

BROTHERS IN ARMS

Issue 01/February 2008
FarmHouse Fraternity, Alpha Chapter
University of Missouri-Columbia
507 Kentucky Boulevard
Columbia, MO 65201

The Official Publication of FarmHouse Fraternity's Alpha Chapter



THE OBJECT

The object of our fraternity is to promote good fellowship, to encourage studiousness, and to inspire its members in seeking the best in their chosen lines of study as well as in life. Progress shall mark our every step; the spirit of congeniality shall reign at all times; and every member shall be honest with himself as with his brothers. Men elected to our membership are considered to be of good moral character, to be high in scholarship, to have the capacity for meeting and making friends, and to give promise of service to their fellowmen and to the world. To be and become such may at times require a sacrifice of time, pleasures and comforts.

FarmHouse 2008 Executive Officers

President

Ryan O'Hara
Hotel and Restaurant Management

Vice President of Finance

Austin Whitlow
Finance

Vice Presidents of Recruitment

Brenton Eichelberger
Biology

Mark Wehmeyer
Mechanical Engineering

Austin Soendker
Political Science

Director of New Member Education

Brian Yutz
Mechanical Engineering

Director of Alumni Relations

Matt Wopata
Chemical Engineering

Director of Administration

Matthew Brunkhorst
Political Science

Director of House Operations

Steven Arbuthnott
Mechanical Engineering

Director of Risk Management

Tyler Goetz
Journalism

Social Chair

Brandon Cooper
Communications

Director of Scholarship

Ryan Dimmit
Agricultural Business

FarmHouse Academics

By: *Matt Wopata ('07)*

Since winning the Chancellor's Cup for best scholarship program in the Spring of 2007, the men of FarmHouse have continued to strive for academic success. The 2007 Spring pledge class's 3.4 GPA was tops among all MU fraternities! And almost 100% of these men stayed and helped the overall house's Fall GPA of 3.09 to be the highest in three years. Forty-plus members had over a 3.0 last semester and there were multiple members that achieved 4.0's. Grades are the number one priority

in the house and if we maintain the progress that we have achieved, we will be number 1 in the not too distant future.

In another effort to improve the house's scholarship program, over 200 old test files that have been kept from previous semesters were digitized and are available for FarmHouse members via the miz-zoufh.com website. This accomplishment will allow members to search for and access our database of test files from anywhere they have internet connection!

Alumni Involvement

Last year a program called "FarmHouse First Fridays" was developed in order to increase alumni/active interaction. On the first Friday of every month, alumni are invited to eat lunch with the active members of FarmHouse. A large variety of alumni from different geographic areas and pledge classes have attended these events. The actives enjoy this tremendously and anticipate your participation.



President's Corner



Greetings Alumni:

My name is Ryan O'Hara and I am the newly elected President of the Alpha Chapter at Mizzou. I am a junior from Kansas City, Missouri in the Agriculture School studying Hotel and Restaurant Management.

Things here have been going great. We recently just initiated 20 members this past break which puts our total membership at 63. There are also eight men currently going through the FH new member education program. As many of you know we recently added an extra Vice President of Recruitment which is helping immensely.

With regards to current rush,

we have many men we are looking into signing for this coming fall but we would love to hear about prospective members that you may know. If you have any ideas about future brothers, please contact Brenton Eichelberger, Austin Soendker, or Mark Wehmeyer. Your help and dedication is always appreciated.

One of our more recent campus involvements included RAMS, a campus wide philanthropy benefiting multiple sclerosis. RAMS is an elaborate charity that involves service projects, banners, t-shirts, a talent show (IBA's) and a lip syncing and dancing competition. FarmHouse finished first overall of the many fraternities participating in this truly worthy use of students' time and energy! Currently we are looking forward to Greek Week because this year we are enviably paired with the women of Kappa Kappa Gamma.

For the past four semesters FarmHouse has placed in the top tier of grades among all fraternities. Our new members actually won the grade competition with a G.P.A. of

3.4 last spring. This past fall, we were but .02 behind the first place so naturally all our efforts are being put toward that top spot.

Some of the brothers recently returned from FarmHouse Leadership Academy in Kansas City. At this year's academy MY received FarmHouse International's prestigious award for Most Improved Chapter. With Conclave being in August, we now have our sights set on the Ruby Cup.

I am very excited to see where our house is headed! We know that many of you have vested countless amounts of time, pleasures and comforts to better this house. We take pride knowing that you can currently see those same values that were present in those seven men's heads 103 years ago.

If there is anything that I, or the active chapter, could possibly do for you or if you would like simply to be continuously updated with the excitement occurring at 507 Kentucky Boulevard, please contact me. We actives look forward to meeting many more of you in the near future.

Founder's Day 2008

By: Matt Wopata ('07)

The biggest combined pledge class in the past three years will be initiated during this year's Founder's Day with a total of 27 new members. The date for Founder's Day has been set for Saturday, April 26th, 2008 at the Country Club of Missouri.

There will be a foundation meeting at the house at 9:00 a.m. that morning. The doors of the

country club will open at 11:30 a.m. and the ceremonies will begin at 12:00 p.m.

Spouses and family members are encouraged to come. The cost per plate is \$20. Please RSVP by mailing a check made out to "FarmHouse Fraternity" with the memo line reading "Founder's Day" to Matt Wopata, 507 Kentucky Blvd,

Columbia, MO 65201. You may also pay at the event, but we would like to have an idea of the number of people that are going to attend so that we can order the right amount of food.

If you have any questions you can email or call Matt Wopata at mizzoufarmhouse@gmail.com or 816-456-1995.

MU Chapterhouse Main Floor Redecorating Fund A Young Gentlemen’s Facility to be Proud of!

By: John Brown ('54)

MU graduates are off to a good start having made donations and commitments to about half of the required \$50-\$60,000! It is amazing what that amount will do for our facility and then, Missouri Farmhouse’s outstanding chapter will be even better positioned to compete for the best men out there.

As chair of this fund raising effort, I recently made 50 or so follow up phone calls and was truly surprised as to how many of the brothers did not remember getting the late December mailing concerning the effort. As only 10 of the nearly 800 mailings to MU

grads came back, we can only surmise they simply got lost in the holiday shuffle so a copy of the mailing has been included in the newsletter. Several brothers that I spoke with made commitments on the spot.

Remember - \$500 receives a bronze plaque inscription, \$1000 equals silver and \$2000 equals gold. All donors of \$100 will be listed in the donor book. Any \$2,500 donation may be designated for a specific purpose. Please send donation checks made out to “Missouri FarmHouse Foundation-Renovation Fund” to Alan Gares, 1316 Old 63 South, Ste 200,

Columbia, MO 65201. If you have any questions, please contact me at jhbmadsbcglobal.net or (816) 898-5537; or contact Alan Gares at alan.gares@myfcsfinancial.com or (573) 499-5910. Please get those in as the first list of donors will be published this Founder’s Day.

Association By-Laws Amendments

The FarmHouse Association Board of Directors voted to amend five sections of the Association By-Laws at its March 8, 2008 meeting.

The biggest change is the addition of one member to the Board of Directors, increasing from 17 to 18 members. With the change five members will be elected each year to a three-year term. This change is proposed to allow a more geographic and generationally diverse board. It will also help the board facilitate member elections each year.

Another proposed change amends the language used in the by-laws to help ensure geographic diversity on the board. The proposed change will require at least eight members of the board to be

from the Columbia area and at least four members from outstate Missouri.

The board also supports a change that will require five elected board members for a quorum. The language now only requires five members for a quorum. Elected members come from alumni of the chapter. The by-laws now allow for the possibility of a quorum consisting of the three automatic chapter officer members and two elected alumni members.

The final two proposed changes allow for electronic communication in addition to mail communication. Please contact board member Jeff Hilbrenner with any questions or concerns at 573-289-4761 or jeffhilbrenner@hotmail.com.

New Members to be Initiated on Founder’s Day

- Matt Wopata**
- Brandon Cooper**
- William Halter**
- Colin Sickel**
- Conor Sickel**
- Michael Moss**
- Lee Sleightholm**
- Mark Wehmeyer**
- Treveor Stoll**
- Ryan Fuller**
- Zach Weimer**
- Pat Corcoran**
- Zach Kerr**
- Derek Cotrill**
- Thomas Conrad**
- Austin Allwel**
- Ryan Gajewski**
- Michael Gard**
- Johnny Jankovich**
- Clint Klipfel**
- Clint Turley**
- Kyle Kuenzel**
- Chase Lab**
- Sean Philbin**
- Ben VanAmburg**
- Robert Lange**
- Adam Riplinger**

A Word from the Rush Chairs



Brenton Eichelberger
beher43@mizzou.edu



Mark Wehmeyer
mbw2m5@mizzou.edu



Austin Soendker
ams2pb@mizzou.edu

By: Mark Wehmeyer ('07)
 Alumni, family, and friends:

This semester and over the summer we are continuing to make improvements in our recruitment strategy. Numbers have been steadily increasing, and last semester was a testament to this progress when the house gained a solid twenty members to be initiated in April.

We have elected two new rush chairs this semester in preparation for the upcoming rush season. Our goal as a rush team is to recruit a pledge class numbering between 28 and 32 members. We have much planned for the rest of

the semester and summer, including rush events in both Kansas City and St. Louis in addition to Columbia. We feel that having the events in the hometowns of some of the potential members will increase participation.

The potential for the fall semester is great so far. We have many names, given to us by both active members and alumni, which we have been busy contacting. Several are already very interested and we are making sure to take advantage of this interest by continually inviting them to come and visit the house.

As always, we are constantly seeking more input, ideas, and names for our house. Any help from alumni in any of these areas is always appreciated. We are very excited about the upcoming year, and we trust this will be another successful year for recruitment. The future of FarmHouse is looking more and more positive all the time, and we believe we will continue to recruit great men that will continue to represent FarmHouse in ways in which “our founder’s would find honorable and our brothers across the world would respect.”

Christmas Break Missions Trip

“Community” reaches much farther than the boundaries of Columbia city limits for the Alpha Chapter. For this reason, FarmHouse men have been actively involved in several different mission trips through church and campus ministries.

Over the past winter, two men went on a week long mission trip to Harmons, Jamaica, a remote village in south-central Jamaica. The men helped donate more



than 5,000 pounds of clothing, medicine, and general necessities to the people of Harmons, Jamaica.

On top of that, they built two houses, dug an eight foot-deep hole for plumbing - a two-day project by hand because machinery is unheard of in the impoverished area where the men stayed.

FarmHouse hopes to send men in the future on this endeavor. Anyone interested in helping fund this forever-changing experience for future FarmHouse men can please email Brandon Huffman at bmh3md@mizzou.edu.

Men of FarmHouse Support Brother Hulshof in Springfield

By: *Brandon Cooper (Spring '07)*

Missouri's Lincoln Days Republican Convention was held this year over the weekend of February 8th and 9th in Springfield, MO. Many familiar Missouri politicians made an appearance including Senator Kit Bond and Governor Matt Blunt. Another recognizable face that attended was U.S. Representative and FarmHouse Alumni, Kenny Hulshof. This year's Lincoln Days Convention was held in higher regards than usual for Hulshof because of his informal announcement on his intentions to run for Missouri Governor.

"Many people already knew his plans to run for the position. Even though he (Hulshof) cannot formally announce he is running for Governor until the end of the month, Lincoln Days is typically when candidates kick start their campaign of the November election," said one of Hulshof's campaign managers, Leslie Randolph.

A week before the event, Brother Josh Glueck received a phone call from Hulshof's secretary saying how much Representative Hulshof would like to have some FarmHouse men come and support him. Answering the call, 12 active members made the two hour trip from Columbia to help with the campaign. "A chance to help out alumni with something of this

magnitude doesn't come along very often, so we were more than happy to go support the campaign" quoted active member Kyle Kuenzel.

When the men arrived, they promptly got to work. Sporting red "Kenny's Crew" t-shirts, the men began passing out stickers, brochures and the highly fashionable "Kenny's Crew" wrist bands. Something the FH men did must have worked because on the first night of the Convention Hulshof's main competitor, Peter Kinder, dropped out of the Governor race to pursue the Lt. Governor position.

Despite Representative Hulshof's hectic schedule, he still had a chance to mingle and get a few group shots with his younger FarmHouse brothers. Hulshof was definitely adamant about the support he received from the active chapter. After

the Friday evening events, the Hulshof campaign put the FH men up in a local hotel free of charge for their hard work. Saturday consisted of more campaigning at the convention center. They returned home that evening after an ice cream social where Representative Hulshof teamed up with Governor Blunt to scoop out dessert for all who attended.

Active member Matt Brunkhorst said, "It was a great opportunity for everyone who had time to make the trip. Not only did we get to support our alumni, but we learned a lot about how much work really goes into political campaigns." The FH men plan on helping Hulshof over the coming months before the election. Please show your support at the polls for Brother Hulshof when the election rolls around this November.



FarmHouse Alpha Chapter

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We have noticed that our alumni database is out of date. If any of your information has changed, please update it and mail it to the address below. Also, please vote for the 5 (out of 6) new members that have been nominated to be on the association board. Thank you!

Name: _____

Pledge Class: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Association Board Nominees

Vote for 5:

- Matt Burkeybile (Columbia, pledge 1996)
- Tyler Best (Lee's Summit, pledge 1996)
- Brian Hazelrigg (Columbia, pledge 1996)
- Bob Maddox (Fulton, pledge 1977)
- Jim Griffith (Liberty, pledge 1990)
- Roger Alewel (Sedalia, pledge 1955)
- Write in candidate: _____

Mail To:

FarmHouse Fraternity

Attn: Matt Wopata

507 Kentucky Blvd

Columbia, MO 65201

You may also email your ballot to:
jeffhilbrenner@hotmail.com