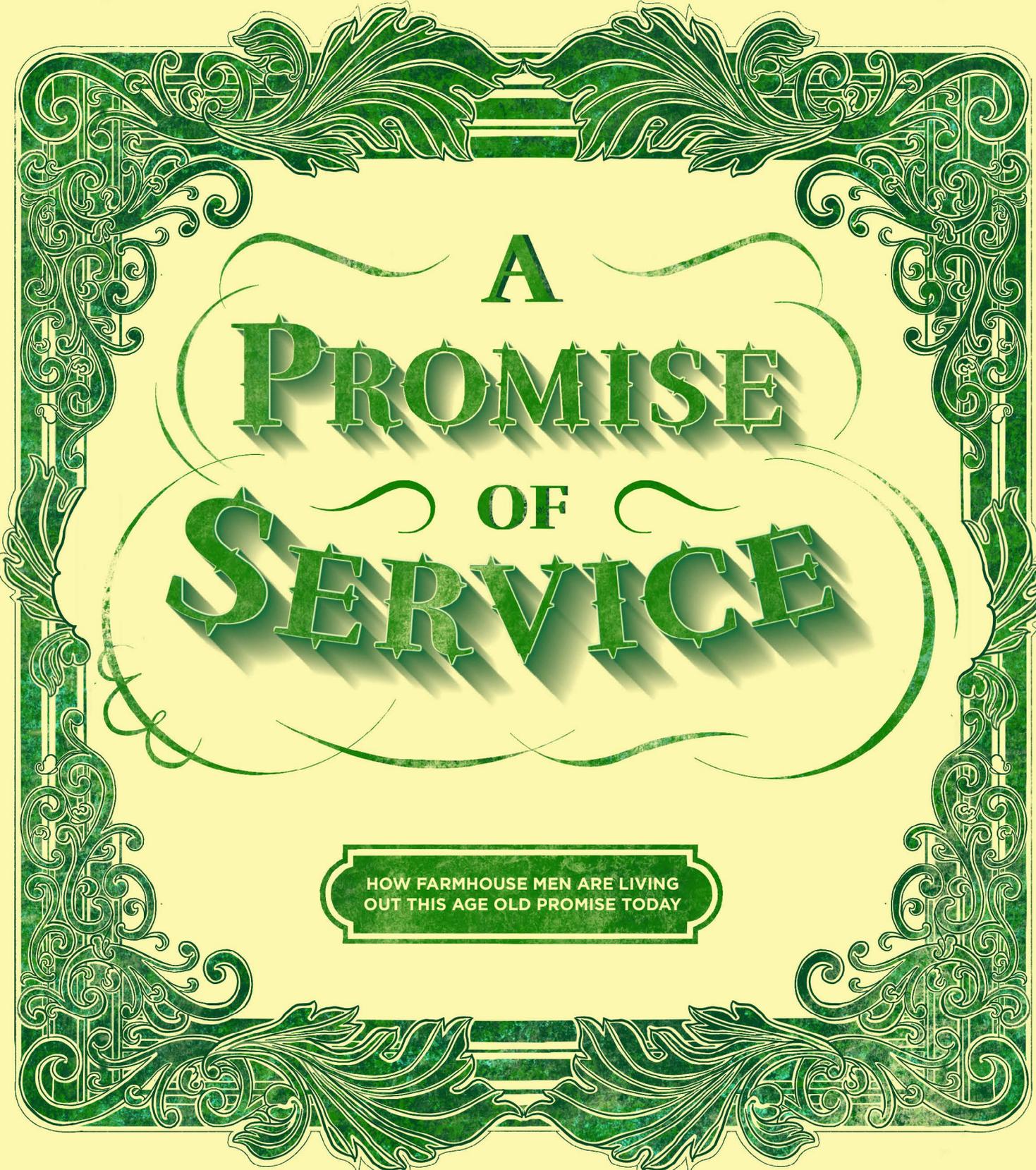


Pearls & Rubies

THE MAGAZINE OF FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY

YEAR 114 / FALL 2019



A
PROMISE
OF
SERVICE

HOW FARMHOUSE MEN ARE LIVING
OUT THIS AGE OLD PROMISE TODAY



Service to others.

This is and always has been a core value of FarmHouse Fraternity. Recently, I was reading the history of our Fraternity as recorded in 1922. Written less than 20 years after our founding, it crystalizes the importance of service:

“When Farm House was organized in 1905, our chapter brothers imbued the brotherhood with certain worthy principles. It was through the organization of these principles—well recognized as sound fraternal elements that led to the continued growth and development, which have brought the Fraternity through these years of its history to its present recognition. These principles are those of fellowship, scholarship and citizenship . . . Not only do we regard fellowship and scholarship as necessary, but more than that, every brother must be interested in his fellowmen and show qualities of real citizenship.”

These words serve to remind us of our long and proud tradition of service to others. As the Object of our Fraternity states FarmHouse men are called, “to give promise of service to their fellow men and to the world.” We have always understood how the fraternal experience can inspire men, individually and collectively, to give of their time, talent and treasure. “Service to others” is more than just words for FarmHouse men; to us, it is a commitment and a way of life.

Our founding fathers clearly understood this principle. Collectively, they created the framework of FarmHouse, which has grown to have had a positive impact in holistically building the lives of more than 30,000 members. They are role models, as throughout their lives they actively sought out opportunities to serve society:

- **D. Howard Doane** (Missouri 05) served on an agriculture task force appointed by U.S. President Herbert Hoover charged with reorganizing the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The impact of his service to our country through this initiative is still felt today.
- **Robert F. Howard** (Missouri 05) dedicated more than a decade of his life to teaching and shaping the careers and lives of students at the University of Nebraska and University of Wisconsin.
- **Claude B. Hutchison** (Missouri 05) shaped generations of students through teaching and leading international education experiences. He was also a devoted public servant as mayor of Berkeley, Calif., for eight years.
- **Henry H. Krusekopf** (Missouri 05) was a distinguished professor at the University of Missouri for nearly 50 years, teaching, inspirin, and mentoring students. His research in agronomy advanced the agriculture industry in the United States and beyond.
- **Earl W. Rusk** (Missouri 05) helped to improve the lives of individuals and families in his community as an extension agent.
- **Henry P. Rusk** (Missouri 05) invested more than 40 years in higher education and also served as a member of many local, state and national nonprofit boards of directors.
- **Melvin E. Sherwin** (Missouri 05) dedicated his entire career to higher education, building the next generation of leaders in agriculture.

Our founders not only built the value of service into the framework of FarmHouse, and into our fraternal experience, they also lived it through service in higher education, nonprofit leadership, government service and more. Their lives are a testament to the value of service.

This tradition of service to others continues today. Our chapters serve the communities in which they reside through philanthropic projects and fundraisers, often focusing on our two national philanthropies, Be the Match and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Their dedication to these charitable organizations is saving lives and strengthening our world. Our alumni serve their communities through a variety of channels including volunteering with and often leading charitable and service organizations, engaging in public service, committing to philanthropic giving and in numerous other ways.

The continued success of FarmHouse relies on the volunteer service of alumni who serve as chapter advisors, student mentors, association leaders and as donors to the FarmHouse Foundation. Within the next year, the International Fraternity plans to hire a staff member who will have a significant focus on alumni engagement, which will expand the number of volunteer opportunities and the ways alumni can provide service to FarmHouse.

This issue of *Pearls & Rubies* is a reminder as FarmHouse men we are all called to the service to others, and it is a celebration of the many ways in which our Fraternity continues to make a tremendously positive impact on the world.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gabriel P. Eckert'.

Gabriel P. Eckert (Kansas State 95), CAE
President, International Executive Board

PRESIDENT@FARMHOUSE.ORG

PEARLS & RUBIES

The Magazine of FarmHouse Fraternity

Spring 1999

Calendar

October 19, 2019

IEB meeting
Louisville, Ky.

November 7-10, 2019

Foundation Trustees
Meeting
Ames, Iowa

January 2-5, 2020

FarmHouse Leadership
Institute
Kansas City, Mo.

March 26-29, 2020

14th Annual Power
of 7 Seminar
Washington, D.C.

March 26-27, 2020

Foundation Trustees
Meeting
Washington, D.C.

March 27, 2020

IEB meeting
Washington, D.C.

July 30-Aug. 2, 2020

51st Biennial Conclave
Louisville, Ky.

July 21-24, 2022

52nd Biennial Conclave
Oklahoma City, Okla.



"I am tremendously grateful for the building that FarmHouse and FFA have done in my life," said this issue's FarmHouse Flashback, Mark A. Wilburn (Missouri 96). Mark served as the 1997-1998 National FFA Central Region Vice President and viewed this opportunity as a way to travel, to inspire FFA members across the country and to represent FarmHouse Fraternity around the world. This cover is from the Spring Edition in 1999.



UNICATIONS
CIATION



Alex Baker (Tau Kappa Epsilon), Fraternity Communications Association (FCA) President, poses with Samuel McFarland (Wichita State 17), new FH Director of Marketing and Communications at the FCA annual meeting.

Pearls & Rubies

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FARMHOUSE received two awards at the annual Fraternity Communications Association meeting!

2ND PLACE IN WRITING: GREEK-LIFE ARTICLE
The Landscape: Transparency in Acceptance

2ND PLACE PRINTED: PROMOTIONAL PIECE
50th Biennial Conclave Invitation

Features

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Our members engage their communities and live the promise of service. Featured are a few of their stories of service.

14 Alumni Service

It is often said a Greek experience 'is not four years, it is for life'. Our alumni have carried their passion for service far past their undergraduate days.

20 Only in FH

In this new section, we explore the magnificent doings of FarmHouse men.

34 Going Far, Together

Allison Rickels, Executive Director and CEO of the Foundation, shares her perspective on service.

38 Scouting the Way

For John Feick (North Dakota State 79), building others is a career. His current role and his FarmHouse experience intertwine to build legacy of impactfulness.



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A PROMISE OF SERVICE

WORDS BY SAMUEL T. MCFARLAND (WICHITA STATE 17)

THE FOLLOWING PAGES of *Pearls & Rubies* are primarily themed about Service. An integral part of even spelling FarmHouse's acronym, service is a bold and telling aspect to our Fraternity's story. You will find throughout this issue a number of undergraduates and alumni who prominently live a piece of the Object by "giving promise of service to their fellow men and to the world."

Doing this issue on Service has brought only one regret—by not featuring every member of FarmHouse, and those who are not members but have dedicated

so much to our organization.

Whether big or small, the impact of each person in this issue has been extraordinary. Not one act was done by those without love in their hearts and a passion for those around them. While each view of service varies from person to person, we hope you find the recurring theme. Whether this magazine inspires you to take part in a new avenue of service or brings you a smile knowing FarmHouse men are marking each step with progress, please enjoy *Pearls & Rubies*.

One of the difficult parts of finding

a FarmHouse man to be featured in articles about service is FarmHouse men all stand out so extraordinarily in their service to their local communities, our country and often the world.

The service put forth by men of our Fraternity is different from others, too. More than an event or a moment, FarmHouse men emanate a natural and constant work ethic and willingness to serve others.

Because of this, an issue of *Pearls & Rubies* dedicated to service could be put out daily and eternally.



LOSING HAIR AND RAISING FUNDS

THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA CHAPTER brothers knocked their 10th Annual Headshave out of the park. This year's philanthropy saw the chapter raise a little over \$11,000 for the Alberta Cancer Society.

Each year their goal is to raise \$10,000, with prior years just falling short. While last year's \$8,000 is still a tremendous effort, the Alberta Chapter was not going to be satisfied with anything short of their goal.

"I was a little nervous at first but as the week went on we just kept getting more money in," said Brett Sauder (Alberta 18), the chapter's philanthropy chair.

The headshave event works by auctioning off commitments to sororities and family members. On the appointed day, the highest bidder can shave the auctioned member's head.

Shaving their heads was not the only way money was raised, they auctioned off hair dyes as well.

Weeks before the event, members reached out to friends and family to secure pledge commitments. Sororities allowed FarmHouse members to present during their chapter meetings, and the men set up a donation box in their living room so members could drop spare cash and change to support the event.

A few days before, a group of participants showed up at the house to dye the hair of members who had auctioned off a coloring. Many the chapter members were spotted across campus with their neon and technicolor hair styles. They then showed up on the day of the event, ready to shave it all off. The tarps were put

down and the electric razors plugged in and the men traded their wacky hairdos for bald heads and their favorite caps.

In addition to the fun, the brothers agree the hard work is worth it to be able to give to such a worthy cause.

This year's effort was especially successful due to a few changes.

"We went to all our sororities and reached out to places on campus we have never gone to before," said Brett. The chapter also switched to a more noticeable location, which contributed to the chapter exceeding their goal. To top it off, Chapter President Lowell Nelson (Alberta 17) garnered media attention by reaching out to local news stations. The chapter was featured on Global News, a large Canadian media outlet.

Commenting on the success, Brett said, "It would not have been possible to do this without all the support from the brothers. cancer is an issue that affects everyone, and all the guys have been super supportive. ★

Chapter Service: Troy



“Let them eat crawfish!” The men of Troy pose with their Crawfish Queen.

TROY'S CRAWFISH BOIL REELS IN DONATIONS FOR LLS

THIS SPRING, the Troy FarmHouse Chapter hosted their 22nd Annual Crawfish Boil. All proceeds were donated to the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS), which is one of FarmHouse's national philanthropy partners. Twelve hundred pounds of crawfish arrived at the chapter house a few days before, and shrimp, corn, sausages and potatoes weren't the only things the Troy Chapter cooked up! Their event featured a live acoustic set from Troy student, Hannah Brennan.

Campus organizations had the opportunity to nominate candidates for their annual Crawfish Queen competition, which also contributed to their LLS fundraising efforts. Hollan Vanderhey, of Phi Mu Fraternity, was this year's winner.

Throughout the year, the Troy

Chapter also hosts a mud volleyball tournament and a coffee house event, which includes a talent show, coffee and fellowship with the campus community.

Because their philanthropy events are so successful, the chapter received an award at the 2019 FarmHouse Leadership Institute for “Most Philanthropy Funds Raised Per Member.”

The chapter also volunteers with Clean-The-Mile, Brantwood Children's Home and The House of Hope, a local home for women who are recovering from alcohol and drug addiction.

The Troy Chapter has fostered a culture of service within their chapter, said philanthropy chair Jacob Hurdle (Troy 17).

“Our chapter believes in service

because we are called to lovingly serve our community.”

He points out they not only serve the surrounding community, but also their fellow students. Jacob is Interfraternity Council President, Aaron Dixon (Troy 17)

“OUR CHAPTER BELIEVES IN SERVICE BECAUSE WE ARE CALLED TO LOVINGLY SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.”

is President of the Order of Omega, and several brothers serve on the student government association.

“Troy University and the Troy community have given us a place to call home for our college years, so we see fit to pour back into the community that pours so much into us,” said Jacob. ★

BUILDING TRADITIONS OF SERVICE

Wilmington, the newest FarmHouse chapter, hosted its second-ever service event this spring. Not ones to underachieve, Wilmington added its take on what service can be.

TO BECOME A FARMHOUSE CHAPTER, one of the Fraternity's requirements is to host a community service event. For the men of Wilmington FarmHouse, it was only natural to find a need in their community and fill it.

While brainstorming service events, the then associate chapter thought of times they had engaged with their community. As it happened, a few of the members had been a part of a program in high school designed to engage younger generations in agriculture. This served both high school students in determining what they wanted to do for a career and as an educational activity for elementary-aged students.

While the high school program was spread over the school year, the men of Wilmington FarmHouse decided to adapt the year of mentorship into a single field day for students to explore the many

unique aspects of agriculture. The event not only would get the students out of their classrooms for a day, but also help expose them to a range of agricultural activities. Wilmington Chapter members reached out to their local elementary school and worked to set up the event details.

Last year, the first Ag Field Day was a huge success. The elementary students loved it and the teachers found the day informative and productive. The principal of the school was adamant the Wilmington men come back.

While the guys knew they had done a great job in the FarmHouse spirit, they wanted progress to mark their every step. The men spoke to teachers and students to gather feedback. While the first year had covered agriculture in broad strokes, the elementary students said they wanted to know more.

This year's event was more focused on the educational aspect. To ensure their Ag Field Day was as in-depth on subjects as it could, the brothers worked harder to secure a strong set-up.

"We had tractors and farm equipment out there," Chapter President Caleb Moore (Wilmington 19) said. The group also set up exhibits on soil science and fertilizers, and had animals for the students to interact with and learn about.

Now planning for its third year, the event brings more progress and a better learning environment for the students. While the event checked a box for their chartering, the Wilmington Chapter will go back next year to ensure they continually serve their community and encourage future generations of agriculturalists. ★



Year to year, members of Wilmington FarmHouse take a day to help spread the word about agriculture and agriculture related topics.



Chapter Service: Minnesota



LEFT: Minnesota FH brothers volunteer at a local church food distribution center. All members pictured have proper licenses to operate those grocery carts. RIGHT: No better clean up crew than a FarmHouse clean up crew—the men pictured pose with their leafy bounty from a community cleanup.

CLOSE PROXIMITY + DRIVEN EXECUTIVE TEAM = CULTURE OF SERVICE

Two chapters, just three miles apart. Usually, this would be a friendly rivalry. However, in this case, you would be wrong.

MINNESOTA'S CHAPTER HOUSE is just three miles from the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Minnesota chapter office. The close proximity has formed a tight partnership between the two "chapters."

Chapter president Eric Olson (Minnesota 16) said, "A lot of times they'll call us up and say, 'hey, we need some more volunteers.' That's a cool way to get to know them and be important to them."

The Minnesota Chapter recently presented a check for \$8,140 to their local LLS chapter for their ongoing fundraising activities.

Along with serving at LLS events throughout the Twin Cities, Minnesota

brothers serve at a local church's food distribution center that provides over 30,000 pounds of food monthly to 350-plus families. They have helped monthly as a chapter for over 10 years.

"These guys are something special. Their attitude and how they go about serving is always positive. They help where we need help with these families in need. The men also see the need in thier own community and want to help." Roland Peterson

(Minnesota 77), the chapter's long-time advisor. As Olson pointed out, building this robust culture of service starts at the top. "I think the biggest thing is really pushing the executive team to be the first ones to

sign up to participate."

Once the executive team sets

the example, it becomes easier for lesser-involved brothers to want to sacrifice their own time, pleasures and comforts for the needs of others.

"It's obviously really hard to say 'hey, you need to get more service hours,' but if you're not doing it, you're not setting the example."

Their most successful philanthropy event is their annual date auction, where brothers sign up and provide unique date experiences to the highest bidder.

One chapter member is in flight school and must accrue a certain number of flying hours to become certified. He chose to have guests bid on a flight anywhere they wanted in the country, bringing in a substantial amount of money for LLS.

"It really puts perspective into what we do at college when we take some time out of our lives to help others," said Olson. *

"I THINK THE BIGGEST THING IS REALLY PUSHING THE EXECUTIVE TEAM TO BE THE FIRST ONES TO SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE."

RAISING MONEY BY KNOCKIN' EM' DOWN

Strikes, spares and a few gutter-balls laid the foundation for a new tradition in philanthropy at Wichita State FarmHouse's inaugural Strike Out Cancer bowling tournament

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS do not lessen the impact a chapter can make over time. Even the largest and most successful philanthropies did not begin as such. Wichita State FarmHouse knew it was better to start small than not at all.

Shane Pass (Wichita State 17), who is an active league bowler, came up with the concept for their new event. Shane secured the venue and helped raise awareness of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) among his fellow bowlers, and even inspired some of them to come and support the cause alongside the chapter and other Wichita State students.

"It was really great to see all of our hard work pay off for our first bowling tournament. I'm looking forward to

seeing the growth and progress of this event in the future," said Pass.

Forty-one bowlers split among 10 teams bowled three games apiece, with the highest team average bringing home a trophy. Along with the bowling tournament entry fees, a 50/50 raffle helped bring the total proceeds to \$341.

Philanthropy chair Jordan Fountain (Wichita State 18) contributed to the tournament by encouraging chapter member participation and accompanying Shane to sorority houses to advertise the event.

"Being able to see how people in the Wichita community came out to bowl for LLS was amazing," he reflected.

Aside from the tournament, Jordan has

played a pivotal role in the revitalization of the chapter's focus on service. By educating members about the importance of service, empowering members to offer potential opportunities and organizing members into service groups, events such as the Strike Out Cancer Bowling Tournament have successfully come to fruition.

By starting a new philanthropic effort, the Wichita State Chapter has laid the framework for having an even larger impact on their membership and their community. The chapter aims to improve Strike Out Cancer step by step because they understand success comes one pin at a time. *

We'll spare the details but before participants split they vowed to go on strike if the event wasn't pinned to the calendar for next year.



A VISION BEYOND 2020

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

BRENT BIBLE (Purdue 93)
Owner & Operator Stillwater Farms

ERIC BYMASTER (Purdue 90)
*Associate Vice Chancellor for
Finance Vanderbilt University*

KEN CONVERSE (South Dakota State 81)
Campaign Gifts Officer Simpson College

RYAN DOWNS (Nebraska 88)
Chief Executive Officer Proxibid

GABRIEL ECKERT (Kansas State 95)
*Executive Director Building Owners
and Managers Association of Georgia*

BRIAN HOGUE (Texas A&M 05)
*Founder/Chief Executive
Officer Arable Media*

BOB KNIEF (Illinois 89)
President Bartlett Grain Company

ALLISON RICKELS, CFRE
*Executive Director, C.E.O.
FarmHouse Foundation*

DOUG SIMS (Illinois 65)
Retired Chief Executive Officer CoBank

ERIC STEINER (Purdue 98)
*Senior Director, Government
Affairs Elanco Animal Health*

CHRISTIAN WIGGINS
*Chief Executive Officer FarmHouse
International Fraternity*

The current Fraternity and Foundation strategic plans expire in 2020. Given the depth of challenges facing Greek life today the Fraternity and Foundation have decided to conduct a joint planning effort, which will allow our organizations to better align priorities and funding needs. While there is a joint planning committee who will do the majority of the work, there is an intentional effort being made to engage key stakeholders throughout the process.

A SWOT analysis from long-time volunteers, staff and board members give a perspective needed to think strategically about our shared work. We will also bench-mark our work against a few organization peers to evaluate what can be learned from their own planning efforts, particularly broad observations about changes in higher education.

We also know our alumni, volunteers and students need to be engaged in this process. Their feedback will be critical to understanding needs of current and future students, as well as perceptions about resources needed to excel. Towards that end, we will take the next few months to assemble a student leader focus group, engage association residents through calls with members of the International Executive Board, host listening sessions with chapter advisors, and offer chapter officers a chance to engage in-person at the FarmHouse Leadership Institute.

Throughout the process we invite any member to share their thoughts and ideas for the strategic plan by sending an email to Fraternity CEO Christian Wiggins at christian@farmhouse.org. We look forward to sharing updates in the coming issues of *Pearls & Rubies* and are committed to sharing the final plan in summer 2020.

Beyond 2020 Timeline

COMPLETED

UPCOMING



JUNE 2019

Collect peer organization strategic plans and other reference materials; host first committee call

APRIL/MAY 2019

Fraternity and Foundation Boards appoint committee members

JULY–AUGUST 2019

SWOT analysis conducted by board members and select audience; In-person committee retreat in Kansas City, Mo.

SEPTEMBER 2019

Draft member survey; Establish chapter president feedback group

OCTOBER 2019

Conduct member survey; host listening sessions with focus chapters and alumni groups

NOVEMBER 2019

Survey data and listening session data to be analyzed; strategic themes to be developed

DECEMBER 2019

Begin drafting strategic priorities

JANUARY 2020

Conduct student leader listening sessions at FLI; in-person committee retreat

FEBRUARY 2020

Refine plan

MARCH 2020

Fraternity and Foundation Boards revise plan

APRIL–JUNE 2020

Plan to be refined; marketing plan to be developed; tactics to be adopted

JULY 2020

Plan to be unveiled at Conclave





Brian Fenimore (Missouri 85)

U.S. FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY JUDGE

Leadership Spotlight

Brian Fenimore (Missouri 85) is a Federal United States Bankruptcy Judge in the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. Drawn to farming, Brian began college with the intention of earning a degree in agriculture. At the University of Missouri, Brian joined FarmHouse and quickly took advantage of the opportunities presented to him. During his undergraduate years, his life took a turn when Ray Schweizer (Missouri 85) convinced Brian to take an entrance exam to law school with him. Passing the exam earned Brian admission to the University of Michigan School Law. He practiced for Lathrop Gage LLP for a number of years. Today, Brian lives with his wife, Lorna, and two kids in Kansas City, Mo.

Why do you do what you do?

When I was a practicing lawyer, my challenge every day was to solve people's problems, and I really enjoyed it. Every client and case presented a different scenario, a different challenge and opportunity. Now, as a judge, I am not solving any one party's issues, but I am getting to the right result under the law. This is even more challenging because you have to think on both sides of the situation and see how it fits into the structure of the law. It is a new challenge every day and I like that. Each case brings its own set of focuses and problems.

What advice has stayed with you over time?

From the service aspect, the advice I always remember and adhere to is when agreeing to devote your talents and your time to various service opportunities you have to be careful to not overextend yourself and to try to focus on the things about which you are the most passionate. Those are the things you are going to try to dive in to and work hard to resolve. Pick the things you are passionate about and don't overextend yourself. If you overextend yourself you're trying to do too many things and you won't do anything right or won't do as well as you can.

What have you enjoyed the most in your professional career?

As a United States Judge, I have the opportunity to preside over naturalization ceremonies. These are the ceremonies where individuals from other countries have completed the process and become United States citizens. Presiding over these ceremonies is a wonderful feeling. The courtroom is full of happy people. Every month we usually have ceremonies for 100-150 new U.S. citizens and sometimes we will have an additional special ceremony. I sign up for those as often as I can. It is such a great feeling and puts a whole new perspective on what it is to live in a free country. Getting to administer the oath to these people and welcome them as new brothers and sisters of our country is a very rewarding experience. I would highly encourage anyone who has an opportunity to watch one of these ceremonies to do so, they are open to the public.

What does service mean to you?

I believe service is about making our little piece of the world better—a better place to raise our families and for others to raise their families. When you have done that locally, then you can take it out farther to the rest of the world. It is about taking care of those around you but not forgetting about people in other parts of the world who are less fortunate.

Do you have a personal philosophy?

First, lead by example. It goes back to FarmHouse for me when the executive team asked me to get involved. We all challenged each other to be involved in campus activities that appealed to us and get involved with service organizations. That is where it all started for me—to challenge us to think about what we had a passion for and to take advantage of other opportunities and passions.

My second philosophy is if you are the best one for the job, do it. If you are not, then talk to the person who is into doing it.

How do you approach challenges when they come your way?

My approach to dealing with challenges is to view them as opportunities. Sometimes it is an opportunity to right the wrong or to steer the ship in the right direction. Oftentimes the challenges are complex and so I usually break it up into small pieces. You cannot solve all the problems in one fell swoop so you have to handle them incrementally and hope you have them in the right order.

How has FarmHouse impacted your career?

FarmHouse really helped give me direction because I immediately had 60-80 brothers and mentors who looked out for me. They were willing to give me advice, constructive criticism and be there when I needed them. They served as an example and a catalyst to get involved with service and think about more meaningful things to do with my future. I owe it to my FarmHouse brothers for getting me on my career path. It changed my life, literally, in that respect. I readily recall reciting the Object every Monday night at chapter and I think about how there are no wasted words in the Object. I am amazed at how well written it is and the scope of coverage it has. I focus on the promise to give service to fellow men and to the world. That is really the beginning of how I began to think of service. *

“I believe one of the reasons God created man was to serve others. When you serve others and show servitude, then you yourself will know that we are not to only think of ourselves, but of others.”

—Lee Murphy (Auburn 80), on What is Service?

A CHANCE FOR SERVICE NEVER REFUSED

Lee Murphy (Auburn 80) celebrated a big FarmHouse milestone in April—20 years of service as a FarmHouse chapter advisor. Through thick and thin, Lee’s dedication to FarmHouse has not faltered. A FarmHouse man, an advisor and a proud father, Lee tells his story about how he came to hit this 20 year mark.



TO THE AUBURN CHAPTER, Lee is a pillar of FarmHouse. However difficult it may be to imagine, he did not always know he would join FarmHouse. Lee grew up in southeast Alabama and because of his close ties to agriculture, decided to go to Auburn University for animal science.

When Lee started at Auburn, a few of his cousin’s friends were members of FarmHouse and during his first semester, he was convinced to join. However, one of the requirements for joining was a good GPA. As he says, Lee “was determined to be a part of that fine group, and I worked to get my grades up for a spring join date.”

Lee looks back on his grades and chuckles. He jokes he has two initiation dates—the semester he joined and the semester he joined again. He looks

back on those times not with regret, but instead with joy he had mentors to help him through his collegiate experience.

“The Fraternity pushed me to get my grades up and truly helped my collegiate career,” Lee said. Like many FarmHouse men, graduation did not mark the end of his FarmHouse journey.

Lee earned another degree in 1994, this time in accounting. In February 1998 Lee and his wife Nancy, who he met at Auburn, attended a conference at their alma mater. After the conference, they walked around the campus with ice cream cones in hand. The sun was setting as they passed by Samford Hall, one of the most recognizable buildings at Auburn, and they turned to each other and said, “wouldn’t it be great if we lived here one day.”

Only two months later, Lee interviewed with the State of Alabama to work in the Department of Revenue, conveniently located in the Auburn area. By June, they had moved back to their college town.

As the year went on, Lee visited the FarmHouse chapter once or twice. He recalled wondering if the chapter would even acknowledge him. However, he knew he wanted to volunteer as an advisor to better serve FarmHouse and the men of the Auburn Chapter. As he started meeting with the chapter president and attending chapter meetings, Lee realized he knew the father of one of the members. A connection formed and Lee knew he was in the right place.

In 1999, Lee formally started his journey as an Auburn advisor.

Alumni Service: Lee Murphy

Twenty years have passed since Lee attended his first meeting as an advisor, and in that time, he has watched the chapter evolve and grow. When asked what keeps him going, he says it is several things.

“Being around young adults will always keep you young,” Lee said, only half joking. He also points to the power in seeing young members find their path.

“To see them four years later and have them understand their purpose, and to understand service to others is a source of pride,” Lee said. He says a large part of why he stays as an advisor is because of his desire to see young men succeed.

“I want them to take the steps necessary to reach the potential they have,” Lee said. He notes, unfortunately, not everyone reaches their potential but believes if they will allow FarmHouse to help them and influence them, it will happen.

The benefits of seeing these young men succeed comes with challenges, and for 20 years Lee has had to help his chapter adapt when problems arise.

“Challenges take different shapes and forms about every three years,” he said.

Currently, mental health awareness, suicide intervention and sexual assault prevention are on the agenda to combat. These issues have risen to the forefront for many chapters.

To ensure college students can handle the stress and rigors of college life, Lee remains vigilant and encourages members to take care of one another. For these

issues, Lee always pushes everyone to attend campus programs about sexual assault prevention and suicide intervention.

Education has been key in dealing with challenges and this has been true for risk management issues as well.

“Now, we are doing a much better job because we educate, regulate and control with any problems that arise,” Lee said.

While the education of all members is paramount for a chapter’s success to overcome obstacles, Lee has found other essential approaches to his personal advisory role.

“It can be challenging at times to keep young men on the correct path. The only way to ensure everyone stays on track is presence. You have to be there, as an advisor, and show them you do care,” Lee said.

He also recommends letting chapter executives know they are being supported. This support of the person doesn’t falter even if they have a bad idea. “Let mistakes be made. Not the mistakes that are detrimental, but the mistakes they can learn from,” Lee said.

One example he cites is when the chapter brought in sand to put on the patio for a social without coming up with an idea for how to get the sand off the patio. While it made for a great beach scene, the effort put into cleanup kept the event from happening again and taught a valuable lesson about forethought.

For new or potential advisors, Lee

shares his advice to spend whatever time possible with the chapter. This, along with attending chapter meetings and meeting with the executive officers individually, composes the foundation for good advising.

“It’s going to require time and it will always, always, be time well spent,” Lee said.

He also believes seeking out resources is key, even if that means going to another fraternity on campus and asking for wisdom.

Every year, Lee gets to see members complete mission trips, go on service-oriented spring breaks and give of themselves for the sake of others. He has been there when a brother’s family member has passed away; he has been there when men have met their wives. As an advisor, Lee watched young men come back years after graduation and reconnect with the home that shaped their lives. There have been numerous impactful moments in his advisory career, however, the day-to-day of 20 years add up for Lee and show how powerful the FarmHouse experience is, generation after generation.

“I believe one of the reasons God created man was to serve others,” Lee said. “When you serve others and show servitude, then you yourself will know that we are not to only think of ourselves, but of others.”

Lee also says frequently at chapter meetings, “never pass up an opportunity to help someone because you never know when you may be the one in need.” *

Family Matters

The original idea to interview Lee Murphy did not come from the FarmHouse staff. One of his sons, Justin Murphy (Auburn 05), emailed to ask if his father could be featured. Of course, 20 years as an advisor was a perfect fit for an issue based on service.

The Murphy family has a special tie to FarmHouse. Like so many of us, Justin has had to face challenges. His challenge, however, requires more bravery than many could muster. Justin has high functioning autism

and while he does have to work harder at some tasks, his love for his family and his passion for FarmHouse is uninhibited.

Growing up, all three of Lee’s children would work on homework when they all visited the Auburn Chapter house, and chapter members would help them. In the spring of Justin’s high school senior year, the Auburn executive team offered Justin associate membership. The team even gave Justin an abbreviated new member education program. It meant

everything to the Murphy family.

Even now, Justin doesn’t miss Founders’ Day or Association meetings. Justin’s passion for FarmHouse is what made this article possible. Despite not asking for recognition, Lee deserves it. Lee said, “Having FarmHouse as a part of his life has had a great impact on Justin and his future.”

Having Justin as a part of FarmHouse has surely had equal, if not greater, impact on us. Thank you for living what it means to be a FarmHouse man, Justin.

Our Brothers Need Your Help

FarmHouse Fraternity has been a home for young men and a place for growing leaders only because of caring alumni, like you.

However, as we grow, more help is required to provide the FarmHouse experience to as many outstanding young men as possible.

Whether it is with a new chapter, an established chapter, or at your alma mater, **will you be among the selfless volunteers to help support these young men?**



HELPING IS AS EASY AS . . .



GIVE TIME; BECOME AN ADVISOR

Your added perspective to a chapter, even once a month, can make an incredible and lifelong impact.



CONNECT WITH A CHAPTER BROTHER

Participating in a chapter philanthropy or attending an alumni event can mean the world to young members who have put in the effort to host local events and programs. Have you spoken with a Farmhouse member recently?



INVEST IN PROGRAM

Each year we tackle issues and work towards our motto, Builder of Men, with multiple educational programs (see pages 26-27). You can help give more young men the opportunity to attend these educational experiences.

With your support, you can help ensure young men continue to have the FarmHouse experience.

●
TO VOLUNTEER

farmhouse.org/volunteer-opportunities

●
TO CONNECT

farmhouse.org/myherdbook

●
TO DONATE

farmhouse.org/foundation/making_gift.htm



FINDING PURPOSE THROUGH SERVICE

A.J. Brown (Colorado State 13) never thought he would join a fraternity. However, his ambition and dedication to serve others led him to FarmHouse as an undergraduate and now as a chapter advisor for Colorado State for the last three years.

A.J. GREW UP in Rocky Ford, Colo. He was always ambitious and studious, but found his appetite for challenge was too big for the small community college he attended.

A.J. knew he needed something more from his education and resolved to try out a variety of organizations once he began attending Colorado State University. Fraternities, however, were originally out of the question.

Despite A.J.'s mistrust of fraternities, a friend convinced him to check out FarmHouse. He soon realized FarmHouse was different from his previous notion of what a fraternity was about. While A.J. was convinced to join, he originally only joined as a place to live during his freshman year.

As relationships developed with fellow new members, he quickly realized they all had the same original misgivings but also, similar ambitions.

"We had a really good moment together, such as on the drive back to our home towns, where we learned a lot about each other and got really vulnerable," said A.J.. When they learned how alike they were, they saw how they had been put there for a reason as A.J. phrases it.

A.J. and his new member class quickly moved up through the ranks. Their passion for the ideals of FarmHouse and their work ethic led them to top officer positions within the year, with A.J. becoming Vice President of Recruitment.

After A.J. graduated in fall 2015, he soon started his master's degree in irrigation and salinity. He continued to live in the house but once he transitioned his master's program to a PhD program, A.J. realized

he needed to transition his role as well. However, A.J. wasn't done serving.

"I felt like, coming from a community college I had been given less time with the chapter and was eager to continue to give to this organization that had so drastically changed my life," he said. A.J. became an advisor in the spring of 2016.

"Being an advisor was tough at first," A.J. said. Thanks to the work he and his brothers had put in to grow the chapter, A.J. and the new members of the chapter had to deal with the ideological shift that came with more members. From chapter disagreements to tackling issues regarding mental health, the biggest concern was no longer recruitment. A.J. had to help the chapter through this adaptation.

"Sometimes it is not about changing your mind but about becoming more accepting," A.J. said.

While A.J. emphasized education being a big piece of tackling many issues they faced, he also said facilitating discussions with members helped overcome many problems.

"Do I dislike this person more than I like FarmHouse?" was a question often discussed with chapter members. So far, the answer has always been no, which has helped many members overcome issues they may have had with each other.

"We struggle with issues every day . . . and we are going to continue to work on them together."

For A.J., the rewards always outweigh the time spent. "Being around long enough to see some of the fruits of the decisions we made when I first joined," said A.J.,

has been impactful for him. He also noted the hardships are the most rewarding because the struggling moments define the chapter and were where they saw the most growth. He said, "We learned the most from what we didn't know."

"I'd argue I benefit more from being their advisor more than they benefit from the help they get from me," A.J. said.

The transition to advisor was an uphill



climb because there was no right answer for his new role but he had to adapt it from his time as a chapter member.

"At the same time as I was advising, I was learning how to grow up and research on my own and plan experiments," A.J. said.

It was a transitional period of his life but the real service to him was being able to experience that growth simultaneously with FarmHouse.

"Denying a request for help is denying your purpose," he said. "If people are coming to you it usually means you are more qualified than you believe. If you say no, if you are not willing to help and serve them, you are essentially denying your potential and your abilities. I think 90% of real service is just being who you are and replying to help when you're asked." ★



BUILDING A CAREER ON SERVICE

Tom Dierks (Nebraska 82) and his passion for service has led him through major life changes and to his own private practice. Now a tenured mental health practitioner, Tom talks about the road he took to get there.

WHEN TOM STARTED his collegiate journey, he was nervous to be heading to a university with a population larger than his hometown. He knew he was looking for a home away from home, and happened to know someone from his town who had joined FarmHouse and was reputedly a good guy.

Tom knew early on, “if there was a fraternity to join, it would be FarmHouse,” as he says.

Tom started his FarmHouse journey shortly after beginning at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Originally, Tom earned a degree for industrial engineering. He quickly realized it was a struggle to get the grades he wanted because of a lack of passion for the subject matter, but earned his intended degree. He always thought engineering was the type of work he wanted to do, but never found it fulfilling.

After graduation, he moved to Washington, D.C. for his first job.

Despite having a great job in engineering, Tom felt he was missing his calling. To gain fulfillment, Tom found service through a local mission. There, he was able to work with social workers and bring good to his community. It was his second home.

After volunteer work for the with the Missionaries of Charity, Tom decided

to quit his engineering career. He soon took a job with the Catholic Diocese of Washington. During his work there, he had the opportunity to join a seminary.

Tom spent a few years in seminary, before moving back to Lincoln, Neb. Because of his experience with his church, Tom pursued a job with Catholic Social Services. After eight years of fulfilling work there, “I realized I needed credentials if I wanted to continue my work in this field,” Tom said. This time he went back to get his master’s in social work.

After his master’s degree, Tom began work with a group therapy program. Once he started, it was a new beginning for him. For the first time in his life, he was not wondering what the next step was.

“I didn’t know what I wanted to do when I grew up until I was 36 years old,” he said.

Tom has served as a mental health professional for 18 years. His private practice is two years old and focuses primarily on individual therapy.

Tom founded his private practice after 16 years of work with Lancaster County Communal Health Center and Lutheran Family Services. In his practice, Tom often promotes service and faith as factors in improving mental health.

“It is proven volunteering can help improve mental health and stability,” Tom said. He also recommends to get at least 30 minutes of exercise every day, even if it is just walking.

Whether a person is struggling with mental health or not, Tom is an advocate for helping others and strengthening social connections, especially with family.

Promoting service to others is natural for Tom, as his life’s path has been shaped by helping others. While many have expressed to Tom how hard they think his profession must be, Tom noted, “the work I do is rewarding because I always feel appreciated . . . sometimes I think my patients help me more than I help them.”

“I DIDN’T KNOW WHAT I WANTED TO DO WHEN I ‘GREW UP’ UNTIL I WAS 36 YEARS OLD.”

“Service is everywhere,” Tom said. “Doctors and mechanics, they are both helping people. When you help someone else, that is service. Almost everyone is serving somewhere. I work in the service field but I think it is hard to say that any field isn’t a service field in some way.”*

Everything is online at FHGEAR.COM



FARMHOUSE
FRATERNITY





ONLY IN

FF

Since our founding, FarmHouse has dared to be different and over time we have found a quiet confidence in the experiences we offer members. At times our work has necessitated the need to be innovative, and at other times we mark progress in the lives of men and the operations of our Fraternity by redesigning an experience we have found outside of FarmHouse.

In this new section of *Pearls & Rubies*, the editorial staff seeks to highlight the unique spirit found in our chapters, our members and at the international level. This section is not meant to discount the work of other fraternal organizations, nor does it say FarmHouse features outside this section are not unique.

Instead, the purpose of 'Only in FH' is to highlight examples of the FarmHouse story where we continue the spirit of innovation and progress. Like our gem, the Ruby, true FarmHouse men are multifaceted in their values and radiant in whatever paths they choose. We hope these stories highlight the unique ways we continue to be a Builder of Men.



“My goal is to show people philanthropy isn’t about trophies and titles, or being the best chapter. But it is about getting what you can’t hold. Experiencing those moments and seeing the impact you are making. To me, this is all about spreading love and that is what the special needs community does best. Showing what pure love should be.”

—BRACKSTAN DUNCAN
(KENTUCKY 17)

Only In: Kentucky

Brackstan Duncan (Kentucky 17), a recent graduate, exemplifies the meaning of service. He has believed in lending a helping hand to others since his childhood. Brackstan stands out because he chose to go above and beyond the call to action and devotes his life to continue building the lives of others.



Brackstan and Josh holding their University of Kentucky awards—Fraternity Division Winner and Crowd Favorite Winner.

AS LONG AS BRACKSTAN can remember, his family has always focused on serving others.

“It was something our parents wanted to instill in us and engrave in who we were as people. When I was in high school I started going on mission trips and every year for spring break I would go to New York City and stay in a homeless shelter. We would get up in the morning and cook breakfast for the men’s shelter,” said Brackstan.

Those mission trips helped Brackstan to continue searching for ways to help others. “I did a fundraiser for the Clark County Homeless Coalition . . . and I raised around \$1,000. Not a lot but I was in high school and I was proud of that,” said Brackstan.

Along with helping out those who needed financial stability, Brackstan also wanted to change the lives of those with special needs. In high school,

Brackstan was a peer tutor where he would go to classes with a special needs student and make sure they were on top of their coursework.

“STRIDE, a day program in Winchester for adults with special needs, asked me to come out and work as a Community Living Support (CLS) worker with Josh,” said Brackstan.

Josh Banks (Kentucky 18), who has Down Syndrome, clogged on a special needs team in his spare time. For 13 years, Brackstan grew up clogging at different competitions eventually winning four national titles. Being naturally talented in the sport, it was an easy choice for him to connect with Josh.

When Brackstan started with STRIDE, he and Josh spent every Friday together from there on. He tailored the rest of his high school schedule to work with Josh, by taking all morning classes on Fridays and spending the rest of the day with him.

After high school, Brackstan left Winchester, Ky., and moved on to Lexington to attend the University of Kentucky (UK).

However, his connection to Josh did not end with high school. From practicing reading and writing to perfecting the free throw on the basketball court, Brackstan and Josh really began to bond as they made road trips back and forth between Winchester and Lexington.

Only in FH

“Those road trips . . . that’s just where I saw his heart, really. We opened up more than just a CLS worker and a client and really became friends,” Brackstan emphasized.

By this point, Brackstan had been at UK for over a year. Following into his sophomore year, he found out about the FarmHouse chapter. He decided to join later that year.

“When I joined FarmHouse, I wasn’t going to compromise my Fridays with Josh. So then, if I ever had to do anything, I would just bring him with me. Everybody got to know him and then it was just a consistent thing. Everyone knew that on Fridays ‘Brackstan was out with Josh,’” said Brackstan.

Eventually, Brackstan petitioned for Josh to become a member of FarmHouse. The Kentucky Chapter welcomed him in as the brother they already knew, making Josh a full-fledged member.

Brackstan spent whatever time he could with Josh, including time spent training for the University’s contest called “Kentucky’s Got Talent,” a philanthropy event hosted by the women of Delta Delta Delta. Brackstan and Josh practiced a clogging routine and joined the talent competition.

Before the competition, Brackstan

arranged a sponsorship with a local company. He sent the company a video of the two performing and the company shared the video on Facebook. Every share the video got the company would donate \$1 to Down Syndrome research, up to a maximum of \$5,000. The post went viral and hit that mark within 20 hours.

After that huge victory, Brackstan was urged by Josh to create a singing competition, a fun way for Josh to sing instead of clog. Brackstan did exactly that. He organized a concert, an event to enable Josh and others with special needs to get up on stage and sing in front of the community.

This pushed him to seek sponsorship to fund Special Needs Adoption in Kentucky. “First of all, within 24 hours I was connected with a family in Kentucky that was adopting a three-year old girl with Down Syndrome from Lithuania. After this, I was elected chapter service chair in FarmHouse and planned for the concert to be our philanthropy event,” said Brackstan.

“Four bands from Kentucky and a DJ from the local radio station and a girl from “America’s Next Top Model” came together. Each of the bands had a special needs person on stage with them singing, and Josh sang the closing song for the

concert. It kind of unfolded, and now it’s a nonprofit called ‘Buddies Of The Bluegrass’ to help fund adoption,” said Brackstan.

When Brackstan isn’t busy running his nonprofit, he is focusing on where else his passions lie. Growing up, his immediate family became a foster family. Four of Brackstan’s siblings were adopted through foster care.

“Tying adoption with special needs and finding a way to serve is who I am,” said Brackstan.

“I went on a mission trip to Texas with one of my chapter brothers to help rebuild houses after Hurricane Harvey. Asking a brother to come with me, and him saying yes, had an impact on both of us that really changed our perspectives. It’s really important for people to chase after service. A lot of people feel their contributions are insignificant, but we have to use our gifts. It will always fill the needs of others,” said Brackstan.

When asked how service has impacted his life, Brackstan said, “moments like when I went to Texas to help rebuild houses after Hurricane Harvey change you as a person. Those are the moments that really mold you into who you are supposed to be and bring your focus back to what is most important—people.”*

Left: Josh enjoys a rootbeer float on Brackstan and Josh’s weekly Friday adventures. Middle: Not afraid of the limelight, the duo performed at an elementary school pep rally. Right: competed in Tri-Delta’s “Kentucky’s Got Talent”.





“We wanted to get through the chartering objectives quickly but we wanted to make sure we were doing things right.”

— CALEB MOORE (WILMINGTON 19)



Wilmington College, in Ohio is one of six recent expansion projects. Currently, the Fraternity is growing chapters at Arizona State University, Morehead State University, Oregon State University, University of Central Missouri and University of North Georgia.

If you would like to support or get involved with one of these new groups, please contact Braden Wilson at braden@farmhouse.org.



Only In: Wilmington

On April 27, 2019, a new chapter joined our brotherhood.

THE SHORT AND DIGNIFIED HISTORY of our Wilmington Chapter began in the fall of 2017 when four friends decided they wanted something more out of their campus life.

Current chapter president Caleb Moore (Wilmington 19) said, “there was something missing in our Greek life. The agricultural fraternity we have on campus just did not cut it for us. We wanted to build something better.”

The Wilmington College Chapter did not start by the most common means. Normally, a headquarters team would reach out to a university where it wishes to expand. If the university is accepting more fraternities, the staff then applies to join the campus and often presents on what the Fraternity stands for and how they will benefit and partner with the college. However, if a group of students on a campus decide their current fraternities do not fit with their values, the students can reach out to a fraternity, like FarmHouse.

The future founders at their small Quaker college in Ohio chose to do exactly that. The process for starting a fraternity from scratch starts with research. After looking through a list of fraternities, these young men decided to reach out to the one that rang truest to their values and interests—FarmHouse.

The easiest part may have been finding the right fit; but the challenge of becoming a chapter is no small undertaking.

Appeals had to be made to both the college and to FarmHouse, members had to be recruited and the budding group had to work to become recognized

as a FH associate chapter before work towards chartering could begin. It became clear early on the men who chose to embark on this journey possessed the qualities of FarmHouse men.

These ambitious founders soon gained both the Fraternity’s and the university’s approval. After that, their next goal was chartering.

Wilmington set their sights high. “We wanted to get through the chartering objectives quickly but we wanted to make sure we were doing things right,” Caleb said.

As more interest was garnered by the members in classrooms and in extracurricular activities, the associate chapter began to grow. Soon they were hosting philanthropy events, having study sessions and establishing a culture of becoming a FarmHouse chapter.

A clear marker showing progress was the attitude towards Greek life versus the attitude towards FarmHouse on campus. Caleb is proud to say, “the teachers that didn’t like the idea of fraternities were won over by the hard work we put forward.”

Quality was not sacrificed for progress, and through steady steps the group was soon ready to charter.

The Wilmington Chapter initiated 15 men at the chartering ceremony, and has plans to grow. Now that they have chartered, Caleb said, “we want to make sure we can be the top dogs and show others how to do it right.”

Caleb also said he would like to see the chapter win awards this year at the next FarmHouse Leadership Institute. ★



THE ART OF
BROTHERHOOD
FARMHOUSE

»»» AGED 115 YEARS «««

JULY 30-AUG. 2, 2020

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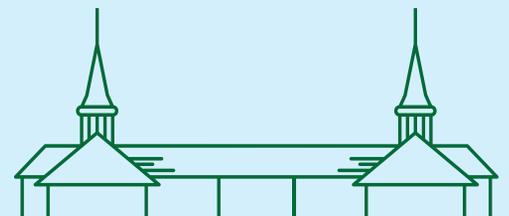
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MARRIOTT
DOWNTOWN
LOUISVILLE, KY

HIGHLIGHTS

- STUDENT LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCES
- EDUCATIONAL SESSIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATES, ALUMNI AND VOLUNTEERS
- RUBY SOCIETY NETWORKING EVENT
- INITIATION OF FARMHOUSE'S NEWEST HONORARY MEMBERS
- HONORING OUR NEXT CLASS OF MASTER BUILDERS AND PHILANTHROPY LAUREATES
- FRATERNITY BUSINESS SESSIONS
- STARS OF FARMHOUSE WALL
- LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION
- ALUMNI NETWORKING AND SPOUSE OUTING



Becoming a FH Man: A Weekend in the Heartland

As the calendar turned from May to June, 27 of FarmHouse's best and brightest first-year members descended on The Heartland Center in Kansas City, Mo., for To Be & Become: Emerging Talent Retreat.

Over a fun-filled learning weekend, these members developed their leadership potential, worked together on a high-flying ropes course and built bonds with FarmHouse brothers from across the country.

To Be & Become looked different than what past participants have experienced in the last decade. The new leadership curriculum was based on the book, "The Traveler's Gift," by Andy Andrews.

"The staff began a review of the existing curriculum to determine if the program was meeting the needs of our undergraduates. After speaking with past participants, we chose to re-design the content to create more useful application," said Shane Jacques, Director of Education and Leadership Development.

"Several of us had previously read "The Traveler's Gift" and thought it would be a perfect fit for the Emerging Talent Retreat."

In addition to lively large group and

small group discussion, participants heard from Master Builder and Philanthropy Laureate Jim Tobin (Iowa State 76). Jim spoke about being prepared and ready for any opportunity. He reflected on his experience as an exchange student in the Soviet Union, a long-time employee of Monsanto and a past Foundation Trustee and Chairman. Jim discussed how those opportunities were made possible thanks to his preparedness and willingness to listen to the counsel of his chapter brothers at Iowa State.

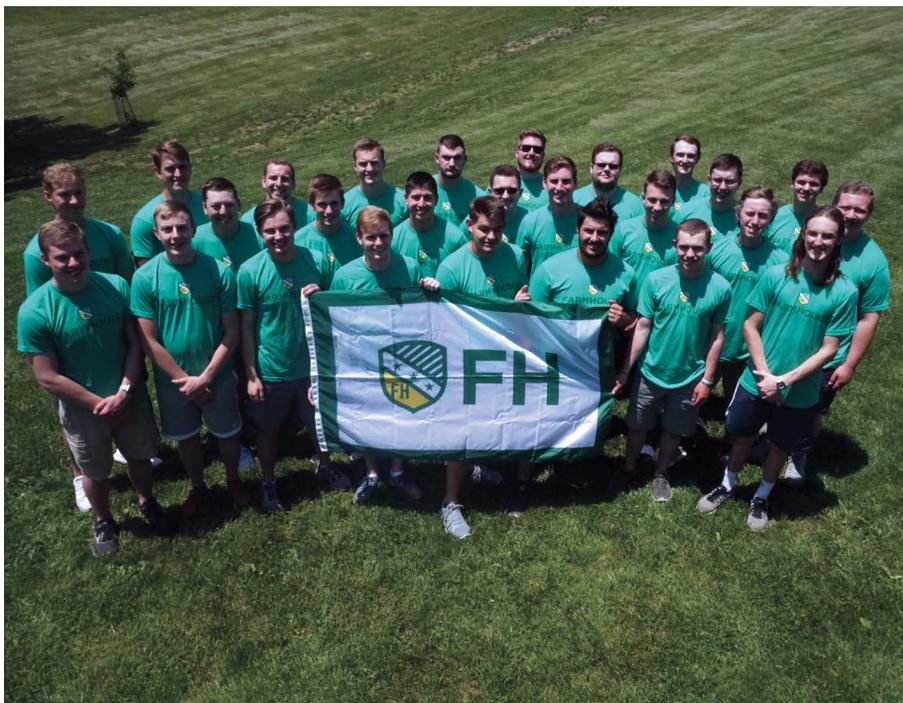
To Be and Become was only possible due to the generosity and support of donors to the FarmHouse Foundation. The FarmHouse Excellence Fund and The C.J. Gauger (Iowa State 37) Endowment Fund provided grants to supplement participant fees and materials. The Ruby Society, the Foundation's exclusive undergraduate giving society, provided the participants with their

own copies of "The Traveler's Gift."

"Whether it was a conversation with a brother or a moment of vulnerability at the ropes course, I found myself being significantly impacted by the brothers around me in the tasks we set out to do," said Ethan Keller (Ohio State 19).

Attending To Be and Become enables first-year members to gain a wider perspective about FarmHouse as they interact with brothers from other chapters.

As the Fraternity continues to expand to more college campuses, this retreat-style experience will allow an elite group of FarmHouse's newest members the opportunity for fellowship, gain practical leadership experience and build critical life skills.*



From Start to Finish

The programs on these two pages are on two ends of a spectrum, and share amazing similarities. To Be and Become marks the beginning of a journey for many young men, while on the other end, the Power of 7 Seminar is an incredible cap to an undergraduate career. These programs are hallmarks of FarmHouse's impact from start to finish and share another commonality—neither would be possible without alumni support to the FarmHouse Foundation.



Ready to Lead— 2019 Power of 7 Seminar

There’s an old adage, “Be like a duck. Calm on the surface but paddling like the dickens underneath.”

The 13th Annual Power of 7 Seminar brought together alumni, spouses and 10 outstanding undergraduate members to take part in a wide variety of gripping current events conversations alongside the best Southern hospitality Memphis, Tenn., has to offer.

Hosted at the historic Peabody Hotel, the Seminar kicked off with a unique and time-honored Memphis tradition—the Peabody Duck March. Master Builder, Foundation Trustee Emeritus and Memphis native Jim Herbert (Tennessee 61) was named Peabody’s Honorary Duckmaster for the day and assisted the Duckmaster in leading the five mallards from the lobby’s grand travertine fountain back to the ducks’ own Duck Palace.

As the last duck hen entered the elevator, the Seminar began its own tradition of mentorship, personal connection and discussion about global issues.

Honoring the lifelong impact of Clayton Yeutter (Nebraska 49)†, Doug Sims (Illinois 65) was the invited keynote speaker for The Clayton Yeutter “Lessons in Leadership” Lecture. Doug shared lessons in leadership from his FarmHouse experience and tenure as CEO of CoBank. Following the speech,

he was presented with the inaugural Robert L. Off Servant Leader Award (read more about Doug’s honor on page 28).

The next day, alumni, spouses and undergraduates gathered around the board table to discuss relevant topics including the future of food, the global economy and international trade, brotherhood through adversity and financial independence. There were also three special panel discussions in which the spouses, undergraduates and alumni shared their collective life experiences.

Far from being cooped up in meeting rooms, attendees toured the National Civil Rights Museum located at the site of the Lorraine Motel, the location of Dr. Martin Luther King’s assassination. This enlightening and somber visit contributed into the conversations about adversity and overcoming tribulations. Good food also builds great conversations and Seminar participants ventured to Beale Street for some of the Mid-South’s best cuisine.

Undergraduate attendee Ben Davis (Oklahoma State 16) said, “The Power of 7 Seminar is a great way to network and connect with brothers from across the country. You will learn not only about yourself, but real life applications to

make you a successful man.”

Be a part of next year’s Seminar! The 14th Annual Power of 7 Seminar will be held March 27-29, 2020, at The Mayflower Hotel in Washington D.C. Join us for a powerfully engaging experience in our nation’s capital, including exclusive tours of D.C. monuments during prime cherry blossom season. Undergraduate applications will be available in the coming months.

Alumni who give \$10,000, or more, to the FH Excellence Fund during the 2019-20 fiscal year will be invited to attend and mentor and sponsor one of FarmHouse’s top undergraduates. New this year, your tax deductible gift for the Seminar also includes two-nights lodging and meals for you and a guest, such as your spouse. It is sure to be an impactful experience!*



Servant Leader Honored



Doug Sims Named Inaugural Recipient of the Robert L. Off Servant Leader Award

Doug and his wife, Nancy, hold the 2018 Robert L. Off Servant Leader Award.

DOUG SIMS (ILLINOIS 65) is a FarmHouse luminary. His impact has been felt in his chapter for many decades by providing scholarships and personal outreach, nationally through his involvement with the Fraternity and Foundation, and internationally as undergraduates have opportunities to study abroad. All thanks to his generosity.

A humble leader and mentor to many, Doug is the first recipient of the Robert L. Off Servant Leader Award.

The award was established by the FarmHouse Foundation Board of Trustees in honor of long-time FarmHouse executive director Bob Off (Colorado State 64) to recognize individuals who have tirelessly contributed his or

her time, leadership and resources in meaningful ways for the advancement of the FarmHouse Foundation. While it was announced at the 2018 Conclave Doug won the prestigious new award, he was bestowed the honor in-person at the Power of 7 Seminar in Memphis, Tenn., in April 2019.

“To receive this award named for Bob Off was an honor and a surprise, and I’m very proud of it,” said Sims.

“I told Allison (Rickels) and Bob that I could list a whole bunch of people I would have expected to receive this award before me.”

Doug served as a FH Foundation Trustee from 1998–2004, including two years as Chairman. Currently, he serves on the Chapter Housing Loan Program Committee, has been an active donor and sponsor of the Power of 7 Seminar since its inception in 2007, and is a member of FarmHouse’s new Joint Strategic Planning Committee.

For his devotion and leadership, Doug was also honored with the Foundation’s Philanthropy Laureate Award in 2006 and named a Master Builder in 2008.

Doug and his wife, Nancy, are members of the Order of the Crest, the Foundation’s cumulative giving society for donors who have given between \$250,000 and \$499,999.

Doug is quick to point out the contribution and support of Nancy, saying, “We do this together—it isn’t just me. And so, the organizations we decide to contribute our time, talent and financial resources to are a function of things we believe in and are needed.”

One reason Doug has given so much to FarmHouse is the Fraternity helped provide transformational experiences during his time at the University of Illinois. For example, he traveled to India in the summer of 1966 with four other FarmHouse brothers, including his late cousin Fay Sims (Illinois 38), also a Master Builder recipient and one of the Foundation’s first-ever Trustees.

Doug said, “I wouldn’t have had

Servant Leader Honored

Doug Sims was one of the speakers at this year's Power of 7 Seminar. He shared his leadership expertise with attendees during the "Lessons in Leadership" interview by Foundation Chairman Bob Knief (Illinois 81). As many photos as were taken, he wasn't caught without a smile.



this opportunity had I not been in FarmHouse and encouraged by one of my mentors in the chapter to take advantage of this experience.”

Fay's legacy continues to live on through the Sims Family Fund, which Fay, Doug, family members, Illinois alumni and many past recipients have supported. The endowment has funded almost two dozen study abroad opportunities for members of the Illinois FarmHouse Chapter.

Doug's visit to India was his first global trip and eye-opening for him to learn about a different culture and country. Not only did the international experience help Doug realize how fortunate he was to live in the United States, it also inspired him to include overseas travel as part of his future career.

This came to fruition during Doug's tenure as CEO of CoBank, one of the leading agribusiness banks in the world. During his time with CoBank, Doug executed 15 mergers and acquisitions and grew the bank from a \$9 billion financial institution to a \$34 billion internationally-recognized cooperative bank. Doug credits his leadership experiences in FarmHouse for his ability to evaluate and mentor his employees

throughout his career, finding many of them were also products of FarmHouse.

During *Live. Learn. Lead.—The Campaign for FarmHouse*, Doug and Nancy established their own endowment fund to award academic scholarships to outstanding student leaders of the Fraternity who exemplify the FarmHouse Object and are considered to be Builders of Men. To date, 10 FarmHouse undergraduates have received this scholarship.

The value of giving was ingrained in Doug from a young age. Doug's family, upbringing and participation in church, 4-H and FFA laid the seeds for giving prior to his FarmHouse involvement. He remembers his father, Dean Sims (Illinois 37), telling him, "Life is not a spectator sport."

Doug also subscribes to the principles of the FarmHouse Object such as, "progress shall mark our every step" and "promise of service to your fellow man." A FarmHouse Object card sits on his bedroom nightstand for daily reflection.

Most recently, Doug and Nancy made a significant six-figure gift to the FarmHouse Excellence Fund and challenge other alumni to join their philanthropic leadership giving.

"We are grateful for Doug and Nancy's generosity," said Allison Rickels, Executive Director and CEO of the FH Foundation.

"Their tremendous unrestricted gift helps ensure the Foundation can continue to intentionally invest in the priorities of the Fraternity and focus on the critical issues of our chapters and student development. We thank them for being incredible mentors and leaders for decades and again as they significantly step up their giving to the FH Excellence Fund."

"It takes alumni time and commitment to nurture the Fraternity," said Doug.

Reflecting on Doug's time on the Foundation's Board of Trustees, Bob Off said, "Doug brought corporate style leadership to the board, which introduced efficient and effective meetings and attracted other alumni to join . . . I wish I had been exposed to his caliber of board leadership for a non-profit organization earlier in my career."

Doug has found throughout his years as an alumnus that giving to the FH Foundation benefits all parties involved.

"I think I've always found when I was involved in giving time or financial resources, I usually got more back than I gave." *



FARMHOUSE
FOUNDATION

THE FOUNDATION
PROVIDED **269** GRANTS
IN SIX AREAS TOTALING:

\$3,659,657

2018-2019 HIGHLIGHTS

FISCAL YEAR
3.1.18—2.28.19

Leadership Training

\$279,294 was granted to FarmHouse International Fraternity and to chapters for leadership and educational programs, including a record grant for the FarmHouse Leadership Institute.

Educational Portion of Chapter Housing

\$3,046,955 was administered for the educational portion of new or renovated chapter houses on 9 campuses.

Scholarships

\$140,798 a record in scholarships was awarded to 120 undergraduates for both academic and study abroad opportunities.

Computer Labs and Affiliated Technology

\$21,113 in grants were made to FarmHouse International Fraternity and 4 chapters for in-house computers and technology.

Program Services

\$96,361 was granted for the Foundation staff to administer the educational grants of the Fraternity and chapters.

Fraternity Support

\$75,136 supported the operations of the International Office, new membership database, online communications to all members, and *Pearls & Rubies*.

Over **11.6%** of FarmHouse members made a gift in FY 18-19.
40.7% of all FarmHouse alumni have ever made a gift.

**Fraternal foundations average 3% in alumni participation.*

2,416 ALUMNI,
STUDENTS AND
FRIENDS GAVE TO
THE FH FOUNDATION
A TOTAL OF

\$3,835,822



\$0.10 FUNDRAISING
EXPENSES

\$1.00 PER DOLLAR
RAISED

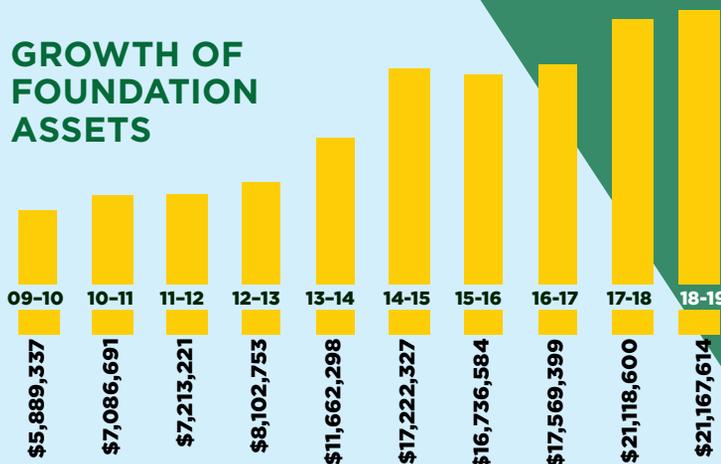
**Non-profit Industry average is \$0.35/\$1.00.*

Six new endowment funds were established bringing the total number of permanent endowed funds to 175.

YOUR GIFTS MADE A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT IN BUILDING THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Your FH Excellence Fund gifts enabled a record **256** FarmHouse undergraduates to attend the FH Leadership Institute.

GROWTH OF FOUNDATION ASSETS



Discover more ways you and other FarmHouse Foundation donors are building young men by reading our 2018-19 Annual Report.

<http://bit.ly/FHAnnualReport>

“Why I volunteer . . .”

Foundation Trustees



**BOB KNIEF
(ILLINOIS 89),
CHAIRMAN**

President | Bartlett
Grain Company



“One of the parts of my role I enjoy the most is seeing young people grow, contribute and develop into leaders and helping them along in that process. At the same time, I know that FarmHouse has played a significant role in my own development. I feel a need to see FarmHouse is strong for the next generation of students and that’s why I’m involved with the Foundation.”

**LOREN PETERSON
(NEBRASKA 75),
CHAIRMAN-ELECT**

Entrepreneurial Advisor and
Owner | EAS-MKE, LLC



“Growing up on a small farm in central Nebraska, I never imagined I would have a career as a CPA, entrepreneur and venture capitalist. My four years in FarmHouse opened my eyes to the world of opportunities that existed outside of the experiences I had known prior to going to college. My FarmHouse experience changed me profoundly, for which I am extremely grateful.”

**RICK BERG
(NORTH DAKOTA
STATE 78)**

Partner | Midwest
Management Co.
Former United States
Congressman



“When people ask what FarmHouse means to me, it’s pretty simple to explain. Through FarmHouse, I met my wife, established some of my best life-long friends and started my real estate career. FarmHouse has meant family, friends and my career, and I love being able to give back by serving as a Trustee.”

“My FarmHouse experience helped frame my strong personal value system and establish permanent standards for the core of my thinking. I am forever grateful for the direction and positive peer pressure provided to me. FarmHouse is truly unique and I want the lives of other young men to be impacted by FarmHouse values.”

**LLOYD A. BETTIS
(IOWA STATE 67),
FUNDRAISING CHAIR**

Retired Chairman/CEO |
National Bureau of Property
Administration, Inc.



**MICHAEL DYKES
(KENTUCKY 74)**

President and CEO |
International Dairy
Foods Association

“I serve on the FH Foundation Board because I am proud to continue to be associated with such a great group of men. I also serve because my FarmHouse experience continues to make a meaningful difference in my life. Serving on the Foundation Board is one small way for me to give back to the Fraternity. I also want to do what I can today to ensure that the FarmHouse experience will be available for other young men in the future.”



**GARY HANSEN
(SOUTH DAKOTA 72)**

Attorney | Arbitrator and
Retired Risk Manager

“FarmHouse has been a primary influence in my personal development. It has provided opportunities for growth through fellowship and leadership roles. I am honored to have been asked to serve the Fraternity as a FH Foundation Board member to allow me to give back to FarmHouse for what it has done for me and to actively support the Foundation’s mission—‘Building the Leaders of Tomorrow.’”

Foundation Trustees

“During my first two years at Colorado State University, I was apathetic toward fraternities. As I became involved with university student leadership and various organizations and clubs on campus, I discovered most were headed by FarmHouse men. I knew several members of FarmHouse and was invited to be a guest and see for myself what FarmHouse offered. Within a few months, I was initiated and serving as an officer of the chapter. My best man and groomsmen at our wedding were the FarmHouse men I came to know and respect and remain lifelong friends. FarmHouse became the defining litmus test of loyalty, trust, work ethic and brotherhood during my college experience and in the years following.”



**JIM HENDRIX
(COLORADO STATE 72),
FINANCE CHAIR**

*Founder & President | Progressive
Agricultural Management, Inc.*

“I serve as a Foundation Trustee because I want to build a solid financial foundation for tomorrow’s FarmHouse leaders.”

“Being a Foundation Trustee is a privilege to serve and give back to FarmHouse. The Fraternity provided me many skills and confidence that have been beneficial to all parts of my life, both personally and professionally. Being able to give back through the Foundation work is one way to repay FarmHouse.”



**SCOTT NAGEL
(MINNESOTA 85)**

*President | ADM-
Benson Quinn*

“I give back to FarmHouse because of all the benefit it has provided in my life.”

**JASON MOTT
(MISSOURI 94)**
*Corporate Credit Manager
| MFA Incorporated*



**ERIC THURBER
(NEBRASKA 89)**

*Co-Founder & Managing
Director | Three Bridge
Wealth Advisors*



**JIM WIELAND
(NORTH DAKOTA STATE 72)**

*Co-Founder & President and
Managing Partner | Goldmark
Commercial Real Estate Services*

“Joining FarmHouse in 1972 was a life-changing experience. I was a below-average student with no idea or plan for my future. My FarmHouse connections changed all of that. Being around high-quality men with goals and plans for success really motivated me. I even became a good student! Many of my closest friends today are my FarmHouse brothers. I cannot imagine where my life would be without this experience.”

“As a FarmHouse chapter president, I got my first humbling experiences managing people and finances—those priceless lessons have served me well throughout my personal and business career. Fraternal living is on trial right now, and FH has a mission and core values that make it a preferred home for college students. I am thoroughly enjoying serving as a Foundation board member helping support the Fraternity’s efforts to provide this opportunity for generations to come.”

**W. SHAYNE WOODARD
(TEXAS TECH 85)**

*Founder and Owner | Waterloo
Lobby & Advocacy*



**DICK WITTMAN
(IDAHO 68),
GOVERNANCE CHAIR**

*Principal | Wittman
Farms & Consulting*



“Serving as a member of the Board of Trustees for the FarmHouse Foundation has been extremely gratifying. I have enjoyed the opportunity to give back to the organization that has positively influenced my personal and professional development. FarmHouse values I developed as an undergraduate at Texas Tech University, continue to impact me today as a brother, friend, husband, father and lobbyist. My understanding as a pledge of the importance of ‘Building the whole man;’ has encouraged me to focus on balancing my life in all aspects—spiritually, intellectually, socially, morally and physically.”

Unique Giving

Gabriel Eckert Celebrates His Birthday With FH

“What do I want for my birthday?” This age-old question (literally) comes every year.

ONE FARMHOUSE ALUMNUS chose to help tell FarmHouse’s story for his birthday and turned his Facebook page into a catalyst for giving.

For his birthday on May 3, International Executive Board President Gabriel Eckert (Kansas State 95) created a Facebook fundraising campaign to grow his leadership endowment fund with the FarmHouse Foundation. More than 20 of Gabriel’s friends and family gave over \$1,100 in his honor, which Eckert then matched dollar for dollar.

Gabriel solely used the social media platform for his birthday fundraiser. Using multiple posts for several weeks leading up to his birthday, some of which incorporated undergraduate testimonials, Eckert was able to share the FarmHouse story with people who may not have ever experienced what the Fraternity can do for young men.

“I knew it would be an opportunity for people to learn about the good work FarmHouse does,” Gabriel said. And, “I thought this would be an interesting opportunity for individuals to give to the Foundation, particularly

those who are not members of the Fraternity.”

The majority of donors who gave to his fundraiser were not affiliated with FarmHouse. However, Eckert wanted to do more than raise funds for his endowment fund, which supports educational initiatives and leadership training of the International Fraternity.

Raising positive awareness about FarmHouse prompted several of Gabriel’s friends to ask questions about the Fraternity, many reflected on their own fraternal experiences on his Facebook posts and others shared the online campaign with their social networks.

“I was very humbled and excited to see the amount of support we received, but I was even more excited to see positive interaction, comments and questions.”

“For individuals who are considering engaging in a Facebook fundraiser or other types of fundraisers, I’d say try it,” says Gabriel. “Tell your FarmHouse story. Find opportunities for people to give who are affiliated with FarmHouse and who are not. You’ll be surprised by the number of people who will look positively on what you’re doing and about the experience FarmHouse is creating.”

We thank Gabriel for celebrating his birthday with FarmHouse and continuing to invest in future young leaders. *

“For individuals who are considering engaging in a Facebook fundraiser or other types of fundraisers, I’d say try it!”



“Going Far, Together”

Allison Rickels, CFRE, Executive Director and CEO of the FarmHouse Foundation, talks about her tenure with FarmHouse, its growth and her passion for serving others. As the first and only woman to lead a men’s fraternity foundation, she continues to blaze trails for the betterment and progress of FarmHouse. And when it comes to service, Allison is well versed.

This summer marks 18 years on staff. How did you initially find FarmHouse?

I began with the FarmHouse Foundation in July 2001, after graduating from the University of Northern Iowa (UNI). I was hired as the Director of Annual Fund & Communications. I was the second full-time person with Bob Off (Colorado State 64) as Executive Director. The Foundation had \$2.5 million assets, was raising \$600,000 per year and starting *Campaign 2005*. The position was appealing because of my sorority experience and my background in public relations, marketing, journalism and with non-profits.

When I interviewed, I could tell FarmHouse was made of greatness. The office was modest and the staff was small, but I quickly saw the difference they were making in other people’s lives. From that first day, I couldn’t wait to be a part of it. Little did I know the opportunity I was being afforded. Eighteen years later, I am so thankful my service to FarmHouse continues.

Given your love of service, what does it mean to you?

Service has been a part of my life since I was a child, instilled by my parents’ involvement and care for others. I am passionate about youth development, leadership, education and building community, and find those are the organizations where I invest.

I strongly believe in the saying, “If

you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.” It’s amazing how much can be accomplished when a group of like-minded, passionate people join together for an incredible cause.

Why do you continue to serve the Foundation?

I am often asked why I continue in my role. Typically, many fundraising professionals only stay 2-3 years with an organization.

My “why” is I strongly believe in FarmHouse. I believe in Fraternity done right, and for the betterment of young people. There has never been a more crucial time for young men to have mature adult guidance, a platform to develop critical life skills, enhanced leadership education, mental health support, a tangible network to believe in them, and a home away from home. A positive fraternal experience is incredibly powerful and life-changing.

The professional opportunities I have been given are far greater and more rewarding than I could have ever imagined. It is a deep privilege to encourage, develop and foster philanthropy with our donors for the direct and positive development of young men.

What inspires you about FH?

I believe in helping people become the best versions of themselves. Seeing a budding college freshman mature then graduate as an all-star leader and

student is inspiring. Then to watch his career path evolve, see him become a husband or partner and have a family, and ultimately help him support the Fraternity he loves because it changed his life, is beyond incredible. I want young men to become confident gentlemen, devoted spouses, amazing fathers, find success in their careers and become leaders in their communities. We need this so much more in our world, and I believe FarmHouse helps make this happen.

Fundraising isn’t easy. What keeps you motivated?

I am driven by the powerful impact donors make when they leverage their giving to FarmHouse and the power in the moments when you see new skills and mindsets click for our students. I could share thousands of meaningful stories of generosity by our donors—from gifts large and small—and the ripple effect they cause for FarmHouse. It makes me awestruck.

What is it like to work with the Foundation Trustees?

Our Foundation Trustees are outstanding—with their time, talent and treasure—and in being visionary, mentors to me and our staff, challenging us to do more and be more innovative. We often say, “we can’t rest on our laurels.”

Their collective leadership and partnerships with our generous donors has enabled us to break many fundraising records, have two successful capital

Going Far, Together

campaigns, create innovative initiatives, win numerous awards and grow our assets to nearly \$22 million today. However, we have a lot more work to do together, which is exciting and challenging.

You continue to be involved with your sorority, Alpha Phi. Why?

When I was young, I knew I wanted to be in a sorority. My mom is an Alpha Phi, and she would tell me about being a house-girl to help pay for college, how her sorority sisters helped her in countless ways and what Alpha Phi taught her. I watched her go to reunions and we'd travel to visit many of them.

As a college freshman, I was honored to join the same sorority. Alpha Phi was my launch pad. The experience inspired, challenged and empowered me. My sisters gave me the confidence, opportunities and leadership skills I

“FARMHOUSE IS A SMALL ORGANIZATION THAT ALWAYS THINKS BIG.”

needed at that time. I realized then being Greek was powerful and just the beginning of a lifetime commitment.

Since then, I have served as a chapter advisor, on their national magazine's editorial board for 15 years, and as an officer for my alumnae chapter. Mostly recently, I concluded six years as President of our alumnae chapter.

Why do you also serve with your University and interfraternally?

I recently concluded as President of the Foundation for Fraternal Excellence, and am currently on UNI's Alumni Association Board of Directors. Both have been incredibly rewarding opportunities to serve and represent FarmHouse on a larger, national scale. Beyond my service, I learn so much from my colleagues about fundraising,

alumni engagement and higher education I can apply to my CEO role.

Do you have a favorite mantra?

My favorite line from the Object is, “progress shall mark our every step”. I find myself saying it not just in our Foundation work but everything I do including raising my two daughters, Sydney (12) and Delaney (8), with my husband, Nick (Honorary 16).

Because in reality, it takes one step at a time to reach the next big milestone, it's a team effort and you need confidence to keep moving forward. FarmHouse is a small organization that always thinks big. We have a big vision, huge goals and new aspirations along with confident donors, volunteers and staff who believe this too.

You wear many hats as a CEO, mom, wife and servant leader.

How do you make it work?

Life is about choices and I choose opportunities that fill my bucket. Everyone has the same number of hours in the day, and I want to make my time count.

I work hard as a CEO to help ensure FarmHouse is successful for today and tomorrow.

I absolutely treasure my role as mom to my girls and soak up every second I can with them. I also want them to see me work hard for others and be a strong, confident role model.

Most importantly, Nick is an incredible husband who is extremely supportive of my role. I often travel for the Foundation and work on weekends. Without him, I couldn't lead the Foundation.

Given your service, what words of wisdom would you share with those who do not volunteer for FarmHouse?

I guarantee investing your time, talent and treasure will be worth it. Every volunteer I know says they get more out of the experience than they give. I believe it too.

A housemother said to me recently, “If you think the next generation is hopeless, come visit FarmHouse.”

I couldn't agree more. You will feel inspired, motivated and hope-filled when you get involved with our talented budding leaders. ★



Throughout her career, Allison has received much recognition for the work she has done. Recently, Allison was recognized for her six years of service on the Foundation for Fraternal Excellence (FFE) Board at their Foundation Seminar, held in August in Indianapolis, Ind.

She spent the last year as President. She also served as Vice President for two years and Secretary for two years.

The FFE advances the fraternal movement by cultivating a culture of philanthropy and enhancing the sophistication of associated professionals. FFE represents over 70 men and women's fraternal foundations.

In August, the FarmHouse Foundation was the recipient of two FFE awards, “Best Development Effort in an Annual Campaign” and “Best Use of a Foundation Grant.” The Awards of Distinction annually recognizes successful programs and outstanding fundraising techniques by fraternity and sorority foundations. Under her leadership, the FH Foundation has received 11 FFE awards.

“No other person over the past decade has served the interfraternal foundation community more actively than Allison. Our industry is stronger today thanks to her professional dedication and vision.”

—Jud Horas, NIC President



Larry Anderson Craig Clement Max Engler Tim Handorf Kyle Hauberg James Hendrix Brian Hilgenfeld Randy Linville Kent Moore Jason Mott Paul Rohlfig Tom Schulz Jeremy Settles



Harold Steele Tim Trojan Chris Trojan Chris Wetzell

25 Alumni Join Top Honor Roll Clubs

THE FARMHOUSE Foundation welcomed 25 new members in to its highest giving societies between January 15, 2019 and June 30, 2019.

ORDER OF THE CREST

Accumulative gifts of \$250,000 to \$499,999

Randal L. Linville (Kansas State 73) is managing director of ClearSight Ventures, LLC with over 30 years leadership in agribusiness. A Philanthropy Laureate, he is a past Chairman and Trustee Emeritus of the FarmHouse Foundation. Randy and his wife, Debbie, live in Leawood, Kan.

CENTURY CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$100,000 to \$249,999

Harold B. Steele (Illinois 41)† was a decorated U.S. Army veteran and life-long farmer. From 1989-1993, he served as Chairman and CEO of the Farm Credit Administration, appointed by President George H.W. Bush. With FarmHouse, he served as a Foundation Trustee from 1998-2002. Harold received the Master Builder award in 2004 and the Philanthropy Laureate Award in 2008. His recent estate gift to establish a leadership endowment fund enabled Harold to permanently join the Century Club. He passed away in February 2019.

DOANE CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$50,000 to \$99,999

Craig T. Clement (Auburn 88) is president of The Clement Group, LLC.

Craig and his wife, Robyn, reside in Prattville, Ala.

Mark L. Freese (Nebraska 78) is a financial officer with Farm Credit Services of America. He is a member of the Nebraska FH Association. Mark and his wife, Marlys, reside in Lincoln, Neb.

James B. Hendrix (Colorado State 72) is the founder and president of Progressive Agricultural Management, LLC. He is a Trustee and Finance Chair of the FarmHouse Foundation. Jim and his wife, Twila, reside in Wray, Colo.

Thomas R. Schulz (Minnesota 68) is a retired instructor at Central Lakes College. Thomas and his wife, Kyle, reside in Sebeka, Minn.

Jeremy Settles (New Mexico State 94) is co-founder of OroSolutions, a technology firm based in Austin, Texas. He is a past Chairman of the Foundation, serving as a Trustee from 2013-2019. Jeremy and his wife, Cynthia, reside in Las Cruces, N.M.

H.K. WILSON CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$25,000 to \$49,999

Larry R. Anderson (Kansas State 62) is a family physician for SU CO Family Care Center, a rural family medical practice he established in 1976 with Joel Weigand (Kansas State 63). Prior, he served in the USAF as a veterinarian. He and his wife, Laretta, live in Wellington, Kan.

Timothy W. Handorf (Iowa State 91) is the co-founder and president of G2 Crowd, a technology and software company that leverages user reviews and purchasing analytics for businesses. Timothy and his wife, Danae, reside in Trevor, Wis.

Paul D. Rohlfig (Nebraska 83) is Pfizer's executive director for chemistry, manufacturing and controls regulatory affairs. Paul and his wife, Gail, live in Greensboro, N.C.

1905 CLUB

Accumulative gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Michael E. Ecklun (Nebraska 80) is a farmer. He and his wife, Nancy, reside in Holdrege, Neb.

Max C. Engler (Kansas State 78) is a farmer and operator of Engler Farms. Max

and his wife, Cathy, live in Deerfield, Kan.

Kyle R. Hauberg (Nebraska 89) is partner and director of Dykema's Real Estate and Environmental Department. He lives in Oakland Township, Mich.

Donald S. Hildebrand (Kansas State 73) is marketing president for American State Bank & Trust. He and his wife, Suzanne, reside in St. John, Kan.

Brian Hilgenfeld (Nebraska 86) is senior vice president and area general manager for Sirius Computer Solutions. He oversees sales and operations for Sirius' offices in Chicago, Omaha and Kansas City. Brian and his wife, Michelle, reside in Blair, Neb.

Dwight N. Jackson (Kansas State 57) is a retired pilot. Dwight and his wife, Caroline, live in Lawrence, Kan.

Donald R. Johnson (Arkansas 66) is a retired extension entomologist who consults on rice and cotton production. He resides in Cabot, Ark.

Kent L. Moore (Kansas State 85) is a farmer and rancher. He serves as treasurer of the Kansas Corn Growers Association. Kent and his wife, Suzanne, reside in Iuka, Kan.

Jason L. Mott (Missouri 94) is corporate credit manager for MFA, Inc. Jason serves as a Foundation Trustee and Treasurer of the Missouri FH Association. He and his wife, Rebecca, reside in Clark, Mo.

Lawrence N. Neumann (Minnesota 61) is retired director of marketing development for ADM Grain. He and his wife, Mary Margaret, live in Lakeway, Texas.

Tommy L. Riley (Arkansas 71) is a farmer and owner of Riley Farm. He resides with his wife, Judy, in El Paso, Ark.

Christopher C. Trojan (Oklahoma State 01) is an attorney and real-estate professional who works for Real Estate Results, LLC. Chris and his wife, Valerie, reside in Enid, Okla.

Timothy D. Trojan (Oklahoma State 98) is a board certified allergy and immunology doctor and founder of Allergy and Asthma Experts, PLLC, in Enid, Okla. He and his wife, Jessica, reside in Enid, Okla.

Earl C. Watson (Mississippi State 64) is a retired agronomist with the U.S. Sugar Corporation. He resides in Clewiston, Fla.

Christopher T. Wetzell (Minnesota 99) is general manager of grain merchandising for Agrex, Inc. Chris is vice president of the Minnesota FH Association. He and his wife, Stephanie, live in Medina, Minn. *



On the FarmHouse Foundation's popular new **Plan My Legacy** website, you can:

- Find the right gift for you based on your age, assets or the amount you would like to give.
- Learn about ways to give and

how to fund your gift.

- Download brochures and watch videos on popular types of gifts.
- See your potential benefits with our **Gift Illustrator**.
- Get your plans in motion with our **Personal Estate Planning Kit**.

Seeing is believing!

www.farmhouse.planmylegacy.org

Family or FarmHouse? The Answer Is *Both*

OFTEN WE TALK ABOUT FarmHouse as a family—a band of brothers. And likely, you can recall those FH brothers and mentors who have made a difference in your life.

Naming the FarmHouse Foundation as a beneficiary in your will is a simple way to provide the values-based experience that shaped you and ensure the future of your FarmHouse family. But maybe you've hesitated because you're unsure about how much to give.

Because life is unpredictable and the value of your assets is likely to rise and fall, you don't want to risk that someday your charitable gift could outweigh the well-being of your family. Fortunately, there's a solution.

Percentage Giving

Instead of a fixed amount, consider gifting a percentage of your estate or of specific assets. That way, gifts to loved ones and to organizations such as ours remain proportional—no matter how your estate fluctuates.

Here are three simple ways to put family first while supporting your FarmHouse family:

- Gift a percentage of your estate to the FarmHouse Foundation in your will.

- Leave the FarmHouse Foundation a percentage of your residual estate (the portion of your estate that remains after all gifts have been made and all claims of the estate are satisfied).
- Name the FarmHouse Foundation as a beneficiary of a percentage of your life insurance policy or retirement account.

How to Say It

To create your legacy of charitable giving while ensuring your gift remains in relative proportion to benefiting family members, ask your estate planning attorney to include the following wording in your will or living trust:

"I give and bequeath to the FarmHouse Foundation (Federal Tax ID #36-6111880), a not-for-profit 501(c)3 trust agreement domiciled in Missouri, the sum of \$____ (or ____% of my residuary estate) to provide funding for [insert program or chapter to benefit] OR be used for educational purposes as the Foundation Board shall determine."

Why Give

Including the FarmHouse Foundation in your estate will give future generations of FarmHouse men opportunities to

learn and grow both in and out of the classroom through leadership training, academic scholarships and a home away from home. Estate giving is the ultimate gift and a lasting tribute to your interest in and support of your FarmHouse family and an inspiration for others to follow.

Your Gift Matters

Giving a small percentage of your estate can have a bigger impact on FarmHouse than you might think. Doing so, you will join our *100 Legacies in the Making* that recognizes those who have generously included FarmHouse in their planned giving. Plus, your generosity will inspire others to follow your example. Your philanthropy and dedication to FarmHouse will change lives, not just someday, but every day and forever.*

Contact Allison Rickels today if you have questions about naming us as a beneficiary. If you've already named us as a beneficiary, please let us know so we can thank you for your generosity, add your name to our 100 Legacies in the Making and ensure your gift will be used exactly as you intend.

SCOUTING THE WAY:

A life of FarmHouse, Boy Scouts and Service



John Feick (North Dakota State 79) is the CEO and Scout Executive of the Ozark Trails Boy Scouts in Springfield, Mo. He has worked for the Boy Scouts since 1984, marking this as his 35th year. John says, “there are about two things that really impacted me developmentally—the Boy Scouts and FarmHouse.”

JOHN FEICK GREW UP IN NORTHEASTERN NORTH DAKOTA and was set to be a FarmHouse man before he finished elementary school.

“I remember being in about 5th grade and going to Parent’s Day and enjoying the times I was there,” he said proudly of his first FarmHouse experience.

“I don’t think my parents would have let me join any other fraternity.”

John’s older brothers, Duane (North Dakota State 73) and Mark (North Dakota State 77), set the tone for the lasting impact he experienced through FarmHouse.

John found an immediate home at North Dakota State University. “When I joined the chapter there were a lot of leaders there to set the example for us. In the chapter we had the president of the Young Republicans, the president of the Young Democrats, the student body president and the president of the Short Horned Hereford Association—all at the same time,” he said, mentioning the list went on and on.

The brothers who surrounded John all strived toward excellence and gained much from it, including the highest grades on campus.

“Your expectations of yourself become higher because of that environment,” John said.

“You had four more years of being in a home, except with higher expectations. If you weren’t doing well your brothers in the chapter would say something to you.”

The impact of being surrounded by men of such high caliber challenged John. He said, “Nobody put expectations on me, but because I was in the midst of that group, I needed to live up to be as good as them or to work toward being like the kind of people that were around.”

John remembers having a 3.2 GPA and wondering how he let his grades slip so much lower than the average of the rest of the chapter.

For four years of John’s life, he was able to watch the principles of FarmHouse put into action. By the time John graduated he was as he described, “challenged not only to live the Fraternity’s principles and ideals but also to share and grow them somehow.”

For the last 35 years, that’s what he has tried to do.

While the values and principles of the Fraternity always pair well with success stories, the transition between FarmHouse and the Boy Scouts seems especially smooth. John explained this by comparing the principles of the Fraternity to Scout Law, the guiding code for Boy Scouts.

“When I think about the ideals of

Scouting the Way



John always enjoys his time at camp with young Scouts; Not pictured are the record-breaking fish caught right after the bottom photo was taken.

Scouting and the ideals of the Fraternity, they are almost a perfect overlay as far as what Scouting strives for and what [FarmHouse] strives for.”

John explained in Scout Law, “trustworthy and loyalty can compare to FarmHouse’s unity. Helpful in Scout Law is comparable to Service and Excellence in FarmHouse. Obedient is the word in scout law, and Obedience is the word in FarmHouse. Reverence is a perfect overlay to the scout’s Reverent.”

If a general description of two men was given, and with one being described by Scout Law and one being described by the FarmHouse acronym, they would sound like brothers.

The hallmarks of John’s career

have been hard work and dedication to serving others. It could be said the similarity between his two beloved organizations was nothing short of serendipitous. While strong family connections led John to FarmHouse, he experienced the joys of the Boy Scouts through the helpfulness of a stranger.

“When it came time to be a Boy Scout, there was no Boy Scout troop in my area. A district executive drove 90 miles one way in the winter time to start my troop. If it wasn’t for that employee of the Boy Scouts, I would not have been able to have my experience. I’m always grateful for that.”

The service done then was more than a foreshadowing for the future Scout Executive. (When his troop was

so graciously started in the middle of winter, John was given more than most.)

Growing up, John thought he would never get to do all the things he was given the chance to do in the Scouts. John’s father had polio and was confined to a wheelchair. While John grew up in a loving home, he also knew his father could not teach him to fish or canoe, among many other things boys his age would learn.

“The Boy Scouts did that for me,” John said with tears in his eyes. “I have a hard time talking about it but if it weren’t for the Boy Scouts there’s a lot of things I wouldn’t have gotten to do in life or as a kid.”

“Scouting is a lot about leadership and leadership development,” he reflected. “I attribute a lot of my success in life to my experience as a youth.”

Along with the teamwork and life skills, John gained a meaningful career. With the impact the Scouts had on him, it is easy to see why John takes pride in impacting the lives of others.

“There are surveys done locally and nationally that show great results of kids who were in Scouting,” John said. “Scouts are much more likely to graduate high school and are twice as likely to go to college and graduate. Also, life-long income is much higher than that of someone who wasn’t in the Scouts.”

While these studies show the broad strokes of impact the Boy Scouts has John says, “I get to see the good we do when we see individual kids that we empower.”

For John and those who help support Boy Scout programs, it’s all about the youth. John has been able to see kindergartners he worked with eventually become Eagle Scouts and get accepted to college.

“We work with low income areas. I have one Scout on camp staff who started as a Tiger Cub (first or second grade) and was in a situation where the Boy Scouts funded his uniform. Now, he’s going to college and working in our camp trading post for the summer.”

However, to say every day is easy would be inappropriate. John recounted a story from his early days in the Scouts. It was a snowy winter night, much like the night his own troop was started. He had travelled to Aurora, Minn., which is a five hour drive from Fargo, where he lived at the time.

“I can remember driving home to

“When I see volunteers working, that to me is service. They spend their time—hours and hours—giving of themselves to make other people and other situations better”

—JOHN FIECK (NORTH DAKOTA STATE 79)

Fargo, N.D., and it was 11 pm and snowing. The roads were icy and I remember saying to myself, ‘why do I do this?’ because you’re white knuckle driving down the road and it’s cold.” John said.

However, John’s answer is simple. “All I have to do is go to camp, walk around and see the kids and I know why I do what I do. Seeing the impact Scouting has on kids is huge for me and for staying in this career.”

A big part of being able to interact with those kids, and much of John’s background with the Scouts, has been building or rebuilding camps that make financial and program sense. Within the first five years of his career, John faced one of his largest challenges—the first Council John was employed by was struggling, both financially and with staffing. Everyone worked overtime and none of the books were balanced. Although the Council now thrives, 35 years ago, he says, things were a mess. It was also at this time John took over camping operations.

John’s challenge: fix Camp Wilderness. “The place hadn’t been maintained for maybe 10 years,” John said.

“Every roof leaked, the water tower leaked and all of the electrical lines needed to be replaced. The septic tanks were all full or overflowing. It was a disaster.”

Not only was the project larger than John felt capable of handling, he was also on a time crunch. Work started on the

camp in April and they had until June before 800 campers were set to arrive. With the snow drifts at the northern camp still not yet melted, John set to work.

“If I had known all the things that were going to go wrong I would have said we couldn’t get it done,” John said jokingly.

But John knew how much Scout Camp had meant to him as a kid and was determined to get it done. To accomplish the task alone would have been impossible. John rallied volunteers and notes the incredible achievement made possible by them.

“I would ask the volunteers and tell them what needed to be done. Over and over again they showed up to help . . .

I am always amazed at the hours, energy and time Scout volunteers put in to delivering the Scouting program to kids. You couldn’t afford to pay people to work the number of hours our volunteers do. It’s because they are passionate about Scouting and the impact it has on kids.”

Today, Camp Wilderness is thriving and has been written about in *Boys Life* magazine numerous times and has been on the cover of *Scouting Magazine*.

“If we hadn’t gotten the camp open that spring, I don’t believe it would have ever opened again.” John said.

“I kept my nose to the grindstone and kept working towards it.” Because of the work he and his volunteers did

they were able to keep the camp open.

John said, “being a Boy Scout professional is kind of like a lifestyle. You’re active in Scouting and it never stops and never goes away. If I go to the street fair, I’m going to talk to people who know me through Scouting. If I go to the mall, I’ll talk to people about Scouting.”

With all of the programs, troops and councils, John could be gone every night and every weekend working for the Boy Scouts. He notes there are many things to be done but will hardly be noticed. Humbly he says, “I view it as part of my job.”

John knows the lifestyle is one he loves, and is happy to have.

When asked about the service aspect, John replied, “I don’t know when the job really quits and when the service begins. It’s a lot of hours but there’s also lots of rewards.”

It is not unusual to find John gearing up for the next big program or on his way to a Scouting event. His dedication to Scouting is only rivaled by his passion for helping others. When the topic of service is brought up, the meaning it holds for individual members and alumni varies. However, what is clear is the role service plays in helping build men.

As he was speaking about impactful times of his career, John said, “My expectations of myself were higher in life because I was in FarmHouse.” *

Alumni NEWS

Illinois

Three Illinois FarmHouse members were recognized as part of *News-Gazette Media's* inaugural class of "Seventy over 70." **Paul Curtis** (Illinois 53), **Harold Guither** (Illinois 47) and **Bob Easter** (Illinois 78) were chosen due to their lively curiosity and willingness to learn something new, an aptitude for personal and/or professional growth and a commitment to bettering others.



Paul Curtis has owned and operated Curtis Orchard & Pumpkin Patch in Champaign, Ill., since 1977.



Guither is professor emeritus of agricultural economics at the University of Illinois. After serving in the U.S. Navy for 14 months during World War II, he earned a bachelor's in agriculture from the University of Illinois and began working for D. Howard Doane's company, Doane Agricultural Service. He worked at the University from 1956-1995, earned a Ph.D. in agricultural economics, and has written seven books and numerous other publications.



Easter began his career at the University of Illinois after earning his doctorate in animal science in 1976. Following, he worked as a faculty member, department head and the Dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES)

After earning a Ph.D. in plant physiology in the early 60s, Curtis became an instructor at Parkland College, a position he held for over

before moving into a senior administration role. After serving as interim Vice President and Chancellor, Easter was named President of the University of Illinois in 2012, serving until 2015. He became an associate member of FarmHouse in 1978.

Kansas State



Melvin Cotner (Kansas State 46) was recently named, "Lord Fairfax" in Fairfax County, Va., for his 50 years of service to his community. This honor bestowed on Melvin by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, recognizes individuals who have demonstrated outstanding volunteer service, heroism or other exceptional contributions to the community. Melvin still serves on the Falls Church Community Service Council, which he helped organize in 1969.

He was a charter member of the county's Human Services Council and is an active member of his church. Congratulations, Melvin!

Missouri

Michael Day (Missouri 79) has been selected to lead Kansas State University's department of animal sciences and industry. He previously held faculty leadership positions at the University of Wyoming and The Ohio State University. Michael's work has been published in 99 peer-reviewed papers and in numerous other publications. Day earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Missouri and his master's and Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska.



David Eaheart (Missouri 86) and his Iceland's Café Loki-Inspired Rye Bread Cream Pie won "Professional Best in Show" at the 25th Annual APC National Pie Competition. His pie with cream filling, toasted rye bread, piped meringue and a caramel drizzle beat 145 other competitors. David now advances to the World Food Championships this October in Dallas, Texas. Eaheart and his superb baking skills were featured in the Spring 2018 issue of *Pearls & Rubies*. Now, who's hungry?



Nebraska



Greg Ibach (Nebraska 81), International Executive Board member and USDA Under-Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, was recently at Texas Tech University to participate in a ground-breaking ceremony for a new cotton classing facility on campus. This state-of-the-art facility, a partnership between Texas Tech and the USDA, is scheduled to be completed in Spring 2021.



Ethan Smith (Nebraska 13) was named to AgGrad's "Top 30 Under 30" list of young professionals shaping the future of agriculture. He is a farm and ranch manager for Farmers National Company, serving Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas. At the University of Nebraska, Ethan majored in agricultural economics and minored in animal science. Congrats, Ethan!

North Dakota State



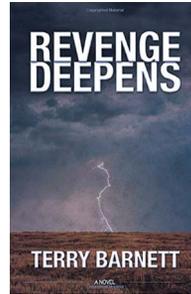
FarmHouse Foundation Trustee **Rick Berg** (North Dakota State 78) has been elected to a full term as Chairman of the North Dakota Republican Party. He had served in an interim role since March 2018. Rick served in the North Dakota House of Representatives for 26 years and is a former United States Congressman. Rick is currently the President and Owner of Berg Group and Alliance Management.

Ohio State



International Executive Board member **John Torres** (Ohio State 02) has been named Executive Director of the Maryland Farm Bureau. In his new role, John will lead efforts to protect and grow Maryland agriculture. He previously held management positions with the Ohio Farm Bureau, the American Farm Bureau Federation and the Ohio Corn & Wheat Growers Association.

Purdue



Released on Dec. 31, 2018, "Revenge Deepens" is the second book written by **Terry Barnett** (Purdue 77). The thriller is the sequel to "Revenge Knows No Bounds," which was released in January 2017. "Revenge Deepens" is a fictional book about extremist groups, murder and terror in the Midwest. Both of Terry's books can be found on Amazon. Terry is a board member of the Purdue Alumni Association.

Beck's Hybrid's, led by CEO **Sonny Beck** (Purdue 59), recently announced a \$62 million expansion project in Hamilton County, Ind. Fifty-six (56) jobs will be created by the project's completion in 2022. Over the next six years, Beck's expects to double its high-yielding corn and soybean processing capabilities from three million to six million units per year. Beck's Hybrid's is the largest family-owned retail seed company in the United States.



On July 25, **Kenneth Brashaber** (Purdue 52) was presented with the Circle of Corydon award by Indiana State Senator Jean Leising and Interlocal Community Action Program executive director Kevin Polivick. The award recognizes individuals who have made remarkable contributions to Indiana and their local communities. After serving in the United State Air Force and being a Founding Father of the Purdue FarmHouse Chapter, Brashaber taught high school agriculture for 38 years, influencing thousands of young lives. He was a board member for several community organizations and has been instrumental in awarding several local scholarships. Congratulations, Kenneth!

Tennessee



On June 13, **Jim Herbert** (Tennessee 61) and his wife, Judi, were presented the Ruby C. McSwain Outstanding Philanthropist Award by the National Agricultural Alumni Development Association (NAADA). The award recognizes individuals with a record of sustained giving to support agriculture, agricultural higher education, cooperative extension or land grant universities.

Jim was named Master Builder in 2016, received the Foundation's Philanthropy Laureate Award in 2018, the NIC Foundation's Philanthropist of the year in 2017 and he served as a

Alumni News

Foundation Trustee for six years, including two as chair-elect and two as chair. Jim is a member of the Foundation's Cornerstone Society, for cumulative giving of \$500,000 and above.

Along with their support of FarmHouse, the Herberts also support the University of Tennessee. In 2018, the University renamed the Herbert College of Agriculture for their transformational philanthropy. Congratulations to Jim and Judi on this incredible achievement!

Alumni Gatherings



Trevor Tune (Missouri 13), **Austin Fichter** (Iowa State 12), **Allison Rickels** Executive Director & CEO of the FarmHouse Foundation, **Jim Tobin** (Iowa State 76) and **Andy Jacobitz** (Nebraska 85) attended the 2019 Berkshire-Hathaway Annual Shareholders Meeting in Omaha, Neb.



Jim Wieland (North Dakota State 72), **Doug Sims** (Illinois 65), **Jeff Topp** (North Dakota State 79), **Mike Fayhee** (Illinois 67), **Jim Herbert** (Tennessee 61) and **Rick Berg** (North Dakota State 78) vacationed together for a weekend in Alberta, Canada. *

IN Memoriam

Dr. Bruce Maunder (Nebraska 53), Master Builder



BRUCE WAS BORN MAY 13, 1934, in Holdrege, Neb. He grew up from 1939 until 1950 in Lincoln, Neb., with summers often near Grand Island, Neb., on an irrigated farm developed

by his maternal grandfather who settled there from Germany in the 1800s. This contrasted with his paternal, distant grandfather who was traced to Governor Bradford of the 1620 pilgrims.

Bruce graduated from both the Overseas High School of Rome, Italy, as well as Northeast High School of Lincoln, Neb., in 1952. He earned his bachelor's degree in agronomy from the University of Nebraska in 1956. He obtained his master's of science and Ph.D. from

Purdue University in plant breeding and genetics in 1958 and 1960, respectively.

Dr. Maunder accepted a sorghum breeding position with DEKALB Genetics in Lubbock, Texas, in 1960. He was responsible for worldwide sorghum improvement, having products from this program in as many as 49 countries and grown on as many as 10 million acres. He became Senior Vice President of DEKALB in 1991, retiring after 37 years in 1996. Following active plant breeding, Bruce accepted an offer to volunteer with the National Sorghum Producers for 20 years as a research adviser and as manager of the National Sorghum Foundation.

Additionally, Maunder served as an adjunct professor at Texas Tech University. He also held numerous national positions, including president of the Crop Science Society; on the board of *Diversity* magazine; with the World Food Prize under Dr. Norman Borlaug, his favorite mentor; and

the Sorghum Crop Germplasm Committee at USDA. For some 21 years, he was active with the USAID INTSORMIL program as chair of the external evaluation panel.

Besides the development of improved hybrid sorghums, Bruce was especially proud of honorary doctorate degrees in science and agriculture he received from the University of Nebraska as well as Purdue University. In addition to many distinguished service awards, he was presented the Monsanto Crop Science Distinguished Career award in 2000. In that same year, Bruce also received the Master Builder Award.

This year, the Agronomy and Horticulture Alumni Advisory Council chose Bruce for a Lifetime Achievement Award.

His legacy is well adorned with awards, and his impact truly world-wide. Bruce Maunder (Nebraska 53) passed away Aug. 5, 2019. *

IN Memoriam

The following are notices received by the FarmHouse International Office between March 31, 2019, and August 10, 2019.

Listed by—Name (Initiation year); Death; 0/0/0000; Age at time of death; Resided in

Arkansas

MARION T. MATHIS ('57);
6/6/2019; 85;
Mansfield, Ark.

Clemson

WILLIAM L. GALLIEN ('16);
5/1/2019; 22; Clover,
S.C.

Colorado State

FRANK HARTMAN ('64); 3/18/2019;
73; King George, Va.

Idaho

MONTE W. BRUHN ('78);
6/9/2019; 60;
Salmon, Idaho

Illinois

MICHAEL D. BUILTA ('86);
4/8/2019; 52;
Bloomington, Ill.

PHILIP L. DEAL ('59);
4/1/2019; 78;
Sarasota, Fla.

KENNETH M. MCKEE ('55);
3/26/2019; 82;
Varna, Ill.

LEROY D. SAUDER ('51);
5/25/2019; 86; East
Peoria, Ill.

ANDREW R. STONE ('77);
1/24/2013; 54;
Springfield, Ill.

Illinois State

FRANK R. DURHAM ('88);
5/24/2019; 57;
Tuscola, Ill.

Iowa State

WILLIAM H. BOGUE ('65);
5/5/2019; 72;
Ogden, Iowa

KERMIT D. COGGSHALL ('59); 2/8/2019;
80; Dallas, Texas

ROBERT B. MCHOSE ('56);
4/23/2019; 63;
Escondido, Calif.

Kansas State

STANLEY B. FANSHER ('43); 7/8/2019; 95;
Garden City, Kan.

Kentucky

MALCOLM L. GARDNER ('69); 6/18/2019;
70; Owensboro, Ky.

CHARLES A. LASSITER ('54); 3/1/2019; 92;
Charlotte, N.C.

JOHN O. MARSH ('55);
4/12/2019; 87;
Cynthiana, Ky.

RONNIE J. RYAN ('53);
4/9/2019; 84;
Maysville, Ky.

JOHN G. SHARPE ('77);
6/5/2019; 63;
Georgetown, Ky.

Michigan State

DUANE S. GERLACH ('45); 12/24/2013;
89; Mount Clemens,
Mich.

WILLIAM F. KEISH ('61);
11/9/2018; 76;
Glastonbury, Conn.

GERALD J. KUGEL ('52);
12/6/2018; 85;
Berrien Springs,
Mich.

JACK L. MORSE ('61);
4/19/2019; 76;
Harrison, Mich.

JAMES C. MORSE ('58);
2/25/2019; 79;
Fremont, Mich.

KENNETH C. SHEPARD ('55); 1/18/2019;
83; Lady Lake, Fla

RICHARD SKILLEN ('55);
8/30/2018; 87;
Rocky River, Ohio

PETER W. SPIKE ('60);
4/17/2019; 78;
Delaware, Ohio

JAMES E. VARADY ('47);
5/4/2014; 72;
Leawood, Kan.

Minnesota

JEROME G. ARNOLD ('61);
6/6/2019; 78;
Duluth, Minn.

RICHARD W. BAUS ('53);
5/22/2019; 86;
Redfield, S.D.

BOB F. WALSER ('49);
7/12/2019; 91;
Negaunee, Mich.

Missouri

LEO F. CRONIN ('48);
4/3/2019; 91; East
Peoria, Ill.

PAUL D. DOAK ('55); 5/12/2019;
90; Columbia, Mo.

Nebraska

MERWYN F. DAVIDSON ('52); 1/18/2019;
85; Lincoln, Neb.

PAUL R. EVELAND ('41); 5/2/2019; 96;
Fremont, Neb.

JOHN C. RUSSELL ('72);
4/7/2019; 66;
Beatrice, Neb.

DONALD D. SIFFRING ('56); 5/25/2019;
81; Juniata, Neb.

WILLIAM M. SPILKER ('55);
4/20/2019; 82;
Helena, Mont.

ELDEN D. WESELY ('51);
2/1/2019; 87;
Uehling, Neb.

WAYNE A. WHITE ('50);
4/15/2019; 87;
Rio Rancho, Neb.

North Carolina State

RICHARD J. FREEMAN ('54); 3/23/2019;
85; Star, N.C.

CARMEN PARKHURST ('98); 5/19/2019;
77; Castalia, N.C.

North Dakota State

LOGAN SILHA ('70); 3/9/2019;
68; Bowman, N.D.

Ohio State

LOWELL E. MOSER ('62);
4/27/2019; 79;
Lincoln, Neb.

Oklahoma State

ROBERT G. HOWARD ('50);
10/27/2017; 87;
Oakridge, Tenn.

DON E. LOCKE ('72); 2/11/2019;
65; East Peoria, Ill.

Purdue

PHILIP D. COFFMAN ('58); 3/1/2019; 79;
Richmond, Ind.

DON J. MCKEE ('65); 2/10/2019;
73; Fishers, Ind.

JOHN W. MEEK ('66);
7/17/2019; 72;
Milroy, Ind.

Washington State

RONALD R. BAKER ('55);
3/28/2019; 85;
Hermiston, Ore.

FarmHouse Photo

During the Emerging Talent Retreat: To Be and Become, Thomas Gevock (Kansas State 18) tackles the ropes course. The time spent on both the low and high ropes courses were geared towards leadership development and the classroom activities that followed focused on developing solutions to solve challenges in their local communities.

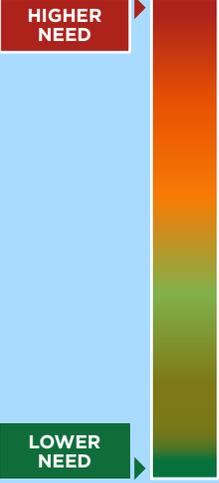


FARMHOUSE FRATERNITY

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The depth of a student's FarmHouse experience and the sustainability of a chapter is strengthened through the mentorship and guidance offered by alumni and friends.

*As noted on the map, many of our chapters can use additional advisors. Whether you attend a chapter meeting once a month or dedicate an hour a week, you will make a difference in the life of a FarmHouse student. **Can we count on you?***

If you'd like to know more, please contact Braden Wilson, Director of Chapter Services and Fraternity Growth at (Braden@FarmHouse.org or 816.891.9445).