



# THE LION'S LORE

A PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS BETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

## CHAPTER EARNS BACK-TO-BACK NATIONAL ZEAL AWARDS

### *Kansas Beta Grabs No. 1 Spot*

Never mind the Kansas City Chiefs winning consecutive Super Bowl games; the Kansas Beta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon also has gone back-to-back! SAE national announced this summer that Kansas State University won the coveted John O. Moseley Zeal Award, selecting Kansas Beta out of about 240 chapters across the country for the second-consecutive year and the third time in five years (the first was in 2020).

According to the criteria, the Zeal is awarded to the chapter that "best exemplifies excellence" and "goes above and beyond expectations." The K-State Chapter also won six other SAE national awards during the Ritual Academy at Levere Memorial Temple in Evanston, Illinois. These awards didn't just happen by chance; a team led by **Landon Trout '25** and Chapter President **Jack Pearson '26** worked many hours to compile the submissions.

"I think of it as a thesis of the whole year," said Trout, who was instrumental in putting together the entry. "We had seven weeks to write up 70 one-to-three paragraph essays and gather 25 pages of pictures and captions as well as several PowerPoint presentations, spreadsheets, Word documents, posters, and other material that spoke to how hard we worked to be the model of fraternity." The submissions covered 13 areas, including singing, communication, recruitment, chapter management, member education, alumni relations, scholarship, community service and philanthropy, financial management, health and safety, housing, university relations, and ritual.

The deadline for the submission was the week of spring final exams. The group labored to get the work done early so everyone would have plenty of time to focus on their tests. "In the second-to-last week before the submission was due, I worked up to three hours an evening with others to finish editing essays and compiling supplementary material," Trout said.



*Our newest members take a commemorative photo after their initiation on Thursday, August 21.*



*Kansas Beta officers pose back-to-back after winning the Zeal Award as the No. 1 SAE chapter in the nation in consecutive years. Top row, from left: Jack Pearson '26 and Jake Stephens '26. Middle: Logan Miller '26 and Landon Trout '25. Bottom: Bryce Myers '26 and Luke Olsen '26.*

### The chapter won six other SAE national awards:

- Chapter Achievement Award
  - Generally considered the second most important chapter award.
- First Place Outstanding Recruitment
  - Our recruiting chairmen, **Grant Snowden '26** and **Jake Stephens '26**, landed 33 excellent recruits, completely filling the house again this year.
- First Place Health and Safety
  - Led by **Landon Trout '25**
- First Place Philanthropy and Service
  - Led by **Ashton Boomer '26**, **Luke Olsen '26**, and **Tyler Breeding '25**
- Kansas Beta won this award for the first time in many years!
- Runner-up for Ritual
  - Led by **Ben Carter '27**
- Outstanding Chapter Treasurer of the Year
  - Credit to **Tyler Tomlen '26**

# EXTREME MAKEOVER: KANSAS BETA EDITION

## BASEMENT RENOVATION UPDATE



*Which of these three photos is the old Kansas Beta chapter room?*



If you chose the first, you are correct! However, it now looks nothing like the cramped, dark room where the brothers met every week for decades. The summer basement renovation turned the old chapter room into a recreation area with nice sofas and a big-screen TV for the brothers to play video games and watch sports. It is fabulous!



The renovation created the **Kansas Beta Educational Center**, an area designed specifically for members to study. There are enough tables, chairs and benches to seat more than 100 brothers at chapter meetings. We are extremely grateful to the **Chandler Family**—who have a long legacy with Kansas Beta—for their generous gift of \$100,000, which was half of the funds for the renovation.



The final photo depicts the Ernie Barrett room, named in honor of the K-State basketball star and eventual athletic director, who was also a 1951 Kansas Beta alum. This space features a pool table and another big-screen TV.

Thank you to all alumni who contributed to this project! A special thank you as well to Facilities Manager **Bill Shaw '75**, who oversaw the renovation and pushed and prodded to get it done in time for the beginning of the fall semester.

**DON'T MISS THE NEXT DONOR LIST!**

All 2024 contributors will be recognized in the spring 2025 newsletter.



## STEVE '76 AND CATHY LACY RECEIVE K-STATE MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

**K**ansas Beta House Corporation President **Steve Lacy '76** and his wife, Cathy, received the 2024 Kansas State University Medal of Excellence award, which recognizes their outstanding service, leadership, and financial contributions to K-State.

Their contributions include scholarships, K-State Athletics initiatives, and selfless support of the Kansas Beta chapter house. While many fraternities at K-State and nationwide have struggled in recent years, Steve has pushed Kansas Beta to the pinnacle of the Greek system, winning numerous national awards, including the No. 1 SAE chapter in the nation three of the last five years.

**Alex Niemann '25**, SAE's liaison with the K-State campus, called Lacy a big driver in the success of Kansas Beta and in the chapter receiving the Zeal Award. "That would not even be within the realm of possibility without Steve Lacy," Niemann said.

# MAKING AN IMPACT

## CHAPTER ETERNAL



**Franklin D. Houser '55 – February 6, 2024**

Always in a rush to succeed, Franklin finished high school in three years to attend KSU. While there, he met future wife Bonnie Hahn on a blind date. They would have four children. He graduated from the University of Texas School of Law in 1960. In 1970, Franklin helped form Tinsman and Houser, and his litigation forced improvements in automobile fuel tanks, braking systems,

tempered glass, and non-flammable fabrics for tents and children's pajamas.

In the '70s, Franklin stepped into a life of faith and living hope in Jesus Christ, initiated by a Faith Alive weekend at his church. Franklin was so willing to give his life story to others both personally and at outreach events.

In 2000, Franklin retired from law to focus on grape planting and winemaking. Franklin was a faithful and loving husband, father, son, brother, grandfather, and friend. He was a man with a unique sense of humor and a quick investigative mind. He will be deeply missed.



**Richard Earl Mistler '62 – May 27, 2024**

Richard earned a degree in chemical engineering and was president of Sigma Alpha Epsilon before earning an MBA from Purdue. During his 50 years as a financial advisor, he assisted countless families and individuals to achieve financial stability, higher education, and a stress-free retirement. Rich retired as a senior vice president of wealth management at UBS in 2018.

He served on the educational board of Kansas Beta and was generous in supporting the chapter. Rich loved reading self-help books and was known to give them to his family for Christmas. He established the Mistler Family Foundation to fund myriad non-profit organizations and a fund at the Greater Kansas City Community Foundation that supports a college scholarship program.

In his free time, Rich enjoyed hiking, hunting, fly-fishing, and sitting quietly in the beauty of a watershed, forest, or field of wildflowers in Kansas and Colorado. He was active in the Parables class at Old Mission United Methodist Church for over 50 years, establishing enduring friendships that enriched his life immensely.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

It's that time of year again! Make your plans to join us **October 25 and 26**. Check out what's in store:

### Friday, October 25

#### SAE Golf Outing

**Where:** Manhattan Country Club

**When:** 1 p.m. Start

**Format:** 4-Man Scramble

**Cost:** \$115/Player

A meal will be provided following the round. This event is open to all alumni and their dads.

**RSVP:** Chase Stalder '19 at (785) 280-3273

### Saturday, October 26

#### Annual SAE Alumni and Family Pregame Tailgate

*K-State vs. Kansas*

Food and drinks will be provided. This event is open to SAE alumni and family.

**RSVP:** Chase Stalder '19 at (785) 280-3273.

Shamrock Zone tickets are available for \$100 per ticket.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out. We hope to see you all this fall. Phi Alpha!



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## SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

Kansas State University

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# SOMETHING NEW

## 1015 DENISON HOSTS WEDDING

Kansas Beta's chapter house has hosted a range of social events over the years, but no one can recall a wedding on the grounds. On the lovely evening of June 8, Chapter Advisor **John Hatfield '77** married Jack Robeiro Lobo on the front lawn of Sigma Alpha Epsilon,

It was a fitting location for the nuptials, as Hatfield once lived in the house as a member and has been a driving force in the chapter's resurgence over the last decade. "My first choice was to have the wedding at the K-State Gardens," Hatfield said. "When there was a conflict with the date, I thought, 'What about the fraternity house? It's a beautiful location, and I love SAE.'"

A white tent was on the lawn and a four-string quartet played on the front porch as guests arrived. The guests included several past presidents and recruitment chairmen who had worked with Hatfield over the years. Housing Corporation members served as attendants in the wedding. Guests enjoyed a KC barbecue dinner.

In addition to serving as chapter advisor, Hatfield was the Interim Director of Fraternity and Sorority Life at K-State. He now works for SAE national as a chapter services representative, equipping chapters in recruitment and culture as well as mentoring chapter presidents.



*Congratulations, John and Jack!*

Jack Lobo is the director of supply chain management for General Electric. The couple live in Beverly Hills, Michigan.