

# The Theta Data

FEBRUARY 2006  
DELAWARE, OHIO

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY • OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



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## Reminiscing with Brother Al Albrecht '48

BOND #783

*Following, a most interesting letter from Brother Al Albrecht '48*



*Dear Brother Tom,*

I enjoyed reading the February 2005 issue of *The Theta Data*. It is good to receive news about Theta even though it is no longer on campus. It was of interest to note that the names of 15 brothers appeared in the issue that were at 54 W. Lincoln when I was at Ohio Wesleyan '46-'48. I helped pledge Paul Koch, Lewis "Bugs" Clemmer, Dan Ransom, Skip Cheseldine, Evan Roderick, Keith Gaspitch, Norm Slenker, and Don Wedge. Over the years considerable alumni support has come from the alumni who were in school over the period 1946-52. I believe it stems from the fact many were from Ohio and kept close contact with each other. Also, the Chapter was very strong after WWII. When I pledged Feb. 1946 there were 25 actives, and pledges. The following year—1947, the Chapter had grown to 65 actives and pledges to 78 in 1948 ... (And we rushed 24 men without alcohol).

There was an article in the issue by Marty Haskell '68 regarding the building of *Men of Principle* chapters within the fraternity, currently 40 out of 120 plus chapters. Not a real good record. What struck me was that the Chapter as it stood in 1946-48 maintained the moral values and ethics associated today with the standards set by *Men of Principle*. We did not need to have those values written out for us. I guess we just knew what was right and if we wandered, Mama Linn would be quick to have a private talk and bring us back in line. We had the utmost respect for her and did not want to disappoint her.



*Mama Linn*

I find it difficult that it is necessary to say to a Chapter you will have positive hazing-free pledge period, will rush alcohol free, not destroy property, and have a dry house. The house was dry, and there was no alcohol at the Saturday night date nights or formals. I was pledge master my junior year, and believed that attending class, study hours at the house and work duty was enough to keep a freshman busy without the need for hazing. We kept the house in pristine shape. Hank Hubbard saw to that. The house had just been remodeled. It was in pretty bad shape when I pledged the second semester 1946. We owed the restoring of the house to Stan Mauck '16, and The Theta House Company.

Alcohol and binge drinking is by far more of a problem on the college campus today than drugs. I watched the downfall of the Chapter over the years as kegs were brought into the house, moral standards declined, the interior of the house destroyed, which resulted in eventually *Theta* being kicked off campus, and deservedly so. That is when I stopped supporting Theta Chapter. However, what I never understood was how the University had the right to ownership of a house that we (*the Alumni*) had built and paid for. They may have some legal rights, but morally it was wrong, and they should be paying rent to the *Theta House Chapter*.

I would like to see Theta Chapter brought back on campus, but only as a dry house with another strong housemother. (*There will never be another Mama Linn but someone with her values.*) Should that happen I would be glad to help in re-establishing the Chapter.

What ever happened to the Theta Chapter Charter? When I pledged in 1946 they did not have one, or it was lost when the girls lived in the house during the war. I wrote one that was adopted, but apparently it is no longer in existence. It covered some of the founding fathers objectives and principles.

I had a copy of the *1948 Theta Data*; the Chapter published it at the time. Bill Robinson was the editor, and Bill Pfister the art director. He did an etching of 54 West Lincoln that appeared on the cover. Both Fred Olds and Bill Pfister, art majors, had the back room over the kitchen. Fred

*Continued on page 5 —*



BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Dr. W. Martin Haskell  
Ohio Wesleyan '68



## GENERAL FRATERNITY REPORT

BY DR. W. MARTIN HASKELL

I have just completed my first year on the general fraternity's Board of Trustees. What an interesting and exciting year it has been. Your fraternity is very healthy by any measure you chose. Financially, the undergraduates voted at the last convention to double undergraduate dues over the next 4 years reflecting commitment for the direction of our fraternity and insuring the future of our great and good fraternity. Our capital campaign has achieved 2/3 of its objective and the Every Beta phase is yet to begin. The Men of Principle Initiative continues to win awards for creative and innovative programming. This year we established our 50<sup>th</sup> Men of Principle chapter. The Board of Trustees completed its first ever self assessment and strategic planning retreat. The board is focusing its energies currently on insuring that the appropriate resources and leadership are in place to continue the success of the Men of Principle Initiative.

## HOUSE CORPORATION TREASURER'S REPORT

By Marty Haskell '68

Your alumni treasury is in good shape. We are ending this year with \$8500 in the bank, \$800 more than the end of last year. We can thank our editor Tom for his excellent job in managing the expenses of *Theta Data*. He has it down to about \$2500 per issue now. Tom is also our fundraiser! And you all have responded generously to his calls for voluntary dues. We have averaged about \$2700 per year, but this year we have contributions of \$3400. "Thank you", to all of us that see the value in our continuing alumni communications. If you haven't contributed, please consider doing so. Contributions have ranged from \$25 to \$500. We welcome all support. Thank you.

Yours in ~kai~ *Marty Haskell*  
Theta Alumni Association Treasurer,  
VP Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity

## Keith Eiken '57

Atherton High School  
Louisville, KY  
... *Days Gone By*

KEITH EIKEN  
Nickname: Ike  
Office: Captain of cheerleaders  
Activities: Senior play lead, "A"  
Club, Aerial, Quill and Scroll,  
Student Council, Pep Club  
Services: Projector operator,  
office assistant  
Thrill: Defeating Male  
Next Year: College



Pictured below is brother Keith Eiken '57 who spends a lot of time protecting the scenic roadways of Kentucky. Of particular focus of the organization is its opposition to the inappropriate use of billboards along Kentucky's highways. Keith is the Executive Director of "Scenic Kentucky" and a retired administrator of the Louisville public school system.

## Kentucky Environment Duty



*Keith Eiken, Executive Director, and board member Kevin Howard depart the Capitol after meeting with the Attorney General.*

*See Page 7 for details regarding the  
New Theta Chapter Web Site.*

## 2006 GENERAL CONVENTION

The 167<sup>th</sup> General Convention will be held at the Marriott Downtown Eaton Center in Toronto, June 29-July 3, 2006. More information will be available on the redesigned Beta Theta Pi web site [www.betathetapi.org](http://www.betathetapi.org)

**Brother Al Albrecht '48**

*Continued from page 1 —*

Littick had a Studebaker Coupe. Ray was from Jackson Heights, and Chuck Corey and I were from the East and would ride home with him at Christmas to save train fare. We would help pay for gas ... about .68 cents a gallon at the time.

I recall that our food budget was in the red, and Mama Linn and Harriet our cook solved the problem. Mama Linn bought several turkeys left over from Thanksgiving. They were on sale, and Ted Vanderevort's Dad, who ran a cannery, sent us several cartons of creamed corn. I believe we had turkey every way it could be served with creamed corn for the whole month of December. (And yes, we came to dinner with a suit or sport coat or we didn't eat.)

The town (Delaware) brothers were Tom Farahay who worked at C. J. Wilson's of Course clothing store, Morrie Hollenbaugh, and Jim Johnson. There were several pairs of brothers: Bob & Ray Leech, Bob & Don Mauck, Wayne & Bob McFarland, and later the Long brothers — Al, Tom & Bill, and the Wyants, Jim and Bob.

Last of all, I have wondered what happened to the President's Badge and the Watson Badge. They were both large pins. The Watson Badge was awarded to the outstanding senior, and I wore it my senior year. They belong to Theta, and if anyone reading this has one, or knows where they are, it would be



<b>Back row</b>	<b>Third row</b>	<b>Second row</b>	<b>First row (Pledges)</b>
Bob Leech	Bob Mauch	Bill Robinson (Sec.)	Bill Pratt
Jim Hess	Wayne McFarland	Bill Fister (Asst. Treas.)	Neal Cranston
Hank Hubbard	Chuck Galesman	John Reeves (House Mgr.)	Kieth Gaspitch
Russ Patterson	Chuck Ordway	Al Albrecht (Vice. Pres.)	Bill Wright
Tom Farahay	Bill Quinn	Fred Olds (Pres.)	Bob Baracca
Warren Carrigan	Bob Harris	Mamma Linn	Al Long
Jim Johnson	Bob Dunhan	Dick Gregg (Tres.)	Jim Naughton
Dick Rhoades	Tom Tomkins	Paul Powers (Recorder)	Bob Rouge
Morris Hollenbaugh	Hugh Troth	Dick Hindman	Ed Dobson
Ed O'Day	Ed Goodan	Dick Johnson	Skip Cheseledine
Don Mauck	Chet Simple	Tommy Dye	Ned Speasmaker
Chuck Corey			
Jack Gibner			

nice if they would return the badges to the Chapter. I have been told we still have the original Loving Cup. [Yes, Al, we do still have the Loving Cup. Alas, though, both the President's pin and the Watson pin are both missing and have been for many, many years.]

I left Ohio Wesleyan in 1948 with a BA in math and economics, and went on to Ohio State where I received a BS in Metallurgical Engineering in 1951. I spent

45 years in the machine tool industry. First in research and development and then as head of sales with Monarch Machine Tool Company, Sidney, OH, and as Vice President Sales & Marketing Textron's machine tool division in Cheshire, CT. I became Vice President and major stockholder (co-owner of NATCO a machine tool company in Richmond, IN.) I sold my interest in 1989 and formed Albrecht Associates, a

consulting firm for the industry. I am still married to my Beta Sweetheart, Nancy Cecil Albrecht '47 Kappa. We have four daughters, all married and 13 grandchildren ... two currently at West Point.

*Yours in kai-*  
 Albert (Al) Albrecht '48  
 3190 Toddsbury Lane  
 Richmond, IN 47347  
 Phone: (765) 962-4906  
 Fax: (765) 939-8260

*Gray Chapel*



*"Christ The Chief Cornerstone"*



*C. Dee Simpson '54 and Dick DeVos '54 Circa '55 — 54 W. Lincoln*



*Dick Eiken '55, Bill Metzel '55, Mama Linn, Doug Boyle '55, Ron Van Buren '55 — A Popular Quick Hand of Bridge at Noontime*

## The Old Beta House

from Urlin Jr. Harris '58 #972

I do have something of interest for the *Theta Data*. We found an old postcard from Delaware featuring the old Beta house on Sandusky Street. That house has been the Elks' place for as long as I can remember. It just recently closed as they are building a new place in Delaware. I believe the building has been sold to the city or county.

The photo below of the old Beta House on N. Sandusky would have been prior to 1914 since Ethel Harris died at a young age prior to 1914 and after 1910 ... the year my dad was born.

Regards, Jr. Harris



Picture is from a very old post card mailed to Mrs. Ethel Harris in Powell, OH from Julia Thomas in Galena, OH. As many of the brothers remember, this old Beta House was used for initiation ceremonies for many years back in the 40s & 50s.

## Eickhoff Recognized as Rookie District Chief of the Year

Oxford, OH, August 2005 — Beta Theta Pi General Fraternity honored Eric Eickhoff, Ohio Wesleyan '00, with the Fraternity's Rookie District Chief of the Year award at an evening celebration in conjunction with the 166<sup>th</sup> General Convention in Scottsdale, AZ, August 4.



The award recognizes a new member of the Fraternity's district chief ranks who distinguishes himself through work with the chapters in his district. Eickhoff, a former Administrative Office staff member, took over District VIII in northeastern OH. He will begin graduate school at the College of William & Mary this fall.

Beta Theta Pi, founded in 1839 at Miami (Ohio) University, is dedicated to building men of principle for a principled life through lifelong devotion to intellectual excellence, high standards of moral conduct and responsible citizenship. The Fraternity has more than 120,000 members including some 5,500 collegians on 123 campuses in the United States and Canada.

# Alumni News

## Larry Linderer '55 ...

On a trip to DE last July (2004) Joyce and I visited the grave of Theta Brother Homer J. Clark '55 at the Oak Grove Cemetery. Homer was a dear classmate brother who passed away too young. For all of us, getting old isn't for sissies, but life is good. 1608 Manchester Ct., Naples, FL 34109-1409, 239-513-9139 [Linderer@earthlink.net](mailto:Linderer@earthlink.net)

Later ... Nov. 16, 2005 ... Tom, My health has improved, had my knee replaced, and have recently purchased a new Gemini 105 Mc Catamaran and currently sailing down the Intercoastal Waterway on our way to the Bahamas for Christmas. Will keep the boat in the Bahamas this winter and return it to the Chesapeake late Spring 2006.

Recently celebrated our 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary with 150 of our family & friends at our local club—it was a blast and made up for no honeymoon 50 years ago! Joyce loves me again, and I don't know what I can do for an encore—maybe have a 75<sup>th</sup> cause I feel so good.

Life is good again, Larry

## David H. Watt '59 ... 2/22/05

Karen and I have now been in CT for a year and are feeling well settled into our new community and our new (built in 1795) home. Karen's work at Pfizer continues to go well in spite of all the recent drug-related headlines and my retirement is full of things to do.

Our second granddaughter, Cassandra (Cassie) Cotsen

Watt was born in June to my daughter-in-law, Sarah, and son Drew. They are quite busy with two young girls only 15 months apart.

I was deeply saddened by the loss of Brother Jefferis last Fall. Don was my big brother during my first year at the Beta House and OWU. He was a great help to me in getting adjusted to college and fraternity life after being away from school for several years. Without Don, and Jan too, I don't know if I would have made it ... *yours in KAI* ... David, 1291 River Road, Mystic, CT 06355 ... [dwatt99@comcast.net](mailto:d watt99@comcast.net)

## Robert S. Neff '53 ...

Tom, great issue of *Theta Data* ... enjoyed seeing some of the old pictures and info on the brothers. Keep up the good work. Enjoying retirement, travel, skiing, fishing and maybe some golfing in 05. 4466 Blairgowrie Circle, Dayton, OH 45429, 937-298-3630 [robertneff@earthlink.net](mailto:robertneff@earthlink.net)

## Philip T. Kirby '97 ... Married

June, 2000 ... Bought a restaurant June, 2001 and it is going well. I miss all my Theta brothers 1993-1995!! 859 Madison Ave., Winston-Salem, NC 27103, (336) 725-8808 [kirbyhackaday@earthlink.net](mailto:kirbyhackaday@earthlink.net)

## Ken '56 & Chuck Cozier '58 ...

After a short stop in Dayton for a breakfast with the editor, Jane & Ken Cozier traveled 2518 miles to visit family and friends ... Michigan with Chuck & his family and then on to the eastern US for more

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family, friends and many birthday celebrations. Jane writes "... Other than a few rain forests here and there, our trip went well! We had a wonderful visit with Chuck and his wife and family! Their new place is out in the country and really comfortable for them. Their 3 Burmese Mountain dogs have the whole back yard to run in and enjoy—with fences, naturally. I am including a photo of Ken



and Chuck! We finally returned home August 10 after celebrating 5 birthdays and our anniversary!

**John H. Turner '61** ... Have recently retired from 40 years as YMCA Executive Director in six different cities. Now consulting with non-profit organizations. Best to all! 614 W. Apple Tree Rd., Glendale, WI 53217, (414) 247-1454, [jht@mindspring.com](mailto:jht@mindspring.com)

**Bob Cotner '54** ... from Alsa King Cotner ... Dear Tom, Bob and I were so sorry to get your news about Ann. We hope her recovery will go more quickly than you've been told. The news about Jim Davies and Dick DeVos was also distressing but they seem to be doing pretty well. We appreciate your keeping us informed.

Just this weekend I received the '56 Reunion (their 50<sup>th</sup>) mailing—you sure have a full plate!! You have a good group working with you so hopefully you

won't get too worn out. I hope I'll be able to come but have to see how Bob is. He will have his sixth "body part" replacement surgery Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> when he gets his right shoulder joint replaced. I see the effect all this anaesthesia has had on him so am concerned a lot about this one. We are taking a long look at moving to a three-tier retirement community in eastern PA near my family home and one of our sons. Staring down 2 category 5 hurricanes this summer has given us pause about staying on the coast when we are really old and decrepit.

All our best wishes and prayers are with you and Ann,  
*Bob and Alsa*

Later ... 12-13-05 ... Not much news other than I recently attended the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my Air Force pilot graduation — Class 56D—in Colorado Springs. Following that, I had a shoulder replacement surgery in Houston, and I am recovering nicely.

**Paul Kisseberth '54** ... Feb., 2004 ... When Annie and I walked into Bix's Snowmass home on Feb. 18, one of the first things he said was, "Did you see the latest *Theta Data* and the profile of DeVos?" We had not, having left for CO on the 14<sup>th</sup>. You really do a bang up job with *The Theta Data*. I can appreciate all the time you devote to pulling everything together. I will get a check off to Marty Haskell to help with the expenses involved.

No doubt you are already chomping at the bit to outline all the details for your Golden Key Reunion. I will be interested to see how Alumni

Weekend works out for the Class of '55.

We had a great week with Bix and friends and skied more consecutive days than ever before. That's what happens when one gets unreasonable.

Again, thanks for such a newsy *Theta Data* and we send our best to the two of you. -*kai*-  
Kissy

Nov. 10, 2005

**Paul (Annie) Kisseberth '54** ... Annie and I had a busy and fun weekend at Homecoming. We attended the football game with Keith and Phyl Thomas. Their grandson, Tommy Saunders has made the varsity team as a freshman. Later in the day the four of us teamed up to meet Buz and Shirley Christensen for dinner in Columbus. *Kissy*

**Geoff Magrath '66** ... My wife and I recently moved from the Hilton Head area to the town of Aiken, SC. We are both retired. I am very involved with our local chapter of The Service Corps of Retired Executives [SCORE], travel a lot, play a little golf and my favorite activity is "grandchild worship." I wonder if any '66 Betas are planning on returning to OWU for our 40<sup>th</sup> Reunion?? Thanks for your efforts on behalf of our chapter. I'll put a check in the mail today.  
-*kai*- Geoff Magrath

**Steve Sherwood '70**— Each year several Theta brothers gather in August for the Annual Beta Steakout and Golf Outing in Canton, OH. In the past years, John Willoughby '70, Terry O'Hara '70, Steve Deuble '69, Steve Sherwood '70, Tim O'Hara '72, Rick Hursh '70 have gotten together to catch up, down a few, and share memories while enjoying the

company of other Betas from around the Northwest Ohio region. Always a guaranteed good time, the 39<sup>th</sup> annual event will be held on August 15, 2006. If you are available, we would love to see you. Call me (814) 463-0230 for more information as the time gets closer.

In the Beta steakout picture below, left to right are Steve Sherwood, Tim O'Hara, Rick Hursh, John Willoughby, and Terry O'Hara ... all from the Class of '70 except for Tim '72.



Again in September, Steve Sherwood, Rick Hursh and Terry O'Hara were privileged to attend the wedding of John Willoughby's son, Stephen in Canton, OH. A most wonderful affair, the brothers also met Steve Deuble at Bender's in Canton to expand the reunion.

On a personal note, daughter Megan graced the family with twin girls, Catherine and Julia on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> making us grandparents times three.

Later email to Haskell ... We just got back from a Beta steak fry in Canton, OH for the brothers who live in NW OH and the area. John Willoughby, Tim and Terry O'Hara, Steve Deuble, Rick Hursh and myself were there. Ron Snyder, another '70s brother was supposed to be there, but scheduling/work caught him elsewhere. It's an annual event and we have a lot of fun. If the *Theta Data* is still published, this event could make it into the pages ... earlier this year talked with Ralph Hoelzer. He's retired from Filene's, living just off

## Alumni News

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Cape Cod and working, very happily, in a flower store near Boston. Hope you are well ... congrats on your achievements/awards over the years. Steve Sherwood, [naveldepth@yahoo.com](mailto:naveldepth@yahoo.com)

**Buz Christensen '54 ...** reports that Paul and Ann Kisseberth, Keith and Phyllis Thomas and Buz and Shirley Christensen got together for the OWU Homecoming October 1, 2005. The Kisseberths were back for OWU business, the Thomases to see their freshman grandson play football and the Christensens to enjoy their company at Saturday dinner and Sunday breakfast. A good time was had by all!



*Buz Christensen '54 and Mory Shrader '54*

**Aldo Adachi '99 ...** Hi everyone. Hope everyone is doing great over there ... I just wanted to let you know that now that all the Bolivian crisis is over, we are now becoming more stable and are working on the web as usual. One of the things we (Aldo & his brothers) are working on right now is doing a website for my high school, and the functionality is very similar to the one we might be able to use for the Theta Chapter. I know we tried to take on this project a while ago, but at the time I did not have too much time. Now I count on both of my brothers to help me, so

now I can take on new projects such as this. The website for our school is: <http://www.grupoadachi.com/>

Aldo Adachi. PH (591)-3-3424109, Casilla 1878  
Cellphone: (591)-726-24-599  
Santa Cruz, Bolivia  
Hope this email finds you well.  
~kai~ Aldo

**Jack Mathews '54 ...** June 11, 2005, Tom — meant to send you a post card from Amsterdam but forgot your address — we had a great trip. Me and 3 sons — spent a week in Amsterdam and took all the city tours — cruise up and down all the city canals — Anne Frank's house where she and 7 others hid from nazis for 2 years — tour of the windmills outside of Amsterdam — the edam cheese factory — museums — we also took a full-day bus tour down to Brussels Belgium for a day — was nice — a large city of 1 million people — I must have walked 3-5 miles every day and was worn out when we got home. Right now we are suffering from the NV heat — 116 every day — like an oven — we are going to drive to Del Mar, CA on JJ's 2 days off this Wed. and spend the night there near the beach — meeting 2 of my other sons there — they will go to the race track 1 day — I shall stay with the 2 small dogs at the Holiday Inn and relax — walk down to the beach and breathe some cool salt air — only 5 hr. drive there from Vegas — not much other news — spoke to Bob Corey '54 — he is going back to sisters in NJ for several weeks. The Reds are not better than the Dodgers — they both had better teams 50 yrs. ago.

Look forward to football soon — hope Buckeyes do well. Hope you are

fine and working on your 50<sup>th</sup> celebration at Wesleyan — keep in touch — Jack, New email: [Jackjackmat@wmconnect.com](mailto:Jackjackmat@wmconnect.com)

**Ken Cozier '56 ...** We are both fine, thank heavens! Keeping busy with our projects and community volunteer work. Had a wonderful 3 and a half week vacation after seeing you and celebrating FIVE birthdays and our anniversary! Our visit with Chuck '58 and his wife and family was great. He really seems to be doing much better than when we saw him before. At least he can drive a bit and volunteers at the Detroit Zoo in the Butterfly exhibit as well as doing readings to the blind. They were enduring the litigation on his operation for three years. The day after we left them, they had to go to the courthouse and be available to meet with their lawyer, etc. When we called that night to find out how things went, they were so relieved because the judge just settled it all with the lawyers without going into a trial. What a relief! They should get something out of it all. Maybe now they can finish some of the projects they needed to do in their house! My oldest sister sat out Katrina (hurricane) north of New Orleans with family and friends at her house for six hours and no one was hurt! Thank heavens! Her house sustained damage by the wind and three trees falling on it along with many trees falling all over the yard — a big one, too. Four cars were parked near the house and each was damaged as well. Her son who evacuated from the area with his family was able to finally enter the driveway and take her up to stay with another son in Knoxville, TN

and his family. Now she is in Robbinsville, NC at her daughter's home. She plans to return via plane on Friday this week. Her ex-son-in-law has been staying at her house and now has rented a house for himself, so with electricity and water now she can go back. Will have many decisions to make ... and she's almost 84 years old! We still don't know why she never evacuated! Just loves her house though. Ken joins me in sending his best to you both.

*Ken & Jane*

**Mike Schwartz '54 ...**  
Oct. 26, 2005

I am completely retired now. No more radio stations. It's a "big boy" business now. I am a Neanderthal ... a remnant of the past. We spend most of our time in RI, four months in FL ... Orchid Island Golf and Beach Club. I have told my wife I am ready to die when she can put on my stone "Here lies Mike Schwartz ... a bogie golfer." She tells me she doubts if she can stand me that long.

I am very busy running a Habitat for Humanity program in my FL community. We have been building two homes each winter and raising the money for same. Otherwise, nothing else new, and I guess this is good news. Keep in touch.

**Jack G. "Cousin" Mathews '54 ...** returning to Europe again May 6 for a 10 day tour of France including WW II landing beaches at Normandy ... try to go to Europe every 2 years. *Go Buckeyes Go!*

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## LOVING CUP LORE

by Skip Cheseldine '50

Following an inquiry from Skip regarding the whereabouts of the Loving Cup Skip sent the following

**T**hank you for letting me know that our Loving Cup was safely in the hands of brother Haskell in Cincinnati. He has sent me an email to that effect.

In so far as the Cup's history is concerned, my memory is somewhat sketchy. My Dad, whose name was the same as mine is — I was a junior — attended OWU from 1910 -1914. At one point, he was President of the Chapter, I believe. A native of London OH, Madison county, he was the son of Charles and Minnie Cheseldine, 117 N. Main St. My Dad's father, my grandfather died very early of unknown causes. My father was about 14 or 15 at the time.

During the four years my Dad was at Wesleyan, his mother, my grandmother, was host to Beta Brothers on weekends, many, many times. Her house, 3 floors and still standing and now an interesting and comfortable B & B, the Alexandra House, contained a large second floor "sun room" that would comfortably sleep 12-15 Theta Brothers. She loved having them and I can only imagine the scene.



London Family House

In any reference to London, OH, mention should be made of my very dear brother in Theta, Ned Speasemaker who still presides at the old family homestead at 65 S. Main St. Ned and I, as you may have recognized, were in the same pledge class ('46) and both of us graduated from OWU in 1950. (Actually it was me who pulled him through!!)

Ned's father was a Beta at OWU in 1910 but did not graduate because a death in his family brought him home to manage their farm and other enterprises.

Ned's older brother, Cass Speasemaker, was a Theta Beta at OWU during the War years of the 40's. An Infantry 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt, Platoon Leader, Cass was killed at Normandy in 1944 while Ned was serving in the Navy on an LST at Okinawa. The Speasemaker family is legendary in Madison County and Central OH.



Skip shown with his father —  
Col. Ray Cheseldine



Adrienne "Bubbles" and "Skip"  
Cheseldine '50

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## New Theta Chapter Web Site Announced

by Aldo Adachi '99

We are pleased to announce that effective **March 1, 2006** our new Theta Chapter Web Site will be operational and available for your use. For some time we have had the objective of creating a Web Site for Theta Chapter which would provide the brothers with pertinent information regarding Theta Chapter history, pictures, and alumni member directory. It will also allow us to frequently update current information important to all alumni. The internet address for the site is [www.thetachapterbtp.org](http://www.thetachapterbtp.org). Although not all Menu Items are fully developed yet, our plan is to begin with the following material in our site. Anyone wishing to submit relevant material for the site should do so by mailing to either **Tom Tatham @ 900 Hathaway Rd., Dayton, OH 45419** or to his email @ [tomtatham@aol.com](mailto:tomtatham@aol.com) or to **Aldo Adachi @ Casilla 1878, Santa Cruz, Bolivia or [aldoadachi@hotmail.com](mailto:aldoadachi@hotmail.com)**.

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*OF EVER HONORED MEMORY*

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

**Douglas Victor Austin '59**, died on July 4, 2005, after a long battle with cancer. He earned both his master's and Ph.D. from Indiana University. After teaching at Indiana and the University of Michigan, he became an economist with the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. He returned to teaching in 1969 at the University of Toledo. Doug received his law degree in 1978. He officially retired professor emeritus in 1989. During his career he authored 17 books and over 800 articles in the area of banking and corporate conflict. He was the lead witness before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee on bank reform. Doug was significantly involved in church, community, and charitable organizations. He is survived by his wife of 40 years, Gayle; six children and their five spouses. C. Michael Bernard of Traverse City, MI, Jeffrey and Karen Bernard of Toledo, Stephen and Peggy Bernard of Traverse City, Craig and Maria Bernard of Wilmington, NC, Carole Lynn and Tim Stradtman of Bay Village, OH, and David and Mariann Austin of Toledo. Sixteen grandchildren, and his sister, Judith Fissing of Cary, NC.

**Stephen Paul Rohner '82** ... died suddenly on Dec. 15, 2004. He is survived by his wife, Karen, who informed OWU of his passing.

**Dr. Keith R. Gaspich, M.D. '76, Class of 1950** of Wheelersburg, OH,

and Punta Gorda, FL, died January 8, 2005, in Port Charlotte, FL.

Keith enrolled in OWU in September of 1946 and played varsity football before transferring to Ohio State University. He received his medical degree from the University of Cincinnati in 1960.

A member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity, Phi Chi Medical Fraternity, he was also a member of the Christ UMC in New Boston, OH. He served the Shriners, BPOE and Wheelersburg Western-Sun Masonic Lodge 91, where he was a member for more than 50 years.

He was also a member of the Scioto County Medical Society, AMA, AAFP and OAFP, in which he served many offices and committees. Keith was a president of Scioto County Family Practice and chairman of the Scioto County Medical Society Scholarship Fund since 1982. He served on the Wheelersburg and New Boston Boards of Education, and was team physician for Wheelersburg Athletics for many years, and other county schools. He retired from private practice in 1990, and was currently serving as Scioto County Health Commissioner.

Keith is survived by his wife of 52 years, Jayne Adams Gaspich, whom he married in 1952 and two daughters, Michele Elliott of Ada and Kristyn Allen of Marysville, OH.

**Fred Olds '47** ... With deepest sadness, (from Skip Cheseldine '50) I report the death of Fred Olds, OWU 1947, on April 24, Guthrie, OK.

Born in Warsaw, IN, Fred attended the University of Indiana before enlisting in the Army Air Corp in 1941. He served in combat overseas for 4 years as a bombardier/gunner in a B-26 medium bomber squadron through North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Germany.

Already a Beta, Fred enrolled at OWU in September of 1945 and was elected President of Theta Chapter. Fred's strong leadership, experience and maturity and that of other returning Beta Brother veterans, saved many a younger Brother who might easily have strayed into very deep waters. During summer months Fred, Skip Cheseldine '50, Bugs Clemmer '49 worked as counselors in boys camps, 1947-1953, in ME and the Adirondack Mountains of up-state New York.

Through Skip's father, Fred was hired to teach art and coach at Port Washington, NY where he married Flora Anne Olds in 1949, the same year he received his Master of Fine Arts degree from Columbia University. Fred moved his family to OK in the 1950's where he taught art and coached in several public schools and Southwestern State University where he helped set up the very popular College Rodeo program.

Fred painted every day of his life. His artwork depicted his love of horses, cowboys and Indians and the West. He was a Foundation Breeder of Longhorn cattle and won four national championships with his Appaloosa horses. In 1972, Fred moved to Guthrie where he was engaged to rehabilitate the Oklahoma

Territorial Museum and Carnegie Library. He served as director there for 14 years. A highly regarded and celebrated painter and sculpture, his works are exhibited world-wide in museums, churches, universities, on public grounds and in private collections of neighbors, statesmen and public figures.

Fred painted more than 100 pictures of the Oklahoma Land Runs. In 1966 his widely acclaimed "Horses From The Sea" was unveiled in the Oklahoma Red Earth Indian Center. Fred wrote poems describing most of his paintings and in 1999 he earned the Western International Poets Award for his volume, "A Drop in the Bucket".

He is survived by his wife of 55 years, Flora Anne Connors, 4 children, Kathleen, Laura, Erich and Cindy, eleven grandchildren, six great grandchildren and a sister, Janet.

Honorary pallbearers included OWU Betas Skip Cheseldine, Morry Hollenbaugh, Ned Speasmaker, Norm Slenker, Evan Roderick, Bill Wright, Ned Myers and Ed Dobson, also Sigma Chi's Norve Mathie and Jim Lynsky.

Fred was one of kind – a great Theta Beta.

*-Kai-* Skip

Flora Anne Old's address is: 1622 Canyon Bluff Road Guthrie, OK 73044 6/10/05



## OF EVER HONORED MEMORY

Continued from page 8 —

Although not a brother Beta, the following obituary on Tom Wilson will recall to many of the brothers the popular face of Tom as a friendly Delaware face who was acquainted to all of us from many decades. Tom and his sidekick Tom Farabay Beta '49 (also deceased) were always at the store [Wilson's C.J. of Course] available to help us undergraduates with our large shopping needs and our very small pocketbooks. Together, they made up a friendly pair of local Delaware citizens, with strong OWU ties, always there to help. For many of us, this friendship lasted throughout our "after college" days as we often returned to Delaware for purchases and a friendly visit.

**Thomas Wilson '47** ... on May 8, 2005. A member of Phi Gamma Delta, and a well known figure in Delaware as the owner of "Wilson's C.J. of Course" a men's and women's retail clothing store from 1945-88. He served in the U.S. Merchant Marines. He was a member of First Presbyterian Church in West End, NC and was a former member of Delaware Grace Brethren Church. He was an avid scuba diver and underwater photographer in the Cayman Islands, where he spent winters. Tom was a member of the Little Brown Jug Society board of directors for many years, and served on the boards for Grady Memorial Hospital, First National Bank, and the Ohio Retail Merchants Association. He was a member of the Elks Lodge, the American Legion, and the Kentucky Rifle Association. He was preceded in death by his granddaughter, Jami Wilson. Tom is survived by his loving wife of 59 years, Nancy Wright Wilson '45; his daughter and son-in-law, Sandra and Bill Lowe of DE; two sons and one daughter-in-law, Steve and Lenni Wilson of DE, and Tom Wilson of Dallas, TX; four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.



Left to right ... Ann Long, Bill Long, Morry and Phyllis Hollenbaugh, 2002 Oxford Reunion

**William Allan Long '51** was peacefully lifted up to his eternal home on August 24, 2005 in Jacksonville, FL. He was born in Columbus, OH on August 25, 1928 to Dorothy and Allan C. Long and is survived by his loving wife, Ann, who continues to celebrate their 51 years of marriage. Bill was raised in the horse-training heartlands of KY and OH. He was a 1946 graduate of Delaware Willis High School. After his Army service commitment in Japan, Bill graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1951 where he was President of the Beta Theta Pi fraternity, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and the varsity football team. A retired forest products company executive, Bill was a Vice President with Diamond International from 1951-70. He joined Overhead Door Corporation in Dallas, TX as Vice President in 1971 and returned to New York City to join St. Regis Paper Company as Vice President in 1975.

In 1979, Bill became Group Vice President of Inland Container Corporation in Indianapolis where he retired in 1993. An avid golfer, Bill

enjoyed great friendships made on the links of Crooked Stick Golf Club in Carmel and Amelia Island Plantation, FL. Ann and Bill loved traveling the continents, entertaining and joyously reveled in the gatherings of their large extended family. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law, Leslie and Jim Melson and their children Jed, Ann, Ellen and John of Dallas, TX; his daughter-in-law and son Brandi and Jeff Long and their children, Isaiah and Eli of Indianapolis. His brother, Dr. Thomas R. Long and his wife, Helen; his sister Evelyn Mauck and her husband, Robert, also survive him. A memorial service in celebration of Bill's life was held on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at Second Presbyterian Church in Indianapolis.

Information from the Fall 2005 issue of the Beta Theta Pi Magazine

**James B. Preston Jr., '48** ... June 6, 2004

**Stephen P. Rohner '82** ... Dec. 14, 2004

**Allen E. Tucker '52** ... Sept 21, 2004 ... Was an Army veteran. Worked as general manager of the former Schrader-Bellow Corp. Survived by wife (of 53 years) Ruth, daughters Cindy Hoelen and Debbie Trent, son Al E. Jr., nine grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

**"Chuck" Ordway '48** ... Brother Norman Slenker reports death of former Theta Chapter President (1947) Charles "Chuck" Ordway, January 30, 2005. Henderson, NC. Chuck served in the Marines during WW II and taught school after OWU in Detroit.

## Alumni News

Continued from page 6 —

**Matt Garrison '99** ... [from an email to editor] ... I've been racking my brain for something to submit for this year's *Theta Data*, but I've been busy with our new baby for the past nine months and haven't had any reunions with my Theta brothers lately. There are a couple of weddings next summer where I'll take pictures and get them to you for the next edition. In the meantime, I hope that you and your family have an enjoyable holiday season, and I'm looking forward to speaking with you again soon. [Matt.garrison@nmfn.com](mailto:Matt.garrison@nmfn.com)  
Home phone ... 614-262-7297 • Cell phone ... 614-270-4357



## CLASS OF 1956 50<sup>TH</sup> OWU REUNION PLANS

# 1956

The Class of 1956 is planning a 50<sup>th</sup> OWU reunion May 19-21, 2006. Early arrivals on Thursday the 18<sup>th</sup> are invited to attend a special social gathering in the evening ... more details to follow in letters from OWU.

From the original pledge class of '22, there are 14 living brothers who are invited to attend a weekend reunion full of special events, programs and a lot of reminiscing with old friends and classmates. Please contact Tom Tatham at [tomtatham@aol.com](mailto:tomtatham@aol.com) or (937) 298-7682 with suggestions and/or questions. Letters announcing plans have been sent from OWU beginning last October, and emails and phone calls from classmates continue to encourage attendance. Also, a special web site has been created with additional information and is located at <http://weekendowu.edu>.

*Pictured from left to right ...*

*Kneeling: Jim Dailey, Sam Pardoe, Tom Tatham, Eddie Stabl, Ron Treece*

*Standing: Ken Cozier, Jim Davies, Ron Pettegrew, Ken Clark, Bob Henshaw, Chuck Glander, Ted Fugue, George Chatterton, Pete Halbin, John Appel, Bull Durham, Jerry McNabb, Charlie Ecker, OJ Stephens, Don Jefferis, Dan Wright*



### *A Beta Tradition*

## "Spring Break" at Szambecki's Captiva Island Retreat

*by Lee Szambecki '98*

March 24, 2005

The picture below is of a group of Theta Beta's who have been going on "Spring Break" since our day's back at OWU. Each year in the spring, for the past 9 years, we get together at my family's home "Retreat" on Captiva Island, FL. The long weekend includes fishing, boat rides, relaxing by the pool, nice dinners, and a little bit of healthy mischief. Inevitably, we will all talk about the stories from back at the house and usually at some point in the trip, former chorister Mike Dowgiewicz will lead the group in a few Beta tunes. A good time is had by all, and we are all looking forward to next year's 10-year anniversary, which is sure to be a fine time.

In the earlier years the group was much larger and one year included almost 30 brothers, but girlfriends and others now fill many of their spots.

The group pictured (from L to R) includes Ben Harrison '98, myself '98, Levi Levingston '97, Ramsey Mahjoub '98, and Mike Jan Dowgiewicz '98. Usual fellow Theta Beta attendees, Aaron Seil '98, Dan Hawks '99, and Jeff Gallo '01, couldn't make it down this year due to other conflicts, but I'm sure they will be able to work it in next year.

Just wanted to share a little example of how the Theta brotherhood (and a great vacation spot) keep friends together, and for those who had ever made it down to Captiva for Spring Break hopefully this brings back a fond memory or two.



Sincerely, *Lee Szambecki '98*

THETA HOUSE COMPANY, BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY  
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 43100  
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45243

*January 1, 2006 — Greetings to all Theta alumni of Beta Theta Pi —*

Please consider a dues contribution for this year, and join the following loyal supporters of our House Corporation and its programs. Dues are payable to Theta House Corporation and mail to Martin Haskell, Treasurer, PO Box 43100, Cincinnati, OH 45243.

**2005 DUES HONOR ROLL**

A very special **THANK YOU** to each of the 2005 contributors. Your dues provide a continuing communications program for the more than 700 living brothers of Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

A. B. Albrecht '48	A. Duarte '65	R. W. McClintock '53	T. P. Stover '57
J. E. Appel '56	B. R. Elder '62	R. S. Neff '53	L. B. Szambecki '98
W. B. Bartels '44	H. A. Fausnaugh '48	P. M. Nobis '55	T. J. Tatham '56
R. M. Best '44	M. R. Garrison '99	W. G. Plavcan '55	R. S. Treis '54
T. R. Chaney '53	B. S. Graham '52	L. R. Plum '68	J. H. Turner '61
R. M. Cheseldine '50	J. Hahn '55	W. Quinn, Jr. '48	S. K. Van Buren '52
M. S. Christensen, Jr. '54	P. D. Hammersten '69	D. G. Ransom '51	D. H. Watt '59
R. G. Corey '54	P. B. Kisseberth '54	W. D. Rich '55	D. R. Wedge '51
R. L. Cotner '54	L. A. Linderer '55	C. H. Schroeder, Jr. '64	C. D. Wright '56
D. S. Crockett '57	G. T. Magrath '66	T. R. Shank '52	
J. H. Davies '56	J. G. Mathews '54	C. Dee Simpson '54	

*Thomas J. Tatham, Editor Theta Data • 937-298-7682 or tomtatham@aol.com*

***News from you:***

*Include family news,  
adventures, reunions,  
favorite memories,  
brothers you would  
like to see ...*

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*(Please attach a separate page if more room is needed.)*

***Personal  
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update:***

*Check if  
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Name *(Please print)*

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*Please complete and return this form  
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Alumni Records Office  
c/o Marty Haskell, P.O. Box 43100  
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*My annual contribution for 2006 (please check one):*

- \$500       \$250       \$200  
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Please make check payable to **Theta House Company**.

***Thank You!***

Contributions to Theta House Company and/or Beta Theta Pi Fraternity  
are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes.

There have been a number of Theta Betas from London. Ted Chaney who lives near London was one of those who was at OWU when Ned and I were there. He was OWU '53.

Apparently Theta did not have a Loving Cup and my Grandmother bought, engraved and presented one to the Chapter at what exact date, I don't recall.

I arrived at OWU in September of 1946 and the Cup was the center piece of all those trophy memorabilia so proudly displayed in the wonderful old house at 54 West Lincoln. The war years had not been kind to the old Loving Cup and when my father saw it he asked that it be handed to him for restoration which he accomplished.



Skip Cheseldine — August 1995

My lips first touched its beautiful rim at initiation in the basement of the Old House in February 1947. Since that time, I've drunk deeply from her as have hundreds of Loyal Theta Betas. What cherished memories!!

I lost track of the Loving Cup with the sad demise of Theta on the Wesleyan campus until informed

that Marty Haskell was its honored custodian.

I think I speak for all of the Brothers when I say we hope and pray to be there in person or spirit when next the Old Girl is passed, Brother to Brother in the halls of Theta of Beta Theta Pi.

And lastly if you have space, tell any and all Brothers where we live and they have an open invitation to come stay with us. We have a guest bedroom and bath which come with a key to the liquor closet, too! And if they want to try some world-class fly fishing — I'm their man!!!

-Kai-

Skip Cheseldine, OWU 1950,  
#792 on the Rolls of Theta Chapter

4751 Bonita Bay Blvd., Bonita Springs, FL 34134-0768  
PH (941) 949-0139



The 1946 Beta Pledge Class — First Row — L to R: Bill Wright, "Moon" Naughton, Mamma Linn, Bob Barracka, Al Long, Ed Dobson  
Second Row — L to R: Bill Pratt, Bob Rouge, Keith Gaspitch, "Skip" Cheseldine, Ned "Spease" Speasemaker, Earl Cramer

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