



# WOOGLIN

## on Chautauqua

### Chapter Signs 53 Pledges, Wins Spring Grades

Gamma Phi completed its 2002 rush with the signing of an outstanding class of 53 pledges. The Chapter offers its sincerest thanks to the 144 alumni who generously contributed money and other resources to this rush campaign. As always, this assistance was the critical factor in securing yet another excellent pledge class.

This pledge class is the result of the hard work of 2002 rush chairman, Brad Purcell (Norman '04), and assistant rush chairman, David Carter (Lawton '05), Matt Walker (Trophy Club, TX '04) and Ben Wallace (Houston, TX '05). It is truly another superb pledge class for the Chapter. The class boasts an average ACT of 27. It includes 2 Academic All-State scholars, 7 National Merit Scholars, 7 valedictorians, 15 University or Regents Scholars and 3 members of the President's Leadership Class. There are also a broad array of fine athletes, including 6 all-state athletes. Our actives emphatically believe Beta's pledge class is by far the best among OU's Fraternities.

While the theme of rush during earlier years was one of rebuilding, you could say it's now simply one of "reloading." Gamma Phi is doing extremely well and now sets the standard at OU. The Chapter has decisively won grades over the past 3 semesters and its membership rolls are growing. With this new set of freshman, the chapter's outlook appears brighter than ever.

In one sense, rush is getting easier

due to the excellent reputation Gamma Phi presently enjoys. To a certain degree, Beta "sells itself" to many rush prospects. On the other hand, rush has become more more challenging as the pool of rushees who are interested in Beta grows. Obviously, that's a good problem. However, to allow our rush chairman to meet this challenge, they need adequate financial resources. A key element of our rush strategy is employment of our alumni advantage to out-rush Beta's rivals. Our alumni's gratifying response to this need is greatly appreciated. Contributions received from our 144 donors amounted to \$21,290. That is a record level of giving.

This year's class includes 7 Beta sons. This may be a record. The Chapter did come up short with a few legacy rushees, which is always disappointing. Nevertheless, it is wonderful to see the Beta tradition continue with these 7 families.

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### Beta Holds 2nd Annual Alumni Golf Tournament

Gamma Phi hosted the 2nd annual Gamma Phi Alumni Golf Tournament on June 22 at OU's Jimmie Austin Golf Course. Nearly 100 alumni, actives, and friends participated in this event. This year's winning team was John Hillis '82, Steve Stotts '84, Todd Lisle '84, and Jeff Norman '85. Special prizes were awarded to Rob Felton '85 for straightest drive and Ryan Kolkmann '99 for longest drive.

Kudos to John Ritz '71 and John Hillis '82 for organizing this event.

Sincere thanks to Rib Crib (Bret Chandler '82) for once again providing excellent food and beverages for the players. Also, great appreciation is extended to Link Barr '85 for generously sponsoring the tournament's all-critical beer cart. Watch for details on this summer's tournament.

"Brews and BBQ After the Alumni Golf Tourney"



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## Beta Sons and Their Dads

Brett Baptist/Richard Baptist '74  
Benjamin Burnett/Mike Burnett '74  
William Crosby/Ron Crosby '77  
Chris Cross/Braden Cross '69  
Keystone Hughes/Donnie Hughes '78  
Timothy Nisbet/Steve Nisbet '68  
Clint Privett/Ken Privett '71

Geographically, Beta did very well in several key cities. The Chapter again dominated Norman, which is always a great source of excellent rushees. One of our primary goals this year was to improve Beta's presence in Tulsa. In this regard, the Chapter took a modest step forward with the signing of four Tulsa pledges. Nevertheless, we need to do better there, and increasing Beta's strength in Tulsa remains a prime objective.

By signing 7 men from the 3 Edmond schools, Gamma Phi has solidified its presence in that important city. Candidly, however, the Oklahoma City schools-represented mainly by Putnum City North and the private schools-remain "opportunity for improvement" for the chapter. On the other hand, Gamma Phi continued its usual success among smaller towns across Oklahoma.

Another important factor in the success of this rush was alumni referrals. Thanks to all of you who sent us rushee names. Please keep them coming! They are extremely helpful and, as usual, a high percentage of our signees came from referrals. There's no doubt that many of these prospects would have pledged elsewhere were it not for the early summer contact with alumni referrals permitted.

On a personal note, 2002 was my seventh and last year to act as rush advisor. Beginning this year, Rob Robertson '84 will be the new rush advisor.

*"Corresponding with our alumni and witnessing first hand your devotion to our fraternity has been an extremely rewarding experience"*

Zach Allen '85 Trustee President

**Wooglin on Chautauqua, Winter 2003**

I have no doubt Brother Robertson will do an outstanding job and bring a fresh perspective to the rush effort. I want to extend my deepest personal thanks to all alumni who have generously supported Gamma Phi rush, over the past 7 years (and before).

The Chapter is already preparing for next year's rush.

If you know of any good rush prospects for next summer-wherever they may be-please let us know about them! Please direct all rush referrals to the following address:

**Beta Theta Pi**  
**Rob Robertson, Rush Advisor**  
**One Leadership Square, 15th Floor**  
**211 N. Robinson**  
**Oklahoma City, OK 73102**  
**Telephone: (405) 235-5558**  
**Fax: (405) 235-2875**  
**Email: rrobertson@gablelaw.com**

Also, we very much need volunteers to organize and/or host rush BBQ's and similar events next summer. This is particularly true in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, where the chapter will continue its efforts to improve Beta's strength.

Thanks again for your support!

yours in \_\_kai\_\_,  
Zach Allen '85

### President's Message

We wish that each of our alumni would come by and see recent improvements to the Chapter House. All of these changes have greatly improved the appearance and usability of our house. They have also helped us in Rush, in social events and in entertaining alumni, parents and University officials.

As you may have heard, the wood floor in the living room and the sunroom was completely removed and replaced last summer. This is the first thing that our guests notice and appreciate. At the same time, the trophy cases were restrained, lighted and mirror-backed so that they are again a handsome feature in the living room.

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## Gamma Phi Chapter Initiates Oklahoma Artist, Greg Burns

On November 19, 2002 Greg Burns was initiated by Gamma Phi Chapter. Greg is a 1971 graduate of the University of Oklahoma and a resident of Oklahoma City. He is known internationally for his graphics and watercolors, particularly those of Victorian and Edwardian architecture.

Greg is the best known artist in Oklahoma City because of his readily accessible gallery and his long time practice of selling framed prints of his original pictures. In 1989, alumni of the Gamma Phi Chapter commissioned Greg to paint a picture of the Beta Chapter House at 800 Chautauqua. The original picture was placed in the Chapter House and 150 framed, limited edition copies were sold to Beta alumni and undergraduates as a fundraiser.

After repair and refurbishment of the facade of the Beta House in 1999, we approached Greg Burns to paint a second picture of the Chapter House. His second painting is another beautiful work showing the east elevation of the house. Greg cleverly included in the painting all of the landscaping contemplated by the then existing landscape plan, has now been implemented. Approximately 300 of these prints have been matted, framed and sold. The dual purpose was to focus alumni attention on the Chapter House and to raise money for necessary repairs to the structure.

One of the most interesting features of Greg's work is that it results from his extreme efforts to overcome significant physical disabilities. Greg was born with arthrogryposis, a muscle and joint disorder which affects the use of his arm and legs. During his college years, Greg was fairly mobile and had general use of his extremities. However, as time passed, the disorder greatly restricted Greg's movements. His walking is restricted.

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## 2002 Rush Contributors

Steve Van Aken  
 Robert W. Allen  
 Zach Allen  
 Don Andrews  
 Frank W. Ayers, Jr.  
 Guy Bacon  
 Steven L. Barghols  
 Robert L. Barr  
 Fallis A. Beall  
 Guy L. Berry III  
 John S. Berry  
 William L. Berry  
 W. Anderson Bishop  
 R. Tyler Boone  
 Todd Booze  
 Ronald E. Bowden  
 Chris Brown  
 Tony Bumpas  
 Lester Burkett  
 Mark "Beau" Cantrell  
 John C. Carter  
 Michael A. Cawley  
 Dewey W. Chambers  
 Bret Chandler  
 Don Cies  
 Don V. Cogman  
 Lorenzo T. Collins  
 H. Dale Cook  
 J. William Conger  
 Charles S. Coward  
 Robert W. Dow  
 Timothy D. Eisel  
 James Elder  
 Jeff Elder  
 Levoy C. Ellsworth, Jr.  
 Robert R. Felton  
 Jay Fitzgerald  
 Kevin Foxx  
 Douglas Frantz  
 Frank G. Gatchell  
 Rick Gibbon  
 Charles P. Gotwals, Jr.  
 Jim Gotwals  
 Elmer Hale, Jr.  
 John P. Harlan  
 Don L. Harral  
**Wooglin on Chautauqua, Winter 2003**

Larry S. Harral  
 Kim Hauger  
 Robert B. Hauger  
 William J. Hemphill  
 David R. Hicks  
 John R. Hills  
 Carl H. Holliday  
 Hal M. Holliday  
 Randy Hollinger  
 P. Jack Hoopes  
 Larry C. Houchin  
 Donnie Hughes  
 Dow R. Hughes  
 Aaron Douglas Hutton  
 Lon T. Jackson  
 James T. Johnson  
 Brad Johnston  
 Wm. O. Johnstone  
 Greg Jones  
 Warren K. Jordan  
 Robert W. King  
 Donald S. Kirkpatrick  
 Robert R. Klabzuba  
 C. Dale Klingensmith  
 Steven M. Kobos  
 Ryan Kolkmann  
 John W. Kniseley  
 Mike Krampf  
 Micahel J. Labrie  
 M. Burt Lampl III  
 Jason S. Lees  
 Donald Mason Lehman  
 Brad Liebmann  
 Kenneth Lisle  
 Charles R. Long  
 William P. Longmire, Jr.  
 Andrew Louis  
 Jason Lowry  
 W. Carlisle Mabrey, III  
 Daniel L. Medley  
 Tom H. McCasland III  
 William M. McGee  
 Mark H. McKinsey  
 J. Steve Miller  
 Dan A. Moody  
 Richard W. Moore

John G. Moore  
 Burke Mordy  
 Jed Morrison  
 Robert N. Naifeh, Jr.  
 R. Michael Nisbet  
 Stephen A. Nisbet  
 R. Marc Nuttle  
 Kevin O'Halloran  
 John K. Orr  
 Jay W. Penn  
 Chris H. Pierce  
 Jim Pickens  
 Richard G. Porter  
 David E. Rainbolt  
 Jack E. Rayburn  
 James B. Read  
 Fred N. Reynolds  
 W.T. Richardson  
 John W. Ritz  
 Rob Robertson  
 J. Hugh Roff, Jr.  
 William J. Ross  
 Fenton A. Sanger  
 Byron H. Schaff  
 Bill Settle  
 G. Calvin Sharpe  
 S. Neil Sisson  
 S. Kent Sloan  
 Don A. Smith  
 James R. Snider

William T. Speller  
 Thomas Stapleton  
 Michael H. Strong  
 Louis V. Stuart, Jr.  
 Scott Sullivan  
 Arthur Thompson  
 Lee B. Thompson  
 Ralph G. Thompson  
 Matthew R. Titus  
 Lance S. Tolson  
 Michael B. Tolson  
 Charles E. Towe, Jr.  
 Fred O. Turner  
 Gregory C. Wallace

**B  
E  
T  
A**

*Chuck OU Dobbs '85 Shows Excellent Form at Alumni Golf Tournament*



## Beta Wins Spring Grades

Once again, Gamma Phi ranked first in grades among all OU fraternities last spring. With an impressive 3.227 overall GPA, Beta easily outperformed all its rivals.

### Top 10 Fraternity Grade Rankings 2001-2002

#### Fall

1. Beta Theta Pi 3.259
2. Lambda Chi Alpha 2.975
3. Pi Kappa Phi 2.923
4. Delta Upsilon 2.890
5. Phi Kappa Sigma 2.885
6. Triangle 2.862
7. Delta Tau Delta 2.827
8. Sigma Alpha Epsilon 2.810
9. Phi Gamma Delta 2.780
10. Sigma Chi 2.772

#### Spring

1. Beta Theta Pi 3.227
2. Triangle 3.193
3. Lambda Chi Alpha 3.056
4. Phi Gamma Delta 3.004
5. Delta Upsilon 3.001
6. Pi Kappa Phi 2.988
7. Delta Tau Delta 2.949
8. Sigma Chi 2.943
9. Kappa Sigma 2.909
10. Sigma Alpha Epsilon 2.907

### Pledge Class 2002

Kevin Adams-Park Hill High (Kansas City, MO)	Aaron Hunsaker-Edmond Memorial
Tristan Adler-Norman North	Chris Jones-Claremore
Blake Albert-Niwat, CO	Joe Kokojan-Hinton
Ben Allison-Coppell, TX	Jay Malone-Okla. School Science & Math
John Argo-Norman	Brian McCall-Saint Xavier (Cincinnati, OH)
Brett Baptist-Norman	Nathan Meredith-Claremore
Derek Batton-Norman	Matthew Moeller-Edmond Santa Fe
Mark Bicket-Edmond North	Tyler Newcomb-Ft. Gibson
Ben Bolton-Vernon, TX	Timothy Nisbet-Alamo Heights (San Antonio)
Benjamin Burnett-Churchill High (San Antonio)	Matt Pappas-Houston Memorial
Daniel Card-Ardmore	Cole Patterson-Watonga
Tyson Carroll-Henryatta	Jeff Patterson-Tulsa Memorial
Brian Cavanaugh-Edmond North	Cory Pivnisko-Yukon
Shane Clanton-Tulsa Metro Christian Academy	Kenneth Pope-Amarillo, TX
William Crosby-Ardmore	Jonathan Price-Blair Academy (New York)
Chris Cross-Norman	Clint Privett-Caney Valley
Matthew Crow-Pampa, TX	Jacob Rice-Norman
David Dale-Guymon	Nic Rogers-Lawton
Owen Davis-Tacosa H.S. (Amarillo, TX)	Alex Sedlacek-Tulsa Cascia Hall
Brian Dude-Edmond North	Kevin Segler-Coppell, TX
Jason Elkin-Norman	John Seger-Tulsa Cascia Hall
Kyle Gassaway-Norman	Pres Smith-All Saints Episcopal (Tyler, TX)
Tom Gilliland-Edmond North	Tim Smith-Civic Memorial (Bethalto, IL)
Jonathan Gress-Norman	Andy Vaughn-Norman
Nick Holman-Owasso	Justin Vick-Yukon
Keystone Hughes-Midwest City	Michael Young-Norman

# Alumni Notes and Announcements

## **Gamma Phi Celebrates 100 Years at OU!!!**

Gamma Phi was founded as a local fraternity at OU in Spring 1903. We hope to have some small event this Spring to recognize our chapter founding. Please provide any information you have on Gamma Phi from Spring 1903 until acquiring our Beta Theta Pi charter in Fall 1907 to Hank Ryan (see address below).

## **Nostalgia**

### *100 Years Ago (Spring 1903)*

Gamma Phi was founded as a local fraternity at the University of Oklahoma. Gamma Phi was the first fraternity, local or national, at OU. Five OU students (Roy Kingkade, Tom B. Matthews, Bob Severin, A. Maxwell Alden and Jay T. Conway) purchased a bunch of bananas from a Santa Fe train wreck and preceeded to eat the bunch in one afternoon at a vacant house across the street from McFarlin Memorial Church. Gamma Phi emerged from that banana-eating get-together.

### *75 Years Ago (Spring 1928)*

Mrs. E.T. Miller served as Housemother. The Chapter house was at 701 DeBarr Avenue with construction underway on the new house at 800 Chautauqua. Hal Muldrow served on the Student Council and as ROTC Brigadier Commander. George Stroud was "Keeper of the Bones" for the Jazz Hounds. John Pearson served as Business Manager of the 1928 Sooner yearbook. Harry Kniseley served as Editor-in-Chief of The Whirlwind. Bill Noble played on the undefeated Sooner basketball that won the Missouri Valley Conference.

### *50 Years Ago (Spring 1953)*

Mrs. L.L. Douglass served as Housemother. Warren "Doc" Jordan was editor of the 1953 Sooner yearbook. Roger Clark was on the

tennis team that won the Big Seven crown for the second year in a row. Bill Armor served as Vice-president of the Student Senate. Hugh Roff and Dick Haynes were chosen for Pe-et.

### *25 Years Ago (Spring 1978)*

Ms. Oklahoma Sain served as Housemother. The house won grades and the intramural championship in athletics in the Spring of 1978. The Beta Lei began as an annual social event.

## **Send Us Alumni Notes**

Please help us keep our records current and correct. We maintain a Chapter roll database that is separate from the General Fraternity and contains more information such as pledge class, date-of-birth, date-of-death, and email address. We need your input to help us maintain this information. If you would like to confirm your current information or would like to help us locate some of our "address unknown" brothers, please contact:

### **Hank Ryan**

**P.O. Box 888**

**Norman, Ok 73070-0888**

**405-579-4473 (voice) 405-589-4472(Fax)**

**hank@hgryan.com (E-mail)**

We are also looking for information and anecdotes for our future Alumni Notes!!!

## **Marching Along**

**Bill Conger '63** was recently elected an At Large Member to the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Bill is an attorney in Oklahoma City with the law firm of Hartzog, Conger, Cason, and Neville, with fellow Beta's **Len Cason '64** and **Drew Neville '64**.

**Butch Dover '75** has recently relocated to Anchorage, AK. Butch is Vice President-General Manager for Alaska DigiTel, a Wireless Phone Company in Alaska with its parent company, Wireless Partners, headquarters in Memphis, TN.

Butch retired from BellSouth in July 2000 and joined Wireless Partners that same month. Butch said he welcomes any brother visiting Alaska this summer to give him a call and he would take them fishing. Butch and his wife Alicia have four children, Alexandra 15, Makenzie 13, Luke 11, and Elijah 4.

**Eric Ivester '82** wishes to announce that he and his wife, Kathy, are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Chad Andrew Ivester. Chad was born July 19, 2002. Eric and Kathy are living in Chicago, Illinois. Eric's oldest son, Jeff, is a freshman at the Univ. of Wisconsin, while Blake, age 15, is a freshman in high school.

**Peter Emmott '84** and his wife, Gerre, have four children; Fielding, age 17, Mason, age 15, Tippe, age 12, and Betse, age 8. Peter and his family live in Springfield, MO.

**Daniel Medley '89** and his wife, Diane, are the proud parents of Charles Durden Medley who was born December 9, 2002.

**Troy McDaniel '92** has been transferred to Shreveport, LA to help with ALLTEL's conversion of former Centurytel wireless markets that ALLTEL has purchased. He will serve as Sales Manager, and oversee 8 retail locations.

**Todd Booze '90** finally got in engaged in November of 2002 to Kris Landes.

**Matt Hunter '93** is a graduate student at Duke University pursuing a master of divinity degree. He is set to graduate in May 2004. Upon graduation he hopes to become an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church, and join the peace corps for a period of time.

**Ted Shults '94** was married September 7, 2002 in Tulsa, OK to Emily Simon. They are currently living in San Diego, CA. Emily is a Senior Accountant with Sempra Energy Resources, and Ted works for Pfizer as a CNS Specialty Sales Rep.

President's Message continued...  
New area rugs were purchased from Dallas and four deep brown leather, Bernhardt sofas were installed on the rugs. The wing chairs, game table chairs and straight-back chairs in the living room were all recovered so that everything in the room is coordinated.

Additionally, a new picture has been hung above the fireplace; 6 Sisson Awards and 2 Knox Awards are positioned prominently in the living room; and a pastoral mural in memory of Brother Mike Weaver '72, who was a victim of the Murrah bombing, has been hung between the doors to the sunroom.

As one of the Parents Club officers observed, the living room has the air of a gentlemen's club room. Speaking of the Parents Club, its members and multiple alumni donors have replaced the dining room furniture with new wood tables and matching chairs. These look (and sit) so much better than the prior plastic chairs and round fold-up tables.

There is also a new painted Beta Crest above the dining room fireplace, and silver service items and Beta Theta Pi china is being displayed in the dining room china cabinets.

Led by Brother Bill Reed '55, 14 Beta donors purchased a big screen television for the Chapter. This is located in the basement and is receiving a lot of careful use.

On the outside, four new spotlights have been installed "to wash" the front of the house in light.

Lastly, all of the brothers continue to enjoy and make use of the new second and third floor bathrooms which were completed in 2001.

We thank all of you, your Corporation officers and trustees, our Parents Club and its officers, and, of course, Mom Overton, for your tremendous support of the Gamma Phi Chapter.

yours in \_\_kai\_\_,  
Steve Sinos '04  
Chapter President

Greg Burns continued...

He draws with a pen cradled in his right hand. Then he adds watercolor to a drawing by use of a brush held in his teeth so that his hand and arm will not drag across the wet paint.

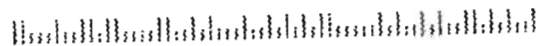
Greg's determination, positive attitude, and good spirits have been an inspiration to all those who know him. Gamma Phi Chapter unanimously voted to initiate Greg for his outstanding lifetime achievements in the face of seemingly insurmountable physical challenges, and for his demonstrated interest in and support of Gamma Phi Chapter.



Gamma Phi Chapter  
Beta Theta Pi  
Two Leadership Square, 14th Floor  
211 N. Robinson  
Oklahoma City, OK 73102



HENRY GRADY RYAN III  
823 S FLOOD AVE  
NORMAN OK 73069-4502



Parents and Alumni:  
Please send us Address Updates