



## THE DRAGON'S TALE

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WINTER 2007

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

## ALPHA TAU INITIATES 21 YOUNG MEN



*Back Row(l-r): Andy Sevcik (AT 2178), Phillip Walters (AT 2170), Thomas Wanek (AT 2166), Daniel Mickells (AT 2175), Chris Hanson (AT 2173), Billy Olson (2176). Middle Row: Matt Conway (AT 2171), Holden Rasmussen (AT 2174), Bryce Wergin (AT 2177), Alex Stewart (AT 2160), James Haynes (AT 2164), Carson Vaughan (AT 2165), Blaze Okerlund (AT 2167), Derek Jagels. Front Row: Corey Georgeson (AT 2161), Daniel Nguyen (AT 2172), Rishi Batra (AT 2162), Andrew Hover (AT 2168), David Barmore (AT 2169), Adam Petersen (AT 2180), Scott Barker (AT 2163).*

Alpha Tau recently initiated an class of twenty-one outstanding young men.

On January 14<sup>th</sup>, the twenty-one new initiates were joined by their parents, alumni and other active members at the Wick Alumni Center to celebrate their accomplishments. Chapter adviser Mike Wortman (AT 1200) had the pleasure of introducing the keynote speaker, Andy Mattox (AT 1938). Andy spoke of his time in Beta during the mid 90's when the chapter was rebuilding. Andy emphasized the importance of continually working to make the chapter better in order to attract the best young leaders on campus.

The initiation banquet was organized by the outgoing vice president, Matt Engler (AT 2095). Matt acted as emcee for the event and detailed the events of initiation week to those in attendance. Pledge educator Scott Hackman (AT 2116) outlined the requirements set forth in the pledge program and praised all of the new initiates for their hard work and dedication throughout the fall semester.

Former honor pledge Kenton Moore (AT 2136) recognized William Alexander Stewart IV (AT 2160) as this year's honor pledge. The honor pledge is selected for best exemplifying the Beta spirit during his semester as a pledge. After the presentation of the honor pledge Andy Moellering (AT 2126) passed the sophomore fellow award on to Chad Stahlecker (AT 2153). Chad received the sophomore fellow award because of his hard work at the Beta house over the summer, his outstanding work as the House Manager, and his commitment to brotherhood.

The traditional "Loving Cup" ceremony, which commemorates the brotherhood of the chapter, was performed by the active chapter as a close to the banquet.

Although the pledges were relieved that "I-week" had ended, they will be able to look fondly upon the week of constructive brotherhood. They will be proud to say that they participated in an initiation week that was free of hazing and other destructive activities.

These twenty-one men have proven themselves worthy of wearing the badge of Beta Theta Pi, and the active chapter is proud to consider them brothers. Congratulations and best wishes to the 2007 initiates!

## Alpha Tau Thanks

Anderson, Creager &  
Wittstruck, P.C.

for the donation of two filing cabinets for  
use in the Alpha Tau chapter house.

Thank you for your generosity!



## ALPHA TAU TRANSITIONS NEW EXECUTIVE OFFICERS:

*President-* Scott Hackman  
*Vice President-* Corey Clifford  
*Secretary-* Logan Hart  
*Risk Manager-* John Parizek  
*Treasurer-* Matt Lusk  
*Pledge Educator-* Kenton Moore  
*Recruitment Chairman-* Patrick Fullmer  
*Scholarship Chairman-* John Palmtag  
*Social Chairman-* Marshall Martens  
*Philanthropy-* Tony Cimino

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DECEMBER GRADUATES

Barton Sattler (AT 2098)  
Mark Antonson (AT 2103)  
Mark Schmitz (AT 2076)  
Zach Martens (AT 2087)  
Adam Saunders (AT 2082)  
Matt Breck (AT 2107)

## ALPHA TAU CONGRATULATES

-Ross Bahensky for his engagement to Minnie Benson.  
  
-Bill Laun for his admittance to UNMC College of Dentistry in Lincoln  
  
-Scott Hackman and Logan Hart for being accepted into Order of Omega, a Greek honorary society on campus.  
  
-John Parizek for being elected IFC Risk Manager

## OUTGOING 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 for a great year!**

# ALPHA TAU ACHIEVES TOP FALL 2006 GPA

The Alpha Tau chapter continued its tradition of academic excellence by posting a 3.511 overall GPA. This was enough to earn Beta Theta Pi the highest fraternity GPA on campus. The 3.511 GPA was well above the all university (3.040), all fraternity (3.064), and all greek (3.173) GPAs.

The Alpha Tau chapter devotes itself to academics above all other commitments. The scholarship chairman for 2006, Adam Barney (AT 2099), organized and proctored nine study hours at Love library each week. Pledges are required to attend study hours to ensure that they are committing enough time towards their coursework. In addition, pledges must turn in grade reports twice during their pledge semester. This helps the scholarship chairman monitor academic achievement throughout the semester and prevent problems before they occur.

Furthermore, the chapter works hard to keep an academically friendly environment for all its members. Two study rooms downstairs provide plenty of space for members, and a total of seven computers are always availble for use by chapter members.

A special congratulations is in order to the thirteen individuals listed below who finished the semester with a 4.0 GPA.

- Zach Martens (AT 2087)  
- Russel Swan (AT 2096)  
- Scott Hackman (AT 2116)  
- Drew Dietle (AT 2139)  
- Andrew Spitsnogle (AT 2144)  
- Andrew Hibbert (AT 2145)  
- John Palmtag (AT 2146)  
- Drake Doolittle (AT 2156)  
- Corey Georgeson (AT 2161)  
- Rishi Batra (AT 2162)  
- Scott Barker (AT 2163)  
- James Haynes (AT 2164)  
- Thomas Wanek (AT 2166)

Finally, congratulations to the fall 2006 pledge class whose twenty-four members achieved a class GPA of approximately 3.45. Additionally, five of the pledges achieved 4.0 GPAs. This is the highest pledge class GPA of recent memory, and is a testament the pledges' hard work throughout the semester.

Congratulations Alpha Tau, and best of luck in Spring 2007!

# ALUMNI HOST ACTIVES, PLEDGES FOR INITIATION WEEK DINNERS

Alpha Tau would like to thank the alumni and their famillies who were generous enough to host small groups of pledges and actives for dinner during initiation week.

Alumni dinners during Initiation week are beneficial to all parties involved. Pledges and actives enjoy meeting alumni and learning about how Beta has benefitted them throughout their lives. Alumni hosts enjoy meeting the current and future members of the Alpha Tau chapter and discussing what their future in Beta holds for them.

The alumni dinner program also provides a larger base of positive activities during Initiation Week. Alpha Tau works hard to ensure that pledges

do not participate meaningless or destructive activities at any time during initiation week.

The dinners were planned by chapter vice president Matt Engler (AT 2095) and chapter counselor Mike Wortman (AT 1200).

Alumni hosts for 2007 were:

- Travis Brady (AT 1936)  
- Larry Dlugosh (AT 1087)  
- Kent Folsom (AT 1570)  
- Max Martin (AT 1117)  
- John McHenry (AT 1208)  
- Bruce McKeag (AT 1149)  
- Dave Schmidt (AT 1246)  
- Jay Seiboldt (AT 1547)  
- Carl Sjuln (AT 1580)  
- Dan Wherry (AT 1060)  
- Mike Wortman (AT 1200)

Thanks again for your generosity!

# 2006 PHILANTHROPY QUEENS OF THE COURT

The Alpha Tau Chapter kicked off its 2006 philanthropy by teaming up with Farmhouse fraternity in hosting the first annual Queens of the Court philanthropy which benefitted the Lincoln Fire Department Education Fund. The philanthropy consisted of a women's basketball tournament, which was held on Sunday, September 24, 2006 at Mable Lee Hall on the UNL campus. Ten teams from sororities across campus participated in the tournament, which was won by one of the Gamma Phi Beta Teams in a thrilling triple-overtime championship game.

The new philanthropy came about because both fraternities were interested in some type of joint philanthropy. After considering what other philanthropies were hosted by other fraternities and sororities on campus, it was determined that a women's basketball tournament would be the best option. The Lincoln Fire Department Education Fund was selected as the benefactor because of a fire that sparked in the attic of Farmhouse just a week before fall classes began. Both fraternitites felt this would be a great way to say thank you. Jimmy Sevcik (AT 2109), Alpha Tau's philanthropy chairman, worked with Farmhouse to plan and execute the event.

Both fraternities plan on continuing this event annually during the Fall semester. This year's event raised around \$700 for the Education Fund, but the event is being expanded and we hope that next year's event will be even bigger and better.



2006 Queens of the Court Championship Team - Gamma Phi Beta  
"Coach" Scott Hackman (AT 2116) -- far left

## Adopt-A-Highway

Alpha Tau also participates in the Adopt-A-Highway litter pick-up program. The current adopted stretch is a two-mile stretch of Interstate 80 just West of Lincoln. Chapter members pick up litter on this stretch twice each year. In the interest of safety all members watch a roadway safety video before heading out to pick up litter, place "men working" signs, and wear orange vests while working along the Interstate.

# BETA BURRITO BASH



Alpha Tau Betas (left to right) Carson Vaughan (AT 2165), Bryce Wergin (2177), Ross Wieting (2179), Blaze Okerlund (2167), Travis Barney, Andy Sevcik (2078), Drew Dietle (2138) serve food at Burrito Bash.

Beta Burrito Bash, formerly known as Beta Taco Feed, was held for the eighth consecutive year on Thursday, November 9, 2006. This year's event benefitted SKIP (Support for Kids with Incarcerated Parents) Camp of Lincoln. SKIP camp is a summer camp that provides fun and constructive activity for children whose parents are currently incarcerated. Alpha Tau member Jonathan Brunott (AT 2100) is volunteering at the camp during the summer.

A slightly different menu accompanied the name change from Taco Feed to Burrito Bash. This year's menu offered patrons soft-shelled burritos as well as hard-shell tacos. Philanthropy chairman Jimmy Sevcik (AT 2109) organized the event and chapter members sold tickets. This year produced nearly \$3,000 which was donated to SKIP Camp of Lincoln program.

## DISTRICT XXIV RECEIVES NEW CHIEF AND ASSISTANT CHEIF

### CHIEF

Jeffrey S. Rundle, *Kansas State '03*

### ASSISTANT CHIEF

Gregory J. Walklin (AT 2077), *Nebraska '06*