



## Phi Alpha Kappa

# Newsreel

Fall 2025 Issue

A tradition of Phi Alpha Kappa Christian Fraternity since 1934

### Presidential Greetings

Dearest Alumni and Friends of Phi Alpha Kappa,

Greetings all the way over from the PAK house in Ann Arbor! The semester is in full swing, and though it's starting to sound repetitive, I am truly honored to do life with the men of Phi Alpha Kappa. Late-night chats, intramural dominance, good food from our very own chef Amy, and a culture that continues to give the Lord the glory and that builds each other up permeate the house. We're set up for another great year— stay tuned.

The Dutch House remains a place where people can feel safe and welcome. We've got guys stepping into some big shoes, and new guys filling in vacancies. There is more music playing in the Great Room, and football is always playing in the background. Our pledges are among the tightest-knit I've seen, not only forming friendships with each other but also setting a foundation for other freshmen on campus to feel like part of a group. I've seen people involved in RUF, Cru, New Life, and SALT adding to the culture on campus. This makes me so glad to see as I have been able to see how PAK can be outward-facing and a blessing for the University of Michigan.

Alumni day went smoothly with a great turnout, and men with the Dutch House in common were able to visit their old rooms and see the house in all its glory. Speaking of glory... if you haven't been to PAK in a while, check it out— dare I say it hasn't looked this good in the last 10 years. We've got new carpet and couches thanks to generous alumni donations and the alumni board! Guys have taken fantastic initiative and truly cared for the house as their home, and let me tell you, it looks like one of the best places a guy could live on campus (slightly biased but also speaking the truth).

All of this to say the Lord is moving in and through PAK. Initiative from the inside out has never been this prevalent, with our new chaplain doing a great job and guys being proactive in their faith. I'm trying to soak it all in! It's great to be a Michigan Wolverine, true— but I also think that's due to the people I live with.

God bless!

Daniel Armas  
Active Chapter President  
[pres@phialphakappa.com](mailto:pres@phialphakappa.com)

## Announcements

### A Word about our **Website (YES, check it out)** and LinkedIn Account

Please, visit our **NEW website portfolio!** This is a great way to stay up to date on the current happenings and fraternity activities. It's also a great tool for recruiting new members. If you know of any young men who might be interested in Phi Alpha Kappa, please share our website with them! [www.phialphakappa.com](http://www.phialphakappa.com)

You can also **follow us on LinkedIn**, as this is a great way to connect with alumni, active members, and to reach out to potential pledges! Thanks so much in advance.

[linkedin.com/company/phi-alpha-kappa-fraternity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/phi-alpha-kappa-fraternity)



### Phi Alpha Kappa's Annual Spring Event: "The Smoker"

**What:** As we have done the last few years now, The Smoker will be a casual, open house-style event in which past, present, and future Phi Alpha Kappa brothers will be able to enjoy food and drinks at Founder's Brewing Company. Spouses and dates are welcome to join us; hors d'oeuvres and soda will be provided to all who attend, and a cash bar will be available. Alumni and Active members alike are encouraged to invite graduating high school seniors and their parents or anyone else who may be interested in membership. If you know any students who may be interested in attending The Smoker this year, please contact our vice president, Jesse Kemmetmueller at [vp@phialphakappa.com](mailto:vp@phialphakappa.com).

**Where: Founder's Brewing Company Centennial Room**

235 Grandville Ave SW  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503

\*\*Free parking is available in the Founder's lot located directly behind the brewery (to the South). The Centennial Room is accessed via the elevator in the company store.

**When: Saturday, February 21st, 2025**

Beginning at 2:00 PM until 4:00 PM

## Officer Reports

### Vice President Report

We are excited to share that we have a large and healthy pledge class of 9 this year! This group includes six in-house pledges and three out-of-house pledges, with eight freshmen and one sophomore. It's encouraging to see such strong interest from younger students, and we're confident this class will bring a lot of energy and growth to the house.

Much of this success is thanks to our social chair, Abel, whose hard work made a massive difference during rush. We were able to kick off the semester with a presence at Festifall and wrap up the week with our *One Summer Night* Party, creating great opportunities for potential pledges to connect with the house.

The house is now almost at capacity, and the sense of community and culture this fall has been the best I've seen since being a part of the house. This is also our second year really pushing to expand our online and social media presence. Our Instagram account (@michiganpak) will continue to be updated regularly with pictures from events, as well as our Monday prayers—created in collaboration with our chaplain, Eli—which have been a big hit.

We encourage you to keep recruiting among friends and family and to send any interested parties our way! Alumni and students alike can always reach us through [www.phialphakappa.com](http://www.phialphakappa.com).

Jesse Kemmetmueller, Vice President  
[vp@phialphakappa.com](mailto:vp@phialphakappa.com)

## Business Manager Report

The house is off to a strong start financially. PAK alum Caleb Riddering helped spearhead a successful transition to an Airbnb-style summer rental model, significantly increasing revenue for the house. Caleb is now assisting the house lead a home improvement fundraiser, details of which can be found in this newsreel. On the financial side, this means we now have a Venmo account (@michiganpak) and a PayPal account named Phi Alpha Kappa, which supports a variety of payment options. We have 26 rooms filled at present, but a pledge class of 9 (compared to 7 graduating members) means that the future of PAK finances is in good shape. If you know anyone looking for housing or have any questions about how we handle our money, feel free to email me at [business@phialphakappa.com](mailto:business@phialphakappa.com). I also thank our previous business manager, Jaden, for helping me learn the ropes — there are a lot of ropes to learn in this role. Fortunately, Amy has continued her wizardry of keeping costs low, and we've been blessed with low unexpected expenses. We ask God's continued blessing on the house's finances.

Sam Knot, Business Manager  
[business@phialphakappa.com](mailto:business@phialphakappa.com)

## Sergeant-At-Arms Report

The PAK house is running just swimmingly this fall. Thanks to a current member and two ambitious alumni, the house received many renovations over the summer. These include, but are not limited to: a full workroom remodel, re-flooring and painting in two residential rooms, a fresh repaint in the second-floor bathroom, and a spiffy new bike rack for those who pedal. Additionally, both the Great Room and the east stairwell were recarpeted thanks to the Alumni

Board! Work day saw the lads of Phi AK handle a plethora of odd jobs around the house. Between the new carpet, the summer remodels, the new couches we purchased last year, and the workday tasks, it's safe to say that the PAK house is looking better than ever. We're looking forward to improving our beloved house and keeping it a safe and comfortable place to live.

Tyler Amprim, Sergeant-at-Arms  
[sergeant@phialphakappa.com](mailto:sergeant@phialphakappa.com)

## Steward Report

This year, we are especially grateful to have Amy back with us after her heart surgery over the summer. Her health and recovery have been a true blessing, and it's terrific to see her back in the kitchen, where she continues to make such a positive impact on our house. As always, the kitchen has remained a central place where brothers connect, whether sharing meals or enjoying late-night bowls of cereal. We are incredibly thankful for the opportunity to use the kitchen and for the abundant, delicious food that is always available. We are especially appreciative of all that Amy does around the house, particularly the fantastic meals she prepares for lunch and dinner each day. Her efforts make a significant difference, and it has been a huge blessing to help care for the kitchen, ensuring it stays clean and welcoming for everyone to enjoy throughout the year.

Gideon Huisman, Steward  
[steward@phialphakappa.com](mailto:steward@phialphakappa.com)

## **Chaplain Report**

God has been present this year at PAK! Members are active in a variety of campus ministries, including New Life Church, RUF, and CRU. We've had one PAK Unplugged worship night and are hoping to have another soon. These are low-key worship nights in the great room, open to Christians across campus, where we sing a wide variety of hymns and worship songs. PAK Packs, our in-house small groups, have been meeting regularly and fostering community and spiritual development in the house. A group of members has also routinely been going on Friday night hikes in the Arb, which have been a great time of fellowship and spiritual conversation in God's beautiful creation. Finally, I've also been working with Jesse, our VP, to post a weekly prayer to the PAK Instagram page. Praise God for the ways he's been present and active at PAK this semester, and please pray for us to grow in our faith and be a light to campus.

Elijah Compagner, Chaplain

## **Pledge Chairmen Report**

We have nine pledges this year; although we have only had a couple of months to get to know them, they are already an integral part of the house. They have been a fantastic addition to the house and have already helped build a community in the house, unknown to mankind. They are all invaluable around the house and continue to gain a better understanding of the house values. We look forward to aiding them in their progression throughout the rest of the year.

George Boville and Caidan Sias

## **Athletic Chairman Report**

The fall intramural season is off to a roaring start. Perhaps most importantly, PAK has regained her former glory with a championship in Sand Volleyball, which puts me off the hot seat as athletic chairman for the time being. We got second place in ultimate frisbee and have yet to lose a game in flag football. Our eyes gaze unflinchingly toward the horizon for the chance to avenge last year's runner-up performance in Wallyball and rebound from the abysmal refereeing of last year's Christian flag football tournament. This

year's pledge class has made a strong showing across our various sports, and they know ball. We've also got a fantasy football league with a whopping 14 teams, meaning that on any given Sunday, more than half the house is competing for the most essential bragging rights in the history of brotherhood. If you watch Michigan football, you've likely seen a cohort of Phi Alpha Kappans getting rowdy in the front row of the student section. In my time living at the house, I've yet to see a house put in more hours at the gym, and we continue to enjoy fellowship and build community playing and watching sports together. Lastly, for full disclosure, I expect to step down from my role as athletic chairman soon, as I anticipate a call from Sherrone Moore at any moment asking me to join the team as a wide receiver. As always, Go Blue!

Sam Knot, Athletic Chairman

## Historian Report

The Big/Little Tree has been updated following the big/little reveal, along with updates to the Awards Document from last semester.

We are also looking for a missing paddle. The house currently possesses all yearly pledge paddles since 1962, except for one from either 1969 or the 1970-1971 school year (a change in the year format appears to have occurred around this time). The missing paddle may or may not have a year etched onto it. (We have the other paddle, but it doesn't have a date.) If you have any information about it, please let me know at [ddehorn@umich.edu](mailto:ddehorn@umich.edu).

Drew DeHorn, Historian  
[historian@phialphakappa.com](mailto:historian@phialphakappa.com)

## Social Chairman Report

Starting off the year strong, we brought back our Applebee's tradition. We introduced a PAK Rush Week which concluded with our "One Summer Night" party, that included bumping music and a mechanical bull!

We had a fantastic turnout for Alumni Day, where stories from the past and present were shared between alumni, actives, and pledges. That same weekend, we celebrated a Hail Victor win against the Wisconsin, Go Wolverines!

To keep the momentum going, we planned a spooky trip to Hush Haunted House for our Halloween event. As tradition continues, we're

now preparing for our annual Phi Golf Kappa Charity event this week and are looking forward to another successful turnout.

We're also exploring a collaboration with local A2 band, "Grenadine", to host a concert aimed at boosting PAK's presence and brotherhood.

Finally, we'll wrap up the semester with our annual PAK Christmas Party, hoping to strengthen bonds and keep spirits warm throughout the Go Blue Michigan winter!

Abel Muñoz, Social Chairman



## Webmaster Report

Webmaster is a brand new officer role this year, focused on maintaining and upgrading our digital presence and brand coherence across different platforms. This summer, our website underwent a massive visual overhaul—the first in nearly 15 years! The changes include new pages, photos, updated contact methods, upgraded language, and upcoming projects, such as a virtual tour of the Dutch House. Development work has also begun on a Phi Alpha Kappa

Fraternity LinkedIn page, which will be fleshed out as the year continues. Please explore our new website and LinkedIn page and share your thoughts. I am thrilled for the opportunity to steward this new position and look forward to crafting an online identity that truly reflects the unique and special connections within PAK. Stay tuned! [webmaster@phialphakappa.com](mailto:webmaster@phialphakappa.com)  
[linkedin.com/company/phi-alpha-kappa-fraternity](https://www.linkedin.com/company/phi-alpha-kappa-fraternity)  
Jesse Kemmetmueller, Webmaster



## Meet the Pledges

*Big brothers write these articles about their little brothers.*

### Chidi Ireaja by Daniel Armas

Chidi is a sophomore hailing from the distant land of Chicago. He is on a pre-med track, balancing a busy schedule of Spanish classes, organic chemistry, a job, the Christian ministry RUF, and now pledging at PAK! He is a busy guy, but he carries it well; you'd never guess he's had the burden of a packed day from the way he interacts with you. Chidi has been a huge blessing to have at the house— not only is he smart and athletic, which is good for PAK's image, but he's a genuine guy who loves Jesus and people. I'm so stoked to have him as my housemate and little, looking forward to seeing how the Lord works through His life.



### Jonah Driy by Gideon Huisman



Jonah Driy is a freshman from Zeeland, Michigan, and although he's currently undeclared, he's leaning toward studying economics. Jonah has quickly become a comforting and positive presence in the house, someone who brings a calm energy wherever he goes. He's always willing to lend a helping hand, whether that's pitching in with chores, offering a listening ear, or just being there when someone needs support. When he's not busy with classes or hanging out with the brothers, you'll probably find Jonah relaxing with a good book or getting into a new TV series. His easygoing nature and genuine kindness have made him a valued part of the house, and we're lucky to have him here this year.

### Grant DeWeerd by Sam Knot

From small-town Clarksville, Michigan, comes a big-time addition to the PAK brotherhood, Grant DeWeerd. If you've watched the Michigan Marching Band, you may have seen or heard him marching around the Big House while masterfully playing the most beautiful of instruments, the trombone. His artistry is not limited to the trombone, however—Grant frequently gets RUF rocking with some immaculate licks on his bass, is a strong singer, and enjoys drawing and painting to boot. It's perhaps unsurprising, then, that Grant is majoring in architecture, and fortunately, he believes PAK is architecturally sound and unlikely to collapse any time soon for any structural reasons. I have no reason to suspect he believes it is likely to collapse for *any* reason, but I didn't ask him that and don't want to put words in his mouth. We're not quite sure how he manages it between band, RUF, and class, but Grant is also a steady presence around the house, most commonly seen hanging out in the pool room or studying in the great room. It's only been a few weeks, but Grant has already been a great addition to this year's pledge class and to the brotherhood at 1010 E Ann.



## Andrew Gohlich by Asaf Martinez Cardoza



I am really excited to introduce Andrew Gohlich to this year's pledge class!! Andrew is coming up from Madison, Alabama; however, a native to the country of Germany. Growing up in a military family, Andrew has had the opportunity to meet new people and see new places everywhere he goes. Ann Arbor is no different, as Andrew has quickly immersed himself in campus and the various extracurricular activities the University of Michigan has to offer. Andrew has been able to get connected with RUF (Reformed University Fellowship), PAK (Phi Alpha Kappa), the Michigan Computer Graphics Club, and coding competitions. In all this, Andrew has found the house to be a haven for sleeping, whether that's on the couch or one of the many rooms we have. Outside the home, Andrew takes the time to code, climb, and run, all while being intentional about building friendships within the house. We are extremely lucky to have someone with a heart like

Andrew's join Phi Alpha Kappa :)

## Levi Wierenga by Jesse Kemmetmueller

Levi Wieringa is one of our brightest in-house pledges and a proud Michigander through and through. A recent graduate of South Christian High School in Grand Rapids, Levi is now a freshman at the University of Michigan studying engineering. In high school, he balanced his time between tennis and robotics, and he continues that same curiosity and drive here at college—getting involved with project teams and joining many of our members at Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) on campus. In his downtime, Levi enjoys hanging out with the guys, watching Michigan sports, and picking up the guitar as he learns to play.



## Tyler Hemmeke by Tyler Amprim



Tyler Hemmeke is a Freshman in the Ross School of Business, joining us in the PAK house for his first semester. Hailing from--you guessed it--Holland, MI, this guy fits right in at the Dutch House. Bestowed with the greatest first name known to man, Tyler has been quick to mesh with both actives and pledges and brings plenty of energy to house meals and functions alike. When he's not analyzing markets or deciding which extremely competitive club to apply to, Tyler is always down for a good time with the guys. Whether it's playing poker around the great room table, watching TV with the fellas, or speaking Mandarin to random members walking by, Tyler is a joy to have in the house, and I'm grateful for the

opportunity to be his big brother.

## Caleb Kuipers by Micah Huisman

Caleb is a freshman in the school of engineering. He is undeclared currently, but desires to move forward into the world of engineering. He hails from the lovely town of Byron Center and attended South Christian High School before making the correct choice of coming to the University of Michigan and the even more correct choice of pledging to Phi Alpha Kappa. Aside from being an academic titan, Caleb has been heavily involved in many of the PAK intramural sports teams. This is a really good thing because he also happens to be an athletic titan, spurred on by his days of high school soccer. Caleb has also gotten involved in a religious organization called RUF (Reformed University Fellowship), at which he has become a vital part of his freshman class and is often planning events and hosting people at the PAK house. We are so thankful for the addition of Caleb to PAK this year and cannot wait to see what the rest of the year will bring!!



## Eli Mayhew by Leif Bauman



Eli is a freshman at the University of Michigan, currently studying Urban Technology (although that may be subject to change). He hails from Saline, Michigan—only a fifteen-minute drive from campus. So far, he has gotten involved with the campus ministries Reformed University Fellowship and Salt. In his free time, Eli is an avid weightlifter and enjoys watching sports. He has been a strong addition to this year's pledge class. Despite being an out-of-house pledge and living in the Oxford dorms, Eli can frequently be seen in the house TV room during various sporting events or around the house, bantering with the brothers. It has been such a pleasure getting to know Eli. He has an unrivaled sense of humor and a great presence that he brings to the house. We are very excited to welcome Eli to PAK this year and look forward to seeing how the Lord will work through him during his time at Michigan.

## Jacob Staal by Drew DeHorn

Jacob is a freshman at the University of Michigan studying Chemistry. He was quick to join clubs on campus, getting involved with the board game club, pickleball, and social tennis, and has shown great enthusiasm towards PAK, if not evident by how often he's hanging out with us at the house despite currently living at Bursley. Jacob is a fantastic addition at PAK, he's a very kind and friendly person, and I'm excited to



get to know him better and see what God and college has in store for him.

## The Active Members



Jesse Kemmetmueller  
Vice President  
Junior  
Psychology



Micah Huisman  
Senior  
Vocal  
Performance and  
Music Education



Elijah Compagner  
Chaplain  
Sophomore  
Biology



Jack Hoferkamp  
Junior  
LSA



Eric Brown  
Secretary  
Sophomore  
Engineering



Asaf Martinez  
Cardoza  
Senior  
Economics



Tyler Amprim  
Senior  
Economics



Jaden Ketchum  
Senior  
Business



Caidan Sias  
Pledge Chair  
Sophomore  
Electrical Engineering



Josh Andren  
Junior  
Chemical  
Engineering



George Boville  
Pledge Chair  
Sophomore  
Biology



Daniel Armas  
President  
Senior  
Nursing



Abel Munoz  
Social Chair  
Junior  
Vocal Performance



Sam Knot  
Business Manager and  
Athletic Chairman  
Junior  
History and PPE



Drew DeHorn  
Historian  
Senior  
Mechanical Engineering



Leif Bauman  
Junior  
Econ



Gideon Huisman  
Sophomore  
Steward  
Psychology

## The Pledges



Tyler Hemmeke  
Freshman  
Business



Andrew Gohlich  
Freshman  
Computer  
Science



Grant DeWeerd  
Freshman  
Architecture



Chidi Ireaja  
Sophomore  
Premed



Jonah Driy  
Freshman  
Economics



Caleb Kuipers  
Freshman  
Mechanical  
Engineering



Jacob Staal  
Freshman  
Economics????



Levi Weirenga  
Freshman  
Engineering



Eli Mayhew  
Freshman  
Urban Technology