

ALPHA GAMMA RHO

Beta Gamma Chapter

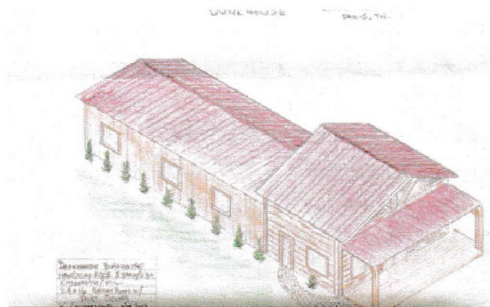
Founded 1972

University of Wisconsin-Platteville

ATP Crescent

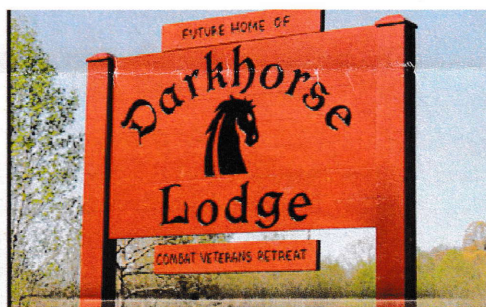
Euchre Tournament for Dark Horse Lodge

Our annual Euchre tournament was another successful night! In total our chapter has risen over \$1,000 to benefit the Dark Horse Lodge over the past couple of years. Dark Horse Lodge is a retreat for Combat Veterans in Tennessee aimed to create a peaceful place for veterans to visit. Though they are still in the fundraising phase, once completed there will be cabins, places to fish and relax at no cost to the visiting veterans. This is a great cause, and we would like to thank Brother Chase Stoddard for getting the chapter hooked up with Dark Horse in order to help the cause. If you would like to learn more about Dark Horse Lodge and how you can donate, please visit www.darkhorselodge.org



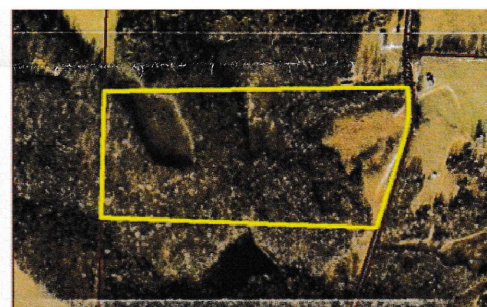
Future Accommodations

Darkhorse Lodge will become a place of refuge and retreat for combat veterans. Each room will be named after one of the 25 men lost from the Marine Corps 3/5, Darkhorse unit.



Location

Nestled in the heart of the Tennessee Countryside. We are a short drive to majestic Kentucky Lake where our veterans can fish, enjoy area activities and simply relax...



Our Property

Located in beautiful Henry county Tennessee, Darkhorse Lodge will be a place of restoration, offering 5 guest cabins with 5 rooms per cabin.

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 active 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.

The Future of the Crescent

As our chapter grows and technology changes, we need to consider cost savings ways to get our *Crescent* out. We will conduct an email test this summer to all of our alumni to start this process. If you have a preferred email address you would like for this or have any suggestions on this process, please email Logan Schmerbach at schmerbachl@uwplatt.edu. Our chapter has conducted an all chapter call this semester. We would like to bridge the gap for the fraternity between the Alumni and the Undergraduates, and our master contact information is the start. If your contact information has changed or needs updating in our system, please email Logan at schmerbachl@uwplatt.edu.

2018 Alumni Board Members

Dave Ward 85, President
Fort Atkinson, Wis. • 920-723-1211
dward@jefnet.com

Jack Ellickson 90, Secretary
Stoughton, Wis. • 608-873-4040
jellickson@sbcglobal.net

John Elvekrog 32, Treasurer
Stoughton, Wis. • 608-575-7680
john.elvekrog@plantpioneer.com

Ethan Olson 712, Director
Arkdale, Wis. • 608-547-3765
esolson@allied.coop

Jordan Alf 685, Director
Edgerton, Wis. • 608-868-2505

Timothy Keil, Director
Whitewater, Wis. • 262-473-2546

Jacob Leum 729, Director
Baraboo, Wis. • 608-632-0409

2018 Undergraduate Executive Board

Benjamin Watson, Noble Ruler
watsonbe@uwplatt.edu

Jake Stukenberg, VNR-Recruitment
stukenbergj@uwplatt.edu

Mathew Mawhinney, VNR-Membership Development
mawhinneyma@uwplatt.edu

Logan Schmerbach, VNR-Alumni Relations
schmerbachl@uwplatt.edu

Tanner Hall, VNR-Finance
hallta@uwplatt.edu

Evan Young, VNR-Planning
youngev@uwplatt.edu

Jeff Stuetgen, VNR-Operations
stuetgenj@uwplatt.edu

Casey Clark, VNR-Provisions
clarkcas@uwplatt.edu

Ryan Grubb, VNR-Activities
grubbr@uwplatt.edu

Seth Bartelt, VNR-Scholarship
bartelts@uwplatt.edu

Jake Brokish, VNR-Public Relations
brokishj@uplatt.edu

Alumni President's Report

2017 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.

At our Annual meeting last April the Alumni voted to hold a Founders Day Banquet every five years instead of having one every year so the next Founders Day Banquet will be in 2022 which will be the 50th Anniversary of Beta Gamma. The 2018 Alumni Annual Meeting will be held on April 7th afterward s we will have a cookout type activity with the Undergrads. There will be several Alumni Board seats up for election please consider running.

The Beta Gamma Alumni Association is in good shape financially this is due to a number of things:

1. The Undergraduate Chapter has kept the house full and in good repair and most importantly they have paid the rent on time.
2. The Alumni Dues collections have exceeded our projections thank you
3. We have set up reasonable budgets and have had the necessary funds available to make minor repairs and to replace worn out equipment.

Earlier this fall a chapter consultant from the national Alpha Gamma Rho office visited Beta Gamma. He stayed at the house for a few days to get an idea of how things are going at 845 W. Madison. John Elvekrog and I had the opportunity to sit down with the consultant towards the end of his visit and he told us what many of us already know we have a great group of young men in Beta Gamma. He mentioned he doesn't visit Platteville as often as he should but there hasn't been a need to.

I mentioned earlier that 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 W. Madison Street in Platteville. Please complete the enclosed form and send along with your check to John Elvekrog, 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 UW-Platteville and feel that he is great candidate to pledge AGR, also please tell us about him.

Thank you in advance for paying your dues.

David Ward #85, Alumni President

List of Lost Brothers

As Beta Gamma grows leaps and bounds with every undergraduate class, it proves 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 contact information. We need your help in keeping great records! If you know someone on the List of Lost Brothers, please contact Logan at schmerbachl@uwplatt.edu to give current contact information for them. This will help them receive future news and statements, as we can not reach them at the current time, as their contact information is missing.

143 Thomas Ferguson
151 Roger Luckey
168 Jeffrey Kroes

198 Randall Williams
272 Michael Kirschbaum
282 John & Barb Scott

283 Gary Smith
287 Bruce McNaughton

Advisor Report

Brothers,

Another semester has ended and I write this letter as we are in the midst of a frigid cold snap across the Midwest. Classes resume for spring semester on Monday, January 22 so campus is quiet and most undergraduates are spending some time at home or working over winter break.

The fiscal year for UW-Platteville began on July 1 and it started Dr. Rami Reddy's tenure as Director of the School of Agriculture. Dr. Reddy is a professor of Agribusiness and had previously served as program director for Agribusiness. An India native, Reddy received a bachelor's degree in agriculture from Andhra Pradesh Agricultural University in India. He received a master's degree in international marketing from Nagarjuna University in India. Reddy also received an additional master's degree in marketing from Fort Hays State University and a Ph.D. in agricultural economics from Texas A&M University. He joined the UW-Platteville faculty in August 1999. Reddy served the state of Wisconsin as direct marketing specialist during the first ten years of his career.

Dr. Rami Reddy has set goals for fundraising and faculty and staff involvement in research and international experiences. His overall vision is to cultivate a culture of excellence and grow opportunities for students, faculty and staff in the School of Agriculture (SOA). He wants to build strong external relationships, broaden opportunities via international engagements, study abroad programs and bring more diversity. Rami replaces Dr. Mike Compton, who served in this role for nine years.

Undergraduates held another highly successful Ag. Fest to welcome back faculty, staff and students in the SOA. The event was a great kickoff to another academic year. It included guest speaker, Ben Huber, Energy Sales and Marketing Manager for Insight FS and AGR Beta Gamma Alum, who provided a great message focused on getting involved and taking advantage of opportunities presented to you. It also provided freshman and transfer students the opportunity to meet current faculty, staff and students in a casual environment. After the event, undergraduates gave tours of the chapter house and lawn games were available.

In the SOA, the dairy science major celebrated the completion of its first academic year. Ten students graduated with a dairy science major and total enrollment has already grown to over 60 students. On Oct. 14, UW-Platteville played its third annual "Celebrate Agriculture" football game against the UW Oshkosh Titans. Sponsorship was provided by Compeer Financial – a new cooperative formed as a result of the merger of Badgerland Financial, 1st Farm Credit Services and AgStar Financial Services – the School of Agriculture and Pioneer Athletic Department joined together to bring awareness and celebrate Wisconsin's \$88 billion agriculture industry. Vita Plus Corporation, a livestock feed production company headquartered in Madison, Wisconsin gave a gift of \$25,000 to benefit the Dairy Science faculty fund and was honored at the homecoming football game. We are in the planning stages for Pioneer Farm to host the Lafayette County Dairy Breakfast on June 9, 2018.

Fall 2017 enrollment figures totaled 773 majors down from 813 in the fall of 2016. By major these enrollment figures include: Agribusiness (270 majors), Animal Science (210), Soil & Crop Science (88), Agricultural Education (75), Dairy Science (63), Reclamation, Environment and Conservation (36), and Environmental Horticulture (31). The 773 SOA majors include 333 male students, 436 female students and 4 undeclared.

We are in the process of conducting a national search to fill an assistant professor position in Agribusiness specializing in Agribusiness marketing and management. The search and screen committee will be reviewing applications and interviewing candidates during spring 2018, the new candidate would begin their appointment in August 2018.

At the University level, UW System voted to integrate UW-Baraboo/Sauk County and UW-Richland with UW-Platteville. The UW System restructuring plan will take place July 1, 2018, and was proposed to improve access to higher education. All UW Colleges are being merged with their nearest four-year institutions. On Saturday, Dec. 16, the UW-Platteville hosted the 199th commencement ceremony in the Williams Fieldhouse, with more than 750 candidates. The College of BILSA's ceremony included 262 undergraduate candidates.

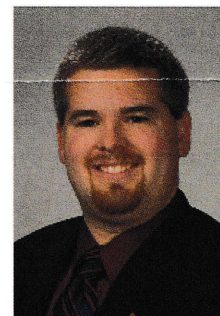
We recently elected the new officer team for 2018 and undergraduates who had not previously served on the leadership team will be filling nine of the eleven positions. We will be holding a strategic planning session with the new officer team in late January to focus on goals for their individual officer positions and for the chapter.

David and I continue our efforts to assist the undergraduates in living up to the promise and values of AGR through recruitment, opportunities for professional development and community service. We would like to thank the AGR Beta Gamma Alumni Board and all alumni who have assisted the chapter over the past year.

Wishing you a prosperous new year!

Faternally,

Chuck Steiner
and David Heimerdinger,
Beta Gamma Advisors



David Heimerdinger Chuck Steiner

Noble Ruler's Report

Last April, I learned of an internship opportunity that arose for our then current Noble Ruler, Jeff Stuetgen Jr. This opportunity would lead Jeff on a highly-sought-after six-month internship with Sage Ag Inc. requiring him to spend the summer and fall semester traveling throughout the Midwest. That being said, Jeff would also have to vacate his Noble Ruler position for the fall semester, leaving myself as the then current VNR of Recruitment to take on the honor of being Noble Ruler. I am truly honored to have served all of my fraternity brothers through both of my positions over the past year.

The brothers of Beta Gamma continue to create a positive image of Alpha Gamma Rho, through hard work in the classroom, community service, university involvement and professionalism. This fall, Phillip Sersch, VNR of Activities, was able to orchestrate a successful euchre tournament, in which over 25 teams participated and were able to donate \$225 to Dark Horse Lodge. Also, Beta Gamma and the Alumni Board came together to donate \$1,000 to a scholarship fund created in memory of Kirk and Jennifer U'Ren. The couple tragically passed away this past winter after their car was struck by another vehicle. Jennifer and Kirk were our advisors, Dr. Steiner's brother-in-law and sister. During that week, Beta Gamma also built a float and participated in the annual parade titled "Brag About Ag," something Beta Gamma had not participated in the previous few years. These are a few examples of how the brothers of Beta Gamma came together this semester, to create a positive image of our chapter, both on campus and in our community.

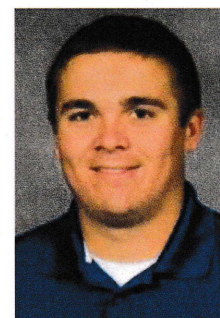
Beta Gamma earned various awards, as well, over the last semester. Our chapter was pinned with gold status by the national fraternity, for fulfilling different requirements over the past year. One of our advisors, Dr. Chuck Steiner, was also one of three advisors nationally to be award the outstanding advisor award for his devotion to leading Beta Gamma.

Beta Gamma had a great academic semester during the spring of 2017. Our chapter ranked third amongst fraternities posting a cumulative GPA of 2.96. Beta Gamma continuously works hard to raise our GPA, to not only be the best among fraternities, but also across all of Greek Life on campus.

This fall, we recruited eight high-quality members to join the ranks of Beta Gamma. These new brothers have already made a positive impact on the fraternity by getting involved in various committees and being elected to officer positions of the chapter. I look forward to watching them succeed in their positions and growing into even better men.

As my term as Noble Ruler quickly comes to an end, I want to thank the brothers of Beta Gamma for the privilege of leading them during the fall semester. I know this experience as Noble Ruler has taught me many things I will be able to carry with me over my final year of school and into my career. I look forward to getting involved in other parts of Beta Gamma and aiding in the transitions of our newly-elected officer team featuring nine of eleven new officers. Beta Gamma's new Noble Ruler Benjamin Watson, and his officer team, will be strong as ever. Our chapter will be in great hands in the year to come. We say goodbye to five graduating seniors and wish them nothing but the best in their careers. Thank you to everyone who has assisted me this semester as Noble Ruler. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing winter break.

Fraternally,
Patrick Killelea, Noble Ruler, #798



Patrick Killelea



Spring 2017 New Beta Gamma Brothers

CLASS: DELTA ALPHA

811 Ryan Nadig
Stockton, IL
Major: Soil & Crop Science

813 Dylan Williams
Thomson, IL
Major: Agricultural Business

816 Jason Bell
Wonewoc, WI
Major: Agricultural Business

812 Benjamin Watson
Kingston, IL
Major: Agricultural Business

814 Dylan McGowan
Blanchardville, WI
Major: Soil & Crop

Graduating Seniors

760 Alexander Buchanan
765 Ian Wetterau

779 Chase Stoddard
794 Lukas Wymer

795 Phillip Sersch