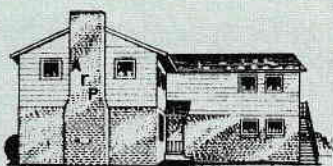


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BETA GAMMA

CHAPTER

Crescent



Fall 2001

ALPHA GAMMA RHO
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

NO. 78

Advisor Report



This certainly has been a very emotional fall. The events of September 11 and beyond have certainly cut into the heart of America. Our integrity, pride and solidarity for our nation has been expressed time and time again. However, we are one nation and brothers.

It is hard to believe that a year has passed since I became the advisor to Beta Gamma. It certainly has been a challenging but rewarding experience. This past spring Doc Oomens was very helpful in guiding me in the role of advisor. I appreciated those efforts and insights especially now as I assume the role as advisor. Within the next month, we'll be having elections for the new officer team. As you are well aware, the officer team sets the tone for the direction of Beta Gamma for the next year. Based on the caliber of the actives, we should have another fine group of leaders.

The property is looking very good. Last spring the Horticulture club developed a new landscape design for the property. The Alumni board approved it and the actives provided the muscle. The large juniper trees were removed from around the house. Doc Oomens and his truck provided the pulling power to remove them. The actives and I agree, it was a once in a lifetime opportunity to see Doc Oomens dragging trees away from the house. The engine roared, the truck jerked to the side, and out popped another tree. Can you picture such a sight? Fortunately, the results produced an area around the house that is very attractive. Washed river stone and short flowering shrubs were placed in strategic areas around the house. I would encourage you to stop by and take a look. I think you would be very impressed and pleased. In addition, during Christmas break the tile in the basement will be replaced. The old tables and chairs will also be replaced with more up-to-date models. This project will certainly make the basement more attractive and functional.

Currently there are 20 members living in the house and 17 members out of house. The activities chair has been developing ways of getting the out-of-house members more involved. If you have any suggestions on what worked for you when you

were an active, let us know. It would be greatly appreciated. This is always an area of great concern. The out-of-house members need to feel they are a part of a group. VNR-Recruitment Brad Gefvert has done an excellent job this year recruiting ten high quality men for Beta Gamma. All initiates are highly motivated with excellent leadership potential. However, the search continues for more young men "to make better men." This year's AGR Loberger Scholarship was presented to Beta Gamma's Noble Ruler; Joe Porior. He is an excellent representative of the scholastic standards and integrity established by the scholarship. The AGR actives would like to thank Dr. Loberger for his continued support of this scholarship.

This spring will be the thirtieth anniversary of the founding of the chapter in Platteville. Saturday, April 6 has been designated as the date for this important recognition. It should be a time of reminiscing about the past, observing the present and looking forward to the next thirty years. I would encourage all of you to place the date on your calendars. It will take place in Platteville at the Park Inn Convention Center. The Alumni Founder Day's committee is working hard to design an entertaining program that will allow you to remember those special times with AGR. We are looking forward to your participation in this special event.

In closing, I am very appreciative of the leadership and integrity of the Alumni Board president, Brother Mike North. He recently met with the actives during one of their weekly meetings. He gave a very uplifting talk regarding one's role as an AGR member and the life-long benefits. If any alumnus has the desire to speak to the group at some time in the future, we would welcome it. Your experiences as an AGR member would be beneficial to the actives. Remember we are brothers by choice. May we always continue to strive for honesty and integrity.

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Spotlight On Alumni
- Update on Centennial of AGR
- Fall 2001 Initiates
- Lost Alumni List

Alumni Corner

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bubbles_agr_512@yahoo.com

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Board Member '04
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attensoccer@hotmail.com

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Chapter Advisor
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Mee@uwplatt.edu

Lost Alumni...

The following people are listed as missing in the Beta Gamma directory. If you know where they are, please email the Beta Gamma Chapter at agr@uwplatt.edu or give us a call at (608) 348-6470. Thank You.

Members

Timothy Beran
Jon Braymer
Paul Featherstone

Darwin Fish
David Halvick
John Oncken

Rhomates

Kathi Anderson
Fran Breyer
Jane Browning
Dana Erickson
Renee Fay
Jamie Goforth
Helen Johnson
Marie Keehn
Kim Keeseey
Julie Krueger
Cheryl Labeots
May Lenz

Elaine Lepley
Tonia Linderman
Dawn Loomis
Holly Miller
Debra Neckvatal
Sue Palzkill
Chris Sanders
Suzy Schnier
Alana Skoyen
Jane Smith
Linda Weisinger

Mentors Needed for Active Chapter Offices

It has been mentioned in the past that there are brothers that would be willing to ease the transition period between new officer teams, especially since the new officer team will take over in January. If you are one of those brothers who is interested in becoming a mentor for a certain office in the active chapter, please email the fraternity at agr@uwplatt.edu or call us at (608) 348-6470.



Peter Morhardt
VNR-Alumni Relations



Bradley Gefvert
VNR-Recruitment



Joseph Porior
Noble Ruler



Tim Hoeft



David Heimerdinger
VNR-Membership Development VNR-Finance



Jeff Christensen
VNR-Provisions



Bryan Tallyn
VNR-Planning



Jeff Adams
VNR-Operations



Ben Leistico
VNR-Activities



Mike Herschleb
VNR-Scholarship

Noble Ruler's Report...



Brothers, once again it is time for me, as Noble Ruler, to provide you with an update on the state of affairs within the active Beta Gamma chapter. I am pleased to say that most things are going quite well, and we are working hard to improve on the rest.

The landscaping project was completed late last spring and turned out very well. We have received numerous compliments on the new look. It was a great opportunity for us to do something big that we can all look back on in years to come and be proud of. Also, this summer the parking lot was seal coated. Plans are starting to come together to complete the next major house improvement that we are very excited about. Over semester break, the tile floor in the basement will be replaced and the walls and heat registers will be painted. We greatly appreciate all of the alumni contributions to improve the house and grounds. THANK YOU!

This fall, we again worked at Golden Harvest Seed to help them hand pick seed corn test plots. We raised just over \$1100 for ways and means. With this money, we updated the stereo equipment in the basement. We purchased the equipment from the same salesman that sold us the old system over 20 years ago. He could not believe we were still using it. Also, we plan to purchase a new computer to use as a server for the house network. I'm not up on computer terminology and equipment, but our new system will be much faster and more reliable. To help finance this improvement Nationals will contribute up to \$500 in a matching funds program. Everyone is greatly anticipating this upcoming improvement.

With the addition of six outstanding young men to the ranks of Beta Gamma this fall, we now have 37 actives with 20 living in the house. With the semester winding down, elections are rapidly approaching. I have no doubt that next year's executive board will not lack enthusiasm, hard work and determination. Next semester will also mark one year under our new advisor, Dr. Michael Mee. He had extremely big shoes to fill, but he has done an outstanding job so far. We really appreciate his enthusiasm in taking on this important role.

Homecoming this fall was successful for Beta Gamma. This year's theme was "Our 70's Show." Everyone's busy schedule made the week difficult, but we ended on a very high note receiving second place on our float that had a Duke's of Hazzard theme. It was also very good to talk with all of the alumni who came back for the weekend. I would like to strongly encourage all of you to come back any time to visit and check out all the improvements at the house and the new student center which will be operational next semester.

I have had an enjoyable term as Noble Ruler. I am looking forward to serving another term on the executive board having learned much in the past year about myself and the Brothers I live and work with. After 30 years, Beta Gamma is still very

strong and looking to improve.

Fraternally,
Joseph M. Porior
Noble Ruler

Recruitment Report



This fall semester has been very busy for recruitment. The semester started out with a bang. We initiated five members in the first couple of weeks, and then got one more a couple of weeks later. We received a total of six quality new initiates. We continue to keep in contact with other prospective members as the semester goes on. As a chapter we would like any alumni help with the recruiting process. If any alumni knows of any quality perspective members that attend, or will attend Platteville please contact the chapter house at 608-348-6470, or e-mail myself at gefvertb@hotmail.com.

New Brothers Of Alpha Gamma Rho



Beta Sigma Pledge Class

Hello, my name is John Reilly (stud number 557). My parents are John and Elizabeth Reilly. I grew up in Janesville, Wisconsin, on a beef, sheep, and crop farm. I have been in the US Marine Corps for the last four and a half years. Currently I am a freshman with an Ag Ed. major.

I joined AGR with the intent of meeting new people and becoming more involved with the school of agriculture.

Hello, my name is Ross Blotz from Dodgeville, Wisconsin. My stud number is 558. My parents' names are Tim and Laura Jean Blotz. I work on the farm the entire summer, but now since I am in college, I work there on weekends and when needed during the week. I also work for Hennessey Implement in Dodgeville, Wisconsin, mowing yard, cleaning equipment, and many other things. I am a freshman majoring in Animal Science, with an emphasis in livestock production. I wanted to join AGR to get to know more people associated with the agriculture field and to get to know more people that had the same interests as I do. The qualities that impressed me the most, were how professional and courteous the members of the AGR were to me when I was first introduced to them.

Hi, my name is Matthew Stephen Akins. My stud number is 559. My parent's are Stephen and Phyllis Akins. My hometown is Sussex, Wisconsin. I have worked on a horse and beef farm for the past three years and have showed steers at the county fair for one year. Currently, I am a freshman at UW-Platteville and majoring in Animal Science. I decided to join because I wanted to meet people that were in the agriculture field. Also, I wanted to have fun and get ahead in the agricultural world.

Hi, my name is Jeffery Edward George Hodge. My stud number is 560. My parents are Robert and Nancy Akins. My hometown is Janesville, Wisconsin. I have lived on a crop farm for my entire life and have taken steers to the fair for ten years. Currently, I am a Freshman at UW-Platteville and majoring in Agriculture Business. I decided to join because I liked the guys that were in the Fraternity and wanted to get involved on Campus. Also, I wanted to meet people and get ahead in the agricultural field.

Hello gentlemen, my name is Seth Randall Braker. My stud number is 561. My parents are Randy and Barb Braker and my hometown is Randolph, Wisconsin. I come from a custom heifer raising operation that includes facilities for about 250 head and also some cropping acres. I am currently a freshman here at UW-Platteville with a major in Soil and Crop Science. I wanted to join AGR because I wanted to be in the presence of people like me that are shooting for a common goal. I was familiar with AGR because I knew people that were involved in it, including my dad who was a brother here at UW-Platteville. AGR has many impressive qualities that I feel will make me a better person.

Hello gentlemen, my name is Nathaniel Charles Sievers. My stud number is 562. My parents are Dwaine and Judy Sievers who live in Cambridge, WI, which is my hometown. I come from a small beef farm where we raised Polled Herfords for show. When I was 13 we moved off the farm, but ever since then I have been active in both 4H and FFA. I am currently a Junior at UW-Platteville with a major in Reclamation with a biological emphasis and a minor in Horticulture. I joined AGR to become a better student and person not only in the school of Ag, but a better person in general. The qualities that impressed me the most about AGR are that everyone in the fraternity is a prominent figure in the school of Ag and around campus in general. I hope in the future I can say this about myself because of joining Alpha Gamma Rho.

History Needed for AGR Centennial

In 2004 Alpha Gamma Rho will celebrate its Centennial. Dr. Fred Oomens has been designated as "historian" for Beta Gamma Chapter by the History Book Coordinator, Gene L. Swackhamer.

Each of you will be contacted from time to time in the next two years to assist in the collection of the stories, traditions, noteworthy events in the history of our chapter, and identifying "famous" alumni. It would be appreciated if you could take a few minutes and see if you could help out with this assignment. Here is our first task:

1. Can you identify a living or deceased veteran of (in our case) Korea, Viet Nam, or Desert Storm from our chapter with a noteworthy story? Perhaps you know of a brother, (or a brother that is the son of a veteran) who would write a letter of their experience as in Tom Brokaw's book, ***The Greatest Generation***. A war photo of a brother would be great. The story need not be "How I became a General;" it can be about the difficulty of keeping the chapter open, the farm going, or how careers were impacted.

2. Can you help locate a photo or two that tell a story about our chapter? They can be black and white or color prints of any size. Close ups are best. All people in the photo must be identifiable. Photos may include non-members such as house mothers, parents or friends, especially if they show action or a tradition of our chapter. All photos will be returned.

3. A section of the book will feature the "pioneers, heroes and champions" of Alpha Gamma Rho. These are our brothers who have made a significant contribution to agriculture or the fraternity. The committee would like to have a least one candidate from each chapter.

The History Book Steering Committee is working to decide which stories best fit into the flow of our first 100 years, including a project to identify "Brothers of the Century" for the centennial celebration, so your assistance will not be in vane.

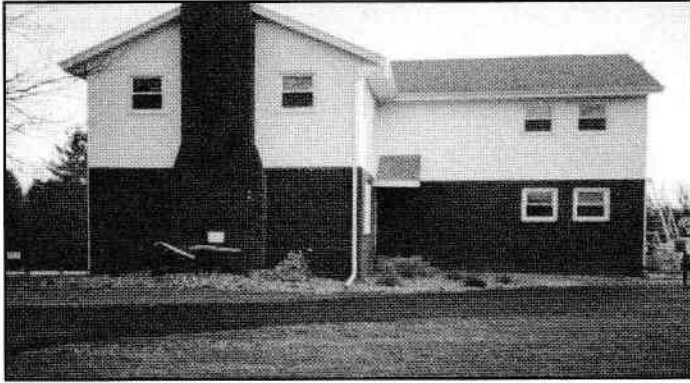
We will respond to this urgent request prior to December 31, 2001. Send your information, ideas, names, photos, or stories to:

Fred Oomens
1642 Butson Rd.
Platteville, WI 53818
or call 608-348-9630

The purpose of Alpha Gamma Rho is to make better men, and through them a broader and better agriculture by surrounding our members with influences tending to encourage individual endeavor, resourcefulness and aggressive effort along lines making for the development of better mental, social, moral, and physical qualities; to promote a wider acquaintance and a broader outlook on the part of agricultural men through fellowship in a national organization that stands for the best social, mental and moral development.

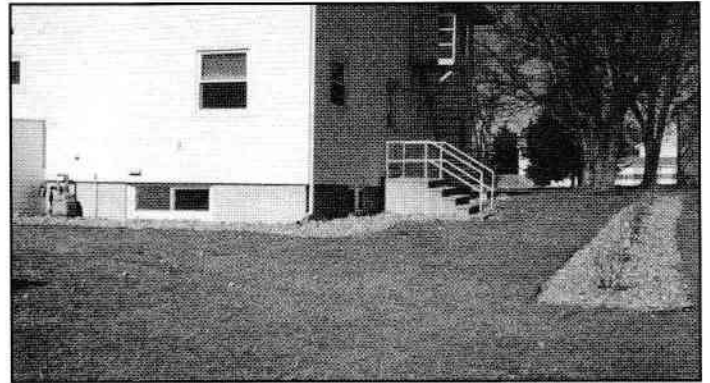
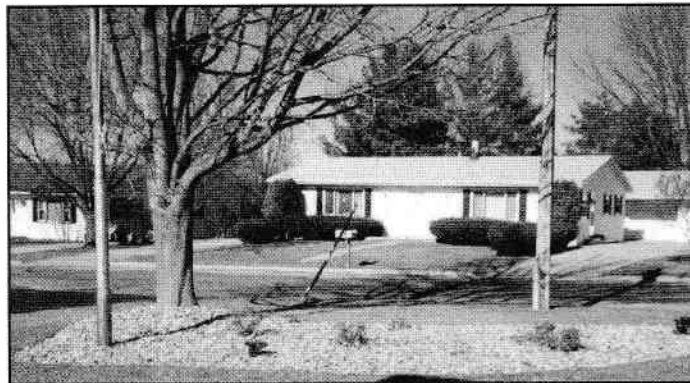
-from the *Golden Crescent*

The Landscaping Project



The landscaping project was started on April 16 and was completed shortly after the end of the semester. During that time, the active chapter, in cooperation with the Horticulture Club (who designed the blue-prints for it), tore out all of the old landscaping and replaced it with beautiful wash stone and perennials. The wash stone now encompasses the entire house, where it only used to be around the front of the house. All of the stone was around the island out in front of the house was replaced and perennials were added to that area as well. There is a new line of lilac bushes along the house on the east side that will serve as a wind-

break as they grow. As you can see from these pictures, there is quite a difference from the way it used to look. This project was only made possible from the donations that you, the alumni of Beta Gamma, have given throughout the years. So, continue to give generously, and improvements such as this can continue for future brothers to enjoy.



Spotlight on Alumni

Welcome a future AGR member! Jon (358) and Julie Loitz had a baby boy born on the morning of January 29, 2001. His name is Jacob Paul Loitz, and he weighed 7 pounds 10 ounces, and he was 20 inches long.

David Fischer (450) has a new job with the UW-Extension as the Dane County Crops and Soils Agent. He has also bought a new house in DeForest, WI, and has recently gotten married to Erin Beaver.

Rhomate Lynn (Sedgewick) Strauss, a agribusiness major while at UWP, and a member of the Upsilon class, is a customer service representative at Old Wisconsin Sausage in Sheboygan, WI. She is happily married and lives in Sheboygan Falls, WI.

On May 10, 2001, Julie MacSwain of Stillwater, MN was 1 of 6 USDA employees throughout the country who received the Unsung Hero Award in Washington DC. Julie, a 1983 graduate of UW-Platteville in Ag Education and a Rhomate of AGR, is an employee with the USDA NRCS in Stillwater, MN.

The Unsung Hero awards were presented during public service Recognition Week to honor those who exemplify the best in public service through quick, efficient, dedication to the public good. They are also in recognition for valuable contribution made to USDA as well as American public at large.

Julie MacSwain was cited for being a dedicated employee and constantly of giving herself and her time. Her extra efforts in Chairing a Minnesota First "Sharing the Heartland" conference, a conference which drew people from all over the country. Brought people together to talk about and learn more about Urban sprawl.

Julie is currently serving as Chair of the Civil Rights committee for USDA NRCS in MN and is District Conservationist for NRCS in Stillwater, MN. Julie has also worked on several outreach activities which bring children from the inner city together with other children, to learn about the environment and each other. One such project "Project Common Ground" was cited on former President Clinton's web site as an outstanding project on dealing with Race Relations.

Julie has also been active with the Soil and Water Conservation Society and served as Minnesota Chapter President as well as with the Local Stillwater Rotary Club where she is serving currently as President Elect.

If you have any address changes or would like to be in the "Spotlight on Alumni," please email is at agr@uwplatt.edu or send in the back of the Crescent. Also, if you have any pictures you would like to send us of any event, we would be more than willing to put them in the Crescent. Thank You!

Alumni Report

As a reminder to all who may not have caught the election results in the last Crescent, here is a refresher of those brothers you elected to serve for the coming year...Mike North, Gary Klug, Kevin Klubertanz, Rick Blakely, Dan Dishno, Stuart Strangler, and Chris Atten. The Alumni Board is proud to admit that the 2001-2002 year is off to a great start. Plans for the 2002 Founders Day Banquet are underway. Everyone should keep in mind that this is our 30th anniversary and as a result, a great turnout is expected in Platteville on April 6, 2002. Any ideas and or help that you can offer would be appreciated. Please direct those ideas to Stuart Stangler. He can be reached at (920) 261-7125.

House maintenance has continued. The basement floor will be replaced this winter along with purchasing new tables, and chairs. New dressers will be purchased to replace the worn chests in use currently. Other projects are on the horizon for future attention. We must keep in mind that it is our responsibility to keep the living quarters of the active chapter as the standard by which all other fraternities are measured. To do that, we must have all brothers continue to give back to the organization that has given each of us so much. Support the Foundation for the Future with your generous contribution. Keep up the growing trend that has kept our name at the top of the heap.

Please keep in mind that we are here to serve you and the best interests of the future of our organization. If you can offer any help, knowledge, or insight in our collective effort to accomplish this task, please let us know.

Fraternally,
Mike North

30th Anniversary: Honoring the Past Advisors of Beta Gamma

The 30th anniversary of the Beta Gamma Chapter will be held on April 6, 2002, in Platteville, WI. Since the details of this event are not completely finalized, there will be more information about it in future mailings.

Check out our New & Improved
Homepage on the Net!
<http://vms.www.uwplatt.edu/~agr/>
or e-mail us at
agr@uwplatt.edu

Foundation for the Future

The Foundation for the Future is a program that was started almost 5 years ago. Its goal was to raise funds in excess to help maintain and upgrade the house and function of the fraternity. Since its inception, the house has received new windows and siding. Phone and internet jacks have been installed in all rooms. The first floor bathroom has been remodeled. New carpet has been rolled through all the hallways. The parking lot has been repaved and sealed. New landscaping has been done throughout the property and much more. As you can see, the program has been successful in meeting the needs of an aging house and a growing organization. October marks the beginning of the Foundation's contribution season. Already many of Beta Gamma's members have diligently sent money to support the maintenance and upgrade of 845 W. Madison St. and the operation of alumni functions.

Perhaps the events of September 11 have brought into perspective those things which we value most...the fortunate ability that we have to live in such a great country, the friends and family that fill our lives and, of course, the brothers that helped mold our character. It is very unfortunate that it took such a tragedy for a nation of so much wealth and fortune to elevate its priorities and reacquaint itself with its foundational beliefs. I must say that I am proud to belong to an organization, which has built its foundation on those same beliefs and has promoted them in its everyday operation. We also have evaluated our priorities as an organization. The Foundation for the Future has some aggressive goals ahead of itself. It will require all of our support, now, more than ever. I would like to challenge everyone to give what is in their ability to give and show up the growing amount of contributions that have been made over the past 5 years.

Several projects will require our attention in the coming years. The time is now to start preparing. Immediately, the basement floor will be replaced this winter in lieu of the original tile being cracked along the edges and bandaged of many times over. To provide for protection of the new floor and replace the

worn and weathered tables and chairs that currently are used, new 8 man round tables and padded chairs will be purchased. As we move to the bedrooms, one very obvious need is for new chests/dressers. The current chests have become worn and in need of replacement through the decades and countless numbers of men. New chests will be purchased to replace these pieces. We have been working closely with AGR Quality Interiors to not only find the best price, but also find the best value for our dollar in replacing the furniture.

Secondly, the kitchen needs a face-lift (cupboard and cabinet faces, countertop, etc.). The downstairs bathrooms need attention (functionality has become hindered by old pipes, worn plumbing, old fixtures). The maintenance/laundry room cannot handle the capacity of laundry, farm clothes, and appliances that currently occupy its space. On the horizon, a new garage/outdoor utility shed will be needed to replace that which has served us for so many years. To those who have given their financial support in the past, we thank you and look forward to your contribution again this year. I would encourage all of you to stop in at your college home and see all the good work your money has done. Again, thank you, and we appreciate your support.



Beta Gamma Foundation for the Future Pledge Card

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

_____ \$25 2000 Alumni Dues (Supporting member)

_____ Foundation for the Future donation (Contributing member and Green & Gold Club)

Send Payments to Alumni Treasurer, Jason Brown, 867 Henry St., Waunakee, WI 53597



Alpha Gamma Rho

845 W. Madison St.
Platteville, WI 53818

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

ALPHA GAMMA RHO NATIONAL OFFICE
10101 N EXECUTIVE HILLS BLVD
KANSAS CITY MO 64153-1366



Dear Brother,

We are always looking to update our Alumni files. We ask 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

Your involvement is appreciated by all of the Brothers at Beta Gamma.

Last Name, First Name _____

Stud Number: _____ Month/Year Grad. _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____ E-mail: _____

Occupation: _____ Occupation Employer: _____

Business address: _____

Family: _____

Major: _____

Initiate Class: _____

Comments: _____
