

# BETA-CHI COLUMNS



KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | FALL 2018

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Please send  
any contact  
information  
updates to  
Ed Jantosik at  
ecjjrpeatt@att.net

## A WEEKEND TO REMEMBER!

This year at Homecoming we celebrated 115 years of the Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. It was a great event with over 200 alumni, undergraduates, and guests in attendance. The four Hall of Fame inductees, **Robert Wright '56**, **Bill Meister '73**, **Stephen Hoffmann '02**, and **Grant Mabie '02**, talked about how their time in the Fraternity has positively influenced their lives. Read about Meister and Hoffmann on page 2 and Wright and Mabie in the spring 2018 issue. A group of 1950s alumni and the pledge class of 1978 also had reunions on the same weekend. We were honored to have these great alumni at the event.

I would like to thank Master of Ceremonies **Fred Niemeier '92**. To sum up the weekend, I want to pass along a message from Grand Master **Ryan Howe '14**: "Thank you, alumni, for a weekend that the undergraduates and I will never forget."

The Alumni House Fund Association holds its annual meeting and election of officers on Saturday of Homecoming every year. The 2018-19 officers are myself as President, Vice President **Kyle Dibler '10**, Treasurer Stephen Hoffmann, and Secretary **Ben Prueter '10**.

I want to give a special thanks to **Rich Manning '78** for his many years of service as the treasurer. He will be missed. And also to **Ron Acker '75** for his countless hours keeping the Chapter in good shape.

Students have many choices on how to spend their spare time. The weight room at Kappa Sigma is one of the most popular amenities in the house and a good way for them to burn off extra energy. It is well used. Not only is this excellent physical conditioning but it also teaches discipline and dedication. Renovating and expanding the weight room is our next major project. We recently received a \$14,000 donation from Brother **Ray Behrens '65** that will be used for the weight room. Thanks, Ray! We were hoping to start the project in 2018, but are about \$26,000 short, so if you are interested in helping, drop me a note at [roberth@hoffmannbros.com](mailto:roberth@hoffmannbros.com).

I want to congratulate the undergraduate Chapter for another successful year. I also want to thank the alumni for your continued support of the Chapter.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,  
**Robert Hoffmann '78**  
President, Alumni House Fund Association

## BETA-CHI CHAPTER CELEBRATES 115 YEARS



*Fred Niemeier '92, Inductee Robert Wright '56, and Robert Hoffmann '78*



*Grant Mabie '02 and Glenn Mabie '76 with their spouses.*



*Ed Jantosik '76, Mike Meyer '71, Glenn Mabie '76, and Tom Gredell '76*

**Read about the 2018 Hall of Fame inductees on page 2!**

# 2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

## William G. Meister '73

If not for Kappa Sigma, **Bill Meister '73** says, "I would have found college life at UMR to be almost unbearable." The brotherhood and opportunities he experienced have always meant so much to him. The balance of academics, social life, and sports found at Kappa Sigma was very appealing. "I knew I wanted to join a fraternity to have a life outside of attending classes."

In addition to earning a degree in civil engineering, Bill served the Chapter as assistant grand treasurer, grand treasurer, and grand master. Among the benefits and opportunities Kappa Sigma provided, he says the fraternal experience taught him the importance of leadership, "which has helped me with my career and my whole life." He also says the ability to observe upperclassmen was valuable, and he still holds those Brothers in high esteem.

Bill's memories of his undergraduate days are filled with weekend parties and drives to Columbia "up windy US 63 to visit [future wife] Deb. There was no shortage of Brothers wanting to escape Rolla for a weekend at Mizzou." Receiving a scholarship-leadership award as a senior at Founders Day in St. Louis stands out as a significant moment, as well as driving to

Hollywood by the Sea, Florida, with **Pat Owen '73** and **Jim Pelger '72** for Grand Conclave.

*Bill's memories of his undergraduate days are filled with weekend parties and drives to Columbia up windy US 63 to visit [future wife] Deb.*

Encouraged by the Chapter's faculty advisor, Dr. John Rockaway, to go on to graduate school, Bill received an M.S. in geological engineering in 1978. "He told me that if I did, I'd write my own ticket to a job in the mining industry. While it hasn't necessarily been easy, he was correct." Bill began his career with Shell Oil and for 15 years held a variety of engineering, operations and management roles. Zeigler Coal Holding Company bought Shell in 1992, and Bill worked there for five years. Back in St. Louis, Bill moved into consulting with Marston & Marston. "For the first time in my life, I got a passport and worked in more than 15 countries on six continents."

Since 2016, Bill has been an independent mining consultant and has never been happier. "It's turned out to be a great way to transition into



*Fred Niemeier '92, Inductee Bill Meister '73, and Robert Hoffmann '78*

retirement—working fewer hours while making more money!" His free time is spent as a deacon in the Catholic Church and fishing, swimming, and playing with his three grandsons, "anything they (or I) want to see or do that I can talk them into joining me!" Bill and Deb were married the weekend after Bill graduated with his B.S. While he was in graduate school "and on my meager fellowship, we looked forward to eating dinner one night a week at the Fraternity house!" They live in Kirkwood and have two daughters, Kelley and Addie. Bill can be contacted at [bill.meister.mining@gmail.com](mailto:bill.meister.mining@gmail.com).

## Stephen Hoffmann '02

**Stephen Hoffmann '02** says his Kappa Sigma experience "meant everything." The Fraternity provided a wonderful home where he could mature, socialize, and create friendships that will last a lifetime.

His father, **Robert '78**, had a small hand in Stephen joining Beta-Chi Chapter. "We went down to Rolla for a PRO day, and he had the

rush chairman give me a bid card and told me I'll be living at Kappa Sigma!" His days as an undergraduate were busy: studying for a degree in mechanical engineering, serving the Chapter as secretary, vice president, and intramural chairman, as well as Greek Week chairman. "I'll never forget winning Greek Week. We came out of nowhere and won the event, which we hadn't competed in for a long, long time. It took a whole house effort and really brought the members closer."

After graduation from MS&T, Stephen went on to earn a law degree from St. Louis University School of Law. He has worked at the Simon Law Firm and Hoffmann Law Firm and currently works at Roskin & Hoffmann in St. Louis. His areas of practice include Missouri workers compensation, personal injury, wrongful death, life insurance claim denial, probate, and estate planning.

The lessons Beta-Chi ingrained in Stephen have benefitted him professionally and personally.

"You have to work for everything you get. Sometimes it doesn't work out, but that just means you have to try that much harder next time." He has taken the knowledge and experience acquired and used it to lead by example. As an alumnus volunteer with the Kappa Sigma House Corporation, as well as an advisor for several years, Stephen proudly represents the Fraternity and its four pillars.

*"I'll never forget winning Greek Week. We came out of nowhere and won the event, which we hadn't competed in for a long, long time."*

When not working, Stephen enjoys exercising and watching sports, particularly Mizzou football and basketball and the St. Louis Cardinals and Blues. He and his wife, Meena, whom he met at Rolla, live in St. Louis and have two children, Luke (4) and Emma (2). Stephen can be reached at [stephenhoffmann@gmail.com](mailto:stephenhoffmann@gmail.com).



*Fred Niemeier '92, Inductee Stephen Hoffmann '02, and Robert Hoffmann '78*

# GENEROUS ALUMNI, WE THANK YOU *More Than \$34,000 Raised So Far in 2018*

We wish to thank all those who have supported the annual program. Alumni who have contributed thus far to the 2018 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, University of Missouri Science & Technology, P.O. Box 442100, Lawrence, KS 66044-2100. Thank you, again, for giving back to the Chapter—it truly does make a difference!

## Benefactors of Beta-Chi *(\$251 and Above)*

Norman E. Hart '53  
W. Dave Phelps '57  
William L. Sullivan III '57  
Dick Phillips '58  
Bill Ricketts '58  
Wayne B. Ruck '58  
William S. Kirchoff Sr. '60  
Gene Foshage '63  
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Timothy M. Vicente '67  
R. John Pepper '69  
Mike J. Meyer '71  
James C. Griese '72  
David R. Breece '73  
Gary E. Roebke '74  
Kent S. Springer '74  
Mark R. White '75  
Edward C. Jantosik Jr. '76  
Robert J. Hoffmann '78  
Lt. Col. Michael W. Smith '78  
Edward J. Bradley Jr. '81  
John M. Remmers '81  
William L. Kovacich '82  
Richard T. Bradley '84  
W. Alan Hopkins '86  
Jason L. Hudson '91  
Fred W. Niemeier '92  
Matthew E. Hopkins '94

## Supporters of Beta-Chi *(\$250)*

James O. Murray '57  
Dr. Eric J. Norman '60  
David L. Krueger '68  
Gerald W. Kiel '69  
Anthony G. Bommario '70  
Mark A. Kassing '70  
Gary L. Abernathy '71  
Gary D. Leemann '71  
Stewart A. Scott '71  
Paul R. Vetter '73  
T. Mark Drumm '74  
Ted F. Bestor '75  
Glenn J. Mabie '76  
James K. Von Behren '80  
Michael J. Tracy '82  
Dwayne R. Doshier '93  
Grant J. Mabie '02

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

Charles R. Hoffman '55  
Richard L. Schmidt '61  
Timothy M. Handlan '64  
June C. Thomason Jr. '64  
Michael A. Perkins '65  
Dr. Robert L. Ward '68  
Lance M. Killoran '69  
Daniel M. Shiels '78

# FALL 2018 NEW INITIATES

**Cameron Billings** | Jefferson City, Mo.

**Holden Conaway** | St. Louis, Mo.

**Collin Cox** | Edwardsville, Ill.

**Alex Drake** | Lee's Summit, Mo.

**Joseph George** | Lee's Summit, Mo.

**Braden Gustitus** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Tyler Herting** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Colten Hoenes** | Beardstown, Ill.

**Danny Irick** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Vincent Landewe** | Cape Girardeau, Mo.

**Sam Louvall** | O'Fallon, Mo.

**D'Tanyon Maxwell** | Rayville, Mo.

**Michael Muehlberger** | Blue Springs, Mo.

**Riley Putnam** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Maxwell Right** | Oakville, Mo.

**Jake Schroeter** | St. Charles, Mo.

**Joseph Schultz** | Belleville, Ill.

**Colton Walker** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Sean Weisenfels** | Kansas City, Mo.

**Nick Whorton** | Kansas City, Mo.

# BETA-CHI CHAPTER FOCUSSES ON PHILANTHROPY AND RECRUITMENT

## Collegians Request Piano for Chapter House

Beta-Chi has enjoyed another successful year in Rolla, Missouri. In the spring, Beta-Chi participated in the yearly St. Pat's competition and won in a landslide victory over the other fraternities and organizations on campus. We crafted one of the best and most interesting cudgels in the last 10 years and dominated the competition in every event. Next, we shifted our focus toward philanthropy and service to those in need. We participated in Missouri S&T's Out 'til Midnight competition to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and took home gold in that competition as well, raising \$5,000 as a Chapter.



*Congratulations to brothers who received 4.0 GPAs last semester.*

This summer, eight members of the Chapter traveled to New Orleans to celebrate our brotherhood at Leadership Conference. Beta-Chi was awarded with the FACE award, continuing our streak of almost a decade of excellence. Additionally, Beta-Chi received awards for our proficiency in service and ritual along with individual excellence awards for **Tyler Howe '14** (Grand Master), **Joe Aleman '14** and **Bradley Stetson '15** (Grand Procurator), **Charlie Dienstbach '16** and **Matthew York '16** (Grand Scribe), **Brandon Bohanon '16** and **Matthew Russell '16** (Grand Treasurer), and myself (Grand Master of Ceremonies).

In the fall, we recruited 30 men for our fall '18 class, and on October 28 we initiated 20 of those men. Pledge **Colton Walker** received the White Columns Scholarship award. One main goal that Beta-Chi set for our Champion's Quest was to be the largest chapter on campus by membership. This fall, we accomplished that goal with 117 men. This September, we also celebrated the 115th anniversary of our Chapter's founding. The weekend was filled with brotherhood and good times as more than 40 alumni from the 1960s to 2000s came back to campus. In the Greek Week competition we placed second, narrowly missing back-to-back championships.

The Chapter is looking for a piano to be located in the Mother's Room. We hope there might be an alumnus who has a piano that is no longer in use and

*(Continued on page 4)*



Class of 2003

Read about our 115th Homecoming weekend celebration on page 1!

## BETA-CHI CHAPTER

(Continued from page 3)

would consider donating it. There is a space in our Mother's Room that would fit a regular-sized, upright piano, but we could probably move some furniture around to fit something larger. It will be used by undergraduates recreationally and as a good hang out spot to play and listen to music. Beta-Chi has had a piano in the past, and it was a great tool to building brotherhood in the Chapter. Any donations would be appreciated, even if they aren't in the best shape. We will also transport the piano to Rolla if needed. Contact me if you can help us!

Beta-Chi has a lot of things to look forward to. In November, campus holds a Greek awards banquet, and members of Beta-Chi are nominated for every award that will be given out. Mid-semester grades were released and Beta-Chi boasts our best mid-semester GPA in recent memory, which will hopefully carry over to the end of the semester. Spring recruitment has begun for Beta-Chi and we have a goal of 10-12 pledges for the upcoming semester—we are well on our way to meeting this goal. Beta-Chi will continue to pursue excellence in every area and exemplify the four pillars of Kappa Sigma every day.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,  
**Ryan Howe '14**, Grand Master  
rchqm2@mst.edu | (636) 614-6757



Brothers watching Greek Week soccer.

# BETA-CHI COLUMNS



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Lawrence, KS 66044-2100

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## ALUMNI NEWS

**Anthony Selvaggi '52** and his wife, Nancy, live in a 55+ community named Pinehills in Plymouth, Ma. "We all share common interests such as retirement, grandkids, and the joy of a multitude of activities that bind us together. We are all enjoying our town of Plymouth preparing for its 400th anniversary in 2020. A great place to visit anytime." Tony and Nancy have three children. Email: anthonyselvaggi47@hotmail.com

**George "Georgie" Curran '63** and his wife, Jan, have five children, Diane, Dena, Tim, David, and Doug. Georgie spent 2013-14 working in South Korea on the expansion of the U.S. Army Garrison-Humphreys. He retired in 2014 and moved from California to Gilbert, Ariz., in 2015. Email: mikecurran1944@yahoo.com

**Michael Meyer '71** has been retired 10 years from Anheuser-Busch and is a full-time volunteer handyman, working with Angels Arms foster homes, his church, and senior shut-ins. He travels extensively with wife Mary and Brother **Bill Quinn '73** and his wife, Rose. Mike loves to golf, bike, and play racquetball. He and Mary have three children, Maureen, Melissa, and Molly, and live in Sunset Hills in St. Louis. "God is good." Email: meyomey@yahoo.com

**James Griese '72** reports that the Pledge Class of 1971 will celebrate the 47th anniversary of the day they pledged Kappa Sigma. This three-day "walkout" will take place at Snow Mountain Ranch in Colorado. And all 12 surviving members of the class plan to attend! James retired in 2016 as director of commercial business for Michelin North America and lives in Anderson, S.C., with his wife, Nancy. They have two sons, Bill and David. Email: jim.griese@charter.net

**Bob "Bob-A-Lou" Karmi '80** is a practicing mechanical engineer and works at Northrop-Grumman in Melbourne, Fla. He and his wife, Laura, have four children, Lee, Brianna, Bobby, and Evelynn. Email: bobkarmi@brighthouse.com

**William Kovacich '82** oversees Caterpillar Inc.'s global quality management system, ensuring operations around the world comply with international quality management standards. He is a voting member on the United States Technical Advisory Group (US TAG) TC 176, which represents the U.S. in international matters concerning the development of quality management standards. He and his wife, Laura, live in Columbia, S.C. Email: kovacich\_william\_1@cat.com