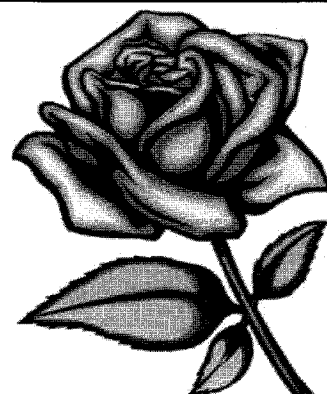


The Gold Rose

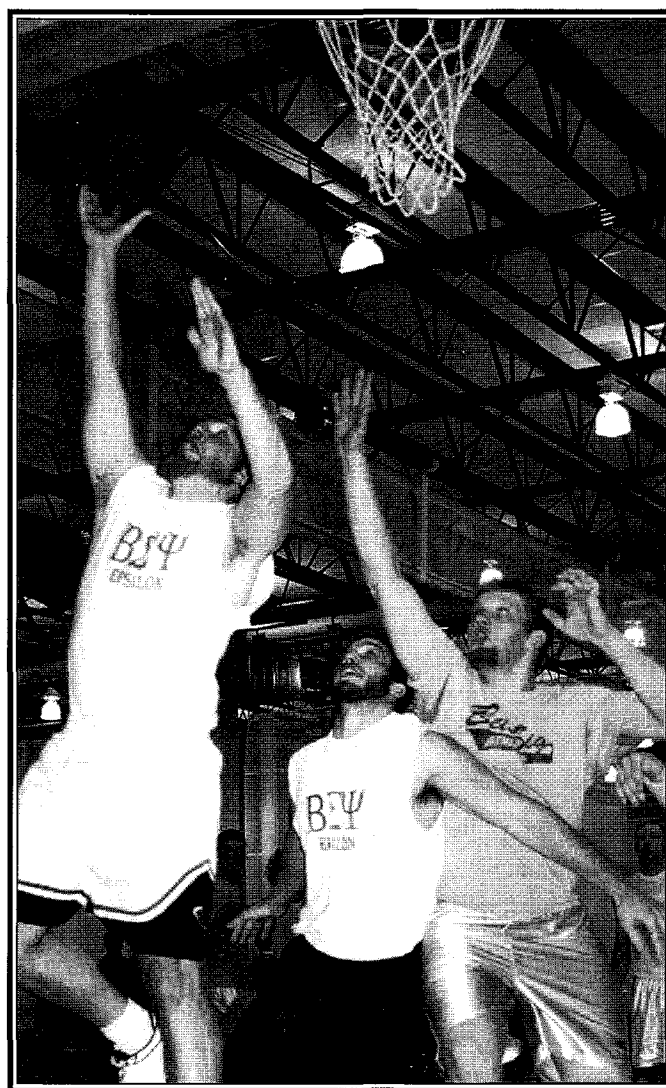
of Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity

Volume 49, Issue 2

Spring 2004



Actives, Alumni Battle For National Trophy



*Beta Chapter Wins
Beta Sig National
Basketball Tourney
See story page 7*

In this Issue:

A Story From Iraq

Letters to a Legacy

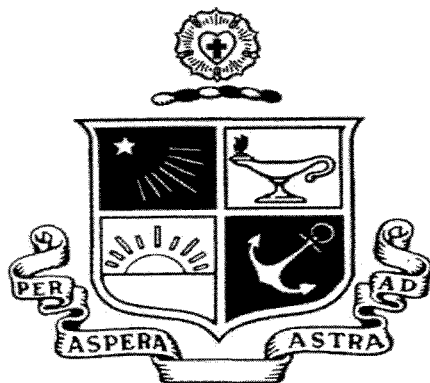
Alumni Reunite

Annual MEF a Success

Convention Registration

And More...

Beta Sig alumni and actives battled at this year's National Basketball Tournament in Manhattan, Kan., held in concert with the annual Membership Education Forum.



The Gold Rose of Beta Sigma Psi

Volume 49, Issue 2

The Gold Rose is written and distributed by volunteers three times annually. If you would like to contribute articles, photographs, or advertisements, please contact the National Publications Editor.

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Parents: Your son's magazine is sent to his home address while he is in college. If he is no longer in college and not living at home, please send us his new address.

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President's Corner

Chad Winterhof, 26th National President

(BGTF)...By Grace Through Faith

I do not know how pastor's prepare their sermons, but I write these articles for the Gold Rose reflecting the message I want to get across with what has happened to me the past week or two.

This week started off by taking my youth group Kids for Christ (KFC) to see a great Christian speaker Bob Lenz. Bob will lead the bible studies at the National Youth Gathering. The point he made that stuck with me this week has been that we ALL have been designed for love.

Bob also has a "hook" much like What Would Jesus Do (WWJD) with By Grace Through Faith (BGTF). If you remember that acronym (engineers love acronyms), you get two dollars off the merchandise.

That night I brought up one of my youth group members Sara to meet Bob. Sara and I both had a birthday on the same day that weekend, so she was expecting me to embarrass her right then.

I told Bob that I met him at the Iowa youth gathering 10 years ago and wanted

my kids to share the same joy listening to him as I did. With Bob's gracious heart, he told Sara that she could pick out any gift from the merchandise table for free.

I think that strikes right to the heart of why our alumni work so hard for this fraternity. We want others to have the Beta Sigma Psi experience that has changed us so dearly.

Nothing says change like a birthday. I am now 26 and Beta Sigma Psi will be 79 soon, and it is not getting any easier the older we get. Edward Deming said it best though: "It is not necessary to change, survival is not mandatory."

Lutherans can always see the humor with the word change, and even take a little pride in the lack of change over the years. But, many of our chapters have realized that to survive and be successful, they we must invoke positive change amongst themselves and in the Lutheran community.

This is very evident when you have a top level view of the fraternity as I do. Being an active, it was always a higher priority to

keep our house traditions rather than look to the ideals of Beta Sigma Psi to make our choices in the chapter.

We have a lot of passionate alumni that work hard for their chapters. But, many times that hard work is in vain because they were working so hard to keep the status quo rather than working to grow and transform the chapter.

I look at our alumni Steve, Brian, Brent, and Neal, to name a few, and I see them working diligently for a "new" day for their

chapters. My prayer is that they leave a trail for others to follow.

I want to tickle your brain one last time with this tidbit from Ralph Waldo Emerson: "Do not go where the path may lead. Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."

per Aspera ad Astra,

Chad Winterhof
26th National President



Epsilon Chapter Claims Honors For Service

Iowa State University's Interfraternity Council honored Epsilon Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi for committing the most number of hours of service of the whole ISU Greek community for the Spring 2004 semester.

Out of a total of 29 fraternities at the ISU campus, Beta Sig topped with list with a total of 617 volunteer hours out of a total of 5,112 hours of committed campus wide.

Major time was committed to ushering at Memorial Lutheran Church each Sunday, cleaning up the stadium after home football games with the Salt Company campus ministry, painting

a nursery at Camp Riverside (a Lutheran retreat center), and playing with kids at the Boys and Girls Club. Members also volunteered with the Salvation Army, United Way, Story County Conservation, Cub Scout Troop 196, Jesus' Right Hand, and Habitat for Humanity, among other organizations.

On November 30, 42 players participated in the chapter's euchre tournament. Through entry fees and company sponsorship, Epsilon raised \$300 to help Lord of Life Lutheran Church purchase a wheelchair lift for 7-year old member Kyra Harbacheck.

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From The Director: Beta Sigs For Life

Matt Wolters, National Director

Whether it was last month or 30 years prior that you were initiated as an active member of Beta Sigma Psi, this event marked the beginning of your lifetime membership in the organization. Sometimes when speaking of our college experience we are tempted to say, "I was a Beta Sig." As alumni, we are still Beta Sigs – our membership in the fraternity continues until the day we die!

Through the pledge program (in 21st century we now call it the associate member program) we were taught the essential components of the fraternity. Our elders in the organization went to great lengths to instill in us the same belief, dedication, and esteem they held for the fraternity. It was essential that we understood and respected what it meant to become a Beta Sig.

Following our initiation we had a responsibility to put the ideals learned as associates into action. As members and officers there were specific duties to be performed. The recruitment chair was responsible for finding the next generation of Beta Sigs, the 2nd Vice President made sure the pipes flowed freely, the commissary, although lowest on the chain of command, perhaps held the job of fundamental importance, keeping everyone fed. These

are just a few of the daily tasks we were responsible for as active brothers. These are specific, they are clearly defined and performance is measured easily. Perhaps most importantly, though, being an active member at times required that we put service to the organization above our own desires and wishes.

Beta Sigma Psi means something different to each of us. To some, it is one of the most important experiences of our lives.



To others it is only a fading memory associated with college experiences years past. However, if we reflect on the experience Beta Sigma Psi provided us, we undoubtedly realize that our experience as active members was truly a life-defining experience. We developed skills in communication, leadership, and social protocol. We

experienced spiritual growth through continued and structured involvement with the Lutheran church.

As alumni it is far too easy to forget the fact that we are members for life and, through no intention of our own, let recollection of our Beta Sig experience fade to a distant memory. As alums we still have a responsibility to the fraternity. No, we don't have to clean the kitchen, get involved in the Interfraternity Council, or

make sure our roommates don't flunk out of college. Our responsibility is to be an active alum. For some that means a formal role as a member of the local or national board. However, fulfilling this obligation does not require the previous.

On February 28, 2004, 68 Beta Sig alumni from the Zeta Chapter fulfilled their role as active alumni by returning to Manhattan, Kan., for an Alumni Casino Night. They came from all over for the opportunity to continue the brotherhood of Beta Sigma Psi.

Last September, 20 Delta Chapter alums gathered for a golf outing in Lincoln, Neb. The individuals that took the small amount of time to attend these events are fulfilling their role as active alumni -- sharing themselves with those that share the brotherhood of Beta Sigma Psi.

This summer, Beta Sig's will be gathering in Schaumburg, Ill., in Suburban Chicago for the bi-annual National Beta Sigma Psi Convention. And this fall, alumni chapters will be hosting homecoming events. For all of us, these are opportunities to fulfill our duties. Let us begin by making the commitment to attend and experience the brotherhood of Beta Sigma Psi once again.

per Aspera ad Astra,

Matt Wolters
National Director

KC Alumni To Gather For Baseball Game

The Kansas City Area Beta Sig Alumni group is planning an alumni event Sunday June 6 at 1:00 p.m. for the KC Royals vs. Boston Red Sox baseball game with a tailgate party starting at 11:00 a.m. in the parking lot of the stadium. Tickets for the game will cost \$12 each. For food costs, the alumni are asking for \$10 a person, or \$20 per family. For more details, Dan Reith (Zeta) at (913) 220-8264, or email him at danreith@hotmail.com.

Zeta Alumni, Actives Gather Together For Fund Raiser

The Manhattan Alumni organized a successful fundraiser in February at the Zeta chapter house in a thrilling Casino Night to raise about \$4,000 in funds for house enhancement.

All told, about 80 alumni attended the event to join together for a steak dinner, followed by a night of wagging and an auction where participants bid on prizes donated to the fraternity.

Alumni were able to spend time with old friends and make new ones with the current active members of the house. While the event was a success, the festiv-

ities concluded at different times for different people.

"Personally, I got to bed about 4:00 a.m., but I was by no means the last one standing," said Mike Dove, president of the Manhattan Alumni.

Some of the proceeds from the event have already been used to purchase two new big screen televisions for the lounge areas in the chapter house.

"I feel confident that this will become an annual event," Dove said. "Everyone had a good time renewing old friendships."

Delta Alumni Reunite In Many Ways

By Lee Anderberry, President of Lincoln Alumni

Pledge training at Delta Chapter in Lincoln taught me many things about our college fraternity. Perhaps the one thing that has "stuck" more than anything else is this: You are a Beta Sig for life! Delta Alums have obviously taken this to heart as we reunite regularly in a variety of events. This article will explore a few of the ways that we (Delta Alumni) remain fraternally united.

A longstanding tradition with many Delta Alums is their passion for Basketball. A team of Delta Alums has been present for every Beta Sigma Psi Basketball Tourney with the exception of one. We have been attending for 25 years with an assortment of Alums from all across the country. We have won the Tourney in the neighborhood of 10 times. Since we are the only ones who are present every year, who could contest this claim? We do know we have won the Tourney in four different decades. Considering our age compared to our competitors', that's no small feat.

We enjoy the brotherhood that comes with the spirit of competition and the delight of getting together for poker, rehashing the past and those things our wives frown upon when we do them in front of our children. We have made a pact that we will continue playing until we are no longer competitive or an embarrassment

to ourselves, and if you know most of us, embarrassment is never an issue. In the 2004 Tournament, we lost in the



L-R Dan Lindstrom, Mike Meyer & Ross Nelson of Delta Chapter look over old composites.

Championship game and our team included a 57-year-old Alum who was participating for the first time. We were all very happy to have him join us and hear how Delta was during his school years.

Another recent reunion of Delta Alumni was held in Lincoln March 21st-23rd, 2003. The reunion was hosted by Alums from the 1975-1980 era. Featured activities included a Friday evening cocktail reception at Embassy Suites, Husker Baseball game, Tour of the Campus, Pizza Lunch at the Lutheran Student Center, and a Pool Tournament. The weekend was capped off with an all Alumni Worship at Southwood Lutheran Church.

Pool & Foosball were two activities that were extremely popular at the Delta Chapter house in the 70's. Consequently it seemed appropriate to re-unite in one of our favorite pastimes. Teams for the Pool Tournament (which included spouses) were selected at random. The Tournament was won by Terry Drost & Gary Stevens, (by default) when Kim Bienhoff scratched on the 8-ball in the very last shot of the game. The Brothers enjoyed this activity so much that two more 8 team tournaments followed, and only ended when the management at BW3's chased them out at 1 a.m.

The event was planned by Bruce Fischer, Doug Heinrichs & Scott Gesell. Afterwards, Scott Gesell said, "This was a wonderful event because the weather was great, the Huskers won the baseball game, and most of all, 38 of our brothers, (and former Pastoral Advisor Al Norden) made the effort to come to Lincoln and rekindle old relationships".

A few of the other ways that Delta Alumni keep in touch include annual ski trips, summer softball and ticket sharing at Stars Hockey games.

Future plans for Delta Alumni events include the 2nd Annual Beta Sig Golf Tournament to be held in conjunction with one of the early season Football Games at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln (UNL). Details on this event can be obtained from Boyd Stuhr, (402-736-4368 or e-mail: stuhville@alltel.net).

Beta Sig Delta Alumni Golf Outing

On September 13, 2003, a 4-man scramble golf event was held for Delta Alumni and prospective members of the Delta Colony at UNL. Fourteen alums and five prospects hit the links competing for bragging rights at the Highlands Golf Course in Lincoln. The championship team consisted of Steve Anderson ('81), Jay Branchaud ('75), John Dietze ('81), and Stu Hoins ('81). For their 6 under par effort over the



This photo was taken in 1979 with the Delta Alumni team known as the "Wheezers".

Continued on page 12

MEF Speaker Stresses Recruitment, Lutheran Identity Key To Fraternity

National Fraternity Meets For Annual Membership Education Forum

By Layton Ehmke, Zeta Chapter Active Member

The growth and success of Beta Sigma Psi germinates from Lutheran identity and the building of a strong recruitment program, said Vaughn Studer, keynote speaker at this year's Membership Education Forum held in January at First Lutheran, Manhattan, Kan.

More than 100 active Beta Sigs from across the nation gathered together to learn how improve their local chapter and to listen to Studer's advice on chapter growth.

Studer, of the Foundation KSU Local Agency at Kansas State University, delivered a strong message focused primarily on recruitment at this year's MEF. Studer, also a Zeta Chapter alumnus, detailed recruitment as a step-by-step process and stressed the importance of maintaining the Beta Sig Lutheran identity, something that sets it apart from every other fraternity at every campus.

"Being Lutheran is who we are, it's why we were founded, it is why we exist. The minute we move away from our core heritage, we will lose who we are. We can't, nor do we want to be, a 'me-to, generic' social fraternity like so many of the others. The Lutheran requirement promotes diversity in that many new mem-

bers get away from their high school friends and develop their own identity within Beta Sig," Vaughn Studer said.

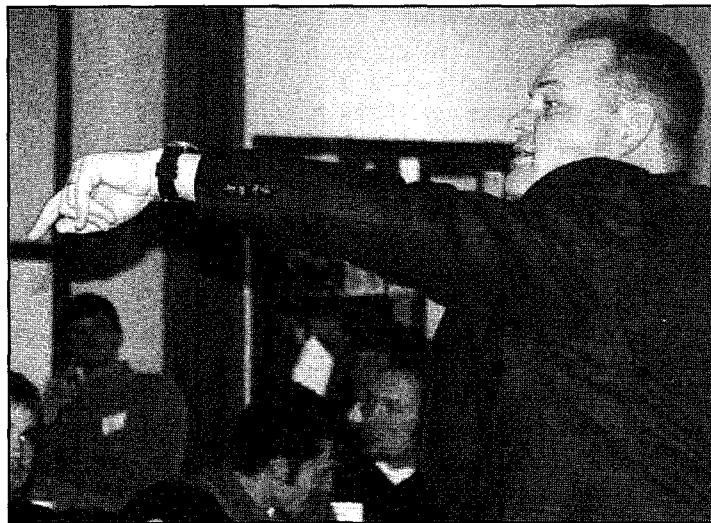
Matt Wolters, director of the national fraternity agreed.

"Having an identity is critical. We are the National Lutheran Fraternity, and a social group of Lutheran men. That is who we were in 1925 and who we are today. Its awesome that we still have our unmistakable identity after 78 years," Wolters said.

He said that losing that identity is a danger to the livelihood of the fraternity.

"Some fraternities have chosen the ever so popular 21st century action of releasing their identity in order to become more main stream or politically correct," Studer said. "I know members of these organizations. At the surface it appears to be wonderful, but after a couple of years, they don't know who they are."

Wolters, who conducted the day's events, thought this year's MEF was a success, but there is hard work still ahead. "The largest challenge facing active chapters is the ability to recruit. Realizing this, I decided to focus on providing those attending with tangible skills they can use in the recruiting process. Larry Edwards, a Leinemann



Vaughn Studer, Zeta Chapter alumnus, speaks to a crowd of Beta Sig actives at this year's Membership Education Forum hosted by Zeta chapter at First Lutheran Church in Manhattan, Kan. Vaughn stressed that maintaining the fraternity's Lutheran identity and building on strong recruitment strategies were essential for the growth at the chapter level.

Award recipient, repeatedly says, 'A chapter that is up in rush, is up in everything.' As we recruit better we will be more successful in every aspect of the fraternity," he said.

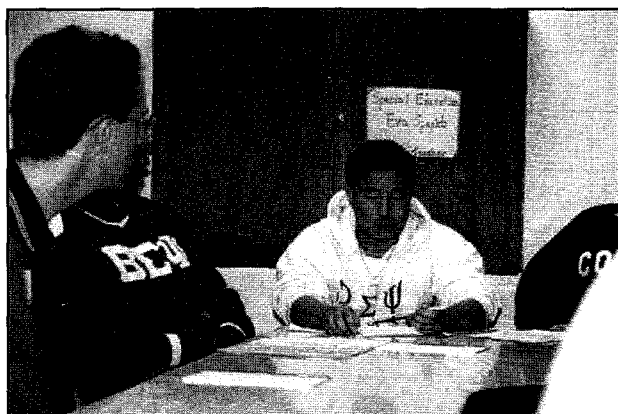
Steve Brokhoff, this year's MEF coordinator, said that learning how recruitment works is absolutely vital for every Beta Sig. This is largely due to a trend of shrinking pledge classes, not only for Beta Sigma Psi, but for all fraternities in general.

"Times are changing and all fraternities are rushing fewer guys every year. Our strength is that we've got a strong identity. We're Lutheran," he said.

Brokhoff sees the motivation that MEF sparks every year, and was pleased with the "super effort" he got from everyone.

"It is an exciting weekend. The idea this year is to lay out a lasting plan for the fraternity, and hopefully everyone will maintain that enthusiasm throughout the

Continued on page 12



Chad Winterhof, national president of Beta Sigma Psi, left, listens in on a round-table discussion about recruitment at this year's MEF held in Manhattan, Kan.

Beta Chapter Wins B-Ball Trophy

Actives, Alumni Compete At Annual Beta Sigma Psi National Basketball Tournament

By Layton Ehmke, Zeta Chapter Active Member

The annual Beta Sigma Psi National Basketball Tournament will forever encourage professional Lutherans to become some of the greatest amateur b-ballers in the country, at least for an afternoon.

The competition was grueling, as 10 teams battled fiercely for the first few hours. Men who made it into the final rounds of the tournament were physically beaten, but the strength of their spirits was never in question as they pounded out game after game in hopes of earning the coveted traveling trophy.

The tournament was held at Kansas State University's recently remodeled and highly improved Chester E. Peters Recreation Center. Dan Kuhlman, Zeta chapter, organized the round robin, single elimination, five-hour event.

Kuhlman reserved four courts, eight referees and recruited members of his chapter as scorekeepers. He said that the tournament had gone smoothly, and without snags or injury.

The tournament kicked off at 2 p.m., after an already early start to the day for the annual Membership Education Forum. By the third round, teams were getting worn down and flat-out tired. The games became less flashy, and the moves got more practical. By the fourth round, two

teams chose to give up running all together, and rightly so, for they had no chance at the title whatsoever.

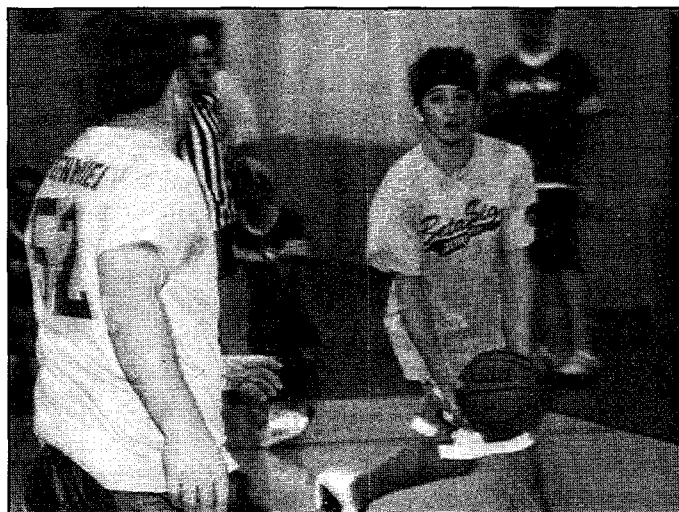
J.R. Ringwald, Zeta, said, "We have all agreed there will be no more running." As a result, the three point shot became quite popular in that game. However, those who knew they had a chance at the title kept at it.

Kuhlman said most guys thought the boys from Purdue, Beta chapter, were going to sweep the tourney, which they did easily and smoothly.

Chad Winterhoff, national president, said he could definitely tell that Beta chapter had it together.

"These guys have got some great teamwork and they obviously practice together quite a bit," Winterhoff said.

The championship game came up between Beta and the feared Delta alumni who go to tournaments focused, mentally



Active members of Beta Sigma Psi maneuver down the court in one of the many basketball games at the annual national basketball tournament, held this year at Kansas State University. Beta Chapter at Purdue University took home the "traveling trophy" for winning the tournament.

prepared, and taped up. Very taped up in fact. Fewer teams take the tournament as seriously as the greying Delts, but all their experience and training could not withstand the organized methods of the youthful Betas.

This marks the second straight tournament win for Beta chapter, having beaten Zeta in 2003. Congratulations go to Beta for their win, and to all players at the tournament for their sportsmanship.

One of Our Own Experiences Life In Iraq

John Hoestje tells of his experiences while being stationed in the Middle East. John is an alumnus of Zeta chapter at Kansas State.

It has been about a year since I left the States for Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). I knew it was going to be hard leaving my wife, but never would have dreamed the hardships we both have gone through. The situations I have experienced here have changed my life, hopefully for the better.

After staying at Ft. Riley, Kan., for almost two months, we received a notice to get on a plane in 4 hours to fly out. I

was finally able to briefly talk to my wife on the way to the airport. It wasn't easy explaining to her what was happening



while still in shock. We landed in Kuwait during the night and were disoriented by the flight, but the adrenaline hit as we contemplated what we might be getting into. After a couple weeks of waiting for a mission, we convoyed up to the Iraqi border. I was totally unprepared for what I was to experience next. As soon as we crossed the wires, fences, and tank ditches, many very young Iraqis ran toward our vehicles begging for our MRE's (Meals Ready to Eat). Even older Iraqis stood by the side of the road ready to snatch what they could. No one had

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Letters To A Legacy...

by Rod Thompson, Scholarship and Membership Education Director

Many of us face the recruiting challenge of encouraging our son to join Beta Sigma Psi. In my failed attempt to get my son to join, I asked for help from many of our distinguished alumni.

Even though he did not join for his first year in college, my son is still considering Beta Sigma Psi next year after he has made the transition to college. I'm sharing some excerpts from these letters for other legacies who are considering Beta Sigma Psi: Rudy Herrmann wrote, "My membership in Epsilon Chapter of Beta Sigma Psi was an important aspect of my total Iowa State experience. The leadership skills that I began to hone at Iowa State and at Beta Sigma Psi (I was Chapter President once) have served me well throughout my industrial career."

Merle Aukamp, a distinguished Alpha Chapter alumnus said, "I hope you give serious consideration to becoming a Beta Sig. It seems that my pride continues to grow each year as an alumnus of Beta Sigma Psi. There is little doubt that Christian leaders are developed through the fraternity and become positive members of our society."

Scott Gesell's advice included "fortunately, I was lucky enough to find the Beta Sig house at the University of Nebraska. Although I did not realize it then, I know now that God was watching out for me. At the time I did not understand or appreciate that a life rooted in Christ is the only true goal of human existence. My son, who will graduate next spring, always brings me great joy. I want the best for him and I want him to experience what I did."

Greg Gesell, Scott's brother, wrote, "I also pray that you will join the Beta Sig chapter there. You will be making many of those life decisions on your own and having strong Christian brothers beside you will help you. I know in my case, it did! God bless you in all that you do."

From Larry Edwards, "We set out as associate members to make Zeta Chapter the best fraternity on campus and true to our founding principles. We did! And we each learned along the way something about leadership and selling. Perhaps that is why two of our class members were Vice Presidents of Sales & Marketing for two Fortune 100 companies.

Bill Jentzen, an Epsilon alumnus wrote, "No other living arrangement on campus will offer to you a better balance of social, scholastic and spiritual priorities than Beta Sigma Psi. I attribute many of my personal values and professional skills directly to my experiences at Beta Sigma Psi."

Bill Bunte wrote "We certainly need young men like yourself that have the potential to be one of the leaders in our fraternity in the future. In turn, I believe our fraternity has a lot to offer you; a Christian heritage and environment with the appropriate emphasis on scholarship and fraternal fellowship."

Norm Wilms' letter had the following advice: "From what

your father advised me you are a good student with some talents that would be valuable in a fraternity. A good choir director is always in demand. The fraternity also has some things it can offer to you. Managing a fraternity house requires some skills. It is a good training ground to develop skills that will be handy when you graduate from college. The fraternity can be a place to develop some skills that are not in the text books."

Ralph Folkerts words of wisdom included "Some of my closest friends are friends I made in my undergraduate and alumni service to Beta Sigma Psi. Foremost I encourage you to seriously consider pledging a fraternity - the benefits are fantastic. Secondly, I hope you will give serious weighting to pledging Beta Sigma Psi. I think you would find that Beta Sig does, in fact, provide a well-rounded social, scholastic, and spiritual opportunity that you would find enriching. And the relationships you will develop will be ones you will cherish your whole life."

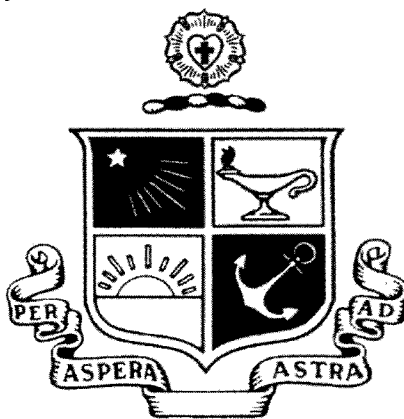
Doc Kaiser said, "I urge you to join Beta Sig. I do this because it is far more important than just deciding where you are going to live during college or with whom you will spend time the next four years. Joining Beta

Sig has meant so much in my life, and I am confident that it will in yours. Here it is, more than 50 years after I left school, and the closest friends I have, guys with whom I have shared triumph and deep tragedy, are the Beta Sig brothers from those days."

Tom Schlange provided the following "Ten Guidelines for College:"

1. Be a member of something. Sing in the church choir. Try out for a choral group. Join a fraternity. Participate in an engineering club. But don't just be a "dues payer"; be a "doer". We get out of life what we invest into it.
2. Vote. Wherever and whenever you are provided the opportunity to do so.
3. Do something for others. Volunteer at church. Offer to translate for a new foreign student on campus. Help tutor somebody in your class who "just doesn't get it." Push some girl's car when she gets stuck in the snow. We help ourselves by helping others.
4. Remember you are a student. At this particular point in your life, you have been called by God to be a college student. Respect that calling. Nobody is going to make you study - nobody even makes you go to class! But understand that going to college means you have a priority to be a student. Learn everything you can.
5. Be prepared to agree to disagree. You will meet lots of people, students and faculty alike, with different values or traditions than yourself. You can have lots of fun with your friends without imitating their actions. But always remember the key to disagree with somebody without being dis-

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New Strides Made In Delta Colony Efforts

Membership Numbers Climb Closer To Goal

Colony Interest Group Makes Plans To Start Associate Member Education Program In Fall

By Neal Tomsen, Delta Alumnus And Colonization Leader

Over the past year the main focus has been on recruitment to bring our group up to 10 members and thus achieve full colony status. Currently we have five who have signed, the three original signees of Luke Rief, Brain Malone and Carl Kacvinsky, and early this semester Justin Peterson and Travis Klanecky have joined them. These young men have taken on a more active role with recruitment as evidenced by the three and five recruits who were in attendance at the March 29th and April 5th meetings. This group is very committed to advancing Beta Sigma Psi and they look forward to next fall when we can officially kick off our associate member education program.

Recruitment efforts have included the following:

- Phone calls to recruits from lists provided by the Student Lutheran Center (ELCA) and Student Lutheran Chapel (LCMS)
- Brochures distributed along with grab bag of information sent to Lutheran freshmen at UNL
- Announcements regarding Beta Sigma Psi events provided by Pastor Meyer and Pastor Stienbauer, also place on Chapel's website and in Sunday bulletin at the Center
- Golf outing hosted by Delta alumni in

early September prior to the Nebraska-Penn St. evening football game.

- Alumni taking recruits/members out to eat
- Bowling
- Billiards - 2 occasions
- Lincoln Stars hockey game in late February with Alpha-Alpha
- Intramural flag football, broomball and basketball teams
- Monday night meetings with Bible study events planned for April-June:
- Painting at Student Lutheran Center
- Clean up at Student Lutheran Chapel
- Group worship at Center and Chapel by end of semester
- Golf outing
- Rush event at Branched Oak lake tentatively scheduled for June 19th.

Special thanks go to Pastor Meyer for his efforts including presiding over the Bible studies, Pastor Steinbauer for his continued work. Also, Matt Wolters and Chad Pfister for coming up to make phone calls and meet with recruits before Spring break in March, and to Dane Kohrs and Adam Syonground for doing this after the break. Dane and Adam should also be commended for working with members of the core group on rush techniques and strategies in addition to providing enthusiasm to the rush process.

In our ongoing efforts we offering sev-

eral \$1,000 scholarships to new Beta Sig members for the school year 2004-2005. Funds have been provided by the National Education Endowment specifically for use by Delta Chapter/colony with matching funds from the Delta alumni board. We have posted the scholarships up at the Chapel and Center in addition to sending them to the 510 ELCA and LCMS congregations in Nebraska along with brochures and letters to the pastors informing them of Beta Sigma Psi. For more information regarding the scholarships please contact Ron Peters.

Thank you for the prayers and support with our continuing efforts to bring Delta Chapter back to Nebraska. God Bless you all and have a great summer.

per Aspera ad Astra,

Neal Thomsen

Need A Scholarship At UNL?

✉ Contact Ron Peters at:
32006 Waverly Road
Murdock, NE 68407
(816) 589-5461

Beta Sig Experiences Fraternity On The Road

By Chad Pfister, Regional VP

Because of a two-week spring break, I recently had the opportunity to spend a week in the life of our Executive Director, Matt Wolters. In a period of 7 days, I traveled over 1,600 miles, visited three chapters and an interest group, ate at a

McDonald's 3-n-1, slept on three distinct couches, and had a GREAT trip. One definitely garners a different and new appreciation for the work that an Executive Director does for Beta Sigma Psi. I had visited chapters and slept on coaches before, but when you realize that we pay someone to do this day in and day out, you appreciate everything they do more than ever.

My trip started on a Saturday with a late morning Southwest flight from Chicago-Midway to Kansas City International. I had the opportunity that night to attend a fundraiser for the Zeta

Alumni. More than 70 Zeta alums paid \$100 for a steak dinner with the traditional sides of baked beans, baked potato, and salad, an open bar, and chops for the Zeta Casino. Events like this really help build the fraternity as they get brothers back involved into the life of the alumni and active chapters. Overall the night was a success as over \$4000 was raised for the chapter.

After attending church service Sunday morning, it was on the road again this time to Lincoln to help the interest group

Continued on page 11

Help Bring Back Delta!

To help in the rebirth of Delta

Chapter at UNL, call Neal

Thomsen at (402) 525-6892, or

e-mail at nthomsen@neb.rr.com.

BΣΨ Convention 2004!

Learn How To Make Your Chapter A Better One, And Explore Chicago/Schaumburg With Fellow Beta Sigs!

By Regional Vice-President Chad Pfister

The 2004 National Convention of Beta Sigma Psi will be held August 12-15 at the Hyatt Regency Woodfield in Schaumburg, IL (a suburb of Chicago). The registration fee will be \$115 per person for alumni and will include Friday night dinner and entertainment at Medieval Times, Saturday awards luncheon and the annual baquet on Saturday. The registration fee for actives will also be \$115 per person and includes the same items as the alumni registration, along with a hotel room for three nights, and a t-shirt. Additional guests can be registered at a cost of \$75 per person, which includes tickets to Medieval Times and the annual banquet. Registration forms can be found on the official website, <http://mysite.verizon.net/res77a2g/>, and can either be completed on-line (payment through PayPal) or by downloading the registration forms and mailing them to the address on the form. It is not necessary for active members to make hotel reservations as those will be done by the committee.

The Convention will kick-off on Thursday afternoon with a golf outing, followed by a cocktail reception at the hotel. The official start will be on Friday morning with programming geared

towards both actives and alumni. On Friday afternoon, attendees will be able to sight see around the Chicago/Schaumburg area. That night will include dinner and entertainment in the Schaumburg area at Medieval Times.

On Saturday morning, programming will once again be available for actives and alumni, with the beginning of the National Council meeting starting at 10:00 am that day. The Annual Awards Luncheon will occur during the recess of the National Council meeting. The National Council meeting will conclude Saturday afternoon and be followed by the Annual Awards Banquet. The main event will be the banquet, a semi-formal event with a reception immediately preceding the function. The speaker for the Annual Banquet will four-time Oscar winning broadcaster Andrew McCrea. On Sunday, the convention will conclude with a worship service at the hotel.

The 79th National Convention will be a great opportunity to see those Beta Sig's you haven't seen in a long time or the one's you've only read about.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact Chad Pfister by phone at 219/462-0089 or by e-mail at chad.pfister@verizon.net.

Convention Details

Register online at <http://mysite.verizon.net/res77a2g>.

Questions? Call Chad Pfister at 219/462-0089, or email at chad.pfister@verizon.net

Hotel Information

Hyatt Regency Woodfield

1800 E. Golf Rd.

Schaumburg, IL 60173

Cost will be \$85.00 per night. Reservations can be made by calling 800/233-1234 or online at <http://woodfield.hyatt.com/groupbooking/beta>.

Local Attractions In and Around Schaumburg

Woodfield Shopping Center, Arlington International Racecourse, Long Grove Historical Village, Lynfred Winery, Grand Victoria Riverboat Casino, JFK World Health Museum, Medieval Times Dinner and Entertainment, and downtown Chicago.

2004 Convention Schedule Schaumburg, IL Hyatt Regency Woodfield Aug. 12-15, 2004

Thursday, August 12th, 2004

Afternoon Golf Tournament

(Schaumburg Golf Club)

Evening Registration (Hotel Lobby)
Cocktail Reception (Hotel)

Friday, August 13th, 2004

Afternoon Opening Ceremony

Beta Sigma Psi & The

Fraternal Movement

Risk Management and YOU
-Break-

Roberts Rules of Order:

Basics of the Meeting

Small Group Discussion

Spirituality Discussion

Evening Medieval Times
Dinner

Saturday, August 14th, 2004

Morning Welcome

Alumni Gathering

Past, Present, and Future of
Beta Sigma Psi

-Break-

Afternoon National Council Meeting

National Officer Reports

Rules of the Council Meeting

Awards Luncheon

National Council Meeting

Elections

Evening Reception

Awards Banquet

Sunday, August 15th, 2004

Morning Worship Service

National Council Meeting
(continued, if necessary)

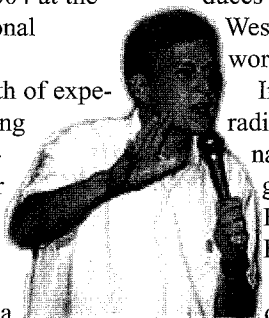
Afternoon National Board of Directors
Meeting

Award-Winning Radio Broadcaster Of 'The American Countryside' To Speak At Convention

By Chad Pfister, Regional Vice President

Four-time winner of the Oscars in Agriculture radio broadcaster Andrew McCrea of the famed radio program "The American Countryside" will be the featured speaker at the Awards Banquet to be held Saturday, August 14th, 2004 at the National Beta Sigma Psi National Convention.

Andrew draws upon a wealth of experiences when he is criss-crossing the country to deliver his messages. As a farmer and rancher from northwest Missouri, Andrew knows what it is like to move herds of cattle and work 18 hour days harvesting a



crop.

Andrew brings his insights from interviewing music stars, hall of fame athletes, Iditarod sled dog mushers and even the rooster crowing champion. He also produces broadcasts heard on the Westwood One and CBS radio networks.

In addition, to doing his daily radio broadcast heard across the nation, he works with many groups including the Future Farmers of America and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

He truly cares about making a difference in the lives of those

he meets. He serves as a board member for the Hearland Regional Community Foundation, a leadership foundation empowering youth and adults in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa. From boardrooms to classrooms...from Alaska to Florida...speaking to groups from 10 to 10,000...Andrew has brought his message to thousands.

Much appreciation goes out to the Educational Foundation and Larry Edwards, who graciously provided the monetary support in bringing Andrew McCrea to Beta Sigma Psi. More information about Andrew can be found on his website: <http://www.andrewmccrea.com>.

Travels – continued from page 9

effort by stuffing over 500 envelopes to be sent to every Lutheran church in the state of Nebraska. The Delta Alumni are graciously offering several \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors who join the fraternity next school year. I defiantly encourage all chapters to include scholarship information when the request names from the churches in their states.

For the next several days, Matt and I made over 200 phone calls to Lutheran males attending the University of Nebraska.

While we were told "No" several times about being interested in Beta Sig, we were told "Yes" just as much as "No". We were able to hold face to face meetings with several potential members, who we hope will be joining the group at Nebraska within the next couple of weeks.

Overall, the trip to Nebraska was a success, while no new members were signed while Matt and I was there, we were able

to give the group at Nebraska a better idea of where they need to focus their recruitment efforts.

It is my hope, along with Matt Wolters, that we can have Delta chapter reactivated by the end of the 2004 - 2005 school year.

On Thursday morning, I flew back to Chicago-Midway, and was immediately on the road to the University of Illinois to visit Alpha Chapter. I had the

opportunity to meet with most of the members of the chapter, including the President and two Rush Chairmen.

Rush is off the ground, things are somewhat rough at the moment, but I don't believe that rush is ever something that runs smoothly all the time. For those Alumni in the Champaign-Urbana area and in the area of any chapter, I strongly encourage you to drop by the house and

volunteer sometime to help them out in their Rush effort.

After spending the night on a mattress at the Alpha chapter house, it was on the

"Matt and I made over 200 phone calls to Lutheran males attending the University of Nebraska. While we were told 'No' several times about being interested in Beta Sig, we were told 'Yes' just as much as 'No'."

road to the last stop of my weeklong tour, Beta chapter at Purdue. While I was only able to visit with a few of the Actives at Purdue, I can say that things are going good at the chapter. Rush is going good, and the chapter is still excited over

winning the National Basketball Tournament for the 2nd year in a row.

I want to thank everyone for their hospitality over my weeklong trip, and especially to Neal Thomsen who graciously put Matt and I up for 3 nights while we were at Nebraska. I can safely report that things are well at our Beta Sig chapters. The pulse of Beta Sigma Psi is strong and healthy.

Update yourself!

Return the postcard today in this issue so your brothers can find out where you are. And don't forget to register for the 2004 National Beta Sigma Psi Convention in Schaumburg, Ill.!

MEF – continued from page 6

recruitment process.

The presentation offered practical advice that everyone could internalize and eventually use in order to stay above the competition. His goal was to get Beta Sigs to find out what was natural and what works to get recruits to start talking, and eventually, get them interested in the fraternity.

"We have always known rush to be the 'lifblood' of the fraternity. Unfortunately, membership has recently slipped at many of our flagship chapters. I think we have gotten away from placing accountability on individuals for recruitment performance. Active members just somehow thought it would happen? We are at a critical point in our fraternity's history. We either get good at rush or we will cease to exist," Studer said.

Studer also stressed how important it is to take the chance to say something when the opportunity presents itself. This is especially applicable in the way of dispelling myths and handling objections, which can often be difficult to do, but definitely not impossible.

To exemplify his main points, Studer set up mock recruitment situations using Beta Sigs in the scenarios. In the rush scenario, Hingst Award winner, Jarod Carl, Epsilon, Dave Lefever, Iota, demonstrated how to handle some common objections like, 'My friends are thinking about renting a house, and I'll probably move in with them', or 'I don't think my parents

are keen on me moving into a fraternity since I've got to keep my grades up.' Studer said the best way to handle these objections is to re-assure them that the intention of Beta Sigma Psi looks after their best interest because better individuals make a better house.

Studer encouraged brothers to plan out

their rush-calls before the call is made, and have the correct objective and use positioning statements to direct the flow of their conversation with the potential member.

"Use simple and open-ended questions. You want to avoid closed questions because that doesn't get them talking," he said. He added that when selling the fraternity to a recruit and his family, they have to be given the opportunity to be interested in it, and that can't happen if they're just answering yes and no questions.

"I thought it was a huge success to have so many great Beta Sigs all together. The topics we were discussing relative to rush are critical to the success of the fraternity on both a local and national scale. However, the real test will be how each chapter implements the ideas needed to move forward with aggressive rush strategies," Studer said.

In group discussions following Studer's presentation, National Recruitment Director, Cliff Ascher, spoke with each chapter's recruitment chairmen and highlighted some main points.

"Rush is the lifblood of the house and

each of you are the sparkplug in your chapter. It's all about personal accountability and shared responsibility."

Brycen Meng, Zeta's Pledge Class President, said he learned more than he expected about recruitment.

"I learned how to make rush more of a selection process. It's important to know how to ask open-ended questions and really listen to the rushee," he said. Meng added that it was also critical to get recruits to the house, to show them around and meet the guys, because it's the guys actually in the house that sell it.

Wolters is also excited to see how MEF affects the future of Beta Sigma Psi. "I'm confident that those who attended will be more prepared and more able to be successful as they recruit new members. This will result in putting more, high quality men, in the chapter houses across the country," he said.



A group of Beta Sigs gather around to discuss recruitment strategies at this year's MEF.

Reunion – continued from page 5

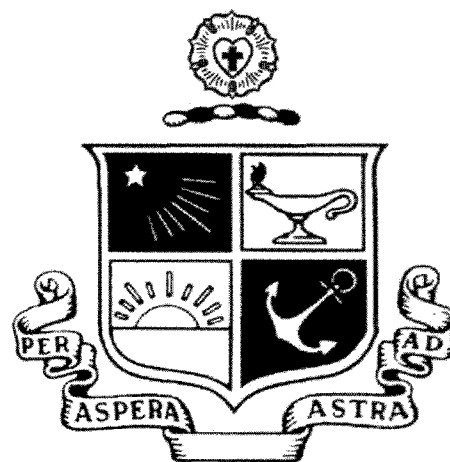
along with some spouses, the prospects, and even several Alpha-Alfa chapter members stayed at the clubhouse to reminisce and make new acquaintances. The evening was capped off by the Nebraska-Penn St. football game.

Event coordinator Boyd Stuhr ('81) was pleased with the outing. "What a great opportunity to get together, relive some memories, and interact with some new Beta Sig prospects. We are hoping to make this an annual event and look forward to having more alumni participate next year." While a specific date has not

been set for the coming fall, the golf outing will be tentatively planned for the day of the first night football game in Lincoln. Once the football game times are announced, more information will be forthcoming.

Future Delta Reunion

For the 2nd Annual Beta Sig Golf Tournament, planned to be held in conjunction with a UNL football game, contact **Boyd Stuhr** at: 402/736-4368 or e-mail at stuhville@alltel.net.



Iraq – continued from page 7

Baghdad International Airport (BIAP). On the way, we stopped by some of the camps to check out what the locals were selling. They would sell about anything they could get their hands on. Some of the camps had a specific place for the locals to sell at.

They would cram as many people as they could. "Mister, mister" they would all shout all vying for your attention. There was no bargaining if they saw your money. At BIAP, just south of Baghdad, we slept on the top deck of the departure parking lot. There was a herd of goats loose on one of the decks. It was good to see what the lower half of Iraq looked like.

After several months at Tallil, we headed back down to Kuwait. We spent the next three missions at APOD (Aerial Port), SPOD (Sea Port), and Camp Victory. It was nice to be back to something resembling civilization. We still don't have flushable toilets and usually run out of water at the showers, but we did upgrade from cots to bona fide mattresses. It's the simple creature comforts that keep us going.

Currently we are in our 11th month and time is slowing down. The closer the date gets to go home, the more anxious I get. There have been many hardships

during this past year ranging from bad news from home, to personnel conflicts, and to false news of heading home. I keep asking myself if I would join the

reserves knowing what I do now. I don't think I will be able to answer that in the near future. It has been really hard

missing a lot of firsts with my wife, but I know that the work we are doing helps keep the terrorists from attacking us on our homeland and gives people a chance to turn in a new direction.

When finally home, I will probably

have to keep a generator running at night to be able to fall asleep. Constant loud noises have become a part of life. I have been trying to plan what I am going to do back as a civilian.

Catching up with family and friends will be a top priority. Finding a job can wait a couple of months -- I owe my wife a first anniversary.

I want to thank all of my family and friends for supporting me while over here. If it wasn't for them, I probably wouldn't have been able to make it this long.

God bless you and I hope to see you all soon.

"It's the simple creature comforts that keep us going"



John Hoestje, Zeta, has learned first hand of the hardships of serving in the reserves in the Middle East. John has been stationed in the region for more than a year.

Legacy -- continued from page 8

agreeable.

6. Save some money. Even if you don't have it. Set it aside. Keep a couple of dollars in reserve. Don't spend everything in your pocket.

7. Then, give it away.

8. Call or email home once a week. Your mom will be thinking about you more than you know.

9. Write something every day. A journal. A letter. An email. A card. Class notes. The ability to write coherently is a powerful advantage in college. And people get better with practice.

10. Have fun! It's one basic reason we leave home to go to college. But set guidelines. Don't let your "fun" activities control your time. Computer games, par-

tying, TV, and hanging out can be enormous time wasters.

If you teach yourself time-management skills you are guaranteed a job upon graduation.

Tom concluded his letter by saying, "Please know there are legions of people who will help in times of need - even people you have not met.

As a person who shares a common fraternal bond with your dad, let me assure you that I stand ready to assist with any matter at any time."

I send my personal thanks to all who answered my plea for help in recruiting my son to be a Beta Sig. I thank many who sent cards but were not included in this article. My only thought is "Wow!" Beta Sigma Psi is truly a lifetime experience, not just for the college years. May

God Bless Beta Sigma Psi National Lutheran Fraternity, Indeed!



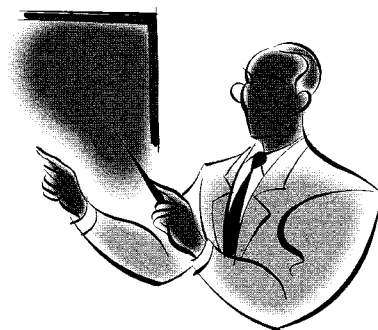
2004 National Educational Conference

By Chad Pfister, National Convention Chairman

The Beta Sigma Psi Educational Conference will be held on Friday, August 13th in conjunction with the 79th National Convention. The Conference will start at 8:00 am and run until 12:00 pm. The Conference will feature both large and small group sessions. The following topics may be discussed during the Conference:

- On-Campus Recruitment—How to conduct a successful On-Campus Recruitment Program.
- Career Planning—"An interactive session on being successful in obtaining and excelling in your first job." Will include resume preparation, interviewing, and what to expect when you show up.

- Chapter Leadership—Some people seem to do well in chapter leadership positions, others seem to fail. Why? This session will focus on learning what attitudes and actions lead to successful chapter leadership.
- Expansion—The role that a current Active Chapter plays in assisting interest groups and colonies in becoming an Active Chapter.
- Small Group Breakout Sessions—2005 Leadership Academy, Membership Education Forum, & Associate Member Manual
- Presentations—"Beta Sigma Psi and the Fraternal Movement" & "National Council Basics"



The following people may present at the Educational Conference:

- Chad Pfister—Regional Vice President Beta Sigma Psi
- Matt Walters—Executive Director Beta Sigma Psi
- Rod Thompson—Membership & Scholarship Director Beta Sigma Psi
- Bobby Thompson—Executive Director Phi Lambda Chi
- Tony Calandro—Regional Vice President United Country Real Estate

More information concerning the Educational Conference, its topics, and presenters will be updated on this convention website at <http://mysite.verizon.net/~res77a2g>. If you are interested in presenting at the Educational Conference please contact Chad Pfister.

2004 NIC Annual Meeting Report

By Chad Pfister, NIC Delegate

The 2004 Annual Meeting of the North-American InterFraternity Conference (NIC) was held on April 25—26 at the Hilton Alexandria-Mark Center in Washington, D.C. Beta Sigma Psi was represented by Chad Pfister, Regional Vice President/NIC Delegate and Matt Walters, Executive Director.

The most important item to come out of the Annual Meeting was the passage of a set of Standards applicable to all member organizations of the NIC. This set of standards was developed over a period of 18 months and compiled from NIC member organizations, University/College Presidents, and Greek Advisors.

The goal of establishing member standards was to communicate a basic set of expectations, first to those that would choose to be members of the NIC and then to outside entities. By establishing and enforcing standards, the NIC is mirroring what each member organization does for and expects from its individual chapters and members.

The standards were drafted with simplicity, enforceability and measurability in mind. The standards will require that Member Organizations make the necessary changes to their Constitutions, By-Laws, and policies in order to be in compliance.

In addition, to passing a set of standards the House of Delegates also elected new members to the Board of Directors, along with the new President of the NIC, James Estes of Kappa Alpha Order.

In conjunction with the NIC Annual Meeting, a meeting was held on April 25 with representatives from the Smaller National Fraternities. It was decided at this short meeting that a more formal meeting be held in the Fall of 2004. This meeting will be held at the Headquarters of Triangle Fraternity in Indianapolis, IN on October 16—17. The focus of this meeting will be on ways that smaller National Fraternities can work together to improve the programs and services that they currently have for Active and Alumni members.

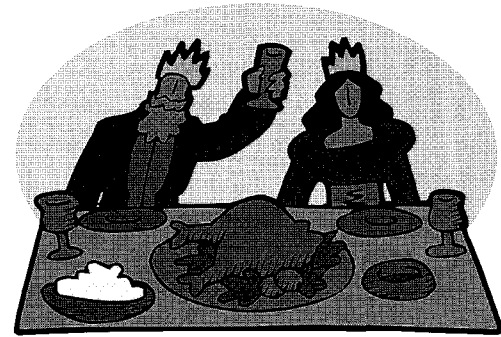
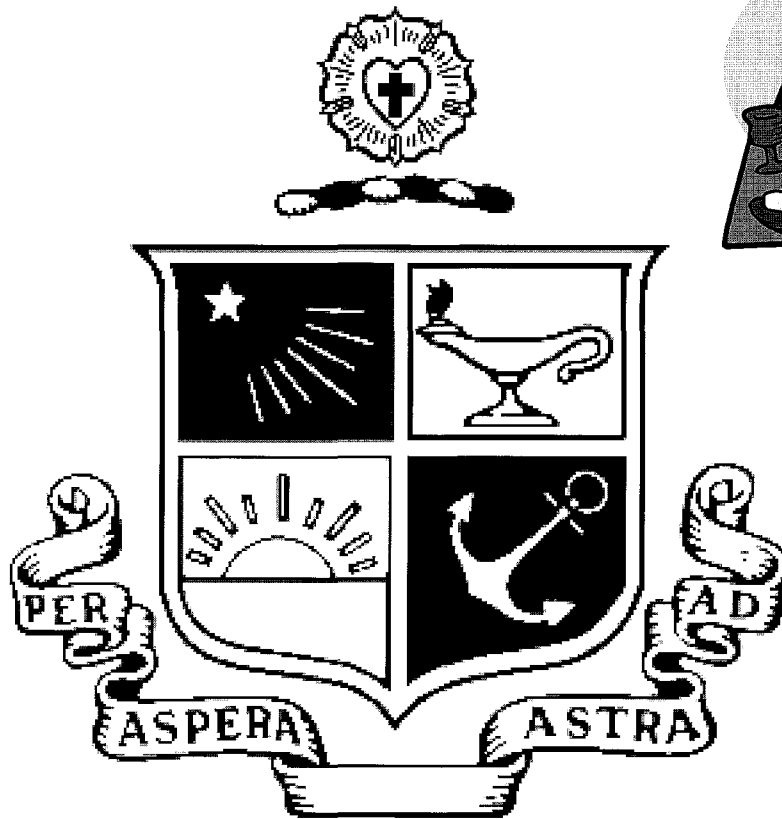
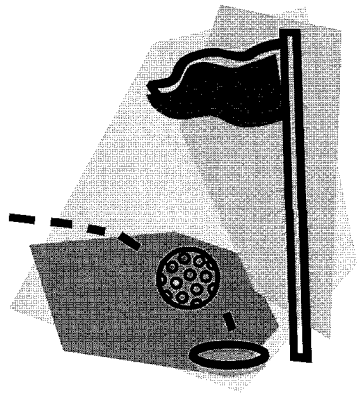
Standards Summary

1. Member organizations to report data including community service hours, new members, initiates.
2. Member organization policies will include: Agreeing to support open expansion and open recruitment on their respective campuses; Minimum GPA to become an associate member; Risk Management Policies, Alcohol Free Recruitment and Associate Member Programs.
3. Member organizations will communicate its values through its ritual at least annually or as prescribed by its policies.
4. Member organizations will communicate the importance of undergraduate members participating in educational programming.

For the complete list of standards passed by the NIC House of Delegates contact Chad Pfister at chad.pfister@verizon.net.

2004 Beta Sigma Psi National Convention

Come Join the **FUN!**



For more information on the 2004 Beta Sigma Psi National Convention
look in this issue of the Gold Rose or check out the Official Convention
website at <http://mysite.verizon.net/~res77a2g>.

August 12 - 15, 2004
Hyatt Regency Woodfield
Schaumburg, Illinois

Chapter Directory

Collegiate Chapters

Alpha Chapter

University of Illinois
706 West Ohio
Urbana, IL 61801
217/344-0676

Beta Chapter

Purdue University
525 University Street
West Lafayette, IN 47906
765/743-9685

Epsilon Chapter

Iowa State University
223 Lynn Avenue
Ames, IA 50010
515/292-3600

Zeta Chapter

Kansas State University
1200 Centennial Drive
Manhattan, KS 66502
785/539-7561

Eta Chapter

University of Missouri-Rolla
2 Fraternity Row P.O. Box 580
Rolla, MO 65401
573/364-8575

Iota Chapter

University of Missouri
206 South College Avenue
Columbia, MO 65201
573/449-1185

Chi Chapter

Ohio State University
1909 Waldeck
Columbus, OH 43201
614/353-4772

Psi Chapter

Concordia College-New York
171 White Plains Rd Box 502
Bronxville, NY 10708
914/395-4653

Alpha-Alpha

Midland Lutheran College
900 North Logan, Box 370
Fremont, NE 68025
402/721-5487 x3115

Alpha (Urbana)

John Schweizer
159N 2540E Rd
Rankin, IL 60960
217-397-2314

West Lafayette (Beta)

Andy Ortstadt
1250 Oak Hill Drive
Downer's Grove, IL 60515
630/663-1250

Lincoln (Delta)

Lee Anderberry
5120 Jade Court
Lincoln, NE 68516
402/421-1460

Ames (Epsilon)

Mark Anderson
8171 Elm Drive
Morrison, IL 61270-9003
815/ 772-7105

Manhattan (Zeta)

Mike Dove
327 Hydraulic
Wichita, KS 67202

Alumni Chapters

Rolla (Eta)

Lee Hahnel
7328 Idamor Lane
St. Louis, MO 63123
314/842-6480

Columbia (Iota)

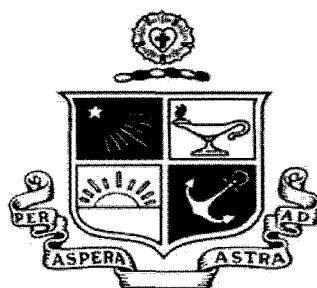
Brent Toellner
12101 W 55th St
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816/665-4719

Kansas City Area

Mike Unger
8304 Hillcrest #2
Kansas City, MO 64132
816/333-7439

Beta Sigma Psi Fraternity

c/o Southern Illinois District Office
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<http://www.betasigmapsi.org>



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