

BETA ETA CRESCENT

ALPHA GAMMA RHO FRATERNITY

SPRING 2011

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VIRGINIA TECH

NOBLE RULER REPORT



Nicholas Moody

Greetings Brothers,

This semester has been a very busy and exciting one here at 1503 Toms Creek. Along with our day-to-day routines around campus the brothers of Beta Eta have been very active around the house and around campus. Earlier this semester, eight brothers and I attended the Alpha Gamma Rho Leadership

Seminar that was held in Indianapolis, Ind. This trip provided us the opportunity to meet other brothers from the mid-west region and bring home excellent leadership skills to Blacksburg.

This semester we have also taken the initiative to begin our first annual spring philanthropy. All of our proceeds will go towards benefiting the Wounded Warriors Project, which is a nonprofit organization founded in Roanoke, Va. by a group of veter-

ans and friends who took action to help the injured service men and women of this generation. We will continue to have Harvest Havoc in the fall with the lovely sisters of Sigma Alpha.

The Beta Eta brothers have put an emphasis on recruitment for the past year, and it has really shown. Our numbers have begun to increase as well as getting great quality within the young men that we have brought into the brotherhood here at Beta Eta. With this said, it is an excellent time for the 2011 house renovation. This will be an exciting process for the undergraduate brothers as well as our alumni. I hope to see many of you out for Founders Day April 17 to get one more look at the old section of the house before the process starts, and I invite all alumni to come and check out the newly renovated house next fall!

Fraternally,
Nicholas Moody
Noble Ruler

UPCOMING EVENTS



FOUNDERS DAY

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
Meeting with the board
of Execs and Alumni

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Lunch and
Award Presentations



BEACH BASH

This year we will be hosting Brinley Addington, a country singer from Kingsport, Tenn. This is your last chance to see the house before everything is renovated!

WHAT'S INSIDE

ALUMNI NEWS • ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT • HOUSE RENOVATIONS REPORT • AND MORE...

ALUMNI NEWS

CLIFFORD WILLIAMSON

Cliff recently returned to the United States from his work with the Peace Corps in Nicaragua. He spent nearly two years overseas helping to teach communities farming techniques.

MARC MORAN

Last November, Marc's horticulture/turf science program was recognized by the National Sports Turf Manager's Association as the 2010 Schools and Parks Soccer Field of the Year. This was his third FOY award. In 2006 they were recognized as the National Football Field of the Year, and in 2009 they were recognized for their softball field.

AARON RAY TOMPKINS

Aaron Ray was appointed to the North Carolina FFA Board of Directors for a three-year term and is currently Teaching Agriculture in N.C. He also married Michelle Roy Tompkins in June of last year.

MARTIN SMITH

Martin won the New Organization Life Insurance Salesman of the Year for New York Life.

BRENT WELLINGS

Brent won the Oklahoma Rookie Autioneer's Contest in Oklahoma City, Okla.

ALUMNI MEMBERS HONORED

The following brothers were honored at the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Annual Outstanding Alumni Event:

GENE COPENHAVE

Outstanding Alumni Leadership Award

LYNN GRAVES

Hall of Fame Inductee

BILLY FLOWERS

Outstanding Alumni, Animal and Poultry Science

JAY POOLE

Outstanding Alumni Ag Extension and Education

HUNTER RICHARDSON

Outstanding Alumni, Agronomy and Crop Science

CRESCENT PUBLISHING SERVICE

THIS ISSUE OF THE BETA ETA CHAPTER CRESCENT WAS PUBLISHED THROUGH THE CRESCENT PUBLISHING SERVICE (CPS).

THIS IS A SPECIAL PROJECT OF THE ALPHA GAMMA RHO HOME OFFICE TO ASSIST CHAPTERS IN IMPROVING COMMUNICATIONS WITH ALUMNI.

CHAPTERS PAY A SMALL FEE FOR THE SERVICE BELOW THE ACTUAL PRODUCTION COST TO ENCOURAGE REGULAR CONTACT.

THIS PROJECT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY DONATIONS FROM ALUMNI LIKE YOU. PLEASE CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING.

ALUMNI BOARD PRESIDENT REPORT

Brothers,

Another year is almost in the books, and things continue to change at Beta Eta. Last spring the shed next to the basketball court was torn down by the undergraduate brothers. It was about to come down on its own and had become a tremendous eyesore as you entered the property from the new entrance at the end of the parking lot. It amazes me how much nicer the house looks approaching it from the side now, especially during the spring when everything is in bloom.

Dr. Scott Greiner stepped down as adviser to the undergraduate brothers in the spring as well. He did an excellent job in mentoring the brothers during his time in this capacity and brought new and different perspectives to our discussions.

Earlier this year, the Alumni Corporation created a 501(c) 3 fund under the umbrella of the Alpha Gamma Rho Educational Foundation. The "Beta Eta Fund" will be managed by the National Fraternity, and its income will be used to provide scholarships for the undergraduate brothers. Brothers David Kiracofe, Curtis Moore and Trey Keyser will look after the fund and direct the distribution of income on our end. This fund will also provide a means for alumni to make a 100% tax deductible contribution to Beta Eta as opposed to the non-deductible way giving to the Alumni Corporation directly. Donations to this fund



can be made from the National Fraternity's website or by mailing a check to the AGR Educational Foundation; just make sure to direct the gift to the "Beta Eta Fund."

The Alumni Board is currently staring at a major old-part renovation of the fraternity house. The wood floors have been sanded and sanded and are as thin as they can be. In some spots of the old-part, boards are starting to split, and parts of the floor are starting to sag. While we are replacing the floors and stabilizing floor joists, we will likely be redoing the wiring, walls, plumbing, ventilation and anything else that needs attention.

We hope to maintain the historical look of the floors and old-part as a whole, and we fully realize that we are delving into a project that will consume a lot of time and capital.

In closing, we as an alumni board always welcome and encourage input from you. We are always looking for new volunteers to either become a member of the Board or to work with us as we take on the challenges of maintaining and improving our fraternity. Feel free to contact me with any comments or questions that you may have.

Fraternally,
Andy Smith
Alumni Board President
jhasmithiv@gmail.com

ALUMNI NEWS WANTED

This year, I am making it a goal of the Beta Eta Crescent to include more news and information about alumni brothers. I feel that the Crescent could potentially be a great way for the alumni to stay updated and involved with each other because communication is key. Please send us your updated contact information and the latest on your accomplishments.

Your name: _____ Spouse's name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____ Phone: _____

Children's names and ages: _____

Graduation Year: _____

Brief paragraph on recent events in your life, professional or personal (feel free to include a recent photo):

PLEASE MAIL TO: ALPHA GAMMA RHO - BETA ETA CHAPTER,
ATTN: ALUMNI RELATIONS, 1503 TOMS CREEK ROAD, BLACKSBURG, VA 24060

HOUSE RENOVATIONS



Jeffrey Shifflett

Brothers,

This has been a very exciting and productive year around the house. As a team, the brothers have set our sights on a new project each month and have worked very hard to add to the aesthetics and living conditions. It seems as we complete each project, it inspires new ideas and motivates all of us to restore

and maintain the grandeur of the Alpha Gamma Rho House. After completing bathroom and shower renovations on two floors, we have now focused on other small repairs in the kitchen and living areas before the semester is finished.

This semester's new members have a passion that exceeds anything we have experienced before and have decided to raise funds to also contribute to the house. Their plan is to add a 50'x20' deck off the rear of the house that will be used for outdoor enjoyment as well as hosting events such as Harvest Havoc and Founders Day. The deck will span the width of the house and extrude behind the house at a slightly higher elevation. They have selected an elegant design for the handrails that will be a great addition to the look and usability of our backyard. They have even selected a composite material that will last for many years to come.

As we look forward the undergraduates and the alumni board have decided to pursue a major rehabilitation to the old part of the house. After many years of great service to the fraternity, the original part of the house has begun to show many of the effects of good use and great times. We believe it is time to give back to the house and provide the same experience for those who will follow us.

The major focus of the rehabilitation is the hardwood floors. With many years of wear and refinishing, the wood floors have exhausted their lifespan. With this replacement of the floors we will also investigate structural issues and other ways to improve levelness and stability. Also we will be sanding and refinishing all trim and doors with minor replacement only when necessary. We believe that it is most important that we maintain the original look and feel of the house that we have come to love so much, so replacement and alternate materials will be used very sparingly.



When approaching a task such as this we must also consider the safety and living conditions of our future brothers. We will replace the outdated electrical and smoke safety system completely and investigate the potential for adding a fire suppression system as well. Some modifications and major flushing will be done to the air handling system to provide a much more comfortable home for our members.

We are very excited for the upcoming projects and encourage any input from alumni and families. With the help from the alumni board, I have selected Martin Horn Inc. to contract and complete this project over the summer of 2011. We are also in the process of launching a fundraising campaign with a goal of raising at least \$100,000 for this project. Hopefully, we can get this campaign up and running soon.

We thank all that have been involved to this point. We hope others will feel the same passion that we have for this project to continue this great legacy that we have created at Alpha Gamma Rho. Please contact me with any questions or contributions. A fundraising campaign will begin shortly after the release of this Crescent, and we wish that all brothers, past and present, will see the potential that we can add to a house that has become home to all of us at one point in time.

Fraternally,
Jeffrey Scott Shifflett
jshiff@vt.edu



VNR RECRUITMENT REPORT



Bo Harrison

Brothers,

This semester turned out to be a very successful one for our recruitment here at the Beta Eta Chapter of Alpha Gamma Rho. We are excited to have received 11 new members this semester, all of which are quality young men. These young men come from very diverse agricultural backgrounds from Virginia, Maryland,

West Virginia and New York.

Over the past semester, the brothers have been committed to improve recruitment. Brother Owens had the privilege of attending the Agricultural and Applied Economics Freshman Orientation where we were able to meet with and answer questions for the incoming freshman. We would like to thank our alumni board for providing the funding needed to make this semester's recruitment such a success, and we look forward to a successful summer and fall recruitment. I am proud to announce that of the leftover funding from

summer recruitment combined with our scholarship funds, we were able to hand out four \$500 scholarships to incoming freshman. Three of the recipients have become new brothers this semester.

Looking towards next semester, we have already begun to prepare for the semester's potential new members. Brother Grosse has created a recruitment board located in Litton Reaves Hall. This new display board shows weekly events and rush information for anyone interested in Alpha Gamma Rho. This should not only help with our recruitment but should also help with our public relations in general.

We are continuously looking to recruit new quality young men that will improve the Beta Eta Chapter here at Virginia Tech. If any alumni have recommendations for next semester's recruitment, please fill out the slip on the back of the Crescent.

Fraternally,
Bo Harrison
VNR Recruitment
hbo89@vt.edu

NEW BROTHERS

Please welcome our newest brothers to Beta Eta. You can find them by name, hometown, major and career plans.

PETER BACHMAN - FALLSTON, MD
Dairy Science
Agricultural pharmaceutical sales

DYLAN GROSSE - HANOVER COUNTY, VA
Resource Management and Construction
Work Internationally

NATHAN BUTLER - MIDLAND, VA
Agricultural and Applied Economics
Agriculture sales

ISAAC HAMMOCK - GRETNA, VA
Dairy Science
Vet School or home to milk 2,500 cows on family farm

IAN DRANSFIELD- UNION, WV
Agricultural and Applied Economics
Pursue successful future in agriculture

ETHAN JONES - MASSEY, MD
Dairy Science
Milk 1,200 cows on family farm

CLARK EGELSTON- FULTONVILLE, NY
Dairy Science
Return home to expand his family farm

TYLER MUSICK - COLLOWAY, VA
Dairy Science
Pursue a career in agriculture

WILL FISKE - AUGUSTA COUNTY, VA
Agribusiness, will transfer to Animal and Poultry Science
Genetics in the beef cattle industry

WILLIAM 'ROOSTER' WATSON - NOTTOWAY, VA
Ag. Technology, will transfer to Animal and Poultry Science
Expand his family's poultry and beef operation

A TRIP TO INDY



Jake Bramhall

Brothers,

Eight undergraduate brothers and I had the chance to travel to the Alpha Gamma Rho and Sigma Alpha joint Leadership Seminar in Indianapolis, Ind. We went with high expectations, knowing we would learn a lot and meet some great people forming friendships and gaining valuable insight from other chapters. We

also had three great keynote speakers for the two days, a recruitment school we could send members to, as well as a very insightful presentation from the Delta Chapter about risk management.

The three keynote speakers covered a total of six different topics. These topics included conflict management, how to better serve as a leader, ways to be an effective communicator, how to be a good mentor and mentee, how to deal with diversity, the steps to being a successful leader and leaving a legacy. We had two individuals who we hope will one serve as VNR-Recruitment attend the recruitment school. They were able to find ways to hopefully double the number of potential members that come out to rush events and acquired useful tips to encourage more potential brothers to come out.

Finally we had a presentation by current undergrad brothers at Delta Chapter. They shared a story about some risk management issues their chapter has experienced as well as some of the repercussions of those issues. This presentation really hit home coming from current undergraduate members facing trouble that could happen to any chapter.



Beta Eta brothers at the 2011 Leadership Seminar in Indianapolis, Ind.

Those of us who attended gained valuable knowledge on becoming better leaders. Besides all the knowledge that was gained we were able to use this as a good bonding experience. We not only bonded with each other, becoming stronger brothers within our chapter, but we also met brothers, past and present, from other chapters and bonded with them as well. This was a great experience. A full recap of the weekend along with more details will be presented at Founders Day. Any questions about the seminar can be directed to me.

Fraternally,
Jake Bramhall
VNR Operations and Management
jbramhal@vt.edu
703-999-2875

BETA ETA CHAPTER ONLINE



Connect. Communicate. Discuss. Find us on Facebook and strengthen your bond with your brothers and your chapter. Search for "Alpha Gamma Rho - Virginia Tech" and reconnect today!



Whether or not you are on Facebook, you can always stop by our website to find out the latest news from our chapter. Visit www.vtags.com today to see what's new!



Do you wish you could hear the latest AGR news as it happens? Follow us on Twitter by visiting www.twitter.com/alphagammarho or search for "Alpha Gamma Rho."



Join a professional network of Alpha Gamma Rho brothers from across the nation. Visit www.linkedin.com and search for "Alpha Gamma Rho Alumni Network."

VNR PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORT



Dylan Grosse

Brothers of the Beta Eta Chapter,

As a new member, I am privileged to represent the honor and tradition of Alpha Gamma Rho's Beta Eta Chapter. I hold the brothers of this house in the highest reverence as I become accustomed to the responsibilities and daily duties of being a brother in this house.

This semester has unfolded progressively as well as anticipated, unveiling several opportunities in which we, as a united brotherhood, could selflessly reach out to the community. We have collaborated together and decided upon an additional philanthropy benefiting the 'Fallen Heroes' of our serving military men and women. Complementing our new cause, we have pursued involvement in a collegiate organization, Operation: Hero Outreach, which involves 'adopting' an active military unit overseas. By developing a long-lasting relationship through communication and gifted supplies, we can further our effort to "make better men" by being an example for one another.

This year, the American Cancer Society's Relay for

Life will come to Virginia Tech on April 22, the weekend following the April 16 Day of Remembrance. The Beta Eta Chapter is participating in the Relay, with a goal of \$400 raised in benefit of the cause. I am proud to inform that our goal is continuously shifting closer with every donation we receive; we may see a gracious surplus passing our goal by the commencement of the event.

Additional smaller activities throughout the semester have continually informed our newly settled neighbors along Honeysuckle Drive of our existence and our unoffending disposition. Proudly I can assure the continuance of our efforts to aid and comfort the community amongst us, for that is a foundation of our fraternal organization that we must strive to protect and ultimately expand. I wish the best for the coming months and urge you to revisit to the Beta Eta Chapter to observe personally the change we have worked towards.

Fraternally,
Dylan Bernard Grosse
VNR Public Relations
dylang92@vt.edu

LOST BROTHERS

Below are some of Beta Eta's lost brothers. If you have any information, please let us know so we can keep all brothers up to date. Please send information to: Beta Eta Chapter, Alpha Gamma Rho, Attn: Alumni Relations, 1503 Toms Creek Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

Roll #	Last/First Name	Init. Date	Roll #	Last/First Name	Init. Date	Roll #	Last/First Name	Init. Date
27	Otto, Carl	1975	216	Moyer, N. Darrell	1982	421	Dorrier, Travis	1995
33	Wright, Michael	1975	219	Gosnell, Gregory	1983	454	Karp, Marc	1997
41	Thornhill, Richard	1975	244	Kelly, Robert	1984	513	Ashton, Todd	2002
88	Powell, Joseph	1976	321	Schroeder, Christopher	1989	532	McGinnis, Daniel	2004
119	Jackson, Charles	1978	330	Bowers, Eric	1990	544	Horner, Ryan	2005
136	Tallet, Michael	1978	333	Minnix, Gregory	1990	548	Ferguson, Jonathan	2006
174	Pawlicki, Thomas	1980	344	Osborne, Jeffrey	1990	553	Leonard, Ransom	2007
193	Callison, R. Scott	1951	392	Richardson, Robert	1993	560	Southard, Benjamin	2007
195	Davis, Cameron	1981	403	Bryington, Christopher	1994			

CHAPTER DONATIONS

As always, your donations are greatly appreciated and your continued support will help keep the Beta Eta Chapter a "step above" the competition. Even the smallest contributions will help tremendously,

especially in these times with the new house renovations. If you wish to send a donation, please address to: Alpha Gamma Rho, Attn: VNR Finance, 1503 Toms Creek Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

Alpha Gamma Rho Fraternity

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

BETA ETA CHAPTER CRESCENT

ALUMNI NEWS WANTED

The next issue of the Beta Eta Chapter Crescent should be full of news about alumni brothers. Please send us your updated contact information and the latest on your accomplishments (marriage, family, jobs, etc.) to: Beta Eta Chapter, Alpha Gamma Rho, Attn: Alumni Relations, 1503 Toms Creek Road, Blacksburg, VA 24060.

RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION

Please help us recruit the best of men. If you know someone who would make a good addition to our Fraternity, please let us know so we can contact him and enhance our brotherhood.

Name: _____ Age: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone - home: _____ School: _____

Classification/Major: _____

Comments: _____

Your name and address: _____

PLEASE MAIL TO: ALPHA GAMMA RHO - BETA ETA CHAPTER,
ATTN: RECRUITMENT, 1503 TOMS CREEK ROAD, BLACKSBURG, VA 24060