



THETA DELTA DRAGON

Beta Theta Pi at The Ohio State University • Summer 2022



Over 150 brothers gather on the field for a group photo.

Brotherhood, Camaraderie, and Reconnection ALUMNI ASSOCIATION RECAPS 2022 BETA ROUNDUP

April 13, 2022, marked our first Beta Roundup since 2019, and it turned out to have one of the largest attendances in memory! Over 155 active and pledge members, along with their guests, attended the Huntington Club in Ohio Stadium to enjoy brotherhood and a tremendous meal while listening to Ohio State's head football coach, Ryan Day, speak on several topics.

Coach Day discussed his three C's of success: Competency, Connection, and Character. He related these to his players and their academic and athletics careers, but the message is very transferrable to our everyday lives. After Coach Day finished his talk, he answered questions on how name, image, and likeness (NIL) has impacted recruiting on the collegiate level and what he sees as the future of NIL.

We also heard an update on the Chapter authored by Chapter President **Nate Daugherty '24**. Nate was not able to attend but relayed to those in attendance that, although the Chapter has not been the high-functioning and achieving Chapter it should be since their primary focus the last two years has been on survival mostly due to COVID-19, there are many highlights from the current Chapter.

At the end of Roundup we were led in the traditional Beta Countdown by brother **Dan Ketcham '77**. The last man standing was brother **John Jacob '60**—Congratulations, John!

After the event concluded, alumni and collegians gathered on the 50-yard line for a group picture. Many stayed awhile and enjoyed the great night of brotherhood and camaraderie under the stadium lights. The Chapter enjoyed reenacting the team running out of the locker room in the south-east corner of the stadium and running across the field. It was a great sight and a great night!

Chapter Updates

Since 2019, Theta Delta has been the No. 1 fundraising organization by dollar amount of all student organizations on campus for BuckeyeThon, which focuses on children with cancer who are being treated in the hematology, oncology, and blood and marrow transplant unit at Nationwide Children's Hospital here in Columbus. They have raised more than \$20,000 per year, totaling roughly \$64,000 in four years.

Academically, the Chapter has an overall GPA of 3.48 and a new member GPA of 3.6. We are so proud of their studious work ethic this year!

Lastly, as of the end of the spring semester, the Chapter has been restored to good standing with both the university and the general fraternity. This has been a long and arduous process and a testament to the tenacity and resolve of the entire Chapter. I would like to give a shout-out to both the current Chapter president, Nate, and his predecessor, **Michael Shcharber '22**, for their leadership in keeping Beta going in the right direction through all the trials and tribulations of social distancing, masking, and vaccinations during the COVID-19 lockdown.

Keep Connected

I have one request for all alumni: please ensure that your personal information on the Beta Theta Pi website directory (my.beta.org/ors/portal.aspx) is up to date. This is the primary vehicle that we use to address newsletters, email blasts, and other communication about events and happenings with the Alumni Association. Please keep your information fresh and current so we can connect with you in a variety of ways.

Yours in -kai-,
Scott Saffell '78



Dominic Bagnoli '85, Steve Jeney '86, and Tom Shewalter '85 reminisce on good times.



Brothers catching up like no time has passed. From left: Dave Krausher '86, Dominic Bagnoli '85, Dave Van Schoik '86, Lee Snelson '86, and Sean Morrow '86.



Head football coach Ryan Day shares his words of wisdom with Beta.

THANK YOU, GENEROUS DONORS

Add Your Name to the List of Supporters Today!

Below is a list of alumni, friends, and family that have supported Theta Delta so far during 2021-22. Each name listed is continuing the Beta Theta Pi mission of developing Men of Principle. The Chapter is grateful for your ongoing support. If there's an error in recording your gift or name, please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 at your earliest convenience to ensure accuracy.

Gordon B. Snider, M.D. '50
Alfred A. Campbell '52
Richard E. Meredith '56
John O. Hopkins Sr. '57
John D. Poffenberger '57
Gary L. Leppert '59
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John J. Schiff Jr. '65
William C. Buckham '67
Bruce L. Gillman '68
Larry R. Plum '68
Robert Wilkins '74
Eric H. Zeiher '75
Scott W. Saffell '78
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Michael S. Matthews '82
Douglas J. Preisse '85
John L. Rindler '85
Gary Vawter '85
Wm. Todd Thompson '87
Angelo N. Kanarios '92
Michael S. Harvey '95
Brian Cook '97
Justin A. Reckers '03

Celebrating Our Seniors

BETA HOUSE HOSTS 2022 GRADUATION DINNER

Kristan Schiedemeyer, parent of Daniel Schiedemeyer from the current graduating class, so graciously organized a graduation dinner at the Beta House following commencement at Ohio Stadium on Sunday, May 8. For those alumni who may remember, this was a similar activity to what the Mothers Club would have done in years past.

The dining room was appropriately spruced up with table linens, silverware, platters, and napkins. Dinner was prepared by Matt Shock, district manager for Campus Cooks, who provides meals for Theta Delta Beta throughout the school year. Matt made steak medallions with a mushroom demi-glace reduction sauce, roasted potatoes, roasted asparagus, Caesar salad, and garlic bread. Everything was amazing, and Matt even made accommodations for guests with dairy or gluten allergies. Dinner was capped off with cake and homemade buckeyes for dessert.

In all, 38 people attended—all family members of 2022 Beta graduates **Jack Brougher**, **Sean Curran**, **Enrique Drake**, **Andy Kendrick**, **Louie Kunkle**, **Jonathan Naylor**, and **Daniel Schiedemeyer**.

Kristan was thrilled with the results. "I think the boys were impressed by how nice it all was. The parents and families loved that we were able to visit and celebrate our boys in the house that brought them all together. Grandparents and siblings that haven't been to the house got a quick tour and were all so impressed. Thank you so much for allowing us to host it at the Chapter House."

Yours in -kai-,
Joe Chinnici '64
President | House Corporation



The 2022 graduates at a celebration for their incredible work at The Ohio State University.

Looking Forward to Another Stellar Year

House Corporation Shares Their Excitement for Beta

After two rough years dealing with COVID-19, we're optimistic these obstacles are behind us and the 2022-23 academic year will be a lot more stable, including housing.

This fall semester will be our sixth year in the new house, and to top it off, there will be 50 undergraduates plus a house director living in the Chapter House, which exceeds any of the first five years. The current Chapter is loaded with legacies, including active brother, father/son, and grandfather/father/son combinations. I can't help but think this will lead to a stronger and more solid Chapter.

An ongoing upgrade to the house relates to technology that is forever changing. We have an excellent company that has a good handle on

our expected needs based on current technology and our house occupancy.

The physical house structure is still in like-new condition, although we are starting to see the need to replace some items based on normal wear and tear. Please keep your donations coming because we need your financial support!

Yours in -kai-,
Joe Chinnici '64
President | House Corporation



RESHAPING THETA DELTA

Four Recent Chapter Presidents Discuss Beta's Impact on Their Lives



This conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

WHAT MADE BETA THETA PI THE RIGHT FRATERNITY FOR YOU?

Dan Grainger '16: I met **Brock Griffin, Utah '13** through an on-campus mentor and had lunch with him. His pitch about starting a Fraternity challenged some of the stereotypes I'd held about fraternities, and the idea of helping mold a part of Ohio State's campus was exciting—especially since it seemed to align with my values and interests.

Jeff Ruick '17: My dad was in Greek life and really enjoyed it, so I was interested in having a similar but unique experience in college. The opportunity to shape an organization versus joining one that's already established was enticing to me. Between that and making lifelong friends, it was a chance to do something different and have fun.

Mike Mosholder '18: I knew I wanted to get involved in something ... to find my fit on such a large campus. My older brother, Steve, was also a Beta at Miami (Ohio). Like Jeff and Dan said, I liked the idea of kind of coming in and starting something fresh, having an impact and helping it grow. Beta seemed like the right fit for that.

Tommy Weber '20: When I joined, the Fraternity was well established—thanks largely to these three guys and all their hard work. I could tell they were enthusiastic and passionate about what they built. It's like they are the ones who really shaped it. My brother joined Beta at another school, and we also knew **David Brennan '53** growing up; he had pretty big impact on my life. Once I got there, seeing what the guys had done before me was a big inspiration.

HOW DID YOUR UNDERGRADUATE YEARS IN THETA DELTA HELP SHAPE YOU INTO WHO YOU ARE TODAY?

Jeff: It's given me some of my best friends and lots of people I'm still close with (including these three). The leadership experience was great too; those executive meetings aren't too different from running team meetings at work. I think it also gave me some perspective: we spent so much time on building a Fraternity and making rules that we didn't really pause enough to enjoy it. Leadership taught me to try and enjoy the moment more.

Mike: Beta provided my friend group too; the people I talk to every day are the friends I made in Theta Delta. With a Fraternity (especially in leadership), you become constantly busy, and you learn to stay organized. Those skills and a work/life balance are still a big part of my life today.

Tommy: Those brothers and friend groups were well rounded in their school and social lives, and they really pushed you to be your best, whether in the classroom or in other goals. There was always something to do with your friends, like intramurals or study. Everyone was trying to improve and be there for each other.

Dan: I think what shapes your experience in a Fraternity is the people you meet and the relationship that you have with them. Brothers invested in me, and I invested in them. In addition to the friendships, the mentors in my life are mostly men and women I met through my Fraternity involvement—either as an undergraduate with Beta or through my alumni engagement since then. They're still the people who I call when making big life decisions today.

WHAT MOTIVATED YOU TO RUN FOR CHAPTER PRESIDENT? WHAT WERE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF YOUR PRESIDENCIES? PROUDEST ACCOMPLISHMENTS?

Jeff: Being in other Beta leadership positions got me interested in being president—and I ran unopposed, which was pretty helpful! I'm probably proudest of getting through that year with no major issues, and I think we did a good job of moving forward and pushing for our charter—writing the story of Theta Delta and showing the general Fraternity why we deserved to be reinstated.

Mike: Being involved since day one of the pledging process (and being vice president the year before), I wanted to see our project all the way through. It was an honor to go to Salt Lake City and lead our rechartering presentation to Betas from all over, furthering the work that Jeff and Dan laid the groundwork for. The success and acceptance speeches afterward were the icing on the cake of my Fraternity experience.

Dan: I wanted to leave a legacy and to have a lasting impact on the university, and leading the organization that I had invested in seemed like the best way to do that. For me, there's not a particular moment of my presidency that sticks out—it's more about coming back and seeing the caliber of men who continue to join. Jeff and I attended Roundup this spring, and there were 10 times more people than we ever had at events. Watching the Chapter grow, seeing them move into this big, beautiful Chapter House, and seeing genuinely good men lead the Chapter was proof that all the time I put in was worth it.

Tommy: When I ran for president, it was a pretty different scenario: Greek life was going through big changes nationally with new rules and regulations. I knew it would be a challenge and felt like I was the right person to face it head-on. It was stressful at times, but the payoff of winning Beta's Risk Management Award was pretty nice (and wouldn't have been possible without Risk Managers **Grant Packo '20** and **Jack Behmke '20**).

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW PROFESSIONALLY? HOW, IF AT ALL, DID YOUR FRATERNITY EXPERIENCE IMPACT YOUR CAREER PATH?

Mike: I'm a corporate attorney at a law firm in Cleveland. I think Beta taught me about working with a variety of people, from the

Alumni Association to Beta headquarters and people around Ohio State. Project management is important in my job as well, and being president was my first exposure to managing lots of moving parts.

Jeff: I do business development at JPMorgan Chase here in Columbus. Professionally, Beta taught me how your presence and actions affect how others perceive you. As president, you learn how to convey confidence and to be decisive to gain buy-in. Those lessons are a big part of career advancement and have made me much better at my job.

Dan: I'm an account manager for a Medallia, which is a customer experience and market research software service company that's based in San Francisco. I can attribute every job since college directly to my Beta experience. My first job out of college was working for the Fraternity, and my next job was offered through a connection I made with a Beta Theta Pi board member. My current job came from a connection I made at the previous one—where both of us were reporting to a former Fraternity executive director. My entire career path has been shaped by the people I've met through my Beta experience. Beta also taught me about holding myself, as well as those I love and respect, to a high standard.

Tommy: I work in public accounting for Ernst and Young, living in Austin, Texas. I gained a lot of confidence talking to important Fraternity and university individuals as president. So when I'm talking to the partners on my teams or directors of clients, I'm not necessarily as intimidated as I would be without those experiences I had as an undergraduate. My presidency also taught me that you can't please everybody; I just had to commit to the decisions I thought were right.

ANYTHING ELSE YOU'D LIKE TO ADD?

Tommy: Stay in contact with your friends from Beta any way you can—I do in countless ways. One brother (who I won't call out here) and I agreed that if the Cleveland Browns ever play a game in Vegas, we're going no matter what. The relationships you built in college are pretty special—keep them going whenever you can.

Dan: At Roundup, Jeff and I were talking about how it's been eight years since our initiation—and our best friends in the world are still guys we met through Beta. Take the time and invest in people there, because they'll be some of your closest friends throughout your life.

Jeff: Yep. If you move apart—or even if you move across the street from the other one, like Dan and me.

You can reach Dan at danielgrainger@gmail.com, Jeff at ruickj@gmail.com, Mike at mmosholder3@gmail.com, and Tommy at taweber909@gmail.com.

“I think what shapes your experience in a Fraternity is the people you meet and the relationship that you have with them. Brothers invested in me, and I invested in them.”

Hear More from These Former Chapter Presidents on Page 3.

Dan Grainger '16



Jeff Ruick '17



Mike Mosholder '18



Tommy Weber '20



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ALUMNI UPDATES

Memory and Out Mystic Shrine

Richard D. Finn Jr. '55 – November 16, 2021

Wayne L. Nicely, Miami '61 – September 15, 2021

Alumni News

David W. Wright '67 is still alive and well in Columbus. Email: dww1945@gmail.com

Bruce “Goat” Gillman '68 is retired and enjoys playing golf and tennis. He has four new grandchildren and resides in Monroe Township, N.J. Email: bgillman135@gmail.com

What are your favorite memories from your undergraduate years?

“Songs at the end of parties, friendships, dinners at the Beta House, pride of being a Beta.”

–Ted Sinclair Jr. '60

“Making friends with Beta brothers by living in the Theta Delta house.”

–Bruce “Goat” Gillman '68

What three words come to mind when you think about Beta Theta Pi?

“Beta friendships, Beta songs/parties, Beta House.” –Ted Sinclair Jr. '60

“Friendship, fidelity, lifelong friendships.”

–David W. Wright '67

CONNECT WITH THETA DELTA ONLINE



WEBSITE

www.osubeta.org



Beta Theta Pi –

The Ohio State University



osubeta.org/campaign

Will You Support the Brotherhood Today?

It's not too late to give back Beta Theta Pi. To ensure our brothers—and the legacy of men to come—will continue to thrive at The Ohio State University, we need your donations today. Donating is a click away at tinyurl.com/BTPOHSUDonate.