



The Beta Chi Chronicle

Fall 2021 | The Beta Chi Chapter of Kappa Kappa Psi | The Chronicle

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.

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Letter from the President

Rob Siebers, Alpha Epsilon Class

Dear Brothers, Alumni, and Friends of Beta Chi,

With yet another unprecedented semester having come to a close, I am reminded again of the resilience of Beta Chi. Fall 2021 saw the introduction of a new band director, ever-changing COVID restrictions, and all the adjustments that came with a return to an in-person instruction. Despite the challenges, I am proud of how the Brothers of Beta Chi never failed to lift each other up and support one another.

Our chapter has continued its strong commitment to serving the Cavalier Marching Band through events such as truck unloading, U-Crew help, and plenty of social events for CMB members to get to know each other better. Beta Chi's musicianship committee served the CMB and those in need through a charity share-a-song event. Though COVID restricted our ability to return to some of our favorite community events, I am continuously impressed by our committees' ability to engage Brothers and CMB members alike in innovative ways.

Brothers enjoyed meeting Eta Beta during the annual Commonwealth Cup rivalry game. Our two chapters exchanged gifts, got to know each other, took pictures, and sang the hymn. Brothers were disappointed to hear that the CMB's season would be cut short with the band's trip to the Fenway Bowl cancelled. The entire bowl game was later called off due to COVID issues on the UVA football roster, ending the Hoos' season with a 6-6 record. Despite not being able to attend the bowl game against SMU, Beta Chi had the coincidental opportunity to learn about the now-inactive Beta Phi chapter during a PIE Lesson about Beta Chi's "number neighbors" (Beta Phi at SMU and Beta Psi at Kent State) earlier this semester.

As we turn our focus to the Spring semester, we are looking forward to welcoming in a new MC class, the Alpha Thetas. The successes of the annual First-Year Bash and joint information sessions with TBS have fueled the excitement that is shared by both our chapters. Both Beta Chi and Iota Kappa are hopeful that we will be able to return to a more normal recruitment season. Beta Chi is eager to help guide the new class along the Road to Wisdom and support them in their journey as membership candidates.

As the new year begins, I hope that everyone is able to enjoy some time to relax and rest. No matter where you are, the Brothers of Beta Chi are here to support you.

AEA,

Robert Jeffrey Siebers
President, Beta Chi



2021-22 Officers



President
Rob Siebers
Richmond, Va.



VP of Social Affairs
Leah Baetcke
Centreville, Va.



VP of Membership
Conrad Furlich
Fairfax, Va.



VP of Musicianship
Allison Haszard
Manassas, Va.



VP of Service
Kyle McPherson
Fredericksburg, Va.



VP of Finance
Lauren Roos
Fredericksburg, Va.



Historian
Ellie Prober
Northbrook, Ill.



Recording Secretary
Miles Woollacott
San Francisco, Calif.



Corresponding Secretary
Ryan McLellan
Annapolis, Md.



Alumni Relations Officer
Anna Faulks
McLean, Va.



Ritual Master
Gracemarie Buehlmann
Arlington, Va.



Parliamentarian
Hannah Yee
Rockville, Md.

Sponsor: Michael Idzior, Assistant Athletics Band Director

A New Brother

Miles Woollacott, Alpha Zeta Class

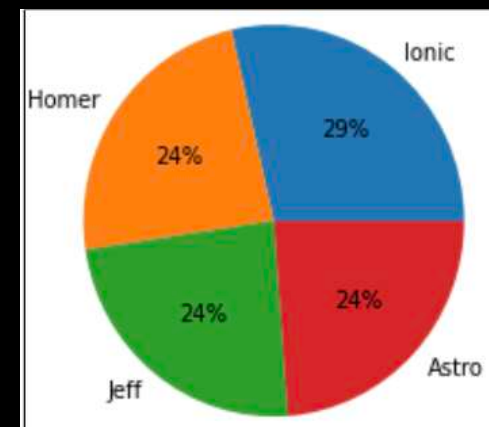
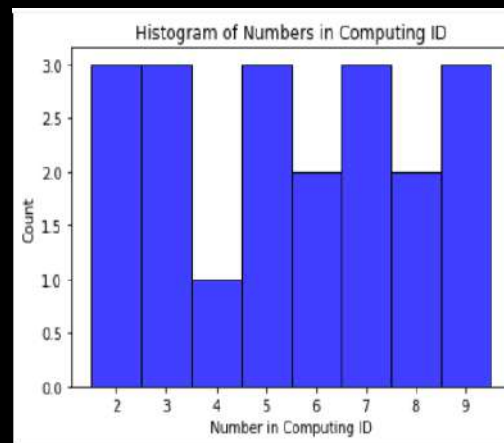
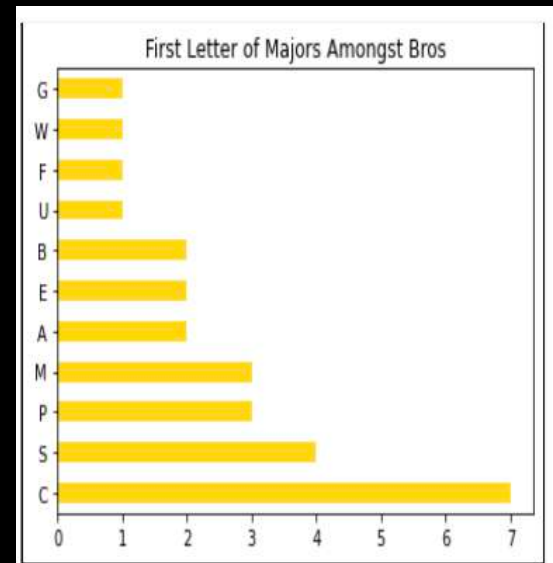
Today, I've decided to create a new Brother to induct into KKPsi. I wanted to make sure that they REALLY fit in with BX, so I made them according to what the majority of current Brothers are like. Let's see what happens:

First off, their name will be Eanne M. Doeerla. Their computing id will become emd6bu. Since it's weird to say that they're two hours old, their birthday will unofficially officially become August 15, 2000, at 1:12 AM. They will go into Ionic House. They will major in Spanish, but won't minor in anything (it's because they're graduating this Spring, and they will only just start, give them a break), despite almost going for a CS minor. What's their instrument? Horn, of course, but they can play Baritone too.

Now, Eanne really wants to become Parliamentarian (ig they're staying for grad school or something). To prove their dedication to the role, they learned to speak EXACTLY like the BX Constitution. Let's take a look at Eanne's preliminary platform: "The duration of Robert's eighth semester. Will oversee all chapter. Parliamentarian be required. Responsible for appointed officers, the vacancy in a member of the President of accepting a second discussion on the recording secretary shall operate under the existence and associate status shall be given a question and musicianship, and associate members may be generally recognized as the chapter sponsor acts as a 2."

Enlightening.

Well, that's Eanne. I hope you enjoy them when they show up for recruitment and stuff (if I can get them to exist by them). They were generated using Python (s/o my boi numpy). Here's some other graphs I made along the way.



Top Three Moments

Evan Denison, Alpha Epsilon Class

Hi, my name is Evan, and these are my top 3 KKPsi moments of Fall 2021: meeting tech's band, beach volleyball, and chapter dinners. Thanks for reading! (: Do you agree? What's YOUR top 3? If you wanna know ~whyyy~ these are my favs, here's some explanations:

I'll start by talking about truthfully the **DOPEST** experience of my BX career yet: getting the opportunity to interact with Tech's band. First off, the animosity in the air was **THICK** on November 27th – like, upsetting amounts of hatred. Fans of both teams were taunting, cursing, and spitting (yes, I saw that happen) at one another from start to finish, and then some. It's drainingggg to be around that much hostility, honestly. So there really was something sincerely so beautiful about our two little band groups meeting up, hangin' out 'n stuff :3 We stood on the top level, near the outer edge of the stadium, which made our time together feel quite peaceful & undisturbed. The passion we share for music was an **IMMEDIATE** connecting force between our squads, so it wasn't actually all that awkward meeting complete strangers- it seriously was such a ~cute~ little experience. I felt extremely grateful to get to step outside of the rivalry bubble that filled Scott Stadium, and have genuine happy conversations with other marchers <3

Second to band meetups, playing beach volleyball for the **FIRST TIME IN MY LIFE** with my ~bros~ was probably the most magical athletic moment of the semester for me. There's something so uniting about sports, especially when everyone's investment is casual & fun (as opposed to competitive & serious). Hannah taught us all the proper serving & hitting technique (she's really good). I think most of us were extremely inexperienced, so getting the ball going at first was quite a struggle- **BUT WE ACTUALLY GOT KINDA GOOD**. Falling into a rhythm was so rewarding, and made me feel ~connected~ to my KKPsi band fam in a whole new way ^u^

Lastly, instead of writing about any particular chapter dinner, I'm going to reflect on the experience itself (altho Hibachi-Betachi was undoubtedly my favorite culinary experience). Dinners are just such a wonderful breath of fresh air from the stressors of school, and our chapter is full of some real entertaining personalities. I probably learned the **MOST** about the wellbeing of my bros through these meals, because going out to eat gives everybody the **TIME** to just... talk, with no rush, about life & band & funny tik toks. I wanna have more dinners with you guys, you're such an awesome group of friends to be with (:



Worth 1000 Words

Kyle McPherson, Alpha Zeta Class

For someone who went into a science field in-part because he deeply does not enjoy writing very much, the end of my semester sure was filled with many papers to write. Even with the recovery period of a few weeks, I am burnt out, so I decided to look back at the semester not through words, but with my favorite pictures of and with my brothers.

To start, here is my first picture with brothers of the semester. I think that funny pictures often turn out better than ‘nice’ pictures. While I love our all our class pictures, this is probably my favorite.



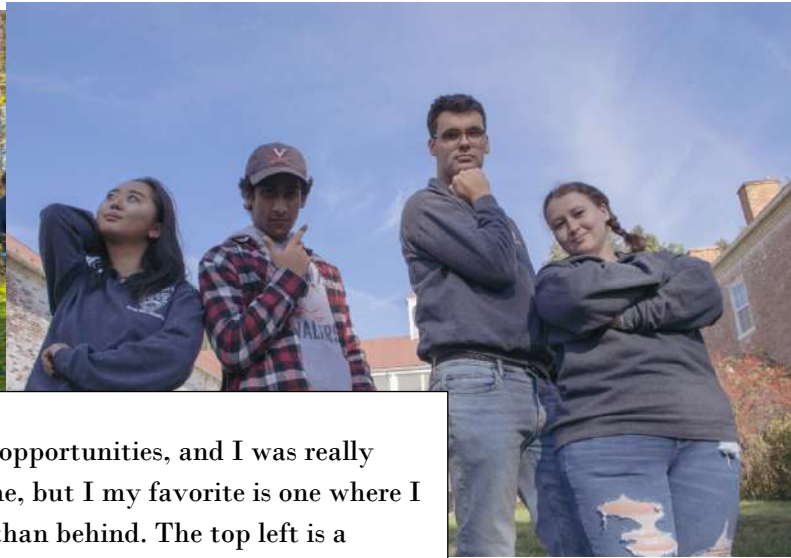
Here is a picture of the three baritone fourth years from our last stadium night ever! I love these people so much and this picture even more (even if Lauren does not). I’m deeply sad our last season is over and that it was cut short, but I’m thankful I have so many great photos for the memories.

While not technically a KKPsi picture, so many of the baritones are brothers and this was a chapter run event, so I am going to count it. This semester, I discovered the wonders a ‘.5 selfie’ on the iPhone and the sheer ridiculousness. Apple picking is fun every year, but this just adds on top of it.

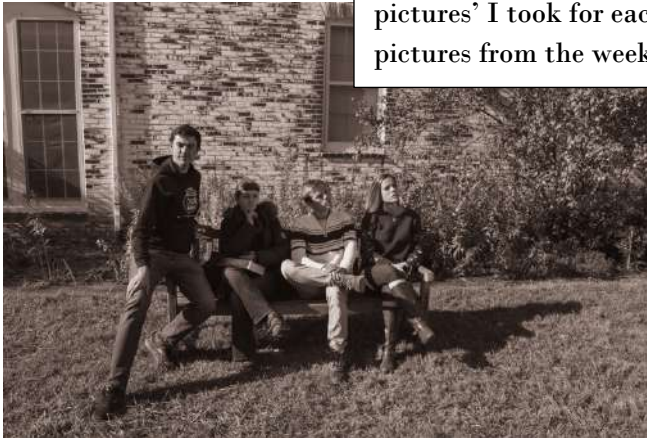




Timer pictures can really be hit or miss, but I think this one from KKP's' mores was one that worked pretty well. My three personal favorite parts are the pose Anna made, Will's bunny ears that just barely made it onto Rob, and Allison's complete failure to look at the camera. This photo is actually a pretty good personality picture for the chapter.



Retreat comes with many picture opportunities, and I was really happy to take pictures for everyone, but I my favorite is one where I was in front of the camera rather than behind. The top left is a picture of Brandon carrying Allison and myself carrying Gracemarie. Brandon and Allison may have won the piggy-back race for Jeff, but Homer as always won in our hearts. The other four were the 'artsy pictures' I took for each scavenger team. They may not be the best pictures from the weekend, but they were the most fun to edit.





I have never been very good at keeping memories, and this semester especially went by in a blur. However, that is why I always try to take pictures. They help me remember the great things I do with amazing people. Thanks to everyone for taking pictures with me and even more so for trusting me to take pictures of them. It was a great semester! Honorable mentions below.



Red (Beta Chi's Version)

Ellie Prober, Alpha Zeta Class

Since the start of 2020, Taylor Swift has blessed the world with four albums – Folklore, Evermore, Fearless (Taylor's Version), and Red (Taylor's Version). When she releases something, my usual practice is to stay up until midnight and play the album in its entirety before bed. I always thought that listening by myself meant I could better understand the emotional intricacies and minute details of Swift's artistry. When Red (Taylor's Version) debuted in early November 2021, I followed what I had always done. However, the next day, Beta Chi did an album listening party on the lawn – something I had never previously done.

That morning, I ventured to Starbucks with brothers Haszard and Baetcke to try "Taylor's Latte," a special they were offering that day in Starbucks to honor the release. As the three of us ventured to the lawn with our drinks in hand, it was as though Taylor Swift herself had designated that the Lawn should match the theme of the album. The air was warm, but with a slight chill for the autumn weather. The leaves on the trees were turning red, and we chose a gorgeous tree to sit under for our listening session. As a large portion of the chapter sat on blankets under the tree to listen, the scenery was perfect for the album we were about to spend the next two hours on.

Although I love listening to Taylor Swift albums on my own, there is a different feeling when you listen as a group, especially when some of those group members are listening for the first time.

While the avid Swifties of the group already picked our favorite songs and knew the moments we loved, it was interesting to see other brothers not enjoy the album as much, or pick out different songs as favorites.

Listening to Taylor Swift on a crisp fall day with brothers while picnicking on the Lawn is definitely one of my favorite moments from the semester, and I am grateful that I got to experience one of my favorite albums with brothers by my side to appreciate it as well. It was also fun to do the same thing a week later when Adele dropped her album, as I am not as invested in Adele as some other brothers are. I enjoyed listening to her new album and hearing the thoughts of Adele fans, compared to my thoughts as a more casual listener. Album listening parties are one of my favorite parts of Beta Chi, and I am grateful I got to share my love for Taylor Swift with the chapter on that fall day.



Taco Bout a House

Progressive

Anna Faulks, Alpha Epsilon Class

It was a chilly December evening, and as finals were looming, the brothers of Beta Chi decided to get together for a homemade feast of many different cuisines as a study break.

On December 4th, each house gathered to shop and cook parts of the meal; Jeff and Homer houses combined to make garlic bread, Astro house made slutty brownies, and Ionic house made chicken, beans, and homemade guacamole for tacos.

Ionic came over to my apartment to prepare the “make your own” tacos. We took a “divide-and-conquer” approach, where Evan, Miles, and I made the guacamole while Kristin and Leah made the chicken (although Miles was scared of crying from cutting the onions, so he watched this part from a distance). The guacamole was done fairly quickly, but the chicken took a long time to cook. We left it in the oven for a while because we didn’t want anyone to get #kkpsalmonella #thiccken.

When it was done, we headed over to Annalee’s apartment where everyone was waiting. There was a lot of food, and all of it was delicious. Some of the highlights were latkes made by Ellie to celebrate Hannukah and the warm slutty brownies with vanilla ice cream (so yummy).

We continued the evening by going around in a circle and everyone said one word of the Creed. Some of us did better than others. We finished the evening by venturing into Annalee’s gigantic bathroom and we all took a selfie together. It was truly a progressive and multicultural evening and one of my favorite events this semester!



Sock Wars Recap Through the Eyes of a Sock Overlord

Leah Baetcke, Alpha Zeta Class

A sock. A small fabric home for your foot, both comfortable and functional. An inconspicuous method of self-expression since it is often covered by a shoe. Who knew such a thing could cause such mayhem within a group of people? As this year's VPSA I had the fun but oftentimes stressful privilege of running the CMB's annual game of sock wars. Every member of the band who signed up to play the game would receive the name of a target they had to tag with a sock to stay in the game while having to avoid being tagged themselves. If they tagged their target they would receive a new target, and so on until there was one person standing. There were also daily immunities that participants could complete so that their assassin couldn't tag them.

Before continuing any further, I would like to take a moment to express my love and admiration of Allison Haszard, co-Sock Overlord extraordinaire who took on this responsibility with me and helped keep the game on track with her amazing immunity ideas, immunity emails, and other admin tasks. This would not have run nearly as well without her help and I'm very grateful she wanted to take this on with me.

The entire game lasted 40 days and would be difficult to recount in its entirety, so instead I'll share some superlatives from this year's iteration.

Best immunity: Hands down the best immunity we chose was banana phones. Each sock warrior had to carry a banana around with them all day to be immune, but the kicker was that they also had to be holding it up to their ear like a phone or else the immunity wouldn't count. I received several snapchats and texts from my friends showing them with their banana phones throughout the day, and saw even more band members I didn't know personally with their banana phones when I walked to and from my classes. YikYak was also obsessed with the banana phones, as this immunity took over the app and resulted in 80+ anonymous posts joking or wondering about the bananas. Honorable mention for best immunity goes to the Statue of Liberty immunity near the end of the game.

Most difficult dispute: The most difficult dispute we had to arbitrate was the first dispute we received. On the day where sock warriors had to wear two (obviously) different shoes to be immune, someone had worn two white sneakers that were different upon closer inspection but had not been different enough to deter their assassin from tagging them in the first place. Allison and I were unable to determine who was in the right in this instance, and so after hours of deliberation we shuffled both players around so they had new targets and continued the game with an effort to be more specific in our immunity emails.

Hardest days: The hardest days of running sock wars were the first and last days for very different reasons. The first day was difficult because we had to create an email account, a listserv, plan immunities, make target-assassin pairs, and figure out how to email 138 people their own individualized target at once. And then at midnight the solution we had come up with to simultaneously email people didn't work so we were panicking and had to get creative. Eventually we were able to launch the game but it had quite a rocky start.

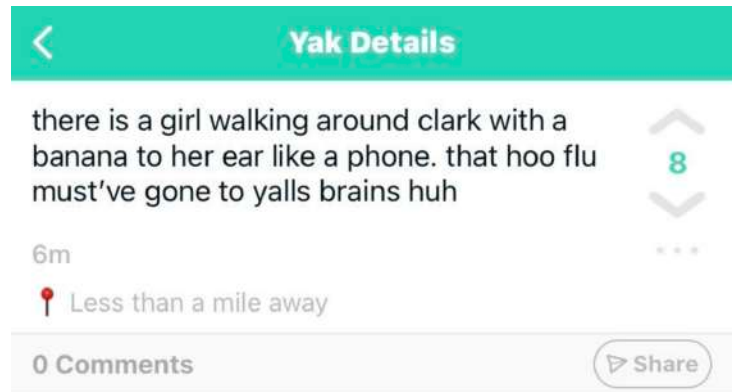


The last day was much different than the first—the problem then was that the first person to tag me was going to win sock wars but I didn't have any immunity and that day I was going to be out of my apartment around grounds all day. I spent the entire day looking over my shoulder for the two finalists, and our winner finally managed to find me that night at a band house. It was the only day this year I felt the stress of our sock warriors and the paranoia that comes with knowing that someone is hunting you down to tag you with a sock, and I have to say I wasn't a fan.

Best kill reports: The best emails we received to report sock kills came from first year Nathan Snow in the drumline, who attributes his storytelling prowess to being a theater kid in high school. I recommend asking him to regale you with tales of his sock wars exploits, or you could ask me or Allison for the emails. Spoiler: he fell just a few days short of the win.

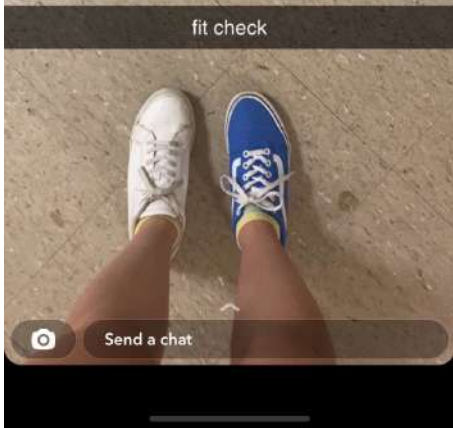
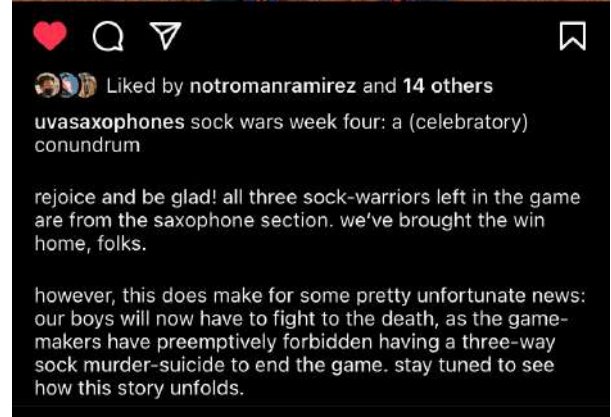
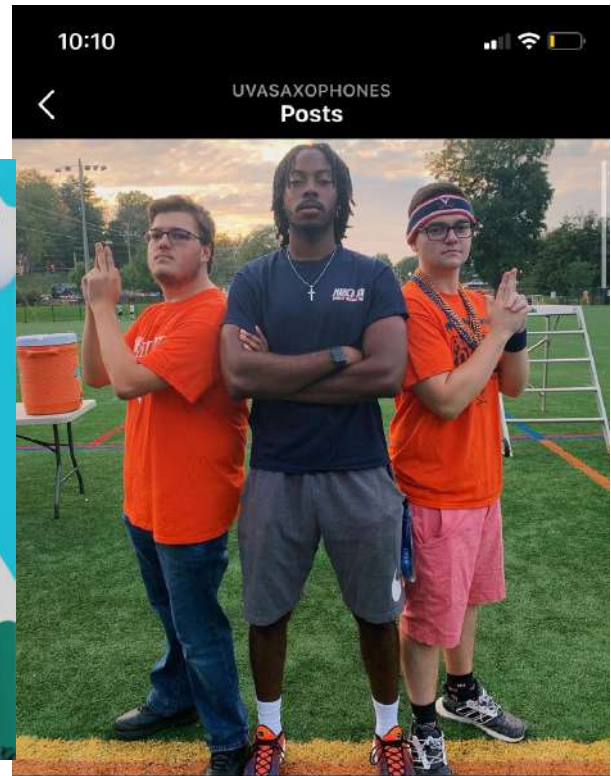
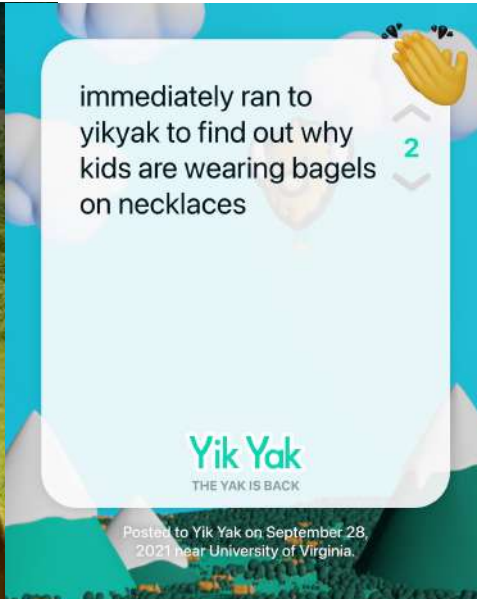
While I don't anticipate running sock wars again next year, I had a blast doing it this year and watching all the madness unfold. One last thank-you to everyone who played, and Godspeed to sock warriors of past, present and future.

Bonus: Some of my favorite Yaks about the banana phone immunity are on the rest of this page!



Sock Wars Gallery

Leah Baetcke, Alpha Zeta Class



Semester Highlights



Top left: Brothers from the horn section pose for a dramatic picture during retreat. Top right: The chapter rocked their new 2021 Beta Chi shirts during band camp. Bottom left: Brothers Tharakan, Denison, Duane, and Baetcke stargaze during an outdoor wind ensemble concert. Bottom right: Brothers from Astro house rock their new Dinosaurland tie-dye shirts they bought on the way to retreat.



Top left: Brothers Haszard and Meynardie pose for a selfie during retreat. Top middle: Brother Eley takes a selfie with Brother Baetcke during his attempt at sock wars victory. Top right: Brothers Furlich, Roos, and Baetcke help with the bake sale. Middle left: Brothers Yee, Tharakan, Prober, and Siebers take a jumping picture for the retreat scavenger hunt. Middle right: the AZ class takes a bootylicious picture during retreat. Bottom left: Brothers take a photo with our TBS sisters during band camp. Bottom right: Brother Siebers builds a nest during KKKPsi lunch on the lawn.

Keeping Up With BX



About the Chronicle

The Beta Chi 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, Ellie Prober, at erp4bu@virginia.edu.

If you are Alumni, our Alumni Relations Officer, Anna Faulks, can be reached at agf7jc@virginia.edu.

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