

2018 SCHEDULE

2018 Penn State Football!



See you at Beaver Stadium!

9/1 Appalachian State – 3:30 PM

9/8 at Pittsburgh – 8 PM

9/15 Kent State – 12 PM
****Beta Sig Homecoming**

9/22 at Illinois – 9 PM

9/29 Ohio State – TBD
(Whiteout)

10/13 Michigan State – TBD**
Homecoming and Stripeout

10/20 at Indiana – TBD

10/27 Iowa – TBD

11/3 at Michigan – TBD

11/10 Wisconsin – TBD

11/17 at Rutgers – TBD

11/24 Maryland – TBD

12/1 Big Ten Championship Game (Lucas Oil Stadium, Indianapolis, IN)

WE ARE!



Beta Sigs Attend NIT Championship Game

From L-R are Beta Sigs in New York for the big Nittany Lion win:

David Minkoff '81, Steve Glass '81, Rick Marks '80 and Jeff Licht '81

Beta Sig *NEWS*



Summer 2018

WELCOME!

2018 New Members and Their Hometowns Are as Follows:

Adam Berkowitz	Springfield, NJ	David Madril	Coral Gables, FL
Jake Blumberg	Potomac, MD	Benjamin Marcus	Scarsdale, NY
Ross Cantor	Potomac, MD	Jared Markowitz	Morganville, NJ
Jacob Chinn	Dresher, PA	Salvatore Morreale	Morganville, NJ
Nicholas Cotugno	Livingston, NJ	Kioni Nedd	Wheatley Heights, NY
Brad Davis	Great Neck, NY	Matthew Portner	Ambler, PA
Cameron de Oliveira	Los Angeles, CA	Alex Ranck	Potomac, MD
Justin Endlich	Rye Brook, NY	Eric Schwarz	Huntingdon Valley, PA
Eric Fidler	Great Neck, NY	Noah Shalit	Cherry Hill, NJ
Joshua Flicker	Tenafly, NJ	Dean Spitz	Gaithersburg, MD
Jakob Gerschwer	Jericho, NY	Ian Stern	North Miami, FL
Tyler Goldman	Lafayette Hill, PA	Noah Twersky	Lower Gwynedd, PA
Corey Goldstein	Manalapan, NJ	Evan Weinstock	West Hartford, CT
Sean Hannegan	Bethesda, MD		
Remington Kessler	Lafayette Hill, PA		
Matthew Kodish	Blue Bell, PA		
Drew Krause	Furlong, PA		
Drew Liss	Potomac, MD		
Parker Lucas	Jeannette, PA		
Matt Lustig	Philadelphia, PA		



AWARDS

Alum Receives Prestigious Hardware

This past fall (Friday, September 1, before the Akron game), **Stanley Jacobs '49**, received his crystal from Dean Chuck Whiteman of the Smeal College of Business, for his induction into the Mt. Nittany Society. Stan has a Charitable Gift Annuity that will fund a Chair at Smeal.



CHAPTER NEWS

The State of Beta Sig

By David Minkoff '81



Well, I got through my first year as alumni association president unscathed... for the most part. The semester started off nicely with a full brotherhood meeting held at the Hyatt Place with guest speakers Bob Jubelirer '59 and Rich Bundy '93. Bob approached Grand Chancellor Emeritus, Moss Walden '83, over the summer with the idea, hoping that "words of wisdom" from a member of the Board of Trustees and Penn State's Vice President of Development and Alumni Relations would deter the undergrads from doing anything stupid and harming the reputation of Beta Sig. Bob and Rich were well-received and the evening was very positive. Unfortunately, a week later, some of the officers did not let the social checkers in the house on two consecutive nights which is one of the new policies of Greek Life Reform. Fortunately, our ensuing meeting with Student Conduct went fairly well and we were only placed on "probation" for the remainder of the school year. Since no fraternities were permitted to have parties or socials with beer and/or wine until early November (assuming all trainings and educational programs were completed), social probation wasn't even a sanction.

When November finally came, our guys decided to keep their parties dry anyway.

Regarding rush and pledging in the fall, if you didn't know, another one of the University reforms is to limit fall new member activities to students who have completed 14 credits and attained a 2.5 GPA or better. This basically eliminates freshmen, unless they pack in a lot of classes during the summer or started school the previous spring. Therefore, Beta Sig did not have a fall class (similar to most fraternities) since we didn't get much interest from sophomores. We did, however, win the IM football championship behind the quarterbacking of sophomore Jorge Avila from Panama (second brother from the country)! Also, instead of having the traditional fall events - Maze Craze and Hawaiian - and risk getting caught having a party with alcohol, the guys took an end-of-semester dated trip to Toronto!

Spring semester 2018 got off to a good start. The undergrads took all required trainings, attended the mandatory programs and submitted the required risk management plan, which allowed them to have ten parties/socials with beer and wine. Remember, the house was just on probation, not social probation. Spring rush was very successful producing a New Member class of 33, all of which completed the six-week (give or take a few days) program. See the list of their names and home towns elsewhere in this newsletter.

The highlight of the spring for me was when I learned that Beta Sig was invited to the Greek Column Awards ceremony. As part of the 2017 Standards of Excellence for Fraternities, we "met standards" in Academics and Membership Development, but "exceeded standards" in Civic Engagement and Community Relationships!

We were the only fraternity to earn two out of four "Exceeds Standards." Furthermore, Beta Sig was recognized for increasing its Chapter GPA from 3.07 in the spring of 2017 to 3.24 in the fall of 2017. The semester culminated with our annual Parents Weekend (a huge success despite being restricted to beer and wine and Mas Tequila Orchestra not being available) and the 13th Autism Speaks U 5K Race/3K Walk on an unusually warm and sunny day which raised just under \$40,000. The brothers then finished out their social calendar with a new event called "Bimmie Masters," (a play on the Masters golf tournament) and the return of the Hawaiian.

This summer, the house will undergo its normal cleaning and repair work, but the big project will be a remodel of the third floor shower room to include removing the urinal and installing a toilet and sink. New vinyl siding will also replace damaged wood siding on the upper areas of the wing, and the key fob system will be upgraded as well.

Please mark your calendars, if you haven't done so already, for Beta Sig Homecoming 2018, which will be held September 14th to 16th (Kent State Weekend). Mas Tequila Orchestra will be "in the house." A registration form is included with this newsletter. The Founders' Award dinner did not take place this past spring, but it will return either later in the fall or next spring.

Finally, if you have any questions about Beta Sig and/or what's happening with Greek Life at Penn State, or if you know of any legacies that are freshmen this coming school year, please contact me at dminkoff41@gmail.com.

Thanks, and have a great summer.
Fraternally,
Mink

OBITUARIES

Beta Sig recently lost the following Brothers. We mourn their passing and our thoughts are with their friends and families. They will be remembered as great men of Beta Sig.

Gerald Gushner '51

Former Boyd's owner Gerald "Gerry" Gushner, who transformed his family's

Philadelphia store into an iconic destination for upscale clothing, died Dec. 17 at the age of 86 from respiratory complications.

Gushner joined the business started by his father Alexander Gushner in 1938 after his graduation from Pennsylvania State University in 1952, beginning in sales. By the mid-1960s, he was its president and co-owner. Son Kent Gushner, who now co-owns the store

with his two brothers-in-law, said his father implemented numerous changes over time as the store evolved from its roots on Market Street, where it featured modestly priced clothing.

By the 1970s, Boyd's began offering European designer clothing, while adding valet parking and a second floor for high-end designer suits. The store moved in the 1990s

to its current 1818 Chestnut St. location and continued morphing into an upscale store for both men's and women's clothing.

"If it is true that at the core of most successful family businesses lies a person of extreme passion, vision, commitment and focus — my dad could have been a poster child for making this case," Kent Gushner said in his eulogy. "Some might call it obsession — and they would probably be right. Boyd's provided a forum for my dad to express him (oftentimes too literally) and the qualities that he possessed in most visceral way."

"He built something special and he lived it breathed it to the best of his abilities right up to his last days. ... He truly loved it, it kept him alive and he couldn't imagine living without it."



Gerald Gushner '51

Gerald Gushner was featured in a Jan. 7, 1999 Jewish Exponent article about suburban empty nesters moving back into the city. At the age of 68, he moved from Penn Valley to Rittenhouse Square.

"My life is more exciting now, more active," he said in the article. "We're doing more things. It's been a lift in my attitude toward daily living."

Kent Gushner said that attitude stayed with his father throughout his life.

"He identified with the city in a way that exceeded how most people would identify," he said, noting that his father enjoyed the renaissance of Center City in recent years. "He relished that."

Aside from his son, Gerald Gushner is survived by two daughters, Cindy Yaffe and Lisa Glass; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. Nadine Gushner, his wife of 60 years, passed away in 2012.

Jon Fox '69

Jon D. Fox, 70, of Abington, a former congressman, state representative, and county commissioner in the Philadelphia suburbs, died from complications associated with cancer at his home on Sunday, Feb. 11, his family said.

Friends and colleagues remembered Jon

as an outgoing and nontraditional politician who left an indelible mark on Montgomery County.



Jon Fox '69

"He was a legendary political figure in Montgomery County for decades. I'm 56 years old, and when I was a child, he was a major force," said Bruce L. Castor Jr., a Montgomery County commissioner from 2008 to 2016 and district attorney before that. "Jon devoted his entire life to public service, and Montgomery County is the better for it."

Jon, a Republican, represented Pennsylvania's 13th District from 1995 to 1999. He was part of the "Republican Revolution," in which the GOP took control of both the House and Senate in the 1994 election for the first time in four decades. In 1998, Jon voted in favor of all four articles of impeachment against President Bill Clinton.

Jon was also a member of the Montgomery County Board of Commissioners between 1992 and 1994, and the Pennsylvania State House from 1985 to 1992. Before that, he worked as an assistant district attorney and served in the Air Force.

Jon's brother, Larry, said his policy achievements included helping to create a health department in Montgomery County, which was formally established in a 1989 voter referendum, and blocking GOP cuts to the legal services corporation.

"It was really a profile-in-courage moment," said Larry Fox of his brother's support for legal aid for the poor. "If he hadn't come forward and gotten a few other Republicans to support it, it would have been ended. ... He viewed government as part of the solution."

Jon was a graduate of Cheltenham High School, Pennsylvania State University, and the Delaware School of Law. A close friend said Jon's favorite bumper sticker was an homage

to his alma mater: "If God's not a Penn State fan," it read, "why is the sky blue and white?"

Jon is survived by his wife, Judi; son Will; and two siblings.

Donald Brett '64

Don passed away April 18, 2018. He was a resident of Altoona, Pennsylvania, and Boynton Beach, Florida, at the time of his passing.

Don was Bob Jubelirer's first cousin and was the owner and president of the family business - women's clothing retailer, Meyer Jonasson, a pillar of downtown Altoona. After his father's death, Don continued to own and operate the downtown store and expanded to two more stores in the coming years. The store closed when Don retired in 2007. He sold the building to Penn State Altoona, and in 2011, it opened as the Sheetz Center for Entrepreneurial Excellence.

Edwin Goldenberg '56

Ed passed away June 16, 2018. He was a resident of Wynewood, Pa and former owner of Royal Petroleum Co.

A former resident of Gladwyne, Pa, Ed was one of the most loving, loyal, and generous men on the planet. He loved Saturday golf games at White Manor and Meadowlands Country Clubs, where he played for Snickers bars. He attended Penn State University, where he was a member of Beta Sigma Rho. An Eagles fan for over 60 years, he also made life better for all those around him. Contributions in his memory can be made to the Variety Club or the Alzheimer's Association.



Edwin Goldenberg '56

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

90's Grad Stays in Touch With Social Media

Ian Drossner '95 found Beta Sigma Beta as a freshman, when a sophomore friend introduced him to some of the brothers. "As a naïve freshman, they all looked like they were always having a great time and were all good friends with each other!" he says.

He describes his four years in Beta Sig as "amazing," and he wouldn't exchange the friends and experiences for anything.

Of course, with so many people living under one roof, there was always something going on. "Who could forget all of the late nights hanging on the second floor after the real party ended? Regatta with Blues Traveler, raiding the kitchen late night and eating all of the following weeks food at 3 a.m., Fall '91 graduation bar tour...don't mess with us!" Drossner recalls.

After graduation, he went into the family business, Barclay Caterers. The company is currently celebrating its 50th year in business and is still going strong as the largest Kosher caterer in Philadelphia. Drossner says if



anyone in the area is needing a caterer, give him a call!

In his personal life, Drossner has been married to his wife, Sheri, for 13 years, and has two children, Ethan (11) and Gabrielle (7). The family tries to make it back to Penn State for a football game every year, and this season caught Penn State's huge win against Maryland. Currently, they're looking forward to a trip to Disney World in March with Drossner's brother Michael '94 and his family. He is also preparing for his son's upcoming Bar Mitzvah – "at least I know a caterer!"

He still keeps in touch with a handful of his brothers. "It's easy now with Facebook, to see everyone's family and what they are up to. Our pledge class tries to all get together every now and then to have a night on the town."

Those friendships are one of the main impacts Drossner took away from Beta Sig. "I think that one of the main things I learned at Beta Sig is how far friendships can take you. You build such strong bonds with people when you live with them year-round, that I know if I needed a favor from any of my boys they would be there for me in an instant," he says.

"That art of creating friendships is a huge part of my life now, especially in business. I try to become as close to my customers as possible so they know they are going to have a great experience both planning and experiencing their child's Mitzvah or wedding."

TESTIMONIAL

How Beta Sig Changed The Life Of an Alum

"Beta Sig, to me, was a life-changing event," says **David Richin '70**.

Like most other freshmen, David found things a bit overwhelming at first. But the camaraderie he found through Beta Sigma Beta changed everything, and it has stayed with him his entire life since.

David first joined Beta Sig along with his best friend, **Jeffrey "Ike" Eisenstat '70**. Soon he had plenty more people to call his closest friends. "You really did become like brothers," he says.

The biggest game-changer for David, however, was serving as Chancellor of the fraternity.

"You learn so much about people that you can't learn in a textbook," he says of his time as Chancellor. "That really affected me positively—leadership, how to get along with people, negotiating. It was an amazing experience."

Many of the experiences and skills that David gained at Beta Sig would very much come in handy down the road. He went on to attend law school at American University, then completed his clerkship with a judge in the Superior Court of the District of

Columbia before beginning his own law practice in Silver Spring, Maryland. After 40 years of practicing law, he is now happy to say that he's retired. And still today, he has never lost touch with his Beta Sig brothers.

"It's kind of amazing how things turned out, because my best friends today are still my brothers," David says, "which is pretty special, to think that relationships would last that long."

David still goes on yearly trips with Ike and **Larry "Spider" Silverman '70**, and together they're known as "the three amigos." He also visits Penn State for a game every year with a group of brothers, while **Fred Hurvitz '69** (David's big brother) hosts them for the weekend. And most recently, David is looking forward to **Alan Greenbaum '70** and his wife coming to visit him and **Dave Callet '70** for a weekend soon.

"We keep the torch burning," David says. "We go out of our way to see each other."

Today, David lives in Rockville, Maryland and is happy to be enjoying the retired life. He is very close with his family, and his daughter Alissa—a Penn State grad—lives close by with her husband and children, Jacob



(5) and Austin (18 months). In his spare time, he likes to stay active by playing golf and working out. He also continues to generously support Beta Sigma Beta as he has for years, and is proud of the undergrads for the effort they put forth for causes like Autism Speaks and THON. It's clear that David will always be a loyal Beta Sig.

"I think I owe so much to Beta Sig," says David. "I got a lot more out of it than I could ever pay back in. It's been an amazing run, and I'm very thankful today."