

THE BETA BEAT

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON • UNIVERSITY OF MONTANA



RECRUITMENT RECOMMENDATION—2
ALUMNUS SPOTLIGHT—3
FLASHBACK PHOTOS—3

SPRING 2009

THE TALE OF HOW TWO SAEs BECAME LIFELONG FRIENDS

Written by *John R. Greener '79*

In my family, my brother and I grew up in the house that originally belonged to my grandparents. It was a beautiful, rural setting, offering me a long bike ride into town on a dusty gravel road. This prized property had a big, old house with strange creaking sounds, pipes that knocked and rattled in the winter, indicating it had a life of its own. In the summer, with no central air, the windows were opened to let in the sweet smelling breezes of summer and the sounds of crickets. This old farmhouse was home.

When I left for college in 1975, I soon found another old house I would call home. Although the membership at Sigma Alpha Epsilon was small, the brothers were an open and inviting group. They lived in a house a few blocks from the UM campus that had seen better days, even then in the 1970s. I remember on my first visit the house cook, Ella, had just made homemade peanut butter cookies, and several of the guys shared my interests in backpacking, skiing, and women! When I first moved into 1120 Gerald, the ΣAE's had too much space, but by the time I was a junior, we had grown the chapter and things were really happening. In the winter of my senior year, we actually were doubling up the rooms. So, for the first time in my life I was going to have a roommate.



Over the past 30 years, Jim Mountain '81 and John Greener '79 have talked about a visit to Yankee Stadium for a ballgame. In April 2009, the Yankees hosted the Chicago Cubs for two pre-season games. It was finally time for a trip to the Big Apple and a visit for old bunkmates.

ship that could only happen between roommates, or, as we affectionately referred to each other, bunkies.

To this day, we remain close friends even with a great distance separating our lives. Jim and his wife, Bonnie, and their family live in New Jersey, while Gail and I have made our home in suburban Chicago. After nearly 25 years away from Missoula, we made it back for UM Homecoming when our son Mike was a student in 2003. I found the chapter was in sad shape; there were only a handful of brothers and a few pledges, and the physical condition of the house was just as

bad—neither showed prospect for much hope. The future of Montana Beta was in serious jeopardy.

However, next door at the Sigma Chi house there was laughter and festiveness, much like I remembered from my days on campus. Our ΣAE house appeared as a ghost of times past. So Jim and

I decided that despite geographical distance and all the time commitment issues, we could not give up on Montana Beta. Soon we met **Dick Ford '64**, **Tony Wertz '65**, **Ken Lawrence '63**, and **Dave Hafer '64**. **Ron Cole '81** and **Scott Johnson '81** agreed to stay on as our active Missoula alumni and great things began to happen once again.

Today, the ΣAE chapter house is nicely updated and the active members successfully work to improve their numbers and G.P.A. It effectively creates opportunities for stories to be written by new brothers. The story of the bunkies also continues for me and Jim, adding new chapters over the years with spouses, children, and career adventures. The opportunity for young men to follow and create their own roommate adventures is a gift waiting to be given; a gift that we, who are in the bonds of brotherhood, give freely to each other and to those who will in the future call 1120 Gerald home.



John Greener '79 and Jim Mountain '81 on the second deck of the ΣAE house give "sin city" a new coat of paint in 1979.

MONTANA BETAS TAKE ON CAMPUS LEADERSHIP ROLES

VISIT WWW.UMSAE.NET FOR HOMECOMING INFORMATION

This semester has been very busy at 1120 Gerald with all the campus activities. We are having an excellent spring, and I am excited to share our news and accomplishments with you.

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN VARIOUS PHILANTHROPIES

We participated in Missoula's Hospice Ball, and some of the brothers worked as waiters and busboys while others participated in the cleanup. Other philanthropic events included the annual Big

(Continued on page 2)

MONTANA BETAS TAKE ON CAMPUS LEADERSHIP ROLES

(Continued from page 1)

Brothers Big Sisters Bowl for Kids' Sake, the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, as well as various personal community service activities.

UNDERGRADUATE ACTORS

Sam Goodwin '11, a theater major, played the part of Brandy Bottlebake in the University's winter production of Guys and Dolls. Everyone on campus enjoyed the play and said Sam nailed it.

LEADERSHIP ON CAMPUS

I was elected secretary of Interfraternity Council and **Alex Anderson '11** was elected as public relations chairman. IFC has become a force once again on campus with the new support of the fraternity and sorority system. ΣAE participated in the upcoming Greek Week activities.

SEND IN NAMES FOR RECRUITMENT AND STOP BY FOR HOMECOMING

Recruitment is approaching and we ask alumni to send us names of potential new members by filling out the recruitment recommendation form below. We also invite you to stop by the chapter house next time you are in Missoula, especially at Homecoming. Come say hello and take a tour of the house. Check out the Montana Beta Web site, www.umsae.net, for next fall's Homecoming activities.

In the Bonds,
Ben Jensen '11
Eminent Archon
(406) 698-4059
benjamin.jensen@umontana.edu

CHAPTER OFFICERS

EMINENT ARCHON

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Billings, Mont.

(406) 698-4059

benjamin.jensen@umontana.edu

EMINENT DEPUTY ARCHON

Jason Newton '10

Polson, Mont.

EMINENT TREASURER

Joe Goldberg '12

Missoula, Mont.

EMINENT WARDEN

Mack Klink '10

Bellevue, Wash.

RECRUITMENT CHAIRMAN

Cody Knowlton '10

Havre, Mont.

(406) 262-4949

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HOUSE MANAGER

Josh Teynor '11

Missoula, Mont.

SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRMAN

Nicholas Tarter '10

Missoula, Mont.

SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON BUILDING CORPORATION

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WEB SITES

Montana Beta Chapter

www.umsae.net

ΣAE National

www.sae.net

University of Montana

www.umt.edu

Alumni, Recommend a Man for Recruitment

Prospect's Name _____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Does prospect have an ΣAE relative? _____

Reference submitted by _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Alumni, we value your referrals. If you know of good men on campus who have not joined a fraternity or high school seniors headed to Missoula, please recommend and impress upon them the values of Sigma Alpha Epsilon. You may submit prospect recommendations to **Joseph Goldberg '12** at joegoldber90@hotmail.com. Or mail this form to Montana Beta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon, P.O. Box 3343, Missoula, MT 59806.

BROTHER LEADS FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND FRATERNITY

Spotlight on Bill Bouchee '63

Bill Bouchee '63 grew up in Livingston, Montana, where he dedicated time and effort to an outstanding athletic career. During high school he achieved great accomplishments and lettered in football, basketball, and track. It wasn't long before Bill was offered a football scholarship to the University of Montana where he pledged Sigma Alpha Epsilon in the fall of 1959.

At UM, Bill was an outstanding athlete, student, and fraternity member. He was one of several brothers to start on the football team. "We weren't known as the jock house, but we did have many brothers on a lot of different varsity teams."

After Bill graduated, he married Phyllis Lindgren and began working at First National Bank in Missoula. He worked his way up to a manager position and built a reputation in Missoula as the go-to person who could get things done.

In 1991 Bill became president of First Security Bank and made a big impact on the company. He put together a group of investors and bought the bank in 1993. In 1996 and 1997 he played a key role in merging the bank into the Glacier Bank Corporation. At the time the

bank's assets were approximately \$25 million. Today, Glacier Bank has assets of close to \$1 billion and the corporation has grown to be one of the best regional banks in the U.S., with over \$5 billion in assets.

Bill continues to prove himself and said, "No thanks; we don't need it," to the recent bailout. A prominent banker's publication named Glacier Bank Corporation the best of the best in their category.

Bill is now semi-retired as president and chairman of the board of First Security Bank and has remained an active community member serving on boards for the community hospital, YMCA, chamber of commerce, and the Grizzly Athletic Association. He has generously contributed scholarships to the University of Montana and other projects. His philanthropy has helped various causes in Missoula and he has received many awards for his work.

Bill and Phyllis have two sons, Bob, a Missoula policeman, and Mike, a lawyer. Bill has been a real credit to his family, fraternity, and an asset to his community and we are proud to call him brother.

ALUMNI NEWS

Charles R. Brady '45 is an attorney and lives in Laguna Beach, Calif. He and his wife, Rebecca, have three children: Rex, Michael, and Laura. E-mail: charlesrbrady@cox.net

Robert C. Blair '46 and his wife, Alice, have 13 children and live in St. George, Utah. Robert retired in 1985 from the *Salt Lake Tribune* as editorial page editor.

Frank E. Briney '50 retired as vice president of marketing for Boeing and Parker Hannifin in 2000. He resides in Laguna Niguel, Calif. E-mail: febriney@cox.net

Donald C. Woodside '50 of Fair Oaks, Calif., retired in 1998 from the California legislature as joint committee state chief consultant. He is involved in the Learning in Retirement organization and attends class at Sacramento State University. Donald enjoys learning a variety of subjects. He and his wife, Virginia, have three children. E-mail: dcwoodside@sbcglobal.net

Jack A. Leclair '52 is past president of Zeta Chi Corporation and serves on the alumni board for the University of Idaho. He enjoys athletics, traveling, and visiting his 10 grandchildren. Jack and his wife, JoAnn, live in Moscow, Idaho. E-mail: jleclair@webtv.net

Edwin D. Erickson '54 and his wife, Pat, live in a beautiful retirement community, Del Webb Lincoln Hills, near Sacramento, Calif. They enjoy driving their golf cart to the grocery store, barber shop, swimming pool, and friends' houses. Don says, "It's fun to be retired!" E-mail: ericksonp9@sbcglobal.net

(Continued on page 4)

FLASHBACK PHOTOS



Montana Beta brothers in the 1970s.

ALUMNI NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

Harry F. Manuel '55 of Lake Havasu City, Ariz., spent 31 years teaching in Oregon. The last 19 years of his career were spent teaching elementary school health before he retired in 1987.

Kenneth M. Shoquist '57 and his wife, Sue, live in Albuquerque, N.M., and help their son, Kenny, in his UPS store. Ken and Sue owned a Hyster forklift dealership from 1976 to 1990. Their daughters, Stacy and Stephanie, are avid bridge players and travel to tournaments throughout the country.

Larry C. Eichhorn '61 and his wife, Darlene, live in Lewistown, Mont., and have two daughters, Connie and Charlotte. Larry retired in 1992 from the Bureau of Land Management.

Gary G. Fish '62 has spent his retirement acting and directing in community theaters in Livingston, Mont. He has also appeared in movies, commercials, and political advertisements and acted in six national tours with the Montana Repertory Theater. E-mail: grizzfishes@wispwest.net

Thomas P. Ross '62 was in the U.S. Army from 1962 to 1993. He retired as a colonel and founded Montana Educator's Credit Union. Thomas and his wife, Louise Anne, have two children, Eric and Mary Anne, and live in Missoula, Mont. E-mail: montanagrizzfan@msn.com

Dr. Robert E. Morgenstern '63 of Port Angeles, Wash., and his wife, Valerie, have three children: Robert, Juli, and Mara. Robert retired in 1998 as a professor of psychology. E-mail: rrmorgen1@msn.com

Richard L. Ford '64 enjoys spending time with his ΣAE brothers and is advisor to the active chapter. He and his wife, Maureen, are enjoying retirement to the fullest. They live in Walnut Creek, Calif. E-mail: richard_ford@sbcglobal.net

Cliff C. Jacobsen '64 and his wife, Laura, are enjoying the weather of their hometown, Las



MONTANA BETA CHAPTER OF SIGMA ALPHA EPSILON

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Attention:

This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Montana, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

Vegas, Nev. Cliff says he does not miss the cold winters of Montana and Wisconsin, but he does miss the mountains. He enjoys playing golf and racketball. E-mail: cljacobsen1@excite.com

David R. Montague '66 authored a satire, *In Greed We Trust: Secrets of a Dead Billionaire*, which was published by Two Trout Press in 2007. He and his wife, Mary, live in Bonner, Mont. E-mail: d33rtsm9@blackfoot.net

Thomas W. Moseley Jr. '79 of Munising, Mich., and his wife, Cindy, will be empty nesters when

their son, Thomas, attends Michigan Tech University this fall. Thomas and Cindy are both busy with work, teaching, church, and other ministries. E-mail: tmoseley@lmasdhd.org

John D. Streich '83 and his wife, Michelle, live in Platteville, Wis. They sold their business, First Capital Group Division of Pension, after 20 years. They have three daughters: Katrina, a junior at Pepperdine; Sarah, a freshman at St. Cloud State; and Julia, a sophomore in high school. John enjoys running, flying airplanes, hunting, and down-hill skiing with his family. E-mail: jds@efutures.com

ALUMNI SERVING MONTANA BETA

Are you interested in volunteering your time to ΣAE? We need men to step up and become a part of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon Building Corporation. It's a fantastic way to reconnect with alumni and influence the lives of our undergraduates.

____ Yes, I am interested in volunteering for the building corporation.

Name and graduation year: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please mail this form to:

Montana Beta Chapter of Sigma Alpha Epsilon • P.O. Box 3343 • Missoula, MT 59806

For more information, contact **Jim Mountain '81** at (973) 378-9414 or jmountain@deloitte.com.