



The Bobcat Sig



Published by the Beta Rho Chapter of the
Sigma Chi Fraternity at Montana State University

Beta Rho Prepares to Celebrate 90 Years!

Brothers – The change of temperature is in the air and our televisions are full of college football. School is starting again and each of us can recall the flurry of activity on MSU's campus as students return to school and our beloved Fraternity springs to life for another year. Fall 2007 is an especially busy and meaningful time as both Alumni and Undergraduate brothers prepare to celebrate 90 years of existence for Beta Rho! As you can see in this edition of

the newsletter and on the new updated webpage, **October 5th – 7th will be an action packed weekend full of celebration and fun as Beta Rho celebrates her 90th birthday!** Whether you are a "regular" at Montana State University Homecoming games or thinking of returning for your first time, we hope you will join us for celebrating this milestone for Beta Rho! A special thanks to the many alumni involved in planning and coordinating all

activities including John Waggoner, Paul Boylan, Duane Ray, Richard Dissly, and John Wishman. Each of these alumni have worked diligently the past year to help ensure we properly celebrate this accomplishment and prepare Beta Rho for another 90 years!

Ryan Roseleip
Bobcat Sig Editor
rroselei@ibius.jnj.com



JUST THE FACTS PLEASE

Abbreviated Agenda

Friday, October 5

9:00 – 1:30 PM
3:00 – 4:00 PM
4:00 – 7:00 PM
7:00 – Close

Saturday, October 6

10:30 – 12:00 PM
12:30 – 1:35 PM

1:35 – 5:00 PM
6:00 – 7:00 PM
7:00 – 9:00 PM

Sunday, October 7

8:30 – 9:30 AM
10:00 – 11:30 AM

Golf Outing @ Valley View Golf Course
Annual Beta Rho House Corporation Meeting & Officer Elections at the Chapter House
Open House & Cocktail Reception at Chapter House (Sponsored by Beta Rho House Corp.)
Paint the Town Blue & Gold at the Baxter Hotel (All MSU Alumni – not Sigma Chi sponsored)

Parade
Friends of EX Tailgate – northwest side of Bobcat Stadium (look for the EX flag). Sponsored by the Bozeman Alumni Chapter.
Football Game vs. Southern Utah, Go Cats!
No Host Cocktail Reception at the Holiday Inn, Gallatin Room
90th Celebration Banquet & Program at the Holiday Inn, Gallatin Room

Breakfast at the holiday Inn, Montana/State Rooms
Ritual Interpretation – Location TBD – Signs posted in chapter house (Sigs only)

WHERE: Bozeman, MT

WHEN: October 5-7, 2007

AIRPORT CODE: BZN

HOW DO I REGISTER: You can register online at

www.bobcatsigs.org/betarho/homecoming/default.php or by mail to Beta Rho HBC, ATTN: Rick Dissly, 6651 Leyland Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95120. Please include check (\$50/pp) for cost of Banquet.

HOTEL ACCOMODATIONS: www.hibozeman.com (Holiday Inn). Use code SGC to receive a \$10 discount off of room price. EX has blocked 30 rooms at a cost of \$75 each.

WHERE DO I GET FOOTBALL TICKETS: Call (406) 994-2278 for the latest information and availability. Request tickets for the Beta Rho Alumni Section as we have reserved seats.

DRESS: Banquet and Ritual Interpretation is nice shirt and slacks. Family and friends welcome.

COST: See Detailed Agenda

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND BETA RHO INFO: www.bobcatsigs.org

Username: <first initial><last name> **Password:** 1855

DETAILED AGENDA**Golf Outing**

When: Friday, October 5th, 9:00 AM – 1:30 PM

Where: Valley View Golf Course

Cost: Non-hosted (approx. \$77 with golf cart)

Several Brothers have requested a golf outing during homecoming. Contact John Waggoner at jonwag42@yahoo.com if you're interested in a fun day of golfing with other brothers and their significant others. John will determine the format and pairings of the golf outing once he knows who has signed up. The 18 hole, over 6,262 yards, par 70 course has a rating of 118.

Annual Beta Rho House Corporation Meeting and Officer Elections

When: Friday, October 5, 3:00 PM – 4:00 PM

Where: Chapter House

Come hear what's new with the Beta Rho house Corporation and the physical structure of the chapter house. The House Corporation is always looking for dedicated brothers to fill much needed positions on the board. Contact Paul Boylan at pboylan@theglobal.net if you're interested in lending a hand.

Open House & Cocktail Reception

When: Friday, October 5, 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: Chapter House

Cost: Free – sponsored by the Beta Rho House Corporation

Come see old friends, meet the undergraduate chapter, see the Chapter house and enjoy the brotherhood Beta Rho has produced since 1917.

Paint the Town Blue & Gold

When: Friday, October 5, 7:00 PM – until close

Where: Baxter Hotel

Start your downtown adventure at the Baxter and proceed from there. Sponsored by the MSU Alumni Association, this has become an annual event enjoyed by all MSU alumni.

Parade

When: Saturday, October 6, 10:30AM – 12:00 PM

Where: Main Street, Downtown Bozeman

Come see the School Spirit displayed by the undergraduate chapter. Will it be another pirate ship? If you want to watch the parade in the company of brothers, a group from the 60's will gather around the Cannery and a group from the 90's and 2000's will gather around the R Bar. Feel free to gather with either of these groups.

Friends of EX Tailgate

When: Saturday, October 6, 12:30 PM – 1:35 PM & during halftime

Where: Alumni parking lot northwest of Bobcat Stadium (look for the Sigma Chi flag).

Cost: Free – sponsored by the Bozeman Alumni Chapter

Have a burger or bratwurst with your brothers and other friends of EX as we prepare for another Bobcat victory! All are welcome!

Cocktail Reception

When: Saturday, October 6, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Where: Holiday Inn, Gallatin Room

Cost: Non-hosted

Come see old friends, meet the undergraduate chapter and enjoy the brotherhood Beta Rho has produced since 1917.

90th Celebration Banquet and Program

When: Saturday, October 6, 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Where: Holiday Inn, Gallatin Room

Cost: \$50/plate (includes two drink tickets)

Join together with fellow brothers and celebrate 90 years of Friendship, Justice, and Learning

Breakfast

When: Sunday, October 7, 8:30 AM – 9:30 AM

Where: Holiday Inn, Montana/State Rooms

Cost: Non-hosted (\$12.95 for adults, \$11.95 for seniors (65+) and \$8.95 for children)

The Holiday Inn breakfast buffet will help you start the morning. Sigma Chi reserves a banquet room, so brothers can purchase a brunch buffet pass and eat together.

Please send subscription requests to newsletter@bobcatsigs.org or call 608-225-7639.

Ritual Interpretation**When:** Sunday, October 7, 10:00 AM – 11:30 AM**Where:** Location TBD – Look for signs at chapter house for more specifics

Come revisit the Ritual and see what ties all Sigma Chis together, young and old, near and far, as the undergraduates guide us through the Ceremonies of Initiation. This event is for Sigma Chi Brothers Only.

A Beta Rho Perspective on the 152nd Grand Chapter

Sigma Chi recently celebrated its 152nd birthday at Grand Chapter in San Jose, CA, during the end of June. As you may know, Grand Chapter is the supreme legislative body of our Fraternity. Beta Rho was well represented by several brothers in attendance which included: Will Holm, 2010, representing the Beta Rho Chapter; Rick Dissly, 1966, representing the Billings Alumni Chapter; Grand Praetor Duane Ray, 2000, representing the Bozeman Alumni Chapter; Brent Christofferson, 2009; Tristan Renz, 1979; and Andrew Wharton, 2006.

During the business meeting the Grand Officers were elected for the 2007-2009 biennium. Bob Jones, Rensselaer 1973,

was elected Grand Consul. At the province level, Duane Ray was re-elected Grand Praetor for the Big Sky Province which marks his third two-year term. Eli Snider, Willamette 2007, was selected the International Balfour Award Winner. Rachel Berkley, Harvard, was selected the 30th International Sweetheart. Grand Chapter consists of Ritual, business, brotherhood and a celebration of our past, present and future success as an international fraternity. This year's Grand Chapter was highlighted by a new silent and live auction event that raised money for the Sigma Chi Foundation. Another significant announcement was the new Sigma Chi military pin that signifies Sigma Chi's appreciation of our

brothers who serve or have served in our armed forces. For more news about Grand Chapter, including a complete list of elected officers, visit www.sigmachi.org

Duane Ray
Grand Praetor
Big Sky Province

Greek Life on MSU's Campus

In the Fall 2006 issue of the Bobcat Sig we announced two major developments that MSU is taking to improve the Greek System. First, Erin Macdonald Peck was hired as a Greek consultant to assist the Panhellenic and Inter-Fraternity Councils by working directly with Glenn Pufer – Dean of Students at MSU. Erin brought a wealth of knowledge and experience having worked for the Alpha Xi Delta Sorority Headquarters where she served as a consultant to over 23 chapters throughout the nation. Erin's services have helped fill the void of the vital position of Greek Coordinator that has seen five individuals rotate through the system in a very short period of time. Second, in response to a shrinking Greek system, MSU agreed to fund a visit by Jon Williamson, Executive Vice President of the North American Inter Fraternity Council. Jon was charged with assessing the Greek community and offering proactive and focused solutions in written form.

The Williamson report (Assessment of the Montana State University Greek Community) was received in the Office of the Dean of Students. A copy of the report was distributed to each chapter president and chapter advisor. Upon review of the report, a process began to implement many of the recommendations found in the report. In summary, the Williamson's report reflects the following 1) Montana State University is a very viable campus for a strong Greek system. 2) Recruitment must change to reflect a product that is attractive to today's college students 3) Students are interested in obtaining good grades, graduating in 4 years and obtaining a good job 4) All recruitment efforts must be reviewed to assure that messages are consistent with the development of a strong system. In response to the report, a CORE (Council of Older Respected Experts) group of alumni were called together with the purpose of moving the Williamson report recommendations forward. Each

member of the CORE group has direct chapter involvement, locally or nationally. Erin Macdonald Peck met with interested members who accepted a chair position for a major segment of the Greek revitalization movement. The committees and their respective chairs include:

I. Improve Academic Status

Frank Seitz – frankseitz@yahoo.com

II. Increase Membership From 3% to 9% of Undergraduate Enrollment by 2010

Kerry Hanson – kshanson@montana.edu
(Women)

Mike Mansfield – mmansfield@sae.net
(Men)

III. Effective Communication Internally and Externally

Krista Lammers
lammers@montana.edu

Please send subscription requests to newsletter@bobcatsigs.org or call 608-225-7639.

IV. Improve Accountability and Responsibility of ChaptersRay Knox – rknox@fnbmontana.com**V. Involve Alumni in the Life of the Greek Community**Jaynee Groseth – jgroseth@montana.edu**VI. Provide Oversight to Progress of Greek Community**

Erin Macdonald Peck –

epeck@alphaxidelta.orgGlenn Puffer – puffer@montana.edu

A meeting took place on April 19th between Vice President of Student Affairs Allen Yarnell, Greek Consultant Erin McDonald Peck, and respective committee heads of the CORE group. Dr. Yarnell indicated that he is looking for leadership from both the students and alumni to rebuild the Greek system. He reemphasized MSU's commitment to the Greek system as demonstrated by funding the NIC Consultant visit by Jon Williamson, hosting a recognition dinner

for those students who earned a 4.0 GPA, funding for a full time Greek coordinator for the 2007/2008 academic school year, and financial support for Greek marketing materials.

If you are interested and want to become involved please contact the chairperson directly.

Bill Gum, Alumnus
bgum@whidbey.net



Jeremy DeVries and his wife, Kori, received recognition for this year's under 40 award which recognizes young businessman and businesswomen for their accomplishments. DeVries is the head guide at Eagle Nest Lodge just south of Billings. jkrdevries@msn.com

BETA RHO ANNOUNCES NEW WEBSITE: All members (alumni, undergraduates and pledges) are invited to check out Beta Rho's website at www.bobcatsigs.org Of particular interest is the Members Only section which allows you access to members only information including the ability to update your contact information and lookup other alumni contact information. To access the Members Only Section, simply follow the menu system by selecting Members > LOGIN. For alumni that have not previously logged into the Members Only section, your login information is **Login:** <first_initial><last_name> **Password:** 1855 For example, John Doe would login as jdoe, 1855. Please change your password after logging in by clicking on update Profile -> Edit Profile. If you have trouble or questions, please email sigmachi@montana.edu. Enjoy!

Editor Note: Brothers, please double-check your profile upon entering this site to ensure it is accurate. We hope this tool provides you with a convenient way to contact brothers whom have been lost over the years as well as to provide you up to date information as it becomes available. If you have not been receiving past issues of the Bobcat Sig you can also read up on several events that have taken place the past few years.

House Corporation Report

I would like to thank the Brothers listed below who contributed to reducing the Boiler Loan debt. The Boiler Loan debt is now down to \$12,000 as opposed to the \$15,000 still outstanding as reported in Fall 2006. The total cost to replace the boiler was \$30,000. This list only includes contributions I know about since I took over as Treasurer in November 2006. I would appreciate it if brothers who contributed to this project prior to

this date please notify me at rdissly@comcast.net so I can properly recognize you in the next newsletter. Additional contributions to pay off the loan amount would be welcomed and you can make a contribution on the enclosed Contribution Form. Please note that you can now also pay your annual alumni membership dues on line at <http://www.bobcatsigs.org/betarho/homecoming/registration.php>

Other than income from the chapter, HBC's only source of income is from the annual contributions from Beta Rho Alumni. Contributions can be mailed to me at the address listed below.

Rick Dissly, House Corp Member
6651 Leyland Park Drive
San Jose, CA 95120
Dissly@aol.com

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY AND SUPPORT FOR BETA RHO

\$50 - \$199

Mark Harris '96
George Clemow '40
James Mills '40

\$200-\$499

Rick Buckingham '66
James Barfknecht '73
Bob Byrtus '80
John Hansen '45
Scott Swenson '92

\$500-\$999**\$1000 & Above**

John Bennet '88
Ron Lewis '88
Bill Johnstone '66
Rick Dissly '66