



THE DRAGON'S TALE

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WINTER 2006

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE NEBRASKA CHAPTER, THE ALPHA TAU OF BETA THETA PI

ALPHA TAU FINDS GREAT SUCCESS AT 166TH CONVENTION

Alpha Tau continued its tradition of being one of the nation's top chapters of Beta Theta Pi at this summer's General Convention. The 166th General Convention took place at the beautiful Fairmont Scotsdale Princess in Scotsdale, Arizona from August 4th-7th, and Alpha Tau received many prestigious awards. More than 1,000 Betas from the U.S. and Canada gathered to celebrate the success of our fraternity.

Our chapter reached new heights of success this year by taking home the North American Interfraternity Conference Award of Distinction. This award is the highest honor given to any chapter of any fraternity on an international level. Of the 55 chapters to apply for the award this year, we were one of only five to receive the honor. Alpha Tau is only the second Beta Chapter to win the highly prestigious award and the first chapter at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Alpha Tau also took home its fifth John Reily Knox Award, the most prestigious award given to only the top chapters in Beta Theta Pi. Our chapter also received awards for Excellence in Risk Management and Campus involvement.

Chapter President Greg Walklin attended convention as the chapter's voting delegate, and Chapter Vice President Jason Renner served as an intern during Convention by helping to organize and coordinate the event. They were joined by Corey Clifford, Ryan Duell, John Wood, Jimmy Sevcik, and Mark Antonson who all attended the Peter F. Greiner Leadership College. Chapter Counselor Mike Wortman and the notable Alpha Tau Burt Folsom were also in attendance to celebrate our chapter's success. We look forward to challenging ourselves to achieve a success of even greater heights in the future.



Back Row(l-r): Mark Antonson, JimmySevcik, Greg Walklin, Ryan Duell, Jason Renner, John Wood, Middle Row: Corey Clifford, Front Row: Mike Wortman, Burt Folsom, Mary Ellen Gillespie (NIC Representative).

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Every year, numerous men of Alpha Tau attend many of the leadership opportunities offered by the North American Interfraternity Council and the General Fraternity. These workshop-based conferences aid members through leadership and character development. Undeniably, Alpha Tau can attribute a lot of its recent success to these opportunities. However, this would not have been made possible without your help. Almost all of the men who take advantage of these programs have been sponsored through the Beta Theta Pi Foundation. Though registration costs are covered under this sponsorship, many of our members are still unable to attend due to expensive travel costs. Therefore, we are asking that any alumnus who wants to make a contribution to the chapter to consider subsidizing the travel costs associated with these leadership opportunities. If you chose to do so, you may either send your contribution directly to the Alpha Tau house or directly to the Beta Theta Pi Foundation in Oxford. We are very grateful for your continued support of Alpha Tau.

__kai__

Jason Renner, AT 2075

CONGRATULATIONS NEW
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

President- Russell Swan
Vice President- Matt Engler
Secretary- Cuyler Gembol
Risk Manager- Mark Antonson
Treasurer- Barton Sattler
Pledge Educator- Scott Hackman
Recruitment Chairman- Logan Hart
Scholarship Chairman- Adam Barney
Social Chairman- Corey Clifford
Philanthropy- Jimmy Sevcik

THANK YOU TO ALUMNI
FORMAL DINNER GUESTS

Thank you to Gene Merchant, Larry Johnson, Sam Baird, and Otis Young for visiting the chapter house this past semester for a formal dinner. Each of these distinguished alumni came back to share stories of their collegiate experiences and to see how the house has progressed since they were active members. Alpha Tau is always honored to have guests for formal dinner and chapter meetings. If you are interested in coming back to visit the house, please contact Andy Moellering at andymoellering@gmail.com.

ALPHA TAU RECEIVES
NEW LOOK ONLINE

The Alpha Tau website has been recently updated over the summer through the hard work of active members of the Beta Technology Committee. The new features include:

- Revamped site layout design
- Member forums
- Member directory
- Online chat
- Additional general information areas for the public
- Live event calendar
- Alumni mailing list

The website address for Alpha Tau is beta.unl.edu/. Look forward to seeing more updates about upcoming events in the near future.

ALPHA TAU RECRUITS PLEDGE
CLASS OF 25 YOUNG MEN

The following young men were recruited to Alpha Tau by rush chairmen Matt Engler, Jon Brunott, and Jimmy Sevcik. This year the chapter focused on bringing in a larger pledge class of outstanding members who are well-balanced and possess strong character. Alpha Tau is confident that each of these individuals will make great Betas. The chapter is sincerely grateful to all those who helped out with the rush process. A special thank you is due to Alpha Tau Alumni Bill Dana and Jim Krieger for opening their homes for a summer rush event. Thank your for making a contribution to the future success of the house.

Adam Cruickshank
Andrew Spitsnogle
Kenton Moore
Jon McClymont
Nathan Bargmann
John Palmtag
Tom Knudson
Ross Bahensky
Jason Schnack
Taylor Schnack
Ross Paczkowski
Matt Rosno
Chad Stahlecker

Tyler Siebolt
Marshall Martens
Drew Dietle
Drake Doolittle
Brad Jacox
Jon Brockhoft
Patrick Fullmer
Tom Salistean
Miles Hunke
Andrew Norton
Jordan Stange
Andrew Hibbert

BETAS TEE-OFF IN THE 7TH
ANNUAL BETA GOLF CLASSIC

On September 25th, Alpha Tau hosted the 7th annual Beta Golf Classic at Wilderness Ridge Golf Club in Lincoln, Nebraska. The tournament was held in the format of a four man scramble and consisted of 21 alumni and 4 active members.

The championship team consisted of Roger Anderson, Denny Bloom, Van Brownson, and Duane Sullivan and they posted a score three under par at 68. Their names are displayed as the 2005 Beta Golf Classic Champions on a placard in the chapter house.

Thank you to Hal Johnson, Jon Hinrichs, Thomas Foley, and John Lahiff for sponsoring holes in the tournament. Your contributions were greatly appreciated.

The golf tournament was a great success and it gave alumni a chance to interact with the active members of Alpha Tau. We look forward to hosting future events that bring together both active and alumni Alpha Taus.



2005 Beta Golf Classic Championship Team (l-r) Roger Anderson, Denny Bloom, Van Brownson, Duane Sullivan



Active members Jimmy Sevcik, Adam Goossen, Adam Barney, and Dan Huter pose before they tee-off

—BROTHERHOOD AT ITS BEST—

ALPHA TAU WELCOMES

NEW MEMBER GARY FRAZER

Alpha Tau had an excellent opportunity to celebrate lifelong fraternal brotherhood through the special initiation of Gary Frazer. Frazer was initiated into the Alpha Tau of Beta Theta Pi on September 17th as he was joined by his pledge brothers of the class of '68.

The origins of the special event started from an annual get together between members of Alpha Tau's 1964 pledge class. They were approached by Frazer, who asked if it were possible to still be initiated into Beta Theta Pi. Brother Keim and McKeag made a special presentation to the active chapter during a meeting to initiate Gary Frazer. The motion passed and the date for the initiation was set.

I am attached to the Beta House in Lincoln and that is where my wonderful connections with many great people started. That is where I want to be initiated.

The most important thing to me is to connect with the House and as many of my pledge brothers as can be there. -Gary Frazer, AT 2133

On the morning of September 17th, brother Frazer went through the initiation ritual with nine brothers from his pledge class and most of the active chapter in attendance. After the ceremony, the active chapter and the alumni and their spouses took part in a luncheon that was provided by the class of '68. It was an great time exchanging stories and remembering the past days of the Alpha Tau chapter. It was also an excellent opportunity for alumni to see how the house has progressed since their years as active Betas.

NEBRASKA BETA WINS SPIRIT

Dr. John C. Hall, Nebraska '69, was recognized with the 2005 Spirit of Philanthropy award on November 15th at the National Philanthropy Day Luncheon in Kansas City, Missouri.

Dr. Hall is one of the health care heroes in Kansas City who volunteers numerous hours to provide health care to uninsured or underinsured patients. He has offered a monthly clinic at the Kansas City Free Health Clinic since 1990 and has provided care for more than 5,000 patients in the community.



Alpha Tau Alumni celebrating the initiation of Gary Frazer at the home of Bruce McKeag. (L to R) Doug Homolka, John Phillips, Tom Formanack, Bob Trotter, Bob Keim, Gary Frazer, Jon Wendt, Jim Shreck, Bruce McKeag, and Larry Goldstone

Following the initiation ceremony, Brother McKeag and Frazer spoke to the 2005 pledge class about the importance of lifelong fraternal brotherhood. They both stressed that Beta is much more than a four year experience; it is a *lifetime* experience.

It was truly amazing to see how much brother Frazer's connection to the house meant after many years away from the chapter. The fraternal bonds that exist between him and his pledge brothers stand as something all brothers should aspire to in Beta Theta Pi. A special bouquet should be extended to Bruce McKeag, who was instrumental in coordinating the special initiation and for opening up his home for an excellent post-initiation celebration. Thank you to all other alumni who aided in the special initiation, and congratulations Gary!

Hall specializes in dermatology care. Due to the cost, this service would normally be inaccessible to patients of the Clinic. Dr. Hall has not only helped patients at the Clinic, but has been instrumental in fundraising efforts to obtain donated medications, and raising \$2.5 million for a capital campaign.

Hall has been a board member of the KC Free Health Clinic since 2002. He also volunteers at Truman Medical Center and is a full-time staff member at Saint Lukes Hospital. Most recently, Hall was awarded the American Academy of Dermatology Presidents Recognition award for Volunteerism in 2005.

We are proud to call Dr. Hall among the ranks of Alpha Tau. His commitment to serving the community demonstrates his devotion to the goals of our great fraternity. Congratulations Dr. Hall on your awards and accomplishments!