



THE ALPHA PILOT

Alpha Pi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at the University of Wisconsin

THE CAMPAIGN HAS ENDED, BUT THE FUN IS JUST BEGINNING

Three years ago, **Rod Taylor '72** and **Al Kaniss '72** kicked off an ambitious campaign at our 2019 Spring Jubilee. With dorm rooms full for the first time in over 20 years and growing pledge classes, we were cautiously optimistic about the direction of Alpha Pi when we announced our goal to raise \$1.5 million from a minimum of 200 alumni.

To win over skeptics, we took numerous steps. First, we embraced the need for stronger governance: refinancing twice, setting clear expectations for actives, and adding parlor fees and security deposits. We then replaced service providers (moving to Kane Property Management) and found new subs and a new food-service provider. We improved service levels, including increasing house-cleaning services (from one to three times per week) and added new services, including snow removal and landscaping. We also provided transparency through periodic updates and the return of *The Alpha Pilot*, and we benefited from the actives bringing in stellar pledge classes we can all be proud of.

Once our house operations were in order, we developed a clear facility improvement strategy with Potter Lawson Inc., and contracted fundraising support from Pennington & Company. With the efforts of 15 dedicated Alpha Pi solicitors, we soldiered through COVID and raised over \$1.75 million from 275 generous alumni. Combined with tax incentives secured through the State Historic Preservation Office, our total funds raised now exceeds \$2 million.

You did it! Thank you to everyone that contributed to the success of *The Preservation of Alpha Pi House* campaign. And now ... the fun part.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

With an eye toward major milestones, including our 150th anniversary in 2023, many capital improvements needed to be made during the campaign with confidence that our early fundraising success would be sustained. Our entire first floor, basement, bathrooms, and attic apartment renovations have already been completed.



Infrastructure projects totaling over \$500K will be completed by June. This summer, the renovation of the lakeside, including new terrace doors, a portico, and landscaping, will be completed. Next winter, our transformation of the Alpha Pi house will be complete with the renovation of the penthouse, pictured above.

ALUMNI CONNECTIONS

I never expected the Beta house to be significant to me at this point in my life, but involvement in the BBA provided so many connections to Beta brothers. Embracing the opportunity to help finish the transformation that leaders like **Rick Abegglen '82** and **Mike Imse '77** set up has been unbelievably rewarding. Reconnecting with brothers from my time in the house, meeting Betas from other years, and working with the young men of today's Beta house has been a blast.

I hope you will consider reaching out to a member of the BBA about how you can participate. There are *so many* ways to get involved—both large and small projects need alumni support.

ALUMNI GATHERINGS

The BBA will keep you connected through newsletters, eblasts, and a reasonably current

website; hopefully, you will find your way back to the house. Here are a few planned events to consider coming home for:

2022

Home Football Games:

October 1 vs. Illinois
October 22 (Homecoming) vs. Purdue
November 5 vs. Maryland
November 26 vs. Minnesota

2023

April 21-23
150th Anniversary of Alpha Pi Chapter

2026

100th Anniversary of the Alpha Pi House

If you would like to put something together for a smaller group at any time, contact **Max Lord '07** at mslord1991@gmail.com or at (414) 732-9359.



Yours in *_kai_*,
Bart J. Kocha,
#1613, UW 1980
Campaign Chairman
(262) 210-7035
bkocha@wi.rr.com



The senior graduating class making memories at a home football game.

Farewell, Class of 2022!

Graduating Seniors Bid Adieu

With less than a semester remaining before graduation, Alpha Pi's class of 2022 has one of life's bittersweet moments ahead of it. Our 54 actives will enjoy their last Spring Formal, golf outing, and main event, along with everything else that makes four years of Beta Theta Pi at UW-Madison so undeniably special. While our graduates' futures are bright, and the bonds of brotherhood will certainly last forever, four years of fraternity life and the people they were shared with will be difficult to move on from. That said, the mark left on the chapter by the class of 2022, and vice versa, will serve as a reminder of all that was created, achieved, and imbibed on the shores of Lake Mendota.

AN ENERGETIC PLEDGE CLASS

Fall 2018 saw a staggering pledge class of 42 make their way through the halls of 622 Mendota. A sense of renewed pride emerged as the chapter catapulted from 78 actives to 120, with 12 more spring pledges added before the end of the school year. The new junior actives, christened J-Apes for their rambunctious demeanor, brought a wave of success in all walks of fraternal life; excellence in Humorology, intramural sports, and academics became mainstream for the Alpha Pis.

BROTHERHOOD BONDING

Large-scale alumni tailgates, formals, and date parties were back on the docket as the chapter mimicked the glory days of decades prior. As the new pledge class matured, they instilled the same principles and procedures into the next

generation of pledge classes, ensuring that such success would last far beyond their graduation.

A WORTHY CHAPTER HOUSE

Although the contributions of the senior class were substantial, they pale in comparison to what was bestowed by the chapter and brothers that came before us. A myriad of pledge educators and pledge fathers taught us right from wrong, a 100-year-old lakeside house gave us a home, and hundreds of alumni supported much of our rollicking lifestyle. The hard work of the BBA and generous financial contributions make us the first beneficiaries of the basement gym, renovated kitchen and bathrooms, and brand-new chapter-room TV, among other improvements. Put simply, the experiences that we enjoyed and grew from would not have been possible otherwise, and for that, we will be forever indebted.

In summary, these past four years have been nothing short of spectacular, and the lessons learned along the way will not soon be forgotten. From lavish weekends in Chicago to a casual sunset drink on the dock, there is too much to note succinctly; however, I speak for all 54 of us when I say that we are excited to join the ranks of alumni and look forward



to what the chapter can accomplish in the future.

Yours in *_kai_*,
CJ Adourian, #2216,
UW 2022

Your Beta Volunteers

Alpha Pi Chapter Advisors

Advises the undergraduates

Chapter Counselor

Brendan Dowling '14

bdowlinmail@gmail.com

Financial Advisor

Currently Vacant

Recruitment Advisor

Currently Vacant

Pledge Education Advisor

Currently Vacant

Risk Management Advisor

Derek Campbell '19

Alpha Pi Alliance for the

Preservation of Historic Places

Raises funds to maintain/renovate

the chapter house

President

George Moore '79

gemoore3@att.net

Treasurer

Travis Lemke '09

Secretary

Mike Imse '77

Wilken-Harding Foundation

Manages funds and provides

scholarships to the active members

President

Robert Feind '71

bob.feind@housemanlaw.com

Treasurer

Jeff Schaefer '78

Member

Derek Campbell '19

Beta Building Association, Inc.

Maintains and manages the Chapter House

President

Max Lord '07

mslord1991@gmail.com

Vice President

Bart Kocha '80

Treasurer

Jacob Hentges '18

Secretary

John Boosalis '20

Member-Alumni Relations Lead

Jeff White '92

Member-Communications Lead

Sam Haack '19

samuelhaack@gmail.com

Member-Building Operations Lead

Bob Downing '91

Member-Active Relations Lead

Austin Mose '20

If you are interested in serving Beta as an alumni volunteer, please contact **Max Lord '07** at mslord1991@gmail.com



Where Are They Now?

Sam Haack, #2161, UW 2019 Shares the Everlasting Beta Connection

Brothers of Alpha Pi, I hope you are all well, either in Wisconsin or in your various corners of the globe. I'm excited to write this contribution for *The Alpha Pilot*, which has made an impressive resurgence in recent years, and I am excited to read it every time I see it appear in my inbox.

I am beyond proud of the guys that have transformed the Beta house in recent years, both physically and culturally. When **Jacob Hentges '18** recruited me as a sophomore, there couldn't have been more than 50 actives in the chapter, and the house was painted an unattractive yellow with little more character than a Louisiana penitentiary. Since then, the undergraduates and alumni have come together like a true family to take the chapter to another level. I am especially appreciative to **Bart Kocha '80** for being the spark that lit that flame. I hope to see that momentum continue both with hard work and financial contributions.

Since graduating from Wisconsin in 2019—the last year of college before the COVID-19 pandemic—I have been working in the real estate industry in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Most of my early career success has been due to my connections to Wisconsin and relationships that I made throughout my time as an undergraduate in Madison. My first job in Jackson Hole was working for a luxury ski villa rental company. I was invited to an interview after sending in my resume, which included Beta Theta Pi House Manager, of course, and I appeared only to find out that the interview was a formality—I was already hired. All three managers in the interview were graduates of the UW system, two from UW-Madison and one from UW-Stevens Point.

Throughout this job, I learned the importance of customer service, sales, and dealing with high-net-worth individuals. What was the common trait of all these high-level people I was working with? Every single client owned real estate and was now renting their property



Jake Tottleben '20, Will Michaels '20, Sam Haack v19, John Boosalis '20, and Will DeAngelis '21 came together in March to ski Breckenridge, Colorado.

out through our company to make the asset pay for itself, plus additional cash flow. I knew I had to dig deeper into the world of real estate—I was onto something.

After a year and a half of working my way up to homeowner relations manager at a luxury rental company, I transitioned to a purely sales role as a real estate agent at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. I have learned marketing, communication, contracting, and legal skills and have no plans of changing career paths in the future. Every day, I wake up energized to work, put deals together, and make commission checks. I have formed a partnership with another Wisconsin graduate, **Sean Brawner '07**, who handles our commercial deals while I sell our residential properties. We have put transactions together totaling over \$10 million with other UW-Madison graduates thus far.

COVID-19 put immense upward pressure on rent and housing prices, and before I waited around for my rent to double or triple, I invested in a condo just outside of town that allowed me to live for free by renting out the other room to—you guessed it—another UW-Madison alumnus for the same monthly amount as my mortgage payment. House-

hacking as they call it. I highly suggest this housing strategy to all recent Beta graduates, as it frees up an amazing amount of monthly cash flow for you to invest, use to travel, or just to speculate on some NFTs.

Although I could write pages about how much fun I have had in the real world so far, to the undergraduates, I hope this brief recap of my first three years out of college has given you a glimpse into what is possible after graduation and how there are many alumni out there, like myself, willing to give you the exact blueprint for something you have no idea where to start with. Chances are, if you want to achieve something, there is someone in the Alpha Pi or Wisconsin alumni network who has already done the same thing and is willing to show you how.

If any alumni or undergraduates are interested in the real estate industry or the Jackson Hole area, please don't hesitate to reach out.



Yours in *_kai_*,
Sam Haack, #2161, UW 2019
(307) 699-1313
samh@bhhsjacksonhole.com



Thank You, Generous Donors!

Thank you to each and every alumnus, undergraduate, and friend who donated to our *The Preservation of the Alpha Pi House* campaign. We could not have done this without you! As we close this campaign, we are so proud to announce that we crushed our goal. Again, thank you so much for your everlasting support of Alpha Pi Chapter.

Order of Wooglin

(\$100,000 and up)

Ted D. Kellner '69
Frederic J. Goetzke '92

1873 Club

(\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Alpha Pi Actives
Anonymous
George Moore '79
Jeffrey C. White, Ph.D. '92
Maxwell S. Lord '07
Peter A. Machmeier '11

1926 Club

(\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Kenneth F. Siebel '63
John R. Anderson '66
Clyde M. Robinson III '68
John T. Evans '70
Roderick S. Taylor '72
Michael J. Imse '77
Chris R. Mortenson '77
W. Perry Atterholt '83
H. Robert Foerster III '83
Glen E. Tellock '83
Thomas C. Lathrop Jr. '84
Thomas J. Halquist '86
Robert B. Downing '91

Loving Cup

(\$10,000 to \$24,999)

Robert E. Hendricks '65
William V. Dietrich '62
Lawrance E. Wallden '62
Charles W. Giesen '68
Alvin K. Krug '70
James C. Mack '70
Robert L. Feind Jr. '71
David A. Lenz '71
Donald J. McLaughlan '71
Charles N. Lucas '72
Michael D. Muoio '74
Bart J. Kocha '80
Michael S. Liebow '82
Robert L. Schnese '83
Andrew J. Smart '84

Penthouse

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

John R. Hofmann '64
Robert G. Paul '64
Louis J. Wagner '64
Thomas B. Johnson '67
Michael D. Fullwood '69
Robert C. Vig '69
Francis E. Quinlan Jr. '70
Charles A. Randolph '70
James M. Giesen '72
Alan C. Kaniss '72
Scott H. Nettum '72
Ronald K. Buss '73
Thomas R. Oberwetter '74
Karl L. Hilgendorf '75
Bernhard W. Verhoeven '76
Craig Jones '77
Robert P. Lucas '77
Lisle W. Blackburn '78
Laurence S. Patzman '79
Roger A. Friede Jr. '81
Mark R. Schultze '83
James M. Cornelius '85
Matthew A. Gunderson '85
Joseph M. Kronsoble '85
Thomas T. Troncoso '95
Bernard Judge '96
Adam N. Pottner '96
Tym A. Rutkowski '09

Pleasure Dome

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Carlyle "Bud" Fay '48
Thomas E. Gilbertson '65
Miles R. Adam '66
Richard A. Kimbell '66
Gerald C. Condon Jr. '68
David A. Mayland '68
John J. Oros '69
Erik J. Thorpe '69
Thomas W. Jones '70
Rudy A. Schmidt '70
John M. Kelly '71
James F. Dushek '72
Robert B. Rennebohm Jr. '72
James T. Thompson '72
Quinn P. Williams '72
Timothy E. Sanders '73
Peter J. Stone '73

Daniel F. Siedlecki '75
Kim A. Wise '75
Bruce D. Huibregtse '76
James D. Rauwerdink '76
John E. Zupanc '76
John D. Wilkie '77
Joel T. Marker '79
Mark A. Hoffmeister '83
Steven C. Southwell '83
David K. Francis '85
James R. Curtis '86
William R. Zink '86
Hans Hofmeister '91
Mark J. Zenkner '97
Robert Romeo '16
Jacob J. Hentges '18
Samuel L. Haack '19
John Boosalis '20

Dragon's Lair

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Charles G. Bentzin '54
Walter Richard Ebling '54
Phillip H. Frensz '55
George F. Hilgemeier Jr. '55
Thomas E. Means '56
Richard D. Parlow '57
Joe Irwin '58
Daniel E. Worden '62
John H. Bargren, M.D. '63
Jerry R. Lyman '63
Jan J. Weisberg '63
Wright B. George '65
Bruce K. Defnet '66
Jay B. Capouch '67
Gilbert LaCroix '67
William J. Conroy '68
Lawrence H. Kener '68
James G. Mestl '68
James T. Pearce '68
John S. Poser '68
John C. Tietz '68
Dennis D. Christensen '69
Larry K. Stover '69
Joseph R. Buchanan '71
David C. Egelhoff '71
Richard K. Hanneman '71
Gregory C. Markos '71
Odin A. Thorpe '71
Stephen J. Hilmer '72

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT A GLANCE

As of April 22, 2022

\$1.5 MILLION GOAL



\$1,773,530
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS
275 CONTRIBUTORS

Bradley J. Bennett '73
William R. Perrigo Jr. '72
Donald B. Thayer '72
Steven C. Gunderson '73
Michael R. Haas '74
Randy E. Pflingsten '74
David M. Huibregtse '76
Stephen J. Meyer '76
Anthony C. Canepa Jr. '77
Richard F. Hase '77
Jim Egan '79
Matthew M. Frost '79
Jeffrey D. Holtshopp '79
James H. Miner '79
Mark A. Kaiser '81
David J. Schmidt '81
Scott R. Gillespie '82
John Giroulx '82
James D. Jones '82
Michael A. Kelsey '82
Thomas A. Frost '83
Douglas W. Mielke '83
Tim O. Kroenke '84
Rodney T. Recker '84
Gary Frings '85
John B. Hay '85
Robert F. Klockow '85
Thomas A. Miller '85
Timothy L. Semmann '85
Felix Willis Caruso Jr. '87
BJ Miller '87
Patrick J. Krill '91
Oyvind Wistrom '92
Bradley H. Garcia, Ph.D. '94
Nicholas G. Stephani '95
Michael Powers '96
Andrew J. Stravers '07
Brandon J. Lamp '14



Jordan A. Ruhland '15
Henry Cooper '23

Canoe Hole

(\$999 and under)

Paul E. Tausche '48
W. Richard Gerhard '52
Charles E. Kuehn '53
Rolland S. McGinnis '53
Theodore E. Crabb Jr. '54
Terence J. Gautsch '55
Richard G. Oakford '56
John W. Nyhus '57
Allan J. Payleitner '57
William F. Boettge '59
Charles E. Elliot '59
David G. Meissner '59
John M. Nolan '59
Douglas D. Russell '59
James B. Gollhardt '60
Alan C. Cole '61
Richard F. Vitkus '61
Ronald B. Williams Jr. '61
David McIntyre '62
Peter Mueller '62
Stephen W. Larsh '63
John W. Lierk '63
Curt M. Garmager '64
William Iverson '64
Earl Molander '64
Roger Molandar '64
James H. Ball '65
John R. Davenport '66
Richard M. Kimberly '66
Robert M. Tasker '66
Patrick N. Sommerfield '67
Dan M. Kimberly '69
Richard Schwarte '69
Martin J. Ciotti '70
Robert T. Waddell '70
Edward G. Albright '71
Gregory A. Barney '72
Robert E. Liebhauser '72
Craig R. Johnson '73
Ric Speaker '73
Charles R. Gross '75
James R. Haas '75
William R. Wilson '75
Robert J. Wills '76
James L. Mellor '77
Robert J. Moore '77
Gerald G. Schmidt Jr. '77
Michael J. Terry '77
Jeffrey S. Schaefer '78
David C. Dretzka '79
James M. Olson '79
Thomas F. Brennan '80

Joe R. Gonzalez '81
Gregory G. Zimmerman '81
Rick L. Abegglen '82
Timothy G. Eigenfeld '82
Paul J. Hanusa '82
James D. Atterholt '84
Michael Berghammer '84
Jeffrey B. Hampton '84
Andrew G. Sylke '85
Michael J. Wahl '85
John Reese '86
Jim Regnery '86
Ethan E. Vielehr '86
Christopher J. Flood '87
James M. Gould '87
Jon Kejwan '87
John R. Curtis '88
Ramin Eghbali '88
Ed Zebersky '88
Scott R. Running '89
Daniel M. Edelman '90
David Tennesen '90
David L. Walters '91
Thomas C. Abts '93
Scott Braun '93
Rob Nicholas '93
Andrew R. Danner '94
Michael M. Goggin '96
Jeffrey J. Freemyer '99
Dan Polenska '01
Adam Stein '01
Daniel K. Breitenbach '06
William B. Maguire '06
Raymond Zang '06
Travis R. Lemke '09
Jesse Graewin '10
Justin D. DeAngelis '11
Hunter J. Holtshopple '11
Nicholas J. Norton '12
Donald Buteyn '13
CJ Savage '15
Lee Southwell '15
Nathaniel Ford '17
Nathan Haines '19
Louis M. Monette '19
Matt P. Berghoff '20
Russell Knight '20
Austin Mose '20
Ben Peterson '20
James Rohde '20
Calvin Stork '20
Derek Crawley '21
Alex Filo '21
Alex Mendelson '21
JP Remijas '21
Wyatt Begley '23
Ben W. Kangas '23



Our talented cast of men and women competing at the Humorology event.

THE SHOW MUST GO ON

This year, members of Beta Theta Pi participated in an event called Humorology, or Humo for short. Humo is an annual, juried, musical/variety show that takes place at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in April of each year. It has been a UW-Madison tradition since 1948, touching the lives of students and the community through the friendships that are made and the funds that are raised. Humo is also the largest student-run philanthropic organization in the state of Wisconsin.

Students spend the course of the academic year on a team writing, composing, choreographing, and directing original mini-musical comedies. This year, Beta Theta Pi has paired with Alpha Epsilon Phi to create a show. Each cast consists of at least one sorority and one fraternity, and they make a name to combine their chapters. We creatively named ourselves BAEPHI (bay-ee-phi).

After not having a show in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID, we were thrilled to be able to perform this spring. This year, there are nine casts competing for six final show spots, which will take place in our Memorial Union Theater this April. While competing to create the best show, the casts also compete against one another to raise the most money for the philanthropic partner that Humorology chooses to donate to that year.

Humo has a constant desire to broaden its philanthropic impact in our community and has had great success in the past partnering with local philanthropies. With that, Humorology's beneficiary for the 2021-22 school year is the Respite Center of Dane County. This incredible organization provides emergency childcare, both during the day and overnight, for children up to age 14 in Madison. In addition, parents and caregivers can use the Respite Center for planned breaks as they search for housing and job security, needed childcare while they attend medical appointments or undergo surgery, or needed breaks so they can study and work toward their educational goals.

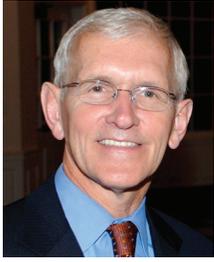
Although our cast fell just short of moving on to the spring semester, the cast achieved many great successes. Over the course of the fall, BAEPHI raised over \$21,000 for the Respite Center, put together a wonderful show, and developed lasting friendships!

Yours in *_kai_*,
Robert Michaelson, #2319, UW 2024



The People's Choice

Celebrating Brother Steve Gunderson, #1502, UW 1973



Former Congressman **Steve Gunderson '73** turns 71 this year, and if you think that sounds old, I was there when he came through recruitment in the fall of 1970. I remember the political science major

from Osseo, Minnesota, as quiet and shy all those years ago.

"I grew up in a town so small that I went to a two-room school," Steve laughs. "When I came to UW, I was an introvert, so I decided to go through recruitment. Beta taught me how to successfully meet others in a way that they became lifelong friends as well as how to interact with men from all over the nation."

Following graduation, Steve went to broadcasting school in Minneapolis with the hope of becoming a sports announcer.

"I had become friends with the family of Art Shannon, the treasurer of the Republican party in Wisconsin," Steve recalls. "I was at his tailgate at a Badger game in fall of 1973 when he suggested I run for the state legislature. I ran, and won, becoming the first Republican from that area to

be elected in a long, long time. I was reelected twice more."

Over time, Steve's brothers **Nels Gunderson '82** and **Matthew Gunderson '85** had become brothers of Alpha Pi, and with their help, along with that of other family members, Steve ran for Congress from his district, winning in the Reagan landslide of 1980. He would go on to be reelected eight times, retiring undefeated in 1997.

"In all that time, my biggest regret is that we repealed The Fairness Doctrine in 1987," Steve notes ruefully. "This was a law that specified that the media had to present both sides of a political issue in a balanced manner. We felt that the law was too restrictive and that common sense would prevail—of course, we were wrong. The abolishment of the doctrine enabled the one-sided nature of whole news channels that we see today as well as hear much of on talk radio."

His proudest accomplishment during his time in office, however, was the legislation he sponsored protecting the upper Mississippi River.

"At issue was the fact that the Army Corps of Engineers was concerned with using this part of the river primarily as a shipping lane," Steve said. "My work forced the engineers to maintain

the river for multiple uses, such as wetlands, habitat, and recreation."

"The biggest difference between politics then and now is the amount of partisanship we see," Steve observes. "We saw our campaigning as a time to be partisan, and the rest of the time as a time to work together. We were all about governance; today, everything is all about power."

Following his sixteen years in congress, Steve took senior leadership positions in education and planning, spending six years heading the Council on Foundations, and the last nine years leading Career Education Colleges and Universities.

Truth be told, none of us who recruited Steve at Alpha Pi back in 1970 thought he was all that special. It's safe to say we're amazed at how much he's learned in the ensuing 52 years! Based on that, we'll give him the last word on the future of fraternities:

"Those that seek the value of place-based education will want other ways, like our fraternity, to build relationships, if these ways are seen as inclusive, pragmatic, and deliberate."

Yours in *_kai_*,
Roderick Taylor,
#1448, UW 1972

SPRING JUBILEE UPDATES

On Saturday, March 26, Alpha PIs from several decades returned to the chapter house to renew the bonds of brotherhood at our Spring Jubilee. After updates from the chapter/capital campaign and recognition of the Fraternal 25s and 50s in attendance, we honored **Thomas "OB" Oberwetter '74** for his decades of service to the chapter. **Bernie Verhoven '76** gave a moving tribute and read a letter from **Bernard Judge '96** thanking OB for his guidance.

Also announced was the establishment of the Thomas R. Oberwetter Award for Sustained Service and Dedication to the Alpha Pi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

Nominations will be accepted by any board member at any time, and future honorees will be recognized at upcoming alumni events.

Thank you to everyone who attended and helped make the Jubilee a success. We appreciate your support of the Alpha Pi chapter and look forward to welcoming you back to 622 Mendota Court again soon.

Yours in *_kai_*,
Max Lord, #1991, UW 2007
BBA President

P.S. We are always looking for alumni volunteers. If you're inclined to serve Alpha Pi, please get in touch with me.



(Left to Right) **Bob Schnese '83**, **Bernie Verhoven '76**, **Steve Meyer '76**, **Mike Imse '77**, **Bruce Huibregtse '76**, **George Moore '79**, **Thomas "OB" Oberwetter '74**, and **Dan Siedlecki '75** in the renovated Billiards room.



Derek Campbell '19 and **George Moore '79** in the renovated Chapter House lobby.



Max Lord '07 presenting **Thomas R. Oberwetter Award** to the man himself, **Thomas "OB" Oberwetter '74**.



Continuing Excellence

Active Brothers Remain Gracious and Eager

For those I have not had the pleasure of meeting, my name is Charlie Wied, and I was recently elected as president of the Alpha Pi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. I am a sophomore here at UW pursuing majors in accounting and finance at the Wisconsin School of Business, and I was born and raised in the Green Bay area just a couple hours of farmland north of Madison. I previously served the chapter as head pledge educator in the fall of 2021 and junior pledge educator in the spring of 2021. Although I have faced plenty of challenges along the way, serving this chapter has been a blast, and I am excited to lead this exceptional group of men through another year where we can continue to support one another.

EXCITING EVENTS

I write to you all at a refreshing and lively time for Alpha Pi Chapter. We persevered together through an anomalous year in 2020-21, as we were largely limited in our chapter operations, but we have begun to make up for it. Our pent-up energy was put to great use this fall; we had our Betawatch philanthropy event once again (raising north of \$5,000), football game tailgates were a regular affair, we hosted our fathers for a weekend, and the list goes on and on.

PROUD PLEDGES

We successfully initiated a vibrant pledge class of 28 brothers this fall, maintaining our exceptional growth and remaining among the top 10 of all Beta Chapters nationwide in terms of membership. Among our 161 members, our academics also remain outstanding, fueled by a mutual interest to excel in whatever we do here as Betas on campus. There is a lot to be proud of here at Alpha Pi.

ACTIVE ALUMNI

Additionally, our brothers had the opportunity to meet and converse with many of our alumni throughout this fall semester, exchanging the lifelong memories that this house has brought us all. Our chapter would not be able to maintain our current growth without the tremendous amount of generosity from our supporters.

The recent renovations are spectacular, and it is evident that a lot of thought and care was put into all the house improvements. We are often complimented on the wood finishes and many decorations throughout the main floor, as they truly do look amazing. **To our alumni, donors, and all our supporters—thank you.** We take great pride in our house and the tradition that is held within it, and it truly does make the Alpha Pi Chapter a special place to be.

As I approach the halfway point of my college tenure, I find joy in seeing the amazing connections that this chapter continues to foster, for those before me and those succeeding me. I am sure many of you can relate when I say that this brotherhood has been a blessing in my life, and without the collective effort of us all, we simply would not be where we are today as a chapter.



God Bless, and Go Badgers!

Yours in *_kai_*,

Charlie Wied, #2300, UW, 2024



Most of the fall 2020 pledge class gathering at the lake.



*Our brothers clean up well for our formal this semester in Chicago.
Left to right: Charlie Klimpel '24, Charlie Wied '24, Red Tornehl '24, Andrew Prange '24, Josh Etzel '24, Nicky Lutz '24, Dylan Kiratli '24.*



*Brothers bundle up at a Green Bay Packers game this past January.
Left to right: Charlie Wied '24, Red Tornehl '24, Andrew Prange '24.*

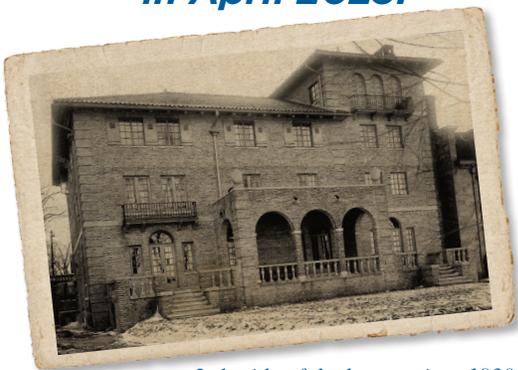


*The chapter house remains the best place to hang out.
Just ask our sophomore live-ins!*



Alpha Pi Announces 150th Anniversary Plans

*Make Plans to Join Us
in April 2023!*



Lakeside of the house, circa 1930.

2023 will mark the 150th anniversary, or sesquicentennial, of Alpha Pi Chapter at the University of Wisconsin. We will be celebrating this accomplishment with a two-night gala event in Madison, and we encourage all brothers, wives, and Beta Sweethearts to attend!

Our first event is an old-time beer supper at the house on Friday, April 21, beginning at 5:30 p.m. We will launch the evening with ice cold beer served, for the first time in years, around our storied hexagonal bar in the Beta Barroom. Dinner will be catered on the first floor, followed by dancing until 11 p.m. in the living room. The dress is come as you used to be.

The celebration will culminate with a banquet dinner and dancing at the Doubletree Madison East in Madison. Dress for this function is jacket and tie.

Shoutout to brother **Dave Lenz '71**, for comping us on Saturday's banquet room, as well as for providing our rooms at the Doubletree for an almost laughable, and most brotherly, \$79 a night. Start booking your rooms on May 1; be sure to mention "Beta 150th" when making your reservation. The phone number for the Doubletree is (608) 244-4703.

In order to decorate the house and hotel spaces, we are requesting any Beta photos you may have from your well-spent youth in Madison. We will return everything sent to us for replacement in your personal halls of fame after we scan them. The best photo wins two free tickets to our events.

All Beta memorabilia should be sent to Tara Rose Gross, 7828 Midden Lane, Alexandria,



THE ALPHA PILOT

BETA THETA PI

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Verona, WI 53593

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f Beta Theta Pi - University of Wisconsin



VA 22306. If you have any questions for Tara Rose, she can be reached at (571) 289-1017 or taraharleygross@aol.com.

We will be establishing pricing for the events shortly, and we will keep it as reasonable as possible. On a personal note, I am thrilled to be involved in this, as I attended our centennial in 1973, and I'm looking forward to surprising the brothers at the 150th with the fact that I'm still alive! Feel free to contact me with any questions, comments, or if you just want to hear me do the Beta Yodel one more time.

Yours in kai,
Roderick Taylor, #1448, UW '72
(952) 607-9454
rst72badger@gmail.com

