



THE DRAGON'S TALE

Editor: Alex Stewart (AT 2160)

All inquiries regarding this newsletter and how you can get involved with the chapter can be made to Alex Stewart at 308-325-4832 or wastewart4_6@hotmail.com.



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WINTER 2008

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

ALPHA TAU INITATES 11 YOUNG MEN

Eleven more young men have now signed their names into the rolls of the Alpha Tau Chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

On Jan. 19, the eleven new initiates, their parents and the chapter celebrated with a banquet at the Wick Alumni Center. David Karnes was the keynote speaker. Brother Karnes, former United States Senator, spoke of his life experiences and how they have shaped him into a better leader. Throughout the semester the pledges had studied his readings from "Musings About Leadership."

Corey Clifford (AT 2119), outgoing vice president, organized the event. He detailed initiation week to the new initiates' parents, and Kenton Moore, the former pledge educator, detailed the hard work and dedication that these new brothers put forth during first semester.

Alex Stewart (AT 2160) former honor pledge recognized Dave Frayser (AT 2183) as this year's honor pledge, and Chad Stahlecker (AT 2156) recognized Phillip Walters (AT 2170) as this year's sophomore fellow.

The honor pledge is typically selected for best exemplifying the Beta Spirit during his pledgeship; and the sophomore fellow is a similar award given to a sophomore. Both received unique badges to wear for the next year in recognition of their contributions to the chapter.

The traditional "Loving Cup" ceremony was also performed, commemorating the brotherhood of the chapter as well as recognizing John Reily Knox.

I believe it is safe to say that the pledges were relieved to get through "I-Week". However, they were also relieved that the chapter has taken steps to ensure a week of constructive activities, free of hazing and other destructive habits which have plagued fraternities over the years.

These eleven young men have proved themselves worthy of bearing the badge of Beta Theta Pi, and the active chapter is pleased now consider them brothers.



Back Row(l-r): Kraig Steckler (AT 2191), Micheal Sullivan, Rob Carlson (AT 2192). Fourth Row(l-r): Nick Dobberpuhl, Ted Stuckey (AT 2185), Curt Iossi (AT 2187). Third Row: Justin Lane (AT 2190), Greg Asplund (AT 2186), Gaelon Cornell. Second Row: Justin Carter (AT 2184), Mike Bossert, Josh Heinke. Front Row: Ben Heinke, Dave Fayser (AT 2183), Jack John Spray.



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Beta Theta Pi Fraternity
1515 R Street
Lincoln, NE 68508

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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
NEW CABINET OFFICERS:**

Alumni Relations- Justin Carter
Rush- Bryce Wergin, Dave Frayser
Historian- Marshall Martens
Chaplin- Dave Frayser
Chorister- Dave Frayser
Social- Billy Olsen, Kraig Steckler
Facilities- Phil Walters
House and Grounds- Phil Walters
Head Hasher- Justin Carter
IFC Representative- Adam Petersen
Public Relations- Greg Asplund
Intramurals- Nate Peterson, Rob Carlson
Sergeant at Arms- Miles Hunke
Involvement- Kraig Steckler
Technology- Thomas Wanek, James Haynes
Ritual- Taylor Schnack

CONGRATULATIONS

Nate Weiting on his recent pinning to Kristen Lamogues of the Kappa Kappa Gamma Society.

Keith Purdy on his recent Mariage.

ADOPT A HIGHWAY

In keeping with the Men of Principle goal of "Commitment to Community," the members of Alpha Tau choose to take on another service project. On Saturday, April 23, the chapter house participated in the Adopt a Highway program.

Alpha Tau chose to adopt a two mile section of highway outside of Lincoln, which we will be responsible for in the coming years. Not only does this project provide an excellent opportunity for the members to give back to the community, but it also provides members a different environemnt in which to build brotherhood.

A big thanks must go out to Matt Breck, the philanthropy chair, and Barton Sattler for setting up this event and making it such a success.

**ALPHA TAU'S FRATERAL FIFITIES
FOR 2008**

Robert Kretz (AT 973)
Robert Hinrichs (AT 974)
Thomas Frolik (AT 976)
James Thomas (AT 977)
George Bates (AT 978)
Sterling Rider (AT 979)
Gary Larson (AT 981)
James Gourlay (AT 982)
Roger Johnson (AT 983)
Richard Place (AT 984)
Harold Johnson (AT 985)
Forrest Douglas (AT 986)

The following Alpha Tau's are all celebrating their fiftieth anniversary into this great fraternity. All of the brothers listed through James Gourlay were initiated on March 16, 1958, and those listed after Brother Gourlay were initiated on September 21, 1958. The brothers of Alpha Tau would like to both congratulate and thank you for the guidance and support you have provided over the past half-century. We hope that you are able to continue to support Alpha Tau throughout the rest of your life.

Anyone wishing to contact these brothers to congratulate them personally can email Alex Stewart at wastewart4_6@hotmail.com to receive their address or phone numbers.

**ALPHA TAU ALUM SPEAKS ON RISK
MANAGMENT**

At a recent Monday night Formal dinner, Alpha Tau was lucky enough to get Brother JL Spray to speak on good risk managment. With much of recent letigation going poorly for Fraternities across the nation it is important to now practice good risk management before an incident occurs.

Brother Spray is a distinguished trial lawyer here in Lincoln. He was an undergrad during the early 1980's.

Brother Spray firsrt talked about liabiltiy and how it is determined on where it should fall. The first criteria he spoke f was who brought the alcohol, if any was provided to the social. Was it a third party vendor, a Bring your on beer, or was common money pooled to provide alcohol for everyone at the social. Obciously, the second two do not fall in alignment with Alpha Tau's or the General Fraternities

current Risk Management Policy.

Next, he talked about who threw the party. Was it Beta itself. Was it men who were a part of Beta? Or was it some people that Beas knew.

The final Criteria of liability that Brother Spray touched on was Who attended the social event. Was it mostly Betas? Was it a few Betas? Was it only Betas?

Overall, Brother Spray's talk was very informative and a good refresher for the men of Alpha Tau, and it was greatly appreciated by all in attendance.

__kai__
Andrew Spitsnogle
Alpha Tau Risk Manager

**—ALUMNI APPRECIATION—
BANQUET COMES TO OMAHA**

So... What happens when you combine 160 Betas, Beta Sweethearts and guests along with the new Omaha Hilton, our General Fraternity Board of Trustees and Foundation Board of Directors, 45 members of our award-winning Alpha Tau chapter at the University of Nebraska, and two very worthy Distinguished Service Award winners, John M. McHenry, Nebraska '70 and Michael J, Nebraska '70? One heckuva good time, I tell ya! -General Fraternity President Tom Purington (Kansas State '63)

Every year, there is a national Alumni appreciation banquet held in random spots around the nation. This year the Alpha Tau chapter was lucky enough for this event to be booked in nearby Omaha, just a fourty-five minute drive from 1515 R St in Lincoln.

Not only was Alpha Tau fortunate enough to have this event that brought most of the General Fraternities Board of Trustees to the Good Life, but we were able to see two of our own honored with the Distinguished Service Award, the highest award a Beta can recieve in light of his service to the Fraternity.

Mike Wortman (AT 1200), the Alpha Tau chapter advisor

spoke of his days as an undergrad during the late 1960's and then his time in grad school, watching the fraternity. Leaving for a while and coming back to find Beta a mere skeleton of the Beta he rembered loving, but then he helped lead an amazing turn-around at that time to help make Alpha Tau what it is today.

John McHenry serves as the president of the Alpha Tau Alumni Association and was the former chapter adivsor for Alpha Tau before Mike Wortman took over in 1995.

He too, talked about his days as an undergrad when he was co-head hasher with Mike.

There was also a presentation for some of the undergrads at the Banquet. Outgoing President Scott Hackman, Incoming

President, Kenton Moore, and Incoming Secretary, Tom Salistean all made a presentation for our appreciation of his work to General Fraternity President, Tom Purington. Since Tom was an undergrad at Kansas State University and is still an avid fan of their sports teams, we fealt the most appropriate thing we could get the President was some Corhusker gear, namely a football autographed by Nebraska's new head football coach, Bo Pelini. Needless to say, Presdent Purington was thrilled with his new gifts and I'm sure he will be wielding them proudly at the next Kansas St/Nebraska Matchup.



John McHenry recieves the distiguished service award



Mike Wortman recieves the distinguished service award.