



Beta Sigma Psi

Alpha Alumni Newsletter

2025 Homecoming

September 27, 2025



Illini vs. USC



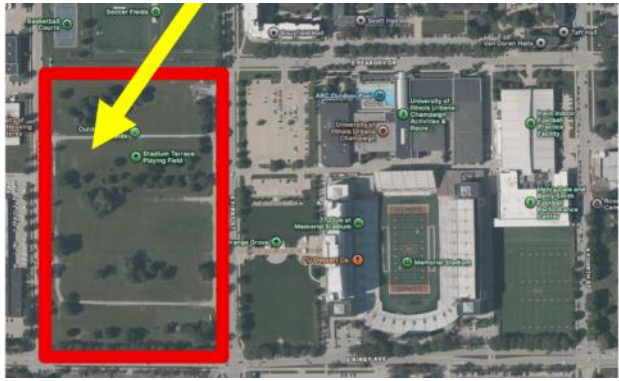
Homecoming 2025 - Alpha Centennial Celebration! *(report written by Avery Clark)*



Booking your ticket to Homecoming 2025 is now open! We invite you to join us the weekend of September 26th – 28th in Urbana-Champaign to commemorate 100 years of Beta Sig Brotherhood where it all began! This year, we have a few different hotel room blocks to choose from. Booking deadlines vary by each hotel block, but I encourage you to reserve your spot ASAP! The **first deadline to book your hotel is August 18th** with subsequent deadlines for each room block. And as always, please continue to check the Alumni Facebook Group for updates.

We invite you to start the weekend with us on Friday September 26th by returning to 706 W. Ohio for the annual Alumni/Active mixer. Following the meet & greet with the Actives, we will head down to the traditional Friday evening social gathering, allowing brothers and significant others to reconnect and catch up with each other. In between rounds of Jungle Pong, be sure to check out the renovations & enhancements taking place thanks to the generous donations! Over half of Alpha Chapter's history has taken place here, and we are proud of the work our brothers have undertaken to preserve the facility for the future! Doors open at 7:00 pm, snacks and drinks provided.

Saturday will begin with our traditional Alpha Alumni Chapter Fall Business meeting at the Chapter House. We anticipate starting the business meeting at 8:00 a.m. with our tailgate opening at the conclusion of the meeting. **Trying something new this year, our tailgate will take place in Lot 31** (west of Grange Grove, between First Street & Oak Street). Picture included for reference, exact location within the lot will be posted as we get closer to the weekend. Incoming Active Chapter President Carter Puracchio's family has been kind enough to extend use of their RV setup (complete with bathroom!) to accommodate our tailgate! We look forward to experiencing the college gameday atmosphere. Once again, we will again have a menu featuring Papa Del's pizza, a wide selection of snacks, & beverages. As of this writing, no game time has been announced. But given pre-season traction, I am anticipating an afternoon kickoff (though time will tell).



Saturday will conclude with the 2025 Homecoming Banquet. This year, the event will take place at CityView Banquet Center. Located on the top floor of Illinois Terminal, the venue is in the heart of downtown Champaign & has sweeping views of our beloved college town. Festivities will take place in the North Room, please join us before the banquet for a hospitality hour from 6:00 to 7:00. Dinner and programming to begin at 7:00. Based on feedback, the dress code for this year will again be business casual (though formal always welcome). To highlight our chapter's history, we are looking to add a special exhibit with items/photos/memorabilia from across the ages. While we have a treasure trove of items at the house, we're calling on all brothers to see if you have items you'd be willing to loan for the occasion. Contact Avery Clark if interested!

After dinner, all are invited to come unwind at Pour Bro's Craft Taproom across the street! They have a wide wall of brews on tap, as well as games like ski ball, darts, and pinball. As a continuing incentive to our recent graduates, we again offer the "Young Alumni" banquet ticket price for Brothers who have graduated in the last 2 years.

Please see the schedule and reservations page for specific dates, anticipated times, and additional event information. And **please continue to check the Facebook Group** for updates about the weekend! We look forward to welcoming back brothers from across the ages to celebrate this monumental milestone in our chapter's history!

Football Tickets purchased from the Alumni Chapter will be available for pick up at the Friday evening social event or the Saturday morning Business Meeting.

2025 Homecoming Schedule and Reservations

This year's Homecoming Banquet will be held at CityView
(45 E University Ave, Champaign, IL 61820).

Weekend Agenda:

Friday, September 26, 2025

7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. – Alumni/Active Introductions in Chapter House Lounge
8:00 p.m. to midnight – Welcome Back Reception at Chapter House

Saturday, September 27, 2025

*8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. – Business Meeting at Chapter House

*10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. – Tailgate featuring Papa Dels Pizza

NEW LOCATION, LOT 31 across from Grange Grove (details in newsletter article)

*2:00 p.m. – Football game vs. USC

*6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. – Hospitality hour at CityView (North Banquet Room)

7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. – CityView (North Banquet Room)

10:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – Pour Bro's (40 E University Avenue, Champaign, IL 61820)

HOTEL RESERVATIONS:

Option 1: Eastland Suites (1907 N. Cunningham Ave, Urbana, IL):

Block of rooms is released to public August 18, 2025 (2 night stay required)

King Suite \$219.00 (20 available)

Call 217-367-8331 and specify group name "Beta Sigma Psi". Group code: 4031

Option 2: Holiday Inn Express & Suites (1003 W Killarney St, Urbana, IL 61801)

Block of rooms is released to public August 27, 2025 (2 night stay required)

Double Queen or King \$329.00 (10 available)

Call the 217-328-0328 and specify block name: Beta Sigma Psi Alpha Chapter Alumni

Booking Link: [Beta Sigma Psi Alpha Chapter Alumni](#)

Should the above hotel be booked, you may also contact the following nearby hotels. Note: we have no block reserved with the below hotels.

- Ramada (217) 328-4400

Comfort Suites (217) 328-3500





To reserve your place at Homecoming 2025, please return the Order Form on the next page (or fill out the online form) along with check payable to "Beta Sigma Psi" to:

Avery Clark, 5044 N Wolcott Ave #2B, Chicago, IL 60640
(call or email with questions: 217-303-1823 or avery.clark45@gmail.com)

OR

Please see the below for Online Ordering & Venmo Payment instructions:

This year we're expanding online ordering capabilities by accepting registrations via our alumni chapter website. Use the link below to navigate to the Alpha Chapter Alumni website to use the order form. Payment can be made via Venmo (instructions below & on the website) or a mailed check (instructions listed above). **We are strongly encouraging the online order & payment option** (electronic ordering will ensure your order is processed more quickly & avoid any delays in the mail).

- Send payments to @Beta-Sigs-Illinois-Alumni
- Send a screenshot of the completed order form to avery.clark45@gmail.com with a CC to gtreichler@ameritech.net to confirm the order.
- **Online Order Form**
 - <https://forms.gle/UFMPsEWGPq2PUAX19>
- **Schedule of Events located on Alpha Alumni website**
 - <http://alpha.alumni.betasigmapsi.org/homecoming.php>

We appreciate any feedback about ways we can improve engagement throughout the year (not just homecoming). We look forward to seeing everyone back in Champaign this year!

HOMECOMING 2025 ORDER FORM

DUES:

Existing Life Member	OR	\$ -0.00-
New Life Member (\$300)	OR	\$ _____
Annual Dues (\$30)		\$ _____

Dues must be paid (either by Life Membership or Annual Membership) to make Homecoming reservations, vote, and hold office.

TICKETS: (order must be purchased by August 31, 2025)

Full Homecoming Package _____ x \$130 = \$ _____

OR (Individual Tickets)

Regular Banquet fee _____ x \$65 = \$ _____

“Young Alumni” Banquet (within 2 years of graduation date) _____ x \$40 = \$ _____

Social/Tailgate _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

Fighting Illini vs. USC Football Tickets _____ x \$40 = \$ _____

OTHER: Limited Edition Beta Sigma Psi Tie _____ x \$25 = \$ _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Graduation Year _____

Email _____

Who are you trying to bring back to the Homecoming celebration? Do you or your Pledge Brothers have an anniversary coming up?

What's Your Favorite Part of Beta Sigma Psi and Homecoming weekend?

Are there any new events that you would like to see at future Homecoming weekends? Is there a venue you'd like us to explore? Do you have a place in the Champaign area you'd like to visit/re-visit?



Alumni News

Congratulations are in order for...

Brother ***Andrew Hanselman*** and his wife, Nat ~ Married May 10, 2025!

Brother ***Austin Kopplin*** and his wife, Lindsey ~ Married June 21, 2025!

Brother ***Chris May*** and his wife, Anna ~ Married June 21, 2025!



And to the
(Joe)
Bateman
family!

Welcome to the
world, young
Elijah Gene
Bateman!
~07/03/2025~



And to the
(Travis)
Schiess
family!

Welcome to the
world, young
Zelda Jean
Schiess!
~07/30/2025~



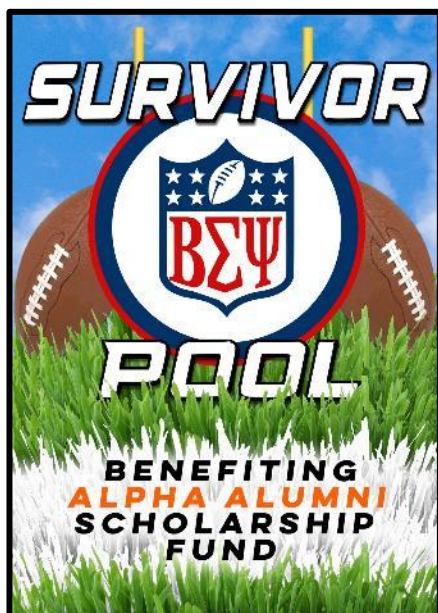
NFL Survivor Pool Benefiting Alpha Scholarship Fund *(report written by Josh Baggett)*

It's time to put your football knowledge to the test! The Alpha Alumni Scholarship Fund is proud to announce its first-ever NFL Survivor Pool. This is your chance to compete against fellow alumni, friends, and family while supporting a great cause. The pool is open to anyone to join so please share with anyone you think would want to play!

Every \$25 buy-in goes directly toward our fundraising goal, with half of the pot awarded to the last survivor and the other half funding scholarships for Beta Sigs at the University of Illinois.

Think you can pick a winner each week? Join the pool and prove it! You'll pick one winning team each week, but you can only use each team once all season. Be careful, though—three strikes and you're out!

Ready to play? Find the LeagueSafe link for entry payment and the Sleeper Fantasy link for pool entry below. Buy-in payments due 9/3/25. Questions? Contact Josh Baggett (joshbaggett35@gmail.com).



QR Code for LeagueSafe payment:



LEAGUESAFE

<https://leaguesafe.com/join/4341037>

QR Code for Sleeper Fantasy entry:




sleeper

<https://sleeper.com/i/JKqPzBPoxAdPE>

Upcoming Alpha Alumni Board Elections *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

With Homecoming just around the corner, it is time, once again, for Alumni Board elections! Below are the officer positions up for election in September:



Positions Up for Election at Homecoming:

President

Secretary/Treasurer

Homecoming Director

Building Director

Alumni Advisor

Please take some time and consider stepping up for one of these positions on the Alpha Alumni Board! This is a great way to get involved and make a difference!

If you have any interest in any of these positions or if there's anyone you would like to nominate for any of these positions, please reach out to our Vice President, Joe Baldwin (618-406-0284; vp.alphaalumni@gmail.com) ahead of Homecoming, or feel free to reach out to any of our current board members (see contact info at the end of the newsletter).

Thank you in advance for your consideration and your leadership!

Bronze Tablet Awardee Plaque *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll, Nicholas Talley)*

Recent graduate, Nicholas Talley, asked to share the following with the greater alumni network:

"While cleaning and organizing in the attic, we stumbled upon this plaque honoring the Beta Sig bronze tablet honorees up until it was last updated in 1984. Given that the bronze tablet is such a coveted award, it would be great to produce an updated list to update or create a new engraving that could be displayed in the chapter house. Wanted to pass that along as a potential project for an interested alumnus, although I would not know who."

Do you know any others who made the list? We are aware of brothers Adam Auten (2017) and Johnny Wheeler (2020). If you know anyone else, or if you are interested in making a donation to get the plaque updated, please contact Nathaniel Stoll (alpha.publications@betasigmapi.org)!



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

Summer has been a bit slower at 706—I rather unexpectedly bought a new home in May and it's taken up a fair amount of my time—but things are happening! This update is only meant to be a teaser, since I want EVERYONE to come back for Homecoming to see the house and what's been going on there. The moat project is now complete, and it looks great. I still have to do some finishing touches to it (trying to source historically-appropriate tile for the niches isn't especially easy...I have a vision) but it looks infinitely better. As noted before, and as with all construction projects, we had some cost overruns, so if you'd like to help defray any of that, we welcome it! Donations can be sent to Greg Treichler at 118 Birch Lane, St. Charles, IL 60175 (gtreichler@ameritech.net).

We just had the driveway and parking lot striped and resealed, putting us in good stead for some time to come. It's one of those non-exciting but necessary things. The guys put down some grass seed and the lawn looks much fuller now, and I'm working on having plants put back in the planter.

Some of you may remember a plaque with our letters on it affixed to the front porch, as shown below (yes, that's me, c. 1999). It disappeared some time ago, and there was a shadow on the porch where it had been. That shadow bothered me. To appease me and my obsessive-compulsive disorder, we on the Alumni board have personally donated a replacement plaque that notes not only that we're Alpha Chapter, but that it's our Centennial year as well.



Photo from 1999.



The front plaque is now restored!

Perhaps the most exciting project going on right now is the refurnishing of the west lounge! All new furniture and artwork has been donated and is being installed, with the final piece arriving in the next week in time for the new school year. I am withholding photos of it until it's complete, so come to Homecoming and see for yourself!

As ever, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please feel free to email me at aeillini@gmail.com.

Alumni Summer Golf Outing *(report written by Joe Baldwin)*



Golf Outing at U of I Golf Course



The 2025 Golf Outing is in the books! Our 4th annual Summer Alumni Event on July 12th was a huge success, with 16 alumni gathering at the University of Illinois Orange and Blue Golf Course for a fun day of golf and brotherhood. Alumni present were: Bill Weber (SP '75), Kevin Smith (FA '72), Duane Kolbus (FA '73), Luther Leesman (SP '72), Fred Mulch (FA '73), Dave Johnson (SP '90), Chris Wascher (FA '92), Micah Wascher, Adam Wascher, Andrew Elders (SP '98), Josh Baggett (FA '10), Travis Schiess (FA '10), Gabe Wascher (FA '11), Austin Kopplin (FA '11), Nathaniel Stoll (FA '15) and myself (Joe Baldwin) (FA '14). The weather was absolutely beautiful (even with a very short downpour) and it was great to get out on the links with old friends

and fraternity brothers. Congrats to Bill, Kevin, Duane, and Luther on the victory this year!

After the final round, we all convened at the chapter house basement to enjoy some Papa Del's pizza and drinks. Everyone enjoyed catching up and reminiscing about their time in the house while also looking through old pictures and photo albums. Several alumni had not visited the chapter house in a very long time or since they lived there as active members and they were amazed at all the changes and improvements over the years. Our alumni Building Director Andrew Elders did a great job of leading a house tour and showcasing the recent tuckpointing around the house and major repairs to the moat. Overall, it was a fun and memorable day, and I look forward to organizing next year's event.





Dinner, socializing, and story-swapping back at the house.



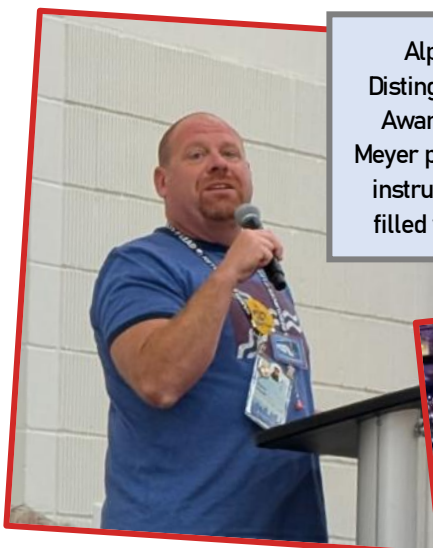
Beta Sigs Volunteer at LCMS Youth Gathering *(report written by Nathaniel Stoll)*

July 19-23, 20,000+ high school youth, youth leaders, volunteers, and staff came together in New Orleans for the 16th triennial LCMS Youth Gathering. Among those assembled were a cohort of Beta Sig actives and alumni! Our very own Steve Meyer was one of the main planners for the Youth Gathering, covering responsibility for running all the shuttles... not a small task by any means! Thanks to all the brothers who donated time to make the 2025 Youth Gathering such a special event!

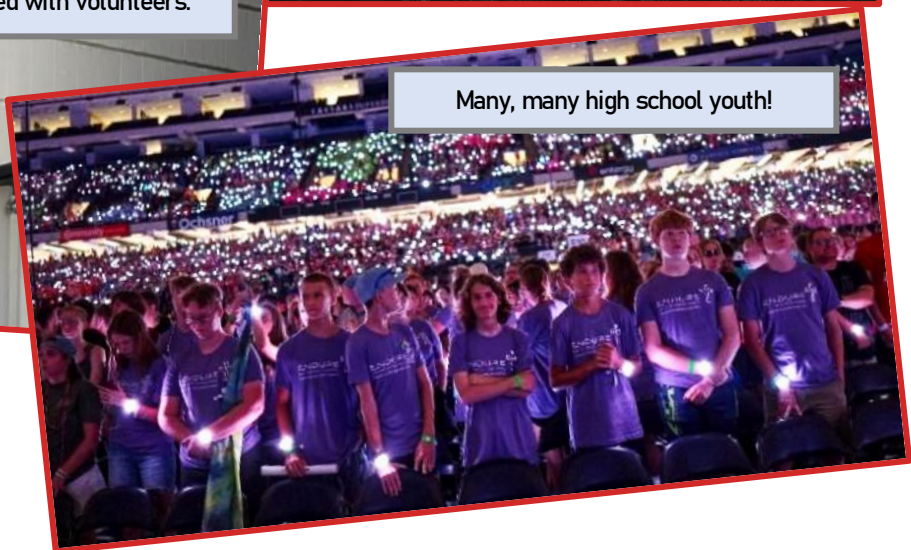
Beta Sigs volunteering at LCMS Youth Gathering. (Not pictured here is brother Kirk Meyer who was also there with his youth group.)



Alpha Alum and Distinguished Alumnus Award winner Steve Meyer providing shuttling instructions to a room filled with volunteers.



Many, many high school youth!



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

We had a great time at Busch Stadium on Saturday, July 26th, cheering on the Cardinals against the Padres! We powered through the St. Louis summer heat to enjoy a beautiful evening of baseball. While our beloved Cardinals put up a good fight, the Padres ultimately took home the win with a final score of 3-1. Despite the outcome, it was a fantastic night of camaraderie, good food, and great baseball. Thanks to everyone who came out and made it such a fun evening!

We're already looking forward to future St. Louis area alumni get-togethers. If you'd like to be included in future events, please reach out to Josh Baggett at joshbaggett35@gmail.com.



Incoming Freshmen *(report written by Carter Puracchio)*

Please join me in welcoming four incoming freshmen who have all signed housing contracts for the 2025-2026 school year and will be pledging Beta Sigma Psi this fall! If you have any recruiting leads, please contact our Rush Chairman, Drew Thurman (217-390-3262)!

Incoming Freshmen!

Fall
'25

SAMUEL BIRUDUGANTI

Major:
Computer Engineering
Hometown:
Naperville, IL



SAMUEL JOELLENBECK

Major:
LAS-Undeclared
Hometown:
Edwardsville, IL



SEBASTIAN GASINSKI

Major:
Accounting + Data Science
Hometown:
Oak Lawn, IL



MAX RICHARDSON

Major:
Biology
Hometown:
Carterville, IL



Wie geht's, Matt? Active Member Studies Abroad *(report written by Carter Puracchio)*

Matt Cole, who recently joined Beta Sig this past Spring (Spring 2025 pledge class), spent his summer over in Germany. He writes:



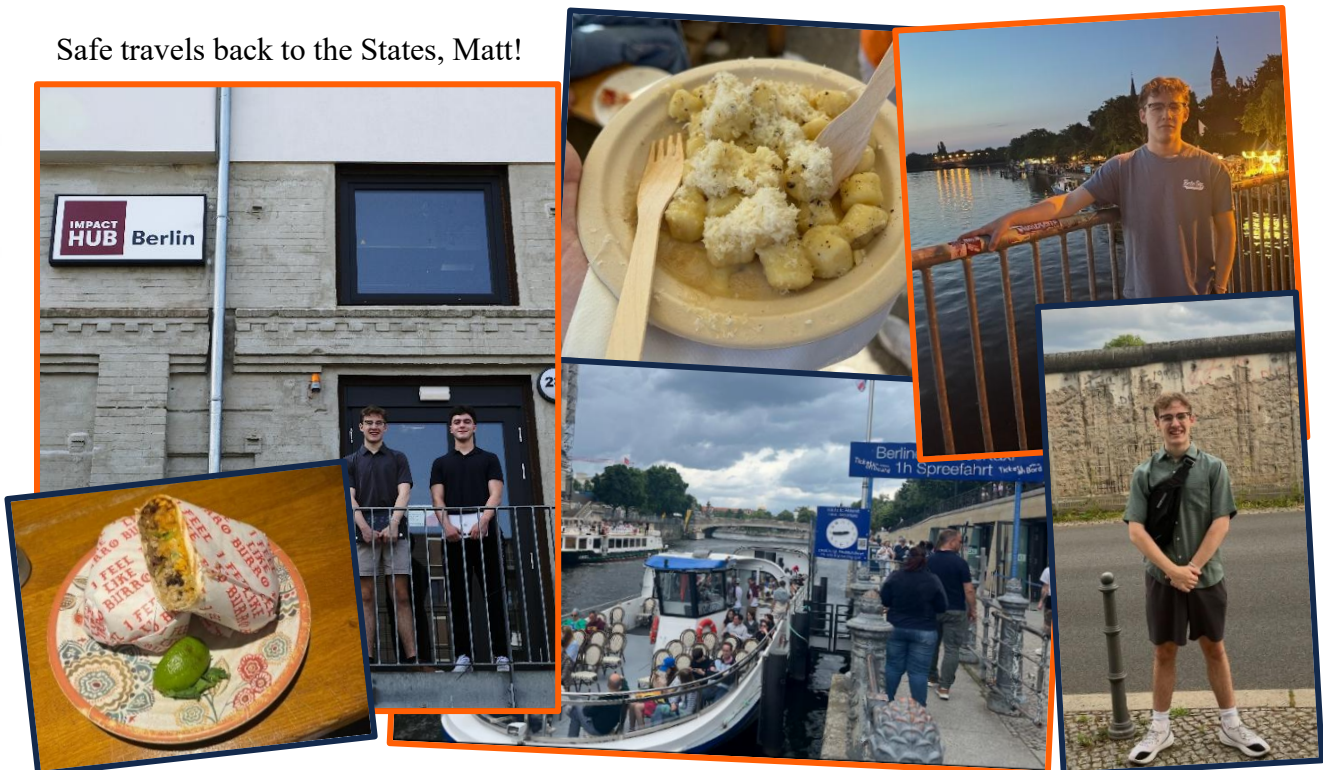
"This summer I am a Marketing and Partnerships intern at Impact Hub Berlin in Germany, where I'm getting the opportunity to help drive lead generation, improve the user experience, and help the company connect with startups in Europe, which is really going to help me in my effort to get an internship in Chicago next summer in either marketing or accounting. Outside of that though, I'm

getting my first international experiences by getting to tour the city and other parts of Europe with a cohort of other U.S. college students working at other internships, while also getting an exposure to the vibrant night life of the city too. So far, I've toured the Brandenburg Gate, taken a boat tour, gone to a couple different German night clubs, and gotten to try a bunch of different local foods like currywurst and döner.

I also plan on visiting Switzerland and Spain on the weekends before coming home.

Also to elaborate, impact hub isn't a typical company, it's a mediator co-working space that's primary goal is connecting small start-up businesses to established firms, and impact hub provides services within that to help grow and connect those kinds of businesses."

Safe travels back to the States, Matt!



Alumni Spotlight - Tim Foley

Year Graduated: 1997

Undergrad Major: English/ Teaching of English

Post-Grad: MFA in Creative Writing, M.Ed in Educational Leadership

Hometown: Lake Zurich, IL

Current Location: Hoffman Estates, IL

Current Employment: English teacher at Stevenson High School, Lincolnshire, IL [year 29?]

Family: Married, 4 kids--2 Boys, 2 Girls--2 Dogs

Church I'm attending: Messiah Lutheran in Wauconda

Recently I've Been Into: Coaching my sons' baseball teams.

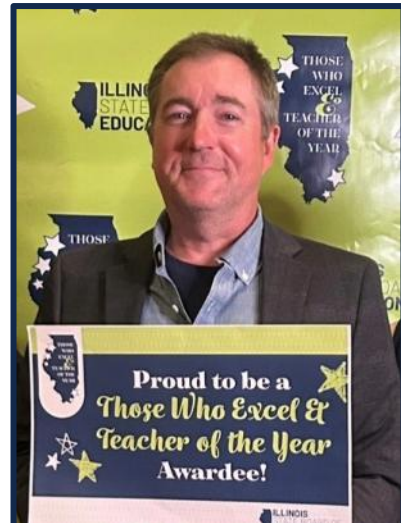
Most fond memory of Beta Sig: It's hard to pick a single one. There were so many great nights hanging out with my brothers, having conversations I still think about today. But the shower room full of hedge apples that the pledge class below me left during their walkout is something that still makes me laugh. I was also President, and addressing the alumni at Homecoming is also something I'm proud of. It was a great speech—IYKYK.

If you can recall, why did you join Beta Sig?: It was important to me to be among young men of character who shared similar values.

Why should young men join Beta Sig?: Develop brotherhood with those whose values align with yours, develop leadership skills, have an amazing college experience, socially, academically, and spiritually.

Who is someone you'd like to reconnect with/who should we spotlight next?: Tim Norsen, Mike Woolery, Todd Goebel, or Kyle Russell of the aforementioned pledge class.

How can people reconnect with you?: I'm on old person Facebook, or my school's web site has my contact info.



Alumni Spotlight - Michael Masny

Pledge Class: Fall 1964

Year Graduated: Spring 1971

Undergrad Major: Architecture

Post-Grad: No post-grad degree. Diverse studies in French, German, architectural history.

Hometown: Arlington Heights (Arlington High School 1964) + later Freeport, Illinois

Current Location: Gais, Switzerland (at eastern end of Switzerland near city of St. Gall, about 20 minutes from Austrian border, Swiss-German speaking region)

Current Employment: Now at almost 79, I retired at 70. I ran my own one-man architectural office, doing mostly new usage renovations and historical renovations.

Family: Married to Veronika (Swiss) for now 45 years.

Recently I've Been Into: Too much has happened and too many stories to tell here, but here is a "short" review of the past 50 years.

When I was a Beta Sig at the U of I, we still lived in the old house at 1004 W. Nevada. Pledge classes ran about 12-15 members. There were over 70 fraternities on campus and about half as many sororities. Trying to raise the fraternity GPA was one of the biggest concerns.

Jack of all trades and master of none:

After graduation, I went to France to teach English in a French Lycée (high school) for a year. Afterwards, I travelled and worked for several years in architectural offices in Germany, France and Switzerland before returning to the USA for 2 years to earn my architectural license in Minneapolis, MN. Then I returned to Switzerland, herded cattle in the Swiss Alps for 2 summers, married Veronika, worked as a carpenter for a year, then as a mason, and finally as an architect in a village in eastern Switzerland.

Passion: Winter mountaineering in the Alps: ski touring (we climb up to the peaks on skis, no ski lifts) and mountain climbing in the summer-autumn. Also enjoy bicycling (criss-crossed Europe from the Mediterranean to Nord Cap in Norway and from the Atlantic to Prague in the Czech Republic). And swimming in the Aegean Sea of Greece where I helped my Greek brother-in-law harvest his olives for over 20 years.



I have returned to the USA almost every year in the past few decades to visit my family but never made it back to the U of I campus. Now that my parents have passed away, I get back less frequently.

Most fond memory of Beta Sig:

- 1) Canoeing down the Kickapoo River with Steve Broquist, Bill Hartman, Larry Milan, and Steve Wilson (?)and maybe two others.
- 2) Dave Aschbacher's Homecoming "Arc de Triomphe" (1966?)

If you can recall, why did you join Beta Sig: Very effective, but warm and honest "razing" by Kelly Coleman, Terry Ernst, and Ron Haines during Rush Weekend for high school seniors in spring 1964.

Who is someone you'd like to reconnect with/who should we spotlight next: How about Ron Haines?

How can people reconnect with you: mike_masny@gmx.ch



Contact Us: Alumni Board

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815-601-0854
danross8@yahoo.com

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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>):

Dan Ross

1742 Oxford Street

Rockford, IL 61103



[illegible]