

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

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The website of the Sigma Chi Fraternity, (www.sigmachi.org), states that "Sigma Chi is proud to boast it has the most committed alumni members in the Greek letter world. Alumni throughout North America and the world demonstrate their commitment to Sigma Chi by volunteering their time to enhance the experience of undergraduate brothers. Alumni volunteers provide housing, advise chapter officers, and serve as personal and professional mentors." I say that nowhere is that statement more true than at 722 South Willson in Bozeman. A small group of dedicated alumni has virtually saved Beta Rho from extinction, and now the chapter is stronger than it has been in several years. Look at the names in the above chart and you will understand what I say. Having said that, I must also point out that we are still in a very tenuous situation, and a key part of our aim is to sustain the chapter into the future. Recapitalization and modernization take funding and that means long term. This newsletter goes out to more than 1,000 Beta Rho Alumni, and each of you now has an opportunity to help the Chapter grow even stronger. If each alumnus were to donate just \$20 or \$25 annually, that would mean your donations would enhance the physical quality of the house for an infinite amount of time. Please consider a donation, and support the work that the HBC and Advisors do. Let's restore the Chapter to the prominence that it once had. mh

Editor Advisor Report

Once again, we see growth in numbers of both Active and Pledge members, and improvement in living conditions for brothers who choose to live in the house. Just having the contact with others with whom one has formed a bond through the Initiation Ceremony develops relationships which last a lifetime. After more than forty years, I still value those relationships. The experience of living in a Fraternity for an extended period with others of very diverse backgrounds helps our young men develop their character—character which lasts a lifetime. Our active Chapter and the new pledge class together are a strong presence on the campus of MSU, and with the present leadership, they will continue to be so.

Manny Hoag

Beta Rho Fall, 2010 Pledge Class

Jordan Aid	Bozeman, MT
Chris Aldrich	Wilsonville, OR
Jackson Dupont-Darf	Del Mar, Ca
Alex Feldt-Pederson	Detroit, MN
Alex Harry	Bozeman, MT
Jeffrey Howw	Roseville, MN
Ethan Lenegar	Dillon, MT
Charles "Reese" Morrison-Mittens	Cincinnati, OH
Michael Notti	Anchorage, AK
David Notti	Anchorage, AK
Rory O'Connor	Sugar Land, TX
Christopher Perez	Las Vegas, NV
Kyle Steiner-Blake	Las Vegas, NV
William Stradtman	Ryegate, MT

House Building Corporation Report: Paul Boylan '63

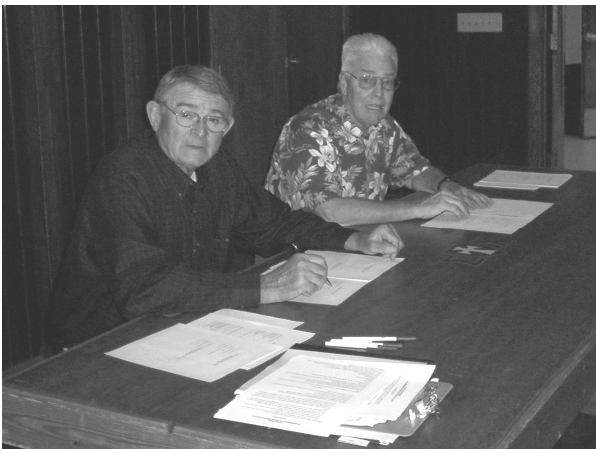
The HBC has made significant improvements to the living conditions of the house during the last couple of years. For accomplishments last year and objectives next year take a look at the insert. We have recently hired a part-time handyman to focus on several areas in need of repair and to properly maintain our existing systems. We expect to have all the small repair items completed by the end of the Spring semester. So at this point the basic living conditions are **good**.

I'm sure that many alumni think that keeping the house clean and looking good is the responsibility of the active chapter, but that is not entirely true. The fact is that the HBC-alumni need to provide structure that is suitable to rent like any landlord. Thus, the condition of the house at any point in time is really the joint responsibility of the HBC and active chapter. The HBC needs to ensure that the basic systems of the house are functional, i.e. the heating systems, plumbing, drainage, electrical and computer network systems while the active chapter needs to ensure that the house is not damaged beyond the normal wear and tear and is maintained in a clean condition.


The HBC has been increasing the rent charged to the active chapter as the number of members living in the house has increased. We currently have 22 living in the house. A full house would be 31. The current rent covers the minor repairs to house but does not cover major items such as the replacement of drapes and carpets through-out the facility, a project which is necessary now. Once we get to 31 members living in the house we will be allocating a portion of the rent to maintain the long-term viability of the facility. It will take several years to build up this fund such that alumni donations will not have to be relied upon to fund major renovation projects such as the heating system which was necessary in 2005.

To fund the replacement of the drapes and carpets we need to raise approximately \$30,000. Rick Dissly has agreed to put in \$1,000 toward this project and would like other alumni to match his contribution. Smaller amounts are ok. We cannot proceed with this project until the total amount has been raised.

Also, please pay your alumni membership dues to continue to fund the "Bobcat Sig" and other alumni activities. To pay your annual alumni dues, press *control* + click on the following link: [paying your dues](http://www.bobcatsigs.org/betarho/dues/alumni.php). Your internet browser (Internet Explorer) needs to be open for the link to work properly. Or you can go to the Beta Rho web site at www.bobcatsigs.org/betarho/dues/alumni.php. For those of you who choose to pay via check, cut out the Beta Rho Contribution Form below. Dues are \$50.00 bi-annually and \$500.00 lifetime. You can use the form for both dues and contributions to the drape and carpet fund.



Bros. Paul Boylan and Rick Dissly chair the HBC Annual Meeting in early October, 2010.

<u>Pay your dues</u>	
Name _____	
Address _____ _____	
Email _____	
Designated For: _____	
Make check payable to: "Beta Rho Sigma Chi HBC" c/o Bro. Rick Dissly 6651 Leyland Park Drive, San Jose, CA 95120	

Chapter & Pro Consul Advisor Report: John Wishman'04 and Mike Langohr'73

As the Beta Rho Chapter moves forward with noticeable improvements in many functional areas, we are able to focus more on the overall chapter's continuity of operations. Below are 2 areas where initiatives, derived from lessons learned, are in the works.

Chapter By-Laws: The chapter's by-laws are outdated, have proven cumbersome to work with in today's smaller membership environment, and are a roadblock to the chapter success. The Chapter has changed the Bylaws as follows:

- Election of the 8 key officers is now approximately two months before the end of the Fall semester with the new officers' starting date at the end of the semester. This allows a two month transition period.
- The Web Site Administrator is now an official officer.
- The term of office for the Kitchen Manager, House Manager and Web Site Administrator shall be 1 year.
- Duties of all officers and committees may be changed and prioritized by the Consul or Pro Consul and do not require an amendment to the Bylaws

Chapter Operations: To further enhance the chapter's ability to anticipate/adopt to change, consolidate improvements and take advantage of any opportunities that present, we are working on a Chapter Operations Manual with focus on enhancing the general operations of the chapter. This will be in addition to the manuals for several key individual functions that have been developed and refined over the last two years with great effect. The individual manual concept has been especially effective with regard to chapter business practices and the landlord/tenant relationship between the HBC and the chapter. The more general Chapter Operations Manual will bring focus to the process of establishing and maintaining an effective chapter "rhythm" -- aka consistency. The backbone of the manual will be a calendar of categorized recurring evolutions incorporated with planning lead times.

Beta Rho Chapter Eternal

Fred Heer	Beta Rho 1962
Robert Hobart, Sr.	Beta Rho 1960
Richard Kildahl	Beta Rho 1979
Robert Martin	Beta Rho 1936
Bert Sherrow, Jr	Beta Rho 1945
Kenneth Spain	Beta Rho 1968
John VandeVen	Beta Rho 1964
Charles Wood	Beta Rho 1966

A ship sails and I stand watching till she fades on the horizon, and someone says, "she is gone".
Gone where?
Gone from my sight, that is all; she is just as large as when I saw her...
The diminished size and total loss of sight is in me, not in her, and just at the moment when someone says "she is gone", there are others who are watching her coming, and other voices take up a glad shout, "there she comes!"...

Merlin Olsen

Sigma Chis are honoring the life of Order of Constantine and Significant Sig Merlin Olsen, **UTAH STATE 1962**, who is remembered as a committed philanthropist, Hall of Fame professional football player and actor. Olsen passed away on March 11 at the age of 69. "Brother Olsen was a dear friend and a loyal Fraternity member who inspired us all to be better men," says Sigma Chi International President Wayne Tucker, **BAYLOR 1985**. "Because of his generous heart and his passion for helping others, he was instrumental in advancing the Fraternity's early philanthropic endeavors with Children's Miracle Network (CMN)." Sigma Chis perhaps most fondly remember Olsen for his contributions to the Fraternity. He was named the Fraternity's International Balfour Award winner, or most outstanding undergraduate, in 1962. He served on Sigma Chi's Executive Committee, and he was the keynote speaker for the 1964 Leadership Training Workshop in Muncie, Ind. He was a member of the Fraternity's International Sweet-

Consul Report: Matt Darfler

In the last year Beta Rho has taken several strides forward to ensure our current success and to pave the way for excellence in the future. They include: recruiting another solid pledge class, passing a set of bylaws that will streamline our officer transitions, and over the weekend of Oct. 29-31, we hosted our Grand Consul, L. Wayne Tucker who put on an exciting and informative leadership/brotherhood workshop. In the middle of October we held elections for our Spring 2011 – Fall 2011 administration. Al Kaul (Consul), Sam Rhorich (Pro Consul), Eli Inabnit (Quaestor), Jake Mahan (Recruitment Chairman), Zach Coffill (Magister), Nick Ames (House Manager), Alex Montgomery (Kitchen Manager), and Blake Harbour (Annotator). We felt that by holding the key elections earlier in the semester, the incoming officers would have a longer transition period which will help them immensely with performing their duties. We also have taken part in several community service projects this semester. In Oct. we helped the Bozeman Senior Center clean up after their annual yard sale, and on Halloween we took part in "Halloween at the Storey", where we dressed up in costumes and helped hand out candy to the kids in our neighborhood. These are just a few of the things that we have done over the past year. As the fall semester nears an end we are looking forward to a successful initiation and a strong academic finish.

Recruitment: Sam Rohrich

Beta Rho Chapter is doing a great job pulling in more recruits. A big improvement to the recruiting process is how proactive we were with the alumni. We got set up with the Google docs and the calendar to set different events that the brothers would come up with in the summer when we had some brainstorming sessions. We also looked back on what was successful last fall like the alumni barbeque, shooting targets at Hyalite Canyon, and football games. This work has gotten us 14 pledges for the semester. I want to give a big shout out to all the brothers and alumni for helping achieve another successful semester of recruitment.

Magister Report: Matt Giorgis

This semester we have 14 pledges going into initiation. I have been busy working with them on a weekly basis to prepare them for their final exam and for initiation. It has been great teaching and getting to know our future brothers. I have been impressed this semester with their dedication, hard work, and enthusiasm. I see a lot of positive characteristics in them, and I look forward to what they will offer the house once they become brothers. This is my last semester as Magister and I have been working with my successor, Brother Zach Coffil, to aid in the transition process; I am reorganizing the Magister materials, so that I can neatly and efficiently pass everything on. This position has been an amazing experience, and the highlight of my Sigma Chi career; I wish Brother Coffil the best of luck with our future classes.

House Manager Report: Elijah Inabnit

The cleanliness of the house has been emphasized as a recruitment tool and thus remains a focus of the chapter. We recently acquired a new and very diversely skilled handyman Dal Spanjol who has been a great asset in keeping things in order. Nearly all house maintenance, and most cosmetic issues have been resolved. As a chapter we have come together as one and are cleaning the house head to toe, keeping everything as orderly as possible.

One issue that does need significant consideration is the problem of vandalism. A fraternity house is always prone to having a certain level of problems of this nature but recently the problem has increased. In the spring we had a bout of random tire slashings, this fall we have had car break-ins and thefts along with such things as deer legs being thrown through house windows. Not only are these kinds of things expensive to the house as far as repairs go but also to the brothers who have to replace stolen goods or buy new tires. We have increased lighting and are attempting to put together enough money to place surveillance cameras in the more problematic areas. The house is still a great place to live and we are all proud of it.

Quaestor Report: Alex Kaul

This year the finances of the Beta Rho house have been without trouble. With the help of the Quaestor advisors Rick Dissly and Duane Ray we have recently implemented the use of Quickbooks into the Quaestor's program which provides us with great records and an easy system for sending statements to members. The house bills are being paid on time according to the live-in agreements. We currently have 22 live-ins and are forecasting for 25 next semester. We hired a cook, Fulton Fortner last spring and he has been with us ever since cooking dinners at 5pm Sunday through Thursday. Four brothers and I attended BLTW (Balfour Leadership Training Workshop) this summer and we all brought back a lot of great ideas and plans to implement in our own chapter. I will be working close with my successor, Eli Inabnit to help him make the transition to this essential office.

Pro Consul Report: Zach Thompson

The semester has been a productive one with many high notes to build off of. Every semester it is important to improve the house and I feel we have taken several steps towards accomplishing that goal. A highlight and very exciting visit from our Grand Consul Wayne Tucker, holding a recruitment 365 workshop, and maintaining strong brotherhood activities have really helped to promote brotherhood and keep brothers excited throughout the semester. The Alumni support as advisors has really improved the communication between the active chapter and Alumni significantly benefiting the Chapter. I look forward to initiation and welcoming new brothers into the house soon.

Active Chapter
Accomplishments for 2010 and Objectives for 2011

Accomplishments

- Changed the Chapter Bylaws to make operation more efficient as follows:
 - Duties of all officers and committees may be changed and prioritized by the Consul and/ or Pro Consul and do not require an amendment to the Bylaws.
 - Duties of all officers and committees may be changed and prioritized by the Consul and/ or Pro Consul and do not require an amendment to the Bylaws
 - The Web Site Administrator shall be an additional officer for the Beta Rho Chapter.
 - The term of office for the Kitchen Manager, House Manager and Web Site Administrator shall be 1 year beginning at the end of the fall 2010 semester to be consistent with the elections of the top 5 officers.
 - Election of officers shall be approximately one month before the end of each semester with the new officer starting date at the end of the current semester. This allows a one month transition period for the new officer to get up to speed on the duties of their new office with assistance from the current officer. In addition, this will prevent any gaps where no one is officially in charge of a specific area at any one point in time.
- I
- Hired a cook to plan and cook dinners for Sun through Thursday.
- Recruited 19 pledges in fall 2009 and spring 2010; 15 pledges went active.
- Increased members living in the house from 14 to 21.
- Increased active chapter membership to 28.
- 5 members and 3 officers attended BLTW.
- Implemented new house cleaning procedures per the House Manager policy. General improvements made in keeping the house clean.

Objectives

- Duplicate and institutionalize the successful recruiting system and procedures implemented in the fall of 2009.
- Recruit 18 new pledges for the Fall Semester, of which 15 will go active.
- Recruit 8 new pledges for the Spring Semester, of which 4 will go active.
- Have 24 members living in the house in the Spring Semester 2011, and 31 in the Fall Semester.
- Increase active chapter membership to 40
- Implement new Bylaw Changes noted above.
- All past top 5 officers are expected to train current officers during two months transition period at end of the fall semester.
- As part of the above, ensure that the following officer manuals are updated:
 - Consul, Pro Consul, Magister, Recruitment Chair, Quaestor, House Manager, Web Site Administrator.
- Exceed an average GPA of 2.75.
- Ensure that all 5 of the top Officers and the House Manager attend BLTW.
- Improve the Beta Rho chapter GPA per the Peterson Award criteria.
- House Manager to implement Check-out procedures 2 weeks before end of each semester.
- Consul to implement one page bi-weekly status report sent to all advisors beginning 3rd week of each semester and ending 13th week of the semester.

Alumni Advisor Board
Accomplishments for 2010, and Objectives for 2011

Accomplishments

- Had a mini “365 Recruiting Seminar” in fall for Active Chapter members.
- Had several recruitment conference calls to assist in the planning for the recruitment of new pledge candidates.
- Had an alumni barbecue in the fall to assist in the recruitment of new pledge candidates.
- Had an all hands meeting with Alumni Advisors and Executive Committee Officers of the Active Chapter during Homecoming to agree upon plans for the following year.
- Ensured that at least one alumnus was in attendance at each Active Chapter meeting during the school year.

Objectives

- The Chapter Alcohol Policy needs to be revised to prevent unauthorized parties at the house. There are significant differences between the policy recommended by the advisors and the chapter policy. Differences need to be resolved.
- Continue to focus on the recruitment effort and have local alumni involved on the Recruitment Committee.
- Continue to hold a mini “365 Seminar” prior to the beginning of Spring and Fall Semesters of each year.
- Continue to hold an alumni barbecue each year prior to the beginning of Fall Semesters. Have selected alumni talk about why they joined Beta Rho or Sigma Chi.
- Require that each Alumni advisor have at least one face-to-face meeting with his applicable officer during the year, hopefully during Homecoming.
- Have an agreed upon agenda for the all-hands meeting with Alumni Advisors and Active Chapter Executive Committee Officers during Homecoming each year to agree upon plans for coming year.
- Hold quarterly conference calls with selected Advisor and applicable Chapter Officer. Focus on recruitment for the coming year.
- Continue to have at least one alumnus at each Active Chapter Meeting.
- Encourage each Alumni Advisor to be proactive in assisting his Active Chapter Officer and recruiting his replacement.
- Have Career Advisor become proactive in getting jobs for Juniors and Seniors via the Beta Rho network.

Beta Rho House Building Corporation
Accomplishments for 2010, and Objectives for 2011

Accomplishments

- Quaestor to begin getting signed Live-In Agreements signed one month before the beginning of spring and summer semester. HBC Treasurer will continue to monitor. Live-in committee will continue to do the fall semester Live-in Agreements and Check-in procedures.

The Beta Rho House Manager Operating Procedures Manual has been completed.

- House Manager to ensure House is clean by doing monthly inspections with the House Manager Advisor.
- Oldest members living on each floor of the house is responsible for keeping their assigned areas of the house clean.
- Remaining members living on each floor of the house will be assigned to the responsible oldest member.
- Each Pledge will be assigned to his Big Brother's cleaning group.
- Selected a House Manager Advisor from Bozeman area.
- Prevented property tax assessment from increasing by a factor of 3. Thanks to Paul Boylan.
- Periodic House inspections being done by HBC members.
- Repairs and improvements to House:
 - Several heating system repairs – heating system is working effectively.
 - Repaired Hobart leak in Chapter Room.
 - Heating system added to back door roof to prevent build up of snow.
 - Replaced ceiling tiles in Chapter Room.
 - Patched and sealed the parking lot.
 - Repaired several lighting systems.
 - Replaced floor in the food storage area.

Objectives

- House Manager to take over from the Live-In Committee the check-out procedures. Such procedures should be accomplished 2 weeks before the end of each semester. HBC Treasurer will monitor progress.
- Increase rent over a period of time such that funds are available for major repairs (heating, plumbing and electrical systems) and improvements (new carpets, tile and other major renovations).
- Implement improvements and procedures to ensure that 31 members can live in house. Rules on bed size and storage in large rooms.
- Solicit alumni contributions of \$30k to continue making improvements below to the house.

Repairs and improvements:

- Add Bike Racks in Mud Room and outside wood storage area such that all Bikes are not inside the house.
- Rent outside storage area for excess bed frames, mattresses and furniture.
- Repair rain gutters such that water is prevented from getting into the Boiler Room.
- Install Blue Curtains on all closet areas on north side of the house.
- Replace all curtains on South side of the house.
- Have house formally approved as an historical site, so we can form a 501(c) 3 organization after 50 years (November 2012). Thus all contributions by alumni for house repair will be tax deductible.
- New procedures to be implemented before beginning of each Fall Semester:
 - Commercially clean all tile floors, bathrooms and showers.
 - Test all smoke alarms, and replace batteries.

Homecoming, 2010, Rick Dissly

Believe it or not the weather at Homecoming was almost too hot. The cocktail party and dinner at the house on Friday night was well attended by actives, pledges and alumni. This informal event is now standard and will be held every year. This is a great way to see your brothers who you have not seen for years. Even if you failed to pre-register, don't worry just show up. The active chapter did their normal pirate ship for the parade. Then it was on to the tail-gate to continue the conversations from the prior evening. MSU played a great game and ending up on top. Put Homecoming on your schedule for next year. As the years go by you don't want to miss the opportunity of renewing your friendship with your Beta Rho brothers.

Beaver & Fatz' Old Guy Reunion, Sept. 2010

Tom "Beaver" Gilroy & Ron Fatzinger

There was a total of 30 people which amounted to 12 couples and six of us bachelor types. Brother John Ross '63 and his wife Bonnie had a terrific pre-function at their house very close to the Alderbrook Resort and Spa where the bulk of us stayed. The resort on the Hood Canal in southwestern Washington was first class with their own golf course that a few brothers took advantage of as well as the pool and spa. On wednesday, those of us who didn't play golf just "hung out" reminiscing as a number of the guys had not seen one another for over 40 years. Wednesday evening was the big event with a 2 hour dinner cruise aboard a 90 foot yacht which was quite spectacular. Everyone had a great time, and as typical with Beta Rho Sigs, it doesn't matter how long it's been since you've seen a brother, you just take up with one another like it was yesterday.



Pic's are small, but some of these guys are easily recognizable.

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