



Beta Sigma Psi

Alpha Alumni Newsletter

2023 Homecoming
October 20-22, 2023
Illini vs Wisconsin

Alumni News

Steven Wayne Schweizer, 67, of Edwardsville, IL, passed away on September 22, 2022. He was in the 1977 Fall Pledge Class. He graduated from the University of Illinois in 1977 with a BS in Agriculture Business. Steve began his career in finance with Federal Land Bank in Carlinville. He was then employed at several other banks while also an owner of an ATM business. He finished his career as the CFO at SL Chapman in St. Louis before retiring in 2017. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals and Illini sports fan. He attended over 40 Illinois-Mizzou Bragging Rights Games. He developed lifelong friends through his fraternal brothers at Beta Sigma Psi.

David E. Zilz, 61, of St. Peters, MO, passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2022. He passed peacefully and of natural causes while flying (something he's always loved) with two of his aviation friends who were able to assume control of the plane and safely land in Mexico, MO. He was in the 1980 Spring Pledge Class. He graduated in 1983 (B.S.) and 1989 (M.S.) from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering. He earned his Executive MBA from Washington University in St. Louis, MO in 2004. Dave worked as a propulsion engineer at McDonnell Douglas. Dave rose through the organization to become the Flight Engineering Capability Director for Boeing Defense Space & Security. After 35 years of service at the Boeing Company, Dave retired in 2018 to begin a second career focused on further developing the K-12 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) pipeline in the greater St. Louis area. He championed the development and delivery of a new dedicated STEM facility and pre-engineering classroom curriculum at Lutheran High School of St. Charles County. In his free time, Dave also volunteered his Time, Talents, and Treasures to other programs, such as Lutheran High School's FIRST Robotics program, which he co-founded in 2011, FIRST Lego League (FLL), FIRST Tech Challenge (FTC), Pilots N Paws, and Wings of Hope.

Please pass on any additional fraternity news (obituaries, weddings, etc.) to Nathaniel Stoll at nstoll789@gmail.com.

Homecoming 2022 Alumni Director Report *(report written by Avery Clark)*

Homecoming 2022 proved to be another great weekend at the University of Illinois. It was great to see familiar faces, as well as several new ones! While health concerns continued to play a role in attendance, this year was another step back to normal.

This year, we enjoyed a fantastic turnout for the Friday night social. Libations continued well into the night, several rounds of Jungle Pong were played, and many friends were able to reconnect for the first time in years! During the morning meeting, the regular coffee & pastries were served as we continued to discuss chapter business and how we continue to navigate this post-COVID landscape. For our pre-game tailgate next to the stadium, we enjoyed Papa Del's pizza with a wide selection of beverages. Eastland Suites again provided the backdrop for our dinner program. Our buffet dinner catered by Piato featured herb-roasted chicken, bacon-wrapped pork tenderloin, garlic mashed potatoes, & an assortment of cupcakes for dessert. In addition, snacks and beverages were shared on Saturday night in the Illini (a.k.a. Oak) Room at the hotel.

An electric game, Coach Bielema and the team were able to best the Minnesota Golden Gophers. The future remains bright as we prepare for our bowl game! I want to thank everyone who attended and helped me with getting this event off the ground! With my first year under my belt, I'm looking forward to the future and planning will shortly begin for 2023. To kickstart the process, I've thrown together a quick survey to gauge interest in different activities we do over the weekend. I'd greatly appreciate a few minutes of your time!

Link to feedback survey (copy added to back of newsletter):

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSciGPHpkzfkn_5fRiulS130oDWGWwIQI8aAgf3DF_VnRw0t1g/viewform?usp=sf_link

2023 Homecoming weekend starts Friday, October 20th with the game against the Wisconsin Badgers on October 21st. Mark your calendars!



Subcommittees Article *(report written by Nick Schwingbeck)*

Hello all – As a board, we wanted to put in a plug regarding joining Alumni Chapter Subcommittees! As a reminder from this past Fall Business Meeting in October, we reviewed the various subcommittees that are up and running; they are a great way to get involved in Alumni Chapter business, learn about the current projects of the chapter and is also a minimal time commitment as well. Additionally, most if not all your responsibilities can also be conducted remotely as meetings will be conducted virtually on an ad hoc basis. Having chapter participation in these subcommittees is key as “many hands make light work”. In other words, the more individuals that participate in these subcommittees, the easier it will be to accomplish our goals. You all are experts in many different topics and can all play a role in helping the fraternity succeed without being a board member! Please see below for the list of subcommittees that you can join along with the relevant board member to contact if you’re interested/have questions (contact info can be found at the end of the newsletter):

Centennial Anniversary House Renovation Committee – Tilo Lamken

- Lead by Alumni Housing Director
- Assist in:
 - Planning future renovation projects and capital campaigns
 - Tracking current structural issues at the chapter house and finding remedies

Alumni Internal Affairs Committee – Joe Baldwin

- Lead by Alumni Board Vice President
- Assist in:
 - Planning an annual summer alumni reunion event
 - Evaluate and select qualified recipients for Alumni Memorial Scholarships
 - Alumni base outreach to re-engage member involvement and gather current contact information for dormant members

Alumni Scholarship Committee – Josh Baggett

- Lead by Alumni Board Scholarship Chairman
- Assist in:
 - Planning and conducting scholarship finalist interviews
 - Promoting the Lutheran Leadership Scholarship among churches and schools

Alumni Recruitment Committee – Mike Schwingbeck

- Lead by Alumni Board Recruitment Chairman Advisor
- Assist in planning & executing fall/spring rush schedule
- Provide feedback for PNMs (Potential new members)
- Assist in selection of summer recruitment chairman and house visits

Beta Sig Ties Available for Purchase *(report written by Josh Baggett)*

We have a limited supply of Beta Sig ties available for purchase! The ties are from The Tie Bar and feature the Beta Sigma Psi crest and Greek letters. They look sharp and are excellent to wear to Homecoming or to Sunday church service. The ties are available to purchase for \$30 and can be ordered by contacting Josh Baggett (joshbaggett35@gmail.com). Shipping or St. Louis area local pick up can be arranged. All funds generated from the tie sale will be directed to Chapter House repairs and improvement projects as we make preparations to celebrate our centennial anniversary in 2025!



2023 Lutheran Leadership Scholarship *(report written by Josh Baggett)*

We are now accepting applications for the 2023 alumni scholarship! Please help us by spreading the word about our scholarship – it is a crucial element to our future recruitment efforts. The 2022 scholarship yielded 4 solid potential associate members with a few signing housing contracts to live in the Chapter House. Please use the below information to share in your home church congregation's bulletin and newsletter:

2023 Lutheran Leadership Award

Beta Sigma Psi – National Lutheran Fraternity is offering a \$3,000 scholarship to a Lutheran male freshman attending the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in fall 2023. The application is due by March 4, 2023 at 11:59 pm and can be accessed digitally at <http://alpha.betasigmapsi.org/scholarship.php>. Runner-ups may be eligible for \$1,000. There is no obligation to join Beta Sigma Psi to receive this award. If you have any questions, please email UIUCscholarship@betasigmapsi.org.

December Alumni Spotlight

Andrew Hanselman

Year Graduated: Spring 2017

Undergrad Major: Computer Engineering

Post-grad (in-progress): Master's in Engineering, Computer Engineering from UIUC Fall 2022

Hometown: Monticello, IL

Current Location: Champaign, IL

Current Employment: SiFive, Core IP RTL Engineer – designing high performance power-efficient general purpose CPU cores. Hopefully, these microchip designs will end up in data centers, smart phones, and wearable devices in the near future! Ping me if you want more details

Family: Natalie Akins is my long-term partner of 7 years. She and I have a cat named Mochi, who is nearing 6 years old! Both have supported me so much while I have been in grad school and starting my new job

Recently I've Been Into: Natalie and I moved back to Champaign from Peoria in 2020, so that I could start my Masters degree in the Fall 2020 and we could be closer to family and friends. We've been renovating a small house during our time back in Champaign. I've been working full-time at SiFive since August 2021. I'm finishing my Masters degree at UIUC this month, and I'll continue to work full time for SiFive remotely from Champaign. Anecdotally, I would caution others against trying to do these 3 things at the same time! Haha. I've been successfully failing forward, but it's been challenging juggling all of these things. I'm quite happy to be checking school off that list. In my spare time I play a few different video games with my brothers and friends.

Most fond memory of Beta Sig: My best memory of Beta Sig is definitely coming back for Homecoming the first year or two after finishing my undergrad. There is something extremely special about getting to come back together to see people who worked through the challenges of finishing school. While it's been an extremely busy couple years since finishing my undergrad, getting to see a familiar face from that time is always great.

If you can recall, why did you join Beta Sig: I joined Beta Sig to spend more time with my older brother, Jacob, who I continue to admire greatly. Beta Sig felt like a good place for me to meet with similar scholastic and religious backgrounds.

Why should young men join Beta Sig: School is challenging, the world is a complicated place, and I think Beta Sigs is a place where I was surrounded by people willing to discuss these challenges, and support each other through them.

How can people reconnect with you?: Best place to connect would be my email: hanselmandrew@gmail.com. If you don't hear back from me, try pinging me on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn. In general, my social media handle is @hanselmandrew. If you want to

find me for video games, my username in most places is either 'Yesnah' or 'Xrspy'. Happy to answer questions about undergrad, post-grad, work, life, and video games!

Pictures:



Contact Us: Alumni Board

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Alumni Advisor

[Help needed!]

Please contact Nick Schwingbeck
if interested in volunteering.

Distinguished Alumnus Award

The Distinguished Alumnus Award is chosen each year at the Spring Business Meeting. The Executive Board is always interested in obtaining names of alumni worthy of the title of "Distinguished Alumnus." Please read through the criteria below and think of someone who falls into one or more of the categories listed. Nominees may have done something recently or in the past that sets them apart from their peers.

Distinguished Alumnus Judging Criteria:

- 1. Activity in Beta Sigma Psi as an active or alumnus
- 2. Activity in the Community (school, clubs, volunteer, etc.)
- 3. Activity in Church (offices, committee, etc.)
- 4. Awards (professional, civic, etc.)
- 5. Outstanding personal achievement
- 6. Any other characteristic qualifying nominee as a Distinguished Alumnus

Distinguished Alumnus Nomination Form

Name of Nominee _____

Person Nominating _____

Address _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Phone _____

Describe why the person you are nominating deserves this award.
(Attach additional sheet if necessary)

Return Form To (or fill out via Google Form; see link: <https://forms.gle/SaywS3J3yvc6Qwx48>):

Nick Schwingbeck
3704 N. Janssen Ave Apt #2
Chicago, IL 60613

Homecoming Feedback

Name _____ Email _____

Street Address _____

City, State _____ Zip Code _____

Phone Number _____

Lodging - How do lodging accommodations affect your decision to come to homecoming?

Hotel Choice (select all that apply)

- I want to continue utilizing the Eastland Suites for lodging.
- I'm willing to pay a bit more for a hotel experience closer to campus.
- Accommodations don't affect my decision to attend homecoming.

Other: _____

How much of a lead-time is needed before you decide to attend homecoming? (select all that apply)

- I book the hotel as soon as reservations are available.
- It's a last-minute decision.

Other: _____

Festivities - What events during homecoming weekend are you looking to see?

Friday Night (select all that apply)

- I always look forward to the Social at the house on Friday night.
- I want to look into off-site group events for Friday night. If any suggestions, please include with "other".
- My schedule never allows me to make it Friday night.

Other: _____

Tailgate (select all that apply)

- I enjoy our current setup.
- I would be interested in changing locations (please include suggestions in "other").
- I have some ideas for the menu (please include suggestions in "other").
- My schedule never allows me to make it to the tailgate.

Other: _____

Game (select all that apply)

- Football tickets are an integral part of the weekend experience.
- Football tickets don't affect my decision to attend homecoming.
- I want football tickets for the lowest cost.
- I want to be as close to the field as possible (willing to pay more for closer tickets).

Other: _____

Saturday Night (select all that apply)

- I want to continue hosting the banquet at Eastland Suites.
- I want to explore new options (banquet hall/event space/restaurant/etc.). Please include suggestions in "other".
- I want to look into banquet options at the House.

Other: _____

Planning - How to get involved with Homecoming?

Would you be interested in helping with Homecoming planning? (select all that apply)

- I would be interested in joining a Homecoming subcommittee.
- I would be interested in helping coordinating setup during homecoming weekend.

Other: _____

Please send feedback to Avery Clark via mail or email (or fill out the [Google form](#) mentioned in the December newsletter). Avery's contact info can be found on page 7 of the newsletter.