



# Beta Alpha Quotes

Beta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Alpha Order  
Missouri University of Science and Technology  
Spring/Summer 08



## A few words from the Number I

Brothers,

This semester, the brothers of Beta Alpha have been working very hard towards our goals. We won another Ammen award and rush is going very smoothly. We already have the basis of a potentially very large pledge class next semester. The brothers have been enjoying great brotherhood as well. St. Pats was a huge success. It was great seeing all of you who managed to stop by the house, and for those of who couldn't make it, we hope you find time to visit in the near future. We are working on a new website at [baofka.com](http://baofka.com) that should be up and running soon; one of its purposes is to help alumni communicate with the active chapter. We hope you will all take advantage of this. Once again, the actives are very grateful for the support of our alumni. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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## Rush

First off, the active brother's of the Beta Alpha Chapter would like to thank all Alumni that assisted us in our Cardinals Rush event. Special thanks to Mike Winnett, Mike Higginbotham, Bill Nance, and Jacob Underwood for all their help. The upcoming fall semester brings us a new group of incoming freshmen. With Rush being a big emphasis this year for the house we are aiming high for a large pledge class. Fortunately for the Beta Alpha Chapter, the thick tradition and quality members make the recruitment process effortless. With the spring semester coming to an end and only three PRO days left in June, our incoming freshmen class looks prominent. With thirteen bid cards signed and more out we look to strengthen the house in numbers with gentlemen and all around true KA's. Looking ahead we have several summer rush events including a lake weekend and rivalry Kansas City Royals v. Saint Louis Cardinals game. Once school is finished we can't help but be brothers in our endless effort in summer rush. All of that closing one more year and a successful one at that. Without the help from Alumni and a whole house effort it wouldn't be possible for the result like we are hoping for. In keeping up the good work on rush we can hope for another outstanding success for Beta Alpha of Kappa Alpha Order.

## Beta Alpha Celebrates 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Lee Week

The gentlemen of the Beta Alpha chapter of Kappa Alpha Order recently celebrated their first annual Lee Week. Designed by the chapter's ritual committee, Lee Week is meant to focus the members' attention onto the Order's ritual. The week began with a philanthropy event working and playing with the residents and children of the Rolla Russell House -- a shelter for female victims of domestic abuse. The first day progressed with an in depth and researched ritual discussion. During the week, members participated in a Bible study and several brotherhood events. The week was concluded with a review on etiquette and an etiquette dinner where members of a few of the MS&T sororities were present. The chapter responded enthusiastically to the week-long event and, with a new paradigm of chivalry, looks forward to next year's Lee Week.

## Alumni Update:

John Tarr ('80) has now been fighting MS for many years. John is no longer able to maintain a career and moved to De-soto, MO several years ago to be closer to his wife Janet's family for support as they continue to raise two wonderful and healthy daughters. There have been some challenges lately in that John has had to add wheel chair accessibility to his home and address the rising cost of expensive medicine that must be taken monthly & consistently in order to avoid serious consequences.

An update on John's challenges was communicated to various alumni this past St. Pat's, compelling some brothers of BA to voluntarily contributed financial gifts to help alleviate some of the stress placed on John's family and well being. This generosity is a heartening example that Beta Alpha continues to be a life long experience. If you would like to contribute to John's assistance as well, please direct contributions to S.E.L.F., P.O. Box 1884 Rolla, MO 65402. Make checks payable to the S.E.L.F. with a note to John Tarr Fund. These gifts will be distributed to the Tarr family and used to help John avoid shortcomings or possibly obtain accessories that support the needs of his developing handicap. Additionally, John, who remains confined to his home, is always receptive to a visiting brother. Time is a precious gift best enjoyed with friends!



## IN MEMORY OF BILLY REX BROWNGARD June 13, 1923 – January 25, 2008

Brother Billy Browngard, 84, of Hannibal, MO, passed away Friday night the 25<sup>th</sup> of January. Billy was initiated into the Beta Alpha Chapter of Kappa Alpha Order in the fall of 1947. He graduated from MSM with a BS in Electrical Engineering in 1950. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army Air Corp serving in WWII and the Korean Conflict. He was a CFC gunner on a B-29 Combat Crew. He was a 60 year member of the Emmette J. Shields American Legion Post # 55, a member and 32<sup>nd</sup> degree mason at the St. Johns Lodge #28 AF and AM, he was also a member of the NEMO Shrine. He was 50-year alumni of the University and a member of the alumni association, where he served as secretary for several years.

Billy was one of the longest serving members of the Student's Educational and Loan Foundation. He served as Secretary for many years and rarely missed a meeting. Billy joined the Order of the Golden Shillelagh at UMR in the fall of 2000. He and his wife Marge endowed the Marge and Billy Rex Browngard Scholarship at that time. This scholarship is awarded annually to a member of Beta Alpha.



Billy probably rushed more new members for BA than anyone else we know. He rarely missed a Homecoming or St. Pat's. He loved to take pictures and has left us with a wealth of snapshots taken through the years. Billy truly understood and exemplified "KA for Life". Beta Alpha was definitely part of his 'family'.