



# WOOGLIN

## *On Chautauqua*

### COME TO THE FIRST ANNUAL BETA REUNION!



Mark your calendars for the first annual *Beta Beer and Barbeque*! For years, individual Beta pledge classes have held reunions from time to time. However, many alumni have lamented the fact that Gamma Phi has never had a regular reunion event at which Betas from all pledge classes can get together. Until now!

On **September 27**, the OU Sooners will play the Louisville Cardinals in a night game at 6:00 p.m. From **2:00 to 5:00** that afternoon, Gamma Phi will host the first annual *Beta Beer and Barbeque*, to which all Gamma Phi alumni, their friends and family are invited. The event is sponsored by the Rib Crib (owned by Brett Chandler '82). There will be plenty of barbeque, drinks and good times for everyone. **Please note the new times, which have been moved up one hour to accomodate the 6:00 kickoff.**

The Chapter intends to make this an annual event before the first night football game each fall. This will be a great opportunity to see old friends, see how the Beta House looks these days and meet the active members who live there.

If you have a son who will graduate high school in the next few years, please make a

particular effort to bring him with you! This will be an excellent chance to acquaint your son with the traditions of Gamma Phi. The Chapter is also eager to meet prospective legacy rushees.

The Chapter extends special thanks to Charlie Towe '85 and Donnie Lehman '82 for their work in organizing this event and to Brett Chandler '82 for the Rib Crib's generous sponsorship. The Chapter also greatly appreciates the efforts of Charlie's wife, Becky, who prepared the invitations.

In order to estimate the amount of food and drinks needed, the Chapter asks that anyone planning to attend **RSVP to Robin Barlow at 405/235-5500**. If you haven't done so already, please make every effort to attend and give Robin a call.

#### GAMMA PHI WINS SISSON AWARD

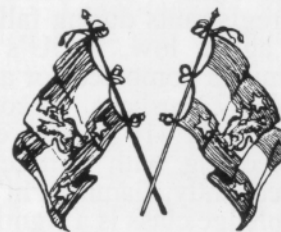
The Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity presented the prestigious Sisson Award to Gamma Phi for the 1996-97 year. The Sisson Award is the highest award given by the General Fraternity to chapters which demonstrate excellence in scholarship, fiscal stability and management, pledge programs, alumni relations and reporting.

This award is the culmination of hard work by many members over recent years to return Gamma Phi to the

recognized elite chapters of Beta Theta Pi. Congratulations!

#### NEW HOUSE MOTHER WELCOMED

This fall, Gamma Phi welcomes a new housemother, Sue Overton. If the Overton name sounds familiar, it is because Mom Overton is the mother of Bo Overton, who was a point guard for the OU basketball team from 1978 through 1980.



#### BANNER RUSH YEAR COMPLETED

Gamma Phi completed rush week with the signing of 32 outstanding pledges. The Chapter is extremely pleased with the new pledge class, which is comprised of quality young men with solid academic, leadership and athletic credentials. The class includes nine legacies, three all-conference quarterbacks, several other all-conference football, baseball, basketball and track athletes, two members of the President's Leadership Class and several University Scholars.



### Rush Contributors

Zachary W. Allen  
 Steven L. Barghols  
 Fallis A. Beall  
 Robert Beall  
 Guy L. Berry, III  
 Paul A. Bevilacqua  
 W. Anderson Bishop  
 A. Camp Bonds, Jr.  
 Bradford L. Boone, M.D.  
 David Box  
 William R. Broach  
 Earl A. Brown  
 Patrick E. Campbell  
 Paul Carlile, M.D.  
 Michael A. Cawley  
 Brett Chandler  
 Don V. Cogman  
 Michael J. Cole  
 J. Gregory Cox  
 James C. Elder  
 Levoy C. Ellsworth, Jr.  
 C. Warren Fatheree  
 Doug Fellrath  
 J. Douglas Frantz  
 Jim S. Gibbon  
 Charles P. Gotwals, Jr.  
 Jim Gotwals  
 Mark L. Harris  
 Jerry C. Hassebroek  
 Robert R. Hayes  
 Richard R. Hefton  
 William J. Hemphill  
 John R. Hills  
 G. Elden Hoffman, Jr.  
 Richard T. Howell, Jr.  
 Dow R. Hughes  
 Kenneth Victor Hughes, III, M.D.  
 Lon T. Jackson, Jr.  
 Greg T. Jones  
 WM. O. Johnstone  
 Warren K. Jordan  
 Robert R. Klabzuba  
 C.D. Klingensmith  
 Charles F. Knapp  
 Philip W. Kyle  
 Michael J. Labrie

Don & Anne Lees  
 Donald Mason Lehman  
 Brad Liebmann  
 John T. Lockard, D.D.S.  
 William P. Longmire, Jr.  
 Robert L. Lunsford  
 Michael T. Lynch  
 John Lynn  
 George S. Mason  
 Jack T. Massey  
 Tom McCasland  
 Tom H. McCasland, III  
 Edd R. McNeil  
 Scott D. Millington  
 Dan A. Moody  
 John G. Moore  
 Kyle Richard Moore, D.D.S.  
 Robert F. Morgan  
 Robert N. Naifeh, Jr.  
 R. Marc Nuttle  
 Robert P. Osborne  
 Toby Owen  
 Mrs. Lee W. Parish, Jr.  
 James Pickens, M.D.  
 Chris H. Pierce  
 Peter G. Pierce, III  
 Gordon Pugh  
 David E. Rainbolt  
 Jack E. Rayburn, Jr.  
 Bill Reed  
 W. T. Richardson, Jr.  
 John W. Ritz  
 Cooper Brett Robinson  
 J. Hugh Roff, Jr.  
 William J. Ross  
 Lee & Chelle Sanger  
 Byron H. Schaff  
 G. Blaine Schwabe, III  
 Bill Settle  
 Bill Sherman  
 Col. (Ret) Robert S. Smith, Jr.  
 Dr. James S. Snider  
 Daniel J. Stoner  
 Louis V. Stuart  
 Louis V. Stuart, Jr.  
 G. R. Talley  
 Arthur H. Thompson  
 Frank Thompson  
 Lee B. Thompson, Jr.  
 Steve Van Aken  
 Adam C. Wagner  
 John N. Waldo  
 W. S. Warner, Jr., Trustee  
 Charles D. Watson, Jr.  
 Harbour Whitaker  
 Terry T. Wiens  
 Sam L. Wilhite, Jr.

Finally, the Chapter is extremely grateful to Anne Harris, Beta Moms President, for her invaluable assistance during rush week and to Mark Harris, Glen and Debra Blumstein, Nick and Linda Anderson and Mom Overton for their help in preparing and serving food for rush week.



### **ANNUAL BUILDING FUND DRIVE**

In the coming weeks, Gamma Phi will kick off its annual Building Fund drive. The Building Fund is used to pay for repairs and improvements to the Beta House, of which many are needed. Contributions to the Building Fund will do much to maintain the House which has virtually defined the Beta experience for the last 68 years. Building Fund donors will be recognized at the Annual Donors' Reception at the Beta House after the OU-Texas A&M game on November 15. Please consider becoming a Beta Donor!



Much credit goes to the rush team of Matt Titus ('99 Jenks), Sam Eiser ('99 Marlow), Jeff Elder ('99 Norman) and Ryan Kolkmann ('99 Broken Arrow). The rush team and other supporting members of Gamma Phi worked tirelessly throughout the summer to rush as many prospects as possible. Many of the signees are the direct product of the rush team's early contact with rushees around the state during the summer and persistent rush of those rushees through rush week. Referrals from alumni also played a key role in the signing of several rushees.

As always, there were disappointments. For instance, the Chapter missed out on two Beta sons, including one whom the Rush team did not even learn about until the middle of rush week. (The moral: Summer rush is critical; tell us about prospective legacies *early*!)

The Chapter was also unable to realize its goal of a 50-man pledge class. The number of rush registrants during fall rush was again low. OU's 20+ fraternities competed for a pool of only 472 rushees. According to IFC, only 419 rushees ended up pledging with a fraternity. Consequently, Gamma Phi's 32-man pledge class is a significant accomplishment. Alumni should know that the Chapter had the opportunity to sign significantly more than 32 pledges, but doing so would have required compromising Gamma Phi's standards regarding academics and character. The Chapter elected to maintain its standards.



### Fall Pledge Class

Wes Allison	Lawton Mac
Joe Arrington	Colorado Springs, CO
Brad Ayres	Snyder
Adam Brooking	Chickasha
Matt Card	Ardmore
Joe Caswell	Lawton Mac
Barry Clark*	Hurst, TX
Brad Clark*	Hurst, TX
Matt Clouse*	Grove
Scott Dixon	Chickasha
Chris Doll	Lawton Ike
Ben Doss	OKC/PC North
Casey Frankenburg	Purcell
Tommy Ganem	Jenks
Gannon Gill	Lawton High
Colby Gorbet	Ardmore
Jamin Guy	El Reno
David Harris	Ardmore
Tyler Harris*	Edmond Mem.
Bret Johnston	Ardmore
Chris Kern*	Tulsa/Holland Hall
Rusty Lannin	Houston
Brian Lichtenwalter*	Edmond Mem.
Rob Lowry	Plano, TX
Mike Marshall*	Lawton Ike
Jeff Mayhall	Lawton High
Jarred Powell*	Chickasha
Dustin Schreiner	Duncan
Tommy Seabolt	Jenks
Brad Stone	McKinney, TX
David Valcourt	Killeen, TX
Rob Willis*	Hobart

\*Legacy

### TELL US NOW ABOUT PROSPECTIVE RUSHEES

It's never too early to start planning for next year's rush. If you know of any high school seniors who you believe may be good rush prospects next year, **please tell us now!** The Chapter would particularly like to know about possible legacy rushees.

The Chapter will soon elect a fall and spring rush chairman, who will soon begin contacting next year's prospective rushees. The Chapter plans to invite rushees to Barn Dance in the fall and Beta Bayou in the spring.

Please send all rush referrals to the Chapter Rush Advisor, Zach Allen '85, 211 N. Robinson, 15th Floor, Oklahoma City, OK 73102 (phone:

405/235-5500; fax: 405/235-2875).



### SPECIAL THANKS TO RUSH CONTRIBUTORS

Gamma Phi's successful rush would not have been possible without the many alumni who offered generous financial support for the rush effort. Rush is more competitive now than ever. Many alumni remember days when there were at most one or two other fraternities with whom Gamma Phi had to compete for rushees. There are now at least eight other fraternities within the perceived "top tier" of fraternities who will vie for Gamma Phi's rush prospects. Summer rush is absolutely critical to success. Relationships which the rush team builds with rushees during the summer are generally the decisive factor when a rushee finally chooses a fraternity in the fall.

However, an aggressive summer rush is not possible without broad financial support from the alumni. The Chapter extends its deepest thanks to the many generous alumni, listed below, who collectively contributed approximately \$12,000 to the rush effort. Alumni deserving special recognition include Dan Moody '69 and Levoy Ellsworth, Jr. '72, who each contributed \$1,000 or more, and Bill Reed '55 and Adam Wagner '81, who each contributed \$500. Many others gave \$200 or more.



### DO YOU HAVE ANY OLD PHOTOS OR BETA MEMORABILIA?

The Corporation is collecting for preservation old photos and other memorabilia of historical significance for Gamma Phi. In addition to simply preserving these items for future generations, there are plans to reproduce old photos for permanent display at the Beta House. Examples include pledge class or other group photos, photos of the Beta House, as well as old newsletters, news clippings, trophies, etc. If you have any such materials which you would like to donate to the Chapter please send them to:

Beta Theta Pi  
c/o James Elder  
211 N. Robinson, 15th Floor  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102  
405/235-5500

If you prefer, you may loan photos or other reproducible memorabilia, and the Corporation will return them to you after they have been reproduced. Hank Ryan '72 has volunteered to serve as Archivist, and plans to organize (and publish) our historical materials.

In case you missed the note in this spring's *Wooglin on Chautauqua*, the Chapter is (still) trying to locate the Greg Burns water color rendering of the Beta House which was commissioned in 1988. The original painting disappeared in the early '90s and the Chapter desperately wants to return the painting to its rightful place in the Beta House. If anyone has information about the present whereabouts of the painting, please call James Elder at (405) 235-5500.

### VISIT THE HOUSE ON GAME DAY!

When you come to Norman to watch the Sooners on football Saturdays, please stop by the Beta House! As always, lunch will be served for alumni and their friends and families. The bar will be open, and the Chapter has two televisions to show the morning televised games. You will also have the opportunity to meet not only other visiting alumni, but the current members and pledges of Gamma Phi.



Gamma Phi Chapter  
Beta Theta Pi  
c/o 211 N. Robinson, 15th Floor  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102



**Parents and Alumni:**  
Please send address corrections  
to the above address!