



## ALUMNI BOARD

Erik Baudendistel '96  
614-854-1991 (O)  
ebaudendistel@inc.com

Brad Chelton '98

Richard DeVos '54  
440-835-1546

Mike Dowgiewicz '98  
mjdowgie@cc.owu.edu

Andrés Duarte '65  
011-582-261-1255 • aduarte@dvaccs.com

Hal Fausnaugh '48  
216-331-3099 (H) • 216-574-7441 (O)

Martin Haskell '68, President  
P.O. Box 43222  
Cincinnati, OH 45243  
513-272-0279 (H) • 513-527-4970 (O)  
martyh@fortemgt.com

Urlin Harris '58  
740-548-3623 (H)

Levi Levingston '97  
614-457-1086 (H)  
levingston@aep.com

Bob Mauck '48  
614-885-7743 (H) • 614-261-3737 (O)

Bill Rowland '68  
614-751-8736 (H) • 614-548-6262 (O)  
BRowland@microcomcorp.com

Thomas J. Tatham '56, Editor  
900 Hathaway Rd.  
Dayton, OH 45419  
937-298-7682 (H) • 937-298-7075 (O)  
tomtatham@aol.com

Chuck Underwood '68  
614-861-5466 (H) • 614-237-9802 (O)

Don Wedge '51  
937-339-4640 (H)

Bob Wyant '50  
740-369-2252 (H) • 740-424-5645 (O)

John Bolek '88, District Chief  
216-467-6562 (H) • 216-468-1417 (O)

DELAWARE, OHIO

AUGUST 1999

# The Theta Data

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY  
OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

<http://www.owu.edu/~betaweb/>

## Beta Alumni Profiles

### CHARLEY L. "JOHNNY" ECKER '56, ROLL #928

By Dan Rich '55

Charley grew up along the banks of the Ohio River at Gallipolis. At Gallia Academy High School, he was an outstanding varsity football player and as he puts it, "tried to live life to the fullest!" When the time came to select a college, he was steered in the direction of OWU by his classmate, James Lee Dailey '56, who told him: "Charley, why don't you come with me to Ohio Wesleyan and we'll play football together!" That's all it took to bring Charley to the OWU campus in the fall of 1952. Other Beta brothers from Gallipolis already on the scene included Keith "Buck" Thomas '54, and the late Tom D. Halliday '55. Danny Evans also pledged Beta, but dropped out of college to get married.

Unfortunately, Charley's OWU football career was short-lived. Early in his junior varsity season, he suffered a serious knee injury which required surgery and a year's rehabilitation. However, he went on to become one of the most outstanding intramural football players in the long and illustrious history of Theta chapter! He remembers playing with such "stars" as Bill Metzler, C.D. Simpson, Buzzy Christiansen, John Fundeburg, Larry Linderer, Tom Tatham, Jim Davies, Ken "Zeke" Rowley, Tommy Turco, Sam Pardoe and yours truly. Charley says that our team (the "terror of the gridiron") was better organized and better coached than some of the varsity teams at OWU!

While an undergraduate, Charley had a double major in history and in political science. But his true love was music, in which he had a minor; he did extensive voice training under the capable eye of the late Professor Gordon Almstead. Under his tutelage Charley mastered many of the arias from the world's great operas. His musical skills also found their way into the ROTC band where he played the baritone horn.

As Charley reflected on Beta life, his predominant memory was, you guessed it, music! He loved the singing which was so characteristic of our fraternity during that era. "Singing in the dear ol' hall" after dinner each

night, participating in the interfraternity singing contests in Gray Chapel, singing in the serenades at the women's dorms ... Charley loved every minute of it!

Charley, who was affectionately known as "Hippo," had many close friends in the chapter: "Cousin Jack" Matthews '54, "T Square (Tom Tatham '56), "The Toad" (the late Homer Clark '55), and yours truly '55 (then known as "Deacon" or "The Elf").

Immediately following graduation, Charley served two years in the U.S. Army. He was



Charley Ecker '56

stationed at Ft. Knox, Ky., where he taught radio code. After receiving his honorable discharge he entered the law school at Ohio State, but soon dropped out, realizing that it was not for him.

He then studied real estate at OSU and became a licensed broker, practicing in Gallipolis for some seven years.

It was at this time that Charley experienced a true "calling" to the world of coaching. After training at Ohio University, he became assistant football coach at his alma mater, Gallia Academy High School, and later head football coach. One of his teams had the singular honor of going undefeated for the season.

After coaching for seven years at Gallia, Charley moved to the nearby University of Rio Grande, where he coached baseball for three years. One of his teams at URG won the Middle Ohio Conference Championship.

A devoted Presbyterian, Charley has always been deeply involved in the life of his own church, First Presbyterian of Gallipolis. He has

Continued, Page 4.

## UNDERGRADUATES ENJOY "A DAY OF BETA PRIDE"

By Eric Eickhoff '00

On March 20, Theta of Beta Theta Pi welcomed our alumni back to participate in two of our hallowed ceremonies. The day started with the leaders of the undergraduates meeting with the members of the House Corporation Board. At this meeting, Betas both young and old discussed the chapter's concerns, actions and goals for the future.



Tom Shank '52, Bob Canright '52, Joe Neds '50, Bob Johnson '52, Bill Long '51 and Ben Graham '52

Shortly after the House Corporation meeting ended, the Betas retired to our Chapter Room, where the brothers initiated new members into the Halls of Beta Theta Pi. In total, 50 brothers who witnessed the greatest ceremony that our brotherhood holds dear. Following the initiation ceremony the brothers opened the house and celebrated with a reception and dinner.

A number of alumni brought their wives with them, which pleased the undergraduates. Around dusk, the chapter recognized six of the alumni who had returned to their college home, for it was 50 years ago that they had become Brothers of Beta Theta Pi. These new Fraternal '50 brothers were given a gold seal for their shingle and a pin signifying their accomplishment. Concluding the ceremony, we gathered in the mystic circle, passed the Loving Cup around and sang, a truly touching moment. As the night progressed the brothers along with their dates and spouses sat down and enjoyed the dinner, the singing of our songs, and the companionship that is an integral part of Beta life.

## FRATERNAL '50s CELEBRATED BY ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATES ALIKE

By Tom Tatham '56

The Theta chapter house was the scene of great celebrations on Saturday, March 20, 1999. In addition to the House Corporation meeting and initiation ceremonies, 15 brothers were honored for their 50 years as Betas. Present at the ceremonies were:

**Jo and Tom Shank '52** of 2017 Hull Rd., Sandusky, OH 44870

**Jo and Bob Canright '52** of 5600 Sandalwood Blvd., Columbus, OH 43229

**Joe Neds '50** of 2001 Cobblestone Dr., Findlay, OH 45840

**Bob Johnson '52** of 585 Woodland Drive, Circleville, OH 43113

**Ann and Bill Long '51** of 5010 Plantation Dr., Indianapolis, IN 46250

**Maribeth and Ben Graham '52** of 2080 W. Alex Bellbrook Rd., Dayton, OH 45459

Others not attending but also honored were David Adams '50, Thomas Taylor '52, Robert Freitag '52, Charles Leech '52, Allen Tucker '52, Norman Slenker '51, Horace Newhard '52, Daniel Ventres '52 and Charles Hauck '52.

Following the Loving Cup ceremonies, a reception and dinner were held to the delight of almost 100 alumni, wives, undergrads, their dates and guests. A great day for a great bunch of guys! As long has been said in the sacred halls of Theta, "Thank God they are Brother Betas!"



Ben Graham '52, Joe Neds '50 and Maribeth Graham '55 at the March 20 Fraternal '50s ceremony. (See article on Beta's Pink and Blue written by Ben Graham on Page 8.)



The Loving Cup Ceremony concluded the Fraternal Fifties Recognition dinner.

## A STEP BACK, THEN MOVE FORWARD

By Martin Haskell '68, Theta Chapter House Corporation President

Sometimes progress requires stepping back before moving forward. Over the past three years, considerable progress has been made in chapter management and operations. The undergraduate members have taken increased responsibility for house and kitchen management and have initiated improvements to the facility. This summer two undergraduates are painting the interior of the house and performing other routine summer maintenance so that the house will be in excellent condition upon the resumption of school in the fall.

This year there were a number of unfortunate incidents and allegations related to alcohol, rush and risk management. The Interfraternity Council of the University fined and placed the chapter on social probation for one semester for pledging and initiating academically ineligible freshmen.

These incidents led the General Fraternity to suspend the charter of the chapter in spite of the overall improvements noted above. In

order to have the suspension removed, and in order to avoid charter revocation, the chapter must complete a 10-point improvement plan. This plan includes:

- developing clear chapter goals related to rush and chapter operations;
- holding a summit meeting with representatives of the general fraternity, the University and the alumni board;
- defending the chapter before a review committee at the annual convention; and
- participating in an all-member, all-day retreat with members of the alumni board

Though the suspension came as a surprise, the effect has been to galvanize the attention of the membership and focus its energies on improving its status and image. It has also served to awaken the leadership within the chapter. This chapter is filled with many good and capable men of high character. Also, though, the chapter takes a rather laissez-faire view toward individuals' behavior within the chapter. This is beginning to change, as the chapter's leadership is becoming more vocal about individual responsibility and developing and enforcing penalties for under-performance.

Working with young college fraternity men is a never-ending source of challenge. It provides unique opportunities to develop management and leadership skills not available through a university curriculum. Theta chapter learned its lessons well and seems to be on a path of continuous improvement.

### REMEMBER THETA'S 150TH REUNION

By Dick DeVos '54

Do not forget our plans for the Theta chapter reunion to celebrate our chapter's 150 years at Ohio Wesleyan University. We are targeting the fall of 2003, so watch for the specific dates, which we will announce in the fall of 2000 in coordination with the University calendar. Talk it up with your classmates so we can make it a special occasion, as many experienced at our 100th in the spring of 1953. For those of us who were there, it was one of the truly outstanding events of our days at OWU.

### ANNUAL ALUMNI GIFTS

Annual alumni gifts are the lifeblood of our continued communications with all alumni brothers ... and we have more than 800 living alumni. Through the first 10 months of this year's support we have 102 contributors, which is down slightly from last year's total ... no matter how large or small, we need your support each year to ensure our continued ability to "keep in touch." With 28 more contributors in the two remaining months, we would exceed our record number of contributors established in the 1996-97 giving year. Recent history and current-year giving are shown below:

Year	Dollars		Contributors	
	Total	% Increase	Number	% Increase
1990-91	\$3,245	n/a	72	
1991-92	4,350	34.1%	95	31.9%
1992-93	3,440	-20.9%	84	-11.6%
1993-94	3,947	14.7%	90	7.1%
1994-95	4,081	3.4%	101	12.2%
1995-96	5,330	30.6%	118	16.8%
1996-97	6,702	25.7%	129	9.3%
1997-98	7,533	12.4%	111	-16.2%
1998-99*	5,920	as of 7/26	102	as of 7/26

Remember, our *Theta Data* publications are solely dependent on these gifts. Now is the time to make your gift as we conclude the 1998-99 alumni support year.

#### Advisor

Dr. Anthony Pedela '64  
(Case Western Reserve)  
Westerville, Ohio

#### Assistant Advisor

Pat Puhl '99  
(Bowling Green)  
Columbus, Ohio

#### Faculty Advisor

Fred Barends

#### Theta Data Editorial Staff

Dick DeVos '54  
Matt Doman '00  
Eric Eickhoff '00  
Ben Graham '52  
Martin Haskell '68  
Dan Rich '55  
Tom Tatham '56

Note: We need representation from the '70s, '80s and '90s. Please consider and volunteer! If interested, contact Tom Tatham (937-298-7682; tomtatham@aol.com).

## Beta Alumni Profiles

### CHARLEY L. "JOHNNY" ECKER '55

Continued from Page 1

sung in the choir and also done extensive solo appearances in the church as well as the community ... Lions Club, Rotary, Kiwanis, etc.

In February of this year Charley was honored by the Black History Committee of Gallipolis as a man who had made his community better. Referred to as a "local coaching legend," he was recognized for "his concern for the individual, and his willingness to work with others."

After this tribute Charley was presented with an honorary plaque which read: "In recognition of your worthy service in the areas of education and athletics ... Service Award presented to Charles L. Ecker, Feb. 27, 1999, by the Black History Committee."

In accepting, Charley shared a childhood desire to build bridges (reminiscent of Beta lore!), but once he realized the math and science skills needed, that dream stopped. "I build bridges for people, and you all have made me what I am today. You've made it a pleasure to coach."

One of the letters of commendation Charley received in connection with this honor was from Tom Spencer, AAA Manager, Chicago White Sox, Tucson, Ariz., a man coached by Charley in his early years. Notable excerpts follow: "Eck' proved throughout his coaching endeavors that he could use the talent he was given and get the best results from it ... it was always easy to give 'Eck' that 'extra effort' because he would always give his extra effort for us. His concern for us individually set him aside from a lot of others in the coaching field. The thing for me, that allowed him to excel in coaching, was that he was willing to 'outwork' the other coaches ... he would attend coaching clinics on the local, state and national levels. 'Eck' always wanted to find the information from the best college and professional coaches in the business. I recall him taking me to clinics at his own expense at Ohio University, Ohio State and Miami, Fla., to expose me to the best coaching minds and techniques available. I am still benefiting from those experiences today in my own coaching ... I've never met anyone with a greater love of sports than 'Eck.' As he coached me in my early years, he instilled that same love of sports in me. It's with pride that I speak about 'Eck,' a man who was such an influence on my athletic career."

Charley, congratulations on all your achievements. Thank God you're a Beta!

## ATTENDANCE REQUIRED AT LEADERSHIP RETREAT PLANNED FOR ALL UNDERGRADUATES

Marty Haskell, house corporation president, announced the scheduling of a Leadership Retreat for August 21-22, 1999, at a remote outdoor education facility. Attendance will include alumni and will be required for all Theta chapter undergraduates. The agenda for the retreat will include exercises in team building, leadership training and discussions relating to how fraternity life is impacted by these subjects. The exercises will be both physically and mentally challenging. "We will discuss the kind of men we wish to have as Betas and how we will undertake rush this fall," said Marty. Additionally there will be other problem-solving discussions as related to Theta chapter. There will be ritual retraining and singing. There will be no cost to any member to attend this alcohol- and tobacco-free event. **Any member not attending or breaking the rules of the event will not be allowed to live or eat in the house next year.** "This will be an immersion experience," said Marty, "and one which will develop the full potential of Theta chapter."

## NEW CHAPTER ADVISOR AND ASSISTANT ADVISOR NAMED BY PRESIDENT MARTY HASKELL

Dr. Anthony (Tony) Pedela, currently of Westerville and a graduate of Case Western Reserve '64, has been named Chapter Advisor. "Tony is a semi-retired dentist with a good management and quality control background," noted Marty. He has extensive experience in quality audits of hundreds of dentists' offices as a member of a quality assurance examination committee. He is an excellent communicator and embraces a management style that fits the needs of the chapter and the House Corporation. He is interested in working with young people at this stage of his life and can give the two-three nights per month which will be required this year.

Also announced is the appointment of Pat Puhl of Columbus as Assistant Advisor; he is a '99 graduate of Bowling Green. Pat is recent past president and recruitment chair for the Bowling Green chapter. "In 1997-98 the Bowling Green chapter went through difficult times and Pat has been instrumental in turning that situation around. He understands the elements required for successful chapter self-governance and knows the general fraternity's requirements and procedures. He will be a good source of tactical and technical information for the chapter."

In his announcement of these two appointments, President Haskell stated, "these two individuals will complement each other's assets and skills and will provide Theta with excellent guidance and advice as we enter a new school year and progress in the months ahead."

## FROM DAYS GONE BY



L-R: Brothers Kent Stolle '57, Bob Marten '54, Tom Stover '57 and Dave Cook '57 ... but the big question is, who are the dates? Our thanks to Keith Eiken '57 (1412 Willow Ave., Louisville, KY 40204) for submitting this photo. If you can identify these lovely coeds, please send their names to Tom Tatham at his address on Page 1.

## A LETTER FROM CHAPTER PRESIDENT MATT DOMAN '00

This spring semester has been a trying one for Theta chapter. Things started off well with our pledging program, in which we pledged 10 quality men whom we deemed worthy of the highest. Continuing what has become a strong annual event at Theta chapter, we conducted our initiation in conjunction with the Fraternal Fifties ceremony. However, in an attempt to honor a wider scope of Betas, we implemented the Silver Seals ceremony, which is given to those men who have been active members of the Theta chapter for 25 years. This day was accompanied with another solid House Corporation meeting, which was very productive under the direction of Marty Haskell '68.

Things became a little shaky after that. Through some lack of judgment not characteristic of Beta or the men of this chapter, we committed some infractions that are not in accordance with the risk management policy of Beta Theta Pi. As a result of these infractions, our charter was suspended by the General Fraternity. This chain of events was a real wake-up call for members who in the past thought that this could never happen to us; well, it did. It is sad that we needed this wake-up call, but we have thus far rebounded with speed and dedication and are righting the wrongs that occurred in our chapter.

The chapter held a retreat with the help of Scott Allen (Minnesota '95), the head of risk management for Beta Theta Pi, at which all members voiced their concern and opinions about the future of Theta chapter, a future which just got a lot brighter.

If any of you have concerns about the Theta chapter, we ask that you call and speak to the undergraduate members living in the house, or House Corporation President Marty Haskell '68. I ask that we all work together to make the Theta chapter among Beta's best and brightest again.

## CHRISTMAS IN APRIL

On April 24, it was Christmas for a group of individuals in need. The Christmas in April program is sponsored by Columbus companies and volunteers. The Beta brothers decided to devote a Saturday to this worthy charity. We were all given the assignment of helping one older gentleman who had had a stroke and breathed with the help of a respirator.

When we arrived, a group of carpenters and a woman were already there with supplies. The brothers broke into three groups: one to paint, one to help construct a ramp to make the home handicap-accessible, and one to clean the basement. We started at around 9 a.m. and worked most of the day, some of us digging more post holes than we would like to remember. At the end of the day the house was completely different. The debris in the basement had been removed, including an old dilapidated washer and dryer; the walls had been covered with a fresh coat of paint; and there was a new wooden access ramp to the gentleman's front stoop.

It was a wonderful experience for everyone involved.

## SPRING INITIATES • THE CLASS OF '02

Jason W. Adams • Annapolis, Md.  
Sikhinder S. Bahal • Beverly, Mass.  
Joseph T. Byrne • Old Greenwich, Conn.  
Christopher M. Capalbo • Greenwich, Conn.  
Geoffery D. Dailey • Stafford, Va.  
Christopher A. Josey • Kensington, Md.  
Jason J. Orr • Franklinville, N.J.  
David A. Osborne III • Chardon, Ohio  
Nathanael A. Starvel • Greenwich, Conn.  
Ian Tercero • Greenwich, Conn.

## UNDERGRADUATES ALSO PARTICIPATE IN FRATERNAL '50S CEREMONY



Matt Garrison '99, Jeff Beaudry '01 and Eric Eichhoff '00 listen as Chapter President Matt Doman '00 (second from left) conducts the Fraternal '50s ceremony on March 20.



Members of Theta chapter participate in the Loving Cup ceremony.

## FALL 1999 CHAPTER OFFICERS

### President

**MATTHEW S. DOMAN '00**

msdoman@cc.owu.edu

Bowie, Md.

History

### Vice President

**SHAWN H. STARLIN '00**

shstarli@cc.owu.edu

Wooster, Ohio

Sociology/Urban Studies

### Risk Manager/ Alumni Co-Chair

**ERIC J. EICKHOFF '00**

ejickho@cc.owu.edu

Pepper Pike, Ohio

History

### Secretary

**JEFFREY G. BEAUDRY '01**

Homewood, Ill.

Undeclared

### Treasurer

**JOSEPH K. PALMER '00**

Kalamazoo, Mich.

Psychology

### Alumni Co-Chair

**ANDREW PANAGOTOPULOS '01**

Walpole, Mass.

Economics Management

### House Manager

**ANTONI G. GAMBETTA '00**

Terrace Park, Ohio

Economics Management

### Rush Chair

**DAVID A. OSBORNE III '02**

Chardon, Ohio

Undeclared

### Social Chair

**CARSTEN D. VAGAL '00**

Honolulu, Hawaii

Geology

# Alumni News

**James K. Tope '41** (4558 20th Ave. N., St. Petersburg, FL 33713) uses his son's Internet connection to send e-mail to family and friends. He would enjoy hearing from his Theta contemporaries at ringo@ij.net.

**Robert M. Best '44** (41A Crestmont Rd., Binghamton, NY 13905; sbest12@aol.com) had a long career in the insurance business and has been active in his community. He has three children and a granddaughter.

Retired Methodist minister **J. William Myers '51** (P.O. Box 105, Lyons, OH 43533) is the president of Humanist Education Press Inc. Over the last three decades, he has translated and published German poetry spanning six centuries and published 13 collections of his own poetry. He recently completed translations of the poetry of Austrian Georg Trakl. The work is to be published this fall under the title *Imperfect Atonement*.

**Robert M. Canright '52** (5600 Sandalwood Blvd., Columbus, OH 43229; canright@infinet.com) writes that one of the strongest bonds of friendship he developed was with his roommates in 1950-51. He and former roomies **Pete Hauck '52** and **Tom Shank '52** continue to get together several times a year. Bob also sees **Jack Pocock '47** in Columbus.

**Robert M. Johnson '52** (P.O. Box 657, Circleville, OH 43113) is chairman of R/P Johnson Inc. Three of his five children are in business with him. He and Marilyn have 11 grandchildren. The couple spent two months overseas not long ago, visiting Italy and their daughter and her family in Cairo, Egypt. In season, the Johnsons enjoy spending time in their boat on the Great Lakes.

When we heard from him in March, **Horace B. Newhard '52** (Novato Family Practice Group, 400 Professional Cir., #424, Novato, CA 94947) was planning to rebuild his ski chalet in Snowmass/Aspen, Colo., which was damaged by fire last fall.

**Paul Kisseberth '54** (39 Happy Hill Rd., Stamford, CT 06913) sends congratulations on the fine job **Tom Tatham** and others are doing with *The Theta Data*. "It has new life." Paul and wife Annie have been getting back to OWU more often since he retired in December '96, especially this past year. "We have had some fun times with Buzz, Keith and DeVos. We also saw Mary Beth and **Ben Graham '52** twice this year, along with Ruth Ann and **Don Wedge '51** at Fallfest. It would be fun to get back to campus when a number of the Betas come back. I have missed that! We see "**Bix**" **Newhard '52** quite often and have been skiing with his family annually for nearly 40 years. We are looking forward to our 45th reunion AND anniversary this May and June. Hopefully the Class of '54 will have a great return and a whole host of Betas show up. Our class had the largest attendance of any class for our 40th and there were more Betas than from any other fraternity. We will see Bix from May 22-26 in California. His youngest daughter is getting married in Placerville, Calif., and then Bix, Madalienne (his second wife), Annie and I are going on together to Mendocino for a few days."

Travel, golf, bridge and grandchildren keep **C. Dee Simpson '54** (3541 N. Tanuri Dr., Tucson, AZ 85750) busy.

**Richard S. Treis '54** is president of Jackson Ind. Inc. (49 Hamilton Dr., Novato, CA 94949).

The company, which he founded in 1976, specializes in printing for the pharmaceutical industry. "Sherry" spends his leisure time cruising on his boat or with family at his summer home in Michigan.

Hoping to avoid some winter weather, Becky and **William G. Plavcan '55** (13019 Lance Cir., Hagerstown, MD 21742) are building a second home in Southport, N.C. William is a physician and serves as medical director of Washington County Health Systems.

**Jerry L. Staley '55** (2231 Saratoga Dr., Findlay, OH 45840) tells us, "I've been spending a lot of time in Naples, Fla., where I give golf lessons to **Larry Linderer '55**."

**J. Kenneth Cozier Jr. '56** (58 Stony Ridge Rd., Asheville, NC 28804) is secretary/treasurer of the Western Colony Society of Mayflower Descendants of North Carolina and is registrar of the Blue Ridge Chapter of the North Carolina Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. He is also working on the genealogy of his mother's line.

As the owner of Pettegrew Properties, **Ronald A. Pettegrew '56** (2222 S. Yosemite Cir., Denver, CO 80231; ronpccim@ccentral.com) is active in commercial real estate sales, leasing and consulting. (He is also serving as president of the Colorado/Wyoming chapter of CCIMs for 1999.) Ron is married to Pat.

**Charles T. Cozier '58** (28390 New Castle Rd., Farmington, MI 48331) is semi-retired and working at a Wild Birds Unlimited store. He is enjoying lots of travel in the States and overseas.

# More News

In March 1998, **Charles P. Woods II '58** (1738 Forest Hills Cir., Zanesville, OH 43701; cpwoods@msmisp.com) retired as vice president of human resources at Picker International Inc. He and his wife, Charlene, have three children and six grandchildren. The couple spend time at their 72-acre farm. "I would love to have visitors to help with farm chores," Chuck notes, "or just to relax and share memories."

**Jack B. Carmichael '59** (519 S. Rogers St., Mason, MI 48854; jackbcarmi@aol.com), a member of The Academy of American Poets and the East-West Literary Foundation, has been devoting much of his time to writing. Also active in community theatre, he has served as photographer for several productions and had roles in a number of plays.

**H. Bruce Russell '59** (26 Wood Stone Rise, Pittsford, NY 14534) is retired from Eastman Kodak after 34 years of service. He has been involved with the International Development Research Council for many years and completed a year as president of the organization in 1998. Bruce, a leader in the corporate real estate field, often speaks at the Wharton School and MIT.

We heard from **David H. Watt '59** (4101 Bronson Blvd., Kalamazoo, MI 49008) in March: "I recently renewed my pilot certification after 20 years of inactivity. It is like riding a bicycle!"

**Bruce R. Elder '62** (761 Main St., Norwell, MA 02061; belder2053@aol.com) retired from medicine in September 1998 and is active teaching in the U.S. Power Squadron's

Advanced Courses. He and Jeanne are planning to move to Savannah, Ga., and spend their summers traveling the rivers and lakes on their cabin cruiser.

In a second career, **C. David Berger '63** (7509 Fence Row, West Chester, OH 45069; cdavid\_b@msn.com) is a sales associate at Coldwell Banker West Shell. Last November, he and Kay celebrated 35 years of marriage. The two first met at a freshman mixer. Via e-mail, David has re-established contact with his little brother, **Andy Duarte '65**.

Tour manager **Donald H. Adams Jr. '66** (15 Castle Harbor Isle, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308; teentour@aol.com) leads tours for teenagers and occasionally older folks. From time to time, he enjoys visits from some of the brothers.

**Richard R. Kinney Jr. '66** (12769 Via Donada, Del Mar, CA 92014; rkinney@cmkr.com), an attorney in private practice, specializes in trust/estates and health care law. He welcomes visits from brothers heading to the San Diego area.

Artist **Paul D. Hammersten '69** (P.O. Box 69, West Chatham, MA 02669) reports that his photo, "The Jewels of the Continent," won top honors in the CVS contest for the best photograph of a national park. The grand prize, an all-expense-paid trip for four to Glacier National Park, will enable Paul to return to the Blackfeet Indian Reservation in Browning, Mont. He continues to support the Museum of the Plains Indian located there.

**John A. Willoughby '70** (7300 Colebrook Cir. N.W., North Canton, OH 44720) now serves

as director of human resources at North American Refractories. Early in 1998, he was given a surprise 50th birthday party that included **Steve Sherwood '70**, **Terry O'Hara '71** and **Rick Hursh '70** as guests. Last summer, John attended a retirement party for Steve.

**Rogers J. Johnson '80** (55 Dumbarton Oaks Rd., Stratham, NH 03885) was looking forward to earning an MBA in health policy at the University of New Hampshire this year. In February 1998, he welcomed the arrival of his second son, Jeremy.

**Thomas Chimples '81** (35209 Quartermane Cir., Bentleyville, OH 44139) announces the birth in September 1998 of his second son, Thomas.

**Alan R. Cooke '81** (10 Heron Dr., Mill Valley, CA 94941; acooke@bidcom.com) serves as vice president of sales at Bid Com. His daughter, McKenzie, was born last November.

With his wife, Molly, and two young daughters, **James S. Long '81** has moved to 11210 Beach Mill Rd., Great Falls, VA 22066. He is a principal in Winston Partners and receives e-mail at jslatwpg@worldnet.att.net. He reports that **Kevin Abram '82** and his new wife, Jill, have relocated to Colorado and that **Mary Ann and Rick Boyle '81** have a new son, Richard III.

**Michael F. Burke '82** now resides at 17 Roosevelt Ave., Rye, NY 10580. He and his wife, Sally, were expecting their second child in February.

To take a new position as controller at Ohio News Network, **Erik D. Mitchell '91** has relocated to 2729 Edgevale

Rd., Columbus, OH 43221. You can contact him on the Internet at edmssm@mindspring.com. Erik was looking forward to the arrival of his first child this spring.

**Brian Fedorko '95** sends greetings from the Alaskan Aleutian Islands. "Keep up the good work you've [Tom Tatham] been doing for the chapter. Know that it's appreciated. I'm extremely proud of the guys for winning a Sisson Award. We tried in 1995 when I was president, but unfortunately, we just weren't ready yet. It's encouraging to know things are continuing to improve."

**Bradford K. Chelton '98** (3198 Mary Ave., Columbus, OH 43204; bradford.chelton@ey.com) is an auditor with Ernst & Young. He and Charity Novena are planning to be married in August of this year.

Stock broker **Benjamin W. Harrison '98** (539 Rt. 169, P.O. Box 147, Woodstock, CT 06281; bw Harrison11@yahoo) joined Waterhouse Securities in August 1998. Five months later, he recruited **Aaron Seil '98** to the firm.

## OF EVER HONORED MEMORY

We regret to inform you  
of the death of

**Paul W. Counts '23** (12/10/98),

**Robert H. Krieg '38**,

**Robert C. Beckett '39**

(10/6/98),

**Donald F. Lehman '46** (1/8/98).

Beta Theta Pi mourns their  
passing and extends condolences  
to their families and friends.



## YOU'VE GOT MAIL!

Listed below are e-mail changes or additions received since publication of our last issue.

James K. Tope 1941	ringo@ij.net
Robert M. Best 1944	sbest12@aol.com
Richard A. Gregg 1945	dilugregg@aol.com
Thomas R. Long 1951	trl2@america.net
	trlong2@aol.com.
Robert M. Canright 1952	canright@infinet.com
Paul B. Kisseberth 1954	kissy1@juno.com
Jack Hahn 1955	jhahn505@aol.com
Paul M. Nobis 1955	nobis_a@hccai.hcca.ohio.gov
Ronald A. Pettegrew 1956	ronpccim@ecentral.com
Charles P. Woods II 1958	cpwoods@msmisp.com
Thomas P. Stover 1958	t.stover@mcicwix.com
Jack B. Carmichael 1959	jackbcarmi@aol.com
G. Russell Pipe 1959	grpipe@ibm.net
Bruce R. Elder 1962	belder2053@aol.com
C. David Berger 1963	cdavid_b@msn.com
	cdberger@coldwellbanker.com
Laurence D. Cohen 1963	bigco@massmed.org
Chester D. Cramer 1963	chet.cramer@mcione.com
Paul D. Belden 1964	beldenfam1@msn.com
Andrés Duarte 1965	dba@dvaccs.com
Donald H. Adams Jr. 1966	teentour@aol.com
Richard R. Kinney Jr. 1966	rkinney@cmkr.com
William B. Morse III 1967	rubym@frontiernet.net
	billm@morselbr.com
John C. Johns 1968	jjohns2@pdq.net
Larry R. Plum 1968	lrplum@aol.com
	larry_plum@cinfin.com
Ralph R. Bozell III 1970	rbozwell@umich.edu
	rbozell@ix.netcom.com
Eric R. Hursh 1970	rhursh@citysecurities.com
John R. Sherman III 1976	yipyow@herald.infi.net
	jsherman@jasteer.com
Michael M. Wallace 1979	mike_home@msn.com
	mike@loosco.com
John S. Mengel 1980	76207.112@compuserve.com
	jmengel@76207.112
Alan R. Cooke 1981	acooke@bidcom.com
James S. Long 1981	jslatwpg@worldnet.att.net
Timothy M. Fitzgerald 1985	tim.fitzgerald@ac.avnet.com
Erik D. Mitchell 1991	edmssm@mindspring.com
Brian Fedorko 1995	bgfedorko@hotmail.com
Bradford K. Chelton 1998	bradford.chelton@ey.com
Mike Dowgiewicz 1998	mjdowgie@cc.owu.edu
Benjamin W. Harrison 1998	bwharrison11@yahoo
Matthew Doman 2000	msdoman@cc.owu.edu
Eric Eickhoff 2000	ejeickho@cc.owu.edu
Shawn Starlin 2000	shstarli@cc.owu.edu

## PINK AND BLUE: THE UNKNOWN STORY PART I

By Ben Graham '52

*This article was the result of a suggestion of Brother Paul Nobis '55 to Brother Ben Graham '52 while at the chapter house at the March 1999 Fraternal '50s ceremonies. The article was researched and abridged by Ben Graham '52, from The History of Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity by Samuel Raymond Thornburg '15.*

Walter E. Dennison of Theta chapter, proposed and successfully won the adoption of the present colors of the fraternity — pink and blue — at the national convention of 1879. The use of these colors had begun six years earlier, in 1873, at the Theta chapter as excerpted below from a letter written by W.V. Cox, Theta chapter, class of 1874.

In reply to your inquiry about the adoption of the Beta Colors, pink and blue, the present fraternity colors of Beta Theta Pi were first worn in Delaware, Ohio, in 1873, when as now, Theta chapter was full of handsome young men. There were so many would-be Beta girls at Monnett Hall and in the town itself that there were not sufficient Beta badges to go round.

It clearly would not do for a Greek who had three or four attractive young ladies, to settle down to one girl, for in numbers there is safety. This embarrassing situation was discussed in old Beta Hall on Sandusky Street. The president of the chapter thought that "color wearing" would solve the problem. Colors, he said would be effectively worn by all, especially by those who were selected as Beta girls. The liability to wrong interpretations and disagreeable social misunderstandings by badge wearing would be obviated.

The selection of distinctive colors then came up. One of the members, now a Methodist Bishop, who had at that time but two girls, spoke rapturously. He indicated that he was more fond of one of his flock when she wore pink, and of the other when she wore blue.

In deference to the feelings of the prospective wearer of the cloth, one of the brothers exclaimed, "We want both." "Let it be pink and blue," and those colors were selected. Soon the delicate shades of pink and blue in either dresses, rosettes, ribbons, bows, or badges, were worn by the best-looking girls and boys in Delaware. These distinctive colors, seldom worn before in our little college town, henceforth became "the fad."

At the Beta convention held in Cincinnati late in 1873, these colors, pink and blue, were suggested by members of Theta chapter for adoption by the fraternity. But members of sedate years and less romance than those of Theta, and with an utter abhorrence of "the Frenchy colors" said "No!" The noes had it without a vote, and in 1873 the color scheme was ruthlessly rejected. Six years later, however, another effort by Theta chapter was successful, and the colors were adopted.

*Part II will be included in the next issue of The Theta Data.*