

The Back Bay Beta

Beta Upsilon Chapter

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity • Massachusetts Institute of Technology

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

NOVEMBER 1991

Beta Theta Pi Garners Yet Another Sisson Award

The school year started with a bang this past September. Beta Upsilon won its third consecutive Sisson Award for Excellence at the 152nd general convention. Due to a clerical error in Oxford, MIT was not eligible for the Virginia Tech Award (for highest GPA). It was known on the convention floor, however, that MIT had a 3.52 (on a four-point scale) GPA, much greater than the winner, Duke University, which registered a 3.23. Additionally, for the first time in recent memory, the Beta Upsilon Chapter was a finalist for the Outstanding Community Service Award.

Once again the convention turned out to be a time to meet new friends. The 10 Betas from MIT who attended the convention had a good time swapping stories and songs with Betas from San Diego State, Washington State, and the newly chartered University of Hawaii.

The house was in great shape for rush week, and all of the hard work put in during summer rush paid off as we pledged 18 fine young gentlemen. Many thanks go out to Frank J. Leibly '93 and Godard K. Abel '93, rush chairmen, and to all of the alumni who gave us their support during the week. Special thanks are extended to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Danner, who lent us their beach house for an evening. It was a great time, and all of the actives, alumni, rushees, and rush women enjoyed it.

The house looks great, and we encourage all Betas to stop by and say hi, especially if you have not been at the house for a while.

Yours in -kai-,
Michael A. Duffy '92
President

Beta Upsilon Well Represented At 152nd General Convention

The 152nd general convention of Beta Theta Pi was held in Tarpon Springs, Florida, this past summer. As usual, all who attended were impressed by the program put on by the General Fraternity. The Beta Upsilon Chapter was represented by Michael McGovern '89, Kee Wee '90, John Springsteen '91, Mark Cooper '91, Michael Duffy '92, Andrew Heitner '92, Godard Abel '93, and Christian Hamer '94.

For the third consecutive year, the Beta Upsilon Chapter received the Sisson Award, the General Fraternity's highest award for chapter excellence. However, due to a clerical error, the chapter did not receive the Virginia Tech Award, given to the chapter with the highest overall GPA. The Beta Upsilon Chapter received this award last year, and our 4.45 GPA this year far outmeasured any other chapter, but, unfortunately, was not considered.

One of the highlights of every convention is the granting of new charters. This year, six new chapters were installed. Upon receiving their charters, the new chapters all felt it necessary to celebrate. Many of the Beta Upsilon men were entertained by our new brothers from the University of Hawaii. By the end of the night, the Hawaii brothers had learned some new songs and had served as very gracious hosts. We hope to see our friends from U of H in Boston for Head of the Charles weekend.

The 152rd general convention is to be held next August 6-9 in Washington, DC, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel. It promises to be a weekend full of great memories and newfound friendships. We expect many Beta Upsilon brothers to be in attendance due to its proximity to Boston.

Yours in -kai-,
Christian Hamer '94
Sophomore Delegate

Beta Honors Astronaut Brother

On November 22, Beta Upsilon hosted a dinner in honor of Ken Cameron '71. Last April, brother Cameron served as pilot on the space shuttle for "a glorious six days in space." On the mission he took with him a Beta flag, donated by the chapter, and he came to the house to present the flag and to recount the events of his experience in space.

Brother Cameron came to MIT in 1967 and was initiated into the Beta rolls as #630 in the spring of 1968. He left school in 1969 to join the Marines and saw action in Vietnam. In 1972 he attended flight school to become a pilot.

Wanting to finish his degree, brother Cameron took an assign-

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Members of the class of '92 on their "junior sneak" to New York City last spring.

Betas Help Complete Reactor

Throughout the fall term, as in previous terms, many Betas have worked at the MIT Plasma Fusion Center. The fusion center is devoted to the development of fusion as an alternate energy source. Last year a new reactor was completed, mostly with the help of Betas from this chapter. The reactor is in the shape of a donut about two meters in diameter and three meters high. This design, referred to as a Tokomak, is a state-of-the-art reactor with promising energy-producing potential.

Dan Moriarty '90 is performing graduate research on this reactor with the help of many Betas from the house. Frank Leibly '93 rebuilt, reprogrammed, and constructed new components to manage the massive power requirements of a reactor this size. He is currently working on new power programs and assisting in the reactor's upgrades as additional funding is approved. Christopher Shutts '93 constructed some of the structure required to support the machine in addition to assisting in the vacuum vessel construction. Randy West '93 aided in the vacuum pumping system construction and is currently designing diagnostics as well as a second pumping system. Todd Simpson '92 is currently finishing construction on a patch panel for the reactor's buss work capable of delivering many kiloamps of power to the machine at one time. Eric Abernathy '93 is installing large cables to connect more power supplies to the reactor to manage its increasing power needs. Christopher Barchak '94 began work this past summer on a new computer controlling system to govern the Tokomak as it operates. Kevin Walsh '95 began work at the fusion center in early October and will also help in construction of the machine's power systems. Although not working on this Tokomak, Dave Samuel '94 is installing surveillance equipment for another machine in the fusion center that will begin operation this November.

Our work at the fusion center has not only been rewarding but extremely interesting as we push technology to its limits in the quest for a better source of energy.

Yours in -kai-,
Christopher Shutts '93

Varsity Sports Participation High

A glimpse up and down any of MIT's fall or winter sports rosters will attest to Beta's athletic prowess. An astounding 21 Betas (one half the house) participate in fall and winter sports.

Senior captain, Will Scruggs '92 heads the MIT soccer team with his voracious, "go-get-'em" defense—including a head-to-head collision that left a 17-stitch gash across Will's face and a torn knee ligament—that will undoubtedly lead Will to repeat first team All-Conference honors. Will is joined on the field by three rookies—Marshall Schnabel '95, Bruce Krysiak '95, and Brian DiVasta '95.

The nearby football field hosts an additional two pledges. Neil Best '95, #69, has cracked MIT's starting offensive lineup at left tackle, displacing a senior, while Hyung Chang '95 has gotten some action at right guard.

Another Beta pledge is starting for the MIT varsity, albeit in the water. Javier Nazario '95 is leading the MIT water polo team in scoring. Javier will join the swim team at the conclusion of the water polo season; he competes in the breaststroke. Javier is joined in the water by returning national competitor and potential All-American, Christian Hamer '94, and Steve Hao '92, who is returning to the lanes after a two-year leave of absence.

Mariner Mike Bowers '92 can also be found in the water. In addition to sailing for MIT, Mike has been selected as one of 50 to represent the U.S. in the Goodwill Regatta to be held in Japan this fall. The crew rowing tandem of Godard Abel '93 and Ben Jordan '95 round out Beta's participation in MIT water sports.

Kevin Frye '94 is "beaver rucking" in the scrum for MIT's club

Rutland State Park Site Of This Fall's House Trip

Beta's semiannual house trip proved to be a tremendous success. Instead of Scusset Beach, the site of our previous four trips, the fall house trip took place in Rutland State Park in Worcester, Massachusetts. Despite being in a new environment, actives and pledges alike—as displayed by brother Andrew Heitner '92 and pledge Ben Jordan '95—felt right at home. Ex-navy SEAL Art Buteas drove the bus with his customary flair, making sure to stop once each way in order to admire the colorful flora of Massachusetts in the fall.

As far as academics go, Beta's hard work and perseverance once again paid off. The house's average GPA out of 5.0 was even higher than the previous term, maintaining the academic standing of our chapter at the top of MIT fraternities as well as among all other Beta chapters.

Yours in -kai-,
Alex Medina '92
Vice President

Beta Honors Astronaut Brother

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ment with the Marines in South Weymouth, Massachusetts, and returned to MIT in 1976. He completed his bachelor's in aero/astro engineering in 1978 and received a master's in 1979, also in course 16. Upon completing his academic career, he went back to flying with the Marines—this time in Japan as a project pilot at the Pacific Missile Test Center. Later, he enrolled in test pilot school in Maryland and served as a test pilot for one year.

Brother Cameron left the Marines in 1984 in join NASA, where he participated in an astronaut training program, in preparation for the space shuttle flight that took place from April 5 to April 11, 1991. Cameron continues to work for NASA in operations interpolation of the space shuttle design and has plans to go on another shuttle mission, possibly as commander. He is married and has two sons.

Cocktails and hors d'oeuvres began at 6:45 on November 22, with dinner following. The evening was a wonderful learning experience and a great time. We invite brother Cameron to return, as we do all alumni.

Yours in -kai-,
Andrew Heitner
Alumni Secretary

rugby team. Kevin is still hanging tough after sustaining several cracked ribs, a concussion, and a chipped tooth.

MIT's winter sports seasons are just getting under way with the commencement of basketball, wrestling, volleyball, and winter track practices. For the last three years, a Beta has captained the MIT basketball team; this year is no exception: Following in the footsteps of Mike Casagrande '89, Dave Dellogrotte '90, and Chris Sonne '91 is president Mike Duffy '92. Mike is joined on the courts by three talented newcomers—Alex Virgilio '92, Nikki Caruthers '95, and Randy Hyun '95. The prospect of seeing four Betas on the court at one time once again presents itself, a sight not seen since the 1988-'89 season.

Randy West '93 has returned to the wrestling mats weighing in at 215 lbs. Meanwhile, setter Rob Ullman '94 has fought off nagging injuries to return to the volleyball squad, and Alan Cockern '95 has joined winter track. We wish all these athletes the best of luck with their seasons.

Yours in -kai-,
Alex Virgilio

Beta Pledges 18 Freshmen During A Successful Rush

Once again, we were fortunate enough to have an amazing rush week again this year. Without question, Betas ran the most successful rush on campus this year. Not only did 17 MIT freshmen pledge the house, but an incoming freshman from Harvard also received a bid and pledged. It is allowed by the General Fraternity, as well as the bylaws of the Beta Upsilon Chapter, to have as many as two members of the house who attend college outside of MIT. This year, we decided to take advantage of this opportunity and allow Derek Lou (brother of Eugene Lou '90) to pledge the fraternity. He will be living in the dorms at Harvard this year, as required by the Harvard freshman housing policy, but participating in all pledge activities and house functions. He hopes to move into the house next year.

This year's entire pledge class is as follows: Neil Best, Sandusky, MI; Nikki Caruthers, Pine Bluff, AR; Alan Cockern, Franklin Square, NY; Michael Collins, Southampton, NY; Hyung Chang, Timonium, MD; Ethan Close, Braintree, MA; Brian Divasta, North Reading, MA; James Falter, Croton-on-Hudson, NY; Randy Hyunn, Portland, OR; Benjamin Jordan, Talbotton, GA; Bruce Krysiaak, Delaware, OH; Derek Lou, Arlington, TX; Michael Miller, Cooper City, FL; Javier Nazario, San Juan, PR; Paul O'Brian, Braintree, MA; Marshall Shnabbel, Aberdeen, WA; Benjamin Torres, San Agustin Rio Piedras, PR; Kevin Walsh, Hickory Hills, IL.

We attribute much of our success during this year's rush to the amazing summer rush we had. We held 20 summer rush parties and of our 18 pledges, 15 of them had already met brothers of the house in person prior to the beginning of rush. The other three had spoken on the phone extensively with members of the house over the summer. We thank all of the alumni who were able to help out with these summer rush events, especially to Ron Abarquez '87, Rob Boye '88, Ken Bryan '88, Rob Mentle '88, Jim Cureton '89, Eugene Lou '90, and Tom Aviv '91, who hosted summer rush parties.

Much thanks also goes out to all of the alumni who were able to help out during rush itself. Bob Danner, president of our alumni association, was kind enough to host our Saturday night alumni dinner at his summer home in Duxbury. We all had a great time and are very appreciative of his generosity. To those recent alumni who were unable to make it back for rush, we were sorry to miss you and hope to see you for the Christmas and alumni parties and possibly during next year's rush as well.

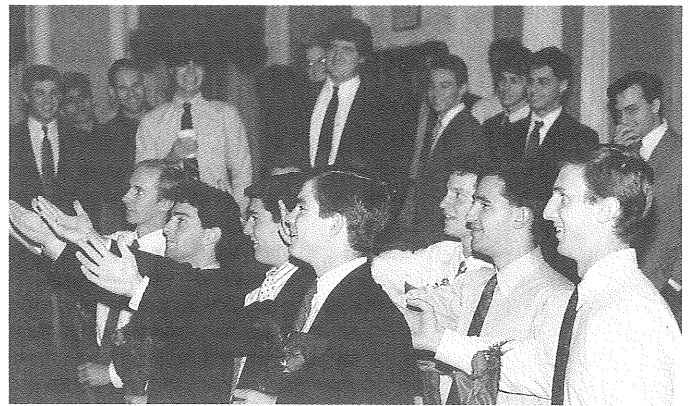
Something that alumni may be interested in doing that could help out for rush in future years would be becoming educational counselors for MIT. These are alumni who help MIT interview prospective students for admission. The more Betas who are ECs, the more prospective rush recommendations and opportunities for pre-fresh become available to the house. Also, MIT is always in need of ECs from many parts of the country. If you already are an educational counselor or are interested in becoming one, we would appreciate your contacting our next year's rush chair, Jay Coulson, to let him know that you are involved.

We hope that with continued alumni support we will keep having such successful rushes for years to come.

Yours in -kai-,
Frank Leibly '93
Rush Chair '91

THE BACK BAY BETA

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 after use in the newsletter.



The new pledges serenading the women who helped out during rush with "Beta Sweetheart" at the annual rush women dinner.

Beta House Looking Great

Work week '91 was a huge success thanks to all of the efforts of the Beta actives. People worked into the night every day until we finished ahead of schedule on Wednesday. The fourth floor of the main house received the most attention. Most all of its walls were given fresh paint and its floors a fresh sanding and coats of urethane. Other landings and the library also received fresh urethane. The third-floor bathroom was given a new floor, some paint, and some plumbing work. A basketball hoop was installed in the back parking lot for rush and further use throughout the year. The house looked and smelled excellent for rush.

With the large pledge class coming in, the house needed some additional room furniture. Purchases included six mattresses, five desks, 12 desk chairs, and three dressers. All of the rooms are now well stocked with quality, working furniture. In order to keep the house warm through the winter, some replacement storm windows will be purchased.

Some of the term projects being attended to include a new 220-volt outlet for a dryer, window repairs throughout the house, and door and lock repairs. Much of the work done thus far has been on immediate concerns like the dryers, nonfunctional doors and windows, and various other repairs.

The annex will be the focus of the efforts during pledge work week '92. Some projects lined up include repairing the dryer ventilation duct work, doing plumbing work in the basement bathroom, and applying urethane on the first floor and some of the landings. Many of the annex walls will get sanded and painted in order to give the annex a better overall appearance.

Our Beta Alums Write

"In June, my wife, Billie, and I had a wonderful trip to England on the *Queen Elizabeth II*," announces DONALD R. TABER '25. "We spent most of our time enjoying the superb food. In London we visited the Courtauld Institute Galleries in their new home—magnificent, don't miss it when in London. We also spent seven days in the Cotswold and York area. Then back to the USA on the Concord—top speed 1,320 miles per hour at 59,000 feet without a ripple on my cup of coffee!" For more highlights of their adventure, contact the Tabers at 401 E. Linton Blvd., Delray Beach, FL 33483.

CROCKETT A. HARRISON '26 attended the 65th reunion of his class with his second wife, Imogene. "We enjoyed visiting with JOHN JACOB '26 and his wife, Harriet. I was originally initiated at Alpha Delta at Westminster College in 1921." The home address for "Dave" is 1327 S. Center St. Ext., Grove City, PA 16127.

(Additional alumni news on page four.)

More News From Our Alums

"The chapter seems to be doing great," writes FREDERICK W. WILLCUTT '27. "I add my congratulations to KENNETH CAMERON '78 on being a space shuttle co-pilot. I was glad to note that he holds a commission in the United States Marines. I regard 'the corps' as my 'other fraternity.' I volunteered in 1943 and served in the battles of Iwo Jima and Pelelieu." News will reach Fred at 6934 33rd St. NW, Washington, DC 20015.

THEODORE J. GUNDLACH JR. '40 and his wife, Carolyn, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary by taking their three kids, their spouses, and eight grandchildren to a lodge on Torch Lake, Michigan, in August. Ted has been retired since 1977 and makes his home at 760-A Avenida Estancia, Capri Isles, Venice, FL 34292.

Retiree DONN W. BARBER '42 expected to travel to Oregon for his younger daughter's PhD graduation in August. While there, they planned to do some more traveling—Redwoods, Crater Lake, Columbia River Gorge, and possibly Tacoma for another reunion with Muzzie and EARLE FOOTE '42. Donn also hopes to see the Footes and others at the 50th MIT class reunion next year. Write to Donn at 263 McIntosh Rd., West Chester, PA 19382.

"I highly recommend retirement," pens SIDNEY A. WINGATE '43 of 26 Revolutionary Rd., Concord, MA 01742.

HENRY C. QUIGLEY's ('50) son, Jim, is now in his second year of graduate study (physics) at MIT. "He spent the summer at Stanford's Linear Accelerator Center. I am taking courses at the Academy of Lifelong Learning in Wilmington." Write Hank at 109 Glenwood Rd., Wilmington, DE 19803.

A Cornell professor of mechanical engineering, HERBERT B. VOELCKER '51 pens, "The Betas from 1951 had a fine reunion (40th) in June, mainly at Chatham bars. In attendance were GREGOR GENTLEMAN, DICK REEDY, JOE SHERRILL, GEORGE UNDERWOOD, me, ART WASSERMAN, and FRED WEITZ." The address we have for Herb is 205 Valley Rd., Ithaca, NY 14850.

SAMUEL RICHARD McLAUGHLIN '58 has given up the mayor's job after eight years, has made his son president of the company (Communication Exhibits), and has moved to Catawba Island in the Erie Islands. "If anyone is interested, my boat is 25 feet from the back door, and the walleye fishing is great!" Write Dick and make plans for a fishing trip at 1520 N. Compass, Port Clinton, OH 43452.

PHILIP J. ROBINSON '61 sends us some information about himself: "Last November, I left Tektronix after 11 years to become president of the concurrent engineering group of Mentor Graphics Corp., the world's leader in electronic design automation. In May, I received an honorary doctorate in public service for work I've done in higher education in Oregon. Our older daughter is married and lives in the Bay Area, while our younger daughter lives near us in Oregon. Give us a call and come see us." Their address is 1845 Palisades Terrace, Lake Oswego, OR 97034.

The president and CEO of Oxbow Corporation, WILLIAM I. KOCH '62 has formed an America's Cup syndicate—America3 Foundation—to defend the America's Cup in May 1992 in San Diego, California. "My position in the syndicate is president, but more importantly, I am also the skipper/helmsman." Write to Bill for more information at 153 Woodbridge Rd., Palm Beach, FL 33480.

WILLIAM T. STEWART '69, president of Stewart Glapat, writes, "Our business of designing and building specialized conveyor systems has survived the recession with recent projects in Canada. Our five children, aged 13 to two, keep us busy and entertained." Drop a line to "Stew" at 2775 Martin Rd., Zanesville, OH 43701.

Providing us with a new address of 1213 Randolph Rd., Plainfield, NJ 07061, is JEFFREY M. COVE '71. He has three children: Danielle is in college, Garth is in high school, and Michael is four years old. Jeff is general manager of sales/marketing for Panasonic.

A mortgage banker for PW Funding, Inc., CHARLES E. CALHOUN III '74 does much lending in Texas and California for the purchasing and refurbishing of apartment buildings. "If any alumni in the New York City area would like to get together and reflect on days gone by and days yet to come, please call me at 914/738-1806 or 212/541-3416 or write to 106 Harmon Ave., Pelham, NY 10803."

BRUCE J. DAVIES '75 is now working for himself as a landscape architect, fixing up his house, and is camping a lot with his son, Morgan (12), and his daughter, Caitlin (9). He sees JEFF COVE '71 often. "B. J." and Jeff went to the Kennedy Space Center in April to see KEN CAMERON '78, who piloted the space shuttle *Atlantis*. Mail will reach B. J. at 1 Moraine Rd., Morris Plains, NJ 07950.

In May KENNETH D. CAMERON '78 wrote, "I recently completed my first space shuttle mission, STS-37. I was the pilot of a crew of five, and our mission was to deploy the Gamma Ray Observatory, conduct spacewalks, perform mid-deck experiments, and talk to school kids and hams on our amateur radio. What a ride. Riding along with us was the Beta Theta Pi flag from 119 Bay State Road. Mickie and the boys, Robert (7) and Edward (4), are doing fine, and I'm looking forward to promotion to colonel and new challenges (another mission in space or wallpapering the living room). I was glad to hear that several Betas made it to Florida to see the launch." Contact Ken at Astro Office, Code CB, JSC, Houston, TX 77058.

PAUL M. HAINES JR. '78 along with his wife, Suzanne, and their sons, Zachary (10) and Andrew (3), moved to Caracas, Venezuela, a year ago. He pens, "I am still with Schlumberger but now am international staff. We would love to hear from or see old friends." Send correspondence c/o Jet Cargo Int'l/Schlumberger, P.O. Box 020010, #62, Miami, FL 33102.

"I quit my job at DEC and am attending med school at UVM," announces MARK P. BOUCHARD '84. "My wife, Chris, and I welcome any Betas who will be skiing in the area this winter to look us up at 41 Twin Oaks, South Burlington, VT 05403."

MICHAEL E. FLANAGAN '85 became engaged to Sheila on Grand Teton in June. He is an engineer at Ciba Corning Diagnostics and lives at 29A Beaconwood Rd., Newton Heights, MA 02161.

Kim and JOHN K. BARTHOLOMEW '86 proudly announce the birth of their son, Dylan Andrew, on July 24, 1991, weighing in at 12 lbs. 7 ozs. "Kim and I also attended MIKE STRAUB's ('86) wedding to Lisa Hoffman in Summit, New Jersey, in early June. We ran into many Betas, including MICHAEL RUF '88, TONY DiPESA '86, JIM BRENNAN '87, MATTHEW DENESUK '87, and MARTIN ST. GEORGE '86." Congratulations will reach the Bartholomews at 14145 SW Fanno Creek, Tigard, OR 97224.

Providing us with a new address of 5438 S. Ridgewood Court, Chicago, IL 60615, is LEI H. TUNG '86.

MICHAEL P. McGOVERN '89 graduated MIT with a master's in transportation this year and is now looking for a more permanent job. Write to him at 11848 Pegasus Dr., Jacksonville, FL 32223.

Brother EARL J. WATKINS '90 has a new address: 500 Wall Blvd., #103, Gretna, LA 70056.

DECEASED

We regret to report the death of JOHN H. PHILLIPPI '38 on November 27, 1989.