



ΣΝ Beta Chapter

Winter Newsletter

The year 2021 gave rise to a new sense of livelihood among members of the Beta Chapter at the University of Virginia. Seasoned by a uniquely challenging 2020, and with eyes turned optimistically toward the future, the chapter was eager to provide talented young men once again with an environment conducive to meaningful engagement, self-growth, and the beginnings of lifelong friendships. In this annual issue of the Beta Newsletter, we offer you a window into our tenacious brotherhood's activities and achievements over the past year.

The Beta Chapter of Sigma Nu Fraternity continues to grow into a diverse and formidable organization on the Grounds of our historic university. Since our rechartering in 2018, the chapter has unceasingly endeavored to set new standards of excellence for its members, advance chapter goals, and strengthen our involvement across the university. The current brotherhood owes a great deal of its success to the support and guidance of our treasured alumni. In this newsletter, we glimpse at the daily workings of the chapter in 2021 and reflect on a few of the interesting and exciting things that our Beta alumni continue to make possible.



The brotherhood prepares the historic Beta Chapter house for the annual Christmas Formal!

Inside this Issue

- Page 2 - Rush News and Sigma Nu's
- Page 3 - Recap of Spring Semester
- Page 4 - Recap of Fall Semester
- Page 4 - Academic Highlights
- Page 5 - House Corporation News



The brotherhood came together and applied its creativity and diversity of thought to design an attractive, virtual recruitment process that adhered to the IFC's new COVID-19 protocols. This was especially important because rush was condensed into only one week. Knowing that a successful recruitment cycle is imperative to the growth and longevity of the Beta Chapter, we focused our efforts on bringing in upstanding young men who exemplified the virtues of Love, Honor, and Truth.

Our rush chairs, Will Keen, and Grant Blumberg, deserve recognition for their hard work. The Beta Chapter once again celebrated an exceptional candidate class. We ultimately recruited fourteen motivated and outgoing candidates, all of whom were excited to begin their journey as a Sigma Nu.



2021 candidate class smiles on the front steps of the house after initiation ceremonies.

2021 Candidate Class

*Be on the lookout in the coming weeks for an email with the 2022 Candidate Class

Robert Gay '24
Arlington, VA

Joseph Curry '24
Willis Wharf, VA

Jack Billies '24
Charlottesville, VA

Price McKinney '24
Larchmont, NY

Santhosh Rajendran '23
Essex Junction, VT

McCall Sinclair '24
Kingfisher, OK

Jaden Evans '23
Telluride, CO

Sean Pettit '24
Ashburn, VA

Justin Brady '24
Chantilly, VA

John Follis '24
Chesterfield, VA

Matthew Waititu '24
Chesterfield, VA

Kenneth Callis '24
West Point, VA

Jack LaBorde '24
Jacksonville, FL

Valmik Rai '24
Fairfax Station, VA

Following Bid Day, potential new members avidly began the largely virtual candidate education process led by Marshall Hudson Zegarski. Our new guys engaged in weekly LEAD sessions and unique opportunities for bonding and personal development. After the long-awaited loosening of distancing guidelines, candidates and brothers were able to meet in person toward spring's end.

Recap of Spring Semester

Winter Newsletter



The Beta Chapter of Sigma Nu was ready to make the most of the spring semester when UVA welcomed students back to Grounds in January. In adhering to the University's strict policies around physical distancing and gatherings, many of which would persist through April, we successfully conducted the bulk of our operations in a virtual environment. Weekly chapter meetings, LEAD sessions, and IFC seminars were held over Zoom. Members stayed connected by participating in online poker night, cooking competitions, competing in video game tournaments, attending virtual concerts, discussing interesting reads in the newly formed Beta Chapter book club, and throughout engagement in other fun and COVID-friendly brotherhood events. Chapter leadership also used this period of slowdown to reflect on our values as well as set goals for the eventual transition out of pandemic-era social life.

In May, UVA welcomed back the class of 2020 to participate in in-person Final Exercises along with the class of 2021. The chapter was estatic to finish off the spring semester by hosting well-deserved graduation celebrations for our fourth-year members and 26 young alumni from across the country.

Beta brothers enjoy their weekend at Myrtle Beach, SC



Class of 2021 poses for a graduation picture in front of the Rotunda.



Congratulations to the Beta Chapter of

SIGMA NU
CLASS OF
2021

James Riled Assaid
Xavier Antonio Castillo-Vieira
Kyle Thomas Dana
Christopher Gordon Gacek
John Genry Fishbein
Kris Kohoneshi
Miles Steven Lewis

Jacob Matthew Miller
Thomas James Miller
Nicholas James Norton
Kunaal Sanjay Sarnaik
Luke Nicholas van Leeuwen
Jeffery Emory Wiloughby Jr.
Nathanael Chase Zegarski



Eleven Betas of the class of 2022 enjoying time together during the annual fourth-year year trip to Las Vegas.

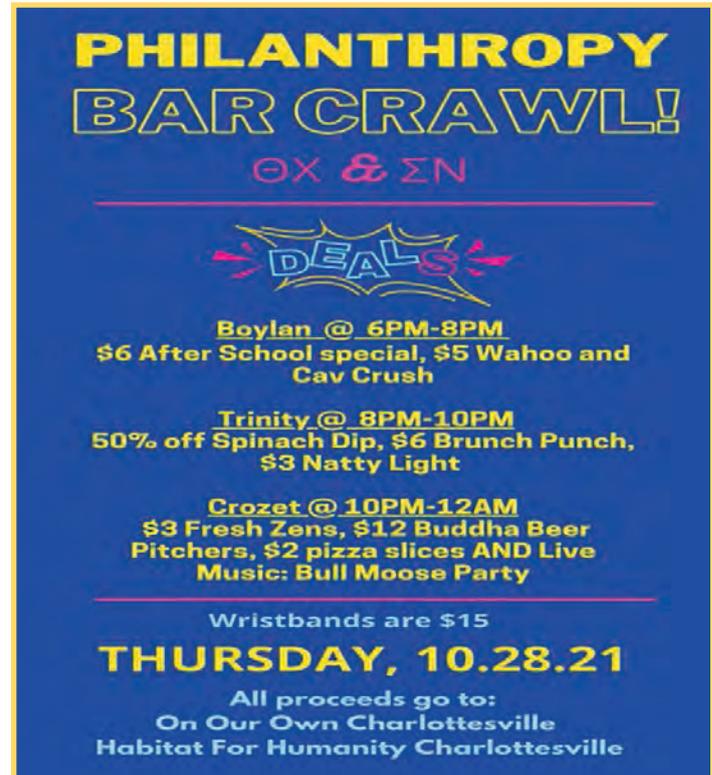


Since the reorganizing of the Beta Chapter, it has become a tradition for the fourth-year class to take a weekend trip to Las Vegas during UVA's fall break. In October, they secured rooms in Caesar's Palace and the new Hilton at Resorts World. Our guys treated themselves to concerts, nightlife, and of course, a dip in the famous Las Vegas pools! Pictured above, brothers are ready to enjoy some well-deserved fine dining - pecking duck, lamb chops, stir fry, and dumplings at Genting Palace.

"We've all gotten very close the last few years, and the brotherhood trip to Vegas was something the older guys have really been looking forward to. My pledge class snagged rooms at Caesar's and one of the new hotels, which was amazing. I'm sure we each had some of the most memorable nights of our lives on the Strip."

- Brother Ryan Hart, Class of 2022

A flyer promoting the Beta Chapter's largest philanthropic effort of the fall.



For this fall's major philanthropy, Sigma Nu joined forces with Theta Chi to raise money and awareness for local nonprofits. By purchasing \$15 wristbands from brothers, supportive (21+) patrons received food and drink deals throughout the night at popular Corner restaurants. The event was a huge success! Our brothers sold 150 wristbands, amounting to \$2,250 in direct proceeds to benefit Habitat for Humanity Charlottesville. The Beta Chapter's philanthropic contribution will help ensure that community members in need have access to adequate housing.

Academic Highlights

The Chapter continues to promote and excel in academics, achieving a GPA in the top quarter of all fraternity houses. Our brothers maintain a diverse range of study, including majors in electrical and chemical engineering, pre-med and pre-law, as well as a strong number of commerce majors. This past year two of our brothers, Jamison Stevens and Jonathan Laredo, were elected to the prestigious (cont.)



Raven Society for their outstanding academics and leadership. Jamison was also elected president of Tau Beta Pi, UVA's engineering honor society. Both last spring and the past semester saw applications from our fourth-years to PhD programs in electrical engineering at MIT, Harvard, and the University of California, along with other brothers applying to top tier law schools and other graduate programs. This summer, brothers interned at well-known businesses and science organizations including the U.S.-China Chamber of Commerce, Citizens Financial Group, and Facebook. We continue to appreciate the mentoring and career support of many alumni, including our Alumni Advisory Board and those alumni and brothers participating on career Zoom panels, and providing career advice through emails and networking meetings.

House Corporation News

The Hopkins Society over the past year generously supported a number of renovation projects, including:

- New furniture in the chapter library
- Painting the basement and party room
- Installing new appliances in the laundry room
- Landscaping the front yard
- Re-keying all rooms
- Refinishing floors in the chapter room and library
- Financial contributions to our evolving party room and sound system.

The House Corporation is in the process of restoring the long-neglected kitchen to a decent commercial-grade quality so that the chapter can resume having communal meals prepared in-house. These improvements are made possible through the generous support of our alumni. The Hopkins Society has established the Annual Fund through Alumni Hall. All donations will pass through the UVA Fund - giving you credit with the University of Virginia and Sigma Nu. You will receive a receipt for your donation and acknowledgement for your gift to the University (please consult with your tax advisor regarding the deductibility of this gift). 100% of your donation will go to the Chapter, and will be used for renovations and alumni relations. You can give to the Chapter through the UVA Alumni Association.

Donation Instructions

Donations can be made online, mailed in via check, or sent via a stock and wire/ACH transfer. If mailing a check, please use the following address:

UVA Fund Gift Processing Services
PO Box 400314
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4313

For more information about how to donate, please visit our website at <https://aig.alumni.virginia.edu/sigmanu/>.