



THE BETA TAU BLASTER

DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN | SPRING 2013

A NEW YEAR FOR BETA TAU

BROTHERS LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE SUCCESS

A FRESH START

Happy new year! Although May is certainly not the traditional time to say happy new year, it is a new year for all of us at Beta Tau. It's a new start for the House Corporation, with new members and officers, and an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments of the fundraising campaign and the completion of our major remodel of the Shelter. I must say, I never expected to be president of the House Corporation, but I know with your help we will achieve much!

THANK YOU, ALUMNI

I'd like to, once again, thank everyone who contributed to this successful effort. The updated Shelter will provide a safe and comfortable living environment for our undergraduate brothers for years to come. Thanks to you, we were able to update the heating and cooling systems, reducing consumption and utility costs. Adding a modern fire suppression system and alarms also substantially reduced our insurance costs. The remodel established Delta Tau Delta as the only Greek organization on campus with suite-style living, a most desirable feature and the current gold standard for new university housing.

ENCOURAGING OUR BROTHERS

As we look back with satisfaction on these accomplishments, it is time to consider new goals and look forward to new achievements. Leading lives of excellence is a continuum. As alumni, we need to encourage our undergraduate brothers' academic endeavors and contribute actively to the quality of life at Beta Tau and within the University

community. It is my goal that, with our help, Beta Tau can again win the Hugh Shields Award, the most prestigious award bestowed upon a Delt chapter.

ALUMNI ADVISORY TEAM

To help support our undergraduate brothers, we are exploring how to best establish an active alumni advisory team. I believe that further involvement from alumni would focus the energy necessary to move Beta Tau toward a new standard of excellence. Essentially, this would be a group of mentors and advisors who assist our young men in developing the skills they need to succeed in college and beyond.

ENSURING OUR SUCCESS

As the new House Corporation president, I am excited to have the opportunity to serve with such a fine group of alumni. Your willingness to step forward in succession will ensure the long-term accomplishments and wellbeing of our brotherhood and this fraternity. Contributions of time, talent, and treasure have brought Beta Tau a long way, and I'm excited to see what the future holds.

As we make our resolutions for 2013, we aspire to make a difference and to achieve new levels of excellence!

Fraternally,
James Loach, *Epsilon Omega '67*
House Corporation President
james_loach@nps.gov

INSIDE

Meet the House Corporation 2

Chapter Eternal 3

Alumnus Spotlight 3

Working Our Way to the Top 4

RECRUITMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS

Alumni, we value your input in membership selection. Send your recruitment recommendations to:

Jordan Kugler '11
(402) 578-7426 | jku15@yahoo.com

Clark Cunningham '12
(480) 785-6899 | clarkfra@gmail.com

Brandon Ell '10
(402) 540-7010 | brandonl96@hotmail.com

What's Your Favorite Part? Undergraduates Share What They Like Best about the Shelter Renovations

"My favorite room is the new private study room. It is nice to have a room to myself where I can study in peace." – Alex Klein '10

"I love the new four-man suites. Having a common room is awesome and your own bathroom is a huge plus." – Spencer Lindley '11

"I like the common area in the freshman hall. It is nice to have an area where we can all hang out." – Clark Cunningham '12

Meet the House Corporation



President

James Loach '67

james_loach@nps.gov

"I'm the associate regional director of park operations for the Midwest region of the National Park Service. I joined the House Corporation several years ago and have served as a member of the board, secretary, and now as president. I enjoy working with the young men of Delta Tau Delta. The gentlemen I have had the opportunity to serve with on the House Corporation have been a pleasure to work with as we've raised the funds needed to complete the major remodel of Beta Tau. I live in Omaha and have three daughters: Liz and Anna are both graduates of the University of Nebraska and Kathleen is a sophomore."



Treasurer

Thomas E. Wolf '63

twolf@plattevalleybank.biz

"I joined the House Corporation in 1999 and have served as secretary and now treasurer. My father, **Arden '31**, brother, **John '61**, and sons, **Tom '94** and **Alex '00**, are all Deltas. My wife of 40 years, Deanna, and I also have one daughter, Katy, who works with us at Platte Valley Bank in North Bend, Nebraska. We have five wonderful grandchildren (and a couple of future Deltas). Seeing the excitement and how proud the undergraduates are of their new home has made my time on the board worthwhile."



Secretary

Bob Soukup '00

bsoukup@cwparhitects.com

"I joined the House Corporation in 2009 and worked extensively on the Shelter renovation project. I am an architect at Carlson West Povondra Architects in Omaha where I reside with my wife, Kara, and 6-month-old daughter, McKinley. We recently moved to an older home built in the 1960s and have been spending much of our free time on DIY projects."



Vice President

Michael Zoerb '01

mwz10@yahoo.com

"I joined the board in 2012 when my wife and I moved to Gretna, Nebraska, located 40

miles northeast of Lincoln. After living out of state for several years, I wanted to get back involved with Delt and help with the capital campaign. It has been fun reconnecting with the chapter and helping when needed."



Chapter Advisor

Ryan Caldwell '98

ryan@caldwell-lawfirm.com

"I joined the House Corporation in 2004 and was appointed chapter advisor of Beta Tau in 2008. I'm the principal of Caldwell Law, LLC, a bankruptcy and family law firm in Omaha and Lincoln. I reside in Lincoln with my wife, Stephanie, who is an attorney with the Nebraska Attorney General's Office, and 3-year-old twins, Nolan and Caroline."



Members

Dean Jenkins '55

dean.jenkins@Cox.net

"I am a new House Corporation member. I was asked to participate and gladly accepted the opportunity to give back to Beta Tau. My wife, Sylvia, and I live in Omaha. Our three sons are UNL graduates. Two were Deltas and one was a Sigma Alpha. Sylvia is active in her sorority, Gamma Phi Beta. We enjoy attending UNL football games and play as much golf as possible. I also stay busy with a small cow/calf operation in Schuyler."



Byron Stigge '64

byron@stigge.net

"I joined the board in 2013. As a 1968 graduate of UNL, I feel fortunate to have been a Delt. I am a principal of Bobcat of Omaha, a construction equipment distributor for the Omaha area. I live in Omaha with my wife, Linda. We have five children and 13 grandchildren. I hope to be helpful to Beta Tau in some way."



Alex Wolf '00

alexander.wolf@koleyjessen.com

"I am a shareholder with the law firm of Koley Jessen P.C., LLO, focusing primarily in the areas of estate planning, business succession planning,

and tax planning. I'm originally from North Bend, Nebraska, but live in Omaha with my wife, Angela. We recently celebrated the birth of our first child, Eli, a future Delt, of course! I've served on the House Corporation for six years, including four as president."



Geoffrey Biehle '05

gbiehle@gmail.com

"I graduated with a bachelor's degree in construction management in 2009. I recently accepted a position with ONCORE Group, LLC, based out of Lincoln, which provides project management, construction management, construction, and consulting services on outdoor recreation projects. My travels have taken me to Stillwater, Oklahoma, and soon to Dallas, Texas, for an extended period of time. My time serving on Beta Tau's House Corporation has provided me the opportunity to give back to the brotherhood that has provided me with so many great friends, memories, and possibilities."



Jacob Bachman '06

jacobbachman@yahoo.com

"I joined the board in 2012 because of the strong interaction I had with alumni during my undergraduate years and the impact it had on me. I hope to be able to give back to the active members in the same manner. I'm originally from Lincoln but now live in St. Louis Park, Minnesota, with my wife, Jolynn. We enjoy remodeling our home, hiking with our goldendoodle, golfing, and traveling to Nebraska for football games."



Jesse Smith '07

jessesmith27@gmail.com

"I joined the House Corporation at Beta Tau last year to help serve the undergraduate members and continue to benefit the students in any way I can. I now live in central Lincoln with another alumnus of Beta Tau. Currently I work as a missionary to Greek students on the campus of UNL through a Christian ministry called The Navigators."

ATTENTION ALUMNI

If you're interested in joining our board of diverse alumni and helping to ensure the future of Beta Tau, let us know! Any help you can provide would be greatly appreciated. Reach out to any board member for more information on how to get involved.

CHAPTER ETERNAL

Fred E. Allen III '52 entered Chapter Eternal on April 20. He and his wife, Caroline,



Fred and Caroline at the 2010 Delt reunion.

were married in 1957 before Fred was drafted into the U.S. Army, where he served until 1959. Upon returning from the Army, Fred taught instrumental and vocal music in Humboldt, Neb., and farmed with his father in Nemaha County. Fred volunteered countless hours to Delt over the years and played a vital role in organizing the annual reunions enjoyed by so many. He was beloved by alumni and actives alike. **James Loach '67** described Fred as "a significant contributor to his church, communities, and the fraternity," as well as a "productive musician sharing his talents—creating music and musicians—and a productive farmer carrying on the family's tradition." His Delt legacy includes sons, **Fred '80** and **Chuck '84**, and grandsons, **John '06** and **Stephen '11**.



James C. Ebers '63 entered Chapter Eternal on December 22, 2012. He attended UNL for two years before graduating from Midland Lutheran College (now Midland University) in 1967 with a degree in business administration. He then served with the Fremont unit of the Nebraska National Guard from 1967 to 1973. While at Midland, he started his 48-year career in the insurance business with his father. He was associated with EPE Insurance Enterprises for 36 years. Jim was honored as Beta Tau's Alumnus of the Year at the 2010 alumni banquet. He is survived by his wife, Sherie Stockfleth, whom he married on December 27, 1969; three children: Tammy, Terry, and Tim; and brother, **Jerry '60**.

CAMARADERIE FOR A LIFETIME

Spotlight on Phil Murante '03

The camaraderie **Phil Murante '03** first felt with his Delt brothers during his undergraduate years will remain for a lifetime. It's been 10 years since he and his pledge brothers joined Beta Tau, and they still share stories from that first semester every time they talk. "I enjoyed the small moments best," Phil said. "The days when there was nothing to do but hang out; those were the days that made memories."

Phil earned his bachelor's degree for business administration, with a major in economics and minor in political science, in 2006. He then went on to earn his juris doctorate degree, cum laude, and master of laws, with honors, from John Marshall Law School. He is a practicing attorney and works for Administrative Law Judge George Gaffaney at the Social Security Administration's National Hearing Center in Chicago, where he and his fiancé, Lindsay Carland, reside.

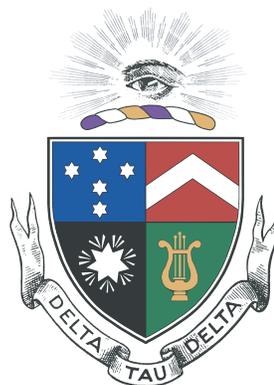
Phil is also a member of the board of directors at Big Fred's Pizza in Omaha, founded in 1965

by his grandparents. He helps with the financial aspects of the company. "After my uncle decided to retire, it became clear to my family that we had both the opportunity and obligation to carry on our family's legacy."

Phil's brother, **John '01**, who joined Beta Tau a couple of years before Phil did, serves as president of Big Fred's, handling the day-to-day operations. "Like most things in life, there are challenges and opportunities created by working with family," Phil said. "Each day brings something new and it's been an incredible experience."

Phil's advice to his brothers: "Opportunities come in the most unexpected ways. As much as we want to plan life, it won't go according to plan. All we can do is stay true to who we are, know what we're about, and make decisions that are consistent with our values. If you do that and work your butt off, I truly believe that you'll end up in a good place."

Phil can be reached at pmurante@gmail.com.



WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS

Cody Andrews '12
Omaha, Neb.

Tyler Arlauskas '12
Blair, Neb.

Brett Blackwell '12
Jacksonville, Fla.

Clark Cunningham '12
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Cody Elwood '12
Plainview, Neb.

Christian Folsom '12
Kansas City, Mo.

Alex Harris '12
Omaha, Neb.

Jack Hurt '12
Indianapolis, Ind.

Reid Jensen '12
Omaha, Neb.

Garrett Kallhoff '12
Lincoln, Neb.

Cole Luther '12
Orange County, Calif.

Ryan MacDonald '12
Orange County, Calif.

David Marshall '12
Omaha, Neb.

Sean McGuire '12
Orange County, Calif.

Kyle Medcalf '13
Omaha, Neb.

John Pitner '12*
Omaha, Neb.
(Father **Mark Pitner '80** and Brother **Michael Pitner '10**)

John Platel '12
Kansas City, Mo.

Benjamin Ramos '13
Aurora, Ill.

Seth Schafersman '12
Hooper, Neb.

Grant Smith '12
Minneapolis, Minn.

Trevor Spanel '12*
Lincoln, Neb.
(Brother **Chris Spanel '10**)

Alex Van Lent '12*
Omaha, Neb.
(Brother **Jake Van Lent '07**)

Logan Wachal '12*
Lincoln, Neb.
(Brother **Ethan Wachal '10**)

Michael Wenzl '12
Lincoln, Neb.

Zachary Yocum '12
Kearney, Neb.

*Legacy; relative in parentheses

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



THE BETA TAU BLASTER

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Friday, November 1
Alumni Banquet

Saturday, November 2
Tailgate at the Shelter
Nebraska vs. Northwestern
Time TBA

More details to come this summer.

Delta Tau Delta
P.O. Box 83655
Lincoln, NE 68501

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Congratulations, Graduates!

Best of luck with your future endeavors.

Bryce Arens '09	Brian Jerina '09
Nico Bohm '09	Nicholas Lens '09
John Guier '09	Collin McWain '09
Daniel Grossman '09	Cale Neverve '09
Kyle Hampton '09	Matt Robinson '09
Parker Hoffman '09	Marcus Svoboda '09

Working Our Way to the Top

Brothers Strive for Greatness

Beta Tau has enjoyed an outstanding spring semester thus far. We've improved our chapter GPA, participated in several campus-wide philanthropies, and added two outstanding new brothers to our chapter.

BOOSTING ACADEMICS

Our GPA for the fall semester was 2.99, ranking us 16th among fraternities on campus. Although this GPA was far lower than what we are capable of, it did improve from the spring. I am confident that our GPA will continue to climb, and we expect to be in the top 10 on campus this semester.

RECRUITMENT SUCCESS

We had a great fall recruitment, adding 25 new men to our chapter. We've added an additional two this spring. "I was very impressed with how the freshmen grew over the course of pledgship. They really adapted to our values and creed," said **Collin McWain '10**, fall 2012 pledge educator. "They will continue to grow and become outstanding members of Beta Tau."

CAMPUS PARTICIPATION

Our members are involved in more than 40 recognized student organizations on campus, and we couldn't be more proud of their personal accomplishments. **Greyson Ostrander '10** was elected IFC president, an outstanding achievement for both him and our chapter;

Michael Pitner '10 was inducted into the Omicron Delta Kappa Honor Society, one of the most prestigious fraternal honor societies on campus; **Taylor Buel '11** and I were both elected to be Greek Ambassadors; and **Jordan Kugler '11** served on the executive board responsible for planning the Big Event.

SUPPORTING PHILANTHROPY

In addition to our high level of involvement in student organizations, we also participate in several campus-wide philanthropies, including Dance Marathon, which supports the Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha, and Relay for Life, which raises money for cancer research. Last fall, we hosted our annual philanthropy, Gabe's Gang, raising nearly \$800 dollars for Gabe and his family. On April 13, many of our members participated in the Big Event, a day of service where nearly 3,000 students, faculty, and staff completed community service projects around Lincoln. A week later, we hosted our spring philanthropy, M*A*S*H, benefitting veterans of foreign war. I am very pleased with our philanthropic efforts.

REACHING FOR THE TOP

I am extremely proud of everything we've accomplished this year. However, our work is not done yet. We will continue to better ourselves and our chapter until we are the top



Beta Taus invited their parents to a football tailgate at the Shelter last fall.



No tailgate would be complete without great food! Parents and brothers enjoy a delicious lunch during the fall tailgating event.

fraternity on campus and the top chapter in Delta Tau Delta.

Fraternally,
Drew Barnhart '11
Chapter President
president.delt@gmail.com