



THE BETA TAU BLASTER

DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN | SPRING 2014

SUPPORT OUR UNDERGRADUATE BROTHERS *Get Involved with Delta Tau Delta Today*

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As I read the winter edition of *The Rainbow*, it struck me that the article, "Staying Involved," is a theme that we as Delts for life, men with values so important for the future, must impart to other alumni in order to grow the ranks of volunteers for Beta Tau. We recently hosted our first after-work alumni social event at Big Fred's in Omaha to reacquaint ourselves with brothers from our own classes as well as meet brothers from different classes and decades. The Omaha metropolitan area has nearly 250 Beta Tau alumni; Lincoln has almost 150 Beta Tau alumni. If we increased involvement from 5% of the alumni in these two metropolitan areas, we would have 20 additional men engaged with the fraternity and nearly double the actively participating alumni.



We plan to host another after-work event soon in Lincoln. I encourage you to read the chapter president's letter and "Staying Involved." Join us as a member of the Alumni Advisory Team (AAT), volunteer to assist with a project, or meet with the House Corporation or chapter advisors and see how your interests and shared values can contribute as an active volunteer.

Thank you to everyone who continues to contribute and fulfill their financial pledges to reduce the debt on our remodeled and updated Shelter. We appreciate your support. We continue to hear many compliments from the parents and pledges about the new features that today's young Delts are enjoying. If you haven't already, come by and see the improvements and make a point of going to see the new four-man suites.

We started our new year at the University of Nebraska with a full Shelter and much excitement, anticipation, and energy. The efforts of the recruitment chairmen brought 31 great new members, each anticipating the year ahead. We look forward to the freshness of spring and the promise of warmer days and the excitement of graduation for our seniors.

Upcoming activities this spring include landscaping the Beta Tau grounds on the east and south sides. This will include the placement of new shrubbery, enhancing the street appeal with a newly sodded front lawn, and installing a sprinkler system. **Byron Stigge '64** has taken the lead on this lawn and landscaping improvement project. Watch for the transformation this spring. Last year the House Corporation, undergraduates, and new pledge class formed

a great team to trim and clean the lawn, pull weeds, and remove debris. Perhaps you can join us for another work day to clean the exterior for the summer months and pull those pesky weeds between the sidewalk and the street.

The chapter continues their philanthropy efforts with the Juvenile Diabetes Relief Fund (JDRF), helping to raise money for research to improve the life of all of those affected by type 1 diabetes. Please support the JDRF and join in this effort to fund research and find a cure for juvenile diabetes.

The AAT was strengthened with the addition of **Jim Emanuel '79**, who is fully engaged in working with the undergraduates as the assistant chapter advisor. Jim is working with **Ryan Caldwell '98** and the executive team

to improve and enhance programs at Beta Tau. He took time from his busy schedule to join with members of the executive team and other attendees at the division conference. Board member **Alex Wolf '00** has also joined the AAT. Each of these men brings business experiences to share, as well as their experiences as a Delt at UNL.

The AAT presents an opportunity for more involvement and personal engagement. We continue to need mentors for the chapter officers and members. Positions available are financial advisor, recruitment advisor, membership education advisor, risk management advisor, and road advisor. I know that you will find, as I have, that involvement with the fraternity will be an energizing experience. It is your opportunity to engage again in the fraternal experience with members of the board and with the young undergraduates. It has brought back great memories of my years on campus and that realization of how important the fraternity is today as it was then. Consider how you can become involved.

There are also several other ways to support our undergraduate brothers. Please think about volunteering to attend a dinner, join us for a House Corporation meeting, coordinate a luncheon, or pursue a special interest or topic with the undergraduates as a guest speaker.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Fraternally,
James Loach, Epsilon Omega '67
House Corporation President

HONORING BETA TAU ALUMNI SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS CREATED FOR BETA TAU MEMBERS

All members know the Delt Creed begins, "I believe in Delta Tau Delta Fraternity, for the education of youth..." Thus, we are excited to share with you some fantastic new scholarships designed to help foster the education of the undergraduate members.

Ben Neff '54 Establishes New Scholarship, Inspires Others

Ben Neff '54 and his wife, Marsha, have recently established the Ben Neff Endowed Beta Tau Scholarship through the Delta Tau Delta Educational Foundation through a very generous gift of \$26,250 to the Foundation (the Foundation requires \$25,000 for the fund to be considered fully endowed, and also has a one-time \$1,250 setup fee). The scholarship will seek to reward a sophomore or junior in the house who maintains a good GPA, has good moral character, and actively participates in Beta Tau activities. The scholarship will be \$750 initially, \$1,000 after that, and will increase as the fund grows.

Beta Tau Leaders Memorial Scholarship Created

At the same time the Neff's established the Ben Neff Endowed Scholarship, they provided a gift of \$1,250 to cover the set-up fee for an additional scholarship, and challenged the House Corporation to raise the \$25,000 necessary to endow it fully. After much thought, the House Corporation is excited to announce the creation of the Beta Tau Leaders Memorial Scholarship.

The Beta Tau Leaders Memorial Scholarship is intended to honor the proud legacy of leaders who have served the Beta Tau Chapter of Delta Tau Delta Fraternity through the years, either as undergraduates and/or as alumni. It is intended to reward current leaders of the undergraduate chapter by identifying and rewarding leadership traits that are essential for the continued success of Beta Tau, including but not limited to Delt's fundamental principles of Truth, Courage, Faith and Power.

It also serves as a memorial to various individuals who can be specifically identified through gifts to the scholarship endowment as leaders of Beta Tau. There are two categories of leaders: Endowed Leaders are individuals who have

had at least \$5,000 contributed to the fund in their honor, and Honorary Leaders are any other individuals who have had money contributed to the fund in their honor. Each Endowed Leader will be specifically identified in the scholarship materials, and a description will be included illustrating the leadership traits that he exhibited and for which the current undergraduates should strive. Each Honorary Leader will have his name listed in the scholarship materials.

The initial setup fee has already been paid, but it is now up to us to raise at least \$25,000 and fully endow the fund, a goal which we hope to achieve in just a few short years. In an effort to kick-start this process, we identified the late **Fred Allen III '52** as our first Endowed Leader, and we would like to raise at least \$5,000 in his honor. Fred had a zeal for Delt and an uncanny ability to keep Delts connected, and he inspired the true meaning of brotherhood for over 50 years. He also served in various leadership roles for Beta Tau throughout the years, including Chapter Advisor and chairman of countless alumni reunions, including the centennial celebration, demonstrating that being a Delt does not end when you graduate from college. Fred believed it was important for the undergraduates to get the most out of their college experience and regularly encouraged undergraduates to live in and be involved as a leader within the house. In honor of Fred, the scholarship selection committee will consider, among other factors, the length of time the undergraduate applicant has lived in the house, and the various leadership positions that he has held.

If you are interested in honoring Fred as part of this new scholarship opportunity, please send your tax deductible gift today payable to the Delta Tau Delta Educational Foundation (and write Fred Allen Scholarship on the memo line) and send it to P.O. Box 83655, Lincoln, NE 68501. If you would like more information on this new scholarship or to honor any other Delt (whether it be as an Endowed Leader or Honorary Leader), please write us at the above address or e-mail us at nebraskadelts@gmail.com.

Alan Emanuel Scholarship Fund Reenergized

It was 25 years ago this April when **Alan Emanuel '88** from North Bend was killed in a car accident. Three other siblings, **Nick '76**, **Francis '78**, and **Jim '79**, all preceded

Alan at Beta Tau. Alan and several others created the beautiful raised oak panels in our chapter room and it was named in his honor at our rededication of the Delt Shelter. Shortly after Alan's death, a scholarship fund was established in his honor, although it has been dormant for a number of years. Inspired by the new scholarships discussed above, the Emanuel family and the House Corporation would like to revitalize this scholarship, and so we are seeking donations in Alan's honor in the hope that we can increase the current balance in this fund from \$17,000 to \$25,000 so that it will eventually support another \$1,000 annual award. This scholarship has a preference for students of engineering, but all Delts may apply. We know Alan would be pleased to honor another good Delt for their academic excellence. If you are interested in honoring Alan by supporting this scholarship, please send your tax deductible gift today payable to the Delta Tau Delta Educational Foundation (and write Alan Emanuel Scholarship on the memo line) and send it to P.O. Box 83655, Lincoln, NE 68501.

The House Corporation and the undergraduate chapter will create a Scholarship Advisory Team to administer and award all three of these scholarships each year. Similar deadlines for applications, a day for selection, and a scholarship banquet will occur each year on schedule. We discussed doing it at our annual fall alumni gathering.

Recruitment Recommendations

Alumni, we value your input in membership selection. Please send your recruitment recommendations to **Stephen Allen '11** at (402) 274-9313 or stephen_a_2011@hotmail.com, **Taylor Tvrdy '11** at (402) 310-7298 or tvrdy9@yahoo.com, or **Clark Cunningham '12** at (480) 785-6899 or clarkfra@gmail.com.



Alumni Weekend a Great Success

The Beta Tau Chapter hosted its annual Alumni Weekend on November 2, 2013, with a tailgate prior to the Nebraska vs. Northwestern game that was open to all Delta alumni and their families. Housemother Patty Wade organized a fantastic buffet and the undergraduates hosted an open bar to show their appreciation for the alumni in attendance.

The event had a great turnout, with well over 100 alumni and family members stopping by during the day. Most of the undergraduate members were around as well, mingling with and listening to alumni members recount their time in the house. Prior to game time, former Chapter President **Drew Barnhart '11** provided an update

Thank You to Our Fantastic Hosts

regarding the chapter and presented the Alumnus of the Year award to **Eric Marsh '88** in recognition of the mentorship and assistance he provided to the undergraduates during the year, especially with recruitment.

We would like to provide a special thanks to Patty Wade and the undergraduates for their fine work in hosting the event, and to thank all of our alumni who stopped by. We hope to see even more of you at our 2014 alumni events. Please mark your calendars now for the golf outing on June 8 and the fall Alumni Reunion during the weekend of September 27, 2014.

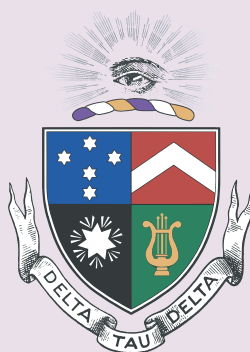
A LIFELONG POSITIVE EXPERIENCE

In the fall of 1953, I came to Beta Tau from a small Nebraska town once called Plum Creek with a lot of rough edges. There were three good classes ahead of us and the actives were serious about study hall and attending classes. Without this support, I would have been back working in the family lumber yard within weeks.

I had the chance to be the recruitment chairman and learned a number of life lessons that would benefit me throughout my career. My pledge father, **John Skalla '53**, told me that everyone in the house could sell but only a few could close. He also said that you want to surround yourself with people who like people. I remembered these lessons throughout my business life.

I graduated in three-and-a-half years and went to USAF pilot training. I kept in touch with the members and alumni on a frequent basis. I was able to fly into bases like Pensacola Naval Air Base and have mini reunions.

Law school in Lincoln led to practicing law in the Wilson, Barlow and Neff firm. Then Governor Tiemann appointed me the director of insurance for the state of Nebraska. **Don Erway '54** joined me at the department and the two of us began working on Beta Tau matters in our spare time. Because most of the alumni were still in the service, I ended up serving as both the chapter advisor and the House Corporation president. The Shelter was too small to be competitive and the university wanted all fraternities that needed to move to be in the Greek dorms. With the help of **Ed Schwartzkopf '46**, who was a regent, **Phil Sidles '24**, who was on our board, and **Roger Sack '54**, whose insurance company liked our mortgage, we were able to arrange parking with the university and financing for a significant expansion of the Shelter. Al Sheriff at National was a daily call for support and advice.



A job in Los Angeles was next, and while out there, Al Sheriff talked me into serving as chapter advisor of Delta Phi at the University of Southern California. They had been shut down for activities unbecoming of a fraternity. I agreed but only if National would let **Ron Danek '53** assist with the adventure. We passed on a few Beta Tau values and Delta Phi was again a productive member of the USC Greek system.

Next followed 10 years living in McLean, Virginia, with an office in Washington, D.C., where many of the alumni would stop by and visit. During my career, I was fortunate to have served as president of a number of insurance companies, on the board of directors of companies like Farmers Insurance Group in Los Angeles, and to run my own company which liquidated, rehabilitated, and sold insurance companies for organizations like the FDIC, FSLIC, and state insurance departments.

Along the way we purchased a farm in Perkins County and one in Dawson County, both of which **Chuck Tomsen '53** manages. **David Rowe '87** farms our Dawson County farm and he keeps me up to date on the younger Deltas.

We retired in 1994 and Marsha and I returned to Lincoln where we still have a home across the street from **Sam Olson '55**, but our main home is in Dakota Dunes, South Dakota, near our grandkids. Very few days go by that I don't talk to or e-mail or get e-mails from Beta Tau alumni. Delta Tau Delta has been a lifelong positive experience and Marsha and I are privileged to be able to give back.

Fraternally,
Ben Neff '54
ogallala@me.com

2013 Alumni Award Winner Shares His Experiences

Q&A WITH ERIC MARSH '88

Q: Why did you decide to join Delta Tau Delta?

A: I was pretty independent coming out of high school and fairly certain I didn't want to belong to a fraternity. However, after I met a few of the guys in the chapter, I sensed that this was the place I wanted and needed to be.

Q: What are some of your favorite memories?

A: As geeky as it may sound, I remember chapter meetings more than anything. Knockers roll each Monday night was my favorite time of the week and senior night was my favorite chapter every single year. That being said, we had the Pit back then and those Pit parties were legendary.

Q: What offices did you hold in the chapter as an undergraduate?

A: I was an executive for two years and served as computer chairman, kitchen manager, assistant treasurer, and treasurer. Between my two best friends in the fraternity (**Greg Norgaard '88** and **Jeff Maddox '88**) and me, as well as our pledge sons (**Scott Berryman '89**, **Corey Sheen '90**, **Mitch Arnold '89**, and **Grant Greder '89**) we won every award in the chapter (most multiple times) and served in every executive office at least once. As an alumnus, I participated in Delts Talking about Alcohol for a few years before I settled down and started a family. Winning the Alumni of the Year Award in 2013 continued that string of involvement.

Q: What degree did you earn?

A: I was an accounting major and I passed the CPA exam shortly after graduation.

Q: How did the fraternity prepare you for life after college? What advice would you give to undergraduates?

A: It taught me different ways to deal with people, and the difference between an acquaintance and a friend for life. Also, be cautious not to burn bridges. You do not have to be everyone's best friend, but you do need to treat them how you want to be treated in return. And enjoy the heck out of college. Life changes as you mature through the years, but you will always recall being young and gregarious before you had a family, real job, and a mortgage.



Q: Where do you work now?

A: I own a couple of different business, and all very different from one another. I worked in accounting and software for about a decade before I began my first company.

- I own and operate a consulting company that implements ERP software. I founded this company in 2004 and have been doing it for a decade. The company targets billion-dollar fortune 500 companies that use a specific piece of software called EnterpriseOne, and we help them utilize that software most efficiently to improve their business processes.

- I have recently built and opened a night club in Lincoln's newly renovated Haymarket district called Rule G. It is a touch of Vegas brought to Heartland.

- I am building a restaurant and bar, also in Lincoln's Haymarket, that is a modern-day public house/craft house/sports bar and will feature world-class barbeque, hamburgers, stuffed burgers, and 76 different beers on tap.

- Lastly, I own and oversee a small investment company focused on real estate holdings.

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

A: One of the first people I called and asked advice on building a nightclub and/or bar was Grant Greder, a Delt who happened to own one of the bars on O Street. My two buildings were built and engineered by a Delt; the attorney who represents both Rule G and Longwell's is a Delt; and the attorney who represents my development company for both Rule G and Longwell's is a Delt. My companies are also filled with multiple Delts who we have hired. It is an awesome process through to a full circle and there is fulfillment one gets in just having completed the loop.

Q: What do you do in your free time and family life?

A: I have three wonderful daughters: Lauren (22), Stephanie (19), and Brittany (16). We all like to travel, and have been to Dublin, Paris, Australia, Hong Kong, Vancouver, American Virgin Islands, British Virgin Islands, and multiple trips to our favorite spots: London and Hawaii. I also like to attend large sporting events as well as see my Huskers and the Royals as often as possible. I'm over halfway through my lifelong quest of attending an event in 100 professional and major college stadiums.

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

- President
Taylor Tvrdy '11
 president.delt@gmail.com
- Internal VP
Stephen Allen '11
- External VP
Matt Lynch '11
- Treasurer
Ryan Peters '11
- Recording Secretary
Michael Wenzl '12
- Corresponding Secretary
Drew Barnhart '11
- Academic Affairs
Taylor Buel '11
- Pledge Educator
Jordan Kugler '11
- Guide
Elliot Nobbman '11
- Sergeant-at-Arms
Alex Van Lent '12
- Risk Management
Clark Cunningham '12
- Recruitment Chairmen
Stephen Allen '11
 stephen_a_2011@hotmail.com
- Taylor Tvrdy '11**
 tvrdy9@yahoo.com
- Clark Cunningham '12**
 clarkfra@gmail.com

SETTING AN EXAMPLE IN ACADEMICS

Delta Tau Delta Moves in the Right Direction

Once again, the Beta Tau Chapter is making steps in the right direction to achieve our goals. For the fall 2013 semester, we raised our chapter GPA to 3.125, which puts us above the all-men's average and the all-fraternity average. However, we are still only ranked 11th out of 24 fraternities on campus. One way we are attempting to make that rating higher is by holding brothers accountable. We recently removed three members who were not meeting our academic standards and are having an academic draft with executive officers in an attempt to keep guys of all ages motivated to do well this semester. Our goal for the end of the semester is to be top five in grades.

We are also working on setting up an incoming male scholarship for high school students planning on attending UNL. By offering this scholarship to all incoming males, we hope to spark an interest in some guys who may not have known what Greek life was until applying for our scholarship. Setting a high school GPA requirement for application, we hope to obtain a strong group of guys to get to know more about Delt before they are exposed to any other fraternities in the summer. We are recruiting eight spring pledges as of now, and we



The Delta Tau Delta intramural soccer team celebrates after a winning match.

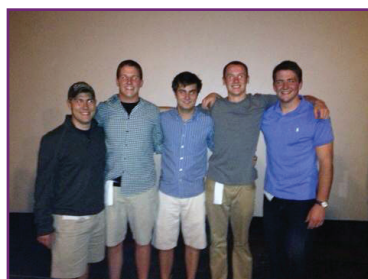
hope this scholarship will help us recruit the biggest summer pledge class that Beta Tau has ever seen.

Our brothers are doing a great job getting involved on campus. We have members in over 40 clubs and a few of our freshmen are going through the process to create their own hunting club. In the past year, **Chris Spaniel '10** was the president of Big Red Investment Club and vice president of Beta Gamma Sigma; **Drew Barnhart '11** was a student staff member for New Student Enrollment, as well as a member of Mortar Board; **John Glassman '10** was president

of the CBA student advisory board; **Keaton Klein '11** is the treasurer for Big Red Investment Club; and **Jordan Kugler '11** is the lead research assistant in the Child Maltreatment Lab, as well as on the executive board of Psi Chi. The various clubs, volunteering, and leadership positions that we hold show the caliber of men we have in the chapter right now and I am proud of them all.



Fraternally,
Taylor Tvrdy '11
 Chapter President
 president.delt@gmail.com



Delta Tau Delta members at a brotherhood event.



Members dress up in their best Wayne's World costumes.



Delt brothers at a chapter event.



Reece Barnes
 Grand Island, Neb.

Brody Helmken
 Carver, Minn.

Dillon Thoman
 Old Monroe, Mo.

Levi Beutler
 Bancroft, Neb.

Thomas Hoenshell
 Plano, Texas

Brody Vandenburg
 Pender, Neb.

John Carl
 Craig, Neb.

Jake Klein*
 Walton, Neb.

*Legacy



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CHAPTER ETERNAL

Gordon L. Jones '39 entered Chapter Eternal on February 24. He was a graduate of Minden High School and the University of Nebraska. He was a former president of Alter Barge Line of Davenport, Iowa, and a member of various river industry associations. He also served as a board member of the National Waterways Conference, the National Rivers Hall of Fame, and the National River Academy. Gordon was a founder and charter member of the Port of Davenport chapter of the national Propeller Club. He was an editor for the national Delta Tau Delta magazine, *The Rainbow*, for 10 years and was cited to the organization's Distinguished Service Chapter in 1970. He was also a veteran of World War II and served as a bombardier-navigator in the Army Air Corps. Gordon loved University of Nebraska football, jazz and barbershop music, Springer Spaniels and beagles, writing, and, sometimes, golf. He sang in a barbershop quartet and chorus for several years. Gordon will be remembered and missed for his intelligence, caring, responsibility, and humor.

Charles L. Tremain '47 entered Chapter Eternal on February 20, 2013, at his home in Reno, Nev. He attended the University of Nebraska where

he was the president of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity, graduating in 1951. Charles served in the United States Marine Corps during World War II and as a captain during the Korean War. In 1951, he married his college sweetheart, Marian Stapleton. They returned to Beatrice, Neb., where they raised three children on a farm and bred Charolais cattle. In 1972, Charles and Marian moved to Reno, Nev., where Charles began his 35-year career as an insurance and investment consultant. He was an active member of Reno Rodeo Association, Korean War Veterans Association, Kerak Temple, Marine Corps League, Northern Nevadans for Nebraska, and Christ Church of the Sierra.

Donald G. Erway '54, of Lincoln, entered Chapter Eternal peacefully at home on October 10, 2013. During his time at Lincoln High, Don played football, basketball, and baseball, and was awarded the Lincoln Journal Star and Omaha World Herald First Team All-State honors in football and basketball. He was later selected as the 1953 Nebraska Athlete of the Year and played in the East-West High School All-American football game in Memphis, Tenn. In 2005, Don was inducted into the Nebraska

SAVE *the* DATE

GOLF OUTING

June 8 at 8 a.m.

Tiburon Golf Course near Gretna, Neb.

A lunch event will follow. RSVP to

Dean Jenkins '55 at (402) 660-5521

or dean.jenkins36@gmail.com.

ALUMNI REUNION

September 27

Time and Place TBD

High School Sports Hall of Fame and Lincoln High School Sports Hall of Fame. While at the University of Nebraska, he lettered in football and baseball where he was most notably the Husker's quarterback for the 1955 Orange Bowl team. During his senior year, he was president of the Varsity "N" Club. After graduation, he spent 18 years at the Nebraska Department of Insurance, and then was owner and founder of a national insurance company. Don was a lifelong member of Christ United Methodist Church, as well as a member of the University of Nebraska Alumni Club, Wilderness Ridge Gold Club, and National Risk Retention Association.

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