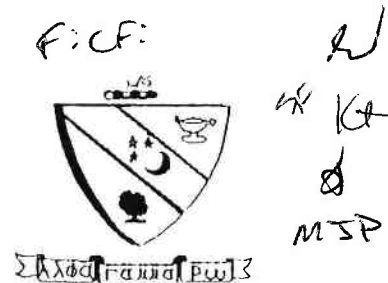


BETA GAMMA CHAPTER Crescent

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

FALL 1996

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE



NO. 68

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE

Greetings from the School of Agriculture!

There have been two major changes for the School of Agriculture since July 1, 1996. I assumed the role of director on that date and the office of the School of Agriculture was moved to the seventh floor of Pioneer Tower. With a new director assuming that position, it seemed the logical time to move the office. As expected, there have been a few bumps along the road of change but everything has gone relatively smooth.

I am enjoying my new position but it sure is keeping me busy!! The following are my two key short term goals:

1. Relocate the School of Agriculture office from Ullrich Hall to Pioneer Tower and establish a well-managed, efficient office that serves students, faculty, staff and outside parties with a friendly, welcoming atmosphere.
2. Apply time management and prioritizing but recognize the need to LISTEN to any student and/or faculty/staff member who indicates a desire to visit with me, help to identify any problem(s) and discuss a solution.

I am in the process of thinking through some realistic long term goals.

We have about 110 new students with us this fall as either freshmen, reentrants or transfers. The number of our total student body is at 406. Recruitment continues to be important to us. Our agri-ambassadors, current students who volunteer their time, are busy helping the faculty and staff with high school visits, career fairs and agriculture related shows.

The faculty and staff are busy every day, maintaining close contact with students in and out of the classrooms. The student clubs, advised by faculty and staff, are active and continue to play a major role in building leadership skills in our students. Many faculty are adjusting curriculum to meet the needs of our students.

Discussions are to start soon about the remodeling of Russell Hall. This renovation project will have a significant impact on agriculture. It is going to be imperative that many people are involved in the decisions of this project.

In closing, I am pleased to inform all of you that the School of Agriculture has received a major grant to investigate our application of distance education. This is exciting for all of us as we need to be on the cutting edge of innovations in education.

Come visit us!! All of us at the School of Ag want to share our everyday activities with those who give us tremendous support. Stop in or give us a call.

By Dr. Sue Price

HELLO FELLOW BROTHERS!

It is a special honor to address you as the Noble Ruler of the active chapter. With elections and graduation right around the corner, this is the last opportunity that I have to communicate with you the status of the chapter through an active leadership position. There are many things to be proud about as a brother of the Beta Gamma chapter. This semester has started off great. Spirit and morale are at impressive levels and everyone is working to make this another great year. This year was another year of increase in house numbers as we moved upward to 21 in-house brothers. With recruitment in place, we will be able to continue this trend as well. Our goal is to bring in 10 to 12 new members this fall and we are well on our way to making it happen. Our education program, after several trial and error attempts, is slowly solidifying. An established education program has been developed and involves the entire chapter. Our goal last spring to increase academic performance was also achieved. We ranked second among campus fraternities by averaging a 2.83 (only a three-tenths behind the leader) and stood well above the campus average of 2.65. Through careful budgeting and smart spending, we are keeping our finances in line and once again will be in the black. We are now also preparing to interview new applicants to fill the cook position. After several programming glitches and computer crashes, we are working towards publishing another alumni directory (we need all the information that you can provide us with—please fill out the form on the back and return it to us with information on anything that is going on in your lives. Like I said earlier, there is much to be proud of in Alpha Gamma Rho.

We would like to extend to all of you, as alumni, our appreciation for the efforts that you have made to make this chapter a stronger one. However, although chapter membership is strong, that which we call home is not. The house that stands at 845 W. Madison St. is in need of major maintenance. Siding, windows, the first floor bathroom, and other repairs need to be made to keep this house the best kept house on campus. Let's work together. The men here look forwarding to working with you, we hope you feel the same way. Have a great fall!

Fraternally,

Mike North



Mike North
Noble Ruler

MEET THE FACULTY

Dr. Roger Higgs, a professor of soils and crops at the University-Platteville was raised in Brimfield, Illinois. Upon graduation from Brimfield High School, he attended the University of Illinois to pursue his Bachelor's of Science and Master's of Science Degrees. He then served the United States of America in the 69th armor from 1961 to 1962, where he was a First Lieutenant. After serving in the army, he earned his Doctorate at Iowa State University.

Dr. Higgs joined the faculty in the School of Agriculture at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville in 1966, after earning his Doctorate. Since his first day on campus, he has challenged the minds of students to learn everything possible about soils and crops. His excellent leadership and teaching ability has earned him numerous teaching awards. This fall, he is making an addition to his award collection by receiving the Teacher Fellow Award for NACTA.

While teaching at UW-Platteville, Dr. Higgs has demonstrated his leadership ability by becoming very active with the School of Agriculture. Dr. Higgs is an academic advisor to Soil and Crop Science Majors, and a Director of Reclamation Majors. He also coaches the Soils, Crops, and Weed Science Judging Teams. Also, while being involved with all of these activities, he still finds time to be an advisor for the Agronomy and Reclamation Clubs.

Dr. Higgs stresses to his students that they should set high goals for themselves, and he feels the faculty should have high goals for their students. He feels if you plan for success, you will obtain it. He also believes that each student should have respect for their fellow classmates, as well as their professors.

Dr. Higgs believes that agriculture will be very important in the future, but it will have a different appearance. Equipment, management practices, and technology are changing, but plants and animals will have continue to grow in the future, just as they do today.

By Jeff Bode

BETA GAMMA ALUMNI BOARD

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8187 Hwy. 61
Lancaster, WI 53515
(608) 723-4403

Vice-President: Eric Trapp
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Secretary: Michael Grulke
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Dennis McDougall
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Michael Fisher
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Rick Blakely
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8187 Hwy. 61
Lancaster, WI 53515
(608) 723-4403

Dues Chairman: Jason Brown
310 Third St., Apt. 2
Baraboo, WI 53913
(608) 355-1010

Matt Badtke, from Rosendale, WI is graduating with a Bachelors degree in Crop and Soil Science and a minor in Ag. Business. He plans to continue farming and possibly continue working in the vegetable canning industry.

GRADUATING SENIORS

September 18, 1996

I take a great deal of pride in being able to write this article. It has now been four and one-half years since I began my college career and became a member of this brotherhood. I was a part of the first initiate class (Alpha Omega) to go through the Brotherhood Program, and I have had the opportunity to watch it develop and evolve. I will graduate this December with a major in Agriculture Marketing and plan to work at First Capitol Ag., a commodity brokerage in Platteville as a commodity broker. The things that I have learned since I showed up in Platteville in the fall of 1992, are things that have helped me grow intellectually. However, the experiences that I have had, mostly with the fraternity, have helped me grow as an individual. The men that now walk the halls of this house are men that I trust to continue the legacy of this fraternity, men that I take pride in calling **BROTHERS**. I value my time here and would not trade it for anything. If there is one thing that I would ask of all of those that I call brothers, and all of us that are or are becoming alumnus of this fraternity, it is a request to allow for change. After we graduate, we make lives of our own. We meet the right woman, build a family, and strive to succeed in our profession. Why do we not allow for active men of this fraternity to do the same. View this chapter with an open mind. Trust in the men of the active chapter to make the right decisions and be ready to assist them in these decisions when asked. These young men are our future. I trust and believe in them, I hope you do to. As I leave behind this life, and start a life of my own, I will always take with me the friends that I have made and the experiences that I have had while growing with all of you in the common bond that ties each of us together—the bond that we have come to call Alpha Gamma Rho.

Fraternally,
Michael A. North
(Pin #443)

Greetings to my fellow Brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho,

I am Brother Anthony Seebecker, and I am a proud member of Alpha Gamma Rho. I am graduating with a major in Agriculture Business and a minor in Computer Science. My pledge class, Alpha Omega-Fall 1992, was the first pledge class to go through the Brotherhood program. Since then, the Brotherhood program has improved greatly and is working well. I served as VNR-Scholarship this past year.

Alpha Gamma Rho has played a major role in my college years. I have seen many faces come and go through the years. I have learned many skills through the Fraternity that I could not have learned else where. I also have made many lifelong Brothers whom I will always remember. I would like to see an increased involvement of the alumni with the active chapter, for we have to work together to build Brotherhood.

On May 31, 1997, I am pledging my life away to my beautiful fiancée. I hope you all can make it. I also would like to thank all of the Brothers who have helped me through my college years.

Fraternally,
Anthony Seebecker

Aaron Seim, from DeKalb, IL is graduating with a Bachelors Degree in Crop and Science and a minor in Ag. Business. His plans are to secure a job as an agronomist or in the field of landscape horticulture.

UNDERKOFER AWARD

Susan G. Price, agriculture, was honored recently at a special ceremony in Madison as one of the recipients of the 1996 "Underkofler Excellence in Teaching Awards" presented by Wisconsin Power and Light (WP&L) Company. The Madison-based utility annually makes up to four of the \$5,000 awards to faculty members at UW System campuses within its service area. The awards are named and presented in honor of WP&L's retired president, CEO, and board chair James R. Unkerkofler, and are funded by a \$250,000 endowment from the company to the UW System.

President Katharine Lyall noted, "Professor Price and the other award recipients demonstrate extraordinary dedication and innovation in their teaching. Their students have told us that they not only have inspired them to academic achievement, but have served as role models that have changed students' lives." Congratulations, Dr. Price.

VNR OPERATIONS

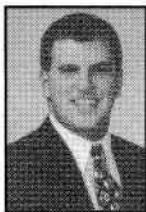
Hello, I am David M. Bacon from Hancock, WI. I plan on graduating in May in Ag Engineering Technology. That is in the future so for now I would like to focus on the job I have, which is VNR Operations.

At the time I have no real plan except keep the day to day operations of this house flowing as smooth as possible, which seems to be a great challenge. In a way I do wish I did have a major plan for major improvements. I say this because the house needs major improvements. Many of these improvements are not like an addition or a total remodeling, but more a major improvement or an update. One example that comes to mind is the outside siding and windows. With new windows and siding it would make the house look more presentable outside and make the house more livable inside. It seems that everyone wants to gut the whole house and start over. That would be good, if we had the financial backing and supports, but we do not. Instead I think little major improvements, which are done properly will work better and fit in everyone's budget a little better.

So please support your alumni and your active chapter by both financial and by a good relationship. With a better funding and more communication I think we can accomplish our goals to make this place a better place to live and to visit.

Faternally,

David M. Bacon, VNR Operations



David Bacon
Vice Noble
Ruler -
Operations

PAST RHOMATE ELECTED TO BOARD

On October 12th, Kim (Brown) Pokorny was elected to the University of Wisconsin Platteville's School of Agriculture Alumni Board. Kim, a past rhomate, graduated in 1994 with an Animal Science degree that included a Dairy emphasis. In the spring of 1995 she received her masters degree UW-Platteville in Agriculture Industries with an emphasis in Communications. Kim is presently employed as Sheboygan County's Dairy Livestock Agent. She is currently living in Plymouth, Wisconsin, with her husband, Doyle.

Beta Gamma Chapter

"25 years old"

A GOAL IS REACHED Platteville Colony Becomes...

On April 22, one of the main goals of Platteville Colony became a reality. We became Beta Gamma Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. The pride in our colony was very much evident as a total of 88 men became charter members.

Beta Gamma became the 47th chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho and the third chapter in Wisconsin. The other chapters are Iola at UW-Madison and Alpha Psi from UW-River Falls. The brothers of Beta Gamma are very proud that Alpha Psi acted as the installing chapter. They were well represented with 25 men being here for the busy weekend.

Ovid Bay, National Grand President, from Washington D.C., was here to give a speech at the unveiling of the letters and also to present the charter to Noble Ruler John Kureger at the charter banquet.

Ted Priebe, editor of the Sickle and Sheaf, the national magazine of AGR, along with Bruce Cowan, a member of Alpha Chapter, were also representing the national office.

Beta Gamma number one signer is Dr. Robert Campbell, our advisor, who has led us through our four short years as a colony. Without "Doc's" leadership and devotion, we surely would not be as far as we are today.

Our short history ad a colony is just a spark of the great fire that Beta Gamma chapter and its brothers throughout the nation will be in the future.

Also present was Maynard Coe, Executive Secretary of Alpha Gamma Rho. Brother Coe has done much to help us become a national chapter and also presented us with a challenge for the future.

You are cordially invited to attend Beta Gamma's 25th Anniversary Extravaganza April 4, 5, 6, 1997

Mark your calendar, reserve a room, get that new dress or suit, brush up on old stories, practice those AGR songs, and plan to attend!

Friday, April 4 8:00 Brotherhood get-together
Legion Bar-Platteville

Saturday, April 5 Morning: Tour of the college farm
11:30 Lunch AGR house
1:00 Alumni Meeting-AGR house
5:00 Attitude Adjustment-
Student Center
6:00 Dinner-Student Center
8:00-12:00 Entertainment

Sunday, April 6 10:00 Brunch-AGR house

**There are now over 500 Beta Gamma Actives,
Alumni, and Rho-Mates! Many we haven't seen for
a long time. Let's plan to renew old acquaintances
and friendships as we celebrate together Beta
Gamma's 25th Anniversary.**

Kerry and Barb Henning
Co-Chairpersons
25th Anniversary

VNR - RECRUITMENT

Alumni Members,

As many of you know I am this years VNR - Recruitment officer. I am pleased to say that this summer was a great experience for me. Much of my time this summer was spent on the road traveling to many of the towns which I listed in the Spring '96 Crescent.

I visited with many young men along with their parents throughout the state and into northern Illinois. There was a great deal of success in contacting and meeting with many gentlemen. One thing I did find from making a great deal of phone calls was approximately 30% of the original 65 names which I received were not even attending UWP. This aside I concentrated on the men who were attending the college. After meeting with the men which I was able to contact and set-up an appointment with there were seven which signed letters of intent. I am pleased to say that we now have seven new initiates so far this semester. My personal goals as recruitment officer is to have a total of 15 initiates by the end of the semester. This is also a goal of the active chapter which is working as a whole on increasing our numbers.

Many gentlemen which I encountered this semester are very strongly set on waiting at least a semester or even a year before considering joining. This is something which is hard to change in their minds without being over bearing but we are trying to work at it and get them recruited.

We are losing 9 members this year to graduation, therefore recruitment is a vital area of concern and dedication on the part of all members. Although summer recruitment was not as successful as I hoped I could make it, but I do feel that it was a success in that we were able to contact many men and as an active chapter I feel we can effectively recruit men this semester.

I would like to thank all those who offered food and lodging while I was on the road this summer. It was a big help. Again I thank the alumni and the active chapter for all the support which I had received. This semester can and will be a success.

Fraternally,
Nick Homan



Nicholas Homan
Vice Noble Ruler -
Recruitment

VNR - ALUMNI RELATIONS

We are in the process of trying to put together an **Alumni Directory**, however due to the lack of accurate information this proves to be very difficult. That is why we are asking **everyone** to please fill the current data sheet on the back of this Crescent and return to 845 W. Madison St., Platteville, WI 53818, care of VNR - Alumni Relations. If this is done, it will be much easier to recognize our lost members and begin the search to find their latest addresses. Also if you know the address of someone who has complained about receiving any publications from the house please include those addresses on a separate piece of paper. Thank You!

Fraternally,
Bret J. Harrington



Bret Harrington
Vice Noble Ruler - Alum -
Relations

VNR - MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT By Paul Zuelke

I am looking forward to this semester. This is my third year as a member. I am majoring in Agricultural Education, so I feel comfortable and confident in this semester's curriculum. I have done some renovation on last semester's curriculum. We have seven new brothers going through the Big Brother

program. The curriculum is eight weeks long. The Big Brothers are taking weekly quizzes along with their Little Brothers. The Big Brothers have been deeply involved with their little brother's development. We will be establishing the Five Orders this semester, which is a recognition for excellence in scholarship and achievement. I have planned many activities for Big and Little Brothers as well as the rest of the Chapter. We already had a Song Night, which was very successful. I feel very confident with this group of men. I believe that they will put their best foot forward to make this semester's development a success.



Paul Zuelke
Vice Noble Ruler -
Membership Dev.

VNR - FINANCE

Again I look forward to the new semester as VNR - Finance. Currently we are tackling the job of changing our chart of accounts to match the national's list. By doing this, our members will also see exactly where their membership money goes. The new chart of account has three areas for income and expense, rather than just one broad area. This new format should remain the standard for many years to come. At present we are keeping our accounts receivable in check and our bills paid. I am looking forward to another semester in the black.

Fraternally yours,
Matt Badtke - VNR Finance



Matthew Badtke
Vice Noble Ruler -
Finance

VNR SCHOLARSHIP

The Brothers at Beta Gamma did a very good job scholastically last Spring. We ranked 3rd within fraternities and 5th among all Greek organizations.

Brother Anthony Seebecker earned a 4.0 to receive the highest active grade point for the semester. Nick Homan had the most improved grade point with an increase of 1.62. The highest cumulative grade point this last fall went to Brother Mark Pipkorn. The high Big Brother Little Brother team went to Brothers Howard Roth and Matt Badtke.

We are very pleased with the grades this last fall. We already set goals to achieve higher grade points next semester and hopefully we can improve our rankings.



Anthony Seebecker
Vice Noble Ruler -
Secretary

VNR - ACTIVITIES

My name is Gregg Wolf, I just took over the office of VNR Activities which Craig Ladwig resigned this fall. I just received this office before homecoming, so I coordinated all of this year's homecoming activities. The Beta Gamma Chapter participated in the homecoming activities once again, and did well in events such as tug-of-war, which we received first, and the float which received second again this year. Right now I am in the process of scheduling our banquet for this fall semester and making that event a success. I look forward to the rest of my term, and working with the officer team.

Sincerely,
Gregg Wolf



Gregory Wolf

VNR PLANNING

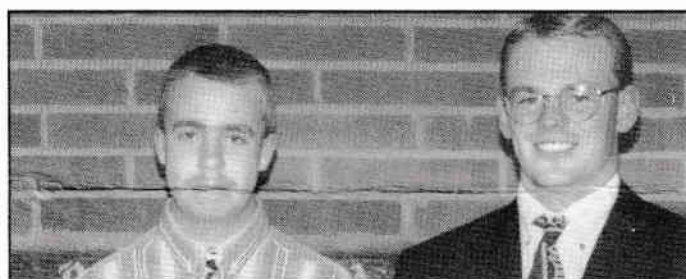
Welcome once again fellow AGR's. I am excited to be back this fall for my senior year. As the Planning officer for this fall, I have many great expectations for our chapter. Last year we had one of the most successful years ever winning the award for continuous recruitment as well as having an excellent fundraiser with our annual Porkfest event. It will be a tough task to try and top what was accomplished last year, but I want to go out with some great memories of my last year as an active member and I believe it will be done. Some of the events that we have planned already are a skip-out to the Kansas State University chapter as well as homecoming weekend and wherever our roadtrips take us this year. I have one challenge, and that is for all alumni to keep up with their dues to help keep this chapter moving in the right direction. I look forward to seeing as many as you as I can in the coming year. God bless you all.

Fraternally, Jeff Mohlman, VNR - Planning



Jeff Mohlman
Vice Noble
Ruler -
Planning

My name is Bob Bemis and I am currently a Freshman at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. My major is animal science with an emphasis in dairy. I live in Ashton, Illinois on a small dairy goat farm. I joined Alpha Gamma Rho because it is a well known agriculture fraternity. I also think it is a good opportunity to meet people and get involved.



Robert Bemis, left and Jeff Bode, right

HERE'S WHO'S NEW

Randall J. Clark, son of David and Patricia Clark of Lomira, WI, was recently initiated into the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity. Randy is a very active member of the FFA. Some of his accomplishments include becoming a Delegate to the National FFA Convention for the State of Wisconsin, attending the Washington Leadership Conference, attending several conventions and leadership workshops on both the state and national levels, and participating in the National FFA Parliamentary Procedure contest for the state of Wisconsin (1996 State Champions). He also participated in Vocal Club, National Honor Society, Forensics, Football, Wrestling, POPS Program, 4-H, and many other organizations during his high school years.



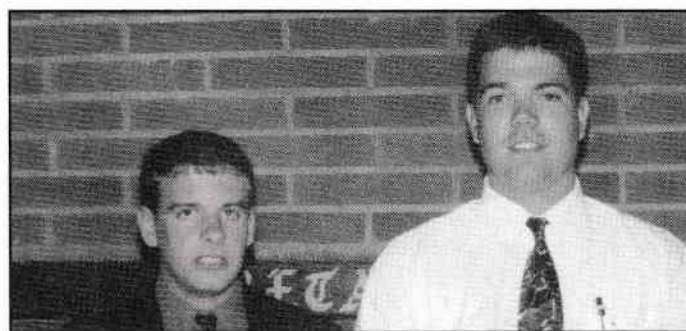
Greg Wolf, left and Randy Clark, right.

Randy is currently a freshman at the University of Wisconsin at Platteville majoring in Mechanical Engineering and minoring in Political Science. By joining the Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity, Randy hopes to meet many new people, become

active in fraternity activities on campus, and to be a part of an exciting group of young men in the agriculture industry.

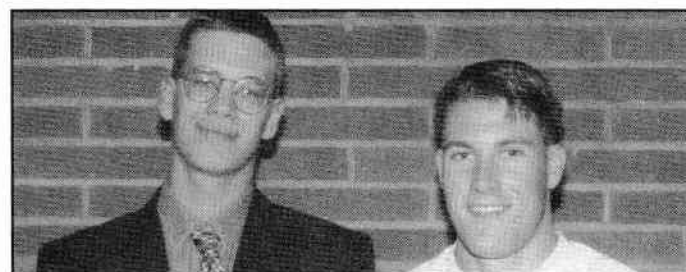
His career goals include to hold a job in the Agriculture Industry designing large agriculture equipment. The AGR will hopefully help him to achieve his goals.

I, Calvin Deetz, was initiated on September 12, 1996. My hometown is Fulton, Illinois. I was raised on a farm and have been around agriculture all of my life. I transferred to UW-Platteville from Clinton Community College in Clinton, Iowa, and am majoring in Crop/Science. I plan on graduating in the spring of 1998. After graduation I hope to get a job dealing with the knowledge in the Crop/Science. I am looking forward to my next two years at UW-Platteville and a lifelong brotherhood in AGR.



Jeff Mohlman, left and Calvin Deetz, right

My name is Chris Atten and I am a graduate student here at UW-Platteville. I will be receiving a MA in Agricultural Industry with intentions to graduate in May. I received my BA from Wartburg College majoring in Biology. I am originally from Pecatonica, IL. I grew up on a 1500 acre grain farm. I currently work at First Capital Ag, Inc. where I am commodity Broker. The reason why I joined AGR was due to my brothers involvement in AGR and the long terms friends which I will gain out of the fraternity. My future plans is to stay working at First Capital Ag and someday buying a small farm in the area.



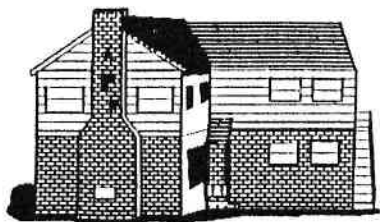
Ed Grommes, left and Chris Atten, right.

Hi, I would like to take this time to introduce myself I am Eric D. Svenson. When not in school I live in Wonder Lake, Illinois, with my parents. I work on a farm and run some of my own land and have a herd of show steers and herfeirs. I run about three hundred acres of hay and bale some straw, to sell. I was very involved in 4-H being president of our club four times and vice-president three times.

Sincerely, Eric Svenson



Eric Svenson, left and Brett Harrington, right



Alpha Gamma Rho

845 W. Madison St.
Platteville, WI 53818

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53818
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED — PLEASE FORWARD

Alpha Gamma Rho Home Office
10101 North Executive Hills Blvd
Kansas City MO 64153-1395

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 announce-
ments or other events to the above
address.