



# BETA ETA CHAPTER OF BETA THETA PI UMaine Orono



## Beta Shines in 2029! 150 Years at UMaine

Brothers and Friends of Beta Eta Chapter:

Remember the Beach Boys? They were a popular rock band from the 60s and 70s singing about surfing safaris and generally having a good time. Along with the public image of the cool and carefree songs, however, would occasionally enter some thought-provoking ballads to reveal another side.

One of those songs that always struck a chord in that way describes a teenager who sometimes needed a place to escape, retreat to a safe haven, find a place of belonging, a world he can go and tell his secrets to, do his dreaming and scheming, laugh at yesterday..."In My Room".

In many ways that's how we remember the Beta House! For generations the House was the safe haven we retreated to, our "room" on campus. A place where we bonded as brothers, sharing the best of times and the House we love.

The Bucket, Faculty Parties, Cosmos Club, Strikes Night, Pig Roasts, Sleep Outs, Foam Parties...the list can go on of memorable events at the Beta House we'll cherish and never forget.

We can be proud of being part of the oldest fraternity and House still active at UMaine. The University speaks well of our chapter, its active members and alumni, and supports Beta Theta Pi.

**Now Our 122-year-old House needs our help. It's our turn through a \$750,000 fund raising campaign to help carry on the legacy and vision of Beta Eta Chapter by providing an attractive and sustainable House for years to come. Our goal is to complete this effort in time for our 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2029.**

**The time for urgent and serious physical improvements to complete this goal is now.** An extensive engineering analysis/report was performed in 2022; a summary of required and prioritized repairs/upgrades prepared; some initial "band-aid" remedies initiated. We are at the point of requiring significant financial support now however, to make this goal happen within a 2-3-year window of renovations. The attached brochure provides additional detail on what we're looking to accomplish, from an infrastructure as well as financial support perspective. Please take a moment to review.

We have all been blessed to be part of the Beta experience. Now is our chance to enable future Betas to share in that experience as well. Please consider a generous donation to help make this happen. Keith or I are available to provide additional information if desired. Thank you for your support!

Sincerely and In \_kai\_ :

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**BETA ETA CHAPTER  
OF  
BETA THETA PI  
UMaine Orono**



**Beta Shines In 2029!  
150 Years at UMaine**

***Our chance to preserve the House  
and carry on the legacy  
Our Goal: \$750,000***

***Introducing the Beta Eta Preservation Fund!***

***Our Mission***

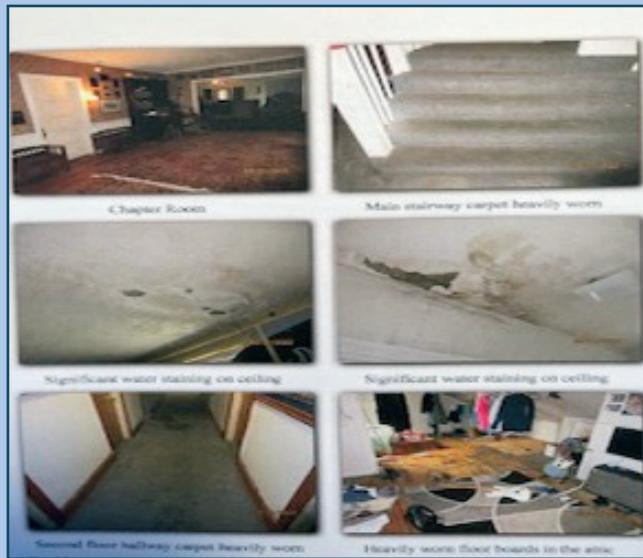
Preserve the legacy and mission of the Beta Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi at the University of Maine at Orono, through the development of and funding for programs and activities to support the Chapter, its members and the local community. Your Donations to the Fund ([mainebeta.org](http://mainebeta.org)) will help support the following:

- Urgently needed significant Capital improvements to the House and its infrastructure
- Beta community philanthropy and support
- Create scholarships and related educational support opportunities for actives in good standing

***The Short-Term Goal: An attractive and sustainable House ready for our 150th anniversary!***

## Why Repairing the House is Important

- Fixing the House has been a Housing Corporation priority for several years now
- Our 122+ year old home is tired and needs a lot of work
- The University granted us a 30-year lease extension to 2054.
- Beta is well-liked by the University, we're on Campus, but the House in current condition needs some TLC
- Convincing actives to live in the House can be a challenge due to current conditions
- We're generally cheaper than dorms and apartments... But not as attractive



- To address the challenge, The Housing Corporation retained the services of Criterium Engineers in 2022 and Sheridan Construction in 2023 to provide Capital Expenditure Estimates for needed improvement

## Why We're asking for \$750,000

Item	Cost Estimate	Comments
Architecture, Building Envelope, Exterior Construction	\$480,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Replace windows, new vinyl shingles, (Beta Red of course) gutters, insulation, doors, carpets, rugs, new grand staircase, porch rails, interior wall fixes, wainscoting, interior painting, hardwood floors (dining room), acoustical tiles, pine room floor
Systems, Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing	\$179,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Hot water heater, heating, heat distribution, lighting fixtures, electrical (sockets, ports, power) plumbing, drainage for foundation, basement de-humification
Site Forms, Landscaping	\$ 11,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Plants, shrubs, grading, overseeding, repair walkways
Furniture, Audio & Visual	\$40,000	<input type="checkbox"/> New furniture, dining room tables, TV, sound systems, repair President's couch!
Establish Beta Scholarship, Community Support & Philanthropy	\$40,000	<input type="checkbox"/> Establish annual Beta scholarship for active member in good standing, support Beta Sleep Out and UMaine community support efforts <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for 150 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration!

## Some Work Has Started

- Drip Edges Installed
- Actives/Alums scrape and paint the House
- Numerous water damage fixes, electrical and plumbing work done (covered by insurance)
- Actives have done a good job cleaning up the house and exterior landscaping
- These are band-aid fixes meant to keep House livable before addressing the long term needs!



Fresh coat of paint

Boys reaching high spots

## So How Can We Help?

## Choose From 2 Simple Ways to Donate



### Send by Mail

Fill Out Order form inside  
Preferable method for tracking



### Order On-Line

Mainebeta.org  
PayPal or Debit/Credit Card

**Your Contributions Mean a Lot!  
We Appreciate and Want to Recognize Them!**

**Thresholds/Incentives/Acknowledgements**

Threshold	Giving Level	Incentive	
\$10K+	Chapter Room Society	Engraved Beta Captains Chair (Mlahart Co. \$700 value)	
\$5K+	Cosmos Club	Beta Crest Golf Bag or Beta Simon Pearce Tall Desk Clock (Mlahart Co. \$250+value)	 
\$2K+	Pine Room Club	DriRelease performance Beta 1/4 zip pullover Dark Steel Blue (Beta Shop-\$120 value)	
1K+	Wooglin's Closet	Beta Crest Baseball Cap Lt. Blue or \$50 Gift Cert. (Greek U - \$50 value)	 
All Donations	-	Thank You Card and some formal recognition memento in House	

Donors may opt out of receiving gifts if preferred, with all proceeds going to the Preservation Fund

**THE BRIDGE BUILDER**

AN OLD MAN GOING A LONE HIGHWAY, CAME, AT THE EVENING COLD AND GRAY,  
TO A CHASM VAST AND DEEP AND WIDE, THROUGH WHICH WAS FLOWING A SULLEN TIDE

THE OLD MAN CROSSED IN THE TWILIGHT DIM, THE SULLEN STREAM HAD NO FEAR FOR HIM, BUT HE TURNED WHEN SAFE ON THE OTHER SIDE AND BUILT A BRIDGE TO SPAN THE TIDE.

“OLD MAN”, SAID A FELLOW PILGRIM NEAR, “YOU ARE WASTING YOUR STRENGTH WITH BUILDING HERE; YOUR JOURNEY WILL END WITH THE ENDING DAY, YOU NEVER AGAIN WILL PASS THIS WAY; YOU’VE CROSSED THE CHASM DEEP AND WIDE, WHY BUILD THIS BRIDGE AT EVENING TIDE?”

THE BUILDER LIFTED HIS OLD GRAY HEAD: “GOOD FRIEND, IN THE PATH I HAVE COME,” HE SAID, “THERE FOLLOWED AFTER ME TODAY, A YOUTH WHOSE FEET MUST PASS THIS WAY. THIS CHASM THAT HAS BEEN AS NAUGHT TO ME TO THAT FAIR-HAIRED YOUTH MAY A PITFALL BE; HE, TOO, MUST CROSS IN THE TWILIGHT DIM, GOOD FRIEND, I AM BUILDING THIS BRIDGE FOR HIM!”