

Psi Chapter Update



BETA THETA PI

OLD PSI

Spring Edition 2007



Brothers,

I hope this edition of Old Psi finds you and your loved ones doing well. We have a number of things to discuss in this issue of Old Psi. In the pages that follow you'll be brought up to date on the excitement of the Rush Program and the seven new brothers that have joined our ranks. You'll also read articles from several of the leaders from our active chapter. The alumni group is very proud of the accomplishments of these young men with recruiting, attaining academic standards and being leaders on the Bethany campus.

We also are providing an update on an initiative that will help to keep the rich history and traditions of PSI Chapter alive for many years to come. Brother Rick Snyder, class of 1976, is heading an Archive Project to ensure that we capture and preserve composites, individual pictures, trophies and memorabilia from PSI's storied past. Lastly we want to call special attention to an article on plans for Homecoming 2007. This year we are planning something special for PSI Chapter and we want you to be a part of it.

I also want to announce that Gary Novak, also from the class of 1976, has volunteered to serve as Recruitment Advisor for the re-colonization team. Gary joins a handful of alumni that provide the direct guidance and oversight to the Active Chapter as they continue the journey from PSI being a colony to full chapter status once again.

Over the last month I've been scanning PSI archives into my computer. Some of these documents go back to the 1870's. These reports, letters, newsletters, etc. were brought to Bethany from Oxford for a short stay following the initiation of the Founding Father class last year. When I saw them I knew that these were documents that needed to be shared with all PSI Betas. In many respects these papers are priceless. They are the history of PSI and they show the lengths that our Brothers were willing to go to ensure that PSI Chapter remained a viable and dominant fraternity on Bethany's campus.

Names like Tilock, Woolery, Kirkpatrick, Boyd, Hurl jump out from these pages. No doubt these men left there indelible mark on PSI but it is quickly apparent that literally hundreds of other PSI Betas played a key role in keeping the spirit alive. What is also apparent is that there were many 'dark' periods during our almost 150 years, yet through the dedication of countless and in most cases unidentified PSI Betas we continue to make history instead of becoming history.

For this generation of PSI Betas it is now our turn to step up and be counted. Please join your other Brothers in supporting PSI Chapter with your time and your financial contributions. New chapters continue to be written in PSI history; please be a part of it.

Yours in -kai-,

Doug Miller
Class of 1977

Recolonization Report

David Cottingham, 1121

On April 14, 2007, PSI Colony welcomed and initiated seven young men into Beta Theta Pi. These fine young men represent the Alpha Class and close another chapter in the process of regaining PSI's Charter.

Our current status in our re-colonization process with the General Fraternity is suspended, and we are designated as a Colony. In order for us to regain our Charter we must fulfill a long list of directives and thresholds. They include having a full contingent of Advisors, maintaining a GPA of 2.7 or above, having a minimum of 20 active members, send a minimum delegation to the various Leadership Opportunities each year, have a satisfactory Risk Management program and rating from the General Fraternity, and be current with the financial obligations of the General Fraternity. These directives are known as SCOE, or Standard Chapter Operating Expectations. I am proud to report that PSI Colony meets or exceeds all except one expectation, that being 20 active members.

This year the Founding Father Class, with only seven active members, succeeded in winning Greek Sing, rebuilt the Beta Walk, where the initiation of the Alpha class took place, won several Homecoming Contests and continued the PSI tradition of serenading the various Sororities on campus. One active was elected Treasurer for IFC, and others were involved in Kalon, "The Tower", and Bethany's television station. All active members and the Advisory Team spent three days at the General Fraternity's Keystone Leadership Conference in Pittsburgh where close to 300 Beta's met to learn and develop leadership skills to enhance their chapters and their roles as Officers. We are sending ten actives to four Leadership Opportunities this summer, well above the minimum requirement.

As you can see, this isn't the Beta we all knew. It requires more time, more energy, more involvement, more money, and more commitment. Having had the privilege to know these fine young men, to work with them to achieve our stated goal, to deal with the setbacks and to celebrate their accomplishments has rekindled my spirit in this great Fraternity. I can not thank the rest of the Advisory Team enough for their hard work and dedication. With their support and Alumni support we expect to receive our Charter at the 2009 General Convention. Just in time for our 150th year celebration of PSI Chapter in 2010!

President's Message

Justin Elkins

President of the Active Chapter

From the very beginning, the Founding Fathers were taught the book. We learned about Beta Theta Pi from the Son of the Stars manual just as our Alpha Class is doing now. We heard stories from the past, but we weren't there and could not truly relate. The Founding Fathers really had no idea what it meant to be a true Beta. The Son of the Stars cannot teach family. It can describe brotherhood, trust, and mutual assistance, but it cannot show you how to live by these. What can give you brotherhood, trust, and a need for mutual assistance is living with men who worthily wear the badge and bear the name of Beta Theta Pi.

This semester we doubled our numbers recruiting seven worthy men to be our Alpha Class. All of these men are still on board and looking forward to initiation on April 14th. Throughout their pledge process we have treated these men with the same respect we receive from them. To our benefit, these pledges have immersed themselves in the pledge manual and are itching for a position within the house.

With the Alumni coming before the Founding Fathers, and the Founding Fathers coming before the Alpha Class, each group has a respect for its mentor and is only looking to surpass what has come before. Because of the bridges that have been built before us and by us, I only see progress in our future. With twelve men working toward the same goal, I expect to have the house filled with the third recruitment class. I also expect to be the premier fraternity on campus in grades. As of now, we sit above only three other houses with a 2.77, meeting national standards but not where we want to be.

Above all, I expect progress from our group. We will lose one man to graduation and one man to personal issues, but as we all have learned before, "The great secret of Beta Theta Pi's success consists not in numbers, but union, not in great strength, but in well-directed and simultaneous exertions. What a few men united in object and efforts will to do, can be done; and more than that, such associations teach us in their records how far human friendship can carry us from the shrine of the idol self," –John Reily Knox, Miami 1839.



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House Corporation Report

Art Musicaro, 1103 and Art Bertol, 1176

The House Corporation (HC) is pleased to report that the corporation is solvent and fully functioning with eleven directors conducting regular meetings. Ongoing regular expenses have been a greater burden this year due to the less than half capacity house census. However, credit must be given to the active chapter for keeping costs in check due to conscientious use of house resources. We must also give thanks to you, our generous Psi Alumni who continue to support Psi Diamond during this ongoing and historic Recolonization of Psi Chapter.

The active chapter has been interacting with the HC like never before. The house manager serves on the board – providing insights from the active chapter. The HC has been assisting the actives in amending house Constitution and Bylaws in areas dealing with rooms, keys, cleanups, rules, etc. The actives have also been providing input and priority to house projects. One example is the parking lot storm drain project that has been moved up on the project list.

Over the past two years there have been over a dozen major projects completed – these improvements have totaled over \$30,000. The current project lists are detailed in the schedules below.

Every effort has been taken to choose projects and spend funds wisely. In this spirit Director Bob Kolb has taken the lead to reduce financial burden to Psi Diamond by pursuing grants available from the General Fraternity's Designated Education Area (DEA) program.

There is certainly much to be proud at Psi Chapter these days. Stop by and see for yourself. Why not consider helping out in any way possible? How about sponsoring a project? Make a donation; take an active role in your Psi Diamond - there is not a better or more important time to act. I'm glad to be a Beta and glad you are too!

	Projects Pending	Budget/Final
1	Alley Parking Lot Drainage	Budget: \$3,500
2	Outdoor lighting, landscaping and recreation improvements	Budget: \$5,000
3	Utility Building	Budget: \$3,000
4	Flag Pole Dr. Hurl donation.	Budget: \$2,200
5	Laundry Equipment Replacement	Budget: \$2,000

	Future Projects and Plans	Projected Budget
1	Social areas Furniture Replacement	\$20,000
2	Sleeping Rooms – Furniture Replacement	\$20,000
3	Boiler replaced with forced air gas system	\$7,500
4	Social Area Appliances, Recreation Plaques; Class Paddles; Honor Roll	\$10,000
5	General Decorating	\$5,000

Psi Chapter Diamond Association Charitable Foundation (CF)

We are pleased to report that the Charitable Foundation (CF) continues to be in good standing. Because of the continued generosity of the Psi Chapter Alumni, the total market value as of March 31, 2007, was \$562,047. Our asset allocation, comprised mostly of mutual funds, is currently invested in equities (just over 75%) with the balance in fixed income securities. Our investment return net after all costs was 11.6% for 2006. On an absolute basis this performance is acceptable, however on a relative basis, the committee is not impressed and we anticipate moving from JP Morgan to another advisor/cutodian within the next month. With this move, we will expect better performance, service, simplified reporting and a reduction in costs.

A special thanks to the following Brothers for their contributions in calendar year 2006.

Harold Watkins (49)	Donald Boyd (44)	Theo Christman (52)
Dean Lesiak (74)	Birk Adams (55)	Rod Hurl (52)
Blake Rowe (75)		

Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The CF continues to operate by its founding principles while actively supporting Psi Chapter. Distributions for calendar year 2006 totaled \$23,500. Recipients of the distributions included:

The Forest H. Kirkpatrick Scholarship Fund (Bethany College),
The William Young Scholarship Fund (Bethany College),
Bethany College Interfraternity Council and the Pan-Hellenic Council,
Psi Chapter Academic Facility Maintenance, Repairs and Upgrades

The CF is currently preparing the 2007 distribution (estimated at \$25,000) which will include scholarship and leadership awards (snap, snap, snap, snap) for the new Actives that have qualified.

On behalf of the CF, we want to thank the Brothers for their support. It is because of your contributions of time, talent and money, that the Foundation has been able to support Psi Colony as it works towards becoming the best fraternity on campus and a true "Men of Principle" Chapter in Beta's Broad Domain.

Respectfully submitted,
CF Directors and Investment Committee

Financial Report

Mark Bado, 1284

It is with great pleasure that I present to you the financial position of the PSI Diamond Association/House Corporation as of March 31, 2007.

Beginning with Homecoming in October 2004, the challenge was sent out to the Beta Alumni of Bethany College that a re-colonization effort was to be undertaken. In response to this challenge, nearly 140 brothers have donated or pledged over \$ 65,000 to help re-establish the Betas on Bethany's campus. We also have received \$20,500 in rent payments and a \$25,000 contribution from the Charitable Foundation since the Fall of 2004.

As detailed in the attached report, these monies have gone toward insurance, house improvements, repairs and maintenance, newsletters to alumni, a wrap on the Beta Theta Pi Magazine, hosting homecoming and alumni weekend events, and financing re-colonization efforts.

On the balance sheet, there is a cash balance of \$6,400 and a receivables balance of \$15,100 which includes rent, pledges and the Charitable Foundation.

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the Psi Diamond Association/House Corporation.

PSI Diamond/House Corporation Beta Theta Pi Bethany College PSI Chapter – Alumni Association

March 31, 2007

CASH	\$ 6,400
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE:	
Rent	\$ 6,700
Pledges	\$ 7,075
PSI Charitable Foundation	\$ 1,672
	<hr/>
	\$ 8,747
	<hr/>
Total	<u><u>\$ 15,147</u></u>

PSI Diamond/House Corporation

Homecoming 2004 - March 31, 2007

Revenues:

Pledges	\$ 65,000
Rents Collected	\$ 20,500
Contribution from Charitable Foundation	\$ 25,000
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	\$ 110,500

Expenses:

electrical Work	\$ 11,500
Doors	\$ 11,000
Insurance	\$ 9,825
Painting	\$ 9,300
Air Conditioning Units	\$ 9,260
Utilities	\$ 8,700
Leadership Seminars for Actives	\$ 7,500
Internet Installation	\$ 5,700
Carpet	\$ 5,000
Homecomings, Alumni Weekend	\$ 4,300
Lawn Service/Winterize Misc. <i>Are They Now ?</i>	\$ 4,300
House Cleaning	\$ 4,000
Newsletter/Publishing/Postage	\$ 3,300
Activation of Founding Fathers	\$ 2,700
Blinds	\$ 2,700
Dinner for Rush	\$ 2,300
Outside Fire pit	\$ 2,300
Conference Calls	\$ 2,000
Plumbing	\$ 2,000
Other	\$ 1,100
Scholarship	\$ 1,000
Greek Leadership	\$ 1,000
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	\$ 110,785



BETA THETA PI
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PSI Archive Project

Rick Snyder, 1061

Brothers of PSI Chapter,

During the Homecoming event of 2006, several brothers began discussing the idea of reconstructing the history of PSI Chapter. A team was formed consisting of Byron Schindler "77", Bill Atwater "76", Val Gundling "75", Doug Miller "77", Rick Snyder "76", Dennis Pavan "74", Tim Redman "75" and J.R. Wright "79" to begin studying the idea.

We have identified three projects that we hope will bring some of the history back to the PSI Chapter house.

1. **Class composites** - We hope to collect as many years as possible of the smaller version of composite (14" x 11"). We will mount the composites in the house, by class/year, uniform framing, durable mounting and protection.
2. **PSI Chapter Memorabilia** - trophies, plaques and documents from alumni. We are basically putting feelers out for some of the memorabilia that exists today. We would also like to consider renovating the trophy case that will display items and keep them secure.
3. **Personal photographs** - Surely everyone has a picture of themselves and their friends during their college years. The plan will be to collect these images digitally and identify them by date and/or class year. Our plan is to produce DVD's that will show the life and times of PSI Chapter over the years by class or era. Our first attempt will be to capture the years between 1970 through 1980. The interest of alumni from other years and their willingness to participate in the project will determine if subsequent DVD's are produced. We would hope to sell the DVD's to offset the cost of the project.

Instructions for sending (14" x 11") class composites

Check the website at <http://history.psibeta.net/composites.html> and see what class years are needed. If you have one of the missing years, you can mail the composite to:

Rick Snyder
32 Keswick Dr.
Hudson OH 44236

Be sure to include a return address label so the composite can be mailed back after it is copied.

Instructions for sending PSI Memorabilia

We are looking for items such as old trophies and plaques that were once in the house. Or any other memorabilia that you might feel is a part of PSI history.

Mail items to:
Douglas Miller
2615 Quail Hill Drive
Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Instructions for sending personal photographs

You will have two options

1. To send photos digitally, via email, to the following address:
bethanypsibeta@gmail.com
This address will be the collecting house for all pictures. Remember to include the year the picture was taken in the subject line.
2. To send hard copy pictures, we realize that not all participants will have the ability to scan pictures. If this is the case, mail your pictures along with a return address label to the following:

For years 1975 and before:

Val Gundling
3953 Hickory Hill Rd.
Murrysville, PA 15668

For years 1976 to present:

Doug Miller
2615 Quail Hill Dr.
Pittsburgh PA 15241

We hope you will want to participate in reconstructing the rich and proud history of PSI Chapter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or thoughts about the project at rsnyder@psibeta.net



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Homecoming 2007 October 11th through 13th – Something Special

Joe Rotellini, 1105

It is time to start planning for a special PSI gathering at this year's homecoming. One of our brothers, Joe Rotellini is working with Oglebay Resort to create a special event for PSI Alumni.

It is the perfect time to plan to come back to Bethany and to the House. We have six Founding Fathers (active members) and we just activated the second group of seven Brothers. These young men are carrying the future of PSI Chapter and they need our support. They want to understand the history and lore of the men that came before them. There is no better way to share that than with you coming back to Homecoming and sharing some of your experiences and thoughts with these men.

We are planning a special day for Thursday October 11th. We will be having a Beta Golf Outing at Oglebay. Consecutive tee times begin at 11 AM. Following golf we will have cocktails, a dinner banquet with awards, and then a Chapter Meeting, complete with Minutes from various classes down through the years. After Chapter Meeting we will share the Loving Cup and then there will be plenty of time to meet the new Brothers or share memories with friends and Brothers from your era.

Friday's schedule includes the Bethany Alumni outing at Highland Springs and other activities at the school, Bubba's, etc. Saturday we will have our normal PSI Diamond/Charitable Foundation/House Corporation meetings in the morning, followed by tailgating and the various sporting events.

There is another event scheduled at Oglebay so lodging is somewhat limited. We have reserved several cabins/cottages and are on a wait list for lodge rooms. We need to know the number of Brothers (and spouses) that will return and for how many nights. We will coordinate with Oglebay and will also look into other arrangements in Bethany and Wheeling as alternatives.

We have a link for you to register. www.psihomecoming2007.com. We will then send information to help coordinate lodging and we will require a security deposit. We ask your patience as we work to make this a great event. If nothing else, this will be a 'dry run' for the 150th Anniversary of PSI Chapter in 2010.

Make your plans to arrive in Bethany/Oglebay either Wednesday evening or Thursday morning. Mark your calendars and visit the weblink to register. You'll need to tell us several important details; what nights you'll need lodging, if a wife/guest will join you, if you will play golf on Thursday and who you would like to be paired with.

Send any questions to Joe Rotellini and Doug Miller dmiller@psibeta.net.

Agenda for Wednesday Night/Thursday Morning:

Arrive at Oglebay Resort & Conference Center
Lodging either in Cabins or at the Main Lodge
Group discounts for all Betas

Thursday:

Breakfast	Oglebay
Lunch	On the course
Golf Outing	Jones Course (Speidel)
Dinner and Awards (all)	Oglebay Ballroom
Chapter Meeting for Brothers Including Actives from Bethany Minutes by various Brothers Loving Cup	Oglebay Ballroom
Late night entertainment for all	

Friday:

Breakfast	Oglebay
Bethany Golf Outing	Highland Springs
Luncheon and Awards	Bethany
Time with Brothers	Wherever

Saturday:

Breakfast	On your own
Meetings House Corporation Psi Diamond Charitable Foundation Psi Diamond	Chapter House
Homecoming Event Chartered Bus to Field Biggest/Best Tent and Food Ever	Bethany Field

PSI Scholarship Program

A Scholarship Committee was formed to review and develop a program to award scholarships for deserving members of the Active chapter. Mark Schmidt, class of 78' heads the planning committee. Participants include; Curt Klein, Scott Thompson, Scott Brooks and Paul Roscoe. Following is an overview of the Scholarship Program. The goal is to finalize the plan and begin awards for the 2007/08 school year. Your feedback and support of this program is needed in order for it to be successful.

Psi Chapter Scholarship and Initiation Incentive Program

The goal of the scholarship program is to support ongoing academic excellence and develop an initiation incentive program.

All actives are eligible to apply for a scholarship. Each candidate must submit a scholarship application by a scheduled annual deadline. Actives should submit the existing scholarship application provided by the college.

The Chapter will establish a scholarship committee of at least five members. The committee should have one active (one of the active chapter officers), a member of the foundation, and an optional representative (faculty advisor preferred) from the college. Members of the committee are to be appointed by the Charitable Foundation, Psi Diamond Association or House Corporation.

The scholarship committee will meet at least twice a year. The committee will be given the authority to recommend scholarship awards. The awards will be based on merit using the ground rules outlined in this document. The Charitable Foundation (CF) will have the ultimate authority over the scholarship policy (annual amounts, individual awards, minimum merit requirements for the awards, and any other policy decisions). The foundation will also administer the distribution of awards based on the scholarship committee's recommendations.

The committee will review applications and recommend scholarship grants once a year (in January after grades are available from the first semester – this may need to be later after the freshmen pledge class is formed – depending if it is a rolling admission or single pledge class process).

The committee will use a rating guide to rank applicants for scholarship awards. The rating guide will include ranking for GPA, Class Rank, Leadership Involvement, and Volunteer & Community Service Involvement. The committee will use a simple weighted scoring method to determine a percentage of a maximum individual award. The scholarship program will be based on academic merit and will not be a need based scholarship.

The total annual amount for scholarship awards will be determined by the CF. The foundation will take recommendations for proposed individual award amounts, but will determine the target individual award amounts each year. It is anticipated the initial total available scholarship fund will be \$7,000, but may change over time based on funding.

Historical Perspective

Dayton Pryor, 668

Bethany students today would find it hard to believe, but half a century ago there was no break at Thanksgiving. Classes were suspended for the day, but resumed on Friday, and continued on Saturday morning! (Those of us who were in college then remember that on Saturdays students were permitted to wear jeans on campus).

Since there were no classes that Thursday, college rules would have permitted a dance on Wednesday evening. But there were classes that day, and hence no time to prepare for it. The Betas dealt with this situation creatively by devising an event that started at midnight and ended with breakfast. Called the Dawn Dance, it was an important social occasion in the 1940s and 1950s.

In those days women students had to be in their dormitory or sorority house by 9 PM on week-day nights. However, perhaps motivated by holiday spirit, the Dean of Women allowed girls who were invited to the dance to leave their residences just as the new day began. Exactly at midnight, rockets were fired from Pendleton Heights as a signal that they could depart for the dance, held in the Irwin Gymnasium (now the Arts Building) or in the "new" (1950) Beta house.

The Dawn Dance was tremendous fun for participants, but also had other significance. For one thing, it was a unique campus event: all of the fraternities and sororities had their own dances, but none was as distinctively associated with its organization as the Dawn Dance was with Beta Theta Pi. More importantly, it was one of several traditions that served to cement relationships among the brothers and pledges (and, not incidentally, of their Beta girls).

There were many customs and practices that gave meaning to the phrase "I'm glad I'm a Beta." Perhaps the strongest bond of fellowship was singing together at parties and serenades -- from Gemma Nostra to the Froggy Song. In his 1928 poem "At the Beta House," F. H. Kirkpatrick expressed it this way:

We can add to all our gladness
If we sing a Beta song,
For we know there is no sadness
When we, singing, march along.

Other traditions included the showing of approval by snapping fingers, rather than by palm-to-palm applause, and the cheer with which we honored some member: **What's the matter with Brother Knox? He's all right! He's a la-la, he's a loo-loo, he gets there on time. Let's all evoke a facial ripple. H A. H A. Ha ha!** We well remember the passing of the Loving Cup, and that "Wooglin had a bob-tailed dog."

The reconstituted chapter is already building on the past traditions of the chapter and of the fraternity. We are confident that it will continue to do so by initiating novel and distinguishing events, suited to the culture of the times they live in. These will serve both to characterize the chapter favorably to other people on campus, and to reinforce the spirit of friendship and fidelity among Beta brothers.



BETA THETA PI

Psi Chapter

The Brothers of PSI Chapter would like to send special thanks once again to Brother Francis Leo Haus III (Class of 1978) and the F.L. Haus Company for the printing and distribution of our Old PSI newsletter.

Thank you Leo!