

# BETA-CHI COLUMNS

KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | SPRING 2014

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## SCHOLARSHIPS AND HOUSE MAINTENANCE POSSIBLE DUE TO ALUMNI CONTRIBUTIONS

### *Alumni House Fund Continues to Pay Down Loan*

It's great to be involved with a successful organization. The Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma is leading the MS&T campus in grades and leadership. We have won numerous awards from our National Fraternity, our G.P.A. is at an all-time high, and our members hold executive positions in numerous campus organizations, including president of the IFC, president of Theta Tau Omega, and president of the St. Pat's Board. We believe this to be only the second time in university history that one fraternity has held these positions at the same time. I am proud of the Chapter and their accomplishments.

Building, running, and maintaining our Chapter is the job of the house corporation. In part, the success of the Chapter rests on our shoulders because we create the environment they live in. With your help we were able to raise \$2.6 million to renovate and expand the Chapter House. We provided additional study areas, private living rooms, private bathrooms, a gym, soccer field, a sound-proof social room, and a modern, up-to-date facility. Again, thanks for your support.

However, our job is never done. Maintaining the Chapter House requires vigilance. If it was not for alumni like **Ron Acker '75** and **Rich Manning '78**, who have weekly involvement, I am not sure what we would do.

Some items in the Chapter House were never replaced during the renovation because that would have put us over budget. Last year we expanded the irrigation system, installed new doors on the second floor of the foyer, installed a crest and Greek letters on the gable, and replaced the combination locks on exterior doors, along with numerous other renovations and

repairs. The electrical service is still original and we have a budgeted replacement. We also built a new website with a great directory to find your fellow alumni. Check it out. The password is **aekdb**.

We borrowed \$2.5 million to complete the project and now all of our excess revenue is being used to pay down the loan. So far, thanks to generous alumni and the financial discipline of the Chapter and the house corporation, we have paid the loan balance down to \$2.1 million. Any additional help you could give with paying down the loan or paying for the electrical service would be appreciated.

Financial aid is one of our biggest needs. Brothers **Bill Ricketts '58** and **Norman Hart '53** have set up scholarship funds for members of our Chapter. Thank you! We also have the MST/Kappa Sigma Educational Foundation that many of you have donated to. Thank you again! This money is held and managed by the university, but the proceeds go to members of our Chapter. If you donate to the university please specify our fund. We also have the tax-exempt Beta-Chi Educational Foundation that is held and managed by our alumni. If any of you are willing to help Brothers in need, let me know.

Thank you again for your generous support! We are looking forward to another great year.

A.E.K.A.B.,  
**Robert Hoffman '78**  
Alumni House Fund Association President  
roberth@hoffmanbros.com

## FRESHMAN SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following freshman Brothers were each awarded \$1,000 scholarships from the UMR/Kappa Sigma Endowed Educational Fund for their outstanding academic achievements: **Brendan Chura '14**, **Alex Ernst '14**, **Lucas Phillips '14**, **Justin Thomas '14**, **Will Tichacek '14**, **Zach Tognarelli '14**, and **Chris Wilkinson '14**.

Thank you to the Brothers who have donated to the MST/Kappa Sigma Educational Foundation. Your donations make these scholarships possible.

# BETA-CHI LEADERSHIP STRONGER THAN EVER

The Beta-Chi undergraduates continue to excel in every facet of fraternal life. The spring 2014 semester has brought us great achievement in all four pillars of scholarship, leadership, fellowship, and service.

## SCHOLARSHIP

Last semester Beta-Chi achieved an impressive 3.156 Chapter G.P.A., which was above the all-student, all-Greek, and all-men's averages. Along with that, our freshman class had the highest G.P.A. out of any new member class on campus.

## RECRUITMENT

In an attempt to beat the competition, Beta-Chi has taken a new continuous recruitment standpoint to ensure we get the best guys no matter when or where. We had a fall pledge class of 20, winter pledge class of three, and spring pledge class of five.

## CAMPUS EVENTS

On campus we continue to experience great success. In the fall, Beta-Chi took back first place in the 51st Annual Greek Week. We then followed that up with a first place finish in Greek Sing. More recently, we secured first place in the 106th Annual Best Ever St. Pat's.

## LEADERSHIP

On campus, members of Beta-Chi hold many leadership positions in various organizations. Some of the most notable being **Tom Dell'Orco '11**, president of IFC; **Stephen Ludwig '11**, president of St. Pat's; **Joshua Grobe '10**, president of Fraternal Order of Leaders; and **Jeff Fritzmeier '10**, of Intramural Managers Association.

I could not be more pleased with the successful direction the Chapter is headed in. We thank all of our dedicated alumni for their continued support and look forward to many more years of success to come.



A.E.K.Δ.B.,  
**Jeff Fritzmeier '10**  
Grand Master  
(636) 226-5532  
jdf5g4@mst.edu



*Kappa Sigma and ZTA's annual fish fry event.*

# CHAPTER PLACES FIRST AT BEST EVER ST. PAT'S

The 106th Annual Best Ever St. Pat's was once again a chance for Beta-Chi to be number one second to none. The week started off with court elections where Brother **Steve Ludwig '11** was elected to the position of St. Pat. Following that the freshman class put in some hard work and secured 110 snake heads during snake invasion. We continued to pick up points here and there throughout follies and gonzo games. The week ended with cudgel and float judging, which we took first and second, respectively, and secured first place overall.



*Brother Steve Ludwig '11 was St. Pat during the 106th Annual Best Ever St. Pat's.*



*Back row, from left: Steven Pierce '13, Reno Reed '13, TJ Reudiger '13, Dayln Buettner '13, Tim Dillon '12, and Steven Wassilak '13. Front row: Logan Vavricek '13.*



## Generous Alumni, We Thank You

As announced in previous issues of the *Beta-Chi Columns*, the *Securing the Future for the Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma* campaign has officially come to a close. We have now begun an annual giving campaign called alumni dues. We have great confidence that this program will be instrumental in maintaining the Chapter House and providing an exceptional environment for our undergraduates.

We wish to thank all those who have supported the annual program thus far. Alumni who have contributed to the 2013 appeals are listed by initiation year under the appropriate giving levels. (Note: this list does not reflect donations to the capital campaign.) 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 (\$241 and above)

Walter S. Knecht '45

Mark A. Kassing '70

Mike J. Meyer '71

Dennis B. Wehmeyer '71

Gary E. Roebke '74

Mark R. White '75

Edward C. Jantosik Jr. '76

Patrick B. Hodges '81

Fred W. Niemeier '92

David Bruce Wilhide '78

Edward J. Bradley Jr. '81

Daniel H. Lumma '86

Stephen J. Hoffmann '02

### Friends of Beta-Chi (Up to \$239)

Allen H. Rudolph '52

David L. Harbaugh '53

Norman E. Hart '53

George T. Hughes '55

Harold D. Meisenheimer '56

Dave Phelps '57

William L. Sullivan III '57

J. Thomas Netzer '60

Dale R. Schaeffer '63

Timothy M. Handlan '64

Donald W. Bourne '67

Timothy M. Vicente '67

Dr. Robert Lee Ward '68

Richard J. Lacavich '69

Gary D. Leemann '71

Frank P. Allen III '73

Thomas R. Gredell '76

Frank W. Falleri Jr. '81

H. John Vetter II '81

Richard T. Bradley '84

Aaron J. Prewitt '02

### Supporters of Beta-Chi (\$240)

Leslie C. Daniels '55

Donald E. Beuerlein '58

Anthony D. Pezza '58

Bill Ricketts '58

Robert H. Gardner '60

Theodore M. Fiedler '62

Leonard J. Bornemann '65

David L. Krueger '68

Gary Forsee '69

Lance M. Killoran '69

R. John Pepper '69

Stewart A. Scott '71

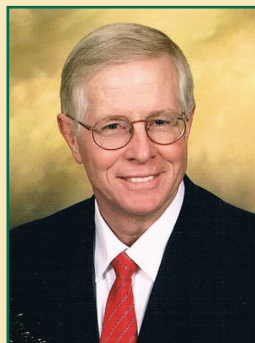
Paul R. Vetter '73

Robert J. Hoffmann '78

J. Barry Shelden '78

## BETA-CHI PREPARED MARK KASSING '70 FOR A LIFETIME OF SUCCESS AND SERVICE

Mark Kassing '70 is a proud Beta-Chi who has given back to the community that has helped him become who he is today. Ever since he decided to rush Kappa Sigma during his freshman year at Missouri-Rolla with weekend friend Mark Marienfeld '70, Mark has been proud of the lasting good reputation of Beta-Chi.



Mark decided to join Beta-Chi after finding that he felt comfortable with the brothers and could be himself around them. He enjoyed representing Beta-Chi around campus as an undergraduate, feeling "there was no misunderstanding on campus where Beta-Chi stood. You didn't have to apologize for anything. The legacy was nothing to be ashamed of, and I was happy to maintain the good reputation." Beta-Chi's faculty advisors, Dr. Carlyle and Dr. Rockaway, were positive and well-respected on campus and within Kappa Sigma. Mark enjoyed feeling supported by the Chapter in his participation in intramural sports flag football, swimming, and most of all wrestling.

A bachelor of science in engineering management combined with Beta-Chi, formed a foundation for Mark of cooperating with and leading people. This helped prepare him for a career in the aluminum business. He spent much of his career with Alcoa and Pechiney, working in engineering and management positions in Texas and West Virginia being responsible for projects and production to the tune of 1 to 2 million pounds of molten aluminum a day. Now happily retired, Mark says Beta-Chi instilled in him the ability to listen and respect other people's opinions, something that has helped him in his career and life. "You can find out more by listening and understanding what other people say than you could ever understand by yourself."

Beta-Chi is responsible for helping inspire Mark's desire to serve, which he is now doing full-time in retirement. "As an undergraduate, I learned the importance of being involved with people and organizations and being able to work with volunteer organizations." He advises active members to volunteer and get involved. "It provides you lessons you can't get in the classroom that will help you throughout life." Mark volunteers for many different organizations in his area, including Lions, United Methodist Men, United Way, Humphreys County Economic Development, and Boy Scouts.

Mark decided to donate for Beta-Chi's annual campaign because he wants to give back to the community which influenced his strong, service-minded life. He was also attracted by the 501(c)(3) status of the annual campaign. While state lines have kept Mark from staying connected with Kappa Sigma and his Beta-Chi brothers, he has "no doubt that we would pick up where we left off" if he were to reunite with his chapter brothers. He feels other brothers who have lost touch would also find they would be able to pick up where they left off due to the close relationships that were created from spending so much time together in the Chapter House.

Mark lives in Waverly, Tennessee, with wife, Bobbye. Collectively they have three boys, two of whom are married, and three grandchildren. He spends his free time turkey, deer, and bird hunting, gardening, and finding any other trouble he can get into. You can reach Mark by e-mail at mkassing@hughes.net.

# BETA-CHI COLUMNS

The Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma  
The Alumni House Fund Association  
P.O. Box 31611  
St. Louis, MO 63131-1611

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Alumni, please contact Chris Carlton '12 at the e-mail and phone below with any recruiting leads.

**ATTENTION:** *This newsletter is intended for alumni, undergraduates, and parents. If your Kappa Sigma son is still attending Missouri University of Science and Technology, he will receive a copy at the Chapter House. Please e-mail all permanent address changes to Ed Jantosik at [ecjrpe@miner.mst.edu](mailto:ecjrpe@miner.mst.edu). Thank you.*

## SAVE THE DATE

GOLF TOURNAMENT  
SATURDAY, JUNE 6

Paradise Valley • R.S.V.P. to Steve Walden at [swalden@myprovidencebank.com](mailto:swalden@myprovidencebank.com).

HOMECOMING  
OCTOBER 17-18

## Beta-Chi Chapter Officers

Grand Master  
**Jeff Fritzmeier '10**  
(636) 226-5532  
[jdf5g4@mst.edu](mailto:jdf5g4@mst.edu)

Grand Procurator  
**Scott Peth '11**

Grand Master of  
Ceremonies  
**Clayton Yingling '11**

Grand Scribe  
**Aaron Steimal '12**

Grand Treasurer  
**Steve Ludwig '11**

Inner Guard/  
Risk Management  
**Brent LaPietra '11**

Outer Guard/  
Recruitment Chairman  
**Chris Carlton '12**  
(816) 392-8109  
[cc8p6@mst.edu](mailto:cc8p6@mst.edu)

Assistant  
Grand Scribe  
**Alex Ernst '13**

Assistant  
Grand Treasurer  
**Brendan Laratta '11**

## CONNECT WITH BETA-CHI



[www.beta-chi.com](http://www.beta-chi.com)



Beta-Chi of Kappa Sigma



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