

# *“The Rising NDAL”*

## Alumni Newsletter



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Dear Brothers,

Welcome back to another issue of “The Rising”, North Dakota Alpha’s official Alumni Newsletter. We hope you and your family had an excellent and memorable 2008 and that it continues through 2009.

The Fall 2008 year came quickly for the members as there was much to plan for the upcoming school year. Events started in the summer and were kicked off by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual NDAL Alumni Golf Scramble planned by Michael Carik. The event was held on July 19<sup>th</sup> in Fargo at the Rose Creek Golf Course. Alumni attendance was down from years past but nonetheless it was still a fun and successful event. Congratulations to Edward “Ted” Margarit, Nicholas Turman, James Blakeway and Mark Hokanson for coming in with the winning score of 11 under. NDAL thoroughly enjoys these Alumni events and wishes to see an increase in participation. The 2009 Golf Scramble will be held on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the Bunker Hills Golf Course in Coon Rapids, MN. We are very excited to have the event in the cities as we think this should be a more convenient location for most of our alumni. If you have any questions about the upcoming event or if you would like to RSVP please E-mail Tim Paul at [SAEalumnigolf@gmail.com](mailto:SAEalumnigolf@gmail.com).

Just a week after the golf event, Sigma Alpha Epsilon held its 73<sup>rd</sup> annual John O. Moseley Leadership School. For the third consecutive year the event was held on a Carnival Cruise ship which departed Miami, FL and headed for Playa de Carmen, Mexico. Earlier in the year the chapter elected Justin Mendelson, Shane O’Keefe, Aaron Nelson and Marcus Starr to represent the house. During the four day cruise they attended numerous speakers and attended small breakout sessions where they explored their leadership abilities and new skills with various members throughout the realm. The event

continues to be a huge success as over eight-hundred SAE undergraduates, alumni, staff and faculty attended last year. The event continues again, this year departing out of San Diego June 11<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>; it will travel south to the Baja of Mexico. All Alumni are invited and encouraged to attend. If you are interested please visit the National website at [www.SAE.net](http://www.SAE.net).

Most of the twenty-three in-house members returned to campus the week of August 18<sup>th</sup> to prepare for the upcoming semester. That week consisted of members getting situated in their new rooms as well as preparing the house for Fall Rush. That first weekend the house continued our tradition of tubing at Red Lake Falls, however upon our arrival we were disappointed to learn that the dam above the river had been shut off the day before and the river was too low to safely tube down. However, the day was salvaged with a return to the house and an afternoon of volleyball.

With the new school year came a new fall rush. Rush started the week of September 7<sup>th</sup> and was organized by Benjamin Olofson, the Fall Rush Chair. Ben planned events such as Softball and a BBQ at Ulland Park, movie night with Alpha Phi, and the annual trip to Mike's Pizza. Rush week continues to be a favorite of the active members as we all get to relive memories and it reminds us all of why we joined the house. Thanks to a dedicated rush chair and great participation from the house SAE was once again able to recruit one of the biggest pledge classes on campus. We would like to congratulate the sixteen new members that were initiated in November. We are also proud to announce that after the Fall initiation, Sigma Alpha Epsilon is currently the largest house on campus with 46 total members.

With a new semester comes a new rush opportunity. This semester Jonathan Petraitis took over as the Rush Chair and scheduled some great events such as an NHL Xbox tournament at the house, everyone's favorite, Mike's Pizza trip and a very successful Super Bowl party.

We are also pleased to announce that currently the house is going through some interior renovations. All of the carpets in the hallways and stairwells have been replaced along with the re-carpeting and painting of the EA's Lounge and bedroom. The basement kitchen has also been retiled, along with the refurbishing of floors in the dining area, laundry room and girl's bathroom in the basement. The house would like to thank Dayton Kornkven for his continuing help with the upkeep and maintenance of the house.

Congratulations to Daniel Tienter for receiving the Gordon Henry Greek of the Year Award. Dan has done much for the house and has held many positions including Accounts Receivable, Pledge Educator and Risk Manager. Dan is currently the Greek Housing Senator for the University and President of the Interfraternity Council. This spring the house also received the Award for Greek Excellence.

Additionally University of North Dakota celebrated its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary this fall and as a part of its celebration UND honored NDAL's own Phillip D. Jackson with an Honorary Doctorate of Letters. We were honored as a house when the University asked us to be ushers for this event and would like to congratulate Brother Jackson on all of his achievements.

We would like to recognize Alumnus James Blakeway and his recent article in USA Today. James is famous for his panoramic skyline photographs and was recently featured in an article titled "10 great places to study skylines of the world." If you would like to read the article, go to [www.usatoday.com](http://www.usatoday.com) and search "James Blakeway" in the search box.

NDAL has also seen numerous weddings recently. Congratulations to Brother Alex Aughinbaugh and his wife Natalie, and also Brother Brent Rensink and his wife Sarah on their recent marriages. We would also like to wish the best to those with upcoming weddings, Brother Nicholas Finnesgard and Stacy Bjerke, Brother Matt Dyer and Tanya Hurt, Brother Thomas Sweeny and Melissa Law, and Brother Eric Swenson and Amber Heitkamp. We wish the best to everyone.

Don't forget to visit us at our website [www.saeund.org](http://www.saeund.org) for dates of upcoming events, chapter photo albums and more! Also if you have not created an account please feel free to do so to receive chapter list serves, weekly chapter meeting minutes and the most recent NDAL news.

## *Upcoming Events*

### **Founder's Day 2009:**

-Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>: Hors d'oeuvres – 8:00 p.m. at the Blue Moose, East Grand Forks

-Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup>: Chapter Meeting – 2:00 p.m. at the Memorial Union  
Banquet at the Hilton Garden Inn – 7:00 p.m.

Contact Alex Anderson at [alex.anderson@und.nodak.edu](mailto:alex.anderson@und.nodak.edu). We hope to see you all there!

**Paddy Murphy Philanthropy** – April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Contact Ryan Senn at [ryan.senn@und.nodak.edu](mailto:ryan.senn@und.nodak.edu)

**4<sup>th</sup> Annual SAE Alumni Golf Tournament** – Mark your calendars July 18<sup>th</sup> at Bunker Hills Golf Course. To RSVP contact Tim Paul at [SAEalumnigolf@gmail.com](mailto:SAEalumnigolf@gmail.com).