



BETA GAMMA CHAPTER Crescent

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

FALL 1995

NO. 66

IN OUR 23RD YEAR



Robert L. Campbell

IS THE FAMILY ALIVE AND WELL?

We Americans have been reminded throughout 1995 that this year marks the 50th Anniversary of the end of World War II. Hostilities ended in Europe in May 1945. Three months later, the Japanese Empire surrendered in just four years. Americans, whose backgrounds varied widely in ethnic origin, cultural and economic status, educational levels and religious philosophies, came together under a common banner and a common cause. Servicemen facing the horrors of combat became brothers to men with whom they had little in common a few months earlier. They were FAMILY...people with a common function and cause...men associated for their common interest.

Fifty years later, these FAMILY relationships still remain strong among surviving World War II veterans and their families. Many of these people travel great distances, often at considerable sacrifice, to shake hands and reminisce with their brothers. That's the sort of thing FAMILIES do.

Fifty years after the end of World War II, we hear and see much concern for the status of the American FAMILY. While there are so many things that are good about America today, we must admit that there are serious social ills which must be resolved if we are to maintain our greatness. Surely, it would be unfair to attribute all the contemporary problems in our society to a breakdown of the family unit. However, to chart the changes in family structure and the emergence and growth of serious societal problems would result in nearly parallel lines.

It is not the purpose of this article, nor is the writer capable of drawing meaningful relationships between current social problems and the erosion of the family structure. One observation; however, might serve to make a point. How many family members continue to do things together be-

yond infancy and into adolescence? Young people prefer activities with their peers instead of with their siblings. Parents do not object since this approach "frees" them to do the same thing. After a while, it seems unimportant to sacrifice one's personal desires for the benefit of the FAMILY. The common cause is pushed aside for the pleasure and convenience of the individual, and the HOME becomes simply a place to come for protection against the elements.

The Beta Gamma FAMILY began to form with the establishment of the UW-Platteville Colony of Alpha Gamma Rho in the spring of 1969. That formation process culminated with the Chartering of Beta Gamma Chapter in April 1972. When we visit with older members of a FAMILY, we discover their tendency to reminisce about the "good old days." In the paragraphs which follow, I will relate some of my memories of the "good old days" in both the IOTA Chapter house and at BETA GAMMA, and I do so with a specific purpose in mind.

The men of Alpha Gamma Rho came together with a common interest and a common cause. The common interest was in agriculture...men with an agricultural background, pursuing agricultural studies in support of a career interest in agriculture. The cause was "...to make better men..." who would, in turn, enhance the profession. Programs and activities were planned and conducted in an effort to achieve these purposes.

Among the notable characteristics of successful people is that of efficient time management. People who learn this principle as college students adjust more quickly to the demands of the world of work. The chapter calendar for the semester was planned to allow optimum involvement while, at the same time, avoiding over commitment and surprises. Monday nights were FRATERNITY nights, leaving other evenings for the pursuit of the various interests and obligations of the membership. Members planned their schedules accordingly and exceptions were granted only in cases of severe hardship. FRATERNITY night meant dress-up, and that didn't mean just a clean T-shirt. Many members wore blazers with the AGR emblem (although it was never mandatory), and all accepted the fact that they came to dinner in coat and tie.

IMPORTANT DATES

March 23, 1996

Founder's Day

Platteville Country Club

Social Hour 5:00 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.

April 20, 1996

Pork Fest '96

July 19-21, 1996

Summer Retreat '96

Monday dinners were special. The tables were covered and formally set. One or more guests were invited. There are more potential guests than the number of Monday nights in the school year. Guests arrived (or were brought) early and were met in the Chapter living room by all members not on kitchen duty. The television set remained OFF on Monday evenings. Members were expected to greet guests with a handshake and self-introduction. When the dinner bell rang, guests were escorted to the dining room and seated first. After dinner, members returned with the guest to the living room and, either stayed to visit, or excused themselves appropriately. After a while these skills of accepted social etiquette became second nature to members and their comfort level with these and other social skills was an important part of their preparation to become meaningful contributors to society and to the agricultural industry.

There are enough memories to fill the pages of a book, but fortunately for you, I am limited to the space of this column. Please bear with me, however, for one more citation. I consider among my closest friends, the Brothers responsible for establishing Beta Gamma Chapter and for building the chapter house. I mean no slight to the brothers who came along later, but the experiences associated with our beginning are once-in-a-lifetime events and can be a part of the lives of only those directly involved.

Picture, if you will, the challenge of incorporating an Alumni Association for a group of young men whose oldest members were two years out of college. Imagine the challenge they faced in arranging \$120,000 in loans, WITHOUT A CENT OF EQUITY, purchasing land, and planning, constructing and furnishing the only house in Platteville built specifically as a fraternity home. I do not know what \$120,000 of 1971 money would be worth today, but whatever the figure, would our 90's Alums be willing to make a similar commitment their first and second years out of college? Incidentally, \$14,000 of that \$120,000, used to purchase the original furnishings, for the house, came in the form of personal loans from some of these young alumni. I know for a fact that most of them signed a note at the bank and turned around and loaned the money to a newly formed Alumni Association. This tradition of giving continued through the years and as a result, the mortgage

was retired early and the Chapter House Fund was established. Is it any wonder that Beta Gamma Alumni have a parental view toward the property at 845 West Madison Street, and toward the events that occur there?

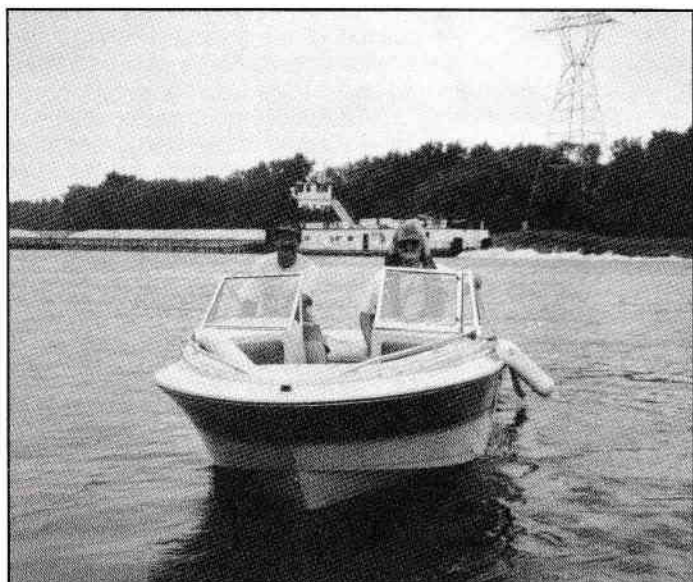
So, what is the status of the Beta Gamma FAMILY? Does it still consist of a group of people brought together with a common interest and a common cause? Do the members put the accomplishment of the cause before personal desires and comforts? Do the members have a clear understanding of the meaning of FRATERNITY? Are programs carefully planned and diligently conducted that are supportive of that meaning? Is Beta Gamma Chapter respected on campus and in the community? Is it the first choice of young men who believe that by becoming members they will leave college a better person? Are neighbors, alumni, faculty, parents and family members made to feel welcome and comfortable at the Chapter home? Are actives and alumni alike deservedly proud to be AGR's? Does the active-alumni relationship demonstrate the characteristics of FAMILY in the best sense of the word?

Beta Gamma Chapter will observe its 25th anniversary in the spring of 1997. I have heard by the grapevine that planning for an anniversary observation is already underway. Permit me to close this article with a recommendation. In addition to planning for a 25th anniversary event, how about a planning activity to take the chapter into its next 25 years? Would it serve a useful purpose at this time to clearly define the roles of the active chapter and its officers, the Alumni Chapter and its Board, and the relationships among them? If so, I suggest further that this be accomplished by a select committee appointed by the Alumni Board, but containing no members currently serving on the Board.

At best, such a committee will find that the Beta Gamma FAMILY is alive and well. If it should find otherwise, let's begin at once to determine what must be done to restore our FAMILY traditions so that the hundreds of Alumni attending our 25th Anniversary celebration will be anxious to say, "I am thankful and proud to be an AGR and an alumnus of the Beta Gamma FAMILY."

FRATERNALLY,
Dr. Robert L. Campbell
Beta Gamma No. 1

Good



**Your wagon masters for 1996 Summer Retreat
Brian and Ellis Long**

PLAN NOW FOR A GREAT SUMMER RETREAT '96

We're planning for the best Summer Retreat ever in 1996. It will be held the weekend of July 19-21 at Jellystone Park near Fremont, WI. The retreat will be hosted by Brian Long, Andy Schleicher, Taylor Weisensel, Ken Jenks and Dave Badula.

This retreat will offer something for everyone; recreational activities including boating, swimming, fishing, hayrides, mini golf, softball and much more. There also are many nighttime attractions in the area for those who want to relive some of their college experiences.

Please read the enclosed brochure for more details about the site. Because this is a prime July weekend, camping space will fill up quickly. Reservations are required by March 25 so that we can reserve enough space. If you're interested, contact "Wagonmaster" Brian Long, who will collect deposits and make reservations.

Brian can be reached at E4905 Haire Rd., Weyauwega, WI 54983, phone 414/867-COWS (2697).



Cooling down after a training mission, Bruce McNaughton stands in front of his T-1A Jayhawk.

BROTHER FLIES HIGH

For those of you who don't know me, I am Bruce McNaughton, Stud number 287 and member of the Alpha Epsilon pledge class. I graduated from UWP in 1986 with a degree in Agribusiness and a minor in Computer Science. After graduating, I went to work on a dairy farm in Calamine, WI just outside of Darlington. I worked there for about 6 months until my boss decided to sell out in Dec. 86. Fortunately, during that time, I had the opportunity to work with one of my pledge brothers, Kevin Knuth.

I resumed my job search until I started graduate school in the Fall of '87. During that time I married my wife, Deb, and instantly had a family. I entered grad school with the hopes of making myself more marketable for a job, but at that time there weren't many openings in agriculture. One day in the library, I was looking at a Farm Journal Magazine in the periodicals and I noticed that nearby was a rack of FLYING magazines. I started looking at FLYING more and more and decided this would be a cool way to earn a living. I remembered, probably from some job fair, that the Air Force commissions people who already have bachelors degrees through Officer's Training School (OTS) and trains them to fly. I applied for OTS and a navigator training slot (my vision wouldn't allow me to apply for a pilot slot) and was selected in May '88.

The next two years took me to San Antonio, TX for OTS then to Sacramento, CA for navigator school, and on to my first duty station, Grissom AFB, IN just north of Kokomo. I flew as navigator on the KC-135 Stratotanker. (The civilian equivalent is the Boeing 707.) The mission of the tanker is to refuel other aircraft in mid-air. At speeds of up to 450 MPH we fly in formation with our receiver (about 30-40 feet apart) and transfer fuel through a boom. We offload as little as a few thousand pounds to fighters and as much as 100,000 pounds to large transport or reconnaissance aircraft. We function as force extenders; if the other planes couldn't refuel in the air, the Air Force would need more of them. I enjoy the mission very much. Most young aviators, upon entering the Air Force want to fly the glory jets; the fighters. But I like flying a large jet and there is something to be said of a plane where you have a latrine on board and can get up and get your box lunch.

Backing up a little, while I was at OTS, I found out that once you're in the Air Force and have proven yourself, they

will waive the 20/20 vision requirement and let people who wear glasses become pilots. This is a little known fact recruiters don't tell you. After two and a half years at Grissom, I was selected to attend pilot training. We moved to Lubbock, TX where I spent a year learning how to fly in the front seat (navigators sit sideways behind the pilots). Upon completion in April '94, I was assigned back to the KC-135 as a co-pilot but the Lord had other plans.

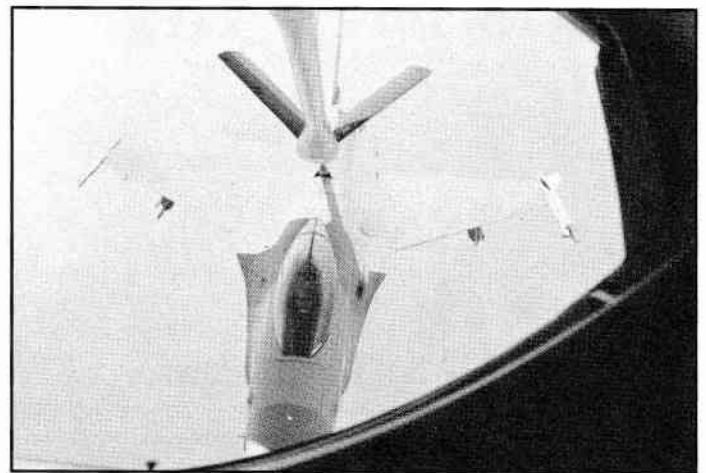
Less than two months later I was diagnosed with Hairy Cell Leukemia. It's a rare form of leukemia that strikes about 400-500 people per year in the US. Fortunately, this particular cancer has three treatment options with highly successful remission rates. Also, fortunately, the Air Force moved my family and me to a base with a state-of-the-art medical facility. As of this writing, I am nine months in remission, have returned to flying status, and am awaiting re-assignment. It's been a long 15 months since I got sick but I have grown in my faith, learning to trust the Lord in ALL things. I've gotten to spend more time with my family and we've been able to enjoy much of what northern California has to offer.

I don't know at this point how far I will go in my Air Force career. Only time will tell. I still subscribe to SUCCESSFUL FARMING magazine and I intend to finish my Master's in Agribusiness Industries. During DESERT STORM, my crew and I spent three months refueling over Europe and I wore my John Deere hat on those missions. I still have a soft spot for agriculture and am glad I joined the fraternity. (There aren't many AGRs in the Air Force, but I have met one.) Living in the same house with the same guys for two years was a blast and you only remember the good times.

Thank you for this opportunity to tell my story and I hope to get stationed closer to Wisconsin so I can go the AGR events.

Fraternally Yours,

Bruce R. McNaughton



Fueling up for more air time!

PORKFEST '96 BIGGER and BETTER

The third annual Porkfest is set for April 20, 1996 at 845 W. Madison. The event is shaping up to be the best ever, with an exciting lineup of raffle prizes. Proceeds will go to the Roy Hoff scholarship fund. Brother Roy passed away last December, and this fund will endow scholarships for deserving UW-Platteville students.

The prizes will include:

1st - John Deere garden tractor, model LX 176 with 38" mower deck.

2nd - \$500 savings bond

3rd and 4th - Half a hog each.

Other prizes will also be awarded and are being lined up now.

/Each brother receiving this Crescent is asked to sell 24 tickets for the event. Only \$1 per ticket gives you the chance to win a new John Deere lawn tractor! For more information, contact the Vice Noble Ruler of Activities at the AGR house at (608) 348-6470./

More details will be in future issues. Let's all pitch in and make Porkfest '96 the best one yet!



Tom Lindahl

THE DEAN'S CORNER

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

You may have recognized a new name for the agriculture programs here at UW-Platteville. This new name resulted from an enter campus reorganization which took place over a year ago. The change is exciting. Agriculture was identified as one of the continuing lead programs on our campus. The agricultural programs had just completed the lateral review process which focused their educational efforts. This placed agriculture in a strong position during the reorganization to be named as a School of Agriculture.

We are moving forward in planning and discussions as to how agriculture may be further coupled among the programs within the college. We expect to have proposals develop from these discussions in the near future. Already, the ties with biology and business have become stronger with much discussion taking place as to how our new structure may benefit all the programs.

Another very exciting development happened during the just-completed legislative session. Russell Hall remodeling was identified and funded for planning during the 1995-97 biennium. This project is a joint effort between Industrial Studies, Communication and Computing Technologies, and Agriculture. Agriculture is looking forward to developing some very state-of-the-art teaching laboratories that will address the needs of the program and provide efficient and effective instructional areas. Plans will be developed so that construction may begin immediately in the 1997-99 biennium.

The future of agriculture is very positive as we begin this 1995-96 academic year. The best future is in our students as they continue to improve in quality and numbers. We continue to be the place that the agricultural industry in the state looks for their college graduate employees.

Please stop by and visit if you are in the area.

Sincerely,
Thomas Lindahl
Dean
College of Business, Industry, Life Science and Agriculture

25TH ANNIVERSARY April 5, 1997

**Please send stories relating
to our**

25th Anniversary to:

**Kerry Henning
21812 Ucker Rd.
Kiel, WI 53042**

SUMMER RETREAT '95 WAS HOT, COOL By Greg Raupp

Renewing brotherhood was the focus as nearly 75 brothers, Rho Mates and kids celebrated Summer Retreat '95 on July 15. The event took place at Goodland Park on the shores of Lake Waubesa near Madison.

The 98-degree heat was balanced by the lake's 65-degree water. The day included volleyball, boating, Frisbee, water balloons and the annual picnic. An evening thunderstorm encouraged the group to retreat to the lake lodge, where some of us were treated to a good evening from the Wisconsin Calendar Girls.

Special thanks go to Gary Klug, Steve and Tracy Massey, Eric and Sue Trapp, Dave Badula and Larry Raupp for their help with retreat.

A one-day retreat such as this benefits those who can only get away for an afternoon, but others prefer a camping outing as in past years. Therefore, those who are campers should mark their calendars for July 19-21, 1996. More information is elsewhere in this issue, so make your plans now!

LONG RANGE PLANNING REQUIRES COMMITMENT

As we approach the 25th anniversary of the Beta Gamma Chapter, we face many changes and challenges. As Dean Lindahl points out in his column, the College of Agriculture is now the School of Agriculture. Membership numbers have dropped in recent years for several reasons. More competition for fewer men on campus; implementing the Brotherhood Program as mandated by the National Fraternity; and greater-than-normal turnover in the chapter's leadership have impacted our membership and the standing of AGR on the UW-Platteville campus.

The primary charge of the alumni corporation is to provide and maintain the best possible facilities for the active chapter. One of our best assets to attract prospective brothers is the quality of our physical facilities. Unfortunately, the chapter house has seen better days. In a way, Alpha Gamma Rho is like a nationwide hotel chain. We maintain or increase revenues by keeping the beds full. To maintain the living standards we expect, continual maintenance and occasional major renovations are needed to keep the "guests" coming back.

As you know, upkeep costs increase each year. A large investment of approximately \$50,000 was made this past year to renovate the upstairs bathroom. Was this a wise investment, or would better long-range planning have found more cost-efficient solutions?

In addition, the continuing debt service on the Jenny Bros. lot and the 880 Union St. property drain our resources. Should we look ahead toward building a new house on the vacant lot, build an addition to the current house, or keep things the way they are? These are among the difficult choices facing the fraternity now.

The long-range planning committee has met several times this year, and we've agreed that a new house or a major expansion are unrealistic at this time. Reasons include the current occupancy rate and financial status of the active chapter and that of the alumni corporation.

Alpha Gamma Rho is a social/professional fraternity, but it seems in recent years the "professional" part of the equation has diminished. The committee feels that more pressing needs include strengthening the active chapter, improving communications with alumni and enhancing the working relationship between actives and alumni.

Last spring, only 65 people attended the annual Founders Day banquet. Perhaps the short prior notice was a factor in the low attendance. The committee is working closely with the active chapter to improve the timeliness of Crescents and other communications. We need to improve attendance at annual meetings and have more timely and effective communications if we want to have a strong, close-knit organization. What can be done?

Implementing the Brotherhood Program has been a difficult process for our chapter, and membership education has suffered as a result. The Brotherhood Program is effective and is working well at many other chapters. We all need to do a better job educating new members in the ideals, goals and purposes of the Fraternity. If we take these strides forward, the brick-and-mortar needs of the Fraternity will come much easier to us.

We need the involvement and assistance of all alumni, now. Whether it be on the board of directors, long-range planning committee, or in another capacity, we need your help. If you have time to give, please contact one of the committee members listed here. If you want to get involved, now is the best time.

Dave Badula, Chairman
608/543-3063

Eric Trapp
414/246-7342

Kevin Klubertanz
414/568-0611

Scott Laufenberg
608/846-3765

Dan Jarek
Heath Garey
(Active Chapter Rep.)
608/348-6470

Faternally,
Dave Badula
Ron Martin

Ken Watts
414/594-3805

Chuck Johnson
815/895-9644

Steve Chamberlain
414/886-6390

Ron Martin
414/568-0218

Mike Grulke
708/608-1342

THE BROTHERS YET TO COME

In the fall of 1992 the active chapter discontinued the traditional pledging program that so many Beta Gamma alumni experienced. This change occurred after the National Fraternity introduced the Brotherhood Program, a highly structured membership education program designed to eliminate hazing of new recruits. The program was designed to rely heavily on the big brothers educating their new little brothers and included membership standards for every brother depending on his years of membership. Expulsion could be the consequence if the standards were not maintained by a brother.

As a director I wish to express my concerns about the standards that are present in the current active chapter. I have attended two chapter meetings already this year and while I do see many positive things I also witness what I would consider a dysfunctional chapter. In recent semesters there has been a tremendous turnover in officers from semester to semester and as well as the graduation of many members. Knowledge has inconsistently been passed onto officers and members. With each passing semester members appear to know less and less about the true significance of Alpha Gamma Rho, what it means to be a brother, and how to effectively run the chapter. Unfortunately, with this loss of knowledge has also come a loss of standards. It is not the fault of the current membership that their predecessors failed to properly educate them.

Regardless, the chapter is in need of a lot of support from knowledgeable, supportive alumni who are willing to spend time to help rebuild Beta Gamma to what it once was. The membership education process needs vast improvement but only so much can be learned from the Golden Crescent. Alumni need to become more involved with the chapter and the need is immediate. Alumni members should be attending regular chapter meetings each week and offering their experience. If you would be interested in offering your experience at a chapter meeting contact Aaron Seim, VNR-Membership Education, he may have a particular topic that you can address as well as offer your general experiences. The house phone number is still (608) 348-6470. Fellow brothers I cannot stress enough how important it is to become involved now. We all have many responsibilities in our daily lives but we also have that all important responsibility to the brothers yet to come. Please find time to help!!@

Faternally,

Mark Winters
Beta Gamma Director

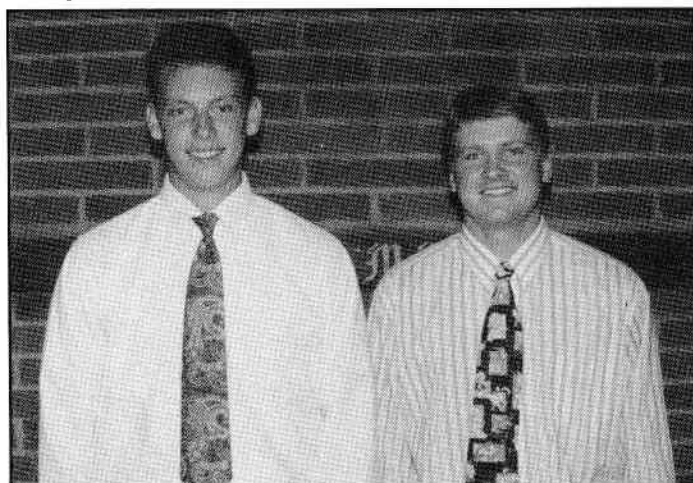
MEET OUR NEW INITIATES



Big Brother Tim Brown with Little Brother Jeff Bode.

I, Jeffrey J. Bode, am a 1995 graduate of Cuba City High School. I grew up on a 850 acre farm (swine and beef) near Dickeyville, WI. Due to my agricultural background, I applied to the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. The major I chose is "Soil and Crop Science" because I would like to become an Agronomist or work in a related field. I first became aware of the Alpha Gamma Rho organization in the spring. I immediately noticed the involvement that the fraternity had with the college of agriculture and the leadership opportunities that could help me in the future. I was very impressed with the attitudes of the members. For these reasons I felt that joining this national organization would greatly benefit me through my college years and after I graduate.

Sincerely,
Jeffrey Bode



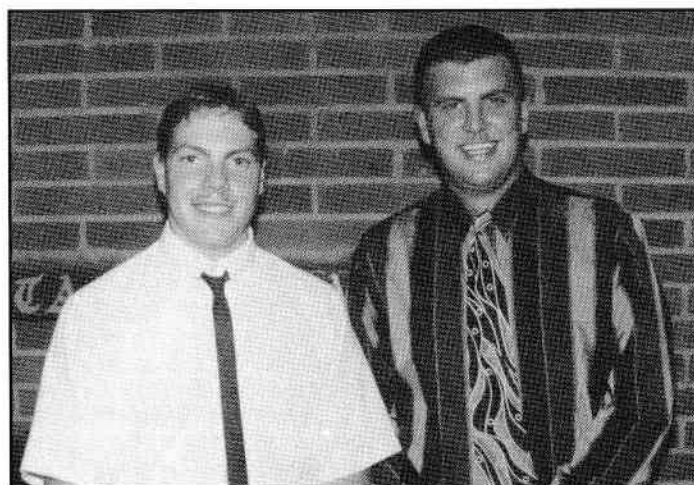
Little Brother Mike Brown with Big Brother Ben Fugate.

I am an Ag-Business, Animal Science double major. I come from a dairy and hog farm in northern Richland County. I plan to return to the farm after finishing school, and hope to own my own operation eventually.

I chose UW-Platteville over UW-Madison because of the schools farm, and because I preferred a smaller school. I decided to pledge Alpha Gamma Rho after visiting here last spring. I toured the house and met several of the members. I found that many of them had the same type of backgrounds and future plans that I do. I feel that AGR will help

to make my college experience both more interesting and more profitable.

Sincerely,
Michael Brown

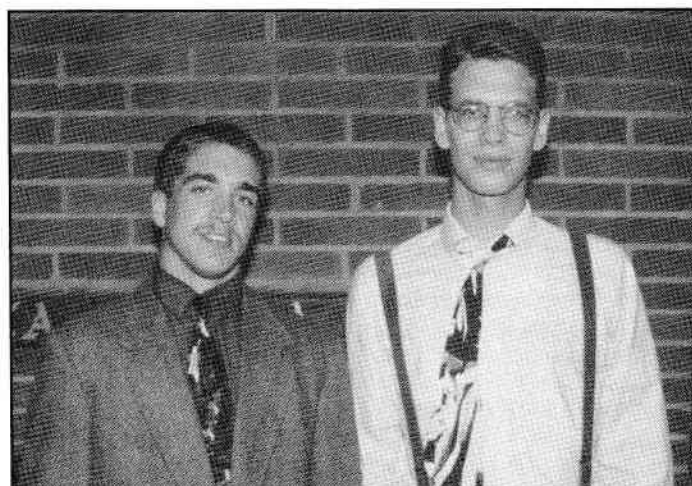


Little Brother Lucas Gierach with Big Brother David Bacon.

I am Lucas Gierach. I'm from Sheboygan, WI. I live on a hog, dairy and grain farm. We run 1,050 acres, 400 acres corn, 320 acres soybeans and the rest is small grain and forage. I belonged to a 4-H club and showed swine and corn at the county fair. I was also secretary and president of the Sheboygan Falls FFA. I was a member of the FFA state dairy foods team and a member of the FFA state AG mechanics team in which I earned a silver award in both contests. I like to participate in all sports and be as competitive as I can be.

My major in the school of AG is Equipment, Structures and Power Systems. I decided to join AGR because a friend of the family was in AGR and I believe that I can gain life-long friendships through the fraternity. I also like the family values that AGR represents and their drive to encourage one to do well in college. AGR has a good reputation with businesses and I believe that I can improve my leadership skills by being active in AGR.

Sincerely,
Lucas Gierach



Big Brother Kevin Heckert with Little Brother Ed Grommes.

My family background ranges from a long history of farming. My grandfather used to farm 600 acres of corn and raised beef cattle. He also used to be the president of the Kane County Farm Bureau Organization. My uncles also farm land in various areas of Illinois and Wisconsin. As for my parents, they do not farm. My father is a police officer and my mother is a nurse. Growing up, I lived in a suburb in Illinois. Therefore, I did not live on a farm, but I helped my grandfather on the farm alot.

The reason I chose to join AGR is to help me understand the various backgrounds of the different types of farming. Also to meet a bunch of new guys, due to the fact I did not grow up in this area. I am majoring in animal science and my plans in the future are to become a vet. Then again, this organization is a benefit for me in this area, by speaking with men who had some what of experience, and learning to be a true leader.

Sincerely,

Ed Grommes



Big Brother Erik Olson with Little Brother Nick Homan.

Dear Alumni,

My name is Nicholas Homan. I am a Soil and Crops major from West Allis, Wisconsin. Many people find it unusual that because I'm from the city I am interested in agriculture. I always tell them the same thing and that is that my interest was sparked and nurtured by my parents. I am interested in agriculture but my particular interest is in landscaping and horticulture. My mother got me started in ornamental gardening when I was only three years old and soon after that my father got me started in vegetable gardening. Joining AGR makes me feel that I am part of something important. To me AGR means a place to call home, a place to meet new people and make friends, and most importantly AGR is also a learning "classroom" for me. In the fraternity I can learn new and different things from all of my brothers. My goals are to earn my degree and a minor in horticulture, after that I would like to move on and earn a masters degree in plant pathology and continue some other graduate work after that. I would like to find a job particularly in landscaping. One of my dreams is to earn a job working for the Disney corporation on the landscaping crew. Although this may be a ways off in the future I hope to accomplish this. In the very long term future, I would like to eventually open my own greenhouse and landscaping company. I plan to help and be as active in AGR as I possibly can. I am honored to be a brother in your fraternity.

Sincerely,

Nicholas Homan.



Big Brother Aaron Seim with Little Brother Bret Harrington.

Hello! My name is Bret Harrington. I am from Plainfield, WI, and am twenty years old. I come from a family of four with dad (Max), mom (Pat), and one brother (Chad). I am a nationally certified downhill ski instructor and am employed by Sentry World Sports Center working on the grounds maintenance crew. My hobbies include water skiing, cross-country skiing, downhill skiing, and golfing. I am a political science major in my third year at this university and intend on getting a turf grass major as a second major. Upon graduation a hope to get a job in the turf grass industry.

A hope to play an active leadership role both on campus and in house activities. AGR should provide a great opportunity to make acquaintances that will be valuable throughout my college career and throughout life.

Sincerely,

Bret Harrington

**DON'T MISS or FORGET
PORK FEST '96
APRIL 20, 1996**



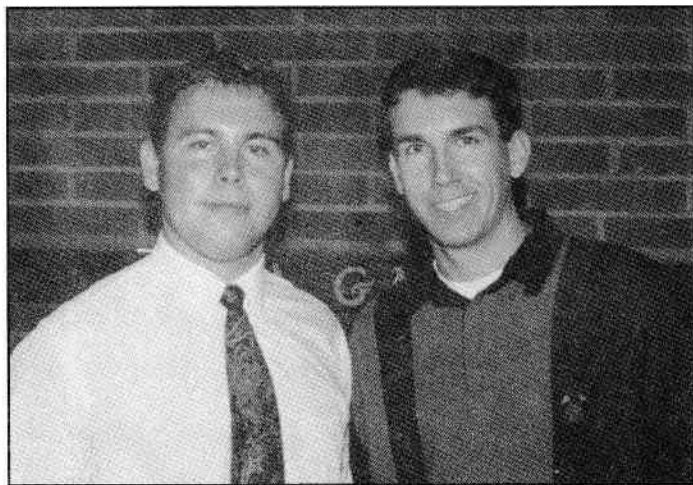
Big Brother Dan Jarek with Big Brother Ron Rule.

Hello fellow Alpha Gamma Rho Brother, Alumni, Rho Mates and Friends, My name is Daniel J. Jarek. My parents are James and Audrey Jarek and I have two brothers, Kevin and Ken. I am from a dairy operation in the Northwestern part of Wisconsin (about 35 minutes west of Green Bay). I have a variety of interests and am curious to learn new skills, including working with dairy cattle, business management and operations and construction.

I am a 1992 graduate of Bonduel High School. After graduation I was fortunate to have received an international scholarship through the National FFA and private donations which offered me the opportunity to travel to Australia. I spent nearly one year in Australia. While there I had the chance to be involved with various Agricultural operations, businesses and events. After I arrived back in the US I was involved with our dairy operation and also began working at Vlastic Foods Inc. In Bonduel, WI. After a short period, I was promoted to Line Setup Forklift Driver and Assistant Supervisor until I left to enter UW-Platteville in the fall of 1994.

I am presently a Sophomore majoring in Agricultural Business. The reason that I choose to attend Platteville was because I had heard Platteville was a small sized university with a large scale of opportunities. I decided to become involved with Alpha Gamma Rho after meeting several members and hearing about some of the advantages AGR had to offer. Over the following years, I have set many goals for myself which I hope to successfully complete. One example would include becoming actively involved in several different organizations. I enjoy working with other people and, throughout my college experience, I would like to accomplish various projects that would have a beneficial impact on the university, community, and that will offer me the chance to develop new and different leadership skills that would be necessary for the future. After graduation, I am not exactly certain of where I would like to go, although I am interested in an exciting and challenging career.

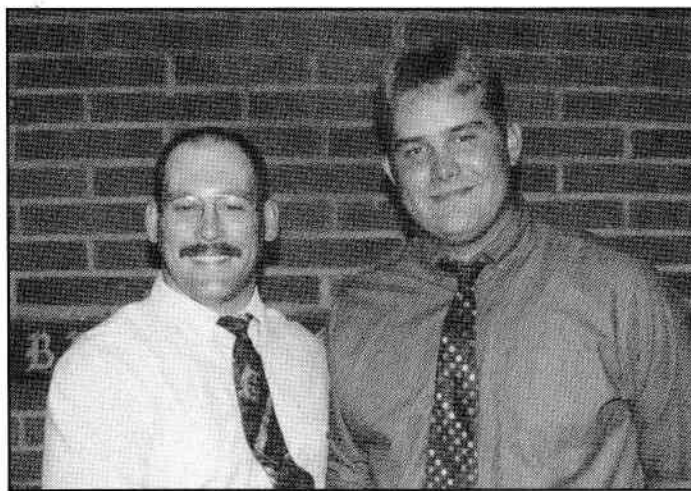
Daniel J. Jarek



Big Brother Mike North with Little Brother Ray Jones.

My name is Ray Jones, Jr. I am a Junior here at UW-Platteville. I am majoring in Ag Economics with an emphasis in marketing. My goals in school are to graduate in three and a half years with a great gpa. My goals for AGR are to make this chapter the best in every way. After graduation I want to be a productive part of agriculture working with the American farmer. I am excited to be a part of AGR because of all the many skills the fraternity has to offer through individual leadership, serving on committees, and participating in community events.

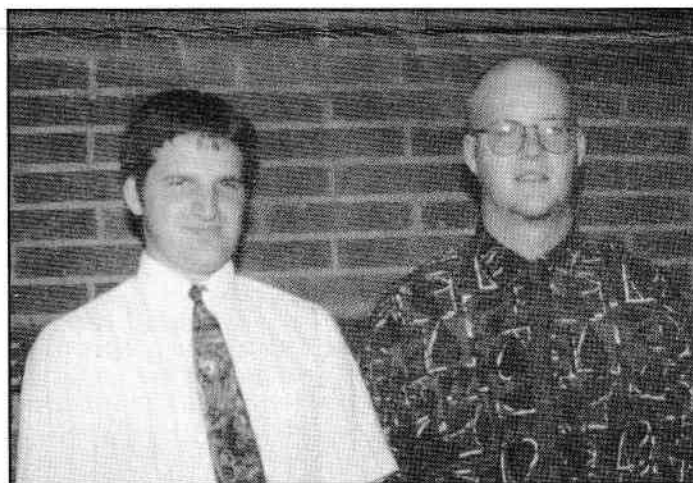
Ray Jones, Jr.



Big Brother Nate Davis with Little Brother Craig Ladwig.

My name is Craig Ladwig. I am a senior studying animal science with a Ag business emphasis. I am from Waukesha, Wisconsin where my grandfather raised beef and cash crops. I also have worked on a dairy farm when I was younger and currently work on a beef farm. I plan to work in sales, preferably in the insurance area. The reason I joined AGR is that I believe the friendships I will have made will last me a life time. I also believe that it is like a home away from home, a place where I can get away and have a good time and also study. I believe that in my future, the Alpha Gamma Rho fraternity will always be a place I can go back to and help me with my problems.

Sincerely,
Craig Ladwig



Big Brother Ryan Rockweller with Little Brother Jeff O'Neal.

My name is Jeff O'Neal and I am a nineteen year old sophomore. My home town is Franksville, Wisconsin. It is a relatively small rural farming community that is in central Racine county. I went to Waterford Union high school. There, I was an active member of the FFA and I also played four years of football. I came to Platteville in the fall of 1994 and joined the rugby club the spring semester of that year. Other than rugby I mainly concentrate on my studies.

The fall semester of this year I was elected wing president. I am still active in rugby, and other than joining AGR I still have my studies. This can lead to a busy day, but I make the best out of it.

Sincerely,
Jeff O'Neal



Little Brother Mark Pipkorn with Big Brother David Becker.

I am Mark Pipkorn, and I am from Mequon, WI. I joined Alpha Gamma Rho for several reasons. First, I felt it was a quality organization, one that being a part of would not only help me now in school, but also later in life. Also, I joined this fraternity to be in a brotherhood with others with the same interest as myself, agriculture. The final reason I joined Alpha Gamma Rho was to get more involved in the community, through intramural teams at school and doing various service projects. AGR is a great way to do that. I am an animal science major and in pre-vet. For the future, I hope to get into a vet school after four years at Platteville and then be a doctor of veterinary medicine. I feel that being a member of Alpha Gamma Rho will be a great help in accomplishing all these goals.

Sincerely,
Mark Pipkorn



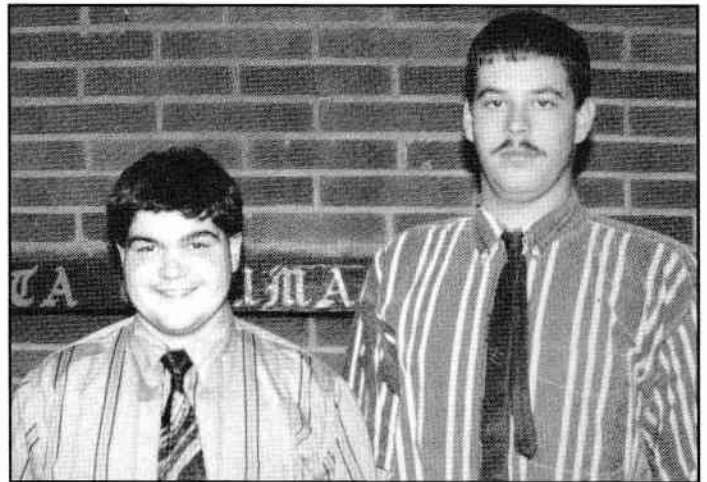
Big Brother Adam Heisner with Little Brother Josh Vrieze.

**Don't Forget To Sell Your Porkfest
Tickets & Return Ticket Stubs &
Proceeds To:
VNR of Activities
845 W. Madison
Platteville, WI 53818**

Hello, my name is Josh Vrieze. I am a Freshman at UW-Platteville majoring in Engineering. I am from Baldwin, a small town in Western Wisconsin. I grew up on a dairy farm and have worked on various dairy farms throughout my life.

I decided to come to Platteville to pursue my interests in Engineering and felt UWP was the best campus to do this. I'm very happy to have become an AGR, to keep my roots based in an agriculture background. I hope to get fulfillment out of AGR and develop life long friendships. I am very excited and hope to meet more AGR alumni from Platteville.

Sincerely,
Josh Vrieze



Little Brother Troy Wallace with Big Brother Tony Seebecker.

I am a twenty year old college freshman. I came from a small dairy farm that is located just outside of Richland Center. I wasn't really sure where to go for college. But, Mike North and the rest of the Alpha Gamma Rho house helped to convince me that this is where I really wanted to go. What I think impressed me the most is that I was contacted way before graduation. This had to be one of the larger reasons for my coming to Platteville for college. The brothers became my family away from home. This really helped in my second week of school when I became home sick. What I really want to say is that they are a great bunch of guys. I would like to achieve the status of noble ruler, and I want to win the highest academic award. Along the way I also want to have a little fun.

Sincerely,
Troy Wallace



Little Brother Gregg Wolf with Big Brother Brad Fox.

My name is Gregg Wolf. I am from the small town of Bangor, Wisconsin. I have grown up on a dairy farm, and have consequently been very involved with the dairy industry. I have shown in a variety of shows like our county fair, district show, and state fair. Since I was ten years old, I have been involved in dairy judging teams. I have done all of these activities with organizations such as FFA, 4-H, and Junior Holstein Breeders Association. I've held offices such as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Parliamentarian through the various organizations. For the past four years I have been an active public speaker in FFA. I have tried to do as much as possible with my agricultural background, and I will continue this effort in the future.

The reason that I chose Alpha Gamma Rho is that my father was an AGR. He has spoon fed AGR material to me all my life. I haven't heard anything but good things about the organization. I enjoy all of the company of the other members, and they make me feel that I have a place here in Platteville. I look forward to the future of being an AGR.

Sincerely,

Gregory Wolf

VNR-MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT **Aaron C. Seim**

The summer has gone quick and we have started a new school year. This fall semester has been a very exciting one with the initiation of fifteen new members. Since my report last semester I have been asked what my new revisions to the brotherhood program are. I feel in the last couple of years the brotherhood of the chapter has been down. I just want to promote brotherhood in the chapter by reintroducing some past chapter functions that have been lost, activities such as song night and fire-side night. Beta Gamma will also be establishing the five orders program. The Big brothers will be working closer with there Little brothers in the brotherhood program. I plan to have alumni come and discuss chapter history with the brothers. The fifteen new brothers are a very enthusiastic group of men. We here at Beta Gamma plan on having a very successful semester.

WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

August 26, 1995	Karl Colnelius and Coney Francis
July 1, 1995	Marty Breuning and Jolleen Helleckson
June 24, 1995	Jeff Klaes and Shari Conely
June 17, 1995	Doyle Pokorny and Kim Brown
October 24, 1995	Angela Leibelt and Jeff Bunker
November 26, 1995	Mike Gabor and Linda Schulke

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 4, 1995	Alexander Johnathan Blakely Son of Rick and Barb Blakely
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MARK YOUR CALENDAR
SUMMER RETREAT
July 19-21, 1996 Fremont, WI
Reservations Due By March 25, 1996.

My name is Jeff Mohlman and I was born in Dayton, Ohio on June 7, 1974. I currently live in Beavercreek, which is ten miles east of Dayton. After graduating from Carroll High School in Dayton I attended the University of Dayton for two years before I decided to look into the area of agriculture. When I decided to take this route for my college education, I enrolled at the Ohio State University. After a year there and an internship in the agronomy field, I decided to take a look at other agricultural universities. One of the chemical reps we had at our Co-op in the summer of 1995 was a UW-Platteville graduate. She advised me to look into what the UW system has to offer. When I made the choice to attend UWP, I was very excited about going to a school that was in an area that I was unfamiliar with. This meant that I would be given the opportunity to learn a new way of doing things both agriculturally and scholastically. The first group of people that I met at school were the Alpha Gamma Rho brothers. Being nine and a half hours away from home, it was a relief to meet people that I felt I had known all of my life. The AGR house and its members gave me the feeling of being right at home. Agriculture has always been a part of my life even though I didn't grow up on a farm. Also being a member of the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity is something that I could never take for granted.

Sincerely,
Jeff Mohlman

DAIRY SHRINE SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

One of two \$500 scholarship winners, Anthony Seebecker is the son of Harold and Janice Seebecker, Hi-See Farms, Mauston, WI. He grew up on the farm and has been active in 4-H, FFA and his local Junior Holstein Association. He received the American FFA Degree and the Wisconsin FFA Degree, and he was awarded the FFA state dairy proficiency for three years.

At the University of Wisconsin-Platteville, Seebecker is a senior majoring in agribusiness and has been on the dean's list for several semester. He gained valuable experience in his field by managing apple sales for a local orchard and through a summer internship with a local ag co-op.

In college, he was president of his dormitory and is a member of Alpha Gamma Rho, Alpha Zeta and the Agribusiness-Agricultural Economic Club. He was also a UW-Platteville agriculture ambassador.

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VNR-ALUMNI RELATIONS

My name is Erik Olson and I am the new VNR Alumni Relations officer for the coming year. I anticipate a great year full of activities and better communications between the active members and our Alumni who have sacrificed much of their time and effort for the good of the Chapter.

With the valuable help of Brothers David Badula, Mark Winters and Ron Martin the new look Crecent has made strides to update the format to look more professional and with new feature articles to keep the Alumni informed on the happenings of the College of Agriculture and our Chapter.

Please feel free to call me and talk about any concerns or any Alumni updates. The active membership is looking forward to meeting our Alumni.

Sincerely,
Erik Olson

Hello Fellow Brothers,

Already a month since the start of the semester, I must say that the active chapter got started on the right foot, thanks to brother North's good recruiting. Fifteen new members have been initiated this fall, all of which have brought with something unique and have added to the enthusiasm which is now the driving force within the chapter. This is the best attitude and start I have ever seen, since I was initiated. Because of the good attitude at the house homecoming is off to a good start. The actives are looking forward to seeing many of you return to visit the chapter. They are also very grateful for the addition of the new refrigerator and the financial support that was given to us for homecoming.

I wish that I could report that everything is going good, but it is not. For example, we are all aware of the condition of our house; it is out-dated and there are many repairs that need to be made. These repairs, however, are not things that can be put on the "Back Burner." They must be attended to NOW, before their effects are irreversible. For example, the siding, windows and their framework are rotting to an extent that without speedy repair, talk of a new house may not be totally out of line. Brothers have put many hours of their own time identifying and mapping out the planning for repairs. But without immediate action, even the best planning will not bring with it the desired results.

However, before we can begin to address any of our problems we have to learn how to communicate between each other. We must quit pointing fingers at those who we believe are responsible for the problems that we are facing, and instead put our heads together to find solutions to solve the problems. Communication must occur between the active chapter, you, and the board of directors that you elected to lead and serve you. I am very willing to work with the alumni board, but I find it hard to schedule time to be at Alumni Board meetings when I receive an announcement for them only a week (sometimes less) before they occur. It is also hard to justify the trip, when I arrive only to

find half of the board members present (thus not meeting quorum) to meet without an agenda or any other structure. This board seems to meet more times a year than any board I've ever seen, but at the same time, they get much less done than most boards. A majority of actives view the board as very incompetent and find it hard to listen to most of their advice, when our alumni corporation is experiencing the same difficulties that are being dealt with in the active chapter.

The solution is easy. We need to work towards a common goal; we need to come together as a brotherhood again. We need to become one group working towards a common goal, not three different groups with their own ideas of what we must do and what we must be. Communication is our first goal, with that other goals will come. Brotherhood will lead our chapter, but we must move forward, and we must do it fast.

Finally, I need to inform all the brothers of Beta Gamma that, due to health problems, I have been forced to withdraw from all my classes this semester. With elections only a month away, it was discussed by the officers to leave the position of Noble Ruler vacant, with the responsibilities to be split amongst the officer team. And as long as everyone does there job, things will run smoothly. I am sorry for any inconvenience that my situation has caused, but in my particular position, I have no choice. My plans are to return to school in the spring, but my devotion to the chapter will remain constant. If anyone needs to reach me, for any reason, I can be reached at my home in Hartford. Brother North has my phone number if that is the case. Again, the active chapter is running smoothly, but we must work together to make the chapter do the same. I hope my report has provided you with a little insight, as perceived by me, and will make you become more interested in working together as one.

Fraternally,

Robert J. Hannes
Noble Ruler

whew!

Last Name, First Name _____

Stud Number: _____

Full Name: _____

Month/Year Graduated: _____

Address Extension: (Apartment Number), P.O. Box Number, etc.) _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Business Phone: _____

Occupation: _____

(A)-Alumni, or (*)-Active: _____

Pledge Class: _____

Spouse: _____

Children: _____

Major: _____

Current Occupation Employer _____

Thank you,

The Brothers of Beta Gamma

Dear Brother,

We are in desperate need of updating our Alumni files. We beg you to take a few minutes of your time to fill out the Alumni Profile and mail it to:

VNR of Alumni Relations
845 W. Madison
Platteville, WI 53818

*P.S. Send all wedding, birth announcements or other events to the above address.

ALL BROTHERS

Please help in funding the Roy Hoff Scholarship Fund by selling the enclosed tickets. 1 ticket for \$1⁰⁰ or 6 tickets for \$5⁰⁰. Please return ticket stubs and proceeds to:

VNR of Activities
845 W. Madison
Platteville, WI 53818



Alpha Gamma Rho

845 W. Madison St.
Platteville, WI 53818



\$0.55

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED — PLEASE FORWARD

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity
10101 North Executive Hills Blvd.
Kansas City, Missouri 64153-1396

