



THE LION'S LORE

A PUBLICATION OF THE KANSAS BETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON



Sigma Alpha Epsilon Remains the Gold Standard at Kansas State University

Kansas Beta had a stellar year in 2021. Even after being recognized as the top fraternity at Kansas State, we still push to maintain our status as the best chapter academically, athletically, socially, and philanthropically. We have been able to accomplish great things and look forward to achieving more with the support and dedication of our members and alumni.

We initiated 31 members last fall, who all show great promise in leadership, academics, and athletic abilities. They are proving to be True Gentlemen each day. We also initiated two new members this spring. All brothers are working hard together to achieve the following goals:

- **Win top fraternity in the nation.**
- **Finish in the top three chapters in grades for the spring 2022 semester.**
- **Finish the academic year with the highest philanthropic contribution among all fraternities.**
- **Win "Fraternity of the Year" at K-State.**

Scholastic Success

Grades remain **the** focus at Kansas Beta. The combined effort of all brothers delivered a chapter GPA of 3.48 for fall 2021. As members worked hard readjusting to in-person classes, 26 members achieved a 3.5 or higher, and over a quarter of the house achieved a 4.0. The campus has a Greek grade report that ranks each fraternity as a gold, silver, or bronze standard. ΣAE achieved the gold standard, which is a 3.3 GPA or higher. I am extremely pleased with what we have achieved, considering we had all become so accustomed to online classes.

Continued Competitiveness

Kansas Beta had a remarkably successful semester in intramurals. Our soccer team finished in second through the spring and brought home the first-place trophy in fall 2021, going undefeated all season. We are confident in our basketball and softball teams and are looking forward to earning the top spot in each sport. Kansas Beta is on a mission to become the intramural champions of the 2021-22 school year.

Philanthropic Pride

We take immense pride in achieving our philanthropic goals here at Kansas Beta. Raising money for a good cause is a major part of what we do, and this past year, we raised over \$10,000 for Children's Miracle Network. We hosted a car wash in our front driveway that raised over \$1,300. We also participated in the Walk for Alzheimer's, where we raised money through social media and participated in a walk to raise over \$3,000 for the Alzheimer's Association. The community and our members are excited to continue our philanthropic endeavors this spring.

Other News

We are excited to have three freshmen holding executive positions for the spring semester. Meanwhile, **Juan Gomez '24** is serving as a senator in the College of Engineering. Recruitment is off to a strong start, as our recruitment team has met more than 50 potential members thus far.

(Continued on page 2)



Kansas Beta comes together for fall 2021 Family Day.

Gold Standard

(Continued from page 1)

Kansas Beta Chapter remains the gold standard of fraternities in all aspects of Greek life. The awards we have won so far are only the beginning, as we are working very diligently to continue our history of success. Our men have been able to achieve remarkable things by living as True Gentleman in the classroom, on campus, and in intramurals competitively. We are proud of our past success and are excited for our future achievements.

Our success would not have been possible without continued alumni support. We recognize all your contributions and are extremely grateful for the facilities and support you provide us with. Your involvement keeps us on our journey to be the



All-Greek ice cream social hosted by ΣΑΕ.

best we can be. If you are ever in Manhattan, we would be honored for you to come by and visit the chapter house.

Fraternally,
Hunter Hatcher '24
Chapter President
hunterdh@ksu.edu

SPRING 2022 CHAPTER OFFICERS

Chapter President
Hunter Hatcher '24
(620) 391-5572
hunterdh@ksu.edu

Vice President
Jake Herl '23
(913) 522-6406
jwherl@ksu.edu

Risk Manager
Brendan Newcomer '23

Treasurer
Jet Rawlings '25

New Member Educator
Quinten Jones '24

Social Chairmen
Jack Rigdon '23
Hayden Hurtig '24

Recruitment Chairmen
Matt McCracken '24
(402) 488-0464
mattmccracken7841@gmail.com

Isaac Freeman '24
(913) 225-0599
ifreeman328@gmail.com

House Managers
Tucker Johnson '24
Ty Herl '25

Philanthropy Chairman
Lukas Freelove '24

Academic Warden
Camden Keen '25

Recorder
Alex Niemann '25

House Corporation Update

As you can see from the chapter update by Chapter President **Hunter Hatcher '24**, we are proud of our undergraduate brothers' recent successes. I am especially encouraged by the strong officer lineup for 2022. Kansas Beta aspires to remain a top chapter in academics, athletics, social events, philanthropy, and community service.

Over the last several years, we have worked aggressively to fill the chapter house with quality men, significantly improve the physical structure, and carefully manage our finances. These efforts have clearly paid off.

In 2021, the House Corporation approved upgrading the five chapter house restrooms and replacing the glass block windows in the formal living and dining rooms. These projects will be completed in two phases with a total cost of approximately \$200,000.

PHASE I

Summer 2021's completed projects included upgrades to the two south-end restrooms and replacement of the glass block windows in the formal living room for a cost of nearly \$90,000.

PHASE II

Summer 2022's planned projects include upgrading the three north-end restrooms and replacing the roof on the chapter house due to recent storm damage for an estimated total cost of \$100,000. We have raised approximately \$50,000 for the summer 2022 projects.

Your donation today will help raise the remaining \$50,000 required to complete these crucial improvements.

Thank you for your continued financial support. I promise you—the money is carefully managed and invested in the future of Kansas Beta, which is bright.

In the Bonds,
Steve Lacy '76, '77
House Corporation President
steve.lacy@steve-lacy.com
(515) 240-1960

CEMENTING THE SKILLS FOR SUCCESS

Why Kansas Beta Was the Right Choice for Jim Johnson '84

Jim Johnson '84 is the third generation of his family to work in the construction industry, and his passion for community service and client satisfaction is evident simply by looking at his career of more than 50 years. Now president and CEO of GE Johnson Construction Company, Jim joined the business as a laborer and has played an active role in every single division. GE Johnson's long list of projects includes hospitals, K-12 and higher education buildings, hotels, and athletic facilities—including several right here at Kansas State University.

Growing up, Jim quickly gained work ethic and a respect for hard work from his family. Since his father and brother were both in fraternities, he decided to explore Greek life at K-State. "I would be the first to admit how little I realized that choosing the right fraternity could impact me and my career," he said.

Even though he knew nobody at the ΣAE chapter house, the young men warmly welcomed Jim and treated him with respect, getting to know him and learning about his college goals. "My decision was based primarily on a great group of individuals, and I could see myself as one of them someday."

Jim held several leadership roles at Kansas Beta, working his way up to Eminent Archon. Each position helped him enhance various skills such as organizational structures, flexibility, and work balance—all while working in a



"I would be the first to admit how little I realized that choosing the right fraternity could impact me and my career."

team. His most crucial life skills, however (and favorite part of fraternity life), came from late-night discussions with the brothers. Discussing the world's issues, learning to see a diversity of views and opinions, developing new thoughts altogether ... all these things taught Jim the importance of networking and communication with others, which remains crucial for him to this day.

As CEO since 1997, Jim has helped shape GE Johnson's strategic vision and culture, also sharing his vision for community service by forming the GE Johnson Construction Company Foundation. This organization specializes in workforce development, the arts, and youth programs. He has also been a member of various philanthropic boards as well as educational boards at KSU and in the state of Colorado. Jim's business success and philanthropic efforts earned him a spot in the KSU College of Engineering Hall of Fame, plus other accolades such as the Colorado Business Hall of Fame and the Colorado Governor's Citizenship Medal.

Jim visits the university often and is encouraged to see his generation invested in its continued success and principles. He is also impressed with the continued quality of the brothers at Kansas Beta—both undergraduates and the alumni volunteers. "When returning to campus, I proudly tout my association with Kansas Beta and the great things they are accomplishing."

Jim and his wife, Laura, live in Colorado Springs. As empty nesters, they spend plenty of time enjoying the state's beauty and contemplating what's next for them. If you'd like to connect with Jim, he can be reached at johnsonj@gejohnson.com.

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Darrell Ford '57 – Oct. 11, 2021

Brady Stout '92 – July 24, 2021

ALUMNI NEWS

Bill Sinderson '58 enjoys his friendships with pledge brothers **Don Taylor '57**, **Bim Braddock '57**, and **Jack Kiddoo '57**, who all cherish the memory of

pledging together in 1953. The men live in Arizona and Alabama while Bill resides in Overland Park, Kan., but the group still comes together often. Email: wsinderson@gmail.com

Terry Knowles '61 is a retired FBI special agent living in Topeka, Kan. He is willing to volunteer as a counselor to any brother seeking a career in law enforcement. Email: nijknowles@cox.net

Jerry Boettcher '63 remembers trips with the Epsilon's singing group from 1958-61. **Bob Sanders '60** was the leader, who later had a long career with Disney and the Grand Ole Opry. Jerry lives in Manhattan, Kan. Email: j.boettcher@cox.net

Bud Welch Jr. '65 is the retired CEO of Welco Inc., enjoying life on Council Grove Lake. He is a proud father of four happy, successful grown men. Email: merrill.virgil@gmail.com

KANSAS BETA'S FALL ALUMNI WEEKEND

Save the Date!



THE LION'S LORE

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

Kansas State University
P.O. Box 442100
Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Afternoon Alumni Golf Tournament
Manhattan Country Club

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2022

Alumni Tailgate in Cat Town KSU vs.
Texas Tech football game

You won't want to miss this opportunity
to reconnect with brothers and meet the
undergraduate chapter members.

More details to follow. For questions,
please contact **Chase Stalder '19** at
chase.stalder@gmail.com or (785) 280-
3273, or **Terry Garvert '77** at tjgarvert@
gmail.com or (612) 210-5396.

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Thank You, Brothers, for Your Generous Support

Thank you to the following brothers who contributed
approximately \$50,000 to our calendar 2021
fundraising appeals. These contributions helped
finance upgrades to the two south-end restrooms and the
replacement of the glass block windows that were completed

in summer 2021. Thank you for showing your appreciation and
understanding of the undergraduate experience. Investing in
our chapter directly impacts our members and sets them up
for success.

Purple and Gold Society (\$2,500 and above)

Jarold W. Boettcher '63
William K. Shaw '75
Stephen M. Lacy '76

Brotherhood Society (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Jim R. Grier III '60
Roger W. Coulter '62
Gen. Richard B. Myers '65
Al C. Enlow '69
John W. Morgan '75
Terrance J. Garvert '77
Michael A. Hattan '78
Patrick J. Kellerman '89
Mark Lacy '89

Archon Society (\$500 to \$999)

Edward L. Giffin, M.D. '55
Joe A. Wilcox '58
Edward A. McConwell '63
Evan R. Stewart '65
Jerry D. Prather '66
Lawrence P. Becker '67
Carl F. Schwab III '69
Dr. James B. Etling '77
Steven R. Brewer '78
Don Herold '78
Thomas B. Banta '79
Jeffery W. Jones '79
Randy J. Gassman '83
Gary W. Judd '85
Patrick J. Ralston '96

Violet Society (Up to \$499)

Ernie D. Barrett '51
Richard L. Mettle '51
John P. Jung '57
Donald M. Taylor '57
Norman S. Bressler '58
Mike L. Stout '58
Robert G. Reid '60
David F. Chelesnik '61
Michael C. Rose '62
James R. Breneman '64
Spencer A. Puls '64
Robert E. Judd '67
Robert W. Stull '68
Roger S. John '70
Victor L. Doperalski '71
Darryl W. Graves '71

T. Mark Anwander '72
Gregory L. Hattan, D.D.S. '74
Thomas B. Bowles '77
Kenneth Alan Christie '79
Joseph C. Glotzbach '79
Thomas E. Miller '79
Paul J. Lacy '81
William C. Lippold '81
Brian E. Calovich '82
Eric A. Hartenstein '82
D. Mark Robertson '82
David M. Anderson '85
Jeffery C. Blue '85
Jay E. Holthaus '94
Kirk A. Franz '95
Philip B. Connealy '08
Jonathan K. Staats '09
Kenneth H. Underwood '15