

# THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University • Fall 2015

## Greek Life Is on the Rise at Ohio State

65 chapters, 4,172 members

Spring 2013

65 Chapters, 4,627 members

Spring 2014

67 Chapters, 4,861 members

Spring 2015

## Beta Advisory Team

**Melissa Beckett**, Friend of Beta  
Risk Management

**Hunter J. Fiers**, *Alpha '05*  
Vice President and Brotherhood

**Jared Friesner '02**  
Chapter Counselor

**Roy Getz**, Friend of Beta  
Communications

**Chaz Jennings**, Friend of Beta  
Recruitment

**Aaron Moore**, *Alpha Gamma '12*  
Education

**Karen Narwicz**, Friend of Beta  
Programming

**Kevin Rodda**, Friend of Beta  
Finance

Learn why the  
new Theta Delta  
will succeed  
on page 3!

*The refounding fathers  
of Theta Delta.*



## THETA DELTA MAKES AN IMPACT

Alumni Support Needed  
for Chapter's Continued Success

**T**here are a lot of exciting changes in store for Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University. We are pleased to share that in the short time since returning to campus, Theta Delta boasts 52 active members and plans to recruit another 15 this fall. These brothers have hit the ground running and are already being recognized by both The Ohio State University and Beta Theta Pi communities, and are building the lifelong friendships that our brotherhood is all about.

Since beginning the recolonization process, the brotherhood has been energized and has provided a sense of pride and excitement for our alumni. Many of you have stayed connected to the university and we hope that you can find a way to support Theta Delta as well. Alumni leadership has identified three key areas that have been deemed the most important and needing of our immediate attention: recolonization success, housing, and leadership development.

When we look back at our own Beta Theta Pi experience, we can see how the friendships, leadership, and service—even decades ago—helped shape who we are today. We are thankful for our close friendships with Theta Delta brothers, for the leadership development that helped us become successful community

members, and for the numerous opportunities gained through Beta Theta Pi membership. I still remember, as I'm sure you do, the great times we had together at the Chapter House and the memories we created. We need to work together to make Theta Delta a brotherhood that alumni want to come back to and college men want to join.

**So what can you do to help?** Naturally, many brothers expect to make a gift. Financial support is important and needed in the future; until that time comes, we ask that brothers show their support in one of the following ways:

**Come home.** Many of you come back for football games. Don't miss the opportunity to walk around campus and reconnect with your pledge brothers. Relive some great memories.

**Recruit members.** Think about all the outstanding young people you know and encourage them to consider Ohio State and, of course, Beta Theta Pi.

**Advocate for Beta.** As a graduate, you have a vested interest in the well-being of your alma mater. Educate yourself on the great things

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Beta Love Runs Deep

### Spotlight on Dominic Jr. '85 and Dominic III '18 Bagnoli

The traditions of Beta unite us all, whether one of the first initiates, a refounding father, or somewhere in-between. **Dominic Jr. '85** and **Dominic III '18 Bagnoli** are lucky enough to also be united as father and son.

Dominic III always knew he wanted to join Greek life, as both of his parents were involved, but wasn't sure where he belonged. His father asked him to meet with the colony coordinator, **Brock Griffin, Utah '13**, and Dominic soon found he belonged at Beta. "I saw something different in this group of guys. I saw their ambition and shared dream to fix the mistakes of the past and to build a bigger and better Beta."

The father-son duo has enjoyed their shared Beta memories and looks forward to making more. Dominic III notes, "One of the defining moments we had as father and son was when I was initiated in Oxford. My dad surprised me when he helped in the ritual and helped initiate me himself. That meant a lot to me." Dominic Jr. is proud of Dominic III's role in refounding Theta Delta—reestablishing a community he is so proud of.

Dominic Jr. was proud to be a Beta back in college, and still is today. "Our spot on 15th and Indianola just seemed like we were the prime house on campus. Those pillars, that porch: how could you beat it? I learned a lot by getting involved in leadership and self-governance, and some of the friends I made are among my best even today!" His favorite Ohio State memory was Script Ohio, and his favorite Beta traditions were all the history and singing.

The Bagnolis are enthusiastic supporters of Beta and know how important supporting Theta Delta is. Dominic Jr. volunteers his time serving Beta, thanks to the influence of Coach Woody Hayes, who said, "You can never pay back so you must pay forward." Dominic Jr. says, "Beta was very important in my life and I know it can be for so many other young men, I hope I can be an example and encourage others to support Beta." Dominic III is confident in Theta Delta's ability to create Men of Principle. "Beta is a trailblazer nationally. The recolonization is the same thing; it will help good guys become great men through Beta."

Dominic Jr. is CEO of U.S. Acute Care Solutions, one of the largest emergency medicine groups in the country. He and his wife, Dr. Vivian von Grueingen, a Kappa Alpha Theta at OSU, have one other child, Elise Bagnoli (17), who is a senior at Lake High School. Dominic III is majoring in biology with a minor in Italian and hopes to attend medical school. He enjoys traveling and participating in Off the Lake Productions, Ohio State's student-run musical theatre group.



**"Beta is a trailblazer nationally. The recolonization is the same thing: it will help good guys become great men through Beta."**

## Colony Members Work Hard to Ensure Success of Theta Delta Alumni, Come Visit the Colony This Fall!

While school was out of session for most students, the Theta Delta Colony was hard at work this summer developing and bettering our Fraternity. The summer attendance of eight members at the Wooden Institute and three more at the 176th General Convention helped lead to our reception of the Charles Henry Hardin Leadership Development Award.

### Steven Repas '17 Represents Theta Delta at Convention

Convention proved to be a proud moment for Theta Deltas as brother **Steven Repas '17** served as the keynote undergraduate speaker in a revival of an old convention tradition. Steven spoke on the volunteer medical work he participated in this summer in Haiti with our philanthropy partner, Ministry in Mission. In a moving and inspiring speech, Steven proved how he has been leading the way in the theme of the 176th—others before self. The speech in its entirety can be found on YouTube.

### Executive Board Plans for Success

In an effort to ensure the sustained success of our Fraternity here at Ohio State, our executive board compiled a plan for success this summer. The plan is intended to serve as a fluid blueprint and guide for the future about not only how to operate effectively, but why Beta Theta Pi must be held to a different standard than the norm in the Ohio State Greek community. The plan focuses on a number of elements and concerns of Fraternity life, including risk management, hazing, new member education, and recruitment, among others.

### Visit Theta Delta for the Alumni BBQ on October 9

The fall semester will prove to be a busy one for our colony. Two of our many goals are to expand our service and philanthropy outreach, as well as grow our alumni relations. In a step toward achieving both of those goals, we would like to invite all alumni to our Beta BBQ. Held on the Friday of Homecoming week, October 9, we will be hosting a barbecue with proceeds going to our philanthropy partners, Ministry in Mission. The event will be held at the Wexner Center Plaza from 5-10 p.m. If you have questions about the event, please contact **Dan Grainger '16** at [grainger.2@osu.edu](mailto:grainger.2@osu.edu).

This year will be critical to the development and success of our colony. I am confident that we have the right men in place to become vastly successful both on campus and on the national stage. On behalf of all the undergraduate brothers, I would like to thank the alumni for the support they have shown us thus far, we look forward to establishing a successful and sustainable Theta Delta Chapter for years to come.



Fraternally,  
**Dan Grainger '16**  
President  
[grainger.2@osu.edu](mailto:grainger.2@osu.edu)

**Alumni, save the date for a Beta BBQ, Friday, October 9, at the Wexner Center Plaza, from 5 to 10 p.m.**

# UNDERGRADUATES SHARE WHY THIS CHAPTER WILL BE DIFFERENT

## Q&A WITH THREE REFOUNDERING FATHERS

Beta Theta Pi is alive and thriving once again on the Ohio State campus. Despite many obstacles to overcome, the new colony is confident that the recolonization will be a success. We understand that alumni may have reservations about the Chapter's return, but the alumni board believes in the future these new men are building and wants to encourage brothers to get involved and show their support. Here, colony members **Joshua Kuhlman '18**, **Giuseppe Di Biase '16**, and **Steven Repas '17** share how they will ensure Theta Delta's successful return.

### *Q: How is Beta Theta Pi different from other Ohio State fraternities?*

**Joshua:** I think the biggest thing that bothers me is when people use the word "frat." I always correct them and say, "No, I am in a Fraternity, not a frat." I mean it when I say that. Yes, social activities are part of what we do, but being a member of Theta Delta teaches us to have fun in a responsible manner while not compromising our values. Theta Delta and Beta Theta Pi as a whole want us to better ourselves during our time here. They want to see us succeed both as individuals and also as a whole, and that is what makes us different.

**Giuseppe:** The Men of Principle initiative makes us different from any other Fraternity. It reminds us of our goal: to become gentlemen and leaders living a principled life. This initiative is going to help change the stereotype of Fraternity men.

**Steven:** We don't just say we have a list of morals and principles, we live them. We do events with class and standards, which is a very lost art in the world today.

### *How will the new Theta Delta be different from the old Chapter?*

**Joshua:** We are going to last on campus because we are setting a foundation where we stick to our values and remember the meaning of what it is to be a Beta.

**Giuseppe:** I don't know anybody from the old Chapter, but I believe this Chapter is made of leaders, both on and off campus. We are involved in several organizations that challenge our academic skills and also help the community.

**Steven:** We have ambition and a very large goal. We strive to be the best in all our endeavors, which was not the mentality of the previous Chapter.

### *What are your goals for the future of Theta Delta?*

**Joshua:** My goal is to see Theta Delta last. I want this to be an organization that young men are proud to say they are apart of. We will do that through recruitment: attracting men who will be true to our seven core values.

**Giuseppe:** I would like to set the example for future generations, to create the base of a reputation of responsible and educated men who will be successful, personally and professionally. I would like to see a better reputation for Fraternity men, and hopefully Theta Delta will be a key player in this change.

**Steven:** I want to put Theta Delta on the national stage. I believe we have the potential to be the best Chapter in Beta Theta Pi, and possibly the NIC.

### *What would you say to alumni to encourage them about the future of the colony?*

**Joshua:** We are doing good things on campus and we are building a positive culture within Theta Delta. Men are proud to wear their letters around school because we are known as gentlemen, scholars, and men of principle. I encourage alumni to get in touch with us and have lunch, or come to a Chapter meeting. I think they will be surprised about the men in our colony today. We have men who have done internships with NASA, men who have organized humanitarian efforts in Haiti, and men who are training to be leaders in our armed forces, among many other accomplishments.

**Giuseppe:** This is a group of men with excellent values and life goals. We have accomplished so many things in less than one year together and I can't imagine what we will accomplish in the years to come.

**Steven:** I was fortunate to be the keynote speaker at the National Convention because of our unique spin on philanthropy. The entire Fraternity was blown away by how well we are doing and they are all rooting for us.

### *What kind of involvement would you like to see more of from Theta Delta alumni?*

**Joshua:** I would love to see more alumni support. And I don't necessarily mean financially, I mean support what we are doing, support the ideas we have, and support the fact that we are trying to make a change. We have open Chapter meetings, service events, brotherhood events, and would love to see more alumni there. Even if it was just for a cup of coffee, I know we would have 30 guys instantly jump on the chance to just sit and talk.

**Giuseppe:** I would like to see more brothers at our meetings. Just be there to give us advice

about life or tell stories about when they were in college. We need to build connections with older brothers.

**Steven:** I would like to see alumni support our philanthropic goals and give us wisdom of how they ran things and how they got to where they are now.

### *What are you going to do to ensure Theta Delta is sustainable and successful at Ohio State?*

**Joshua:** Recruit the right men. Recruitment is the key to us being sustainable and successful. As long as we keep on recruiting the right men, we will last. As someone who has sat on the recruitment team and has a passion for recruitment, I promise that we are only taking men who we are confident will be an asset to the Chapter.

**Giuseppe:** Set the example for the younger brothers. I would like to teach the importance of being a gentleman, and show that it is possible to manage the academic and social life at the same time.

**Steven:** Learn from other chapters about what their mistakes and downfalls were, and try to have the foundation of Theta Delta avoid those pitfalls. We can learn a lot from others' mistakes.



*Joshua is a sophomore studying business administration. He serves as the interim vice president of communications and the alumni relations chairman. Joshua resides in Petoskey, Michigan, and is a Theta Delta legacy through his father, Tim Kuhlman '85.*



*Giuseppe is a senior studying mechanical engineering. He comes to us from Caracas, Venezuela, and is serving as the scholarship chairman.*



*Steven is a junior from the greater Cleveland area and is a pre-medicine student studying pharmaceutical science with a neuroscience and business minor. He is vice president of the colony, president and founder of a service mission club on campus, and recently spoke as the undergraduate keynote at Beta's 176th General Convention.*

### **LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN**

Theta Delta needs to know of any potential new members to join our new colony. We rely on alumni to make recommendations of men they think would uphold our Beta ideals. If you know of a potential new member who will attend Ohio State next fall, or even in the next few years, send his name and information to Dan Grainger '16 at [grainger.2@osu.edu](mailto:grainger.2@osu.edu).



# SAVE THE DATE

## Homecoming 2015

Friday, October 9

Beta BBQ hosted by the undergraduates  
5-10 p.m.  
Wexner Center Plaza

Saturday, October 10

Ohio State vs. Maryland



# THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University

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Beta Theta Pi - The Ohio State University

## THETA DELTA MAKES AN IMPACT

(Continued from page 1)

going on at Ohio State and Theta Delta and share liberally.

Preserving the tradition, legacy, and brotherhood of Theta Delta and Beta Theta Pi remains our top priority as we launch this effort to reconnect. We continue to evaluate our housing situation and strategically plan for the future of the Chapter. With Greek life at Ohio State stronger than ever, it is important for Beta Theta Pi to remain competitive with other fraternities and university housing options on campus.

We are still in the planning stages but look forward to sharing some exciting ideas with you soon. Until then, we encourage you to reach out to brothers you haven't seen or talked to recently and reconnect with them. It's time for Beta Theta Pi to make changes for the better. It's time for us as alumni to work together and make positive changes in the Chapter. Thanks again for all you do for Ohio State and Beta.

Fraternally,  
**Matt Brown '05**

Alumni Relations Chairman  
[matt.brown49@gmail.com](mailto:matt.brown49@gmail.com)

*Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending The Ohio State University, he will receive a copy. If he has graduated, please send his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.*

## Spring Roundup Event a Success



Our annual Theta Delta Spring Roundup last April at Scioto Country Club was a huge success. We had more than 100 Theta Deltas attend, including several members from the undergraduate colony. Our keynote speaker, Archie Griffin, Heisman Trophy winner and Ohio State University Alumni Association President, related the lifelong bonds formed through football and fraternal life. We also awarded scholarships to many deserving undergraduates and presented Fraternal Fifties to alumni. Alumni who attended also had the chance to hear an update on the recolonization.

Thank you to everyone who came out, and we hope to see you all again next year.

*Steven Repas '17 (right) gave the keynote address at this year's Beta Convention.*