

EVENT RECAP

Stay tuned to the monthly eNewsletter for a recap and photos from the weekend's activities.

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House Manager

Bryan Fowler

Alumni Relations Chair

Marc Weaver

Find a full list of chapter officers at
www.betadenison.com.

ON THE WEB

Alumni Community
www.betadenison.com

Facebook Page
www.facebook.com/BetaThetaPiAtDenisonUniversity



The Lanson Stage Curtis Memorial Association of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity at Denison University • Granville, Ohio

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION REPORT

6 Great Reasons to Renew Your Participation with Beta Theta Pi this Fall

Alumni Association Offers Plenty of Ways to Uphold Your Connections to Alpha Eta and to Your Beta Friends

By Bob Dold '60, President, The Lanson Stage Curtis Memorial Association

There are plenty of reasons to maintain your connections with Beta Theta Pi long after graduation, and I thank the brothers who have remained active in their alumni years. For those of you who may have fallen away from the fraternity, we've compiled 6 great reasons to make this the year you renew your commitment to Alpha Eta.

- 1. Our active chapter is thriving on campus.** As you'll read on page 2, Beta Theta Pi has the largest pledge class on campus this fall and had the highest fraternity GPA in the spring semester. The chapter is continuously being recognized as a leader at Denison.
- 2. Being a member of Beta is a lifelong experience.** While we select our members from among college men, the ritual clearly states that "in our fraternity, brothers are brothers for life." Read inside this newsletter for how some of our alumni are honoring their lifelong commitment.
- 3. We are a generous group.** Thanks to strong alumni participation, with the highest annual fund totals we've seen in at least 25 years. Read more about how you can support our efforts this year and increase the momentum to enhance your alumni experience and perpetuate our thriving chapter, on page 3.
- 4. We develop men of principle.** Our undergraduate brothers are award winners, student athletes and leaders on campus. They are upholding our strong reputation and expanding Beta's presence on campus and in the Granville community.

5. We offer plenty of ways for you to reconnect with old friends and with Alpha Eta. From our alumni events, this newsletter and our online community, there are great and fun ways to find old friends and make new ones.

6. You are the key to our past, and the link to our future. As an alumni association more than 1,200 strong, we boast generations of brothers that have contributed to our rich history. We have collectively preserved traditions, enriched lives of young men, and kept a great organization going strong at Denison for almost 150 years. You have a unique place in that history, and are asked to maintain your connections to pay it forward for future generations.

We have a strong alumni association, a thriving active chapter and an almost 150-year legacy at Denison. If you haven't been involved in the past few years, I personally invite you to renew your participation this fall. As you can see, there's no reason not to.



Last year, the Class of 1963 dedicated a tree at the house to recognize their lasting friendship that Beta Theta Pi nurtured.

CHAPTER REPORT

Beta Dominates on Campus

Alpha Eta Boasts Largest Spring Pledge Class, Highest Fraternity GPA, Strong Commitment to Community Service and a Presidential Medal-Winning Graduating Senior

Alpha Eta is proud to report a strong recruitment this past spring, recruiting 12 new members from all over the country. The chapter also welcomed four additional pledges this fall.

We're even more proud to boast a 3.21 GPA, the highest of all Denison fraternities. We put an added emphasis to ensure academic achievement among brothers by setting up study sessions and tutoring sessions for those who are near the GPA cutoff. Alpha Eta was presented with an award from the University for having the highest GPA.

Additionally, Paul "Yubo" Young was one of seven Denison students to win a coveted Presidential Medal from Denison this spring. The award is presented to graduating seniors

who have excelled in some combination of service to the community, contribution to the arts, enlargement of global perspective, athletic fitness, leadership and contributions to the community.

Philanthropically, the chapter raised

\$1,400 for Big Brothers Big Sisters through their wing-eating contest King of the Wing, an annual event held each spring. In the spring the brothers also had a team in KATs with Bats, a whiffle ball tournament hosted by Kappa Alpha Theta. This fall, the chapter will once again participate in Delta

Gamma's annual Anchor Splash competition to benefit the sorority's philanthropy, Service for Sight. Last fall Beta placed second in the competition (find a great video of our dance number from the event posted on our chapter's Facebook page!).



ALUMNI UPDATES

Ed Weber '53

(6140 N. Chanticleer Dr., Maumee, OH 43537; edwardfweber@bex.net) I've been mentoring center city Toledo first graders in reading for the past two years. It only takes an hour or two each week, spending 20 minutes with each of my three assigned kids. It's been fun, and they're doing very well.

David Brown '61

(322 N. Plantation Ln., Swansboro, NC 28584; dbb@nc.rr.com) I became Chairman of the Museum of the Marine in April and have put many things in motion to raise \$20M in the next two years. The facility will be a world-class museum built in Jacksonville, NC at Camp Lejeune in the Lejeune Memorial Gardens, and dedicated to memori-

alizing the many contributions to the Nation and the Marine Corps that emanated from the Carolinas. [Ed. Note: Read much more about the museum in the alumni updates section at www.betadenison.com.]

G. Scott Smith '65

(16988 Timberlakes Dr., Fort Myers, FL 33908; PHLGSS@yahoo.com) I'm fully retired and living in Fort Myers, Fla. I've had a few Betas stay over, and I welcome anyone in the area to call or drop by.

Derrick Carman '10

(901 Sherman St., Apt. 407, Denver, CO 80203; derrick.carman@gmail.com) I relocated from upstate New York to Denver, where I joined the law firm Dorsey and Whitney. If

any brothers are interested in a ski trip this winter, let me know!

Seeking updates from brothers from the 70s, 80s, and 90s

Your brothers want to hear updates from you too! Go to www.betadenison.com to share them on our website, or send them to feedback@affinityconnection.com. Share news on your career, family, or reunions you have with other brothers, you name it! Send photos too! Thank you in advance!

Yours in —kai—, Your Brothers

Are You Receiving ALL of Our Communications? We're Missing Email Addresses for 77% of Our Living Alumni

According to our records, more than 700 of you aren't receiving the bulk of Alpha Eta communications! We are missing email addresses for 722 brothers - that is 77% of our living alumni!

That means the vast majority of you are missing out on important email

communications, including monthly updates from the active chapter and alumni association, details of events and other activities, and opportunities to share content in our publications.

If you haven't been receiving our emails, please double check your email address on

the back of the enclosed form and make any necessary updates. Also, take a few minutes to review the complete lost email list at www.betadenison.com, and help us update the email addresses of other missing brothers. Our email database is used solely for Alpha Eta communications.

ANNUAL FUND

Annual Fund Gets Major Boost from Increased Alumni Participation—Donations Up 36%!

Join Our Expanding Base of Supporters as We Celebrate Highest Support Levels in 25+ Years

The Lanson Stage Memorial Association is pleased to announce that we ended our 2013-14 annual fund giving year on June 30 with the highest annual giving levels in at least 25 years, with 86 brothers contributing a collective \$11,365 to the annual fund—a 36% increase over the previous year. Thanks to all who helped us to reach this milestone!

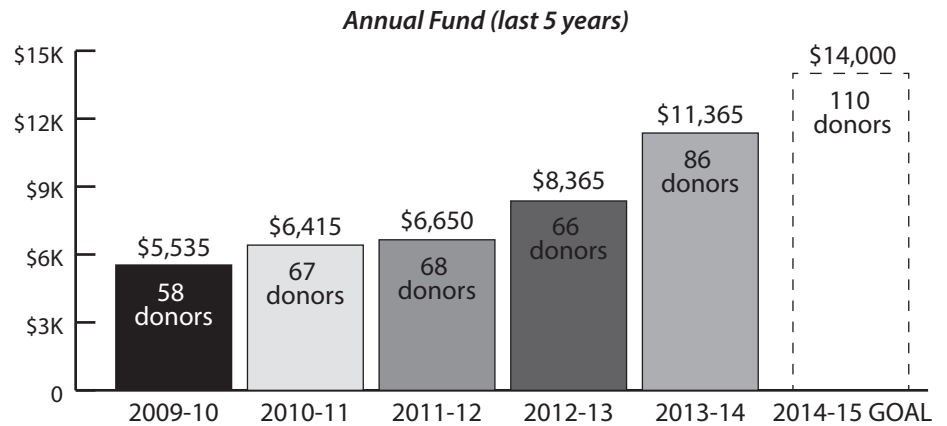
We're looking to grow even more in our new giving year, which kicked off July 1. In 2014-15 we are fully committed to expanding our base of supporters to include more brothers, and are striving to add 24 donors to bring our total participation to 110. Can we count you among them?

The annual fund serves as the operating budget for The Lanson Stage Memorial Association, and the more money we raise, the more we can do to enhance your alumni

experience through increased publications, gatherings and events, and more. Your donations also allow us to provide support and mentorship to our thriving active chapter, which is upholding our strong legacy on

Denison's campus.

See the enclosed form for more information on how to make your gift in our new giving year.



SURVEY RESULTS

What Do Alpha Eta Men Want?

In a recent survey sent electronically to our alumni base, respondents weighed in on everything from their impression of the active chapter, why they do or do not financially support the alumni association, what they want out of their alumni experience, and how we can improve our alumni relations program. Thank you to all brothers who participated in the survey.

Here are a few early results:

1. Do you consider your membership in Beta to be a lifelong commitment or experience? Why or why not?

- "Yes! The only reason I go to reunions is to see my fraternity brothers and the house."
- "Yes, we have to keep building bridges for others."
- "Yes, because of friendships renewed and cemented more firmly than ever at each reunion."
- "No. It fit my needs then but I have moved on and I don't covet many of the traditions of fraternity life."

2. What would be some ideal alumni

reunions for Beta (check all that apply)?

- Golf outing and a weekend of activities on and around campus = 70%
- Fishing or camping trip with beer and stories around a fire pit = 10%
- Homecoming or Founders' Day banquet = 60%
- A night out in the nearest big city = 40%
- Networking night with alumni and current active members = 40%

3. What sets the Beta fraternity experience apart from other Denison fraternities?

- "The strong bond that is developed during the years as an active and how it has carried on after graduation."
- "Strong alumni participation going back generations."
- "The brothers, and by far the best fraternity house on campus."

What do you want out of your alumni experience? Share your answers to these questions and others by taking the survey at www.betadenison.com.

A Fresh New Way to Give Back to Beta!

Our survey results show that our alumni want to make the most out of their alumni experience, and we need your help to give it to you! Our organization is driven solely by alumni volunteers, and we're seeking brothers who can preserve our legacy and traditions but bring fresh ideas and direction to our alumni association. At this time, we are looking for new members to join the Board who are willing to assume a leadership role. We want to offer plenty of opportunities to renew your connections to Beta and with each other, and need more alumni from every era to step up to the plate to help us do that. Contact our alumni relations representative Melissa Wolf at mwolf@affinityconnection.com for more information about volunteer opportunities.

ALUMNI Q&AS

Finding Faith

David Block '64 Encourages Brothers to Enhance Their Spiritual Relationships

Thank you to **David Block '64** for participating in this Q&A...

What is your advice for the new recruits and future Beta brothers?

Get mentors in areas of your life where you need help in, spiritual, financial, leadership, etc.

Do you have a favorite memory from you undergrad days?

My Hell Week experience: Shortly after winning the heavyweight champion in IM wrestling as a freshman, beating a senior Phi Gam varsity football captain, the brothers thought it be cute to ask me "to wrestle myself." That

led to a separated shoulder and a trip to the hospital and the end of my hell week.

What's new with you? Do you have anything to share about your family, friends, career, hobbies, or travels? Have you met up with any of the brothers recently?

I have four children and 8+ grandchildren. Two of my oldest children went to the Air Force Academy, one has since retired from the AF after a 21 year career, the other one my second child first daughter, is a bird Colonel in the AF reserves (served 16+ years in the active AF). My other two children are school teachers in Colorado. God has blessed me

with great kids and grandkids.

Can you share with us any stories you think other brothers would enjoy reading?

Most of the books I read these days are all around spiritual development and developing my relationship with the one true God. We are headed into some turbulent times, and if people do not know God, it will be very challenging for them.

Reconnect with David at davidmblock@comcast.net.

The Most Informal of Gatherings Lead to the Best of Memories

For Dale Wolfe '54, Living In the House Allowed Him to Build Great Relationships with His Beta Brothers

Thank you to **Dale Wolfe '54** for participating in this Q&A...

What do you see as the biggest difference in fraternity life and membership compared to when you graduated?

The biggest difference is living in the fraternity house. Living there offered many informal and unplanned opportunities for the brothers to be with each other and discuss the happenings or non-happenings of the day or week, or athletic games, academic situations and on and on. Living together also provided opportunities for leadership development. The brothers did not hesitate to complain if they felt nothing was being done to correct problems that could be corrected. They also praised a job well done.

Another big difference was the use of the black ball in voting on potential new mem-

bers. Many terrific students were turned down by the Betas because of this rule. I assume the membership is more diversified now

Any advice for the volunteers who are running the alumni relations program?

I recently attended my 60th class reunion and was disappointed that there was no reception or get together of the Betas that were back for their reunions. I went to the Beta house but no volunteers were there so I looked around as best I could. It would be nice to have a happy hour or get together of some kind to alumni attending special occasions.

What are some of the best memories from your fraternity days?

I played football when Keith Piper joined Denison when I was a sophomore. He was the line coach. It the pregame dinners he

would often say that the menu was: "Linemen - raw beef steaks. Backs - chicken salad."

Some of my best memories include brothers gathering in the kitchen in the late evenings (usually after the women had to be in the dorms). There was plenty of bread with peanut butter and jelly. And much discussion about how their dates had been, University politics, athletics, or whatever.

What is your advice for the current undergraduates?

Enjoy the memories of things in your past. Be open to new things that are happening. Be thankful for your families and friends.

Reconnect with Dale at dwolfiesr@gmail.com.

BEST BETA MEMORIES

Still Loving Beta after 63 Years

Thanks to **Ben Callaway '50** for sharing this story...

My time with Beta at Denison was great, but all too short. I entered at mid-year (cold, soggy day at the Newark train station) but life brightened almost immediately. I can thank my dad, an Oregon Beta '23, for my legacy

acceptance into Wooglin's mighty band.

A long-lasting friendship with **Gene Horyn '49** and good times with great other guys like **George "Speed" Herbert, TK Davis '50, Sam Robinson**, and many others made for the best of times. Several brothers during summers and years that followed visited me in New York, Denver and South

Jersey. I've never missed a reunion (last one 60th in 2010). Earlier, I especially enjoyed those which packaged three classes together.

I'm still in touch with **Bill Johnson '48, TK Davis, Sam Robinson, and Don Watkins '49**. But, alas, our ranks are thinning and I believe the peak era for fraternity attraction is past tense.