



A RISING TIDE IN ROLLA

Let's Lift Our Beta-Chi Boats

It is exciting to see all the changes on the Missouri S&T campus. The \$300 million donation by June and Fred Kummer is transforming the university with new buildings dedicated to research, an upgrade in appearance, and scholarships for STEM and computer science students. The Beta-Chi Educational Foundation, funded by our alumni, put in \$50,000, and the Kummer Institute Foundation matched it with another \$50,000. The proceeds will go to Beta-Chi freshmen or sophomores in these fields of study who have financial need.

One great benefit of the Kummer donation is the growing enrollment. Enrollment is a challenge at every university due to the declining population of high school graduates. Fortunately, this increase at Missouri S&T is helping the Greek community. Kappa Sigma is recruiting record numbers of quality students! If you have any referrals, please reach out to the Recruitment Chairman **Tyler Trueman '22** at (314) 332-5070 or tdtvc@umsystem.edu.

WHAT'S NEW AT HOME?

Scholarship and good grades are important to Kappa Sigma. Last semester, the Chapter had 11 members with a 4.0 GPA—amazing, and congratulations! I also want to give a shoutout to our Grand Master, **Tim Guccione '21**. Tim is a great leader; having someone of his caliber makes our job easy.

The house fund's main responsibility is to keep the facility in shape, and every year we spend tens of thousands on maintenance, repairs, and upgrades. We recently replaced the geothermal unit for the dining room, replaced the hot water piping in the main mechanical room, purchased new chairs, and upgraded electrical panels. This summer, we plan on replacing the dining room ceiling and will begin renovation of the weight room. Special thanks to **Ron Acker '75** for his leadership on these projects!

SEE YOU SOON

If you are thinking of planning a reunion, now is the time to get started. We have a database of alumni contact information and can help you reach out to your pledge Brothers. It was great to see five classes hosting reunions last year. Three of these reunions happened over Homecoming and two occurred earlier in the year at other locations. If you are planning a reunion, I recommend doing it around Homecoming; the undergraduates love seeing alumni at the Chapter House. **Please let me know your plans so we can be ready for you.**

I hope to see you all at Homecoming and/or the annual Alumni Golf Tournament on June 1 in St. Louis.

Fraternally,

Robert Hoffmann '78

Alumni House Fund President

roberth@hoffmannbros.com

(314) 537-3193



Beta-Chi's intramural floor hockey champions!

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Are you getting our email blasts?

We are missing emails for over 400 alumni. Email updatemyrecord@penningtonco.com with "KS MS&T Email Update" in the subject line to be sure you're being included!

NOWHERE LIKE ROLLA

THOMAS SONDERMAN '82 ON LEARNING TO LEAD

As an only child, **Thomas Sonderman '82** experienced quite a change when Kappa Sigma gave him a family of 100 Brothers. Tom previously planned to pursue his chemical engineering degree at Washington University in St. Louis before his close friend **Martin Berutti '81** invited him to a summer pledge party at the Beta-Chi Chapter House. "I knew immediately it was the place to go."

Tom believes the fraternal experiences at S&T are truly unique compared to other schools. When he visited campus last year and walked down Pine Street, the thrilling memories of St. Pat's with his Brothers came flooding back. Tom spent much of his college years between campus and Monsanto, where he worked as part of a generous scholarship. Coming home to Kappa Sigma gave him camaraderie while teaching him to work with different personalities and learn first-hand how an organization functions.

"The Navy SEALs have a term called extreme ownership: when you sign up, you deliver," Tom said. "Or when you're young and in a Fraternity, you learn the consequences if you don't." The parties and projects Tom and his Brothers worked on together provided a truly foundational experience as they prepared to graduate and do great things in the world.

FILLING A NEED

At Monsanto, Tom discovered his interest in semiconductors and went on to work in manufacturing at AMD. He worked his way up through leadership, including when AMD's manufacturing operation transformed into GlobalFoundries. As that industry started moving overseas, Tom saw a need for American-based skills and resources; this brought him to SkyWater Technology, where he has served as CEO since 2017.



SkyWater is a U.S.-based, investor-owned "pure play" semiconductor business, creating tech for diverse domestic tech fields including the biomedical industry. Competing with overseas sources was an uphill battle before the pandemic drove the need for domestic manufacturing. Tom and his colleagues were also major advocates for the CHIPS Act (signed into law in 2022), which helped reverse a decades-long decline in American chip manufacturing.

When Tom gave S&T's commencement address in December, he shared one of his favorite pieces of advice: never be satisfied with where you are in life. "I say that even now as a CEO, having never imagined I'd be here." Tom is excited to see how SkyWater grows with the world around it as tech such as AI continues to evolve. "You can't ever rest on your laurels in this industry."

BROTHERS FOR LIFE

Tom's son, also an only child, is in a fraternity at the University of Minnesota; Tom is glad to see him, too, build his own lifelong relationships. He's also proud to have his close friend **Paul Fleischut '82** as his son's godfather, as he keeps Tom updated on all things Beta-Chi and S&T. Always eager to help a fellow Brother, Tom is in regular contact with **Jeff Heger '82** and helped mentor his son through his graduate degree. "When it comes to the brotherhood, I never have to think twice," he said. "Those college years were some of the best of my life."

Tom lives in Apple Valley, Minnesota, and can be reached at thomas.sonderman@gmail.com.

THANK YOU, GENEROUS DONORS

\$20,360 DONATED SINCE FALL 2023

Nicole Robles
John M. Sowle '51
Norman E. Hart '53
W. Dave Phelps '57
Rosario J. Sidoti '57
William S. Kirchoff '60
M. Thomas Barber '61
Richard L. Schmidt '61
William A. Turner '61
Robert B. Bridges '62
Ronald F. Crawford '66
Donald W. Bourne '67
John G. Cizek '67
Gary Forsee '69
Rick M. Rule '69
Anthony G. Bommarito '70

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J. Barry Shelden '78

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D. Phillip Corbin '80
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John M. Remmers '81
Richard T. Bradley '84
Steven R. Sieckhaus '84
W. Alan Hopkins '86
Fred W. Niemeier '92
Lloyd H. Gholson IV '94
Brian A. Lowry '96
Grant J. Mabie '02
Benjamin D. Prueter '10
Edward Landreth '12
Austin Lohr '13

Chapter Celestial

Lloyd G. Gabbert '56
October 28, 2023

Terry L. Mills '58
September 23, 2023

Gene Foshage '63
June 9, 2022

George F. Koob '63
September 23, 2023

June C. Thomason Jr. '64
May 22, 2021

Benjamin D. Yenicek '97
December 28, 2023

STEPPING UP TO NEW HEIGHTS

Brothers Take Pride in Our Home

This spring semester has been a busy one for the Brothers of Beta-Chi, who aimed even higher in service and philanthropy. Chapter events included selling hot cocoa, “Pie a Kappa Sig,” Super Bowl Squares, and more to generate money for the Military Heroes Campaign. Our service events have been focused on mental health, and Brothers are earning their “STEP UP!” certification on campus. We even partnered with Student Well-Being for a therapy event open to everyone at S&T.

As always, St. Pats was an eventful one; we appreciate all the alumni who came to visit! Brother **Brock Riddle '23** had his whole family down, and his uncle, **Rich Bradley '84**, made sure to join in on the festivities! We are already looking forward to Homecoming in the fall when we aim for a full Chapter House (and hopefully even more alumni than at St. Pats).

Our house man, **Otto Ottiger '22**, has done an incredible job with our various Chapter House projects. We got a new lifting platform decal, new pool table felt, a new TV in the basement (with a new case), and more. With Otto's help, the executive committee submitted many proposals for much-needed items to the House Corporation. We're proud to say that nearly every proposal was approved, and you can already see the results in and around our home.

One of our most anticipated updates is a weight room renovation with new equipment (as well as expanding it into the current project room). *This will happen if we secure 25 recruitment signees by **August 1, 2024**, so please send us your referrals ASAP!*

Enjoy the *Beta-Chi Columns*, and we hope to see you for golf and Homecoming this year!

Fraternally,
Tim Guccione '21
Grand Master



A brotherhood outing to a St. Louis Blues game.



The Beta-Chi scholars who earned a 4.0 in fall 2023.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

Grand Master
Tim Guccione '21

Grand Treasurer
Glen Wohlgemuth '22

Grand Procurator
Dakota Duran '22

Inner Guard
Carson Nieders '22

Grand Master of Ceremonies
Nate Dalton '22

Outer Guard and Recruitment
Chairman

Grand Scribe
Caleb Greiner '21

Tyler Trueman '22
tdtvc@umsystem.edu
(314) 332-5070

Welcome, New Brothers

Nolan Bohannon
O'Fallon, Mo.

Sunil Gangasingh
St. Louis, Mo.

Connor Hamilton
Barnhart, Mo.

*“I wanted a good,
supportive group of
guys to help me out
with school.”*

Matt Harmon
St. Louis, Mo.

Tyler Wyre
Olathe, Kan.

GRADUATING SENIORS

Lucas Arias | Aerospace Engineering
Alec Brinkmann | Aerospace Engineering
Angelo Colombo | Mechanical Engineering
Howard Conaway | Computer Science
Connor Costello | Mechanical Engineering
Michael Crane | Electrical Engineering
Austin Dixon | Mining Engineering
Joshua Eickhoff | Nuclear Engineering
Evan Venegoni | Mechanical Engineering
Eric Wilhelm | Mechanical Engineering
Gary Yerby | Aerospace Engineering

Chapter Goals for Fall 2024

1 Have a full Chapter House.

2 Achieve a GPA above the
Greek all-men's average.

3 Win Greek Week.



Help Us Fill the Chapter House

We need your recruitment referrals! Please send names, contact info, intended major, hometown, and high school to **Tyler Trueman '22** at tdtvcp@umsystem.edu or (314) 332-5070.

NEW ONLINE GIVING FORM!

Support Beta-Chi scholarships at betachifoundation.causevox.com by using the QR code.



BETA CHI CHAPTER OF KAPPA SIGMA

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IT'S ALMOST TIME!

2024 Kappa Sigma Golf Tournament

WHO: Kappa Sigma Alumni and Undergraduates

WHERE: Paradise Valley Golf Club; Scramble Format

WHEN: Saturday, June 1; Shotgun Start at 1 p.m.

(Arrive no later than 12:30 p.m.)

COST: \$90 for Alumni, \$70 for Undergraduates

(Mulligans are \$5 each with two max)

INCLUDES: Golf, Cart, and Catered Barbecue after Round

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Check: Write a check for "St. Louis Kappa Sigma Alumni Association" and mail it to:

Ryan Carson
832 Plymouth Rock Drive
Des Peres, MO 63131

PayPal: ryandcarson@gmail.com

Venmo: @RYAN-CARSON-37

RSVP/QUESTIONS

ryandcarson@gmail.com or (314) 288-6389

Please gather your foursomes and have one member provide name(s) by **Thursday, May 23!** (Volunteers will *attempt* to match up single golfers at the event.)

RACK 'EM UP!



A photo only does so much justice for our new pool table felt; come play for yourself!