

# THE BAAA Journal

Issue No. 3      Fall 2021



In this issue...



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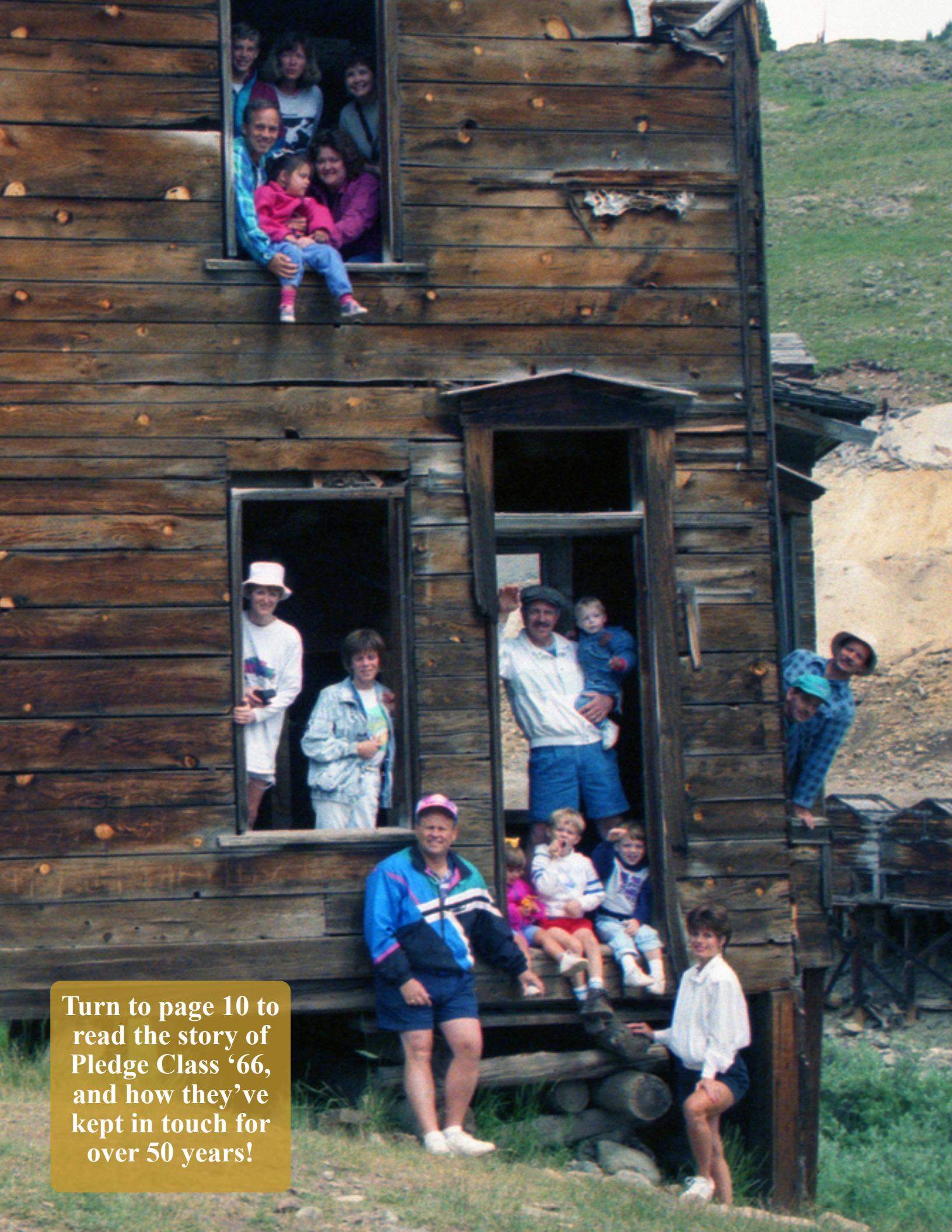


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Photo By Michael Pierce,  
Missouri S&T.

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Turn to page 10 to  
read the story of  
Pledge Class '66,  
and how they've  
kept in touch for  
over 50 years!

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### Editor

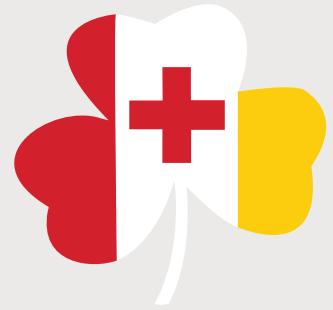
John Conroy

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# Editor's Note

•Fall '21•

•Issue No. 3•

Brothers, Families, and Friends,

We're happy to bring you the third edition of our BAAA Newsletter.

Reunions are a focal point of this fall newsletter. With homecoming on the horizon, many of our brothers will be back at the house to revel, catch up, and enjoy each other's company. It's an event we all look forward to and we do our best to attend.

Just about every year we have pledge classes come down to celebrate their 5th, 10th, 15th, or 20th+ reunions. As you know, these reunions are often done in multiples of 5 which guarantees no break in conversation - there is a lot to get updated on after 5 years. But a common theme we hear from the brothers celebrating is "we should do this more often". It's a blessing to have our brotherhood and the close relationships developed through our time at KA. We're a source of support and happiness for each other and frankly have a lot of fun together.

So why not have reunions more frequent? This is a question posed by PC'66. Rich Delange and LD Stevenson wrote an inspiring article on behalf of their pledge class and their adopted brothers of PC'66 who have been getting together once a year, every year for the last 50 years. An incredible feat.

How many pledge classes can say that? I think perhaps my class is representative of most — we don't have any longstanding yearly reunion. Many of the STL and KC brothers stay in touch and see each other regularly. But it's fragmented. It's rare we get a majority of us together at one time. We see all the out of state brothers maybe a handful of times or often less every year. It can be hard between coordinating all the schedules with work, night school, wives, girlfriends, kids, etc. It's easy to get caught up in the whirlwind that is life and fail to carve out time to get together. But despite all the obstacles it's proven possible by PC'66. And in Rich & LD's words - it's actually harder to stop once you've started.

So I encourage you to get started. You'll be happy you did.

P.s. I want to give a heads up to PC'14 to be on the lookout for some reunion planning. And thank you again to Rich and LD!



**Jack Conroy**  
PC '14

**Want the next  
issue of The  
BAAA Journal  
delivered right  
to your inbox?**

**Click [here](#) so  
we can learn  
how to contact  
you!**

Fraternally,  
Jack Conroy

# Beta Alpha Education Foundation

**Jim Hennessey, BAEF Chairman**

## Every Donation Helps

### Setting Up Amazon Smile

With Amazon Smile, a percentage of each purchase you make on Amazon can go towards the BAEF charitable organization.

To get this set up, follow these quick steps:

1. Navigate to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com)
2. Click "Get Started"
3. Sign in to your Amazon account.
4. Select your charity in the top left corner.
5. Search for "Beta Alpha Education Foundation"
6. Start generating donations from your purchases!

### Want to make a direct contribution?

Visit "[baedu.org/baef-donation](http://baedu.org/baef-donation)" to make a tax-deductible contribution.

## Refreshed Scholarship Dinner

The Beta Alpha Education Foundation is excited about the refreshed format for our traditional scholarship banquet over Homecoming weekend. We think the new format will make the event more inviting and more fun for alumni of all ages. We hope you plan to come! We are grateful to the Beta Alpha Alumni Association for their leadership.



Supporting our undergraduates through donations is also a form of leadership. Along with the nearly \$30,000 in endowed scholarships available each year, we are blessed to bring in about \$25,000 in yearly contributions for scholarships. As many of us with college-aged children know, college has become very expensive, but MS&T has been recognized as a great return on that expense. Your contributions to the BAEF help support undergraduate brothers that are destined for great things. Please make a contribution today to help invest in their future.

Contributions can be made by check to the BAEF and sent TO P. O. Box 1884, Rolla MO 65402-1884. Or you can contribute electronically on our website, [www.baedu.org](http://www.baedu.org), using our secure PayPal app. The BAEF is a 501(c) (3) charitable organization and your deductions may be deductible according to IRS regulations. Thank you for your support!

**Jim Hennessey '84  
President, BAEF**

# Homecoming Itinerary

## Friday, Oct. 8th

**5 - 7:30p Drinks and Dinner at Di'Trapinis**  
*400 E 6th St, Rolla, MO 65401*

**7:30p - Brotherhood at the Chapter House**  
*1 Fraternity Dr, Rolla, MO 65401*

## Saturday, Oct. 9th

**10 - 11a SELF Board Meeting**  
*Chapter Dining Room, Please Arrive Early if Attending*

**11a - 1p BAAA Barbeque**  
*Chapter House Veranda, Food Provided by BAAA*

**2p - 4p Happy Hour at St. James Winery**  
*540 State Rte B, St James, MO 65559*

**5 - 7:30p Dinner and Trivia Fundraiser at Matt's Steakhouse**  
*12200 Dillon Outer Dr, Rolla, MO 65401*  
*Attire: Business Casual*

**8p - Brotherhood at the Chapter House**  
*1 Fraternity Dr, Rolla, MO 65401*

# Homecoming Details

Colten Conroy, PC '13

Brothers,

The Beta Alpha Alumni Association wants to extend a warm invitation for this year's homecoming. After a long break from our annual event there has been an effort to focus our energies in reaching out to our numerous Beta Alpha alumni and incorporate some minor changes into this special occasion. The homecoming itinerary outline is detailed below. Every brother is welcome to attend some or all of these events and we encourage you to reach out to your fellow pledge class as many reunions are currently in the works. A few brief items to make a special highlight include the alumni BBQ lunch at the chapter house as well as a happy hour at St. James Winery.

We will also be instituting a fun trivia game at our scholarship event later that night. This will be a "bar style" trivia consisting of three rounds with ten questions per round. All final rules will be clearly posted at the event, but will include a range of categories centered on history of our chapter, campus, and KA trivia. The current draft of the rules can be found on the back cover of this issue.

## Covid-19 & Homecoming

With the global pandemic ramping up again, we want to remind everyone to follow CDC guidelines to keep yourself and loved ones safe.

Homecoming is a wonderful time with lots of festivities and events. Which means lots of people in close quarters. This is good because we can't have a successful homecoming without our brothers and significant others attending.

**However with these unprecedeted times, it's of the utmost importance everyone takes on their personal responsibility to help manage the spread of the covid-19 virus. Per CDC guidelines get vaccinated if you're able (they're safe & effective), wear masks & social distance, stay home if you're feeling unwell and get tested.**

We greatly appreciate everyone and look forward to seeing you at our Fall 2021 homecoming!

Suggested sources regarding covid-19 guidelines per CDC and Missouri Department of Health:

- Missouri Department of Health on Covid-19: <https://covidvaccine.mo.gov/>
- CDC on Covid-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>
- CDC Info on Covid-19 vaccines: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>
- CDC Facts vs myths on Covid-19: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html>

# Memories Shared



Thank you everyone who has shared photos of your favorite memories, new and old, on the Facebook Group!



# BAAA Update



**Joe Studer**  
PC '16

## Contact Us:

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Brothers, Friends, and Family of Beta Alpha,

In the last edition of the Journal we alluded to some of the projects BAAA had in the works, and while there's still a few that we've got in the pipeline, I'm happy to be able to share some more of what we've been working on since then!

A primary goal of our organization has always been to provide more opportunities for alumni to get involved with the chapter and with each other. In working toward this, we've begun a pilot Officer Mentorship program, in which all officers and some committee heads in Chapter leadership are paired with a recent graduate who held their role. This mentorship aims to help add an additional level of continuity between officer corps, aiding in knowledge sharing and helping each group to build off those who came before them. I want to say thank you to everyone who has signed on to be a mentor, and to the chapter for bearing with us as we begin this program.

In the same vein, as I'm sure many of you have noticed in this issue already, we have been working on gradually revamping our homecoming celebration - taking in feedback from alumni throughout the years to kickstart a multi-year process for creating some new traditions that, along with some of the old favorites, will help to make homecoming even greater than before. If this is a project you're interested in helping with, please don't hesitate to reach out, what we've planned for this year is only the beginning!

Along with these updates, I want to share some of the highlights from our long-standing task groups who have continued to make great progress:

- The chapter website is now the highest ranked fraternity website for certain general keyword searches (e.g. "mst fraternities"). We're continuing this work to get higher rankings on even more searches.
- The last issue of the newsletter received over 300 impressions in the first 24 hours, up nearly 200 from the first issue. Please help us reach more alumni by sharing with your pledge brothers!
- We've simplified our communication pipeline for meetings and planning, if you're interested in helping out you can [join our mailing group here](#).

Fraternally,

Joe Studer, PC '16

# The Last Party That Lasted

PC '66 Reunion



# Lived over 50 Years.....

reflects on a half century together



**M**ost English teachers would tell us that the title should not contain the same word or root of the word twice in a title, but at last... it just fits. Labor Day 1971 was to be the last college party for BA of KA Pledge Class (PC) of 1966. Getting together for a final kegger or party seemed the appropriate thing to do. Five years had passed since their freshman year and most of the PC66 brothers had graduated and moved on with new wives, jobs, and horizons. One of the pledge brothers, Steve Rains, spearheaded the first Labor Day (LD) reunion (the last college party) in his hometown, Granite City, Illinois. Steve threw out an invitation to 15 initiated pledge brothers that he was going to host one last party over LD weekend. Much to the delight of everyone, 29 brothers, wives and dates spent LD weekend at Steve's parent's house in Granite City with everyone sleeping on the basement floor in one big room. For those that graduated in 1970 (in just 4 years, really?), it was an opportunity to see pledge brothers and wives they had bonded with during their Rolla/BA of KA experience. There are few experiences that bond brothers more. These were the closest friends we had ever had. A rather humble beginning to a 50+ year legacy of enduring brotherhood (and sisterhood).

As a word of warning to the reader(s), this has been written by engineers with "The Nack" for all things mechanical and electrical, perhaps structural, and maybe chemical, mostly socially inept, studied engineering, and stayed as far away from English and writin' as possible. You can bet we are lacking in alliteration, but full of onomatopoeia.

While the first official LD occurred in Granite City in 1971, the seeds had been sown the year before in May 1970, at the end of the spring semester. Several of the brothers gathered on the shores of Tablerock Lake in Branson for a little water skiing, camping, and plain ol' beer drinkin'. "The trunk of Soft G's '63 Chevy convertible was lined with plastic and newspaper, filled with ice and beer (a trick learned when Wayne, Mike, Rich, and Steve used it during a trip to the Indy 500). Peebles had a catamaran, and DJ borrowed his folks' ski boat (his parents lived close to the beach where the party was being held). Several tried skiing on Peebles' daggerboards, then on firewood. Faerber was the only one who was successful in that endeavor. Fischer jumped into the water to ski with his glasses on. They promptly fell off and sank but were recovered after several diving attempts. Rich says "the rest of the story is cloudy for some reason" (Chosen Brothers, 2009, Judy Lindquist). We did not know it at the time and would learn later that those seeds landed on very fertile ground.

After Granite City, something really began to happen. The following summer (1972), another pledge brother and wife, Jim and Cheryl Duresky, hosted another Labor Day party at their home in Peoria. With brothers in Chicago, St. Louis, and Springfield, Mo, eight pledge brothers and their wives showed up with the guest of honor being, baby TR Fry, the first pledge class offspring.

So, Labor Day #1 and #2 are in the history books. Would there be a #3? Hell yes!! LD #3 was hosted in



St. Louis and LD #4 in Springfield (Mo) with Tablerock Lake in Branson as a focus. A 2nd reunion in 1974 was held in Breckenridge for a Christmas ski experience. It proved our reunions could move outside of Labor Day weekend. Now, before the end of 1974 PC66 had organized five reunions... and each one was very well attended. Sixteen brothers attended the '74 reunion in Springfield, 13 of the 16 were from PC66.

While the original Last Party and a few following reunions were held on Labor Day, the advent of our children needing to start school in mid-August "forced" a move to more of a mid-summer event. That didn't change the fact the this was still referred to as the Labor Day reunion or LD for short.

This has always been a family affair with family

members (wives, kids, grandkids, and even our siblings and friends, etc.) attending year after year. We hope by telling our story this will serve as a true legacy inspiring and also encouraging younger BA of KA brothers and KA brothers in general to start their own legacy. If you want our advice, it's never too late to start.

An encouraging side effect to this long-time tradition has been the continuing family attendance especially our children and eventually their children each year. Three "waves" of kids and now grandchildren have



come to LD over 50 straight years of reunions. Kids have loved these reunions and have made their own friends. One of the good things about social media...they have been able to keep in touch with their KA reunion buddies. The "kids" enjoyed these reunions as much as the grownups, and now the kids are grownups too. Family has been a key ingredient over the years helping encourage everyone's continued attendance.

An enduring legacy of this PC66 continuing party has been that anyone interested in attending through the years or just a year or two was welcomed and included just as though they are part of the so called "regular crew." As the reunions became every year affairs several brothers from other PCs were "adopted" and have continued to be regular attendees. Pledge fathers

and pledge sons were invited and a few kept attending.

"Mystery actives" were recruited as "long-lost" brothers to show up unannounced to one or more of our Labor Day reunions. These were great surprises for everyone involved.

Our reunion group of former Rolla KA's and their families talk every year about how this tradition started and what makes it continue. A room full of engineers...and especially wives of engineers...have (of course) many theories. Was the pledging the bonding agent or the most-challenging coursework at Rolla...or a combination? Of course, our pledging is what made us all remarkably close friends. But we are no different than many pledge classes before or after. The magic of this reunion tradition lies in what we have termed Reunion inertia. Once it got started and continued for 4 or 5 years, it continued on its own, so to speak. Not only did the brothers want to get together, but the wives and kids were eager to rendezvous with everyone, so plans were made to attend if at all possible. It is a family event and has happened every year...not once every five years similar to high school reunions.

Very much like Woodie Guthrie's song, This Land is Your Land. We have ventured from California (San Francisco) to (almost) the NY Island (Washington DC), from the redwood forests to the Gulf Stream waters, (Houston and San Antonio, Tx and Florida) then up the mighty Mississippi and Ohio Rivers to flyover country (Illinois, Ohio, Missouri, and Arkansas), not to mention two great Rocky Mountain trips to Durango, Colorado.

Through the years, many of the reunions were held in and around Missouri as most of the PC66 and others still lived in the Midwest. St. Louis, Kansas City, and Springfield garnered many reunions, but Tablerock Lake and Stillwater's Lake Front Resort in Branson, Missouri hosted the most reunions of any locations across the country. Their lake access and many activities ensured something to do for all ages not to mention the ever present "Capt" Bill Delange (Gamma Beta) brother of PC66 Rich Delange (aka Soft G) joined our activities every year and provided his high school home-built pontoon party houseboat. Now after several renovations, the houseboat continues to function as a centerpiece for our Tablerock reunions. The only boat on the lake with two single bunk beds to accommodate two overnight but has enough deck space for 25+ people for all our cruises. Capt Bill's boat has served LD reunions very well for both day and midnight cruises without anyone lost overboard.



An interesting tidbit about each Labor Day is that we always eat our meals together no matter how many folks attend. Red death spaghetti, from Rich & Kaye Delange, or LD's sticky buns, Rich and Charlie's Salad, as well as the infamous eggus omelets became staples for every reunion. We generally had one meal at a restaurant on Saturday night for the "grownups." For all those visits to Tablerock/Branson over the course of 50+ years, the group has never attended a single Branson theater show during our reunion weekend. We were too busy havin' fun on the lake or just hangin' out.

At every reunion on the last evening, we have a "business meeting." The quotes show that these meetings share nothing with Chapter Meeting rules. They are fun. The final business is to discuss where the next reunion will be held. Several destinations are usually proposed for a committee to decide where we go next year. In 50 years, the suggestion to skip a year has never come up. Once a destination is determined, we find no lack of help coordinating the logistics for the following year. With all the attendees, especially all the kids, planning the grub for every meal becomes a challenge, but everyone pitches in to do their part.

On some of the most recent trips to Tablerock, we were "privileged" to have our own moonshine still on the back

porch makin' for some tasty after dinner toasts. Believe it or not, it is legal in Missouri to have a still for personal consumption up to 200 gallons a year. It only becomes illegal when you sell it. So, our advice is to keep it for personal consumption.

Nearly 40 years into our yearly reunions in 2009, Madam Secretary, Judy Lindquist, Craig (Log) Lindquist's better half, with some help from Rich Delange authored a compilation of the previous 38 reunions in a publication named Chosen Brothers inspired by the publication, The Pudel Club, written by Arthur Frank.

Note: Searching the internet, you won't find a copy of The Pudel Club, by Arthur Frank. Madam Secretary is an avid genealogist and has researched her family heritage back to probably the dark ages. That being said, she found references to a group of men that referred to themselves as The Pudel Club in her family history and as described in one of the following paragraphs. She found amazing similarities between the men of The Pudel Club and PC66.

The following is The Prologue to Madam Secretary's publication, Chosen Brothers, as it relates to PC66 and "adopted" brothers:

## PROLOGUE THE PUDEL CLUB

*This book (*Chosen Brothers*) is dedicated to Arthur Frank, author of *The Pudel Club*. His book was the inspiration for *Chosen Brothers*. The Pudel Club was a group of German American Milwaukeeans, organized in 1873 and lasting until about 1918, when the United States entered World War I. In the words of one of the members: “we eat and drink everything that Mrs. Heiser’s kitchen and wine cellar can furnish. . . . To be a member of the Pudel Club is truly an honor and a joy! Here one stands up for all, and all for one when the chips are down. We treat each other with complete trust and confidence. We do what moves us in heart or at the bottom of our souls. Weeks in advance, the icebox is filled with wine whenever a new inhabitant of the earth is about to arrive. . . . At the time when the club was established, we were young men who could hardly show the first fuzz on their chins. We have today already men among our ranks from whose craniums the last curly locks have disappeared in a dream. But our hearts have remained young although we have lost them often enough and later on handed them over completely to our wives. Never have young men had better times . . . .”*

The similarities between the Pudel Club and the KA pledge class of 1966 (and other chosen brothers) are remarkable. And so, this book (*Chosen Brothers*) is written for the fraternity brothers, as well as their descendants, so that future generations will know of the special bond among these men and their families.

It should be noted as a result of their German heritage The Pudel Club essentially quit meeting because of German sentiment and the United States entry into World War I.

A side effect of the covid year off has been weekly Zoom calls set up by Jim Honefinger (Hone) through his commercial Zoom account. These calls started in mid-March and have continued every Saturday at 4:00 PM Central with only a couple Saturdays missed in the last 14 months. Attendance varies from 6 to 20 with 10 as the average attendance. Many of these Zoom meetings have led to great educational “classes” because of the diversity of backgrounds of the participants. Topics from oil and gas, insurance, to aerospace as well as catching up on the KA house status through brother Ed Schmidt. We also received campus updates for MST as two of our group have served on the MST Board of Trustees (Wayne Alexander & Bob Brinkmann).

The 2020 covid mess knocked out LD51 reunion last year. September 2021 will be the next reunion (LD51) just after this article goes to press.

Now, we believe that a fitting legacy to this reunion record would be for some of the younger pledge classes to start planning your reunions. All it takes is a couple of brothers and wives to circulate an invitation. We predict you will be shocked at the response. And then...see if it doesn't continue. Once several reunions are behind you, “reunion inertia” takes over.

## About the Authors

I've really had three careers: USAF, flying and NASA. I am a long-time pilot having served in the USAF from 1970 to 1977 as a Primary Jet Instructor Pilot. I also spent 4 years in the Illinois and Texas Air National Guard in non-flying positions. In August, I will receive the FAA Orville and Wilbur Wright Award for having flown 50 years without a violation of the regulations and accident free. I still fly and own an airplane with

2 partners, an American General Tiger (AG-5B) known as Bad Kitty. I am also an FAA certified flight instructor and continue to instruct and promote aviation. If you followed Virgin Galactic's latest flight. Beth Moses, their Director of Astronaut Training, and a member of the latest crew with Sir Richard Bronson, was a flight student of mine 30 years ago. You never know where your career will take you.



LD  
Stevenson



Richard “Rich”  
Delange

My career was spent entirely in Texas. I graduated in 1970 and accepted a position with Texaco in west Texas. After that, I moved to Houston Texas where I spent my entire oilfield career....mostly with oilfield equipment companies. During my almost 50 years of working,

I managed some manufacturing plants, R&D, Technical Support and Marketing, as well as M&A and management positions. We're retired now back in my hometown...Springfield, Missouri.

# Spring '21 Graduates



**Michael Eby**

|                            |              |               |                        |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|------------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k17       | <b>Major:</b> | Engineering Management |
| <b>Location:</b>           | Imperial, MO | <b>Title:</b> | N/A                    |
| <b>Employer:</b>           |              |               | N/A                    |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> | Formal Chair |               |                        |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  | ASEM, HEROs  |               |                        |

|                            |  |               |                        |
|----------------------------|--|---------------|------------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k16   | <b>Major:</b> | Engineering Management |
| <b>Location:</b>           | Elkhart, IN  | <b>Title:</b> | Plant Supervisor       |
| <b>Employer:</b>           | Genesis Products   |               |                        |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> | Province Undergraduate Chair, Sergeant-at-Arms (VIII), Steward |               |                        |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  | Miner Motorcycle Design Team (Co-Founder), St. Pat's Board     |               |                        |



**Mason George**



**Ian Jones**

|                            |                                       |               |                   |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k17                                | <b>Major:</b> | Civil Engineering |
| <b>Location:</b>           | Kansas City, MO                       | <b>Title:</b> | Design Engineer   |
| <b>Employer:</b>           | BHC                                   |               |                   |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> | Public Relations Chair, Service Chair |               |                   |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  | ASCE, Chi Epsilon                     |               |                   |

|                            |                 |               |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k16          | <b>Major:</b> | Aerospace Engineering |
| <b>Location:</b>           | St. Louis, MO   | <b>Title:</b> | Technical Analyst     |
| <b>Employer:</b>           | CGI             |               |                       |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> | Greek Sing Band |               |                       |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  | N/A             |               |                       |



**Elijah Masser**

|                            |                |               |                       |
|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k17         | <b>Major:</b> | Aerospace Engineering |
| <b>Location:</b>           | Greenville, TX | <b>Title:</b> | Structural Engineer   |
| <b>Employer:</b>           | L3Harris       |               |                       |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> |                | N/A           |                       |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  |                | N/A           |                       |



Ryan McDermott



William Morgan

|                            |               |               |  |
|----------------------------|---------------|---------------|--|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k16        | <b>Major:</b> | Engineering Management                                 |
| <b>Location:</b>           | St. Louis, MO | <b>Title:</b> | Inside Sales Eng.                                      |
| <b>Employer:</b>           |               |               | Engineered Corrosion Solutions                         |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> |               | Service Chair |  |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  |               |               | Miner Motorcycle Design Team, Missouri Miner Newspaper |

|                            |                 |                                    |   |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k17          | <b>Major:</b>                      | Chemical Engineering                      |
| <b>Location:</b>           | Kansas City, MO | <b>Title:</b>                      | Project Coordinator                       |
| <b>Employer:</b>           |                 |                                    | Schick Esteve                             |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> |                 | President, Treasurer (VI), Steward |   |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  |                 |                                    | Student Union Board (Secretary-Treasurer) |



Tommy Wagner



Brother Wagner and KA Rose, Gabbi Cook, in front of the chapter house after graduation.



John Whitelock

|                            |                 |                         |                              |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Pledge Class:</b>       | PC2k16          | <b>Major:</b>           | Aerospace Engineering        |
| <b>Location:</b>           | St. Charles, MO | <b>Title:</b>           | Structural Analysis Eng..    |
| <b>Employer:</b>           |                 |                         | Boeing                       |
| <b>Chapter Involvement</b> |                 | Sergeant-at-Arms (VIII) |                              |
| <b>Campus Involvement</b>  |                 |                         | Miner Motorcycle Design Team |



By Doran Grieshaber, PC '15

This past March, Missouri S&T celebrated the 113th Annual Best Ever St. Pat's and enjoyed a slight return to normalcy. The COVID-19 pandemic saw a last minute cancellation for the 112th Annual St. Pat's, with Chancellor Dehghani calling off all St. Pat's events the morning before the announcement of the 2020 St. Pat's Court. While this year was a more toned down mix of virtual and in-person events, the celebration was still able to happen, and a member of Beta Alpha was front and center for it. Cody Goins (PC 2K18) was named St. Pat for the 113th Annual St. Pat's. Cody is a senior in Electrical Engineering from Ozark, Missouri. As a junior rep in St. Pat's Board, he held the Campus Sales and Local Sales positions and was the Treasurer of St. Pat's Board as a senior rep. Cody is the first St. Pat Beta Alpha has had since John Ganter in 2005. Cody has also served as a House Manager and is a member of the Student Activity Financial Board on campus. Cody is currently interning this Summer at Honeywell FM&T in Kansas City, and plans to graduate next May. He is debating between continuing on to get his Masters or going to work after graduation. I had the chance to talk with Cody and find out what it was like to be St. Pat during a Pat's affected by COVID, and being a member of the St. Pat's Board when the entire week was cancelled.

As someone who was one semester removed from college when the COVID-19 outbreak began, I was incredibly surprised when I got the email from S&T saying that all events for the 112th Annual St. Pat's were cancelled. This news didn't affect me much beyond the initial shock while sitting at my desk, but for an active rep on the St. Pat's Board like Cody, it was a much different story. He had this to say when I asked him what it was like being so involved in St. Pat's when the Chancellor decided to cancel everything: "Pat's was cancelled right before Court Arrival on the Wednesday of the main week. Being a board rep up until that time had been very standard. We each had files from previous years and knew what we were supposed to accomplish. This is what we had planned a semester and a half for, a normal Pat's. This all changed at about 11:30am on Wednesday. My Pat's class, the 21's, had not even known the cancellation was in effect until we received an email from Chancellor Dehghani that all future events for the week would be cancelled. I personally was selling sweatshirts so I wasn't on my phone at the time. I was informed by a student asking me if we would refund parade deposits since Pat's was cancelled. I looked at him like he was crazy, and eventually found that he was right about it being cancelled. The rest of the week was confusion between "Are we done with Pat's?" and, "What still can/needs to happen?". My biggest concern as a sales head was selling merchandise. With our events cancelled, it got increasingly hard to push the amount of sales we needed. We did our best, and we still had good sales for the rest of the week. After the week ended, it was up to the current senior reps, the 20's, to come up with alternative ways to close out the semester once we were sent home until they handed it off to us and planning for 2021 began."

While the 112th Annual St. Pat's was certainly not what anyone on The Board had hoped, all the hard work and sacrifice paid off for Cody, being named St. Pat this year. When I asked him what it was like to have his court week during COVID, he said, "Having my court year during COVID was a completely different experience than anyone has ever had. The Board reps a year lower than me, the 22's, had to change up a lot of events to make sure our court year was still a good time and exciting for everyone. Campus still had a mask mandate in place, so that was a huge part of it. I believe most of our court pictures with businesses have us wearing masks, so that is unique to our year. Having court arrival and gonzo and games on campus was a new experience for us all. While Follies had to follow all of the campus procedures, it was still a very good time as we still had the gong to ring and water balloons to throw. We missed out on all of the usual Greek parties and socials that we would usually have with Greek and non-Greek organizations, which was probably the biggest let down and change for the entirety of Pat's. One thing that still stayed the same was the fame you get from being St. Pat. Everywhere you go, people still cared about Pat's and recognized the costumes, especially the St. Pat one. The parade was another downside to this year that couldn't be changed. It turned into a drive-through parade that had us standing on the manure spreader and waving. While it was the best idea we had at the time, I would have loved to have a normal parade where we get pulled through and have the whole town cheering you on. The concert ended up being streamed virtually from Leach Theater so I didn't end up going to that. Once again, I would have loved to have a full normal concert." While it wasn't a normal year by any means, St. Pat and his Court were able to make the most of



the week that they had worked so hard for.

I was also able to ask Cody about what St. Pat's was like for the school as a whole this year, and not just for those on Court. While they made the most out of the things they were able to do, COVID precautions sucked some of the usual interaction out of the events. Going into more detail, Cody said,

"This year was less exciting compared to previous years.

The typical student didn't get to have as much fun or see the campus in full during its biggest event of the year. The Board tried our absolute hardest to get something that felt like a normal Pat's. To be honest, I am stunned by how hard the entire

Board worked and what we were able to accomplish given the strict COVID stance that school has. The COVID and social distancing rules seemed to suck the interaction out of every event. At Green Fridays for example, all groups had to stay in their "pods" on the Havener lawn. To me, that's the general reason this year felt less exciting than others was the lack of interaction between fellow students at greek events, snake pits, and other events. The whole reason Pat's is an event is that students got tired of the continued hard classes, and wanted a break to have fun with their fellow students. While we did our best to combat it, COVID just led to a Pat's that was less interactive than previous years."

While this year's St. Pat's events may have been a far cry from the usual level of celebration and excitement, it was a marked improvement from the year before. Hopefully by the time the 114th Annual Best Ever rolls around, things will be back to normal and we'll all be able to go back and celebrate at the Beta Alpha house.

# Alumni Bulletin

Congratulations to John DeStefano and his wife Skye, on getting married over the summer!



Josh and Abby Petersen celebrated the first birthday of their daughter, Ellie!

Congrats to Austin and Melissa White on the birth of their new son, Vance!



Alumni from the Pledge Class of 1981 visited the chapter house in early August to welcome the Actives and New Members back to school with a BBQ!

## Upcoming Reunions

The pledge classes of 1959, 1960, and 1981 are currently planning reunions for the upcoming homecoming.

## Life Events

### ~ New Homes ~

Jacob Walker & Josie Krawits

*Washington, MO*

Mitchell & Montana Gordon

*St. Louis, MO*

Ryan Gallagher & Chloe Reagan

*Wildwood, MO*

Zach & Jade Wren

*Wildwood, MO*

Tom Herrman and Maddie Phelps

*Illinois*

### ~ Weddings ~

John and Jessica Phinney

*PC2K11 - June 2021*

John and Skye DeStefano

*PC2K16 - July 2021*

Ryan and Chloe Gallagher

*PC2K15 - Nov 2021*

Tyler and Sami Chu

*PC2K14 - Dec 2021*

Zach and Cristin Ernst

*PC2K15 - Sep 2021*

# Contact Us



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# **Homecoming Trivia Rules**

## **Format**

The trivia night will consist of a crossword and three rounds of 8-10 questions. Each round will have a specific category of questions (e.g. Chapter Trivia (Old House/New House/Eras/ etc), Campus Trivia, KA Trivia, General Knowledge, etc.

## **Team Formation**

A team of up to 8 can be sponsored with a \$100 donation to BAEF, which can be split amongst the team or sponsored by an individual. Teams will not be predetermined, but will be encouraged to have a mixture of younger and older members as there will be trivia targeted at different demographics. The cost of a team is reduced by \$10 for each Active or New Member on the team.

## **Mulligans**

Before each round (but after the category has been announced), three (3) mulligans will be auctioned off. They are only good for that round, but allow you to write down a second answer to a question. If either are correct, you get that question right. The question masters reserve the right to sell additional mulligans at a premium later in the round.

## **Auctioned Questions**

Before each round (but after the category has been announced), the final question slot will be auctioned off. The team (or individual spectator) who wins the auction will get to choose the question and answer combo for the last question of the round. The chosen question does not need to match the category, but the question & answer combo must make sense.

## **Ties and Tie-Breakers**

The first tie-breaker will be a trivia question, and in the event that the tie remains unbroken, the table with the most dollars raised for BAEF will win the tie.

## **Prizes**

There will be prizes for the top three highest scoring teams.