

# BETA GAMMA

## CHAPTER

# Crescent

### ALPHA GAMMA RHO

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*gl* *sk*

SPRING 1986

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PLATTEVILLE

NO. 41

## Schaefer Serves as State FFA President

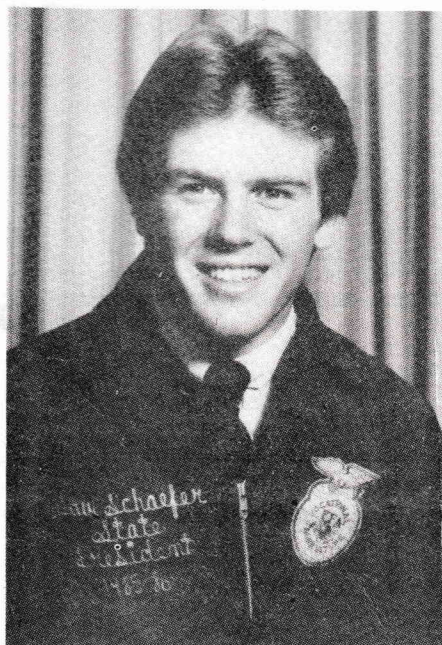
Many brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho have been involved with the Future Farmers of America. Beta Gamma is proud to have as one of our brothers, Dave Schaefer, who is currently serving as Wisconsin's State FFA President.

After serving as State FFA Treasurer for the 1984-85 year, Dave Schaefer was elected President of the Wisconsin FFA at the organization's 56th Annual Meeting in Green Lake, June 11 through 13.

Brother Schaefer (312) is from a 935 acre beef, swine and cash crop farm outside of Platteville. Dave is involved actively in the farm operation with his parents, Jim and Pat and his two brothers, Terry and Duane.

Brother Schaefer graduated from Platteville High School in 1983 where he was involved in various school activities. Dave was an honor student and 1982 Junior Class Prom King. He served as Historian, Treasurer and President and was also active on various committees and judging teams.

Dave has been the recipient of numerous awards such as a chapter Beef and Swine Proficiency Awards and Star Chapter Farmer. He was the recipient of the Wisconsin Rehabilitation Scholarship and the Stanton Memorial Scholarship.



Brother Dave Schaefer

After high school graduation, Dave enrolled at UW-Platteville to pursue an Agricultural Economics degree with emphasis in farm management. Dave was initiated into Alpha Gamma Rho in the spring of his freshman year as a member of the Alpha Eta pledge class. Not surprisingly, Dave even served as president of his pledge class. Brother Schaefer made the UWP Dean's List his freshman year. During his sophomore year Dave served as State FFA Treasurer while attending school part time. With the added responsibilities of State President, Dave has taken a year off from college in order to fulfill his duties.

The brothers of Beta Gamma are proud of the job that Brother Schaefer has done as a state officer. He has done a great job of representing both FFA and Alpha Gamma Rho. Congratulations Dave on a job well done!

Dave's office as State FFA President is one example of the quality of brothers that belong to Alpha Gamma Rho. Whatever his field or occupation, the brothers of Alpha Gamma Rho are outstanding individuals!

Jeff Agnew



## Fire Up For The 1986 Alumni Banquet

### Upcoming Events

Alumni Banquet ..... March 8

Pledge Banquet ..... April 25

Graduation ..... May 11



Christmas was a good time for the actives to show our cook, Anne, how special she has been to this chapter for so long.

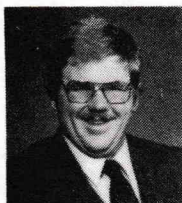


# NOBLE RULER'S REPORT

Greetings from Beta Gamma. Now that the holiday season has passed I hope that I find you all in good health. The beginning of the semester finds everyone getting back into the swing of things around here. On the weekend of January 25, the 1988 National Convention Bid Committee held a meeting here. Members and alumni from Beta Gamma, Alpha Psi, and Iota Chapters were all present. A very constructive meeting took place and many exciting plans from that meeting will be carried out.

Presently we are in the middle of the rushing season. We've had a 50's party and a pajama party. We also had a casino night, which is our dry rush party. We had to move that one up so we could get permits for the ones where beer would be served. These permits must be obtained fifteen days prior to the event. We will be presenting bids shortly. This semester the pledging program has gone under some restructuring. We hope this will lead to improve the program. Leadership Seminar is going to be held March 14-16 in Minneapolis. We have twelve members going from this chapter. We hope to pick up some new ideas to help

strengthen the fraternity. The previous weekend will be Alumni Banquet. I hope as many alumni as possible will make it back as the program looks to be an enjoyable one. As you have read before, the program will be a "roast" in Annie's honor. After working with her for a year I was sorry to see her go, but we'll never forget the personality she gave to the kitchen. Hopefully that weekend you will have the opportunity to meet our new cook, Charlene Hoppenjan. I'm sure that after the meal there will be no arguments that we have found an excellent replacement for Ann. I hope to see you all in a few weeks. Keep in mind that if you are ever near Platteville, to stop in and visit, our door is always open.



Fraternally,  
Herb Yanke  
Noble Ruler

## Outgoing Noble Ruler's Report

Greetings from Beta Gamma Chapter. May this Crescent find everyone in good health and spirits.

Our last Crescent found the chapter preparing for our Homecoming. Once again, the chapter's hard work and efforts paid off in a first place ranking in overall competition. Our Homecoming spirit was alive and well as we helped cheer the Platteville Pioneers to a Homecoming game victory over the Oskosh Titans.

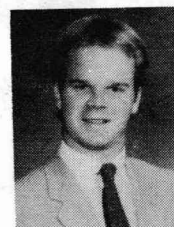
This past semester was an excellent semester in the rush department. Eleven men successfully completed pledging and were initiated in January. The success in selecting this many quality men is due to the extra efforts put forth by the chapter and by Rush Chairman Randy Binversie.

The fall semester is also the time for the annual visit by the National Director of Chapter Services. Jeff Warner spent December 4-6 at our chapter meeting with our faculty, advisors and brothers. He encouraged us to continue with our successful programs and provided constructive ideas for improvement.

On a sad note, our cook, Anne Kemnitzer, made the reluctant decision to retire at the close of the semester. Anne has been with us since the beginning of the chapter and every brother, past and present, holds a special place in his heart for her. Anne has become a prominent part of the history of our chapter and she will be sorely missed.

Our 1986 officers have already been installed. I'm very confident that each will successfully fulfill the requirements of their position.

This is also the end of my year as Noble Ruler. The experience and privilege has been very rewarding, and I have many fond memories of Alpha Gamma Rho. I would like to thank all of the Actives, Rhomates and Alumni for making my year so special.



Fraternally,  
Kevin D. McArtor



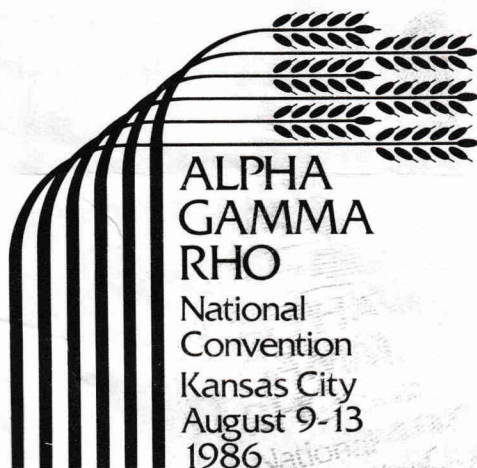
### Crescent Staff

Jon Braymer ..... Crescent Editor  
Brian Long ..... Alumni Secretary  
Phil Schleicher ..... Asst. Editor  
Contributing Editors .... Jeffrey Agnew,  
Herb Yanke

### 1986 Officers

Herb Yanke - Jr. .... Noble Ruler  
Larry Raupp - Jr. .... 1st Vice N.R.  
Bill Cody - Jr. .... 2nd Vice N.R.  
Brian Long - Jr. .... Alumni Secretary  
Kevin Klaubertanz - Jr. .... Secretary  
Joe Buttel - Jr. .... Treasurer  
Jon Braymer - Jr. .... Reporter  
Dan Chipman - Soph. Commissary Manager  
Phil Schleicher - Jr. .... Chaplain  
John Schmidt - Jr. .... Usher

*Alpha Gamma Rho  
Building  
Better Men!*



## Commit To Excellence Study Abroad

This semester, a member of the Beta Gamma Chapter is studying in Europe. Brother Jim Goking is attending the Ealing School of Higher Education in London, England. He is taking courses to fulfill the general requirements of UW-Platteville.

Brother Goking hails from Sheboygan, WI and he is a junior majoring in Soils and Crops Science. Jim came to UW-Platteville in the fall of 1984 and he pledged with the Alpha Iota pledge class in the spring of 1985. In addition, Jim is active in several clubs and activities on campus including: Agronomy Club, Alpha Zeta, and the soils and crops judging teams.

While in England, Jim is living with a family and other college students near London. In addition, he plans to travel and sightsee as much as he can. He also plans to experience the customs, traditions and culture of England.

Jim will never forget his experiences in Europe, and it proves that "Alpha Gamma Rho is truly worldwide."  
Phil Schleicher





## From The Dean's Desk

*—Good, but  
not original.*

Dear Alumnus:

It's simply amazing how fast time seems to fly by. There has been considerable activity in the College of Agriculture since I wrote to you in the last Newsletter. Although the agricultural economy continues to take its toll in student enrollment in Colleges of Agriculture across the nation, we as of last fall, seem to be holding our own. Our enrollment as a whole is down due to losing a large graduating class last year in particular. I often wonder if the general public, and many of those in agriculture, realize the gravity of the situation, as our agriculture and indeed a good part of our affluence is dependent on technological advances and competent leadership. A shortage of well-prepared graduates in agriculture will I am sure, take its toll in years to come.

The College has taken major initiatives in addressing the enrollment challenge. The faculty will have made 21 career presentations and addressed seven FFA annual banquets at high schools during the course of the year. With the College's new display unit, we will have participated in at least seven large agricultural trade shows and expositions. All high school vo-ag departments have received personal letters introducing ourselves and offering assistance re career presentations, speeches, etc. I personally accompanied approximately 40 guidance counselors for 2½ days of a "seminar-on-wheels" program where we visited many businesses, farms, etc. During this period we had the opportunity of describing what agriculture and we as a College have to offer young people. A very unique initiative this year has been the formation of student recruitment teams. Presently, these teams are in the process of visiting 21 two-year colleges in Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois and Wisconsin. Additionally, we're in the process of preparing a new videotape on the College. Our 2600 alumni responded well to a request for potential student name referrals, for which we thank you. I would also like to indicate to you the tremendous effort that the University High School Relations Office is making. At this writing, admissions to the University are running 4% higher than last year. I hope that Ag is part of that 4%.

I mentioned earlier that enrollment problems are confronting practically all Ag Colleges in the nation. Some have suffered up to a 50% decline in enrollment over the past five years. To address this problem, a national media

campaign is in the making. I represent the non-land grant colleges (65) on the planning committee. As alumni, we need your support in our recruitment efforts. Just think if every alumnus recruited one student, we'd have a freshman class of 2600 - not bad! As I see it, enrollment will be our major challenge until the end of the decade.

If you live in Wisconsin these days, you've undoubtedly heard of the state's fiscal dilemma. This will impact on us and perhaps very seriously. The University is now going through the painful exercise as to how to cope with it. However, when the going gets tough, the tough get going. I am optimistic that the University and College will come out stronger as a result of it, but it certainly will have its testing moments.

I remain impressed with the commitment of faculty and program quality in the College in spite of enrollment and fiscal problems. There is ample testimony to this end. For example, the recognition of Bob Schauf as Wisconsin's Outstanding Young Farmer, Mark Riechers as First Runner-Up and Alan Jewell as Second Runner-Up; all UW-Platteville graduates. Dr. Higgs' soils and crops judging teams remain in the top two in the nation. The student Agronomy and Soil Conservation Club was cited as the nation's top student chapter by the American Agronomy and Soil Conservation Society. Dr. Cropp added another to his impressive collection of awards by an award from the Wisconsin Farm Bureau. Dr. Loberger was awarded the Honorary Farmer Degree by the National FFA; and the list goes on.

During the past year, the College has initiated a faculty professional development program. Supported through accumulated discretionary funds (contributions, etc.), the program allows faculty to attend and participate in seminars, symposia, short-courses, etc., to a limited degree. The majority of the faculty have availed themselves to this program, which I have indeed been pleased to see.

One of our new alumni, Randy Binversie was the student commencement speaker at the December graduation exercise, and had an excellent presentation. Members of Alpha Gamma Rho (AGR) ushered the ceremony as well, hence our students continue to play an active role across campus. Four members of the College Faculty (Drs. Higgs, Jahn, Loberger and

Cropp) and myself will be traveling to Seville, Spain on March 7 to present a seminar along with our Spanish counterparts. This, and many other extracollegiate activities continue to involve practically all of our faculty.

The 1986 Governor's Conference on Agriculture will be hosted by UW-Platteville on March 24. We hope that many of you will be able to attend. The theme of the Conference will be "where do we go from here" with particular reference to the 1985 Farm Bill and other State and Federal Policies. Senator Tom Harkin, Iowa, along with Governor Earl will "kick-off" the Conference.

Several enhancements to the College curriculum were implemented this past year. The creation of an Agricultural Engineering Technology major and two new courses in Veterinary Science are being taught by our new staff veterinarian, Dr. Louis Landau, have been put in place. For the Spring semester (1986) we've "lucked out" by being able to retain three highly qualified individuals to lecture in the College: Dean Charles DeNure - Land Economics; Dr. Harry Henderson - World Food and Agriculture; and Mr. Stuart Urban - Agricultural Law. In addition, Mr. David Passe (soon to be Dr. Passe) joined our staff and instructs in the area of agricultural economics and marketing. He replaces Dr. Gary Bruning who left the University due to ill-health. Mr. Mark Weihing is on educational leave from UW-Extension and is assisting in the instructional program as well as working towards his M.S. Degree.

In the new "Newsletter", I hope to be able to tell you a little more about our "Partners-In-Research" program. The thrust of this program will be to foster cooperative research between our faculty and staff with farm organizations, small businesses, etc. In other words, "grass-roots" oriented applied research. Again, more to come.

In summary, there are a lot of good things happening in the College. We've got some exciting future initiatives on the agenda in the area of biotechnology and international ag education and rural development. However, we have a few formidable challenges ahead to address. In any event, we need and appreciate your continued interest in the College and your support.

W.A. Gillis  
Dean

## CUPID'S CORNER



Daniel J. Rux (270) has announced his engagement to Rhonda Kay Peterson. The two plan to get married on April 11, 1986 in Ke-waunee, Illinois at 6:30 P.M. at St. Mary's Catholic Church.

Brother Vern Pierce (254) and Rho-Mate Deb Fisher will be getting married on May 31, 1986 in Milton, Wisconsin. A reception will follow at the Elks Club in Janesville, WI.

Brother Greg Rickert (315) from Eldorado, Wisconsin, married Miss Lisa Tschanz on December 14th. Greg was a member of the Alpha Eta pledge class and was involved in UW-P basketball, dairy club, N.A.M.A. and future family planners. Brother Rickert will be attending UW-Oshkosh and working on their home dairy farm.



Greg and Lisa Rickert

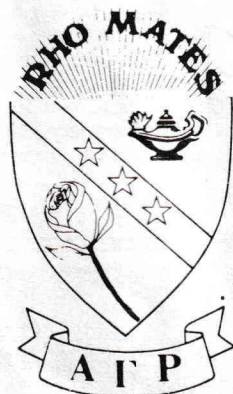




## Finally, A Good-Looking Massey at Beta Gamma

Karen Massey, daughter of Dwight and Nora Massey of Hollandale was recently selected as Sweetheart. Karen is currently a sophomore majoring in Business Management and a cheerleader for the UWP football team. Some of Karen's other involvements include softball, volleyball, basketball and playing piano. Karen is the third Hollandale Massey at Beta Gamma and follows her two older brothers John and Steve.

The brothers of Beta Gamma are very proud to have Karen as our new sweetheart.



Dear Alumni,

Once again we will be sponsoring a raffle for the weekend of Alumni Banquet.

Sincerely,  
The Rho-mates

## What's New In RUSHING

Beta Gamma Chapter has made vast steps in modifying previous rushing techniques during the 1985-86 school year. Drastic changes were forced to be installed when the recently passed drinking bill raised the legal age. Dry rush became the key word. Casino nights, dating games, a trip to Great America and ski nights were added to rush suppers.

Casino night was our major event and has grown in popularity into a semi-annual event. Candidates were able to earn money from any of fifteen modified gambling games. The money accumulated could be later applied to gifts auctioned off at the end of the evenings. Guests were also served refreshments.

The other events, such as nuts and bolts get together, Dairy show for high school students, and the trip to Great America need alterations or stronger promotion to guarantee success. Our highest percentage of actual pledges to interested candidates were obtained at a rush supper followed by a dating game of the potential pledges who played for a date with one of our Rhomates.

Rushing has become more year a round in 1985-86. Members of the Beta Gamma Chapter are working with University of Wisconsin Platteville Agriculture Department in the promotion and recruitment of agriculture students. I feel that the contacts I made at these seminars in conjunction with the change in drinking age was instrumental in our recruitment of the exceptionally large class. The program, through Brother Dean Gillis is blossoming into a more comprehensive program.

As you can tell, many new ideas have been installed into our pledging program, even high tech. Our computer is used for personal files on each potential pledge. However, our program is not perfect. It has been built to be open to any new ideas you may have. In addition, we are having our greatest success with the leads sent to us. With your help, we will continue to modify ourselves to maintain the quality brothers all want.

Fraternally,  
Randall Robert Binversie



## Pledging: Our Future

Our Fall rush went extremely well due to the work of rush chairman Randy Binversie. Under the guidance of pledge trainer Steve Massey and his assistant Jeff Byrnes, the men of Alpha Kappa completed the pledge period and were just recently initiated. The following are the newest brothers of Beta Gamma.

Jon Braymer	Jr.
Agriculture Business, Salem, NY	
Joe Buttel	Jr.
Agriculture Business, German Valley, IL	
Richard Grulke	Jr.
Crops and Soils, Mayville, WI	
Roy Hoff	Soph.
Crops and Soils, Alma Center, WI	
Eric Komprood	Soph.
Agriculture Business, Orfordville, WI	
Pete Maier	Jr.
Agriculture Business, Cross Plains, WI	
Dennis Moore	Fresh.
Agriculture Business, Darien, WI	
Jim Nyman	Fresh.
Undecided, Orfordville, WI	
Jon Oncken	Soph.
Ag. Eng., Sun Prairie, WI	
Kent Rear	Jr.
Agriculture Business, Belleville, WI	
David Wright	Fresh.
Agriculture Business, Lancaster, WI	



The Alpha Kappa Pledge Class: Front: Eric Komprood, Pete Maier, John Oncken, Joe Buttel and Kent Rear. Back: Dennis Moore, Dave Wright, Jon Braymer, Roy Hoff, Jim Nyman and Rich Grulke.



# AGR means ALUMNI

## Alumni Secretary Report

Dear Brothers:

I have set several goals this year as Alumni Secretary. Some of them are A) to have no lost alumni; B) to have the phone number of all; C) to have the current immediate family information, wife and children's names, etc.; D) the current place of employment, address and telephone number.

All of this information would be extremely helpful to further open communication lines between all of the brothers. Your response would be extremely helpful and greatly appreciated. Remember, it is important to get the information to me so that I can relay it correctly to the rest of the brothers.

This year's alumni banquet promises to be one of the best ever. Anne, our beloved cook of 13 years, has decided to retire. The banquet program will be a roast in her honor for all of her years of dedication to the Beta Gamma Chapter.

There is a special effort this year to bring back the five, ten and fifteen year pledge classes of 1971, 1976 and 1981. Besides seeing your pledge brothers to hash over old and new times, there will be special recognition at the banquet for the pledge class with the highest percentage attendance. Dr. Robert Campbell (yes, Beta Gamma No. 1) will hold a reception for the pledge class of 1971, 1976 and 1981. Mark March 8 on your calendar right now, it promises to be a truly enjoyable event for AGR's of all ages.



Fraternally,  
Brian T. Long  
Alumni Secretary

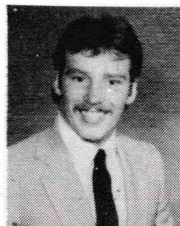
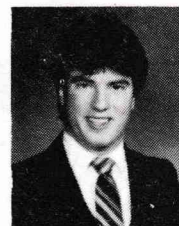
## AGREP

Once again, Beta Gamma will be host for another AGR through the AGREP program. The program consists of providing lodging for a student for two weeks. During the two weeks, the student is involved in the operation of several host families.

Rod Johnson from the Beta Iota chapter at Kirksville, MO was our AGREP student last year. He expressed sincere gratitude and appreciation for the experience and knowledge he gained of Wisconsin agriculture.

## New Crop of Grads

Randall Robert Binversie (285), from Kiel, Wisconsin, will be graduating with a double major in Agricultural Economics and Business Administration with a financial emphasis. Brother Binversie was a member of the Alpha Delta Pledge Class and has held the offices of 1st Vice Noble Ruler and Commissary Manager for the chapter. Randy, a well known figure on campus, was involved in cheerleading, homecoming committee, dairy judging team, Alpha Lambda Delta, Phi Eta Sigma, Sweetheart of Delta Gamma Phi, and other various activities. Randy's work in our rushing program has proven to be highly successful over the past two semesters.



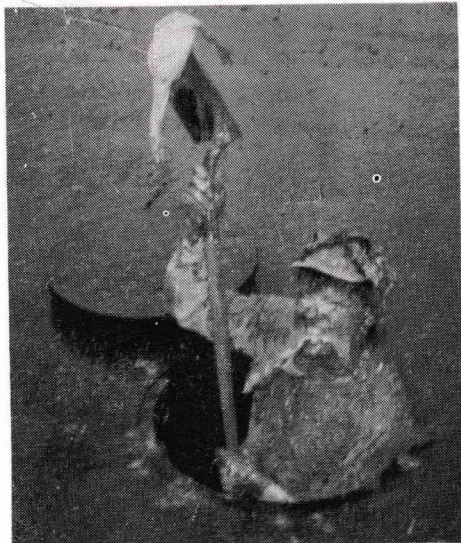
Gary Smith (283), from Elkhorn, Wisconsin will be graduating with a degree in Animal Science. Brother Smith was a member of the Alpha Delta Pledge Class, served the fraternity as Reporter and Scholastic Chairman. Gary served as President of Dairy Club. He was also involved in Gamma Phi Beta as a Gammy Guy. Gary plans to work in the area of dairy product quality control or dairy marketing.

Steven James Massey (279), from Hollandale, Wisconsin, will be graduating with a double major in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics. He was a member of the Alpha Gamma Pledge Class and has served the chapter as 2nd Vice Noble Ruler, Chaplain, and Rhomate coordinator. Brother Massey participated on the UW-P wrestling team from 1981 to 1983, he was also a football cheerleader, letterman and active in Agribusiness and Agricultural Economics Club in addition to Alpha Gamma Rho.



Here are the new 1986 officers. Front L-R: Brian Long, Larry Raupp, Herb Yanke, Bill Cody and Kevin Klubertanz. Back L-R: Phil Schleicher, Dan Chipman, Joe Buttell, Jon Braymer, Vince Bush and John Schmidt.





## Alumni Board of Directors

Terry McMahon ..... President  
 Rick Kuhle ..... Vice President  
 John Dorshorst ..... Secretary  
 Ron Kiel ..... Treasurer  
 Dale Pertzborn ..... Director  
 Gary Herzberg ..... Director  
 Ken Gibson ..... Director  
 Dave Badula ..... Director

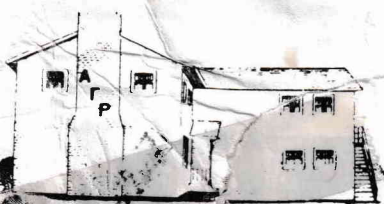


## Who Is This Alumni?

If you know or know of someone who does, give a call at 348-6470 in care of Jon Brauner, Reporter. The first person who does will receive two free tickets to the Alumni Banquet on March 8th.

## Congratulations Ken!

Brother Ken Gibson (231) won the Illinois Young Farmer Discussion Meet held at the Illinois Farm Bureau Convention last fall.



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 P.O. Box 20246  
 Kansas City, MO 64195-0246

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED