

The Fraternity and Sorority Connection

Fall 2024

Advisor's Corner

The Fall semester has been an eventful one. Nearly 100 new members have joined our community! Our Panhellenic Community completed its second year of Partially Structured Recruitment and has elected to continue that format. The community is working towards achieving some of the objectives in the newly launched Strategic Plan, with an emphasis on themes 2, 4, and 6 this year. You can find the Strategic Plan at www.maverickfsl.com.

We have hit the exciting time of year when we see new council and chapter officers elected, so be on the lookout for information from new people heading your organizations. We look forward to working with new leadership and seeing them grow!

I'd like to thank the Phi Delta Theta alumni for hosting this year's first All-Greek tailgate for Homecoming. We hope to see this event grow larger in the future. If you're interested in helping plan the event, please reach out!

Congrats to the men of Lambda Chi Alpha who have just recently celebrated the 60th Anniversary of the Chapter's Initial Founding Date.

In this issue, I'm pleased to start a new column, featuring alumni volunteers. In each newsletter, we'll highlight one or two alumni who give of their time, talent, or treasure, back to our community and its undergraduate members. Enjoy reading about Judi in this edition. If you'd like to find out how you can get involved or give back, please reach out to me. I'd love to connect with you.

If you're looking to make any year-end gifts, there are a couple of great ways to support our community. One is by giving to the Marie Bruce Scholarship Endowment. You can do so by visiting www.mnsu.edu/giving, or if you reach out to me, I can help you get your gift where it needs to go!



Members of Lambda Chi Alpha gather for their 60th anniversary celebration on November 9.

Another opportunity is to support our FSL Community-Led Mavathon. Mavathon benefits Children's Miracle Network and our local CMN Hospital, Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare. Visit www.msudancemarathon.com to give, or reach out if you'd like to sponsor the event in other ways. We're always looking for sponsorships, in-kind gifts, and more.

Thanks for all you continue to do!

-John Bulcock



Assistant Director of Student Activities

Alumni Volunteer Spotlight

How have you given, of your time, talent, and/or treasure, back to your chapter or the community?

Gamma Phi Beta holds a special place in my heart! About 3 years ago, I decided to get involved again with my sorority chapter, Gamma Pi Chapter at Minnesota State Mankato. I attended an alumni brunch and meeting in the student union and have continued to volunteer ever since. I give my time and life experiences to these women. They know they can contact me at any time to discuss questions and concerns they may have and need some answers to. Developing strong leaders and self-confidence is an important aspect of all sororities.

Why do you give back?

I give back because I see the transformation from new girls on campus to talented leaders in and out of the classroom. It is a pleasure to work with these young women who are our future and see their confidence grow in whatever comes their way.



Alumni Volunteer Spotlight: Judi La Fountaine Greenwood, Gamma Phi Beta, Class of 1979.

What advice would you give to other alums looking to re-engage with their organizations or our community?

It is so very easy to get involved! All you need to do is show up! I have participated in various ways such as setting up for recruitment parties, setting up for initiation and chapter meeting, meeting and greeting the public when we do our community events like Girls on the Run, telephone calls to talk to sisters and alums, and checking on sisters to see if they need any help with projects. It is a pleasure to work with the women who are our future and see their confidence and commitment in what comes their way.

I have a degree in Education and Health. I am still using my degree today by substitute teaching in elementary schools as needed. It's fun to be with both elementary students and college students and see the connection by both being curious and excited at the same time.

My college sisters and I see one another quite often – even to this day! We laugh and enjoy each other and reminisce about the past and what keeps us all together!

In May of 2025, I will have been initiated 50 years, and I am so very happy to still be involved in Gamma Phi Beta!

Council Presidents' Remarks

Interfraternity Council

Kaden Schafer, 2024 Interfraternity Council President

During 2024, our council has accomplished a lot. In Spring 2024, the Vice Presidents of Risk Management partnered with the Society for Alcohol and Drug Education to partner on a program focusing on the dangers of opioid overdose and how to use NARCAN. This is going to be an event we hope to co-host and open to all MSU Students each semester.

In Fall 2024 we reached out to the Residence Hall Association to work with them and discuss how we can better partner and how we can expand our connection to students in the Residence Halls. As a result of this, we partnered with them, for the first time, on the annual RHA Volleyball Tournament. Members of our community helped staff and run the tournament during Welcome Week.

This semester, we had 15 men go through formal recruitment. We also hosted the annual U-Lead Conference, planned by the VP of Member Education and Development. The U-Lead keynote speaker came from Phired Up Productions and focused their sessions on recruiting for organizations. During Family weekend VP of Community Service and Philanthropy hosted the second annual Pancake Breakfast. We raised around \$1400 which help pays for community leaders to travel to the AFLV leadership conference.

Panhellenic Council

Alyssa McCullough, 2024 PHC President

One of our significant milestones was our recent change to Partially Structured Recruitment, we have seen impressive numbers with getting 53 new members this fall. This success not only reflects our strong outreach efforts but also the dedication of our team and our Pi Rho Chis (Panhellenic Recruitment Counselors).

Additionally, our public relations initiatives have made a remarkable impact. We've been actively engaging with the community and showcasing the incredible work being done at PHC. We also had about 5 members from the FSL Community featured in the CSU Promotional Video wearing their letters! These efforts have enhanced our visibility on campus and will strengthen our connections with those outside the community.

One other project we just finished up was having each chapter visit a Student Government meeting and present about their chapter. We did this so Student Government has a better understanding of what we do behind the scenes.

Chapter Updates

Alpha Chi Omega

This past semester, Alpha Chi Omega has been focusing heavily on community service and sisterhood. We kicked off our semester with partially structured recruitment and successfully recruited 16 women by the end of October. On October 15th, we celebrated our Founders Day with a picnic, photo shoot, and charcuterie board sisterhood. We have been dedicating time every other week to helping clean up the CADA shelter by cleaning up their yard and other spaces this past semester. We cleaned up our highway this semester and have been tabling weekly collecting menstrual products for the Kato Period organization. We also have been building Greek connections through socials with other chapters and volunteering for our campus. This November we are electing our new slate of positions, and are excited to initiate our 16 new members this upcoming November. We are looking forward to finishing the end of our semester with our semi formal celebration and sending off our senior as she graduates. We hope everyone has a great rest of their November and a safe December!



Members gather for a Founders Day picnic.

Alpha Sigma Alpha

This semester has been a busy one for Alpha Sigma Alpha! We had an amazing time during Partially Structured Recruitment, successfully recruiting 8 wonderful new members! They have all found their bigs and have been initiated into our sisterhood! We've also been having lots of recruitment events this semester, and bid 2 more new members! We partnered with Sigma Nu for Homecoming and came out in 2nd place for Lipsync! Along with sisterhood events, socials with other chapters, study sessions, and service events, it has been an amazing semester! We had our annual DOT (Donating Our Time) days and did a lot of community service, even ending the week with volunteering at Feed my Starving Children!

We are coming to the end of the semester where we will say goodbye to our graduating seniors before they go alum from the chapter. Overall, this semester has been a busy one but also just as fun!



ASA's celebrate Halloween.

Gamma Phi Beta

We have been having such a great fall semester! We started off by welcoming 8 new members through formal recruitment and 3 through informal. We have loved getting to know them and teaching them about our sisterhood. At the end of September, we had our annual overnight sisterhood retreat in Okoboji, Iowa where we were able to strengthen the bonds in our chapter and grow closer with one another. In October, we started off the month competing in Homecoming events with Phi Delta Theta which was lots of fun. We then initiated our 11 new members into our chapter and the day after they got to find out who their moms are! Next, we got to tailgate with our sisters and their families during family weekend. To wrap up October, our chapter volunteered at the CSU Haunted Takeover and we had such a blast. We're currently in the middle of our elections process and are looking forward to watching our sisters grow in their new leadership roles if are elected into a position!



Gamma Phi Beta gathers for its Fall retreat.

Lambda Chi Alpha

Recently, our chapter had our 60th anniversary celebration where alumni from across the nation made appearances, spoke, and reconnected with the brotherhood. We also initiated 6 new brothers; Logan, Aidan, Peyton, Coen, Jerrell, and Cole. Just prior to initiation we voted on our incoming officers who will be transitioned into their new roles over the next month.

For any alumni who would like to reconnect with the chapter please contact our incoming High Rho Logan Mans - (540) 684-7087



Members of Lambda Chi Alpha gather after their Fall Initiation.

Phi Delta Theta

Phi Delta Theta has had a fun but busy semester so far. We started off the semester by sending 7 members to the Kleberg leadership conference and then regrouped as a chapter for our local fraternity retreat. During the semester we did our annual Car Smash and raised \$551 that will go to the LiveLikeLou Foundation to support families and help research ALS. We had a very fun Homecoming in early October, where we participated in lip sync with Gamma Phi Beta and then had a fun alumni tailgate before the football game. We also had our annual family day and had a great turnout, our families got to tour the Fraternity house and meet our fellow brothers. Finally, to top it all off we had a fun recruitment season and are proud to be initiating 3 new members into this great fraternity next week.



Phi Delts gather with their Fall 2024 New Members.

Phi Kappa Psi

Phi Psi had a busy fall semester, welcoming 11 new members through multiple recruitment events, whom we look forward to initiating soon. Highlights included a cookie-baking philanthropy, professional development brotherhoods, a homecoming alumni event, and a successful backyard concert fundraiser during Family Weekend. We were also proud to award the \$500 Jason Leiran Foundation Scholarship to Brother Sam Vestal. Each event helped strengthen our growing brotherhood, and we're excited to carry this momentum into the next semester.



Phi Kappa Psi recognizes Sam Vestal with the first Jason Leiran Memorial Scholarship.

Sigma Chi

Sigma Chi has had a busy semester so far! We began the semester by helping new students move into the dorms, sat at help tents to help students find where their classes are, and helped volunteer at the galactic bingo. The first month of school was mostly focused on recruitment. We held events such as bowling, grilling, pool days, and volleyball. We went to Homecoming and performed in the lip sync dance with Alpha Chi Omega. Since then, we have focused on our pledge education program, and will be initiating four new members into our fraternity this coming weekend! We have also cleaned our portion of Highway 169, and will be participating in rake the town next week.



Sigma Chi gathers with new members.

Sigma Nu

This fall, Sigma Nu has been very busy with recruitment, homecoming, and fundraising. We started strong by welcoming 11 new candidates, and we're excited to see them grow within our chapter and the community. During Homecoming week, we partnered with ASA to compete in the lip sync battle, where we proudly secured 2nd place! Our fundraising events have also been a great success, both on and off campus. We hosted a Dunk-a-SNU fundraiser that effectively promoted Greek life on campus, and we recently completed our annual Haunted House event at our chapter house. This year, we had the pleasure of partnering with TKE, and together we raised \$1,276 for our charities! This semester has already been jam-packed full of activities and we are excited to see what the rest of the semester brings!



Sigma Nu celebrates Bid Day.

Sigma Sigma Sigma

Tri-Sigma has had a very busy semester! Started off the year with recruitment which was a huge success and we have just initiated 17 wonderful new members! We have had a bonfire with SNU in September, hiking/painting with ASA, and a high way clean up with Lambda Chi Alpha. In October we had our Homecoming and we had a great time competing in lip sync and going to the All Greek Tailgate and hanging out with other FSL community members before the game! We ended the month with a great turnout at the Pancake Breakfast and are so grateful for all the volunteers. We have another Big/Little Reveal coming up, pumpkin patch sisterhood, and our senior send on soon and wrapping it up with our semi-formal. The semester has gone by fast and we can't wait for all the new memories we will make.



Members of Tri-Sigma volunteer and promote the chapter at Mav Fest in early September.



TKE gathers with families over Family Weekend.

Tau Kappa Epsilon

We have been keeping busy for this past semester. We've had some socials and a lot of Greek events. We had a great time at homecoming with some alumni that decided to swing by for the first annual all Greek tailgate. We just got done with our TKE and SNU haunted house where we raised \$1300 for St. Jude's and Habitat for Humanity. We are currently working on getting our 5 new members initiated. And later this month we will be having our annual Tkesgiving and working security for Kiwanis Holiday Light show until Christmas.