



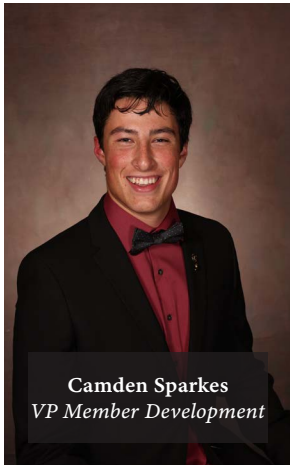
Payton Weaver
President



Jack Larson
Chaplain



Ander Streuli
VP Programming



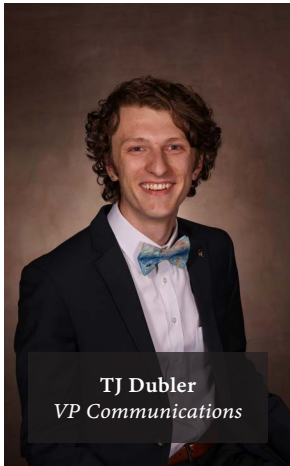
Camden Sparkes
VP Member Development



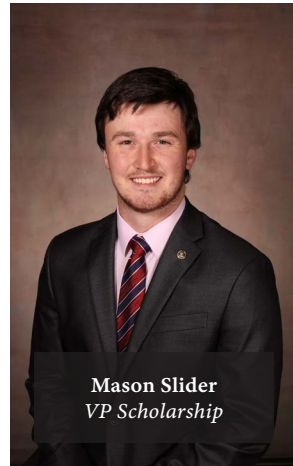
Aiden Christy
VP Recruitment



Owen Cool
VP Finance



TJ Dubler
VP Communications



Mason Slider
VP Scholarship

Montana State University
SigEp

Fall 2023 Newsletter



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newsletter by TJ Dubler

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This fraternity is different. The challenge to present ourselves without sounding cliché continues. Where else can you find a group of men who stand up for their values, approach the world passionately and lovingly, and regularly practice respect and healthy masculinity?

Virtue. We hold the profound, humanitarian belief that our lives have a purpose. **Diligence.** We strive for excellence in all endeavors. **Brotherly Love.** Unconditional trust and support. **Balanced men.** We prioritize health and academics, remaining substance & hazing free.

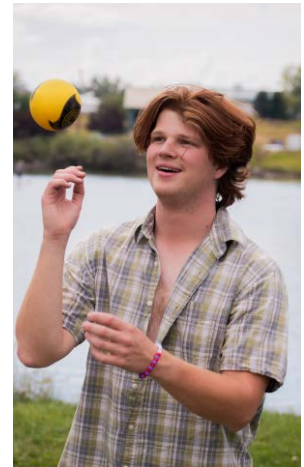
Welcome, new members!

by Aiden Christy

We were extremely successful in our 2023 Fall recruitment. I had the pleasure of welcoming 20 new members. It was so fun driving to events with new people and somehow managing over 60 phone numbers at once!

Bozeman Beach day, my favorite event, was a really good introduction for both PNBs and current brothers as to what the coming week and year would look like. The environment was positive and energetic and that fostered better connections than anything I could have planned in a committee.

I am proud of my chapter and how they supported recruitment through me and am incredibly excited to see what the new group of guys will do during their time in the chapter and beyond.



The Balanced Man Scholarship

by TJ Dubler

We start every semester by recognizing freshman and sophomore men who embody virtue, diligence, brotherly love, sound mind, and sound body with our Balanced Man Scholarship of \$500. This fall, the recipients were Colby Andres, James Pitassy, Walker Black, and Brayden Bennington (not pictured).

Our exec team processed 263 applicants - a record high in our history! It was so difficult to choose only four winners. The scholarship banquet is always so much fun with the formal dinner with excellent speakers. This is also the typical time we hand out bids to incoming members. With all the excitement in the air, we can't help but celebrate with some ice cream after. We are very proud of our scholars and members that teamed up to make this event possible. Way to go, and congratulations!



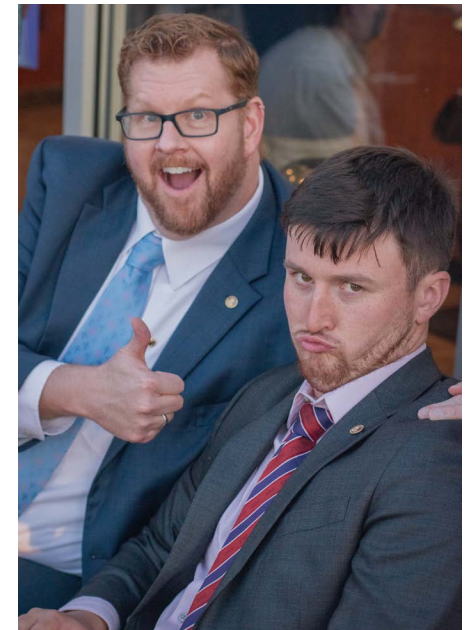
Mason Slider



Kate Morrissey



Brian Kassar



Tragos Quest to Greece

by Jack Larson

I was privileged to join 17 undergraduate brothers on the Tragos Quest to Greece earlier this June. While the journey only lasted 10 days, I feel the lessons I learned and the friends I made will last a lifetime.

The Quest started in Chicago where all of the undergraduates and the 5 mentors started to bond with one another. We laid ground rules for our travels, making sure that none of us were “Ugly Americans” at the historical sites, but also to know what we expected out of one another as brothers. The next day, we left the comfort of the continental U.S. and embarked on a flight across the Atlantic Ocean to the ancient world.

All of our days began and ended with discussions – most of which required a level of vulnerability that is uncomfortable with people you had just met. Even though these conversations were with unfamiliar faces, they are and will always be my brothers. There I was, thousands of miles from my chapter, still with brothers by my side. In between all of those discussions were visits to different sites and cities in the southern region of Greece.

There are far too many places and memories to mention from the week and a half, but one tour sticks out from the rest. My favorite historical site from the Quest resides in the ruins of Delphi. The ruins of the Temple of Apollo remain in ancient Delphi which featured the famous maxim “know thyself”. Socrates is credited with saying: “To know thyself is the beginning of wisdom”, and it is an inexplicable feeling to be in front of the ancient ruins where the Oracle of Delphi enlightened others. The Oracle of Delphi gave prominent historical figures insight to their lives and what their futures hold. Today, it is just as important to understand our weaknesses and our strengths so we are able to push ourselves to be a better individual through continuous growth.

There is a Greek word for this – “eudemonia”. It describes the ultimate goal of life, where one is constantly developing in a virtuous way which can give a sense of purpose and meaning to life, or perhaps a certain zest and flavor. While I expected the Tragos Quest to Greece to be enlightening, I never expected it to have such a profound impact on the way I know myself. I feel like I am coming back to Montana this fall with the right toolkit to succeed, having learned the philosophies and ways of life from the ancient and modern Greeks. I am recognizing the limitations of the man I am now, and with eudaimonia in mind, I know that there are no limits to the man I can become.

This was the first year we sent two of our members: Jack Larson as a scholar and BK as a mentor!



Ruck Leadership Academy

by Owen Cool

This June I had the pleasure of attending the Frank J. Ruck Leadership Institute. There, I got to explore the university of Richmond (where SigEp was founded!) and participate in a high ropes course, tour SigEp's headquarters, and the Zollinger house. Most importantly, though, I connected with brothers – both peers and alumni – from across the country, exchanging our ideas and motivation for how to impact our chapters, our campuses, and our communities. It was an immensely rewarding experience that left me excited for the upcoming school year.

Upon arriving at the University of Richmond, we were divided into teams, with each team being given two alumni facilitators. These facilitators were among SigEp's most successful and inspiring alumni, and provided us with a unique opportunity to learn from their ample experience. Their guidance through the program provided an immensely positive force, allowing us to see beyond our own experiences in college and examine how the leadership practices we discussed could be used throughout one's life.

As much as I learned from the facilitators, though, I learned at least as much from my peers. Much of the program's focus was on group discussions and connections with our teams, and I could not have asked to be grouped with better people. The brothers on my team came from across the country – from Idaho Beta at Boise State University, all the way to Pennsylvania Beta Beta at Drexel University, and everywhere in between. Each and every brother was inspiring, loving, and uniquely motivated to be a powerful force for good for all those around them.

While there were many exemplary leadership practices I learned and a lot of ideas I hope to implement here at Montana Beta and in my personal life, I can confidently say that the most important thing I learned in my time at Ruck was that this brotherhood extends far beyond our lodge, our campus, or even our time in college. The same brotherly love we see in Montana was thriving at Ruck. The connections I formed there – in just 5 short days – were lasting, loving, and powerful. I hope you all get the opportunity to see it firsthand, and encourage you to apply to Ruck.



Owen Cool with
President Billy Maddalon



Owen Cool with our
former RDVS, Trevor Sullivan

National Conclave

by Payton Weaver

What an extraordinary experience it was to participate in Conclave, SigEp's biennial legislative conference! As Montana Beta's delegate, I had the privilege to play an active role in shaping the future of SigEp on a national scale by voting on crucial legislation.

Many discussions were centered around promoting membership inclusivity, safer learning environments, and providing essential mental health resources for our fraternity members.

The pinnacle of the event was electing our national leadership, leaving me feeling empowered and excited for the next two years of progress and positive change ahead.



*Payton, Aiden, and Ander.
Jack Larson not pictured.*



Exploring San Antonio

Chapter Retreat

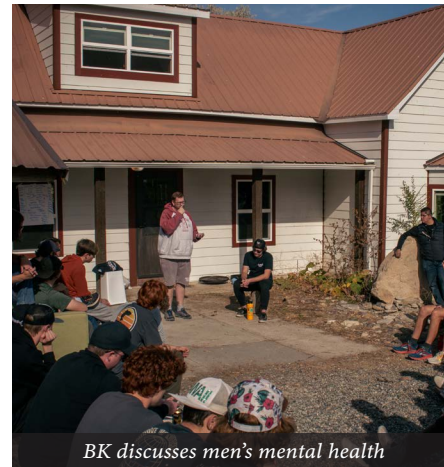
by Camden Sparkes

At our most recent retreat, we wholeheartedly embraced our cardinal principles of virtue, diligence, and brotherly love. The retreat was a testament to the embodiment of brotherly love and connection, featuring a series of activities designed to strengthen our bonds. From love webs, where small groups expressed gratitude, to the burning heart ceremony celebrating new members and graduating seniors, the weekend fostered a profound sense of unity. Notably, the retreat stood out as a cell phone and substance free environment, a deliberate choice that allowed members to engage fully in the experience.

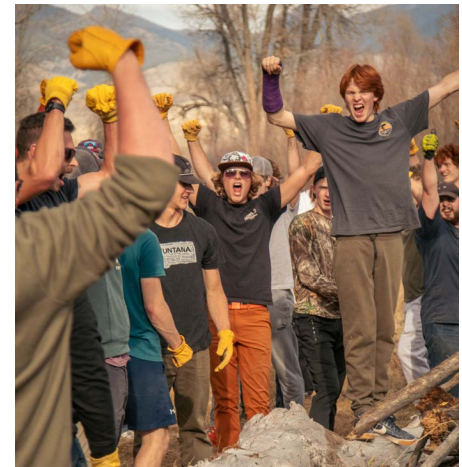
Retreat emphasized our dedication to creating genuine connections and emphasized that the love we share is not just as friends but as family. My favorite part of the retreat was the big little pairing, emphasizing mentorship and guiding new members through college as an extension of our familial bond. The retreat, rooted in our core principles, not only strengthened our brotherhood but also created lasting memories of camaraderie and support.



We created controlled burning piles to help the ranch hands



BK discusses men's mental health



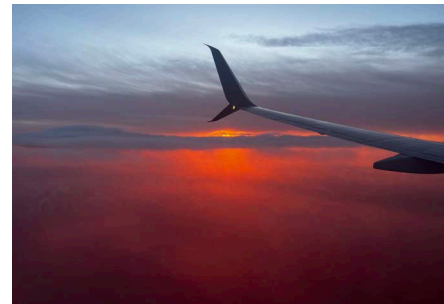
Executive Retreat

by TJ Dubler

When most people go to an airport, they likely know their destination. That's a given, right? Not with Payton - as president, he wanted to treat his executive team to a retreat at an undisclosed location. He said to pack for warm weather, and that was all we knew. It wasn't until we were at our gate when we found out our destination was Salt Lake - we thought that packing warm clothes was a prank! As we landed and headed towards the rental cars, we stopped at a gate, and before we knew it, we were on a plane to Phoenix. Warm clothes welcome.

It was a trip of non-stop laughter. We all piled (definitely legally) into one rental car and endured a drive to a house where we'd stay for the weekend. It was refreshing to jump in a pool of cold water with academic and travel fatigue. Our agenda remained a mystery with a car ride the next day to an unknown destination that was later revealed to be indoor skydiving. All of our stresses with school briefly floated away as we floated up, air rushing into our noses. Later that night, we got each other outfits from Good Will secret-santa-style and wore them to Top Golf. Even with such an action-packed weekend, so much of the fun was in traveling, hanging out during downtime, navigating Phoenix traffic, and having late night conversations in the heating-up tub (it was not hot yet).

On behalf of the exec team, thank you, Payton, for all your hard work and generosity to us and the chapter! This was a trip full of love and sweet memories.



Queen of Hearts Philanthropy

by Ander Streuli

The Queen of Hearts is a competition involving sororities to help us raise money for our philanthropy, Eagle Mount Bozeman. Our competitors were Molly Coonfield from Chi Omega, Trinity Keefer from Alpha Omicron Pi, Celia Fetterhoff from Delta Gamma, and Lauren West from Pi Beta Phi.

The first day of competitions involved each contestant introducing themselves, giving a presentation on a fun topic I chose for them, and then competing in several “Minute-to-Win-it” challenges. We got to watch one competitor make fun of our exec team via their presence online, including instagram pages, high school photos, and even one member’s LinkedIn account. The final competition was the “No Talent Contest”, and the “Roast of the Judges”. In the no talent contest, competitors were asked to think of something that they were very bad at and come do a presentation of it for the judges. The most notable of these was by Trinity Keefer from Alpha Omicron Pi, who showed up in a swimsuit, and with help from her coaches, put soap and water on the floor of the hall we were on and “swam” (slid) back and forth on the floor. I had never seen anything like this and it was hilarious.

Overall, this event was a lot of fun and we met some great new people. The winner was Trinity Keefer with Alpha Omicron Pi, and we raised over 1000\$ for Eagle Mount!



Brotherhood Events to Remember

by TJ Dubler



End of Semester Banquet

by TJ Dubler

The end of every semester comes so fast. To celebrate, Tyler Ray (our Regional Director Volunteer Specialist) and Alexi Panos (our graduating senior) delivered lovely speeches while we concluded dinner and transitioned into awards. We give three awards to brothers who are outstanding in virtue, diligence, and brotherly love. We also recognized four individuals who made outstanding progress through SigEp (Zac Stoneman, Henry Hamp, Ander Streuli, and Jack Larson), and two people who exhibit an excellent sound mind and body (Orrin Clark and Will McCrea).

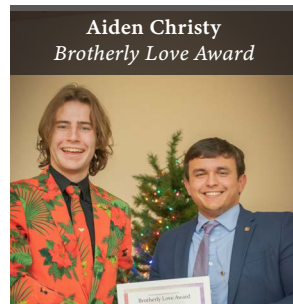
We also wished Alexi Panos goodbye, keeping in mind the words from the Hoop of Steel ceremony, *“the friends thou has and their adoption tried, grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel.”*



Asher McWilliams
Virtue Award



TJ Dubler
Diligence Award



Aiden Christy
Brotherly Love Award



Tyler Ray
RDVS



Alexi Panos
Graduating Senior

Executive Transition

by TJ Dubler

We hold a transition retreat for the outgoing exec team to hand off their job to the incoming officer. It was such a special occasion, being able to reflect on how much each of us have grown in just a year. Our terms began with a running start in San Francisco for Carlson leadership academy, diving into the busy, non-stop work of running a fraternity. Now, we are a team bonded together like hoops of steel, capable of handling any circumstances that come our way. There are some things all of us will not miss, like Wednesday 6:45am exec meetings. Some things we will always cherish, like smiling brothers after a fun chapter meeting. I observed a lot of careful dedication as our new officer elects received their transition documents, asking many questions, excited for the next year of work that will keep this fraternity alive. There was also a bittersweet feeling as the current exec team met one last time in the same room where we met for the first time just one year ago. All of us are grateful for the memories we've made together and are looking forward to the next batch of memories we'll make on our own as this next team takes over. Handle this fraternity with care; you will do extraordinarily!



Incoming Exec team: Walker Black, Zac Stoneman, Asher McWilliams, Gabe Felton, TJ Dubler, Aiden Christy, Ander Streuli, Dayton Wickerd