



# Beta Sigma Psi

## Alpha Alumni Newsletter

2025 Homecoming

September 27, 2025



Illini vs. USC

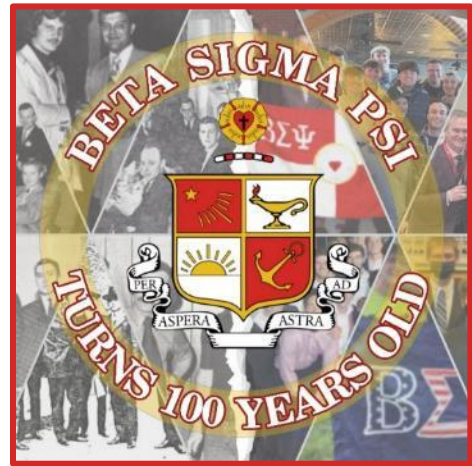




## **Beta Sig Turns 100 Years Old!** *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

*The number three* has a special meaning to Beta Sigma Psi. And this year, all the more... Beta Sig has now crossed into three digits! On **April 17, 2025**, we hit the century mark! **Beta Sigma Psi is now 100 years old!!!**

Given this momentous occasion, on Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, active and alumni brothers from Alpha Chapter gathered at the Renaissance Hotel in St. Louis with brothers from other chapters across the country to celebrate. During the day, alumni attended breakout sessions with actives to share lessons learned in areas of leadership, delegation, risk management, time management, recruitment, volunteering, conflict resolution, accountability, and defining and developing culture, among other topics. Later in the afternoon, everyone assembled in the main dining hall to listen to a panel represented by multiple generations of Beta Sigs share their unique perspectives of how the fraternity has changed, yet stayed the same, over many years. In addition, a Beta Sig time capsule from 35+ years ago was opened, taking us on a blast from the past. (There were some real gems in there. Maybe even some items related to 706 W Ohio St...)



Centennial Celebration 2025

History Panel



Beta Sig  
Time  
Capsule



Keynote speaker, voice of  
the Kansas City Chiefs, and  
Zeta Alum, Mitch Holthus



Sunday Service



The conclusion of the evening was the formal evening banquet. Everyone suited up and joined together for a delicious dinner. Zeta Alum, Mitch Holthus—the Voice of the Kansas City Chiefs—gave the keynote address, delivering a speech chalked full of sports metaphors, enthusiasm, and statements of faith. Following the speech, the awards ceremony ensued. Active chapter awards were handed out (see “Active Report” article below), and quite notably, a couple of Alpha Alumni received awards (see “Alpha Alumni Win National Beta Sig Awards” article below)!

Overall, it was a fantastic Centennial Celebration! A day filled with reflection, admiration, gratitude, and best of all... brotherhood. Sunday followed, Beta Sigs worshiped together, and everyone went separate ways... but our celebration doesn't end there!

Not only do we get to celebrate the founding of Beta Sigma Psi being 100 years ago... but we *also* get to celebrate ALPHA Chapter, specifically, being founded 100 years ago! And we hope you will join the party at Homecoming this year (see “Homecoming 2025 - Alpha Centennial Celebration!” article below)! Let's keep the celebration going! To all brothers, near and far, Happy Centennial, and per aspera ad astra!





## **Homecoming 2025 - Alpha Centennial Celebration!** *(report written by Avery Clark)*



***Homecoming 2025*** planning is underway! As I wrote in the previous newsletter, the University has announced dates for Homecoming 2025, and we are excited to host everyone on the **weekend of September 26-28**. Our Fighting Illini take on USC (time Saturday TBD), the first matchup with the Trojans since 2008 (and that's all the more I'm going to write about that subject). Further details regarding itinerary & accommodations to be included in the Summer newsletter, as well as the Facebook Group. At the time of writing, the order form is not quite ready to send out. But I expect it to be ready before the next newsletter & will make an extra announcement with the order form & hotel reservation information.

On April 17<sup>th</sup> our Fraternity turned 100 years old – a century of Beta Sigma Psi that kicked off right here at the University of Illinois! It's been a century of fostering brotherhood and training leaders, setting our members up to be successful across a multitude of fields. And while we all benefited from our time living in Champaign, the core of what builds us up & bind us together is our shared brotherhood rooted in Christ. This September we'll have the chance to gather together, hearts firmly united, to join in fellowship and celebration of the past century and what we can look forward to in the next. I can't wait to see everyone back in Champaign this September!

This year, I'm thrilled to say that we will have the added benefit of brother Dave Johnson (1986) as our Emcee for the Saturday Night Banquet! He's bringing some great ideas for the program this year, and I'm including a note he shared in April in the article below this one (see "Casting Call: Banquet Decade Spokesmen Wanted!" article below.)

I once again would like to close this report by asking a favor of everyone reading this. I invite you to reach out to one of your brothers. It could be someone that you see on a regular basis, or someone that you've fallen out of touch with. Ask them if they've got Homecoming marked down on their calendars yet, if they've joined our Facebook Group, or if they're receiving regular newsletter updates. We're always looking to improve our alumni engagement, and grassroots connections continue to be one of the most effective ways to bring our brothers back into the fold.

I would also like to make my annual plug to become one of our Lifetime Members. By securing a lifetime membership, you secure your voting eligibility, attendance at homecoming, and participation at events throughout the year for life (no more yearly dues!). Lifetime membership forms will be available with the next newsletter (along with the homecoming registration form). If you're unsure of your membership status, feel free to reach out to myself or anyone else on the Board. We'll be more than happy to assist you!

Thank you all for your unwavering commitment, and I look forward to seeing everyone!

Fraternally,  
Avery

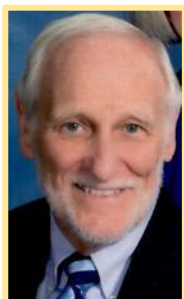
## **Casting Call: Banquet Decade Spokesmen Wanted!** *(report written by Dave Johnson)*

***This fall***, as we collectively celebrate the 100th anniversary of Alpha Chapter during Homecoming weekend, September 26-27, I'd like to ask for a little help. I am very honored to have been asked to emcee the Saturday evening banquet and, to make it more memorable and meaningful, we would ask for 1 or 2 volunteers from each decade (1950s to present) to represent their fellow brothers with some brief memories, comments, and introductions. Think of each decade's presentation as a short mini-program within the overall program. If you're interested in representing your Beta Sig decade at the microphone (or you'd like to volunteer someone else), please e-mail **Dave Johnson '86** at [johnsonisland2017@gmail.com](mailto:johnsonisland2017@gmail.com). Feel free to email or call/text at **216.235.4828** with any questions.

Fraternally (and Go Illini!), Dave.



## **Alumni News**



Brother ***Raymond E. Unger***, 89, passed away on January 20, 2025. Ray was one of the re-charter members of Alpha Chapter in 1955. To read more about Ray's life, his full obituary can be found here: [Unger, Raymond Ernest - Kutis Funeral Home Inc.](#)



Brother ***John F. Dodge***, 90, passed away on March 13, 2025. John was one of the re-charter members of Alpha Chapter in 1955. He went on to obtain his Bachelor's degree in Engineering from Washington University. For over 30 years, John devoted himself to Granite City Steel, where he became known for his work ethic and dedication to the company. John was a true sports enthusiast, with a special passion for St. Louis and Illini sports. His unrelenting faith in God helped guide him and his family through many trials that came up over his life. To read more about John's life, his full obituary can be found here: [John F. Dodge Obituary March 13, 2025 - Newcomer St. Louis.](#)



**Alpha Alumni Golf Outing - July 12, 2025!** *(event planning by Joe Baldwin)*

# ★ 2025 SUMMER ALUMNI EVENT ★

## BETA SIGMA PSI - ALPHA CHAPTER



# July 12th

**2025 Golf Outing Four-Man Scramble**

**Saturday July 12, 2025 - Tee off: 10:30am**

- \$300/ per team or register solo for \$75

- Dinner provided at the chapter house afterwards

- Send team registration and payment info by June 13th

Joe Baldwin at [joebaldwin2014@gmail.com](mailto:joebaldwin2014@gmail.com)

(618-406-0284) Mail: 3500 C.R. 329, Palmyra, MO 63461

Venmo: Beta-Sigs-Illinois-Alumni

Make checks payable to BΣΨ Alpha Chapter Alumni

**University of Illinois**  
**Blue Course**

800 Hartwell Dr.  
Savoy, IL 61874

## **STL Area Alpha Alumni - Cardinals Game 2025** *(report written by Josh Baggett)*

**Continuing our effort** to organize more opportunities for Alpha Alumni to gather throughout the year in addition to Homecoming, we're calling for all St. Louis area/Southern Illinois/Cardinals fans to join us for a night at the ballpark! We're encouraging alumni and their families to attend.



**What:** Cardinals vs Nationals

**When:** Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>; 6:15pm first pitch

**Where:** Optional pre-game meet-up at Paddy-O's

**Estimated cost:** \$41 per ticket

**Deadline to reserve tickets:** June 30<sup>th</sup>

**Contact Josh Baggett**

**to reserve your tickets!**

[joshbaggett35@gmail.com](mailto:joshbaggett35@gmail.com)

618-410-1912

## **Chapter House Improvements - Spring 2025** *(report written by Andrew Elders)*

**It's been a busy** semester at 706 W. Ohio! We started the year off right in January, when I was joined by **Steve Meyer (Fall '97)** with the stated goal of reviving the dining room floor. It hadn't had a proper scrubbing or sealing in a number of years, and the actives were under the impression that it needed to be replaced. Steve and I begged to differ, so we set about showing the guys how to care for the floor.



And what a difference it made! New life was brought to a floor older than the guys in the house ...27 years old to be exact. Big thanks to Steve for leading the charge!

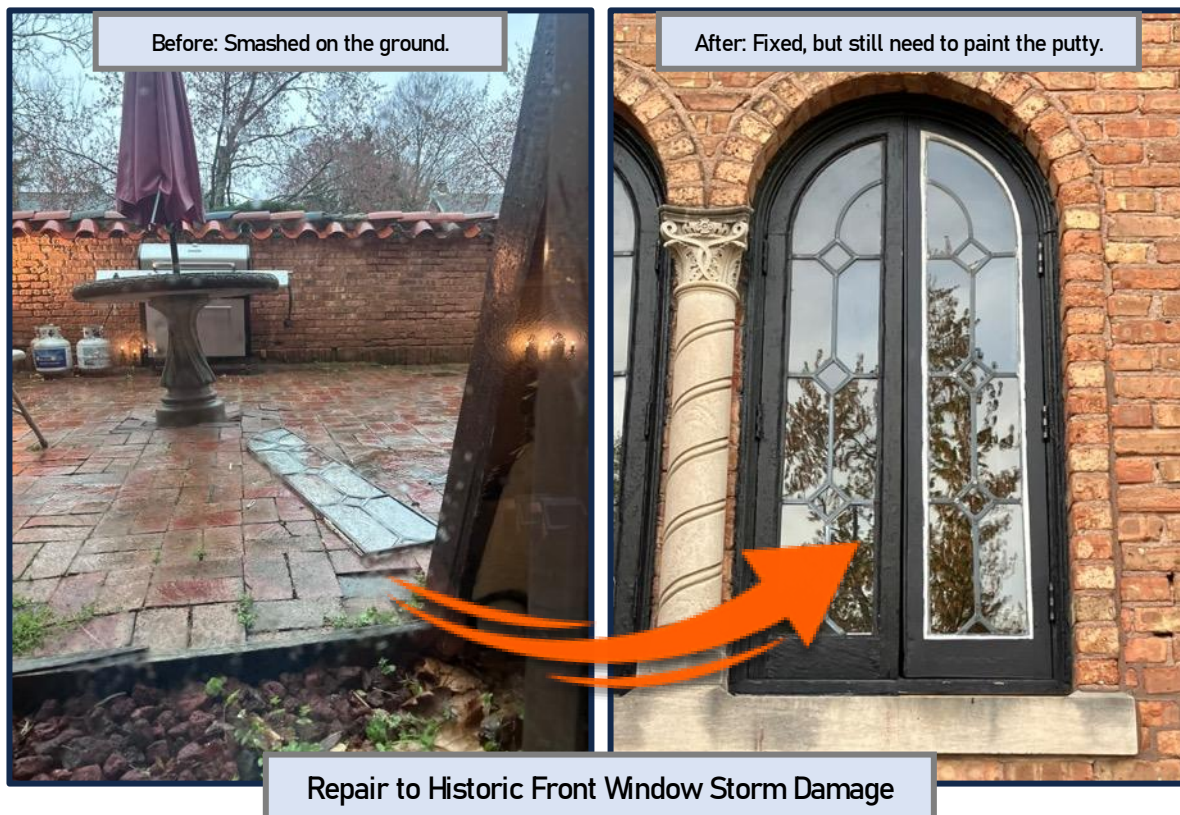
Among other accomplishments that weekend: fixing a lot of doorknobs, fixing the moat lighting, and teaching the actives some self-reliance. Also, Steve and I were called upon to participate in initiation, and we were able to ensure that it's being done properly.

This winter also saw repairs of the heating system – the boiler was taken apart and reworked in December, and several leaking radiators were fixed and a new radiator installed in the Chapter Room in January. The house is now uniformly warm AND dry.

In March, in advance of Scholarship Day, the pool room ceiling was repainted and a new LED light fixture was installed over the pool table, again in collaboration with Steve Meyer. **Alex Johnson (Fall '05)** kindly donated two new Oriental rugs for the lounge, and they look great!



A terrible storm on March 30 blew one of the Chapter Room's historic, leaded-glass casement windows out of its frame, smashing on the moat floor. When I came to pick it up later that week, one of my employees commented that he'd be able to not only rebuild the wooden window frame, but he'd also be able to repair the leaded glass. And did he ever...I'm blown away by the quality of work. The total time the window was out was only three weeks, and the house is again secure for the summer.



Also, my stepfather tightened and reglazed the pair of attic windows in the stairway. They've been reinstalled for another century of use.

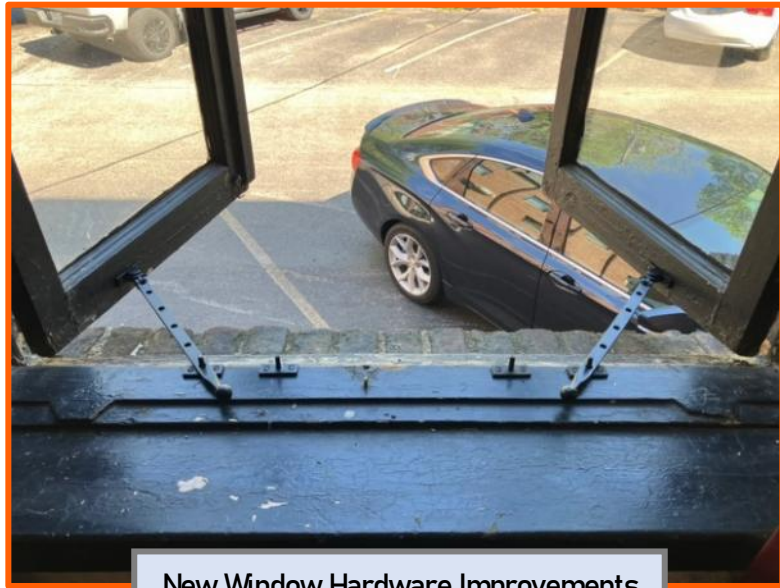




In thinking of ways to jazz up the front of the house, I thought a new porch light might be an interesting addition. I managed to find a historic 1926-vintage Spanish Revival hanging fixture that I thought would be perfect, so I bought, donated, and installed it. I think it makes a great first impression for visitors. I've also sourced and installed hardware for the wood casement windows in the house – it will not only hold the windows closed, but it holds them open as well, stopping them from banging against the brick arches.

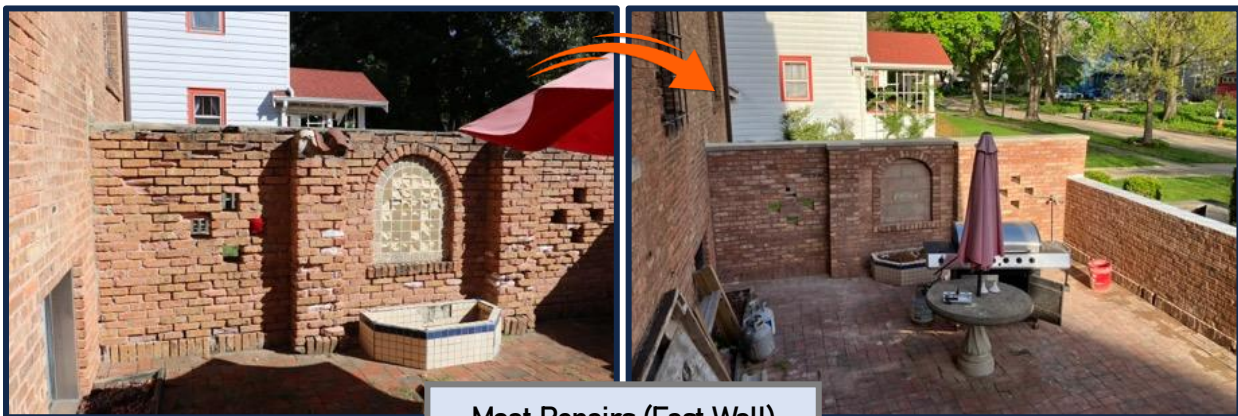


New 1926-Vintage Porch Light



New Window Hardware Improvements

And, in the biggest news... **the moat rebuild finally commenced!** While we've had several iterations of the grand scheme floating around over the last several years, I chose a less-invasive, less-expensive, and more preservation-friendly approach. The east wall was demolished entirely and rebuilt, with a 4" concrete block core and faced with brick salvaged from the wall, and a new limestone cap set on top of flashing. The historic pilasters, vents, and arched niche were recreated. The south walls were spot-repaired with reclaimed common brick and tuckpointed with a softer Type N mortar appropriate for historic brick, and new limestone caps were set on the piers flanking the entrance. The Spanish tile cap was recreated as well and laid on flashing; when the roof was removed in 2010, pallets of the tile were saved and stored at an alum's house for our future use on the moat but we were informed that those tiles have been disposed of. Fortunately, I was able to source reclaimed Spanish tile (including blue ones!) from a supplier in Belvedere and we were able to proceed. Unfortunately, this unforeseen hiccup put us a bit over our budget (ahem, if



Moat Repairs (East Wall)



anyone feels compelled to throw us a few dollars ☺). In addition to the moat walls, decayed brickwork was repaired on the porch, the driveway stoop was refaced, and the chimney was rebuilt and repointed. All in all, this project should keep us in good repair for another 50+ years and I think you'll be pleased with the outcome.

Some before-and-after photos...

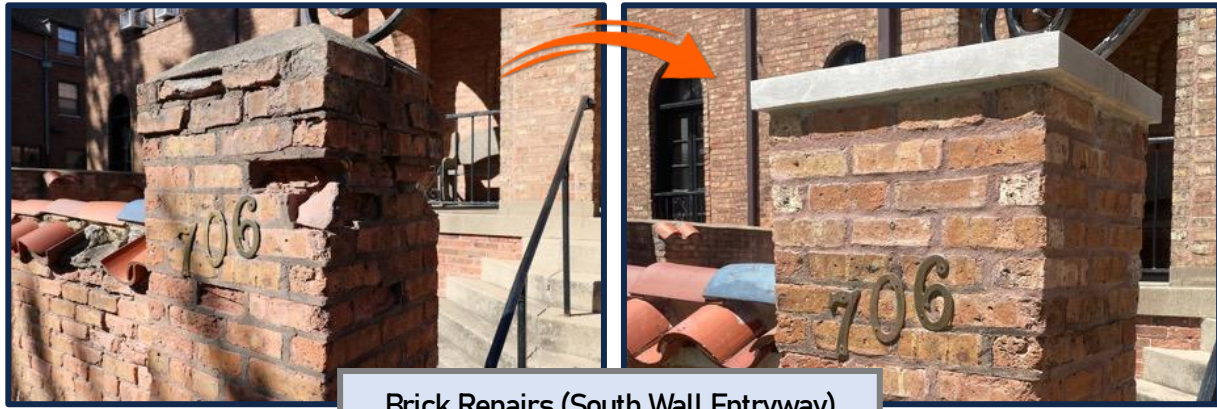


Moat Repairs (Wall Southeast Corner)



Brick Repairs (Front Porch East End)





Brick Repairs (South Wall Entryway)



Brick Repairs (West Side Staircase)



Brick Repairs (Chimney)



And there's work to be done yet this summer. In collaboration with Chi Psi next door, we're having the driveway and parking lot sealed and restriped, taking that off the to-do list for quite some time. We also need some volunteers for other work. **If you'd like to participate in a work weekend (or a few), please email me at [aeillini@gmail.com](mailto:aeillini@gmail.com).** I'm having the guys set up some empty rooms with beds, etc. for us to use if anyone cares to stay overnight and wants to forego booking a hotel room. We'd like to get some plants in the ground, commemorative brick laid in the moat floor, metal railings repainted, exterior trim and doors repainted, plaster repair, trim replacement and repainting in the dining room, and potentially rehab a first floor study room to serve as a model room and guest room. The goal is to have much, if not all of this completed in time for our Centennial Homecoming in late September. Time and talents are welcome, tools are welcome, and money is welcome. Let's keep the house improvement momentum going!

## **Alpha Alumni Win National Beta Sig Awards** *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

***Congratulations are in order*** for two of our alumni board members, **Andrew Elders** and **Greg Treichler**! They were both selected as recipients of the Alumni Volunteer Service Award, awarded at the Centennial Celebration this year! This is a national fraternity award which is given out to "alumni who significantly impact a collegiate chapter, alumni chapter, national committee, or national board; be significant in nature and produce tangible results; reflect favorably on the alumnus' chapter and Beta Sigma Psi; and be of sustained and direct nature." Below are some testimonies and summaries of the positive contributions these two men have made to Alpha Chapter.

### **Andrew Elders**

"Andrew Elders has consistently served unselfishly since taking the role of Housing Director. He has given thousands of his own dollars to our home and active chapter, hundreds of hours of his free time, and has already made massive steps in the restoration of our Urbana chapter house. His ambitions and motivation have not only been effective but have motivated and inspired the active chapter and rallied their effort. Andrew Elders has been serving as an excellent example of the selfless Beta Sig and demonstrates himself as a brother for all time by treating the active chapter as his own family."

- Nic Talley

"The money, time, and effort that Mr. Elders has put into helping Alpha Chapter with significant house improvements would be too much to fit in a small [paragraph] like this. He doesn't mind driving all the way from Chicago whenever we need help, and he spends time finding support financially, and if he can't find it then he covers the bill himself. Mr. Elders truly embodies what it means to be a brother for all time."

- Carter Puracchio

"Andrew Elders is the kind of Beta Sig I hope this fraternity will always have. He has devoted weeks of his own personal time, and spent an unknowable amount of money this year only for the sake of improving our fraternity. [...] He has done so much more work on our house and in just basically a year's time of being involved our house honestly doesn't even look the same in some areas, I'm astounded by the sheer improvement this entire house has gone through thanks to Andrew."

- Johnny Powell





Brother Steve Meyer (right) presenting award to Andrew Elders (left) at the Centennial Celebration.

Despite living two and a half hours away in Oak Park, IL, Andrew has sacrificed numerous weekends to drive down to Urbana to work on the chapter house. From performing simple maintenance and doing general cleaning, to working with actives and alumni to paint walls and trim in deep need of revitalization, replace broken light fixtures, patch drywall, replace broken and stained ceiling tiles, replace floor tiles, strip and wax the basement floor (which has not been done in *many* years), install bathroom stall doors in our house's main bathroom (which, somewhat embarrassingly, we have *never* had), solicit and coordinate a large donation of office chairs, furniture, and printing/scanning equipment to the house, hire an appraiser and attorney to perform a house reassessment resulting in a property tax reduction of over \$15,000 per year (which is

*significant*), and develop a plan to take on a project our alumni have been asking about for years—repairing and reconstructing our house's moat wall—Andrew has brought an exuberant amount of zeal to the Alpha Alumni Building & Facilities Director position.

But Andrew's impact has gone far beyond the house: He has deeply impacted the members—both at the active and alumni level. He has brought energy to our alumni board calls. He has reignited brothers from his time to get involved and get looped back into the fraternity. He has made an effort to attend as many Beta Sig events as possible, including our summer golf outing, Homecoming, and the Centennial Celebration, and he has even created informal events on his own in the Chicago area to create opportunities for Beta Sigs to connect. But perhaps most importantly, he has taken a genuine and heartfelt interest in getting to know the active members. He knows every single active member of Alpha Chapter—and everyone knows him. He spends time with them. He listens to them. He advises them. He has deep conversations with them. And if the narratives above did not make it clear, they sincerely appreciate him. And so do we on the board.

## Greg Treichler

"For as long as I can remember, Greg has been the Alumni Chapter Treasurer-Secretary [at Alpha Chapter]. I don't know the exact timing, but I would guess it has been 20-30 years. That is an outstanding blessing to the Chapter. During that time, he has volunteered countless hours keeping the financial books and offering his council on various issues. I know of no one who has spent more time helping the Alumni and Active Chapters."

- Dale Durfey

Serving as our Alumni Chapter Treasurer-Secretary, Greg has managed, documented, and maintained our chapter's financial records and meeting notes for over 25 years. This is an essential role to the operation of the fraternity.

A couple years ago, in preparation for our chapter's annual fall business meeting, Greg tallied up our account balances, looked through historical spending, identified upcoming expenses, and projected cash flows into the future. He gave a thorough and detailed presentation of the financial status of Alpha Chapter and, ultimately, sounded a much-needed alarm that, unless something changed, Alpha Chapter would go under in the next couple years. Thanks to Greg's foresight and



advance warning, with his leadership, he helped us submit a timely request for a loan from the Housing Foundation. We, as a board, set up meetings with alumni and kicked off a capital campaign to solicit donations to buy time. This proved to be a productive effort, and Greg was the point man for tracking and receiving donations, as well as writing and sending personal thank you notes to our alumni on the back end—all the while, continuously monitoring expenses and keeping tabs on account levels to ensure numbers stayed in the black.

Greg has also been influential in building strong, trusting relationships with the Active Chapter from a financial standpoint. Though the road was not easy at first, Greg was influential in building out the actives' budgeting process during the post-pandemic period to ensure that the chapter members were able to effectively allocate funds, pay bills, and monitor spending habits each semester. He helped lay the groundwork for what will hopefully be stronger financial guardrails in the future.

Brother Greg Treichler  
presented with his award.

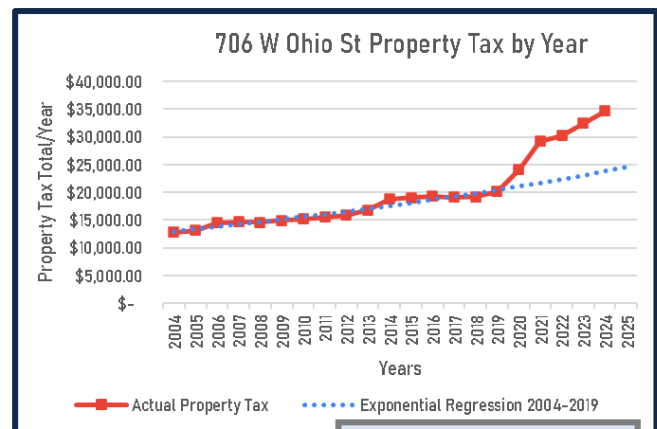


Amidst an Active Chapter that refreshes every four years and a University of Illinois that perpetually changes and evolves, one constant Alpha Chapter has seen for over two decades is Greg Treichler. There has been a lot of financial activity at Alpha Chapter over the years. Sprinkler installations, window replacements, roof restorations, water pipe burst repairs, boiler repairs, chapter room renovations, bathroom renovations, homecomings, scholarships, moat repairs, countless tax filings, house reassessments... the list goes on and on. In all instances, Greg has been there. His steady presence on the alumni board cannot be overstated. Through many leadership changes, he has been a mentor and friend to everyone on the board which has allowed new members to transition smoothly into their new roles. He also is a vocal member on board calls, and his opinion carries weight due to his knowledge and experience. We are very fortunate to have Greg volunteer on our board.

Please join us in congratulating these two men on their awards!

## **Court Ruling: Alpha Chapter Property Tax** *(report written by Dan Ross, Nathaniel Stoll)*

**Annual property tax**, in recent history, has placed a major burden on Alpha Chapter's finances. The graph on the right puts into perspective just how much things have changed over the last five years. Following the 2018 tax year, the property taxes assessed to 706 W Ohio St increased at an unprecedented rate, jumping from \$20,113 in 2019 to \$34,660 in 2024. Cumulatively, (not factoring in the time value of money), using the exponential regression model as a baseline, that cost us around \$38,573 of *additional* taxes over the five-year period from 2020-2024 compared to the trend from 2004-2019.



Property Tax History



That amount could have covered over half of the moat repair costs. For a chapter working hard to rebound from the impacts of COVID, that's not a trivial chunk of change to have to shell over.

In November of 2023, the alumni board hosted a call via Zoom with the greater Alpha Alumni network, and one of the items on the docket that evening was to discuss this very topic: property taxes. We knew our property tax had seen a significant uptick in recent years. And each year, the number kept growing. But what we didn't know... was there anything we could do about it?

Our former Alumni President, **Nick Schwingbeck**, had already done some legwork on this. He reached out to other houses on campus, and he found out that our story was not unique. Other houses on campus had also been impacted by spikes in property tax. Some decided to take legal action and fight the taxes in court. In some cases, they won... but the outcome, they reported, wasn't as significant as they would have liked. This wasn't what we wanted to hear...

And thus, there was quite a bit of deliberation about this issue. What do we do? Do we spend money to reappraise the house and then spend more money on an attorney in hopes that we win a court case? What happens if the appraisal doesn't come back favorably? What happens if we go to court and lose? Money was very tight at that time, and we knew that if we spent money on something which produced no noticeable return, it would be a difficult pill to swallow.

There was a lot of uncertainty about what to do and what would happen. But one thing we were fairly certain of: If nothing was done, the weight of the increased property tax could eventually cause us to crumble. The trajectory was not sustainable. And thus, we started making plans to go to court to plead our case.

Taking on this endeavor required leadership, drive, and effort, and we had some brothers who stepped up to the plate and made some key contributions. **Bob Goetting** led the effort to find us an appraiser (Charles Crawmer of Crawmer Appraisal, Inc.). (The house appraisal came out to \$540,000.) **Andrew Elders** ran point on finding us an attorney (Steve O'Byrne of O'Byrne, Stanko & Jefferson, P.C.) and bringing in a member of his company to provide consultation. And **Greg Treichler** handled the paperwork with Champaign County. With those key pieces established, we built a case. And on January 7, 2025, we went to court.

At the end of all of this, the result? A letter in the mail. It said we won our case! The outcome? In 2023, our house's assessed value was \$357,140; the tax we paid on that amount in 2024 was \$34,660.66. Now, though, given the new court ruling, our house is assessed at \$180,000. Our property tax this year will be \$18,565.38. For those doing the math at home, **that's a reduction of \$16,095.28 in taxes from last year.** This brings us back to normal levels. At a time where financials are so critical, **this is a major breakthrough for Alpha Chapter.**

A HUGE thank you goes out to brothers Bob Goetting, Andrew Elders, Greg Treichler, Nick Schwingbeck, and Dan Ross who all played major roles in coordinating this effort. One other group to mention,

**Letter Announcing Outcome of Court Case**



though... our donors. The financial support you all provided last year was essential. The donations you all made gave us just enough of a financial buffer where we felt confident enough to pull the trigger on this. And thankfully, the investment came back with a positive return. Thanks be to God for this source of relief, and thanks again to all those involved who made this possible!

## **Scholarship Day 2025** *(report written by Josh Baggett)*



Scholarship Day 2025

***We held our annual*** College Preparation Seminar at the Chapter house on Saturday, March 8th. This event was a fantastic opportunity to host 12 incoming freshmen who applied for our alumni scholarship. The day included scholarship finalist interviews, tailored campus tours, chapter house tours, and the chance to establish mutual connections for the upcoming fall semester.

After conducting all the finalist interviews, Samuel Biruduganti was selected as the 2025 scholarship recipient. Samuel, from Naperville, IL, attended Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy in Aurora, IL. His application and interview stood out due to his impressive high school academic performance, elite standardized test scores, and his volunteerism and involvement in church activities and fine arts extracurriculars. At UIUC, Samuel plans to study Computer Engineering and has already committed to Beta Sig by signing a housing contract and bid card for Fall 2025.



Campus Tours



Guest Speakers: FSA Advisor Andrew Hohn (Left) and Pastoral Advisor Pastor Schuermann (right).

I would like to personally thank all the actives and alumni who contributed their time and efforts to make this 2025 scholarship another success. This event is crucial for jump-starting our fall recruitment efforts—three scholarship attendees signed and returned housing contracts and bids this year! Please keep our 2026 scholarship in mind for anyone you may know who would be interested in applying.



## Alumni Recognition: Dan Jensen *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

***Wanted to take*** a quick moment to recognize brother Dan Jensen!

Starting in November 2023, the alumni board kicked off an effort to fill in holes in our alumni database, as there were many members missing info. Brother Bill Weber stepped up and reached out to many brothers he knew from the 70s. A number of other alums reached out to other brothers as well. The end result, as posted in the Spring 2024 newsletter, was that 113 emails were added and corrections/updates were made to over 180 members' info!



Brother Dan  
Jensen

Flash forward to 2025... and brother **Dan Jensen** is still working hard at it! Dan has stepped up and helped me update our alumni database by verifying and/or providing updates to contact info for brothers from the 80s, as well as other decades. Overall, this year alone, Dan has helped me verify/update **over 100 brothers' contact info!** Great work, Dan!! Thanks for getting involved and making a difference!!

If anyone has any additional contact info updates, the following is the current list of missing emails—our main method of sending out this newsletter—for Alpha Alumni: <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1H4MrwpIKzjHNzrSu0Rag1HR9-vmSFqJ/edit?usp=sharing&ouid=114412816802540475650&rtpof=true&sd=true>. **If you know anyone on this list, please consider reaching out to them and let them know we are missing their email contact info!**

## March Madness Winner: Jacob Hanselman *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

***This year's winner*** of the 2025 Beta Sig March Madness Bracket Challenge is: **Jacob Hanselman!** Jacob (with his son, Henry) took 1<sup>st</sup> place out of 26 submitted brackets. Thanks to brother **Kevin Bunte** for setting up the "Beta Sig Alpha Alums" bracket group. Check the Facebook group next year to join in on the madness of March!



## Active Report *(report written by Carter Puracchio and Nic Talley)*

### President's Statement

Happy summer everyone, and happy centennial as well!

My name is Carter Puracchio, and I am the 2025 president of the active chapter. I am studying Agribusiness Markets and Management, and this Fall, I will start my Junior year. I am a member of the Fall 2023 Pledge Class, and I was recruited through the 2023 Scholarship Day. Previously I served on the Executive Board as the Jr. and Sr. Recruitment Chairman. I am from a small town near Kankakee, named Herscher, Illinois. Outside of Beta Sigs, I am very involved with Orange Krush. I have been a Krush Kaptain since my freshman year, and I will be on the Executive Board next season.



Active Chapter  
President  
Carter Puracchio

The active chapter has done great things in the 2024-2025 academic year. We recruited 10 new members between both semesters, **the**



**most recruited in an academic year since 2015-2016**, a great sign of the progress we have made in rebuilding our recruitment efforts. Accordingly, we were the **recipient of the 2025 Welge Award for best Recruitment at the 2025 Beta Sig National Award Ceremony!** Beta Sigs is once again one of the top academic houses on campus. **We returned to the top 10 IFC houses in GPA average** for the first time since Fall 2020 with an average of 3.53. **We achieved the “double crown”—the 2025 Hingst Award for best national academics of all Beta Sig chapters, and the 2025 Outstanding Scholarship Award for best academics of all fraternities at UIUC.** Additionally, we were **runner-up for the Outstanding Philanthropy Award out of almost 40 IFC fraternities.** Brothers Nicholas Talley and Logan Rice brought home awards as well. **Nicholas was awarded the 2025 Erck Award** for being the best national active member of the fraternity, and **Logan was awarded the Living Your Values award from IFC** to the member of a fraternity best living out the values of their chapter. Our 2025 Scholarship Day was also a success, and as of now we have **4 new freshman members** set to move in come August. We aim to bring in 10-12 total new members in 2025-2026.

Brotherhood is the strongest it has been so far in my time here. Our members are bought in. Everyone works hard to put us in the best possible position to succeed. The house is keeping the growth of our 3 S's at the forefront, and we continue to improve in the work of our mission. Additionally, we celebrated our Gold Rose Formal at the Lake of the Ozarks this year, and we had a blast. The future is very promising for our young members and soon-to-be new members of the Fall.

We are knocking on the door of having a full house soon—and pulling our fraternity out of our financial issues. We have the momentum. **I would encourage all alumni who are able to join us in celebrating homecoming on the weekend of September 27th to come and see our success for themselves—we are very excited to host you all!** Your support has helped to make our success possible—but the fight is not done. I look forward to seeing you all for our centennial celebration very soon!

Fraternally,  
Carter Puracchio  
President, Beta Sigma Psi

## Fall 2025 Active Chapter Executive Board

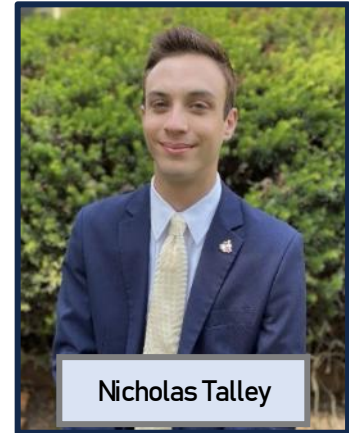
Leadership Position	Name	Year in School
President	Carter Puracchio	Junior
1st Vice President	Logan Rice	Sophomore
2nd Vice President	Bennett Crane	Sophomore
Treasurer	Gavin Fack	Sophomore
Sr. Recruitment Chairman	Drew Thurman	Sophomore
Social Chairman	Raiden Daichendt	Junior
Scholastic Chairman	Johnny Powell	Senior
Philanthropy Chairman	Ben McKenzie	Sophomore
Recording Secretary	Matthew Cole	Junior



## Spring 2025 Brotherhood Awards

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Steven Broquist Outstanding Active Award**

*Description: Awarded to the active member that best lived out the balance of all of our core values- Spiritual, Scholastic, and Social, for the Spring 2025 Semester. It is the highest honor awarded in the Alpha Chapter internally. Named in honor of Steven Broquist, an alumnus of the Alpha chapter from the Fall 1962 Pledge Class, who served as chapter president, battalion commander of the UIUC NROTC battalion, president of the Lutheran Student Foundation, and a varsity member of both the Illinois Track and Cross Country teams as an active. Lt. Broquist sacrificed his life in the line of duty while serving in the US Marine Corps on May 14th, 1967, in South Vietnam. For his valor and selflessness, he was posthumously decorated with the Silver Star by order of President Lyndon B. Johnson.*



Nicholas Talley

Recipient: **Nicholas Talley**, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Graduating Senior, Pre-Law Psychology; Auburn, IL



Matthew Cole

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Outstanding Associate Award**

*Description: Awarded to the associate member that best lived out the balance of all our core values—Spiritual, Scholastic Social, for the Spring 2025 Semester.*

Recipient: **Matthew Cole**; Rising Junior; Marketing and Finance; Winfield, IL

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Greg Treichler Unsung Hero Award**

*Description: Awarded to the member (associate or active) who has received the least recognition for the most over-achievement in their role and to the success of the Active Chapter with the highest humility during the Spring 2025 Semester. Named in honor of Greg Treichler, an alumnus of the Alpha Chapter from the Spring 1991 Pledge Class, who for nearly 30 years has served consecutively as the alumni board treasurer, guiding behind the scenes the success and longevity of both the alumni and active chapters.*

Recipient: **Bennett Crane**, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Rising Sophomore, Agribusiness; Herscher, IL



Bennett Crane





Carter Puracchio and Bennett Crane

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Pledge Father and Son Award**

Description: Awarded to the most outstanding duo of Pledge father and son, who together have demonstrated the upmost excellence in dedication to the chapter in the Spring 2025 Semester. This award was re-established this semester, bringing an old traditional Beta Sig award back to life.

Recipients: **Carter Puracchio** (father), **Bennett Crane** (son)

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Brian Bunte Illini Spirit Award**

Description: Awarded to the member (associate or active) who is the most passionate in their school spirit and Illini Pride during the Spring 2025 Semester. Named in honor of Brian Bunte, an alumnus of the Alpha Chapter from the Fall 1979 Pledge Class, who has built a memorable reputation over four decades as one of the Alpha Chapter's biggest Illini fans, and for his infectious school spirit.

Recipient: **Carter Puracchio**, President; Rising Junior, Agribusiness Markets and Management; Herscher, IL



Carter Puracchio



Andrew Elders

### Alpha Active Chapter Award: **Outstanding Alumni Volunteer Award**

Description: Awarded to the Alpha Alumni Chapter member who has contributed the most to the Alpha Active Chapter for the Spring 2025 Semester. This award serves as a formal "Thank you" to that alumnus from the active chapter, those who they mentor and lead. This award was established this semester.

Recipient: **Andrew Elders**, Alumni Housing Director; Pledge Class Spring 1998; Galesburg, IL

## Spring 2025 Pledge Class

#### Mason White

-Freshman  
-Pre-Med Biochem  
-Dairen, IL  
Other involvement:  
Dance 2XS  
Competitive Dance  
Team, Catholic Illini

#### Matthew Cole

-Sophomore  
-Marketing and Finance  
-Winfield, IL  
Other involvement:  
Illinois Consulting Group,  
ΑΦΩ Service Fraternity,  
InterVarsity Christian  
Fellowship, Jazz  
Performance Club, Gies  
Ambassadors



Mason White and Matthew Cole



## Beta Sigma Psi Alpha Chapter Graduating Class of 2025

# CONGRATULATIONS, BETA SIG CLASS OF '25!



Max Daichendt  
B.S. Food Science  
Chicago, Illinois  
PC Spring 2022

**Favorite Beta Sig Memory:**

Going to MEF 2024 and winning many chapter awards after several years of leaving empty handed. We celebrated with the Beta Sigs from the other chapters after the awards banquet and built new friendships. That Sunday morning, we went to Hodak's for brunch and visited the St. Louis arch before heading home.

**Post-Grad Plans:**

Looking for work in the food science industry, with plans to return to school in the near future to obtain a Masters Degree in Food Science.



### Max Daichendt

**Pledge Class:** Spring 2022

**Major:** Bachelor's in Food Science

**Minor:** N/A

**Hometown:** Chicago, IL

**Offices Held:** Jr. Recruitment Chairman, Sr. Recruitment Chairman, Scholarship Chairman (2 terms), Philanthropy Chairman (2 terms)

**Awards:** Spring 2022 Outstanding Associate

**Other Campus Involvement:** Astronomy Club, Catholic Illini, Association of Food Technologists, Institute of Food Technologists



# CONGRATULATIONS, BETA SIG CLASS OF '25!



Ben Dirst  
M.A Architecture  
Woodridge, Illinois  
PC Fall 2019

**Favorite Beta Sig Memory:**

Planning Nashville Formal in Spring '22 as social chair. The Blackout Six!

**Post-Grad Plans:**

I have accepted an offer as a level 1 Technical Designer at Solomon Cordwell Buenz (SCB) and will be continuing my architectural practice in their Chicago firm beginning in May 2025.



## Ben Dirst

**Pledge Class:** Fall 2019

**Degree:** Master's in Architecture (B.S. Architecture Studies 2023)

**Hometown:** Chicago, IL

**Offices Held:** Recording Secretary, Social Chairman (3 terms), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Resident Old Man



# CONGRATULATIONS, BETA SIG CLASS OF '25!



Nicholas Talley  
B.S. Psychology  
Auburn, Illinois  
PC Fall 2021

**Favorite Beta Sig Memory:**

Many years of shenanigans with a big group of Beta Sigs and 4H House girls. E-Man Info Mondays. Timewarp Tuesdays. Bance. Late night brews and talks on the roof with my pledge dad Andrew Arendt. Social Room hangouts with the East Wing underclassmen. Brotherhood (and sisterhood) to last a lifetime.

**Post-Grad Plans:**

Serving as a 2nd LT in the Illinois Army National Guard while attending law school in pursuit of my J.D. at either UIUC or Mizzou Law.



## Nicholas Talley

**Pledge Class:** Fall 2021

**Major:** Pre-Law Social Psychology

**Minors:** Criminology, History

**Hometown:** Auburn, IL

**Offices Held:** Jr. Recruitment Chairman, Sr. Recruitment Chairman, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President (2 terms), President (3 terms)

**Awards:** Outstanding Associate Fall 2021, Outstanding Active Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Erck Award 2025

**Other Campus Involvement:** Army ROTC, 4H House Sweetheart (2022-2025), Cru



## **Alumni Spotlight - Keith Ameiss**

Year Graduated: 1995

Undergrad Major: Animal Science

Post-Grad: MS in Biology from Northern Illinois University / PhD Poultry Science from Texas A&M University

Hometown: Wheaton, IL

Current Location: Kalamazoo, MI

Current Employment: Zoetis Inc (animal health company)

Family: My wife Sharon, two dogs Danni and Ruadhan, and one Sulcata tortoise Harry.

Recently I've Been Into: Rock Climbing & Sourdough bread

Most fond memory of Beta Sig: Just talking and hanging out with folks like Dan Friend, David Wolters, and Todd Goebel.

If you can recall, why did you join Beta Sig?: I liked what I heard from current members regarding academics and the social aspects.

Who is someone you'd like to reconnect with/who should we spotlight next?: Tim Foley

How can people reconnect with you?: [keithameiss@gmail.com](mailto:keithameiss@gmail.com)





# Contact Us: Alumni Board

## **President**

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## **Recruitment Chairman**

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## **Vice President**

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Andrew Elders  
1037 Pleasant St. #1C  
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## **Immediate Past President**

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## **Alumni Advisor**

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Chicago, IL 60641  
708-557-2511  
[davidwu772@yahoo.com](mailto:davidwu772@yahoo.com)



# 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)

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

Dan Ross

81 Freedlund Drive

Rockton, IL 61072



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