



WOOGLIN

*on
Chautauqua*

Chapter Signs 53 Pledges, Wins Spring Grades

Gamma Phi completed its 2002 rush with the signing of an outstanding class of 53 pledges. The Chapter offers its sincerest thanks to the 144 alumni who generously contributed money and other resources to this rush campaign. As always, this assistance was the critical factor in securing yet another excellent pledge class.

This pledge class is the result of the hard work of 2002 rush chairman, Brad Purcell (Norman '04), and assistant rush chairman, David Carter (Lawton '05), Matt Walker (Trophy Club, TX '04) and Ben Wallace (Houston, TX '05). It is truly another superb pledge class for the Chapter. The class boasts an average ACT of 27. It includes 2 Academic All-State scholars, 7 National Merit Scholars, 7 valedictorians, 15 University or Regents Scholars and 3 members of the President's Leadership Class. There are also a broad array of fine athletes, including 6 all-state athletes. Our actives emphatically believe Beta's pledge class is by far the best among OU's Fraternities.

While the theme of rush during earlier years was one of rebuilding, you could say it's now simply one of "reloading." Gamma Phi is doing extremely well and now sets the standard at OU. The Chapter has decisively won grades over the past 3 semesters and its membership rolls are growing. With this new set of freshman, the chapter's outlook appears brighter than ever.

In one sense, rush is getting easier

due to the excellent reputation Gamma Phi presently enjoys. To a certain degree, Beta "sells itself" to many rush prospects. On the other hand, rush has become more challenging as the pool of rushees who are interested in Beta grows. Obviously, that's a good problem. However, to allow our rush chairman to meet this challenge, they need adequate financial resources. A key element of our rush strategy is employment of our alumni advantage to out-rush Beta's rivals. Our alumni's gratifying response to this need is greatly appreciated. Contributions received from our 144 donors amounted to \$21,290. That is a record level of giving.

This year's class includes 7 Beta sons. This may be a record. The Chapter did come up short with a few legacy rushees, which is always disappointing. Nevertheless, it is wonderful to see the Beta tradition continue with these 7 families.

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Beta Holds 2nd Annual Alumni Golf Tournament

Gamma Phi hosted the 2nd annual Gamma Phi Alumni Golf Tournament on June 22 at OU's Jimmie Austin Golf Course. Nearly 100 alumni, actives, and friends participated in this event. This year's winning team was John Hillis '82, Steve Stotts '84, Todd Lisle '84, and Jeff Norman '85. Special prizes were awarded to Rob Felton '85 for straightest drive and Ryan Kolkmann '99 for longest drive.

Kudos to John Ritz '71 and John Hillis '82 for organizing this event.

Sincere thanks to Rib Crib (Bret Chandler '82) for once again providing excellent food and beverages for the players. Also, great appreciation is extended to Link Barr '85 for generously sponsoring the tournament's all-critical beer cart. Watch for details on this summer's tournament.

"Brews and BBQ After the Alumni Golf Turney"



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Beta Sons and Their Dads

Brett Baptist/Richard Baptist '74
Benjamin Burnett/Mike Burnett '74
William Crosby/Ron Crosby '77
Chris Cross/Braden Cross '69
Keystone Hughes/Donnie Hughes '78
Timothy Nisbet/Steve Nisbet '68
Clint Privett/Ken Privett '71

Geographically, Beta did very well in several key cities. The Chapter again dominated Norman, which is always a great source of excellent rushees. One of our primary goals this year was to improve Beta's presence in Tulsa. In this regard, the Chapter took a modest step forward with the signing of four Tulsa pledges. Nevertheless, we need to do better there, and increasing Beta's strength in Tulsa remains a prime objective.

By signing 7 men from the 3 Edmond schools, Gamma Phi has solidified its presence in that important city. Candidly, however, the Oklahoma City schools-represented mainly by Putnum City North and the private schools-remain "opportunity for improvement" for the chapter. On the other hand, Gamma Phi continued its usual success among smaller towns across Oklahoma.

Another important factor in the success of this rush was alumni referrals. Thanks to all of you who sent us rushee names. Please keep them coming! They are extremely helpful and, as usual, a high percentage of our signees came from referrals. There's no doubt that many of these prospects would have pledged elsewhere were it not for the early summer contact with alumni referrals permitted.

On a personal note, 2002 was my seventh and last year to act as rush advisor. Beginning this year, Rob Robertson '84 will be the new rush advisor.

"Corresponding with our alumni and witnessing first hand your devotion to our fraternity has been an extremely rewarding experience"

Zach Allen '85 Trustee President

I have no doubt Brother Robertson will do an outstanding job and bring a fresh perspective to the rush effort. I want to extend my deepest personal thanks to all alumni who have generously supported Gamma Phi rush, over the past 7 years (and before).

The Chapter is already preparing for next year's rush.

If you know of any good rush prospects for next summer-wherever they may be-please let us know about them! Please direct all rush referrals to the following address:

Beta Theta Pi

Rob Robertson, Rush Advisor
One Leadership Square, 15th Floor
211 N. Robinson
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
Telephone: (405) 235-5558
Fax: (405) 235-2875
Email: rrobertson@gablelaw.com

Also, we very much need volunteers to organize and/or host rush BBQ's and similar events next summer. This is particularly true in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, where the chapter will continue its efforts to improve Beta's strength.

Thanks again for your support!

yours in kai ,
Zach Allen '85

President's Message

We wish that each of our alumni would come by and see recent improvements to the Chapter House. All of these changes have greatly improved the appearance and usability of our house. They have also helped us in Rush, in social events and in entertaining alumni, parents and University officials.

As you may have heard, the wood floor in the living room and the sunroom was completely removed and replaced last summer. This is the first thing that our guests notice and appreciate. At the same time, the trophy cases were restained, lighted and mirror-backed so that they are again a handsome feature in the living room.

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Gamma Phi Chapter Initiates Oklahoma Artist, Greg Burns

On November 19, 2002 Greg Burns was initiated by Gamma Phi Chapter. Greg is a 1971 graduate of the University of Oklahoma and a resident of Oklahoma City. He is known internationally for his graphics and watercolors, particularly those of Victorian and Edwardian architecture.

Greg is the best known artist in Oklahoma City because of his readily accessible gallery and his long time practice of selling framed prints of his original pictures. In 1989, alumni of the Gamma Phi Chapter commissioned Greg to paint a picture of the Beta Chapter House at 800 Chautauqua. The original picture was placed in the Chapter House and 150 framed, limited edition copies were sold to Beta alumni and undergraduates as a fundraiser.

After repair and refurbishment of the facade of the Beta House in 1999, we approached Greg Burns to paint a second picture of the Chapter House. His second painting is another beautiful work showing the east elevation of the house. Greg cleverly included in the painting all of the landscaping contemplated by the then existing landscape plan, has now been implemented. Approximately 300 of these prints have been matted, framed and sold. The dual purpose was to focus alumni attention on the Chapter House and to raise money for necessary repairs to the structure.

One of the most interesting features of Greg's work is that it results from his extreme efforts to overcome significant physical disabilities. Greg was born with arthrogryposis, a muscle and joint disorder which affects the use of his arm and legs. During his college years, Greg was fairly mobile and had general use of his extremities. However, as time passed, the disorder greatly restricted Greg's movements. His walking is restricted.

-continued page 6

2002 Rush Contributors

Steve Van Aken
Robert W. Allen
Zach Allen
Don Andrews
Frank W. Ayers, Jr.
Guy Bacon
Steven L. Barghols
Robert L. Barr
Fallis A. Beall
Guy L. Berry III
John S. Berry
William L. Berry
W. Anderson Bishop
R. Tyler Boone
Todd Booze
Ronald E. Bowden
Chris Brown
Tony Bumpas
Lester Burkett
Mark "Beau" Cantrell
John C. Carter
Michael A. Cawley
Dewey W. Chambers
Bret Chandler
Don Cies
Don V. Cogman
Lorenzo T. Collins
H. Dale Cook
J. William Conger
Charles S. Coward
Robert W. Dow
Timothy D. Eisel
James Elder
Jeff Elder
Levoy C. Ellsworth, Jr.
Robert R. Felton
Jay Fitzgerald
Kevin Foxx
Douglas Frantz
Frank G. Gatchell
Rick Gibbon
Charles P. Gotwals, Jr.
Jim Gotwals
Elmer Hale, Jr.
John P. Harlan
Don L. Harral
Wooglin on Chautauqua, Winter 2003

Larry S. Harral
Kim Hauger
Robert B. Hauger
William J. Hemphill
David R. Hicks
John R. Hills
Carl H. Holliday
Hal M. Holliday
Randy Hollinger
P. Jack Hoopes
Larry C. Houchin
Donnie Hughes
Dow R. Hughes
Aaron Douglas Hutton
Lon T. Jackson
James T. Johnson
Brad Johnston
Wm. O. Johnstone
Greg Jones
Warren K. Jordan
Robert W. King
Donald S. Kirkpatrick
Robert R. Klabzuba
C. Dale Klingensmith
Steven M. Kobos
Ryan Kolkmann
John W. Kniseley
Mike Krampf
Micahel J. Labrie
M. Burt Lampl III
Jason S. Lees
Donald Mason Lehman
Brad Liebmann
Kenneth Lisle
Charles R. Long
William P. Longmire, Jr.
Andrew Louis
Jason Lowry
W. Carlisle Mabrey, III
Daniel L. Medley
Tom H. McCasland III
William M. McGee
Mark H. McKinsey
J. Steve Miller
Dan A. Moody
Richard W. Moore

John G. Moore
Burke Mordy
Jed Morrison
Robert N. Naifeh, Jr.
R. Michael Nisbet
Stephen A. Nisbet
R. Marc Nuttle
Kevin O'Halloran
John K. Orr
Jay W. Penn
Chris H. Pierce
Jim Pickens
Richard G. Porter
David E. Rainbolt
Jack E. Rayburn
James B. Read
Fred N. Reynolds
W.T. Richardson
John W. Ritz
Rob Robertson
J. Hugh Roff, Jr.
William J. Ross
Fenton A. Sanger
Byron H. Schaff
Bill Settle
G. Calvin Sharpe
S. Neil Sisson
S. Kent Sloan
Don A. Smith
James R. Snider

William T. Speller
Thomas Stapleton
Michael H. Strong
Louis V. Stuart, Jr.
Scott Sullivan
Arthur Thompson
Lee B. Thompson
Ralph G. Thompson
Matthew R. Titus
Lance S. Tolson
Michael B. Tolson
Charles E. Towe, Jr.
Fred O. Turner
Gregory C. Wallace

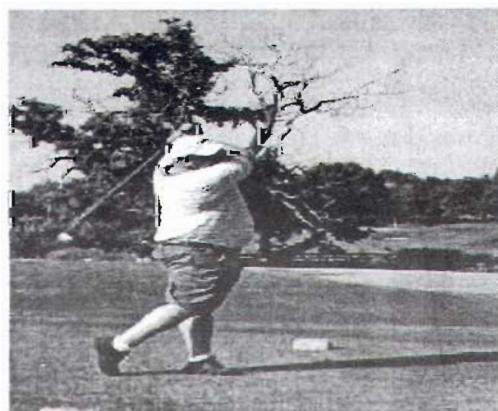
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*Chuck OU Dobbs '85 Shows Excellent Form at
Alumni Golf Tournament*



Beta Wins Spring Grades

Once again, Gamma Phi ranked first in grades among all OU fraternities last spring. With an impressive 3.227 overall GPA, Beta easily outperformed all its rivals.

Top 10 Fraternity Grade Rankings 2001-2002

Fall

- 1.Beta Theta Pi 3.259
- 2.Lambda Chi Alpha 2.975
- 3.Pi Kappa Phi 2.923
- 4.Delta Upsilon 2.890
- 5.Phi Kappa Sigma 2.885
- 6.Triangle 2.862
- 7.Delta Tau Delta 2.827
- 8.Sigma Alpha Epsilon 2.810
- 9.Phi Gamma Delta 2.780
- 10.Sigma Chi 2.772

Spring

- 1.Beta Theta Pi 3.227
- 2.Triangle 3.193
- 3.Lambda Chi Alpha 3.056
- 4.Phi Gamma Delta 3.004
- 5.Delta Upsilon 3.001
- 6.Pi Kappa Phi 2.988
- 7.Delta Tau Delta 2.949
- 8.Sigma Chi 2.943
- 9.Kappa Sigma 2.909
- 10.Sigma Alpha Epsilon 2.907

Pledge Class 2002

| | |
|---|---|
| Kevin Adams-Park Hill High (Kansas City, MO) | Aaron Hunsaker-Edmond Memorial |
| Tristan Adler-Norman North | Chris Jones-Claremore |
| Blake Albert-Niwat, CO | Joe Kokojan-Hinton |
| Ben Allison-Coppell, TX | Jay Malone-Okla. School Science & Math |
| John Argo-Norman | Brian McCall-Saint Xavier (Cincinnati, OH) |
| Brett Baptist-Norman | Nathan Meredith-Claremore |
| Derek Batton-Norman | Matthew Moeller-Edmond Santa Fe |
| Mark Bicket-Edmond North | Tyler Newcomb-Ft. Gibson |
| Ben Bolton-Vernon, TX | Timothy Nisbet-Alamo Heights (San Antonio) |
| Benjamin Burnett-Churchill High (San Antonio) | Matt Pappas-Houston Memorial |
| Daniel Card-Ardmore | Cole Patterson-Watonga |
| Tyson Carroll-Henryatta | Jeff Patterson-Tulsa Memorial |
| Brian Cavanaugh-Edmond North | Cory Pivnisko-Yukon |
| Shane Clanton-Tulsa Metro Christian Academy | Kenneth Pope-Amarillo, TX |
| William Crosby-Ardmore | Jonathan Price-Blair Academy (New York) |
| Chris Cross-Norman | Clint Privett-Caney Valley |
| Matthew Crow-Pampa, TX | Jacob Rice-Norman |
| David Dale-Guymon | Nic Rogers-Lawton |
| Owen Davis-Tacosa H.S. (Amarillo, TX) | Alex Sedlacek-Tulsa Cascia Hall |
| Brian Dude-Edmond North | Kevin Segler-Coppell, TX |
| Jason Elkin-Norman | John Seger-Tulsa Cascia Hall |
| Kyle Gassaway-Norman | Pres Smith-All Saints Episcopal (Tyler, TX) |
| Tom Gilliland-Edmond North | Tim Smith-Civic Memorial (Bethalto, IL) |
| Jonathan Gress-Norman | Andy Vaughn-Norman |
| Nick Holman-Owasso | Justin Vick-Yukon |
| Keystone Hughes-Midwest City | Michael Young-Norman |

Alumni Notes and Announcements

Gamma Phi Celebrates 100 Years at OU!!!

Gamma Phi was founded as a local fraternity at OU in Spring 1903. We hope to have some small event this Spring to recognize our chapter founding. Please provide any information you have on Gamma Phi from Spring 1903 until acquiring our Beta Theta Pi charter in Fall 1907 to Hank Ryan (see address below).

Nostalgia

100 Years Ago (Spring 1903)

Gamma Phi was founded as a local fraternity at the University of Oklahoma. Gamma Phi was the first fraternity, local or national, at OU. Five OU students (Roy Kingkade, Tom B. Matthews, Bob Severin, A. Maxwell Alden and Jay T. Conway) purchased a bunch of bananas from a Santa Fe train wreck and proceeded to eat the bunch in one afternoon at a vacant house across the street from McFarlin Memorial Church. Gamma Phi emerged from that banana-eating get-together.

75 Years Ago (Spring 1928)

Mrs. E.T. Miller served as Housemother. The Chapter house was at 701 DeBarr Avenue with construction underway on the new house at 800 Chautauqua. Hal Muldrow served on the Student Council and as ROTC Brigade Commander. George Stroud was "Keeper of the Bones" for the Jazz Hounds. John Pearson served as Business Manager of the 1928 Sooner yearbook. Harry Kniseley served as Editor-in-Chief of The Whirlwind. Bill Noble played on the undefeated Sooner basketball team that won the Missouri Valley Conference.

50 Years Ago (Spring 1953)

Mrs. L.L. Douglass served as Housemother. Warren "Doc" Jordan was editor of the 1953 Sooner yearbook. Roger Clark was on the

tennis team that won the Big Seven crown for the second year in a row. Bill Armor served as Vice-president of the Student Senate. Hugh Roff and Dick Haynes were chosen for Pe-et.

25 Years Ago (Spring 1978)

Ms. Oklahoma Sain served as Housemother. The house won grades and the intramural championship in athletics in the Spring of 1978. The Beta Lei began as an annual social event.

Send Us Alumni Notes

Please help us keep our records current and correct. We maintain a Chapter roll database that is separate from the General Fraternity and contains more information such as pledge class, date-of-birth, date-of-death, and email address. We need your input to help us maintain this information. If you would like to confirm your current information or would like to help us locate some of our "address unknown" brothers, please contact:

Hank Ryan
P.O. Box 888
Norman, Ok 73070-0888
405-579-4473 (voice) 405-589-4472(Fax)
hank@hgryan.com (E-mail)
We are also looking for information and anecdotes for our future Alumni Notes!!!

Marching Along

Bill Conger '63 was recently elected an At Large Member to the Board of Governors of the Oklahoma Bar Association. Bill is an attorney in Oklahoma City with the law firm of Hartzog, Conger, Cason, and Neville, with fellow Beta's **Len Cason '64** and **Drew Neville '64**.

Butch Dover '75 has recently relocated to Anchorage, AK. Butch is Vice President-General Manager for Alaska DigiTel, a Wireless Phone Company in Alaska with its parent company, Wireless Partners, headquarters in Memphis, TN.

Butch retired from BellSouth in July 2000 and joined Wireless Partners that same month. Butch said he welcomes any brother visiting Alaska this summer to give him a call and he would take them fishing. Butch and his wife Alicia have four children, Alexandra 15, Makenzie 13, Luke 11, and Elijah 4.

Eric Ivester '82 wishes to announce that he and his wife, Kathy, are the proud parents of a new baby boy, Chad Andrew Ivester. Chad was born July 19, 2002. Eric and Kathy are living in Chicago, Illinois. Eric's oldest son, Jeff, is a freshman at the Univ. of Wisconsin, while Blake, age 15, is a freshman in high school.

Peter Emmott '84 and his wife, Gerre, have four children; Fielding, age 17, Mason, age 15, Tippe, age 12, and Betse, age 8. Peter and his family live in Springfield, MO.

Daniel Medley '89 and his wife, Diane, are the proud parents of Charles Durden Medley who was born December 9, 2002.

Troy McDaniel '92 has been transferred to Shreveport, LA to help with ALLTEL's conversion of former Centurytel wireless markets that ALLTEL has purchased. He will serve as Sales Manager, and oversee 8 retail locations.

Todd Booze '90 finally got in engaged in November of 2002 to Kris Landes.

Matt Hunter '93 is a graduate student at Duke University pursuing a master of divinity degree. He is set to graduate in May 2004. Upon graduation he hopes to become an ordained deacon in the United Methodist Church, and join the peace corps for a period of time.

Ted Shults '94 was married September 7, 2002 in Tulsa, OK to Emily Simon. They are currently living in San Diego, CA. Emily is a Senior Accountant with Sempra Energy Resources, and Ted works for Pfizer as a CNS Specialty Sales Rep.

President's Message continued...
New area rugs were purchased from Dallas and four deep brown leather, Bernhardt sofas were installed on the rugs. The wing chairs, game table chairs and straight-back chairs in the living room were all recovered so that everything in the room is coordinated.

Additionally, a new picture has been hung above the fireplace; 6 Sisson Awards and 2 Knox Awards are positioned prominently in the living room; and a pastoral mural in memory of Brother Mike Weaver '72, who was a victim of the Murrah bombing, has been hung between the doors to the sunroom.

As one of the Parents Club officers observed, the living room has the air of a gentlemen's club room. Speaking of the Parents Club, its members and multiple alumni donors have replaced the dining room furniture with new wood tables and matching chairs. These look (and sit) so much better than the prior plastic chairs and round fold-up tables.

There is also a new painted Beta Crest above the dining room fireplace, and silver service items and Beta Theta Pi china is being displayed in the dining room china cabinets.

Led by Brother Bill Reed '55, 14 Beta donors purchased a big screen television for the Chapter. This is located in the basement and is receiving a lot of careful use.

On the outside, four new spotlights have been installed "to wash" the front of the house in light.

Lastly, all of the brothers continue to enjoy and make use of the new second and third floor bathrooms which were completed in 2001.

We thank all of you, your Corporation officers and trustees, our Parents Club and its officers, and, of course, Mom Overton, for your tremendous support of the Gamma Phi Chapter.

yours in kai ,
Steve Sinos '04
Chapter President

Greg Burns continued...
He draws with a pen cradled in his right hand. Then he adds watercolor to a drawing by use of a brush held in his teeth so that his hand and arm will not drag across the wet paint.

Greg's determination, positive attitude, and good spirits have been an inspiration to all those who know him. Gamma Phi Chapter unanimously voted to initiate Greg for his outstanding lifetime achievements in the face of seemingly insurmountable physical challenges, and for his demonstrated interest in and support of Gamma Phi Chapter.



Gamma Phi Chapter
Beta Theta Pi
Two Leadership Square, 14th Floor
211 N. Robinson
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HENRY GRADY RYAN III
823 S FLOOD AVE
NORMAN OK 73069-4502

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Parents and Alumni:
Please send us Address Updates