

THE BETA Pi

A PUBLICATION OF THE BETA THETA PI SOCIETY OF MINNESOTA

FALL 2017

Regarding the Tragedy at Penn State A Letter from Beta Pi's Chapter President

In June, the Beta Pi chapter president shared an important message with all alumni by email addressing the hazing tragedy at the Beta chapter at Penn State University. For those who didn't receive the email, we'd like to republish the letter in its entirety in this Piper.

Dear Brothers of the Beta Pi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi, I am writing this letter on behalf of the Beta Pi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi in the wake of the tragedy at Pennsylvania State University, which led to the death of Timothy Piazza. The chapter expresses our deepest condolences to the Piazza family, and send our thoughts and prayers.

Our chapter at the University of Minnesota has been around for nearly 128 continuous years, and we are proud of our rich history and legacy left by those who came before us. We are dedicated to carrying on this great tradition of developing principled men and furnishing lifelong friendships. In light of recent events, we feel it is necessary to be transparent with where our chapter stands on the issues facing Greek life today, such as hazing, the new member process, and substance abuse. We hope this examination of our chapter's culture will prevent such a tragedy from occurring at Beta Pi.

Unfortunately, hazing is still a pressing issue on campuses across the nation and it is no secret that hazing used to be part of the chapter culture

at Beta Pi. I want to be very clear—our chapter does not tolerate hazing in any form today and it is no longer a part of our chapter's culture. We hold our brothers accountable for exemplifying our fraternity's values and do not believe that it is necessary to tear down new members in order to build them up.

Parties and alcohol are a reality of college, in both Greek and non-Greek life. Recognizing this reality, we take our risk management policies very seriously. Our chapter is committed to creating a safe atmosphere for members and guests. These are not just words, but actions. We encourage one another to act responsibly while under the influence of alcohol, enable our risk management team, and strive to create a culture of accountability. Each year, we invite the Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education to facilitate bystander-training sessions to new and seasoned members. I am proud to share that Beta Pi has one of the strongest risk management policies on campus, and is always looking for new ways to better educate its members and enhance their safety.

Our chapter maintains high standards for education and initiation. We regularly evaluate our new member education program to ensure it remains engaging and relevant to campus culture and Greek life today. Our nine-week program covers a number of topics, including history and lore, risk management policies and member

expectations, and our core values of integrity, mutual aid and assistance, trust, cultivation of the intellect, and responsible personal conduct. We make it a point to reflect on past experiences where our chapter fell short in terms of living up to our fraternity's standards.

What happened at Beta Chapter is nothing short of a tragedy; one that incited grief and shock within the Greek community on a national scale. As each chapter reflects on their culture, it is Beta Pi's hope that we can work cohesively to prevent tragedies from occurring in the future. Our chapter is dedicated to personifying leadership at the University of Minnesota, and bringing about positive change to combat the negative realities of hazing and substance abuse, which are still present on college campuses.

I hope this letter sheds light on our chapter culture and our stance on these issues. Transparency, cooperation, and candid discussions are necessary for Beta Pi to be proactive in prevention. If you have any questions or would like to discuss the aforementioned topics further, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

In _kai_,
Evan Jobin '18
Chapter President
betapi1880@gmail.com
(651) 592-8394

Beta Pi Raises \$1,200 in Annual Donations

We are grateful to the following alumni who gave \$1,200 in the spring 2017 appeal of our annual giving campaign. The success and achievements of Beta Pi are directly attributed to the support and involvement of its members. The active brothers are grateful for and proud of the

donations they receive from alumni. Donations to the annual campaign are separate from the capital campaign, yet equally important for the ongoing success of Beta Pi.

If an error has been made in recording the amount of your gift(s), or we have mistakenly omitted your gift, we sincerely apologize. If corrections to your giving records are needed, please contact our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661. Thank you, again, for your loyal support.

Charles Cunningham '49	John Avery '64
Donald McGrath '55	William Laakso '69
Stanley Thompson '59	Paul Barber '84
Bruce Johnson '61	Travis Fischer '05

Want an easier way to give?
Visit www.betathetapisocietymn.org
to make your gift for our
annual campaign online today!



Do What You Love

Stanley Thompson '59 Offers Tips for a Prosperous Future

Beta Theta Pi entered the life of **Stanley Thompson '59** with impeccable timing. He was new to the University of Minnesota, and spent much of his time studying for his dual degree in biology and natural science. The brotherhood was robust with diverse membership and Stanley valued his exposure to people of varying backgrounds, beliefs, and ambitions.

Once he became an official member of Beta Pi chapter, Stanley realized just how significant the fraternity could be. He befriended **John "Jay" Enghausen II '59**, **William "Bill" Westerdahl '59**, and **Jon Albrightson '60**—men who remain fixtures in his life today. "Beta provided me with the opportunity to make new friends at a turning point in my life," Stanley shared. "Several Betas became my lifelong friends."

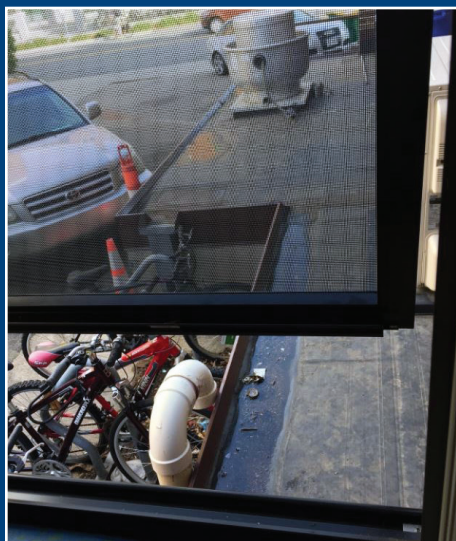
After completing his undergraduate studies, Stanley worked for the Pillsbury Company as a process control chemist, and other training-related jobs, in Los Angeles, California, from 1960-63. For nearly the next three decades, he was a

food broker, and served as Pillsbury's president in his final 25 years with the company. After becoming "burnt out" and dissatisfied with his work, Stanley left the company in 1991, doing startup work for several years before fully retiring in 2002.

Stanley's start up work was challenging and invigorating, with the highlight of his career being his trips to Moscow and Budapest, where he helped reestablish Rotary after it was banned for many years by the communist governments.



One of the best things you can do for your career and overall wellbeing, says Stanley, is to "do what you really love." He emphasizes the importance of being productive and giving back to the brotherhood, the community, and to causes that matter. No matter where his career took him and what surprises life presented, Stanley says that his time with Beta Pi will forever be the "best four years of my life." You can connect with Stanley at sat4880@gmail.com.



Enhancing Security and Paying Down Renovation Debt

For our alumni society and housing corporation volunteers, the two top priorities this year have been improving security and paying down the significant renovation costs incurred in 2016.

We are approaching an important loan deadline on December 31, which may be challenging to meet. The society needs to find approximately \$15,000 by December 31 to meet the deadline. Alumni Society volunteers are actively working to solve the funding gap.

Over the summer, new custom steel security screens were installed to the first-floor windows facing the parking lot. Due to the unique window sizes, wide ranges in costs/quality, and unique safety requirements of our chapter facility, we carefully evaluated many options. The new screens allows for emergency evacuations from bedrooms if needed, yet are difficult to penetrate from outdoors.

In October, we installed hinged and lockable security grates to protect the window wells around all sides of the property. They are expected to help prevent a potential fall by members or visitors.

Through both efforts, we hope to address areas of the facility that are most susceptible to theft or break-ins. The two initiatives cost approximately \$7,366, paid for by the Beta Theta Pi Society of Minnesota.

While continuing to pay down our mortgage and construction loans from the summer of 2016, the society currently has a debt level of \$664,795. We carefully manage our monthly cash flow to service debt payments on time.

Alumni donations to support these security enhancements and fulfill pledges for the *North Shall Increase* capital campaign are critical. Please consider making a gift to Beta Pi if you have the ability. Any and all donations are welcome and greatly appreciated. Tax-deductible options are available (please contact me for details).

We thank you for supporting Beta Pi.

In _kai_,

Branden Peterson '05

bp1681@gmail.com / (612) 963-2989



The fall 2017 initiate class enjoys fall formal at the Wisconsin Dells.



CULTIVATING BROTHERS' INTELLECT AND PHILANTHROPY

20 Make Dean's List; Chapter Fights Sexual Assault

Beta Pi at the University of Minnesota initiated 18 new members and recruited a pledge class of 10 in the first semester of 2017. We aimed for a pledge class of 20-25 new members in the fall, in hopes of bringing our chapter total to 80 men. Our tradition of academic excellence continues, and we earned a cumulative chapter GPA of 3.35 and saw 20 members make the dean's list in the spring. Member-led weekly literary society presentations cultivated brothers' intellect about new subjects outside of the classroom.

The Fight Against Sexual Assault

Our chapter co-hosted Purple RAINN with Alpha Chi Omega, a grill-out event to raise money and awareness for sexual assault. We took part in Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, another event designed to raise awareness for this cause. As a fraternity, we work actively to fight on-campus stigmas regarding sexual assault.



Brotherhood weekend in Chanhassen, Minn., included a traditional game of mafia.



David Bock '19, Logan Stucker '19, Vail Baumer '20, Robbie Stemler '20, and Eric Swenson '19 look dapper at Beta Pi's fall formal.

Supporting Critical Causes

We've worked closely with the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation this year. Brothers attended CFF's Tower Climb event and climbed 50 flights of stairs in the IDS Center to raise money for the foundation. The American Cancer Society and Relay for Life are two more organizations we lent our support to in 2017.

A Recap of Beta Pi Activities

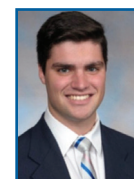
Beta Pi hosted a parent's dinner at Coffman Memorial Union and a summer alumni golf event at Keller Golf Course in St. Paul, Minnesota. Each event was a success and we intend to continue these traditions in the future. For Homecoming, we were paired with the

lovely women of Alpha Chi Omega, and with Alpha Omicron Pi and Alpha Epsilon Pi for Machy Days. The latter event was a week of festivities that included a first-place finish for our men in the annual volleyball tournament. In intramurals, flag football was the first sport of the fall semester, commencing just after the second week of classes at UM.

Thank You, Parents and Alumni

The active members would like to express gratitude to our alumni for their gifts and support, as well as keeping our chapter house in excellent shape post-renovation. We have taken measures to increase the security of the house by installing tamper-proof screens over the entry-level windows. We also thank parents of our members, who provided snacks for us during finals week. Additionally, donations allowed us to purchase three 27-inch monitors for studying use in the chapter house's technology room.

We appreciate the support we receive from alumni and parents, as it helps to substantially improve our undergraduate experience. We hope you are proud of the success we've achieved this year.



In _kai_,
Evan Jobin '18
Chapter President
(651) 592-8394
betapi1880@gmail.com



Fall Semester Booked with Events

Chapter Plans Holiday Alumni Dinner and Parents Day

I am proud to serve as the alumni relations chairman for Beta Pi this calendar year and would like to update you on past and upcoming events for our chapter.

Fall Semester and I-Week

Last fall, we welcomed an incredible group of young men to Beta Pi as members of our fall 2016 pledge program. In January, with their initiation, 16 new brothers joined our ranks. Several alumni turned out for the I-Week fireside chats. I would like to offer special thanks to **Jake Helms '07**, **Casey Kuenn '15**, **Brad Beauchene '15**, and **Wesley Sandholm '16** for their willingness to lend a hand in facilitating the I-Week rituals.

Beta Boys Take on South Padre and Colorado for Spring Break

In March, 18 Beta Pis ventured down to South Padre Island, Texas, for spring break, along with a few other Greek chapters on campus. We had the opportunity to meet other Beta Theta Pis from Texas Tech, Truman State, and Iowa State Universities, and **Mike Swenson '16** even joined us for the trip! It was a nice contrast to the hard work we've put into our coursework over the past academic year. Another group of members headed to the Rocky Mountains of Colorado for some hiking and held a mini-brotherhood weekend at the home of **Ty Leech '17**.

Upcoming Chapter Events

Beta Pi looks forward to several alumni events over the next year, including our annual spring alumni dinner in late April, alumni golf tournament in July, and the holiday alumni dinner in December. Stay tuned for more information regarding these events! Parents Day is April 1, so please reach out if you are interested in attending. We are excited for our spring formal, as well as a strong academic finish to the school year.

If you have any questions about past or future Beta Pi events, would like to talk discuss our chapter or discover ways to become involved, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or another chapter officer!



In_kai_,
Colin Emerson '18
Alumni Relations Chairman
(612) 867-4884
betapi1908@gmail.com



Welcome to the Brotherhood

Luke Ainsworth / Wayzata, Minn.

Matthew Berns / Altuna, Iowa

Jack Birmingham / Green Bay, Wis.

Aaron Blanchard / Prior Lake, Minn.

Zach Copa / Hancock, Minn.

Patrick Crowley / Milwaukee, Wis.

Easton Crupper / Olathe, Kan.

Jacques Frank-Loron / Verona, Wis.

Ben Garcia / Chicago, Ill.

Jake Gustin / Prior Lake, Minn.

Cam Hartwig / Osseo, Minn.

Tommy Neary / Owasso, Okla.

Sam Orth / Lino, Minn.

Ethan Pickering / Algonquin, Ill.

Carter Ridl / Fargo, N.D.

Trevor Schmaltz / Prior Lake, Minn.

Jake Smith / Minneapolis, Minn.

Joel Wilshire / Pittsburg, Pa.

Sikai Yang / Maple, Minn.

Jack Zutter / Prior Lake, Minn.

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Jonathan Giesler '18

Vice President of Risk Management
Malcolm Smith '18

Vice President of Finance
Max Restemayer '19

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Jake Woll '17, Ty Leech '17, Evan Jobin '18, Luka Pavlokis '20, Jonathan Giesler '18, and Andrew Park '18 at brotherhood weekend in Chanhassen, Minn.



Members get involved in Step Up for the Cure to support the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.



Brothers were happy to participate in Gamma Phi Beta's yoga exchange.



Our annual holiday season philanthropy event, Light the Row, drew a big crowd.

Driving the General Edward "Bede" Clapp '49 Remembered

Friendship gave our order birth. Who could ever forget the lyrics of our song, "There's a Scene?" Friendship and brotherhood have no bounds when it comes to age in Beta Theta Pi as "long as time shall last or earth shall have a day." For many years, a small group of Betas in the Twin Cities have held monthly luncheons. The General was a regular attendee. When the



General's health did not allow him to drive, I volunteered to pick him up and bring him to lunch. For the past year I had the honor and privilege driving the General to our monthly Beta luncheon held on the second Wednesday of every month at the Double Tree Hotel in St. Louis Park and to the 2016 holiday banquet at the Town and Country Club in St. Paul. These events gave him the opportunity to reconnect with his lifelong Beta brothers living in the Twin Cities. The General I'm referring to is Brigadier General **Edward "Bede" Clapp '49**. The General died peacefully at his North Oaks home at Waverly Gardens on July 26.

Born in St. Paul, Minn., on May 6, 1927, and initiated into BΘΠ on October 14, 1946, Bede was assigned Beta Pi roll number 0765. According to Bert Leach, he first met Bede 68 years ago in the fall of 1949 when he pledged the Beta Pi Chapter at the University of Minnesota. "The chapter was about 40 members and pledges. It was a great group and Bede was a standout classy member. He was tall, handsome, and very intelligent. He was a great pianist and choir director and a 1951 graduate of University of Minnesota Law School."

Bert recalled that, during the Korean war, he went through infantry basic training. The Army discovered that he was a lawyer and commissioned him in the JAG (Judge Advocate General) Corps. In Korea, he successfully defended a lieutenant who was accused of killing a prominent Korean civilian and got him off with only a short prison sentence rather than death or life imprisonment. *Time* magazine had a sarcastic article about the case entitled *Justice for the Lieutenant*.

After his Army active duty, he returned to St. Paul and resumed his practice of law and joined

the real estate firm of Clapp-Thomssen Company. He married a beauty queen, Betty Barnhart, the 1952 Aquatennial Queen of the Lakes. He remained in the Army Reserve and rose through the ranks and became a brigadier general USAR, JAG Corps in February 1977 and served as assistant judge advocate general for reserve affairs.

According to Bert, "Bede exemplified the principles of friendship and fidelity. He was faithful to God, his family and wife, BΘΠ, and his friends. At the centennial of Beta Pi Chapter in November of 1989, he was the Master of Ceremonies for the banquet. The wonderful friendship I had with Bede and my Beta brothers has made my membership in BΘΠ one of the best decision I ever made."

My cherished friendship with the General was incredibly memorable over the course of the past year. The two-hour driving time with the General each month was spent telling stories about our lifelong experiences as Betas. We shared many things in common, including the same initiation date, 24 years apart. We both shared a passion for American history. Every time we got together we had meaningful and in-depth discussions on the books we read, current events, love of music, the arts, our faith, shared values and family.

The General shared with me interesting local history. One story involved how his father influenced Henry Ford's decision to build his auto assembly plant in St. Paul over Minneapolis. Another included the origins of the current Minnesota Governor's Mansion and the role he and his beloved late wife Betty Barnhart Clapp played in making that happen. He and Betty were members of House of Hope Presbyterian Church and Patrons of the Arts, including the Saint Paul Opera Company, where he served as president.

My time with the General was one of the most unforgettable experiences of true Beta brotherhood. I will surely miss driving the General.

By **David W. Stiff, Indiana '77** and **Bert Leach '52**

ALUMNI UPDATE

OUR MYSTIC SHRINE

John R. Shirek '47 passed away on January 26 in Tallahassee, Fla., after a long, happy, and generous life. He is survived by his wife, Ruth, three children, and five grandchildren.

Robert "Bob" Harris '52 passed away on June 18, 2017 at the age of 87. He enjoyed a long career in real estate and financial services, and upon retirement, enjoyed his summers at Lake of the Woods and winters in Scottsdale, Ariz. Bob will be remembered as a loyal and proud husband, father, grandfather, and friend.

Sanford "Sandy" Loomis '52 passed away quietly on June 4 of natural causes. He spent his career working in the grain trade with several major firms, including 25 years on the trading floor of the Mpls Grain Exchange as a member and director. Sandy is survived by his wife and best friend of almost 63 years, Lois, three sons, one daughter, and four grandchildren.

Robert McKinlay '52 passed away on July 10, 2016 in Washington state. He worked for the YMCA for 20 years and was an active member of the American Camp Association, both locally and nationally. Bob is survived by his wife, Nan, three children, seven grandchildren, and two great grandchildren.

ALUMNI NEWS

Donald E. McGrath '55 and his family moved back to the St. Paul/Minneapolis metropolitan area in September 2017. In his spare time, Donald enjoys sailing and tennis.

Donald K. Holton '55 shares that, at the age of 86, he still plays tennis daily.

Floyd W. Hagen '60 invites his chapter brothers to join fellow Beta Pi members at the monthly alumni luncheon every second Wednesday of the month at Double Tree Restaurant in Minneapolis.

Sandford R. McDonald '60 reports that he has been unable to attend any recent Beta functions because of an eye condition that prevents him from driving.

Noah J. Reetz '14 is planning to move to Denver, Colo., for graduate school.

Website: betathetapisocietymn.org

Facebook: Beta Theta Pi - University of Minnesota; Beta Theta Pi Alumni - University of Minnesota

Twitter: @Beta_UMN

LinkedIn: Beta Theta Pi Alumni - University of Minnesota

THE BETA Pi

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Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Minnesota, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

ATTEND OUR HOLIDAY DINNER

Beta Holiday Dinner

December 12, 2017

The Town and Country Club

300 North Mississippi River Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55104

5 p.m.

Calling all Beta brothers and friends! You are invited to our annual holiday dinner at The Town and Country Club. Tickets are \$40 each. Social hour will begin at 5 p.m., followed by a formal dinner at 6:30 p.m., and then a short program. The event is an enjoyable gathering of Betas and loved ones every year and we hope you make an effort to join us! To sign up or for more information, please contact **Jordan Paladino '15** at (805) 630-5290 or at pala0098@umn.edu.

