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CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVICE TO BETA CHI

Bill Kirchoff '60 Enhanced Brotherhood Experience During Alumni Association Tenure

Thanks to an invitation from former Beta Chi Alumni House Fund Association President **Bill Sullivan '57**, who had visions of building a new Chapter House, **Bill Kirchoff '60** joined the House Fund board in the late 1960s. His interest in real estate and in the advancement of the great Kappa Sigma brotherhood made him a perfect fit. "The Beta Chi Chapter provided me with an outstanding college experience and joining the House Fund was my payback to a great organization," Bill stated.



Bill Sullivan's vision was realized around 1970, but after about 10 years of serving on the alumni board, his employment took him out of town. At that time, Brother Kirchoff took over as president and started to make his own mark on Beta Chi as an alumnus.

"I guess my primary contribution was getting the initial mortgage paid off," he said. "I'm pleased that when meeting younger Brothers, many of them recall the years past when we worked together to keep Beta Chi on top."

During his 50 years of service to Beta Chi, Bill was a champion for the Chapter by encouraging alumni involvement, as well as supporting alumni dues and

scholarship programs. In turn, that support helped younger generations of Beta Chi Brothers thrive and receive the same kind of life-changing experiences.

"I believe the Kappa Sigma experience is a great teacher of teamwork, humility, empathy, and caring for others," he shared. "Several of my pledge Brothers and I gather periodically to recall great Beta Chi times, and I encourage other classes to do the same."

For many years, House Fund President **Robert Hoffmann '78** and **Ron Acker '75** have been providing over-the-top support for the Chapter, and Bill knows "they would appreciate additional alumni interest and involvement."

If you are interested in re-establishing your Beta Chi roots by volunteering with the Chapter or by reconnecting with Brothers, please contact Robert Hoffmann at roberth@hoffmannbros.com for more information.

Brother Kirchoff and his wife, Sandra, live in Chesterfield, Missouri. You can connect with him at (636) 489-9832 or through Sandra at skirchoff@sbcglobal.net.

Sustaining the Brotherhood

Alumni House Fund Association Details Plans for the Future of Beta Chi Chapter

Our Chapter House in Rolla is owned by alumni and managed through an organization called the Alumni House Fund. I, as the president, and a board of 10 dedicated alumni help manage the facility and advise the Chapter. This year marks the 50th year that **Bill Kirchoff '60** has been serving on the Alumni House Fund; 2020 also marks his last year as Bill is retiring from the House Fund. I want to thank Bill for his service and dedication to the Beta Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma. He was president of the organization when I first joined the House Fund and has served as a role model for all of us. If you want to reach out to Bill, give him a call at (636) 489-9832.

We have active student Brothers who are struggling financially, which has caused some to drop out of school. This year the University offered us a matching scholarship program. Our generous alumni donated nearly \$7,000 and

the University matched—giving us \$14,000 to distribute to members in need. These scholarships will be awarded by financial need in the coming weeks. Our matching scholarship program with the University will be in place the next four years. If you would like to help, you can donate to the Beta Chi Educational Foundation and add the footnote "Miner Match" to your check. Your donation will be doubled and benefits a good cause.

It has now been nine years since we remodeled and expanded the Fraternity house. The dining room and weight room need a makeover. We recently completed plans, hired a decorator, and are now waiting on pricing from contractors. The dining room will get a new ceiling, breakfast buffet, appliances, floor, paint, tables, and chairs. The weight room will be expanded into the storage area and the overhead door will be

(Continued on page 2)

GENEROUS ALUMNI, WE THANK YOU

\$31,880 RAISED IN 2019

We wish to thank all those who continue to support the annual program. Alumni who contributed to the 2019 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)

Walter S. Knecht '45
Norman E. Hart '53
James O. Murray '57
W. Dave Phelps '57
William A. Sullivan III '57
Dick Phillips '58
Dennis G. Dreyer '60
William S. Kirchoff Sr. '60
M. Thomas Barber '61
Theodore M. Fiedler '62
Timothy J. Houghton '63
Richard A. Heppe '68
Gary Forsee '69
Gary L. Abernathy '71
James C. Griese '72
Frank P. Allen III '73

David R. Breece '73
Gary E. Roebke '74
Mark R. White '75
Thomas R. Gredell '76
Robert J. Hoffmann '78
J. Barry Sheldon '78
William L. Kovacich '82
Richard T. Bradley '84
Fred W. Niemeier '92
Jason E. Holschen '94

Supporters of Beta Chi (\$250)

William J. James '57
Donald E. Beuerlein '58
Bill Ricketts '58
Wayne B. Ruck '58
Barry R. Romine '66

DJ Dobbins '67
David L. Krueger '68
Jerry W. Kiel '69
S. Craig George '71
Gary D. Leeman '71
Mike J. Meyer '71
Stuart A. Scott '71
Michael W. Fugate '73
Paul R. Vetter '73
T. Mark Drumm '74
Gary E. Roebke '74
Kent S. Springer '74
Brian J. Grant '78
Edward J. Bradley Jr. '81
Shane Mitchell '90
Dwayne R. Doshier '93
Andrew P. Allen '96
Brian A. Lowry '96

Grant J. Mabie '02
Tyler T. Gach '08

Friends of Beta Chi (Up to \$249)

Alan P. Ploesser '42
John J. Beirne '52
Allen H. Rudolph '52
Charles R. Hoffman '55
Eugene L. Rusert '56
James P. Dycus '62
Gene Foshage '63
Timothy M. Handlan '64
Michael A. Perkins '65
Dr. Robert L. Ward '68
Anthony G. Bommarito '70
Michael J. Lally '80

Sustaining the Brotherhood

(Continued from page 1)

replaced with glass doors and glass windows. Additionally, new gym equipment will be purchased. We are expecting to spend around \$100,000. This money will come from the House Fund's long-term maintenance budget.

Saint Patrick's Day had to be cancelled due to the concerns surrounding COVID-19. It has been quite unfortunate seeing how the virus has halted celebrations. It's times like these that reconnecting with your Brothers is extremely important, so be sure to utilize the excellent support system Kappa Sigma provides us.

I want to thank everyone for your continued support, and I hope to see you at our golf tournament on June 6 or Homecoming on October 16-17.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,

Robert Hoffmann '78

President

Alumni House Fund Association

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Theodore "Ted" Ruppert '49, age 89, passed away on Friday, March 13, 2020 as he succumbed to the final stages of Alzheimer's disease. Ted obtained his degree in Petroleum Engineering in from MS&T in 1952 and was an involved Kappa Sig Brother, serving as Guard, Treasurer, and Grand Master. After graduation, Ted worked for Texaco but was soon called to action for service in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during the Korean Conflict. He later returned to work for Texaco until 1962. In 1969, created Varlen Corporation. In less than 30 years, the company hit 1 billion dollars in sales and was taken public. After adding several other successful ventures to his portfolio, Ted eventually retired and became a caretaker to his mother and family home. Ted was a very dedicated, generous, unselfish, and loving individual. He donated a great deal of his time and talent, serving as an active member of the Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy Alumni Academy and Beta Chi supporter and was a major benefactor in the Chapter House renovation. Ted will be dearly missed by all.

ALUMNI NEWS

William Sullivan III '57 says that it's great to see how Beta Chi Chapter continues to thrive with good leadership and positive achievements. Bill worked for Monsanto (now Bayer) as an engineering and maintenance superintendent. Email: wlsullivan@sbcglobal.net

Michael Meyer '71 enjoys spending his retirement volunteering, traveling, and seeing the world with his wife, Mary. They have traveled with **Bill Quinn '73** and his wife, Rose. "My Kappa Sigma years hold many great memories," Michael said. "Keep up the great work at the house." Email: meyomey@yahoo.com

Mark White '75 and his wife, Monika, are enjoying retirement in St. Augustine, Fla., and the western North Carolina mountains. They spend time with their son, his family, and their three grandsons. Mark is incredibly grateful for Beta Chi and MS&T. Email: mwhitewnc@gmail.com

1969 Initiates Hold 50 Year Reunion

Beta Chi Chapter initiates from the class of 1969 held their 50-year reunion in Naples, Fla., last winter. There were 12 Brothers with spouses who were excited for the much anticipated three-day retreat. The initial pool-side gathering and dinner were followed by several planned weekend events: a boat cruise, golf outing, and an art gallery reception with a veranda dinner. Socializing, reminiscing, enjoying a sunset dinner, and renewing the bonds of brotherhood concluded the schedule. "We basically picked right up where we left off so many years ago," one Brother said. The Brothers committed to the next reunion, which will happen much sooner than another 50 years from now!



CONGRATULATIONS, SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

Mason Coleman
Lindbergh High School

Cameron Mitchell
South Pointe High School

Collin Cox
Edwardsville High School

Colton Walker
Rockhurst High School

Alex Drake
Blue Springs South

Gary Yerby
Lafayette High School

Connor Howe
Fort Zumwalt West High School

ACHIEVING EXCELLENCE

Beta Chi Chapter Remains Focused on Success

Beta Chi Chapter is having a strong spring semester despite needing to make adjustments due to COVID-19 concerns. On March 6, Beta Chi co-hosted our most successful Fish Fry ever thanks to the help of the women of Zeta Tau Alpha. We had a record-breaking attendance with 496 people showing up.

We also participated in the Stephen Alonso Jackson Weekend of Giving, a national fundraising event in which Kappa Sigma raised over \$500,000 to put toward scholarship funds. Beta Chi was challenged with a fundraising goal of \$3,500, a goal that we surpassed thanks to the help of our generous alumni and undergraduate Brothers.

Pending the COVID-19 pandemic, this summer seven delegates from Beta Chi will attend the 2020 Leadership Conference in Denver, Colorado. Over this weekend, we will learn about new and exciting programs within Kappa Sigma, award chapters and brothers for their great work, and train in best practices to bring back to the Chapter. We are looking forward to a weekend full of fellowship, inspiring speeches, and fun in Denver.

At the start of the spring semester, Beta Chi implemented an enhanced scholarship program that has benefitted our members' study habits and resources tremendously. This program is intended to lead a notable and sustainable improvement in the overall Chapter scholarship. Beta Chi participated in various service events including a University-sponsored Martin Luther King Day of Service, cleaning the Audubon Trail, and our biannual White Columns Cleanup.

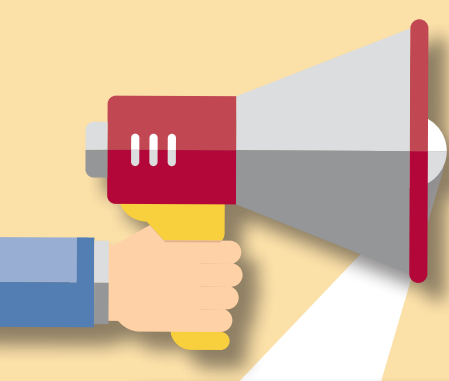
As a result of the efforts of our alumni and undergraduate Brothers, we believe that Beta Chi has a strong chance to win Kappa Sigma's Founders Award of Chapter Excellence this year. We are so proud of everything this Chapter has accomplished and look forward to building upon our success.

A.E.K.Δ.B.,

Charlie Dienstbach '16

Chapter President

cdienstbach@earthlink.net



CALLING ALL ALUMNI

*Send Us Your
Recruitment
Recommendations*

**Do you know of an incoming freshman
who is a quality man?** Send our
recruitment team his information and
your letter of recommendation to
Recruitment Chairman Joseph George
at jpgt7t@umsystem.edu.

Join us in finding the right men for Beta Chi!

BETA CHI



LUMNS

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Save the Dates

JUNE 6, 2020

34th Annual Kappa Sigma Alumni Association Golf Tournament

12 p.m. tee off

Paradise Valley

OCTOBER 16-17, 2020

Homecoming Weekend

The Hall of Fame Banquet will be held on the night of October 17.

DECEMBER 19, 2020

Beta Chi Christmas Happy Hour