



# Beta Kaptions

Official Newsletter of the Beta Kappa Chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity

To Believe in the Life of Love, to walk in the Way of Honor,  
to serve in the Light of Truth ~ This is the Life, the Way, and  
the Light of Sigma Nu - - - this is the Creed of our Fraternity

## Message from the Chapter Adviser



Brothers,

I would like to take this opportunity to celebrate the life and legacy of **Gerald "Jerry" Patrick, BK 533**. Brother Patrick, a Sigma Nu in the late 1940's, passed away last October. Brother Patrick served in World War II as a medic and then enrolled at K-State where he played on the basketball team and had plans to become a doctor. His daughter, Kay Ballard, said her father pledged Sigma Nu partly to have a place to live since the campus was full with veterans and traditional students.

Brother Patrick was from San Diego so it was difficult for him to travel home during school breaks. When he was able to leave campus, he went home with Bob Kelce, a fraternity brother. Brother Patrick was not accepted into medical school which excited Mr. Russell Kelce, Bob's dad. Mr. Kelce always thought Jerry had a salesman personality. Mr. Kelce hired Jerry as a salesman for his coal company. From that day forward, Brother Patrick's career was in the coal industry. He retired as CEO of Arch Mineral Corp. Kay said that they moved around a lot when she was a youngster, but her dad lived in Kansas City his last 44 years and attended most KSU football games (even before Coach Snyder) and many basketball games. Her mother was a Kappa at KSU. Both Kay and her brother were members of the K-State Greek Community. Kay was a member of Gamma Phi Beta and her brother was a member of the Delta Upsilon Fraternity.

Kay and her family wanted to honor Gerald Patrick's memory by donating to Sigma Nu. We greatly appreciate the financial contribution of twenty thousand dollars made to the Sigma Nu Excellence Fund in recognition of Brother Patrick's commitment to scholarship, leadership and philanthropy. Having the opportunity to visit with Kay and learn about her father's experience at Sigma Nu has been personally rewarding to me and the active members of the house.

During one of our chapter meetings we passed around Brother Patrick's fraternity pin that Kay sent back to the chapter house. It was a moment that I'll never forget as the men reflected back on a lifetime of achievements from Brother Patrick and thought about the legacy they intend to leave as Sigma Nu's. We are continually reminded that our fraternity experience plays a significant role in developing the men we are because we believe in the life of love, walk in the way of honor and serve in the light of truth. This is the life, the way and the light of Sigma Nu.....may Brother Patrick's life and light shine bright as we reflect back on our own fraternity experience.

Fraternally,

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

Mike is currently an instructor with the School of Leadership Studies at Kansas State University. He is pursuing a Doctor of Philosophy in Higher Education Administration through the College of Education.

## Alumni Updates



Upon receiving the Fall 2011 newsletter, **Edward B. Shaw, BK 546**, currently residing in Los Angeles, CA, sent us a letter in which he shared memories of his time at Beta Kappa. Brother Shaw served as both Lieutenant and Eminent Commander from 1949-51 while he was at Kansas State University. Brother Shaw shared a copy of the Beta Kaptions from

January, 1964 (see left). We truly enjoyed reading the articles from that time period. Thank you Brother Shaw!

**Dean Bergquist, BK 908**, also sent us correspondence after receiving the Fall 2011 newsletter. Brother Bergquist served as President and Treasurer for the Housing Corporation in the late 70s and early 80s.

**Dave Gnaegy, BK 985**, is organizing a reunion of pledge classes from 1970-1980 October 5-6, 2012. If you would like more information about this reunion, please contact Dave at [Gnaegydl@aol.com](mailto:Gnaegydl@aol.com).

**Ralph Wedd, BK 494**, has been retired for more than 25 years. During that time, he and his wife have traveled to Europe, Australia, China, Russia and South America. We hope Brother Wedd can stop by the house some time to share his many stories.

Carol Partch, wife of **Rodney Partch, BK 435**, notified us of Rodney's passing on September 8, 2011. She said, "The fraternity was always a highlight in his life, and he loved to talk about his days at Kansas State." We send our sincere condolences to the Partch family.

We were sorry to learn that **Robert Coe, BK 629**, passed away Friday, January 20, 2012. He is preceded in death by his wife, Marlene Myers, a Kappa Kappa Gamma at Kansas State University. Bob was a member of the KSU Foundation's Board of trustees, as well as a life member of the Alumni Association and was known to frequently wear the purple and white colors.

Send your update to Sigma Nu at [sigmanu@k-state.edu](mailto:sigmanu@k-state.edu) or at 785-320-6193.

## Alumni Board Meeting

On January 21, 2012, the Sigma Nu Alumni Board met in Manhattan to discuss ideas for new chapter initiatives to enhance recruitment and develop alumni relations. It was a successful meeting with ten members attending. At the meeting, Chapter Adviser, **Mike Finnegan, BK 1342**, announced a \$20,000 donation to the Sigma Nu Excellence Fund from the family of **Gerald "Jerry" Patrick, BK 533** who passed away in October. The group developed the criteria and designed the application for the recruitment scholarship which will provide two \$500 scholarships to incoming freshman at K-State. It was also decided to hold four meetings per year with one in Kansas City to reach out to the large alumni base in that area. To that end, **Henry Specht, BK 1567**, agreed to host the next meeting on April 1, 2012, in Kansas City at 810 Sports Zone in which thirteen alumni attended. Minutes from this meeting can be accessed on the Sigma Nu website at <http://www.k-state.edu/sigmanu>.



## Internship

The Beta Kappa Chapter in conjunction with the Alumni Chapter, Housing Corporation, and Alumni Advisory Board are looking for college internships for our chapter members. Helping a brother secure an internship and a head start on his career is a great way to give back. If your company has a program or you know of a company with an internship program, please email us at [sigmanu@k-state.edu](mailto:sigmanu@k-state.edu).

## Graduating Seniors

Todd Crippen, BK 1565  
Kyle Davis, BK 1561  
Bart Eck, BK 1556  
Nick Jordan, BK 1598  
Travis Meek, BK 1579

Christopher Meyers, BK 1576  
Norman Myers, BK 1572  
Jordyn Sherman, BK 1591  
Eric Smeltzer, BK 1569  
Mitchell Widener, BK 1575

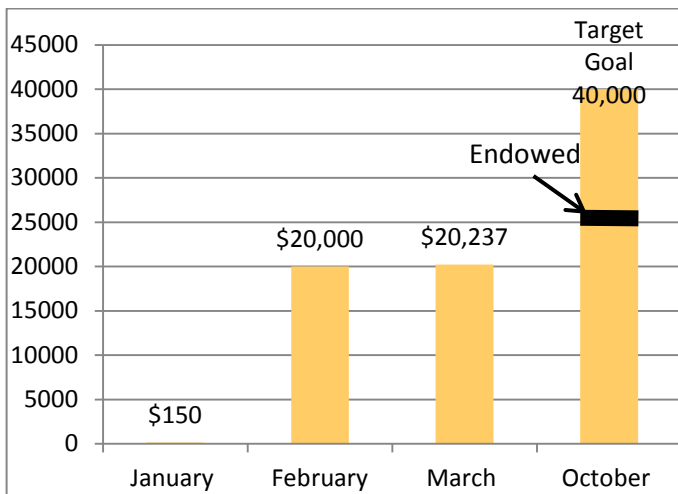
## Scholarship and Recruitment

The men of Sigma Nu recently established a scholarship program to enhance recruitment efforts and exemplify the values we hold. Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded for the 2012-2013 academic year to high school seniors exemplifying excellence in leadership, academics and community involvement. This year, 26 applications were received and applicants are being brought up for an interview process and to view the chapter house.

## A Call To Action

Many of you are aware of the Sigma Nu Excellence Fund that we recently established through the KSU Foundation. I can't tell you how touched I was that Kay Ballard wanted to help us endow the Sigma Nu Excellence Fund in honor of her father, Gerald Patrick. With the initial gift of twenty thousand dollars we are less than five-thousand dollars away from an endowed fund. The fund will be used to recognize excellence in scholarship, leadership, and community service. I am asking that we all honor Brother Patrick and contribute what we can to not only endow the scholarship, but match the initial gift of twenty thousand dollars. You can contribute to the Excellence Fund by visiting our website at [www.k-state.edu/sigmanu](http://www.k-state.edu/sigmanu). Click on the link "giving" which will take you directly to the KSU foundation and allow you to enter your final contribution. Your gift is tax deductible and the KSU foundation will send you a charitable contribution receipt. It is my hope that we can match the twenty thousand dollar contribution by the Fall 2012 Newsletter.

### Sigma Nu Excellence Fund



## Sunset Revival Benefit Concert



Our annual spring philanthropy, Sunset Revival, is entering its 14th year. The gates will open at 2:30 pm on April 28<sup>th</sup> for this year's concert benefiting the Manhattan Emergency

Shelter. Alumni are invited to come to the house for a meeting at 10 am then join us for a fun time at Sunset Revival. Also that day is the K-State Spring Game. Kick-off is at 1 pm.

## Sigma Nu Spotlight



Member **Terrence "Terry" Ogren, BK 1618**, sophomore in business administration and pre-law, has found many ways to get involved on campus. Terry is currently a cadet in the Kansas State University Army ROTC program and will commission as a second lieutenant upon graduation. Terry is an award winning member of the Kansas State Mock Trial Team and currently serves

as the treasurer of the pre-law club. He has recently been named a Johnson County Ambassador, a recruiting organization for Kansas State University. He also finds time to serve twice a week with the Boys and Girls Club of Manhattan.



Next Fall, **Brice Harrison, BK 1596**, junior in accounting and finance will be hopping the pond for the semester studying abroad at the University of Hertfordshire located just outside of central London in England. While there, he hopes to continue his education as well as enhance his leadership skills that were founded at Sigma Nu. It is truly a unique experience that he will

cherish as he cherishes the friends and memories he has gained over the years while at Kansas State and Sigma Nu. Brice served as Eminent Commander from 2010-2011.



Lieutenant Commander **Tommy Pledge, BK 1611**, junior in economics, is currently serving as classroom facilitator for the Introduction to Leadership Studies course. Through this Leadership role, Tommy conveys the values learned through the Fraternity and other life experiences to freshmen here at K-State. Tommy is also involved in activities such as K-State Proud and

Special Olympics in hopes to improve his community. Each year, Tommy volunteers as a team captain for his hometown's Special Olympics in hopes to form positive and impactful bonds with his community and its members. He is currently seeking an internship with various government agencies (Federal Reserve, United States State Department, etc.) and hopes to further expand his leadership capabilities.

## Members Earning 4.0 GPA Fall 2011

Alex Beemer, BK 1613  
Corey Chesley, BK 1612  
Nick Jordan, BK 1598

Terry Ogren, BK 1618  
Chris Peters, BK 1610  
Ben Post, BK 1576