



# THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University • Fall 2020

## Return to Principles Campaign Deadline Extended—Make Your Gift by December 31!

**Additional Alumni Support Needed to Reach \$4 Million Campaign Goal**

As we endure a time of uncertainty, it's important now more than ever to come together as brothers to ensure Beta Theta Pi's future at The Ohio State University. The Beta values that helped us transform from young men into today's leaders will continue to provide a solid foundation for Theta Delta, and we owe it to future generations of brothers to secure that legacy. Ask yourself: Where would I be without Beta Theta Pi?

### Integrity and Responsible Conduct

Since the *Return to Principles: The Campaign for Theta Delta* launched in 2016, we've seen the Chapter make great strides in its return to The Ohio State University. We are proud to call our active members brothers and we are confident in the direction our brotherhood has been heading over the last four years. We know the undergraduate brothers are growing from boys into Men of Principle and upholding Beta's reputation at the University and within the Columbus community.

### Teamwork Is Necessary

Our challenge now is to finish this campaign strong and raise the remaining \$247,128 to properly fund our Chapter House and help ensure future financial success for the House Corporation and building fund. Thanks to 158 generous Theta Delta alumni, we've raised more than 90% of our campaign goal. However, these gentlemen only comprise 12% of our alumni base. The average Greek capital campaign sees double that in alumni participation. **Imagine what we could achieve if twice as many brothers joined in this historic effort to secure the future of Theta Delta Chapter.**

### Want to Make a Tax-Deductible Donation?

We are accepting gifts and pledges of \$5,000 or more to the Beta Theta Pi Foundation. This is a great way to:

- donate appreciated securities,
- donate from your IRA,
- take advantage of your company's gift matching program, or
- simply make a tax-deductible gift.

The enclosed pledge form allows you to designate the Beta Theta Pi Foundation for your pledge. You may also mail in a check with this pledge form and envelope and we will ensure it gets sent to the Foundation. If you're interested in donating appreciated securities, or if you have other questions about giving to the Beta Theta Pi Foundation, please reach out to our communications coordinator at [hneth@penningtonco.com](mailto:hneth@penningtonco.com). There are additional benefits to tax-deductible giving this year with the CARES Act. We encourage you to review the benefits and how it may apply to you. Please consult your tax advisor for further information.

### Intellect and Trust

When you look back on your time at Theta Delta Chapter, I hope you recall how your Beta brothers helped you achieve academic excellence and succeed in college and beyond. You trusted your brothers to look after you and hold you accountable to become the best version of yourself—brothers who also encouraged you to do what's best for the greater good of our brotherhood and our community. That's an experience worth supporting for future generations.

### The Power of the Brotherhood

I believe in this brotherhood, and I have faith that we can still reach our \$4 million campaign goal. Now, I ask you to dig a little deeper if you can, or review the donor list in this newsletter and reach out to a brother who has yet to give and encourage him to support this worthy cause. From each of our individual Beta experiences, we know the power of the brotherhood, and we know when we come together as brothers, we can achieve more.

We all have the power to make a difference for Theta Delta, and I hope brothers who have yet to take the leap and support this campaign will donate today. The more we do now, the better our organization will be in the future. We are all a part of Theta Delta's history, and I am confident that we can all do our part to ensure its future.

Yours in *\_kai\_*,  
**Dominic Bagnoli '85**  
Campaign Chairman  
(330) 284-9008 | [dbagnoli@usacs.com](mailto:dbagnoli@usacs.com)

## MAKING A SAFE RETURN

*Theta Delta Chapter Reunites on Campus for Unique Fall Semester*



What a semester it has been so far for the men of the Theta Delta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi! From moving to online classes to the Big 10 making four different decisions on a football schedule, all of us have had an incredibly fun time even in the craziest of times. *(Continued on page 2)*

# MAKING A SAFE RETURN

(Continued from page 1)



Eric Widenhofer '23 and Bryan Park '23.



Spring 2020 pledge class being initiated this fall.



Jimmy Gold '22 and Adam Marcus '22.

This year has been nothing near normal, and we all knew this was going to be an interesting and different fall semester than past ones. After returning to campus in the middle of August, the young men of Theta Delta picked up right where we left off back in March. We knew that we wanted to make this one of the best experiences our members could have after realizing how short college is. The time we have together is so limited.

Brothers came back with a determined attitude to succeed in anything they set their mind to.

After learning how it was going to be in the house this year, we all took it upon ourselves to do our duty to make sure we weren't going to be a part of the problem. Although we hit a tough spot in the first week, all of our members realized that we needed to do a better job helping out where we could during these crazy times.

The entire Chapter is happy to be back, safely roaming the streets of Columbus this semester. We all know these aren't normal times, but we aren't going to let that ruin being back together

under the same roof. The Chapter is energized and ready to take on whatever challenge is thrown at us for the rest of the school year!



Yours in \_kai\_,  
**Michael Shcharber '22**  
 Chapter President  
 (714) 519-8383  
 shcharber.1@osu.edu

## House Corporation Update

As we all know by now, 2020 has been quite a unique year due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Ohio State University shut down partway through the spring semester. Subsequently, we closed the Theta Delta Chapter House on March 22, five weeks before the normal end of the term. To be in line with the University, we also gave refunds for room, board, and parking that exceeded \$74,000.

There was high optimism going into the fall semester with 48 members committed to living in the Chapter House, which is full occupancy. Over the summer, a number of things happened, all surrounding COVID-19, which resulted in nine members voiding their housing contracts. Because the University offered online courses, some members decided to stay home. Others felt there was a higher risk of catching the virus living in the Chapter House with a concentration of so many people. The University relaxed its sophomore live-in requirement for the dorms, which hurt Beta Theta Pi because we qualified as an approved alternate living facility.

The House Corporation opened the Chapter House as planned with several measures in place to help contain the virus. The house was completely disinfected the day before move-in. Members moved in over a four-day period while spaced apart so no two moved in at the same time. A pandemic team of three undergraduates, the house manager, and the house director was formed to help manage the policies put in place. These include daily temperature checks, wearing masks, proper social distancing, washing hands regularly, scheduling meal times, and more. We're providing sanitizer stations and individual sanitizer bottles to everyone in the house. As you can surmise, we have had extra expenses that were not budgeted, so any financial support you can provide to the House Corporation is appreciated. Making a gift through the capital campaign is a big help in numerous ways. Thank you for supporting your Theta Delta Chapter.

Yours in \_kai\_,  
**Joe Chinnici '64**, House Corporation President  
 (216) 235-2477 | jac2211@aol.com

## Welcome, New Members

Noah Anthony '22 • Hudson, Ohio  
 Chris Castrigano '22 • Hudson, Ohio  
 Nate Daugherty '24 • Pittsburgh, Pa.  
 Jakhari Desphy '22 • Akron, Ohio

Doran Dyer '23 • Heath, Ohio  
 Zack Kasson '22 • Akron, Ohio  
 Kenny McCaughey '23 • Hudson, Ohio  
 Shamarke Mohamud '23 • Fairfax, Va.  
 Jordan Pescovitz '23 • Cincinnati, Ohio

Joey Pinney '23 • Dublin, Ohio  
 Alex Quedans '23 • Fairfield, Ohio  
 Sean Reber '23 • Cincinnati, Ohio  
 Cameron Smith '22 • Buffalo, N.Y.

# THANK YOU FOR SHOWING YOUR SUPPORT IN A MEANINGFUL WAY

*Help Us Finish This Campaign by Adding Your Name to This List Today!*

Our sincerest thank-you goes to all our donors whose commitments to *A Return to Principles: The Campaign for Theta Delta* are making a difference. Their generosity demonstrates a sense of gratitude for their personal experience. We still need commitments from the rest of our alumni to reach our \$4 million fundraising goal. All supporters of the project pledging \$2,500 and

above will be recognized on a prominently displayed plaque in our new Chapter House. We sincerely apologize if there's an error in recording your gift or your name. We're working hard to record this vital information, so please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 to make any corrections. Join your brothers on this list and make your pledge today. Thank you for your support!

## New Founder Circle (\$1,000,000 and above)

David L. Brennan '53

## Three Stars Circle (\$500,000 to \$999,999)

Anonymous  
Anonymous

## 165 Circle (\$250,000 to \$499,999)

Ralph W. Talmage '71

## Wooglin Circle (\$100,000 to \$249,999)

David W. Wright '67  
In honor of the  
Class of '67  
Larry Abbott '70  
Dominic Bagnoli '85  
Steve Jeney '85

## kai\_Society (\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Nelson French '47

## Dragon Society (\$25,000 to \$49,999)

Anonymous  
Theta Delta  
Undergraduate Chapter  
James B. Findley '54  
David R. Rudy '56  
John D. Poffenberger '57  
Terry Taylor '62  
Joesph A. Chinnici Jr. '64  
Robert M. Taylor '64  
John Dilley '67  
Roger L. Albrecht '68  
In memory of  
James W. "Wally"  
Phillips '44

John D. Beam '68  
In memory of  
James A. Beam '30  
Larry R. Plum '68  
Daniel R. Pickett '80  
Dan Irwin III '85  
Arthur Z. Kovesdy '85  
Nonelle Family Gift  
Richard Nonelle Jr. '85  
Michael Nonelle '89  
Gregory J. Andrews '86  
The Niermeyer Family  
Ronald Warwar '87  
In memory of  
Daniel Brower

## Ingleneook Society (\$15,000 to \$24,999)

John O. Hopkins Sr. '57  
Anthony M. Iacovetta '78

## Wreath of Gold Society (\$10,000 to \$14,999)

James C. Gorman '49  
William H. Zimmer Jr. '52  
Larry Biederman '59  
In memory of  
Bob Hartman '57  
John D. Jacob, D.D.S. '60  
In memory of  
Don Hollenback '51 and  
John Ramseyer '59  
George R. Barry '61  
John Stegmiller '68  
Rick Schwieterman '72  
Alan Veatch '79  
Barry J. Duerk '80  
Robert S. Leiter '85  
Darrin L. Bushong '93  
Monte E. Berg '99

## Beta Spirit Club (\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Kenneth K. Feinthal '55  
Carl F. Weiffenbach '57  
Rick von Haam '61  
In memory of  
Mike Fitzgerald '61  
Richard Foster '65  
William P. "Phil" White '65  
Curtis L. High '66  
William Buckingham '67  
Jon Bennett '69  
Alan J. Vovk '70  
Robert F. Dilley '71  
Geoffrey Presson '73  
Ralph Antolino Jr. '77  
James S. Flower '79  
Roderick I. Gregory '79  
Daniel S. Wigton '79  
John L. Rindler '85  
Bruce E. Borden '86  
Jared Friesner '02  
Matt Brown '05

## Diamond Club (\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Anonymous  
In memory of  
John Kerzman '88  
John H. Scofield '54  
John Y. Taggart '54  
Richard L. Morgan '55  
Richard E. Meredith '56  
Charles F. Wright '62  
In memory of  
George T. Wright '32  
W. Richard Walton '63  
Fritz Milligan '64  
David A. Hammond '65  
Donn G. Ellerbrock '70  
David K. Grumbach '70  
John C. Nisbet '71  
William Goepfert '72

## Theta Delta Brotherhood Club (\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Joann Grimes  
In memory of  
Robert L. Grimes '53  
David Packo  
In honor of  
Grant Packo '20  
Richard C. Pickett '48  
In memory of  
John Hughes '47

## CAMPAIGN STATUS

AT-A-GLANCE  
As of  
October 20, 2020

Goal  
\$4 Million

Total Commitments  
\$3,752,872

Total Donors  
158

Want to give  
online? Visit  
[osubeta.org](http://osubeta.org) to  
make your gift  
or pledge  
online today!

James C. Brown '52  
Ronald Bell '56  
James T. Krejci, M.D. '56  
Thornton M. Swisher '57  
William J. Kennelly '58  
In memory of  
Robert R. Hartman '57  
Charles H. McKelvey '59  
Theodore W. Rudy '59  
Richard Turner '59  
R. Daniel Evans '60  
William C. Roebuck '60  
Thomas F. Wall Jr. '60  
Richard A. Isaly '64  
Michael T. Carroll '65  
W. Bruce Butler '66  
Richard L. Springer,  
D.V.M. '66  
Ronald J. Vojir '68  
Richard L. Caner '73  
Lance Thomas '73  
Steven Cover '74  
In honor of  
Robert A. Cover  
Philip T. Kallile '74  
Thomas McKinnell '77  
Mark Chupka '84  
David Grieshop '85  
Christopher S. Jeney '89  
Brian Cook '97

## BETA THETA PI HOLDS FIRST-EVER VIRTUAL RECRUITMENT

Fall recruitment looked very different due to COVID-19. While we knew it was going to be a challenge, we were willing to adapt and prepare for a successful recruitment week.

This fall is our first year participating in the Son of the Stars program, so we wanted to be certain that this group of pledge brothers would fit our culture. While most fraternities on campus

wanted to plan for no pledges, we didn't want to drop the ball on an opportunity to meet high-quality potential new members.

While conducting everything via Zoom for recruitment, Recruitment Chairman **Anthony Rightnour '22** and I focused on bringing in the right potential new members. At the end of the process, we had 13 young men join the

Beta Theta Pi brotherhood this semester. Each one of them is ready to be a part of something bigger than themselves and join one of the best Chapters on campus.

Yours in **kai**,  
**Michael Shcharber '22**  
Chapter President

# Preparing for an Unprecedented Fall Semester

## Q&A with Vice President of House Operations Jacob Woeber '22

**Q: Where are you originally from? What attracted you to The Ohio State University?**

**A:** I was born and raised in Springfield, Ohio, where I attended a very small catholic school. After graduating with only 33 other kids, I was really drawn to the idea of a large university. I also have family and friends who attended Ohio State, and this school is something I've always connected with. When the time came, it was an easy decision.



**Q: Why did you choose to join Theta Delta Chapter?**

**A:** Initially, I did not want to join Greek life. However, after some conversations with friends and family I decided to pursue it. After rushing a couple fraternities, I felt very comfortable being at Beta. Many of the brothers had similar interests as mine, and it felt like a perfect fit.

**Q: How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the active Chapter?**

**A:** It's certainly been tough. Obviously, we don't get to see guys like we used to, and that's been hard on everyone. Despite this, we've adapted to the difficult circumstances and found ways to overcome the hardships.

**Q: What steps have you taken to safely open the Chapter House amidst a global pandemic?**

**A:** We have mandated that masks be worn in all common spaces in the house and encouraged people to wear masks when they are around others. This includes when grabbing food, in a study room, and when working out. As with everything else, it's been a tough adjustment, but the guys have really embraced the changes and found ways to follow the rules while still having fun.

**Q: What have you learned from your position in the Chapter?**

**A:** I am currently the vice president of house operations, so I manage and oversee everyone who lives here along with any visitors coming in or out. Patience is what I would say is the biggest thing I have learned. Running a house with 40-50 guys at times is trying to say the least. However, this position has taught me to be able to take a step back to find solutions that best help everyone.

**Q: What activities are you involved in outside of Beta Theta Pi? What advice would you give to younger undergraduates about the importance of getting involved?**

**A:** Outside of Beta, I am involved in numerous intramural sports, and I am an active participant in BuckeyeThon. As my dad always tells me:



# THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University

THETA DELTA OF BETA THETA PI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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## CONNECT WITH THETA DELTA ONLINE



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[www.osubeta.org](http://www.osubeta.org)



Beta Theta Pi –  
The Ohio State  
University



[osubeta.org/campaign](http://osubeta.org/campaign)

"Everything in life needs to find balance," so I would pass that advice on. You can't fixate all your time and energy into one thing, or it can leave you feeling empty. Therefore, it is important to find balance in life and enjoy a multitude of different experiences in all circumstances.

**Q: How do you plan to take advantage of the opportunities provided to you as a Beta Theta Pi member?**

**A:** My position as house manager has been a real blessing and turning point in my life. Amidst a pandemic, I oversaw the coordination of an entire Fraternity home while maintaining communication with the Housing Corporation. As I eluded to earlier, it is not easy but has gifted me numerous life lessons that I would otherwise not have had. I have learned to be a better leader and a better person. I am ever grateful for this opportunity.

**Q: What has been your favorite memory or experience as an undergraduate?**

**A:** Living in the Chapter House has easily been the best decision I have ever made. I liked it so much that I wanted to run it! Living with your brothers and getting to experience college together is incredibly special. I tell all the guys during rush that living in the house is the best experience you can have in college, hands down.

**Q: Do you have a mentor or a brother who has impacted your experience? What did they do or how did they help you out?**

**A:** David Joseph '22 is someone who I've gotten very close with over the past 18 months. He is always ready to have fun while still maintaining the other aspects of his life. As I mentioned earlier with balance, David is the embodiment of that. He has taught me to not take life so seriously and to enjoy every moment.

**Q: What is your major?**

**What do you future plans include?**

**A:** I am majoring in finance in the Fisher School of Business while also pursuing a minor in performance and organizational psychology. I am planning on attending law school upon graduation with hopes of doing so at Vanderbilt University.

**Q: Anything else to add?**

**A:** I just want to say thank you to all of our alumni for helping us through this semester with a special shoutout to **Joe Chinnici '64** and the entire Housing Corporation. You guys believed in our ability to make this work despite the circumstances. While it was bumpy at times, together we overcame the obstacles and are very blessed to be living in such an incredible home.

You can reach Jacob at  
[woeber.3@buckeyemail.osu.edu](mailto:woeber.3@buckeyemail.osu.edu).