

The Theta Data

JANUARY 2010
DELAWARE, OHIO

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY • OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



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Matt Garrison '99, Bond #1630

Theta Chapter Alumni Personality Profile

by Tom Tatham



Matt Garrison '99

The Early Years

Matt was born in 1976 in Greenville, Ohio ... a sleepy little town on the western border, only a few miles from Indiana. His father, Jerry, is a civil engineer and commutes each day to Columbus. His mother, Paulette, is retired from a career as a child center director. They still maintain a home in Greenville. If Greenville, Ohio rings a "bell" with you Beta lore experts, it is also the final resting place for Pater Knox.

Golf, baseball and basketball occupied much of Matt's time as he was an active, very good student in the Greenville public school system. Following his graduation from high school in 1995, he was recruited by Ohio Wesleyan.

Ohio Wesleyan

Matt was recruited to play golf at OWU by the golf coach, Matt Byers, who had recently replaced the longtime coach Dick Gordin. As important to his decision to go to OWU was the school's award of an academic scholarship. Tuition at the time was about \$25,000, so the scholarship was critical to his decision. In addition, his visits to Delaware proved to be very amicable to him and so, in the fall of 1995, Matt was off to begin his student life at OWU.

Early days presented Matt with what seemed like a never-ending number of things to do. In the beginning fraternity open houses were almost every night. Students and new friends often met for lunch or dinner at Hamilton Williams. His roommates were Matt Jakubowski '99 and Ken Bagstad '99 ... both classmates and Beta pledges. Both have remained close friends and they remain in close contact.

Matt J lives in Hoboken, NJ and works in urban planning in NY City. He received his Master's degree in urban planning at the U of Pennsylvania. Ken lives in Burlington, VT and is an environmental economist for the US Geological Survey. Ken recently received his PhD at the U of VT.

Matt G majored in English and Accounting at OWU. Professors Cliff Cook in Accounting and Richard Spall in History were both outstanding teachers and of significant help to Matt.

Professor Cook had worked for years as a CPA and his real life experiences he shared with students were very helpful. Spall's British History course was most memorable to Matt.

Matt played golf for two years, and had a very commendable low score of 78. However, as a result of experimenting with a different swing, he lost distance and struggled to be competitive. Golf was over and his concentrations were then on academics and Beta Theta Pi.

Pledging Beta

Early on, Matt met a couple of older baseball players ... Brad Chelton '98 and Ramsy Mahjoub '98, both members of Beta Theta Pi. They soon recruited all three newcomers — Matt G., Matt J., and Ken B. — and Beta was the better off for their foresight as all three became active leaders in Theta chapter.

Theta chapter proved to be a positive, warm experience for Matt, and has provided lasting friendships. While in school, his memories include a lot of interest in sports, TV, intramurals and varsity. The house was full of players ... baseball, football, track, lacrosse, golf, etc.

Continued on page 2 —

Matt Garrison '99 *Continued from cover story —*

*Brad Chelton's pinning ritual ceremony, 1999 ...
Dunking in the Sulphur Spring...*



*L to R.... Aldo Adachi '99 and Tony Losito '01
The "Dunkee" is Brad Chelton '98*



*L to R... Ramzy Mahjoub '99 and
Aaron Seil '99*

Brad Chelton's wedding in 1999....



*The picture includes ... L to R:
Josh Pretzer '99, Matt Jakubowski
'99 and Ken Bagstad '99*

His big brother was senior Paul Snyder, who was also on the golf team. Special memories include pledging, being called to the house late at night for some pledge "training". A highlight was the traditional kidnapping of an upper classman ... in this case it was Tom Shannon '97. Tom was taken to Greenville, of all places, where a mandatory visit was paid to Pater Knox's grave.

As an upper classman, Matt enjoyed recruiting younger men to Beta. These included Matt Brown '00, Josh Pretzer '99, Trevor Warren '00, Joe Palmer '00 and Jeff Beaudry '01 to name a few.

Before he knew it, the four years at OWU were over and with graduation in 1999, it was time to move on to the "real" world.

After OWU ... Marriage, Family and Career

Early on, his career began with Deloitte & Touche which took him to Columbus, where he and his family still live. After D & T, in June '03, he joined Northwestern Mutual performing financial planning advice to their customers. Leaving Northwestern in '06, Matt moved on to his present employer, Mettler-Toledo, as financial consolidation manager. Their main products are precision measuring devices and they have offices in 50 countries worldwide — thus the need for significant expertise in consolidating financial records. Their headquarters are in Columbus.

Amy Kagey and Matt were high school sweethearts back in their days in Greenville. A short split occurred when Matt came to OWU and Amy went to Miami. Their paths crossed again

during Matt's sophomore year, and following her graduation from Miami in May, 2000, they were married. They are the proud parents of two sons, Drew born in March '05 and Alexander born in January '08. Amy is a 1st grade teacher at Stevenson Elementary in Grandview Heights.

Matt enjoys relaxed golfing with Drew at Worthington Hills CC, and Amy enjoys scrap booking in her spare time. They enjoyed Hilton Head vacationing in '09, reading, following OSU sports. They share tickets for the Columbus Blue Jackets (pro hockey) with Matt Brown '00 and Trevor Warren '00.

The Garrison's reside at 865 Clubview Blvd., South Columbus, Ohio 43235, and can be reached at (614) 743-6947 or email matt.garrison@mt.com.

Matt has always been a proud and active Beta ... as an undergraduate and now as an alum. We all say to Matt, we are proud to have you as a brother and "thank God you are a Beta".



*Group Wedding Picture
Matt & Amy Garrison — May 20, 2000*

*In group photo are the following Beta brothers of Matt....
From Left to Right: Shawn Starlin '00, Trevor Warren '00, Matt Brown '00,
Jeff Beaudry '01, Aldo Adachi '00, Joe Palmer '00, Ken Bagstad '99, Brett
Auerbach '01, Brad Chelton '98, Matt Jakubowski '01, Ramzy Mahjoub '98,
Andrew Peagotopoulos '01, Aaron Seil '98, Josh Pretzer '99*

***Collection of photos from the 50s!!
See page 5 for CD offer!***



*SAMPLE FROM COLLECTION — Formal Frat Party 1955-54.
Left to Right: R. Martin '54, W. D. Rich '55*

Jim Ginsburg '66 To OWU Athletic Hall of Fame Combined Classes of '65, '66, '67, '68 Reunion

By Jon Richards '66

(Spike's letter to Marty Haskill) ... I read the most recent Theta Data with enthusiasm. So well done!! Many of the stories took me back 40 or more years to some of the best times in my life. Great guys and great times.

OWU Homecoming Weekend 2009 in early October was a special occasion for a number of brothers of Theta Chapter (along with several spouses) as they gathered in Delaware to recognize Brother Jim "Gins" Ginsburg '66 who was being inducted into the Ohio Wesleyan Athletic Hall of Fame. It was the first time that most of the Betas from the graduation years '65, '66, '67 and '68 had seen each other since graduation some forty years earlier so there was much to catch up on as well as many good memories of 9 Williams Drive to share.

Brother Ginsburg was recognized by the University for his exploits on the lacrosse field. He was a four-year starter in the goal; had a career total of 766 saves with a .706 saves percentage; was captain and MVP in his senior year; was selected All-Midwest his sophomore, junior and senior years; and was selected to participate in the North-South All-Star game in his final year — one of the first OWU men's lacrosse

players to be so recognized. His teammates, some of who were Theta brothers (and almost all of whom were present for the ceremony), remember him as an inspirational leader and a fierce competitor who hated to lose. Besides the 12 Beta brothers who returned for the weekend, the group was joined by an equal number of lacrosse teammates from the 60's who contributed to the celebration and the reminiscing.

Interestingly, this year's inductees included three lacrosse players (two from the 90's), two tennis players, a field hockey player, a baseball player and a gridder. A quick scan of prior year's inductees reveals that the list, which commenced in 1961, includes other Theta brothers Ray Leech '49, Don Wedge '51, Al Long '51, and Jim Kaminsky '68. (There likely are others.)

The Betas returning this year traveled from all across the country. Where Gins grew up and lives today in the lacrosse hotbed of Baltimore, Maryland; brothers joining him traveled from California, Oregon, Colorado, Florida, South Carolina, Connecticut, Delaware, and of course Ohio.

Highlights of the weekend were a Friday gathering at Hoggy's (aka "The Brown Jug"); a pair of lacrosse scrimmages on the Saturday; the homecoming football game (which was a victory in the last minute over Oberlin); the induction reception and ceremony; and a Saturday evening dinner at a north Columbus restaurant.

One outcome of the weekend was a consensus that follow-up reunions for Betas from the 60's were in order. The next one was planned for the SE United States sometime in the near future. All brothers from this era are encouraged to get in contact and plan to attend! For further information, contact Jim Ginsburg (Waterfordgroup@aol.com), Geoff Magrath (daufsc@aol.com) or Jon Richards (jonrichards@verizon.net).



Front row from L to R: Tony Martin '66; Dick Slivka '65; Chuck Underwood '68; Herb Brannen '65
Back row from L to R: Rich Amendola '67; Robert Reed '66; Geoff Magrath '66; Jim Ginsburg '66;
Jim Carpenter '65; Martin Haskell '68; Robert Bird '66; Jon Richards '66; Bill Rowland '68

Treasurer's Report

Your alumni association continues to be solvent, though we have experienced a drop in income and participation over the past two years. Our current balance is \$4785. Your voluntary contributions in 2009 totaled \$2115 compared with an average of \$3500 per year up until last year. Also, the number of contributors has dropped to 30 from the 35 to 45 we typically experienced in the recent past. Our only expense is the publication and mailing of the newsletter which runs about \$4500 per issue. As you can see from the above numbers, we will only be able to continue publishing about 2-3 more years at these rates and will have to make some adjustments.

So, if you value this newsletter, please send a contribution to keep it going. Small donations of \$25 and \$50 are very much welcome. We would prefer to see a large number of the small donations rather than a few large ones. So, please don't be shy.

___kai___ Marty Haskell '68

Alumni News

E-mails, letters and phone calls ...

Email received from Nolan Smith several months before his death...

Nolan E. Smith '54

Hi, Tom:

I just got the *Theta* newsletter, and I want to compliment you on your skills as an editor, along with the energy that you obviously brought to this undertaking. I gathered a lot of new information about various people, too, thanks to the contributions you got for the newsletter. I didn't really know all that much about Dee Simpson's financial situation when going to OWU, for example. I had always assumed that he was from the same kind of family as the one that seemed to give Hank Anderson the kind of spending money he always seemed to have. But we certainly had to face the same basic financial problems those days, though neither of us said much about them either, it seems.

Thank you for the "plug" on the book business, too, plus the photo with the horn. I haven't heard from anyone wanting the books I've listed as for sale, yet. But perhaps I'll hear from a few people, through the year. Not that many of us from *Theta* got involved with academia, or related operations, however, it seems.

I've been meaning to write to Mike Schwartz, to let him know that you're in FL these days; or perhaps you've contacted him, already, and have perhaps even seen him and his wife



at their winter quarters. I don't know where he is, nor much about the geography of FL, I must say. But you can always swing by RI to see him later this year if you don't actually get to see him and his wife at the forthcoming reunion.

We could use a good bit more sunshine up here than we've had this year, I must say. But spring might even be arriving this week, at last. Our weather isn't all that much different from that of Ohio's actually; and that's why you're always happy to go to FL in the winter, no doubt, while also escaping those humid summer months out there by heading up to Maine then, right?

Best, to you and Jan, then...

Nolan

Dick Currie '58

Dear Tom:

I really enjoyed your edition of the *Theta Data* of Feb, 2009. It brings back the fondest memories of my four years at 54 W. Lincoln. They were the years, and under my big brother, Ken Rowley, that set my course straight, and following Tom Halliday to Jefferson Medical School where I ended up in Urology at Chestnut Hill in Philadelphia. I have been retired now for ten years in Hilton Head SC, where recently at a luncheon with Stan Smith, a Beta from USC, sat with three *Theta* brothers from the early 50's. I did most of the photography for our class - '58, and I have a scrap book which I am enclosing. I've tried to put some of the names in (red) - my memory may not be as

good as in the old days. Since you are the information center of the *Theta* house, I feel it is important that you keep this book. I certainly hope it brings back to others of the great times we had at 53 W. Lincoln.

Keep the *Theta Data* going. OWU is missing a great group on their campus.

There are four *Theta*'s living on this island - Hilton Head - and we get together about once a year. Of course if anybody else would like to stop by they would be greatly welcome.

My address is:

Richard Currie MD '58
9 Carma Court
Hilton Head Island, SC
29926
Dicke21602@aol.com

Sincerely yours in

-kai-

"Winki" Dick Currie '58

Dick McClintock '53

Tom, It was especially warming to catch up on the latest "Data".

1. Certainly, Dee was a leader! Ginger and I had hosted a "kids and grand kids" outing in the Rockies in 1995. After that, G and I wandered around in Arizona and New Mexico and found an opportunity to have lunch with Pat and Dee at their home. Doesn't seem that long ago.

2. Do you have a phone number for Norm Slenker? I seem to have lost the one I had.

3. The two of us are comfortable in this lovely continuing care community, Southminster. We picked Charlotte 30 years ago and still think it's a great place.

Ging has had continuing health problems and many surgeries but keeps on keeping on. We always have a dog so "walking the dog" and volunteer work around here keeps me going.

4. I talk to Bob Neff, Dick Davenport and Dick Devos on the phone periodically.

5. Health permitting, we plan to be in Delaware this May.

Thanks again for the great job you do.

-kai- Dick

"Deacon" Dan Rich '55

Hi, Thomas!

Two things of interest regarding dear ol' OWU:

1. Last week, the men's lacrosse team was here to take on the National Champions of Division 111. Sorry to report that the Gulls beat the Bishops 15-8. Salisbury now holds a 24 - 6 advantage in the whole series which goes back to 1975. By the way the Gulls have won the national title for the past seven years straight. The coach's son is now a senior starter on this outstanding team.

2. According to the Discovery Channel, Delaware, OH is now the site of the National Lawnmower Racing Championships! Apparently, hundreds come from all over the country to witness this annual test of skill and endurance! So much for the Discovery Channel!

Hope you and Jan are doing well and enjoying going places with each other.

-kai-

"Deacon" Dan Rich

Alumni News

Continued from page 4 —

Matt Garrison '99

Hi Tom and Marty,
Thanks very much for the recent *Theta Data*, another excellent issue. Every time it comes in the mail, I find myself reading the entire issue that very evening!

Tom, thanks for the articles profiling different brothers. Reading about the success that these men have had in their lives makes me even prouder to be a Beta.

Yours in - Kai -
Matt Garrison

Pete Lee '70

Dear Marty;

Repetition and perseverance pay off, at least a little. I still have the heart, if not the cash, to support Beta and believe in the goals of the Leadership Fund and thus made a nominal contribution. I wish we had had a little more of those ideals in our days rather than the Drunken Beta mentality – or maybe I was not listening to the right voices. It would be gratifying to see a re-colonization at OWU. I still keep up with some of my '70 classmates although they are in Ohio and I am not. Hope you are doing well.

Best regards,

Pete Lee,
719 632-1165
cell 460-2834
1600 W. Cheyenne Road
Colo. Springs, CO 80906

Jon Richards '66

Hi Tom — I want to start by thanking you for The *Theta Data* and all of the effort that you put into it. It is always a pleasure to read about the experiences of other OWU Betas and all of the good memories they have of their times on campus and with the fraternity.

-kai- Jon Richards

Al Vlerebome '55 Al & Marty (Rhinehart), both retired and recently moved to the following condo in Lancaster, Ohio:
1553 Stone Glen Drive
Lancaster Ohio 43130.
Their phone remains (740) 653-0988 and they can be reached on the Web at: mvlerebome@yahoo.com
Frequent companions of Jan & Tom Tatham for jazz concerts in Columbus and for a great vacation in Maine last August.

Thomas P. Stover '57

Sue (Menke) '58 and I just welcomed our first grandchild. Our son Paul and his wife Sandra presented us with Zane Thomas Stover on 11-11-08. What a thrill for us after almost 50 years (50 on 1-3-09). The Stovers can be reached at 1310 Tanglewood Trail, Eules, Texas 76040, x+cucl@tx.m.com or 817-946-0756 cell.

Bill Plavcan '55 Tom.... we are still on the right side of the grass, although my Parkinsons is progressing. I'm still able to get to the hospital and do some health care work. It keeps me out of trouble. I'm enjoying reading the *Theta Data*. Keep up the good work. Bill [NOTE: In October '09 your editor was pleased to pay a visit to Bill and Becky on my way to family in Maryland. We had a great visit lunching at Bill's club and then he drove me around Hagerstown to show me the local color, including the hospital where he devotes so much of his time serving the local community.]

Jack Hahn '55 ... Jack and Judy Hahn share many of their adventures



Jack '55 and Judy Hahn

in their annual Christmas card. 2009 events included: Their prized "feature" is the large scale Garden Railroad, which is prominently displayed at their annual backyard "Open House" and featured in a special CD film. Their summer vacation included a Great Lakes tour..... from Chicago, by boat, to Buffalo, Canada and down

the Hudson to NY City. 17 days of food, sightseeing and meeting many new friends.

Charles "Chic" Rose '59

Tom....here's the picture I took back in May at OWU. I know you asked for a copy. Sorry it took so long. It was great to see you and catch up on old times. Best regards, Chic B. Rose



Tom Tatham '56 and Chic Rose '59 at OWU Class Reunion May '09.

Valuable Paul Nobis '55 Pictures Available Now on CD

For those of us in school in the 50s, we have fond memories of our years at 54 W. Lincoln and on the OWU campus. Fortunately, a great deal of that history was captured on film by *Paul Nobis '55*. It seems that Paul was always popping up around the corners of the house making sure that the 50s were retained for posterity on film. Recently, Paul's wife, *Anne Shirk Nobis '55* (KAT) committed to scanning more than 263 pictures into her computer, burning onto a CD and sending to me. We are currently in the process of making them available for viewing on our Web Site thetachapterbtp.org.

Anyone wishing to obtain a CD, please make a **GENEROUS** contribution to Theta Chapter House Corporation and send request to Tom Tatham, 1994 Suffolk Rd., Apt #1, Columbus, Ohio 43221. Included in these pictures are 5 albums of the following:

1. May 1953 100th Centennial Celebration of Theta Chapter on the OWU campus – 72 photos;
- 2. 54 W. Lincoln Life in 1950s – 173 photos;
- 3. Rupe Doan Party – 18 photos;
- 4. Another Doan Party – 7 photos;
- 5. Nobis New Year's Eve Party – 13 photos.



A brothers' pride in a new Pontiac. L to R: Eiken '55, Metzel '55, Rich '55, Treis '54. Center: Nolan Smith '54. Back row: Dove '55, Simpson '54, Haun '55.

OF EVER HONORED MEMORY

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

Tom R. Shank '52

From Joan Shank, early 2009. This is to inform you of the death of my husband Tom R. Shank. He was in the OWU class of 1952. Tom was very proud to be a Beta. He treasured the friendships and always made it a point to contact brothers in his travels. Sincerely, Joan Shank

Tom R. Shank, 76 in Sandusky, died Wednesday, Jan. 7, 2009, in Cleveland MetroHealth Medical Center. He was born May 20, 1930, in Akron, Ohio. He was a graduate of Ohio Wesleyan University and a member of Beta Theta Pi fraternity.



Nolan E. Smith '54

Nolan E. Smith of Bishop St. New Haven died October 29, 2009 in the Hospital of St. Raphael. Nolan was born in Lima, OH April 30, 1932, son of the late Raymond P. and Mary Purnell Smith. He was the proprietor of American Worlds Books, selling rare books to universities worldwide and helped scholars with research projects. Nolan received his Bachelor of Arts with honors in English from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1954, his Master of Arts from University of Toronto in 1955, and attended Yale University, studying

American Literature in 1958. He also was an instructor of English at the University of Virginia. He was a member of several academic honor societies including Phi Beta Kappa. He was a trombone player and a member of the ClamDiggers Dixie Band and a member of the New Haven Preservation Trust. He is the brother of D'Nell Larkin of Woodland, CA and the late Doyle Raymond Smith.

Letter from Nolan prior to his passing

Hi, Tom:

Thank you for another informative letter. It's good to hear about Jim Meredith, and to see the pictures of all of you, in Maine. The colon problem is certainly a major one, too, and my own brother had that years ago. Jim looks about as good as he would have if he'd just finished a strenuous weight loss program. I've also lost some weight since I last saw you, thanks to a case of pernicious anemia which came my way in late 2007. I've been taking lots of iron pills, getting B-12 shots, and the like; however, along with various kinds of tests. I suppose I just have to think that I didn't need that extra 25 lb. or so, after all.

Good to hear of the playing opportunities, and all that they involved. I played several circus gigs in New Haven, too, in the eighties, I think, but it was all pretty stressful, and live bands just don't do those jobs any more. (Nothing like getting it all on tape, I suppose, if perhaps the band getting it on tape is getting paid rather well.) I much prefer the small "society" bands for dances; however, as you probably noticed, in '04, and have one

of them coming up this Saturday, at the Club a block and a half south of me, along with one at the Yale Law School a week from tonight. The latter has a visiting speaker from New Orleans, that day, and wants to have a band play a lot of N. O. tunes for him. One of the ones he wants is "High Society," but we'll have to substitute something for that, since this group doesn't know it all that well, and also won't have a large enough band to do justice to it. Other people might not even know "Struttin' with some Barbecue," but I'll try to get us to learn that, if possible.

Re the books: I'm at www.amworlds.net, and I need to get busy to list some more books there, after not having done that for a while. I sell on Amazon and another site or two; however, and have really had to review all my Internet listings, this past two years, since AZ doesn't make it easy for us to get our books listed on its site, even though it gets a good bit of its profit from fees for our listings.

Happy trolling on my site, then; I'm also trying to finish some writing projects long delayed, and this effort seems to take most of the time left over from other efforts to bring in some cash. I don't think I'll get back to the reunion this year, as I may have said, but Mike Schwartz and others at this end of the country might do so. Mike and his wife are down in Florida, actually, somewhere, you know. I've never been to FL myself, I must confess, but it doesn't seem to do anyone any harm, especially at this time of year, does it?

Nolan



Nolan and Ruth Rootes '54 at Beta House 1954.

Paul E. Koch '51

Passed away May 12, 2009 in St. John's Hospital, Springfield, Illinois. Graduate of OWU where he majored in music, he earned a master's of sacred music degree at Union Theological Seminary. He served in the Army from 51-54 and with Illinois Bell Telephone from 70-82. He served as organist and director of music in several churches, composed numerous musical pieces and was a member of both the National Fellowship of Methodist Musicians and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

Memories of Paul from "Bo"

Dove '58 Bo recalled a recent visit with Paul when he and brothers **Dave '53** and **Frank Dove '58** were traveling to Chicago near Paul's home and made an unexpected stop. Dave walked over to the piano, sat down next to Paul and as Paul was playing, David asked him to play "Marching Along With Beta Theta Pi" and Paul, not missing a beat, immediately switched to the tune requested.

Obituaries also listed in the Beta Theta Pi summer 09 national magazine:

William B Schardt '51

Charles H. Schroeder III '64

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

January 1, 2010 — *Greetings to all Theta alumni of Beta Theta Pi* —

Please consider a dues contribution for 2010, 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.

2009 DUES HONOR ROLL

A very special **THANK YOU** to each of the 2009 contributors. Your dues provide a continuing communications program for the more than 700 living brothers of Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

J. Appel '56	K. P. Eiken '57	P. M. Nobis '55	T. J. Tatham '56
P. B. Belden '64	H. A. Fausnaugh '48	W. G. Plavcan '55	D. R. Wedge '51
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A. Duarte '65	H. B. Newhard '52	L. B. Szambecki '98	*Deceased

Thomas J. Tatham, Editor Theta Data • 614-486-6183 or tomtatham@aol.com

News from you:

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

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

***Personal
information
update:***

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My annual contribution for 2010 (please check one):

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Thank You!

Contributions to Theta House Company and/or Beta Theta Pi Fraternity
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BETA THETA PI
FRATERNITY

General Fraternity Vice-President's Report



This will be my last communication to you as a General Fraternity Officer as I am approaching the end of my second three-year term and will be replaced this summer at Convention. It has been a wonderful experience for me to serve on the General Fraternity Board of Trustees.

The General Fraternity Board continues to make great progress in redefining itself and as a governing board. The board is moving towards taking a more strategic approach to its work. This is especially important during these challenging economic times. The General Fraternity's budget will experience about a 10% drop in income due to the drop in market value of the Beta Theta Pi Foundation's portfolio (in line with declines in other foundations). This loss of income will primarily affect programming offered to undergraduates as the Foundation's distributions must be used only for educational activities. We have a great but young staff and they are rising to the challenge of continuing to offer our superb programming on less.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Men of Principle Initiative. We have taken a pause to appreciate what has been accomplished over the past ten years to raise the standards and performance of our fraternity. But we are also taking time to evaluate our path going forward. The Men of Principle Initiative was just one of many programs we were managing at the beginning of the decade. Now it is the core of our strategy as we look forward to the next ten years. Beta is doing great work changing the fraternal landscape.

Yours in ___kai___, Marty Haskell '68

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

CINCINNATI, OH 45243

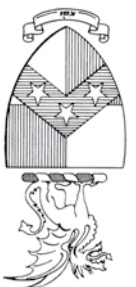
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