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### **Sigma Chi Building Foundation**

SCBF owns 1110 Gerald, services debt, oversees fund raising for scholarship and major capital needs and manages the scholarship endowment.

#### **President**

Walt Kero  
wkero@jccspsca.com

#### **Treasurer**

John Bennett

#### **Secretary**

Dan Cederberg

#### **Directors**

Randy Harrison  
Rich Thompson

### **Beta Delta House Corporation**

BDHC leases 1110 Gerald from SCBF, rents to active chapter members and oversees routine property maintenance.

#### **President**

Rich Thompson  
rich.thompson@sigmachi.com

#### **Treasurer**

Nate Cranston

#### **Secretary**

Peter Howard

#### **Directors**

Matt Cavanaugh  
Matt Sonnichsen

May 2013



A newsletter from Beta Delta Chapter  
at University of Montana

## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE

### Revitalizing Our Alumni Relations Program

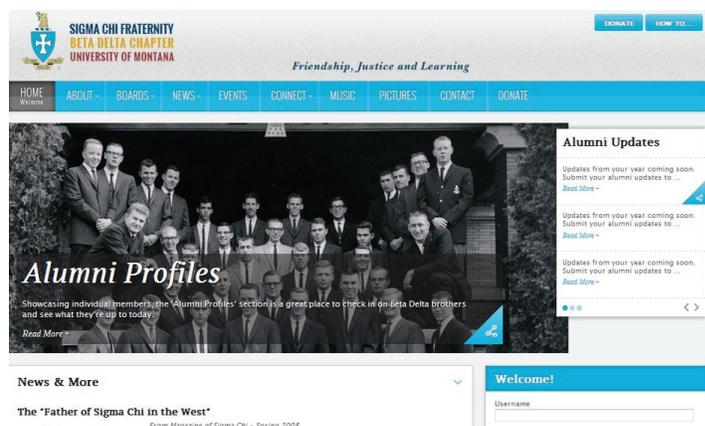
#### **Unveiling a New Web Site, Improved Newsletters and More Ways to Reconnect with Fellow Sigs**

By Rich Thompson Beta Delta '70, Sigma Chi Building Foundation

The Missoula Alumni Association is revitalizing our alumni relations program. Our volunteers have been committed to improving the *Grizzly Sig*, revamping our web site and implementing new fundraising initiatives as we cross the finish line to Save Ski Shack. I'd like to personally thank the volunteers who have been working with me in this effort, and to personally invite you to join us as we enter a new phase in our alumni program.

There are several ways to renew your participation with our alumni relations program:

- Get involved in our new online community, [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org). On the site, you can search for and interact with other members, share photos and memories, and stay up to date on the latest Beta Delta alumni and active news and event information.
- Update your email address to be among the first to know of the latest info from Beta Delta Chapter. You can do so on our new web site or by sending your email address to our alumni relations office at [feedback@affinityconnection.com](mailto:feedback@affinityconnection.com) (mention Sigma Chi Montana).
- Share your experience. Our alumni community relies on your active participation to be successful, so please actively share your news, memories and stories, photos and questions with our brotherhood.



Check out our new website at [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org)

- Come back for events. Mark your calendar for the weekend of October 4-5 for Homecoming 2013. See full details to the left.
- Support our active chapter. As you'll read on page 2, brothers have been putting an added focus on giving back, contributing more than 200 hours to community service and launching a new philanthropy event.
- Show your financial support. As you read in our recent fundraising letter, we are approaching the halfway point to reaching our goal to Save Ski Shack and give Sigma Chi a competitive edge on campus. Please return the recent mailer with your gift, or donate online at [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org).

Please feel free to reach out to me at rich.thompson@sigmachi.com with any questions, comments or concerns about our improved communications program. I look forward to connecting with you this year!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **"Captain's Cup" Sigma Chi Golf Tournament June 8**

Contact Nate Cranston at  
406-531-9033 or  
nathan@c2technow.com

### **Homecoming 2013 October 4-5**

*Friday*  
6 p.m.: Reception at the House

*Saturday*  
10 a.m. to 12 p.m.:  
Homecoming Parade  
1 p.m.: Game at Washington  
Grizzly Stadium  
4:30 to 6:30 p.m.: Reception at  
the house

See [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org)  
for details!

## HONORING OUR HEROES

### **More than \$5,000 Raised in Recognition of a Wounded Warrior**

#### ***Beta Delta Brothers to Honor the Sacrifice Made by Brother Ryan Brunett '10***

*By Alumni Chapter President Nathan Cranston and Brunett Fundraiser Chair Greg Beach*

The active and alumni chapters of Beta Delta are proud to announce a successful effort to help a brother in need.

Brother **Ryan Brunett '10** was badly injured while on active duty with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan. As a result of his injuries, Ryan lost most of his left leg.

In an effort to show Brother Brunett their gratitude and support him in his recovery, a number of active brothers began a fundraising effort. Through tremendous support from alumni, nearly \$5,000 was raised. Funds will be used to take Brother Brunett on an all-expense-paid hunting trip and to purchase

a Sigma Chi class ring.

The brothers of Beta Delta have a long and distinguished record of military service. We are proud to call Ryan a brother and appreciate the sacrifice he has made on behalf of us all. We were overwhelmed by the support shown by brothers young and old.

The Missoula Alumni Chapter plans formal recognition of brother Brunett. Details will be announced shortly.



*Ryan Brunett '10*

## **Sigma Chi Remembers Its First House Mother**

### ***Mrs. Murphy's Legacy Lives On as the House Renovations Will Include Living Quarters for a Similar Position***

For **Jim Murphy '51**, Sigma Chi was a family affair. In addition to the bonds of brotherhood he found in the chapter, both his brother **Bill '58** and even his mom were involved.

***"I think my mom was a positive influence and would be very pleased to be recognized as such," Jim says.***

"When I was in school, the guys thought it would be helpful to have a lady around whenever we had sorority gals or others at our house for various functions, pretty much as a chaperone and to provide some decorum," Jim says. Mrs. Murphy filled the role easily, and used the opportunity to also teach the members manners and social graces.

A townie, Jim first joined Sigma Chi thanks to a family friend. "Oakly Coffee encouraged me to pledge and even paid

my initial fees," he said. "My father had died a few years earlier and he was a mentor to me."

Jim served as chapter president and lived in the house for two quarters in 1950-1951. After her son graduated and entered the Air Force, Mrs. Murphy continued on at the chapter and provided guidance to several more groups of Sigma Chi brothers. Although more than 40 years have passed since Mrs. Murphy served as both an inspiration and leader to the students, the chapter is bringing back the concept of a fraternity housemother. The new house renovations will include living space for a live-in advisor who will be built upon Mrs. Murphy's enduring legacy.

"Her presence brought out the best of the brothers," fellow Sigma **Chi Jim Lee '59** remembers. "She was really big on manners and she taught all of us that if anybody walks into the house, they are our guest. If it's a woman, you stand up and

greet her. If it's a man, you stand up and introduce yourself."

"She was so kind and was really like a mother, especially since most of us were from out of town. She made the fraternity house a home."

"I think my mom was a positive influence and would be very pleased to be recognized as such," Jim Murphy says. "Over the years, even now, I have Sig friends, mostly from all over, who I see once in a while. We have a Beta Delta golf tourney, now at Lake Tahoe, that has gone on for about 25 years."

Continuing to perpetuate the legacy of his family's history with our fraternity, Jim Murphy continues to share the Sigma Chi bonds with a new generation of family members.

"I have two sons who are BD Sigs, a Sig grandson in San Jose and a cousin in Bozeman, who all keep me updated on current stuff," he said.

## From a Chapter-Wide Gun Salute to Quite the “Halloweenie” Invite to the Long-Honored Values of the Jordan Standard

### Brothers Share Their Fondest Memories, Funniest Stories about the Lifelong Impact of Sigma Chi

#### Brian Knaff '66

(7335 Edna Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89117; brianknaff@tbn.net)

#### Why did you join Sigma Chi as an undergraduate?

I joined Sigma Chi because, even though I didn't know anyone there and wasn't considered a legacy, I was really impressed with the actives and the prospective pledges. It looked like the right place to be for me, and it was.

#### What is your funniest Sigma Chi memory?

October was hunting season, so everyone who hunted had their rifles with scopes in the rooms. One night around midnight, I came back from downtown Missoula. We walked most of the time. As I'm walking up to the house it was completely dark. Mind you we were surrounded by sororities and the girls had hours and had to be in by a certain time. As I grew closer to the house, I saw that everyone had their guns with scopes out and the guns were pointed at the Alpha Phi house. One of the sisters had forgotten to close her curtains (maybe she didn't) and there were more rifles pointed at her than at General Custer at the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

**“... I credit the values of respecting diversity as one of the strengths I learned at Sigma Chi that has been a main factor in my happiness and success as a businessman, a father and a husband.”**

#### How does Sigma Chi still make an impact in your life today?

Today, I credit the values of respecting diversity as one of the strengths I learned at Sigma Chi that has been a main factor in my happiness and success as a businessman, a father and a husband. For brothers today, one reason that today's fraternity experience is still relevant is networking - that's a big one.

#### Leonard Wayne Lowthian '76

(14120 Mt. Highway 81, Denton, MT 59430; leonardwaynelowthian@hotmail.com)

#### Tell us the story of a recent reunion with fellow Sigs.

**Allen Thompson '74** was just here from Bakersfield, Calif. We hadn't really seen each other since graduation. I'm kind of honored to “run” with Allen Thompson in some “purdy rough country.” He made the three-hour trip from Billings to the farm. What we did was our own business, because we're brothers in Sigma Chi. (Let me tell you, it's worth telling).

#### Scott Stanaway '82

(6144 Masters Blvd., Billings, MT 59106; scottaandi@aol.com)

#### What is your funniest Sigma Chi memory?

My funniest Beta Delta memory was when my girlfriend lived in Bozeman and I had invited her to the Halloweenie. Some of the brothers took a road trip to Bozeman, and one dressed up as Dracula, got in a casket and called my girlfriend down from her dorm room to the lobby. The casket opened and “Dracula” rose up from the casket and handed her the invite. It was a classic moment that she talks about to this day. That same girl (now my wife) later moved to Missoula and lived at the Theta house. I was the Magister and when I took the pledges on their “Sneak,” the brothers hauled my bed over to the Theta house and put it on their front porch.

#### Tell us the story of a recent reunion with fellow Sigs.

I recently ran into brothers **Bradley Colberg '82** and **Bob Rowe '82** at the MT state basketball tourney. Great to see 'em. The bond that brothers have will never be broken.

#### Jon Kasper '97

(4670 S 375 E, Ogden, UT 84405; jkasper@bigskyconference.org)

#### Why did you join Sigma Chi as an undergraduate?

I joined because I knew some of the brothers from high school. They made me feel welcome. Learning about the history of Sigma Chi and the Beta Delta chapter during pledgship helped bring it all together. I identified strongly with the values of the Jordan Standard. Ideals such as friendship, justice and learning, as well as the values of a man expressed in the Jordan Standard - well, we should all strive to achieve those. If we all had good character, possessed good morals, displayed honor and personal responsibility, and were congenial, the world would be a much better place.

The benefits of being in a fraternity are just the overall camaraderie and friendships developed during those times, friendships that remain strong today. You laugh, you cry, you sing, you play with your brothers. Seeing my little brother become a Sigma Chi was probably the fondest memory. I strongly believe it enhances the college experience.

**“The benefits of being in a fraternity are just the overall camaraderie and friendships developed during those times, friendships that remain strong today.”**

#### What's new in your life today?

I'm currently in my eighth year as the Assistant Commissioner for Media Relations at the Big Sky Conference in Ogden, Utah. My wife, Mackenzie, and I have a 3-year-old daughter Catherine. I always enjoy connecting with my Beta Delta brothers.

Share your answers to these questions and read others' responses at [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org).

## CHAPTER REPORT

### Beta Delta Brothers Contribute 200 Service Hours and Expand to Year-Long Recruitment

By Queastor Mitch Hockett and Tribune Carter McFarland

It's been a great academic year for Beta Delta brothers. Most notably, we've expanded our focus on community service by donating close to 200 hours since September 2012. We have held many community service events this year, from leaf raking to working with the NFL's Punt Pass and Kick, and also launched the newest philanthropic tradition in Beta Delta's history, the Sigma Chi Trap Shoot. These efforts benefitted Punt Pass and Kick, the Wounded Warrior Project and Big Brothers Big Sisters.

The chapter welcomed 13 new members this year, seven during fall rush and six during the spring. We held recruitment activities such as backyard movie nights, dodgeball, football and pickup basketball games and house tours. Looking to next year, we have started Mission 365 and now have the tools to recruit all year. We already have potential fall pledges in place and are continuing to meet new people and to reach out to new student groups and organizations.

We hope to reconnect with you this year! Hope to see you at Homecoming on October 4-5.

**Congratulations to the following brothers for recognition at the 2012 Greek Awards!**

**Outstanding Greek Alumni  
Drew Hossle**

**2012-13 Mu Deuteron \$1,050 Scholarship  
Carter McFarland**

**2013-14 Phi Sigma Kappa \$1,000  
Scholarship  
Casey Nichols**

## FROM THE ARCHIVES



There's nothing better than taking a trip down memory lane. Our web site, [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org), features a lot of great pictures from past generations that highlight the best moments in Beta Delta history captured on film.

We love this group picture from 1983. Can anyone tell us the story behind it?

Go to [www.betadelta-sigmachi.org](http://www.betadelta-sigmachi.org) to share your stories and your own pictures from your era, and to see the rest of our photo archives.

**In this Issue of Grizzly Sig...**  
 - Revitalizing Our Alumni Relations Program  
 - Beta Delta Brothers Contribute 200+ Service Hours  
 - Remembering Mrs. Murphy: An Interview with Her Son, Jim

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 SIGMA CHI BUILDING FOUNDATION

