

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

The University of South Dakota, South Dakota Sigma
Sigma Report Spring 2010 By: Aaron Oestmann

From the President

Greetings and Phi Alpha Brothers!

The spring semester is in full swing for us here in Vermillion. We have been keeping busy this semester. We activated our fall pledges this past weekend, and got right back at it using the Superbowl as a recruitment event to have some guys over and enjoy the game with us. With greek numbers seeing some tough times on USD's campus as a whole, we have been working hard and currently maintain the second biggest of the nine fraternity houses on campus. Our members continue to show this strength in numbers by helping out in the community. Several of our members competed in the Strollers show which took place a few weekends

ago, and several of us are working hard for this year's Dance Marathon coming up in the end of March. SAE members hold six of the fourteen spots on the executive committee, as well as a handful of morale captains. Dance Marathon is in its 13th year on USD's campus, and continues to be the largest student run fundraiser, with a goal of \$35,000 which will go towards Children's Miracle Network, SAE's nationally philanthropy. It will only be two short weeks after that event that we will be hosting Province Tau Convention here in Vermillion, on Saturday, April 10th. If you can be in town that day and could stop by we would be more than happy to have you, or

any other time you may be able to make it to Vermillion. I would also like to extend an invite to anyone interested in attending or perhaps coming to talk at a chapter meeting. Meetings take place at 6pm on Mondays, and are preceded by dinner at 5pm for which you are also welcome. Please contact me with any questions or comments you may have, or just to say hello. I can be reached via e-mail at Kevin.Haiar@usd.edu and by phone at (605) 261-8320. I look forward to hearing from you.

In the bonds,
Kevin Haiar

Founder's Day!

Now is the time to RSVP for Founder's Day. Founder's Day is on March 20th 2010. We look forward to seeing you all there and sharing in brotherhood.

Philanthropy/ Community Service

This semester has started as yet another successful time for the brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon when it comes to philanthropy and community service. We have thus far participated in numerous events around campus and in the community. These events ranged from Relay for Life to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service an all day campus wide day of service. Upcoming this semester is our continued tradition of working at the Vermillion Welcome Tables. In addition, the brothers of South Dakota Sigma will once again make a strong showing at Dance Marathon.

Dance Marathon is perhaps the biggest philanthropy event for

South Dakota Sigma. Dance Marathon is a fundraiser for Children's Miracle Network, which is sponsored nationally by Sigma Alpha Epsilon. Because of this connection and the continued drive of our members to help improve the lives of others, we have continually raised more money than any other fraternity on campus and we plan on continuing this tradition. Furthermore, this year's executive team is made up of six brothers out of fourteen. This group is instrumental in the development of the annual marathon that will take place on March 27th and 28th. We are very proud of these brothers.

The brothers of Sigma Alpha Epsilon have showed once again how

much they give back to the university and to the community. This tradition will be sure to live on.

As a chapter we are involved in the community with events that help others and promote good will. We give our time to volunteer efforts for highway clean-ups, days of service, walks and runs for a specific causes. We find it important to increase our involvement in the community whenever possible.

In the Bonds,
Joseph Cooch
Philanthropy Chair Spring Semester

1911 Club Update

In January of 2003, South Dakota Sigma established an additional component to the 1911 Fund known as the "Century Club." Once an alumnus has donated over \$100 to the fund from 2003 and on, he is known as a Century Club member. We honor these individuals by placing a plaque, including the name and year graduated of the brother, on the bricks in Ma Raymond's Hallway. The plaque fills the size of one brick and consists of gold lettering on the black background.

Once an alumnus donates \$500, the plaque will be changed to a red plaque, and you will be given the previous plaque. Once you donate \$1,000 your plaque will be changed to a gold plaque. Then at the \$5,000 donation mark your plaque will be replaced with a large 8x10 plaque which will be placed above the fireplace in the formal living room. All of these amounts are cumulative from January of 2003, when we began tracking of how much each alumnus has donated towards the 1911 fund. Again, thank you for your generous donations in the past and we look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

South Dakota Sigma has high ambitions and expectations of ourselves, and we would love to have the support of our alumni to meet and exceed some of these goals. Most of our projects are house improvements that increase the quality of living for our members and also make it easier to recruit to an organization with great facilities. We would like to update parts of our chapter house, for instance our roof has a hole in it and leaks water into the house. Another example of improvements deal with electrical issues, outlets that do not work, and connections that for some reason have a short in them. Any donation to the 1911 Fund can be used as a tax write-off as South Dakota Sigma is a non-profit organization. We appreciate any gift that you are willing to give.

Our chapter has lived up to many expectations and in the fall at Province Tau Leadership School we brought home two awards. Outstanding Scholarship Programming Excellence and Outstanding Community Service/ Philanthropy Excellence, were the awards that South Dakota Sigma accomplished. We would like to accomplish more in the future. However, many times we do not have the proper funding for such activities.

Contact information of the 1911 fund can be gathered through Aaron Oestmann (Eminent Correspondent) and Justin Ebsen (Alumni Relations). Donations can be sent to 856 Madison St. Vermillion, SD 57069. Also, recently a paypal account has been set up for your convenience; it can be found by searching Sigma Alpha Epsilon South Dakota Sigma. We appreciate any donation and thank you for your continued support.

Centennial Celebration of South Dakota Sigma will be next year. Please start making plans to attend this once in a lifetime celebration.

Spring 2010 Officers

Eminent Archon (President).....	Kevin Haiar
Eminent Deputy Archon.....	Pat Davis
Eminent Treasurer.....	Travis Hahler
Eminent Recorder.....	Ben Cahoy
Eminent Warden.....	Michael VanDyke
Eminent Correspondent.....	Aaron Oestmann
Eminent Chronicler.....	Tyler Gilliland
Eminent Herald.....	Andrew Boyd
Alumni Relations.....	Justin Ebsen
Pledge Educator.....	James Payer II
Recruitment.....	Ross Crumly
Chaplin.....	Jackson Schwandt
Kitchen Steward.....	Nic Rhode
House Manager.....	Mike Weckman
Social Chairman.....	Andrew Weckman
Risk Manager.....	Alex Neukirch
Awards Chairman.....	Garrett Devries
Personnel Chairman.....	Joe Muth
Scholarship.....	Travis Biederman
Philanthropy/ Community Service.....	Joe Cooch
Technology.....	Travis Neukirch
Strollers Directors.....	Jason Miller/ Travis Biederman
Song Leader.....	Justin Palmer
Intramurals.....	Bobby Horton
IFC Representative.....	Marc Bury/ Jordan Shields
Gamma.....	Garth Sandberg

Campus Involvement

As a chapter, South Dakota Sigma is involved not only within our fraternity, but also actively involved on campus as well. Leadership is just one of the qualities that we instill within our members. Our members are involved in all aspects of the campus from the business school, to the school of education, to even giving tours of the campus. Our members have been the President of the Student Government Association, involvement in SIFE, Student Ambassadors,

Coyote Capital Management, Honors Society, Student Government Association, College Democrats and Republicans, and Habitat for Humanity.

It is important to the members of our fraternity to make a positive impression of us on the campus. With the increased perception of our fraternity we make it easier to be a part of the community. Also, we are involved in more community service projects and we have drastically increased our philan-

thropy hours and dedication.

We are proud of our decision to help the community and our University. Living in a small town and a relatively small campus we have to capture every moment that presents itself to us. It is important to Sigma Alpha Epsilon to be the leaders of our campus. Our leadership and dedication to the community is seen in all that we do. We work hard to promote the community and make Vermillion a great place to learn and live.



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