

# THE SWORD AND SHIELD

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Check your e-mail for updates on the South Dakota Alpha Alumni Dinner. The event will be held sometime in March at Buffalo Run Winery in Vermillion.
- South Dakota Alpha held Stroller's tryouts December 2. SDA is paired with Pi Kappa Alpha and Alpha Phi for the annual show. Brother Bill Vitetta was tapped for Strollers in September.
- Brothers Zachary Flood and Josh Baldwin were tapped by the Dakotans in September.
- Brothers Bill Vitetta and Zachary Flood attended the Emerging Leaders Institute held at Oxford, Ohio. Brother David Sahli will be attending the Presidential Leadership Convention in January.
- South Dakota Alpha held elections November 17. The new officers include President David Sahli, Vice President Bill Vitetta, Treasurer Bill Muller, Secretary Bryce Klinetobe, Philanthropy chair Adam Bledsoe, and Alumni Secretary Patrick Morrison.

## A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Over the past year South Dakota Alpha has been working hard to greatly improve our involvement on campus and within the community.

The members of South Dakota Alpha for the first time participated in a walk for breast cancer. We had 25 people participate in the walk were able to raise over \$1,000. This was the highest among student organizations on campus. Furthermore, our annual chislic feed raised \$1,100 dollars. This money went to the University of South Dakota's daycare.

Coming up this spring we have several philanthropy events planned including Relay for Life and Dance Marathon. The past semester we ranked third among all fraternities in GPA, and won awards for Campus Leadership, Chapter Education, and the Most Outstanding Chapter.

Our fraternity has organized two Greek Unity Events this past semester, and have two more planned for next semester. At the start of next semester, we will be hold-

ing a Recruitment Boot Camp for our chapter. Also, our chapter is working to form a strong Spring and Summer Recruitment plan.

Therefore, as we have received great support from our alumni in the past; South Dakota Alpha would greatly appreciate any donations to help with our recruitment. Any sum of money would mean a great deal to the chapter, and would help us transmit the fraternity to future members greater than it was transmitted to us.

Yours in the Bond,  
David Sahli- Current SDA President



## SOUTH DAKOTA ALPHA WELCOMES SIX NEW PHIKEIA

This year South Dakota Alpha started recruiting early in the year. We were able to pull down some valuable potential members to the Phi Delta Theta Chapter. The Phikeia include, Cody Schreiber, Matthew Tysdal, Kyle Holloway, Errond Williams and Lance Fisher.

They have been very active with the chapter and are going to do great things for us. Each one has a distinct background and we are sure that they will succeed and be able to do extraordinary things and represent south Dakota alpha. Each member in the pledge class has

unique qualities, if it is Cody's social skills, Matthew's keen sense of politics, Kyle's sense of music, Errond's passion for swimming, or Lance's persistence in getting into medical school.

Their qualities will bring them together and help build brotherhood in the chapter for years to come.

# TRIDENTIA UPDATE

Brothers,

Greetings! I hope this letter finds all of you well. Tridentia is starting the New Year with a full agenda and three new board members. Brothers Jeremy Ripperger, John Talcott, and Jonathan Guenther were elected at our annual Dakota Days meeting to 3-year terms. Choosing to leave the board after their terms came to a close were Brothers Steve Shultz, Bob Sutton, and Ross Wright. I wish to extend my thanks to our outgoing members for their service and commitment over the past year and welcome the new members as we start the coming term.

During the next term Tridentia will be focusing on several goals: long-range planning, working with the Chapter Advisory Board, and fundraising.

It is always important to think about what our long-term plan is for the Chapter House, but even more important as we have started reinvesting in the structure of the Chapter. A full-scale maintenance schedule is needed to better plan our budget and project expenditures. As our facility continues to

age, we will need to stay on top of appliances, HVAC systems, and the physical structure at SDA. Over the next year, Tridentia will be putting together a complete plan for maintenance and upgrades that we will use for those purposes.



Another product of the D-Days meeting was a renewed commitment to the Chapter Advisory Board (CAB). The CAB is a group of Alumni that work closely with the Chapter and provide advice or assistance on a day to day basis. The CAB also works with Tridentia to help us better under-

stand the needs of the Chapter and to provide us with added context for action. A close relationship between the CAB, the Chapter, and Tridentia will ensure the success of SDA for years to come.

As with any housing corporation, fundraising is and will continue to be a central focus. With the help and generosity of SDA Alumni we have always been able to support the Chapter by helping them out when the need arose. As we look toward the future, we would like to become an organization that does not have to wait for a problem to arise, but to be able to anticipate where maintenance is needed and replace that area of the Chapter House before the need surfaces. To do that, Tridentia will need the continued support of SDA alumni—both old and new—as well as the successful completion of both goals above. I have absolutely no doubt that we will be able to accomplish all three.

I wish all of you and yours a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

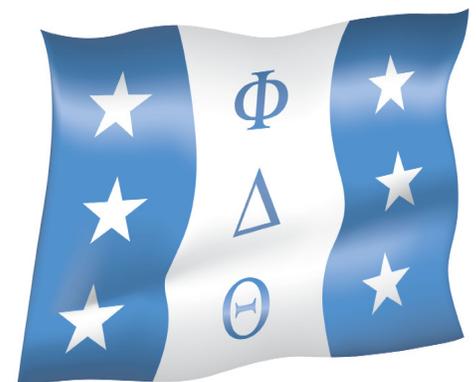
Yours in the Bond,

Justin Kopetsky  
1408

Over the course of the past semester, South Dakota Alpha has instituted a new program called “Buy a Phi” in order to raise funds for house improvements.

All proceeds will go towards modernizing the Phi Delta Theta House. Items needing updating are the internet, kitchen, and individual room locks. Also, SDA is looking to raise funds to help with recruitment costs.

If you are in the Vermillion area, or would just like to donate, please contact Bill Muller at 605-999-7135 or [Bill.Muller@usd.edu](mailto:Bill.Muller@usd.edu).



# SOUTH DAKOTA ALPHA EXPANDS PHILANTHROPY

This year at SDA we have done more philanthropy events than many years in the past.

We just had our chislic feed on Dec 10, and had just under 200 people show up this year. The proceeds went to the Vucurevich Children's Center at USD. We helped raise \$1100 this year.

In recent years we have been traveling to Lincoln to participate in the ALS walk, but we could not make it this year. Instead we participated in the Susan G. Komen walk for Breast Cancer. In just under a week we raised over \$1,000 and had about 75% of the house participate.

Since the chapter did such a great job with these events we have been directly contacted by another organization to participate in the Relay for Life in January. Our good deeds are not going unnoticed! They even requested for one of our members



Just under 200 members of the USD community showed up in support of the annual SDA chislic feed.

to bring his dog along for the Relay for Life walk, because he walked in the Susan G. Komen walk as well.

So far, we have kept very busy, and we hope to continue to have more philanthropy events in the future.

## SOUTH DAKOTA ALPHA SOCIAL EVENTS

The upcoming semester bodes well for Phi Delta Theta. We are currently planning our annual foam party that is held in our basement, and a Black and White party that we usually hold in the Eagles Club.

Right now we are working on planning socials with Alpha Phi, Kappa Alpha Theta, and Pi Beta Phi. We are also working on greek unity events with other fraternities such as Tau Kappa Epsilon, Lambda Chi Alpha, and Phi Kappa Theta.

We plan on continuing our flag football and basketball teams into the spring semester.



Phi Delta Theta members compete in a flag football game against Tau Kappa Epsilon this fall. The team ended the year 5-1.

Brothers!  
Moving? Changed Something?  
Update Your Information Here!

Simply fill out this page and mail it to the Chapter at the address below and we will have an updated record of your information.

We will use this information only to keep you updated and in correspondence with the Chapter.

If the internet is more convenient for you, you can update this same information at  
<http://www.usdphidelts.com/alumni.html>

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Bond Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Any Additional Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Mail this page to:

Phi Delta Theta  
ATTN: Alumni Secretary  
202 E. Clark St.  
Vermillion, SD 57069

Thanks again! We would love to hear from you!

Yours in the Bond,

Patrick J. Morrison, #1554  
SDA Alumni Secretary