



# THETA DATA



*Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity  
Chartered 1853  
Ohio Wesleyan University*

No. 4

Summer, 1981

## Fraternities aid success

**From College Press Service**

Fraternity life may not be like "Animal House" after all.

In fact, joining a fraternity just may be the best way to study and insure graduation, according to Morris Lemay, director of Oregon State University's Counseling and Testing Center.

Lemay recently completed a study at that campus which shows that 54 percent of the freshmen who joined fraternities in 1974 graduated, while only 44 percent of non-fraternity freshmen received their degrees.

Lemay is not quite sure what causes the discrepancy, but speculates it may be the close personal ties usually developed between students and fraternities.

"Students pledging to fraternities tend to begin having good friendships earlier than most people," Lemay says. "These friends they quickly make help them get over early rough spots as far as studying is concerned."



**A few years ago, the men of Theta gathered for a group photo — do you recall the time? We are anxious to hear from you about your memories of life at Beta Theta Pi. Send us your anecdotes for publication.**

## 1981 Fund Appeal contributors noted

We want to hereby thank all of the alumni who have assisted our chapter in any way during the past year by sending rush recommendations, by visiting the house, by assisting our members, or by sending an alumni dues check or contribution.

Our special thanks go to the alumni listed below who sent an alumni dues check for the 1981 year. These men made our alumni communications program and alumni newsletter possible. If there are any omissions, please let us know so a correction can be published.

If your name is not listed, and you find another dues invoice and reply envelope enclosed, we have not heard from you and would like to.

1981 Honor Roll to Date:  
Wilson Anderson '27, Robert M.

Best '44, Eugene Busler '35, John H. Carhart '38, J. Kenneth Cozier Jr. '56, Bruce R. Elder '62, Lt. Col. Jack Hahn, John E. Halliday '29, Charles W. Handley '61, Martin Haskell '68, Skip Horner '59, Eric R. Hursh '70, Paul B. Kisseberth '54, Donald W. Korn '42, Sanford E. Lee '70, William A. Long '51, Neil McPherson '60, W. N. MacDonald '35, Geoffrey T. Magrath '66, John F. Mansfield '40, Col. John A. Mikuluk '38, William M. Miller '31, David M. Myers '38, William G. Plavcan '55, Tom R. Shank '52, Morgan D. Shrader '54, Ferenc Szasz '62, Allen E. Tucker Sr. '52, Stanley K. Van Buren '52, John H. Van Valkenburg '35, David B. Weisman '57, John A. Willoughby '70, Robert F. Woolley '51, Rev. William C. Wright '50, Robert E. Wyant.

**The 1981 alumni dues program has not brought in quite enough money to cover the cost of publishing the Theta Data, providing for special event mailings, maintaining the mailing list and paying for mailing costs. Therefore, if you have not sent in your 1981 voluntary alumni dues for \$15.00, please do so. A reply envelope is enclosed for your convenience. Make your check payable to Theta of Beta Theta Pi, P.O. Box 852, Columbus, Ohio 43216. We thank the many brothers who have contributed to date.**

**THETA DATA**

Published by Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan University for its members and friends.

News and picture contributions are solicited at all times. Address all contributions to Theta of Beta Theta Pi, P.O. Box 852, Columbus, Ohio 43216.

**Alumni Officers****President:**

Rick Vince '75

**Secretary:**

Bill Rowland '68

**Treasurer:**

Fred Pocock '73

**Chapter Officer****President:**

Mike Burke



The brothers were playing 4-square on the front porch in this photo taken a few years ago. Do you remember?

**WHY NOT?**

Let the other Brothers know what you're doing. The Theta Data provides a way for you to communicate your whereabouts and latest activities to Brothers you may not have seen for years. It also allows you to renew old acquaintanceships. It will only take a minute for you to write a short note and mail it to Theta House Corporation, Beta Theta Pi, P.O. Box 852, Columbus, Ohio 43216.

**1980 Fund Appeal ends**

We want to hereby thank all of the alumni who have assisted our chapter in any way during the past year (1980) by sending rush recommendations, by visiting the house, by assisting our members, or by sending an alumni dues check or contribution.

**For your information: address updates**

Robert P. Allen, R.F.D. South Walden, Hardwick, Vermont 05843

Peter M. Kaufmann, 6909 Deloache, Dallas, Texas 75225

Charles P. Woods, II, 5 McCoord Wood Drive, Fairport, New York 14450

Stephen C. Sherwood, P.O. Box 13004, Omaha, Nebraska 68113

Telford R. Fuge, 216 Watson Street, Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15905

David F. Sloan, 2520 17th Street West #100, Billings, Montana 59102

Paul W. Bickel, 1625 Belhurst Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15204

Bradford C. Brodeur, 48 Burncoat Terrace, Worcester, Massachusetts 01605

Daniel B. Ventres, Jr., 252 A. Maiden Lane, St. Paul, Minnesota 55102

Dr. Keith R. Gaspich, Rt. 4, Wheelersburg, Ohio 45694

Michael I. Glasscock, 2229 4th Street Place N.E., Hickory, North Carolina 28601

James M. Reid, c/o Barnes & Jones, Inc., 34 Crafts Street, Newtonville, Massachusetts 02160

Luke M. Noland, 508 Buena Vista, Santa Cruz, California 95062

David W. P. McCreddie, 2906 Janice W., Apt. 210, Building 5, Tampa, Florida 33609

Eugene T. Borish, 1227 Hinnepin, Apt. 5-B, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55414

James E. Williams, 815 Elbir Place, Grosse Pointe, Michigan 48230

Harry A. Ackley, 42 Palm Avenue, Woodland, California 95695

Craig M. Ferrer, 55 Crain Road, N., Stamford, Connecticut 06902

Ronald A. Pettegrew, 3672 S. Quebec Street, Denver, Colorado 80237

William M. Robinson, 16440 Lashburn Street, Whittier, California 90603

Jack P. Salerno, 53-4 Angleside Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02154

Dean G. Chimples, 749 N.E. 14th Street, Boca Raton, Florida 33431

Niels C. Holch, 37 Ballwood Road, Old Greenwich, Connecticut 06870

James D. Reichert, 1 Newgate Road, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15202

Thomas J. Sanders, 108 Windwood Way, Rome, Georgia 30161

William H. Fitzgerald, 401 S. Main Street, Zetienople, Pennsylvania 16063

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Our special thanks go to the alumni listed below who sent an alumni dues check for the 1980 year. These men made our alumni communications program and alumni newsletter possible. If there are any omissions, please let us know so a correction can be published. We hope all these brothers will contribute in 1981 along with many additional brothers.

**Final 1980 Honor Roll:**

Wilson Anderson '27, William Bartels '44, Clayton L. Carver, J. Kenneth Cozier Jr. '56, Marshall B. Douthett '59, Bruce Elder MD '62, Hal A. Fausnaugh '48, J. P. Freeman '73, Telford R. Fuge '56, E. H. Gault '17, R. A. Gregg '47, Geoffrey A. Grove '61, Lt. Col. Jack Hahn, Tom Halliday '55, W. H. Hyde '20, Paul B. Kisseberth '54, Jerry L. McNabb '56, Neil McPherson '60, Col. John A. Mikuluk '38, William M. Miller '31, Steven E. Mirsky, David Myers '38, H. B. Newhard '52, Philip W. Nichol Jr. '47, G. G. Nieberg '31, Luke Noland '27, Frank Peusol, William G. Plavcan '55, Jack P. Salerno '76, Norman F. Slenker '51, Ned Speasmaker '50, Thomas Tatham '56, Robert H. Walters '73, Robert F. Woolley '51, Rev. William C. Wright '50.



A geology professor, **William A. Rice '34** has become professor emeritus of Mount Union College. With his wife, Ellen, he lives at 2241 South Seneca, Alliance, Ohio.

The Theta Data and other alumni projects are financed solely by alumni contributions. Their success rests on your generosity.

1923 — a long look back at the chapter during 1923. Things were grand then...weren't they? Let us know about your days at OWU.

## Best chairs Security Mutual

Robert M. Best CLU '47 is currently the chairman and chief executive officer for the Security Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. He entered the insurance business in 1946 as an agent for Business Men's Assurance Company of America. In 1948 he joined Security Mutual Life Insurance Company home office as the manager of Group Sales, followed by assistant superintendent of agencies in 1949 and director of sales in 1951. He

then returned to Business Men's Assurance in 1953 as the assistant manager in Columbus and was named manager in 1954.

In 1961 he became vice president in charge of agencies for Security Mutual and was elected to the Board of Directors in 1963. He was then elected executive vice president in 1966, president in 1969 and president and chief executive officer in 1972. From 1974-77 he chaired the Executive Committee and then became chairman of the board in 1977.

Among the honors given him during his career are 1974's Man of the Year for the Binghamton Sertoma Club, 1975's Hall of Fame Congress Award from American Legion Post 80 and the CLU Distinguished Service Award from the Southern Tier Chapter of CLU (also in 1975). In 1979 he received the Leadership Award from Campus Related Foundations of the State University Systems. The SUNY-Binghamton Alumni Association gave the Distinguished Service Award in 1980; that same year saw him receive the Israel Peace Medal from State of Israel Bonds. Best married the former Roselyn Welton in 1944 and they have three children — Eric, Linda and Grant. The Bests reside in Binghamton, New York and can be reached at 41A Crestmont Road.



Robert M. Best '47

## Theta bits and pieces

**Stephen C. Spicer MD** can be reached at 409 Emmett, Rensselaer, Indiana.

**Donald W. Korn '42** offers, "After 38 years of sales activity with the former Pennsylvania Railroad and Penn Central Transportation Company, I retired from my position with Conrail. I am actively engaged as a consultant with the Coal Sales Agency. My position in Conrail was the responsibility of sales and development of coal and ore transportation. My wife, June, and I are residing at 222 East Montgomery Avenue in Ardmore, Pennsylvania."

**Grace and Watson D. Parker MD '33** list their address as 129 44th Street, Sandusky, Ohio.

**Paul B. Kisseberth '54** makes his home at 39 Happy Hill Road, Stamford, Connecticut.

Now retired, **Russell C. Patterson '49** was principal for the Madison Local Schools in Mansfield, Ohio. With his wife, Marian, he lives at 1336 Hillcrest Drive, Lexington, Ohio.

Attorney **John E. Halliday '29** is associated with the firm Halliday and Shorts. "Red" and his wife, Marjorie, list their address as 455 1st Avenue, Gallipolis, Ohio.

Urologist **William G. Plavcan '55** is affiliated with the Hagerstown Urology Center. He is a past president of the Washington County Medical Society and served as chief of surgery at Washington County Hospital. He is presently secretary of the medical staff. "Czech" and his wife, Rebecca, list their address as 3808 Pleasant View Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland.

## Alumni short takes

**Sterling D. Hill '77** reports, "I am a wrangling dude rancher and hunting guide living near Bozeman, Montana. I 'threw in the towel' to suburbia and the corporate hierarchy when I resigned from the American Express Company last July to head west where I currently reside with my bride in serene and blissful splendor.

"I am currently engaged in a heated chess match by mail, pitting myself against the resourceful legal mind of one **H. John Bremermann III** who is in New Orleans completing law school at Tulane University. My wife, Susan, and I can be reached at Box 195A, Route #1, Belgrade, Montana."

In banking, **Eric R. Hursh '70** is the assistant vice president at Citibank in New York, New York. Rick and his wife, Kathleen, make their home at 105 Forest Road, Fanwood, New Jersey.

## Alumni response sought

Where are you? Where have you been? We've been waiting to hear from you — and it's been a long wait...is something wrong? That commitment you made to the Fraternity when you were an undergraduate was a commitment made for a lifetime, and entitled you to a lifetime of brotherhood.

The total concept of this newsletter, the **Theta Data**, is to tie our alumni together. How can our alumni maintain a viable relationship when these same men (who cry for participation) neglect to do their part.

Without alumni support, the **Theta Data** is nothing. Without your support, the entire communications program becomes a farce. Our requests for annual dues do not "pad the pockets" of Board members but provide an avenue for members of Beta Theta Pi to keep in touch. **Do you take advantage of this service?**

We need your alumni news to keep the **Theta Data** going. Without you we're an organization with no past...no future — simply a short-lived present.

## Address changes—

(continued from page 2)

Wallace T. Ward, III, 3015 Green Ridge #24, Houston, Texas 77057

Dr. William G. Playcan, 3808 Pleasant View Drive, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740

Andrew Gordon, 3610 Galloway Road, Sandusky, Ohio 44870

Rev. William D. Rich, 33 Lynn Drive, Newark, Delaware 19711

William O. Thompson, 3519 Harrow Gate Court, Columbus, Ohio 43220

William C. Howland, 1217 Duke of Gloucester, Colonial Heights, Virginia 23834.