

# The Theta Data

JANUARY 2013  
DELAWARE, OHIO

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY • OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY



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December 2010, Jon and wife Kathy

## Jon Richards, '66, Bond #1106

### Theta Chapter Alumni Personality Profile

*Edited by Tom Tatham*



Jon Richards '66

### The Early Years

Jon was born in Mount Vernon, OH in 1944 to John and Mary Helen Richards. John was serving with the US Army in France so for the first year Jon was raised in Delaware by his mother and grandparents. Upon his father's return in late 1945, the new postwar family settled in Delaware where John later became the Delaware postmaster, serving until retirement in 1978.

With a Delaware home, Jon's primary and secondary education took place in the shadow of Ohio Wesleyan as he attended schools on W. William St. — elementary at the large brick school building (since leveled to make a sports field) across from Stuyvesant Hall — then junior and senior high school in the large brick school building at the corner of William and Franklin Streets. He and his schoolmates constantly shared the sidewalks and shops of town with OWU students and coeds coming and going from main campus to the dormitories.

As one of the local "kids," he could often be found on Saturday afternoons in the fall at Selby Stadium (throwing a peewee football beyond the end zones or in the top row on the distant side of the field); near the sulphur spring watching the frosh and sophs go at it after home football games; in hot, noisy Edwards Gym hanging over the upstairs rail and cheering for the Bishops; or with his parents at a Gray Chapel music or cultural event. Being a pretty decent student in high school, it was probably natural that Jon would go on to attend Ohio Wesleyan.

Other than academics and the usual part-time jobs of growing up — paper routes, summer work with the highway department, and a retail job at CJ Wilsons of Course, the long-time downtown Delaware clothing store — participation in sports was a constant in Jon's years before college. "I was a very keen and a regular participant during my school years in basketball, football, baseball and track; but I was really a pretty middling athlete in high school." Of relevance here is that having been a "late bloomer" he reports that he continues to be a fitness devotee adhering to a largely vegetarian diet and engaging regularly in Masters and open water swimming, competitive small boat racing, as well as skiing and backpacking.

### Beta Theta Pi

Joining a fraternity was nearly synonymous with being a male student at Ohio Wesleyan in the early 1960's as over 85% of OWU males affiliated with houses. Rush occurred immediately for freshmen arriving on campus in the fall, just after the traditional freshman camp.

Jon had often heard the term "Beta" while growing up as his Uncle Bob (Bob Richards '50) had been an OWU Beta in the late 40's, having joined upon returning from WWII service with the Air Force in Europe and using the GI Bill for college. Also, life-long close family friends were Tom (Ida) Farahay '49. Tom was also a post WWII OWU Beta and served as long-time Chapter Advisor in the 1950's and 60's. (Note: Uncle Bob's son and Jon's cousin, Rob Richards '77, would later become a Theta Beta in the mid-70's.)

An agreement among a small group of newly-made friends from freshman camp to pledge the same house quickly came apart as several of the group were legacies and quickly fell into the Phi Delt and Phi Psi camps. Jon who already had the above-mentioned natural affinity to Beta, had been quite impressed on his visit to the Beta house during "closed" rush with the friendly and easy-going casual style along with the rather evident diversity of personalities that he had a chance to meet at 9 Williams Drive. Among those that he had a chance to interact with were Brothers Eli Short '54, Andres/Andy Duarte '65, and Andy Feld (then-president). Once the open rush period commenced and the Betas started to sound the airborne, ring the bell from the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor side



Wife Kathy, 2 children, and my daughter-in-law, along with Cameron and Stephanie's dog, Riley.

## Jon Richards '66 *Continued from cover story —*

doorway, and pile out of the house to cheer, it did not take long for Jon to get caught up in the excitement and join one of what was to become a large pledge class of approximately 35. This class swelled the numbers of the house to close to 100. To Jon's recollection, and great appreciation in the years since, the Betas were a house of rather broad diversity (unlike some of the others on campus). As far as geography, there was a good mix of men from the East (public and private schools), from Ohio and the Midwest, from cities and small towns, a few from the Western and Southern US and abroad.

In his four years at Wesleyan, Jon became actively involved in the house and on campus. He had a stint as a dishwasher in the kitchen of the house, served for a year as House Manager, and in his senior year was fraternity president. For two of the four years he lived in the house. As a "townie," he lived at home his freshman year but took meals at the house. His junior year he served as a Resident Advisor next door in Thomson Hall with about a half-dozen Beta pledges living on his corridor that year. In his sophomore year, Jon shared a second floor 3-man room in the house with Geoff Magrath ('66) and Tom Sanders ('66), two brothers who would later be in his wedding (the latter as best man) in 1968 to Kathy Bardone Richards (OWU/Pi Phi '68) in Prairie Village, Kansas.

As chapter president during his senior year, one of his responsibilities was to escort the housemother, Mom Stewart, to dinners. He recalled quite well the "fine balance" that sometimes existed with escorting "Mom" and maintaining an atmosphere of appropriate decorum while at the same time accommodating some of the activities of the more rambunctious brothers. Other tensions well-remembered were the need to balance the house and university policies of that era regarding alcohol possession/consumption with the social expectations and activities of a large group of young males. The tension played out in such activities as the in-house Quo Vadis and Tom Jones parties as well, as the off-campus events including "The Hot Nuts" party (with the SAE's) and parties at "the barn".

At the encouragement of Brothers Frank Schneider ('63) and Jim Ginsburg ('66), Jon took up the sport of lacrosse as a freshman (unlike the present, one could do that then!) and was on the OWU team for four years. While the sport was a new one to Jon, it was to play an important role for him for a number of years following graduation. He was also a keen participant on the Beta intramural teams contributing to the various team sports. The house had a number of pretty good athletes at that time, some varsity players and some good ex-high school athletes, who all contributed to making the Betas competitive for the all-campus IM trophy each year. One year in the mid-60's found the Betas winning the campus championship, and in the top 2 or 3 places in the other years.

IM football was one interesting aspect of Beta life in the mid-60's and merits a few words. Many brothers played on



*All Betas, L-R: Tom Sanders '66; Jon Richards '66, Jon (Kum Leb) Yuen '66; Juan Sykora '67; Jim Ginsburg '66.*

## Old *Theta Data* Issues Available on the Internet



For history, go to:  
[thetachapterbtp.org](http://thetachapterbtp.org)

At this site, you can find 41 issues dating back to 1943. The most recent ones added were 1974—spring and winter; 1975—June; 1976—fall and winter; and, 1981—fall.

These old issues were in the possession of brother D. Keith Thomas '54 who lived in Gallipolis, Ohio. His widow, Phyllis, visited us in Columbus last summer and to my surprise, presented me with these old issues which were in Keith's files. *Many thanks to Phyllis.*

For the rest of the alumni, IF YOU HAVE OLD ISSUES IN YOUR PERSONAL FILES OTHER THAN THE ONES ON LINE, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE SEND THEM TO ME, WE WILL SCAN THEM INTO ADOBE PDF AND Aldo Adachi, our webmaster, will place them on our internet site for all to enjoy.

Your originals will then be returned to you, no worse for the trip to T.J. Tatham, 1994 Suffolk Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43221. For those of you who are computer "whizzes", you can scan your old issues to a pdf document and send to me by email. Good luck with this project, and start combing your old files!

the team and almost the entire house, many with dates, turned out for the games. The activity was a source of pride and spirit for the brothers in the early months of the new academic year as the team, under the tutelage of quarterback/coach Brother Dick Slivka '67 (a varsity OWU all-conference infielder on the baseball team), practiced several times a week, had diagrammed 70 or so plays on index cards (that were carried by Slivka in his back pocket during the games), filmed the games (for "grading," for enjoyment, etc.), and had great success winning most games by sizeable margins and dominating the campus leagues over several years. (**One pressing question!**...What happened to those films? Does anyone know?)

### OWU Graduation and More

Upon graduation from Ohio Wesleyan in June '66, Jon attended the University of Michigan receiving an MBA in Finance in 1968. While at Michigan, he continued with lacrosse and played defense on the U of M Club team and had the opportunity to continue competing against some of the Midwestern teams that had been faced earlier at Ohio Wesleyan. Following the two years at Michigan, Jon and Kathy were married in the summer, and moved to Maine where Jon was on the faculty at Bridgton Academy, a private school for post-grads in North Bridgton. While there, he taught mathematics, served as a dorm master, and also as an athletic coach for each of the three sports seasons. In his first year at Bridgton, he started the lacrosse program and served as head coach for two years. An "adventurous spirit" (and an accommodating wife!) led to a

*Continued next page —*

## THE ANNUAL NORTH EAST OHIO BETA STEAKOUT

**From Steve Sherwood '70** 10/19/2012

Tom ... Here's the picture of Steve Sherwood, Terry O'Hara, Rich Hursh, and John Willoughby, all OWU '70, enjoying the comradery of brother Betas at the Annual North East Ohio Beta Steakout in August. In the past, Tim Ohara, Ron Snyder and Steve Deuble had also attended this annual event. A great place to catch up with Theta brothers and meet Betas from the region. When information about the next event is published, I'll pass it along in hopes that we can get a few more brothers to attend.

***In other OWU '70 news,***

Pete Lee is currently campaigning for his second term in the Colorado House of Representatives. He is on facebook if anyone wants to follow his political career. By the time you publish, he'll hopefully be back in Denver for another term.

I saw Jud Knox '70 and his bride Lauri in August in York, ME, where he is the CEO of the York Community Hospital. I think that's his title. He's working hard and enjoying life. He sends his best to all.

When I was at OWU in the spring, I got a chance to tour 9 Williams Dr., at least the main floor. It had been rennovated and the furnishings upgraded but the place looked like home — at least after we cleaned it up for special occasions. There were no tell tale signs of any foodfights ... must be a new generation of students...



*All 1970 Betas, L-R: Sherwood, O'Hara, Hursh and Willoughby*

## Jon Richards '66 *Continued from page two —*

decision to move west in the early 1970's, first to a teaching position in Idaho and subsequently to the mountains of Colorado where, besides living for awhile with Brother Frank Scott ('66) and his wife Vicki who had recently started a ski and gift shop in Breckenridge in Summit County (following Scotty's time as a US Air Force officer in Wyoming), Jon was able to secure a position with the US National Park Service in Denver working in the area of boundary changes and land acquisition.

It was at this time in Denver that Jon re-connected with Brother Jim Carpenter ('67) who had himself migrated west from a lacrosse/soccer coaching position at William and Mary University in the East. Jim was also living in the mountains near Rocky Mtn. National Park, and introduced Jon and Kathy to an intriguing business opportunity ... the purchase of a mountain lodge/restaurant that was for sale. Initially, this entrepreneurial (ad)venture was considered jointly by Jon and Kathy and Brother Tony Martin ('66) and his wife Linda. Tony had recently finished a tenure as a Navy officer/pilot and had returned from SE Asia to civilian life. Tony, however, landed a position as an airline pilot, so Jon and Kathy decided to make the leap to lodge ownership on their own.

They operated the lodge/restaurant near Allenspark, Colorado on the boundary of Rocky Mountain National Park seasonally and successfully for six years. In the winters, with caretaker/managers maintaining the lodge, Jon and Kathy worked resort area restaurants elsewhere in the mountains and "ski-bummed" in Vail, Steamboat Springs, and Big Sky, Montana (living the winter in Vail with Brother Don Adams '66). After six years of operating the lodge, the couple sold the

operation and decided to pursue a different lifestyle working as academic directors for the Experiment in International Living (now World Learning) in Oxford, England, followed

by London and then Colombo, Sri Lanka. While in England Jon once again played lacrosse, as one of several "expats," for two more seasons with the University of Oxford lacrosse team. His connections there as well as with Coach Jay Martin at OWU provided the opportunity to organize a USA tour by the Oxford lacrosse team in the spring of 1979 in which the "tourists" played Ohio Wesleyan, Denison and Kenyon with the English players staying in dorms and rooming with the US players (and marveling at US campus life as well as the ability to get pizzas delivered to dorm rooms!)

Following the time abroad and with Colorado as a home base, Jon returned to graduate work at the University of Colorado and received an MA in Economics, specializing in international development. Also, Kathy and Jon after 12 years of marriage and "vagabonding" found themselves in new territory with the birth of their first child, son Cameron (who would later go on to attend and graduate from OWU, Phi Delt '03). Upon his graduation from CU and with a new son, Jon took a position with the University running a business development outreach program in Grand Junction, Colorado. During 5 years of work in western Colorado, a daughter Alison (Denison, Pi Beta Phi '06) was born.



*L-R: Jon Richards '66, Steve Elliott, OWU Phi Gam '67; Geoff Magrath '66; Jim Ginsburg '66*

*Continued on page 6 —*

# Alumni News

*E-mails, letters and phone calls ...*

## John Appel '56

Oct. 25, 2012 Hi

Tom,  
I hope all is going well with you and your looking forward to a snowy winter. As with any ancient warrior minor medical problems continue to annoy. The latest was a knee but after a series of injections it is improving so I hope I can avoid surgery for a while at least. Following are some items you might use for the *Theta Data*.

I am currently in my third and final term as Vice President of the Distinguished Flying Cross Society. Our organization membership is approaching 6,000 and composed of individuals of all ranks and from all Military services who have been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The officers and Board of Director members are all volunteer. Our only paid staff are an office manager and a part-time accountant. Anyone interested can go to our web site, [dfcsociety.org](http://dfcsociety.org).

This will be my thirteenth year as a volunteer Guardian ad Litem. We are appointed by the judge in cases involving children caught up in the court system due to abuse, neglect, or in cases involving custody disputes. When I started I was amazed to learn that there are over 3,000 children in my county in this situation. As officers of the court, the Judge directs us to investigate all aspects of the case and talk to all people involved. We then report back to him/her with our recommendation as to how he/she should rule with



an outcome that will result in the best interest of the child or children. It's a very frustrating job but also can be enormously satisfying when the results literally save the life of a child.

Hoping to celebrate my 56<sup>th</sup> year as a pilot in December but I was afraid I would not pass my annual physical due to some eye problems. I have an appointment with my eye doctor soon so I still may get my license renewal.

## MaryLee (Bob '54) Marten

October 23, 2012

My sister, Pat, and I are flying to Texas to visit my brother, Tom Stover and Sue (Menke) next week. I will be sure to get a picture of them to send you. They would love to get back here but probably that will not be possible. Stay healthy and happy!! Bob will be 80 this Xmas Eve. I can't believe it. Oh, yes I do!

Love, MaryLee Marten

*An earlier note from MaryLee....* Enclosed is David Cook's obituary and a nice article about him. I'll always see his smile and hear his laugh. He laughed exactly like his dad. Bob doesn't keep in touch with anyone. I wish he would. In my life, friends are like family and very necessary. It would be nice if you or some of his old Beta brothers would send a card. Parkinson's is a nasty illness. Robert Marten, 107 N. Orchard Dr., Butler, PA 16001

*Editor's Note: Following MaryLee's notice to the editor of*



*Dave Cook's passing, your editor responded to some of MaryLee's update on her husband Bob '54, a roommate of the editor. Here is that note to MaryLee (Bob '54) Marten:*

July 22, 2012

Dear MaryLee: Thanks so much for your thoughtful note and call to me regarding Dave Cook's passing. I have emailed notices to most all of the Betas who knew Dave and will include the obituary in the next *Theta Data* which will be in January, 2013.

Also, I do not want to let this opportunity go by without a thank you for your kind, considerate donation to the Theta Chapter communication program. I have been publishing it for more than 20 years now (and at 78 I will soon need a replacement). Since the chapter was closed in 2001, the number of living alumni continues down and is now about 750. Of these, about 30-40 support the program on a regular basis. Most importantly, as long as they do, we collect enough to maintain *Theta Data* at least once per year.

So sorry to hear of Bob's continued problems, and I will be sure to communicate with some of the Betas and suggest to them a "note" to Bob might just be what the doctor ordered to perk him up for a while. Sharing a room with Bob, the many laughs we had, and the mutual enjoyment in listening to Stan Kenton records provide me with very good memories. I also long remember the occasion in the early 90's when Ann and I stopped for lunch in Butler for a visit with both of you, and Dave Cook as well. Thanks again for remembering to stay in touch ... and I will try to do the same. My best to you both.  
Tom Tatham '56

## David B. Weisman '57

January 28, 2012



*L-R: Tom Stover and Dave Weisman '57*

Good morning, T2: I have enjoyed the new edition of the *Theta Data* and congratulate you again on putting out a fine edition. I especially enjoyed the long letter from classmate Tom Stover. We had made contact very shortly before the *Theta Data* arrived and I learned where Eules, TX really is. We have sent Christmas cards there and received cards from there for many years but never really knew where it was. We have our reservations for the trip to Dallas for the 9/1/2012 football game against Alabama at Dallas and will spend a day with Tom and Sue b/c as he says, Eules is between Fort Worth (where we will be staying) and Dallas (where the game will be played). We plan to go to the JFK Museum and Dealey Plaza with them. You may be aware that another classmate, Paul Landis, was a secret service agent riding on the running board of the car behind Kennedy at Dallas. Edie and I had a super time at New Orleans for the Sugar Bowl. We will be taking our annual trip in late March to visit family on the east coast (missed the trip last year b/c of my surgery and slow recovery), and hope to spend an evening with Beta Earl "Tractor" Winters

## Alumni News Continued...

and his wife, Kay (Earl was in our wedding and he and Kay were at our 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary party) and maybe we'll get to see Dan Rich after we leave Rehoboth Beach, DE. The *Theta Data* reminded me that he is near there and we are there for a couple of days each year. I must point out an error in your OWU History in the new *Theta Data*. You indicated that OWU beat Michigan "in the first game in the new stadium." I thought that conflicted with what I always had heard that OWU had played in that first game. I tried to find OWU records about that game. The Michigan archives show that the first game in the Big House was 10/1/1927 and Michigan beat OWU 33-0. The 17-7 game that you mention was on 10/6/1928 (a year later). They played two other games. The first was a 0-0 tie on 10/9/1897 and the next was a 65-0 Michigan win on 9/30/1905. My research did lead me to one thing I had not known before: Fielding Yost, for whom our Yost Ice Arena is named, coached for a year at OWU before coaching many years, and later being athletic director at U of M. He thus has ties to my two schools (OWU and U of M). I know of two other people with identical ties, Branch Rickey and Dudley Ferguson, both of whom have the same educational background as I do (graduated from OWU and from Michigan Law School). Dudley was a

classmate of yours and a friend of ours, and married Nan Haviland, who was a roommate of Edie's. He just died recently. This note probably is a hell of a lot more information than you really want to know or need but the comment about "the first game" set off a "torrent of unnecessary but interesting research" and I thought you should be the beneficiary of it. I hope you and Jan are both well, and it sounds from the *Theta Data* that you are. I admire your extensive travels and enjoyed your report. I will give you a call and will try to see you, depending on the amount of time that I have available, when I am in Columbus for the Ohio State game on 11/24/2012. -kai-- Bader



L-R: Tom Stover, Dave Weisman, Edie Weisman, Sue Stover '57

Sept. 11, 2012-----More from Dave Weisman '57  
Good morning. Edie and I had a very interesting and enjoyable visit and day with Tom and Sue Stover at Dallas, TX on 8/31/12 while we were in Texas for the Michigan-Alabama game. The entire trip was great except for the game. Tom and Sue were super hosts and took us to the Texas Book Depository museum and then we went to lunch at a great Italian restaurant where they apparently are regular customers. We had a great time catching up on all of the things that have happened to us since we last saw each other in June of 1957. I attached a couple

of pictures taken during our day which you might want to consider for the *Theta Data*. -kai-- Bader

*Editor's Note*----Yes Bader, you are right about the OWU v UM football wars!! By the way, did any English teacher talk to you about paragraphs breaking up thoughts and ideas????

Steven E. Mirsky '72

Tom — I just picked up my January 2012 *Theta Data* and thought I would send some news before I forget as I have done many times in the 30+ years since I graduated in 1972. I wanted to report that a group of Betas, plus Delaware Ohio townies had a fun reunion in Las Vegas in October, along with wives/significant others. Along with myself, meeting for a spectacular weekend were; John Sacco '72 and JR Mathews, Bob McCluskey and Bob Wahl (each of whom was a Beta either 70/71). With us that weekend were the three Shannon brothers; Don, George and Thom all of whom grew up in Delaware, Ohio and are sons of the former OWU basketball coach, Frank Shannon. Bob Wahl resides in Seattle; JR in Kitty Hawk, NC and Bob McC in Fairfax County, VA which is in the Washington DC Metro area along with me in Bethesda, MD.

John Sacco is an attorney residing in Las Vegas. He and his lovely wife hosted all of us the night we arrived for a great meal and drinks at one of his favorite eating establishments, Lucio Ristorante, where we spent most of the night enjoying ourselves and telling stories such that no one was interested in playing golf the next morning.

Your readers may also remember Jim Martin who was in my Beta pledge class but left OWU to graduate from LIU followed by U of Balt Law School. Jim works with me as an attorney in my Rockville and Frederick MD offices. Bumped into Jim Blumenthal '72 last night (2/14/12 at the Giant Supermarket/Bethesda, MD buying a half gallon of ice cream). We had not seen each other in many years.

We get together along with some OWU Phi Deltis for the Preakness Races the third Saturday in May every year, and I host a golf tournament at my club the Friday before the Saturday races. If anyone is interested, this is the 26<sup>th</sup> Annual — drop me a line or call. We are all addicted to golf, gambling and the ponies.

Regards to all. "Murph"  
Steven E. Mirsky. LLC  
401 N. Washington Street,  
Suite 550  
Rockville, Maryland 20850  
301-279-8700  
301-332-6240 (cell)  
www.bankruptcylawman.com

W.D. Rich '55

Still doing pastoral care/counseling for Bethesda UM Church, Salisbury, Maryland. Had lunch last October 2011 with Jim Davies '56 while in Madison, NJ for a reunion at Drew Seminary. Unfortunately on my October 2012 visit, Jim's health precluded our annual visit together. As of 10/31/2012, Jim's recovery is on the bright side following several months of great physical difficulties. He, among other brothers, are among my fond OWU memories. (In November, Dan visited the editor

## Alumni News Continued...

### W.D. Rich '55 Continued

for some Columbus, OH hospitality including concerts and OSU football. (Also, dinner with the Al Vlerebomes '55.)

### Albert "Al" B. Albrecht '48

25 out of 35 contributors to Theta Chapter House Corporation are from 1950s – need more from later years if Theta is to continue. Let's get Theta back on campus – petition OWU to start the procedure!

### Robert "Bob" Henshaw '56

October 18, 2012

Hope you are well. My book is now out: "Environmental History of the Hudson River:

Human use that changed the ecology; ecology that changed human uses." Working as Managing Editor for 20 specialist-authors, I wrote about 1/3 of the book. Finished just in time to begin radiation Rx for prostate cancer. Now dealing with the after-effects, while finishing a final paper on my five year study of bats that visit the bat roost on our house. Hope to submit it to a biological journal very soon.

Please tell me how much dues to send for the *Theta Data*. I probably should at least once.  
Bob Henshaw '56  
Larry Linderer '55  
Please use  
913skipper@gmail.com as my new e-mail address and

update your address book.  
Larry Linderer

### Jack B. Carmichael '59

12/6/2012

My editing business, mainly continues on Master's Theses and PH.D dissertations.

Occasionally I also edit scientific papers and books for publication. Outside client work has included the long-term plan for Lansing Community College. My new email address is jackbcarmi44@gmail.com  
-kai- Jack B. Carmichael



*Beta Sweethearts being serenaded in 1954: L-R: Nita Heyman DeVos; Also King Cotner; Jan Mack Meredith; Phyl Waters Thomas; Pat James Simpson; Barb Glone ???; No ID; No ID; Annie Grinton Kiseberth; Gretchen Minnich Kaufman*

## Jon Richards '66 *Continued from page 5 —*

A subsequent opportunity to return to the British Isles came up in 1988, and Jon and Kathy moved their young family to Belfast, Northern Ireland where Jon took a position with the Northern Ireland Small Business Institute at the University of Ulster. Jon developed and implemented management training programs, taught at the University, and conducted business research while Kathy earned an MA in French, and the children attended Northern Irish schools.

Among the cultural highlights of the 4 years in Ireland was the chance to take the family "to the mainland" on annual summer camping holidays in France.

Aging parents and a need to settle the children into a longer-term setting brought the Richards back to the coast of Oregon where Jon took a position as director of a business development program at Southwestern Oregon Community College. Kathy secured a French teaching position in the local high school.

Coastal Oregon proved to be a favorable setting for the Richards as they have recently passed the 20-year mark in their time there. Though Coos Bay, North Bend is a rather remote location, Jon's work, as well as his previous experience provided him the opportunity to become quite involved in the local community serving on numerous boards including the regional hospital (currently serving as board chair), United Way, the local chamber of commerce, the area historical museum and Rotary International. He also has been able to maintain his interest in international economic development activities by working on consulting projects in such diverse areas as the Balkans, Eastern and Central Europe, SE and Central Asia, and the Middle East.

## Retirement

Since retiring in 2007, Jon and Kathy have remained on the Oregon coast. Their two children have chosen other parts of the world in which to live. Daughter Ali is married to an Australian and lives in Perth, Australia. Son, Cameron, also married, is living in Denver where he is an attorney.

Other than Jon's board work, occasional consulting projects, and travel, the couple spend some time at a vacation home in North Bend (central) Oregon. Particularly enjoyable in recent years has been re-connecting with Beta brothers. Highlights of the latter include the OWU Athletic Hall of Fame Induction activities of Brother Jim Ginsburg ('66) several years ago which were attended by many brothers (as well as other OWU lax players) from the years '65 to '68; a reunion the following spring at the homes of Geoff Magrath ('66) and Rich Amendola ('67) in Aiken, South Carolina attended by Brothers Scott ('66), Sanders ('66), Ginsburg ('66), Robert "Spike" Reed ('66), Martin ('66), KumLeh/Jon Yuen ('66), Dick Slivka ('65), Juan Sykora ('67), and Andy Duarte ('65); and occasional visits by Beta brothers who find their way to the southern Oregon coast.

Jon suggested that he would be pleased to be the organizer/convenor of a reunion of brothers from the mid-60's either in Delaware or elsewhere if there is sufficient interest. Suggestions are welcome for a location as coastal Oregon is probably not terribly convenient! If interested in such a get-together, you can contact him at [joncrichards@gmail.com](mailto:joncrichards@gmail.com) or 541-756-1768.

## Family and Friends

Jon resides at 2293 McPherson, North Bend, OR 97459

*Your brothers all join me in saying, "Thank God, Jon, you're a Beta".*

## Theta Chapter Brother's Wives A Tribute to Two Delta Gamma Sweethearts



*Dick DeVos and Berneita "Nita" Heyman DeVos at OWU.*

This past year saw two of our lovely Delta Gamma sweethearts pass away. Seranaded in 1954 and 1956, these lovely ladies loved spending time with the brothers and Mama Linn at 54 West Lincoln.

Dick DeVos and Berneita "Nita" Heyman DeVos were married soon after their graduation in 1954 and enjoyed almost 58 years of marriage until her death in March 2012. They were blessed with sons Rick and "Duke", daughters Julia and "Kate", and 10 grandchildren. Nita was a life-long member and supporter of Delta Gamma and enjoyed careers both in elementary teaching which was followed by 15 years in real estate in the Cleveland, Ohio area.

Soon after their marriage, Dick had a special ring made to highlight the sweetheart Beta pin he had given her. Dick has now given this very unique ring to the Theta Chapter House Corp. which is having it placed on permanent display in the archives at the Beta National offices in Oxford. We are indebted to Dick, a past president of the House Corp., for this generous and meaningful addition to our history in Oxford.



*"Nita" Heyman DeVos*



*Nita's ring donated to Theta Chapter House Corp. for permanent display in HQ Museum in Oxford.*



*Patricia "Patti" Nau Crockett*



*Dave Crockett and Patricia "Patti" Nau Crockett*

Dave Crockett and Patricia "Patti" Nau Crockett, were married in the summer of 1956, the year before their 1957 graduation. Patti passed away this past year on July 2, 2012 following many years of fighting cancer.

Upon her sons entrance into school, Patti returned to college and earned a Master's Degree in Special Education from the U of Iowa. For the next 25 years she taught and served as a consultant for special needs children. She was a devout Christian and devoted to her husband and family. She is survived by her two sons, Davy and Kevin, and his wife Julie.

David, an under grad Theta Chapter President, has enshrined Patti's memory with a gift to the Alpha Rho OWU Chapter of Delta Gamma for the creation of a library at the chapter house. He is also establishing an endowment for the Patricia Nau Crockett Resource Laboratory in the OWU Education Department, designed for students studying to be teachers and providing resource materials related to the teaching of reading.

Both Dick and David have the prayers and support of all their brothers during their time of sorrow. We give special thanks for the lives of our Beta Sweethearts, Nita and Patti, for their devotion to family, friends and for always supporting their roots at OWU.



*Dave Crockett and Patricia "Patti" Nau Crockett, both taken in 2005*

## *Class of '54 – 2012 Mini-Reunion Columbus, Ohio*

*May 3, 2012*

Upon the occasion of their granddaughter's graduation from the University of Dayton, Bob and Alsa King Cotner flew in from their Texas home and spent several days in Ohio with the editor and Jan. Not wanting to miss the opportunity for a mini-reunion of the OWU Class of '54, Ohio brothers Jim (Jan) Meredith from Lima, "Buzz" (Shirley) Christensen from Upper Arlington and Dick DeVos from Bay Village, gathered at the Tatham's (Jan) for a full day of reminiscing and treats. The 50's memories of 54 W. Lincoln, "Mama Linn" along with a viewing of pictures taken by Paul Nobis '55 and Bob Neff '53 (taken during their years as unofficial chapter photographers) provided great pleasure for all. What pleasure to have such true friends. We are all blessed with our OWU and Beta heritage. Missing from '54; Schwartz, Kisseberth, Marten and Treis. But it didn't keep us from talking about them!



*L-R: Tatham '56, Merideth, Cotner, Christensen '54 dinner at OSU The Blackwell Hotel.*



*L-R: Dick DeVos '54, "Buzz" Christensen '54 and wife, Shirley at the Tatham's front porch, Upper Arlington, OH.*

## **Special Note From Paul Hammersten '69**

Paul and Sharon Hammersten recently returned from The Crazy Horse Memorial/Indian Museum North America, SD. There they presented the complete works of Paul's friend and mentor, the late Northern Cheyenne artist Frederick Dale Seminole, to Janeen Melmer [Museum Registrar] and Lynda Clark Adelstein [Museum Curator]. Following are the pictures from the event.

Paul can be reached at: P.O. Box 69, West Chatham, MA 02669... PH: 508-432-6516



*Janeen Melmer, Lynda Clark Adelstein and Paul.*



*All 1954 Betas, L-R: Christensen, Kisseberth, Dove, Thomas.*



*Beta Circa 1952, Lilly '53, DeVos '54, Kaufman '54, Treis '54, Hank Anderson, '52, Thomas '54*

### **HELP!**

We need more news from the brothers of the '60 through '90s. Give me a hand and send me your news and pictures via e-mail to [tomtatham@aol.com](mailto:tomtatham@aol.com).



*OF EVER HONORED MEMORY*

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

*Betas Winning Intramural Football*



*Crittenden, Harris, Ely and Cook — All '57. Football Champs again.*

**Henry N. Baldwin '54**

From the Hartford, CT *Contra Costa Times*  
9/4/2012

Henry Norton Baldwin — Aug. 8, 1931 - Aug. 14, 2012  
Resident of Pleasant Hill, CA. Henry passed away peacefully after battling a lengthy illness. He was 81. Henry was born and raised in West Hartford, CT. He attended Kingsford Prep School and earned a degree in Political Science from Ohio Wesleyan University. He married Jeannie Cherrie, an R.N. from Niagara Falls, Canada. Henry enlisted in the USAF and became a Captain, piloting many planes from that era. They moved back to West Hartford, raising their three children: Heather, Geoff and Greg.



*Hank Baldwin '54*

Henry worked for the Travelers Insurance Company and the family spent many wonderful summers on Block Island, Rhode Island. Upon retirement, they moved to Pleasant Hill to enjoy their two grandchildren, Leslie and Carter. They became active members of Saint Andrews Church and Henry pursued his hobby of painting authentic toy soldiers. Sadly, Jeannie passed away in 2005, just shy of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Henry found love again in recent years and married Juanita Machado in 2011. Henry also leaves behind him his sister, Ann Chapell and her family from CT. The family wishes to thank Joyce Locke, a long-time neighbor and former nurse for her unwavering support of our father and family.

**David L. Cook '57**... (Notice from MaryLee (Bob '54) Marten of Butler, PA)

David L. Cook, 76, of Butler passed away at 1:50 p.m. Monday, May 12, 2012 at the VNA Inpatient Hospice. He was born Oct. 27, 1935, in Zanesville, Ohio, to the late Lowell Lemoyne Cook and Alice Hert Cook.



*L to R — Tatham '56, Cook '57, Marten '54 ... Lunch in Butler, PA Circa 1994*

Mr. Cook graduated from Ohio Wesleyan University and then served in the U.S. Army. He then attended the University of Pittsburgh Law School. David served as Butler County's first assistant district attorney, and then was appointed by Judge John H. Brydon as district attorney. Following his first term, he successfully ran for re-election for a second term.

He served on the Butler County Prison Board, was a member of the Pennsylvania District Attorneys Association, was a former member of the board of the Mental Health Association and was a lifelong member of the First United Methodist Church, Butler.

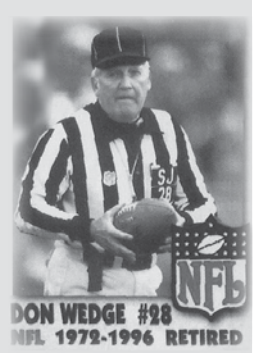
Mr. Cook was a practicing attorney in Butler his entire life. He was an avid golfer and enjoyed his faithful buddies. He also participated in several bowling leagues.

Mr. Cook is survived by his loving wife, Michele E. Siena Cook, who he married Aug. 11, 1973. David also is survived by his beloved son and hero, Capt. Bradley Edward Cook, stationed at Ft. Bragg, NC; his two daughters, Holly Miller of Sewickley and Amy Reik of Cincinnati, OH; his son, David H. Cook of Pittsburgh; 10 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; one sister, Sue (Ron) Betres of Butler; one brother, John W. (Anita) Cook of Santa Rosa, CA; and a number of nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by one sister, Nancy (Walter "Bud") Stroup.

**Donald R. Wedge '51**

Donald R. Wedge, 82 of Clermont, Florida, passed away April 20, 2012. He was born August 13, 1929 in Carey, Ohio and came to Florida in 1997 from Troy, Ohio.

Donald was Catholic by faith and was a member of the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church. He was a member of the Elks Lodge, Moose Lodge, American Legion and Ohio Wesleyan University Athletic Hall of Fame, was a major college referee for football and basketball, and an NFL referee for 24 years. He was also a National Sales Manager for Hobort Brothers Corporation and a Sales Manager for Miller Valentine Real Estate in Dayton, OH.



He is predeceased by his wife, Ruth Ann Wedge. Donald is survived by his son, Chris Wedge of Clermont; daughter, Laura Blackburn and her husband Ron of New Orleans, LA.; brothers, Bob Wedge of Carey, OH, John Wedge of Columbus, OH, Tom Wedge of Huntsville, OH; sister, Sybill Kunkel of Savannah, GA; 4 grandchildren, Carrie Lis, Ashley Humphrey, Cole Wedge and MaKenna Wedge.

*{Editor's Note: A complete bio for Don can be seen in the February, 2008 issue of Theta Data. Go to [thetadatabtp.org](http://thetadatabtp.org) to find this issue.}*

*OF EVER HONORED MEMORY*

Continued... from page 9

**Jack "Cousin" Mathews '54 ... From his son, Craig, Sept. 14, 2012 ...** Mr. Tatham, I don't know if you're around or still have this address, I thought I'd inform you my dad Jack just passed away. If you could inform anyone else who might want to know, that would be appreciated. You can reach me at 661-435-4183 ... Best wishes  
... Craig Mathews, son



September 25, 2012 ... **From: Craig Mathews [craigmat99@aol.com](mailto:craigmat99@aol.com)** In an eMail responding to a note from W. D. Rich '55 ...

Dear Mr. Rich,

Thanks for the kind words. My dad always spoke glowingly about his experiences with all his fraternity brothers and cousins at Ohio Wesleyan. It is really special that all you guys have kept in contact through the years, and yes, I remember him going there almost 20 years ago for that reunion.

The last week or so have not been easy, but just hearing from you guys is a big lift. The last year or so his quality of life was not good, and the effects of the treatments really took its toll. They were always able to keep the cancer confined, but at his age the body can only take so much. He basically lived over 5 years after the original diagnosis. We just received his ashes back yesterday, and my brother Jack, who was the one living with him, said one of his last wishes was to go to the ocean, so that is what we may do. Thanks for your concern and it is greatly appreciated. Craig Mathews, son

**Jim Davies '56 ...** After a prolonged illness for the past 2 years, Jim passed away on January 10, 2013 following another of several recent falls. Jim recently fell and had surgery on a broken hip. The surgery was complicated by both declining heart and lung conditions. Jim and his wife Jean were married over 50 years, had 3 children and 5 grandchildren. As a classmate and 1952 pledge brother of the editor, Jim was a terrific Beta and was an outstanding athlete ... playing championship handball, basketball and football. He was particularly skilled as a quarterback on the intramural football team, winning championships both his junior and senior years. He and the editor were OWU intramural runners-up in handball.

Jim and Jean had a long, devoted life together.....and in



retirement, they enjoyed summers at their family cottage in Massachusetts and wintering in Florida. He was an avid tennis player until the last few months. Jim and the family owned and operated a very successful family insurance business in Murray Hill, NJ for many years. That business continues in operation by their children. Personal notes of condolences can be sent to Jean at 64 Chestnut St., New Providence, NJ 07974.

Jim will be sorely missed by family and friends. He was among the "best" of Beta and will be forever remembered by his brothers.



*New York City, 2011, Dan Rich '55, Jim Davies '56, Jean Davies and Jan Tatham*



*Jim Davies '56 at his Massachusetts cottage.*



*Jim and Jean Davies '56*

**William K. "Biff" Farley '74**

*The Columbus Dispatch*, September 6, 2012

"Biff" Farley, died Tuesday, September 4, 2012, peacefully at home. He was born in Bexley, OH on May 8, 1951. Biff was a graduate of Bexley High School and Ohio Wesleyan University. He was not only an amazing husband and father, but also a wonderful son, brother, and friend. Other than his family and friends, his biggest loyalty undoubtedly was with his favorite Ohio State Buckeyes. He was preceded in death by his mother Martha Kennard Farley, father William Edward Farley and daughter Anne Abbott Farley. He is survived by his loving wife of 34 years, Anne Pryor Farley; son, William Kennard Farley Jr.; daughter, Lauren Halliday Farley; sister, Elizabeth Anne Farley; and brother, Andrew Edward (Sue) Farley; step-mother, Nancy Anderson Farley; and step-sister, Kathy Anderson.

**Beta Theta Pi Winter 2013 Magazine**

**William B. Bartels '44**, Sept. 22, 2012

**Robert M. Best '44**, Oct. 10, 2012

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

December 16, 2012 — *Greetings to all Theta alumni of Beta Theta Pi* —

Please consider a dues contribution for 2013, 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.

**2012 DUES HONOR ROLL**

A very special **THANK YOU** to each of the 2010 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.A. Marten '55	W.D. Rich '55
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*Thomas J. Tatham, Editor Theta Data • 614-486-6183 or [tomtatham@aol.com](mailto:tomtatham@aol.com)*

***News from you:***

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

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Jack '55 and Judy Hahn



L-R: Bob Marten '54, Bill Plavcan '55



OWU Slocum Library Study Room



"Cousin" Mathews ... taken in 1994 in Delaware, Ohio



1955 Pledge Class Formal — What beauties!



OWU Slocum Library Cornerstone

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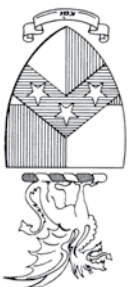
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