



# THETA DATA



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

Volume 8, No. 2

September, 1968

## 1967-68 Outstanding Year For Theta Of Beta Theta Pi

This past year has been one of the most outstanding years in the life of the Theta chapter. For example, at the end of the year we initiated all but one of our pledges and the winter term Dean's List showed five Betas were among the outstanding scholars of the school.

Wes Robinson, '69, became departmental assistant for his endeavors in political science, as did John Eufinger, '68, in astronomy. Stephen Watson, '69, was initiated into the mathematics honorary, Pi Mu Epsilon.

In varsity sports, the Betas were capably represented as usual. J. R. Mathews, '70, and Carl Hoar, '71, were among those who proved their prowess on the gridiron. Dorm counselor and Dean's List scholar, William Rowland, '68, demonstrated leadership on the basketball team. Track Ace, James Kaminsky, '68, broke conference and Ohio records as captain of both the track and cross country team. The tennis team was bolstered by William Haardt, '69, and the soccer team can attribute much of its success to its captain, Thomas Bell, '68, who won the All-Midwest NCAA honors.

Intramurals were again strong this year. Our traditional championship volley ball team won all IM honors. Ronald Connors, '70, one of two double winners in the IM track meet, set a new record in the mile. James Clark, '69,

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## Beta Theta Pi First Fraternity Founded At O.W.U. - Long History Illustrious

Theta of Beta Theta Pi was the first fraternity chapter founded on the Ohio Wesleyan campus on April 17, 1853. Chapters of other fraternities have come and gone since that time but the "Betas" have remained a part of the scene here.

Beta Theta Pi was the first fraternity founded east of the Allegheny mountains on August 8, 1839, at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, and is now nearly 130 years old. One of the strongest of the national fraternities it now has 102 chapters in the United States and Canada and 10 in Ohio alone.

In the early years, the various chapters took turns at being the "presiding" or governing chapter of the fraternity and the Ohio Wesleyan or "Theta" chapter held this distinction longer than any other — for four years during the Civil War.

The Ohio Wesleyan chapter has played a part in the growth of the general fraternity having helped to establish chapters at Wittenberg, Denison, Wooster, Kenyon, Ohio State, University of Cincinnati and Case.

Beta Theta Pi was the first fraternity at Ohio Wesleyan to have a regular "chapter hall" in 1873, and the first to occupy and own its own chapter house in 1900. This building is now the home of the B.P.O. Elks in Delaware and is used occasionally by the chapter for special functions with the permission of the Elks. In 1914 it occupied a new, larger home at 54 West Lincoln street in Delaware where it stayed nearly 50 years until moving into its present chapter house in 1961.

One of the most interesting stories connected with the chapter as related by S. R. Thornburg in his "History of Theta

Chapter" is the story of the "lifting" of the Delta Tau Delta chapter here.

The Delts had been founded at Bethany College in West Virginia, but fraternities had become defunct there and the Alpha or presiding chapter had been moved to Delaware. Their ten members were approached to become members of Beta Theta Pi and nine agreed to do so. At the same time, other campus leaders from Phi Gamma Delta and Phi Kappa Psi resigned their memberships and joined the "Betas." It was Eugene Wambaugh who later became General Secretary (Chief executive officer) of Beta Theta Pi, who engineered this, now outlawed, coup. Wambaugh knew Beta to be the best of the national fraternities and determined to make the Ohio Wesleyan chapter, without question, the best on the campus. He succeeded in this effort and it has remained one of the leading chapters on the campus.

But, to continue Thornburg's story: "The morning after this Pan-Hellenic group had become Betas happened to be Sunday. Church attendance always had

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### Theta Data

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

News and picture contributions are welcome at all times. Address all contributions to Alumni Relations Officer, 9 Williams Drive, Delaware, Ohio.

#### Theta Chapter House Company

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Robert E. Wyant '50. . . . Delaware

### Alumni Newsnotes

HAL A. FASNAUGH, '48, was elected an alumni trustee for Ohio Wesleyan this spring. He has been Lay Leader of the Cleveland District of the Methodist Church this past year as well as Vice Chairman of Special Gifts for the current capital funds drive for Goodwill Industries — Cleveland. The Fasnaugh's live at 20126 Westhaven Lane, Rocky River.

2nd LT. WILLIAM L. HOLLAND, '66, is stationed in Viet Nam as an advisor to a South Vietnamese Battalion. After completing OCS in April, 1967, he took parachute and was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division and was sent to cover the Detroit riots last summer. He can be written C/O Military Assistance Command — Viet Nam (SD-5891-OF) APO SF 96222.

## Board Of Trustees Reverse Decision; Deferred Rush To Begin This Year

Pledging for Ohio Wesleyan University fraternities and sororities will be deferred until winter term this coming school year.

This decision, handed down by the Board of Trustees May 18, was a reversal of their earlier decision to begin deferred pledging winter term of the 1969-70 academic year.

A two year trial period for the pledge deferrment has been established. At the end of the trial period, it will be decided either to continue a one term deferrment, lengthen the deferrment to two terms or possibly a full academic year, or to return to fall term pledging of freshmen.

The Board of Trustees' reversal of their earlier decision, coming just days before the beginning of spring term final exams, caused fraternity leaders to feel that they had inadequate time to prepare any sort of well-planned rush program.

The planning for rush next year was left to the discretion of the IFC, Panhellenic Council and the Orientation Committee.

At their last regular meeting of the school year, the IFC adopted several "policies" regarding rush. Summer contacts with incoming freshmen will be allowed, although no list of incoming freshmen will be distributed by the University, except in special geographic areas where "more than one" fraternity has planned an "orientation" party. A list of this sort will be issued at the discretion of the admittance office.

After the start of school, no freshmen will be permitted on fraternity property or allowed to attend fraternity parties either on or off campus.

However, there will be no "quiet period", and fraternity men, as individuals or "small groups", may visit with freshmen anywhere except on fraternity property.

A series of open houses has been planned by the IFC. On October 6, all fraternity houses will be open to any freshman who wishes to visit. October 19, only those groups who are not located on Williams Campus will be open. The following day, only Williams Campus houses will be

open. November 3, a freshman will again be allowed to visit any house or houses he wishes.

At the start of winter term, all houses will be open during the first week, with pledging taking place the first week-end of the term. A freshman must visit each of the fraternities on campus at least once before pledging.

Events which led to the eventual decision by the Board of Trustees filled much of the 1967-68 academic year. Last fall, a faculty resolution called for a pledging deferrment of one full year. Subsequent studies proved this a financial infeasibility and a second faculty resolution called for a one term deferrment for a four year trial period. After two years of the trial period, a study would have been made to consider lengthening the deferrment two terms.

At the winter term meeting, the Board of Trustees adopted the resolution for the two year trial period, with no consideration given to extending the deferrment two terms. The trial period would have begun during the 1969-70 school year, allowing a full year for the fraternities to plan the program and to make financial adjustments.

Following the winter term Board decision, a number of professors appealed to University President Eldon T. Smith and sent an open letter to John A. Eckler, chairman of the Board of Trustees. The letter took the

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## MEET THE MEN OF BETA THETA PI

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mittee, a member of the social, elections, and transportation committees, as well as the public relations committee of the IFC.

**EUGENE (Skip) HORNER** is a junior majoring in psychology and economics, who has been chapter vice president, recording secretary, historian and alumni relations officer. He is a member of the Student Senate, the Faculty Orientation Committee and the student government transportation and publicity committees.

**MARC BENTON**, a junior Political Science major, is a Dean's List student and has served the chapter as social chairman. He was vice president of the student government, chaired the University Special Events Committee, served on the student government publicity and social committees. Other activities include the Student Life Commission on alcoholic beverages, the commission of concerned students on race relations and the YMCA human relations committee.

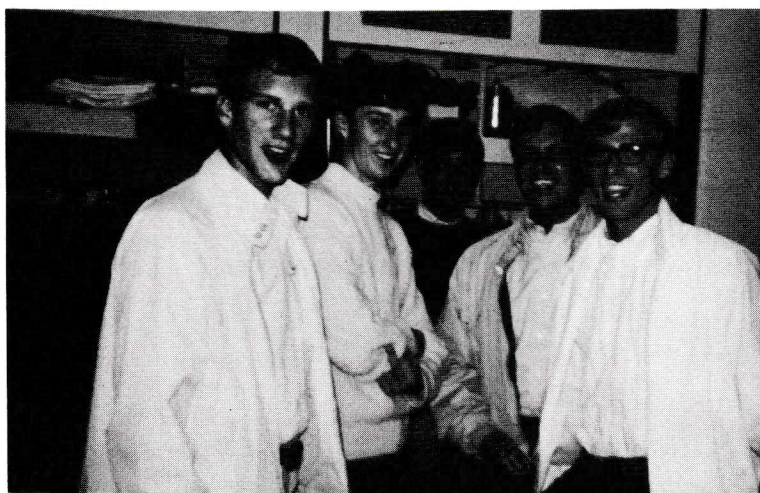
**JOHN MEYER** is a sophomore economics major, an Owl and Peacock staff member, chapter initiation chairman and sergeant-at-arms, and is active in student government on the transportation committee.

**STEVE WATSON**, junior math and economics major, is a Dean's List student and a varsity wrestler. He has served the chapter as Rush chairman and treasurer, was president of the Young Republicans Club, is a math department assistant and a member of Pi Mu Sigma, the math honorary.

**ED KIRK**, a junior history major, has been the chapter steward, a member of the pre-law club and the O.W.U. elections and special events committee.

**CHARLES APLIN** is a junior pre-med student, has served as steward and initiation chairman.

**JOE MILLER** is a junior Eng-



Theta Chapter brothers (top) seem really up for a study break as they prepare to leave for Whitie's after a spring quarter study session.

The grass is high, but the company congenial as the Betas and their dates enjoy a Saturday afternoon picnic. (Below).



lish major who has served as Rush Chairman, pledge trainer, corresponding secretary and song leader.

**JOHN WILLOUGHBY**, sophomore majoring in English, has served as pledge trainer and Rush Chairman.

**RON SNYDER**, junior history major, has served as chapter alumni relations officer, recording secretary and dorm corridor representative.

**STEVE MICHALSON**, freshman, is a member of the O.W.U. Glee Club, corresponding secretary of

the Chorister, and freshman camp treasurer.

**GLEN GRIEBEL**, freshman pre-med major is an achievement scholar.

**DEAN CHIMPLES**, sophomore majoring in English and history. He was the chapter historian, scholarship chairman, and won honors in English.

**TOM (Buz) BUZZELL**, sophomore in pre-med, was the chapter corresponding secretary, a Dean's List student, and participated in various intramural sports.

## Dr. Elden T. Smith Resigns As O.W.U. Prexy

Dr. Elden T. Smith, President of Ohio Wesleyan University since 1962, has resigned his position effective December 31.

Dr. Smith's announcement came as a surprise to most people connected with O.W.U. He leaves Ohio Wesleyan to become a principal staff officer with the Association of American Colleges in Washington, D.C.

In his letter of resignation to the O.W.U. Board of Trustees, Dr. Smith wrote, "I am most grateful for the opportunities I have had and I look back on the past seven years with great satisfaction. I assure you that my interest in Ohio Wesleyan's welfare is un-diminished, and I have great confidence in her future."

In his new position, Dr. Smith will work closely with private colleges which are members of the new Federation of State Associations of Independent Colleges and Universities.

Richard W. Darrow, chairman of the Board of Trustees announced that a trustee committee was elected to conduct the search for a new president. John A. Eckler, Columbus, immediate past president of the Board is chairman, and will work with Mrs. D. G. Allen, Bay Village; Dr. Gerald F. Ensley, Columbus; Homer C. Lucas, Weston, Mass.; and John Sagan, Detroit.

## Greek System Growth

The recently-released 18th edition of Baird's Manual of American College Fraternities and Sororities reveals the continuing growth of the fraternity system.

The new edition lists 4,493 fraternity and 2,267 sorority chapters of the national Greek-letter societies in contrast to only 3,740 and 2,125, respectively, established before the 1957 edition went to press.

Copies of this latest edition may be ordered for \$9 from the George Banta Publishing Company, Menasha, Wisc.

## Beta Theta Pi First Fraternity Founded At O.W.U. - Long History Illustrious

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been popular, although this may seem slightly paradoxical due to the fact that it was compulsory, but this morning was no exception; new zeal was added and there was no little comment when the regular Beta pew was filled to overflowing, as well as several others in the vicinity, with the now 26 members of Beta Theta Pi. This number, in itself, had it not been for the exciting events that had transpired in making it so large, was enough to create gossip, for fraternity chapters in those days scarcely, if ever, ran over ten men. But the surprise manifest did not end in gossip alone, for the following morning at chapel every man in school, Greek and barbarian (non-fraternity men) alike, wore a big two inch tin badge, cut out in the shape of the Beta shield, on his coat lapel, accompanied by at least a half a yard of pink and blue cambrie (ribbon).

"The results might be guessed; college exercises had almost to

be suspended for the day. There were fights of all kinds, many men after jerking off tin badges came out with hands cut and bleeding."

A member of Theta chapter of Beta Theta Pi, James Barker Battelle, was founder and the first editor of The Ohio Wesleyan Transcript in 1867.

Fraternities in general have progressed through the years from the fun-bent organizations devoted to other things to groups of great value in helping their members through the social and educational rigors of modern colleges and the developing of firm, strong friendships that will last through life.

As Theta chapter led in the beginning of campus and other affairs, it still leads and is devoted to the well-being of its members and the enhancement of Ohio Wesleyan University — first in the Greek world at Ohio Wesleyan, first on the modern Ohio Wesleyan campus.

## 1967-68 Outstanding Year For Theta Of Beta Theta Pi

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finished second in the shot put. Tim Bell and Greg Hepner won second and fourth, respectively, in the pole vault.

We also have men in campus leadership positions who round out our activities. Marc Benton, '69, is student government vice president. Sanford (Pete) Lee, '70, became the IFC pledge training chairman and Eugene (Skip) Horner, '69, is the director of Freshman Orientation Week.

We finished the term with our annual Spring Formal, the Quo Vadis party. We are looking forward to next year when we can show our Beta spirit once more.

## Board Of Trustees Reverse Decision

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trustees to task for "disregarding" the faculty's suggestions on deferred rush.

At the Spring meeting of the Board, the trustees accepted the recommendations of President Smith and the faculty committee and voted to begin the pledging deferral next year.

GEORGE A. FELD, '63, and his wife, Kathryn Newmon Feld ('64 OWU) had their first child, a daughter, on July 30, 1967. Last winter George moved to Buffalo to take a job as Marketing Manager for a firm which sells swimming pools and other equipment. The Felds live at 96 Robinhill Drive, Williamsville, New York.

## News From Alumni Brothers Here, There And Everywhere . . .

Sales Vice President is RICHARD E. EIKEN'S ('53) new title at Wayne Colorplate. He was promoted this past spring. His home address is 2080 West Alex-Bellbrook Rd., Dayton.



**Richard E. Eiken**

The DOUGLAS V. AUSTIN, '59, family has moved to Kalamazoo, Michigan where Doug became an Associate Professor of Finance in the School of Business — Western Michigan U. In addition to teaching, Doug is completing his second book and has published 4 articles this year. He has also formed the Austin Bank Consultation Service for management and economic counseling. The Austin's address is 1507 Spruce Drive, Kalamazoo, Michigan.

GORDON H. BERG, '59, was appointed to the Advisory Board of Suffolk University, Boston College of Business Administration. Gordon, Assistant Vice President of New England Merchants National Bank, Boston, has 3 daughters and lives at 278 Washington St., Duxbury, Mass.

WILLIAM B. BARTELS, '44, was elected councilman for the village of Riverlea. Bill and his family toured the west last summer with a travel trailer and had a great time. The Bartels live at 286 Beverly Place, Worthington.

LT. FRANK A. JOHNSON, Jr., '66, was commissioned in June, 1967 and is presently assigned to the 45th Transportation Company — APO 96271 — in Pyong Taek, Korea.

FRANK W. SCHNEIDER, '63, was married on June 17, 1967 to Shari Wendling of Daytona Beach Fla. Both Mr. and Mrs. Schneider are attending the U. of Florida — Frank is working for his PhD in social psychology and Shari for her MS in sociology. They expect to finish in August but until then can be written at 1239 NW 9 Avenue, Gainesville, Florida.

DONALD J. SHERLOCK, '60, has been promoted to Assistant Sports Editor of The Record, Hackensack, N.J. The Sherlock family, including two daughters — 5 and 1 — can be reached at 14 Hannah Rd., Oakland, N.J.

### Chapter Reports Deaths

Dr. Russell Arthur Jewett '05, died on June 1st, 1967. No further information is available.

Wesley E. Whitehouse '18, died on December 4th, 1967 in Essexville, Mich.

Glenn A. McCleary '17, former dean of the School of Law at the University of Missouri, died on Oct. 15th, 1967.

Peter R. Vennett '69, died in an automobile accident on Dec. 4th, 1967 while studying in Germany. Peter was a pre-medicine major studying in Munich.

Earl S. Miller Jr. '37, died on August 16th, 1967 in Norwalk. He was an attorney with the Miller, Miller and Miller law firm.

Paul S. Strecker '18, died on Jan. 28, 1967, in Grand Rapids, Mich.

Harry B. Patterson '23, died Feb. 27, 1968 in Uhrichsville.

C. Richard Baxley '36, employed by Dayton Power and Light Co., died Dec. 20, 1967 in Bellefontaine.

FRANK E. HILL, Sr., '33, is Senior Supervisor of Accounting for Blue Cross, Blue Shield of Indiana. His son, Frank III, lives in Bridgeton, Mo. and has two daughters, making Frank a grandfather twice over. The Hill Sr.'s address is 8061 Lieber Rd., Indianapolis, Indiana.

After two semesters at Michigan State Grad School, ROBERT H. MARSHALL, '65, is working as a claims representative for Aetna Life and Casualty Company. Bob lives at 504 Overbrook Rd., Baltimore, Maryland.

JOHN H. DUVAL, '64, was awarded a Graduate Teaching Fellowship at the University of Vermont and completed requirements for his MA in History in June. This summer he is in Mexico on a work-study project sponsored by the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The Duval's live at Hillside Terrace, Shelburne, Vt.

CHARLES A. TILLINGHAST, '62, is an instructor in the English Department at the University of Vermont. Tilly has a daughter and is currently completing requirements for his PhD in English at Syracuse University.

ROBERT C. MOYERS, '63, married Donna Bower on June 18, 1966. In addition to his job as Sports Information Director for Wittenberg U., Bob is Director of Ohio Conference Sports Bureau and placed 5th in the All-American Bridge Tournament (Regional) in the open pairs division out of 444 pairs. His address is 214 W. Cecil, Springfield.

DR. HORACE B. NEWHARD, '52, announces the birth of his fifth child, Persis Elizabeth on April 9, 1968. Congratulations! Bix also reports that he has built a ski chalet in Aspen, Colorado. The Newhard's address is 837 Rogers St., Bucyrus.