



# THE BETA TAU BLASTER

DELTA TAU DELTA FRATERNITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN | SPRING 2017

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## Headlines of the Past, a Prediction of the Future Beta Tau Demonstrates Leadership at Active and Alumni Levels

### Beta Tau Leadership

We as Beta Tau men, both active and alumni, have successfully resonated a track record of success but must vigilantly work to maintain these standards. In the summer 2016 issue of *The Rainbow*, an article titled "A New Generation of Explorers" prompted a reflection on the notable accomplishments of Beta Tau alumni. I predict a bright future for the outstanding young men of Beta Tau and am confident they will make significant triumphs.

The "Delt Stories" article detailed the achievements of **Jay Keasling '86**. He is a pioneer in synthetic biology who grew up on a farm in Harvard, Nebraska. After graduating from UNL, he went to the University of Michigan for his Ph.D.

"He moved westward for post doctorate work in biochemistry at Stanford University, followed by a faculty position he's held at the University of California, Berkeley for almost 24 years. A professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering and bioengineering, he is also Berkeley lab's associate lab director of biosciences and CEO of the Joint BioEnergy Institute, focused on engineering biology to produce biofuels."

I learned of his contributions to world health in developing an engineered yeast microbe to produce a powerful anti-malarial drug. He is also working to produce biofuels and their products.

Beta Tau has a rich history of leadership and accomplishment on campus and as alumni, and I believe we will continue this tradition for many years to come. We have an impressive group of executives and brothers in the undergraduate chapter, and they worked diligently during summer and fall recruitment to bring our chapter total up to 138 young men.

### Philanthropy

The men of Beta Tau continue to lead by example in their philanthropic activities. In addition to the JDRF fundraising walk in April, they work with the VA in Lincoln and the Friendship Home. To supplement these efforts, they started a GoFundMe initiative, targeting alumni, community members, and other Greek organizations, to support the local Friendship Home and the Walk a Mile in Her Shoes event. It can be found at [www.gofundme.com/support-for-the-friendship-home](http://www.gofundme.com/support-for-the-friendship-home).

### Alumni Events

The after-work social on January 27 at Big Fred's in Omaha was a big success. Twenty-six brothers attended, reconnected, and interacted with the undergraduates. Everyone enjoyed the pizza and camaraderie. For details on other upcoming events, see the save the date section on page 4.

### Scholarships

Beta Tau has long recognized the importance and value of academic achievement. We are fortunate for the Emanuel family in establishing the Allen Gene Emanuel Scholarship, alumnus **Ben Neff '54** for the establishment of the Ben Neff Endowed Beta Tau Scholarship, and for the efforts to fully fund the Beta Tau Leaders Memorial Scholarship in honor of **Fred Allen III '52**, **Bobby Foehtlinger '01**, and **Keaton Klein '11**.

The recent recipients of the Allen Gene Emanuel Scholarship and the Ben Neff Endowed Beta Tau Scholarship exemplify a high standard with a GPA of at least 3.85. Each is actively involved in the fraternity, the university, and the community. They are volunteers, serve as executives in the chapter, and are servant leaders setting an example worthy of emulation.

Recipients of the scholarships in 2015 and 2016 are:  
The Allen Gene Emanuel Scholarship: **Adam Froendt '13** and **Jacob Pfeifer '14**  
The Ben Neff Scholarship: **Cody Thorson '13** and **Samuel Barker '14**

### Alumni Involvement

When alumni get involved, it demonstrates a continued culture of leadership for Beta Tau. Perhaps there is time in your busy schedule to up your contribution. You can pitch in and make a difference. There are day-to-day activities and meetings, and decisions to be made about current and future financial obligations, including resolving everything from simple questions to complex strategizing about how funds are allocated. There are the after-work socials, House Corporation meetings, and meetings with the chapter officers and committees. It even increases your ability to stop by the Shelter to interact with the undergraduates.

House Corporation communications range from telephone calls or meetings with vendors, contractors, local officials, the chapter consultant, and the international office. Consider how you might become involved this year. It takes time to get in the rhythm of the board and the activities that we manage. Join us on the board and contribute your  
*(Continued on page 4)*

Active and alumni members at Big Fred's in Omaha during an alumni event.



# THANK YOU, DEDICATED ALUMNI

Your commitment to Beta Tau helps maintain our Shelter, provides a premier facility for our undergraduate brothers, and helps fund our scholarship funds. Thank you—your assistance is vital to our success!

Robert W. Hasebroock '51  
Charles K. Tomsen '53  
Roger D. Sack '54  
Ralph A. Stump '54  
Harry F. Dingman Jr. '55  
Parker L. Shipley '55

Michael C. Tooley '55  
Guy Lynn Schottler '57  
John A. Wolf '61  
Thomas E. Wolf '62  
Byron J. Stigge '64  
Hon. Robert B. Ensz '65

Alumni who gave during the fall 2016 appeal are listed by initiation year. If an error has been made in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or improperly listed, we sincerely apologize. Please contact our campaign coordinator with corrections at (785) 843-1661.

James A. Loach, *Epsilon Omega* '67  
Steven H. Nootz '67  
Homer M. Buell '68  
Brian C. Hamilton '68  
William E. Kramer '68  
Michael P. Ripp '76

Robert S. Woodruff '78  
Peter C. Hove '80  
Ryan D. Caldwell '98  
Jack S. Weeks '98

## Paul Bauer '07 Gives Back to a Chapter That Helped Him Grow

For Paul Bauer '07, a return to Lincoln offered an opportunity to give back to the chapter he so deeply loves and that helped him become the man he is today.

Born in a small, rural area on a farm in Morse Bluff, Nebraska, Paul was not sure a big university like UNL was the place for him, much less joining a fraternity. However, he knew Tom Wolf '62 and his family, who are from North Bend where Paul went to high school. It was Tom who piqued Paul's interest in fraternities, telling Paul to "keep the Delt chapter in mind," and he did just that.

"My time as an undergraduate meant a lot of great things to me, and if it weren't for Beta Tau, I don't know if college, especially at such a big university, would have been something I would have finished," Paul said. "My first semester did not go well, but joining Delt got me on track."

Paul thanks his brothers for helping him get through classes and the executive team for being friendly and approachable when he was having a difficult time. To help with his academic struggles, they assisted him in finding better study practices during the mandatory freshmen study hours. This hands-on approach helped Paul get over his first semester struggles, and turned an overwhelming city atmosphere into a small and comfortable one. They also inspired Paul to serve as summer house manager, floor manager, and guide.

"The consistency and self-discipline were the biggest things the chapter taught me. With all of our meetings, it was important to manage time wisely. Like life, the more you stay at it, the easier it becomes," he said. "I also learned that it is OK to ask for help. It was important to know that it is never weak to do so, and in fact, it is one of the

strengths of being in a fraternity. As Emerson said, 'Every man who I meet is my superior in some way, and in that I learn from him.'"

In January, Paul moved back to Lincoln for a job running a Complete Nutrition and working as their top health coach. This move not only opened up a lot of opportunities to stay connected with Beta Tau, but also gave him an opportunity to join the alumni association.

"It is important for me to give back to Beta Tau because of the advice we can offer to our undergraduate brothers. The conversations I have had with alumni were illuminating, and it is a great feeling having someone look up to you and for you to be able to reciprocate with your own knowledge," Paul said. "All this shows the importance of brotherhood, and even though the years differ, our brothers are the only ones who truly know what we went through."

In his spare time, Paul helps at his parents' farm, is active at the gym, and hopes to get back into CrossFit soon. He also attends the practices of the Lincoln Continentals barbershop choir as a baritone. One of the songs they sing that he likes is "There Is No Place Like Nebraska" because he used to sing that when he sang in college. However, Paul's work as a health coach keeps him busy, and his time with the group is limited.

Paul also rescued a labradane boxer mix named Maverick. Paul is a big Dallas Mavericks fan and Beta Tau also had a long history of Top Gun references on passed-down shirts and posters during his time as an active member.

If you would like to reach out to Paul, he can be e-mailed at pbauer7541@gmail.com.

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

Roy N. Neil, M.D. '57 entered Chapter Eternal on March 16, 2016, in Excelsior Springs, Mo., comfortably and of natural causes related to a long-term medical condition.

During his 30 years of private practice, Roy, along with his wife, Elizabeth, operated the Health and Nutrition Center at the mall in Hays, Kan. The Center was an integral and supportive part of Roy's medical philosophy that included whole foods nutrition and vitamin and mineral supplements. Roy spent many evenings and weekends reading leading-edge medical journals/books, researching the mind-body connection, studying the field of quantum physics, and talking with various colleagues in the research fields of medicine and science. Toward the end of his years in private practice, he was asked to speak at KU Medical Center about his pioneering knowledge of chelation therapy and other complementary modalities that proved highly successful with patients in his practice. Roy was a lifelong learner in the fields of medicine and science and was a gifted physician who loved his work and many people.

Other interests included his family, the natural world, and Native American and western history. He particularly enjoyed the mountains of Colorado at Crested Butte and Aspen. He enjoyed western movies and country western music. Roy's favorite holiday was Independence Day with plenty of big fireworks. He wasn't a man who cared much about worldly possessions, but did treasure a set of Native American flutes given to him by a Lakota medicine man and always wore his Lucchese cowboy boots.

Dennis M. Novicki '59 entered Chapter Eternal on December 17, 2015, after a tragic medical accident at the Catheterization Lab in St. Vincent's Hospital in Green Bay, Wis. Dennis was president of the chapter in the 1960s. He is survived by his wife, Lois,

(Continued on page 4)



*Delta Tau Delta and Alpha Chi Omega Walk a Mile in Her Shoes participants in front of Memorial Stadium.*



*The men of Beta Tau spent a winter evening ice skating in the Haymarket with the lovely ladies of Alpha Xi Delta.*



## Reaching for Higher Aspirations

### *Beta Tau Focuses on Improving Philanthropic Efforts*



*Members of the 2016 pledge class celebrate after beating our rival, Sigma Chi, in the intramural softball championship.*



*The 2016 fall new member class of Beta Tau following their initiation ceremony.*

**WELCOME,  
NEW MEMBERS**

Beta Tau has experienced a great deal of progress these past couple of semesters, and we are excited about the direction we are headed in 2017. This year, our chapter leadership met on January 9 and January 12 to set our agenda and map out our goals for the upcoming term. We highlighted several areas of improvement in addition to areas we need to maintain our success. The executive team came to the conclusion that the largest area of improvement is our commitment to community service.

This year, we decided to partner with the Friendship Home, a local organization that benefits victims of domestic violence. We took to social media and other Greek organizations to start a fundraising campaign. Last year, we co-sponsored a mile-long walk on campus with Alpha Chi Omega. The walk was called Walk a Mile in Her Shoes, and it was an incredible experience raising awareness for a very important cause. We are excited to partner with the Friendship Home going forward in order to work and continue to advocate against domestic violence.

In mid-February, Beta Tau sent 18 brothers to Wichita, Kan., for the Western Plains Division Conference. There, members implemented an

array of leadership skills, learned new problem solving techniques, and received valuable reminders of our brotherhood. In addition, we were given the opportunity to perform the Rite of Iris ceremony in front of all the other chapters. It was encouraging to win several awards for our Road Program and JDRF philanthropic event.

The chapter decided to alter our approach toward philanthropy for the coming semester. In addition to our annual participation in the JDRF Gala, we implemented our own type 1 diabetes awareness week for the UNL campus. During this week, we hosted the first JDRF walk on campus. We even reserved Memorial Stadium as part of the walk's route. Beta Tau is proud to build off the success of our Road Program and our JDRF support, and we hope to earn the coveted Hugh Shields Award.

Brothers, I would like to thank you for your continued brotherhood and appreciation of Beta Tau. With your gracious support, we will continue as leaders on campus and live lives of excellence!

Fraternally,  
**Henry Dobson '14**  
President  
dobsonhenry76@gmail.com / (402) 214-7520

- Nathan Berry** / Sacramento, Calif.
- Nolan Bland** / Papillion, Neb.
- James Bodwell\*** / Gretna, Neb.
- Ethan Cismoski** / Omaha, Neb.
- Patrick Codute** / Wayzata, Minn.
- Trenton Cooper** / Omaha, Neb.
- Jack Driscoll** / Papillion, Neb.
- Michael Elsbernd** / Woodbury, Minn.
- Kendall Eveland\*** / North Bend, Neb.
- Taylor Gannon** / Grand Island, Neb.
- George Giaketsis** / Las Vegas, Nev.
- Drake Harrington** / Glenwood, Iowa

- Will Kallhoff\*** / Lincoln, Neb.
- Michael Knieval** / Norfolk, Neb.
- Alex Kniewski** / Holland, Mich.
- Daniel Korgie\*** / Omaha, Neb.
- Jack Kudrna** / Auburn, Neb.
- Grant LaFurney** / Papillion, Neb.
- Tom Lowe** / Kearney, Neb.
- Josh McCann** / Keller, Texas
- Jonathon McDonald** / Saint Catharines, Ontario, Canada
- Willy Mendoza** / Lexington, Neb.
- Bobby Mills** / Omaha, Neb.

- Cole Mitchell** / Oakland, Neb.
- David Park** / Whippany, N.J.
- Klayton Pekarek** / Seward, Neb.
- Austin Petznic** / Omaha, Neb.
- Nate Plugge\*** / Gretna, Neb.
- Evan Ryan** / Omaha, Neb.
- Dante Sortino** / Omaha, Neb.
- Paul Stephens** / Las Vegas, Nev.
- Troy Vanderheiden** / Aurora, Neb.
- Garett Wachal\*** / Lincoln, Neb.

\*Legacy

# Headlines of the Past

(Continued from page 1)

perspective during our regular board meetings. You will find that there are opportunities to contribute in significant ways.

Watch your e-mail for invitations to chapter events and join us at the next after-work social in Omaha or Lincoln. If you are interested, contact **Ryan Caldwell '98** at ryandcaldwell@hotmail.com or **Jim Emanuel '79** at jemanuel@robseeco.com.

## Thank You

We are thankful to each of you who contribute to the chapter as you fulfill your financial pledges. Your support is reducing the debt on our remodeled and updated Shelter. I also encourage you to stop by the Shelter and meet the 2017 executive team. They are committed leaders and have demonstrated so since their initiation.

Consider how you may honor one of the chapter's past or recent leaders. The gifts received to date are moving us toward fully funding these scholarships. Although I am encouraged by the support of Beta Tau leadership scholarships thus far, it is important that we fully fund the scholarships in the next year and a half.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Fraternally,

**James Loach, Epsilon Omega '67**  
House Corporation President  
james\_loach@nps.gov



# THE BETA TAU BLASTER

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**ATTENTION:** This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he will receive a copy at the Shelter. If he has graduated, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

## Save the Date

## CHAPTER ETERNAL

(Continued from page 2)

and his children, Kim and Eric. If you would like to purchase something in his memory or make a charitable donation, feel free to reach out to Lois. Dennis honored the Delts in the exemplary life he lived and is greatly missed.

**Robert W. Bergeson, D.D.S. '69** entered Chapter Eternal on April 4, 2016. Bob was loved by his wife, Linda Bergeson, his children, and four grandchildren. He enjoyed golfing with friends and truly enjoyed the presence of his family. Bob will be remembered for his great character and dedication to exploring the world.

### Parents Spring Game Tailgate

**April 15 - 11 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Delt House

On your way to the spring football game, feel free to stop by the Shelter for some drinks and food, sponsored by the Parents Club.

### Mash Philanthropic Event

**April 20 - 9 p.m.-12 a.m.**

Delt House

We will be giving away Chick-Fil-A sandwiches, chips, and more out of the Delt kitchen for \$5. All proceeds and donations go toward the local veteran's home.

### Annual Golf Tournament

**June 3 - 8:45 a.m.**

Tiburon Golf Course

Omaha, Neb.

Four-person scramble format with a barbecue sandwich lunch following play. Flag and raffle prizes will also be included. The cost—\$75 for alumni members and \$65 for undergraduates and newly graduated members—covers golf, lunch, and prizes.



## CONNECT WITH BETA TAU



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