



THE BETA-CHI COLUMNS

A PUBLICATION OF KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY,
UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-ROLLA

FALL 2004

New Beta-Chi House In The Works

Have you heard the great news? We are building a new house! The new location will be at the corner of 10th and hwy 63, across from the gym. The facility will be a state of the art 80 man house and have private bathrooms, wireless phones, wireless internet, conference rooms, library, and most importantly party room. The site will not be available for another 2-4 years. This will give us plenty of time to plan and fund-raise.

Our current house was built in 1969. Although this house has served us well, times have changed, and so have the students. The current house has some deficiencies that are impossible to overcome. The distance to campus and group bathrooms have been a disadvantage. The dorms and several other fraternities are much closer to the main campus. The new dorms have private bathrooms. Over 90 percent of the entering freshmen had their own bathroom and bedroom at home and have never taken a group shower. Coming to Rolla is a shock. A recent Time magazine article said that the living facilities have a major influence on a student's college choice. Colleges and Universities across the country are updating the living facilities with the hopes of attracting potential students and increase enrollment. We need to keep up with the times.

The proposed 1.7 acre site is surrounded by 10th, Bishop (hwy 63), 11th and Spring. The land is owned by UMR and they will lease the land to the beta-chi chapter for 50 years at \$100 per year with an option for another 30 years. This does not include the three lots on the North west corner. We are currently in discussions to purchase this land from private owners. We can build without the three lots but they will improve the layout.

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We considered several other locations. The final decision was voted on by the undergraduates and the alumni. Almost 9 out of 10 voted for this site.

We have chosen an architect, TRI. They are on hold pending the outcome of the three houses we are trying to purchase.

See New House continued on next page

Kappa Sigma The Beta-Chi Columns

Published by Beta-Chi of Kappa Sigma, established in 1903 in Rolla, Missouri. Please direct all news for Beta-Chi Columns to Kappa Sigma, Robert Hoffman, 1641 Tower Grove Ave, St. Louis, MO, 63110.

Fall 2004 Undergraduate Officers:

Grand Master:

Daniel Anderson

Grand Procurator:

Stephen Hoffmann

Grand Master of Ceremonies:

Derek Stringer

Grand Scribe:

Jason Williams

Grand Treasurer:

Michael Lancey

Inner Guard:

Andrew Palek

Outer Guard:

Time Laird

Beta-Chi Housing Corporation:

President:

Robert Hoffmann '78

Vice President:

James Telthorst '81

Treasurer:

Rich Manning '78

Board Members:

William Kirchoff '60

Ronald Acker '75

Andy Tayon '77

Robert Hoffmann '78

Darren Walters '92

Drop us a line at:
Beta-Chi of Kappa Sigma
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744 North Stone Avenue
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or call Chris Combs at
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New House, continued from Page 1

The build will be a masonry structure similar to the existing facility. The house will have white columns. The freshmen and sophomores will share a room and have a bathroom for each room. The juniors and seniors will have private rooms and private bathrooms. Each room will have walk in closets and a small kitchenette.

The design features were developed jointly by the house corporation and the undergraduates. We felt their input was critical in building a great facility.

The cost of this project will be approximately \$5,000,000. If we are successful this will be the largest fraternity project ever done in the United States. Some fraternities have a larger number of beds but none have been built with the quality we are striving to achieve. This will be the most money spent on a fraternity house ever!

We are seeking volunteers to assist with the fundraising effort. If you would like to be in charge of your pledge class please email me at Rob38h@aol.com.

AEKDB

Robert Hoffmann '78

Brother Steve Sieckhaus '84 To be inducted at Homecoming

Since the day Brother Steve Sieckhaus, '84, took his obligations as a pledge, one characteristic in his life has remained constant; the ability to excel through anything put in front of him.

What a better example of this Kappa Sigma-like characteristic than his days as an undergrad, when he served as Rush Chairman and Grand Scribe.

Wait, he didn't stop there.

He later became Grand Master of Ceremonies and Grand Procurator, rounding out his undergrad service as Grand Master.

Brother Sieckhaus was also involved with many other extracurricular activities, including Chi Epsilon, the civil engineering honor fraternity, and E.I.T; Engineer in Training program.

Brother Sieckhaus' professional journey virtually mimicked that of his life as an undergrad. After graduating UMR with a degree in Civil Engineering in 1987, he picked up a job as an estimator at Turner Construction. His hard work and dedication at the firm quickly earned him the title of Project Engineer, followed by Project Manager. He was then offered the position of Vice President

See Sieckhaus on Page 7

REPORT FROM THE GRAND MASTER

THE BETA CHI CHAPTER OF THE KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY HAS HAD AN INCREDIBLE YEAR!

In 2004, the Brothers of Beta Chi have worked harder than ever to become the most dominant fraternity on the University of Missouri Rolla campus, with outstanding results. We have excelled in our priorities of recruitment, campus involvement, academics, social activities, leadership, community service, and athletics. Beta Chi has just completed its most successful rush in many, many years by pledging no less than 32 young men into the fraternity this fall. Not only is this pledge class quite numerous, but they have an enormous amount of talent and the potential to become great leaders within Kappa Sigma. We achieved this success with an intense recruitment effort in the spring, an event-packed summer, and the tireless work of our rush chairman Grant Mabie. Also thanks to the many alumni who helped by donating their time, money, and homes for rush events. Kappa Sigma is now the second-largest fraternity on campus with 88 total actives/pledges and 68 living in the chapter house.

At the Kappa Sigma Leadership Conference held during the summer, Beta Chi received several awards and honors for our outstanding chapter. We were recognized as a Champion Chapter for having over 50 men and were given the Outstanding Chapter Academic Program award and the Chapter Academic Excellence award in recognition of our scholarship program and scholastic achievements. Our active GPA of 3.06 ranked 1st out of all 20 fraternities on campus for Fall 2003 and our 3.02 ranked 7th for Spring 2004. Both exceeded our chapter goal of 3.0 GPA.

Beta Chi was also honored at the conference with the Founders Award of Chapter Excellence (F.A.C.E. award). This is the highest and most prestigious award that any chapter of Kappa Sigma may receive! We were

one of only a few chapters west of the Mississippi river to receive the coveted F.A.C.E. award.

The brotherhood of our chapter is stronger than ever, and can be witnessed at any Greek competition or campus event in which we compete. Last semester we put a lot of hard work and long hours into the 2004 St. Pat's competition...and won 1st place as a result! In fact, we won by a huge margin due to our 1st place cudgel entry, 3rd place float, and domination of the games and Follies. Beta Chi also placed 1st in the annual Greek Sing competition last semester, continuing our winning streak of the last four years. Now we're focusing on the upcoming Greek Week competition this semester and reclaiming our 1st place title (last year we dropped to a respectable 3rd).

Some of the other notable events occurring this semester include our "Buffet Bash" theme party and annual White Trash Trailer Bash, as well as the usual number of social events and gatherings. With the added athleticism of 32 pledges, Beta Chi is going to compete heavily in intramurals, trying to improve on our top 10 finish of last semester. We're also planning another road trip for the entire house, this time to Chicago. Everyone had so much fun at the SEC meeting in New Orleans last January that we've decided to try to take one trip as a house each semester. Speaking of trips, three of our brothers are currently in Finland this semester, studying abroad.

For Beta Chi, 2004 has been one of the greatest years in the recent history of the fraternity. We're looking forward to our continued success and further dominance on the UMR campus. There's never been a better time to be a proud member of Kappa Sigma.

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the second-largest
fraternity on campus
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PAS



GLIMPSES OF BETA-CHI PAST AND PRESENT



RUSH REPORT

RUSH WENT VERY WELL THIS YEAR FOR KAPPA SIGMA.

We rushed a pledge class of 32 great guys, the largest we have had in many years and the most the campus has seen in at least 10 years. The entire house helped out by showing great persistence with rush calls and having great attendance at rush events. In addition, we sincerely appreciate all of the actives and alumni that allowed us to use their homes for our rush parties.

We signed 27 guys through spring and summer informal rush. They were Lance Stratman from Jefferson City, Stewart Lance from Kansas City, Everett Probasco from St. Louis, John Roach from Kansas City, Mitch Boeh from Kansas City, Matt Stadler from Kansas City, Charles "Chuck" Hall from St. Louis (a legacy—his uncle Brian Hall was a Beta-Chi from the early '80s), Tyler Nace from Kansas City, Ben Branison from Springfield, Cary Cooper from Ponchatoula, Louisiana, Will Spaulding from St. Louis, Rob Morton from Kansas City, Matt Ludwikosky from Kansas City, Zach Cochran from Huntsville, Missouri, Ryan Schumacher from Carbondale, Illinois, Greg Moore from St. Louis, Allan Burns from St. Louis, Ryan Dupatz from St. Louis, Phil Greer from Kansas City, Travis Reed from Springfield, David Szczucinski from Kansas City, Chris Westlund from Kansas City, Joe Zona from St. Louis, Matt Goeke from St. Louis, Chris Selby from St. Louis, Dustin Campbell from California, Missouri, and Josh Blair from Kansas City.



The new pledge class

We signed an additional 4 guys through a formal rush program tried for the first time in the fall by the UMR-Interfraternity Council (which was more than any other fraternity signed through formal rush). They were Kyle Spencer from St. Louis, John Weaver from St. Louis, Nick Olson from Kansas City, and Chris Garcia from Kansas City.

Lastly, we signed Andrew Snedden from Kansas City through informal rushing in the fall.

AEKDB
Grant Mabie
Rush Chair

Don't forget to check us out online!

Find out more about homecoming here!

www.Beta-Chi.com

Login: AEKDB

Password: aekdb



ALUMNI UPDATES

Gilbert Starkweather '53 recently sold his business in Houston and retired to Phoenix, where he resides with his wife Rosalind. Worked in the heat treating industry for hardening steel, working mainly on aircrafts, oil machinery and the automotive industry. He and Rosalind have four children—John, Robert, Susanne and Julie—all of whom are grown and scattered about.

Donald Roth '54 retired last fall and is enjoying retirement. Lives in Westport, Connecticut with his wife Gerry. He has three children—Jeanne, Roger and David—and four grandchildren. His family all lives in the area, so they get a lot of quality time together. Don last worked for Silgan Plastics, running the Polystar Division. "It was fun while I was in school, I was glad I was a Kappa Sig," he says.

Richard Dagley '61 has been retired for about five years and taking it easy in the High Sierra Mountains in Northern California—Tuolumne, to be exact. Richard currently enjoys restoring old Corvettes and nature photography, benefitting from the fact that Yosemite National Park is 20 miles from his doorstep. Before he retired, he was an Environmental Health Specialist for the county. He's not married at the present, but has three grown, married daughters—Kelley, Cristie and Jocelyn—and is waiting for his first grandchild.

Bill Bassett '41 is 81 years old and currently retired and living in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. He and his wife Jean have multiple Persian Cats. They have two daugh-

ters, Pamela and Kimberly. Pamela is a dietician at a hospital and Kimberly is a pilot for Atlantic Southeast Airlines, a partner of Delta.

Michael Nolan '61 is currently the Chief Financial Officer of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Nashville, Tennessee. After graduating for UMR in 1963, he received his MBA from Saint Louis University in 1967 and went to work for the church in 1975, even though he's still a registered professional engineer in the state of Missouri. Before, he specialized in metal reclamation from scrap and waste, and now he helps build high schools, grade schools and churches in Nashville. He and his wife Madeena, a novelist, have two children. Andrew is married and is a history professor at the University of Nevada-Reno and David is married and is a computer scientist at Xavier University in Cincinnati. David and his wife Tammy have one grandchild, Maxwell, who is 10 months old.

Dan Lumma '86 lives in Houston with his wife Tracy and three children—Luke, 5, Gabby, 3, and Ethan, 18 months. The family moved from Kansas City a year ago to start a new office for Kiewit Offshore Services, where Dan is a project sponsor. Many brothers will remember Dan for playing the guitar, and although work and taking care of the kids has taken away some of his time from music, he still plays when he can. Dan returned last year to UMR for Beta-Chi's 100th Anniversary celebration, and enjoyed seeing a lot of his brothers there and reliving college memories.

Sieckhaus, Contd.

of Operations at Clayco Construction, where he currently is employed. Realizing the importance of education, later returned to UMR, and in 1992 earned a Masters in Engineering Management.

That unique momentum Brother Sieckhaus had as an undergrad now reverberates through his community as well. He serves on several committees for St. Patrick's Center, a non-profit organization that helps indigents return to the work force and become self-sufficient. And when he

Read more about our 2004 Homecoming Festivities on Page 8!

isn't busy coaching youth sports teams, he puts in hours at Habitat for Humanity, constructing housing for low-income families.

Alas, and he hasn't forgotten his academic alma mater. The Beta-Chi undergrads can find him in the school's placement center, which hires qualified engineers for various companies.

No surprise, Sieckhaus blames his forest fire approach to any hierarchical ladder on his fraternity.

"The Beta-Chi chapter of Kappa

Sigma has taught me responsibility and leadership, mentored teamwork and cooperation, and created lifelong friendships."

Brother Sieckhaus currently lives in St. Louis with his wife Terri, daughter Annie (10), and son John (5).

BETA-CHI CHAPTER HOMECOMING 2004

Schedule of Events

OCTOBER 15-17, 2004

Friday, October 15, 2004

Reception at 8 p.m.

Just because we're 101 doesn't mean we still can't have just as much fun as we did last year. Come join us at the chapter house

Saturday, October 16, 2004

Memorabilia Party from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

This occasion will include lunch as well as a blast from the past; a signature event that every Beta-Chi alumnus should take part in.

Saturday, Contd.

The Hall of fame Banquet at the Chapter House

Reception at 6 p.m.

Dinner at 7 p.m.

Hall of Fame Inductees will be announced soon

Hall of Fame Party at the Chapter house at 9:30

Sunday, October 17, 2004

Breakfast at 8 a.m. at the Chapter House

A perfect send-off to another great Homecoming at UMR with the strongest fraternity on campus.

Return Service Requested

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