

THE GAMMA KAPPA

ARROW

Greetings Brothers,

As the 2011-2012 school year draws to a close we get the opportunity to reflect on some the trials and successes of the few months.. As usual the passing of 2 more semesters has brought along more new challenges, new opportunities, new experiences and new friends than anyone could have expected. For this we are truly grateful and excited to see what the coming year will bring.

All of our challenges bring fantastic opportunities whether we see it or not. Our whole housing fiasco for instance, while being potentially debilitating, has brought us closer to a group of incredible people---YOU, the Alumni of the Gamma Kappa chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

As the current Alumni Chair I believe that I have the most fun position in the undergraduate chapter, mostly because I love hearing all the stories and great things that are going on in your lives. From conversing with Brother Yahna about living in Austria, to hearing about stories from the



Fan Art by: Hillary Kempenich



1940s from Brother Clayburgh, to Brother Vidmar's new book, to Brother Nichol森's Alumni retreat in Las Vegas. As well as all of the new goings on; new jobs, new marriages, new babies, and new life experiences.

Yours in _kai_
Ryan Buss # 1193

Homecoming 2011:

This year's Homecoming was a blast. There was an outstanding showing of Alumni for all of our events. We had a barbeque and social on Friday night and on Saturday we held a "State of the Chapter" meeting in the morning and then all went to watch the football game in the suite. This was followed by a banquet dinner at the Hilton Garden Inn.



Homecoming 2012: October 12-14

More details at undbeta.org and a mailing coming this summer

Las Vegas

Reunion:

Brother Nicholson held a small Alumni reunion in Las Vegas this spring with many alumni from his time as an undergraduate in Beta. Plans are already in the works for another Vegas reunion in 2013, if you are interested let Jess know at jen717@midrivers.com. A more in depth synopsis as well as pictures from brother Nicholson is available on betathetapi.org.



Presidents Address:

When looking back on my time as a member of the Gamma Kappa Chapter of Beta Theta Pi I cannot help but think about what it was that made me join this great fraternity. Originally I had little interest in joining a “frat” I thought all they did was party on the weekends and not much else. After spending a few hours with the members and hearing about all the great opportunities and friendship that being in Beta provided I began to consider joining. At first my parents were not on board with the idea of me joining a fraternity but they told me that it is my decision to make. During the year as a freshman I saw how Beta brought all its members closer together through brotherhood events, philanthropies, formals, and volunteering in the community. I was also drawn to the broader Beta experience when I went to our regional Keystone conference that promoted building leadership skills through learning how to be an effective officer in our organization. My parents saw that Beta had changed something in me and have now been actively supporting me in my fraternity experience. They often tell of the great things that our house does to their friends, and made the 5 hour drive to Grand Forks to make the chapter a turkey dinner. The last 3 years have allowed me to grow as a leader in our organization through 3 regional Keystone conferences, the John and Nellie Wooden Summer Institute, Chapter Presidents Leadership Academy, and by next year I will have attended 2 General Conventions. Each of these events has provided me with information and skills that I will continue through the rest of my life. I have been blessed to be in such a great organization that builds men of principle for a principled life.

–**Daniel J. Marnich ‘13**

Pig/Lamb Roast May 11 2012

6pm- 8:30 pm

If you are in the Grand Forks Area

We would love for you to attend

Contact us!

Website: undbeta.org

Twitter: UNDBeta

Facebook: ND Betas

And

facebook.com/UNDBetas

Email: undbeta@gmail.com

Phone: (218) 791-0807

Housing Corporation Update:

Hello from the Housing Corporation and the Chapter Advisor, I hope to be bring good news to everyone’s eyes, but I will be realistic in the dire situation that we face. The house is looking good, making it back from the low that it was in. We have a corporation controlling the house and adjusting the rent and house fees to prevent the indebtedness that the house had fallen into. We have the \$75,000 available for house restoration from the University, but the fact is that we have to fight to keep the house to utilize that money. The University has set a deadline of June 15, 2012 to pay the \$50,000 Beta owes it for back unpaid rent and the down payment on the purchase of the house. That is why we have been contacting you in any way we can asking for donations. We are on the way towards that goal, but still need more to reach the \$50,000. If we do not have \$50k to cut the University a check, **THE UNIVERSITY WILL EVICT ALL BETA MEN AND SELL THE HOUSE TO SOME OTHER ORGANIZATION**, most likely the Newman Catholic

Church on Campus, who has already purchased the Tri-Delta house and the Beta Annex. *From that point on, Beta Theta Pi will no longer be on University campus and will never again have a house to call our own.* This will domino into the **death of the Beta fraternity in North Dakota**. We have about **\$25,000**, but still need donations. Please give \$250, or \$500, or \$1,000, or what you can. Together as brothers we can reach the goal otherwise I’m afraid this will be the last document the Gamma Kappa Chapter of BTP will send out to you. Contact us if you need more information of the situation or where to send the donations, but please do something to keep the proud Beta name on campus!

–**Aaron A. Kempenich ’02, #1064**