



The Theta Data

Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity
at Ohio Wesleyan University

Delaware, Ohio

December 1992

Theta Chapter Achieves Unity with Diverse Brotherhood

By Don Bishop '77, House Faculty Adviser

This fall 23 brothers, including 11 initiates from our spring pledge class, returned to campus. We also welcomed a new house parent, Ed Uhlman. Ed is a great addition; he has become close to the guys and is valued as a helpful mentor.

Each year since Beta's return, I have seen the house members increase their activities and leadership skills. I am pleased to tell you that in my estimation, the brothers are now operating more as a fraternity than at any time in the recent past.

We have achieved togetherness with a diversity of people. Our scholarship remains high and involvement in varsity sports and campus organizations is substantial.

The house is cleaner on a consistent basis, and the members with duties seem to be carrying them out responsibly. We also successfully hosted a mini-reunion for 1972-78 Beta alumni, and an open house during Fallfest drew about 20 alumni and 30 parents.

This summer we paved an area near the porch and erected a basketball hoop. It has been well-used. We also renovated, to some degree, the second- and third-floor bathrooms. The brothers have painted the basement social lounge and the renovated porch wall.

This spring we intend to pledge more than 15 and reach a house number of about 30 for the fall of 1993.

"House Dad" Impressed by Maturity of Undergraduates

By Ed Uhlman, House Adviser

I began my new job as housefather for Beta Theta Pi on August 15, 1992. So far, it has been a very enjoyable experience. The men in the house have been considerate and friendly. I began by introducing myself as the new house adviser, but the guys prefer the term house dad. It definitely makes me feel welcome.

During the day, I work as the chief probation counselor for the Delaware County Juvenile Court. The two jobs often seem to be in different worlds. It is a real pleasure to go from the high stress environment at court to the relaxed atmosphere of dinner at the Beta house. The brothers comprise a diverse group of bright and verbal

men. It doesn't matter what the topic is, you're sure to find a good debate around the dinner table.

I know that my daytime job created some anxiety when I first arrived, but I think that the guys have seen that I can separate the two roles. The University's policies place a lot of responsibility on the members of the fraternity.

That is where the responsibility belongs. The brothers run the house. My job is to advise them to "be smart" and make sure that they keep safety in mind. I have been impressed by the maturity they have shown, especially when other fraternities are acting irresponsibly.

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Alumni and undergraduate brothers enjoy one another's company on the front porch of the Beta house during the 1972-78 Reunion on October 3. (Please see story by David Mack '76 on page 2.)



Alumni Supply the "Drive to Go the Extra Mile!"

By Ritwick Ghoshal '93 Chapter President

The Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi has come a long way since those years of "seclusion" and "non-performance." We are now a fraternity on solid ground with definite purposes and are motivated to improve even more. We applied our enthusiasm to our social and philanthropic programs as well as to rush, which has been successful on the whole. Last year we initiated 12 members—the largest class Theta Chapter has seen for a long time. I am also proud of our long-term commitment to the American Heart Association.

We, the undergraduate brothers of Theta Chapter, appreciate the commitment of David Mack '76 in initiating and organizing a reunion of 1972-78 Theta Betas in conjunction with the undergraduate brothers. It was something new and exciting for us because we had never been part of a fairly large-scale reunion before. I sincerely thank our alumni for returning home for a visit and encourage the rest of you to come back as well. The undergraduates would love to see you at the house. It gives us that drive to go the extra mile!

Once again I thank you for your support and wish you well. Here's to a happy and prosperous 1993!

Alumni, Come on Back For Monnett Weekend April 2-4

By Andrew Cooper '94, Corresponding/Recording Secretary

The events of the last couple months represent the fruits of some of our efforts to be the best. The visits by alumni have really motivated us to continue to improve the chapter. This Fallfest weekend we had the best turnout of parents and alumni that any undergraduate can remember. As we near the 1600 mark for roll numbers, we realize that there are many alumni whom we have not yet met. We really hope that those of you who have not had the opportunity to do so yet will come see how things are progressing in the Beta house. We think you will be extremely pleased.

This next year represents the 140th year of Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. We encourage you to drop in any time you are in the area, especially during **Monnett Weekend**, which will be **April 2-4, 1993**. We thank all of you for your support and hope to see you soon.



Congratulations to the Beta Class of '92: From left to right, they are Matt Howison, David Lit, Gardiner Lawrence, Gregory Ritz, Matt Morris and Jon Miller. (Not present are John Flayderman and Don King.)

1972-78 Reunion a Success; Next One — Spring 1994

By David E. Mack '76

On October 3, a small but enthusiastic group of 21 1972-78 Beta alumni and wives met at the Beta house for a reunion and an OWU vs Denison football game. We had representation from almost every graduating class. The reunion was great and the Battling Bishops crushed Denison. Too bad the OWU football team wasn't a force when we attended school in the '70s.

For most of us, this was one of the few times during the last 15-20 years that we have returned to visit OWU and the Beta house. The house basically looked the same as when we left it. We came away saying to each other that the current group of Betas living at the house would have fit in during our era at OWU. Of course, the system has changed dramatically with the elimination of alcohol as the social catalyst.

Before and after the game, we spent time visiting the house and talking to the house members. There was a keen interest in what the traditions of the house were. Each of us was surrounded by curious Betas asking about the old times and trying to tie our present-day appearances to the composite pictures they had. Frankly they had more interest in speaking to us than we had when the alumni showed up while we were in school. We were flattered and had a thoroughly enjoyable time.

Because of the success of this mini-reunion on such short notice, we plan to coordinate a well-planned Beta alumni reunion for the spring of 1994. Let's get some communication going and plan for this event.

A Way to People's "Hearts"

By James Kole '94, Ritwick Ghoshal '93 and Andrew Cooper '94

The philanthropy programs of Theta Chapter are looking up. Philanthropy Chairman James Kole '94 decided that the American Heart Association would be a good organization to work with and he was right. The Five-mile Walkathon on October 18 was an immense success in which the Betas, in association with Kappa Alpha Theta and Tri-Delt, collected over \$8,000 for the walk. This was definitely the most successful philanthropy project organized by the Theta Chapter in the last five years.

The house has many more philanthropy projects planned. Our cooperation with the American Heart Association this fall is just the beginning of a long-term dedication to this organization. We are continuing our service with Delaware Parks and Recreation and have also volunteered to assist the Delaware Humane Society with the care of animals at the shelter. Our increased philanthropic involvement is one more step to reestablish Theta Chapter as one of Ohio Wesleyan's and Beta's finest.

The Theta Data is published for the members and friends of the Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan University. Address changes, news items and photographs are always welcome and may be sent in the enclosed envelope or mailed to **Alumni Records Office, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, P.O. Box 361303, Columbus, OH 43236-1303.**

Alumni News



Henry C. Thomson '30 (85 Hillside Dr., Delaware, OH 43015) is publisher of *The Delaware Gazette*.

"We invite any brother coming to Florida down I-75 to drop off at the Zephyrhills exit and come by to see me and my family," writes **James K. Tope '41** (3050 Beaver Creek Dr., Zephyrhills, FL 33453). "Kent" wants to know if **Donald W. Korn '42** remembers when "you and I charted your melody as a theme song for Lou Conrad and His Sultans of Swing dance band? Remember how happy he was to get such a fine composition?"

After retiring from two careers, **William S. Anthony '45** (25 Starboard Ln., Osterville, MA 02655) is starting a third career as a consultant for Cape Cod Bank & Trust. Bill, the father of four children, has won both the Massachusetts and New England Senior Golf Championships. "Good luck to all of you," he writes.

Charles H. Hall '46 (9956 Johnny Cake Rd., M-1, Painesville, OH 44077) spends most of his time watching his grandchildren participate in athletics and other activities. He also works as a volunteer, teaching reading to those who never learned. Charles would like to hear from any of the brothers of his era, including **Bob Mauck '48**, **Dick Gregg '45** and **Dick Hindman '47**.

After retiring from his medical practice in May '92, **S. Tom Talbot '49** (P.O. Box 881382, Steamboat Springs, CO 80488) moved to Steamboat Springs to enjoy golf, tennis, backpacking, ballooning,

hiking and travel. Tom often sees **Dusty Rhodes '50**, who, he reports, is retired as a school teacher in Florida.

Though retired as a full-time pastor, **William C. Wright '50** (8428 Eastview Ave., Everett, WA 98204) performs interim pastoral work at several churches in transition. He also serves on a variety of committees with the Everett Rotary Club and is on the board of directors of the Washington State Hemlock Society.

J. William Myers '51 (105 Fulton St., P.O. Box 105, Lyons, OH 43533), who retired this year as a Unitarian Universalist minister, plans to work further on his autobiography, which he has entitled *A Long Time Learning*. "Rev," who has written and published many books of poetry, reported in May that a reprint of a 1963 collection of his works, *Rediscovered Island*, was to be released in the summer. He has four children.

An attorney with Gray, Plant, Mooty, Mooty & Bennett, P.A., **Daniel B. Ventres Jr. '52** (1355 Vine Pl., Orono, MN 55346) is still practicing law after 30-plus years and notes that, as long as he is having fun, he will continue to do so. Dan and his wife, Judy, have two children and two grandchildren. Dan enjoys skiing in Aspen.

Physician **Richard J. Currie '58** (1238 Hazelwood Dr., Fort Washington, PA 19034), chief of urology at Chestnut Hill Hospital in Philadelphia, reported in June that he was proud that his daughter, Ellen (OWU '92), had become engaged to **John Flayderman '92**. He sent us the photo (above). "Wink" sees a lot of **Ed Geiger '58**.

Charles P. Woods '58 lives at 8397 Top Rail Ln., Novelty, OH 44072.



Thank you to **Richard J. Currie '58**, who sent us this photo of **John Flayderman '92** and **George Conrades '61**, "a Theta pledge who has done quite a bit for OWU and in business." (See Currie's alumni news entry for "the scoop.")

An associate of Eastman Kodak, **H. Bruce Russell '59** (26 Wood Stone Rise, Pittsford, NY 14534) is vice president and director of the corporate real estate division. Bruce is very active with the Boy Scouts and serves on the Board of Trustees of Park Ridge Hospital. In the spring of '92, he and his wife received the PTSA Life Membership Award.

Owner of Signature Companies, **Robert C. Moyers '63** (1014 McKinley, Fremont, OH 43420) reports that his business, formed in 1991, presents the copyrighted program "Seven Steps Towards Positive Communications," which was designed to help people learn how to become leaders through the use of positive power.

In November '91, attorney **Charles D. Underwood '68** (5087 Doral Ave., Columbus, OH 43213) volunteered for service in the Persian Gulf. His unit, the 160th Air Refueling Group, was activated in December and Chuck spent three months flying air refueling missions in the Persian Gulf. He reports his law practice has "rebounded nicely" since the interruption.

Lawyer **Sanford E. Lee '70** now resides at 1600 W.

Cheyenne Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80906 and reports he has a second son, Brian, born in April '92.

Jeffrey S. Miller '71 (1200 Brookfield Ct., High Point, NC 27262), president of High Point Regional Hospital, writes that he and his wife, Carroll Ann, have two children.

Jacki and **Mark D. Aldrich '72** announce the birth, in January '92, of their son, Kevin. They also have a new address: 6729 Winding Cv., Dayton, OH 45459. The couple attended Mark's 20th reunion where they saw **Gary Cohen '72** and **Tim O'Hara '72**. On a plane trip in '91, Mark took a seat next to **Jerry Marx '72** and they had a nice chat for the duration of the flight. Mark is regional vice president for PPC, Inc.

Self-employed, **Robert W. Harrison '73** (421 S. Candler St., Decatur, GA 30030) recently began a business consulting practice in addition to his existing information system consulting service. He and his wife, Ayla, are the parents of twins.

J. Frederick Hoopes '73 (245 Walnut St., Phoenixville, PA 19460), an ESL instructor at Valley Forge Military Academy,

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More Alumni News



hears from **Rob Sohmer '74**, who keeps him up to date on the New York City area Betas and alumni.

Robert W. Everett '75 (3318 Forestdale Ct., Flatwoods, KY 41139) serves as corporate counsel with Ashland Oil, Inc.

David E. Mack '76 (1806 Colfax St., Evanston, IL 60201) had nice words for the members of the undergraduate chapter after visiting the house during the reunion of the classes of 1972-78: "We had a great time with the Beta house members we met, and were very comforted to see what the house looked much the same as when we were there. We were all impressed with the young men and came away saying that we would have pledged these fellows if they had been at OWU when we were there."

James M. Ries '78 (3423 Garrison Farms Rd., Baltimore, MD 21208), vice president of D. Myers & Sons, Inc., had a visit from **Rob Richards '77** over the summer and the two enjoyed an Orioles game, then drinks and entertainment at Baltimore's Mt. Sinai Tavern. "Rat" reports that Rob is living in Denver and working for the General Services Administration.

You can reach Sara and **Kenneth L. Frank '80** at their new address: 49 Farmington Chase, Farmington, CT 06032. They have a son, Maxwell. Kenneth is asset manager with Barclays Business Credit, Inc.

Edward A. Manuel '80 (11 Bates Rd., Chester, CT 06412) is a money manager with PaineWebber.

When he wrote in June, **James S. Long '81** (12556 Knightsbridge Dr., Lake Ridge, VA 22192), president of Westchester Fairfax, Ltd., **Rick Boyle '81**, **Pete Westermann '80**, **Tim Boyle '83** and **Dan Lawlor '79** had shared a week-long

mini-reunion with their wives, families and girlfriends at the beach in May. Jim also noted that **Steve Bilby '80** and Ann were planning to be married in June '92.

You can write to **R. Scott Parker Jr. '82**, who is in the Marine Corps, at his new address: 855 Price St., Meridian, MS 39305.

Dave O. Lusk '83 (1930 Lost Valley Rd., Powell, OH 43065) announces the birth of his second daughter, Megan, in May '92. "Does the house still have a matching keg policy for birthdays?"

Self-employed as a consultant and journalist, **Sean L. Barry '89** (184 Marlboro St., Quincy, MA 02170) wrote in May that he had been elected to the City Democratic Committee and was working as a media consultant for two campaigns. He was also employed as a stringer for "Zap News" radio wire service and was working on a second MA degree. Recovering from the cancer-related loss of his right leg, Sean reported his physical therapy was progressing well.

Student **Michael D. Colson '91**, completed his first year of graduate studies in English composition and rhetoric at the University of Maryland in June. He has moved to 1637 Carriage House Ter., Silver Spring, MD 20904. "Maddog" often sees **David Poss '88** and talks with **Kirk Keller '91** on occasion.

Since publication of our last newsletter, we have learned of the death of **Richard P. Fischer '32** (9/18/91) and **Glen D. Cassner '74** (1/19/92).

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

Our Theta Chapter Officers



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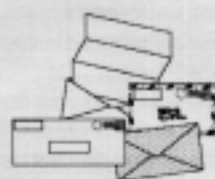
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Help us make **The Theta Data** a success by sending us address changes, news and photos!

Our newsletter, along with our other periodic mailings, is your link to the undergraduate chapter, your alumni association and your Beta brothers and classmates. It's easy to guard against missing out. Just don't make a move without letting us know your address change — and your news. You can report both on the enclosed newsform, or you can drop us a note at the address at the bottom of **page 2**.

Also share those old photos that bring back so many memories. We can reproduce them in the newsletter and return them to you undamaged and unchanged. Just attach a note requesting their return and including your address.



"House Dad" Impressed

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One other thing that struck me since my first day at the house is the strong group of officers leading the fraternity. They are very conscientious and it has been good to see their efforts pay off during events such as the American Heart Association's 5-Mile Walk, the alumni reunion, the parents' reception and our recent Halloween party. Their hard work bodes well for the future of the chapter.

I look forward to working with the house on other activities and hope that, as we get to know each other better, the brothers will see me as a trusted ally in their efforts to build a strong brotherhood.