

UPCOMING EVENTS

Homecoming Weekend

Oct. 26th-28th, 2007
PSU vs. OSU

Fri., Oct. 26

9 p.m., Wine and cheese reception at the house.

Sat., Oct. 27

Time & location TBD:
Tailgating.
8 p.m., game kickoff.

Sun., Oct. 28

9-10 a.m.: Alumni and undergraduate officers meeting at the house.
10 a.m.-noon: Brunch.

BETA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

President

David Lipson '65

dslipson@comcast.net

Treasurer

Kenneth Lehrer '83

ken.lehrer@verizon.net

Beta State Foundation

President

David Lipson '65

dslipson@comcast.net

Vice President

Marc Brownstein

marc@brownsteingroup.com

Treasurer

Kenneth Lehrer '83

ken.lehrer@verizon.net

Beta Sig NEWS



FALL 2007

HOUSING UPDATE

Beta Sigma Beta House Benefits from Renovations Ensuring Safety and Comfort for Undergraduates and Visiting Alumni

Updates to Hot Water and Heating Systems, Fire Sprinklers and Landscaping Make House More Competitive

Over these past few summers, Beta Sigma Beta has undergone significant renovations that will benefit Beta Sigma Beta for years to come. These renovations include: new indoor fire sprinklers, a new heating system, the boilers, and the outside landscaping.

The indoor fire sprinkler system was replaced last summer to ensure the safety of the undergraduates and to meet local fire safety requirements. It has been updated throughout the house.

The heating system also was replaced. The wing and first levels of the house were replaced with new and improved baseboard heating systems. The rest of the house was installed with a state-of-the-art, energy-efficient heating system. Each room on the second floor (minus the wing) and the third floor have individual units to

ensure comfortable temperatures during Happy Valley's frigid winters.

Along with this new heating system, new boilers were installed. Say goodbye to cold showers! These boilers provide the house with plenty of hot water, even during the 8-9 a.m. shower rush. Along with these interior

"All of these enhancements make Beta Sigma Beta an even more enjoyable place to live!"

improvements, the outside landscaping is going to be updated within the upcoming weeks. All of these enhancements make Beta Sigma Beta an even more enjoyable place to live!

HOMECOMING WEEKEND

2007 Beta Sig Homecoming Event Scheduled During Penn State Versus Ohio State Weekend Oct. 26th - 28th —All Alumni Invited!

Join Us to Reconnect with Past Friends and New Undergraduates

By Dan Otto, Vice Chancellor

I'd like to invite you back to 255 East Fairmount for our Homecoming Weekend. This year's alumni homecoming will be held during the Penn State vs. Ohio State weekend, Oct. 26th to 28th. There will be events on all three days (see the detailed schedule in the sidebar "Upcoming Events" in the sidebar on the the left).

If you haven't been to the house in a few years, this is the perfect time as it looks better than ever. Homecoming will give you a chance to reconnect with some of your pledge brothers, meet the undergraduates, enjoy a tailgate, and not to mention-the biggest game of the year. There will be no parking available at the house, but a municipal lot is located within a seven-minute walk.

For those of you who will be attending the Penn State game against Temple, there will be a Beta Sig tailgate as well. For more information

"For those of you who will be attending the Penn State game against Temple, there will be a Beta Sig tailgate as well."

on the tailgate at Lincoln Financial Field, e-mail **Rick Marks** (Rick.Marks@menasha.com) or **Jeff Licht** (Jeff.Licht@naimertz.com).

I look forward to seeing you soon.

CHAPTER REPORT

Full Social Calendar and Even Fuller Pledge Class Welcome Back Beta Sigma Beta Undergraduates to Newly Renovated House this Fall Semester

House Cumulative Grade Point Average Ranks Second Among Penn State Fraternities

By Adam Roseman, Chancellor

Beta Sigma Beta's annual homecoming is right around the corner. The weekend of the Ohio State football game (Oct. 27) hopefully will be a fun-filled weekend of tailgating, social functions, and a Penn State victory.

During that weekend we encourage all alumni and their families to stop by the Beta Sig house: attend the Sunday morning brunch, see the physical improvements to the house, and remember and relive your college years. In the past four years the house has had a makeover! The entire bottom floor has new tiling and two mounted, flat-screen televisions. Additionally, this summer, each room was installed with a new carpet and a new heating system that provides individual heat control.

Aside from the physical structure of the house, Beta Sigma Beta is excelling in all other areas of fraternal life. As of last

semester our cumulative grade point average (GPA) was 3.29, the second highest among fraternities; second only to Theta Chi, who has 32 members to our 81.

"I hope to see all of you at some point during the Beta Sigma Beta homecoming weekend Oct. 26th-28th at 255 E. Fairmount Ave."

Our social life has been phenomenal as well. We routinely have socials with sorority women and have created positive fraternal relations with numerous other fraternities. Furthermore, there already is excitement among the brotherhood about our upcoming

formals and, of course, Beta Sigma Beta's social highlight, the Hawaiian.

With two weeks left in rush we are beginning to narrow our list of "a few good men" to join Beta Sigma Beta. Our head rush chairmen, **Steven Davis**, is leading the charge and we expect to have a pledge class of between 20-25 men. Of those, we look forward to legacies such as Casey Lipson, Adam Pritzker, Max Zindel, Brandon and Zach Fox, and Dylan Kayser, along with other legacies to continue in their relatives' footsteps and join Beta Sigma Beta.

As you can see, with two weeks of rush remaining and an entire social calendar of fun and exciting times ahead, Beta Sigma Beta is off to a great start this semester. I hope to see all of you at some point during the Beta Sigma Beta homecoming weekend Oct. 26th-28th at 255 E. Fairmount Ave.

SPRING & FALL RUSH RESULTS

Fall Rush at Beta Sigma Beta House Nets As Many As 20 New Pledges, Seven of Which Are Legacies

High Level of Quality and Dedication Sought in New Members

By Steven Davis '09

Coming off the inductions of nine new Beta Sigs last spring, we are very optimistic of what's to come this fall. Last spring's inductees include: **Brian Friedrich '10, Mike Greenfield '10, Brian Harrington '10, Justin Lake '10, Max Mogil '10, Jarrett Radowitz '10, Andy Sieger '10, Chris Socie '10, and Matt Yohay '10.** We are happy to have them and excited to see what roles of leadership they will take in Beta Sig.

As our Bimmie numbers venture well into the 700s, we are looking for this spring's pledge class to fall around 18-20 new members. We are confident that we

will not only meet our recruitment goals this fall, but also make sure the pledges have the same quality and dedication

"Through successful recruitment, we will solidify a very promising future for our brotherhood."

established by Beta Sigma Beta in the past.

Legacies **Casey Lipson '11, Max Zindel '11, Adam Pritzker '11, Brandon**

Fox '11, Zach Fox '11, Philip Moses '11, and Dylan Kayser '11 are pledges beginning their college careers at Penn State. Through successful recruitment, we will solidify a very promising future for our brotherhood.

As always, we encourage alumni to provide us with the names of any potential future Bimmies that should be added to our fall rush list. Please feel free to call or e-mail me with suggestions (e-mail: sjd5028@psu.edu; phone: 240-988-8388).

ALUMNI UPDATES

'60s

David Lipson '65



(771 Eagle Farm Rd., Villanova, PA, 19085-2035, dslipson@comcast.net) David participated in the first ever Fantasy Football Bowl played by members of the Penn State and Notre Dame Fantasy Football teams on September 7, 2007.

'70s

Jeffery Hiller '72

(17 Poor Farm Rd., Pennington, NJ 08534-3802; jhiller46@aol.com) I have been appointed as advisory director to the Rock Ethics Institute of the College of Liberal Arts at Penn State.

Rob Kramer '78



(1007 Montana Ave. #323, Santa Monica, CA 90405) Beta Sigs pick the strangest places to

meet: Rob Kramer and his wife, Eileen, ran into **Gary Novick '79** and his wife, Joy, on the streets of Rome.

Neil Rudel '79

(612 Robertdale Dr., Duncansville, PA 16635-7524; scupe@aol.com) Congratulations to Neil, who has been named the Managing Editor of the Altoona Mirror. Fortunately for all followers of Penn State Football, Neil continues to cover the team and provide weekly insight on the squad to all of his loyal readers. Neil also celebrated his 50th birthday this summer, surprised not only by his favorite performer, Commander Cody, but also by Beta Sig **Rob Sykes '79**.

Gary "Swit" Silvers '79



(19 Exeter Ct., Holland, PA 18966-2907; gsilvers@phillyburbs.com) No matter where you go, there is a Beta Sig! Fall '75 pledge brothers, Gary "Swit" Silvers and **Avraham Sheinman '79** (we knew him as Allan or "Beak"), recently reconnected during the Silvers' family trip to Israel, where Avraham has been living since leaving Penn State. Those traveling to Israel should reach out to Avraham, who can be reached at sheinman@012.net.il.

'80s

Jeff Dittus '88

(jdittus@mediabay.com) Young Jakob Dittus was born January 6, 2005 and is already a Nittany Lion fan. Stefanie and I live in Penns Valley and have been back in the states for five years since returning from our travels in New Zealand. I am currently running a company named MediaBay, and am deeply engaged in trying to turn it around. We now sell downloadable audio books of classic radio shows on websites like MSN, Real, Yahoo!, and Soundsgood. Mail-order is very '90s and everyone should get into downloading. Pick, click and listen at Soundsgood.com.

'90s

Jason Hersh '96

(1455 N. Spring Hill Dr., Maple Glen, PA 19002; jhersh@mrwg.com) I am very happily married to Jaime and we have twins. I am the managing partner at a pharmaceuticals and technology executive search firm called Management Recruiters of Willow Grove.

'00s

Jason Kalmus '05

I only hear good things, which makes me happy that the house has been in a great direction for the past two years. I'm working at Smith Barney as a sales assistant, which is going well, and I just moved into New York City. I look forward to seeing everyone at Homecoming. I will be bringing a check for my alumni dues, and encourage others to do the same.

What's New With You?

Your submissions are needed for future issues of *Beta Sig News*. Do you know of a brother that would be a great candidate for a profile in our next newsletter? Do you have exciting news to share with the brotherhood? Please email all profile nominations and alumni updates to content@affinityconnection.com.

Alumni updates can include any of the following:

- Recent events in your personal life (engagements, weddings, babies, etc)
- Recent promotions or accomplishments at work
- What have you done since college?
- Are there any brothers that you were recently reunited with or would like to reconnect with?

INCOMING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Incoming Beta Alumni Association President Addresses Undergraduates' Parents Regarding His Strict Upholding of Behavioral Expectations

Reprint of Mailing Reminds Everyone of Commitment to Excellence

Below is a reprint of a letter sent to the undergraduates' parents from David Lipson '65, the incoming president of the Beta Alumni Association. For those of you who don't know David, he has held a variety of alumni association positions over a long period of time, including having served as president once before. He has consented to a one-year term in office with some very narrow objectives focused on making the undergraduate fraternity experience fun and SAFE. David's challenges include, but are not limited to, completely eliminating "hazing" during pledging and eliminating property damage.

David is currently the president of the Beta State Foundation, which had granted \$10,000 of scholarships annually to members of the undergraduate chapter for academic excellence or outstanding leadership through example. David has been in the information technology business since 1968. He is the CEO and chairman of MODA Technology Partners, a software firm selling into the biopharmaceutical marketplace, and he is chairman of the board of Vita Food Products (the nationwide leader in herring).

Unquestionably, David Lipson is the epitome of what Beta Sig is about, and, in its history, he stands out as the most important contributor... not just of money, but of time. David has agreed to step in to take the alumni president role, again, because no other alumnus was willing to step up and manage the brotherhood's high-risk behavior.

Dear Beta Sig Parents:

My name is David Lipson and I am a 1965 graduate of Penn State and a member of the Beta Alumni Association (BAA). On September 1, 2007, I will become the president of the BAA and will have the responsibility for the undergraduate chapter at 255 E. Fairmount Ave. in State College. I have always loved Beta Sig. When I was a pledge, my dad had multiple, serious operations and 27 brothers donated blood (and caused a significant disruption in the basement level of Chestnut Hill Hospital). I knew then that Beta Sig was to be an important part of my life. When I was re-married six-and-a-half years ago, there were 17 Beta Sigs from seven different graduating classes at my wedding. My very best friends are my brothers and most did not graduate with me. If you ask around, you will find that I have consistently been a part of "our thing" for 40+ years.

I have accepted the responsibility of this position for one year. I have a very narrow set of objectives and hope you will support me in achieving them.

I would have liked to tell you that my first objective would be to maintain the fraternity's legacy of outstanding academic achievement. Additionally, I would have liked to have you support me in continuing the fraternity's leadership in philanthropic activities (Thon and CAN). Finally, I would have asked for

your help ensuring our kids get the maximum benefits from the undergraduate fraternity experience at PSU (that would include social activities). But, given our selection criteria, our history, our tradition, and the processes now in place, I have a strong feeling that those goals will be achieved even with the most modest support and guidance from the BAA and similar input from our parents.

"Where I really need your help is in the reduction of high-risk behavior."

Where I really need your help is in the reduction of high-risk behavior. I am not ready to receive the telephone call from the Centre Area Hospital that one of our children is seriously hurt or worse. Since I expect my son to be a pledge, the contemplation of such a call is an anathema. During 2006-2007 we have experienced multiple incidents of destruction of personal property and damage to the physical structure (while intoxicated). We had two members admitted to the ER (while intoxicated). Last year, sons and daughters of alumni (who have donated their time and money to ensure a quality experience for your children) were intimidated, hazed and verbally abused. Last year the quantity of alcoholic beverages consumed per brother

was far beyond your capacity to understand and accept.

Even though the University is facing similar challenges throughout the Greek system, we cannot let this behavior continue at Beta Sig. If we cannot modify this behavior, we may be forced to close a fraternity whose 90+ years of history are filled with excellence in academics, athletics, philanthropy, student government and candidly, fantastic social activities. We will close a facility and organization that your children will tell you they love.

As a parent, an alumnus and as the person who does not want to get "the call," here is where I am: My "job" is to ensure the safety of our children. To achieve that single goal, I am going to implement the following:

1. If your son is involved in hazing (physically or verbally) of pledges, he will be immediately disaffiliated from the fraternity and expelled from the structure within 24 hours. If your son observes hazing and does not intercede, he will be disaffiliated and expelled from the fraternity within 24 hours. If your son is aware of hazing and does not report it to the BAA, he will be disaffiliated and expelled. **Simply stated, anyone who directly participates, observes and**

(continued on page 5)

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Success Continues, Challenges Remain: Alumni Association President, Eisman, Rings out His Tenure by Listing Past Achievements and Enforcing Future Goals

Urges Alumni to Continue Requiring High Level Responsibility from Undergraduates

By Rob Eisman '79, President Emeritus (reisman@unionfin.com)

As I leave the helm of the Beta Alumni Association, Beta Sig stands in a great place physically and financially. Improvements, including completely new heating, domestic hot water, fire safety and sprinkler systems allow our brotherhood to live comfortably and safely at 255 East Fairmount Avenue for years to come. Although I can cite multiple achievements and improvements that I directed, most women remind me that my legacy as president was highlighted by the construction of a proper multiple-stall ladies bathroom on our first floor!

In the past three years, I am proud that Beta Sig re-established itself as a campus and community leader. Years after our last Sy Barash Regatta, our brotherhood regained prominence by creating the "We are... Curing Autism Now" fundraiser to benefit Cure Autism Now/Autism Speaks. In just two years, Beta Sig brothers and alumni broke all single fraternity fundraising records, while creating a platform that will be carried to other universities across America. Kudos to **Adam Dorfman '07** and **Andrew**

Moses '07 for working tirelessly to create this event from scratch and ensure its future success. The CAN/AS event was the foundation of Beta Sig's two consecutive Chapter of Excellence awards, an honor earned by only three of the more than fifty fraternities at Penn State.

"I encourage all of you to consider contributing at some level or getting involved in some way so that Beta Sig will continue to prosper."

Our alumni leadership set guidelines for the undergraduates that were mindful of our primary goal, which is to foster a healthy and safe environment while still allowing them to enjoy their time as Beta Sig undergraduates, just as we did. I am proud that Beta Sig has faced societal challenges head on and, under **David Lipson's '68** leadership, Beta Sig will

continue to do so by providing education and training to our members. As adult managers, the alumni must continually challenge our undergraduates to manage themselves responsibly and require each of them to be accountable for their actions.

I must thank all of my fellow board members for their assistance and support in making the necessary physical and policy changes at the house, often in the faces of great resistance. Equally as important, very special thanks to all who followed my lead by contributing at least \$25,000 to the Beta State Foundation for making the physical improvements needed to preserve the Beta Sig House: the "Grossman Family" (**Richard '54, Alan '58 and Andy '90**), **David Lipson, David Rosenberg '74, Bruce Grossman '79 and Simon Ziff '87** and, most importantly, **Stuart Levin '71**, who was the first alumnus to step up and commit to this project. I encourage all of you to consider contributing at some level or getting involved in some way so that Beta Sig will continue to prosper.

Incoming President's Report, cont. from page 4

does not intercede, or observes and does not report the incident will be reported to the Township authorities and the University Office Judicial Affairs.

As you may know, hazing is a violation of State College, University and BAA rules and regulations and Commonwealth statutes. Hazing is a level three misdemeanor, punishable by fine, incarceration or both.

2. If your son is involved in destruction of personal property or the physical structure, he will be subject to the "one strike and you're out" rule. Damages will be assessed against the House Repair and

Activity Fund and the offender will be reported to the police and the University Office of Judicial Affairs. He will be disaffiliated and expelled within 24 hours.

3. If your son is involved with intimidating a child of a current or past alumni officer or board member, he will be disaffiliated and expelled within 24 hours and considered to have been involved with hazing. The State College Police and the University will be notified.

If you did not know it, in 2005, 1700 college students were involved in alcohol-related deaths. Some 500,000 students were involved in non-life threatening, alcohol-

related, injuries. There were approximately 34,000 alcohol-related sexual assaults. These are real statistics, with real kids and real parents.

If you believe I have missed the point of my responsibilities, please e-mail me. I can assure you that I am dedicated to ensuring your son has a safe, fun and academically challenging experience at Penn State and Beta Sig.

Kind regards,
David S. Lipson
dslipson@comcast.net

Second Annual Beta Sigma Beta Fundraiser for Autism, "We Are... Curing Autism Now 5K Race/3K Walk," Proves to Be Huge Philanthropic Success in 2007

Community Involvement and Online Auction Contribute to Doubling Total from 2006

By Andrew Moses '07 (andrewhmoses@gmail.com, 732-742-0630) and Adam Dorfman '07 (adam.r.dorfman@gmail.com, 610-637-1162)

Beta Sig continues its reign atop the philanthropy scene at Penn State with another record-breaking philanthropic effort. On April 14, 2007, Beta Sig, along with our sorority partner Pi Beta Phi, coordinated and hosted the 2nd annual "We Are... Curing Autism Now 5K Race/3K Walk."

In 2007, we welcomed over 750 participants to the event and raised over \$201,000 for the Cure Autism Now/Autism Speaks Foundation (CAN/AS). This total shattered the event's 2006 total of \$91,000.

In the weeks preceding the event, Beta Sig captured the community's attention about this worthy cause. Through our media partnership with Magnum Broadcasting, hundreds of radio commercials aired advertisements for the event to the public. In the week prior to the event, the event's coordinators appeared on

radio talk shows promoting the event.

Steve Jones, the radio voice of Penn State athletics, was on-hand again as the honorary emcee of the event. Also in attendance as a celebrity grand marshal was Steve Smear, captain of the 1968 Penn State football team. Smear has an autistic son and proudly got involved in our effort.

The members of Beta Sig marked the start of the event with a kickoff celebration at the fraternity house on April 13th. Joan and William Schreyer, the same individuals who endowed the Schreyer's Honors College at Penn State, sponsored the kickoff celebration. Beta Sig welcomed parents, alumni, and distinguished guests to all of the festivities as the event coincided with Beta Sig's Parents' Weekend.

The event also featured an online auction with once-in-a-lifetime fantasy

experiences, Penn State football tickets, and unique sports memorabilia up for bid. Four of Penn State's football coaches, including Tom Bradley (Defensive Coordinator), Bill Kenney (offensive tackles and ends), and Larry Johnson Sr. (Defensive Line Coach), auctioned off dinners with themselves to support our event and raised thousands of dollars.

Another exciting auction item included seats for two in University President Graham Spanier's luxury suite for a Penn State football game and invitations to the president's tailgate. All of the items were available online to a national audience in the days leading up to and following April 14th. Be sure to check out www.psucureautismnow.org now and throughout the year for information about the 2008 event.



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