

THE BETA CHI CHRONICLE

Fall 2019 Edition



About Beta Chi

Originally founded on September 23, 1950, and active until 1962, the Beta Chi Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi was re-founded at the University of Virginia on April 23, 2005. The original chapter supplied the first President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Northeast District in 1958 and hosted the first annual District Convention that same year. Today, Beta Chi provides support for the Cavalier Marching Band and other ensembles in the Charlottesville community. The oldest active chapter in the Southern Precinct, Beta Chi has welcomed over 250 well-qualified musicians into the Brotherhood of Kappa Kappa Psi.

2019-2020 Officers



President

Parker Lazear
Richmond, VA



VP of Membership

Mariah Tighe
Columbia, SC



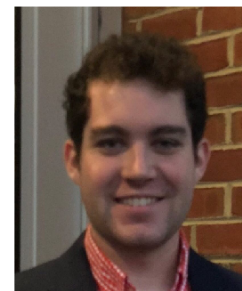
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Robyn Guarriello
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Rob Siebers
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Sponsor: Mr. Michael Idzior – Assistant Director of Bands, Cavalier Marching Band

Beta Chi Chronicle

Fall 2019 Edition

Beta Chi Chapter, Southern Precinct, Northeast District of Kappa Kappa Psi

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Mission Statement: Kappa Kappa Psi is a fraternal organization that promotes the advancement of college and university bands through dedicated service and support to bands, comprehensive education, leadership opportunities, and recognition for the benefit of its members and society.

Highlights From The Semester



Top: (left) Brother McHale, Brother She, Brother Zevitz, and Brother Alston during the scavenger hunt at retreat (middle) Some Brothers piled into a van back to the HSBB for some post football game service. (right) Brother Duane, Brother She, and Brother Tang at Stadium night during band camp. **Middle:** (left) Brother Ahmed, Brother Tighe, and Brother She during band camp (right) The Alpha Epsilon class making a human pyramid at retreat. **Bottom:** (left) Some Brothers stopping by Brother Davis' house for breakfast on the way back from retreat. (right) Brother Tighe, Brother Guarriello, and Brother Faulks showing off their costume for the house Halloween costume contest



Top: (left) Brother Mcpherson, Brother Murphy, and Brother Zevitz having fun at retreat. (right) Brother Tighe, Brother Guarriello, and Brother O'Neill posing for a fam photo post game **Middle:** (left) Brother Siebers getting ready to fit new first years for spats at band camp (right) Brother Ahmed and Brother Jones taking a pic before the first football game of the season **Bottom:** Brother O'Neill, Brother Tighe, and Brother Guarriello after filming stepping for the KKPsi hype video

Letter From The President

Brothers and Friends of Beta Chi,

This semester has flown by, bringing with it the increasing bonding of our chapter and an exciting attitude. The Beta Chi chapter has continued to support the Cavalier Marching Band with service events such as truck unloading, U-Crew help, and Band Day help while supporting the changes we have been seeing in the CMB and Beta Chi alike. At the end of the season, the UVA played in the Orange Bowl in Miami, Florida against the University of Florida and beat the spread with a close loss. During halftime both chapters were able to meet and talk about our separate experiences at the bowl game!

Looking forward to this next semester, we will largely be focusing on our incoming class of Alpha Zetas. After a wildly successful and fun First Year Bash and a popular information session for KKPsi and TBS, both chapters are looking forward to the new members we will be welcoming next semester. The Beta Chi chapter will continue to follow the Road to Wisdom, however we plan to move to an electronic version and make our MC lessons more interactive and fun, allowing for a more rounded experience as a membership candidate. Furthermore this next semester we will be introducing a House Cup in which each house will be competing against each other in many different activities. Our MC's will also be competing for their house as a way to quickly integrate them as a part of the chapter.

Use this break as a time for rest and relaxation so that you are prepared to compete for your house in the debut of the House Cup. As always, Beta Chi will continue to serve both the chapter and the Charlottesville community, but we will also be focusing on how to best support brothers individually and evaluating how we can be most successful. The start of this decade is going to be great and I cannot wait to see all we can do!

AEA,

Parker Nicole Lazear, President, Beta Chi

A Song of Gators and Wahoos

Adriecce Sharpe, Alpha Gamma Class

A prompt two days after the observed federal Christmas Holiday, seven charter buses carrying some odd three hundred twenty eager students from various parts of Virginia, some from the D.C./Maryland area, traversed the Atlantic coast southbound on an important mission. The southern pilgrimage of the bus caravan would take 14 hours toward the rendezvous point and 14 hours to return the precious cargo homeward. In between, a boatload of music, sports, diversion, and memories were certainly made by the young (and some not so young) travelers. The objective of the mission was for the Cavalier Marching Band to rally in support of the University of Virginia football team's third consecutive participation in a bowl game, this year the more prestigious Capital One Orange Bowl hosted in Miami, Florida inside the Hard Rock Stadium, home of the NFL's Miami Dolphins.

After a first day of what can only be considered a Band Director's worst logistical nightmare in the sense of maladroit bus navigators (#RIP757Bus), student falls and concussions, horrid South Carolina traffic, and even a bus breakdown (#PrayforBus3), the CMB proper was fortunately reunited for the first time since the ACC Championship game in the ballroom of a hotel in St. Augustine to an electrifying effect. I truly believe that the hardships of the voyaging bandsmen on their southward journey allowed them to further embody the essence of what Sir Elton John intended in his composition "I'm Still Standing." At the same time, some members of the CMB family were able to enjoy more of a journey of leisure via the American Airways, but I'm sure they were also able to contribute something to the musical rhapsody of our bohemian group in any case.

Following the exciting initial rehearsal session in the hotel, the band was carted even more south toward Orlando where they were given tickets gratis to a choice of either the Universal Studios or Universal's Islands of Adventure amusement parks. The politics of the park selection process may or may not have destroyed some great bonds between the bandsmen, but despite this, the atmosphere of the day was vivacious, the Floridian weather not too unpleasant with its minor sprinklings, the food and butterbeer, which our hefty per diems thoroughly subsidized was delicious, and, barring the detestable waiting times for some, the rides were thrilling. After being sufficiently enamored of the parks, the CMB would then retire at a hotel in Ft. Lauderdale. And so was the second day.

The third morning began with a practice session at the nicely turfed football field of the Cardinal Gibbons High School, home of the Chiefs. It was here that the CMB returned to its top marching form in no time flat, ironing out the drill and formations that it was to present on the Hard Rock Stadium field. Even the tarp gang, a motley crew of CMB alumni and assistants, gave the slightly drizzling practice their best shot. The field rehearsal, however, was not the highlight of the day because the CMB was afterwards shuttled and unfettered to enjoy the Ft. Lauderdale beach for the remainder of the day. What more can I say other than a beach in Florida with 70-80 degree weather is idyllic? Yet, the moral of the third day was actually: If a strange Florida man let's you take a picture with his pet snake, it's most likely a trap.

Finally, game day had arrived the day before New Year's Eve! the CMB had one final morning practice at the Cardinal Gibbons High School and was given a decent lunch break before reaching Miami where it would perform for two pep rallies before giving its pregame show following the University of Florida's performance. The opposing team's marching band, treated their pregame performance time as more of a traditional pregame, playing the university fight song and alma mater, spelling out the university's initials "UF" and even forming the shape of the state of Florida with precision, but the CMB forges its own path, giving the audience the season's most practiced halftime performance of the songs "I'm Still Standing" and "Bohemian Rhapsody" followed by their fight song as an exiting piece. The band was laudably able to give a solid performance, despite a rocky start in which many CMB members had to frantically maneuver around the exiting Florida band. No harm no foul. Both marching bands only performed before the start of game time because the audience was to be treated to a neat, pyrotechnically-filled halftime show by award-winning American singer-songwriter Gavin DeGraw. The actual gameplay of the football teams was one of the most competitive and entertaining to watch for me personally because I genuinely did not expect the game to be as closely contested with the battle-tested Gators boasting 10-2 season record at the time and being ready to chomp the underdog 'Hoos, both figuratively and probably literally if it were legal for those Florida fans. This was in addition to UF practically having the home field advantage with it being geographically easier for more of their fans to attend the game. Even though Virginia lost 28-36, I can't complain about the valiant effort the team put forward during the game and I salute heroes such as Bryce Perkins and Joe Reed with a great last run to conclude the decade. Immediately after the game, the CMB returned to their hotel in Ft. Lauderdale and packed for the long return trip. The members were safely able to return to their destinations in time to ring in the new year with family and friends. Wahoowa, and I hope that when I visit my alma mater in the future, I witness an ever improving football team and band program.

Moo

Evan Denison, Alpha Epsilon Class

drum noises *flute noises* *recorder noises* *Peter noises* *rubber chicken noises* ... There was QUITE a plethora of 'animals' at the Instrument Petting Zoo, and they each brought a different instrument with them! The kiddos really liked how loud we were. The explosiveness 🌟 of Cav Song caused some to actually scream, which I like to think represents our impact quite well. The dance contest? WHOO don't even get me started on how hard those fortnite dances hit 🔥🔥 !! It was such a wholesome and energetic time 😊

Here was the lineup:

- Bass Drum
- Snare Drum
- Piccolo
- Flute
- Trumpet
- Trombone
- Mellophone
- Hands (Katherine)
- Recorder
- Saxophone
- ... there were also multiple rubber chickens, but they weren't featured in the actual performance 🐔

We played 🎵 **music** (individually AND ensemble-y). We performed and taught 🦊 **Tag** (everyone loved yelling and jumping). We had a 🦊 **dance contest** (inspired by Tag). We answered **? questions** (like "why would you play *that* instrument if it's got so many buttons?!"). We let the chillins **try the instruments** (explaining how to 'buzz' scared some of them away)... What a day! It was such a rewarding experience to *feel* the energy ⚡ in the room after we finished a song, and *see* the excitement 😊 in a kid who successfully played different notes by pushing various keys. in summary, we **INSPIRED THE YOUTH-** or, at the very least, we made their field trip a ~~Good~~ **GREAT** Time Go 'Hoos. 😊

Video Proof:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/194lMmwj9JrLvWHHMUj5kBO_tLbjQE1x4/view?usp=sharing

Falling For Fall Retreat

Peter Mcpherson, Alpha Epsilon Class

I remember first hearing about Fall Retreat during my 2nd year in the fall, back before I joined KKPsi. I was lucky enough to have Bri and Nikhil in my orgo discussion (we won't talk about the horror that was orgo) and they often talked about KKPsi. One day, they brought up fall retreat and talked about how great of an experience it was and how much they enjoyed themselves. I remember listening and being jealous. I mean, a day away with some of your favorite people, at a beautiful venue with fall all around you, not a bad way to spend a weekend. It definitely was one of my first feelings of regret for not joining the chapter my 1st year.

Fast forward a year, and Mariah brings up fall retreat and of course I am beyond excited. I knew it would be a great time when it began with my hype carpool. It was Laruen Jones, Sandy, Shaazia, April, and I, all cramped in Laruen's car at what felt like the crack of dawn, feeling exhausted and out of it from the wholesome night before. Despite all of that, we had an amazing time. Complete with tons of singing and messing around, and me totally not falling asleep for a bit and snoring like an old man. Somehow we took a weird route and added an hour to our trip funnily enough but I could not have asked for a better group to get semi-lost with. By the time we arrived at Blundy, after making our mandatory pilgrimage to Dino Land of course, we were the last ones to arrive.

I remember walking through the arches and just being in complete shock at how gorgeous everything was. Everybody was relaxing, throwing around a Frisbee and football, talking and just looking like they were having a good time. We took cutesy photos. The AEs struggled to figure out a pose for a picture and I somehow ended up on the bottom middle of our pyramid. I also took a picture with my fellow orphans to commemorate how sad we were family-less. After a spectacular scavenger hunt, walking through a beautiful but smelly forest, and watching UVA lose to Louisville, the AEs got together to cook dinner. It was definitely one of my favorite memories of retreat, and I feel like we all bonded a lot. After a scrumptious dinner, musical trivia and a costume contest (I still believe that Homer had the best costume), we had mock degree which was fun and interesting. Finally, came our feelings circle. At first, if I am honest, I felt it was a little weird, especially before I actually did it. But I soon came to see how much of an effect on people. When it came to my turn, I remember sitting next to Parker and us just squeezing each other's hands once in a while or making a little heart with our hands while our eyes were closed. Feeling how much people cared and felt about me really reached me. The experience left me emotional and very thankful. I don't think I remember ever feeling as connected to my fellow brothers as I did during that moment. I felt so happy to be a part of something so amazing and to be with such awesome people. Then of course came the 4th year's turns and it got even more emotional. It doesn't seem quite fair that sometimes you can come to be so close with some people and then have to say goodbye to them.

Leaving retreat, I felt extremely sad but came away feeling much closer with everyone. If I don't say it enough, I am thankful beyond words for all of you and thank you all for making retreat such an amazing experience.

P.S: Shout out again to Mariah for a great retreat and being an amazing VPM☺

Football: Guess Hoos Back

Sandy Tiv, Alpha Epsilon Class

As many wahoos know, one of the few things that Virginia Tech has superiority over Virginia is their strong football streak. However, as many would say, streaks are made to be broken sometime - that sometime was November 27, 2019. After years of defeat, the Hoos finally came back on top beating Virginia Tech in a 15 year streak. Happiness and excitement filled Scott Stadium from the hill to the tunnels. Screaming. Jumping. Running. Storming the field. Virginia football was going to the ACC championship for the first time ever and of course, this meant the entire band was also going to see Virginia vs. Clemson!

The band left bright and early for the ACC championship. Both the drive and day were long but the hoos were full of hype and ready to take on Clemson. We visited the same stadium from the Belk Bowl and performed our halftime show with school pride despite the numerous Clemson fans in the crowd.

During halftime, the chapter met with Clemson's chapter, Kappa Beta, for fun laughs and overpriced stadium food. Our chapter got to meet other brothers, get to know them, and sing the hymn! What an exciting time! They were all super friendly and welcoming to our brothers. It was only a matter of time before they had to leave and halftime was over.

Unfortunately, Virginia football lost against Clemson but our team still did amazing. They've worked hard all season and performed greatly to Clemson and despite this hectic season, our band performed great and persevered through it all. It was a great football season and even though Virginia lost, we were going to the Orange Bowl for the first time ever!

This marks history for the books.

Keeping Up With Beta Chi



About the Chronicle

The Beta Chronicle is a bi-annual newsletter featuring articles written by current brothers of Kappa Kappa Psi and Alumni. Articles are written on a voluntary basis and collected by the Historian. If you would like to write for a future edition of the chronicle, contact the chapter Historian, Shaazia Ahmed, at sa3fa@virginia.edu. If you are Alumni, our Alumni Relations Officer, Katherine Taylor, can be reached at kjt4wx@virginia.edu.

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