



THE DRAGON'S TALE

FALL 2014

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

ONLY \$150,000 NEEDED TO REACH CAMPAIGN GOAL SEND IN YOUR GIFT TODAY

We have written campaign updates for more than two years. What's new that we haven't said before? A historical perspective may help explain why we remain very passionate about our project.

The Alumni Advisory Board, headed by longtime advisor **Mike Wortman '67**, discussed a house remodel nearly 10 years ago. Talk moved to action, and an assessment looked at our chapter house as to what was needed to ensure future Betas had updated living quarters. We reviewed potential costs and reached out to numerous Beta alumni. We send a sincere thank-you to Jenni Waring Howard, our former campaign consultant, for her tremendous effort in getting our efforts airborne. After contacting our initial alumni, the consensus was that Alpha Tau had the necessary support to raise \$1 to \$1.5 million in a capital campaign. A volunteer campaign committee was organized, and we hired architects, a construction company, entered into a

formal campaign, and established a relationship with banks for financing. In December 2012 our undergraduates moved out of the house and reconstruction began. Everything was complete within eight months. Visit www.1515r.org for pictures, and other updates. Another sincere thank-you to Brothers **Drew Stange '80** and **Mark Antonson '04** for overseeing construction activities.

We have raised more money (\$2,856,555 to date) and have a greater percentage of giving (28%) than other campaigns of our size, but we knew of our capabilities because of our strong chapter and great alumni base.

In retrospect, initial discussions 10 years ago were fruitful. Other Greek houses at UNL have updated their facilities, the University has remodeled dorms, and new housing was completed that mirrors what Alpha Tau has done. With the cooperation of the undergraduates, we

have safe living quarters that are conducive to maintaining our fraternal bonds.

As Betas (both undergraduates and alumni) we owe it to future generations to have our campaign completed. We need your assistance to reach our goal. Contribute now if you have not made a gift—or you can contribute again; we'll accept additional pledges, too. Yes, our numbers and percentages are good, and thanks to all of you, we only need \$150,000 more to reach our goal. Help us get there by making a gift today.

Yours in _kai_,
Campaign Chairmen
Bruce McKeag '65
(402) 488-3379
bm93558@windstream.net

Bill Dana '76
(402) 968-7977
billdana@me.com

See our
list of
contributors
on pages
2-3.

ALPHA TAU ALUMNUS GIVES BACK TO BETA AND LINCOLN COMMUNITY

Pete Allman '76 came to Alpha Tau as a legacy. His older brother, **Tom '74**, was already an established member of the chapter when Pete came to UNL, but the choice to join Beta Theta Pi wasn't that easy. "I was rushed by other fraternities, and it wasn't until the very end of the week that I chose to sign with Beta because I was conflicted. But then I realized that the fun I was having at the other houses was in large part due to the Little Sisters and not the actual members. With Beta, I was drawn to a great group of men who had similar interests and values. The decision was clear."

Pete graduated from UNL with a degree in business administration. He worked for his family business, a linen and uniform rental company, until he was 30 when he

went back to school for his master's degree in counseling. He now has his own private counseling practice and also runs a non-profit, after-school program for at-risk youth called Lighthouse.

"I had read a story about a man in New York who started a non-profit called Covenant House for youth who are at risk for many unhealthy behaviors and thought that was such a great idea. During the summer of '88 I had the opportunity to volunteer there and had an incredible experience. When I came back and shared what I had learned, it was suggested to me that something like that come to Lincoln. Not long after, I, along with my wife and a friend of ours, started Lighthouse."



(Continued on page 4)

125 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE – CONTINUING OUR TRADITION



HELP US REACH OUR GOAL TODAY

JOIN OUR LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS

Our loyal brothers and friends have shown their generosity by donating **\$2,856,555** to the *125 Years of Excellence—Continuing Our Tradition* campaign. These gifts positively impact the future of Alpha Tau Chapter, and our undergraduate brothers truly appreciate your generous giving. All donors contributing a minimum of \$2,500, over a five-year period, are recognized on a plaque prominently displayed outside the dining room

in the renovated chapter house. The donor board was installed September 17; drop by the house to see it. Pictures of the board are also available on www.1515r.org/donorboard. If an error has been made below in recording your gift, or your name has been mistakenly omitted or listed improperly, we sincerely apologize. Please advise our campaign coordinator at (785) 843-1661 so that we may make a correction. Thank you, loyal alumni!

kai Circle

(\$250,000 and above)

The Mammel Foundation
Carl G. Mammel '52
Alpha Tau Undergraduate
Chapter

Knox Circle

(\$100,000 to \$249,999)

Robert Kretz '58
W. Grant Gregory '60
William C. Dana '76

Alpha Tau Legacy Society

(\$50,000 to \$99,999)

Anonymous
Stephen D. Andersen '60
Hedgecock Family Gift
Norman R. Hedgecock '70
Jake W. Hedgecock '10
Irv Dana III '72
In memory of his
parents, Irving R. Dana Jr.
and Mary Jane Dana
David G. Werner '75

1888 Charter Society

(25,000 to \$49,999)

Mary C. Arth
In memory of
Lawrence J. Arth '62
Donna Woods
In memory of
Thomas C. Woods,
Phi Chi (Yale),
Thomas C. Woods II '40,
Thomas C. Woods III '72,
and Frank H. Woods 1890
In honor of
Jon J. Hinrichs, M.D. '62
John W. Hummel '55
Jacob Family Gift
Thomas N. Jacob '59
Thomas A. Jacob '85
Michael S. Milroy '59
Baird Family Gift
Sam P. Baird '63
Todd A. Baird '88
Scott A. Baird, *Phi Chi*
(Yale)
Bruce McKeag '65

Jody Parker '66

In memory of
Phil Bowen '66 and
Geoff Heiden '66
Dennis D. Bloom '67
Bruce "BC" Christenson '67
John M. McHenry '67
The Honorable
David K. Karnes '68
In honor of
Dave and Liz Karnes
Donald J. Walla, M.D. '71
Doug E. Deeter '72
Penny and
James R. Krieger '72
Craig Pohlman '74 and
Chuck Mangimelli '74, Room 3
Sjulin Family Gift
Carl J. Sjulin '80
David H. Sjulin '82
Kimberly and
Thomas Egan Jr. '89

Loving Cup Society

(\$15,000 to \$24,999)

Charles E. Wright '51
J. Roger Myers '60
John E. Lahiff '61
Larry L. Dlugosh '62
James R. Poggemeyer Fund
Thomas D. Poggemeyer '62
In memory of
James R. Poggemeyer '62
Michael J. Wortman '67
David L. Erickson '69
Kratina Family Gift
Mark D. Kratina '70
Mark D. Kratina Jr. '99
Scott D. Greenwood, M.D. '71
In honor of
Duane Sullivan '68 and
David Morrison '71
David F. Firestone '72
Lester F. Buckley '74
Mark A. Larsen '76
Russell V. Peterson Jr. '76
Stacy and Bradley Focht '77
Kirk J. Trofholz '78

Nikunen Family Gift

Michael A. Nikunen '76
David P. Nikunen '80
Robert D. Nikunen '84
The Foley Family and
Thomas G. Foley '81
In memory of
James P. Foley '50
Edward E. Miller '81
Mattox Family Gift
Andy Mattox '96
Todd Mattox '99
Rick W. Fuchs '00

Dragon Society

(\$10,000 to \$14,999)

J.P. Cullen '49
In memory of
Bob Kasmarek '49
Calvin R. Johnson '56
J. William Gibson '59
In memory of
Robert J. Gibson '64
Douglas G. Olson '59
Donald B. Stokes '59
Carpenter Family Gift
Terry Carpenter '60
Robert Carpenter '83
Tyler Carpenter '11
Carlton "Lee" Peterson '60
R. C. Mead, DDS '62
James E. Rembolt '62
Robert B. Keim '65
John W. Hancock '66
Thomas G. Morgan '66
Craig Christiansen '70
Douglas V. Krenz '70
Sue and Dr. Jud C. Martin '72
Gregory E. Sutton, M.D. '72
Haskins Family Gift
Gregory E. Haskins, M.D. '74
Jeffrey W. Haskins '75
John Roley '74
John M. Kilty '76
John F. Dittman '81
Larry J. Lubeck '81
JoAnn and
Mark D. Jepson '82
Link S. Wilson '82
Dan Woodward '82
Preston M. Mesick '03

Mark Antonson '04

Jon T. McClymont '06

Wooglin Society

(\$5,000 to \$9,999)

Jean S. Jeffrey
In memory of
Michael L. Jeffrey '63
Kauf Family Gift
Karl Kauf 1918
Dave Kauf '51
Ted Kauf '81
Paul Kauf '83
John "Jack" Stewart '39
In memory of
Donald W. Stewart 1910,
Donald W. Stewart Jr. '42,
and Roger M. Stewart '45
John C. Dean '43
Thomas E. Frolik '58
In memory of
T.J. Frolik
Sterling Mac Ryder '58
In memory of
Bruce H. Thomas '29
Jim McKenney '59
Ralph "James" Goodell '60
David J. Humphry '60
Ronald L. Eakes '61
Robert J. Kvaal '61
A. Michael Alesio '62
In memory of
Donna Faye Alesio
Jon J. Hinrichs, M.D. '62
James R. Humphry '62
Daniel Wherry '62
John C. Abel '63
William S. Bullock '63
Lawrence A. Frolik '63
Kile W. Johnson '63
Lee B. Marshall '63
Steven R. Hutchins '64
Max Martin Jr. '64
James N. Shreck, M.D. '65
Robert T. Trotter II '65
John C. Hall, M.D. '66
In memory of
John Abrahamson '60 and
Geoff Heiden '66
Charles R. Packard '68
David R. Holst '70

Thomas E. Martin '70

John A. Meese '70

In memory of
Carl J. Meese
Vince Sutton, M.D. '70
Douglas Duven '71
Gayle and
Kent Lacey, M.D. '72
Michael J. McGahan, M.D. '72
In memory of
Barney McGahan
Steven M. Williams, M.D. '72
John P. Jacupke '74
Martens Family Gift
Steven J. Martens '75
Stuart B. Martens '01
Marshall W. Martens '06
Peter J. Hohnstein '76
John C. Welch '76
Kenneth D. Rice '77
Tim A. Scott '77
Thomas W. Showers '77
In memory of
Tom Beyer '77
Brian A. Worrall '77
John A. Albright '78
Clark W. Antonson, M.D. '78
Brian C. Dunbar '79
Michael W. McGillick '79
Philip Strevey '79
Brown Family Gift
Tim Brown '80
Taylor Brown '05
Dave Johnson '80
Drew D. Stange '80
Steven V. Hagan '81
Craig L. Nelson '81
Michael S. Kerrigan '82
Wiegert Family Gift
Joel R. Wiegert '97
Robert L. Wiegert GF '00
Aaron J. Wiegert '01
Taylor Faulkner '99
Purdy Family Gift
Bryan M. Purdy, M.D. '00
Keith A. Purdy '02
Justin T. Sheets '01
Jill and Ryan S. Duell '03
Kenton M. Moore '06
Tom Salistean '06
Ervin L. Williams '08

CAMPAIGN STATUS AT-A-GLANCE

As of October 6, 2014

\$3 Million Goal

\$2,856,555 Total Pledges

346 Contributors

28% Participation

Three Stars Society

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Jane March Brownlee
In memory of
John T. Brownlee Jr. '36
John T. Brownlee III '66
Elizabeth and Robert Griego
In memory of
John T. Brownlee, Jr. '36
John T. Brownlee III '66
Don and Faith Jensen
Betty J. Sup
In memory of
Gary L. Sup '61
Meldrum Family Gift
Jackson N. Meldrum '29
John "Gordy" Meldrum '61
Seiboldt Family Gift
William J. Seiboldt '42
Jay W. Seiboldt '78
Tyler J. Seiboldt '06
Grant W. Seiboldt '09
John A. Haslam '45
William F. Wiese '47
Ernest E. Johnson '49
In honor of the
Class of 1948–1952
Peter J. Peters '49
Stuart V. Reynolds Sr. '50
Thomas L. Weekes '50
Romjue Family Gift
Larry C. Romjue '57
Edwin E. Romjue '62
Milton K. Romjue '66
In memory of
Earl S. Romjue
Harold E. Johnson '58
In memory of
Earl and Evelyn Johnson
William R. Pohlman '59
Jane and Terry Carpenter '60
Craig P. Colburn '62
Douglas J. Cotner '62
John H. Lonnquist '62
James M. Penney '62
James T. Gleason '63
Richard S. Elliott, M.D. '64
Gary W. Frazer '65
Terry Hancock '65

Jon L. Wendt '65
David M. Schmidt '68
Daniel H. Eakes '69
Michael J. McCarthy '69
Kerry T. Winterer '69
Doug Beckwith '70
In memory of
Ralph Beckwith '47 and
John T. Brownlee III '66
David E. Morrison '71
In honor of
Scott D. Greenwood, M.D. '71
Bryan J. Tuma '74
Dan J. Watson '75
In honor of the
Leadership of the
Pledge Classes of '72 and '73
Brian M. Mumaugh '76
In memory of
William D. Holmes '76
Joseph "Bill" Santoro Jr. '76
J. Mark Dunbar '78
Jon Post '78
Douglas H. Schuring '78
Thomas R. Tritsch, DDS '79
Steve Moody '80
Neil P. Moseman '80
Michael H. Robinson '80
Spray Family Gift
J. L. Spray '80
Jack Spray '08
William C. Buntain '81
Paul A. Magnuson '81
Douglas J. Scharck '81
Scott J. Slaggie '81
Drs. Nicole and
David Kaufman '89
In honor of
Elijah, Josiah, and Anaise
Paul M. Schreier '97
Matt Boyd '99
Laura and David Ridenour '00
William K. Norton '02
Adam W. Barney '04
Cuyler C. Gembol '04
Barton Sattler '04
Corey C. Clifford, M.D. '05

1515 R Fund

(\$1,515 to \$2,499)

Keith G. Mumby '50
Gary E. Hrubby '61
In memory of
James R. Trester '61
Tom Chambers '62
Dorn E. Van Cleave '62
Kenneth H. Clark '65
Del Snoberger '66
John S. McCollister '67
Peter E. Allman '76
William C. Duven '76
Rockford G. Yapp III, M.D. '77
In memory of
Rockford G. Yapp Jr. '51
H. Cameron Hinds '79
Russ Rice, DVM '80
Michael A. Minnick '81
Randall Jelinek '82
J. Jessup Wilson III '82
Mike Bydalek '86
John P. Christenson '98
Philip T. Christenson '00
Matthew D. Jansen '00
Eric R. Johnson '00
Anthony M. Hohn '01
Miles M. Hunke '06
Matt Rosno '06
Andrew J. Hover '07

Alpha Tau Pride Fund

(\$500 to \$1,514)

Brent and Lori Moore
R. Charles Bocken '40
Eugene S. Merchant, DDS '43
Kenneth Kailey '46
William T. Greer '48
Clark R. Smaha '51
Harlan "Bud" Wiederspan '51
Frederick T. Daly '54
Richard M. Reische '54
Randolph M. Clark '55
Arliss "Al" Brash '59
William L. Cumberland '59
John H. Gilliland '59
John C. McCabe '59
George L. Otterson Jr. '59
Wilbur "Lee" Bentz '60
In memory of
John Abrahamson '60
Gary M. Matson '60
In memory of
John Abrahamson '60
Ned Nolte '60
In memory of
Craig, Steve, Jay, and Abie
Charles L. Norton '62
Robert H. Purcell '62
Larry D. Johnson '64
Dale I. Parker '64
Dale R. Brockmeier '65
In memory of
Jerry L. Brockmeier '69
T.J. Formanack, DDS '65
Douglas A. Anderson '67
Craig A. Bassett, M.D. '67

David R. Buntain '67
Jon D. Hoffmaster '67
James S. Jansen '67
In memory of
John T. Brownlee III '66
William M. Roberts '67
In memory of
Neal T. Jenkins '44 and
John T. Brownlee III '66
Robert G. Thacker '67
In memory of
Jerry Korshoj '67
Tom A. Wiese '67
Bennie Cohen '68
Bill V. Strain '68
Duane R. Sullivan '68
In memory of
John T. Brownlee III '66
Kaye and
Robert B. Whitmore '68
Luther Frerichs '69
Steven C. Kruse, DDS '69
John H. Baldus '71
In memory of
Margaret and
Burton W. Folsom '43
Martens Family Gift
Bob Martens '71
Ben Martens '01
Zach Martens '03
Bruce Swihart '71
William G. Partington '72
Jeffrey L. Gerhart '75
Jay R. Mayne '73
Rock E. Snowden '73
Thomas W. Allman '74
Joe Bergholz '74
Reginald E. Davies III '74
Paul W. Wortman, DDS '74
Brian K. Bassett '75
Scott Kugler, DDS '75
David N. Devoe '76
In honor of
his Beta Brothers
Scott A. Darling '77
James F. Jenkins, DDS '77
In honor of
Nellie and Hattie
Chris R. Blunk '78
Michael Walla '78
Kevin Atwater '79
Andy Bock '79
David C. Pauley '79
Greg H. Perry '79
David Peterson '79
John C. Peterson, M.D. '79
Tommeraasen Family Gift
Miles C.
Tommeraasen, M.D. '79
Miles A. Tommeraasen '09
Kent A. Trofholz '81
Steven M. Roberts '86
Christopher B. Stokes '89
Bradley E. Kregg '98
Jeffrey D. Beavers '00
Daniel D. Mauler '01
Thomas F. Colwell '02

Geoffrey E. Mickells '02
Josh Paula '02
Amberly and Ryan Austad '04
Brett R. Wergin '04
Tony Cimino '05
In honor of the
Pledge Class of '04
Matthew P. Lusk '05
Amanda and Scott Barker '07
Conner A. Dana '08

Other Donors

(Up to \$499)

Anonymous
Kent Endacott
Louise V. Howell
In memory of
James G. Howell '35
Megan Vadnais
In honor of
Mark Antonson '04
Lloyd E. Peterson '45
James C. Martin Jr. '47
James R. Brownlee '48
John F. McLeay '49
Richard L. Wakeman '50
In honor of
all Alpha Tau Betas
Michael C. Hadow '52
Robert L. Malster '52
In memory of
Tom Harrington '52
Stephen P. Visek '52
James W. Hewitt '53
John R. Stebbins '53
Gaylord Brinlee '57
Jerry Marples '57
John A. Stansbury '59
Stephen P. Davis '62
Van E. Vahle, M.D. '63
Michael C. Carroll '64
Jack W. Klingbiel '65
Mike Burdic '67
John R. Brickson '68
James B. Dobler '70
Michael W. Ray '70
Robert J. Woltemath '71
John H. Chain, M.D. '72
Gregory A. Dollis '74
Thomas F. Pflug '77
Kent Boesiger '85
Scott A. Lewandowski '85
Steve Rohrig '88
Jeff L. Rohrig '91
In memory of
Danny Poulos '91
Blaine A. Christiansen '98
Ryan D. Ragsdale '98
Kourtney and Ryan Merrill '99
Daniel R. Shepherd '01
Nathan D. Bahensky '02
Gregory J. Walklin '03
Matt Breck '04

ALUMNUS GIVES BACK

(Continued from page 1)

Alpha Tau and Lighthouse have been philanthropic partners for a number of years. Members and pledges work to get their community service hours complete and Lighthouse benefits from the annual Beta event, Burrito Bash (all proceeds go to Lighthouse). "It's very rewarding as an alumnus to see these young men get involved. They're an outstanding group, and I would say they're more mature than we were back then. Between their community involvement, academic performance, and high level of brotherhood, they're a great bunch of guys." (*Burrito Bash 2014 is October 24 at the chapter house.*)

In addition to countless fond memories of his time as an undergraduate (pledge sneak, parties, overall sense of family), Pete learned a lot about himself as an active member of Alpha Tau. "I'm a psychologist so I'm interested in how humans go through life, starting with adolescence and identity formation. One way that's formed is through personal insights—finding out what you're good at—and another is from external feedback. For me this came to fruition when a brother suggested I run for rush chairman. Well, I never saw myself as rush chairman, but he did. I asked others and they all said I should, as well. So others see that in me more than I saw it in myself. That helped me think, 'Geez, you can do some important things in life!' That's a huge thing to learn because when you're living with 60 guys in really close quarters, you get a lot feedback, and you have to figure out how to deal with it all."

"I'm really lucky. You get out of something what you put into it, and I put in a lot, so I got a ton back. Through everything, I developed lifelong friends and still communicate with them regularly. Every year my pledge class and the two pledge classes after us take a long-weekend trip somewhere in the U.S. Along with that, we get together before every home football game at a pre-game party. There are probably three to four different classes of Betas represented. We'd love to have more join us, so if you've lost touch, take a chance and reach out!"

Pete and his wife, Maureen, live in Lincoln, Nebraska, and have two children, Sara and Nathan. In his free time he enjoys playing golf and tennis and has also taken up writing. He has published two books, *Little Me Can Live a Big Life: Integrating Paradoxes for Change* and *The Road to Freedom, Letting Go of Your Baggage*, and a third, "Shrink-Proof Your Life: Top 10 Ways to Stay off the Therapist's Couch," coming out soon. You can contact Pete at peter.allman@doane.edu.

ALPHA TAU HOSTS SERIES OF FALL EVENTS

This year, the alumni golf tournament was set up a little differently based on feedback from previous years. We had the tournament on Friday, September 19, instead of a Sunday because this worked for more alumni's schedules. The tournament was held at Holmes Golf Course, and included a happy hour afterward. The top three teams consisted of the foursomes of **Grant Seiboldt '09, Jay Seiboldt '78**, Skip Howerter, and Dave Knudsen (1st place), **Matt Lusk '05, Pat Lusk '11, John Palmtag '06**, and **Miles Hunke '06** (2nd place), and **Parker Smith '09, Ben Theye '09, Rich Morris '84**, and Eggar Bustillos (3rd place). It was a busy weekend for alumni, because the pledge class of '63 returned to campus to see the new house and watch the Huskers take on Miami.

Another event this semester was Parents Weekend on September 27, which coincided with the Homecoming football game against Illinois.

For another philanthropy project, we are reviewing the possibility of having a fundraiser for cystic fibrosis research in November or December. Visit beta.unl.edu/calendar as dates are known.

We always enjoy hosting our wonderful alumni and parents who raised the gentlemen comprising our chapter.

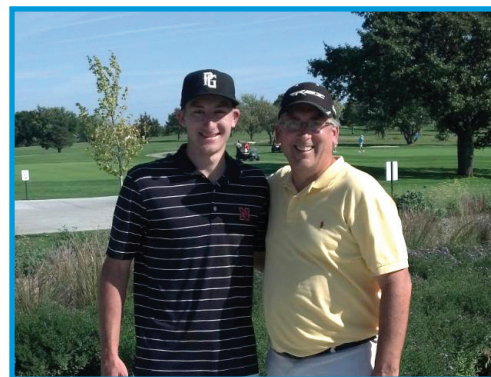
In _kai_,

Bob Harvey '13

Alumni Relations Chairman



Nick Small '13 and his father, Rick.



Ryan Furne '13 and his father, Tom.

Pat Sullivan '09, Grant Seiboldt '09, Dave Frayser '08, and William Olson '07 at Beta's annual golf tournament.



ONCE A BETA...ALWAYS A BETA



A bust of Guy is on display in the Beta house trophy case, along with a framed certificate noting his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Guy Chamberlin 1914: A Beta “Man of Principle”

Wooglin smiled his approving smile on Saturday, August 16, 2014, in Blue Springs, Nebraska, because of the recognition a community and state showered on a local hero. **Guy Chamberlin 1914** grew up on a farm near Blue Springs. He was an outstanding athlete and originally attended Nebraska Wesleyan in Lincoln. After two years he transferred to the University of Nebraska where he gained All-American honors as an outstanding football player. Nebraska was 15-0-1 during the 1914 and 1915 seasons when he played. He scored two running touchdowns and threw for another as Nebraska defeated a highly regarded Notre Dame team 20-19 in 1915. While at Nebraska, Guy was initiated into Beta Theta Pi with a roll number of AT 229. He also had two Beta brothers: **Truman 1918** and **William 1913**.

After college, Guy played and coached professional football in the early days of the NFL with legends like Jim Thorpe and George Halas. He has the highest winning percentage of any NFL coach in history. After his pro-football career he returned to the family farm.

In later years he moved to Lincoln and worked for the state reformatory. He was an outstanding leader and role model.

In 1967, the year of his death, the University of Nebraska football program started giving an award to the outstanding senior football player who demonstrated the leadership and citizenship qualities of Guy. Three former Guy Chamberlin Award winners were present at Blue Springs on August 16 as a memorial was dedicated at the Southern Elementary School. They shared their thoughts and feelings of what it meant to be honored by receiving the award.

In the trophy case at the Beta house at 1515 R Street in Lincoln, a bust of Guy is on display, as well as a framed certificate noting his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame. He is one of only two Nebraska players inducted into both the college and pro Halls of Fame. More about Guy can be found at www.bluespringsne.com/chamberlin.

Guy remembered his Beta roots, as Brother **Tom Jacob '59** remembers Guy attending the initiation banquet in 1959. He was truly a Man of Principle and we are proud to call him a brother.

Mike Wortman '67, Chapter Advisor



Three former Guy Chamberlin Award winners: Shane Swanson (1984), Anthony Steels (1981), and Mark Blazek (1988), attended the memorial dedication at Southern Elementary School on August 16. The stone includes a reference to his Beta membership.



THE PLEDGE CLASS OF 1963 CELEBRATES 50 YEARS



The Alpha Tau pledge class of 1963 held a 50-year reunion (yes, it's been 50 years since our initiation into Beta) in Lincoln September 18-20. **Rich Johnson '64** and **Roger Douglas '64** arranged for golf outings both Thursday and Friday (respectively) at Pioneers Golf Course and Yankee Hill Country Club in Lincoln. Thursday evening had an informal gathering at Lazlo's South, which was attended by 25 brothers and Beta sweethearts, and Friday evening 28 brothers and sweethearts attended a dinner at Wilderness Ridge Golf Club.

Gary Pettett '64 distributed plaques to all the brothers in attendance along with Fraternal Fifty pins. It should be noted that Gary and **Bob Fulton '64** were the two members who originated the idea of a reunion. Rich, who was living in Lincoln at the time, made all of the arrangements for a successful gathering. Beta songs were sung, good times reminisced, and longtime friendships renewed. The evening concluded with the passing of the Loving Cup.

On Saturday 24 people took a house tour hosted by some of the Chapter executive officers. The group toured the newly remodeled chapter house (very impressive) made possible through the gracious help of **Bob Harvey '13**, chapter alumni chairman. The class had a watch party that evening at the Marriott Residence Inn South for those Husker fans who did not attend the NU vs. Miami game in person.

Many positive comments were shared about the weekend, such as “We need to do this more often.” That we do. And that we will.

Respectfully submitted,
Max Martin Jr. '64



Beta was challenged by FarmHouse to take part in the ALS ice bucket challenge. We accepted the challenge and nominated Phi Delta Theta and Alpha Phi!



Alpha Tau members Jed Weis '13, Connor Schulte '12, Parker Stock '14, Michael Nordell '12, Kevan Reardon '12, Ryan Newsham '12, Andrew Fehr '13, Dayton Stange '12, and Jake Taylor '13 with Erik Stolhanske, Colgate University '91, (Rabbit from the movie Super Troopers) at the 175th General Convention held at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio.

Beta Soars in Recruitment and Academics

Alpha Tau Continues Upward Momentum

The 2014-2015 school year marks the second year the active members of Beta Theta Pi will enjoy the newly renovated chapter house. There remain only two pledge classes that were able to see both the old house and the new, but the younger men understand how lucky they are to have such nice facilities. We'd like to once again thank all the alumni who have given back to this amazing chapter house, and to those who continue to do so.

Another Successful Summer Recruitment

Recruitment Chairman **Hayden Byrd '13** and his team are excited to bring in a freshman pledge class of 28 men, bringing our total undergraduate membership to 105. These men were recruited over the summer through weekly barbecue events at the chapter house, lake events, including one hosted by **Bill Dana '76**, and new student enrollment days through UNL. Pledge Educator **Jared Thomsen '13** has introduced the new members to our fraternal lore, songs, and values. See a list of our new pledges on page 7.

Academics and Philanthropy Remain Strong

Beta continues to strive for academic excellence as we posted a 3.43 GPA, tying us with

Farmhouse for second place behind Beta Sigma Psi. Our connection with Lighthouse, founded by **Pete Allman '76**, remains strong as members volunteer weekly. All money raised through Beta Burrito Bash, which will be held on Friday, October 24, will go directly to Lighthouse.

Alpha Tau Hosts Fall Events

We were excited to host the pledge class of '63 for the Miami game on September 20 and look forward to hosting the Minnesota chapter for their sneak trip on November 22. We had a great time hosting Dad's Day and our alumni golf tournament on September 19 and Parent's Day and our Homecoming yard display on September 27. Winter Formal will be held on December 5.

We hope to make the 126th year of Alpha Tau even more successful than the last! If you're in Lincoln this fall for a football game, be sure to stop by the house, meet the newest members of the chapter, and see firsthand what your generous donations have done for the future of Alpha Tau.

Yours in _kai_,
Michael Nordell '12
Chapter President
(402) 560-4429
president@beta.unl.edu

MOVIN' ON UP: ACTIVES EMBRACE NEW HOUSE UPGRADES

THANK YOU, GENEROUS ALUMNI, FOR MAKING THIS POSSIBLE

The pledge class of 2012 had the unique opportunity to spend our first semester in the old Beta house, and now the rest of our remaining school years in the newly remodeled one. While the old house provided us with great memories and experiences, the difference between the old and new is like night and day. The renovations have made the house more comfortable, more convenient, and all-around higher quality. Thanks to the suite-style room updates, it is so nice to study, watch TV, or congregate in our rooms without disturbing a sleeping roommate. The entire house is at a comfortable temperature thanks to the new heating and central air conditioning systems. The study area provides us with comfortable arrangements, allowing us to focus on our academics without having to leave the chapter house. None of this would have been possible without the generosity of our donors.

When we look back at our time in college, we are most certainly going to remember our time spent in the chapter house and the fraternal bonds and friendships we made. The changes to the physical structure and the comfort we now have provide us with the amenities needed to be successful, while enjoying the independent college period of our lives.

In _kai_,
Jared Thomsen '13, Pledge Educator

Fall Pledge Class Full of Potential

Once again, summer recruitment was a great success. The new pledge class is filled with members from different backgrounds, all with remarkable high school achievements. The class consists of 22 Nebraska natives and six from out of state. Some of these future Betas played in the high school Shrine Bowl, were nationally ranked swimmers, or achieved a 35/36 ACT score. All pledges had outstanding grades throughout high school, were very involved in activities, and are socially adept. We've had a great start to the school year and we can't wait to see how the year progresses.

In _kai_,
Hayden Byrd '13
Recruitment Chairman

BETA TAKES PRIDE IN ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

During the 2013-2014 school year, Alpha Tau continued our tradition of academic success. Last fall we had a pledge class of 28 men, and all but three achieved a grade point average high enough to be initiated first semester (comparatively, eight members earned a 4.0 GPA). The three pledges who were not initiated after first semester achieved the required GPA to be initiated after the second. Along with the good results of last year's pledge class, we also succeeded in our academic assistance plan, which is an effort put in place to assist active members who have struggled academically for multiple semesters. As a chapter, we continue to refine to ensure good grades.

Alpha Tau celebrated many positive results last year. The chapter had a cumulative GPA of 3.471 in the fall and 3.430 in the spring. We have a lot of diversity among majors, including business, engineering, advertising, and biological sciences. Within the active chapter last year, we had 12 brothers earn a 4.0 GPA in the fall and another 12 (a few repeat offenders) in the spring. Some traditions don't change, and as noted, we show devotion to the cultivation of the intellect. Alpha Tau continues to be a leading chapter at UNL and Beta Theta Pi.

In _kai_,
John Chatterton '13
Scholarship Chairman

Visit Us Online

To see pictures of the house and information about the capital campaign, visit www.1515r.org. For updates from the chapter, back issues of *The Dragon's Tale*, or to make a recruitment recommendation, visit the chapter's website at beta.unl.edu.



Beta Theta Pi - University of Nebraska



@AlphaTauChapter



Beta Theta Pi, Alpha Tau Chapter

BETA CELEBRATES 125 YEARS OF HUSKER FOOTBALL AT HOMECOMING

It was a busy Homecoming week for the undergraduates at the Alpha Tau Chapter of Beta Theta Pi.

This year, the University of Nebraska celebrated the 125th season of Husker football, while the men of Beta got to work constructing their lawn display, painting banners, learning choreography for their Monday Night Live skit, and participating in the annual Homecoming blood drive. The undergraduates were also proud to boast two Homecoming king candidates, **Josh Burks '12** and **Zach Foster '12**. The week was topped off with Parents' Day on Saturday, September 27, with many inviting their parents to the chapter house to enjoy a silent auction, tailgate snacks, and a cash bar.

Later that night, many made the walk to Memorial Stadium to see the Nebraska Cornhuskers defeat the University of Illinois and cheer on Josh and Zach as they took the field at halftime.



WELCOME, NEW PLEDGES

Mike Bauwens
Omaha, Neb.

Dylan Epperson
Hickman, Neb.

Nick McEwin
Omaha, Neb.

Sam Brower
Dakota Dunes, S.D.

Mike Franken
Kansas City, Mo.

Phillip Melchert
Lee's Summit, Mo.

Pat Buechler
Omaha, Neb.

Kolt Hale
Inola, Okla.

Andy Ngo
Lincoln, Neb.

AJ Carpenter
Park City, Utah

Jason Hawkins
Hudson, Iowa

Paul Orr
Valentine, Neb.

Joe Dahir
Omaha, Neb.

Riley Heller
Omaha, Neb.

Andrew Palmesano
Omaha, Neb.

Kyle Danielson
Lincoln, Neb.

Troy Hlavaty
North Platte, Neb.

Brian Schwetschenau
Omaha, Neb.

Griffin Day
Lincoln, Neb.

Joey Koca
Omaha, Neb.

Sam Skokan
Omaha, Neb.

Kaleb Duncan
Lincoln, Neb.

Alex Kramer
Omaha, Neb.

Zack Teets
Omaha, Neb.

Stephen Enke
Omaha, Neb.

Garrett Kraus
Lincoln, Neb.

Kevin Wilhelm
Omaha, Neb.

Sam Lindblad
Hastings, Neb.

SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 24
BETA BURRITO BASH
8 P.M.—2 A.M.

DECEMBER 5
WINTER FORMAL DINNER
5 P.M.



THE DRAGON'S TALE

Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association of Nebraska
P.O. Box 22251
Lincoln, NE 68542

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ALUMNI UPDATE

OUR MYSTIC SHRINE

Gordon A. Luikart Jr. '48 entered Our Mystic Shrine on November 26, 2012. He is survived by his wife of 59 years, Mary; son, Gordon III; daughters, Kathryn and Missi; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and brother, Edwin.

ALUMNI NEWS

Ernest B. Smethers Jr. '42 reports that at 92 he still drives and is in fine physical shape. He enjoys watching Husker football and other sports. Ernie lives in Beatrice, Neb.

Eugene S. Merchant, DDS '43 has many happy memories of great people who were brother Betas during his college years. Gene lives in Lincoln, Neb.

John A. Haslam '45 lives in Fremont, Neb., with his wife, Barbara. They have two children, J. Matthew and Barbara. John's grandson, **John '12**, is an active member at Alpha Tau. Email: johnhaslam@centurylink.net

William R. Levine '46 lives in Waukesha, Wis., and at 91 years old, he still works out at the gym three days a week. Bill belongs to Brookfield Congregational Church. He enjoys seeing his three daughters: Terri, Barbara, and Catherine, on Sundays for brunch, then playing cards or watching the Green Bay Packers or golf on TV.

Richard L. Wakeman '50 and his wife, Judy, spend half of the year in Monterey, Calif., and the other half in Indio, Calif. They play golf and travel to see the world and their kids: Dana, Steve, and Cliff, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren. Email: dikjud@aol.com

James F. Nissen '51 and his wife, Ginger, have been married for 62 years. They have four children, 10 grandchildren, and five great-grandsons. Jim and Ginger live in Lincoln.

Miller F. Whitham '51 is a published author of the novel *George's Wonderful Journey*, sold worldwide. His non-fiction memoir is currently

Attention: This newsletter is intended for alumni and parents. If your son is still attending the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he has graduated, please send his permanent address to updates@1515r.org. Thank you.

being considered for best seller-status by Top Drawer Publishers. Miller lives in Pinellas Park, Fla. Email: millerfogg@yahoo.com

Robert J. Olmsted '55 and his wife, Bonnie, live in Surprise, Ariz., and have two children. Email: jimbonnieolmsted@msn.com

Thomas E. Frolik '58 and his wife, Barbara, live in Atlanta and have two children, Mary Beth and Michael. Tom operates Computer Secretary, as well as Peachtree Suites since 1977. Email: prachtreesuite@juno.com

Thomas P. Chambers '62 has been a competitive runner for 45 years and has competed in nearly 700 races so far. He and his wife, Susan, live in Littleton, Colo., and have two sons. Email: tschambers582@msn.com

James E. Findley '63 retired from a career in education in 2003. He held positions as a teacher, high school principal, and assistant superintendent in District 66 Westside schools in Omaha.

Dr. Max M. Martin Jr. '64 retired from the practice of dentistry in Lincoln and moved to

Montgomery, Texas, to be closer to his son's family. Max enjoys golfing year-round and is involved with the local United Way. He and his wife, Mary, have two children, Kara and Judson. Email: drm3jr@gmail.com

Dale R. Brockmeier '65 retired in 2012. He spends half of the year in Palm Desert and the other half in Littleton, Colo. "Life is good. Retirement is better." Email: db2600@msn.com

Dennis D. Bloom '67 took a four-week trip to Thailand last December with his entire family. While there, they observed a movie, "The Coup," being made. Denny and his family will appear in the opening restaurant scene as patrons. Denny and his wife, Catherine, live in Red Oak, Iowa, and have three children: Kelley, who was married in January; Anne; and Allison. Email: dennisbloom@yahoo.com

Jed L. Vitamvas, M.D. '70 retired from obstetrics in 2013 after 33 years while still practicing gynecology full-time. Jed enjoys golf, cycling, and spending time with his dog. He and his wife, Linda, live in Milwaukee, Wis. Email: gvitamvas@wi.rr.com