

Beta Theta Pi Alumni Letter

New Officers Are Elected

Elections were conducted at the final chapter meeting of the fall semester. Gamma Phi will have as its spring semester president Steve Barghols, senior from Des Moines, Iowa. John Waldo, Shawnee junior, from Cordell, will be intramural chairman, Curtis Wade's understudy this spring. Rush Chairman David Emmott, Bartlesville sophomore, has chosen Richard Baptist, Shawnee junior, and Rick Gibbon, Tulsa sophomore, as his assistants for what we all hope will be the best summer rush the chapter has ever had.

Brother Barghols and Waldo are both enthusiastic about their opportunities to serve Gamma Phi. They are optimistic that they will be able to implement some long range innovations that will ensure the chapter's future growth and vitality. Brother Waldo has begun laying the foundation for a scholarship fund which will aid deserving freshmen pledges. Steve and John wish to make it known that they will be very receptive to any advice, suggestions, or criticism that any alum may offer. Please feel free to contact them at 405-364-0062.

A word from the rush team:

As rush chairmen, we would first of all like to express our pleasure of having met at the reunion some of the many fine alums who have hoisted Beta to its position of prominence here at O.U.

Our undertaking is to further perpetuate Beta's status by capturing the best pledge class ever.

With the beginning of second semester, the responsibility of the rush chairmen becomes a more integral part of house activities. It appears that the Greek system is currently on an upward trend which consequently kindles fiercer competition in rush. Besides the usual rivalry from the Sig Alphas and Deltas, we are contending with "smaller" fraternities, such as the ATOs and the Sig Eps.

With early summer pledging facing us again, the emphasis will be on earliest possible contact with prospective rushees.

We have already received rushees' names from some of you, which we have added to our list. However, we still welcome from you any mores or suggestions for rush.

The importance of our job we need not stress to you. Rush is shaping up rapidly and we are anxious to receive your opinions and ideas.

Yours in -kai-
David Emmott
Rick Gibbon
Dick Baptist

Message from the President of Gamma Phi Chapter

The chapter is once again experiencing the phenomenon we call "psyche" which is characteristic of every new semester. While we are pleased with our fine autumn performance in grades and intramurals, we are also aware that any institution which rests too heavily on its past achievements and fails to devote enough of its resources to the present and future will soon cease to be an institution.

We are more fortunate than several other O.U. fraternities in that our house will be adequately full this spring. Thanks to the hard work and good money management of our treasurer Gary Brown, Enid junior, the house should be able to function as smoothly as rising costs and inflation will permit.

Brother Bill Doughty, Tulsa junior (who incidentally has been admitted to next fall's O.U. School of Dentistry freshman class), is this year's pledge trainer. He assures me that this year's pledge class is making substantial progress in its endeavor to familiarize itself with the lore and traditional drive for excellence that characterizes Gamma Phi Chapter. Although deeply saddened by the loss of their pledge brother George King in a boating accident this past fall, the pledge class has been able to bounce back with vigor and establish a successful record for its various activities.

The spring is always a critical time for Gamma Phi. This is the time when we begin to take a hard look at rush and make decisions that will determine our future goals and successes. Although we feel we have selected competent and mature rush chairmen, we also realize that a fruitful rush is impossible without strong alumni support. We would greatly appreciate your personal recommendations and suggestions so that we may make our rush dollars and ideas work more effectively for us. If the Alumni Reunion we held in November was any indication of the good will and fellowship between alumni and members, I see no reason why this summer's rush will not reach the peak of our expectations.

Cordially in -kai-
Steve Barghols

(Feb. 1973)

Beta Leads In Intramurals

One penetration, one point and two runs were the margins of defeat that kept Beta's A football, A basketball and A softball from winning each championship in those divisions.

Any number of events could have turned loss into victory for the Beta A teams. As a result of not winning one of the major sports, (football, basketball and baseball) Beta lost the Intramural trophy by seven points. This was the first time we lost the trophy in four years and the third time in eleven years. This was a very heart-breaking defeat because we had trailed the entire year but fought back hard only to fall in the last event.

This defeat of last May is now history and this year's intramurals so far is far from last year's. Our desire and hopes for winning the trophy are just that much more stronger this semester and we have jumped into a large lead. Already the Betas are first in the newly-created All College Intramural Trophy with 277 points. The Betas are also in first place in the race for the IFC intramural trophy with four points.

The football teams of Beta were excellent this year. Both the B team and the C team won their divisions. The Beta A was defeated by the Sig Alph A team for the A team championship but this defeat was lessened somewhat when the Beta B team played the Sig Alph A team and we came out victorious.

If the Betas can hold this lead after football, volleyball, (in which we did very well), then the trophy will once again return to 800 Chautauqua. Events remaining this semester are: bowling, badminton, handball, table tennis and softball.

Many of the brothers who excelled last year will return to help us this year. Jim Gotwals won handball last year and will be back. David Levine, who was number one Greek in table tennis last year, will try his luck again this year.

Our complete badminton teams of last year are back after taking first and third last year.

The spirit in the house this semester is the highest it has been in years. Brother Barghols and brother Waldo are doing a superb job of keeping the "psyche" up. One of the major reasons we hold such a commanding lead at this point is due to the efforts of three juniors, Joe Paul Klabzuba, Karl Foreman and Tom Williams. These three brothers gave us the lead when they swept the horse-shoes competition hands down.

There is no doubt that Wooglin is casting an approving smile upon 800 Chautauqua this semester as the Betas strive towards another intramural trophy.

Yours in -kai-
Curtis Wade

Beta Excels In Grades

Once again the Gamma Phi Chapter of Beta Theta Pi has distinguished itself from all other fraternities. The Oklahoma University InterFraternity Council has informed our house that we have captured the top IFC seating on the grade chart for the fall semester.

The house average was 2.879; the all-fraternity average was 2.655. Delta Tau Delta came in second place, a full tenth of a grade point behind Beta.

Not to go unrealized are the individuals who achieved extraordinary academic success. To lead the list of distinguished scholars is the current president of the house Steve Barhols, a Des Moines, Iowa senior. Steve totaled a perfect 4.0 grade point average.

Other members to earn a 4.0 gpa were: Ken Beard, Muskogee sophomore; Andy Bishop, Seminole sophomore; Dave Hicks, Norman senior; Jerry Kelley, Oklahoma City junior; Jeff Mabrey, Enid sophomore; and Curtis Wade, Tulsa junior.

Three other members also distinguished themselves in grades. They were John Herlihy (4.0) Bill Herlihy (4.0) and Dick Herlihy (3.83). All three are brothers and are in the pre-Med curriculum. They are from Enid.

Other members who just missed the 4.0 mark were: Larry Dinkens, 3.8, a Shawnee sophomore; Mike Nairn, 3.86, a Bartlesville junior; and Scott Rayburn, 3.80, a Oklahoma City junior.

The house is looking forward to another successful spring semester. With some hard studying, some luck, and the approving smile of Wooglin', we hope to maintain our position as leaders of the Greek academic community.

Beta Reunion A Huge Success

Sixty-five years of Gamma Phi history was nostalgically revisited on November 3, 4 and 5 when the Oklahoma University Beta Alum Reunion was held at the beautiful Lincoln Plaza Motel in Oklahoma City. The purpose of the Reunion was to benefit many hundreds of Betas. The "old timers" saw their pledge brothers again and remembered some of those long stories of the good ol' days. The pledges and the active members were equally as enthusiastic to exchange their good times with the Beta visitors.

The entire weekend was filled with cocktail parties, a visit to the house, the banquet at Val Gene's and a warm, hospitable atmosphere.

The keynote speaker was past national Beta President Seth R. Brooks, who reflected on Beta's past, present and future.

The Gamma Phi Reunion was successful through the efforts of several diligent Betas. Corporation President Bill Johnston, Enid, and "professional alum" Dick Kerr, Norman, almost handled the entire reunion single-handed. Special thanks should also be given to Brother Mike King who handled the Reunion for the house. Without Brother King's hard work, the reunion could not have been the success it was.

At 800 Chautauqua we are proud of the men who made our unequalled history. We thank you for allowing us to show you our unsurpassed present.

Sincerely yours in -kai-
Chuck Begin