

Parents Guide

✦ a Lambda Chi Alpha resource



Creed: We believe in Lambda Chi Alpha, and its traditions, principles, and ideals. The crescent is our symbol — pure, high, ever growing; and the cross is our guide — denoting service, sacrifice, and even suffering and humiliation before the world, bravely endured if need be, in following that ideal.

May we have faith in Lambda Chi Alpha and passion for its welfare. May we have hope for the future of Lambda Chi Alpha and strength to fight for its teachings. May we have pure hearts, that we may approach the ideal of perfect brotherly love.



LAMBDA CHI ALPHA

A LIFETIME OF TRUE BROTHERHOOD

Seven Core Values

Loyalty

Duty

Respect

Service and
Stewardship

Honor

Integrity

Personal Courage[®]



Lambda Chi Alpha Parent(s):

Lambda Chi Alpha needs parents, especially those who want to be involved in a supportive way in their son's undergraduate Fraternity experience. The opportunities available to enhance that experience for your son and his brothers extends from sharing your knowledge about the world after graduation to improving the environment in which he will live for the next few years. Some parents may recall their own undergraduate experience or involvement in a fraternity or sorority. Your memories and reflections can provide excellent information for the undergraduate chapter to consider in developing programs or solving problems. Many parents will have access to life experiences, which can be shared in ways which will enrich each brother's understanding of the options and choices which he must consider during these important developmental years. Your guidance and encouragement are valued contributions, which will enrich the Lambda Chi Alpha experience for your son and his chapter.

Together, Lambda Chi Alpha and parents have the opportunity to affect instrumental change in a young man's life. The mission of Lambda Chi Alpha is to provide these men with the resources to become effective leaders. In doing so, they have the potential to change the world. We encourage you to learn more about Lambda Chi Alpha and its remarkable history and traditions. Your son has joined one of the leaders of the Greek world, which continues to evolve and to set the standard for innovation and excellence. From leadership skills to character development in the ability to apply these values with courage and conviction, Lambda Chi Alpha has created an unprecedented opportunity for your son to mature as a brother in our bond. We hope that you will learn about these outstanding programs and initiatives and become an active advocate for the Lambda Chi Alpha experience in your community.

Local Chapter Officers

Below is the list of officers at the local chapter level.

High Alpha – President
High Beta – Vice President (internal affairs)
High Theta Vice President (External Affairs)
High Gamma – Secretary
High Tau – Treasurer
High Iota – Risk Management/Harm Reduction Chairman
High Rho – Alumni Relations Chairman
High Kappa – Fraternity Educator/New Member Educator
High Delta – Recruitment Chairman
High Phi – Ritualist
High Sigma – Academic Chairman
High Epsilon – Social Chairman
High Pi – Alumni Adviser



History:

There are two versions of the story regarding the founding of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity. The first, resulting from an agreement in late 1912 between Warren Cole in Boston and Albert Cross in Philadelphia, holds that on November 2, 1909, Warren A. Cole, Percival C. Morse, and Clyde K. Nichols met at 22 Joy St., Boston, and swore allegiance to the new fraternity. The meeting had been called, by whom it is not recorded, for the purpose of considering the reorganization of the Cosmopolitan Law Club, a society of law students of Boston University, of which Cole was a member, into the Greek letter society.

The first three members were all close friends before Cole's withdrawal from the law club, for all had been members of Alpha Mu Chi, a preparatory school fraternity. Cole was also a member of the legal fraternity, Gamma Eta Gamma, and the Grange or Patrons of Husbandry, a society of agriculturalists. The laws and rites of these societies are thought to have had a strong influence on Cole as he formulated the first regulations and Initiation Ritual of Lambda Chi Alpha.

The name Lambda Chi Alpha is thought to have been used from the beginning. The Greek letter name was not used in the Alpha Zeta minutes until April 27, 1910, however, and, as far as is known, this was the first time it was recorded.

The second version of our founding results from interviews with Cole and other early members in later years, and further investigation. When Cole entered Boston University in the fall of 1909, his first residence lay too far from the law school on Beacon Hill, so he and a varied group of youngsters rented a room at Pemberton Square, which they used for study between classes or work. This loosely-held group became known as the Tombs or Cosmopolitan Club, but did not lead directly to the formation of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Before the end of 1909, Cole moved to 22 Joy St., where he shared an apartment with James C. McDonald and Charles W. Proctor, both of whom later joined the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity. Cole, however, was determined to start his own fraternity, and by the spring of 1911 had settled on the name Lambda Pi. In the fall of 1911, he moved to 35 Hancock St., rooming with Ralph S. Miles and Harold W. Bridge. On November 15, 1911, the Lambda Pi constitution, largely derived from Gamma Eta Gamma's, was signed by Cole, Miles, Bridge, and Morse – the four founders.

Over the next month, wonderful, yet mysterious, events of great significance occurred with the appearance of our first badge, along with the change of name from Lambda Pi to Lambda Chi Alpha. A new fraternity, immediately in the national in scope, was born. Each of the four founders bought a badge. They issued themselves a charter for Alpha Zeta, back-dating it to November 15, 1911.

From this point on, Lambda Chi Alpha progressed at an incredibly rapid rate. Cole soon wrote the original Initiation Ritual, and within one year chapters at the Massachusetts Agricultural College (University of Massachusetts-Amherst), the University of Pennsylvania, and Pennsylvania State University were installed. Titles of national officers, such as Supreme Eminent Archon, were most likely borrowed from Sigma Alpha Epsilon, and the overall design of our first coat of arms, known as the Gamma Plate, may have been inspired by the seal of McDonald's prep school, the Worcester Academy.

Associate Membership

In 1972, Lambda Chi Alpha was the first fraternity to abolish pledging. Adopting an Associate Member program that would replace the traditional approach to new members in fraternities. Lambda Chi Alpha is extremely proud to offer its members a unique experience, backed by strong ideals and a values-based education curriculum. As an Associate Member of Lambda Chi Alpha your son will enjoy the luxury of the following rights.



Rights of an Associate Member:

- I. Associate members have the right to attend all meetings of my chapter, unless that meeting deals solely with the Initiation Ritual of Lambda Chi Alpha. Associate Members may be asked to leave a part of a meeting if that part deals solely with the Initiation Ritual.
- II. Associate Members have the right to vote on all matters concerning Lambda Chi Alpha. The only exceptions are for termination of associate membership, or Initiation, or at a formal disciplinary hearing of a member. Associate Members may, however, be present and participate in discussion during meetings regarding termination of associate membership, Initiation, or a formal disciplinary hearing.
- III. Associate members have the right to refuse to do anything that all initiated brothers will not do with him. Separate activities and expectations for associate members and initiated brothers are contradictory to the teachings of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- IV. Associate members have the right to participate in all chapter activities and programs, the only exception is educational programming about the Initiation Ritual and practices of the Initiation Ritual.
- V. Associate members have the right to know which day they will be initiated at least one month prior to the date of Initiation.
- VI. Associate members have the right to wear letters of Lambda Chi Alpha (both Greek and English) and the coat of arms in an appropriate manner. No member may restrict the reasonable size or color of the letters they choose to wear.
- VII. Associate members have the right to run for any office in the chapter and to be a committee chairman. In most chapter situations, associate members will not be qualified to hold the office of High Phi (Ritualist).
- VIII. Associate members have the right to have a qualified big brother who will assist them in learning about the operations, history, ideals, and standards of Lambda Chi Alpha, and will provide him with the information and enthusiasm necessary to be a productive lifetime brother of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- IX. Associates have the right to participate in all worthy outside activities on campus and in the community as a complement to my educational and fraternal experience.
- X. Associates have the right to confront any initiated brother or associate member when he feels he is not living up to his obligations of membership, or has violated our ideals and principles.

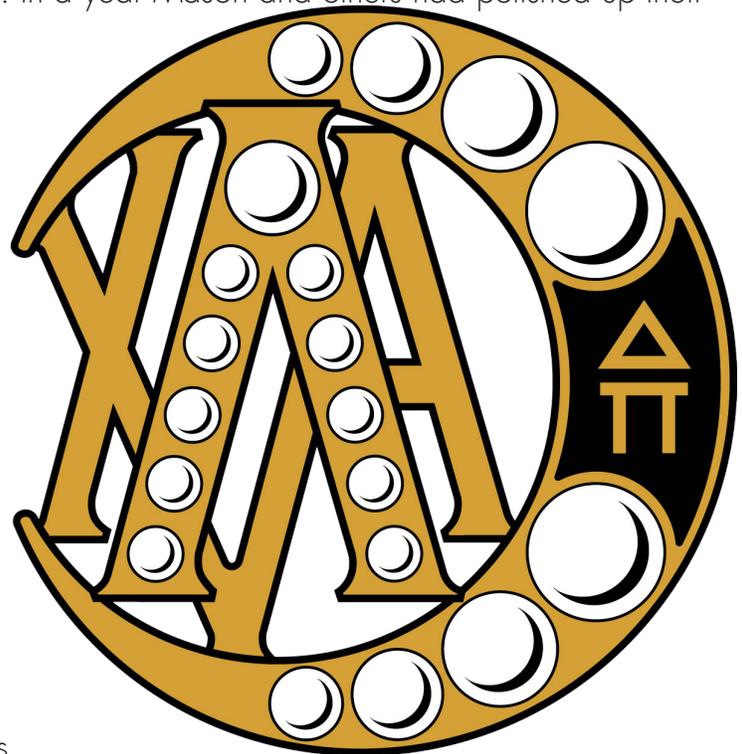
The Importance of Ritual in Lambda Chi Alpha

A ritual is the performance of an intuition, the rehearsal of a dream, the playing of a game. Those who have given little consideration to ritualism may think of it as a dreary formula merely for the sake of waning tradition. But this is no explanation for rituals which have endured for centuries, not in the musty archives of libraries, but in the recurrent rendition by men of culture and achievement. Ritual, if indifferently practiced, can indeed become "rigmarole", but something far deeper than repetitive performance makes ritual vital and enduring. The appeal of ritual is in its universality. It penetrates the mind and heart of the young initiate today. It deals with the fundamentals of character and the problems of adjustment with which humans have had to contend in all ages of history, and with their final escape from perplexity through truth, justice, moderation and tolerance.

Lambda Chi Alpha is fortunate to possess a fairly complete ritual history. Unlike most fraternities, Lambda Chi Alpha began as the dream of one man: Warren A. Cole. Cole made many great contributions to the fraternity but was unexperienced in the area of ritualism. In March 1913 Jack Mason wrote an extensive critique of the initiation ritual as it then existed for consideration at the General Assembly. He said, "We want to have a ritual that will mean something to every man admitted to the bond of Lambda Chi Alpha." Not only that, but we want a ritual so impressive that we shall remember it in after life, at time when we shall stand in need of it. Things like that take time and hard thought. From that point on, Lambda Chi Alpha would be on a mission to perform second to none. Jack Mason turned all his attention to the reforming of our ritual.

Describing his vision in a letter written to the General Assembly. The first question Mason posed was, what should be the highest aim of a college fraternity? His belief was to have men of sterling character, who are efficient workers along all the lines of human activity; not just students, not just animals but men with big, all-around sympathies, who can "deliver the goods" in whatever activity they take up. In other words we have to preach two doctrines, the doctrine of work and the doctrine of character. In a year Mason and others had polished up their new ritual which was used until 1939 when Lambda Chi Alpha merged with Theta Kappa Nu. This merger slightly effected our Ritual, bringing major changes to what is now our Associate Member Ceremony.

For a given individual, the first contact with ritualism is the Associate member Ceremony. The man's experience continues through portions of the Fraternity Education program and the Pre-Initiation period that focus on ritualism. Then there is the important, albeit brief, period in which the initiation ritual is exemplified by the brothers followed by the description of some of the features of the initiation. At some point in the year there is an Officer Installation Ceremony. But more important than any of the activities are the daily ritualistic activities of the chapter. A reminder of our ideals occurs in the Ritual for Conducting Business. Even more important is a chapter program known as ZAX-Applications. Zeta Alpha Chi is interpreted as anything outside the formal ceremonies that increases the understanding of the principles of Lambda Chi Alpha.



Educational Opportunities

Lambda Chi Alpha offers a number of educational seminars for our undergraduate members. We believe firmly in offering our members the resources they need to become better leaders on their campuses and communities.

Regional Conclaves:

The purpose of a Regional Conclave is to advance the mission and vision of Lambda Chi Alpha Fraternity by developing and facilitating educational programs aimed at fostering leadership and personal development skills in order to prepare our members for success; as well as promoting brotherhood and collaboration among chapters within the same region. A Regional Conclave allows leaders at various colleges and universities in a region to come together and share best practices to support the growth of the brotherhood. Being a Host Chapter allows your son's chapter to showcase their commitment to growth and leadership.



High Alpha Summit:

Over three days, participants will learn the fundamentals of serving as chief executive officer for their respective chapter or colony, with emphasis on leadership, ethics, operations management, external relations and harm reduction. The summit will feature presentations from speakers in the Greek/higher education community. Participants will learn and work in small groups with brothers from all over North America facilitated by volunteers and the General Fraternity headquarters staff members. The summit seeks to equip participants with the necessary tools and best practices to improve communication, manage others effectively and to develop efficiency as the chapter leader. While discussing common issues among chapters and colonies, participants will gain valuable information on values based leadership and develop their core competencies of communication, problem solving, goal setting and interpersonal skills.



Stead Leadership Seminar:

The Stead Leadership Seminar takes place every year. At this conference, undergraduates and alumni advisors have the opportunity to gain valuable leadership experience from the General Fraternity and celebrate the bonds of Lambda Chi Alpha brotherhood. This is the opportunity of a lifetime. Each Stead Leadership Seminar will give brothers memories and experiences that will suit them well in life. Additionally, the curriculum the General Fraternity offers helps brothers become better officers, members in Lambda Chi Alpha and lifetime alumni.



General Assembly:

The General Assembly is the Fraternity's biannual legislative session and the supreme ruling Alpha. The first General Assembly was held at the Boston University chapter house in 1911 and meets every other year, in even numbered years, to elect the board of directors of Lambda Chi Alpha policies and procedures for the chapters, colonies and members. In addition, this three-day programming for non-delegate participants to take back and share with their chapter. It will offer you a chance to meet brothers from their Conclave or from all over North America. It will offer you an experience that they will never forget!



Ways to Become Involved

The following is a list of ways parents can get involved with the undergraduate chapter.

Membership Recruitment:

On campuses where formal recruitment is held, parents can participate by attending recruitment events with their son(s) or attend other events where they can interact with other parents of current chapter members and those of other prospective members. When a potential associate member's parent(s) recognizes the true benefits of a fraternity, they can have a major influence on where their son chooses to affiliate. Parents can also host a cookout or other social events for recruitment.

Associate Member Ceremony:

Most chapters take extreme pride in their chapter's rituals. The Associate Member Ceremony is the opportunity to see what Lambda Chi Alpha stands for. During this ceremony, which is open to the public, new members take the oath of an aspirant and are officially Associate Members of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Parent's Weekend:

Many chapters host a parent's weekend. This is a weekend dedicated to parents and all they do for their sons in Lambda Chi Alpha. This could involve, attending a school/professional sporting event, dinner or campus events such as a play, concert or guest speaker.

Programming:

Some chapters will invite parents to be involved in programming for the chapter, on topics related to career development or financial management. Parents have the advantage of –real-world experience in such areas that, if combined with other experiences of all parents, can be very beneficial.

Alumni Events:

This is an opportunity for parents to connect with different generations of Lambda Chi Alpha. This provides an excellent opportunity for networking as well as a deeper understanding of the life-long commitment to Lambda Chi Alpha

Glossary of Terms:

- Active Member** - An undergraduate member of a chapter who is in good standing. An active member may be an associate member or an initiate.
- Alumni Advisory Board (AAB)** - A group of alumni who advises and guides a chapter and its officers.
- Alumni Association (AA)** - A group of alumni from a particular chapter or region who meet regularly to enjoy brotherhood, friendships, networking, and fun.
- Associate Member (AM)** - A member who has joined Lambda Chi Alpha but has not been fully initiated. The term "pledge" is not used to refer to a new member of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Associate Member Pin** - A pin having Greek letters and triangles worn only by associate members of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Badge** - A crescent-shaped pin worn only by initiated members of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Bid** - An invitation to membership.
- Big Brother** - The person who serves as a special guide and counselor for a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Big Brother Coordinator** - A member of the chapter Fraternity Education Committee who coordinates the activities and program for big brothers.
- Bylaws** - A document written by each chapter that specifies its local policies. Bylaws are subordinate to the Constitution and Statutory Code, which governs all of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Chapter** - A group of undergraduate members, officially chartered and recognized by Lambda Chi Alpha, at a given college or university.
- Charter** - An official document that grants full authority for a chapter to function.
- Coat of Arms** - The crest of Lambda Chi Alpha that pictorially expresses the Fraternity's principles; may be worn by associate members and initiates.
- Colonization** - The establishment of a new colony of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Colony** - The status of a new group of undergraduate members at a given college or university prior to meeting the standards for chartering and becoming a chapter of Lambda Chi Alpha.
- Conclave** - A region of Lambda Chi Alpha in North America, and an annual leadership conference of the Fraternity held within each region, usually during the spring semester.
- Constitution** - One of the documents which contains the laws, policies, and resolutions of Lambda Chi Alpha, as enacted by the General Assembly. A three-fourths vote of the General Assembly is required for its amendment.
- Educational Foundation** - Lambda Chi Alpha Educational Foundation is a separate corporate entity that assists the Fraternity by providing scholarships and funding for leadership and educational programs. Lambda Chi Alpha maintains foundations in Canada and the United States.
- Educational Leadership Consultant (ELC)** - A Lambda Chi Alpha professional staff member who travels to chapters and provides counseling for officer programming and chapter operations.
- Executive Committee** - The judicial body of the chapter which is responsible for enforcing the laws of Lambda Chi Alpha and performs special administrative duties.

Expansion - The process conducted by the professional staff to identify colleges and universities to cultivate interest in starting new colonies of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Feeding America - Lambda Chi Alpha's philanthropic partner focused on collecting food, volunteering at the food bank and advocating to end hunger.

General Assembly - The legislative body of Lambda Chi Alpha, where undergraduates and alumni determine the laws and policies of the Fraternity; convenes once every two years during the summer.

General Fraternity - The organization consisting of all the active bodies of Lambda Chi Alpha, including chapters, colonies, alumni organizations, Grand High Zeta, Student Advisory Committee, and the professional staff.

Grand High Zeta (GHZ) - Lambda Chi Alpha's Board of Directors. Composed of nine officers elected by the General Assembly to serve four-year terms, two selected by the elected Board members to serve two-year terms, and one appointed by the Student Advisory Committee to serve a one-year term. The interpretation of Fraternity laws and policy decisions are executed by the Grand High Zeta between General Assemblies. All members of the Grand High Zeta are alumni volunteers, with the exception of the Grand High Sigma who is an undergraduate.

Fraternity and Sorority Adviser - Fraternity system adviser, a professional administrator who is hired by the college or university to advise the fraternities on campus.

High Zeta - The chapter's committee of officers, composed of 11 annually elected undergraduate members and one appointed alumnus.

Honorary Initiate - A man, not enrolled in college, who becomes an initiated member because of his connection with, and interest in, Lambda Chi Alpha.

House Corporation (HC) - The entity of alumni members that manages the operations of a specific Lambda Chi Alpha chapter house.

Initiate - A member who has participated in the Initiation Ritual of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Initiation - The act of being initiated, the ceremony of admission into Lambda Chi Alpha, the Initiation Ritual.

Interfraternity Council (IFC) - A group of fraternity representatives at a college or university established to promote the Greek system and maintain relationships among all Greek organizations.

International Headquarters (HQ) - The building that houses the Office of Administration and is located in Carmel, IN.

Legacy - a relative of a member of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Leadership Seminar – The biennial conference for chapter members and alumni advisers held during the summer.

Pre-initiation - A period of heightened Fraternity activities prior to the Initiation Ritual.

Prospective Member - A student considering membership in Lambda Chi Alpha, or a student that a chapter is interested in becoming a member.

Ritual - An official ceremony of Lambda Chi Alpha that is intended to turn ideal behavior into action behavior. One of the documents that contains the laws of Lambda Chi Alpha, as enacted by the General Assembly. A three-fourths vote of the General Assembly is required for its amendment.

Risk Management - The process of minimizing accidents and liable situations.

Student Advisory Committee (SAC) - A committee of 16 undergraduate members representing each of the conclave areas who advise and assist the Grand High Zeta and professional staff in their duties and decisions.

Theta Kappa Nu Fraternity - Founded on June 9, 1924, this national fraternity merged with Lambda Chi Alpha in 1939.

ZAX Sessions - Ritual education or program sessions outside the formal ceremonies that increases the understanding of Lambda Chi Alpha principles and helps turn our ideals into actions.

Zeta - A term used to refer to individual chapters of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Lambda Chi Alpha International Headquarters Staff

Executive Team



Chief Executive Officer: Bill Farkas – bfarkas@lambdachi.org

Responsible for managing and overseeing all operations pertaining to the General Fraternity Headquarters Staff.



President & CEO, Educational Foundation: Josh Lodolo – jlodolo@lambdachi.org

Responsible for leading the operations of the Educational Foundation.



General Counsel: Lynn Chipperfield – lchipperfield@lambdachi.org

Responsible for serving as the chief liaison to the James R. Favor Insurance Agency, and overseeing the fraternity's claims & litigation actions, as well as any legal issues related to trademarks and vendor licensing.



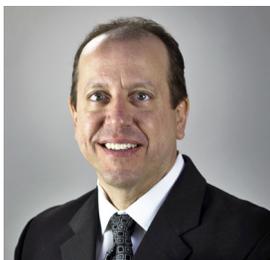
Director of Chapter Services: Nick Zuniga – nzuniga@lambdachi.org

Responsible for overseeing the operations for all Lambda Chi Alpha chapters and colonies.



Director of Business Affairs: Michele James – mcamarco@lambdachi.org

Responsible for the accounting, financial reporting, human resources, and administrative functions of the Educational Foundation, the Properties entity and the Fraternity.



Director of Communications and Information Technology: Tad Lichtenauer – tlichtenauer@lambdachi.org

Responsible for serving as chief editor of the Cross & Crescent and Purple, Green & Gold magazines, in addition to managing the Fraternity's communication and information technology functions.



Chief of Executive Affairs: Joe Citro – jcitro@lambdachi.org

Responsible for working in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer, directs special projects, and assists in board affairs.

For questions or more information, please email one of the members on the executive team or call Lambda Chi Alpha International Headquarters at (317) 872-8000

Questions to ask your Lambda Chi Alpha Son

- What is Lambda Chi Alpha doing for you?
- How does the chapter's grade point average compare to the All-Greek and All-University averages?
- How are your grades? And what does the chapter do to promote scholastic achievement?
- How much time is spent on Greek-related activities (Recruitment, Homecoming, and Greek Week)? Is this time mandatory or optional?
- Are Associate Members treated the same as active (initiated) members? Do they have the same privileges?
- What are the financial obligations, and what is included?
- Is there a special weekend for parents or other activities to which parents are invited?
- If the chapter has a house, what features does it offer, and how is it maintained?
- Are there alumni who are actively involved in chapter and house management?
- What type of programming does the chapter offer (i.e. career networking, alcohol and other drug education leadership training)?
- What risk management procedures does the chapter implement to ensure safety at social events?
- What opportunities are there for leadership development? Do members participate in other campus organizations?
- Has the chapter been sanctioned by the university or international organization for misconduct? Is it on a probationary or other special status?
- What values and ideals have you learned?
- Where does your chapter place its emphases?

PARENTS FAQ

What makes Lambda Chi Alpha different?

Lambda Chi Alpha is one of the largest fraternities in North America and is also one of the youngest. We view ourselves as a very progressive organization abolishing pledging, condemning hazing, creating educational opportunities past initiation and much more.

Why is Associate Membership important?

In 1972 the Fraternity abolished pledging and was the first fraternity to do this. The Associate Member program provides new members with equal rights and opportunities as an initiated brother. Since then our hazing claims and issues have been minimal.

What is the Fraternities stance on alcohol? Is it allowed in the Fraternity house?

The Fraternity follows Fraternal Information Programming Group (FIPG) policies. The FIPG policies include all local, state and campus policies. The FIPG policies also include that a chapter shall not collect funds or sell alcohol, promote drinking games or host social events at any formal activity (new member education, initiation, recruitment).

The chapter will need to follow our event planning practices and submit a detailed form outlining the event in its entirety. This form is found on our Officer Portal database. The General Fraternity also provides an Event Planning Guide to assist chapters in coordinating social events.

What should we do if we feel our son is being hazed?

If for any reason you feel your son is being hazed, please contact the International Headquarters. You can contact Nick Zuniga, Director of Chapter Services at 317-803-7380.

What will my son's new member experience look like?

Your son will have a seven week period which he will learn more about the fraternity. This will occur through our experiential learning process. This experiential learning is an opportunity to learn our values by putting them into action. For example, the associate members may volunteer at the local food bank for the value of service and stewardship.

Does the fraternity have any local alumni involved? Are those alumni trained?

93% of our collegiate chapters have an appointed alumni advisor. A majority of our chapters have multiple alumni involved. These alumni have to go through a certification process and background check. After that process alumni are encouraged to attend our alumni training events which occur twice a year. We keep in contact with our alumni via quarterly conference calls and webinars.

PARENTS FAQ

What is required to be a member?

A member must display the values of Lambda Chi Alpha, have above a 2.5 GPA, must be enrolled in the university and pay his financial obligations.

Does the fraternity provide education on proper behavior with women?

The fraternity has an educational program on gender issues which is presented at local conferences.

Are there programs to ensure academic success?

The chapter has an officer (High Sigma) who oversees academic efforts at the local chapter. The High Sigma creates a scholastic program which commonly includes: a study hour's program, providing campus resources and having a faculty advisor meet with men that are struggling. This may vary at the local level.

What programs or opportunities will make my son a well-rounded person?

The Fraternity offers a variety of leadership opportunities at the local level such as taking office or serving on a committee. This also includes additional educational opportunities such as participating in the post initiation educational programs. At the international level he can attend a variety of conferences focusing on leadership, values and educating him on how to improve his chapter.

What will my son pay to join the Fraternity?

The chapter will pay dues to the International Headquarters and the local chapter. Each chapter pays into secondary insurance and the cost varies by chapter due to education, behavior and property (fraternity house). The initiation cost and associate member cost are one time fees. The member dues occur every semester.

Below is the breakdown of fees:

Associate Member Fee: \$98

Initiation Fee: \$210

Active Member Dues: \$78

Who can my son contact on campus about Greek Life?

Every campus will have a Student Life department. In that department there will be a Fraternity & Sorority Life Advisor which oversees day to day operations of Greek Life on campus.

What financial assistance or scholarships does the fraternity provide?

The General Fraternity provides scholarships for summer conferences. A local chapter may also offer additional scholarships. If your son is struggling financially he can petition for financial hardship. That process is listed in our Constitution & Statutory Code.

Dear Parents/Guardians,

My name is Judi Swalwell. I am the proud mother of three men who all went to Simpson College and who all chose to become brothers of the Lambda Chi Alpha international fraternity. I was recently asked to write a letter to you relative to my thoughts and impressions about the impact of the fraternity on my sons' lives as well as my own. I've been giving this a lot of thought and have decided that "fortunate" is the best word to begin to describe the relationship, experience, and connection to Lambda Chi Alpha for my three sons and myself. It's fortunate that my oldest son's first social experience at Simpson College was with Lambda Chi. It's fortunate that my middle son - who had determined prior to ever setting foot on campus that he was NOT going to be in a fraternity - was good-naturedly "compelled" to walk on decision night. It's fortunate that my youngest son was able to see the worth of Lambda Chi Alpha through his brothers' eyes before college was really even on his radar. Finally, it is most fortunate for me that all three of my sons made the decision to become men of Lambda Chi Alpha.

Fortunate: advantageous, blessed, encouraging, favorable, favored, fortuitous, happy, lucky, profitable, promising, prosperous, successful, triumphant, victorious.

Three sons. Three wonderfully different and unique individuals with different goals, different personalities, different expectations and different ways of viewing their world. Three boys that found out they "fit" at Lambda Chi Alpha and were able to learn a little, take a little, give a little, and grow a lot...into men of Lambda Chi. I know that Lambda Chi Alpha isn't just for the athletes, or the academics, or the music majors, or the misfits, or the leaders, or the followers. Lambda Chi Alpha really is a place for everyone and that diversity provides fertile ground for developing those characteristics we all want our grown children to have. They learn from each others' strengths and weaknesses and discover together that they are all important. They are important to each other as the bonds of friendship and brotherhood are forged. They are important to Lambda Chi Alpha as they have to work together to maintain their "home". The campus and community outreach programs illustrate how important they are to Simpson and to Indianola. They matter. They can impact their world for good. They can make a difference.

Lambda Chi Alpha doesn't stop with "you can do it", though. Lambda Chi Alpha invests time and effort, through classes and mentoring programs to teach HOW. Concepts like loyalty, duty, respect, service, stewardship, honor, integrity and courage take on new significance within the framework of Lambda Chi Alpha. They are no longer a parental admonition. They take on value and meaning and become goals to be achieved and passed on to the next generation.

All three of the terrific boys I sent off to college came back to me a little stronger, more confident, more thoughtful, more mature, kinder...better. Even though two of my sons have already graduated from Simpson, they maintain their ties with Lambda Chi Alpha, continuing to find value in their relationship and continuing to grow and give back. My youngest, a junior at Simpson this year, finds uncommon purpose in Lambda Chi Alpha and is eager to return to his family of brothers. I know he returns to an incomparable source of strength, wisdom and friendship.

We are fortunate.

Judi Swalwell



LAMBDA CHI ALPHA

A LIFETIME OF TRUE BROTHERHOOD