



# The Shrine

Alpha Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Denison University • Granville, Ohio • July 2000

## *Letter From the President*

*By Robert J. Dold '60, LSCMA President*

We have just completed another academic year and the Alpha Eta Chapter at Denison University is alive and active. It is always a thrill for me to be on the Denison campus. It is still as beautiful as ever with a few more buildings located around the campus that weren't there in my time. The Beta house is still the jewel on the fraternity circle. Like many small colleges, Denison is changing. We can be proud. To quote President Dale Knoebel, "Denison is fortunate in enrolling a student body not only academically able, but also made of men and women who have been unusually engaged in their schools and communities." The Denison student body is very strong, and I am certain will leave its mark on society as each continues to grow.

Greek life at Denison has also changed. Fraternity men are not living in their fraternity houses and the fraternities and the sororities are competing with 130 other organizations, each looking for student participation. This is fierce competition for the amount of time students have.

With all the emphasis on grades and the competition from outside organizations, I still find the greatest strength at Denison to be in the bonds that develop in the fraternity. It is why I feel so strongly that as alumni, we must do everything we can to keep the fraternity experience at Denison as meaningful for the present Betas as they have been for us in the past. As smart and talented as these students are today, they still need strong and effective guidance. They need to see and hear what Beta meant to you. The stories and history are important. I hope that you will take the opportunity not only to support the chapter financially but also to communicate what that bond of brotherhood has meant to you. One of the most meaningful ways to do this is to get involved with the chapter. We are exploring the "Men of Principle" initiative sponsored by the General Fraternity and spearheaded by our own Alpha Eta brother, Senator Richard G. Lugar '54. This program will require a number of alumni advisers to work directly with the chapter; what a great opportunity this is to get involved.

Think about those Alpha Eta Betas that came ahead of each of us who have been such great role models and mentors. There is a real need for more like them. What a wonderful opportunity for those who would be willing to share talents, time and ability.

We welcome your help and participation with the LSCMA House Corporation Board and would specifically encourage you to embrace the opportunity to be a part of a mentoring program. This a wonderful way to help young people better understand the value of commitment, support, friendship and integrity. Please join us!

## *Join Us in August!*

LSCMA PRESIDENT BOB DOLD '60 AND JUDY INVITE ALPHA ETA BETAS ATTENDING THE BETA CONVENTION AND ALPHA ETA BETAS AND WIVES LIVING IN THE CHICAGO AREA TO THEIR HOME (71 WARWICK ROAD, WINNETKA, ILL.) ON WEDNESDAY EVENING, AUGUST 2, 2000, AT 6:30 P.M. FOR COCKTAILS AND A BUFFET.

RSVP BY CALLING 848-441-8225  
NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, JULY 27, 2000.

## *Barb Jaros Resigns*

At the board meeting Sunday morning, June 4, 2000, Barb Jaros announced that as of July 12, 2000, she would no longer be our House Director. After eight years as the stabilizer of the Beta house, she announced she had accepted the position of Housemother at the Alpha Chi Omega Sorority at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

President Bob Dold '60, almost with tears in his eyes and a quivering in his voice, began expressing the Board of Trustees' wholehearted appreciation for the tremendous assistance and support she had rendered to both the undergraduate chapter and the LSCMA.

*(Continued on Page 3)*

*The Shrine* is published for the alumni and friends of the Alpha Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Denison University. Address changes, news items, photographs and contributions may be sent in the enclosed envelope or mailed to Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 361303, Columbus, OH 43236-1303.

## 1953 Fraternal Fifty Presentation Made

In April, the members of the Alpha Eta Pledge Class of 1950 received their Fraternal Fifty recognition pin, their identification card and the official seal that is to be affixed to the shingle. The recipients of this year's presentation were Raymond Christensen '53, Blitz Creager '53, George Dallas '53, Tom Greene '52, Chuck Inman '53, Bob Laird '53, Bill Isaly '53, Leroy Martin '53, Carl Murray '53, Dean Owen '53, Roger Owen '53, Harvey Ramsey '53, Dick Scourfield '53, Donald Soukup '53, Ed Weber '53 and Donald Zalud '53.

Presentations were also made to Don Blackburn '32, Bob Blackburn '40, Ralph Scarritt '41, Pete Alpaugh '44, Jack Jones '42, Chuck Hall '46 as they had not received their recognition at the time they became eligible.

Any member of Alpha Eta who has passed fifty years of membership after the year pledged and has not received his Fraternal Fifty recognition should contact either Carolyn White at Oxford or Bill Edwards, Box 1272, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340 to make your request.

## Reunion Weekend Brings Many Brothers Back to Denison

This year's Reunion Weekend must have been one of the larger ones in recent years, with well over one thousand graduates and guests returning to the Denison campus. Over thirty five Alpha Eta alumni and many guests visited the Beta House and signed the guest register. This may not be an accurate count, though, as many were seen passing the register in groups and not waiting until the register was available for signing in.

The entire house was opened to all to roam as they wished. There were many favorable comments made as to how attractive and functional the former dining room and the lounge area is after some renovation. There were many remarks made as to how clean and well maintained the entire house looked. The majority of the credit goes to Barb Jaros our house director and to the freshman students living in the leased section of the house.

Bob Blackburn '40 had an unfortunate fall after leaving the Class of 1940 dinner at Curtice Hall heading for Swazey Chapel, which resulted in a fractured left knee cap.

Members of Alpha Eta who returned and registered were: Bud Giffin '40, Misty Shoop '40, Bill Edwards '41, Ralph Scarritt '41, Dave Richards '45, Chuck Hall '46, Jack Johnson '50, Bob Marquardt '50, John McConnaughy '50, Bob Willis '50, Dale Wolfe '54, Doug James, Steve Cornwall, Bob Dold '60, Steve Pendery '76, Ben Ackley '79, Rick Kirk '79, Kent Smith '79, Chris Cone '80, Len Gaglione '80, Tad Heyman '80, Henry Jenkins '80, Cliff Masch '80, Dick Pendery '80, Mark Shaw '80, Dick Trub '80, Bill Hoster '81, Dave Elliott '87, and Keith Hollingsworth '88.

If any member attended and is not named above, we apologize. Please let Bill Edwards know that your name was missing.



*Si Hunt '46, Howard Shaw '48, George Weidemaier '49 and Dave Ecker '49 reunite at the 1942 Alpha Eta Pledge Class memorial tree planting project.*

## 1942 Pledge Class Plants Memorial Trees

*By Bill Edwards '41*

In mid-May 2000, under the leadership of Howard Shaw '48 of San Rafael, Calif., who had organized the 1942 Alpha Eta Pledge Class memorial tree planting project, the actual planting was carried out. George "Little Pete" Weidemaier '49 (Sarasota, Fla.), Dave Ecker '49 (Cincinnati, Ohio) and Senour "Si" Hunt '46 (Arlington, Va.) assisted in the planting of 12 eight-foot flowering crab apple trees on the east slope behind the Beta House. Ted Tight '48 (Woodsdale, Calif.), Dick Gravett '46 (Menlo Park, Calif.) and Ben Wright '46 (La Jolla, Calif.) were participating members of the pledge class who were unable to join in for the planting. Four members of the pledge class are deceased.

In addition to the trees, a memorial plaque was dedicated. The Denison University physical plant provided the machinery and some manpower.



COME BACK FOR HOMECOMING AND SEE  
DENISON TAKE ON OHIO WESLEYAN  
AT 1:30 P.M. ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2000

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!

## *Barb Jaros Resigns, Continued*

For all the many things that she has accomplished, many of which went unnoticed but never unappreciated, we thank her. During Barb's eight years, she faced much opposition from a number of the undergraduate members, but she was always well-supported by the LSCMA Board.

With the many laudatory comments expressed by the board members for her dedicated service, almost an equal number of comments expressed how much we will miss her energy, thoughtfulness and support. Barb, the undergraduates and the alumni wish you well in your new position. Living in a house graced with many fair coeds has to present a very bright future. We love you, Barb. Please keep all of us in Alpha Eta in your memories.

## *April 2000 Initiates*

**A**N APRIL 23, 2000, 11 PLEDGES WERE INITIATED INTO ALPHA ETA OF BETA THETA PI. THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS HAVE NOW SEEN THE LIGHT. THERE IS EVERY INDICATION THAT WITH HARD WORK, LOTS OF STUDYING AND READING AND PERSONAL DEDICATION, THESE MEN HAVE AN EXCELLENT CHANCE OF BECOMING FINE BETAS. THEIR FALL SEMESTER GPA WAS 2.755. WELCOME NEW INITIATES!

*Henry A. Betts '03*  
*Nicholas Fichtenbaum '03*  
*Ryan H. Flanagan '03*  
*Stephen R. Kieffer '01*  
*Daniel L. Miller '02*  
*Matthew M. Mrkobrad '03*  
*Charles A. Ratliff '03*  
*Jonathan J. Reusch '02*  
*Matthew D. Schreiber '03*  
*James W. Watt '03*  
*Andrew D. Westhouse '02*



## *We Want Your Address Corrections and E-Mail Addresses!*

**E**onsiderable correspondence may not have been delivered on time or at all, due to a change of address and not advising the sender. At the time you relocate, or if there is a USPS mail delivery address change, please advise Bill Edwards, Box 1272, Litchfield Park, AZ 85340 and Beta Theta Pi Fraternity, Alumni Records Office, P.O. Box 361303, Columbus, OH 43236-1303. For those who have e-mail addresses, please contact Bill Edwards at bill.edwards@blitz.emc.maricopa.edu. If you are interested in receiving an Alpha Eta e-mail directory, contact Bill.

## *A Reminder*

*By Robert H. Mereness '41 (AH 539)*

**R**ummaging through books and papers, photos and mementos in yet another effort to "clean house and straighten the files," I paused to open the pages of *Alpha Eta, the Story of Beta Theta Pi at Denison University* by Francis Wayland Shepardson AH41. The book tells such a wonderful story of Beta at Denison ...

I was among 19 newly pledged Betas in 1937, the year the volume was published and the year

"Shep" died. Beloved by our fraternity and indeed throughout the "Greek world," Shep died just days before he was to preside over the 98th annual convention of Beta Theta Pi.

It was September 26, 1937, when we Alpha Eta pledges gathered — dark trousers, white shirts and pledge pins — in Granville's Maple Grove cemetery. Each of us layed a rose upon the grave of a man whom we had never known, never really heard of before that solemn

day. We had been at Denison, associated with the fraternity just a few days.

The pledges who gathered together that day would all be initiated into the Alpha Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi. We would certainly come to learn about Shep and what he gave to our fraternity. World War II claimed us for service throughout the world. Some of us never came back. Today there are but a few of us still around to remember that day we placed the roses on Shep's

grave. But we won't forget that day nor the days we have spent together in dear old Beta Theta Pi.

I have been in touch with a few dear brothers from my Alpha Eta days of long ago. I have had the pleasure and privilege of meeting and being with Betas in many places. I truly enjoy being in Beta alumni groups. I treasure those associations and am proud to say "Glad I'm a Beta!"



# Alumni News

"Best issue of *The Shrine* in a long time," wrote **Donald G. Blackburn '32** (36 Locksley Ln., Springfield, IL 62704) after receiving the December 1999 newsletter. "Many thanks to all who put it together."

At the Beta Convention, **Robert H. Mereness '41** (800 Crescent Dr., Alexandria, VA 22302; rhmer@aol.com) enjoyed the great company of Alpha Eta brothers.

Our condolences to **Jack Allan '42** (940 Weyman Ct., Atlanta, GA 30327) on the loss of Dixie, his wife of 57 years, in January 2000. While Jack was overseas during WWII, Dixie returned to Denison to complete her education and served as a chaperon at Alpha Eta functions.

Jo and **John S. Duerr '42** have relocated to 2300 Indian Creek Blvd. W., Apt. C103, Vero Beach, FL 32966. John is now involved with the Harbour Branch Oceanographic Institution in Fort Pierce and Jo is doing volunteer work in the redistribution center at their church. They have met Jean and **Ed Meier '36**. The Duerrs have a new e-mail address: riomarsand@aol.com.

**David O. Richards '45** (55 Donald Ross Dr., Granville, OH 43023) reports that he and **Jack Heller '47** are serving on the board of trustees of Kendal at Granville, a continuing-care residential retirement community being developed in the area. Plans are for the initial phases of the complex to be completed in 2002-03.

**Glen A. Bammann '48** spends four months of the year at his cottage in Minnesota and the other eight months at his condo at 5586 Westwind Ln., Fort Myers, FL 33919. "Yes, it is a great life."

**Robert L. Marquardt '50** (4227 Fern Dr., Ogden, UT 84403) is chairman of Management Training Corp. Since he started the company in 1981, MTC has expanded to more than 50 locations and over 7,000

employees. Bob has had a major role in the development of parks and conservation projects in Utah and been honored for his efforts. He attended his 50-year reunion in June.

Correspondence for **Tim M. Roudebush '52** can be sent to his address at 6 Wycklow, #708, Overland Park, KS 66207. He is president and CEO of TMR Materials Co.

Physician **David L. Jones '56** (5040 Shadow Mountain Rd., Las Cruces, NM 88011) has retired from private practice, but continues to volunteer his medical skills at the San Carlos Apache Reservation in Arizona.

"If any brothers are heading for southwest Florida, please look us up," notes **H. R. Wood '56**. From mid-November to mid-May, he lives at 348 Carlton Pl., Naples, FL 34108. The rest of the year, you will find him at 4286 Birnam Ct., Columbus, OH 43221. While in the Sunshine State, he enjoyed a visit from **Dick Lugar '54**.

In September 1999, **E. W. Coons '58** moved to 1015 San Antonio Ln., The Villages, FL 32159. The large retirement community offers 11 executive golf courses, four championship courses and numerous activities. E-mail for E.W. can be sent to bcoons777@aol.com.



**David H. "Duff" Melville '61** (40 Jewett Dr., Wyoming, OH 45215; sakrete@fuse.net), an office manager at Sakrete Inc., joined members of his pledge class for a reunion in Cincinnati last October. Top row: **C. O. Weddle '61, John Sjostrom '61, Duff, Ken Luchs '61, Sam Armacost '61, Charlie Glasser '61** and **Tim Masterson '61**. Bottom row: **Bob Brandenburger '61, Rich Mathias '62, Dave Brown '61** and **Bob Hardy '61**. (Sam is on our lost list. If you have an address for him, please send it our way.)



# Alumni News

As the owner of J.B. Ragatz, **John B. Ragatz '62** (3004 S. Cornell Cir., Englewood, CO 80110; ragatzjb@aol.com) sells and leases commercial real estate. He is the director of stream research for the Rocky Mountain Angling Club, giving him the opportunity to test new waters for the 1,300-member group.

After 26 years with Bank One, **Thomas E. Hoaglin '71** (101 E. Columbus St., Columbus, OH 43206; thoaglin@ameritech.net) left the company in March 1999. For the next several months he traveled, built a vacation home and had some fun. In December, he accepted an offer to become vice chairman and a member of the board of directors of AmSouth Bancorporation.

**Jonathan M. Holmes '76** (2001 Springcress Dr., McKinney, TX 75070; jmh\_lax\_33@hotmail.com) welcomed the arrival of a son, Spencer, in October 1999. "No, this is not a second marriage or a mistake," he tells us. "Just made a strategic decision to reenter this line of business after an 11-year hiatus."

**Kent M. Smith '79** (8830 Tayport Dr., Dublin, OH 43017; kent356@aol.com) spent some time at the Beta house reunion weekend.

**Henry H. Jenkins II '80** (12509 Garrison Forest Rd., Owings Mills, MD 21117) spends most of his time on the farm. In the spring of 1999, he planted 10,000 trees along the

stream edges to protect the Chesapeake from farm run off. During the winter, he can often be found hunting on the Eastern Shore or skiing in Utah or New Mexico. With wife Annie, Henry has two sons. If you'd like to give him a call (410-654-6657), try phoning around 6:00 p.m. EST when he's cooking supper for the family.

**W. Patrick Teichgraeber '88** (3514A Cannon St., Twentynine Palms, CA 92278; wptabt@aol.com), a Marine Corps officer, serves as company commander for Weapons Co., 1st Battalion, 7th Marines. When he wrote in January, he was on a six-month deployment in Okinawa, Japan.

**Robert J. Dold Jr. '91** (71 Warwick Rd., Winnetka, IL 60093) and Danielle Rubono wed in September 1999. The groom's father, **Robert Sr. '60**, served as best man and **Jamie King '93** of Chicago, Ill., was a groomsman. Other Alpha Eta Betas present were **John Schneider '91** from Los Angeles, Calif., **Chris Quinson '91** from New York, N.Y., **Chris Epley '91** from Dayton, Ohio, **Nate Zangerle '91** from Huntington Wood, Mich., and **Scott Boal '91** from Denver, Colo.

When we heard from him earlier in the year, **Andrew C. P. Biggs '96** (3304 California St., San Francisco, CA 94118) was planning to compete in the Escape From Alcatraz Triathlon in May along with **Graham Gerlach '96** and **Carter Shoop '97**. You can contact Andy at the Institutional Client Group at Lehman Brothers by phone (415-263-3379) or fax (415-263-4402).

## In Memoriam

Harriette McCann Roudebush, wife of the late **George M. Roudebush '16**, died March 10, 2000. She was 100 years old and Denison's oldest graduate. Mrs. Roudebush had been a civic volunteer all of her life. She began her career as a social worker with the Red Cross and was a USO volunteer. She was an active member of First Baptist church, the Country Garden Club and the Cleveland Denison Women's Club. She also volunteered with the YMCA and served on the women's committee of the Cleveland Council on World Affairs. Survivors include her sons, **George '49** of Chardon, Ohio, and **Tim '52** of Overland Park, Kan.; a daughter, Jane R. Daganhardt of Granville, Ohio; 11 grandchildren; and 28 great-grandchildren. Her husband, George, died in 1992.

**Dr. Charles G. Brown Jr. AH 420** died February 16, 2000, in Mansfield, Ohio, after a long illness. He was a biology major at

Denison in the Class of 1933. He earned his M.D. degree at The Ohio State University in 1938. Charlie was a family physician in Mansfield for 51 years before his retirement. During World War II, he served as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps. He was a member of the Mansfield School Board and operated the family farm, Brownlea, with his wife, Emily, who survives him.

Other survivors include three sons, Robert, **Charles III AH 1062** and Sherrod, and four granddaughters.

**H. Stanton Condit AH 500** died November 3, 1999, in Fort Myers, Fla. A member of the Class of 1939, Stan majored in engineering science at Denison. His senior year, he was elected to Omicron Delta Kappa and awarded the Alpha Eta Deeds



# In Memoriam

Efficiency Trophy as the outstanding member of the chapter that year.

Stan served as an engineering officer in the U.S. Navy in World War II aboard an escort destroyer in the South Pacific and was decorated for his combat service. He was president of Condit Construction Products Inc. of Columbus, Ohio. He was a charter member of the Producers Council of Columbus and an active member of the Builders Exchange.

He is survived by his wife, Kay, a sister, two sons, two daughters, eight grandchildren and one great-grandson. His brother-in-law, **T. K. Davis**, is **AH 671**.

**Frederick C. Meyer AH 504**, of Newport Beach, Calif., died December 30, 1999. He was a non-graduate of the Class of 1939 at Denison.

**David A. Mitchell AH 534** died November 14, 1998, in Grosse Pointe, Mich. He was a member of the Class of 1941 at Denison. Dave was a professor at Wayne State University for 36 years where he served as coordinator for painting from 1956-67 and as coordinator of design from 1977-83. He was named professor emeritus in 1983.

He is survived by three nephews and one niece.

**Charles Caplan Thomas AH 537** died May 19, 1999, in Astabula, Ohio. A member of the Class of 1939 at Denison, Charles was initiated as Charles Thomas Caplan in 1938, but later changed his name to Charles Thomas. During World War II, he served in the U.S. Marine Corps. He was owner and operator of the American Rental Bureau in Columbus, Ohio, prior to his retirement.

He is survived by his wife, Geraldine.

**Harry L. Bourdeau AH 697** died October 24, 1999, in Willoughby, Ohio, after a long battle with cancer. He was a physical education major at Denison, graduating in 1951. He played right halfback and captained the football team his senior year. At the time of his retirement, he was personnel manager with Cleveland (Ohio) Trencher Co.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, two sons, a daughter, eight grandchildren and a brother.

**George W. Alexander AH 712**, of Grayling, Mich., died February 23, 2000. He earned a B.S. degree in civil engineering from the University of Michigan in 1957. Following service in the U.S. Marine Corps during the Korean War, he returned to the University of Michigan to earn a J.D. degree in 1967. He earned the rank of captain during the Korean War and received the Navy Cross for heroic service. George was in private law practice for several years before being appointed public defender of Washtenaw County, Mich. In 1974, he was elected to the newly created 15th District judgeship where he served until his retirement in 1991.

He is survived by his wife, Peggy, brother, **Charles AH 749**, a daughter, a grandson, a granddaughter and two stepsons.

**D. Michael Poast AH 886** died October 14, 1999, in Cincinnati, Ohio. He was an economics major in the Class of 1961 at Denison. In 1964 he earned his law degree from Harvard University and in 1970 an MBA degree from Xavier University. Mike was a partner in the law firm of Rendigs, Fry, Kiely and Dennis in Cincinnati, specializing in corporate litigation. He was a member of the Ohio State and American Bar Associations. An avid sailor and squash player, Mike served as a member of the Lanson Stage Curtis Memorial Association Board of Trustees for a number of years.

He is survived by his wife, Rebecca, his mother, two sons and a daughter.



SPEAKING OF 1942 (SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 2), THE PHOTO ON THE LEFT IS THE 1942 HOUSE PHOTO FROM THE *ADYTUM*.

HOW MANY CAN YOU NAME?