



THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University • Spring 2015

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Theta Delta Initiates 56 Refounding Fathers

Alumni Board Prepares for Chapter's Future

It has been a remarkable few months since Beta Theta Pi returned to The Ohio State University. The founding fathers had a great first semester on campus, earning a 3.4 GPA, and are well on their way to becoming a strong brotherhood. The group claims numerous academic and campus leaders, but its true success comes from how the members have grown as brothers over the past four months.

Brock Griffin, our on-site colony development coordinator, continues to work hard on rebuilding the chapter. We initiated 29 men as founding fathers last fall, and welcomed another 27 men this spring. Brock has had the chance to visit and spend time with our new brothers and has been incredibly impressed with these men. They are smart, polished, involved on campus, and passionate about Beta. We should all be proud to have them wear our letters and be added to the roll of Theta Delta. Colony President Dan Grainger attended Ohio State's Chapter President Leadership Institute. He returned with a lot of knowledge to help move Theta Delta forward and new connections made with the Ohio State Greek community. The colony is very excited to have a full calendar of events this semester and looks forward to every opportunity they have to interact with alumni.

Ohio State maintains a strong fraternity and sorority presence on campus, with most, if not all, chapters having their own residences. The fraternity house serves not only as a residence for its members while in school but also a focal point for all social and campus activities involvement.

The house corporation recognizes the importance of this physical structure and is dedicated to providing our new members with a safe and healthy living environment, where they can learn the importance of friendship, trust, service, and excellence. The OSU Second-Year Transformational Experience Program (S.T.E.P.) will require all first-and-second-year students to live on campus, beginning in the 2016 academic school year. To qualify as on-campus housing, Greek facilities will have to meet specific criteria, so we are reviewing our options to make any necessary changes.

As Theta Delta will once again be sending bright, strong, outstanding young men to post-college life, we will continue to look into our housing situation to provide the Chapter with the best possible future.

Brothers, we have a committed core group of alumni making sure that Beta is back at Ohio State, and we would love to have more people on our team. If you'd like to help with the house, reconnect with brothers, speak at a Chapter meeting, or help with other duties as requested, please let us know. We can find a role to fit around your work and family commitments. Most importantly, our undergraduates need to see and experience what it means to be a Beta for life.

It is an exciting time for the Theta Delta Chapter, and we look forward to what the future holds.

Fraternally,
Matt Brown '05
Alumni Relations Chairman
matt.brown49@gmail.com

Theta Delta to host Spring Roundup with special guest.



See page 4 for more details.

The Importance of Alumni Engagement

Q&A with Alumni Association President Scott Saffell '78

Q: Why did you decide to join Beta Theta Pi?

A: Ohio State is a big place with lots of students; I was looking for something to make the campus smaller, and find a place where I would belong. A high school friend was a Beta and asked me to come to a Chapter dinner and meet the rest of the guys. I loved the people, the friendships, and the environment. From the very first time I walked into the house I knew that I was home.



Q: What are some of your goals while serving as president for the alumni association?

A: One of my major goals as president is to improve engagement with all of our alumni with the alumni association and with the active Chapter. We would like for alumni to have more opportunities to interact with the undergraduates to impact some of the vast wealth of wisdom and life experiences that they have in order to help to mentor our collegians. I would also like for alumni to have meaningful opportunities to meet and to rekindle past friendships that were so cherished by all of us, and to make new friendships as lifelong alumni of this Fraternity.

Q: What is your favorite Ohio State tradition? Beta tradition?

A: My favorite tradition at Ohio State is singing Carmen Ohio at the end of home football games—especially because the song was written by **Fred Cornell '06**. As for Beta Traditions, all of the rituals around initiation are very special, as well as the tradition that was around when I was an undergraduate when we had a song circle at the end of all of our parties.

Q: How did the Fraternity prepare you for life after college?

A: Beta prepared me by helping me to grow as a person by living up to the principles of Beta Theta Pi and having the privilege to work with many different types of people within an organization for a common good. Working with 105 other men who were part of the same organization with the same goals and aspirations helped prepare me for a career where those same traits and values are needed to be successful.

Q: Do you keep in touch with any of your Fraternity brothers?

A: By living in the Columbus area I have the opportunity to see many brothers at football and basketball games, as well as, at the alumni association events around Columbus. There are also brothers who live around the country that I keep in touch with from time to time. I have always said that for the last 35 years, there are 30 guys that I could call at a moment's notice if ever I needed them...some of which I have not seen in 35 years.

Scott lives in Columbus, Ohio, with his wife of 36 years, Barbara Jane Saffell (Alpha Xi Delta, OSU). They have two children, **Sean '07** and Brian (Phi Kappa Tau, Ohio University). Sean is married to Brittany Loar Saffell (Alpha Chi Omega, Vanderbilt) and they have a two-year-old son, Bennett Walsh. You may contact Scott by e-mailing him at scott.w.saffell@gmail.com.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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Scott Saffell '78

Vice President
Alan Veatch '79

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Todd Stefanini '05

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Matt Brown '05

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Steven Vilardo '78

MYSTIC SHRINE

Richard Schluederberg '49 passed on to memory and our Mystic Shrine on September 10, 2014. A WWII veteran, he served in the U.S. Army's 66th (Black Panther) Infantry Division in the Northern France campaign, fighting and holding pockets of Nazi forces near the fortified port of St. Nazaire until the surrender of Germany. Richard began his life-long career in security analysis and portfolio management in 1949 at Mercantile-Safe Deposit and Trust Co. and Naess and Thomas, and retired in 1991 as senior vice president of Bank of America. An avid sailor, he was a member of sailing teams at Cornell University and Ohio State University and a lifetime member of the International Star Class Yacht Racing Association. He competed on the varsity track teams at Cornell and The Ohio State University and participated in the 1945 athletic games organized by General Patton in Nuremberg, Germany.

ALUMNI NEWS

Robert E. Newell '48 is 88 years old. He plays lots of bridge and a little golf. Bob lives in West Chester, Pa.

Samuel S. Conaway '49 is writing a children's book. He lives in Lakeville, Minn., with his wife.

Frederic G. Hunt '51 retired after 25 years as principal of his own consulting engineering firm, Frederic Co Hunt, P.E., Marina Design Consulting. He also served in the U.S. Air Corps from 1951 to 1953, and retired as a captain. Fred and his wife, Freda, are about to move into a retirement community.

John D. Poffenberger '57 spends winters in Florida and summers in Cincinnati and Michigan. He looks forward to hearing from any of the old brothers and is arranging a golf date for dinner in Naples, Fla., Cincinnati, Ohio, or Glen Arbor, Mich. E-mail: jpoffe@aol.com

ALUMNI

We want to hear from you! Please send next issue to our alumni relations coordinator.

Ronald J. McCormick '58 fished in the Rouge River in Oregon for salmon and steelhead using his 16-foot driftboat. E-mail: roncarolmc@msn.com

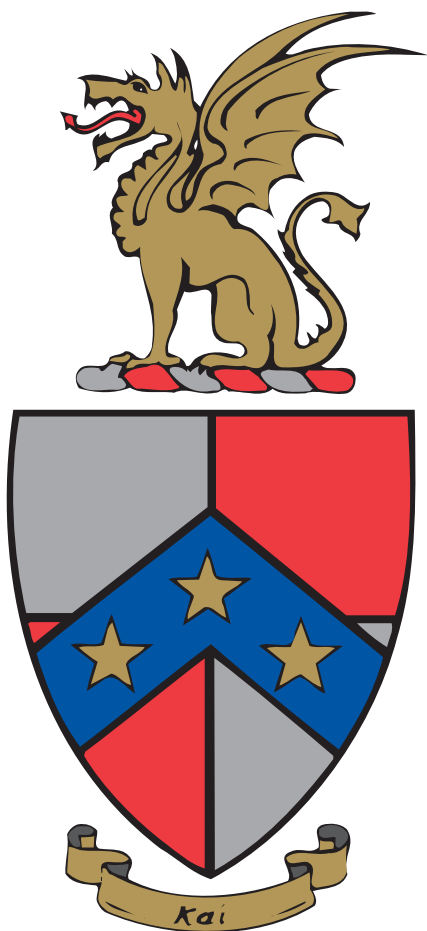
Hall B. Liles Jr. '60 serves on the house corporation at the College of Charleston, a new chapter of Beta Theta Pi. He lives in Mount Pleasant, S.C. E-mail: hallliles2@aol.com

Thomas F. Wall Jr. '60 would love to see a 60th pledge class reunion in 2017. He misses all of the guys. Thomas lives in Pine Meadow, Conn., with his wife, Kay. E-mail: tomwalljr@hotmail.com

W. R. Steakley '67 has three grandchildren and has time to travel while still working, but will retire soon. "Best wishes to all the brothers."

New Colony Excited for Future

Chapter Leadership Pushes Theta Delta Forward



Being given the opportunity to be the first president of the recolonized Theta Delta Chapter has already proven to be an incredibly unique and valuable experience. To see the brotherhood develop so quickly between our members, and the interest and investment they have poured into our Fraternity continues to impress me on a daily basis. I believe I speak for all of our members when I say we want nothing more than to bring Beta Theta Pi back to its great esteem here at The Ohio State University.

The choice to be founding fathers has presented us with a great opportunity to serve as bridge builders for the coming generations of Betas, both at this chapter and across the country. It is a true privilege to work with young men who pour their heart and souls into the development and improvement of a values-based fraternal culture with hopes of giving a great foundation to future members. In a time where instant self-gratification is prized more than ever before, I am continually impressed with my brothers' willingness to sacrifice in order to pay it forward

for future brothers who have yet to experience any of the joys of being a Beta.

In the coming months we look forward to the meaningful work we will put in toward receiving our charter, while continuing to build brotherhood within our colony and fraternity within our Greek Community. We realize what is at stake, and the importance of the work we are doing here at this university. This has been an amazing, joyful, and often times, trying, experience that I would not change for the world. It is for that reason that I look forward to not only the remainder of my term, but to a lifetime of commitment to the Theta Delta Chapter, and to Beta Theta Pi.



Fraternally,
Dan Grainger '15
President
grainger.2@osu.edu

Recruitment Recommendations

Alumni, as Theta Delta reestablishes itself at The Ohio State University we count on your recommendations of future members more than ever. If you know of a potential new member, send his name and information to **Edward Reehorst '15** at reehorst.3@osu.edu.

UPDATE

news and updates for publication in our
column at astoots@penningtonco.com.

He lives in Framingham, Mass. E-mail: wrsteakley@yahoo.com

Alan J. Vovk '70 retired in 2011 from the VA administration as a certified orthodontist. He keeps in contact with **Denis De Vlaming '69**, **Chuck De Vlaming '68**, **Tim Brady '69**, **Bob Oates '71**, and **Fritz Regen '70**. Alan lives in Clearwater, Fla. E-mail: ajv1437@yahoo.com

John D. Myer II '73 is "living the dream" in Hilton Head Island. He is still a political and racetrack driving junkie. John is currently the chief driving instructor for the coastal empire porsche club. E-mail: yaller9816@aol.com

Timothy C. Reichel '79 shares that in his experience with the Red Cross; he has been deployed

to more than 12 national disasters. Tim lives in North Canton, Ohio, with his wife, Deborah. E-mail: timothyreichel@yahoo.com

Daniel S. Wigton '79 has been married to Valerie for 31 years. Their daughter, Stephanie, is 25 and is a certified physician's assistant. Their son, Eric, is a junior at BGSU. Daniel stays active in the Marion community and was recently elected to the OSU alumni council board. E-mail: daniel.wigton@stifel.com

Bradley J. Devlin '82 is self-employed and works at home with his wife in Louisville, Ky. His daughter, Makena, is a freshman studying art, and his son, Clay, is a junior in high school. Bradley keeps in touch with **Dave Klein '82** and **Tim Powers '82**. E-mail: brad@devlingallery.com

Brett A. Barrett '86 purchased his first airplane. He and his wife, Lisa, love to fly around Lake Havasu City, Ariz., where they spend most of

the summer boating and enjoying life. Brett sees **Kevin Ryan '84** and **Todd Thompson '87** often and enjoys returning to Columbus for a yearly football game. E-mail: barrett2@cox.net

Brian P. Allen '90 has lived in the Sandusky/Eric County area since 1996. He and his wife, Kristin, have five children. They try to get to Columbus when possible; the couple has fond memories of OSU, Delta Gamma, and Beta Theta Pi. E-mail: bawfke360@yahoo.com

Jeffrey M. Kovack '05 lives in Baltimore, Md., and attended the OSU vs. Navy game with **Chris Massaman '03** and **Todd Stefani '05**. E-mail: jeffery.kovack@gmail.com

Thomas J. Thornton '06 graduated from Temple University with an MBA last May. He lives in Philadelphia, Penn. E-mail: thornton.155@gmail.com



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Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University

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***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.*

SPACES FILLING QUICKLY Theta Delta Spring Roundup

April 15, 2015

Location: Scioto Country Club

Cocktail Hour: 5:30 p.m.

Dinner and Program: 6:30 p.m.

Cost: \$50 per person

Join us for the 2015 Spring Roundup at the Scioto Country Club. This will be a very special Roundup with two-time Heisman Trophy winner and current Ohio State University Alumni Association President Archie Griffin as our guest speaker. In addition, there will be an update on our re-colonization efforts along with the opportunity to meet our newly initiated Founding Fathers class of new Theta Delta Betas, a ceremony to honor our Fraternal Fifties as well as the opportunity to reconnect with your brothers from Theta Delta. Please make your reservations now.

Please send your checks to:

Todd Stefanini '05

2034 West 5th Ave.

Upper Arlington, 43212

Make checks payable to Theta Delta of Beta Theta Pi.

Or pay online at www.osubeta.org.

Visit Us On the Web

www.osubeta.org



As Beta Theta Pi grows on the Ohio State campus, it is more important than ever for you, our alumni, to be updated on our progress. The website, www.osubeta.org, features alumni news, photos, and regular re-colonization updates.

This new development is geared entirely toward **you** so we hope you enjoy seeing Theta Delta's presence grow. Please take the time to check out the new site, reconnect with your brothers, and update your contact information today.