The Rancher

Pennsylvania Alpha Zeta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon • SAEPSU.org



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Current Executive Board

Meet the brothers leading Pennsylvania Alpha Zeta into the future.

EXECUTIVE BOARD



William Cook

Eminent Archon



Jack Yalmokas

External Vice President



Bryce Jones

Internal Vice President



Charlie Toole

Eminent Warden



John Nagle

Eminent Chaplain



Luke Messer

THON Chair



Carter Shuey

Eminent Herald



Parker Zalis

Eminent Treasurer



Ben Bruskin

Eminent Recorder



Ike Shaw

Philanthropy Chair

Questions or ideas? Email us at contact@saepsu.org.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Record Year for the Ranch

Gentlemen,

It is my pleasure to share that 2026 has been another outstanding year for our chapter. Our brotherhood now stands at **93 active members**, fresh off a record-setting spring recruitment of 44 new men. These brothers have taken to the traditions of ΣAE and have already shown a real commitment to growing our fraternity. We plan to carry that momentum forward and keep expanding our ranks this year. The chapter also continues to work closely with ΣAE Nationals to keep our standing as a high-achieving chapter.

Looking ahead, two of our brothers will travel to Chicago, Illinois, for the **DeVotie Ritual Institute & 88th John O. Moseley Leadership Schoo**l, taking place January 6-10, 2027, over winter break. We are eager to see the knowledge and leadership they bring back to the Ranch.





On campus, we remain in excellent standing with the Interfraternity Council. Over the past year, Brother **Jim Miller** served as IFC vice president of communications, representing our chapter on the council board and working to strengthen Greek life for everyone. We are a better chapter for his efforts.

Lastly, we are glad to announce a number of improvements to the Ranch. We have added a new storage shed, installed two new pillars on the veranda, and repainted all four. The second floor now has newly renovated wooden flooring, and new letters spelling Sigma Alpha Epsilon hang proudly on the front of the Ranch. We hope to see you at our next event, and remember, the Ranch doors are always open. Alumni are welcome to stop in anytime, and we are always happy to play a round of Whale's Tale. If you have any suggestions, questions, or anything related to ΣAE, feel free to reach me at dwilliamcook12@gmail.com or 610-220-2085.

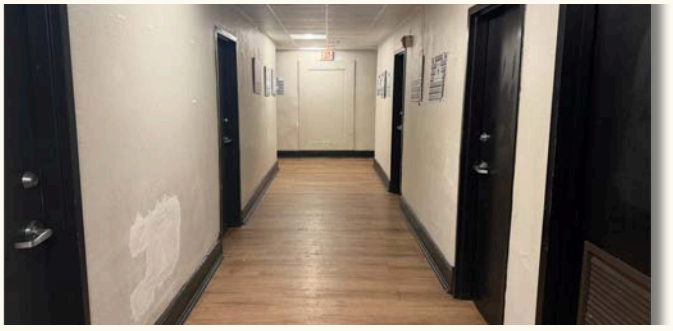
Phi Alpha,
Will Cook
Eminent Archon

CORPORATE BOARD PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A Full House and a Stronger Ranch

Hello Brothers,

It's hard to believe a year has passed since we celebrated the 100th anniversary of The Ranch. I'm happy to report that the house is full of actives and we continue to attract outstanding young men to join PA AZ. If you haven't stopped by the chapter recently, I encourage you to do so and meet some of the guys. Having a full house and strong chapter has allowed us to make some much-needed capital improvements. In addition to the general maintenance and upkeep that a hundred-year-old house full of college students requires, we have **replaced the carpet** on the second floor with highly durable vinyl flooring, as well **replaced two of the four white columns on the Veranda.** If you've been to the house in recent years, you probably noticed that the bases on two of the columns on the far left and right had rotted. This was a significant project, and we'll be keeping an eye on the other two which at this point are still structurally sound. Another noticeable change you may see is the addition of a **storage shed** on the east side of the property near the back parking lot.







The actives requested a space to store items that would otherwise clutter up the yard or the solarium, so the decision was made to give them a new shed to help keep the property looking its best. Last – but certainly not least, a **new sign has been added across the front of the house above the Veranda with "Sigma Alpha Epsilon"**. This was another project idea the actives brought to the board, and I hope you'll all agree that it's a fantastic addition to The Ranch! There are pictures below of some of these improvements, and I hope you'll swing by and see them for yourself the next time you're in town.

Lastly, I'd like to let you know about the chapter website at https://saepsu.org/. While this site has existed for some time, it hasn't been regularly updated until recently. Not only will we be using this to communicate chapter news, but we would also like to use it to help us update our contact database. Please take a moment to log in and make sure your info is up to date – and please share the link with any Brothers you're in touch with so they can also stay connected!

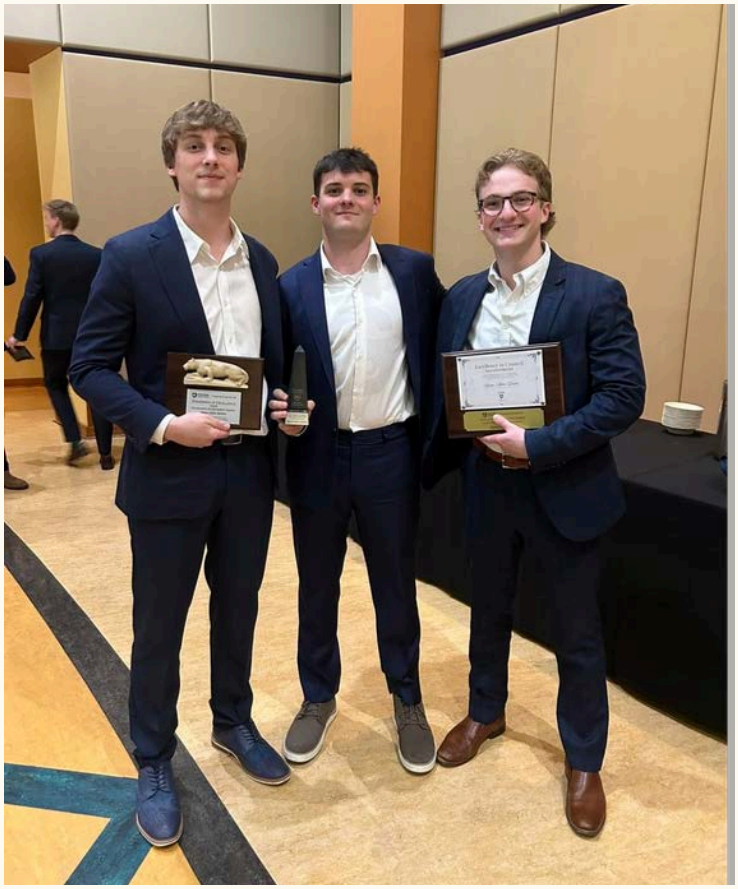
Yours in the Bonds,
Todd McGarity '91
Corporate Board President

PSU GREEK LIFE AWARDS

Honored by Penn State Greek Life

This past spring, the brotherhood was honored at the annual Penn State Greek Life Awards. Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta received the following recognitions: IFC Most Improved Chapter, the Excellence in Council Involvement Award, and recognition for excelling in 8/10 “Standards of Excellence” categories. These honors are a testament to the brothers' dedication to maintaining a high standing with the university and living as True Gentlemen. This represents a significant milestone following our 2022 rechartering. Phi Alpha to everyone for the hard work that made these achievements possible.





IFC

Most Improved Chapter

IFC

Excellence in Council Involvement Award

STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

Excelled in 8/10 Categories

THON REPORT

Dear Brothers,

We are thrilled to kick off what promises to be an incredible year of THON for ΣAE. Last year, our brotherhood raised just over **$127,000,** making us a top 3 THON fundraising fraternity! Twenty-four of our brothers supported our three dancers from the stands for all 46 hours, showing the strength of the bond we share.

This year, the momentum has only built. Participation is up across every class, from our most senior members to the newest additions. We are also proud to partner with **Trilogy**, formerly Tri Delt, and as a combined group we are aiming higher than ever. Together, we plan to take our impact to the next level.

Phi Alpha,
Luke Messer
THON Chair



Donate / Learn More About THON

RECRUITMENT REPORT



After a record breaking **44 new members this past spring** and with our standards higher than ever before, I am pleased to announce the initiation of **two new True Gentlemen** this semester. These include Charles Stenjhem, a sophomore majoring in journalism from Moorhead, Minnesota, as well as Ethan Del Viscio, another sophomore majoring in nutritional sciences from Berwyn, Pennsylvania. Both of these young men have bonded with the brotherhood tremendously well and fit all standards that a True Gentlemen should behold.

Both of these new members are the only bids extended and thus accepted, maintaining our **100% bid acceptance rate**. This being said, the recruitment committee and I have been planning and looking forward to spring recruitment for some time now, hoping to continue our streak of finding quality individuals who will continue to embody the qualities that keep PA-AZ the very best it can be.

I am more than happy to discuss and accept any advice, questions, or concerns. You can reach me at 609-667-8268.

Phi Alpha,
John Costa
Recruitment Chair

General Announcements

As we wrapped up Spring 2026 and are now moving through Fall 2026, there are a few more updates and achievements that I would like to include. I'm proud to say that our chapter has been moving forward in many areas.

Academic Success

I'm pleased to say that our chapter has remained in the **top five overall GPA average** with the IFC, with over 25 brothers landing on the Dean's List for Spring 2026. Thanks to our Scholarship Chair, **Connor Lutness**, who holds weekly study hours, our brothers are able to achieve a high standing in the classroom. As we move towards finals season, we look to boost our GPA even further and finish strong this fall.

Philanthropy

In addition to THON, our brotherhood is proud to announce that last year, we finished first overall in total Philanthropy Fundraising. We partnered with **NMDP**, an organization that connects donors with patients fighting blood cancers, where the majority of the brotherhood signed up to participate in giving blood. Additionally, we partnered with **Centre County Paws** to raise money and support for dogs in the community in need of a home. Finally, throughout the year, we hold food and clothing drives for those who are less privileged than us. We hold philanthropy in high regard at the Ranch, and our Philanthropy Chair, **Ike Shaw,** plans to continue making a difference as we move forward throughout the year.



Brotherhood Spotlight: Luke Messer

Luke Messer is a senior finance major from Portland, Oregon, and serves as our current THON chair. His philanthropy position is certainly a testament to his character, as this past month, Luke participated in "NMDP Be the Match," the National Marrow Donor Program, where he donated his own blood to **save a life**. I can speak for the rest of the brotherhood when I say that we all admire Luke's courage and commitment to making a difference. Luke set an amazing example for us all. Thank you Luke, and Phi Alpha!



Alumni Board Meeting

We are thrilled for the annual alumni board meeting coming up this week! This year, our board meeting will take place on **Sunday, November 15th,** at **10:30 AM**, taking place at the Ranch. We look forward to discussing updates and plans for 2027, and encourage all to come!

Whether it's Academics or Philanthropy, I'm very proud of our chapter's growth here at the Ranch. I look forward to continuing our success throughout the year!

Phi Alpha,
Jack Yalmokas
External Vice President

COMPOSITE FUNDRAISER

Preserving Our History

The active chapter of Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta **needs your help** with its latest capital fundraising effort!

Unfortunately, many of our chapter composites were damaged during the rechartering process following 2017. In 2022, the older composites were replaced with canvas versions, which have since proven susceptible to damage and frequently fall from the walls.

To preserve our chapter's history and enhance the chapter house, we are raising funds to purchase a **new set of high-quality composites** covering the years 1976–2013. These new composites will measure 20" x 26" and will be professionally framed with acrylic glass to provide added protection and longevity. To ensure they remain securely in place and in excellent condition for years to come, each frame will also be bolted directly to the wall.

The active Brothers have received a quote of **$8,300** to recreate all **32** composites spanning 1976–2013. To kick off the fundraising effort, the active chapter has committed to contributing $1,000 of its own funds toward the goal.

Reaching our $8,300 fundraising goal will allow us to preserve an important piece of Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta history and ensure that **future generations of Brothers can appreciate the legacy built by those who came before them.**

Please consider donating using the link below and help us preserve your place in Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta history! Every contribution, regardless of size, brings us one step closer to making this vision a reality. Thank you for your continued support of Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta and for helping us preserve the history and traditions of our brotherhood!



Donate to the Composite Fund

UNTIL NEXT TIME



THANK YOU, BROTHERS

Thank you for being part of the Pennsylvania Alpha-Zeta family. Whether you're back on campus or supporting from afar, your involvement keeps our brotherhood strong for the Brothers who come next.

Visit saepsu.org

Donate Today

ΦA in the bonds of brotherhood