

# BETA-CHI COLUMNS



KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | SPRING 2019

## SUPPORT KAPPA SIGMA THROUGH THE MINER MATCH PROGRAM

*Golf Tournament Volunteers Needed*

We need to increase our financial support to help students in Kappa Sigma with unmet needs to finish their degrees. This support is vital to many of our members. We have an unprecedented opportunity to energize a new fund called the Kappa Sigma Miner Match Fund, which is held by the university. It provides scholarships to the members of the Kappa Sigma Fraternity based on financial need and academic success. This year we decided to place all of our annual dues in this fund, and if we raise more than \$25,000 we will receive matching funds. All of this money will go to our undergraduate members in need or to members with stellar academic performance. Please support this effort by making a donation. Make checks payable to the Missouri School of Science and Technology, memo: Kappa Sigma Miner Match Fund. Enclosed is more information. Feel free to call Todd Martin at MST at (636) 283-1157 or me at (314) 537-3193.

**1. "New" Kappa Sigma Miner Match Fund (donations are tax deductible):** As noted above, the University controls this fund and will match our donations after we reach \$25,000. Scholarships are given to Kappa Sigma's at MST who reside in Missouri and have a 30 ACT or higher or have financial need and live in the house. The House Corporation submits qualified applicants to MST, they verify the applicant meets the minimum criteria and send the scholarship to the student. We decide the amount of the scholarship. The program ends and must be paid out by 2023.

**2. Beta Chi Educational Foundation (donations are tax deductible):** The current balance is over \$100,000. We have 100% control of this fund and the balances are in our account. Annual dues go into this account and we use it for the Freshman and White Columns scholarships. We can also use it for any educational purpose including computers, scholarships, desks, study room furniture, etc.

**3. The Kappa Sigma Endowed Educational Fund (donations are tax deductible):** Currently at a \$132,000 balance with \$12,800 in the spending account. The University has this money

invested in the stock market along with their endowment fund. Half of the earnings gets placed in the spending account that we can use for the freshman scholarships and the other half gets reinvested back into the account.

**4. Ricketts Hart Scholarship (donations are tax deductible):** Provides scholarships for Kappa Sigma's that are mechanical engineers at a level of \$1,000 per year. Alumni can set up their own scholarship by contacting MST's development office.

Kappa Sigma was one of the first fraternities to renovate our house back in 2011. A first-class facility made recruitment easy. Now every major Greek organization has completed or is completing a renovation or is planning a project. In addition to the upgraded Greek housing, the university has built new dorms, creating an excess of beds and fierce competition for members. We know that scholarships improve recruitment and retention of members. Many of the other Greek organizations have scholarships. Expanding our scholarship fund by supporting the Kappa Sigma Miner Match Fund will help with recruiting and the long-term success of our fraternity.

We are looking for volunteers to run the Kappa Sigma golf tournament this summer. **Ketan Patel '00** is organizing the event, but he will need some help. Let Ketan or me know if you are willing to help.

Our student members hold leadership positions in many campus organizations and give back through numerous charitable events. The Beta-Chi Chapter fall pledge class had very good grades. Beta-Chi continues to mold young men into people we can be proud to call brothers for a lifetime!

If you are interested in organizing a reunion of your class at Homecoming let us know and we can help. And I want to thank each of you for your continued support.

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



Seven brothers earned a 4.0 in the fall semester. Front, Ryan Howe '14, Jackson Pence '15, and Alex Drake '18; back, Cameron Jarvis '15, Josh Morris '15, Collin Cox '18, and Joey Schultz '18

## Beta-Chi Achieves Best New Member GPA in Years, Raises Most on Campus for Out 'Til Midnight Competition

Beta-Chi strives for excellence in everything we do and exemplifies the four pillars that represent Kappa Sigma.

This past fall, Beta-Chi recruited 29 men and initiated 20. There were only three midsemester pledges, all of whom made grades and were initiated early this spring.

Beta-Chi has been emphasizing the importance of grades lately and it has shown with an increase in overall chapter GPA. Rising seven spots for Greek chapter GPAs, our goal is to be in the top five within the next three years. Additionally, Beta-Chi reached our best New Member GPA in years. Beta-Chi has set a goal of a 35-man pledge class for the fall of 2019.

With the spring in full effect, Beta-Chi is wrapping up St. Pat's festivities. We participated in Missouri S&T's Out 'Til Midnight competition to raise money for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Beta-Chi crushed the competition again, raising

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## BETA-CHI AIMS TO RUSH 35-MAN CLASS THIS FALL

Missouri S&T has changed some rules regarding recruitment and dorm life, making early recruitment more important than ever before.

Beta-Chi has stepped up and adapted to overcome this challenge. We currently have 11 potential new members signed, and it is very likely that we will have 15 within the upcoming weeks.

If any alumni know of high school seniors looking to attend S&T, I encourage you to spread our name and send me their contact information. Also, if there are any alumni that can assist with events (memberships to places like Top Golf, or if you have any connections to assist in making higher-tier recruitment events), the help is always appreciated.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,  
**Phil Daugherty '17**

Recruitment Chairman  
psdzq7@mst.edu  
(314) 680-8261

## CHAPTER OFFICERS



Grand Master  
**Cameron Jarvis '15**  
*Arnold, Mo.*

Grand Procurator  
**Charlie Dienstbach '16**  
*Chesterfield, Mo.*

Grand Master of Ceremonies  
**Connor LeCroix '17**  
*Rolla, Mo.*

Outer Guard  
**Phil Daugherty '17**  
*St. Louis, Mo.*

Inner Guard  
**Nick Swanson '15**  
*Lee's Summit, Mo.*

Grand Treasurer  
**Jacob Davis '17**  
*De Soto, Mo.*

Grand Scribe  
**Brandon Whyte '15**  
*O'Fallon, Ill.*

(Above) Front, Cameron Jarvis; middle, Charlie Dienstbach and Connor LeCroix; back, Phil Daugherty, Nick Swanson, Jacob Davis, and Brandon Whyte

## Beta-Chi Achieves Best New Member GPA in Years

(Continued from page 1)



(Left) Brother Jackson Pence '15 plays the Baby Grand piano that was so generously donated by Brother Wayne Ruck '58. Beta-Chi would like to especially thank Wayne for his donation, as well as all alumni who reached out in our quest to acquire a piano for the house.

This donation has inspired many brothers throughout the house to learn how to play the piano. Thank you, again, Brother Ruck! (Right) Jacob Davis '17, Jack Hasuman '17, Sam Louvall '18, Joey Schultz '18, and Timur Guler '17 at the baking social with Zeta Tau Alpha.

over \$5,000 as a chapter, the most on campus for the second year in a row. Beta-Chi is working on making the best cudgel that the house has seen, which will be donated to Kappa Sigma National at the end of next year's St. Pat's competition.

Beta-Chi's focus now moves back to scholarship and recruitment. Recruitment Chairman **Phil Daugherty '17** has already signed eight pledges, with 15 bid cards out to potential new members. This is after only having two recruitment days.

Looking ahead, we will send eight delegates to the 150th annual Grand Conclave in Charlottesville, Virginia, this summer. This is the first time



Conclave has ever been hosted at our headquarters, and Beta-Chi looks forward to receiving our national awards. Beta-Chi has already begun preparing for the upcoming Greek Week and looks forward to dominating the competition.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,  
**Cameron Jarvis '15**  
Grand Master  
cmjmb@mst.edu | (314) 814-3145

# GENEROUS ALUMNI, WE THANK YOU

## \$53,851 Raised in 2018

We wish to thank all those who continue to support the annual program. Alumni who contributed 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. 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  
Richard L. Schmidt '61  
Theodore M. Fiedler '62  
Gene Foshage '63  
Raymond A. Behrens '65  
Steven J. Malcolm '67  
Timothy M. Vicente '67  
R. John Pepper '69  
Gary D. Leemann '71  
Mike J. Meyer '71  
Stewart A. Scott '71  
James C. Griese '72  
David R. Breece '73  
T. Mark Drumm '74  
Gary E. Roebke '74  
Kent S. Springer '74  
Mark R. White '75  
Paul C. Conant '76  
Edward C. Jantosik Jr. '76  
Robert J. Hoffmann '78  
Lt. Col. Michael W. Smith '78  
Timothy L. Uebel '79  
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  
Kyle P. Dibler '10

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

William J. James '57  
James O. Murray '57  
Dr. Eric J. Norman '60



# Wayne Ruck '58 Donates Piano to Chapter That Gave So Much to Him

### Why did you decide to join Kappa Sigma?

I grew up in a very small town of 300 and went to a one-room school house. During my younger years I had little or no knowledge of fraternities and universities. In fact, I never visited a college or university until I arrived at Rolla. All I knew was that I should go to college if I wanted to be successful in life.



Well, my decision was made for me when I and three other high school buddies received a \$125 Curator's award to Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy. So, knowing no other alternatives, in the fall of 1957 **Bob Glaser '58**,

**Charlie Wagner '58**, **Ed Kummer '58** and I set out in Bob's old 1949 Ford for Rolla. We had no idea where we would live, but good fortune smiled on us. **Jim Murray '57** and **Les Daniels '55**, who had attended my high school, invited us to spend the first night at the Kappa Sig house, and the next, and the next. I have no idea what we would have done if not for Jim and Les. My grandchildren think I'm crazy when I tell them this story.

### What degree did you earn?

I had no idea what I should do. So when they asked me what I wanted to study, I asked them which engineers make the most money. Electrical, they said. After returning from Korea and leaving the Army, I earned my MBA from the University of Missouri.

### Tell us about your career path.

At the age of 29 my wife and I moved to Harrisonburg, Virginia. My job was to construct and manage a new aluminum extrusion plant for the Kawneer company. It was a great job, but I always had the burning desire to own my own business, so when the opportunity arose I took the plunge. My two partners and I started the corrugated box manufacturing company Packaging Services Inc. in 1970. We grew this business into eight plants in the mid-Atlantic region. In 2000 I sold four of the plants and still retain co-ownership of four. It is amazing how one thing leads to another. Today at the age of 79, I am co-owner of logistics company Interchange LLC, a trucking company, an excavating company, an industrial development company, a kitchen cabinet import business, and several other small businesses.

### How did your experience with Kappa Sigma make you into the person you are today?

In 1957 being a pledge was quite a challenge. Everyone did not become a Kappa Sig. I think everyone in my pledge class was quite persistent in their desire to become initiated. Persistence is a real virtue, and I think my experience has taught me to be persistent in achieving success in all my business ventures, even when the challenges were daunting.

### What motivated you to gift the chapter a piano?

I saw the request in one of the recent Kappa Sigma publications and decided I needed to give back to the organization that has given so much to me.

**Robert Hoffmann said your pledge brothers sang their own songs.** Boy, is that true. They knew every raunchy song that was ever written. Our singalongs are some of my most memorable occasions. Singalongs happened spontaneously. I was the piano player, and to this day do not know how the piano survived **Don "Burr Burr" Beuerlein '58** and **Tom "Scottie" Scott '58**. These two guys took great pleasure in sitting on top of the

*(Continued on page 4)*

# Save the Date

Homecoming 2019  
October 4-5

## ALUMNI NEWS

### Chapter Eternal

**John L. Hodges '60**, 79, of Decatur, Georgia, passed on to Chapter Eternal January 2, 2019. Upon graduation from MS&T, he began his career at Owens Illinois for 39 years. John was preceded in death by his parents and daughter, Ellen Michele "Chelee" Hodges. He is survived by his remaining children, Robin (Larry) Hodges-Bair, Johnna Hodges, and Eric (Kathy) Hodges, as well as five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

### Alumni Update

**Norman E. Hart '53** was a pilot with United Airlines for 30 years. He says that after "flying almost all the aircraft in the fleet, I had enough seniority to fly the 747 for four years before retiring in 1994 at age 60, as required by the FAA." Norm and his wife, Theora, live in Barrington, Ill., and have two children, Cara and Julie.

**Gene Rusert '56** worked at McDonnell/Douglas/Boeing in St. Louis, Mo., for 44 years and in California for one and half years after STL lost the Space Shuttle project. He also volunteers at Habitat for Humanity and serves his church as officer, board chairman, evangelism caller, greeter chairman, and trash picker-upper prior to Sunday services. He and his wife, Janice, have three children, David, Mike, and Bob. Email: gjrusert@charter.net

**Robert Ward '68** retired after 30 years as a civil engineering professor and 10 years in the industry previous to teaching. He resides in Ada, Ohio, with his wife, Karen. They have four children, Heather, Jennifer, Brian, and Vanessa. Email: r-ward@onu.edu

**Mark White '75** started CCES LLC to teach industry folks and communities. "Enjoying retirement and grandkids too!" He and his wife, Monika, live in St. Augustine, Fla., and also enjoy guitars, banjo, mando, motorcycle and lots of traveling." Email: mwhitewnc@gmail.com

**Kevin Sullivan '93** has been working for Microsoft for over 15 years. He and his wife, Sarah-Kate, reside in St. Louis and have three children, Liam, Eliza, and Madeline. "Never a dull moment!" Email: kevinsul@live.com

BETA-CHI COLUMNS



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## Wayne Ruck '58 Donates Piano

(Continued from page 3)

old upright piano and pouring beer on me and the piano.

### Do you still keep in touch with your Beta Chi brothers?

Somewhat. I always look forward to our reunions at Rolla. But it is more difficult for me because I now live in Virginia and most of my pledge class reside in the Midwest. I have a winter residence in Ft. Myers, Florida, so I do see Burr Burr, who lives on Marco Island, and **Bill Kirchoff '60**, who has a residence in Naples, Florida.

### Tell us about your family.

Joan (an MU Chi Omega alumna) and I have been married for 53 years. We have three daughters, Julie, Kelly and Holly, three sons-in-law, and 10 grandchildren.

A.E.K.D.B.,

**Wayne "Rocky" Ruck '58**

wayne.ruck@interchangeco.com



First row, from left: Jerry Catron, Gerald Misemer, Charlie Wagner, and Tony Pezza.

Second row, from left: Don Beuerlein, Richard Phillips, Mo Odegard, Dave Petty, Mike Van Dorfy, Dave Vogler, and Tom Scott. Third row, from left: Wayne Ruck, Russell Sword, Bill Ricketts, Jon Nance, Jon Hilton, Roger Martin, and Bob Glaser.

## KAPPA SIGMA NEEDS YOUR HELP

Please contact **Robert Hoffmann '78** at [roberth@hoffmannbros.com](mailto:roberth@hoffmannbros.com) if you are interested in volunteering in this role. If we do not find someone to take over the planning of this event, we risk losing it altogether!

### Update Your Email Address

Do you receive email updates from us? If

not, you are probably missing out! While the *Beta-Chi Columns* has great information, it's not the only way we update our alumni. Please send any contact information updates (or even just a quick email so we know we have it on file) to [jgoodman@penningtonco.com](mailto:jgoodman@penningtonco.com) to ensure you are in our database!