



Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu

Newsletter, September, 2011

Alumni Barbeque October 29

All Beta Kappa alumni are invited to join us for a tailgate and barbeque for the homecoming game between K-State and Oklahoma on **October 29**. We will be grilling and tailgating at the house in the morning and will assign designated drivers to give rides to and from the stadium. RSVP to **Zach Pitts**, Alumni Chairman at (785) 320-6193 or at sigmanu@k-state.edu by October 26.

Sunset Revival Philanthropy

More than \$1,500 was raised from the Sunset Revival benefit concert held on the front lawn at Sigma Nu on April 30, 2011 with an attendance of approximately 1,300. Sigma Nu partners with Sigma Phi Epsilon each year to host this philanthropy. This year's event was coordinated by Philanthropy Chairman, **Ben Post** and C. J. Heinz, from Sigma Phi Epsilon. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Sunset Zoo in Manhattan, Kansas.

Sad News

On Sunday, September 4, 2011, James "Jim" Treece, father of member **Bobby Treece**, and candidate **Adam Treece** passed away unexpectedly from a heart attack. Jim and his wife Polly were frequent visitors to the Sigma Nu house since their son Bobby became a candidate in August, 2010. The house chartered a bus for thirty members to travel to the funeral service on September 9, 2011. A big thank you to the Parent's Club who contributed \$500 to the cost of the bus.

Jim Treece Memorial Dad's Day

On September 17, 2011, the Beta Kappa chapter hosted the first annual Jim Treece Memorial Dad's Day event in honor of Jim Treece. The day began with a golf tournament at Colbert Hills Golf Course, followed by a barbeque at the house.

House Improvements

There have been many improvements made to the house in the past year, the biggest project being a renovation of the main bathroom on the second floor. All the members of the house worked



alongside Housing Corps to make this happen. Along with the new bathroom new letters were mounted to the front of the house, lights were installed under the bench on the deck and along the sidewalk and stairs leading up to the house, and the flagpole was moved to a more visible location. The dining room floors were stripped and waxed and screens were purchased for the kitchen and dining room windows. The 2011 Spring pledge class recently painted the hallways in the house, put new siding and doors on the shed and power-washed and stained the deck. Additionally, the Parent's Club purchased new furniture for the living room from funds raised at the last two Mom's Weekend auctions. The new furniture includes four sofas, three end tables, two wing-back chairs, one sofa table, two lamps and two area rugs.

Spring 2011 Grades

For the Spring 2011 semester, Sigma Nu ranked 9th among fraternities with a GPA of 3.0768, above the All Fraternity GPA, All University GPA, and All Men's University GPA. Candidate GPA for the past two semesters, Fall 2010 and Spring 2011, ranked 2nd and 4th respectively among all candidate classes on campus. Five brothers achieved a 4.0 GPA.

Meet the officers:



Brice Harrison
Eminent Commander



Ned Godsey
Lieutenant Commander



Jake Dodds
Treasurer

Contact information:

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513 Sunset Avenue
Manhattan KS 66502
785-320-6193
sigmanu@ksu.edu
www.ksu.edu/sigmanu

Check out our new website at
www.k-state.edu/sigmanu

Sigma Nu Excellence Fund

A Sigma Nu Excellence Fund with the K-State Foundation was recently established for the purpose of raising funds in support of the Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu. The K-State Foundation tracks and provides a charitable contribution receipt for each gift. All donations are tax deductible. If you would like to make a contribution, please visit the chapter's website located at www.k-state.edu/sigmanu and click on the Giving link in the left navigation bar.



Green Efforts at the House

As part of the Take Charge! Challenge, a statewide energy efficiency competition among four regions of the state, Sigma Nu swapped out all the incandescent light bulbs with more efficient compact fluorescent bulbs. With Manhattan located in one region and Lawrence in another, the Take Charge! Challenge has become a competition between rivals K-State and KU. As part of the effort, members of Greeks Going Green, student organization here at K-State, visited each of the Greek houses to promote the Challenge as well as sustainability and environmental preservation. In addition to making the change to energy efficient light bulbs, the house is also making an effort to recycle. Sporting equipment such as basketballs and footballs were purchased for the house with proceeds from the sale and recycling of aluminum cans.

Alumni: Where are they now?

This section of the newsletter is reserved to post news about Beta Kappa alumni. Please drop us a line to let us know where you are and what you are doing so we can include it in the next newsletter due out in the Spring of 2012. This correspondence is for you, Beta Kappa chapter alum, and we are sure there are alumni who want to hear about you. If you would like to include updates about yourself in the next publication, please send an email with your information to sigmanu@k-state.edu.

Message from the Advisor

Brothers, I am happy to report that we have been making progress as a chapter in the areas of scholarship and campus involvement. At the end of last spring, the Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu finished above the All Fraternity GPA and were ranked in the top ten out of the twenty-five houses on campus.

The future looks extremely bright for the men as they are being intentional about seeking leadership positions across campus. Members have served on the Student Alumni Board, IFC, Mortar Board Senior Honorary, and involvement in campus clubs and organizations. Our house mother, Monica Strathman has been a critical component to the success and development of our members.

The next critical component for our advancement as a living learning community is alumni support. Alumni support can happen on multiple levels, but the two levels that would have an immediate impact are time and money. The house is in desperate need of an alumni advisory board. While we have the opportunity to define how the alumni board interacts with the active chapter, it would be beneficial to find alumni who can mentor our active members. As an alum, if you enjoyed your leadership position in the fraternity and you are interested in being a point of contact, support network, and guide for our current leaders, we could use your help.

This summer, we met with staff at the K-State Foundation to create and establish a **Sigma Nu Excellence Fund**. This will allow you to give directly to the K-State Foundation to support the Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu. Gifts will be tracked and are tax deductible.

If you would like to explore how you could be involved with a group of high ability - high achieving men please contact me at mikefinn@k-state.edu.

Fraternally,

Mike Finnegan, M.S.
Sigma Nu Chapter Advisor, BK 1342

Sigma Nu Spotlight



Member **Alex Beemer**, sophomore in business administration and pre-law has found additional ways to be involved on campus in addition to serving as Recruitment Chair for Sigma Nu. As a freshman, Alex became a member of the Quest Freshman Honorary, a leadership mentoring program of the Blue Key Senior Honorary. Alex is also a volunteer with the K-State Scholar Tours, a K-State recruitment program for prospective students with high ACT scores. Alex recently became a Johnson County Ambassador, another recruitment program at K-State.



Member **Chris Meyers**, senior in Business administration and pre-law earned a \$1,000 scholarship for the 2011-2012 academic year from

Phi Eta Sigma Freshman Honor Society to which he has been a member since 2009. Chris served as secretary and webmaster for the organization from 2009-2010. In Fall, 2010, Chris was inducted into Mortar Board, a senior honorary. Chris is also a volunteer for the Sunflower CASA Project in Manhattan. CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. CASAs advocate for abused and neglected children in the court system. Chris served as Lieutenant Commander for Sigma Nu in 2010.



Pencil drawing of the Beta Kappa Chapter house. Artist: Greg Otto, BK 1231