



Lambda Chi Alpha - Epsilon Zeta Chapter - 515 Harvard St. Grand Forks, ND 58203 - [www.ndlxa.org](http://www.ndlxa.org)

## Alumni Association Update

By Alumni Association rep. – Andrew Lendway

Starting in August with the back-to-school work weekend and then culminating in a historic Homecoming Banquet, the Alumni Association has had a very busy and successful late summer and autumn. The work weekend didn't undertake any large scale projects this time but did accomplish a number of smaller projects and various other needed tasks to get the house ready for fall semester. The most noticeable project was the new Phi Room in the basement. Thanks to all alumni who participated that weekend.

The Alumni Association spent considerable time planning the Homecoming Banquet we had in October. This was the group's main focus over the last six months. A number of alumni participated in a variety of ways to ensure the banquet was a success. The full recap of the homecoming weekend will be addressed later in this Reader.

The Alumni Association holds monthly telecons separate from the House Corp. We gained a few alums during the planning of the banquet but the need for additional involvement is still present. Hopefully those who attended the banquet saw how successful the Alumni Association can be. With additional participation, the Association can plan and execute even more alumni events throughout the year. I strongly encourage you to join one of the monthly telecons if you are looking to become more active. Don't let geographical distance stand in the way—the normal participants of the telecons are spread throughout the Midwest and nation.

The other recent update from the Alumni Association is we now have a formal Alumni Advisory Board. This board consists of Randy Ritterman, Jeff Blakely and myself. As quoted from the headquarters guide: "The

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mission of the Alumni Advisory Board is to advise and to help to improve the operations of the chapter or colony through the promotion of the ideals and principles of Lambda Chi Alpha, while at the same time, develop and strengthen the fraternal experience for all involved". We will provide ongoing updates in future EZ readers and also on the All Members Facebook page.

The association's next event is still in the planning stages and will be discussed later on in the reader. But for now, we plan to take this spring off from having a hockey weekend in Grand Forks.

Lastly, from a fundraising perspective, around \$16,500 was raised during the homecoming weekend. And had an additional ~\$16,000 has come in as Homecoming follow-up donations. This brings our total to just over \$146,100 since the fundraising campaign kicked off a few years ago. We are now over halfway towards our goal of \$250,000. Thanks to all those who have donated for your continued support of our chapter.

## Homecoming Recap

By Alumni Association rep. – Jeff Blakely

As the nearly 300 brothers and guests ranging from Zeta 263 to 1163 filed into Traditions Hall at The Ralph Engelstad Arena, one couldn't help but notice the laughter and sense the comradery inherent to such a reunion. Many brothers hadn't seen one another in decades, while others still met for their customary weekly coffee. Either way, there was a palpable enthusiasm in the room with so much to celebrate at the Lambda Chi Alpha Homecoming Banquet: active chapter successes in academics and philanthropy, the induction of eight new Epsilon Zeta Hall-of-Famers, an Order of Achievement presentation, and an opportunity to share fond recollections of the past half century of brotherhood.

The event was the brainchild of Duane Littlejohn, who saw an opportunity to celebrate several prominent alumni while recognizing that our current chapter house has been a home for nearly 750 brothers over the past 50 years. Attendees heard narratives describing life as a Lambda in the 1950's, a musical toast to the fraternity, and heartfelt words of gratitude acknowledging our gracious donors and outstanding brothers. Alumni, active members and guests watched closely as a photographic slideshow took us through the decades of our collegiate experiences. Some observed with bated breath, uncertain of which 'memory' would be shown; while others were emotional in response to images of such an important era of their lives.

All in all, the event was a great success. Though the program may have been extended, it was well worth the time spent with brothers and family. The consistently generous nature of our alumni was evident as the event raised nearly \$17,000 to improve the chapter house and provide scholarships for deserving brothers at UND. And finally, everyone enjoyed their time



*Group and program photos from the Homecoming 2015 Banquet*

reminiscing and creating new memories with Lambda Chi's old and new.

To those who attended and made this such an incredible event – thank you. To Kevin Till, Randy Ritterman, Andrew Lendway, and others who made this event possible through months of planning and donations – words cannot express our gratitude. To those who could not attend – thank you for your continued donations and support and be sure not to miss our upcoming events. At this point we are considering a similar scale event looking out towards the chapter's 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018.

## Fundraising Status

Epsilon-Zeta is still in need of financial assistance from our generous alumni to keep things moving in the right direction for our chapter. We are currently raising funds for: on-going maintenance and bringing chapter house up to date after many years of use, paying down outstanding debts (late '90's flood repairs – furnaces, recent bathroom remodeling), scholarships and increasing the House Corp reserve fund. We have set a goal of raising \$250k to move our chapter to new heights in the coming years and ensure our long-term success. 2013–2015 YTD fundraising is at ~\$146.1k as of this writing. We are making great progress!!



*Fundraising status graphic*

Let's keep it up. Find out how to donate here: [www.ndlxa.org/documents/donate.html](http://www.ndlxa.org/documents/donate.html).

Thank you so much to our gracious alumni who have donated thus far!!! We can't thank you enough. Here are the donation recognition levels 2013–2015 YTD:

<u>Black (\$100–\$299)</u>				<u>Green (\$1,000–\$2,999)</u>	<u>Gold (\$3,000–\$9,999)</u>
Tom Anderson	Mark Monette	Gregory W. Tschider	John Kosanda	Loren Anderson	Eugene Fuchs
Bruce Bartl	Adam Oldenburg	Norman Vietz	Arnold Kuhn	Roger Birdbear	Dave Hillesland
Steve Berg	Orlando Overland	Richard Vinger	Andrew Lendway	Scott Ciochetto	Jack Marcil
Jan Bjork	Erin Pechacek	Steve Wangen	Jeff Nelson	Daryl Evenson	William Marcil
Jason Block	Jon Penne	Earl Webber	Lauren Nelson	Bob Graveline	Garrett Mills
Dean Brown	Brian Peters	Owen Webster	Sean Ogrady	Jody Gunlock	Gary Nelson
Dustin DuFault	Curtis Pulkrabek		Wayne Papke	Andrew Hager	Brian Pedersen
Robert Dunbar	Michael Purington	<u>Purple (\$300–\$999)</u>	Ray Parks	Bruce Heen	Randy Ritterman
John Einan	Landon Ramsey	Dave Arneson	Roger Pletan	Terry Hodny	Rodney Wilson
John Gezelius	Monte Routledge	Charles Benson	Denis Politano	Robert P Johnson	David Wright
Brent Gillund	Alex Schanilec	Dean Berger	Dan Ruebke	Rick Boyd Lafleur	
Colin Guidinger	Tony Schanilec	Bradley Charnholm	Glenn Schumacher	Mike Lodoen	<u>White (\$10,000+)</u>
Seth Hagan	Ron Schiebe	Robert Charnholm	Keith Sethen	Kevin Mell	Duane Littlejohn
Jason Henderson	Loren Schields	Rodney Charnholm	Ron Sitzer	Allen Olson	Brent Skjerseth
Raymond Herman	Don Schultz	Mark Dockter	RD Slotsve	Tom Olson	Gerald Vandewalle
Darold Johnson	Mike Schultz	Donald Gornowich	Thomas Snellings	TJ Serr	
MD Johnson	Chad Sears	Dustin Haug	Tim Stallman	Terrance Severson	
David Koland	Dave Shimek	Jake Hodny	Pat Thibert	Sheldon Stackelhouse	
Dennis Kost	David Solbert	Marvin Hodny	A.R. Timm	Kevin Till	
Jason Lancotot	Jack Spah	Brian Horvath	Jeffrey Ulness	Tom Wade	
David Larson	Roger Stebleton	Kenneth Johnson	Sam Vaagan	Don Will	
Joseph J Mastascusa	Dave Stromberg	Nathan Kenner	Carl L Wysocki	Jason Ziemer	
Gary McFarlen	Jeff Swenson	Jeff Kjoson			
	David Syvertson	Derek Kobetsky			

## Upcoming Alumni Events

- Minneapolis NCHC Tournament Alumni Gathering – March 17
- Parents and Founders Formal – April TBD
- Spring Ritual – date TBA usually late April
- More info here: [www.ndlxa.org/documents/upcomingeventsalumni.html](http://www.ndlxa.org/documents/upcomingeventsalumni.html)



## Jerry VandeWalle, Order of Achievement

At the Homecoming banquet on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Chief Justice of the North Dakota Supreme Court, Gerald VandeWalle, EZ 263, was awarded the Order of Achievement award from Lambda Chi Alpha for his years of successful, distinguished and influential service to the State of North Dakota. Jerry is the second from our chapter to receive the Order of Achievement Award.

In Jerry's own words: "*Lambda Chi Alpha was my home away from home for seven years. It was there that I transitioned from a callow teenager to at least a somewhat more mature adult. Like my family had done at home, the fraternity continued to teach and model attributes of honesty, integrity and self-respect. I learned that with self-respect came respect for others, tolerance when it was appropriate but also reproach when it was necessary. "Every man a man" is more than a*

*motto; it is a rule to live by. These lessons continue to guide me and serve me well in my career as a jurist. All this in addition to the good times and lifelong friends because I was a member of Epsilon Zeta Chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha."*

Congratulations Jerry! Well deserved – you make Epsilon Zeta very proud.



## Academic Chapter Update

By High Alpha – Joe Price



This fall semester started out in a very difficult way. Despite having to face such large adversity, the men of the chapter were able to rally together and accomplish some great things. Eleven freshmen were recruited, retained and initiated. The chapter is looking forward to the great things the new brothers will accomplish as members of Epsilon-Zeta.

The chapter has also been working to strengthen its focus on philanthropy – its excitement and willingness to volunteer this semester resulted in a big jump in the food drive collection total. Also, the brothers completed over 400 hours of community service. Additionally, I am very pleased to share that at the UND Greek Life annual awards this fall, the chapter took home the Excellence in Brotherhood and the Outstanding Chapter awards!!



With a current membership of over 50 men, a house that is continually being improved, and the recent outstanding alumni support, I am excited to see what the future has in store for the Epsilon-Zeta chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha.



## Graduating Seniors

At the end of the 2015 Fall semester, there are three members of our bond who are graduating and moving proudly from the academic chapter realm into alumni status. They are as follows: Ross Lien (EZ 1088, Bismarck, ND, Economics), Joe Price (EI 1436, Moscow, ID, Criminal Justice) and David DuSchane (EZ 1101, Prior Lake, MN, Accounting).

## Our Newest Brothers

This Fall the chapter recruited, retained and initiated 11 men into our bond. Following is a list of the newest brothers along with their hometown and major: Austyn Maracle (San Antonio, TX, Commercial Aviation / Aviation Management), Bo Gullickson (Morris, MN, Banking and Finance), Harrison Krank (Fargo, ND, Premed), Jace Braathen (Grand Forks, ND, Pre-Physical Therapy), Jack LaMoine (Grand Forks, ND, Biology), Jayce Turner (Grand Forks, ND, Physical Therapy), Jeffrey Blom (White Bear Lake, MN, Accounting), Logan Johnson (Lakeville, MN, Athletic Training), Ryan Livingood (Fargo, ND, Marketing), Talon Schloesser (Fargo, ND, Mechanical Engineering) and Triston Common (Grand Forks, ND, Business economics).



*Some of our newest brothers along with their big brothers*

## Spring 2015 Academic All-Stars

Made possible by a contribution from alumni and High Pi, Randy Ritterman, the academic all-stars paddle tradition continues. Last spring, the chapter had more than 20 actives with a GPA above a 3.0. On top of that, 11 actives received GPAs above 3.5. Here is a list of those actives: Ryan Adler, Paul Carlson, Ryan Danielson, Erik Hanson, Ryan Keller, Kass Longie, Joe Price, Jordan Schaeffbauer, Hunter Stonehouse, Jordan Vinger and Jack Ziebert.

With the addition of 11 new members, who had high GPAs their senior year of high school, I have no doubt that they will contribute to our house GPA and help us improve academically for the years to come



*Spring 2015 Academic All-Stars*

## House Corporation Update

By House Corporation President – Kevin Till

Those that made it back over Homecoming can attest to the chapter house's improving condition. Since the last EZ Reader went out in May, we have accomplished a lot of work on the property – much of this work was required by the fire marshal and city inspector. Recent accomplishments include: installing a fire rated laundry room door, installing a fire rated flammable materials cabinet, various electrical and fire extinguisher repairs and maintenance, re-gray grit painting of stairway landing floors, various locksmith door repairs and rekeying maintenance, installation of new alumni portraits and various name plates in libraries and on dorm doors, repair of dining room window, dorm entry door window glass replacement, foyer entrance stair treads install, various dorm room maintenance, heating system maintenance, new Phi room funding for chapter, chimney and dump door maintenance and repairs, tree removal and landscaping.

Also, there was a significant unanticipated plumbing problem with the dorm bathrooms drainage whereby the main plumbing junction was blocked and had to be cleaned out via access holes that were punched into the walls and ceiling (which also then had to be repaired).

We would not have been able to accomplish much of this work without the summer donation push spearheaded by Ron Sitzler and Dave Hillesland and all

of the brothers that answered that call. Thank you for continuing to support the House Corporation and the chapter house, gentlemen!

House Corp has increased its reserve fund account balance more than 40% this year as well as continued to expeditiously retire the outstanding loan debt (remaining flood loan plus the recent additional loan for bathroom remodel in 2013). In August 2013, when the additional loan had to be taken to make the house livable for the fall semester, our debt bloomed to nearly \$140k. I am happy to now report that we have been able to decrease that, in less than 2 ½ years, down to ~\$93k. We are well on our way to retiring this loan significantly ahead of schedule and thereby saving tens of thousands of dollars in interest.

This fiscal progress would have been difficult if not impossible without the outstanding financial support our alumni have been providing.

Our work is cut out for us in 2016 with having to remove all the make-shift lofts in the dorm rooms along with our regular maintenance and repair activities. But House Corp is building steam and improving efficiencies as it evolves. With the continued support and commitment of dedicated alumni and undergrad, our property at 515 Harvard will continue to improve and secure our chapter's housing arrangement for decades to come.

## Minneapolis NCHC Tournament Alumni Gathering

The Alumni Association is planning a Thursday, March 17 Minneapolis based gathering for members, alumni and their guests during the NCHC Tournament and are presently gauging interest. We are considering either Surly Brewery, a downtown restaurant, or a hotel ballroom near the Target Center. If interested please contact Scott Ciochetto at [Scott@CnA-CS.com](mailto:Scott@CnA-CS.com). There would likely be a small venue fee of \$10-\$20/person. Once we have an idea of how many people are interested in attending, the actual venue will be identified and the cost will be communicated to those who have shown interest.



*Last year's Minneapolis NCHC Tournament Alumni Gathering*

## High Pi Update

By High Pi – Randy Ritterman



The 2015 fall semester was certainly interesting. Although it started with some significant challenges, the brothers pulled together and finished the semester on firm ground – culminating in the chapter's receiving the Excellence in Brotherhood and the Outstanding Chapter awards from UND Greek Life. Joe Price, the outgoing High Alpha, led strong through the challenges with a level head and maturity beyond his years.

One of the semester's highlights for me was to be the Master of Ceremonies for the Homecoming banquet. It was great to

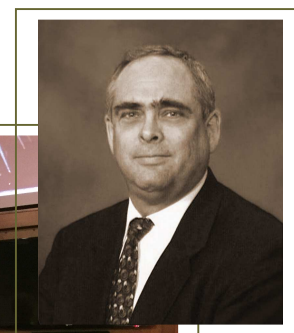
see all the alumni present as well as the active brothers. On November 20<sup>th</sup> I was fortunate to be present as the chapter initiated eleven fine young men that I am honored to call brothers. Through these young men our tomorrow is shaped and our chapter will continue to grow and evolve.

Although my initial term as High Pi is up this month, the active chapter has re-elected me for another two-year term. I will be visiting the chapter during the Martin Luther King weekend in January for the new officer retreat and installation of new officers. Each new set of officers brings a fresh perspective and renewed enthusiasm. I look forward to working with the newly elected officers and Executive Committee as they set the goals for 2016 spring and fall semesters.

## Epsilon Zeta Alumni Hall-of-Famers

At the Homecoming banquet, eight outstanding alumni members were inducted into the chapter's Hall-of-Fame. Each now has their picture hung in the library at the chapter house so that all of our brothers, both today and for years to come, can look up at these exemplary alumni members and be inspired to do great things for our Fraternity and for the world around them. The inductees are:

Gerald VandeWalle, EZ 263: Order of Achievement, Chief Justice – ND State Supreme Court, William Marcil EZZ 310: Outstanding Alumni Success, President – Forum Communications, Duane Littlejohn EZZ 345: Outstanding Alumni Contributor, Al Olson EZZ 349: Order of Achievement, Governor of North Dakota, Bob Graveline EZZ 445: Outstanding Alumni Contributor, House Corp. President, Dave Hillesland EZZ 692: Order of Merit, House Corp. President, Ron Sitzer EZZ 694: Order of Merit, High Pi, and the late John Gezelius MZ 1082: Order of Merit, High Pi. Congrats gentlemen!



Introducing your new Epsilon Zeta Alumni Hall-of-Famers



# High Rho Closing Comments

By High Rho - Chase Geller



In terms of the alumni involvement at 515 Harvard St, you could say this fall was one for the books. Brothers started off the semester with work week to get the chapter house into pristine condition. As active members were getting settled into their living space at the house, the alumni came to help us as we prepared for a very eventful 2015 fall semester. Activities for work week included: mulching around the house, fixing broken ceiling tiles, organization of the office and library, and many other house projects that needed to be done. Thank you to those who came and helped us move in, clean and organize,

and more importantly thanks for all the great stories and the laughs that followed. Another big event that was a huge success was the homecoming banquet that took place at the Ralph Englestead arena. It was a time for alumni to be recognized for their hard work throughout their college lives and after as an alumni. The banquet was amazing, filled with so many different Lambda Chis and full of smiles. On behalf of the active chapter, we would like to thank everyone who either attended or showed support in some way, shape, or form. It was greatly appreciated and we were shocked at the final turnout. We all enjoyed hearing the different stories that the alumni told us, as well as their company and words of advice as we finish our time here at UND. We hope to have more gatherings like this so our chapter and alumni can come together as brothers. Have a great rest of the year, and can't wait for future endeavors.

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*We're on the Web!*

*Visit us at:*

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