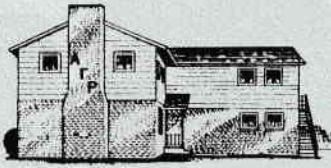
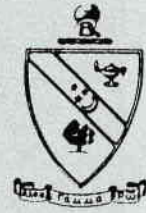


1/20/03



BETA GAMMA CHAPTER Crescent



Fall 2002

ALPHA GAMMA RHO
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

NO. 79

Advisor Report



Time does go by faster the older you become. The fall semester is in full swing. It has been a terrific start for Alpha Gamma Rho Beta Gamma. We continue to initiate candidates with the integrity and values that are held in high esteem by the brothers who came before. Currently we have seven new initiates who have already demonstrated great leadership potential. It is always a pleasure to work with such great young men.

This summer I had the pleasure of attending my first National AGR convention and what a great experience it was. I wish every member of Beta Gamma could have attended and participated in the activities in Minneapolis. You would have really appreciated what it means to be a member of Alpha Gamma Rho. Beta Gamma was well represented with seven undergraduate members, one alumni (Stu Strangler) and myself. There were excellent speakers, interesting tours and great educational experiences. During the business meeting, delegates voted to increase membership dues as of January 1, 2003 from \$45 to \$55 per semester. The increase was needed to offset rising costs for the fraternity and a poor investment market over the past few years. There was also an interesting discussion regarding chapter strategic planning. The national fraternity would like all chapters to have developed a strategic plan prior to the 100th anniversary celebration at the 2004 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio. The planning sessions would include a commitment by alumni along with the undergraduate chapter. This would give the alumni and undergraduates an opportunity to interact with one another and develop sound goals and direction for Beta Gamma. I will encourage the Alumni association and active undergraduate chapter to pursue this process. During the awards ceremony, Beta Gamma received the Green Award, the Spirit award and was a co-recipient of the Sleeter Bull Award for the most improved chapter since the last convention. The Beta Gamma delegation was quite enthusiastic and proud to receive the Sleeter Bull Award. The chapter works very hard and it is good to see that their effort is rewarded. A special thank you should be extended to Doc

Oomens for instilling on the chapter the sense of value and integrity it now possesses. Without his guidance, the chapter would not be where it is today.

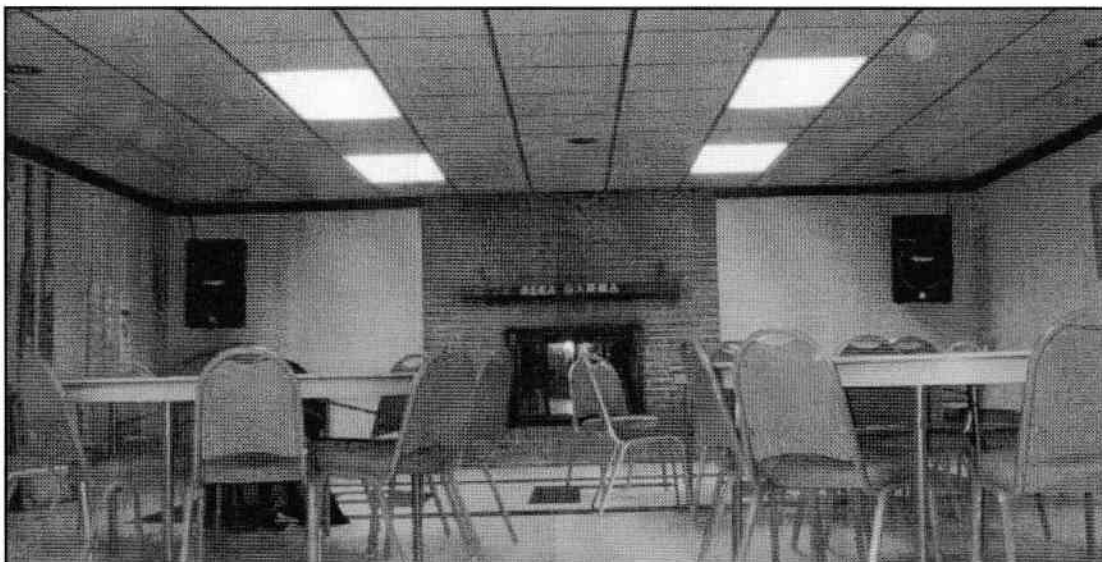
Beta Gamma will continue to strive for excellence as evident by the announcement this fall that last spring, the chapter placed first among Greek organizations in overall grade point average. This was no small accomplishment considering there was 42 men actively involved in the chapter last spring. We will continue to reach for academic excellence. This fall there are 21 members living in house and as many members living out of the chapter house.

Improvements are constantly being made to the chapter house. This fall the ceiling tiles in the basement were replaced. What a difference!! Thanks go to Brother Matt Lee whose connections allowed us to get the tiles at reduced costs. Plans are in the works to redo the bathrooms and laundry area in the basement. This update will make the area more efficient and useful to those living in the house.

One of the areas that Beta Gamma is striving to enhance is in the area of community service to the Platteville community. This fall brothers were involved in the area blood drive, the crop walk and numerous small service projects for the elderly. During the Halloween festivities, Beta Gamma worked with the Platteville Jaycees assisting them with their annual haunted house by providing set up and man power. As you can see, the chapter is actively involved in the community. It has been a great beginning to the academic year and as alumni you should be proud of this chapters activities and accomplishments. I know that as their advisor I certainly am very proud of them.

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Home Improvements

The above picture is the new look of the house basement. In addition to the new floor that was installed over winter break last year, some active members installed the new ceiling tiles and lighting covers. Steel inserts were added to the existing track to accommodate the new two feet by two feet tiles and then the entire track was repainted.

Further plans are in the works to remodel the basement bath and laundry areas. Plans are to begin this work during winter break.

Due to the poor condition of the garage the overhead door does not work properly. The active members have plans to replace the overhead door with a double swinging door.

Beta Gamma Scholarship



As VNR scholarship for the Brother's of Beta Gamma Chapter, I am pleased to announce that Alpha Gamma Rho has the highest overall cumulative Grade Point Average for the second straight semester. AGRs topped the list of Greeks with a 2.97 cumulative GPA for the spring '02 semester, which was up from a 2.93 in the fall semester. We also had the highest overall GPA for the semester topping all other Greeks with a 3.05. A hard work ethic and continued effort by the brothers has given us a steadily increasing GPA for the past 4 semesters. I am excited to see that the new initiates are already working hard to uphold the scholastic performance of the chapter. Thanks for all of your effort men and keep up the good work.

Josh Costello
VNR-Scholarship

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

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!

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*

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

New Brothers Of Alpha Gamma Rho



Initiates left to right: Matt Delong, Tony Martin, Michel Lee, Kristopher Scheider, Ben Lawfer

Hello, my name is Kristopher Scheider. My student number 571. My parent is Cheryl Blackwell. My hometown is Dakota, Illinois. I am a junior majoring in Dairy Science. I come from an agricultural family, which has been farming for the past 43 years. For the past three years, I have lived with my grandparents, while working on their dairy/beef farm. A farm that milks 75 cows, raises replacement heifers and beef steers, while farming almost 600 acres. I joined AGR for the opportunity to broaden my skills in the agricultural field as well as be accounted for not only as a person, but my grades as well. I hope that AGR can get me ahead in the world of agriculture.

Hello gentlemen, my name is Benjamin Thomas Lawfer. My student number is 573. My parents are Ronald and Julie Lawfer and my hometown is Kent, Illinois. I come from a dairy farm where we milk on average 110-120 cows. We also have about 30 beef cattle. I currently am a freshman at UW-Platteville with an Animal Science major. I wanted to join the AGR Fraternity because of all the great things I heard about the house, and how nice all of the guys are here. They all carry themselves with pride that they are members of the Fraternity and are very active in the public. Those are also some great traits that drew me here. Hopefully the guys here will carry over their greatness to me.



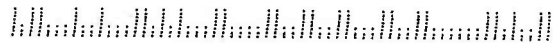
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KANSAS CITY MO 64153-1366



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: _____
