



# Robert A. “Bob” Van Valer ’72

*Has been elected to membership in the*

## *Beta Phi Hall of Honor Class of 2013*

---

Robert A. “Bob” Van Valer was introduced to Sigma Chi by Brother Bill Gibney ’69 at a summer rush party held in Phoenix at the home of Brother Barry Goldwater ’32. Bob pledged as a freshman during rush week in the fall of 1968 and was initiated in the spring. In addition to his academic and fraternity responsibilities, Bob also worked at the university branch of Valley National Bank. Bob served as Beta Phi Consul during his junior year. After graduation from Arizona with a degree in finance, Brother Van Valer went on to earn a master’s degree in international business at Thunderbird School of Global Management in 1975.

In 1977, he joined Roscoe Moss Company, a Los Angeles-based firm engaged in the development of ground water since the 1890s. Originating as a water well drilling contractor operating in the Southwest, the firm has constructed thousands of wells throughout the United States and in many foreign countries. Bob’s initial assignments were large well construction projects in Iran and Somalia. Bob was elected president of the company in 1990 and has since added manufacturing operations in Mexico and Egypt.

His frequent travels to developing nations in the Middle East, Africa, and Latin America have provided many opportunities for Brother Van Valer and his company to participate in philanthropic projects to develop reliable sources of ground water. He was technical coordinator for the U.S. AID Comprehensive Ground Water Development Project in Somalia from 1981 to 1986 and also served as the project manager in Iran from 1978 to 1979 for an engineering company to oversee a large scale drilling operation. The most recent project Bob directed was a two-year water well rehabilitation and training program in Botswana.

Brother Van Valer serves on the Board of Directors of SJW Corp., a NYSE-listed water utility and chairs the Nominating and Governance Committee. He is a past Director and Chairman of the American Ground Water Trust and Director and Treasurer of the Groundwater Resources Association of California.

Of his Sigma Chi experience, Van Valer says, “Sigma Chi had a great group of guys during my time at Arizona. They are an important part of my life. The Jordan Standard served me well at Beta Phi and every day since then. It is the guide I use when considering a candidate for our company.”