# SAGA MONTHLY

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## **MARCH 2017**



**Austin, TX** - On Friday, February 3, more than a dozen local alumni joined the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation Board of Trustees, three members of the Fraternity's Board of Directors, Society of Seventeen Members, and their spouses for a reception in downtown Austin. Approximately 40 guests attended the reception, which allowed local alumni to meet and share experiences with members of the Board of Trustees, who were convening in town for their annual winter meeting.

The Board of Trustees welcomed Jill Carrel in her new role as the Director of Foundations Operations. In mid-January Carrel moved from her position with the WPN Housing Company to manage the day-to-day operations of the Foundation. She comes to the Foundation with more than a decade of fundraising experience.

"It was evident throughout the weekend that the board volunteers truly value their life-long membership in Sigma Tau Gamma and are committed to working hard to preserve Sig Tau's place in the Greek community for many years to come," Carrel said. <text>

At the reception, 39th National President Jonathan Proehl, UW River Falls, presented Bill Hembree, Pittsburg State, with the Winebrenner Distinguished Service Medal, as he had been unable to attend the Grand Conclave awards ceremony last summer in Orlando. The trip to Austin was especially meaningful for Bill who lost his wife Connie at the beginning of January.

Do you know someone who should be considered for one of Sig Tau's top honors? Award nominations are due by April 15 and can be submitted online at <u>www.sigtau.org</u>.

# **5 THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT SIG TAU THIS MONTH**



Headquarters is seeking summer interns. Applications are now available, but the deadline is approaching. Apply <u>here</u> before March 3.



On February 17, sixteen men at the University of California – Merced became the Zeta Rho Associate Chapter. HQ staff will be on campus through March. We Continue to Expand

We are proud to announce that Sig Tau now has active Chapters on 75 different campuses, located in 28 different states.

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#### Gamma Alpha Chapter at Mansfield Closes

Chapter debt and membership attrition were two factors that resulted in the chapter's closure. Plans are in place to return soon.



Auburn: February 1st Youngstown State: February 7th Wisconsin - La Crosse: February 20th Florida Tech: February 28th





# THE MIZZOU CHAPTER IS BACK



**Columbia, MO** – Originally chartered in 1958, the Beta Alpha Chapter at the University of Missouri is one of ten chapters in the state. The chapter has been a staple of the state's flagship institution for decades, and in the fall of 2014 HQ staff and the Alumni Association agreed to reboot the chapter in the wake of apathy and poor recruitment efforts.

On Saturday, January 28, more than 100 people celebrated at the Elm Street Ballroom for the Beta Alpha re-chartering ceremony, including alumni, parents and family, and members from other Greek organizations on campus. CEO Steve Latour and two members of the HQ staff were joined by 39th National President Jonathan Proehl, UW River Falls, and 32nd Past President John Heiman, Central Missouri, who was accompanied by his wife, Cathy, former Foundation Trustee.

During the ceremony, the Sigma Tau Gamma Foundation announced that a chapter endowment had been established to support future training, book scholarships, and attendance at national programs. The Beta Alpha Alumni Association presented a scholarship of \$1,000 to John "Jack" Baumann, Missouri, for his high academic achievement as a new member of the fraternity.

The night's celebration was the culmination of prolonged effort, according to Chapter President Corey Gilmore, who said, "After 20 long, hard months of continuous grinding day after day, we cannot express how excited and motivated we are to be an officially chartered chapter within the Sigma Tau Gamma ranks again."

Founded in 1869, The Greek community at MU is home to over 7,500 students, in 57 chapters, representing nearly 26% of the undergraduate student population.

# RECRUITMENT BY THE NUMBERS

**West Lafayette, IN** – Congratulations to the Beta Theta Chapter at Purdue University for having a spring associate class of 34 members. The chapter boasts 128 members, tying it with Arizona State as the largest Sig Tau chapter in the country. **Tuscaloosa, AL –** The Epsilon Phi Chapter at the University of Alabama did an outstanding job recruiting a spring associate class of 15 members. There are now 102 members in the chapter.

**Pittsburgh, PA -** The Delta Beta Chapter at Duquesne University welcomed 14 new members this spring. This brings the chapter's membership total to 52.

**Tempe, Arizona -** Congratulations to the Zeta Alpha Chapter at Arizona State for welcoming an associate class of 23 members. This brings the total chapter size to 128 men.

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Meet Ross Olson, Wisconsin – Stout '87, Alpha Kappa Chapter. He lives in Georgetown, Massachusetts and will be running the upcoming Boston Marathon to benefit the Make-a-Wish Foundation.

 If you would like to help Ross Olson raise money for Make-a-Wish, click <u>here</u> to follow the link.

# **AN INTERVIEW WITH ROSS OLSON**

#### Q: How did you get involved in Sig Tau?

**A:** My dad was a member of Sig Tau at the same university that I attended, and my uncle was a founding father there as well.

#### Q: Have you run the Boston Marathon before?

A: I have not. This will be my first marathon of any kind.

#### Q: What initially made you want to participate in the famous event?

**A:** I just did a 5k and have done others in the past. I also ran a half marathon this past year, and the Boston Marathon was just next on the goals list.

#### Q: What made you want to run for the Make-a-Wish Foundation?

**A:** I'm not sure if you're familiar with the whole process, but you can get into the Boston one of two ways. One way is that you can qualify, which I'm not an Olympic runner, so I won't be qualifying anytime soon. The second way is that you can get a charity to back you. The clear majority of runners in the Boston marathon are doing it for a charitable cause. So I found the charitable cause that I wanted to support, which is the Make-a-Wish Foundation, and you can ask them for a sponsorship or a bid to run the race, and they ask the Boston Marathon folks to grant them bids. They asked for seven but only received four. Those of us who wanted to run applied for the bid, and then they reviewed the application in which you must tell them why you want to run, you know, your cause and your reasoning. And then they select the folks that they want to run for them, and I was the first one that they selected, so that was kind of cool.

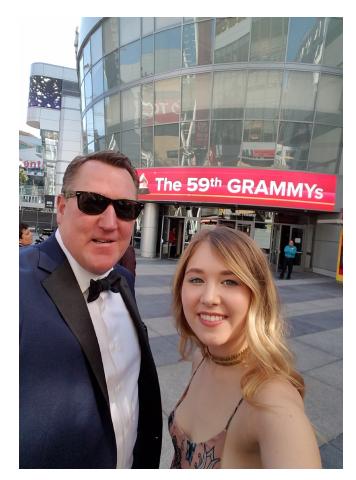
## Q: If you could compare running the Boston Marathon for Make-a-Wish to one of our principles, which one would it be and why?

**A:** Gosh, it really hits all of them. But I think the main reason I'm doing it is really Leadership and Citizenship because obviously, it gives back to kids that are impacted by Make-a-Wish, which is a tremendous organization, but my company is also involved with them so I have seen the impact. I've had friends who have been supported by the charity, so it's very gratifying from a leadership standpoint. Even back in college, it was always important to give back when you're able to do something, whether it's physically or financially. Giving back to a community that you live in has always been important to me. But now that I have three daughters, they are the initial reason I got into running: to stay healthy for them and to be able to keep up with them. But now they see me running for this cause, and so they realize it's more than just about me, and more than just about them, and it's about doing something for other people as well.

## **Q**: Is there anything you know now that you wish you knew as an active member?

**A:** Ha-ha. Everything. I think that's part of life's experiences though. When you're in college one of the ways to learn those things is to go through them and learn from your mistakes. That's just the way it goes.





# GRAMMYS REUNITES TWO NATIONAL VOLUNTEERS

**Los Angeles, CA** – While celebrities gathered at the Staples Center on February 12 for the 59th Grammy Awards, one of our own Brothers was also in attendance.

John Heiman, Central Missouri, 32nd National President and current WPN Housing Board Manager, attended the Grammys with his daughter, Mary.

As a marketing executive for Sprint, Heiman was given the opportunity to attend the awards ceremony.

"At Sprint I am responsible for overseeing corporate events and sponsorships, and was invited to attend the Grammys by one of our partners. My daughter, Mary, who is a senior at the University of Missouri and a member of Alpha Chi Omega, is a huge music fan so I decided I'd include her as my +1. The Grammys were awesome. Seeing the best musical artists live on the same stage was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Brother Heiman said.

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MARKETPLACE

Mary wore a beautiful dress by For Love and Lemons, and John sported a blue and black tuxedo designed by Sigma Tau Gamma's 36th National President Richard Harguindeguy, Northland College. When Heiman was presented with this opportunity, he knew he had to reach out to Harguindeguy, a former stylist for Nordstrom's. While they never knew each other as undergraduates, the friendship they have formed as national volunteers has continued to grow over the years.

According to Heiman, had it not been for his time as a national volunteer, he may have never had met Harguindeguy, who has been helping him make better wardrobe choices for the past decade.

 Heiman has worked at Sprint Headquarters since 1987. He is a marketing executive overseeing Sprint's Experiential Marketing organization, which includes executive briefing centers, corporate events, trade shows, and consumer and B2B experiential initiatives.

# **UPCOMING DATES AND EVENTS**

March 1: Association Report Deadline April 1: Initiation Report Deadline April 15: Early Registration for Endeavor Conference Deadline April 15: McCune Annual Report Due April 15: Roster Updates for Fall Due May 15: Final Registration for Endeavor Conference Deadline June 22-24: Endeavor Conference, Minneapolis, MN



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