BETA-CHI COLUMNS

Kappa Sigma Fraternity at Missouri University of Science and Technology | Spring 2026

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The Value of Alumni Engagement

Stay Connected with Your Beta-Chi Brotherhood

I hope all is well with you and your family, and I hope to see you this year at Homecoming, where we will be inducting two distinguished alumni into the Beta-Chi Hall of Fame:

SCOTTY BLACK '02

Scotty is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Marine Corps, a weapons officer on the F/A-18, and holds a Ph.D. in modeling and simulation with a focus on AI and wargaming.

STEVE PARLE '00

Steve earned his degree in nuclear engineering from Missouri S&T and his MBA from Webster University. He is a supply chain manager for Nestlé Purina, lives in Ballwin, and enjoys running with his pledge and Beta-Chi Brothers every Saturday morning.

You can read more about Scotty on page 4, and we will share more about Steve in our next issue later this year.

Strength in Numbers

Beta-Chi has been fortunate to have great officers and members for many years. The current underclassmen are studious, loyal, and hardworking, just like our Founders! I am thankful we can continue to provide the opportunity and experiences of being part of this great Chapter.

The House Corporation has been working hard to support Beta-Chi. We are fortunate to have an outstanding group of alumni who donate between $30,000 and $40,000 annually. These contributions help meet the educational needs of our members by providing scholarships. Scan the QR code to visit **beta-chi.com/giving-back/donate-now** or mail a check in the enclosed envelope to make a contribution toward this important cause.

Homecoming Plans

The 2026 celebration and Hall of Fame banquet will take place on Saturday, October 17, beginning at 6 p.m. We hope to see you and all your pledge Brothers there. Watch your mailbox for invitations with more event details.

The pledge class of 1976 will be celebrating its 50th anniversary as well. Find more info on page 6, including how to RSVP to **Andy Tayon '77**.

Fraternal Recognition

I want to give a special shoutout to **Tom Smith '77**, who has pledged to fund terrazzo floors in the dining room and common area/billiards room. Tom was a house manager in college at UMR (now MS&T). We all remember how difficult it is to keep vinyl tile flooring looking good in a Chapter House, so this will be a tremendous upgrade. The project is scheduled to begin next summer.

Another shoutout goes to **Ron Acker '75** for his continued support. During his college days, Ron was a house manager for three semesters, coordinating equipment repairs or making them himself. Ron has continued that service for many years and routinely spends several days each month repairing and maintaining the Chapter House. We are deeply grateful for everything he does and truly do not know what we would do without him.

Again, we sincerely appreciate the assistance of our generous and dedicated alumni. We could not do this without your support.

Fraternally,
Robert Hoffmann '78
Alumni House Fund President
(314) 537-3193

A BUSY YEAR OF BROTHERHOOD

KAPPA SIGMA CONCLUDES A GREAT SPRING

The Brothers of Beta-Chi have had another successful school year marked by strong academics, campus involvement, athletics, service, and Brotherhood. During fall 2025, the Chapter earned a 3.33 GPA, finishing above the all-men's average. We followed that up with a 3.24 in the spring. Fourteen Brothers earned a 4.0 in the fall, while 15 achieved a 4.0 in the spring.

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

Beta-Chi had a strong year in athletics. The Chapter placed second in Greek Week out of 17 fraternities, won the floor hockey intramural championship in March, and finished favorably in several other sports, including second place in softball and soccer.

Brothers have continued to give back to the community by contributing hundreds of service hours to various organizations, namely CASA of South-Central Missouri, which advocates for children in foster care. Service dollars raised by the Chapter have also been donated to Kappa Sigma's Military Heroes Campaign.

Many Brothers remain active across campus. Several are involved in design teams, four compete on the track team, and a handful play for the S&T club baseball team, whose captain is **Nolan Bohannan '24**.

SAJ Weekend was another great success for Beta-Chi, raising more than $7,800 from alumni and undergraduates. We are especially grateful to alumni for continuing to give back to the Chapter and for helping provide scholarships.

UNDERGRADUATE LEADERSHIP

This summer, the Chapter will send six Brothers to the Leadership Conference in New Orleans: **David Neufeld '23**, **Jack Parker '23**, **Michael Poterbin '25**, **Dominic Milanovits '25**, **Andrew Eaton '25**, and **Cale Luebbert '25**.

Patrick Porter '24 has achieved the high honor of Master of the Ritual—big congratulations to him!



The Kappa Sigma A-team and B-team played against each other in intramurals, and the whole house came out to watch!

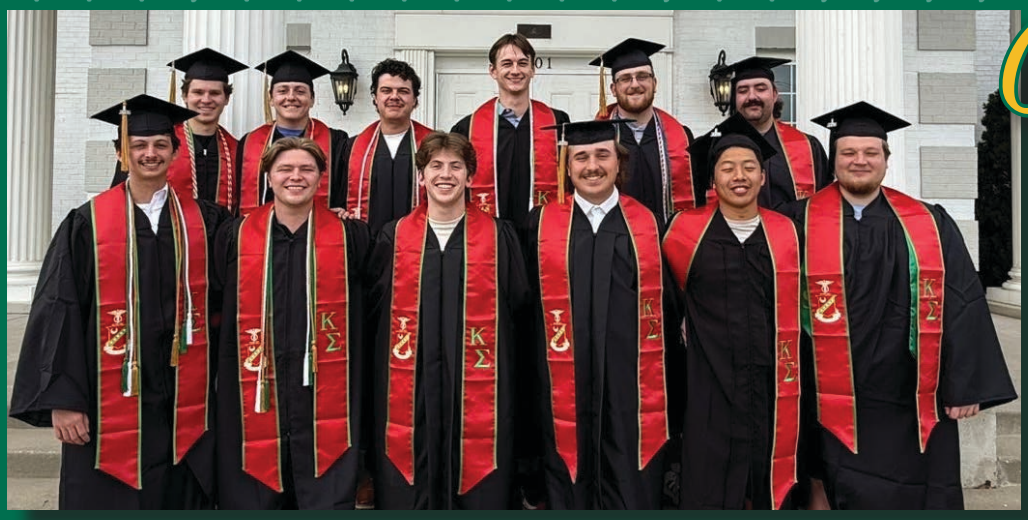
HELLOS AND GOODBYES

Costa Bikilie '25 has done an excellent job leading recruitment. The house welcomed three new Brothers this spring, and fall recruitment is already off to a strong start with more than 20 pledges signed.

This spring, we celebrated the graduation of 15 Brothers. Although it is difficult to say goodbye to such great men, it is exciting to see the Chapter continuing to grow and to know more great men are joining our alumni ranks.

The Brothers of Beta-Chi look forward to carrying this momentum into the fall.

Fraternally,
Jack Parker '23
Grand Master



Congratulations to our graduating class of 2026!

Top:
Carson Nieders '22 • Jack Holm '22
Ethan McGuire '22 • Kolton Kness '22
Henry Wilson '22 • Tristen Shores '21

Bottom:
Michael Lamping '22 • Tyler Trueman '22
Nate Dalton '22 • Matt Harmon '24
Dawson Nguyen '22 • Joseph Stillwell '21

Welcome, NEW MEMBERS



FALL 2025

Gavin Boston | *Peculiar, Mo.*
Conor Burgess | *Norborne, Mo.*
Wyatt Caldwell | *Moscow Mills, Mo.*
Andrew Eaton | *Springfield, Mo.*
Alex Fieseler | *Barnhart, Mo.*
Camden Gatewood | *Springfield, Mo.*
Liam Kobbeman | *Highland, Ill.*
Roy Kueny | *Montgomery City, Mo.*
Larson Lamb | *Blue Springs, Mo.*
Cale Luebbert | *Jefferson City, Mo.*
Aiden McDaniel | *Ashland, Mo.*
Dominic Milanovits | *Saint Louis, Mo.*
Caleb Mitchell | *Ellisville, Mo.*
Travis Mumm | *Troy Grove, Ill.*
Michael Poterbin | *Bolivar, Mo.*
Adam Rotter | *Glen Carbon, Ill.*
Clayton Smith | *Saint Louis, Mo.*
Griffon Talken | *Jefferson City, Mo.*
Noah Topel | *Saint Louis, Mo.*
James Unterreiner | *Perryville, Mo.*

SPRING 2026



Landon Scott | *St. Francois, Mo.*
Jacob Voyles | *Saint Louis, Mo.*
Ethan Jones | *Kansas City, Mo.*

Why They Joined

LIAM KOBBEMAN '25

"Recruitment gave me the opportunity to meet people who have similar interests and lifestyles. It was also a great opportunity to try something new, which got me excited. I really liked meeting new people and hearing about their perspectives on life and their own experiences. Joining Kappa Sigma was a great decision."

CALE LUEBBERT '25

"The friends and the memories you make. After one semester, I already have so many memories."

DOMINIC MILANOVITS '25

"The group of guys I have met at Kappa Sig have been the best. I can find anything and everything to bond with each member. I had a great pledging semester getting to know my pledge Brothers, who most likely will be my lifelong friends. I love the house—it has everything you would want in a Fraternity and more … the weight room, basement … the list goes on. It really has been a great experience."

Chapter Goals



Have a fall recruitment class of 30+
This would be the first time since COVID that the house is at full capacity!

Have a Chapter GPA above 3.4

Win the Founders Award of Chapter Excellence

Educational Foundation Updates

We have disbursed a total of $25,074 from the Beta-Chi Educational Foundation account since June 2025. $12,200 went toward the Chapter House's computer room, while $8,874 was issued for the EC Scholarship and $4,000 went to White Columns Scholarships.

This year's campus-endowed scholarships totaled $24,400 and went to the following Brothers:

WADE ARNZEN '21

CAMDEN ESSNER '22

JACK HOLM '22

SAMUEL NIX '22

HENRY WILSON '22

CHRISTIAN BISSELL '23

JAKE BUCHANAN '23

BLAKE FINK '23

COLIN FREEMAN '23

ROGER HAUSMANN '23

DADEN HOUSE '23

ISAAC JONES '23

TYLER MILLER '23

DAVID NEUFELD '23

JACK PARKER '23

SAMIR PATEL '23

ALEXANDER TRACY '23

JOHN WOODS '23

MATTHEW HARMON '24

JESSE KOPP '24

CAMERON SISK '24

Kappa Sigma's Enduring Influence

SCOTTY BLACK '02 JOINS THE BETA-CHI HALL OF FAME

When **Scotty Black '02** joined Beta-Chi Chapter, he was looking for a place to fit in and contribute to shared success at Missouri S&T. Kappa Sigma instilled a sense of responsibility that shaped his development, and Scotty is honored by his upcoming induction in the Beta-Chi Hall of Fame.



COLLEGE MEMORIES

Scotty built trust with his Brothers through everyday activities like cleaning and hanging out around the house, working through tough classes, and just having fun. He gained a sense of pride by upholding Fraternity standards and bonding through shared values.

"Kappa Sigma was my first real experience leading peers," Scotty said. As pledge educator, he taught new Brothers to embrace traditions and values that shaped his Beta-Chi experience. "That was a formative experience. You are not just passing along information; you are shaping culture. You must lead by example, hold people accountable, and build buy-in."

Scotty's Kappa Sigma membership showed him the potential an inspired group can reach with the right leadership. He carried Fraternity lessons into his service in the U.S. Marine Corps.

SERVING HIS COUNTRY

In 2005, Scotty joined the Marines and became an F/A-18 weapons systems officer, focusing on combat operations and conducting deployments around the world. His deployments resonated with his Kappa Sigma experience and forced Scotty to be resourceful in situations with high expectations.

"Though it was a lot of hard work where I was mostly away from home, it was a rewarding part of my career," he mentioned. Scotty's service inspired him to pursue a master's degree and Ph.D. in modeling and simulation, focusing on artificial intelligence. "My research and development efforts have focused on developing intelligent agents for wargaming using different machine learning methodologies."

Scotty currently works at the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory, leading the development of wargaming capability that integrates modeling and simulation, AI, and advanced analytics to better develop and assess new concepts and capabilities. "The goal is to scale AI to deal with the complexities of modern warfare."

"There are a lot of accomplished people who have come through Beta-Chi, so to be included in that group means a lot."

FRATERNAL HONORS

Considering the quality of Kappa Sigma Brothers, Scotty is tremendously honored and surprised by his Beta-Chi Hall of Fame induction. He is grateful to be recognized amongst Beta-Chi's best and reflects on the Fraternity's lifelong impact.

"Kappa Sigma ended up being one of those experiences that I did not fully appreciate at the time, but looking back now, it had a bigger impact than I realized." While Scotty's career keeps him busy and moving, he stays connected with Brothers and enjoyed a Fraternity outing to Glacier National Park in summer 2024.

"Experiences like that remind you how strong those bonds are and how we never truly grow up despite getting older. Even after years apart, you can pick right back up where you left off."

You can connect with Scotty at scotty.black@gmail.com.

THANK YOU, GENEROUS BROTHERS

We appreciate the loyal alumni listed below who have contributed to our annual fund in 2025-26. Their generous gifts help us build a stronger Fraternity experience for our Beta-Chi Brothers at Missouri S&T.

Anonymous
Donald L. Kummer ’52
Philip S. Roush ’54
William L. Sullivan III ’57
John W. Ricketts ’58
William S. Kirchoff Sr. ’60
Dr. Eric J. Norman ’60
M. Thomas Barber ’61
Richard L. Schmidt ’61
Timothy M. Handlan ’64
Donald Cordes ’66
Maureen and Don Bourne ’67
In memory of
Mike Fridley ’65
John G. Cizek ’67
David L. Krueger ’68
Gary Forsee ’69
Richard J. Lacavich ’69
Donald E. Neely ’69
In honor of
The 1968 pledge class
Mark A. Kassing ’70
Patrick J. Knoll ’70
Gary Leemann ’71
Dennis B. Wehmeyer ’71
James C. Griese ’72
Frank Allen ’73
David R. Breece ’73
Michael W. Fugate ’73
Paul Vetter ’73
David L. Perry ’74
Kent S. Springer ’74
William P. Alt ’75
Robert D. Simpson ’75
Mark Suellentrop ’75
Mark R. White ’75
Edward C. Jantosik Jr. ’76
Glenn J. Mabie ’76
Andrew Tayon ’77
J. Barry Shelden ’78
Dan Shiels ’78
James P. Morrissey ’79
Donald Corbin ’80
In memory of
Bill Demzik ’55
Michael J. Lally ’80
Edward J. Bradley Jr. ’81
William L. Kovacich ’82
David J. Vitale ’82
Richard T. Bradley ’84
Steven R. Sieckhaus ’84
Robert P. Redman ’87
David Theisen ’88
Shane Mitchell ’90
Todd S. Oppeau ’90
Peter A. Joyce ’92
Jason Holschen ’94
Brian Lowry ’96
Joseph DiCiolla ’00
In memory of
Ketan Patel ’00
Ben Prueter ’10
Blaine Hrovat ’15
Jackson Pence ’15
Brad Stetson ’15
Nicholas Swanson ’15
Brandon Whyte ’15

SUPPORT Beta-Chi IN 2026

Alumni donations are a simple way to pay your Kappa Sigma experience forward and help Beta-Chi Chapter’s future on campus.

Donate to the Annual Fund
at betachihc.causevox.com

or the Educational Foundation
at betachifoundation.causevox.com

You can invest in the next generation of our proud Brotherhood at Missouri S&T. Thank you for your support!

ALUMNI UPDATES

BILL TREJBAL ’63 is enjoying life and activities in a CCRC in Peoria, Ariz. He met the second love of his life and takes road trips to visit family, friends, and the wonders of the nation. Email: bmtrejbal@msn.com

RICHARD LEIFIELD ’70 is enjoying retirement with Vivian in La Crescenta, Calif. They enjoy living near their daughter, her husband, and Richard’s two grandchildren. He spent 42 years with the Corps of Engineers before retiring as the chief of the Los Angeles District engineering division. Email: rleifield@earthlink.net

JIM GRIESE ’72 lives in Anderson, S.C. He shared that the pledge class of 1975 held their 50th anniversary last October. The festivities included a happy hour at Trainwreck Saloon that was open to all Beta-Chi alumni. Email: jim.griese@charter.net

DAVE PERRY ’74 has been working with **Mike Clark ’75** to build the Wright State University Kappa Sigma colony. They hope to achieve full Chapter status soon. Dave lives in Beavercreek, Ohio. Email: david.perry516@att.net

RILEY KRAMER ’22 plans to intern at Keeley Construction this summer as a construction management intern. He resides in Fenton, Mo. Email: rileykramer209@gmail.com

CHAPTER CELESTIAL

ALBERT W. WEINRICH ’56
December 2, 2025

RICHARD A. MARTIN ’60
April 15, 2025

LEONARD J. BORNEMANN ’65
November 10, 2025

MICHAEL T. JOHNSTON ’67
November 16, 2021

BETA CHI COLUMNS

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Reconnect WITH KAPPA SIGMA

This issue highlights Beta-Chi Chapter's latest accomplishments, our newest Hall of Fame inductees, and much more!

Enjoy Kappa Sigma updates and join us for Homecoming weekend this October. *Especially if you're from the class of 1976 and celebrating 50 years!*

beta-chi.com | **Beta-Chi of Kappa Sigma** | **@kappasigma_mst** | **tinyurl.com/BetaChiFoundation**

50-YEAR 1976 PLEDGE CLASS REUNION

The 1976 Beta-Chi pledge class is tentatively planning to hold a 50-year reunion on October 15-17, which is MS&T Homecoming weekend. Plans for the reunion should be finalized by early July 2026.

INTERESTED IN ATTENDING?
Please contact **Andy Tayon '77** at (314) 705-2245 or **andrewtayon29@gmail.com**.

WHO WILL CARRY THE TORCH?

Send Us Your Member Recommendations



From one generation to the next, our brotherhood endures through those willing to continue our Beta-Chi traditions. Who do you know with the resilience, leadership, and honor to carry our brotherhood's torch into the next generation?

Help us find the young men who will honor our past and shape what comes next. Send their info, including how we should contact them, their hometown and year in school, and why you think they'll fit right in with Kappa Sigma, to **Constantin Bikilie '25** at (314) 425-9860 or cb7tf@umsystem.edu.