



FARMHOUSE



MINNESOTA CHAPTER

SPRING 2022

WELCOMING A NEW ADVISOR



During Fall semester, the chapter gained a new advisor in Isaac Salfer. Here's a quick introduction.

WHAT GOT YOU INTERESTED IN BECOMING AN ADVISOR WITH MN FarmHouse?

I have always had a strong connection to FarmHouse since being a member. It has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life, and I see the

opportunity to be an advisor as a way I can give back to an organization that has given me so much. I hope through being a chapter advisor, I can help give current and future member of FarmHouse the same excellent experience that I had, and be part of shaping them into future leaders & great men.

HOW DO YOU FEEL YOU CAN MOST POSITIVELY IMPACT THE CHAPTER AS AN ADVISOR?

I can use my experiences as a chapter officer to provide guidance to members as challenges come up. As a faculty member in CFANS, I can provide members with information regarding job and scholarship opportunities, and other campus events. Especially for students with agricultural interests, I believe I have connections across the state that can help provide FarmHousers with additional mentorship opportunities, and potential jobs. Moreover, I am still well-connected with many FarmHouse members from my era in the house, and I can use these connections to keep these alumni involved in house & association events.

TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:

I grew up in Dassel, MN and always wanted to attend the University of Minnesota. I joined FarmHouse in spring of 2010. I was Director of House Finance in 2011 and Chapter President in 2012. While in college, I majored in Animal Science with a focus on dairy production. I then pursued a master's in Dairy Nutrition from the University of Minnesota, and a Ph.D. in Dairy Nutrition from Penn State University. I got hired out of grad school by South Dakota State University, where I worked for 1.5 years. I returned home to the U of M in September 2021 as a teaching and research professor in the Department of Animal Science, focusing on dairy cow nutrition. I am very excited about the opportunity to work at the University and serve as a FarmHouse advisor, because I think both organizations provide great opportunities to create future leaders in the state of Minnesota and the world.

WHAT HAS FARMHOUSE DONE FOR YOU?

FarmHouse gave me a true home while I was an undergraduate student, something that undoubtedly helped me make the most out of my college experience. In particular, FarmHouse really helped me with my self confidence, leadership ability, and social skills,

which have all benefited me tremendously after I have entered into the 'real world'. Perhaps most importantly, FarmHouse introduced me to an outstanding group of friends, which I still keep in contact with to this day.

A LETTER FROM THE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Ninety percent – That is the portion of time an average undergraduate spends OUTSIDE the classroom per a Gallup poll as shared in the Fall 2021 PEARLS & RUBIES! Fraternities, especially FarmHouse, play a significant role in making that time outside of the classroom uniquely impactful by providing a support network . . . a home that promotes mental wellness, lifelong connections, and accelerates success.

Alumni participation is critical to the continuity of the Minnesota FarmHouse experience. The passing forward of the benefits of the FarmHouse experience is a 50/50 responsibility: 50% with Alumni to promote the University of Minnesota and FarmHouse to the young men in their lives, and 50% with the Chapter to offer up membership and welcome new brothers.

As we move forward in 2022, remember we are not looking for perfect men to join our brotherhood, but we are looking for boys worthy of building into men who are of "good moral character, . . . high in scholarship, . . . have the capacity for meeting and making friends, and . . . give promise of service to their fellowmen and to the world". The University of Minnesota and the Gophers have more than on occasion disappointed us all, but I personally believe in the U's ability to test and train young people for leadership and the reality life. It is impossible for an institution in a small town to provide all the opportunities and experiences found in a place like the Twin Cities, but FarmHouse provides a home to make our large alma matter approachable.

Who are the imperfect but promising high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors or seniors in your life who need the FarmHouse experience? Do you know any young men heading to the U this fall? Please talk to them about your experience, please pass on their contact information.

Wishing you a prosperous 2022 and hope to see you at the 91st Anniversary of Minnesota FarmHouse the weekend of June 10-12.

Joel Reiman
President - Minnesota FarmHouse Association
507-226-6289

I was a little nervous about making dessert four nights a week, hoping that they would like what I make. So far I've only had one disaster, but much to my surprise they seemed to like it anyway and have asked me to make it again. I got quite a shock at my first Monday night meeting when they yelled and cheered when it was my turn for my report, but now I'm used to it and it brings a smile to my face. They seem to have the perfect balance at meetings, serious business mixed in with plenty of laughter and brotherhood.

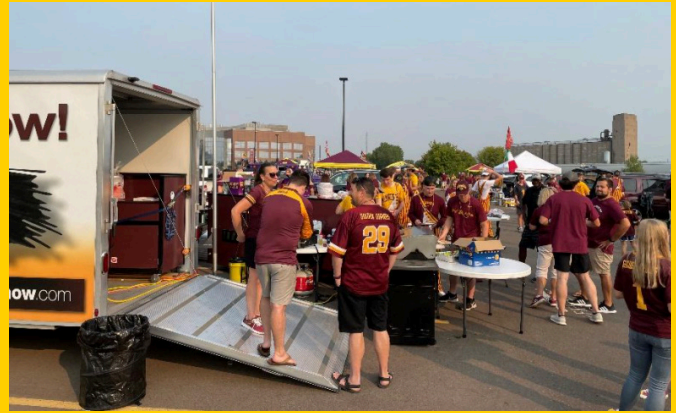
I've been so impressed by the young men, especially their ability to whip up a delicious meal with just the simple directions of a "protein" and "a side". The life skills they are learning are invaluable, although they still come to me for laundry advice and sewing on a button or two. I've also been able to support several young men with resume development, job interview preparation and some relationship advice. I just love it when they knock on my door and ask me if I have a minute which of course often turns into an hour or more. I can't believe how fond I have become of them in such a short time. I even had tears in my eyes when we had the Ruby Ceremony and five of them became alumni and would soon be heading off into the professional world.

There have also been tough and challenging times this semester, we lost one of our actives mother, who was a Clovia sister of mine, another active is bravely battling cancer and a young AGR member lost his life. The young men have handled all these situations with maturity and have been a great support to each other, showing true brotherhood. We have been well supported by our advisors and the Association Board through these tough times as well as throughout the semester.

We would like to extend the invitation to our alumni to attend Monday night dinner and stay for meeting. I will be making contact early next year with some local metro alumni to join us, but I would also like to extend the invitation to any of you to stop by the House when ever you are in town, you are always welcome. We are hoping to increase our contact with our fabulous alumni, so please reach out if you would like to come to Monday dinner or any other time. You can contact me at juliedrechsler1968@gmail.com or 612-961-7933.

Santa delivered an early Christmas present to the House this year, a new piano was donated by the Montevideo FarmHouse alums and friends of FarmHouse. We are thrilled and within 5 minutes of it being delivered, music filled the house. It will be a great addition to the house, we are very thankful for the kind donation.

Personally, I would like to thank everyone for making me feel so welcome and helped make the transition to FarmHouse Mom so easy. In particular, I would like to thank Josh Talstad, Jay Beyer Kropuenske, Joel Reiman, Frank Bezdicek and Joleen Hadrich.



Gopher Pride

The University of Minnesota FarmHouse Association teamed up with the Ag Ed Alumni to host two tailgates before U of M home football games. The events were well attended by current students and alumni.



Fall 2021 New Member Class



Brothers shave their heads in support of breast cancer awareness.



Fall 2021 New Chapter Executive Team

CHAPTER UPDATE

HIGHLIGHTS OF PHILANTHROPY EVENTS

We had two successful philanthropy events this last semester, a pasta bar and a root beer float fundraiser. Both events supported LLS. Unfortunately our Battleship Canoes event had to be postponed to this spring due to a snowstorm that shut down the St. Paul gym early on the night that it was going to happen.

CHAPTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

We completed 33 out of the 40 goals for the excelsior program run by FarmHouse International, earning status as a two star chapter. These goals included achieving 10 or more hours of community service completed by each member, achieving a house average GPA higher than the average among other fraternities, and hosting events like professional development seminars.



91ST ANNIVERSARY AND FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION

Please reserve the weekend of June 11-12, 2022 to celebrate the 91st years since the chartering of FarmHouse Fraternity at the University of Minnesota and the individuals who continue that legacy. The main celebratory lunch will be held at the Graduate Hotel on the Minneapolis Campus on Saturday June 11th leaving time to gather with your brothers on Saturday and Sunday.

The event is still in planning and details will follow in this Spring. Would you be interested in planning a gathering of brothers from your era in the house during the weekend? Would you be willing to help plan the overall event? Please reach out to Joel Reiman 507.226.6289. Thank you



We initiated a promising new class of 9 new members, dubbed the "Divine Nine".

We hosted our Informal date party as well as Christmas Dinner at FarmHouse, and everyone had a great time.

Three members completed their degrees this semester and graduated a semester early.

INTERESTING NEWS FROM THE HOUSE

We got a new house mother this semester, Julie Dreschler. Julie is an alum of Clovia and has lived in Australia for the past 29 years before deciding to come back to America. She is knocking it out of the park so far and all of the guys have enjoyed getting to know her.

In an exciting post-meeting spectacle, a possum was found snooping around our kitchen, and promptly ushered back outside by brothers armed with brooms and cardboard boxes. The wildlife in St. Paul is getting more bold by the day.

In solidarity with one of our brothers who was diagnosed with cancer this fall, five brothers shaved each other's heads bald.

Of all the friendly pranks that have gone on between FarmHouse and the sororities down the block this semester, the most impressive was when we discovered right before meeting that our chapter room had been completely covered in leaves. We never found out who was behind the prank, and some even speculate that it was an inside job given how flawless the execution was.

WINTER BREAK PLANS

A couple of brothers will be going on the Gopher Dairy Club senior trip to California.

A group of brothers are planning on going on a ski trip to Whitefish, Montana.

A lot of brothers are spending quality time with family, and quite a few are working over the break.

UPDATES/GOALS GOING INTO SPRING

The spring semester is going to be a busy one. We plan on holding Battleship Canoes and the Crawfish Boil for philanthropy events. We will be participating in Minnesota Royal on the St. Paul campus and Machy Days with the rest of Greek life. We also plan on playing three cup games, basketball, football, and softball, as football cup was rescheduled from the fall due to AGR suffering the unexpected loss of one of their members.

Our goals will include having another successful recruitment period and to raise a lot of money for philanthropy through our two largest fundraisers.

REPORT FROM THE MINNESOTA - FARMHOUSE HOUSEMOTHER

My first few weeks at FarmHouse were a whirlwind; COVID cases in the house, trying to remember all the actives' names, getting my driver's license, secure a part time job and trying to fill the very big shoes that Mary Ann left behind. I'm not sure they knew what hit them when I appeared, Aussie accent and all. They did seem to be just a little bit proud of me when I passed both my written and practical driving test and landed my other job within the first three weeks of my arrival.



UPCOMING EVENTS

JUNE 11

91st Anniversary & Founder's Day Celebration

Have you had a recent gathering of brothers? Email information and pictures to Kyle O'Toole at otoolefarm@gmail.com to have it featured in our next newsletter



SHARE YOUR NEWS

Have you recently married? Has your family recently had or adopted a child? Maybe you changed careers, received a promotion, received an award at work or were recognized in your community?

We want to know about it!

Submit your news or new contact information for our next issue of Pearls & Rubies and future Association Newsletters by going to this website:

bit.ly/SubmitFHnews

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