



THE DRAGON'S TALE

FALL 2017

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

ALPHA TAU, A CHAPTER OF DISTINCTION

The Wick Alumni Center, across the street from the Beta chapter house, was the setting for two events this fall that focused on very positive news for Alpha Tau. The North-American Interfraternity Council (NIC) presented a 2017 Chapter Award of Distinction to our chapter on October 2. This year the NIC recognized seven chapters that are "high functioning, in compliance with NIC standards, seek to educate others about the benefit of a values-based fraternity experience, and work to maintain a healthy relationship with their organization."

Awards were presented to chapters of Alpha Tau Omega (Troy University), Delta Upsilon (Kansas State), Pi Kappa Phi (Winthrop University), Sigma Alpha Epsilon (Carnegie Mellon University), Theta Xi (Georgia Institute of Technology), and **two from Beta Theta Pi**: our own Alpha Tau Chapter, and Epsilon Chapter at Centre University in Kentucky. Alpha Tau also won this award in 2005. In May, Beta's General Secretary S. Wayne Kay said, "This year, Beta Theta Pi has the distinction of having two chapters receive this coveted award. I am very much aware this is the result of the hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment of our brothers and advisors at Alpha Tau. This good news comes at such a critical time for Beta Theta Pi in light of the tragedy at Penn State."

The NIC, founded in 1909, represents 6,186 chapters on roughly 800 college campuses with 375,000 undergraduates across North America. In giving the award to Alpha Tau, we were recognized for our continuous commitment to excellence due in part to ongoing success and demonstrated leadership at UNL; attention to issues affecting women on campus; our annual faculty dinner; and the chapter's role and impact on Lincoln and the University. Further information on the faculty dinner and the issues affecting women can be found in the spring 2017 issue of *The Dragon's Tale*.



Chapter President Sam Brower '15 and Chapter Counselor Mike Wortman '67 accept the NIC trophy.

Among those sharing reflections at the October 2 event were Jud Horras, the President and CEO of the NIC (and former General Secretary for Beta Theta Pi); Beta's Executive Director Jeff Rundle; Chancellor Ronnie Green; Executive Vice Chancellor and Chief Academic Officer Donde Plowman; Director of the UNL Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life Linda Schwartzkopf; Chapter President **Sam Brower '15**; and Chapter Counselor **Mike Wortman '67**. Jud noted in his comments that, "Alpha Tau stands among the top five chapters out of 6,000 being recognized with this honor." These words were heard by the many Alpha Tau alumni, wives, undergraduates and parents in the crowd of 150.

Over 150 Betas and Beta parents gathered at the Wick Alumni Center on November 4 for an update from The Experience Company. This event marks the second year of this banquet and highlighted the mission of TEC to provide leadership, professional

experience, and personal growth of chapter members.

Experience Company Intern **Drew Spadaro '17** put together the program. Speakers included: TEC President **Conner Dana '08**; Board Members **Grant Gregory '60**, **Bruce McKeag '65**, and **Bill Dana '76**; and two parents of Betas who serve on the board, Amy Brower, Ph.D., a medical geneticist and mother of **Sam Brower '15**, and Alexi Wellman, chief financial and accounting officer of Altaba, Inc and mother of **Cole Wellman '16**. Amy and Alexi talked about their attendance at last year's event, how they were inspired to join the board, and addressed the internship program of TEC.

Sam Skokan '15 presented a scholarship in memory of his brother, **Nate Skokan '14**, to **Kaleb Duncan '15**. (See the 2017 spring issue of *The Dragon's Tale* for information on Nate and his untimely death in December 2016.) Kaleb will graduate from UNL this spring and use the scholarship for additional schooling.

Alpha Tau's Capital Campaign Successful

In November 2011, a group of alumni and active members assembled to start planning the campaign for renovations to our chapter house. A feasibility study had already been completed to see if we could raise the funds, and once this looked favorable, we proceeded to

solicit funds for the remodeling. In December 2012, we announced that early pre-campaign gifts totaling over \$1,500,000 were pledged, and the formal campaign started.

We are excited to announce gifts from anonymous benefactors allowed our chapter and campaign to reach our \$3,000,000 goal. Wooglin continues to smile on Alpha Tau. Construction (which involved a great deal of gutting, updating, and relocating many functional areas) started at

the end of fall semester 2012. The active chapter successfully moved back to 1515 R Street in August of 2013.

As campaign co-chairmen, we've had the great opportunity to renew our brotherhood with many alumni and talk to many Betas we did not know. We thank our Honorary Co-Chairmen **Carl Mammel '52**, **Grant Gregory '60**, and **Dave Karnes '68**, who provided us with counsel,

(Continued on page 2)

FINANCIAL SUPPORT NEEDED

As an essential part of Beta Theta Pi's continued commitment to excellence within our chapter, members, with the support of our alumni, have worked to expand the impact levied by The Experience Company (TEC). TEC supports the ambition of active members within the Alpha Tau Chapter by providing them crucial resources and personal connections in a variety of fields and careers. Active members, in conjunction with TEC Board of Directors, have achieved substantial growth in the internship, mentorship, and communication programs, which continue to offer Betas unique opportunities for their future.

Research shows that mentorship is a primary differentiator between a successful and unsuccessful individual. Within our mentor program, every undergraduate takes the StrengthsFinder examination, which highlights their top five strengths. We then have a strengths coach, Chapter Counselor **Mike Wortman '67**, work personally with the members to ensure they fully understand how to employ those strengths in their everyday lives. Participants receive an alumni member chosen by TEC that will add value to their college experience as well as guidance in their transition into the professional world. This year, we have 102 individuals matched into 51 pairs that are engaged in the program.

Another major initiative of TEC lies within the internship program. This year, we have 25 intern candidates and are actively matching them to important employment relationships with leading companies. We are establishing relationships in the fields of: engineering, STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics), actuarial science, medicine, marketing, accounting, and finance. These connections are coming from elite companies such as Deloitte and KPMG (two of the "Big 4" accounting firms), Ameritas Life Insurance Corp, Oath (Yahoo), University of Nebraska Medical Center, Progress Rail (a subsidiary of Caterpillar), Assurity Life Insurance Company, and many more. Our goal is to have all of the interns employed by the end of the fall semester.

We have made many references to TEC in past issues of *The Dragon's Tale*, which has been published on a regular basis for many years. Issues dating back to 2001 are available on our website, <https://www.nebraskabeta.com/dragons-tale>. Costs for the publication are currently split between the active chapter and The Experience Company's. For almost five years, expenses were paid by the capital campaign. With our campaign having successfully reached its goal, costs were shifted to the chapter and TEC last year.

Respectfully, brothers, we need your financial support too. Alpha Tau has had a great run the past several years, but we do not view the NIC award as the end result of what we are doing. The continuation of excellence at Alpha Tau is dependent on not only the involvement of active members and alumni, but has relied heavily on financial support from board members, member's families and others. Contributions and involvement from these groups sustain the essential functions of TEC while also giving the organization financial leverage to amplify its potential impact. We are going to ask for annual dues in the fall issues of *The Dragon's Tale*, starting with this issue. Give us what you want, but please give. Dues of \$50 are suggested. Do YOUR part to help. Enclosed is an envelope where you can help to fund our communication efforts, as well as support the mission and purpose of The Experience Company in helping our award-winning chapter.

As an additional benefit for donor families, all contributions to TEC may be tax deductible under 501(c)(3) tax laws. Take a generous step that can aid in the creation of amazing opportunities for the undergraduates of Alpha Tau. All contributions (payable to The Experience Company) can be sent to: Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association of Nebraska, P.O. Box 22251, Lincoln, NE 68542

Sincerely in ____kai____,

Conner Dana '08

President of The Experience Company

Alpha Tau's Capital Campaign Successful

(Continued from page 1)

suggestions, support, and some of the financial backing that is so important to our mutual successes. A Capital Campaign Committee was established with regular meetings and frequent phone calls and emails. Throughout the process, hundreds of alumni contacts were made. The active chapter made their final payment in August, and was the second-largest contributor to our campaign. Their support was also expressed with a willingness to relocate their living quarters for eight months so construction could take place without hindrance.

Today, on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus, there are other Greek chapters remodeling their residences to be competitive with for-profit apartments and additional

dormitory renovations being built on or near campus. Our chapter house remains the envy of many outside of Alpha Tau and the support we have received from Betas and friends of Beta has been wonderful. While our goal was met, if you're interested in a pledge or an additional pledge gift, we can still accommodate you and perhaps qualify you for a tax deduction for 2017. Contact one of us for more information.

Yours in ____kai____,

Bruce McKeag '65

Campaign Co-Chairman
bm93558@windstream.net

Bill Dana '76

Campaign Co-Chairman
billdana@me.com

BETA GIVES BACK

On October 19, we hosted Burger Bash, which replaced our long-standing Burrito Bash. All proceeds are donated to Lighthouse, an afterschool program for at-risk youth in Lincoln, which our chapter works alongside on a weekly basis. Lighthouse was started over 25 years ago by **Pete Allman '76**, and remains a shining example of effectiveness in our community.

Our chapter looks forward to participating in UNL's Dance Marathon in February. More than 100 campuses across North America participate in Dance Marathon events annually. The donations from UNL go to the Children's Miracle Network and the Children's Hospital and Medical Center in Omaha. The UNL Dance Marathon chapter has raised almost \$1,000,000 in the last 15 years.

Yours in ____kai____,

Brian Smith '16

Philanthropy Chairman

BUILDING STRONGER BONDS

The past 15 months have seen the desired growth in our mentor program, though we fully expect to monitor it for effectiveness. The program was developed under the guidance of The Experience Company (TEC) for the purpose of helping our undergraduates. Other program benefits were matching active members and alumni having similar interests and/or experiences and based on applications from both groups. Career networking, life skills, internship guides, resume building, use of Gallup Corporation's StrengthsFinder, and having the mentor and mentee communicate with each other on a regular basis were factors also taken into account when choosing a program.

In August of 2016, The Experience Company, members, and alumni in various leadership positions matched 21 mentors and mentees. Due to the positive feedback we received, in the spring 2017 semester we had a second group of mentors and mentees assigned. This August, we completed the training of the second and the third group of mentors with undergraduates. Like last year, we had a banquet in November to further promote the program to the undergraduate chapter, parents of our students, and others interested in furthering the program in the years ahead. (See lead article on page 1.)

Initially, the mentor program was open to alumni in the greater Lincoln and Omaha areas. With the second group, we had some long-distance mentors, and the long-distance pairings carried over to the new mentors in the third group. Although we believe the program is establishing strong, lifetime relationships between first time mentors and mentees, our goal is to have our mentors continue to participate, even though their current mentee has graduated. Feedback on all aspects of the program, including the long-distance aspects of our mentor groups, will be solicited.

If you are an alumnus and interested in learning more about The Experience Company, including being a mentor, please contact experiencecompany@nebraskabeta.com. We realize not everyone wants to be a mentor, but if your company or employer could offer an internship program to an undergraduate or if you want to support our efforts financially, please email the address above.

Yours in ____kai____,

Bruce McKeag '65

The Experience Company

Bill Dana '76

The Experience Company

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

This incredible experience as chapter president has provided me a unique opportunity to develop my leadership skills and give back to the chapter that has been so instrumental in my life.

The late spring and summer months were marked with two significant changes for our chapter. Our dedicated Food Service Director Faith Jensen, retired after nearly 20 years of incredible work at 1515 R St. On September 2, with assistance from the Parents' Alliance, we celebrated Faith and her time with Beta. The event turned out very well and many alumni and parents expressed their gratitude with thoughtful gifts. Taking over the food service role is a local company, ChefauChef Catering. Our assigned cook Scott Thorson uses his years of experience, at multiple restaurants in Lincoln, to serve food at Alpha Tau.

Our house director of two years, Josh Gannon, has moved on to start a family of his own. We thank Josh for his service and wish him the best in his life to come. This summer, we hired Robin Schmid, a manager at a dental office in Lincoln and a freelance yoga instructor as house director. Robin is succeeding in her role and even led the men at the house in a yoga session before the October 7 Wisconsin game.

In addition to our fantastic Award of Distinction from the NIC, Alpha Tau was recognized with awards from the General Fraternity, including our 20th Sisson Award for chapter excellence. This recognition remains at the forefront of Beta chapters. We were disheartened in failing to secure our 15th Knox Award; we missed a single criteria related to our attendance at leadership development conferences. Contextually, this falls in line with a recent push from The General Fraternity to hold tight to all levels of criteria with 11 chapters winning in 2017 versus 31 chapters in 2016. Not winning another Knox serves as a wake-up call and we know we can bring home another Knox in 2018 with the proper amount of effort.

The House Corporation Volunteer of the Year was awarded to our own **Drew Stange '80** for his many years of dedicated work. We hosted our Leadership Consultant, **Freddy Vega, UC Irvine '12**, for a week in October as he provided meaningful assistance to each of our advisors and executive team members.

Alpha Tau continues to excel in a time of need for fraternities, plagued by far too often negative news. We are inspired at the challenge to remain hungry for improvement despite our many years of success. There are so many positive things occurring with our situation, including a supportive university administration, which pioneers innovative programs like #GreekVitality, an encouraging General Fraternity, an exceptional alumni base heavily involved in The Experience Company, parents who provide our backbone through college, and Alpha Tau members who continue to challenge me to be a better person every day. I have never felt more confident in this chapter, and I look eagerly to the years to come.

Yours in ____kai____,

Sam Brower '15, Chapter President • president@nebraskabeta.com

Ensuring Success Through Study

In spring 2017, our chapter received a 3.46 GPA, placing us third among all fraternities on campus. This was the highest GPA on city campus and the highest we've earned in the last two years. We had 16 members receive a 4.0. The junior pledge class led the way with a class average of 3.70 and had five members obtain a 4.0.

The scholarship team has two primary objectives: instilling regular study habits for the pledges, and developing transitional materials for the next scholarship team. Pledges complete regular study hours and we monitor their grade reports to ensure academic success. Freshmen who struggle are placed with personal tutors from within the

chapter and counseled on time-management skills. The scholarship team hopes to see the chapter exceed a 3.5 GPA this fall.

Yours in ____kai____,

Samuel Lindblad '15

Scholarship Chairman

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

ROBERT "ROB" CARPENTER '83 IS GRATEFUL FOR ALPHA TAU CHAPTER

"There is no question that Beta prepared four generations of Carpenter men to succeed in their lives and careers." **Robert "Rob" Carpenter '83** was always meant to be part of Beta Theta Pi. When Rob was a child, his family moved to Michigan, but he remembers his father speaking highly of Alpha Tau. Rob knew he wanted share that bond with his father, **Terry Carpenter '60**. "Being a Beta means something to everyone in a different way. For my father, my sons, and I, being surrounded by our Alpha Tau brothers encouraged higher expectations for educational and career goals."

Looking back on his time as an undergraduate, Rob says being a Beta gave him a trial run at the real world. "Beta created the opportunity to be accountable to someone other than a family member. There is no question Beta helped make me be better student. The experience was also an opportunity to learn how to collaborate and develop life skills that I continue to use every day. I am certain that my father and sons would agree with me that it has helped all of us grow into the men we are today. In the process we all made lifelong friends with our Beta brothers."

Almost every turning point he has encountered in life since college brings him back to an analogy that can be related to his years in the Beta house. "There is no doubt in my mind, that if I fell on hard times, I could count on my brothers to lend a hand and get me back on my feet." Rob believes being a Beta can make a difference in a young man's life at a critical time.

When starting a career, Rob urges young alumni to be honest, enthusiastic, friendly, and optimistic thinkers. "Find your strengths and use them well. We all have our blind spots, and you will need to seek honest feedback to be your best. Also be patient with your career; you are competing in a marathon, not a sprint." Rob learned to be strategic and make realistic long-term goals.

Rob is living the life he had always dreamed of. "Alpha Tau taught me to work hard but also play hard." His Beta brothers portrayed a balance between working to achieve outstanding grades while maintaining a robust social life. Through their example, Rob learned boundaries and habits that created a successful career and allow him lead a full life.



Terry Carpenter '60, Tyler Carpenter '11, AJ Carpenter '15, and Rob Carpenter '83.

"Beta Theta Pi made a difference in my life and I hope to see that continue for Alpha Tau." Rob is impressed by the Alpha Tau alumni's commitment to develop programs in the chapter to expand the college experience. He is witness to Beta Theta Pi making young men better citizens and creating opportunities to succeed in a competitive world. "Beta creates a unique atmosphere for young men to set high expectations for life."

Rob feels fortunate that his 13 year career with JP Morgan Chase has brought him to Park City, Utah, one of his lifelong dreams. "I have a great career that also allows me to embrace my passion for the outdoors and living in the mountains." Rob enjoys downhill skiing in the winter and horseback riding in the summer. You will also find him fishing, hunting, and mountain biking.

Rob owes his blessed life and marriage to Suzanne to Beta Theta Pi as well. Suzanne was an Alpha Omicron Pi and he met her building the Beta Homecoming float as an undergraduate. They have two sons, **Tyler Carpenter '11** and **AJ Carpenter '15**, and will be first-time grandparents soon. Email: wasatchhusker@gmail.com

Brett Babcock
Aurora, IL

DJ Bergo
Lincoln, NE

Riley Berner
Norfolk, NE

Connor Boyens
Omaha, NE

Sam Buechler
Omaha, NE

Gage Christensen
Arthur, NE

Cameron Claborn
Omaha, NE

Jack Ellis
Omaha, NE

Charles Erker
Omaha, NE

Owen Faror
Plainfield, IL

Peter Goodin
Hastings, NE

Erik Goodwin
Kansas City, MO

Michael Gries
Lincoln, NE

David Gutgesell
Overland Park, KS

Kellen Habegger
Pawnee City, NE

Luke Jarecke
Columbus, NE

Jack Keating
Kearney, NE

Alex Kinnaman
Lincoln, NE

Tyler Kloewer
Omaha, NE

Jared Ladd
Lincoln, NE

Brady McDonald
Lincoln, NE

Trevor Mumford
Omaha, NE

Tanner Ourada
Geneva, NE

Christian Prim
Norfolk, NE

Tyler Riggert
Omaha, NE

Karl Schenck
Jefferson, SD

Keegan Schuchart
Lincoln, NE

Steven Stratton
Greer, SC

Quincy Ulrich
Highlands Ranch, CO

Max Van Arsdall
Lincoln, NE

Ross Wiebenga
Dell Rapids, SD

Parker Young
Kansas City, MO

WELCOME, NEW PLEDGES

PLEDGE EDUCATOR'S REPORT

After a successful summer of recruitment under the leadership of **Tanner Haas '16**, we have welcomed 32 new members into the Alpha Tau house. The school year had an exciting start as these bright young men began their journey toward successful collegiate careers. In the first eight weeks of the semester, the pledges already found themselves in various leadership roles within campus organizations, including the University Programming Council, the Freshman Campus Leadership Associates, Big Red Investment Club, and many others.

Their Beta spirits are high as the pledge class has been learning the lore, songs, and networking benefits that our pledge program offers. In September, both pledges and active members heard several alumni after dinner singing *Honey* as it was sung in their era. Over the years and even differing by chapter, songs, their tunes, and cadence can change. Since *Honey* is an Alpha Tau song and well-recognized by UNL sororities, we look forward to singing the improved version.

The chapter's mission of upholding prestigious academic success is being executed through the hard work of Scholarship Chairman **Sam Lindblad '15** and his scholarship team. We could not be more excited for these future Betas and everything they will contribute to this chapter.

Yours in __kai__,
John Pfeifer '16
Pledge Educator

CHAPTER COUNSELOR'S REPORT

It is a busy and productive time at 1515 R Street. The men of Beta Theta Pi have completed another year of successful recruiting and are now helping 32 young men transition to campus and fraternity life.

I have recently completed interviewing each member of the pledge class and coaching them on the use of their top five Gallup Strengths as they work on academics, leadership, campus involvement, and their unique career paths.

The 11 members of the executive team have met with the members of the alumni advisory committee and shared their goals for the year and the steps they have taken to reach those goals. This past summer, the members of the executive team were very professional and practiced their self-governance skills as they interviewed and hired two staff additions; a new house director and a new food service company. In the next few months, the chapter will be electing another group of leaders for the executive team to take over in January.

For any alumni members who would like to get involved and get to know the men in the chapter, there are many avenues to connect and we can always add to our alumni advisory committee. The men always enjoy visitors to their 5:30 p.m. Monday night dinners; we always need alumni to host pledge fathers and pledge sons for initiation week. As in the past, Wooglin smiles on the men at 1515 R Street.

I'm glad I'm a Beta and am very fortunate to be able to work with these men.

Yours in __kai__,
Mike Wortman '67
Chapter Counselor



Steve Andersen '60 (far right) offers instructions during Alpha Tau trap shoot event.

ALUMNI AND UNDERGRADUATE BONDS GROW

SPECIAL INVITATION TO FORMAL DINNERS

What another amazing year for Alpha Tau. We are first on city campus in grades, won the NIC award for a second time, remain leaders within the UNL community, and have seen incredible progress matching undergraduates with top internships and our 51 alumni mentors. Alpha Tau is doing remarkable things with great potential to do even more.

On September 24, we had a trap shoot involving undergraduates and their mentors. **Steve Andersen '60** set us up at a shooting range just north of Lincoln. Instructions were given to those not familiar with trap shooting, and gun safety was also reinforced. A great Sunday afternoon was enjoyed by all.

This year's Alumni and Dad's Day Golf Tournament was October 1. We had several teams competing at Highlands Golf Course, and while it was very windy, the team of **Roger Anderson '67**, **Al Campbell '69**, **Duane Sullivan '68**, and **Van Brownson '69** won the tournament with a best ball score of 60. This year we decided to have a trophy, and theirs are the first names engraved on the trophy that will be kept in a case at the chapter house.

We have seen an increase in alumni visiting us on Mondays for formal dinners and we enjoy hearing stories from their days in Beta. If you would ever like to stop by the house for formal dinners, which are every Monday at 5:30 p.m. followed by chapter at 6 p.m., or you just want to chat with someone in the house while taking a reminiscent walk through the halls of 1515 R Street, please don't hesitate to email me at least a week in advance.

Other alumni events are listed on our website at www.nebraskabeta.com. It has been a pleasure serving you all as the alumni relations chairman and I look forward to continuing my long, storied relationships with many of you once I graduate in May. Thank you for your continued support to the chapter house and the incredible men who have lived in it.

Yours in __kai__,
Kaleb Duncan '15
Alumni Relations Chairman
alumni@nebraskabeta.com

ALUMNI NEWS

Larry Bornschlegl '62, was formally inducted into the Nebraska High School Sports Hall of Fame on October 1. See the spring 2017 issue of *The Dragon's Tale* for more information on Larry.

William "Bill" J. Riley '66, Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, retired from the court August 31, 2017. He was nominated by President George W. Bush in May 1991, and upon Senate approval (a vote of 97-0) two months later, became President Bush's first circuit court nominee to be confirmed. Bill was in private practice in Omaha before being appointed to the judiciary, and served as Chief Judge of the 8th Circuit from 2010 until taking Senior Status July 1, 2017, and retiring two months later. During his time on the bench, Bill served on several committees, including as the long range planning coordinator for the entire federal judiciary. Bill served as adjunct professor of law at both Nebraska Law School in Lincoln and Creighton University School of Law in Omaha until last year. Bill may be contacted through his email wriley311@cox.net. Bill joins ones of his pledge brothers, **David "Dave" L. Piester '66**, who also spent considerable time in service to our federal court system. Dave was a United States Magistrate Judge for almost 30 years and retired from the bench in August 2009. Both Bill and Dave graduated from the University of Nebraska College of Law in 1972. Dave remains busy in Lincoln in several volunteer capacities, including serving Legal Aid of Nebraska as its board president. He may be reached through his email david_piester@yahoo.com.

Drew Stange '80 has served as the finance advisor to the chapter since 1997. Last August, he was honored at the Beta national convention as one of two national House Corporation Volunteers of the Year. Although not able to attend the event, Drew gave his thanks to the fraternity via a video message where he indicated he was quite shocked to receive the honor, and was humbled and very appreciative of the recognition.

WEBSITE

www.nebraskabeta.com

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@Beta_UNL

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Beta Theta Pi, Alpha Tau Chapter



THE

DRAGON'S TALE

Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association of Nebraska

P.O. Box 22251

Lincoln, NE 68542

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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@nebraskabeta.com. Thank you.

OUR MYSTIC SHRINE

Robert W. Potter '47 entered Our Mystic Shrine on July 30 in San Marco, TX. He was 90. Bob was a combat veteran of WWII, and was scheduled to have been part of the invasion of Japan when bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. He served on the aircraft carrier USS Antietam where he received a direct commission as lieutenant (junior grade). He was born in Lincoln, and after the war he enrolled at the University of Nebraska. His degree in 1949 was in economics, and his professional career was in economics and investments. Bob and his late wife, Dottie, were both avid bridge players and masters.

John "JP" P. Cullen '49 entered Our Mystic Shrine February 12 in Edgerton, WI. JP was 91 and involved in his family construction company for over 60 years. He served in the U. S. Army (86th Infantry) in France and Germany in WWII, and later in the Philippine campaign, where he received the Bronze Star. After V-J Day, he enrolled and subsequently graduated from the University of Nebraska. He supported the recent capital campaign, and in 2015 JP and one of his pledge brothers, **John Dean '43**, came to Lincoln for a tour of the chapter house. Survivors include Elizabeth Ryan Douglas and her children, including current Speaker of the House Paul Ryan, and grandchildren, a sister, four children, and numerous other family members.

Calvin "Cal" Bentz '52 entered Our Mystic Shrine on July 4 in Lincoln, NE. Cal was 84 and a four-time swimming letterman at the University of Nebraska in the early 1950s. He remained involved in many swimming projects throughout his life. At one time, he was head coach of both the men's and women's swimming programs at UNL, and over the years coached almost 100 All-Americans and 22 Olympians in swimming. He was coach to several Betas, including **Jay Groth '60**, **Tom Chambers '62**, **Phil Swaim '60**, **Doug Cotner '62**, and **King Little '67**. King said, "Cal was a great coach and an even nicer guy." Tom noted, "I was Cal's first Big-8 winner in the 400 Individual Medley my sophomore year." Tom added, "With another swimmer, we helped Cal move to Omaha, and that was an experience in itself. He and his wife had nothing packed, so we just started throwing things into a truck." Cal is survived by his wife, Cara, six children, and many other relatives.