

# The Theta Data

THETA CHAPTER • BETA THETA PI FRATERNITY  
OHIO WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

DELAWARE, OHIO

SEPTEMBER 1996

## AS WE BEGIN A NEW YEAR ...

Dear Brother:

As we begin a new school (and operating) year, we extend our sincere thanks to those of you who have supported Beta Theta Pi at Ohio Wesleyan by attending our alumni events, volunteering your time, sending in your alumni news notes and contributing to our annual giving program. It is gratifying to know that so many of our alumni stay "active" in Beta Theta Pi.

While all participation and contributions of whatever nature are always appreciated, the monetary ones, of course, are the most easily quantifiable and identified. An Honor Roll of alumni who contributed to our 1995-96 giving program is enclosed in this mailing. Judging from this list, we know you appreciate keeping up to date on the goings-on at the chapter and maintaining contact with your classmates and friends through *Theta Data* and our other communications.

These are challenging times for fraternities, but our current undergraduates continue to be self-reliant, socially and fiscally responsible, and busy with a variety of campus and community activities. They have kept the physical plant, though perhaps always in need of work, well-maintained this year. They deserve our support.

Please remember that our annual alumni giving program is **not** a handout to the undergraduates to cover the cost of social functions or chapter expenses. Rather, it helps offset the costs of maintaining our alumni communications, including *Theta Data*. You will agree that a program devoted to maintaining alumni contact should not be entirely the financial responsibility of the undergraduates. As we all know, the expenses associated with getting an education are already high enough! It seems reasonable that we who benefit most from the alumni relations program can — and should — pay for most of it.

We hope many of you will join us for one or more of our alumni functions this year. We also hope that a record number of you will choose to send us a contribution in the enclosed envelope. Please take the time to give something back to the organization that helped provide you with your college home, great memories and lifelong friends.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours in —kai—,

William L. Rowland '68  
President, The Theta Chapter House Company



## "ALL CLASS" REUNION OCTOBER 18-20 FALLFEST WEEKEND

With the school year now upon us, Fallfest weekend is fast approaching. This is the final *Theta Data* reminder of our plans for October 18-20. Again, we hope to have a big turnout as we did in the spring of 1994 (see photos on Page 3). With the recent renovations, the house looks as good as it has in years. We hope that you will attend and join our celebration of fraternal friendship. Here is a schedule of events:

### Friday, October 18

Noon ~ Golf Outing at Bent Tree Golf Course  
Evening ~ Reception, Sign-in  
(informal dinner, approximately \$15 per person)

### Saturday, October 19

Afternoon ~ Homecoming Football Game  
OWU vs. Wittenberg at Selby Stadium ~ 1:30 p.m.  
Evening ~ Dinner \$20 per person,  
Fraternal Fifties recognition and other ceremonies ~  
(Everyone Welcome)

### Sunday, October 20

Morning ~ Brunch, Chapel Service, Discussion,  
Gathering, Farewell

You should have received a prior mailing specifically geared to Fallfest weekend. If you didn't receive it,

or if you have questions, contact one

of the following brothers:

Dick DeVos '54	216-835-1546
Tom Tatham '56	513-298-7682
Brad Chelton '98	614-368-2660
Matt Garrison '99	614-368-2651

## ALUMNI BOARD

William L. Rowland '68	614-548-6262
Hal Fausnaugh '48	216-331-3099
Thomas J. Tatham '56	513-298-7682
John M. Bolek '88	216-467-6562
Richard DeVos '54	216-835-1546
Urlin Harris '58	614-881-4429
Martin Haskell '68	513-527-4970
Bob Mauck '48	614-885-7743
Chuck Underwood '68	614-861-5466
Don Wedge '51	513-339-4640
Bob Wyant '50	614-369-2252
Brian Hill '96	

## RUSHING NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

By Michael Dowgiewicz '98, Chapter President

To improve our success in rush and to make available to more young men at OWU the opportunities that Beta provides, Theta chapter is beginning a **rush fund** that is supported by alumni and undergraduate brothers. Rush is more difficult because we must compete to showcase Beta for four months instead of one or two weeks. This has meant many more events throughout the fall semester in order to better know the freshmen and for them to come to know Beta; these activities have been supported mostly by the undergraduates. The House Corporation provides us with \$3,500 (an OWU cap) for the week of rush, but this amount does not come close to meeting the needs to compete for the freshmen candidates.

This year is especially important. We have an opportunity to significantly strengthen the chapter. Only three seniors will be graduating and OWU has the largest freshman class (over 700) to enroll in years. (We need those extra numbers because Greek participation as a whole is down to just 43 percent from 86 percent as recently as 1980.)

Our objective is to share the Beta experience with as many worthy young men as possible. Unfortunately, the current situation requires significant funds—more than we as undergraduates can provide. We simply seek to remind Theta alumni that your continued support of the *Theta Data* is important to the viability of the house, because funds exceeding the expense of the newsletter will be used during rushing to help us acquire quality men. Please be generous in your contributions when you return the enclosed form. Thank you in advance for your continued support and your commitment toward our rushing efforts.

## ALUMNI WEEKEND ~ MAY 17-19

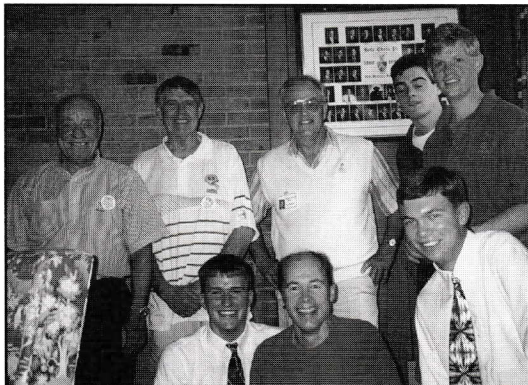
By Brad Chelton '98

The Theta chapter had a solid turnout at Ohio Wesleyan's alumni weekend last spring. Many Beta alumni and their wives took time to stop by the house and reminisce about their Beta memories. Old composites provoked many stories of the type of fraternal friendship that has existed for over a century.

Our guests for Saturday's open house included graduates from 1941 to 1986. The majority were from the lively 1980s group, who returned to the house in the evening for a gathering. Beta brothers came from states far and wide to attend the alumni weekend, including New York, Oregon, Florida and Missouri. It was a pleasure to see different pledge classes reunited after being apart for years. The unity among Beta brothers 40 or 50 years removed from college is still strong.

We would like to thank all who attended the open house. Another special thanks goes to Ed Uhlman, our house father, who put a lot of effort into

preparing the living room and refreshments for the event. We hope to see you all at Fallfest this October, and at future alumni weekends.



*Betas from the '50s to the '90s gathered together during Alumni Weekend ~ May 18-19, 1996.*

## SUMMER CHAPTER UPDATE

The final two months of the 1995-96 school year brought a new, fresh attitude to the Theta chapter. Events such as the initiation of new members and our formal helped to end the year on a positive note and bode well for the next academic year. Our social success can be attributed to a return to the energy and hard work that has made our house successful through the years.

This summer we received the good news that our house passed inspections that took place in May. We were one of only five houses that were judged to have been left in acceptable condition for the summer. We were required to move everything from every room down to the basement for summer cleaning. The hard work (and extra days spent in Delaware) by President Michael Dowgiewicz '98 and House Manager Greg Woolum '98 helped to achieve this recognition.

The fall semester should be an exciting one for the Theta chapter. Fallfest weekend will highlight the semester, and a possible pledge class of three to five people is expected. Ramsy Mahjoub '98 and Matt Jakubowski '99, our rush co-chairmen, are already working hard to recruit prospective brothers. With a fresh attitude, the Theta chapter is looking forward to a very positive year.

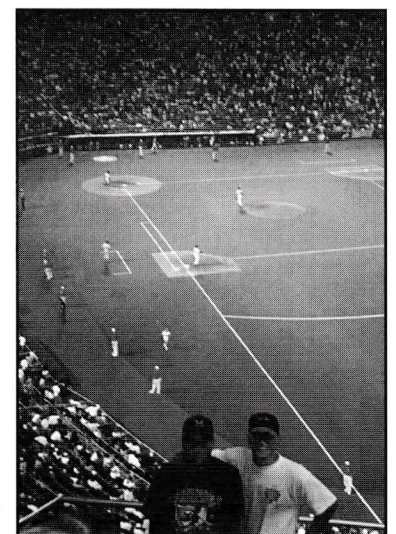
## LET'S PLAY BALL ...

Thanks to the luck of a lottery draw, on July 9, Beta brothers Brad Chelton '98 and Ramsy Mahjoub '98 attended Major League Baseball's 67th All-Star game in Philadelphia. The eight-hour drive landed us in the City of Brotherly Love in time for pregame warmups and festivities that included the breaking of Cal Ripken's nose — but not "The Streak," of course. In addition, we were entertained by the booming home runs during batting practice by sluggers such as Mark McGuire and Fred McGriff.

As for the game, there was little action. Crowd favorite Mike Piazza's monstrous homer in the second inning was the biggest highlight of the night. Baseball's unwritten rule that good pitching beats good hitting was proven once again as the National League pitchers tamed the American League's powerful lineup. The dull, 6-0 victory by the NL, however, did not dampen the excitement of being there. We will hold onto some memories forever: the emotional standing ovation for Ozzie Smith in his final all-star game, the resounding boos for baseball's bad boy Albert Belle, and the hometown enthusiasm for Philadelphia Phillie Phanatic.

We returned home after the game with numerous souvenirs and memories, completing a 28-hour day. It was a once-in-a-lifetime event that we will always cherish.

*Brad Chelton and Ramsy Mahjoub attended the Major League Baseball 67th All-Star game in Philadelphia ~ July 9.*



## RETURN TO OWU FOR FALLFEST 1996 - OCTOBER 18-20!

*Don't miss out on great fun, fellowship and friends. Take advantage of this opportunity to return and renew bonds with your brothers of years past. Early RSVP returns show that we can expect a formidable turnout for the October 18-20, 1996 Fallfest reunion. Plan on coming and get your RSVP back to Dick DeVos soon. Also, reservations can be made at the Hampton Inn (614-365-4700) located at I-71 and Routes 56/57, near Sunbury and only a few miles from Delaware. It's only about one mile from Bent Tree Golf Course where some of us will be playing on Friday.*

*Here are some of those with early commitments to return...*

Dick DeVos '54  
Tom Tatham '56  
Jack Hahn '55  
Dick McClintock '55

Bob Wyant '50  
Charlie Ecker '56  
Marty Haskell '68  
Bob Neff '53

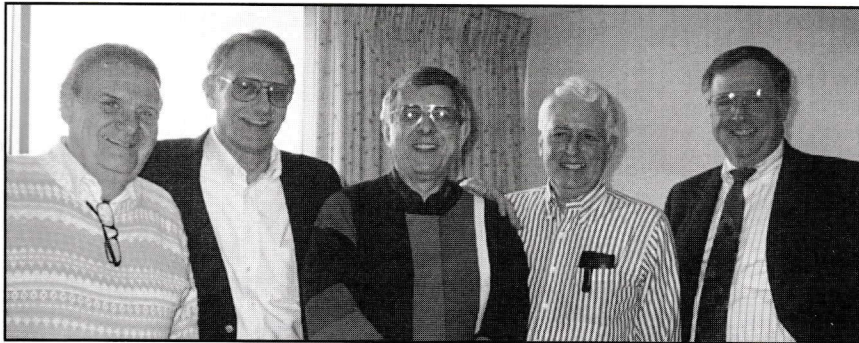
Charlie Hearth '58  
Bill Rowland '68  
Bob Fenwick '48  
Dan Rich '55

*This is just the beginning of RSVP returns ... add your name to the list and make this weekend a memorable one for all!*



40th Reunion, 1994 —  
The Class of 1954: Standing  
L-R are Dick DeVos,  
Keith Thomas, Bob Corey,  
Dee Simpson, Sherry Treis  
and Bob Cotner. Kneeling,  
L-R are Jim Merideth,  
Buz Christenson, Paul  
Kisseberth, Morgan Shrader  
and Clint Miller.

The April 1994  
reunion was  
attended by  
approximately  
100 brothers.  
The special  
ceremonies for the  
Fraternal Fifties  
honorees had just  
been held.



April 1994 Reunion. Left to right are Jim Dailey '56, Bob Marten '54,  
Ron Pettigrew '56, Olin Stephens '56 and Al Vlerebome '55.

## THETA CHAPTER OFFICERS

**President**  
*Michael J. Dowgiewicz '98*  
Baltimore, Md.  
Economics Management

**Vice President**  
*Bradford K. Chelton '98*  
Columbus, Ohio  
Accounting

**Treasurer**  
*Peter J. Celello '98*  
Westerville, Ohio  
Politics and Government

**Risk Manager**  
*Aaron W. Seil '98*  
Westlake, Ohio  
Economics Management

**Rush Chairmen**  
*Ramzy Mahjoub '98*  
Oberlin, Ohio  
Sociology

*Matt Jakubowski '99*  
Denver, Colo.  
Undeclared

### Want to Get in Touch?

You can reach the chapter officers  
at the Theta house:

9 Williams Drive  
Box HW #3090  
Delaware, OH 43015  
Phone: 614-368-2650

## THE LOVING CUP

Words: Horace Lozier, Chicago 1894  
Tune of "Bring the Wagon Home"

*Ob, start the loving cup around,  
Nor pass a brother by;  
We all drink from the same canteen  
In Beta Theta Pi.  
Ob, you and I can ne'er grow old  
While this fair cup is nigh;  
Here's life and strength,  
Here's health and wealth,  
Here's all in Phi-Kai-Phi.*

*Ob, start the loving cup around,  
It speaks of other days;  
We see the milestones backward run  
When on this cup we gaze.  
Our grip grows strong.  
Bold comes our song  
When this fair cup we raise,  
So pass the loving cup around  
And drink in Beta's praise.*

*Ob, start the loving cup around,  
It holds a something clear,  
'Tis brimming with a potion that  
Will fill you with good cheer.  
Come drink with me  
And bid your ills  
Forth-with to disappear;  
We'll never in this world let fall  
The cup we all hold here.*

**We Want to Hear From You!**  
*Send us your photos and articles for inclusion in*  
**The Theta Data.** Send them to the *Alumni Records Office* address on Page 4.

# ALUMNI NEWS

Artist **Charles L. Dietz '32** (1136 Maple Ave., Zanesville, OH 43701) was director of the Zanesville Art Center for 40 years before becoming director emeritus in 1995. Chuck's original mosaics appear in St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Columbus, including a mosaic chandelier.

Jean and **William B. Bartels Jr. '44** (3740 Pinebrook Cir. #406, Bradenton, FL 34209) have been enjoying the good life of sun and fun in Florida for over six years. They have a condo on a golf course, and keep busy with many activities. To celebrate their 50th anniversary in September 1995, Bill and Jean took a trip to Alaska.

The new address for **James F. Graham '51** is 2150 N.E. Conifer Blvd., Corvallis, OR 97330. Before retiring, Jim had a general practice for 22 years in a small Northwest Montana logging town and 12 years in Oregon. He is father to five sons, who are his "memorable accomplishments," and is grandfather to six children, with one more on the way. "I'll miss looking for **Don Wedge '51** on TV NFL games!"

Attorney **Daniel B. Ventres Jr. '52** (1355 Vine Pl., Mound, MN 55364) chairs the Minnesota Supreme Court and the Minnesota Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He is still skiing in Aspen, sunning in Florida and practicing law. "If anyone needs a Florida tax or probate attorney, let me know."

"Not sure whether my life has been one of accomplishment or failure, but it sure has been fun!" jokes **Kenneth C. Rowley '55** (P.O. Box 5415,

Santa Fe, NM 87502). "I tried an experiment — practicing gynecology in Santa Fe. That led me to quitting medicine and going into woodworking." "Zeke" has made plans to return to OWU, but reports that everytime he does, something happens.

**James H. Davies '56** (64 Chestnut St., Murray Hill, NJ 07974), president of Davies and Associates insurance and travel agency, has made many contributions to the American Agency System. He held the positions of president, director and chairman, and is currently the Insurance Education Foundation Director. He and his wife, Jean, have three children: Robert, Theodore and Judith. Jim is active in his church and community affairs, and enjoys tennis, golf and carpentry in his spare time.

After serving a year as interim president at Tarrant County Junior College, **Thomas P. Stover '58** (1310 Tanglewood Trl., Euless, TX 76040) is "back to being a lowly dean." His wife, Sue, works part time at the same college, and both are looking forward to retirement in two years. They are also awaiting the Fallfest 1996 Theta Reunion — the first they have attended. "I decided to attend when I saw how old that '50s bunch looked!" wrote "Smokey." "I would look just like I did then if I could lose about 80 pounds."

The new mailing address for **David B. Carver '58** is 377 E. Market St., York, PA 17403.

You can now find **Earl D. Winters '59** at 923 W. Sawmill Rd., Quakertown, PA 18951.

After over 20 years as a public school teacher and administra-

tor, **John H. Duval '64** (P.O. Box 26, W. Shore Rd., South Hero, VT 05486) has just completed his eighth year as a professor of education at Castleton State College. "Tiny" and his wife, Judy, make their home in the Champlain Islands of Vermont. He would love to hear from **Bill Niblock '65**, **Bruce Jarvis '64**, **Larry Hyman '64**, **Dallas Frederick '64**, **Andy Duarte '65** and other brothers from that era.

"Staying out of trouble!" writes **W. Martin Haskell '68** (P.O. Box 43222, 6650 Given Rd., Cincinnati, OH 45243). "That is, really serious trouble."

Dentist **Ralph R. Bozell III '70** reports a new address: 12570 Beacon Hill Dr., Plymouth, MI 48170. You can reach "Buzz" electronically at rbozell@ix.netcom.com.

When he wrote in last October, **Mark D. Aldrich '72** (514 Manorside Ct., Centerville, OH 45459) was planning to attend the Spring 1996 reunion, and he and Jacki were hoping to see lots of Betas from the early '70s.

**Corey W. Wells '81** now resides at 22 Gerry St., Greenwich, CT 06830. He is president of Corwell Products, a mail order business.

**Erik D. Mitchell '91** (317 Valley Brook Crossing, Decatur, GA 30033) has been promoted to senior accountant at Ellis Communications. This past summer, he spent his free time as a volunteer VIP driver with the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. "Anyone have any news of **Kevin McDonald '91**?"

As a field biologist for Arizona State University, **Brian G.**

**Fedorko '95** (4 Poplar Rd., Long Valley, NJ 07853) is involved in a four-month project studying the natural history of the Ridgenose Rattlesnake. When he is not with ASU, Brian works as a lab assistant for Western Medical Services.

Since the publication of our last issue, we have learned of the death of the following brothers:

**William Merryman '44**  
(1/8/96)  
and  
**Carl Ellenberger '29**  
(3/26/96)

Beta Theta Pi mourns their passing and extends condolences to their families and friends.



*Enclosed with this mailing is our 1995-96 Honor Roll of contributors. We thank those who made contributions and hope that you will send in the enclosed form and support us in the 1996-97 year. Thank you!*



*The Theta Data is published for the members and friends of the Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan University. Address changes, news items and photos are always welcome and may be sent in the enclosed envelope or mailed to Alumni Records Office, Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, P.O. Box 361303, Columbus, OH 43236-1303.*