

BETA GAMMA CRESENT

ALPHA GAMMA RHO FRATERNITY

FALL 2018

WWW.PLATTEVILLEAGR.COM

UW-PLATTEVILLE

AGR NATIONAL CONVENTION REPORT

The 65th AGR Convention was held from August 2nd to August 5th. I would like to thank Beta Gamma alumni for letting me represent them. The different AGR boards reported that the fraternity is financially stable. Delegates did vote to raise the initiation fee and semi-annual membership dues for the undergraduates. Education endowment is growing. I know Brother Ward is working with the national Home Office for Beta Gamma Chapter to setup a scholarship program to assist our undergraduates. The World War II museum was the site for Thursday evening activity. This included a light dinner, musical program with popular songs from the World War II era and self-guided tour of the museum.

Throughout the convention during meals different individual and chapter awards were given out. Friday morning undergraduates had an opportunity to attend Career Fair. Many different agriculture companies were represented. A speaker for the noon luncheon spoke on financial management and discussed how stressful it can be if you do not budget. Friday afternoon gave us the opportunity to attend one of four breakout sessions. I attended the session on how to engage alumni in networking and recruiting new members. My wife Judy was able to attend a luncheon with other women on the Steam Boat Natchez touring the New Orleans harbor. We had a recognition celebration for Phil Josephson retirement at the Mardi Gras World. This facility is where they develop and store the Mardi

Gras floats. Entertainment included a small Mardi Gras Parade including a band. In addition, each chapter joined the parade with flags and school colors. Phil served longer than any other fraternity CEO. Phil's new replacement is Rex Martin.

At Saturday's business meeting we had election of new board members and new Grand President. Wisconsin's own Bernie Staller is the new Grand President. The 2020 AGR National Convention will be held in Wisconsin. There was a round table discussion on Saturday as well. The panel discussed the Future of Greek System. The topic centered on tragic events on college campuses nationwide and Greek life is under great scrutiny. They addressed the current trends the Greek community is faced with and understand the necessary actions administrators need to take to maintain the integrity of their universities. This relates to the potential legal consequences when students compromise the guiding values of their organization. Again, Saturday afternoon we had breakout sessions that included Alumni Engagement, Brotherhood Program improvements, Recruitment and Chapter Financial Management.

Faternally,

Jack Ellickson

THE FUTURE OF THE CRESCENT

In the past, there was a push to have the crescent sent out in digital form. This proved to be a much more monumental task than at first thought. In an effort to maintain contact, this version is printed on paper, but we are still working on the digital copy of the crescent by ensuring that we have everyone's correct email information. Again, if you have not updated your email preferences, and if you are alright with getting the crescent sent to you by e mail (you will only receive two emails per calendar year, these are not collection emails), please let Chase Grieser (grieserc@uwplatt.edu) know with the correct email information.

WHAT'S INSIDE

ADVISER REPORT • NOBLE RULER'S • ALUMNI PRESIDENT'S REPORT • AND MORE...

ADVISER REPORT

Brothers,

As we arrive in 2019 we wanted to update you on several things going on at the University, School of Agriculture (SOA) and chapter level. As advisors, we continue to work with the officer team and chapter to live out the promise and values of Alpha Gamma Rho. If you have not reviewed AGR's Promise and Values recently they can be found here: <https://www.alphagammarho.org/agr-promise-and-values>.

As part of the collaborative integration process, UW-Platteville welcomed UW-Platteville Baraboo Sauk County and UW-Platteville Richland on July 1, 2018. There has been plenty going on during the first year of integrating these two-year UW Colleges with UW-Platteville. The purpose of this restructuring was to keep campuses open and to expand access to higher education by leveraging the strength of our four-year institutions at a time when overall enrollment at UW Colleges are declining. If you are interested in learning more about the collaborative integration process, there is a webpage dedicated to this process on the UW-Platteville website. As it relates to agriculture, we are currently discussing an Associate of Science degree in agriculture being offered at the branch campuses.

On Oct. 6, UW-Platteville played its fourth annual "Celebrate Agriculture" football game against the UW River Falls Falcons. This year it coincided with homecoming festivities. Compeer Financial partnered with the School of Agriculture and Pioneer Athletic Department to bring awareness and celebrate Wisconsin's \$88 billion agriculture industry. A major gift from Quality Liquid Feeds (QLF) in Dodgeville, WI was presented as part of the weekend. QLF provided generous support to the Dairy Science Faculty Fund for recruitment and retention of high-quality dairy science faculty and the overall dairy science program.

The SOA will have three Short Term Faculty Led international educational programs during the winter term in January 2019. Faculty and students will be traveling to Spain, Thailand, and New Zealand. The Spain program will focus on vertical integration in agriculture and international trade. The Thailand program is titled: Tropical Shelter Medicine, Management, and Welfare: From Companion Animals to Elephants. The New Zealand program is titled: From the Midwest to Middle Earth: Agriculture and Society in New Zealand. Another short-term faculty led program is scheduled for May 2019 in Costa Rica. These are great learning and educational opportunities abroad for our students.

SOA Fall 2018 enrollment figures totaled 703 majors down from 773 in the fall of 2017. This continues a trend of declining enrollment the past few years after a decade of continued growth. By major these enrollment figures include: Agribusiness (233 majors), Animal Science (191), Soil & Crop Science (84), Agricultural Education (66), Dairy Science (57), Reclamation, Environment and Conservation (32), and Environmental Horticulture (40). The 703 SOA majors include 298 male students, 405 female students.

Dr. Julie Van Der Wilt is an Assistant Professor of Agribusiness in the School of Agriculture at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. Julie joined the School of Agriculture in August of 2018 where she teaches agribusiness courses including agribusiness (AGBUS 1500) and agricultural finance (AGBUS 3420). A Wisconsin native, she received a B.S. degree in Finance from St. Cloud State University in Minnesota in 2007. Julie also received an M.B.A in Finance and International Business in 2011 and a D.B.A in Finance and Economics in 2018 from University of Wisconsin – Whitewater. Prior to coming to UW Platteville, Julie was a Lecturer at UW-Baraboo/Sauk County and UW-Richland in the Business Economics department teaching Financial Accounting, Managerial Accounting, and Personal Finance.

The SOA is in the process of conducting a national search for an assistant professor in Agribusiness specializing in commodity marketing. This position will fill the vacancy left when Agribusiness professor, Annie Kinwa Muzinga, left UW-Platteville after 16 years to join the agriculture program at Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa. The search and screen committee will be reviewing applications and interviewing candidates during spring 2019, the new candidate would begin their appointment in August 2019.

Undergraduates held another highly successful Ag Fest (pictured to the right) to welcome back faculty, staff and students in the SOA. Ag Fest was held in September and was a great kickoff to another academic year. It included guest speaker, Arlin Wonderlich, past Grand President of AGR, who



NOBLE RULER'S REPORT

Dear Brothers,

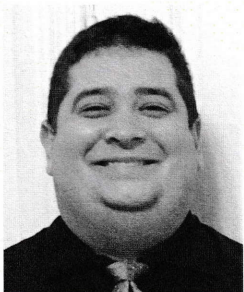
Greetings from the Beta Gamma Chapter; I hope this letter finds all brothers in good health. As harvest has come to an end we must once again begin look to the New Year, and with it another great year of AGR thriving on the UW-Platteville campus.

This past summer Beta Gamma received an award from the National Fraternity. We were awarded Gold Chapter status again this year. We are very proud of these accomplishments and we continue to work hard every day to keep Platteville AGR on the map and in good light.

Our current initiate class, Delta Delta, is a strong group with 16 initiates this fall. I believe we have some good candidates for officer/leadership positions within this new group of men. We once again are at the top of list for grades in the Greek community on campus. We were ranked 4th in grades for the spring with an overall 3.12 GPA. Also, we've been very busy this semester being active in the Platteville community by participating in Highway Cleanup, as well as getting more involved in the Greek Community. Brother Vincent Reiter orchestrated our Annual Alpha Gamma Rho Euchre Tournament this year. The turn-out wasn't what we were expecting but those that participated still had fun. The proceeds from this year's tournament went to the Second Harvest Food Bank. We are planning for next year already and are hoping for a much better turnout.

As my term as Noble Ruler comes to an end, I would like to thank my brothers here at Beta Gamma for a great fall semester. I am grateful for the opportunity to be their Noble Ruler. This experience has taught me many things I will be able to take with me throughout life. Even though I will be heading home after this fall I will be looking forward to offering my assistance to the new officer team as needed. Beta Gamma's new Noble Ruler, Vincent Reiter, and his officer team, will be as strong as ever.

As I look back over the past year of 2018, I can remember many successful times, but there is still much room for improvement. With alumni help and support our success will be unlimited. With that being said, after having a great year in 2018, I without a doubt know that we will continue to strive for excellence in 2019. As always, feel free to stop by at any time and visit with your brothers at 845 West Madison!



Fraternally,

Benjamin Watson
Noble Ruler
812

Pictured below is some of the brothers during highway clean up this past fall.



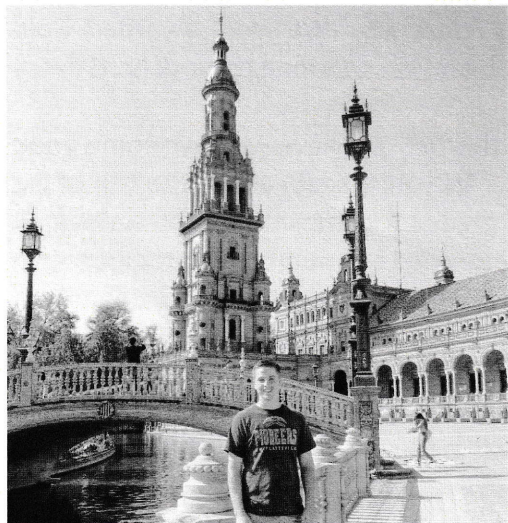
UW-PLATTEVILLE FOUNDATION: ALPHA GAMMA RHO OPPORTUNITIES

As we all know, the UW-Platteville Foundation often calls for support of many university functions, and Alpha Gamma Rho is one of them. Alumni can donate to our chapter, no matter what the foundation calls about; ask for ways to support the Alpha Gamma Rho funds. Doors have been opened to collegiate members for financial support, with the establishment of the Alpha Gamma Rho scholarship fund by our generous alumni and alumni association. This positive partnership with the UW-Platteville Foundation is brightening the Beta Gamma chapter's future.

BROTHERHOOD SPOTLIGHT

This is a new section of the crescent where the undergrad chapter will include a brief note on a brother who has demonstrated outstanding character, completed a special activity, or has done a service to the chapter.

This semester's brotherhood spotlight is going to be on Brother Samuel (Sam) Peetz, pictured below. Sam is currently a Junior at UW-Platteville, where he is double majoring in Dairy Science and Agribusiness with a Spanish minor. Sam completed a study abroad program at Aeres University of Applied Sciences in Dronten, The Netherlands (about an hour east of Amsterdam), where he was enrolled in an exchange course in International Dairy Management. Between classes, he visited a number of countries across Europe learning about the different ways agriculture takes shape around the world. While brother Peetz was abroad, he partook in the undergrad officer elections via internet and was elected VNR-Scholarship for the upcoming year. Sam will return to school at UW-Platteville this upcoming semester to continue his undergrad studies. Brother Peetz is also involved in Pioneer Dairy Club (former treasurer), Agronomy Club (former treasurer and President), as well as the Soils Judging Team at UW-Platteville.



When asked why he joined the Beta Gamma Chapter, his response was, "While I first came to Platteville and wanted nothing to do with Greek Life, I had friends already in both AGR and Sigma Alpha that worked day and night to get me to join. Thanks to them, I slowly changed my mind until I was initiated at the very last minute in the fall of 2017. I soon realized that joining AGR was an amazing opportunity to expand my professional network while being a part of an organization that works every day to build better men."

Beta Gamma and our alumni are proud to have brother Peetz and commend all of his hard work! To the left is Sam pictured at Plaza de España in Seville, Spain, during a fall-break backpacking trip.

2018 ALUMNI BOARD MEMBERS

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2018 UNDERGRADUATE EXECUTIVE BOARD

NOBLE RULER

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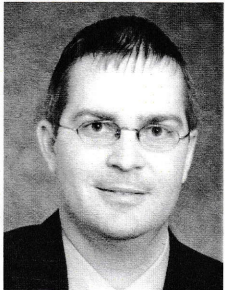
ADVISER REPORT

provided a great message for all those in attendance. David and Molly Heimerdinger prepared the meal for approximately 250 people and the entire chapter helped with preparation and clean up after this special event. All School of Agriculture clubs and organizations in attendance had the opportunity to speak and share information about their club activities and upcoming meetings.

The chapter held a euchre tournament on campus this past December. It was open to the public and university, and all money raised was donated to Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin to assist local families in need.

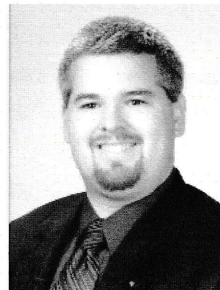
The Beta Gamma chapter is now at 50 members after a successful recruitment effort this fall and initiation of many new brothers. Officer elections were held in December and we will hold a strategic planning session with the new officer team in late January to outline goals for their individual officer position and for the chapter in 2019. The spring 2019 semester will begin on Tuesday, January 22 and conclude on May 17.

We would like to thank the AGR Beta Gamma Alumni Board and all alumni who have assisted the chapter over the past year. We would also like to congratulate all those brothers graduating as part of the 201st commencement ceremony this December. Wishing you a prosperous new year!



Fraternally,

Chuck Steiner and David Heimerdinger,
Beta Gamma Advisors



LIST OF LOST BROTHERS

As Beta Gamma grows in leaps and bounds with every undergraduate class, it proves that our fraternity is growing a history and legacy. To get our story out to all alumni and Alpha Gamma Rho brothers we must have every brother's

143 THOMAS FERGUSON

151 ROGER LUCKEY

168 JEFFREY KROES

168 DANIEL WILLIAMS

ALUMNI PRESIDENT'S REPORT



2018 has come to an end and it was an eventful year for both the Beta Gamma Alumni Association and the Undergrad Chapter. While the Undergrads will report on their activities let me update you on your Alumni Association.

The Beta Gamma Alumni Association is in good shape financially, but we have some concerns. Last spring the Undergrad Chapter fell behind on the rent. This has the potential of causing problems for the Alumni Association because over 85% of our income is rent from the Undergrad Chapter and the most of our expenses are fixed costs for things like the mortgage, property taxes, and insurance. Members of the Alumni Board have addressed this with the Undergrad Chapter. To their credit the Undergrads took it upon themselves and I am happy to report that they are current with their rent.

This past summer Brother Jack Ellickson represented Beta Gamma Alumni at the AGR National Convention in New Orleans. Jack has a report included in this Crescent.

One of the reasons why we are in good shape financially is the fact that our Alumni Dues have exceeded our projections. Your dues are needed to publish the Crescent, to help fund alumni gatherings, and pay directors insurance. Through your support we are able to fund these activities, communicate with alumni, and maintain the tradition of excellence that is Alpha Gamma Rho.

Please send in your check today. We need your financial support to assist our fraternity's mission to make better men at 845 West Madison Street in Platteville. Please complete the enclosed form and send along with your check to Jordan Alf, Alumni Treasurer. Please include your email address so that we can keep you up to date with news and information throughout the year. If you have news to share, please let us know. Also, if you know of a young man that will be attending Platteville and feel that he is great candidate to pledge AGR, please tell us about him.

Thank you in advance for paying your dues.

David Ward

Alumni President

2018 New Beta Gamma Brothers

Spring 2018

SAMUEL PEETZ - 824
JOSHUA PICKLE - 825
TAYLOR RUPNOW - 826
ZACH TOLZMAN - 827
DYLAN KUBLY - 828
IAN ALLAMAN - 829
ISAAC WEBER - 830
JOSEPH LYNE - 831
ROBERT PRICE - 832

Fall 2018

ANDREW SLACK - 833
RYAN SMITH - 834
JOE ADELMAYER - 835
MARCUS BIRSCHBACH - 836
JAKE STEFFES - 837
COLIN BAYS - 838
JAY HUFNAGEL - 839
GRIFFIN HEADLY - 840
BROCK BYINGTON - 841
BRADY HATTORI - 842
ZACH MICKELSON - 843
RYAN KAHLSCHEUER - 844
MASON SPENCER - 845
LOGAN HENREKEIN - 846
JOE FUGATE - 847

GRADUATING SENIORS

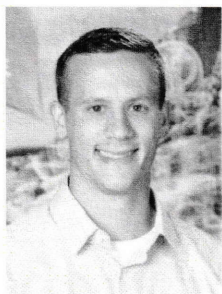
Spring 2018

JOSEPH ACKER
JASON BELL
TREVOR BRUNK
DAKOTA JAMES
JUSTIN NEHLS
MITCHEL SCHLEICHER
CHASE STODDARD
DYLAN WILLIAMS

Fall 2018

PATRICK KILLELEA
AARON LEANDER
RYAN NADIG
LOGAN SCHMERBACH
KYLE SHEPPARD
JEFF STUETTGEN
BEN WATSON

VNR ALUMNI RELATIONS PARTING NOTES FOR 2018



I would like to thank the entire undergrad chapter, alumni, advisors, anyone else who made this past year successful for our officer team, and finally UW- Platteville, for without our school we do not exist! We went through some tough changes, but as any strong team, we endured the changes, made the necessary adjustments, and finished the year by keeping the chapter headed

in a positive direction. With the continued support of our alumni and a strong undergrad chapter, UW-Platteville and Alpha Gamma Rho can continue to grow together. Finally, as a side note, there was no crescent sent out last spring due to unforeseen publishing issues, the company we had used in the past was no longer in business and finding another source took more time than expected. We have resourced our publishing to the AGR Home Office and revamped the Crescent as a

whole. Many thanks go out to the AGR Home Office staff for support and advice throughout this change. Finally, I would like to thank AGR as a whole for the opportunity to be part of such a great organization that, upon transferring to UW-Platteville, gave me new light into the college experience and my professional development. Now that I have joined the alumni, I will be working for John Deere as a Mechanical Engineer, I hope to see some other alumni around work and upon involvement with the undergrad chapter!

As always, if there are any questions, comments, or concerns, don't hesitate to contact me at any time.

Fraternally,

Logan Schmerbach - 803
Schmerbach.logan@gmail.com
563-451-8597

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0000086 - 000002



RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Please help us recruit the best of men. If you know someone who would make a good addition to our Fraternity,
please let us know so we can contact him and enhance our brotherhood.

Name: _____ Age: _____
Address: _____
E-mail address: _____
Phone - home: _____ School: _____
Classification/Major: _____
Comments: _____

Your name and address: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO: ALPHA GAMMA RHO - BETA GAMMA CHAPTER,
ATTN: RECRUITMENT, 845 W MADISON ST, PLATTEVILLE, WI 53818-1520