capital Campaign solely dedicated to innovative, chapter-level initiatives to strengthen collegiate chapters and individual members. Your gift can go in its entirety to the chapter(s) you wish to support or to the cornerstone(s) you wish to support: Professional Development, Scholarship, Leadership, Life Skills. Designate it all for one chapter, one cornerstone or select a portion of it for the national leadership to responsibly utilize. It is up to you.

It is your legacy. You are in charge.

Initial Campaign Gifts Set the Stage

One by one, national and local leaders of the Fraternity are stepping up to commit to The Campaign for AGR. Since Chairman Lemon sounded the charge, more than 109 alumni have committed with 40 of those gifts exceeding \$10,000 each. A growing organization of volunteers is gearing up to take the Century Two effort to thousands more AGRs all over the world. Watch for your invitation to join the journey.

Capital Campaign Cabinet

Gene Lemon - Campaign Chair
Bill Boehm
Kirby Barrick
Ted Priebe

Rick Carpenter
Joe Coffey
Bernie Staller
Phil Josephson

James Ferrell

For more information please contact James Ferrell at
James@AlphaGammaRho.org or 816-891-9200 ext. 21

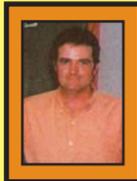
ON THE MOVE

Lee Allenstein, Iowa State, will have the dairy teaching herd at the University of Wisconsin-Madison Veterinary School named after him. The herd is currently being used for 28 different courses at the school.

Allenstein was one of the developers of the veterinary school and taught there for eight years. He was also a regular columnist in *Hoard's Dairyman* for 30 years and the veterinarian at the World Dairy Expo for 25 years. Allenstein has received many honors, including the American Association of Bovine Practitioners Practitioner of the Year in 1982. Lee became a member of the Eta Chapter at Iowa State University in 1946.



Lee Allenstein
Iowa State



Donald Blankenship
Mid. Tennessee State

Donald Blankenship, Middle Tennessee State, received the Tennessee Young Farmers Environmental Stewardship State Award. Donald became a member of the Beta Theta Chapter at Middle Tennessee State University in 1994.

Louis Buck and Kenneth Givens, Tennessee-Knoxville, joined in effort among other Tennessee agriculture industry leaders to kick-off Tennessee's Premises Identification System and the National Animal Identification System during the Tennessee Junior Livestock Expo.

Louis became a member of the Alpha Kappa Chapter at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in 1978; Ken became a member in 2003. Louis is the State Executive Director for the Farm Service Agency in Tennessee. Ken is the Tennessee Commissioner of Agriculture.

Chalmers Carr, Clemson, was named one of the 2005 Lancaster/Sunbelt Expo Southeastern Farmers of the Year. Eight farmers and ranchers were selected by sponsoring organizations in their respective states including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia for their achievements and contributions to agriculture. They will also be honored as finalists for the Southeastern Farmer of the Year Award. Chalmers, along with the other seven, will receive various cash gifts and prizes from the represented organizations and companies.

Chalmers resides in Ridge Spring, South Carolina and is married to Lori Anne Carr. They have two children. They currently farm 4,680 acres combined of peaches, watermelons, peppers and eggplants. Chalmers became a member of the Beta Zeta Chapter at Clemson University in 1987. He has served as alumni director and alumni vice president for the chapter.



Chalmers Carr
Clemson



Mark Case
Southern Illinois

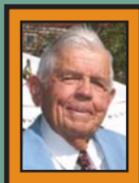
Mark Case, Southern Illinois, was awarded the Outstanding Earth Science Teacher Non-Traditional Educator on behalf of the North Carolina Geological Survey of the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Division of Land Resources. Mark has been recognized as a non-traditional earth science teacher. He is based at the Woodmen Camp in Randlemen, North Carolina.

This award is presented each year to an earth science teacher located in North Carolina who teaches in a non-traditional setting. Mark was awarded the honor at the North Carolina Science Teachers Association annual Professional Development Institute in November. Mark became a member of the Beta Alpha Chapter at Southern Illinois University in 1985.

Russell Hardin, Purdue, was recognized at the Boone County Chamber of Commerce awards banquet. He was awarded the Aaron Stookey Philanthropist of the Year.

Russell became a member of the Delta Chapter at Purdue University in 1939. He received his bachelors of science degree from Purdue in 1965 and his DVM from Kansas State University. Russell is a member of the Indiana Veterinary Medical Association, Presbyterian Church of Lebanon - past Deacon and Elder. He is a retired veteran, American Legion, Masonic Lodge and Rotary member.

Hardin has been honored for his many achievements in the past at Purdue University, Kansas State University, his local community, and in the agriculture and veterinary sciences industries. Russell is also one of AGR's Brothers of the Century.



Russell Hardin
Purdue

Dean Hodge, Purdue, has been named a 2005 Fellow of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) in the industry category. Hodge received the award in July at the ASAS Awards Ceremony during their annual meetings.

After graduating high school in 1945 he managed the family farm for two years before attending Purdue University. He received a bachelors of science degree in agriculture in 1951 at Purdue, and a master of science degree from Ohio State University in 1952, and his Ph.D. from Purdue in 1962. While on staff at Purdue he had appointments in beef cattle extension and teaching. Dean also served as manager of the university's beef cattle herds.

Hodge joined Kern County Land and Cattle Company of Bakersfield, California in 1962 as a research specialist for their cow-calf and feedlot operations. In 1965, he joined Ralston Purina Company in St. Louis, Missouri as Manager and later as Director of its Beef Cattle and Sheep Research and Technical Services Program. Hodge is co-holder of four major feed patents that have significantly impacted the beef cattle industry. Dean became a member of the Delta Chapter at Purdue University in 1948.

Bernie Lester and Mason Smoak, Florida, were honored by the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences at the University of Florida. Bernie Lester received a 2005 Award of Distinction. Mason Smoak received a 2005 Horizon Award.

Bernie Lester retired as the President and COO of Alico, Inc., an Agribusiness Company with operations in Southwest and Central Florida. He is a recipient of the Gamma Sigma Delta Distinguished Service Award, the Florida Association of County Agents Outstanding Agriculturalist Award and the Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen Award for Southwest Florida. He is also one of AGR's Brothers of the Century. Bernie became a member of the Alpha Gamma Chapter in 1958.

Mason Smoak received his bachelors of science degree in Food and Resource Economics in 1997. After graduation, he returned to his family's third-generation citrus and cattle operation, where he manages the citrus harvesting and hauling operations. Mason became a member of the Alpha Gamma Chapter in 1994.

Also pictured below is Kirby Barrick, Ohio State. Kirby is Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Florida. Kirby is one of AGR's Brothers of the Century, past Grand President and Advisor Forum Coordinator.



Bernie Lester, Mason Smoak of Florida (middle), and Kirby Barrick (left)

Eric Metzler, Michigan State, is one of the most recent inductees into Ohio's Natural Resources Hall of Fame. The honor is the Ohio Department of Natural Resources highest honor; Eric was one of three to receive the award in October. The honor is bestowed on individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the protection and enjoyment of the state's natural resources.

Eric Metzler is considered to be one of the nation's premier butterfly and moth experts. He is a co-founder of the Ohio Lepidopterist Society, the Midwest Biological Diversity Institute and the Ohio long-term Butterfly Monitoring Program. He has authored 38 scientific publications on Lepidoptera, and in 2002, was credited with the discovery of a new species of moth, which exists in only two places in the world. Eric became a member of the Tau Chapter at Michigan State University in 1965.



Eric Metzler
Michigan State

Samuel Miller, Wisconsin-Madison, has been appointed to the American Banker's Association (ABA) Agricultural and Rural Bankers Committee. The committee, made up of 15 bankers from across the country, has a long tradition of service to the banking industry, to the development of American agriculture, and the economic growth of rural America. Sam is the vice president of the agribusiness branch for M&I Marshall & Ilsley Bank.

Miller has 22 years of agricultural banking experience, the past 18 at M&I Bank. Miller holds a bachelor's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of Wisconsin and an MBA from UW-Oshkosh. He's a board member of the Wisconsin Dairy 2020 Council, School Director for the Wisconsin Bankers Advanced Ag Banking School and Treasurer of Classical School, an elementary charter school in Appleton. Sam became a member of the Iota Chapter at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1981.



Samuel Miller
Wisconsin-Madison



Wilbur Mull
Georgia

Wilbur Mull, Georgia, received the 2005 J.W. Fanning Distinguished Professional Award. The Agricultural Economics Association of Georgia presents this award to an agricultural economist who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and leadership on a community, state, national or international level. The award is the department's highest honor and is presented to an individual with more than ten years of professional experience.

Wilbur worked 40 years developing Classic Groundcovers, a wholesale nursery. Wilbur is one of AGR's Brothers of the Century. He became a member of the Alpha Eta Chapter at the University of Georgia in 1961.

Todd Pritchard, Vermont, is the 2005 recipient of the Joseph E. Carrigan Award for Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching. Pritchard currently teaches courses in food microbiology and food science. He also recently developed two new courses, one is entitled "Beer: Tapping into Food Science at UVM." Todd uses the diverse range of his students' expertise and majors to educate them in a fun and informative manner.

Todd also works closely with the Vermont food industry. He received his agricultural biochemistry BS degree in 1985, and his Ph.D. in Animal and Food Sciences in 1998. He is an active member of the Alpha Rho Alumni Association. His past accomplishments include the Outstanding New Achiever award from the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Vermont for his work with the Vermont Foodbank. Todd became a member of the Alpha Rho Chapter at the University of Vermont in 1983.



Todd Pritchard
Vermont

Michael Revelle, Tennessee - Martin, received the Outstanding Young Alumni Award on behalf of the University of Tennessee - Martin Alumni. This award is given in recognition of outstanding achievement in his or her chosen profession; the recipient must not be more than 39 years of age.

Revelle is an emergency physician at Jackson-Madison County Hospital, Madison County assistant medical examiner and medical director for Medical Center Emergency Medical Services, Hardeman County Emergency Medical Services, Crockett County First Responder Program and Jackson State Community College Paramedic Program. He is resident delegate to the board of directors, Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians and hosts the weekly "Healthwatch" program on WBBJ-TV. Revelle is a major in the Tennessee Army National Guard, 278th Armored Cavalry Medical Support Squadron. He is a native of Crockett Mills, graduating from UT Martin with a bachelor's degree in agriculture and a doctor of medicine from UT College of Medicine.

While in medical school, Michael received the award for Outstanding Student in Family Medicine, was president of the Family Practice Student Association and an Under-served Areas Clinical Scholar. He became a member of the Alpha Upsilon Chapter at Tennessee - Martin in 1990.

Roy Saigo, California - Davis, is one of three Oregon State University alumni who received a 2005 Alumni Fellows Award. The recipients of this award were invited back to campus during homecoming to serve as important role models to the OSU learning experience. While at OSU, Saigo visited with students, faculty, alumni and administrators and gave two presentations.

Roy received his Ph.D. in botany and plant pathology from Oregon State, and a bachelor's degree in biological science from the University of California at Davis. President Saigo grew up on a farm in California, and he and his family, along with other Japanese Americans, were detained in a World War II internment camp. Roy became president of St. Cloud State University in 2000 after serving for six years as Chancellor of Auburn University at Montgomery. Prior to Auburn, Saigo served as provost and vice president for Academic and Student Affairs at Southeastern Louisiana University, dean of the College of Natural Sciences at the University of Northern Iowa, and assistant dean of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.

Roy became a member of the Phi Chapter at the University of California - Davis in 1959. He and his wife, Dr. Barbara Saigo, have three grown children and three grandchildren.



Roy Saigo
California



Orion Samuelson
Missouri

Orion Samuelson, Missouri, moderated the telecast of the first national Farm Bill Forum in Nashville in July. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns kicked off a nationwide farm bill listening tour in Tennessee July 7. Orion is a nationally recognized farm broadcaster. He is also one of AGR's Brothers of the Century. He became a member of the Theta Chapter at the University of Missouri in 1986.

Steven Smith, Cornell, is now the Oneida County Executive Director for the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency in Cobleskill, New York, and Who's Who Among American Teachers for 2004 and 2005. Steven became a member of the Zeta Chapter at Cornell University in 1995.

Remembering Dean DeCarli



Dean DeCarli, California-Davis, passed away at the age of 97 in April. Dean became a member of the Phi Chapter at the University of California – Davis in 1925. While at UC Davis, Dean was an Aggie boxer, editor of the campus newspaper and class valedictorian.

After graduation, he went to work for the Happyholme Dairy. He and three friends purchased the dairy and delivered 4,000 gallons of milk each day to Camp Shoemaker during World War II. This partnership also started one of Stockton, California's first fast-food restaurants, the Bobb Inn.

His political career began in 1952, when he was asked to fill an unexpired term on the Stockton City Council; he then went on to serve as Stockton's Mayor. As Stockton's mayor for two terms, Dean began efforts to renovate the city's downtown neighborhood. Dean DeCarli Waterfront Square, the new heart of downtown Stockton, was dedicated in his honor June 29, 2001. He has been active in supporting the University of the Pacific's athletic club and the Kiwanis Club.

He was the president of the Cal Aggie Alumni Association (CAAA) in 1950-52, helping to develop the UC Davis Foundation. In nearly 80 years of involvement with the university, Dean received a number of honors, including the University Service Award in 1967, CAAA's Jerry W. Fielder alumnus of the year award in 1974, and the College of Agricultural and Environmental Science's Award of Distinction in 1996. Dean was also a Parade Marshall for the university's Picnic Day, and had a room named in his honor. Dean was inducted into the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity Hall of Fame, and a Brother of the Century.

Dean is survived by his wife of 15 years, Erma DeCarli; and preceded in death by his former wife Edna, in 1989. Dean was also the father of three, grandfather of eight and great-grandfather of 12.

Allan Johnson Serving as Deputy Under Secretary



Allan Johnson, North Dakota State, was announced by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns to serve as the Deputy Under Secretary for

Rural Development. Allan will serve this role by assisting Under Secretary Tom Dorr in carrying out Rural Development's mission to support economic activity and improve the quality of life of rural residents.

Allan has served as Director of Legislative and Public Affairs at USDA Rural Development since 2003. Prior to coming to USDA, he worked in the agricultural publishing and public affairs industries for over 30 years. He served as President

of Farm Progress Companies, the leading farm publisher in the United States, which grew from seven publications to 39 during his tenure. After his retirement from Farm Progress Companies in 2000, Allan worked as a consultant until his appointment to USDA Rural Development.

Allan served as Chairman of the Farm Foundation, National FFA Sponsor's Board and Agricultural Publisher's Association. Awards include the FFA Distinguished Service Citation, NAMA Ag Communicator of the year, and Epsilon Chapter Hall of Fame. Allan became a member of the Epsilon Chapter at North Dakota State University in 1967. He is one of AGR's Brothers of the Century, was an AGR Grand President from 1992-1994, and NIC Director 1996-2002. He earned his bachelor of science degree at NDSU before serving in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.

Memorial Contributions

The following is a list of those who have given recent gifts in memory of members who have passed away since the Fall 05 issue.

In Memory of William J. Sallee, Oklahoma State University - - Nancy Longmyer, John and Velma Grizzle, Tunne and Mari-Ann Kelam, Steve and Jo Ellyn Holt, Robert Spottswood, Tommy & Coleta Weathersbee, John & Kay Yount, First Baptist Church of Richardson, Texas, Kevin & Christine Kjosa, Dallas/Fort Worth Alumni Chapter

In Memory of Paul Williams, University of Florida - - Marlene Williams

In Memory of Jack W. Baber, Jr, University of California-Davis -- Gerald and Elaine Rominger Phi Fund

In Memory of Richard K. Crooke, University of Illinois -- Elaine Crooke

Please help us keep you informed. Update your information at our web site. www.agrs.org

Transitions

The following deaths were reported to the Home Office since the last publication. The year listed is the year of initiation.

Missouri

Chester W. Hill, 1938

Pennsylvania State

Russell E. Larson, 1945
Clarence Shallcross, 1948
Henry W. Hager, 1961

Nebraska

Alfred W. Kuper, 1/1/1937
Wilmer L. Hanson, 1/1/1941
Ronald E. Bath, 1/1/1955

Oklahoma State

Leland A. Bates, 1946
Harrison L. Dooley, 1952
Alvin M. Clements, 1969
Heath S. Redwine, 2003

Washington State

Steve A. Kikuchi, 1965
**Passed away 1/20/2004

California Davis

Jack W. Baber, 4/1/1980

California Poly State

Ferdinand P. Cordero, 1/1/1931

Oregon State

Leslie J. Marks, 1/1/1938
Jonathan E. Virtue, 9/25/1995

Florida

Troy L. Long, 1/1/1974

Maryland

George W. Dulany, 1/1/1952

Tennessee-Knoxville

Fowler O. Ragland, 1/1/1952
William F. Brown, 1963

Travis Jett Elected National FFA President



Travis Jett, Oklahoma State, is the National FFA President for the 2005-2006 National FFA Officer Team. Travis became a member

of the Pi Chapter at Oklahoma State University in 2003. He is the son of Alan and Alyson Jett of Laverne, Oklahoma.

Jett was one of six individuals elected to hold a national office from a field of 37 candidates. The new officers were announced during the 78th National FFA Convention, October 26-29, in Louisville, Kentucky. In his role as National FFA President, Jett will lead this year's officer team and serve as a spokesperson for the organization. In addition, he and his team will work alongside the National FFA Board of Directors to shape policy and ensure that the organiza-

tion continues on its path to a bright and promising future.

In his tenure as president, Jett will log more than 100,000 miles meeting with FFA members, agriculture teachers and FFA supporters, as well as top business, government and education leaders in approximately 40 states. He will also participate in an international experience tour to Japan. His responsibilities will include providing personal growth and leadership training for students, setting policies and promoting agricultural literacy.

As an FFA member, Jett was awarded for his skills in extemporaneous public speaking. He was named chapter star farmer and was a chapter proficiency award winner. His supervised agricultural experience (SAE) was in beef entrepreneurship and beef placement.

At Oklahoma State University, Jett serves on the Homecoming Steering Committee, Speaker's Board, and President's Leadership Council. During his year of service, he hopes to inspire bright young FFA members to pursue careers in agriculture.

2006 LEADERSHIP SEMINARS

Leadership In A Flat Agricultural World

Philadelphia

February 10 - 11
Hilton Philadelphia Airport

Nashville

February 17- 18
Sheraton Nashville Downtown

Kansas City

February 24 - 25
Hilton Kansas City Airport

Reno

March 3 - 4
Reno Hilton

Registration is now available on-line at www.agrs.org. Registration pricing between January 1 and January 31 is \$110. After January 31, registration is \$125.

Keynote Speaker: Dr. Katie High, Associate Vice President for Student Life at the University of Tennessee. Her focus will be to explain the major and rapid increasing changes occurring in the world of Agriculture and beyond, challenging this year's seminar attendees to apply lessons learned at their own chapters.

RECRUIT MORE MEMBERS CHAPTER RECRUITMENT WORKSHOPS

Purpose: To develop a year round recruitment strategy tailored to your chapter and university with emphasis on pre-freshman and summer recruitment, that relies on entire chapter and alumni participation.

For more information, please contact Josh Wackler or Thad Koenigsfeld at the AGR Home Office by phone: 816-891-9200 or e-mail: Wack@AlphaGammaRho.org, or Thad@AlphaGammaRho.org

2006 Adviser Forums

January 27-28 & June 23-24
at the Kansas City Home Office

Alumni Presidents are also encouraged to attend!

Please Contact Josh Wackler for more information
Phone: 816-891-9200 ext. 16
E-mail: Wack@AlphaGammaRho.org

2006 AGR Recruitment Schools

Purpose: To develop a new recruitment plan or enhance the one already in place to assure that the chapter is getting all of the quality men they should on campus.

When & Where: January 13 - 14 and March 17 - 18, 2006, at the Kansas City Airport Hilton, near the Home Office

For more information, please contact Josh Wackler in the AGR Home Office at 816-891-9200, ext. 16, or Wack@AlphaGammaRho.org

Celebrate 100 Years of Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity by purchasing the Alpha Gamma Rho Celebrating A Century of Success.

Price: E-mail offer orders \$34.95, Regular orders \$39.95, Shipping: \$6.00

Necessary Ordering Information: Quantity, order total, name, delivery address, phone number and method of payment.
Credit card payment available if using Visa or MasterCard, please include Credit Card#, expiration date and signature.

Every chapter should have a Centennial Book in their library and formal dining room. The book is also great for helping with recruitment.

Please send order information to Amanda Erichsen,
phone: 816-891-9200 ext.11 e-mail: Amanda@AlphaGammaRho.org Fax: 816-891-9401
10101 North Ambassador Drive Kansas City, MO 64153

Order Form

“The First One Hundred Years
of Alpha Gamma Rho”

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MasterCard _____

Credit Card # _____ Exp. date _____

Signature _____

Mail to the Home Office attention: Amanda Erichsen

MOVING? CHANGING JOBS? RECEIVING AWARDS?

CHAPTER & INITIATION NUMBER (IF KNOWN): _____

MO DAY YEAR _____

HOME PHONE: _____ WORK PHONE: _____

E-MAIL: _____ FAX: _____

NAME AS PRESENTLY LISTED: _____

STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SOCIAL SECURITY NO.: _____

JOB TITLE: _____

EMPLOYER: _____

AWARDS AND LEADERSHIP POSITION IN INDUSTRY, COMMUNITY: _____

Please enclose a photo to be used in a future issue of SICKLE & SHEAF.

Send to: Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, 10101 N. Ambassador Drive, Kansas City, MO 64153
or FAX: (816) 891-9401. (FAX label on reverse as well.)

Dates To Remember

January 27-28, Adviser Forum, Kansas City

February 10-11, Leadership Seminar, Philadelphia

February 17-18, Leadership Seminar, Nashville

February 20, President's Day -- Home Office Closed

February 24-25, Leadership Seminar, Kansas City

March 3-4, Leadership Seminar, Reno

March 17-18, Recruitment School, Kansas City

April 6-8, National Board Meetings, Memphis, TN

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