

HOMECOMING 2017

You're Invited!

Friday, October 13- Noon

Alumni Luncheon at the Press Box upstairs conference room.

Friday, October 13th

- 5-7 PM

Open house at 1110 Gerald- Drinks and light appetizers. New Ski Shack will be open for tours.

Saturday, October 14th - 11:30 - 2:30 - Sigma Chi Tailgate

Tailgate Spot #8 (Northwest corner of Van Buren and Campus Drive near Harry Adams Fieldhouse). Drinks, food, brotherhood. Tailgate will close after halftime in accordance with UM regulations.

Saturday, October 14th - 4:30 - 6:30 - Post game reception at 1110 Gerald - Celebrate Griz victory and dedicate New Ski Shack.

2017 Homecoming Game Tickets in the Sigma Chi south end zone section are still available. The ticket price is \$75/each. \$15/ticket will go to the Missoula Sigma Chi Alumni Association to help pay for the Beta Delta Tailgate and Reception at 1110 Gerald.

Tickets must be prepaid with a credit card.

Contact Nate Cranston
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bennettlawofficepc.com



Fall 2017



A newsletter from Beta Delta Chapter
at University of Montana

NEWS FROM 1110 GERALD

Beta Delta Actives Take Home Coveted Award

Congrats to the Beta Delta Active Chapter for winning the coveted Peterson Award which was announced at the annual Balfour Leadership Training Workshop at Bowling Green University. This is the first Peterson Award for Beta Delta in over 20 years!

Consul Dillon Hilling and his leadership team including the outgoing leaders, Prabh Monger and Hank Bullock are to be



Pictured L-R: Risk Manager Landen Spencer, Pro Consul Greyson Bell, Grand Consul Tommy Geddings, Consul Dillon Hilling, Quaestor Garen Teders, and Magister Jake Soinski.

congratulated along with all of the Actives and the alumni that support the House.

Thanks to Bob Rowe '80 as co-Chapter adviser, Nate Cranston '03 and the Sigma Chi Building Foundation and Beta Delta House Corporation

boards for their ongoing and dedicated support, without which this would not have happened!

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jim Murphy '51

"Experiences that have affected my whole life"

In 1947, **Jim Murphy '51** decided to do what many of his Missoula high school friends were doing: joining a fraternity. When he chose Sigma Chi on the suggestion of one of his late father's friends, he had no idea that the decision would come back to him for the rest of his life.

"My four years there were great," says Jim. "As a somewhat introverted guy, it led to many



lifelong friends—really, brothers—and gave me experiences that have affected my whole life."

Jim recalls how fun the house parties were, and Sweetheart Balls at the Florence Hotel. One of his favorite memories is of his pledge

class's pledge sneak, held on a hill above the railroad out toward Bonner.

"The actives never found us," he says.

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Sigma Chi Planned Giving

By Walt Kero '73



The following is a discussion and story of a planned gift my wife Patty and I made to the Shi Shack Fundraiser.

First, why donate to Ski Shack? The gift is a planned donation to assist

in the funding of a House Director on a long-term basis. Beta Delta now has a House Director in place and living in Ski Shack. The purposes of a House Director are many including promotion of and assistance of leadership and scholarship. It is my hope that SCBF can provide a living and learning environment that will incubate future leaders, successful members of their chosen profession (Significant Sigma Chi's) and successful members of Sigma Chi (Constantine Sigma Chi's).

Our story begins with a purchase a long time ago of a life insurance policy from Brother Mark Nelson who was a Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance agent. The policy for \$100,000 of coverage was purchased as a backup to help with a mortgage should Chapter Eternal come early. I paid the premiums for about 12 years. During this 12 year period we converted the

whole life policy to a universal life insurance plan. Later I quit making premium payments. The cash value had grown enough by that time to cover the premium payments.

We fast forward to 2015. Patty and I build a home in which to retire, near Hog Heaven Cattle Company in Dayton, Montana. Unfortunately, we go through Dodd-Frank loan compliance hell and decide to bite a bullet. We cashed out enough retirement to pay off the construction loan.

One big problem with cashing out retirement to pay off a loan, in our case, is the tax bill that comes along with issue of being debt free. I then looked to plan on reducing the tax bite and used the following tax plan.

Montana tax laws include an endowment tax credit of up to \$10,000 per taxpayer or in the case of a joint return, \$20,000. It is important to note this is a tax credit, not a deduction. A tax credit directly reduces your tax and does not reduce your taxable income. The ingredients necessary for the endowment credit are a "planned gift" by the donor(s), a Montana 501(c) (3) organization and a Montana income tax liability. It just so happens that the Sigma Chi Building Foundation (SCBF) is a Montana 501 (c) (3) charity. SCBF gets charity status based on two functions. First, SCBF is preserving a national, historic registered

property and second, SCBF has a scholarship fund. In fact, the SCBF fund when added to two other funds at the Sigma Chi Foundation and the UM Foundation exceeds \$1,000,000.

Patty and I decided to pay-off the loan on the life insurance policy and then donate the paid up policy to Beta Delta's SCBF. We obtained a \$58,000 charitable donation deduction on our Federal taxes and we obtained a \$20,000 tax credit against our Montana tax bill. Our choice to gift the life insurance policy to SCBF was easy. We could have paid about \$40,000 of additional income tax but instead we gifted the policy. We chose to give to SCBF rather than more to the tax man.

Planned gifts are not easy or for the faint of heart. However, planned gifts are effective tools to reduce income or estate taxes. The above discusses but one example of planned giving. Fortunately, for Beta Delta Sigma Chi's, we have the infrastructure in place and tools available to help you should you have tax problems.

In hoc,

Walter J. Kero, CPA
President Sigma Chi Building Foundation
Beta Delta Sigma Chi '73

ALUMNI PROFILE

Don Archibald Looks Back on the '50s

Don Archibald '56 sent in this great photo of his 1952 Beta Delta pledge class, which he has kept to this day! The class had a whopping 32 members.

Though Don didn't live in the house since he was on an athletic scholarship for track, he still has fond memories of spending time there. He still laughs as he recalls the time that a couple of the actives told Don and another pledge to go over to Hanson's and bring them back hamburgers and milkshakes, and to the actives' dismay, they proceeded to eat all the food on the way home instead.

Don went on to a 34-year career with a telephone company, and has



been enjoying the retired life for 26. He has stayed in touch with brothers over the years, is a Life Loyal Sig, and has also generously supported Beta Delta Chapter. The chapter, he says, is just the kind of legacy that you'd like to see succeed.

"I had football season tickets for a long time, and would stop by the house to see if it was still standing," Don says. "The brothers were very cordial, and would show me through the house and ask me what's changed, and I really enjoyed that."

Today, Don is living happily with his wife of 60 years, and enjoying the company of their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Gone, But Not Forgotten

By Dave Trimmer Beta Delta '73 - Montana '76

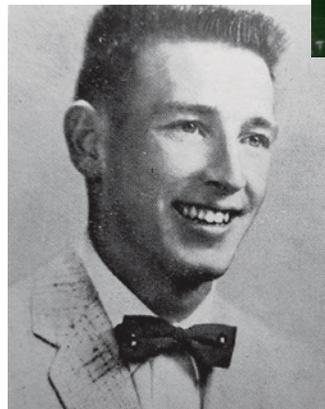
Almost five decades after his death, Beta Delta Brother **Bob Holton** was laid to rest. The range of emotions that accompanied the service in Butte Montana on July 22, 2017 was extremely personal as Captain Holton's remains were finally home, long after the Vietnam War ended. Holton, a Beta Delta Sigma Chi and 1965 graduate of the University of Montana, was listed as missing in action until his remains were identified 48 years after his F4 Phantom fighter jet was shot down in Laos.

The amazing reception leading to the burial with full military honors – Honor Guard gun salute and U.S. Air Force flyover – included family, friends, brothers, veterans and civilians, which showed how much healing has gone on. Beta Delta was represented by brothers **Mike Schruth '68, Duke Gilbert '66, Fritz Pierce '67, Jim Fleharty '66 and Tom Hauck '65.**

"It was quite a healing to have all that fuss," said Schruth, who served in the Army in Vietnam after graduation. "A soldier, warrior, whatever you call us, we did our job, our patriot duty, without any question. Clearly many different times I should have been killed, without any doubt it made me believe in a Higher Power. I didn't ever think being in a war zone was of great significance but this funeral, this phone call, working with vets, brings back a lot of memories and helps bring closure to me."

Pierce said, "It was very nice to see that the Air Force never gave up looking. To me it was beyond belief. It was really heartening to see the support the military gave to his family. That was one of the most amazing things."

According to a story in The Montana Standard: "Holton and Maj. William Campbell were in an F4 Phantom fighter-bomber on Jan. 29, 1969, when they spotted an enemy truck convoy along the Ho Chi Minh Trail near the border of Laos and Vietnam. They were hit by anti-aircraft fire and crashed. "The crash site was pinpointed



BOB HOLTON
 Scientific: Junior Sno-Ball; Junior Prom; Senior Coronation; Senior Assembly; Band 1, 2; Pan American Club 1, 2. **MSU, Pharmacist.**

earlier this year and after excavation work, teeth were found and later identified as Holton's. One of his dog tags also was found at the site." The discovery was in January with Holton's remains identified in June.

Schruth spearheaded an emotional memorial for Holton a few years ago that includes his picture on the wall of the Beta Delta chapter house library where veterans killed in service are honored.

"What a great guy he was," said Schruth, who was trained to be a Kappa Alpha Theta houseboy by Holton, three years his senior. "Clearly he was a solid guy. Good integrity. He tried hard with the books. After he graduated and was accepted to flight school, he said, 'I didn't get straight A's in school but I'm going to get straight A's in flight school.' I think he did."

According to the obituary in The Montana

Standard, Holton had quite a career in the Air Force. His medals include a Silver Star, Distinguished Flying Cross with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Purple Heart, Air Medal with one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor and two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with four Bronze Service Stars, Air Force Longevity Service Award with one Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm and Vietnam Campaign Medal.

"Bob was a very independent guy, a real tough guy," said Pierce, who first attended law school before joining the Army. "He marched to his own drummer. He loved his flying. He was the kind of guy you could always count on. If you were Bob's brother, he would always be there for you, the kind of guy you always wanted beside you."

Pierce and Schruth recall vividly the way veterans were treated as the war ended, which made the Holton service even more emotional.

"I understood, but I made a commitment ... I felt it," Pierce said. "For those that served, it was horrendous... it's not like they had a choice. "That's not where the ire should have been directed," Pierce added, echoing similar comments by Schruth, who didn't find out about the loss of his mentor until he got home from Vietnam.

Seeing a Brother brought home really touched home for Pierce. "Although Bob and I weren't best buddies, we were Sigma Chi brothers and that meant a lot," he said. "I didn't realize how much I thought about him over the years. I'm generally not an emotional person, but for some reason. ... It made me pleased for the family. I didn't realize the true meaning of that until this happened. It brought closure to the extent that there is ever closure."

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Jim Murphy '51

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There wasn't much that Jim didn't accomplish in his time at UM. He served as treasurer of the ASUM student leadership group and belonged to the sophomore honor society. In Sigma Chi, he was involved in house athletics, served as Consul his junior year, and won the Province Balfour Award. He graduated with a degree in business and a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force.

Jim served two years of active duty during the Korean War, and then in the Air Force Reserves, retiring as a Colonel in 1954. He became a CPA, first in Montana and then Nevada, becoming a partner in a local Nevada firm. From there, he went on to serve on the executive committee of national firm Grant Thornton. He has since participated in many accounting activities and held numerous organizational positions, including president of the NV CPA Society, elected board member of Sierra Pacific Resources, and court-appointed trustee of the Lear trust, of Learjet fame. He still does trusteeship work for several hours a week.

Sigma Chi, Jim says, has carried over throughout every step of his life—from meeting many Sigs in the military to becoming friends and

business partners with Sigs from other close-by chapters in northern Nevada and California. Even though Jim has lost most of his closest Sigma Chi friends, including **Al Cochrane '51**, **Chuck Caraway '51**, and **Hal McVey '51**, he still keeps in touch with some younger Sigs.

But friends and colleagues are hardly the extent of Sigma Chi connections in Jim's life.

"My two sons and my brother, **Bill Murphy '58**, were Beta Delta Sigs, and my mother was Beta Delta house mother in the late '40s and '50s," says Jim. "I also have a cousin at Beta Rho chapter, and a grandson at the Cal San Jose chapter."

It is because of all these Sig bonds, along with the ideals, principles and friendships gained from Sigma Chi, Jim says, that he has wanted to support Beta Delta so generously over the years. He hopes that the chapter can continue its position at UM and be to future men what it has been to him.

Jim, now 88, has been happily married for 47 years. He and his wife have four children—all married and all college grads—and six grandchildren. He keeps active traveling and visiting his kids and grandkids, and loves duck hunting and playing golf.

VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Brad Cederberg '06

"Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth."

Beta Delta Chapter, as you know, is blessed with two Alumni Boards that serve its interests. Serving on one of those Boards is Alumni President, **Bradley Cederberg**, a 2006 graduate of the University of Montana and of Beta Delta, Sigma Chi. His days didn't begin at 1110 Gerald, but if history tells us anything, it's not always about how you start, rather how you finish.

"I began my Greek involvement at Arizona State," Cederberg recalls. "They had dozens of houses and thousands of men rushing their houses. I toured a number of options but decided on Sigma Chi with a nudge from my dad, **Dan Cederberg '75**, who is a Beta Delta. I transferred to Montana for my sophomore year and completed my initiation at Sigma Chi. I fell in love with 1110 Gerald and really enjoyed the party scene. There were also several active members who were very involved in student government and took academics seriously. Getting to know members of my pledge class sealed the deal



for me."

Sigma Chi, for this Beta Delta Alumnus, was more than just a place to live and eat the delicious meals, prepared by Amber, the house cook. For Cederberg, the sense of history, the long-term connections, and being connected to a

vibrant group of young men continues to pay dividends.

"I want to make sure Sigma Chi is around for another 110 years so that future generations can have the experience that I hold so dear," said the 2006 Beta Delta grad.

And in that giving back, Cederberg will give the gift of his time and intelligence back to the University this fall, when he will teach an investments course at the UM Business School—a course he took as an undergraduate. He's familiar with the scenery in more ways than one.

"I have spoken at the Business College and served on the Finance and Accounting Advisory Board. I have never been responsible

for a class from start to finish," he says. "I took this class when I was an undergrad. It not only taught me something, it focused on my career goals. Tim Kato, who taught the course at that time, is now a colleague of mine. He remains someone whom I both respect and learn from. I want to give current students an opportunity to experience the same thing. I also love interacting with talented students. This class is limited to a small group of 15 or so dedicated individuals—I have already met with a few of them and their enthusiasm is contagious."

"My time at UM was special to me," recalls Cederberg. "I hope to pass along some of that magic to current students. I also hope to improve upon my own industry knowledge. Preparing for the class has reminded me that I still have a lot to learn about a business to which I have dedicated myself for over 10 years."

Be dedicated to your studies, your Brothers, and have some fun—the sage advice of proud Beta Delta and tireless volunteer Bradley Cederberg.

Read the full version of these and other alumni profiles at www.betadelta-sigmachi.org.