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Are you following us on Facebook? Go to [facebook.com/betarhoalumni](https://www.facebook.com/betarhoalumni) and like our page to reconnect with brothers online, see pictures and read the latest news.

To find even more news, share memories, see the honor roll and donate, visit our alumni website, www.betarhoalumni.com!

**Are You Getting
Our Emails?**

Are you getting our Beta Rho alumni emails? If not, you're missing out! To sign up, just send a quick note to oneill@elevateims.com and let us know to add you to the Sigma Nu at Penn alumni email list!



SIGMA Nu's

www.BetaRhoAlumni.com

Beta Rho of Sigma Nu at the University of Pennsylvania • Philadelphia, PA.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT**Capital Campaign Update**

Last fall, as Beta Rho Sigma Nu celebrated 125 years at the University of Pennsylvania, we announced the brotherhood-wide launch of our 125th anniversary capital campaign, with the goal of funding large capital projects critical to positioning our house for another 125 years of success at Penn. Beta Rho is unique as being only one of three fraternity-owned chapter houses at the University. As would be expected of a house in continual fraternal use for over 100 years, the physical infrastructure of our +150-years-old chapter house is in substantial need of capital improvement.

To systematically address capital needs, the Beta Rho Property Company has engaged preservation architects and structural engineers to formally scope and prioritize necessary projects and their potential cost. A full presentation is available online at betarhoalumni.com/campaign. At execution phases, all projects to date have been directly contract-managed to maximize the impact of our limited resources.

Aside from structural capital needs for which the capital campaign is primarily geared to address, a growing portion of the Penn student body and their parents have quality requirements for housing that far exceed those of the past. Feeding this demand has seen an explosion in the number and quality of off-campus housing options, creating additional housing competition. Housing supply challenges have been compounded by Penn's new requirement that all sophomores live in on-campus residences, excluding fraternity housing of any kind. As a result, it is more difficult than ever to attract and retain quality brothers to join Beta Rho and to live in our chapter house.

Large capital projects have already commenced and were completed through these early rounds of contribution. As we outlined last fall, required house renovation projects are extensive. They have and will touch every facet of the physical structure of 3819 Walnut Street. Priority was first given to renovations necessary to ensure interior and exterior structural integrity of the building, including rebuilding much of the annex flooring and ceiling systems, installation of steel structural supports, masonry repair, replacement of roofing systems, and plumbing replacement. Remaining key structural improvements include whole-house electrical equipment replacement and window restorations/replacements.

While completing key structural improvements, we have also sought to interweave renovations that meaningfully improve the fraternal experience, enhance new brother recruiting efforts and create an environment that meets the housing needs of today's students. Completed projects in this category include the renovation of the kitchen/laundry annex, replacement and expansion of all bathroom facilities and hard-wiring bedrooms and common areas for the internet and wi-fi.

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To learn how to participate, as well as see a detailed presentation about this effort, please visit:

betarhoalumni.com/campaign/

Click on **"View Appeal Letter"** to fill out the form and mail back with your pledge.

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Completed and Potential Future Projects

Completed Projects		Potential Future Projects	
Kitchen Repairs / Emergency Structural Repairs	\$150,000 (pre-capital campaign funded)	Exterior Courtyard and Front Facade Renovation	\$250,000
Plumbing Replacement / Bathroom Renovations	\$150,000	Interior Electrical Re-wiring / Replacement	\$125,000
Commercial 30-year Roof / Exterior Structural Repairs	\$145,000	Window Replacements / Restoration	\$300,000
Entire House Internet Hardline and WiFi Installation	\$35,000	First Floor Interior Restoration / Library Renovation	\$250,000
Parking Lot Driveway Brick Excavation / Repaving	\$22,000	Bedroom Renovations	\$195,000
Fire Escape Restoration	\$18,000	Bedroom Air Conditioning	\$130,000
Total Large Project Capex 2019–2024	\$520,000		

Fortunately, our campaign has had the early and generous support of many brothers. We are excited to report that thanks to generous classes of alumni, thus far we have received commitments of nearly \$400,000. Funds raised to date nearly equal all donations made by alumni to Beta Rho since record keeping began in 1985. We want to especially thank our first and largest donor to date, **Roger Ballou '73**. Roger was an important early sounding board in our formulation and messaging around the campaign. We would also like to especially thank **Mason Haupt '76**. Mason is a board member of Penn's architecture school. He toured initial emergency repair work begun in 2019, and recognizing the necessity of accelerated renovation work, generously worked to bring in contributions and advice from classes in the mid-to-late 1970s.

Please note that the 125th anniversary capital campaign is separate from our annual fund fundraising effort which primarily offsets the annual cost of communicating with brothers and holding on-campus events such as our Homecoming, Alumni Day, and regional alumni receptions.

We need broad and meaningful brother participation from all classes and eras to complete our work. **Our ask is: 100% participation, a 3–5-year pledge, and that you give what you can, as every amount makes a difference. While we have made a strong start, there is much to do and we require your continued support.**

We would like to thank and acknowledge all those who have already shown their generous support.

125th Capital Campaign Donors

\$30,000 or more Roger Ballou '73	\$20,000–\$29,999 Andrew Adelson '77 William Albers '78 Steve Dolcemaschio '77 Mason Haupt '76 Jeff Kronthal '77 Ofer Nemirofsky '79 Ian Zuckerman '07
\$10,000–\$19,999 Mitchell Binder '77 Ryan Miller '00 Kenneth Olson '77 Chris Paryse '03 David Riddell '73 Richard Sica '66 Ronald Spoechel '79	\$5,000–\$9,999 Gary Belt '77 Marc Cohen '77 Richard Coons '76 Conrad Foa '62 Lawrence Mazzotta '66 Edward McCarthy '78 William Murphy '84 Stephen Phillips '78 Harold Rosen '76 Robin Sommers '66 Thomas Sweeney '79 Chris Wilcock '05 Neil Anand '04
\$2,500–\$4,999 John Caby '89 Hartwell Davis '59 Mark Demuro '83 George Doty '76 William Thomas '79 John Zervas '76	\$1,000–\$2,499 Robert Atkins '82 Bruce Baker '76 Joe Beatty '79 John Byko '73 Patrick Griffith '79 Robert Harrison '68 John Kirkpatrick '66 Doug Krevolin '79 Allan Lewis '80 Brian Moran '90 Lauro Ruiz '79 Eric Seeley '77 Frank Shanbacker '68 Charles Smith '66 Matthew Sommer '12 Trevor Young '92 Mitchell Zimmer '76
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Recent Alumni Gatherings



Homecoming (November 16, 2024)



NYC Happy Hour
(September 10, 2024)

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Gary Maher '65

Gary Patrick Maher, 81, passed away on June 4, 2024, in Naples, Florida. Born on December 6, 1942, in Columbus, Ohio, Gary led a fulfilling life marked by his entrepreneurial spirit and commitment to his family.

Gary graduated from Whitefish Bay High School in 1961 and went on to earn a degree from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania in 1965. He utilized his business acumen to establish a successful career, initially owning Pabast Motors. Later, he found his true calling in real estate, where he made his mark as a custom home builder and developer.

Outside of his professional endeavors, Gary cherished time

spent boating and enjoyed many days with friends at the MYC. His love for the water was only surpassed by the joy he found in the company of his loved ones.

Gary is survived by his devoted wife, Lynna Stephen Maher; his son, John Maher, and daughter-in-law, Sandra Lee Maher. His legacy continues through his grandchildren, Jack, Elizabeth, and Andrew. He also leaves behind his sisters, Wendy Maher Mehciv and Marcia Laux. Gary was preceded in death by his sister, Linda Maher Smith.

His body was cremated, and a memorial service will be held at a later date to celebrate his life and legacy.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

A Sad Goodbye to Brother William Donald “Don” Hamilton Sr.



William Donald “Don” Hamilton Sr., age 87 of Cary, NC passed away October 3, 2023 in Cary, NC after a brave battle with cancer.

Don was born in Bermuda on November 21, 1935. He grew up in Prospect Park, Pennsylvania, with his mother and grandmother following the death of his father. In his youth, Don earned the rank of Eagle Scout, played the trombone, and was active in sports. He graduated from the University of Pennsylvania where he earned a BS degree in mechanical engineering.

Don met his wife of 65 years, June, as a child at Olivett Presbyterian Church. The high school sweethearts were married in 1958 following his graduation from college. They started a family in Pennsylvania then moved to Hyde Park, New York, in 1968 after Don accepted a position in sales with IBM. An active member of St. James Episcopal Church, he served as a lay reader and warden. Vacations were most often spent with family and friends camping, sailing, enjoying the beach or visiting parks and historical sites. His job in international marketing allowed them to live in London where they enjoyed extensive travel. In 1987 they settled in Cary, North Carolina, where they built many new, enduring friendships. Don retired from IBM after 37 years, giving him more time to travel

and spend time with his grandchildren. He also volunteered for many years as a guardian ad litem, advocating for children in the Wake County foster care system.

Don is survived by his wife, June Moore Hamilton of Cary; daughter, Lisa Dziepak (Frank) of Clayton, North Carolina; son, Stephen Hamilton of Nairobi, Kenya; daughter-in-law, Lois Hamilton; grandchildren; William D. Hamilton III, Hartley Hamilton, Katy Dziepak, and Eva Hamilton and; cousins, Myrtle Dean and Kathy Phillips and many extended family members and dear friends.

Don was preceded in death by his parents, William High Hamilton and Ethel Peoples Hamilton, and son, W. Donald Hamilton, Jr.

A celebration of life service was held on Friday, December 29, 2023 at 11:00 am at Brown-Wynne Funeral Home in Cary. Family received friends during a light reception following the service. For those that were unable to attend, a link to the video of the service may be found below under the tab marked “donations.” Donations in lieu of flowers can be made to Friends of Wake Guardian Ad Litem.

Sigma Nu Alumni

Where are you now?

As the years go by since our time as undergraduates at UPenn came to an end, it can be increasingly difficult to keep tabs on what our Beta Rho buddies have been up to. Time passes, life gets in the way, and we naturally lose touch.

To fight that progressive drift, we want to hear from you! What have you been up to since the Sigma Nu days? Have you

reconnected with any fellow alumni? Have you been thinking about any good stories from back in the day? We want to know!

Email our alumni communications partner at honeill@elevateims.com to submit any updates or stories you want to share, and we will publish it in an upcoming eLetter or newsletter!

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