

# Kappa Kappa Psi

## Southwest District Convention 2023



Minutes | Final Officer Reports |  
Committee Reports

**April 14-16, 2023**  
**Lafayette, Louisiana**

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***-Table of Contents-***

Opening Session

Separate Session #2

Separate Session #3

Appendix A: Final Officer Report - Secretary/Treasurer - Mason Thomas

Appendix B: Final Officer Report - Vice President for Programs - Edgar Canales

Appendix C: Final Officer Report - Vice President of Membership - Davis Vaughn

Appendix D: Final Officer Report - President - Patrick Caraveo

Appendix E: Spirit and Recognition Committee Report

Appendix F: Ways and Means Committee Report

Appendix G: Chapter Leadership Committee Report

Appendix H: Nominations Committee Report

Appendix I: Jurisdiction Committee Report

Appendix J: Final Governor Report - NAME

Appendix K: Final Governor Report - NAME

Appendix L: Final Governor Report - NAME

## **Opening Session | Saturday, April 15th @ 08:00 AM CT**

- 1. Call to Order @ 08:14 AM**
  - a. “Welcome to the 2023 Southwest District Convention of Kappa Kappa Psi, I now call this First Session to order!”
- 2. Introduction of Council and Governors**
  - a. Patrick Caraveo - SWD President
  - b. Davis Vaughn - SWD Vice President for Membership
  - c. Edgar Canales - SWD Vice President for Programs
  - d. Mason Thomas - SWD Secretary/Treasurer
  - e. Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor
  - f. Andy Melvin - SWD Governor
  - g. Clinton Wieden - SWD Governor
- 3. Delegate Roll Call**
  - a. Seat all Delegates.
    - i. Random Seating for the 2023 SWD Convention will begin with Theta Phi.
- 4. Accepting the Minutes of the 2022 SWD Convention**
  - a. Motion to accept the 2022 SWD Convention Minutes
    - i. Motion - Beta Gamma
    - ii. Second - Rho
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 5. National Council Town Hall**
- 6. Founder’s Circle Keynote: Bang Co**
  - a. “Welcome to our Keynote Speaker, Bang Co, National Vice President for Membership Expansion for Kappa Kappa Psi!”
- 7. Announcements**
  - a. Nominations committee will be meeting at 11:00 AM in the conference room behind the registration table.
- 8. Recess until Saturday, April 15 @ 05:15 PM**

**Separate Session #2 | Saturday, April 15th @ 05:15 PM CT**

- 1. Call to Order @ 05:15 PM**
- 2. Delegate Roll Call**
- 3. Final Officer Reports**
  - a. Secretary/Treasurer Summary and Charges
    - i. Motion to accept Mason Thomas's Final Officer Report as read
      1. Motion - Lambda
      2. Second - Theta Nu
      3. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - b. Vice President for Program Summary and Charges
    - i. Motion to accept Edgar Canales's Final Officer Report as read
      1. Motion - Lambda
      2. Second - Theta Nu
      3. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - c. Vice President for Membership Summary and Charges
    - i. Motion to accept Davis Vaughn's Final Officer Report as read
      1. Motion - Lambda
      2. Second - Epsilon Beta
      3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 1. Report of the Ways and Means Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Zeta Beta
    - ii. Second - Delta Chi
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - b. Motion to Adopt the 2023-2024 Budget
    - i. Motion - Rho
    - ii. Second - Iota Sigma
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 2. Report of the Chapter Leadership Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Delta
    - ii. Second - Alpha Tau
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 3. Report of the Nominations Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Beta Alpha
    - ii. Second - Epsilon Theta
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass

**4. Announcements**

- a. We will all have a meal at banquet, regardless of late registration! Be there or be square!

**5. Recess until Sunday, April 16th @ 08:00 AM**

## **Separate Session #3 | Sunday, April 16th @ 08:00 AM CT**

- 1. Call to Order: @ 08:06 AM**
- 2. Report of the Spirit and Recognition Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Beta Alpha
    - ii. Second - Rho
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 3. Report of the Jurisdiction Committee**
  - a. Motion to Accept the Report
    - i. Motion - Alpha Omicron
    - ii. Second - Gamma Sigma
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
  - b. Motion to adopt the Proposed Changes
    - i. Motion - Delta Sigma
    - ii. Second - Zeta Kappa
    - iii. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 4. Final Officer Reports**
  - a. President Summary and Charges
    - i. Motion to accept Patrick Caraveo's Final Officer Report as read
      1. Motion - Alpha Chi
      2. Second - Lambda
      3. Pass/Fail - Pass
- 5. District Officer Elections**
  - a. Delegate Roll Call
    - i. "We will now do a delegate roll call."
  - b. President
    - i. Slated Candidate: Edgar Canales, Lambda
    - ii. Nominations from the Floor
      1. Davis Vaughn, Lambda
    - iii. Election Procedure
      1. 3 Minute Speech from each candidate
      2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
    - iv. Counting Votes
      1. Elected Individual: Davis Vaughn, Lambda
  - c. Andy the Armadillo, presented by Alpha Rho, was passed to the Lambda Kappa Chapter at the University of Arkansas at Fort Smith.
  - d. Spirit Drum, presented by Alpha Omicron, was passed to the Rho Chapter at Tulane University.

- e. SWDAA Awards
  - i. The Delegate Grant was awarded to the following:
    - 1. KKΨ
      - a. Chris Rahn, Epsilon Beta
      - b. Abigail Rieger, Xi Beta
      - c. Evelyn Arzola, Alpha Chi
    - 2. TBΣ
      - a. Shelby Dye, Iota
      - b. Christina Hawkins, Delta Tau
      - c. Cameron Denler, Theta Theta
  - ii. Ritual Scholarship was awarded to the following:
    - 1. Delta Sigma Chapter (TBS)
    - 2. Lambda Chapter (KKΨ)
- f. Vice President for Membership
  - i. Slated Candidate: Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    - 1. None from the Floor
  - iii. Election Procedure
    - 1. 3 Minute Speech from each candidate
    - 2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
  - iv. Counting Votes
    - 1. Elected Individual: Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron
- g. Vice President for Programs
  - i. Slated Candidate: Cyrus Jackson, Alpha Psi
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    - 1. None from the Floor
  - iii. Election Procedure
    - 1. 3 Minute Speech
    - 2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
  - iv. Counting Votes
    - 1. Elected Individual: Cyrus Jackson, Alpha Psi
- h. Chapter Percentage was awarded to the following:
  - i. Eta Xi
- i. Chapter Participation was awarded to the following:
  - i. Theta Nu
- j. Chapter Distance Award was awarded to the following:
  - i. Alpha Omicron

- k. Secretary/Treasurer
  - i. Slated Candidate: Araci Garcia, Epsilon Delta
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    - 1. Evelyn Arzola, Alpha Chi
  - iii. Election Procedure
    - 1. 3 Minute Speech
    - 2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
  - iv. Counting Votes
    - 1. Elected Individual: Araci Garcia, Epsilon Delta
- l. Superior Chapter Achievement Award was awarded to the following:
  - i. Lambda
  - ii. Beta Lambda
  - iii. Gamma Theta
  - iv. Gamma Omega
  - v. Epsilon Delta
- m. Member at Large
  - i. Slated Candidate: Davis Vaughn, Lambda
  - ii. Nominations from the Floor
    - 1. Edgar Canales, Lambda
  - iii. Election Procedure
    - 1. 3 Minute Speech from each candidate
    - 2. 3 Minutes of moderated Q&A with each Candidate
  - iv. Counting Votes
    - 1. Elected Individual: Edgar Canales, Lambda
- n. Individual Awards
  - i. J. Lee Burke Student Achievement Award:
    - 1. Mason Thomas, Lambda
- o. National Announcements
 

Welcome to the 2023-2024 SWD Council!

  - i. President: Davis Vaughn, Lambda Chapter
  - ii. Vice President for Membership: Gabe Sanders, Alpha Omicron Chapter
  - iii. Vice President for Programs: Cyrus Jackson, Alpha Psi Chapter
  - iv. Secretary/Treasurer: Araci Garcia, Epsilon Delta Chapter
  - v. Member-At-Large: Edgar Canales, Lambda Chapter

**6. District Officer Installation**

**7. Adjourn @ 10:36 AM**

- a. Motion - Theta Nu
- b. Second - Epsilon Rho
- c. Pass/Fail - Pass



## **Appendix A: Final Officer Report - Secretary/Treasurer - Mason Thomas**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

It's a little bizarre to be standing here before you all, with these other officers at my side, and in a position I never expected to be in. And when I say that, I don't mean it as a cliché; I genuinely mean I never expected to be here. I never expected a position on the District Council to be vacant once last year's District Convention ended, let alone TWO positions. I never expected to be offered the position of Secretary/Treasurer when I applied to be the Member at Large. And I never expected to be here, four full years after I was initiated into this Fraternity, still serving as an active member.

It was four years ago (give or take a couple days) when I bought this exact shirt that I am wearing, mere days after I was initiated into Kappa Kappa Psi, at my first ever District Convention at SWOSU in Weatherford, OK. A year after that, our Chapter President at the time asked me if I would be interested in running for District Office, and he thought I would be really good for it. "Me?" I thought to myself, "No way I could do it now. I'm only a sophomore. I have only been in the Fraternity for less than a year. I'm not ready."

And then, in March of 2020, we all got sent home for a really, really extended spring break, and among some other mitigating circumstances, that meant that the next year wouldn't be my year either. And then, my senior year, I had the absolute privilege of serving as my chapter's President, which was its own journey and required my 100% attention and effort at the time.

So, by the time we got to District Convention last year, I figured it just wasn't in the cards for me. And I was okay with that. But then... well, we already went over that part. I figured that it was about time that I heeded the advice of my Chapter President and good friend, Drew Wilson, that he had given me those years ago and throw my hat in the ring for District Office.

Much to my delight, I was selected to have the honor to serve on this esteemed District Council. Throughout my time on this council, I have seen a whole other side of this Fraternity that has enriched my life in so many ways. I have met brothers I otherwise would not have known. I was asked to serve my brothers in ways that I am not sure I was entirely prepared for, but that I gave my heart, soul, and passion so that I might be part of making our Fraternity just a little bit better. And now, forever etched in the history of this Fraternity, it will read the name "Mason Thomas" when brothers look back on District Councils of years past. I hope my work this year has enriched this council and this district in some small way.

Without further ado, here are my charges...

The charges for the 2022-2023 Secretary/Treasurer were as follows:

- Become familiar with the workings of the website in order to upload documents (i.e. minutes, events, and others) in a timely manner.
- Complete all documents assigned to you within one week of receiving them.
- Review the 2021-2022 Southwest District Budget with the Ways and Means Committee.
- Prepare the 2022-2023 Annual Southwest District Budget in a timely manner.
- Find ways to include Brothers in the planning process for the Annual Budget by opening the Ways and Means Committee to Chapters.
- Don't be afraid to ask questions and try new things.

My charges for the 2023-2024 Secretary/Treasurer are as follows:

- Become familiar with the workings of the website in order to upload documents (i.e. minutes, events, and others) in a timely manner.
- Complete all documents assigned to you within one week of receiving them.
- Review the 2023 WAM Report with the 2023-2024 Ways and Means Committee.
- Prepare the 2024-2025 Ways and Mean Report in a timely manner.
- Take advantage of the avenues for growth and the immense privilege you receive by serving in this office, the greatest of which being the opportunity to learn from and interact with brothers from across the Southwest every single day.

My charges for the 2023-2024 District Council are as follows:

- Find ways to build connections between all of the officers and governors alike. As close as I feel to this council, I can't help but be left wanting more. It will be what you make of it, and your bonds will only be forged through whatever paths you pave. Cherish the time you have with each other, because it may end up being shorter than you think.
- Be intentional in the ways that you delegate and collaborate with one another. These positions have been around in one form or another for years, and sometimes they can benefit by sprucing it up and trying something new. That being said, never forget the responsibilities that you pledged to maintain when taking your office.
- Meet frequently, whether for business or for fun. We live in an age where we can see each other no matter the time or distance, so make time for one another, and have a great year.

My charges for the 2023-2024 Southwest District are as follows:

- Communicate with your district officers, all the time. The number one thing that I wish I had more of in this position was time and memories with more brothers. Even if it's to just check in and tell them what you are doing, I promise, they will cherish that email or call or text more than you know.
- Keep serving your band programs in the amazing ways that I know that you are. We do not get to see half of the amazing things you do because we aren't there with you in your programs. However, those things that are recognized inspire us and ensure us that there is good work happening in the Southwest District. Keep doing what you are doing, and know that it has an immense impact, whether you realize it or not.

Next, I have some people to thank...

*To the Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Council,*

Thank you for being such amazing collaborators with our council this year. You all set a standard for the sisters of Tau Beta Sigma that should be well-respected and sought to replicate in any organization. Though not as numbered as with this council, I have enjoyed every opportunity to collaborate with each and every one of you, and I wish you all the best in all of your future endeavors.

*To my counterpart John,*

Thank you for all the work that you have put in over the past two terms as Southwest District Sec./Treas. for Tau Beta Sigma. You were a place of support and stability as I undertook this position, and I will never be able to thank you enough. District Marketplace would not have gone as smoothly this year without you, and I will always appreciate your help in keeping me accountable and on-top of my responsibilities.

*To Patrick,*

To this day, I am not sure if you entirely grasp the colossal impact you have on those around you. You are one of the best representatives of the Fraternity that I have ever met, and I cannot thank you enough for simply being you. Every time I had a question or suggestion (and I had quite a few), you were always willing to listen and support me in any way you could. I can only hope to strive to be half the brother that you are as I move on to the next chapter of my life. Your presence on this council will be sorely missed, and I hope you know that you have made a lifelong friend in me. If you come calling for any reason, I am there, no questions asked. Whatever life holds for you next, I know that you will continue to have that positive influence on any and all who come into contact with you. Best wishes to you, Brother Patrick.

*To Davis,*

One of my brothers from the Lambda Chapter. 1/3 of the Lambda majority on the Southwest District Council. You and I have been through a lot together, but I am happy to report that our friendship and brotherhood has survived all that this crazy life has thrown at us. You bring such hope and happiness to my life. You are always around to simultaneously keep me humble while also never letting me forget my worth as a brother, as a friend, and as a person. Words cannot express how deeply I appreciate the bonds that you and I have forged over the years, and that to this day, our trust in each other continues to allow us to overcome many great obstacles.

P.S. Always call me when you are buying tickets to see Sweeney Todd on Broadway to ask if you should go through with it, even though we both know you were always going to see it anyway.

*To Edgar,*

The second and final of my brothers from the Lambda Chapter who also happens to make up  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the Lambda majority on the Southwest District Council. I am going to be honest with you, Edgar; before this year, I didn't feel like you and I knew each other particularly well. Obviously, we are in the same chapter. We hang out with the same people. We even served on our chapter's Executive Council together the year prior. However, I have never felt our brotherhood between you and I grow as deeply as I have this year. Perhaps it has to do with the fact that we shared a room for a month straight during the many March Madness tournament trips we took across the country; or, perhaps it has to do with the fact that you and I have seized the opportunities to inspire growth in one another. You have inspired me in ways that I never could have anticipated, and I can only hope that I have had as much of an impact on you as you have had on me. You even did what I thought was impossible: you got me to like soccer. And, to be clear, not just "kind of like it." Like, I am obsessed now. And that is an obsession that you created and will have to put up with for as long as our friendship lasts. Anytime you want to play FIFA into the wee hours of the night, you just give me a call. Thanks for everything, Edgar.

*To Andy,*

You walk into the room, and somehow, there's like this wave of calm energy that descends that tells everyone, "Hey, it's going to be okay." Granted, that's usually followed with an eerie feeling of "Hey, we gotta get this stuff done yesterday." It's pretty crazy. To be fair, though, the dichotomy of your effect on people is complex and nuanced and would be missed greatly if it weren't present. Thank you for always being a driving force on this council, even if sometimes it leads you to accidentally end a Zoom call in the middle of one of our District Workshops. Jokes aside, though, I truly appreciate the guidance that you have provided to me and the other officers this year, among all the other great work you do for this Fraternity.

*To Clint,*

Even before I made my way onto this council, I had long heard the legend of Clinton Wieden from Edgar, and from Garret before him. They said all good things, I can assure you, but the best part about the legend is how you ended up living up to every one of my expectations and more. It boggles the mind to think that you have served our District in all the many ways that you have, and it wasn't until this year that you were made an honorary member of the Southwest. When I think of someone who embodies every quality that should be sought after as a brother, you are the person who comes to mind. Your knowledge, passion, and dedication for this Fraternity is something I can only hope to mimic in my journey on the Road to Wisdom, and I cannot express enough gratitude for everything you have done and will continue to do for our District.

*To Lizzi,*

Out of all the governors, you have personally pushed me to grow more and achieve more than I thought that I was capable of the most. Your constant words of encouragement, calls to action, and means of providing all of us with inspiration and assistance are some of the things I will remember most when I look back on my time as a District Officer. I believe that the Southwest District can thrive and reach its highest heights under your leadership as Governor, and we will be lucky to have you as long as you decide to keep coming back to serve. Thank you for helping to create an atmosphere that allowed this council to approach its fullest potential.

*To Kennedy,*

I have told you this before, and I will keep saying it: you were there for me at one of my lowest moments in this Fraternity, and there is no way I can ever express enough gratitude to you for that. Your effect on me and the Lambda Chapter has far surpassed your initial visit to us in the Spring of last year, and I can only imagine that you are having that effect on all of the chapters that you have visited across the country. Thank you for being there for me when I needed it, and encouraging me to pick myself back up when I needed it most.

P.S. This is just a subtle reminder of what I wrote on the sticky note that I left on your desk at Headquarters. My goal is to be a CFR someday, so that I can hopefully pay it forward and do for others what you did for me and my chapter.

*To Bang,*

Similarly to Kennedy, you have been there when my chapter has needed you most. I don't know if I have been able to properly thank you for that, or for the intentionality and care that you exude in everything that I have ever seen you do. Even in the briefest of interactions we have had, your intentionality has shone through and has meant a great deal to me. For all of this and more, thank you.

*To the Theta Nu Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi,*

Thank you for reminding me of what our brotherhood can look like when it's at its best. Your love and care for one another and for this Fraternity that I witnessed when me and the other Lambda boys visited your chapter made me feel like I had just been initiated again. It was wildly inspiring and invigorating to see a chapter such as yours striving so high. I believe that your chapter serves as a shining example to our District of what it's possible to achieve in this brotherhood. I can only hope it's not too long before I get to visit Natchitoches again and see all of the wonderful things that you all are doing.

*To the Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi,*

My home away from home. My gateway into this Fraternity that has become a larger part of my life than I could ever have imagined. I would not be where I am today, nor would I be the person I am today, without you. I owe so much to this chapter, and I hope that I leave a legacy on Lambda and on this Fraternity that even begins to approximate the way it has affected me.

*To the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,*

Even though I quite literally wasn't the District Secretary/Treasurer that any of you elected, I hope I was one that you could be proud of and that made your experience in this Fraternity even just a little bit better. I have been so happy to see so many brothers taking the opportunity to grow individually and with other brothers over the course of this district convention. What you do with what you learn here when you return home can make a whole world of difference. Thank you for your trust in me, and thank you for everything that you did this past year, seen or unseen. This Fraternal machine would not work without each and every one of you.

Before I finish my report, I have one final parting thought to share with you all as my time as a District Officer and as an active member is coming to a close. Ever since I first joined this organization, it has felt, for lack of a better word, magical. I know that seems a bit whimsical, but I have no better description for how enchanting and enriching it has been in my life. One brother even described this organization to me as a "light" once, and I can think of no better metaphor for what this Fraternity has meant to me. Kappa Kappa Psi has been a light in my life, and I have tried to keep that light burning as bright as I can for as long as I can. The impact that we are capable of having on those around us is powerful, and I genuinely believe that Kappa Kappa Psi can change the world for the better. I hope that you all see our brotherhood that way too. Thank you all, again, for letting me be part of such a magical experience.

AEA, Picks Up, and Go Hogs!

Fraternally Submitted,

Mason Thomas

Lambda Chapter

2022-2023 Southwest District Secretary/Treasurer

## **Appendix B: Final Officer Report - Vice President for Programs - Edgar Canales**

Brothers of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,

Thank you. It has been an absolute honor to have served as your Vice President for Programs. I will always feel humbled by your faith in my ability to serve and your vote to elect me through acclimation a mere 10 miles from my home chapter. This is an honor very few will ever get to experience and I am still deeply honored I was one of those people.

Not everybody gets a term on this council, much less two. I can not express how each interaction with you, my Brothers, means to me. Whether we met for the first time online, in Grand Rapids, Springdale, here, or in \*Natchitoches\* (**na·kuh·tuhs**) deep frying everything from Cheeto Puffs to spam, I want you to know that these experiences have changed my perspective on what it means to be a Brother.

I still remember running for Member-at-Large. Southwest District Convention: Zoom Edition was the first true convention I attended in Northwest Arkansas. I felt a calling to serve and submitted my election material. This turned out to be one of the best decisions I made. I gained an opportunity to not only serve but learn from some of the best leaders in our organization. I remember realizing at National Convention in 2021 that I belonged here and I wanted to serve this organization as long as I could after spending time with TJ Coleman and learning so much about our District while we waited for a 2 A.M. Doordash order to arrive.

I knew this year would be different. I had a year of experience under my belt and knew what to expect. I was no longer afraid of the Governors! Going into this year, I knew I had work to do.

My charges going into my term were as follows:

- Re-Evaluate the operations of the New ALTO. Befriend your staff, have staff picked by October, and start early to receive the most quality submissions.
- Evaluate all awards (individual and chapter) and start promoting them early to affirm those chapters with great achievements.
- Reach out individually to chapters about their award eligibility even if this means picking up the phone and calling every chapter president.
- Start planning the joint service project early, giving everyone enough time to be able to prepare to partake in the project.
- Create a platform, such as a Facebook group or Google Classroom, for chapter VPS/VPPs to find resources and to meet other chapters' VPS/VPPs.
- Do not be afraid to ask for help, there will be many times you do not know what is going on. Ask questions and push through.

I came into this position with a great vision for the New ALTO. I am so excited to present it soon as we celebrate 35 years of the publication and 10 years of it in a digital medium. While I wish I could have done a better job at reaching out, we received many quality submissions. I would like to recognize the New ALTO team for their work on the publication: Jalien Edwards- Design Editor from the Zeta Mu chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, Cyrus Jackson - General Editor from the Alpha Psi chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, Victoria Hernandez - General Editor from the Psi Chapter of Tau Beta Sigma, Noah Boggs Riley - Copy Editor from the Lambda Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi, and Mackenzie Murphy - Copy Editor from the Beta Nu chapter of Tau Beta Sigma.

Award applications need to be reworked. It should not be difficult to honor our successful and high-achieving chapters. After working with the Awards Application, I recognize that we need to revamp the application process to ensure each chapter has the opportunity to showcase areas where they excel.

Reaching out to chapters individually changed me so much for me. Contacting chapter presidents across the Southwest District was worth it. I was anxious going into it, yet, the first time a person pick up on the other side felt so natural. I remember feeling such a strong yet random sense of Brotherhood as I reached out to a stranger that I had so much in common with. This is something I am so glad I decided to go through with.

The Joint Service project has been such a success this year! We are so close to breaking \$200 - you can help us achieve this by clicking on the link in our bio! Profits go directly to a local high school to help provide supplies to their band program. I am proud of the improvement in how we went about organizing this fundraiser.

I was able to meet with a few service officers, but I know that we can do better. This has been an area of growth the past few years and I wish I had more than a charge to leave behind.

Lastly, I wish I could keep track of how many times I had to ask questions. This charge was meant for me. I am glad I was able to ask questions and grow throughout my term alongside great people that have supported me along my journey.



To the 2023-2024 Kappa Kappa Psi Southwest District Vice President for Programs I charge the following:

- Communicate with leaders from other Districts to prepare the foundation for a stronger sense of District Programming
- Reevaluate the awards application to ensure that successful chapters can more easily be recognized
- Create a Service Officer tracking sheet to ensure you make contact with each Brother serving in this role across the Southwest District
- Use the (soon to be published) 2023 New ALTO to advertise and show what the publication is supposed to look like.
- Create a goal timeline so your work is evenly distributed across the year and keep yourself accountable

Serving in this position has been an honor and I am privileged to work alongside members that make navigating our work easier and more fun.

To Theta Nu,

Thank you for taking us in and making three Bros from Lambda experience such a strong sense of Brotherhood. Your chapter is absolutely outstanding and you are doing great things in \*Natchitoches\* (**na·kuh·tuhsh**). Keep on Striving.

To Jacob Stover,

Thank you for your help managing our joint tasks. Working alongside you as your counterpart has been such a pleasant experience. We managed to accomplish our goals and raise money to help a local band program (the shirt order form is *still* up on our linkinbio, but it won't be there soon!)

To Mason Thomas,

Thank you for being the one that stepped up, and no, I don't mean as Secretary-Treasurer, I mean for being the one who stepped up and ate the deep-fried Cheetoh Puff I mentioned earlier. Your work has been absolutely phenomenal and I am so glad I got to work with you this year. This may have been your one year on the Southwest District Council, but I learned so much from you. Thank you for being my jurisdiction co-chair buddy. You presented a stellar ritual workshop and have such a bright future.

To Davis Vaughn,

Whenever I think about you as a District Officer, I remember our first council meeting with Patrick and me and you mentioned feeling like the “new District squishy boy.” I wish you were here in person so everybody could once again realize that you are tall. I am so glad that I was finally able to bug you enough that you ended up submitting a packet for Southwest District Vice President for Membership. You were able to do some great things this year and I look forward to seeing what is next.

To Patrick Caraveo,

Your leadership abilities are the epitome of what it means to be a true leader. Your commitment to upholding our values and principles is truly exceptional, we owe much of our success to your leadership. Your ability to inspire and motivate has guided us this year and I hope I can one day replicate this phenomenal quality of yours. I’ll forever miss council meetings ending and you awkwardly waiting for us to hop off but not wanting to say anything as we begin to take the conversation everywhere while you wait to fulfill your presidential duties and meet with the Governors

To the Governors,

Yes. I did finish writing this report right around the time 3:00 A.M. hit (okay, i’ll be honest it was a bit after my personal deadline).

To Lizzi Pineiro,

Thank you for keeping us on track. I don’t know how you’re able to make every spreadsheet and Google doc so pretty. It’s quite impressive. I appreciate you stepping up and taking charge when it is needed. You allow us to be effective and provide so much help to get there.

To Andy Melvin,

I appreciate you so much. Your knowledge of this organization is extraordinary and you’re the reason I chose to serve as Ritual Chair at the local level. I feel so fortunate every time I get to see you in a meeting. You find a way to always make the atmosphere fun and much less scary. Thank you for your constant support and feedback. I guess it does in a way make up for kicking us out of a Zoom meeting because you forgot to transfer host privileges.

To Clint,

I absolutely love the random moments of excitement that appear every once in a while. You make such great comments like joking about the Law and Order sound effect randomly popping up when messing with the audio for ritual. Above all, thank you for agreeing that it should always be “for” instead of “of”. I admire your knowledge and love for our organization.

To Bang Co.,

Thank you for providing wisdom on chapter operations, but more importantly, thank you for your advice during the ritual. Your words will always inspire me to Strive for my Highest in whatever I do.

To the Southwest District,

Once again, thank you for trusting me to serve as your Vice President for Programs. I will always be grateful for the support and experience. The interactions I have with you all here make me realize I made the correct decision in taking a risk and running for office two years ago. You all are the reason I love Kappa Kappa Psi.

It has been an honor and a privilege. AEA.

Fraternally Submitted,

Edgar Canales

Lambda Chapter

Southwest District Vice President for Programs

## **Appendix C: Final Officer Report - Vice President of Membership - Davis Vaughn**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

It has been a crazy year both in Kappa Kappa Psi and outside of it. The world is changing at an ever-quickenning rate, but this district has been a home where I have found solace whenever life appears to be dark. Fun fact: I did not want to be District VPM initially, really at all, to the point where I was actively avoiding it whenever I was asked to give it a shot. It took a lot of convincing from both Emily Copeland and Edgar to get me to even consider it. At the time, I was concerned that I may have had too much on my plate already, and this would push me over the edge. Begrudgingly, I gave it a shot. Little did I know that my pre-existing love of putting on workshops and working with other VPMs would fit so well with this position. Almost instantly after getting elected, I started acting giddy with the prospects of getting to interact with incredible people for the benefit of other incredible people. This position would change my life forever.

Before I say any other words, I just want to say thank you all. From the bottom of my heart. Thank you for being unapologetically you. Thank you for this year of goodness and surprises and graciousness and zeal and love. I have gotten to interact with many of you and see your incredibly zany personalities over the last twelve months. From my findings, not only are the brothers of the Southwest by far the spiciest brothers in the nation, but they may just be the happiest and most passionate as well. Thank you for the big and thank you for the small. Thank you for loving one another unabashedly and consistently. I am currently finding out if it is possible to say thank you *too* much.

I would also like to give my sincerest apologies for not being able to be at district in-person this year. There have been many nights this semester that I haven't been able to sleep knowing I would be missing out on this amazing experience. However, the reason I am unable to be there is because my choir is performing an incredible and important piece of music tonight, a piece which is one of the finest masterworks of this century. When given the choice between attending District in-person, or performing in this concert, I just felt as though I would not be fulfilling the purposes I say are so important to this organization if I abandoned making that beautiful music altogether to come to Lafayette this weekend. I sincerely hope you understand.

My worldview has widened and shrunk in a way by being the Southwest District Vice President for Membership, and the idiom "The more you know, the more you realize you don't know" could not be more true. As you may have found in your own personal outreach to other chapters, every single chapter has their own interesting and special way of fulfilling our purposes. If you turn to someone sitting next to you right now, chances are their recruitment is

going to be different from yours, their chapter is going to be a different size, and they may even have a crazy chapter mascot. In all of this, what I have found is that, through being Southwest District VPM, these five states have opened up a world of different possibilities that I never thought possible from my simple experiences in little Fayetteville, Arkansas.

It is with a bittersweet and melancholy air that I speak to you today to reflect on not only my term as Southwest District VPM, but also on the District as a whole. Time has absolutely flown by, and the people that I have gotten to meet in this seemingly short time have impacted my life greater than any I ever could have hoped for. In my position this year, providing resources and workshops for you all has been so rewarding, but what is more rewarding is knowing that there is a drive, an interest, and in many places out there a persisting love for growing as people and as a district. In consulting with VPMs from around the district, it also seems that sometimes our hardships that we inevitably face are shockingly similar to one another, and sometimes a solution is just one chapter away from you. These hardships are never easy, but perhaps it would do us all some good to lean on one another for help every once in a while, and not try to take on the world all by ourselves.

During Chapter Leadership Conference, I learned the importance of teamwork. TBS VPM Lauren Allen and I formed a duo which attempted to figure out the needs of the district and program workshops throughout a day which brothers and sisters might enjoy. Though we had some setbacks and found some logistics to be more complex than we had originally thought, after many Zoom calls, we finally gave the conference to an audience of about 45 people, which was a success in my book not only from the engagement, but from positive feedback from attendees, even for Lauren and I's Joint Recruitment Workshop.

For our "Countdown to Convention" workshops in the spring, it was an absolute joy to get to interact with members and presenters from different walks of life and try to glean different philosophies from each attendee and each presenter. Though attendance wasn't as high as Chapter Leadership Conference, I found these intimate workshops to be just as valuable as any others.

Finally, the lovely interactions I had with VPMs from all over the district made my heart soar this year. Hearing about taking new membership classes, and then seeing pictures of your class's initiation never failed to bring a smile to my face. If you are an MC or a new member, remember to thank your chapter VPM for all they do. It is not an easy job.

-Now, I will read the charges I was given by the previous VPM:

- Work with your counterpart to find more ways to make the virtual workshops more engaging - student-led workshops, themes, etc.
- Continue to have constant communication with chapter VPMs through whatever platform you and them deem best
- Continue to develop and distribute resources available to the chapter VPMs, and work with the Sec/Treas to compile ALL VPM resources into one page published on the district website.
- DO NOT EVER be afraid or hesitate to ask for help. This office is a lot, and you will need it.

-My charges are thus:

For the Southwest District Council:

- Find a way to become more cohesive as a team. It is one thing to work together and accomplish your tasks efficiently, but it is another entirely to find trust, respect, and a deep care for one another. This is what separates a group from a team.
- Don't be afraid to ask the governors and officers for help. They are there to hold your hand through this amazing joyride, and there is no question that they aren't happy to help answer (especially if that question is asking Andy what he had for dinner on any given night).
- Work with one another on projects more often. If you can figure out ways to integrate different facets of the work we do together, we can start to have an even broader reach with a stronger and longer-lasting impact throughout the district.

For the Southwest District VPM

- Plan your events way ahead of time, so you will have ample time to iron out any details you may need to figure out still. This will also mean you have more time to advertise and reach out to brothers throughout the district.
- Reach out to as many chapter VPMs as you possibly can, and learn about them. Advise them. Be someone they can trust with the best or worst of the happenings of their position.
- Bring back in-person area workshops. These are especially difficult to plan, and really have to be done in advance, but can be extremely rewarding when they come to fruition. Find interested host chapters and see if you can program some incredible workshops for brothers in certain areas around the district.

- Especially at National Convention, find other District VPMs from around the country and learn from them. Every district does things differently, but some may have tips on logistics of planning a workshop, or how to cater well to the needs of your specific district.
- Finally, have fun! Enjoy your time in the position, because it will be gone before you know it. Soak up every bit of knowledge and spirit you can from this experience.

Now, I would be completely remiss if I didn't say thank you to some people who, without their help, I surely never would have gotten this far.

- To the TBS District Council and Governors
  - Your endless wisdom and ability to approach tough situations with grace and compassion will never cease to amaze me. You all inspire me every day.
- To my counterpart, Lauren
  - Though our time together was cut short, the impact you made on me was profound. Your skills in organization and passion for education, along with your cat-loving nature made you the best teammate I could ask for.
- To Theta Nu
  - I know I have talked your ear off about how cool y'all are, but truly my heart has never grown so quickly than when the Lambda bros visited y'all for winter council. The district would be a much better place if people approached life with as much brotherly love as you show every single day.
- To the National Council, Committees, and Staff
  - Thank you for your endless advice, especially in times of great strife! Whether it be getting out-of-pocket hype-up wisdom from TarShae or a key important outlook on recruitment, followed by an equally out-of-pocket and assuredly "spicy" comment about the Lambda Chapter from Bang. You all rock.
- To the Governors
  - Clint- your encyclopedic knowledge of the inner-workings of the district will never cease to amaze me. And I always appreciate our equally dry senses of humor. I am so happy you are finally a district honorary. Congrats!

- Lizzi- Your wisdom, especially when it came to your experiences as a district VPM, was incredibly helpful and your kind words of encouragement and soft smile always made me feel safe. PS: I am not a sitting duck anymore!
- Andy- Just a straight up good guy. You always know how to alleviate stress like no other, even when certain technical difficulties might befall a virtual workshop. Though you may kick us out of Zoom, you will never kick us out of your hearts. You have made me realize that it is okay to not meet your goals exactly as you had wanted, because this whole thing is just a learning process for everyone and your spirit can still be high despite any setbacks.
- To the council
  - Alyssa- getting to know you better this year was amazing, and I am so sad you couldn't make it to convention. You always know how to empathize in the best way possible. Also, our drive from Theta Nu down to Lafayette will be something I never forget. Who knew that Natchitoches was actually pronounced Na-kuh-dish!?
  - Patrick- You are one of the sweetest and softest souls I have ever had the chance of knowing. You are a natural born leader and a servant to all who you interact with, and I am inspired by you every day. The world isn't ready for the amazing things you're going to bring to it.
  - Edgar- You have been one of my best friends from the moment that we marched next to one another freshman year, and then when we went through process together back in 2020. I never suspected in a billion years that we would be standing here together, smiles on our faces, learning from one another and loving one another in the only way we know how: through Kappa Kappa Psi. You will be my brother until the day I die. Never stop striving.
  - Mason- I have known you ever since you decided to take a chance on letting me into Kappa Kappa Psi in the first place, and you have been such an integral part of my life ever since. Though you like to joke that we have trauma-bonded in the past, our relationship is much more substantive than just that. You are someone I know I can always call up if I need anything at all, and you will be right there with me, holding my hand and telling me it will all be okay. Your positive attitude is infectious. I could keep going, but I run the risk of over-explaining like we always do with one another. So, I will leave it at this: Mason, my life would simply be incomplete without you.



- To the Southwest District
  - Thank you for giving me a home when I thought I had none. Thank you for inspiring me to be the kindest person I can be, and allowing me to help others to be the best that they can be as well. This collection of phenomenal people is the best chosen family I could ever ask for. Under no circumstances let your drive and vigor and love halt. Keep that flame alive. And please, please, please never stop being you.

AEA and Go Hogs,  
Fraternally Submitted,

Davis Vaughn  
Lambda Chapter - University of Arkansas  
Southwest District Vice President for Membership 2022-2023

## **Appendix D: Final Officer Report - President - Patrick Caraveo**

Brothers of The Southwest District:

When it was time to start writing my Final Report, I kid you not, I had left it like the one episode of Spongebob where he had to write about what he learned in Boating School and just left it at the word “The”. It was challenging when I would think of how to share this report and include everything I want to say, so why not start with the moments that led to us all here together today.

I remember getting to Brownwood, Texas and seeing people sitting at a table on stage and thinking “that would be cool to do that, but I don’t that is something I would get the chance to do”. It blew my mind that I didn’t know at the time that Lizzi was one of the District Officers on that stage, along with Clint (Andy would show up the following year). Being the Brother of the first installation class since Alpha Chi was newly reinstalled, my fraternal knowledge wasn’t that solid. At that moment, the only goal I had was to run for Chapter Secretary and call it a day after that. I never once saw myself in positions of leadership. One year later I attended Convention in Weatherford, Oklahoma and I remember there being a discussion about the National Convention and the 100 Year Celebration of our Brotherhood. On the Centennial Celebration Day, which was extremely hot and humid, I was offered a bottle of water by the newly elected National VPSA, Bang Co. Apparently, I did not say thank you for that bottle of water... At the moment, I didn’t know what a profound impact that interaction would have on my life as a Brother and the bestfriend I would gain from that bottle of water later.

Following NatCon 2019, I was inspired to get more involved after a week of constant workshops and fellowship. At the end of that week I thought of running for District Office, but still wasn’t quite sure. Later that year, I attended the 2020 West Texas / New Mexico Area Workshop, which was right before we all took the longest home staycation ever. My Animal Crossing was pretty solid during that time. When Andy welcomed the Brothers in the room at that workshop to announce their candidacy for District Office, I looked at Ayleen and we both had the same thought of “I’ll run if you run” and in that moment, I decided to run for Secretary/Treasurer. I had no idea what I was getting myself into and ultimately thought this could either go pretty well or really really bad. Little did I know I would get to serve alongside my best friend.

Before, I had always thought that I never fit the “image” of what being a leader looked like. During my first year as a District Officer, I learned very fast that there is no clear image of what being a leader is. I met so many people through too many Zoom calls to count, some in the early morning and some very late at night. But, it was because of these moments of fellowship that I truly felt I didn’t have to fit an image to be a leader and lead simply as myself.

Over this last year, I have definitely learned more than I can comprehend, some the easy way, and some the hard way. I have learned that a dotted quarter - eighth rhythm can show up so much in UIL Sight Reading and how students do not subdivide and kind of just hope for the best. But, I also learned that it’s okay to not have the answers, and that it’s okay to take a step back and take a break when you need to. Believe me when I say that the word “break” was not common in my vocabulary. It was thanks to my amazing Brothers, friends, and family, that I was reminded I don’t have to go through it alone.

I stand here today, exactly one month from my graduation and at the end of three years, 36 months, 156 weeks, 1,095 days, and 26,280 hours of amazing, stressful, heartwarming, crazy, exciting, inspiring, and unforgettable time serving the Southwest District. Finality is a hard thing to get used to and even harder to accept when you have poured so much of your love and soul into something you are passionate about. When I reflect back on these years, it is honestly unbelievable to see how much has happened in 3 years, even now on the final day of being District President. The week leading up to this convention I had the same thought pop up in my head, I kept wondering where I would be right now if I hadn’t met so many people that inspired me? What would my life be like if I hadn’t had all those heartwarming interactions with so many people? I have much to be thankful for and words cannot express my deepest gratitude to each and every one of you, because every person in this room has impacted me profoundly.

My Charges for the 2022-23 Term were the following:

- Your council is not just your lifeline, they are your heartbeat. Trust in them and supply them the resources and materials to achieve the goals you set as a group.
- Assess our district programming utilized during the COVID-19 Pandemic and determine what could be utilized to improve our overall communication and effectiveness long-term.
- Say no when you need to and be sure to take care of yourself.
- Never forget where you come from. Your chapter is your backbone, and this district is your blood. Every single chapter plays a crucial role.
- Lean on your governors and on your National Council always.

My Charges for the 2023-24 District President are the following:

- Plan ahead and plan early. District Convention may seem like forever from now, but those 12 months will fly by before you know it.
- Trust in your council and support their initiatives at every opportunity possible.
- Be honest and open with your council. It is okay to admit you need time to think or to take a step back for a bit.
- Take time for yourself and enjoy every moment, because it will fly by.
- Always be sure to ask questions, every question helps lead to success.

Now for my Thank You's:

*To the Tau Beta Sigma Southwest District Council,*

Congratulations on a great year! Though Madison may not be in the room, I want to say a heartfelt thank you to her for stressing together and staring at the District Convention Plan together all those times. It was great getting to see everyone at Winter Council and throughout this weekend. I wish you all the best in your future endeavors. MLITB

*To Mason Thomas,*

It blows my mind how you were a member of the Nominations Committee back in 2020 and had to sit through probably the worst interview I had. I am so thankful to have served alongside you this year and appreciate your drive and dedication to the District. Though you had applied to be MAL, I could not see this year go any differently. You truly embody the J. Lee Burke Award and the way you talk about the Ritual is inspiring. Woo Pig

*To Edgar Canales,*

I am thankful to have the opportunity to serve with you for the last two years. Your love and passion for this Fraternity is unwavering and inspiring to us all. I appreciate all that you have done and the service you have excelled in for the District. You are truly amazing, Edgar and thank you for so many great memories. Woo Pig

*To Davis Vaughn,*

Though Davis was not able to be here in person with us, I wanted to share the hard work and dedication Davis has put into all his work. It was thanks to Davis that we brought in speakers with so much knowledge and expertise to help guide our District. Thank you Davis for helping make our events a great success. Woo Pig

*To all the Governors,*

My deepest apologies for the immense amount of emails I have sent over the months. Especially on the days where I would have more than 8 scheduled to send at the same exact time. Thank you for putting up with me for 3 years.

*To Lizzi,*

Thank you for always being understanding and helping me through my thought processes. It was always fun when we'd always say "it's okay everything's fine" when everything was actually on fire. This Council is truly thankful for your guidance and constant support. Thank you and Axe Em Jacks

*To Andy,*

I too like having coffee at any time of the day. Andy you are an amazing Brother and I have looked up to you for your fortitude in challenging situations. Thank you for being amazing and helping our Council at every step along the way. Boomer Sooner

*To Clint,*

Clint, you are truly an amazing Brother. This Council and the many councils have had their success under your guidance and leadership. I am thankful that my time as a District Officer was under your guidance. Thank you for being such a great Brother. Go Pokes

*To the Alpha Chi Chapter,*

Thank you all for your trust in my leadership. I am happy with the work we have accomplished and I am proud of your dedication to continue growing as we enter our 7th year since our reinstallation. It has been an honor to see the Chapter get to where it is today and as it continues to pave the way in service to the Bands of UTEP.

Picks Up and Go Miners

*To Bang Co,*

Bang, there are not enough words to describe the impact you have had on me. Thank you for always being there and inspiring me day in and day out. You are truly my best friend and I don't think there will ever be a time I wouldn't look up to you. Also, because I'm vertically challenged. You lead with grace beyond compare and I am forever grateful I have met you. Thank you, truly.

*To Ayleen Sanchez,*

I am beyond thankful for you always being there. You have seen me at my best, my worst, my successes, my losses, and of course when I am hangry. I am truly thankful to have you in my life and could not have made it this far without your support, especially if we hadn't pushed each other to run for District Council 3 years ago. I am so proud of you and how far you have come. You push yourself to truly live in the Pillars of our Brotherhood. You inspire more people than you will ever know, including myself.

*To the Southwest District,*

Thank you for entrusting my leadership and the unwavering support. Each Chapter in our District has a special place in my heart and I can't wait to see what you all accomplish next. Never give up and always strive for the highest.

Brothers, I am truly grateful and honored from the bottom of my heart to serve the Southwest District. Much love to you all and AEA. Woo Pig, Picks Up and Go Miners.

Fraternally Submitted,

Patrick Anthony Caraveo  
Alpha Chi President  
Southwest District President

## **Appendix E: Spirit and Recognition Committee Report**

Dear Brothers of the Southwest District

The 2023 Spirit and Recognition Committee was charged with the following:

From the 2022 Spirit and Recognition Committee:

- Consider meeting before convention in whatever format possible in order to give more time to discuss the applications as well as the process of award selection overall.
- Review the report of the 2022 Spirit Committee
- Before reviewing the applications, decide what qualities you as a committee are looking for in each of the 4 pillars.
- Review all applications submitted for the 4 Pillar Awards in order to ensure that all applicants are eligible for consideration and have met all submission requirements.
- Evaluate and recommend any changes to the selection process to the Jurisdiction Committee.

The Spirit and Recognitions Committee started with introduction of members, followed by consideration of the past year's committee report and charger for the 2023 committee. After ensuring that there were no applicants we looked at the awards themselves and saw what we as a committee can do to make these awards more attainable. Also to add more marketing for said awards as well.

### **Our Charges to the 2024 Spirit and Recognition Committee are as follows:**

- Make a task force to have people advertise things to make sure people are available to have people qualify for awards. (IE. Deadline in April, start outreach in January)
- Having the committee have a hand in creating the application and help with the creation of the application

- Meet in whatever capacity possible for committees regardless of how long meetings can be
- Use some sort of scheduling availability to know when the committee can meet
- Revise Terminology to clarify who and what the awards are more specific to what the awards are catering

**Charges to the Southwest District:**

- a. Apply for awards! If you need assistance don't be scared to reach out to other brothers! We would be more than glad to showcase your chapter's work!
- b. Continue to focus on the Four Pillars and what your chapter can do to make the best example of what each pillar looks like to your chapter

**Charges to the 2023-2024 Vice President for Programs:**

- a. Provide more information and outreach to the chapters across the district
- b. Market each award even more and choose people that are good at outreach and know their way around the district!
- c. Make the descriptions for what the criteria is for each pillar award more in depth and descriptive to what we are looking for in each pillar
- d. Making these suggested changes

**Leadership**

- a. Change involving in the district and national programs involvement in district and national (change to seeking to improve as a chapter through professional development)
- b. Change the wording from "campus" to "campus community at large"
- c. More specific in district and national programs outside of KKPSI (Making it sound like it isn't specifically in Kappa Kappa Psi)

**Musicianship**

- a. Service things to help for days dedicated to performance type things and music appreciation, allowing to have more discussion. (Add to the criteria in specific what it means)

**Service**



- a. Make a sub award to doing an award to serving the University band program and one to the community around them and (community service) emphasizing both ends of the spectrum and highlights even more service done for the communities

A HUGE thank you to my committee members:

Sky Searcy- Lambda

Diego Velazquez- Beta Lambda

Eli Thomas- Beta Gamma

Leighanne Ashby- Lambda Kappa

Adam Clifton- Nu Delta

Abigail Reiner- Xi Beta

Kennedy Struck- CFR (Advisor)

Donald Lee Jr- AABOD Communications Director (Advisor)

Your adversary and deliberating although we didn't have many things to go off of, you guys helped me reset and find what each pillar truly meant to me and to have them be a basis of what THE standard is. Your diligence and adaptability doesn't go unnoticed (lol finding a good time to meet with you guys was HARD). A special thank you to Kennedy Struck and Donald Lee Jr for providing more insight as to what we can do to go ahead and focus more on what we can do to enhance this committee in the future. Thank you both for allowing me to have more of an idea of what I want to get from this fraternity and from myself.

Finally a thank you to Brother President Patrick Caraveo for allowing me to serve and have the honor to stand with our other brothers and serve as the SWD Spirit and Recognition committee and for his understanding of helping and supporting me along this endeavor as well as pushing me with resources when I needed it.

Fraternally Submitted,

Felly Carrillo

2023 Spirit and Recognition Committee Chair

## Appendix F: Ways and Means Committee Report

Committee Chair:

Mason Thomas – SWD Secretary/Treasurer

Committee Advisors:

Clinton Wieden – SWD Governor

Andy Melvin - SWD Governor

Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor

Committee Members:

Patrick Caraveo - SWD President

Davis Vaughn - SWD Vice President for Membership

Edgar Canales - SWD Vice President for Programs

The 2023 Ways and Means Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2022 Ways and Means Committee Report.
- Present an overview of the 2022-2023 District Account.
- Determine if any line item in the budget needs to be adjusted.
- Create and present a budget of the 2023-2024 District Account.

The District Council and I reviewed the 2021-2022 Committee Report and then discussed the proposed budget from the year.

### 2023-2024 Proposed Budget

Spring Allotment 2022	\$518.00
Fall Allotment 2022	\$1,958.50
Carry-Over Balance from 2021-2022	\$21,459.89
Estimated Total Revenues	\$414.91
<b>District Officer Budgets</b>	
President	\$500

VPP	\$500
VPM	\$500
Secretary/Treasurer	\$500
M-A-L	\$500
Office Expenses	
Office and mail (supplies for area workshop, winter council, and convention)	\$200
District Awards	\$500
Other	
Unassigned Funds	\$300
Grants	
Chapter Assistance Grant for National Convention Travel	\$3,000
Estimated Total Expenses	\$6,500

Charges to the 2023-2024 Ways and Means Committee are as follows:

- Review the 2023 Ways and Means Committee Report.
- Present an overview of the 2023-2024 District Account.
- Determine if any line item in the budget needs to be adjusted.
- Create and present a budget of the 2024-2025 District Account.

Charges to 2023-2024 Secretary/Treasurer:

- Update the allotments when they are made available for the 2023-2024 Year.

Charge to 2023-2024 District Council:

- Continue to use the Shared Drive for all financial and general documentation to allow the committee access to information pertaining to the budget.

Thank you so much to the District Council, for helping me with all the questions and assisting in filling out / preparing the Budget. You were all super helpful and much appreciation for everything you do!

Fraternally Submitted,

Mason Thomas

2023 - Ways and Means Committee Chair

2022-2023 Southwest District - Secretary/Treasurer

## **Appendix G: Chapter Leadership Committee Report**

Brothers of The Southwest District,

This year the 2023 Southwest District Chapter Leadership Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the report of the 2022 Chapter Leadership Committee
- Review all applications for the D.O Wiley Award to ensure all applicants are eligible for consideration
- Develop a series of questions for each applying chapter and establish criteria to determine the most deserving winner
- Organize a schedule for applicant chapter presentations
- Review the applying chapters and their presentations to deliberate the 2023 D.O. Wiley Recipient
- Recommend any changes to the D. O. Wiley Selection Process to the Jurisdiction Committee
- Have the chapters only turn in one electronic copy of the application instead of paper copies at the time of convention

This year the Chapter Leadership Committee met three times before District Convention to produce a list of questions to ask all eligible chapters applying and to establish criteria for awarding the D.O. Wiley Award. Since the committee would be meeting virtually prior to District Convention, we discussed as a committee whether or not PowerPoint presentations would be acceptable and, given the different format, we determined that this would be acceptable. Our committee feels like these questions we produced this year could ease the stress of creating questions for next years' committee:

1. Which of the pillars does your chapter exemplify, and which of the pillars do you think you could exemplify better?

2. How does your chapter deal with challenges? These can include chapter burnout, the impacts of COVID, or anything that the chapter has had to overcome this year.
3. How does your chapter work with other musical organizations on your campus?
4. Where has your chapter experienced the most growth, and how does that impact your plans for the future?
5. What does “brotherhood” mean to you, and how have you enhanced the experience of being a brother of Kappa Kappa Psi?

We have included below a link to a Google Document full of other potential questions that next year’s committee could utilize.

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1owyLDe5ronlFK93IRf4kumdiga8JXbacgEk0gxJ4jmg/edit>

Unfortunately, there were no applicants for the D.O. Wiley Award. As a result, in addition to providing these question for next year’s committee, we wanted to use this year to reimagine the awards process to help Brothers where they are and lift them up to be able to recognize their Chapter’s achievements.

The committee had no objections to the current process for applying for the D.O. Wiley Award, though there was discussion around making sure that, in the future, the deadline for awards applications was publicized further in advance so that Chapters would be able to better plan out their applications. In addition, we would recommend that eligible Chapters pursue letters of recommendations from their Chapter Sponsor and Director of Bands far in advance so that Chapters are able to complete their application. Lastly, there may be room for further resources for Chapters on how to successfully complete their application.

Charges to the 2023-2024 Southwest District Chapter Leadership Committee:

- Review the Report of the 2023 Chapter Leadership Committee
- Review the list of questions linked in the report
- Review all Applications for the D.O Wiley Award to ensure all applicants are eligible for consideration
- Organize a schedule for Applicant Chapter Presentations
- Review the Applying Chapters and their Presentations to deliberate on the 2024 D.O. Wiley Recipient
- Have the Chapters only turn in one Electronic Copy of the Application instead of paper copies at the time of Convention
- Ensure there is a working document for chapters to use vs a lengthy Google Form Application; that way their work can be done over time instead of one sitting

- Recommend any changes to the D. O. Wiley Selection Process to the Jurisdiction Committee

I would like to wholeheartedly thank each member of the Chapter Leadership Committee for meeting before District Convention and sharing their time with me. You all represented your chapters with poise and respect, and all your hard work is appreciated.

- Jordan Kaehlert - Alpha
- Jared Kessler - Rho
- Dominick Rojas - Alpha Chi
- Hayden Hirons - Epsilon Beta
- Londin Hine - Epsilon Epsilon
- Tyler Slough - Zeta Kappa
- Avery Laffoon - Eta Xi
- Amelia Gonzallez - Mu Chi

I would also like to thank our spectacular advisors for all their leadership and guidance. I would not have been able to complete my duties as chair of the committee without their help.

- Ed Savoy - National Vice President for Programs,
- Lizzi Pineiro - SWD Governor
- Dr. Derek Stoughton - DOB/ Sponsor Relations Chair

Fraternally Submitted,

Brooklynn Briles

2023 Chapter Leadership Committee Chair 2023 Vice President of Service - Delta

## Appendix H: Nominations Committee Report

Brothers of the Southwest District,

The 2022-2023 Nominations Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the 2021-2022 Nominations Committee Report
- Review candidate packets and videos prior to first committee meeting
- Come up with a list of general questions in the first meeting as well as think of specific questions for candidates and/or the officer position, and as a group come up with criteria of what would be a positive recommendation for the district
- Prepare a slate of one candidate for each position that the committee feels would benefit the district most. If the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified then the committee can announce “no slate” for any or all offices
- Recommend any changes to the nominations/election process to the jurisdiction committee as needed.

We began by reviewing the 2021-2022 Nominations Committee Report and Charges. We continued our business by reviewing the candidates who submitted applications and determining if they were eligible as per the requirements laid out in the constitution. The committee determined that the following candidates were eligible to run for district office:

- Gabe Sanders of the Alpha Omicron Chapter
- Evelyn Arzola of the Alpha Chi Chapter
- Cyrus Jackson of the Alpha Psi Chapter
- Christopher Rahn of the Epsilon Beta Chapter
- Araci Garcia of the Epsilon Delta Chapter
- Davis Vaughn of the Lambda Chapter
- Edgar Canales of the Lambda Chapter

Once all candidates were deemed eligible to run for office, the committee set up an interview schedule for the candidates. During these interviews, each candidate was asked questions from a list of questions specific to office and non-specific to the offices predetermined by the committee.

### *President*

- 1) What does being SWD President look like to you? (What are your plans for the office?)
- 2) How do you plan on using your office to support the other officers?
- 3) What are some strengths you could bring to the position of president and what are some things you would like to do the same or change as president?
- 4) 2 major things you'd like to happen at district convention in 2024

*VP for Membership*

- 1) How can you help chapter VPMs and chapter with leading membership process?
- 2) How do you plan on promoting resources such as the Road to Wisdom and Inner Circle to VPMs in order to help them best serve their chapter?
- 3) Explain why in person events are important for the district to go back to?

*VP for Programs*

- 1) How can you bridge the gap between chapters and the district officers?
- 2) What program outreach and promotion experience do you have that would be helpful in this office?
- 3) Chapters often go unaware of awards requirements, such as paperwork, until the applications open. With the hard deadlines of paperwork, how would you encourage chapters to be proactive in planning for award applications?

*Secretary/Treasurer*

- 1) How could you encourage awareness of SWD Council minutes to chapters?
- 2) What skills do you think a Secretary/Treasurer should possess in order to be successful?
- 3) Explain the importance having an accessible district website

*Member-at-Large*

- 1) How do you plan on promoting participation in the scrapbook to the SWD chapters?
- 2) How could you use your office to aid active members in transitioning into the alumni association?
- 3) How do you plan to make sure your social media is engaging rather than static?

*Non-Specific Office Questions:*

- 1) How would you use this office to connect with chapters and promote their engagement at a District level?
- 2) Can you on (insert idea) that you listed in your packet?
- 3) Are you interested in any other positions on SWD Council

Each candidate received 30-45 minutes of time to introduce themselves and answer all questions given.

Following the conclusion of the final interview the committee then discussed each candidate in depth. After much deliberation, the nominations committee was able to come to a final decision on our official recommendation for the district. The option to slate an office as “no slate” is available if the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified.



*The 2023 Nominations Committee is pleased to present our Final Recommendations for the 2023-2024 District Council:*

- President: Edgar Canales
- Vice President for Membership: Gabe Sanders
- Vice President for Programs: Cyrus Jackson
- Secretary-Treasurer: Araci Garcia
- Member at Large: Davis Vaughn

The nominations committee would like to thank all of the candidates for their interest in running for the district office and all of their hard work.

The Committee would like to charge the 2023-2024 Nominations Committee with the following:

- Review the 2022-2023 Nominations Committee Report.
- Review candidate packets and videos prior to first committee meeting.
- Come up with a list of general questions in the first meeting as well as think of specific questions for candidates and/or the officer position, and as a group come up with criteria of what would be a positive recommendation for the district.
- Prepare a slate of one candidate for each position that the committee feels would benefit the district most. If the committee feels that no one candidate is most qualified then the committee can announce “no slate” for any or all offices.
- Recommend any changes to the nominations/election process to the jurisdiction committee as needed.

We would like to thank the members and advisors of the committee for their hard work and dedication to discussion and selection of candidates in the best interest of the fraternity. Those people are:

- Rachael Baca of the Gamma Iota Chapter
- Zachary Begay of the Gamma Iota Chapter (Iota Sigma Proxy)
- Chance Harmon of the Zeta Beta Chapter (Theta Kappa Proxy)
- Millicent Williams of the Zeta Beta Chapter
- Aleksandr Johnson of the Theta Phi Chapter
- Caden Burgett of the Iota Upsilon Chapter
- Bang Co- National Vice President for Membership and Expansion (Advisor)
- Andy Melvin- Southwest District Governor (Advisor)
- Greg Boike- Alumni Association Board of Directors Chair (Advisor)

Fraternally Submitted,  
Morgan Landry  
2022-2023 Nominations Committee Chair  
Theta Nu Chapter, Northwestern State University

## **Appendix I: Jurisdiction Committee Report**

Committee Co-Chairs:

- Mason Thomas (SWD Secretary-Treasurer, Lambda)
- Edgar Canales (SWD Vice President for Programs, Lambda)

Committee Members:

- Gabriel Sanders (Alpha Omicron)
- Noah Bretz (Delta Chi)
- Chris Rahn (Epsilon Beta)
- Nadia Ortega (Alpha Psi)
- Timothy Peacock (Epsilon Chi)

Committee Advisors:

- Clinton Wieden (SWD Governor)
- Nicole Brooks (NHQ Chapter Support Coordinator)

Brothers of the Southwest District of Kappa Kappa Psi,

The 2023 Jurisdiction Committee was charged with the following:

- Review the Report of the 2022 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Continue to review the effectiveness of the implementation of the two different documents.
- Continue to monitor the Policy Guide to ensure the policies align with the current national guidelines and district operations.

Leading up to this year's convention, the following occurred:

- The committee reviewed the report of the 2022 Jurisdiction Committee.
- The committee was assigned areas of the Constitution/Policy Guide to review and suggest any revisions/changes.

- Discussion was held on the nature of the titles and responsibilities of the positions of District Vice President for Membership and District Vice President for Programs to ensure clarity and consistency with current district operations.

During the committee's meeting time, we reviewed the specific sections of the Policy Guide that dictate the nature of these two positions on the District Council. Following discussion and a vote, we agreed upon the suggested changes to the Policy Guide and the District Constitution to be aligned with current operations on the District and National level.

Charges to the 2024 Jurisdiction Committee:

- Review the Report of the 2023 Jurisdiction Committee.
- Continue to review the effectiveness of the implementation of the two different documents.
- Continue to monitor the Policy Guide to ensure the policies align with the current National guidelines and District operations.

Charges to the 2023-2024 District Council:

- Review the District Constitution/Policy Guide to ensure it aligns with any changes to the National Constitution that may occur at the 2023 National Convention.

Thank you to the committee members for your willingness to serve the Southwest District. Your work allowed us to ensure that we carefully reviewed any changes. It is because of your dedication to our District that we are able to move forward in a positive direction.

We would also like to thank our advisors Clinton Wieden and Nicole Brooks. Your knowledge added insight and helped guide us through the process. Your expertise helped anchor our discussion and provided valuable perspective on how to best navigate changes. Additionally, we would like to take a moment and thank Andy Melvin for providing a proposal with enough time to implement valuable discussion.

Fraternally Submitted,

Mason Thomas & Edgar Canales  
Lambda Chapter, Kappa Kappa Psi  
2023 Southwest District Jurisdiction Co-Chairs

The following changes are being proposed to align with current District and National operations, as well as clarify any confusion as to the nature and responsibilities of certain officer positions on the District Council:

**District Constitution, Sections 3.01, 3.02, and 3.07**

- Change all instances of the title of “Vice President for Membership” to “Vice President for Leadership Development.”
  - Rationale: The title “Vice President for Leadership Development” better describes the current nature of the role, with the main duties of the officer position having to do with Chapter Leadership Conference and Area Workshops. Previous membership duties that have to do with reviewing Membership Calendars and being a student point of contact for expansion activities are now handled at the National level.

**District Policy Guide, Section 3.2**

- Change all instances of the title of “Vice President for Membership” to “Vice President for Leadership Development.”
  - Rationale: The title “Vice President for Leadership Development” better describes the current nature of the role, with the main duties of the officer position having to do with Chapter Leadership Conference and Area Workshops. Previous membership duties that have to do with reviewing Membership Calendars and being a student point of contact for expansion activities are now handled at the National level.
- Strike the second sentence that reads “The Vice President for Membership serves as the student point of contact on the District Council for expansion activities and membership issues.”
  - Rationale: This is no longer a responsibility of the position following changes to Fraternity expansion practices and the creation of the Curriculum Committee at the 2017 National Convention.

### **District Policy Guide, Sections 3.2 and 3.3**

- Move the final sentence that reads, “In the absence of the President, the Vice President for Programs shall represent the District to the National Vice President for Student Affairs” to Section 3.2 and replace “Vice President for Programs” with “Vice President for Leadership Development.”
  - Rationale: This change better reflects the line of succession as well as the responsibilities of the Vice President for Membership/Leadership Development already laid out in the District Constitution and Policy Guide.

### **District Policy Guide, Section 8.1**

- Change all instances of the title of “Vice President for Membership” to “Vice President for Leadership Development.”
  - Rationale: The title “Vice President for Leadership Development” better describes the current nature of the role, with the main duties of the officer position having to do with Chapter Leadership Conference and Area Workshops. Previous membership duties that have to do with reviewing Membership Calendars and being a student point of contact for expansion activities are now handled at the National level.

**Appendix J: Final Governor Report - NAME**

## **Appendix K: Final Governor Report - Lizzi Pineiro**

Brothers of the Southwest District,

I hope you enjoyed this wonderful weekend in Lafayette! I am so glad we were able to bring our energy to Louisiana again! This would not have been possible without the host chapters, Epsilon Rho and Theta Nu.

From this year, there were a lot of curveballs thrown to me; I dodged some, but not others and I couldn't have bounced back if it wasn't for Andy and Clinton. I am so thankful for your support, guidance, and friendship this past year! I am super excited to bring some new ideas to the Southwest District in hopes that it allows us to support each chapter better and get to forge some relationships with individual active members! In addition to this, we will be making some changes to the awards process because I would love for our Southwest chapters to be recognized for their hard work and achievements!

For officers thank you's

Patrick, I am so proud of you and all the dedication you have given your career, chapter, district, and the fraternity as a whole. You are such a great leader in your own way and sharing your insight is important and needed! Please let me know if you ever need any recommendations or anything because I want to see you succeed (and I know you will!)

Davis, your energy has been so exciting this year! I was overjoyed to hear that you wanted to bring Area Workshops back and the "VPM Lounge." It was exactly the spark we needed in this office! Unfortunately, as you know that didn't pan out the way we wanted, but I am so proud of your initiative and enjoyed our many conversations this year! I can't wait to see what you do this upcoming year as president - keep that spark! We need your light!

Edgar, I am so glad we got (and get!) another year to work with you! I am so proud of your t-shirt design! Your intentionality and ideas are great and dependable. I am eager to see you lead the Lambda chapter this year into greatness! I know you are going to tackle some things you had in mind for MAL and I'm ready to see these come to fruition! Lean on us if you need anything throughout the year!

Mason, you are such a charismatic leader and so many people look up to you! You bring a joy and light into whatever room you enter and bring a positive energy to any situation. As many said during convention, I LOVED seeing you speak during your workshop. Your grace and preparation definitely had a chance to shine for the active membership of our district! Let me know if you need a recommendation for any job hunting! I am excited to see the band director Mason Thomas do awesome things in the future! Congratulations on your J. Lee Burke, welcome to the club!

Excited on where we are headed Southwest! Join us for a great year ahead!

Forever Striving,  
Lizzi Pineiro  
SWD Governor  
Life Member of the Gamma Phi Chapter



## **Appendix L: Final Governor Report - Clint Wieden**

Brothers of the Southwest,

It's still a surprise even to me to say this, but this will be my final report as your District Governor.

To start, I want to commend this year's council for their work. You have all faced some unique challenges as a council, including an unusual convention setup, and overall have responded to those challenges well. Though it wasn't always easy to catch everything that needed to be done, you should be proud of your work. I know the things that were consistent issues will get corrected in the future and that you all will help make sure they do. I also know that you have worked very hard to make the convention experience a good one, and I hope you feel you are seeing the fruits of that labor. On a personal note, I am humbled by your presentation of honorary membership in the district and deeply thankful for such recognition.

Now, to all of you, the rest of this...and I have some thoughts.

To say I wasn't expecting that I wouldn't return as one of your Governors would be an understatement, because as I recently said in some discussion about my future, I would have done this forever.

Through whatever ups and downs may have been, many of which you can read about in previous reports in the district minutes, it has been nothing but a privilege to serve as your Governor these past eight years. I am fortunate that after some other experiences, it was recognized that I had something to offer the Fraternity in this role. It's one I never would have pictured as a student, but now, I can't really imagine doing anything else. I am humbled and honored to have served the district in this manner; my first Governor report called the district my second home after my home chapter, but in many ways, the district was my primary home during my active membership. To be able to give back to that has been truly special.

I know that after COVID, many of you are unfamiliar with what exactly a Governor does. I know this district is not alone in that, and I expect the role will be changing in the next few years as the Fraternity explores what its new normal really is. But at its core, the role of Governor is to enhance the student experience, and that is what I will really miss. I maintain involvement in the Fraternity because it brings me joy, but what creates that joy is working with our active students and giving all of you a foundation to build your own memorable experiences. Throughout my

time in this role, my goal has been to help our members expand their horizons and learn more about their own capabilities. It took me time to learn this as a student, but we're not here to just do what has been done before, and I will miss helping create the spaces for students to truly do something new.

I know that my time in this role will soon be recognized for most as simply a name and dates on a timeline, and that's OK; nothing lasts forever. Selfishly, I just wish I had more time. For those of you I have worked with, directly or indirectly, I hope that my service provided something you could use to enhance your own endeavors. If I did help you, I hope you are able to use that experience to help others in the future.

Your new Governor will be announced soon; I ask all of you to embrace that person as your predecessors did me, and value them as the resource and friend they will certainly be.

For myself, I take some solace in knowing that while this is the end of a chapter I have loved, it is not the end of the book. I'll be around somewhere, some things are on the horizon, and I've yet to decide when and how I'll be done writing this story. So, if I can be of help to you in the future, just let me know.

Now, some final acknowledgments:

To Jack Lee, thanks for taking a chance on me in this role. We've known each other for a long time now, and I'm glad you thought I had something to offer our membership, especially knowing the standard for a Governor we both had as students. To Evan Thompson, Marco Krcatovich, and Jessica Lee, thanks for thinking Jack got it right and keeping me on. These eight years have been a gift I could never repay, and I am grateful to all of you.

To Danny George, thanks for providing a positive model for how this job is supposed to be done all those years ago. Whenever I have been called upon to reinforce the confidence of a student, provide guidance in a conflict, take corrective action, or simply be a sympathetic ear, I have recalled how you did the same for me and so many others. I was grateful then, and remain so now.

To Graham, Justin, Jared, Rob, Connor, George, Jayden, David, Arjun, Makenzie, Lizzi, Keegan, Annie Jane, Dino, Hannah, Brady, Garret, Rachael, Ashley, Andy C., TJ, Ayleen, Serin, Patrick, Cole, Emily, Mason V., Edgar, Davis, Mason T., and Alyssa, thank you for your efforts and perspectives as our district officers during my tenure. I hope all of you, even those who first

thought of me as “the scary governor,” found the experience worthwhile. While I would not presume to call myself a teacher, I view myself as enough of a facilitator that similar to teachers, I am prone to thinking of those I am charged to look over as “my kids.” I remain proud to be a small part of your journeys in Kappa Kappa Psi, and continue to wish the best for you in life.

To our Tau Beta Sigma officers I have been fortunate to work with more closely during this time, the same holds true for you. Names are withheld out of respect to those who I did not work with as closely and those who have a different perspective on our interactions.

To Toni, Kalem, Andy, Lizzi, Kathy, Donnelle, Ashlyn, Katie, Chelsea, and Netta, thanks for your efforts and energies as Governors and Counselors during these eight years. There have been some interesting situations, in both good and bad ways, but I have never doubted that all of you are committed to a positive student experience and the best interests of our organizations. Thanks for everything you have done, are doing, and will do for the students of the Southwest District.

To my colleagues in the Governor Corps, past and present, thanks for everything you do nationwide for our students and our Fraternity. I am privileged to know you all, honored to have been counted among your number, and appreciative of your unwavering commitment on so many levels.

To our National Headquarters staff, thanks for everything you do to support our students and the work of the Fraternity, and for continuing to support me personally long after I left the ranks of the HQ staff. Our endeavors are not possible without the support you provide.

To our National Leadership over the past eight years, thanks for your guidance and support throughout this work. The open communication with each of you has made the role of Governor much more manageable for all of us.

To the Alpha Chapters, thanks for embracing me upon my return to OSU in 2019. Being back home has been a blessing for me, and I am always pleased to see the strong work you do to support the current OSU band program. If you need me, you know where to find me.

To my friends throughout Kappa Kappa Psi and Tau Beta Sigma, thank you for your friendship, love, and support through the years – I wish I could list you all, but I would undoubtedly forget someone. Quite simply, I would not have come back, nor would I still be here, if not for all of you.

And finally, to the Southwest District, thank you for who you are. The personalities of both the people and the chapters are different than those I first knew, but the character of this district and the brothers in it is still strong and still committed to advancing the ideals of Kappa Kappa Psi. This is our shared fraternal home, and it is a great one because of all of you and what you do. Now, if you'd all just make sure you turn your paperwork in on time...

Brothers, it has been an honor to serve you all these past eight years. Thanks for making it a great experience as well.

Until we meet again,

Clinton J. Wieden  
Southwest District Governor  
Life Member, Alpha, Oklahoma State University