

# The Theta Data

FEBRUARY 2005  
DELAWARE, OHIO

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY • OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



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## Alumni Personality Profile

Richard "Dick" DeVos '54, #892

*Normally, alumni profiles are the result of personal interviews with the featured brother. On this occasion, with Dick four hours away from Dayton, and as an accommodation to the editor, an exception was made and Dick kindly agreed to submit "his story", in his own words.*

### The Early Years

My family moved in about 1925 from Chicago to Los Angeles so my Dad could take an opportunity with Price Waterhouse and start his lifelong career with them. We lived in West L.A., where I was born in 1932, until 1940 when we moved to the Pasadena area. My brother, who was five years older, and I lived the life of the beach boys each summer in the La Jolla area. The ocean was a big favorite. I can remember clearly the Sunday morning of December 7, 1941 when we sat around the kitchen table and listened to the news reporting direct from Pearl Harbor of the Japanese attack.

California was quickly put on alert and air raid practice, spotting aircraft and blackouts became regular events. Also the ever-present earthquakes were lived with. Our Japanese/American Gardner and family came to say "goodbye" as they were to be taken to detention camps in the Mohave Desert. That made little sense to a ten-year-old boy. My Dad, who had been a Marine in WW1, was lent to the Navy to do special work in Asia, mostly China, doing analysis on the economic stability of that area to determine how long they could hold off the Japanese. When he returned in 1944 we moved to Washington D.C. My brother stayed in California to finish high school and then entered the AF where he was a belly gunner on a B29. Planes from his squadron eventually dropped the A-bombs.

Washington was quite a change. We lived in the Statler Hotel for six months until my family could find a house to buy. The city schools were segregated so we only competed in sports with the Blacks at the Boy's Club. Because of the moving I went to three different schools from ninth through twelfth grades. At Wilson High I played football, basketball and baseball. In twelfth grade I had to transfer to the major rival, Western High, which meant playing against many old teammates including my future "best man". Quite a few friends, as well as fraternity brothers from Wilson, went on to OWU as I later found out. The beauty of the D.C. area and the excitement generated by the constant government activity made it truly unique. At that time I was attending a youth Sunday school at American Univ. The teacher was a great Christian who was able to keep 30-40 guys under control for an hour each week. I absorbed a lot and had great respect for Dr. Griffith. He talked to me about college, suggesting I look at Oberlin, and since neither parent had gone to one I was not sure. I actually tried to enlist at seventeen in the Marines but my Dad wouldn't sign the papers. "One living ex-Marine in a family was all that was allowed," he said. With Korea going full blast he probably saved my life. Anyway we loaded up one weekend and drove to Ohio to look.

### Off To College

Oberlin was not it! We drove on to look at Denison, which looked very Eastern and appealing. I filled out an application there and we drove on to OWU. We arrived at Dr. Jim Bridges' office at noon and he sent me to the Beta house with a student for lunch. My host was Dan Ransom '51. The first guys I saw on entering the dining room were Grover Cooper '52 (later my big brother) and Baker Smith '53, both who I had known at Wilson. Also, there were Bob Wooley and Skip Cheseldine both '51 and Dan Ventres '52. It was easy to feel at home. At lunch they asked if I was coming to OWU. I decided that the answer should be "yes". They said they would like me to become a pledge and they would get me a room for the next year. All looked right. So, with a pledge pin in my pocket I met back with my parents. I told them I was done looking and we could go back to Washington. I laugh when I think about that day. It was so simple. My four kids required a great deal more effort.



Dick DeVos and Mike Schwartz at 50<sup>th</sup> OWU Reunion

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## BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Dr. W. Martin Haskell  
Ohio Wesleyan '68



## GENERAL FRATERNITY REPORT

DR W. MARTIN HASKELL, Cincinnati, has been elected vice president of Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity at the Fraternity's annual convention in Atlanta, GA, August 7. He will serve a three-year term on the Board of Trustees. Beta Theta Pi's nine-man Board of Trustees guides the activities of more than 5,800 undergraduate members on 127 campuses in the U.S. and Canada, as well as some 118,000 alumni members of the 165-year-old Fraternity.

A 1968 graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University, where he majored in math, chemistry and pre-med, Haskell attended medical school at the University of Alabama-Birmingham. He completed residency training in Cincinnati and currently has a gynecology practice there and manages a medical management company.

Haskell was awarded Regional Director of the Year honors at the General Convention this summer. He served the post for Region H for two years (2002-04). He was the Fraternity's chief of District 10 (2000-01) and helped the University of Cincinnati chapter through its reorganization. In 2001, he was awarded District Chief of the Year honors for his dedication. Haskell has been a facilitator for advisor training in Oxford and was Convention President for the 163<sup>rd</sup> General Convention in Kansas City (2002).

In 1994, he joined the board of the house corporation of Theta Chapter, Ohio Wesleyan. Subsequently, Haskell served as house corporation president for four years and led the chapter through its reorganization. He has continued as secretary/treasurer of the Theta Chapter House Corporation.

### TREASURER'S REPORT AND MORE

By Marty Haskell '68

This year has been a rewarding year for those of us nursing our alumni association along. We have had a record response from all of you in that you contributed over \$3000 to insure that *Theta Data* continues to be published, keeping us in touch with one another and enjoying the bonds of eternal brotherhood. Besides the strong donation, several of you gave for the first time this year. Altogether, 37 of us made contributions. *Thank you.*

This year has been rewarding for me personally also, as I was elected to the Board of Trustees of the General Fraternity. My main job on the board is to examine our governance methods and make recommendations to bring us in line with best practices. I have also been given oversight responsibility for our annual General Convention.

Convention this year will be at the Scottsdale Princess, Aug 4-7. This will be a great time to enjoy Scottsdale and renew your Beta spirit. We have negotiated a great room rate and a great package has been put together. Yes, the summer is hot in Scottsdale, but it is dry heat, so I am told!! In spite of the dry heat, I noticed that golfing starts at 5 AM! Well, just think of it as 8 AM if you are from the East coast. Also, great deals have been negotiated on the spa packages which are quite spectacular. More information is available on the Beta website, [www.betathetapi.org](http://www.betathetapi.org). Go to the bottom of the page and click on the cactus icon. I hope to see some of you there.

The fraternity's commitment to the Men of Principle is unwavering and we continue to receive recognition and awards for the impact we are having with it on college campuses across the nation. Every new

colony we start (5 per year) is a Men of Principle chapter. At this point, one-third (40) of our chapters and colonies are Men of Principle. While rush is declining in general, our existing chapters are reporting an 8% increase this year. When new colonies and restarts are added in, we have seen a 13% increase in pledges this year over last year.

Being a Men of Principle chapter means that the chapter will have a positive hazing-free pledge period, will rush alcohol free and seek only the highest caliber men. At a time when fraternities are being black-eyed by date rape, hazing and alcohol deaths, Beta is showing that there is an alternative and that our alternative attracts men in great numbers who are otherwise turned off by the negative image of today's fraternities. Men of Principle returns us to the roots values of our founding fathers, our 3 objectives and 7 obligations. Do you remember them from initiation?

Building Men of Principle chapters takes resources, personnel and money. Consequently, the fraternity has undertaken a \$15 million endowment campaign, *A Campaign for Every Beta*. The income generated will provide programming and leadership training for generations. Currently through our various leadership programs, more than 2 members from each chapter on average enjoy a full scholarship paid leadership experience each year. When you are approached, please be generous.

Yours in ~kai~ *Marty Haskell*

Theta Alumni Association Treasurer, VP Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity

"We have had a record response from all of you in that you contributed over \$3000 to insure that *Theta Data* continues to be published...Thank you!"

## 2005 NATIONAL CONVENTION

Beta Theta Pi will celebrate 166 years at the five-star Scottsdale Fairmont Princess Resort in Scottsdale, AZ, August 4-7. Details available in January at [www.BetaThetaPi.org](http://www.BetaThetaPi.org). A member of the 'Leading Hotels of the World,' this magnificent resort is scenically set against the backdrop of Arizona's McDowell Mountains and pays tribute to Arizona's Spanish Colonial heritage. Boasting one of the best Spas in North America, kids water park on the property, three award-winning restaurants, state-of-the art meeting facilities, and two 18-hole Championship Golf Courses — one of which is home to the Annual PGA Tour FBR Open (formerly the Phoenix Open) — The Fairmont Scottsdale Princess is truly an experience like no other. Beta Theta Pi is pleased to offer this property at a significantly reduced rate. Make it a family vacation to remember. (PRICING ON THE WEB SITE IN MID-JANUARY.)

## Richard "Dick" DeVos

*Continued from page 1 —***OWU Highlights**

Coming on campus in the fall was like starting a new life. I had decided to play freshman football, basketball and Varsity



*Dick and Nita DeVos '54 at 50<sup>th</sup> OWU Reunion*

tennis. It didn't occur to me that being a Chemistry major was not a great fit for those plans. Several weeks with Dr. Manual helped sort that out. It wasn't high school! The next year I decided to major in Business and take my hard fought "C" on as my science credit. Also many of us were committed to the AFROTC program to keep the draft board away and bad grades would not help. The return as a pledge to the Beta house was the right decision. I was put up at Eckelberry's along with Bob Corey and Dee Simpson, fellow pledges. Believe it or not we had a recent girl graduate living in the room between us. We shared the bathroom and passings in the hall in different shades of dress. A step along the way to adulthood! Our pledge class of twenty-four was a compatible group who suffered the events of pledge training well. I think Hank Anderson '53 was our trainer. Twenty were initiated by June '51. Only two from that bunch have passed on to Wooglin — Pete Kaufmann and George Kocher. How many remember the "bench clearing brawl" after pledge week when some of the brothers fought the Sig Eps for the back room at the Jug? Some spent the night as guests of the City. I

remember thinking there were some interesting times ahead. With pledge training, house-cleaning duties, sports, studying, school classes and an occasional date survival was the trick. As initiation approached we made our pledge trip. Mine with Bob Pickering was to U of Michigan.

Great experience and a cool nighttime hitch hike. Who remembers the "white light" session with Norm Slenker '51 as the "griller"? I do! Hell week was just that. Back on football ... freshman football was mostly "killing us" time. We provided scout team scrimmages for the varsity. I remember lining up against Don Wedge, Al, Bill and Tom Long all '51 and trying to survive. Tom Goodrich, Jim Compton, Jim Meredith, Morg Shrader and I from the pledge class all participated. As for basketball Paul Kisseberth and I had the pleasure of playing for Bob Strimer. A great guy! Beating him at hand ball was the toughest thing.

*Other things I remember:*

1. The gracious Mama Linn.
2. Great singing under great song leaders. Paul Koch, Clint Miller and Eddie Stahl
3. Reany's quarry. Many a life long relationship was developed there.
4. Bob Cotner wiring the fire escape electrically so the guys on the third floor that relieved themselves and rained on his window got a real shocker!
5. Hank Baldwin, House Manager deluxe, tripping on the stairs and tumbling out the front door during "hell week".
6. Nelson and the kitchen crew. You wouldn't want to know what happened from time to time with your dinner.
7. Bill Beetham's '51 pet hawk that lived in the basement of the house.
8. The huge snowball fight with

the Chi Phis in winter '53, I think, that brought assistance from Delaware's finest as well as other fraternity participants.

9. Our great Intramural football championships in '53 with QB Bill Metzel '53 and again in '54 against the SAE's. We were good!!
10. Trips to Florida for Spring Vacation '53. Pete Kaufman backed over his golf clubs in his rush to stock up the rental house with beer.
11. Bob Corey and I started bar tending at the Elks in our freshman year and ended up by the time we were seniors at the Surrey.
12. Other D.C. Theta Betas: Dick Eitzel, Larry Linderer, Milt Irvin, Sam Pardoe, Dan Rich and Tom Turco. I had my first date in Florida with Nita Heyman DG at midnight, after she and her friends came in from an earlier party. We were engaged by late fall and married in June 1954. Campus looked like the AF Academy twice a week with marching and saluting. I had the surprise appointment, at least to me, of being named Cadet Commander of the AFROTC my senior year. Summer camp was at Keesler AFB in Miss. for many of us. In July it was 95 in heat and humidity plus 10 more in the formations on the flight line. July 4 weekend was in New Orleans. A fun place for college men. Graduation suddenly appeared and many marriages in June (ours on the 16<sup>th</sup>), July and the balance of 1954. Most had their orders within weeks and Korea was almost over. How was that for good news?

**USAF Service In The 50s**

The real world started for Nita and me on Sept. 1 at Sampson AFB NY. I had my flight school assignment in Class 56A reporting to Bartow AFB in Florida. We were to get a

final flight physical in NY but it turned out they had such a backlog that they were washing out anyone they could. It was determined that I was too tall. I went on casual status and played BB for the base team until January when it was off to special intelligence training (oxymoron?) for six months in Wichita Falls, TX. We got our orders to SAC with the 68<sup>th</sup> Bomb Wing in Lake Charles, LA. The Wing was a B-47 combat ready Atomic Weapon carrying group whose targets were in Russia. I prepared target info and trained the radar operators on what the displays would look like so they could rain down on them if ever necessary. Only during the Suez crisis did it seem possible when we deployed to forward bases all over the world. It was tense. Later in 1956 we lived through hurricane Audrey that passed directly over our neighborhood and peeled the shingles. The true highlight of our stay was the birth of Rick at a cost of \$9.53 the night I was the Base Officer of the Day. Staying in the AF passed by my mind but on August 31, 1957 we were out on our way West.

**The Real World**

Landing in Phoenix to look for a lifetime job was our goal. There were few jobs in 1957 there so with my brother's help I got some interviews in Los Angeles. The first was with IBM selling typewriters. It was hard to imagine becoming CEO that way. I happened to see Alcoa's office while driving down Wilshire Blvd. and I used a chit I had from a friend and walked in and got an interview, and a week later a job. A 35-year career in Sales and Marketing positions followed with multiple opportunities. A strange happening in the process was that the LA office was directly next door to Good Samaritan Hospital where I was born 25 years earlier. We moved five

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## Eric Eickhoff OWU '00 Appointed GENERAL FRATERNITY ASSISTANT ARCHIVIST



Oxford, OH, Oct. 18, 2004 — **Eric J. Eickhoff**, Ohio Wesleyan '00, former Fraternity education consultant, has been appointed Assistant General Fraternity Archivist of Beta Theta Pi International Fraternity. A resident of Pepper Pike, OH, Eickhoff will assist in maintenance of fraternal, chapter history and lore archives,

and chronicling museum and library donations. Eickhoff fills the volunteer position that had been vacant for three years.

"Eric cares deeply about the preservation of the Fraternity's history and artifacts," commented Beta Theta Pi Administrative Secretary Stephen B. Becker, Florida '69. "We are glad that he will assist us in the care and maintenance of these important areas in Oxford.

Eickhoff will support General Fraternity Archivist H.H. Stephenson, Miami '39, who has volunteered his time since 1976. Eickhoff spent three months reorganizing the archives and files in both the John Reily Knox Memorial Library and the Fraternity archives this past summer.

Previously, Eickhoff dedicated three years to the Fraternity as an education consultant — assisting chapters in the areas of leadership, recruitment, risk management, alumni relations and new member education. He has facilitated The Institute for Men of Principle and The Undergraduate Interfraternity Institute.

As a collegian at Ohio Wesleyan, Eickhoff served as pledge educator, historian, philanthropy chairman, public relations chairman and awards chairman and was executive vice president of inter-fraternity council.

## *Eric Eickhoff Appointed District VIII Chief*

**Eric Eickhoff '00** was recently appointed Chief of District VIII, with chapters at Bowling Green, Case Western, Kenyon & Toledo. His duties include: working with chapter officers and advisors, appointing chapter advisors, meeting with university officials, establishing and managing action plans for chapter discipline, attending chapter meetings, events and initiations, organizing a district conclave and motivating chapters toward earning various awards. John Bolek '88 previously served in this capacity during the period 1998-2003.

## *A Night with The Judge*



*"Judge Rupert A. Doan", Host*

July 7, 2004 was highlighted with an evening of reminiscing at the Cincinnati home of **Judge Rupert '55** and **Sue Doan** for several of the brothers and wives. The occasion was triggered by a vacation trip for Larry and Joyce Linderer '55 from their home in Florida to visit friends "up north". Also joining in for the evening were Paul & Anne Nobis '55, and Tom and Ann Tatham '56. The evening was spent viewing pictures of the past and spinning tall tales and stories of fond memories at OWU and the Beta house at 54 W. Lincoln.



*"Rupe" Doan, Annie Nobis, Sue Doan, Joyce & Larry Linderer*



*Paul "Nobby" Nobis & Larry "Ace"*

# Alumni News

Word from the alumni



Bob Cotner '54 and Alva (King '56) Cotner at 50<sup>th</sup> OWU Reunion

**Bob Cotner '54...** From his wife Alva (King '56) —

Thanks for sending the obituary of Chuck Glander. What a fine life he led and how much he contributed to the improvement of the Columbus area. Betas have lost a good man. We have been away for three weeks (Alaska and Seattle) so are just catching up on email. I will be answering for Bob — his right arm is causing him a lot of pain and typing, using a mouse and other things (shaving, etc.) are very difficult. Thanks again for keeping us informed. Alva  
LATER NOTE — Looking forward to our 50<sup>th</sup> golden reunion in May. Bob Cotner, 320 Olympic Dr., Rockport, TX 78382, (361) 727-2050 rcotner@pyramid3.net

**Jack Mathews '54** — Upon learning of brother John Appel's '56 surgery earlier this year, Cousin Jack sent the following "get well" to John... *Greetings Brother APE:* You are cordially invited to participate in a Classic and historical event this coming Friday at the old Beta house in Delaware, OH. It will be a poker game in the living room

in the Frat house and will once again bring together 7 of the finest and most talented poker players to ever hit a college campus. You have been chosen to be one of the 7 players to participate in this glorious event. The other 6 players are: Tommy Tatham—the Ohio Flash, Fat Charlie—Ecker, the Toad—Homer Clark, Kennie Clark, Rufus Doan, and yours truly—*Cousin Jack*. This poker game will commence at 7 PM and will continue all night until the sun rises (better known as an All Nighter). There will be implemented some very strict rules and regulations governing this game. 1) NO Tabs will be allowed. 2) No borrowing of other players' cigarettes. 3) Players cannot draw light from the pot and then proceed to bet those lights once again. Bring plenty of cash and smokes. This All Nighter will include variations of 5 and 7 card stud—also 3 card Red Dog. When the game ends, as the sun rises, the losers will have one final chance to get even —one hand of showdown will end the All Nighter. Remember, bring plenty of cash, as checks and IOUs will *Not* be accepted. RSVP, jackmat37@wmconnect.com —kai— *Cousin Jack*

**Ken Cozier '56** — Just thought you would like to know Ken's shoulder operation went well. He had rotator cuff surgery on the right shoulder which had a small tear. We went into the hospital yesterday at 11:30 AM, operation was scheduled for 1:45 PM, but the operating room was in use longer than expected, and he finally went in close to 3:00 PM. The bone and joint doctor who had done my hand surgery one and half

years ago did his shoulder.

At 5:05 PM Ken woke up, and it was all over. We have pictures of the surgery which also show the sutures to heal the small tear. No drainage port was attached, but internal drainage was administered by the doctor with something to do such. Don't know the fancy name for this. We finally went home about 7 PM after Ken spent close to an hour in recovery. Now the time has come to re-coop! With pain medicine and a sling, he will take it easy for about 2 weeks until he sees the doctor again and has the outside stitches removed. Then we shall see what therapy is suggested. Wears a sling to go out in public as they advised.

Thanks for all your concerns and prayers. (I am sure all of you who knew this was coming had him included in your prayers.)

I went to the airport today and picked up Cindy, our daughter, who will be with us until Friday afternoon. She is a big help already. Fortunately, she's free since her job ended in April and she has been interviewing ever since.

Our love and thanks to all of you for helping us get to this point! *Jane and Ken and family!*

**Dave Weisman '57** — [Upon hearing of Chuck Glander's death, Dave sent the following.] We spent Ohio State weekend with them (the Glanders) two years ago and Chuck and I went to the President's Club luncheon before the game, as we have in prior alternate years and had a good time. Edie (who was sick at the time) and Chuck and Sue watched the game on TV but I of course was in the horseshoe. Our address now is 11781 Old Oak Drive, Granger, IN 46530. The home phone is (574) 277-

3559 and the office is (574) 254-1151. We built a new home (our first "build") two years ago and it was a pleasant experience. It was our first move in 30 years. I remain in active law practice and my primary R&R is Michigan football games (having missed seven regular season games in the last 27 years with plans to attend all 11 this year). You (Tom Tatham) have indicated in the past that you attend the USC games in S.B., but I always am at a game that same weekend. We might check the schedule for next year and if SC is here on a "home" Michigan date, we could meet with you on Friday night or maybe late Saturday evening or Sunday (plenty of time before then to make plans). The reunions at OWU conflict in the fall with football games and a couple of springtime events in recent years have conflicted with Scottish Rite Reunions (in which I spend a considerable amount of time on stage during a weekend). I will write again later but wanted to get some preliminary info to you and this was a good time for a "break in the schedule." Thanks for providing Bob Neff's address. We have corresponded and I look forward to getting together with him this fall, either in the Dayton or the South Bend hospitality room. *Dave* dbw294@msn.com

**Matt Garrison '99** — Hi



Tom. This is Matt Garrison '99, and I've got an answer for you as far as identifying the undergrads at the Alumni

Reception from 1998, on the back page of the most recent *Theta Data*. From left to right: Jeff Gallo, John Byrnes, Adam White, Joel Burke, Ian Roberts, Jeff Beaudry, Andrew Panagotopoulos and Tim England.

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## Alumni News

Continued from page 5 —

Thanks for continuing your hard work as Editor of the *Theta Data*. I enjoy reading it each time it arrives and hearing about what all the alums are up to. As for me, I live in Columbus with my wife of almost four years, Amy (Miami '00), and work as a Financial Representative with the Northwestern Mutual Financial Network in Springfield. I get together with other Theta Betas Brad Chelton '98, Pete Celeslo '98, Matt Brown '00, and Joe Palmer '00 (also Columbus area residents) frequently. Warmest regards, *Matt*  
 Matt.garrison@nmfn.com  
 Office: (937) 398-0045,  
 Mobile: (614) 270-4357,  
 Fax: (937) 398-0046

**Bill Niblock '65** — Hi Marty... About a year ago, during a visit with my in-laws in Columbus, I took an afternoon drive down Williams Drive and saw that another fraternity now occupies our house. It was a sad shock to face this reality.

You, Chuck and many other loyal brothers are to be commended for maintaining the Theta spirit. Theta belongs at Ohio Wesleyan, and I wholeheartedly support all our efforts to see its tradition restored. —kai— *Bill*  
 107 Devon Rd., Paoli, PA 19301

**John Kenneth Cozier, Jr. '56** — I am now working on two family history books. One on my grandfather and one on my grandmother. *John*  
 58 Stony Ridge Rd.,  
 Asheville, NC 28804, (828)  
 253-4806, Jkc58@charter.net

**Bill Plavcan '55** — Retired, spend part time at St. James Plantation in Southport, N.C. Am finishing year as Rotary Club President. Serve as a member of

Boards in the area. Would like to see everyone who comes to western Maryland. 19106 Rock Maple Dr., Hagerstown, MD 21742-2464, (301) 791-5103, wgpuro@aol.com

**Don L. Rhodes '51** — Taught in Chardon until I retired in 1979. Have 4 children and 5 grandchildren. Had the urge to travel and have seen a lot of the world. Brother Dick "Floater" Rhodes '50 passed away in 1994. 121 Claridon Rd., Chardon, OH 44024, (440) 286-3983.

**Morry Hollenbaugh '49** — March 2004  
*Dear Brothers in Theta Chapter,*  
 I just received my copy of the *Theta Data* and saw Kissy's face staring at me on the front page. The last time I saw Kissy and Annie was at Bix Newhard's '53 "cabin" across the valley from us here in Snowmass, CO. I stood in my living room a few years ago and watched Bix's old house burn down in a glorious blaze. The new house is a marked improvement.

Then I read the other stuff and saw in Ordway's letter that Fred Olds was in Guthrie, OK. So I called him and talked for about an hour. We laughed about our hunting trips of old and how we made Skip Cheseldine '50 sit in the back seat of my old '27 Model T Ford and hold "Gizmo", my Llewlyn Setter, on his lap. Fred sounds in fine fettle. Skip Cheseldine was then a pledge and we were just out of WWII and trying to get back into the college routine.

Then I called Skip down in Bonita Springs, FL and found he was still the same old Skip, thank God. I reminded him about Gizmo and we had a big laugh. Skip is into fishing all over the World—Brazil, New Zealand, Canada, etc., and even had a stint out here in my fly fishing territory. Had I known that he was invading here I would have

had the Sheriff run him out of Colorado. Then I received some fishing pictures of his exploits—probably posed catches taken from his guides to impress the peons. I told him that the last three times Phyllis and I were out trout fishing we got 39 but was reluctant to say that practically all of them were bigger than that trout he got out here.

In February, Evan Roderick '51, Mick Musselman '52 and Keith Gaspitch rendezvoused at Skip's and Norm Slenker '51 sneaked into that picture as well. Wish I had been there. The neighbors probably called the police because of the loud laughter disturbing the area. Theta Betas are like that when they get together.

We're out here in paradise and if any of you fly by this way we will be disappointed if you don't drop in. Thanks for the *Theta Data* guys, it was refreshing.  
 Yours in —kai— *Morry Hollenbaugh* (and Phyllis too)  
 phlmor49@wmconnect.com

**Dan G. Ransom '51**

—After a long involvement with retailing (President-Wm Hengerer Co., Buffalo, NY) we entered the field of real estate—owned Prestige Properties of Western NY—sold business in January 2004—we are continuing to work on a contract basis with that company. My wife, Elizabeth Birch, and I are active and in good health. 58 Orchard Terrace, Orchard Park, NY 14127-2742, (716) 667-3073



**David H. Watt '59** — March 21, 2004 ... My first grandchild, leaving Kalamazoo and retirement...2003 was a busy, eventful year for Karen and me.

Amelia Cotsen Watt was born April 11<sup>th</sup> to my son, Drew

and his wife, Sarah. Karen and I happened to be in New York City to visit my children and celebrate Karen's April 10<sup>th</sup> birthday when Amelia decided to arrive a few weeks early. All went well and she tipped the scales over 5 lbs. Now we will go to the city in a few weeks to celebrate both birthdays again. Amelia is going to have a little sister this coming July. Boy will Drew and Sarah be busy!

Also in April, Pfizer completed the purchase of Pharmacia where Karen was employed as a Clinical Trials Specialist. There was a lot of tension in Kalamazoo over the next several months and we wondered what the future had in store for us. Pfizer offered Karen a position in LaJolla, California, but as nice as it may be there, we said "no thanks". Karen started applying for positions at Pfizer's Connecticut facilities and in October was hired for a position in New London/Groton. We made a house hunting trip in November and purchased a house in Mystic (Mystic Seaport, Mystic Pizza). My new address is 1291 River Rd., Mystic, CT 06355, (860) 536-4183, dwatt99@comcast.net

At the end of December I retired from my computer consultant sales position with Secant Technologies and we left Kalamazoo on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Two cars, two Golden Retrievers, Karen & I arrived in Mystic New Years Day and got ready to close on our "new" home (built in 1800) and move in the first week in January. The entire move went very smoothly and the big plus is that we are located exactly in between my two older children in NYC and my youngest daughter in Cambridge, MA. It is great to be so close and we visit back and forth often.

Karen loves her new position and I am enjoying retirement. As one friend said, "don't think of it as retirement, think of it as adding

5 days to your weekends". It couldn't be said better and there is no end of things to keep me busy. The "honey-do" list is always full.

If any Beta Brothers are traveling in this direction, give me a call. We have a guest room and bath that would welcome visitors. Yours in —kai— David

**C.D. Berger '63** — All's well here in Valparaiso, IN. Came here in June '99. Retired from AK Steel in '92. Sold real estate in Westchester, OH area from '93 until '99. Play golf during the week and hold open houses for a custom builder in Valparaiso. Wife Kay and I live near our daughter, her husband and 3 children.

**Richard McClintock '53** — It was fun to see all of the anniversary coverage (Dick & Ginny's 50<sup>th</sup>) in the latest issue—thanks to my wife's plotting with Tom T. I should clarify that Norm Slenker was on hand for our celebration also.

**Robert S. Neff '53** — In Sept. 2003, received Scottish Rite Masonic 33<sup>rd</sup> degree in St. Louis. (Honorary degree in recognition of community service.)

**Stephen C. Sherwood '70** — Entered "grandparenthood" in August 03....Highly recommend it to all brothers. Still enjoying retirement in Northwestern, PA., but still busy. Saw John Willoughby and Terry O'Hara during the year. Saw Pete Lee in Colorado Springs. All doing great. '70 Betas—remember our reunion in May 05—expect to see you there!!  
PO Box 26, Endeavor, PA 16322, (814) 463-0230, naveldepth@yahoo.com

**Rev. William C. Wright '50** — Moved to a retirement home 9-9-03. "Bugs" Clemmer (deceased, 2004 in Dayton, OH) a "real"

Theta member. Happy that "Skip" Cheseldine is keeping in touch with brothers since no one else lives in Pacific Northwest. Would like to see Hugh Troth & Bob Richards. Merrill Gardens, Apt. 280, Millcreek WA., 98012, (425) 379-0417

**Don Wedge '51** — Retired and living in Clermont, Fl. Have had a rough year with major surgery for lung removal...wife had knee replacement which was followed by an infection, strokes and seizures, and ultimately had to place her in a nursing home...I am still scouting for the NFL. Will soon be moving from 2861 Highland View Circle, Clermont, Fl 34711, to a smaller location. (352) 394-0147, dwedge@earthlink.net

**Eric Eickhoff '00** — Has returned to his home in Pepper Pike, OH to work with his father in the florist business after 3 years on the road with Beta Hq in Oxford. 33249 N. Deer Creek Lane, Pepper Pike, OH 44124, (216) 292-5629 cadmus1641@msn.com

**Paul Kisseberth '54** — Hi Tom, not certain if you have my new address. New computer, hookup to cable, and away we go.



I am having to reconstruct my address book and wanted to make sure you are there. Annie and I wish you and Ann a Blessed Holiday Season. I have talked to Keith Thomas, Buzz, Pat and Dee, Sherry and Jacquie and Dick DeVos within the last few weeks. I also talked to Jake McKinnie and members of the OWU Alumni Relations staff. Maribeth has updated us with her upcoming reunion and

*Continued on page 9 —*

**Richard "Dick" DeVos** *Continued from page 5 —*

times in the next thirteen years to various US locations. Two children were born in one California stop and one in Seattle to round out the family. By the time we reached Dayton in 1968 I was a Branch Sales Manager (the best sales jobs in the company) but that changed in 1971 when I was sent to The Alcoa Forging Division in Cleveland with three others and told to develop a new strategy to save a sinking ship that didn't know how to make money. If not, Alcoa would begin to close it down. Within six months we revised the concept of pricing the product and selling it in a profitable method while maintaining our customer base. It worked. Since then Alcoa has adopted this model and reorganized nearly every division in the company along the same lines. I consider myself lucky that I didn't have to spend any job time in the home office.



*Dick DeVos—Outstanding Recruiter for Theta Chapter. The editor pledging, Fall 1952: Dick Davenport '53, editor, Dick DeVos '54, Tom Halliday '55*

#### *Retirement and "The Good Life"*

We settled in Bay Village on Lake Erie and have enjoyed our lives here. We are a skiing family who has spent time in Utah and Colorado with our children and friends over the last twenty years. Our children all graduated from Bay Village High School and attended various universities for degrees. We now have 10 grandchildren and enjoy our retirement in the Cleveland area. I was active with Theta House Company during the nineties as well as on the OWU Alumni Board. Our many OWU friends and Beta Brothers remain close in our hearts. Our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion last May was terrific. We hope there will be many more.

#### *From the Brotherhood..... A Well Deserved Salute*

Dick DeVos always was and always will be a devoted Beta. He gave much of his personal time serving during his undergraduate years in various offices of Theta Chapter, and for many years as a member of the House Corporation Board including several years as its President. He has maintained close contact with his many brothers, and has on many occasions been an instigator in arranging gatherings with the many brothers who remain close to Dick and Nita to this day. It is with our great pride that Dick was featured this month as the Alumni Profile. He deserves our thanks for his service and our affection for his steadfast friendship to all of us. From all his many Beta brothers who cherish their relationship with Dick, we all say, with a rousing cheer, "here's to Dick, and thank God you're a Beta".

## OF EVER HONORED MEMORY

*It is with sadness that we report the following passings of our beloved Theta Chapter brothers:*

From the *Beta Theta Pi* magazine, summer 2004  
**HARRAH, William O.**  
 OWU '43

**LAGRANNE, Lawrence**  
 OWU '41, passed away on Jan. 17 — Served in the Navy as lieutenant during 1942-45. Graduated from Cornell Law School in 1947. Was a well-respected attorney practicing in Monticello and sole practitioner of Ingber & Lagarenne. Was involved in many professional and community organizations including: Board of Monticello United Methodist Church, Past President of Kiwanis Club and organizer and Past President of Legal Aid Society of Sullivan County.

**PARKER, Dr. Watson D.**  
 OWU '33.....Jan. 17 — (As reported by brother *W.B. Pickering '54* who also notes that he is now the oldest living sole survivor of his Beta class) — Served in the Navy during WWII, Beta. Brother of James D. Parker Jr., OWU '32 (deceased). Brother Pickering notes that he and Brother Parker served in the ETO with the Navy in WWII and they were best friends for over 70 years.

**JEFFERIS, Donald R.,**  
 OWU '56...Oct. 18, 2004 — “Jeff” was a classmate and roommate of this *Theta Data* editor during our senior



*Don Jefferis '56—Hazing a pledge. Keith “Buck” Thomas '54 and Homer “the Toad” Clark '55*

year at OWU. We shared many experiences during and beyond our OWU days, including marrying Delta Gamma roommates, (Jeff to Janet Ellis '57 and the editor to Beverly Hurley '56). Together, we enjoyed many family vacations and shared many family experiences together during Jeff's lifetime.

Jeff began his career with General Motors in 1956, upon graduation from OWU. His career in purchasing responsibilities took him to the GM central office in 1976. He returned to Dayton in 1981 and concluded his career with Shopsmith Inc. before poor health in the 1990s precipitated the end of his active working career. He had several interesting hobbies where he developed exceptional skills and talents. Following the interior design directions of his wife Janet, Jeff applied his unique construction skills to the renovation of several homes in Dayton, OH and Birmingham, MI. Their combined results were true showpieces.

He devoted many hours in

his early Dayton years to chairing the local soap box derby program.

His restoration of a 193? Chevrolet to mint condition, the construction of an extensive doll house for his daughter Jennifer, and many other woodworking projects for his family and friends

were true works of his passion and skills.

His last few years were difficult due to failing health, and he was confined to a nursing home in Dayton. Following his death, a special memorial service was concluded with his burial at the Oak Grove Cemetery in Delaware, OH.

Jeff was a devoted father and Beta and he will be sorely missed by family, friends and his Beta brothers.

From the *Columbus Dispatch*  
**GLANDER, Charles F,**  
 OWU '56, died Thursday, July 8, 2004 at Mayfair Rehabilitation Center in Columbus. Born in Columbus on December, 29, 1933 and aside from his college years at OWU, he lived in Columbus his entire life. He loved this city, its people and its institutions and worked hard to better all he touched. Over his lifetime, he served in the arts, public service and several churches. Some of his involvements were as President of Opera/Columbus, President of COTA, President of Friends of WOSU, work

with alumni groups at Ohio Wesleyan (B.A. 1956), Ohio State (J.D. 1959) and many other organizations.

He was a member of the Upper Arlington City Council for 11 years, two as Mayor. He was also active in Columbus Cum Christo (formerly Cursillo), serving on several teams. Chuck will be best remembered by many for his vision, his faithfulness to friends, and never stinting in his efforts for what he believed to be right. His Christian faith was a large part of his life, one that he shared readily, and he leaves an outstanding legacy for all who knew him.

Following his father into the field of State and Local Taxation, he was an attorney in Columbus for 40 years, retiring from Bricker and Eckler in 1998.

Chuck leaves many happy memories with his wife, Sue; children, Rebecca Harvey (Steven Thurston), Fred Kirchner, Phyllis Teater (Andy) and Gordon Glander (Debby); ten grandchildren, Clare, Sean and Celeste Black, Somer Harvey, Exer and Acadia Thurston, Josh Kirchner, Rachel, Dan and Sarah Teater; sister-in-law, C. Lynn Glander and two special cousins, Susanne Holm and Doug Chandler.

He loved carillon music and was instrumental in having the tower built and wired for such an installation.

He will be sorely missed by family, friends and his Theta brothers.



# QUESTIONS?

Visit the Beta National Web Site  
or call ...

Beta Theta Pi national headquarters has a Web Site which is located at [www.BetaThetaPi.org](http://www.BetaThetaPi.org)

Give it a try! You will find many items of interest including:

- ▶ About Beta
- ▶ Men of Principle
- ▶ Beta Resources
- ▶ Support Staff
- ▶ News and Events
- ▶ Features and Services
- ▶ The Foundation

Of particular interest is the directory. Click on Features and Services, then click on Membership Directory where you will have to register and then you will be able to use it for searching names, class years, addresses, etc. Call **1-800-800-BETA**.



Unidentified brothers with **Don Wedge '51** receiving fraternal 50's pin.

Young brothers attend wedding of  
**Matt Brown '00 & Brianne Veit**



Nearly a dozen Theta Chapter brothers from the late 90's – early 00's recently celebrated the marriage of **Matt Brown '00** to **Brianne Veit**, as well as the coming of a new year, on January 1, 2005 in Columbus. Looking forward to a happy, successful 2005 are, from left: **Joe Palmer '00**, **Tim England '01**, **Trevor Warren '00**, **Matt Jakubowski '99**, **Brad Chelton '98**, **Matt Brown '00**, **Ramsy Mahjoub '98**, **Jeff Beaudry '01**, **Matt Garrison '99**, **Josh Pretzer '99**, **Ken Bagstad '99** and **Shawn Starlin '00**.

## Alumni News

Continued from page 7 –

I think she said she has been in touch with you. Take care and thanks for all you do for your Beta brothers and their loved ones. —kai— *Kissy*

From **Pat Sladey, Widow of Ron Pettegrew '56** –

Greetings and I hope all is well with every one of Ron's dear friends. You can see that Ron continues to live on through his children and grandchildren. [Editor's note – Pat's letter was accompanied with a number of pictures of Ron's grandchildren.] I feel so incredibly privileged that the kids and grandkids all keep in close touch with me and even invite me to fly to their homes to do kidsitting duty now and then. Lucky me!! Please say Hello to all the wonderful friends and classmates who were so comforting to Ron and to me during his illness and passing in 2001. With love, *Pat*

[patsladey@hangarliving.com](mailto:patsladey@hangarliving.com)  
From **Pat Sladey (Pettegrew)** –  
12/15/04

**Andres Duarte '65** – In a phone conversation with Andres (from Caracas, Venezuela) he advises that things in Venezuela remain tense.....the dictator Hugo Chávez has packed the Supreme Court and does not compromise with other parties. Andres' 3 children were with him and his wife over the holidays, but have now returned to the states. Andres remains on the board of a local newspaper which classifies him as an enemy of the people. His business has been severely damaged by the turmoil these past few years. For the time being, Andres and his wife remain at their home in Caracas. You can reach Andres as follows: [aduarte@dvaccs.com](mailto:aduarte@dvaccs.com) or phone 011-58-212-854-1333.

**Erich C. Hippenstele '00 ... email to Eric Eickhof ...**

*Greetings Eric!* Before I begin, I feel a brief post-OWU history is in order. After leaving Ohio Wesleyan University, I moved back into my parent's home. I began attending classes at Marymount University, and switched majors from Theatre to English (Literature). Being away from the wild life of OWU enabled me to make great strides as a student. I discovered that I actually enjoy reading and writing. I took classes on Shakespeare, Jack London, and early Medieval literature. My final semester of college was spent in London, England. I learned quite a bit about the U.K., and what it means to be a Londoner. On May 11<sup>th</sup> of 2003, I finally graduated from college. I took about a month off, and began waiting tables with Great American Restaurants. It turns out that my boss (the Managing Partner for Silverado) is a Beta! Right now, I am waiting tables until I can find something I enjoy more. I like my job, but I know I can do better. One of my fellow servers (a female) is also a student at Marymount. She is now wrapping up her Psychology degree in London. I will be going to visit her in late April. Enough about me.

Recently I have been receiving copies of the *Theta Data*. I have been encouraged by your articles. I have hoped for Theta's return to the OWU campus ever since I heard that the chapter was being closed. I look forward to hearing of its triumphant return to campus, although I understand that there is much more work to be done. As you know, I have an archive of photographs from our years at Ohio Wesleyan. If you wish, I would be glad to go through the photographs and find some positive

Continued on page 10 –

## INVITATION TO ATTEND CLASS OF '55 GOLDEN REUNION

*From Paul Nobis '55*

Dear Brothers:

As the December wind tears through bare trees here in Ohio, it is delightful to look forward to May 12-15 at OWU. The 50<sup>th</sup> reunion committee has sent you scads of information. I want to add my own request that you appear—with friend, spouse or by yourself. You will be welcomed with open arms and feel as if you are age 18 again. Where else can you go where people know so much about you and still love you?

Anne and I checked out the '54 reunion this year. Annie and Paul Kisseberth chaired a wonderful event (with lots of rain). Their Sulphur Spring project looked spectacular—even in the rain. Doug Dittrick described the entrance project that our class hopes to undertake. I urge you to send your contribution and then come to see the completed project.

Bring photos of your family for us to share together. Also send in your information for LeBijou, which we will all receive. Send your top ten memories to Maribeth as well. I started writing mine, and then a flood of memories began—some were happy; some were funny and many were downright embarrassing.

Do the picture and song sheet bring pleasant memories? We have been sorting through hundreds of slides taken from '51-'55. Perhaps we can find a time to look back and maybe even sing some good songs.

Here are your individual jobs for a great celebration. (Check the mailing from Maribeth Graham):

1. Send memories to Maribeth.
2. Send pictures to Ray Dykes.
3. Send contribution to OWU and for our class project.
4. Send information to OWU for LeBijou.
5. Come!

Anne and I plan to be at OWU in May. I hope you will be too. Our email: ashirknobis@fuse.net

~kai~ *Paul*



*1955 Beta Sweetheart Ceremony at 54 W. Lincoln.*

How would you like to be a Beta sweetheart?  
How would you like to wear a Beta pin?  
How would you like to gaze upon the diamond,  
Gem of gems that ne'er grows dim?

How would you like to share a Beta friendship,  
Friendship that will last through life?  
How would you like to love a Beta always?  
How would you like to be a Beta wife?

*Words and Air by*  
F. R. WARNER  
CHI, 1912

*Erich C. Hippensteele ... '00* Continued from page 9 —

images of the Chapter to send to you for future publications. Unfortunately, with my limited vacation time, it is unlikely I will be able to come to Ohio anytime soon. However, I am willing to help in any capacity that I can. Please note: I have since moved out of my parent's home. I am now living at: 14849 Cranoke Street, Centreville, VA 20120  
My cell phone # is: 1-703-209-1975. My e-mail is: hippim@mindcrime.net

Please respond and let me know what I can do for you, and for our Chapter. Yours in ~kai~, *Erich*

**Can you identify any of these Theta brothers?**



*Send your answer to the Editor at tomtatham@aol.com.*





Can you help identify these undergrads? Please write to the Editor at tomtatham@aol.com.

THANKS TO MATT GARRISON '99 FOR THE ID "... I've got an answer for you as far as identifying the undergrads at the Alumni Reception from 1998, on the back page of the last issue of *Theta Data*. From left to right: *Jeff Gallo, John Byrnes, Adam White, Joel Burke, Ian Roberts, Jeff Beaudry, Andrew Panagotopoulos and Tim England.*"

NOTE: **HELP**

News and updates from the 70s, 80s and 90s alumni are needed for future issues of *Theta Data*. Email the Editor at tomtatham@aol.com.



Mama Linn — A very special lady. House mother 40s, 50s and 60s.



Ted Chaney '55 — "Dad was a Beta, too!"

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