

BETA-CHI COLUMNS



KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | FALL 2015

The pledge classes of '74, '75, '77, and '78 reunited during Homecoming in October. In total, nearly 60 alumni and spouses attended the event.



KAPPA SIGMA CELEBRATES HOMECOMING

Congratulations to Beta-Chi's Newest Hall of Fame Initiates

Congratulations to **Steve Ederle '84** and **Ken Staab '76** for their induction into the Beta-Chi Hall of Fame at this year's Homecoming celebration. We had more than 200 alumni, guests, and undergraduates attend the event. Ken Staab, retired Senior VP of Exxon, talked about the positive impact Kappa Sigma has had on his life. Steve Ederle comes from a long line of Ederles who were all Kappa Sigmas at MS&T. Steve's older brothers, **John '77** and **Dave '81**, are also Beta-Chi alumni, so you can imagine that Steve was very proud talking about when his son, **Dan '14**, followed in his footsteps. A special thanks to **Mark Suellentrop '75** for being the emcee at this event.

Two pledge classes organized reunions during Homecoming weekend. The pledge classes of '74 and '75 resulted in a large alumni showing. A great time was had by all.

This semester, the House Corporation replaced the weights in the weight room with rubber-coated weights for protection of the floor and two computers in the computer room. Thanks to a generous donation by **Bill Kirchoff '60**, we're working on the installation of a flag pole. The House Corporation is constantly upgrading, maintaining, and repairing the Chapter House. The cleanliness and appearance of the house is not like what most of us experienced when we first entered the house as freshmen. When undergraduate Brothers arrive at the beginning of each semester, every room is spotless: carpets shampooed, floors waxed, rooms dusted, and halls clean and clear. It is a better experience and takes lots of work from undergraduates and the dedicated members of the House Corporation.

The Beta-Chi Chapter is as strong as it has ever been. The Chapter GPA has been consistently above the university

all-men's average. The Chapter excels in intramural sports, campus competitions, and, most importantly, leadership in campus organizations. The house is full, with some of our newest initiates waiting in the dorms for room to move in. The success in recruitment has been in part due to our scholarship programs. We now offer two scholarships to incoming freshmen: \$2,500 White Columns scholarships and \$1,000 freshmen scholarships. These scholarships are used as recruiting tools to attract the best and brightest candidates. We can't do this without alumni support. If you want to help, a tax-deductible donation can be made to the Beta-Chi Educational Foundation, which supports the educational needs of the members in our Chapter. Information about the Educational Foundation can be found at the Chapter website, beta-chi.com.

A.E.K.A.B.,

Robert Hoffmann '78

Alumni House Fund Association President
roberth@hoffmannbros.com



Congratulations, Brothers Ken Staab '74 and Steve Ederle '84, on your induction into Beta-Chi's Hall of Fame!

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ATTENTION:

Please send any contact information updates to Ed Jantosik at ecjirpe@miner.mst.edu.

KEN STAAB '76 REKINDLES TIES TO BETA-CHI

Ken Staab '76 lives by the motto "do what makes sense and what feels right." The bonds he felt with the active brothers during recruitment gave him the sense that Kappa Sigma was the right place for him. "Just being associated with a great group of people and living with them; I was proud of all the things we accomplished collectively."

Ken graduated with a degree in civil engineering. A job opportunity with Exxon allowed him to move to west Texas. After working there for a couple of years, he then joined a start-up company as an engineer in 1985 called XTO Energy. The company began with seven people and grew into the largest natural gas producer in the United States. "I was fortunate as a young engineer to be offered the opportunity to work with the company." In 2009, the company was sold to Exxon. Ken stayed on for three more years, working as the senior vice president before his retirement. In his retirement, Ken is a part owner in a classic car dealership, Hardway Classic Cars.



He appreciates the life lessons he learned in Kappa Sigma and acknowledges that the Fraternity played an important role in his career success. "It taught me the ability to work with people, create goals and priorities, and how to blend them together to have a successful organization."

Ken's advice to undergraduates is to find a balance between the academics and social experiences. "Make your studies a priority and find a balance

so you can attend every party, float trip, and activity. You usually know when those activities are happening, so you can plan your studies around them. It gives you the best college experience and teaches good time management."

Admittedly, Ken has not stayed close to the Chapter since graduating, but not by intention. He says the natural progression of everyone spreading out after graduation and his move to Texas contributed over time to the distance with the Chapter. He has kept up with brothers sporadically saying they always pick up where

they left off and the bond remains as if they still saw each other every day.

Ken lives in Southlake, Texas, with his wife, Kerry. They have two sons, David and Michael. In his free time, he enjoys skiing, golfing, classic cars, and spending time with friends.

SAVE *the* DATE

**Beta-Chi Christmas
Happy Hour**

*Saturday, December 26,
at 5:30 p.m.*

**Llewellyn's Pub
Game Room
Webster Groves, MO**

Generous Alumni, We Thank You \$13,883 Raised So Far in 2015

We wish to thank all those who have supported the annual program. Alumni who have contributed to the 2015 appeals are listed by initiation year under the appropriate giving levels. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please send corrections to the Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma, Alumni House Fund Association, P.O. Box 31611, St. Louis, MO 63131-1611. Thank you, again, for giving back to the Chapter—it truly does make a difference!

Benefactors of Beta-Chi (\$251 and above)

Kappa Sigma Parents Club
Norman E. Hart '53
Charles R. Hoffman '55
Bill Ricketts '58
Wayne B. Ruck '58
Theodore M. Fiedler '62
Gary Forsee '69
Gary E. Roebke '74
Edward C. Jantosik Jr. '76
Greg A. Weeks '77
Robert J. Hoffmann '78
Richard T. Bradley '84
Fred W. Niemeier '92
Matthew E. Hopkins '94
John M. Schappe '95

Supporters of Beta-Chi (\$250)

William S. Kirchoff Sr. '60
M. Thomas Barber '61
S. Craig George '71
Stewart A. Scott '71
Thomas R. Gredell '76
Glenn J. Mabie '76
Edward J. Bradley Jr. '81
John M. Remmers '81
Steven E. Ederle '84
Shane Mitchell '90
Dwayne R. Doshier '93
Grant J. Mabie '02
Gregory C. Moore '04

Friends of Beta-Chi (Up to \$249)

Walter S. Knecht '45
James O. Murray '57
W. Dave Phelps '57
Terry L. Mills '58
Timothy M. Handla '64
Michael A. Perkins '65
Timothy M. Vicente '67
Richard J. Lacavich '69
David R. Breece '73

Grand Master
Reno Reed '13
Lee's Summit, Mo.
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Grand Procurator
Alexander Ernst '13
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Tyler Howe '14
O'Fallon, Mo.

Grand Scribe
Ryan Howe '14
O'Fallon, Mo.

Assistant Grand Scribe
Josh Morris '15
Naperville, Ill.

Grand Treasurer
Ryan Ristau '14
Manchester, Mo.

Assistant Grand Treasurer
Joe Aleman '14
St. Charles, Mo.

Inner Guard
Ryan Halley '13
Hazelwood, Mo.

Outer Guard
Mason Lampe '14
O'Fallon, Mo.
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Beta-Chi participated in the Greek Week canned castle competition this fall. From left: Tony Montero '12, Matt Dugan '15, Will Tichacek '13, Kevin Cahill '12, Cody Wages '12, David Ameryun '12, and Austin Lohr '13.



Kappa Sig at the Linking Hearts Service event held earlier this fall.



Even during the madness of Greek Week, Kappa Sigma found time to volunteer in the community and clean up White Columns Drive.

Beta-Chi Recruits the Largest Fall Class in Chapter History

Kappa Sig Continues to Impress at MS&T

Throughout 2015, the Beta-Chi Chapter has continued to exemplify the four pillars by which we stand: scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service. Every year, we make it our mission to set the bar higher and we continue to thrive on campus and within our brotherhood.

Record-Setting Semester for Recruitment

This has been one of the strongest recruitment years our Chapter has seen. In the spring, we initiated a record high 10 new members into our brotherhood. Through the continued diligence of Recruitment Chairman **Austin Lohr '13**, we formally welcomed 34 young men, making the fall 2015 class the largest our Chapter has seen. We hope to continue our strong recruitment efforts as we start to prepare for the spring 2016 class.

Beta-Chi Leadership Shines

The Brothers of Beta-Chi continue to emerge as leaders on campus. Currently, 25% of our members hold positions on the executive boards of campus organizations. This includes five presidents, three vice presidents, and three team leads. In September, we dedicated a lot of time and effort for the 53rd annual Greek Week competition. With a second-place finish, this year marks the fifth consecutive year that we've placed in the top two for Greek Week.

Academics Continue to Rise

Scholarship is yet another way Beta-Chi

continues to excel on campus. Our Chapter earned a GPA of 3.087 for the spring semester. This puts our Chapter above the all-male, all-Greek, and all-student GPAs, and also marks the seventh consecutive semester we've been above the all-men's GPA. Our new members received a GPA of 3.073, which ranks among the top.

Beta-Chi Stands Out at Conclave

Nationally, Beta-Chi continues to rank among the top chapters in the Kappa Sigma Fraternity. This summer at the 70th biennial Grand Conclave, Beta-Chi received the Founders' Award for Chapter Excellence for the fifth consecutive year. We also brought home awards for outstanding single community service event, outstanding pledge education program, and excellence in scholarship.

I am extremely pleased with the direction this Chapter continues to travel. Year after year we foster an environment of diligence and brotherhood. The Beta-Chi Chapter would not continue to grow and become the pride of the Missouri University of Science and Technology campus without the ongoing support from our dedicated alumni. Thank you, and we look forward to many more years of success.



A.E.K.Δ.B.,
Kevin Flaker '11
Grand Master
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WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Will Annunziata
Wildwood, Mo.

Scott Faulkner
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Brian Kissel
St. Louis, Mo.

Daniel Quasebarth*
Fenton, Mo.

Conor Buckley*
Chesterfield, Mo.

Ian Greenwood
Ellisville, Mo.

Matt LaBarge
Fenton, Mo.

Sabri Safi
Ellisville, Mo.

Branden Cheun
Ballwin, Mo.

David Hinton
O'Fallon, Ill.

Paul Meyer
Chesterfield, Mo.

Wyatt Shay
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Josh Dorries
O'Fallon, Ill.

Blaine Hrovat
Rolla, Mo.

Joshua Morris*
Naperville, Ill.

Jeffrey Smith
St. Charles, Mo.

Nick Swanson
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Peter Vaughan
Chesterfield, Mo.

Ben Fassler
Chesterfield, Mo.

Cameron Jarvis*
Arnold, Mo.

Jackson Pence
Richmond, Mo.

Brad Stetson
St. Charles, Mo.

Nathan Thelen
Chesterfield, Mo.

Foster Walrath
Platte City, Mo.

*Legacy



Steve Ederle '84 Reflects on His Time at Beta-Chi

For Steve Ederle '84, the decision to join Kappa Sigma was an easy one. While he had many choices at Missouri S&T, his two older brothers, **John Ederle '77** and **Dave Ederle '81**, had already joined Kappa Sigma and Steve knew that was where he wanted to be as well. The men of Beta-Chi offered him friendship and a place to call home while in Rolla. They made the transition to college much easier, and within just a few weeks, he had 80 brothers to hang out with and learn from.

Steve recalls the festivities of St. Pat's being a favorite time for him and his fellow Beta-Chis. It was a tradition they took part in wholeheartedly every year. He also remembers the infamous annual beach party. While an outsider may not understand spreading 20 tons of sand just to have a party and then cleaning it up afterward, it was a party for the books. "It was one of those things where you just had to be there."

His time with Beta-Chi was not just fun and games. Steve really came to appreciate the men in Beta-Chi and friendships he made there. "I learned so much about people during my college years. Living with all the different guys in Kappa Sigma helped me learn to get along and work with a lot of different types of people. I think it's a lesson that has carried through my life and in the business world." Steve also learned the importance of asking questions. "The best thing young Kappa Sigs can do, whether they're in college still or starting their career, is to ask questions of more experienced people. Learn from them, ask which classes to take or which professors to look for, which to avoid. In business, asking questions will help you avoid pitfalls and guide you in a direction where you can be more successful."

For 23 years, Steve has been working for Jost Chemical Co. He and his wife, Maureen, whom he met at Missouri S&T, live in Oakville, Missouri. Their daughter, Melissa, is a junior at Ursuline Academy. They are not sure if she is going to be an engineer, but they haven't stopped trying to convince her. Their son, **Dan Ederle '14**, is a sophomore at Missouri S&T. Steve is very proud and excited.

"It had been several years since I had been back at the Beta Chi, but when I returned for Homecoming 2014 and Dan's initiation, I really felt welcomed back. I was left with a feeling that Beta-Chi is still doing it right in finding great guys and great leaders."



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The Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma
The Alumni House Fund Association
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St. Louis, MO 63131-1611

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66044
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*Christmas
happy hour date
has been set!
See page 2 for
details.*



www.beta-chi.com



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Willkommen, Oktoberfest!

This fall, Beta-Chi tried something new and put on an Oktoberfest-themed philanthropy event to raise money for the Military Heroes Campaign. We invited friends, family, and the community to partake in festive foods and drinks, and participate in raffles and games.

We had a strong seasonal theme for our event, which helped make it more special and unique. To make our event feel like a real German festival, we needed Bavarian decorations, bratwursts, pretzels, and root beer. We reached out to Fitz's in St. Louis and they donated to our philanthropy and reduced the cost of two root beer kegs by half.



Beta-Chi's Oktoberfest philanthropy event was a huge success, raising \$2,700 for the Military Heroes Campaign.

The day of the event was a beautiful fall afternoon and people from all over Missouri and the Rolla community came out to support our cause and enjoy the event. We collected raffle item donations from Rolla businesses and we encouraged them to attend our event. Another company that helped greatly in our event was College Chefs with their large donation of Bavarian food to fit with the theme of our event; without their help we could not have put on such a successful philanthropy. In total, our event raised a staggering \$2,700 for the Military Heroes Campaign.

This new event was not only a huge success, but also a lot of fun to plan and host. We look forward to seeing more out of Beta-Chi's new philanthropy, and we hope to see the success of Oktoberfest for many years to come.