

BETA CHI COLUMNS



KAPPA SIGMA FRATERNITY AT MISSOURI UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY | SPRING 2023

HONORING 120 YEARS

Celebrate 2023
with Your Brothers!

This year marks the 120th anniversary of the founding of Beta Chi Chapter at Missouri S&T. We will celebrate this milestone at Homecoming on **Saturday, October 28**, starting at 6 p.m. At this event, we will be inducting two brothers into the Beta-Chi Hall of Fame: **Dan Conway '82** and **Scott Stewart '90**. **Richard Bradley '84**, President of the Board of Public Service for the City of St Louis, will be the Master of Ceremony for the Hall of Fame Banquet. If you are planning to attend, RSVP to **Ben Prueter '10** at ben.prueter@gmail.com or (913) 449-7393.

Last year, we initiated 31 young men—one of the largest pledge classes since before COVID! This pledge class is enthusiastic, motivated, and had the highest fall GPA in the Greek system. We have started recruiting for next year and expect to have 15 new members signed prior to the end of the spring semester.

Five years ago, we were planning a significant renovation, including the dining room and weight room. Then COVID hit, campus closed, revenue dropped, and the budget tightened, so we canceled the project. The financial toll of COVID was significant, but we managed a small dining room renovation and an electrical panel upgrade last year. This year, we plan on renovating and expanding the weight

room; this is one of the most used rooms in the Chapter House and a valuable recruiting tool.

Last semester, we had amazing academic results with 10 members having a 4.0 GPA. In addition to several merit-based scholarships, every year the Beta-Chi Educational Foundation provides about a dozen scholarships to brothers in financial need, ranging from \$1,000 to \$2,000. In the

past few years, we obtained matching funds from the University, which has allowed us to increase the number of scholarships. Our alumni's ongoing support of this fund has made a significant impact on these brothers and the Chapter. If you are interested in supporting the scholarships or the weight room project, please make your tax-deductible donation by visiting beta-chi.com/giving-back/donate-now or scanning the QR code.



Donate to Scholarships

Thanks for your continued support; it makes a difference. I look forward to seeing you at the annual St. Louis alumni golf tournament scheduled for **Saturday, June 3**, and at Homecoming this fall!

Fraternally,
Robert Hoffmann '78
Alumni House Fund President
roberth@hoffmannbros.com | (314) 537-3193

SERVICE FOR SERVICE'S SAKE

How Dan Conway '82 Shaped Our Home (Like Beta-Chi Shaped Him)

When **Dan Conway '82** built Beta-Chi's new Chapter House, he expected nothing in return—including his induction to the Chapter's Hall of Fame this year. Nonetheless, he appreciates the recognition and is happy to have served his Kappa Sigma Brothers.

"I come from a family that believes in service above self, and I was always taught to pay attention to your family and community," he said. "If you do so, good things will come."

Dan joined Kappa Sigma at the suggestion of initiates **Rich '80** and **Bill Alt '57**, and the mandatory study hours and accountability among Brothers proved critical to his scholastic success. He brought his own tools from home to supplement the house manager's closet (despite never

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"I never dreamed that I would build a Fraternity house, but when you are passionate about what you do and how you do it, word gets out and work finds you!"

Helping a New Generation

Hall of Fame Inductee Scott Stewart '90 on Giving Back to Beta-Chi

A few years ago, **Scott Stewart '90** started reconnecting with Kappa Sigma—thanks to a Facebook post that led to countless phone calls catching up with old Brothers. Scott never expected those events would lead to his Beta-Chi Hall of Fame induction. As he saw it, many Brothers he knows have been as or more successful in their careers or done more for the Beta-Chi and deserve the honor more.

"Then **Robert Hoffmann '78** told me, 'It's not about you, it's you about you coming and talking to the younger Brothers, helping them out, showing them what's possible,'" Scott explained.

"I feel like if you get your degree and keep your act together, you'll do just fine," he added. "Work hard, take some risks, fail, succeed, just keep moving forward. Never, ever, quit." He also wants everyone to recognize the talent and wisdom around them. Your Brothers and Alumni have a wealth of knowledge and experience. We're here to help each other in all ways—just like Kappa Sigma and the Brothers helped him years ago.

THE PEOPLE WHO MATTER

Scott knew nothing about Kappa Sigma when he arrived in Rolla, but a house tour from **Rick Stehlin '86** and **Craig Eyermann '87** really made him feel welcome, and recruitment events made a lasting impression with a consistent "welcome to the family" feeling.

"The older Brothers would pick you up when you fell, and I knew that it was my job to do the same for my younger Brothers."

From there, he and his pledge Brothers had a safe environment at Rolla to learn about life and interact with different people. They could celebrate the good times together and support one another through the challenges of college life.

"The older Brothers would pick you up when you fell, and I knew that it was my job to do the same for my younger Brothers," he said. "You learn to stand with your Brothers and the people who matter to you."

Throughout his career, Scott has worked on many challenging/fun engineering and manufacturing projects and had many great travel opportunities. What's most important to him, however, is raising his two children to be better than he ever was (which he says they are!). His daughter is in engineering school at Texas

A&M, and his son will attend Purdue this fall with plans to be a mechanical engineer. Both children are Eagle Scouts, his daughter being the first female Eagle Scout in the state of Louisiana.

"I was never a scout, but five of my pledge Brothers were Eagle Scouts," Scott added. "I looked up to those guys and wanted my kids to be like them."

GOOD MEMORIES

Although it's been 25 long, hard years, Scott has kept up with Brothers by phone, social media, and text, including many pledge Brothers and their former alumni advisor, **Phil Corbin '80**. "I think it's nice to keep up, help people get a few laughs, and reconnect a little bit," he said. "We're also there to help each other. It's great to talk about ideas and challenges we're facing."

As an undergraduate, Scott usually had a 35mm camera on him, leading to album after album of photos and memories. He hopes to bring some of them for a future Chapter visit!

Scott and his family live near New Orleans in Folsom, Louisiana. All four of them enjoy time on the racetrack with their three Miatas. Recently, they bought a farm, where they board horses and have started raising Wagyu cattle.

You can connect with Scott at stewart5990@gmail.com.

SERVICE FOR SERVICE'S SAKE

(Continued from page 1)

officially being house manager) and frequently did drywall and taping repair work around the Chapter House. After the university's wrestling program was cut, Dan pivoted and got more involved in the Chapter, becoming kitchen steward, vice president, and Chapter president. He also served as the Chapter's IFC representative, and then later vice president of the IFC. Dan graduated in 1985 with a B.S. in civil engineering and went to work in the commercial design-build construction industry.

"Those opportunities to lead at such a young age—to screw things up, learn what went wrong and how to do it better next time—proved invaluable later on when I led construction companies and then decided to start my own," he said.

Dan started Conway Contracting in 2002, which specializes in design-build commercial construction. They build light industrial

warehouses, perform heavy industrial construction, and build retail, commercial structures, and more. When the Kappa Sigma House Fund began looking for Chapter House renovation and addition proposals, Dan saw his opportunity to give back to Beta-Chi through his professional experience.

Dan's firm was selected for the project thanks to his insights. Specifically, Dan proposed building the house addition on the west side and completely renovating the existing building—creating the incredible site line and showstopper of the elevation that we know today. Dan's winning drawings included the design of the party room, constructing the front lawn/soccer field, creating suites with separate study/living rooms, and installing plywood behind all drywall (No more patching drywall every Sunday morning!).

The success of Beta-Chi's updates led Conway Contracting to three more Greek housing projects in Rolla: renovating and expanding the Lambda Chi Alpha property and building new houses for Theta Xi and Sigma Pi. "I never dreamed that I would build a Fraternity house, but when you are passionate about what you do and how you do it, word gets out and work finds you!"

Dan and his wife, Jeannine Lee Conway (B.S. CE 1986 from UMR – Zeta Tau Alpha), live in Kirkwood, Missouri, and are passionate about giving back to their community. They have constructed facilities for Gene Slay Girls and Boys Club and Sew Hope Community Center. They love to travel to visit their adult children (in England, Seattle, and Salt Lake City) as well as their Fraternity Brothers and Sorority Sisters. *You can reach Dan at danc@conwaycontracting.com.*



Some karaoke fun with Ethan McGuire '22 and his mother at our Mother's Day event.



Another win in our annual ultimate frisbee game against SigEp!



Blake Becker '18 and Angelo Colombo '19 represent our chapter by winning the MCRHL Regional Championship!

RESTORING OUR SPIRIT

Brothers Reflect on Year of Major Growth

This year was a major step forward for Beta-Chi, offering a glimpse into the bright future we envision. As Kappa Sigmas, our success is guided and determined by our commitment to the four pillars: Fellowship, Leadership, Scholarship, and Service. So, to recap this year, each of these pillars will be examined and used to show how our Chapter excelled.

FELLOWSHIP

If there is one thing that we will never lose at Beta-Chi, it's having a good time with our Brothers. The new members immediately adapted to our culture while adding their own experiences and perspectives. We've expanded our fellowship beyond Beta-Chi as well, holding many socials and parties—the pinnacle, of course, being St. Pat's week, when we hosted the week-ending party.

LEADERSHIP

Beta-Chi experienced an unprecedented change when COVID hit; low recruitment numbers and limited activities lowered Chapter morale. The Brothers who led us out of that slump have all graduated, leaving many leadership positions to be filled and a limited number of people to fill them. The 2020 and 2021 pledge classes grabbed the reins and took those positions, learning how to lead as they went. This has extended outside of our Chapter as well, with our risk management and leadership transition plan becoming the template for other fraternities.

SCHOLARSHIP

Chapter leadership has placed a stronger focus on grades, and our efforts are paying off. The fall GPA was the highest it's been in years, finally surpassing our goal of 3.2 (with a 3.203) and a freshman GPA of 3.37.

SERVICE

This year, we have had many successful service events and opportunities that our members (freshmen in particular) have taken advantage of. A particular spotlight would be our Adopt-A-Family project, where we worked with university police to buy and wrap Christmas presents for families in Rolla. We then hosted lunch with the families and watched them unwrap their presents.

Overall, we have seen improvements in every aspect of our Chapter—from our massive pledge class of 31 new members to our grades, our morale, and the future of Beta-Chi.

Fraternally,
Lucas Arias '20
Grand Master



Welcome, New Members

Ethan Carrol | St. Louis, Mo.

Matthew Chilson | Kansas City, Mo.

Kevin Clark | St. Louis, Mo.

Nathaniel Dalton | St. Louis, Mo.

William Epperson | St. Desloge, Mo.

Cam Essner | St. Louis, Mo.

Quint Gholson | St. Louis, Mo.

Brock Hatfield | St. Louis, Mo.

Jack Holm | Gladstone, Mo.

Devin Horn | House Springs, Mo.

Xander Killbreth | Kansas City, Mo.

Kolton Kness | St. Charles, Mo.

Jack Knoesel | Wildwood, Mo.

Riley Kramer | Festus, Mo.

Michael Lamping | Fenton, Mo.

Wesley Marten | Centerview, Mo.

Kegan Maynor | Kansas City, Mo.

Ethan McGuire | Fenton, Mo.

Cole Minton | Riverside, Mo.

Luke Mueller | Wildwood, Mo.

Noah Myers | St. Peters, Mo.

Carson Nieders | St. Peters, Mo.

Samuel Nix | Lee's Summit, Mo.

Otto Ottiger | House Springs, Mo.

Patrick Porter | Kansas City, Mo.

Dylan Powell | Eureka, Mo.

Tyler Trueman | Fenton, Mo.

Henry Wilson | Springdale, Ark.

Aaron Wilzback | Salem, Ill.

Glen Wohlgemuth | Wentzville, Mo.

Why We Joined

“I visited for a recruitment event during my last high school semester. Everyone was so welcoming and fun that I knew Kappa Sigma was where I wanted to be.”

—Nate Dalton '22

“It’s crazy how, in one semester of living together, you gain an almost inseparable bond. You really do feel like Brothers.”

—Riley Kramer '22

“It was honestly the chill moments where everyone was just making jokes, talking about life, or watching movies that made it easy to become friends.”

—Noah Myers '22

“The programs and events that the Chapter had for us freshmen really helped me adjust to the school. It was also nice talking to people who had gone through everything that I have; they helped me learn how to succeed.”

—Sam Nix '22

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Grand Master
Lucas Arias '20

Grand Treasurer
Keelan McPheeters '20

Grand Procurator
Alec Brinkmann '21

Inner Guard
Wade Arnzen '22

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Colin Skaggs '20

Recruitment Chairman
Tim Guccione '21
tmghp6@umsystem.edu
(636) 385-0893

Grand Scribe
Shalim Andrade '21

White Columns Scholarship Winners

Aaron Deken
(non-member)

Nate Dalton '22
Henry Wilson '22

Kegan Maynor '22
Tyler Trueman '22

CHAPTER GOALS

1

Continue recruitment success with another large pledge class this fall.

2

Surpass the all-men’s GPA.

3

Win the FACE Award (again!).

GRADUATING SENIORS

Ryan Adams | (636) 359-7608 | Mechanical Engineer
Brenden Bebie | (417) 456-9305 | Engineering Management

Blake Becker | (314) 954-2171 | Mechanical Engineer

Cameron Billings | (573) 301-4381 | Nuclear Engineer

Collin Cox | (618) 855-6616 | Chemical Engineer

Jacob Davis | (636) 232-8378 | Engineering Management

Noah Evans | (912) 344-0465 | Civil Engineer

Connor Howe | (636) 614-6166 | Mechanical Engineer

Connor Lecroix | (573) 201-9157 | Electrical Engineer

D’Tanyon Maxwell | (816) 654-2355 | Civil Engineer

Cameron Mitchell | (803) 493-2112 | Mining Engineer

Austin Potter | (816) 646-9460 | Computer Engineer

Evan Ratermann | (573) 514-1105 | Mechanical Engineer

Joseph Schultz | (618) 746-6033 | Chemical Engineer

Troy Siebert | (636) 346-9606 | Mechanical Engineer

Richmond Tran | (636) 675-6814 | Information Science and Technology

Alumni Update

CHAPTER CELESTIAL

William M. Farrell '62 – July 4, 2022
Charles D. Jerabek '64 – October 5, 2022
Michael C. Fridley Sr. '65 – February 2, 2022
Dr. Steven W. Ohnimus '67 – November 24, 2022
Bruce A. Bowermaster '75 – February 2, 2023

ALUMNI NEWS

Dr. Eric J. Norman '60 writes, "Keep up the good work, Brothers!" Eric lives in Cincinnati, Ohio. Email: b12tester@aol.com

Bob E. Smith '66 lives in Aurora, Colo., on the golf course Heritage Eagle Bend. Bob is a full-time caregiver for his wife, who has MS. "Visitors are always welcome." Email: smithsgreen@comcast.net

Dale R. Porte '70 lives in Lake Ozark, Mo., and would love to hear from his Brothers! Email: daleporte@yahoo.com

Mike J. Meyer '71 and his wife, Mary, have been vacationing with **Bill Quinn '73** and his wife, Rose, for over 40 years. In 2023, they are visiting Glacier National Park in Calgary as well as Iceland. Then, in 2024, they plan to visit New Zealand and go on a state tour of Utah. "We pray there are many trips to follow." Mike lives in St. Louis, Mo. Email: abmey18@yahoo.com

Michael W. Fugate '73 lives in Sycamore, Ill., enjoying life and spoiling the grandkids! Email: mwfugate54@gmail.com

Mark R. White '75 and his wife, Monika, are still snowbirding from St. Augustine, Fla., to western North Carolina. Mark took his grandsons to visit Beta-Chi during a nine-day "gramping" trip from North Carolina to

Missouri and back. "Beta Chi and my S&T degree helped to provide the lifestyle I now enjoy. Very grateful." Email: mwhitewnc@gmail.com

Bill M. Fogarty III '81 is a captain at American Airlines, flying a Boeing 737 International out of New York. He lives in Ballwin, Mo., and is a happy grandfather to Carolyn and Johnny! Email: wmf3@charter.net



Fred Niemeier '92 spoke at Missouri S&T's 12th annual Thomas J. O'Keefe Lecture series on December 1, 2022, sharing the exciting career paths available to engineering graduates who want to lead and build businesses. Fred is a group president and senior vice president of strategy and operations at Harbour Group, a holding company that works across several diverse industries. He works with portfolio company leaders and investment teams to acquire and build attractive and profitable businesses. Fred lives in St. Louis, Mo. Email: fred.niemeier@gmail.com

Dan L. Dover '95 is the head of quality at Benchling, a life sciences startup in San Francisco. Scientists around the globe are using the company's platform to create meat not from animals, silk not from worms, and mRNA-based vaccines. Dan built the first computer room in the Chapter House in the late 1990s and ran Ethernet to all the rooms. He lives in San Francisco, Calif., and welcomes resumes from any graduates in computer science, bioinformatics, or similar degrees. Email: dan@astrofuse.com

Nathan Durfee '16 lives in Chesterfield, Mo., and works at Adapture Renewables, building utility-scale solar farms and battery storage projects. Outside of work, Nathan and his wife have three cats. They often rock climb, hike, and travel. Email: nathandurfee@icloud.com

THANK YOU, GENEROUS BROTHERS

\$67,130 Raised Since Fall 2022

We appreciate everyone who has chosen to support our annual program. Alumni who have contributed to the fall 2022 appeal are listed by initiation year under the appropriate giving levels. We also want to make a special note here and call out Brother **James Dycus '62**. He recently let us know that he has finalized his will. Within the plans he made, he will be bequeathing \$50,000 to Beta-Chi Chapter upon his passing. Fortunately, he has reported to be in good health! If you are looking into your will and want to make Beta-Chi Chapter apart of your plans, please let us know so you can be recognized appropriately as well!

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

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

Norman E. Hart '53
 Philip S. Roush '54
 Donald E. Beuerlein '58
 Dick Phillips '58
 Dennis Dreyer '60
 William S. Kirchoff Sr. '60
 James P. Dycus '62
 C. Donald Cooper '63
 Donald L. Cordes '66
 Barry R. Romine '66
 Steven J. Malcolm '67
 Nathaniel D. McClure IV '67
 Gary Forsee '69
 Richard J. Lacavich '69
 Donald E. Neely Jr. '69
 R. John Pepper '69
 Anthony G. Bommarito '70
 James C. Griese '72
 Frank P. Allen III '73

Michael W. Fugate '73
 T. Mark Drumm '74
 Gary E. Roebke '74
 Kent S. Springer '74
 William P. Alt '75
 Mark R. White '75
 Thomas B. Shilling '76
 Brian J. Grant '78
 Robert J. Hoffmann '78
 J. Barry Shelden '78
 Timothy L. Uebel '79
 William M. Fogarty III '81
 John M. Remmers '81
 John D. Campbell '83
 Richard T. Bradley '84
 Steven E. Ederle '84
 Daniel H. Lumma '86
 Daniel L. Dover '95
 Grant J. Mabie '02
 Benjamin D. Prueter '10

Friends of Beta-Chi

(Up to \$249)
 Wayne B. Ruck '58
 Richard L Schmidt '61
 Robert B. Bridges '62
 Timothy M. Handlan '64
 Donald W. Bourne '67
 Rick M. Rule '69
 Dennis B. Wehmeyer '71
 David R. Breece '73
 David L. Perry '74
 Glenn J. Mabie '76
 James P. Morrissey '79
 Michael J. Lally '80
 David J. Vitale '82
 Steven R. Sieckhaus '84
 Matthew W. Willer '95

2023 KAPPA SIGMA GOLF TOURNAMENT

Don't wait—RSVP
now with the
QR code below!

Paradise Valley Golf Club
Saturday, June 3, at 1 p.m.

(Arrive no later than 12:30.)

Cost is \$90 for alumni and
\$70 for undergraduates.
(Mulligans are \$5 each with two max.)

Your reservation includes golf, cart, beer, and barbecue after the round, provided by Pork Floyd BBQ (thanks to **Ryan Bequette '01**!).

One member of each foursome must provide name(s) no later than Thursday, May 25, to enable a final count for the course. Tournament volunteers will attempt to match up single golfers.

Recruitment
Referrals Needed

Please send names and contact info to
Tim Guccione '21 at
tmghp6@umsystem.edu or (636) 385-0893.

CONNECT WITH
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beta-chi.com



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Kappa Sigma



[tinyurl.com/
BetaChiFoundation](http://tinyurl.com/BetaChiFoundation)



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1973-74 PLEDGE CLASS REUNION

October 18, 2023

The pledge class of 1973-74 is planning a day trip to Rolla to celebrate 50 years of brotherhood.

At 8 a.m., the class will take a charter bus from Westport Plaza in St. Louis, arriving at the Chapter House around 10. They plan to tour the house and campus, including lunch with the active Brothers. Then the bus will depart at 2 p.m. for a 4 p.m. arrival in St. Louis.

All alumni who would like to join (on the bus or to meet at the Chapter House) are welcome! Contact **Bob Haul '74** at rwhaul@earthlink.net.



Sunrise on the Missouri S&T campus. Drone image by Terry Barner, Missouri S&T.