

BOSTON, MA

The BACK BAY BETA



SPRING 1989

Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at MIT

Chapter President Provides Update On Past Events

The Beta house never sees a quiet moment as springtime arrives. The action abounds. People are traveling, interviewing for jobs, playing sports, attending Red Sox games, constructing, socializing, writing theses, and enjoying the sunshine on the lawn while waiting to graduate or break for summer. With this as our present setting, we submit this update on some of the events and programs at Beta lately.

Over January, Andrew Obst '90 (Scandia, MN) and John Sell '91 (Scarsdale, NY) ran a successful pledge work week. Some much needed improvement to the house was taken care of. Some bathroom floors were retiled, the basement of the main house was improved, and the pub in the basement of the annex was expanded slightly and made to look more open. The pub has become a popular Thursday social scene as many local women (and some from as far as Endicott College) come to start the weekend off a little early.

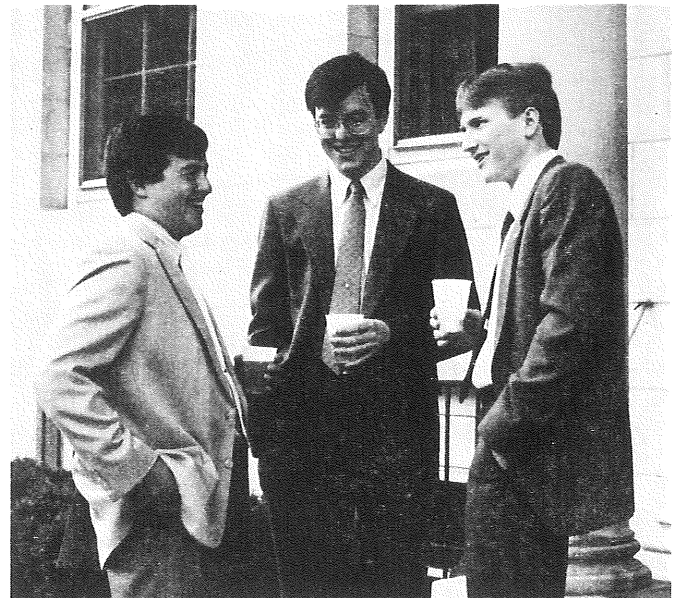
Early this term we had a "wish list" meeting with the alumni. Many positive things have come from this. It looks as though we are closer to having new front door frames for both our houses. We will also be looking into purchasing a small amount of new furniture for the house. Our main house, which is about 80 years old, will also be rewired in the near future. This is very important, since the present system cannot handle today's power requirements safely or adequately.

Our neighbor relations seem to be positive at this point. We have had no problems lately. In addition, the Ryans asked that a couple of the brothers help them put up their Christmas tree because they were having difficulty. They seemed very grateful. In addition, the attention has been diverted from Beta—at least for a while—with the purchase of a floor of a neighboring home by someone who at times is noisier than we are.

In December, we had our annual Christmas party. The feature of the evening was a 49-foot Christmas tree through the spiral of the main house stairs. The tree was courtesy of the father of Ed Schreyer '87 in Vermont. Our thanks go to Ed and his dad. The tree was brought in the front door of the house in two pieces and had to be "doctored" together with dowels and metal braces that were practically invisible after the tree was decorated. Quite a lot of teamwork went into making this party a success. We hope all who attended had a memorable time.

As mentioned elsewhere in this edition, we had a successful close to this year's pledge program. But as one pledge program ends, the next one has already begun. We have had quite a

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Rob Abarquez '87, Bill Santos '87, and Dave Krall '82 have a laugh at last year's alumni party.

Anniversary Celebration And Gift Highlight Past Year At Beta

We are pleased to report, as the forsythia reminds us that another year has passed, that the chapter and the Beta Upsilon Association continue in excellent condition.

The highlight of the year clearly was the very successful 75th anniversary celebration of the founding of the chapter. Many of the brothers who attended expressed a hope that such a gathering might be held every five years or so, and we consider this a real possibility. Probably our second highlight was the receipt of the \$10,000 gift from the estate of Brother Everett S. Coldwell, one of the founders of the chapter in 1913. For those of you in the mood and with the resources, a testamentary gift is an excellent way to help the association.

We have recently passed papers on a three percent loan from the MIT IRDF. The primary purpose of the loan is to modernize the wiring at 119 Bay State Road, as well as to replace the front doors on both houses and keep our furniture inventory up-to-date. A secondary purpose is to replenish some of the reserves

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Published regularly by the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at MIT. News contributions, address changes, and photos are always welcome and should be sent to Beta Theta Pi at MIT, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 575, Cambridge "A," MA 02139-0575. Photos will be returned, upon request, after use in the newsletter.



Ken Bryan '88, John Sell '91, and others help bring this year's Christmas tree into the house.

Four Betas Contribute To MIT's Winning Basketball Season

It was quite a year for athletics at Beta Upsilon and at MIT. The biggest news is that the MIT men's basketball team posted its winningest season since 1967-'68, when it also had a record of 16-9 for the season. In addition, this year's basketball team also saw as many as four Betas in the game at a time! These men were tri-captain Mike Casagrande '89 (Danbury, CT), Dave DellaGrote '90 (Winchester, MA), D. Chris Sonne '91 (Salt Lake City, UT), and Mike Duffy '92 (Cleveland, OH). Casagrande and DellaGrote were regular starters for the entire season, while Sonne was one of the first men off the bench. Duffy played about 20 minutes per game when he wasn't sidelined with an injury during the middle of the season. At the conclusion of the season, Casagrande and DellaGrote received the Larry Grabin Award for extraordinary contribution to the program and the Coaches Award for dedication and hustle, respectively.

All of the home games were well attended by the brothers of Beta Upsilon, who were even a major cheering force at some of the away games as far away as Worcester. Congratulations; we all look forward to next year!

Yours in -kai-,
Alex Medina '92



Mike DeCavalcante '87 and Mike McGovern '89 after the 1987 Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, marathon.

Athletics Part Of Beta Life

As always, athletics is very much a part of the Beta experience at the Beta Upsilon Chapter. This year, there was quite a combination of varsity, intramural, and doing-it-by-themselves athletes. The varsity roster was as follows:

- Lacrosse Ken Chay '91 (Pittsburgh, PA)
Todd Simson '92 (San Diego, CA)
- Baseball Nathan Cultice '92 (White Plains, NY)
- Wrestling John Sell '91 (Scarsdale, NY)
John Sringsteen '91 (Tampa, FL)
Will Scruggs '92 (Joplin, MO)
- Basketball Mike Casagrande '89 (Danbury, CT)
Dave DellaGrote '90 (Winchester, MA)
D. Chris Sonne '91 (Salt Lake City, UT)
Mike Duffy '92 (Cleveland, OH)
- Swimming Steve Hao '92 (Aurora, IL)
- Crew Alex Medina '92 (Guaynabo, PR)
- Sailing Mike Bowers '92 (Winchester, MA)
- Soccer Tuan Elstrom '91 (Lake Forest, IL)
Andrew Heitner '92 (Marlboro, NJ)
William Scruggs '92 (Joplin, MO)

Every Beta participated in one or more of the following intramural sports: soccer, ultimate frisbee, ping pong, basketball, ice hockey, softball, volleyball, football, and water polo. Although no championships were brought home this year, many of our teams were very competitive.

In the on-their-own category were some brothers boasting of feats of endurance. In September 1988, Mike DeCavalcante '87 (New York, NY) competed in the Cape Cod Ironman triathlon. He completed the 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike, and 26.2-mile run in 10½ hours. He places 44th out of 500 in the field and fourth in his age group. The top two in each age group qualified for the famous Hawaii Ironman triathlon.

Also competing in endurance races were Mike McGovern '89 (Colonia, NJ) and Alex Chachkes '91 (East Greenwich, RI). In November, Mike placed 14th out of 400 overall in the Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, marathon in his third best time of 2:46:33. Then in April Mike and Alex competed in the Boston Marathon, where temperatures reached 70 degrees along the course. Alex, running in his first marathon, completed the race in 3:29:11. Mike, in his seventh marathon, finished in 2:50:51 for an overall place of 478th.

Yours in -kai-,
Jeff Kalt

WRITE TO US . . . before you move!
We want your new address as soon as you know it, so you won't miss a single issue of our newsletter!



Twelve New Brothers Initiated

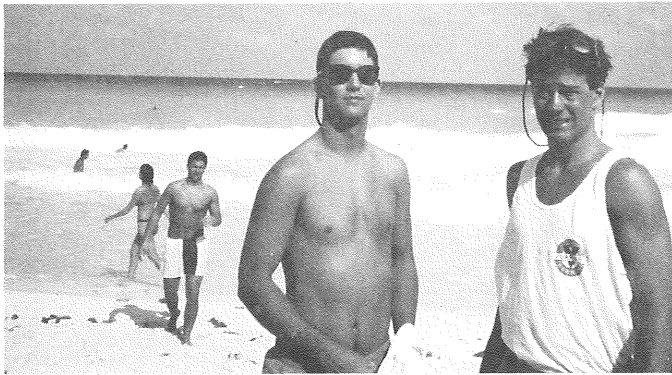
On March 19, the pledge program culminated with the initiation of all 12 of the former pledges. A special thanks goes to Michael Feinstein '82 (Dedham, MA) for helping out in performing the ceremony.

The following is the list of the newly initiated freshmen and their roll numbers:

- 854 Alex Virgilio Rehoboth, DE
- 855 Andrew Heitner Marlboro, NJ
- 856 Victor Antaramian Waldwick, NJ
- 857 Nathan Cultice White Plains, NY
- 858 Mike Duffy Cleveland, OH
- 859 Steve Hao Aurora, IL
- 860 Reggie Hughes Jr. St. Thomas, VI
- 861 Tom Aviv Holmdel, NJ
- 862 Alex Medina Guaynabo, PR
- 863 Todd Simson San Diego, CA
- 864 Mike Bowers Winchester, MA
- 865 William Scruggs Joplin, MO

We are confident that these men will continue to carry on the greatness of Beta Theta Pi. Congratulations to these men and their pledge trainer, Jim Cureton '90 (Ann Arbor, MI), for such a fine job.

Yours in -kai-,
Erik Mott



Chris Sonne '91 and Dave DellaGrote '90 in Cancun, Mexico.

Graduates To Broaden Horizons

As graduation approaches for some of us, the question of "now what?" comes to mind. Here is a partial list of some of the things that this year's graduates will be doing.

- Kee Wee '89 (mechanical engineering, Batavia, NY) will be staying at MIT for another year in order to complete pre-medical requirements.
- Michael Casagrande '89 (mechanical engineering, Danbury, CT) will be going to medical school next year. At this time it is not clear where.
- Dan Frankel '89 (chemistry, Schaumburg, IL) is also planning to attend medical school. He's not sure where yet.
- Michael Rehtin '89 (economics, Whitefish Bay, WI) will attend law school. He may or may not take a year off first.
- Michael McGovern '89 (mechanical engineering, Colonia, NJ) will stay at MIT to do graduate work in the transportation field.
- Kendall Bryan '88 (mechanical engineering, Westport, CT)



The 1988 lounge Christmas party, traditionally held Thursday evening before the main Christmas party.

President Provides, continued

number of pre-frosh stay at our house already this year while they were here to visit MIT and Boston. This pre-frosh program is a very important part of our rush program, which becomes more competitive every year. If you know of any students coming to MIT next year, please tell them about us, and tell us about them. Your help is greatly appreciated.

In late April we went on our house trip, which was organized by Andrew Obst '90. For those brothers who have always gone to Bear Brook State Park during past house trips, we are pleased to announce that we partied in Cape Cod this year!

Although the term is winding down as we go to press, we are not stopping yet. We look forward to seeing many of our alumni again at the 75th annual alumni party on May 6.

We wish you a pleasant summer!

Yours in -kai-,
Eugene Lou '90



Highlight, continued

that we had used for other major work in the recent past. We are in good financial condition, primarily due to the generosity of the alumni over the years.

The chapter itself is recognized as one of the premier chapters in all of Beta Theta Pi, and you have no doubt read of its accomplishments in the Beta magazine and in these newsletters.

We thank the alumni for their support, both financially and otherwise, and look forward to more of the same.

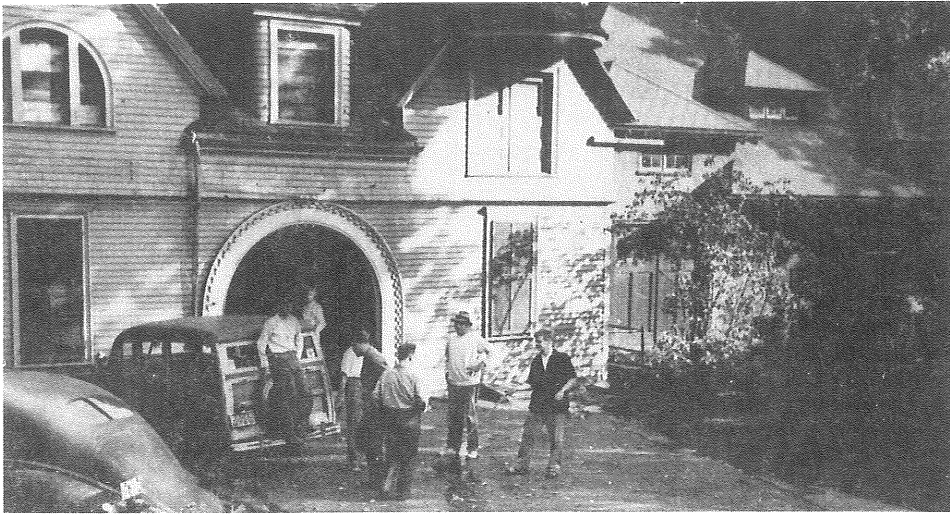
In -kai-,
Robert Danner '47, President
Beta Upsilon Association



is receiving his SB and SM this year and will work in manufacturing somewhere on the West Coast.

- Ben Silverman '88 (mechanical engineering, Pittsburgh, PA) is also receiving two degrees and will work in General Electric's manufacturing management program.

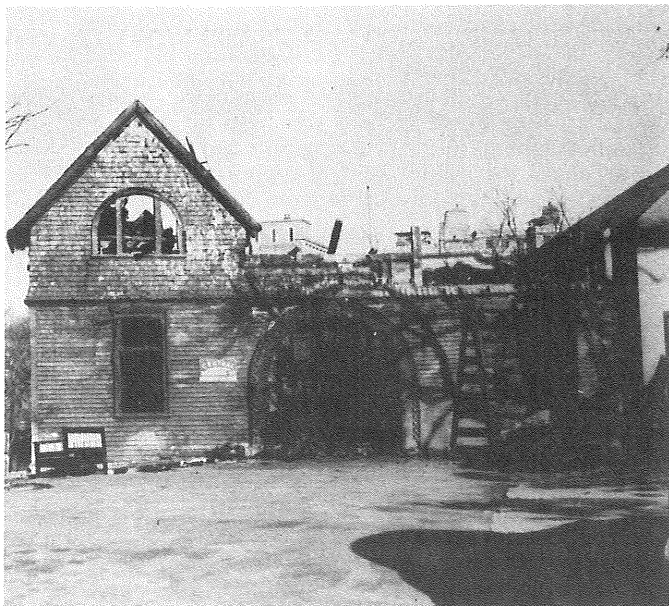
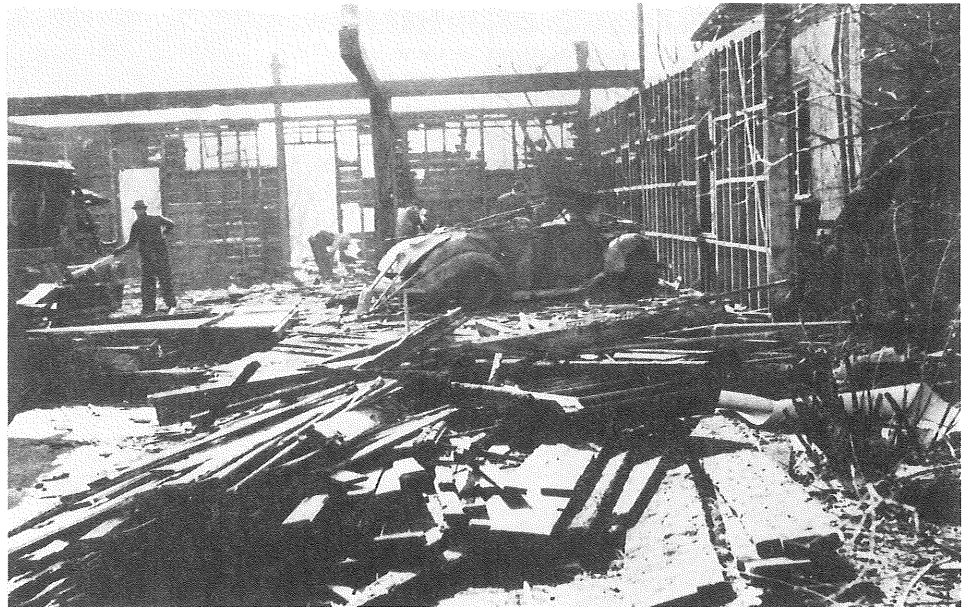
- Steven Ponzio '88 (Franklin Lakes, NJ) and Rob Mentle '88 (Bellemore, NY) will continue to do graduate work in electrical engineering at MIT.



*The Beta Barn
Before It Was
Destroyed By
Fire . . .*

And After . . .

The Beta Barn, located at 241 Kent St., Brookline, was the site of many MIT parties and the home of MIT's most famous party—the Beta Barn dance. These photos have been provided by Alumni President Robert Danner '47. Look for more "old time" photos in future issues of The Back Bay Beta.





Mike McGovern '89, Mike DeCavalcante '87, Michael Flanagan '84, Terry McNatt '87, and Michael Nadolny '87 in Colorado during a ski trip over spring break '89.

Ray "Dog" Brunsburg Located

While Ray "Dog" Brunsburg '86 was an undergraduate, it was worth noting the few times he was spotted. He always seemed to be gone. He would leave in the middle of the term for 10 days at a time, traveling to who knew where. (It helped that he flew on a certain airline for free.)

However, we have located him! Miraculously, an invitation to this year's alumni party reached him. We are grateful to have recently received the following letter from Ray:

28.3.89

Dear Betas,

Thanks for the invitation to the celebrated alumni party. Unfortunately, if all goes as planned, I'll be traveling in Spain on that date (but I'll think of you guys). By the way, my new semi-permanent address (valid for the next two years) is: Ray Brunsburg, 37, rue de Nancy, 57430 Sarralbe, FRANCE. It's a hole in the middle of nowhere, but the mail service is efficient!

Keep letting me know when the alumni parties are— one of these years I'm going to drop by.

Have a drink from the Loving Cup for me, too, and try not to stay sober.

Yours in -kai-,
Ray



Thanks for your letter, Ray. We look forward to seeing you again!

Yours in -kai-,
Michael McGovern '89

Beta Alumni Send News

"Glad to see you folks so full of pep keeping up with the old folks," writes AMASA G. SMITH '29 (36 Country Club Blvd., Birmingham, AL 35213). "I've been retired almost 18 years, but still keep active." "Mace" is on the board of the YMCA and the Boy Scouts and is president of the United Way food bank, "which gave out four million pounds of food last year."

Send best wishes to WALTON H. MARSHALL JR. '35 at 3593 S. Leisure World Blvd., Silver Spring, MD 20906.

A retired L. WALTER HELMREICH JR. '40 shares with us that he had a wonderful time at the 75th anniversary celebration but would have enjoyed seeing more housemates, pledgemates, and classmates. "I really hope to see '40 guys next year in Cambridge." In June he expects to take a Norwegian mail boat trip with IRA H. LOMAN JR. '38, RICHARD MUTHER '38, and ALBERT O. WILSON JR. '38. He adds that he was happy to meet WALTER E. H. MASSEY II '51 and the undergrads last year. Walt resides at 4 Fair Oaks, Ann Arbor, MI 48104.

Life insurance salesman RUSSELL L. LAW JR. '48 reports a new address of P.O. Box 764, Amherst, VA 24521.

Oops!

In Walter Massey's letter in the last issue of The Back Bay Beta, the McGill Colony was mistakenly reported as having received chapter status as Sigma Nu, which it did not. The colony did receive chapter status as Epsilon Nu.

WE HEAR FROM OUR ALUMNI



Keep in touch with WALTER E. H. MASSEY II '51 at 1951 Tupper St., Shaughnessy Village, Montreal, CANADA H3H 1N6.

Send greetings to ARTHUR A. WASSERMAN '51 at 422 E. Ravine Baye Rd., Bayside, WI 53217. Art writes that 1988 was a year of significant changes for Sheila and him. "In May, son Robert enrolled in Cardinal Stritch College's Programs in Management for Adults (PMA), pursuing a degree in business through evening classes while working full-time in auto sales and service. In August, Art accepted a position as dean of Stritch College's PMA division, having been teaching part-time in the program since early 1987. The change necessitated his resignation as president of Brauer engineering. In mid-December, son James graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He is looking for an entry-level position with a firm in the financial services sector in Milwaukee. In early September, Art had a minor episode with his heart, which induced him to lose some weight, change to a proper diet, and pursue regular daily exercise. For her part, Sheila has been struggling to reduce her smoking and, we hope, to quit altogether, but that battle is not yet won."

The dean of engineering at the University of Washington, J. RAY BOWEN '56 writes, "Priscilla and I expect to be grandparents for the first time in August—a small compensation for two weddings last year." Ray invites brothers in the Seattle area to visit them at 5324 Northeast 86th St., Seattle, WA 98115.

When he wrote in February, KARL M. DUFF '57 was looking forward to retiring from the navy on March 1, 1989, after 31½ years of active duty. "In July we will move to our saltwater beach front home in Port Orchard, Washington, one hour from downtown Seattle. I will take up writing in earnest on my second book. The first, *Still the Master of the Sea*, comes out in May. I will also be ministering in family preservation and restoration and developing some property." Karl has seen PAUL CASSELL '87 regularly, and he intended to see SAMUEL R. McLAUGHLIN '58 and wife Ann during a ski trip to West Virginia. Drop Karl a note at 6101 Florence Lane, Alexandria, VA 22310.



Sue Kini, Terry McNatt '87, Ken Bryan '88, Mike Nadolny '87, and Bob Struble '85 at the Christmas party.

A teacher at MIT, DAVID P. HOULT '57 receives correspondence at 9 Heard Rd., Wayland, MA 01778.

"I'm really sorry to have missed the reunion," writes RICHARD H. OELER '60 (3841 Trexler Blvd., Allentown, PA 18104). "Unfortunately, it conflicted with a regular meeting of the Chemical Manufacturer's Association (customers come first!)." Dick is vice president of Air Products. He has spoken with GARY L. BLAKLEY '58.

RICHARD A. CARPENTER '64 is an executive with the Index Technology Corporation and welcomes visitors at 25 Marian St., Hingham, MA 02043. He writes that he enjoyed the 75th reunion dinner in the fall and that he and his children had an enjoyable week of skiing with GERALD J. BURNETT JR. '64 and his family in Colorado between Christmas and New Years.

Environmental lawyer STEPHEN H. SCHROEDER '67 informs us that he recently coauthored a major treatise on hazardous waste law, "which will *not* compete with the *Sports Illustrated* swimsuit issue." Stephen has seen TY S. SHEN '68 and his family and occasionally "flails away" at a tennis ball with THOMAS M. CHEN '68.

An engineer and the president of Stewart Glapat Corporation, WILLIAM T. STEWART '69 reports, "Jennifer and I will have our fifth child in October 1989—a bit of a surprise, but joyous news!" He adds, "We all plan to attend our 20th class reunion at MIT in June. Hope to see some of you there." Send best wishes to William at 2775 Martin Rd., Zanesville, OH 47301.

"I received tenure last year at Texas A&M University," reports WILFORD D. GARDNER '72 (6403 Windwood Dr., College Station, TX 77840). "Texas may seem an unlikely place to study oceans, but as 'blue-water' oceanographers, we fly worldwide to join our ships for oceanographic expeditions." Wilf and his wife, a geology professor at the university, have three young daughters, who "love the warm weather."

Astronomer HERMAN L. MARSHALL '78 boasts, "Jenny's expecting to have our first child in September or October!" He also reports, "The job is going well, and the satellite we're building is due to launch in August 1991 and is on schedule. I could well stay on the project through 1995 or later. I'm also teaching a graduate course in high energy astrophysics at Berkeley (as I've always wanted), but there are only five students." Send congratulations to Jenny and Herman at 6939 Paso Robles, Oakland, CA 94611.

"It was great to read that 'Pledge' COLE had two kids," pens LEWIS H. BENDER '81 (rue Louis Bourget, #20, Neuchatel CH-2000, SWITZERLAND).

Send your regards to STEVEN J. SILBERBERG '83 at 98 Cedar St., #18, Wakefield, MA 01880.

DAVID J. LINEMAN '85 writes, "Any hopes of geology or geophysics have been abandoned for signal processing. As a great Beta once said, 'Sooner or later everybody goes course six.'" David keeps in touch with ROBERT J. STRUBLE '85 and TOM W. ROOZE '85. "I have had Betas too numerous to mention visit in Houston. Keep 'em coming! I am also looking forward to the Kazarinoff-Struble wedding; it should be a media event." Greet David at 5401 Chimney Rock, #1048, Houston, TX 77081.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of the following alumni:

FOREST V. HUNTER '32
HENRY G. STEINBRENNER '27