

BETA CHI COLUMNS



KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | SPRING 2022

BEST OF THE BEST

Beta-Chi Brothers and Alumni Set the Standard

Finally ... things are back to normal: no masks, indoor gatherings are allowed, and we even participated in the annual campus St. Pat's celebration. With life returning to how we once knew it, Kappa Sigma hosted one of the largest events of the weekend, and fun was had by all.

Every year, the university provides Kappa Sigma a list of members who need financial assistance based on their financial aid score. Last semester, the Beta Chi Educational Foundation provided 15 individuals with a \$1,500 scholarship for financial need, three individuals with a \$1,000 scholarship based on ACT scores, and four individuals with a \$1,000 recruitment scholarship. We were able to get \$5,000 in matching funds from Missouri S&T as well.

I want to thank each of you for your generous support of our undergraduate members, as these funds come from alumni donations. Your contributions offer aid and shift trajectories of students' lives—you are making the ultimate difference. If you want to help support our members in need, then please donate at tinyurl.com/BetaChiFoundation.

Several years ago, a group of Greek House Corporation leaders formed an organization called GGG to support the Greek community. We share ideas on how to run a chapter, info on vendor contacts, and strategies for negotiating with the university on policies that concern the Greek community. Through these meetings, I found out that the university views Kappa Sigma as the "model Chapter" on campus. I was told this by two different high-ranking university officials. Kappa Sigma's national organization also views our Chapter highly and has, again, awarded Beta-Chi Chapter the coveted FACE award. This is the highest award given by Kappa Sigma. Our Chapter leaders are amazing in everything they do, and it makes me proud to see their success.

If you know of any upstanding young men heading to Rolla, then please pass along their information to our recruitment chairman, **Evan Ratterman '18**, at (573) 514-1105 or egr6xq@umsystem.edu.

Fraternally,
Robert Hoffmann '78

Alumni House Fund President
roberth@hoffmannbros.com | (314) 537-3193

Remembering Gerald "Jerry" William Kiel '69

Jerry's Memory Stands the Test of Time at Kappa Sigma House



The pledge class of 1969 mourns the loss of Brother **Gerald "Jerry" William Kiel '69**. Beta-Chi remembers Jerry for his tremendous enthusiasm for all things Kappa Sigma. He came to Kappa Sigma from Kirkwood, Missouri, majored in mechanical engineering, played and lettered four years in football, and served the Chapter as an officer and St. Pat's Board representative. Recently, Jerry's diligence and organizational skills brought the pledge class together to celebrate our 50th Beta-Chi anniversary. Brothers and wives enjoyed a weekend in Naples, Florida, filled with fun, memories, and renewal of brotherhood. Conversations picked up, without pause, where they left off many years ago.

Jerry's pledge/initiation project was the gateway wall, which still identifies our Beta-Chi Chapter House at 1701 White Columns Drive. "Kiel's Wall" at the entrance drive

to our house proudly presents the Kappa Sigma Greek letters to the UMR/MS&T campus as well as the city of Rolla. Jerry built the wall as his gift to the Fraternity. Our pledge class walkout to Jerry's family's Lake of the Ozark house will never be forgotten.

The Brothers also fondly remember his wife, Carol, at all of the social functions that the demanding academic schedule allowed. Jerry is survived by Carol, son Josh, and daughter Courtney. The pledge class of 1969 has made a group donation to the Beta-Chi Educational Foundation in Jerry's memory.

"The Star and Crescent shall not be worn by every man, but only by him who is worthy to wear it."

Jerry is worthy and wore it proudly. Peace, Brother.

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[tinyurl.com/
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The Bond of Brotherhood

Richard T. Bradley, P.E. '84 Appreciates His Sigma Kappa Experience

Studying engineering is no small feat; it requires hard work and an attention to detail. With all the stress it brings, it is an important to have a place to escape. To **Rich Bradley '84**, that place was the Sigma Kappa brotherhood.

"Beta-Chi was a place where you lived, studied, laughed, and found comfort coping with all the pressures of school and life," Rich said. "We worked hard and played hard."

Growing up, Rich visited the Beta-Chi house to see his brother, **Edward Bradley Jr., P.E. '81**. Ed pledged Kappa Sigma with the recommendation of their family friend, **Andy Tayon '77**, and thoroughly enjoyed his experience. When it was Rich's turn to join a fraternity, he knew that Kappa Sigma was the best place for him.

"It was the first place I had ever lived on my own," Rich said. "The brotherhood and friendships created during my undergraduate days are lifelong, and the stories of those days will be with me forever."

Some of those stories include his pledge class walkout to Bass Canoe in Steelville, Missouri, becoming a Student Knight at St. Pat's, and serving as Grand Master.

As an alumnus, a Kappa Sigma memory that stands out to him is his induction to the 2009 Beta-Chi Hall of Fame. "When you look at all the names of the Brothers who have been inducted into the HOF over the years, it is very humbling," he shared. "It's always great to get back to the house and chat with the guys about school and the Chapter. It's also great to be recognized with such a great HOF Class!"

Rich is the president of the City of St. Louis Board of Public Service. He is responsible for all planning, design, and construction of public works projects as well as the Equipment Services and Facilities Management



Divisions, the Office of Special Events, the management of the Soldiers Memorial, and the board secretary's office.

"You quickly learn that you are on call 24/7 and that you never really have any time off," Rich said. "You have to always be ready and willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done quickly and efficiently! I have an outstanding staff and always enjoy figuring out creative ways to solve the never-ending list of problems that arise daily."

Rich has many proud moments in his career, including being a 34-year city employee as well as being a registered professional engineer in Missouri and Illinois. He is the 17th president of the BPS and was the youngest ever appointed. He is also the second-longest tenured BPS president, with four appointments serving three mayors.

Rich remains connected to his Kappa Sigma Brothers; he talks to many members through various professional and volunteer organizations as well as in his job. "It's not surprising that it really is a small world when it comes to Kappa Sigma," he said. "In fact, my brother Ed, **Steve Ederle '84**, and **Mike Smith '78** were all in my wedding many years ago!"

Rich has been married to his wife, Alison, for more than 26 years. Alison is a BSN-RN and takes care of all the students at St. Louis University. They have a daughter, Kristin, who is a Gamma Phi Beta and recent Loyola University New Orleans graduate. With her degree in music therapy, she is working on becoming a physician assistant. The family also has two dogs, Harper and Tuck.

When he's not serving the city of St. Louis, Rich enjoys golf, travel, and relaxing vacations with his family. You can connect with him at bradley1211@gmail.com.

THANK YOU, BROTHERS, FOR YOUR LOYALTY AND COMMITMENT

\$20,290 Raised So Far in 2022

We sincerely thank those who continue to support and contribute to our annual program. Alumni who have contributed to the 2021 and 2022 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 apologize.

Benefactors of Beta-Chi (\$250 and above)

William L. Sullivan III '57
Wayne B. Ruck '58
Dennis Dreyer '60
M. Thomas Barber '61
David A. Wayne '62
Timothy J. Houghton '63
Donald L. Cordes '66
Carl W. Thorsell '67
Richard A. Heppe '68

R. George Calkins Jr. '69
Gary Forsee '69
Donald E. Neely Jr. '69
V. Michael Alverson '70
Gary L. Abernathy '71
Mike J. Meyer '71
Stewart A. Scott '71
James C. Griese '72
Frank P. Allen III '73
Paul R. Vetter '73
T. Mark Drumm '74

Gary E. Roebke '74
Kent S. Springer '74
Mark R. White '75
Thomas B. Shilling '76
Robert J. Hoffmann '78
Timothy L. Uebele '79
John M. Remmers '81
Thomas J. Sonderman '82
Richard T. Bradley '84
W. Alan Hopkins '86
Daniel H. Lumma '86

Peter A. Joyce '92
Fred W. Niemeier '92
Michael A. May '14
**Friends of Beta-Chi
(Up to \$249)**
Nancy K Mains
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James P. Dycus '62
James D. Chase '63
Dale R. Schaeffer '63

Michael A. Perkins '65
Donald W. Bourne '67
Gary Leemann '71
David R. Breece '73
William G. Meister '73
David L. Perry '74
Glenn J. Mabie '76
Andrew J. Tayon Jr. '77
Greg A. Weeks '77
John E. Wulf '88
Michael D. Allega '98

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—your support secures the future of not only the organization, but of our Beta-Chi Brothers to come as well.

HAPPINESS IS YEARS OF FRIENDSHIP

Beta-Chi Pledge Class of 1971 Celebrates 50 Years of Brotherhood



As they've done regularly for many years, the pledge class of 1971 gathered last October for another "walkout." This particular walkout was special, as it was a celebration of 50 years since these men took those first steps to become Kappa Sigma Brothers.

After months of planning under the leadership of Brother **Jim Pelger '72**, 10 of the 12 surviving members of this exceptional class came "from near and far to drink to Kappa Sigma and the Crescent and the Star." From a rented beach house in Gulf Shores, Alabama, the Brothers celebrated with five days of beer tasting, chartered fishing, jet skiing, parasailing, great food, and fellowship. A good thing indeed!

A FORCE TO BE RECKONED WITH

Beta-Chi Leads by Knowing the Way, Going the Way, and Showing the Way

Beta-Chi of Kappa Sigma started this year on a strong note, as we received the FACE Award for the fall 2020 to spring 2021 academic year. Winning the award gave Beta-Chi Brothers a boost of motivation going into the Greek Week. Beta-Chi Brothers worked tirelessly competing against other houses in intramural sports as well as floats. Our efforts were recognized at the end of the week when we won first place overall for the 2021 Greek Week competition.

The excitement from our Greek Week win in the fall transferred into our scholarship, service, and philanthropy for the remainder of the academic year. Our Chapter's GPA raised by 0.3 points from the end of spring 2021.

We also hosted several service events in conjunction with campus organizations; Beta-Chi received numerous requests from campus officials to assist in their service events. During the spring semester, we pulled off a very successful fish fry with Zeta Tau Alpha. The fish fry was such a hit that we almost ran

out of the baked goods we made during the baking social with the members of ZTA the night before.

While working toward all our Chapter goals, we planned our Buffet Bash party in the fall as well as our St. Patrick's Day party this spring. For Buffet Bash, we decided to host the event outside and fill half of the front parking lot with sand to make a beach, which was a big hit among attendees. For St. Patrick's Day, we put a DJ on the front steps and had everyone in our front lot.

All in all, we've been working toward becoming leaders on campus, in the Greek community, and in the Rolla community. The Beta-Chi Chapter of Kappa Sigma remains well-respected across campus for our efforts and for the positive interactions we continue to have with those whom we encounter.

Fraternally,
Michael Schwetz '19
Grand Master

AN EVERLASTING IMPRESSION

Gone Too Soon,
John Chance '76 and
His Memory Will Persist

Brother **John Chance '76** lived in St. Louis, Missouri, and spent his time reading books for leisure at his local bar, Be Civil Brewery. Upon his unexpected passing in 2019, the owner of Be Civil Brewery partnered with Beta-Chi Brothers to host a memorial in John's honor.



John was a quaint soul with plenty of love and laughs to go around, making a significant impression on those whom he surrounded himself with. Life is short, but John's memory will last forever; a sketch of John hangs promptly by his undesignated, but favorite, seat in the brewery where he would read his novels.

Letting the Revelry Begin

The 114th Best Ever St. Patrick's Day celebrations were a refreshing return to normalcy for the students at Rolla. Festivities began a couple weeks early with our freshmen digging their shillelaghs out of the ground, cleaning the bark off, and decorating them according to St. Pat's Board's specifications. This, of course, was in preparation for snake pits, which opened the St. Pat's festivities.

We then moved into social events with other organizations, having socials every morning and hosting Chi Omega during their Tour de Frat. We even had some of our alumni come down and meet all the current members, which was a grand time; the men of Beta-Chi enjoyed learning more of the Chapter's history, stories, and memories.

The week culminated with our annual St. Pat's party where we fenced off the front lot, had a DJ on our front steps, and invited everyone else to hang out and celebrate with us one last time before the festivities came to a close.

SEEKING BETA-CHI CANDIDATES

Do you know an upstanding gentleman coming to Missouri University S&T? Does he have a drive for bettering his peers, his community, and his individual experience? Send him our way! Beta-Chi comprises some of the best men on campus; with recommendations from our exceptional alumni, we have no doubt you can help us grow our brotherhood.

Reach out to **Evan Ratermann '18** with your suggestions by emailing egr6xq@umsystem.edu or calling (573) 514-1105. We appreciate your efforts in building on Beta-Chi's legacy!

**Individually,
We Can Make
a Difference;
Together, We Can
Be the Change**
*Support Beta-Chi
Brothers Today!*

The Beta Chi Educational Foundation has changed the lives of countless undergraduate Brothers. How? Our alumni, as scholarship funds are comprised of alumni donations! You can donate to the foundation today at tinyurl.com/BetaChiFoundation.

WELCOME TO BETA-CHI!

Shalim Andrade Jefferson City, Mo.

Alec Brinkmann Washington, Mo.

Tyler Debella Eureka, Mo.

Caleb Greiner St. Charles, Mo.

Tim Guccione O'Fallon, Mo.

Cody Jakel Highland, Mo.

Reuben Long Kansas City, Mo.

Thomas Mueller O'Fallon, Mo.

Dawson Nguyen O'Fallon, Mo.

Tristan Shores Kahoka, Mo.

Alex Stein O'Fallon, Mo.

Joseph Stillwell Springfield, Mo.

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BETA CHI CHAPTER OF KAPPA SIGMA

University of Missouri Science & Technology

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Congratulations, Graduating Seniors!

As Brothers navigate their futures, we wish them all the best in securing a legacy they can feel fulfilled in and proud of. As Brothers of Beta-Chi, we are certain they will thrive. Some have already found employment, while others are searching for the right opportunity. See a Brother you can help as they commence their journey? **Your expertise in related fields is invaluable—connect with them today!**

Gehrig Bristow '17

HDR Inc.

Major: Civil Engineering
gbristow0403@gmail.com

Phil Daugherty '17

Acme Constructors Inc.

Major: Mechanical
Engineering
daughertypdog@yahoo.com

James Corrigan Gonzalez '17

Major: Environmental
Engineering
jamesonstl@att.net

Timur Guler '17

Major: Computer Science
hgtimur@hotmail.com

Jack Hausman '17

*Hausman Metal Works and
Roofing Inc.*
Major: Civil Engineering
jack@hausmans.com

Tyler Herting '17

Emerson

Major: Mechanical Engineering
ty2009z@hotmail.com

Hunter Hughes '17

Major: Mechanical
Engineering

hunterhughes099@gmail.com

David Hummel '17

RSM US LLP

Major: Engineering
Management
h3hummel@gmail.com

Jack Knepler '17

Major: Chemical Engineering
jackknepler@yahoo.com

Dallas Larsen '18

Accenture

Major: Information Science
Technology
williamdlars@gmail.com

Kyle Lazarski '17

Haskell Construction

Major: Civil Engineering/
Engineering Management
kylelazarski@gmail.com

Sam Louvall '18

Vizient

Major: Mechanical
Engineering
sam.louvall@gmail.com

Jose Padron '18

Army

Major: Physics
jmacias221929@gmail.com

Dawson Satterfield '17

Army

Major: Engineering
Management
drsatterfield98@gmail.com