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# The Shrine

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

## CHAPTER REPORT

### Alpha Eta Colony Is Well on Its Way to Securing Its Place at Denison with 15 New Brothers

#### Chapter Wishes Best of Luck to Graduating Re-Founding Father

This year at the Alpha Eta Colony of Beta Theta Pi, we say goodbye to the last of the re-founding fathers and turn to the new generation of Betas. With a stellar recruitment year of 15 new brothers, this generation looks hopeful. The colony looks to continue the success next year and start the process of receiving the charter in the summer of 2008. The colony achieved a grade point average of 3.21 and continues to strive for excellence in that field. The newest spring pledge class took the lead in community service with their pledge class project. They organized and ran a campus-wide collection of donations for the local Salvation Army, as well as committed themselves on the weekends to serve the needs of others.



*The Epsilon pledge class after their pledge ceremony.*



*A whole colony dinner to celebrate the new pledges and enjoy some good food.*

## 2007 PLEDGES

**Derrick J. Carman**  
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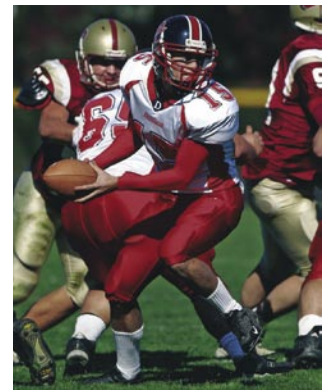
## Like Father, Like Son

### Beta Theta Pi and Denison Football Run in the Family

**Dan Kreer '68** and legacy son **Dan Kreer III '07** both pledged Beta Theta Pi and were members of Denison's football team.



*Dan Kreer '68 catches a pass against Oberlin in 1967.*



*Dan Kreer III '07 preparing a pitch out against Oberlin last fall.*

## UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

### A Man of Action, Tyler Blair Helped Re-Found Beta Theta Pi and Brought the Fraternity's Leadership Training to All Students

#### *Tyler's Experiences in Alpha Eta Helped Determine His Career Choice*

Senior **Tyler Blair** was given an opportunity to re-colonize the Alpha Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. Recently retiring from serving three years on the Executive Committee, Tyler is currently an Admissions Intern at the Admissions Office and the Co-Tour Guide Coordinator. Tyler's experience with Beta Theta Pi also motivated him to create two new leadership opportunities at Denison. As one of the re-founding fathers, he graduates this year with a degree in Sociology/Anthropology with a concentration in Organization Studies.

#### **1. Why did you choose Beta Theta Pi?**

I never imagined joining a fraternity. But at the beginning of my sophomore year, I was given the opportunity to re-colonize the Alpha Eta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi Fraternity. I saw the chance to start something new, to build a new organization from the ground up based upon values and principles, and to leave a legacy at Denison as well as restart the rich legacy that Beta always had on campus.

#### **2. What were your responsibilities as a re-founding father?**

As one of 29 founding fathers, I was charged with the responsibility of working together with my fellow founding fathers to rebuild this historic organization, focusing on becoming an exemplary collegiate fraternal society based upon values and principles.

#### **3. What were your responsibilities as President?**

I helped lead the group through its growing stage as it develops into a fully operating chapter. Over the last year, I have worked with the colony toward receiving its charter in August 2008. My responsibilities varied day by day, which always kept things exciting and challenging, but very rewarding.

#### **4. Please explain the two new leadership opportunities you created on campus, D.U. LEAD and Men's Leadership Academy.**

Upon returning from one of the Beta Theta Pi's leadership programs, The Wooden Institute for Men of Principle, I saw the opportunity to bring what I learned back to campus and to produce a leadership program for all Denison students. The program had tremendous success, and the university has agreed to continue supporting D.U. LEAD as an annual program as long as it remains a student initiative. D.U. LEAD, a one-day leadership institute, teaches first-year students how to become effective leaders on campus and how to make the most of their Denison career.

Most recently, I developed a second leadership program, the DU Men's Leadership Academy. It addresses the lack of men's leadership across college campuses. I implemented a one-day workshop for first-year men at Denison to address the consistent gender gap

between college men and women. With sponsorship from the First-Year Office and support from the Student Activities Office, I gathered 13 men to discuss the gap and to create a community of leaders among the participants. The program had overwhelming success, and the group of men is already talking about ways they can get more first-year men involved.

#### **5. What are your plans after you graduate?**

I have decided to attend University of Kansas next year to pursue a Master's Degree in Higher Education, as well as serve as a Greek Life Advisor in their Greek Life Office.

#### **6. What do you feel is your chapter's greatest accomplishment while you have been an active brother?**

Recruitment! We have always struggled with recruitment and getting our numbers up. This past year, we realized the significance of recruitment, and we poured our hearts into it and recruited 15 new men this year, doubling our size! And best of all, we did this without sacrificing any of our standards or values, and each of our new men is true Beta material.

#### **7. What is your advice for future generations of Beta Theta Pi?**

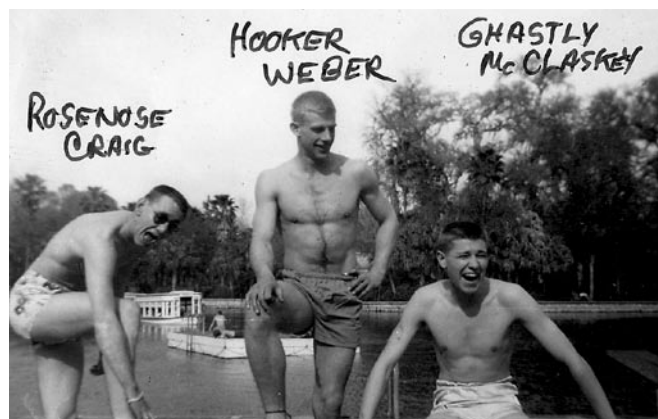
Never forget who we are, what we stand for and what makes us different from the rest.

## Old Photo Album

### *Why Let Great Beta Photos Collect Dust in the Attic...*

...when you can share them with the brotherhood? Send your best shots to our editors at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com) (put BTP at Denison in the subject) for possible use in an upcoming publication!

Thank you to **William Weber '47** for submitting this great photo from a 1947 Beta spring break trip to Florida.



## UNDERGRADUATE PROFILE

### Brotherhood Runs Deep for Jake Henkle, Who Found Himself Drawn to Alpha Eta and Its Strong “League of Gentlemen”

*Jake Is a Strong Force Behind the Re-Colonization Efforts*



**Jake Henkle**

Coming to Denison to focus on his education, **Jake Henkle** discovered something he was searching for his entire life: a brotherhood. An Environmental Science and

Psychology double major from Sedalia, Ohio, Henkle quickly became involved with Beta Theta Pi and the Greek community. In his first year as a brother, Henkle has held numerous positions in Beta and is the current Recruitment Chair, Leadership Development Chair and Alumni Relations Chair. He is also involved in numerous activities on campus and likes farming, livestock breeding and woodworking.

#### 1. Why did you choose Beta Theta Pi?

Like many of the other brothers in Alpha Eta at the moment, I had no interest in becoming Greek. However, there were numerous upperclassmen that I truly admired on campus who took me under

their wings, and I realized they were all a part of the same organization. I actively sought Beta out and fell in love with the fraternity. It represented everything that I believed in and fought for in life. I knew that this was a league of true gentleman, superb scholars and strong leaders.

#### 2. What do you feel is your chapter's greatest accomplishment during your time as an active brother?

This is about our second year or so back as a colony, and we have had many trials, struggles and accomplishments. Re-colonizing anywhere is no easy task, but we are doing it. We grow stronger every semester and have come a long way. This year, we recruited 15 brothers and doubled our numbers. Last year, at our first time entering into the Greek awards, we received 15 awards, the second most awards out of any fraternity on campus!

#### 3. In your opinion, what makes Beta Theta Pi better than other Denison fraternities?

I feel that Beta is the only Greek organization on campus that is a true

fraternity and not a “frat.” This stigma sticks with me every day. Many of the fraternities are doing great things, but there are others that I feel are tarnishing the Greek community and are not supporting the campus in a positive way. Alpha Eta strives to achieve the highest grades and the best men. Quality, not quantity, is something that we value dearly within our ranks.

#### 4. Why do you feel it is important for the undergraduate chapter to maintain a close relationship with alumni?

Being a new colony, this is especially vital. Alumni are our greatest assets. They hold the keys to the good times and the bad, memories and lore, wisdom and humility. Without them, we become lost. Meeting and sharing with an older brother is one of my favorite activities in Beta. It is the responsibility of the chapter and colony to reach out to alumni, but sometimes the alumni must reach out to the chapter and colony. We are Betas for life, and that is why we are such a strong fraternity.

*Jake can be reached at 740-506-0839 or [henkle\\_j@denison.edu](mailto:henkle_j@denison.edu).*

## IN MEMORIAM

**Sam Chapman '44**, member of Beta Theta Pi and long-time resident of Tucson, AZ, passed away on January 27, 2007 at the age of 86. He was a star football lineman at Denison before WWII, then served in both the U.S. Navy and the Merchant Marines. He retired in 1986 from a long career as sales manager for Woolrich, Incorporated, a leading clothing manufacturer.

**Ross Morgan Jr. '49**, member of Beta Theta Pi, passed away November 29, 2006. Ross graduated from Fairmont High School in 1943, and later that year enlisted in the U.S. Army. Serving in the 87<sup>th</sup> Division of General Patton's 3<sup>rd</sup> Army, Sergeant Morgan was honored for his “initiative, leadership, and courage” and for “heroic achievement in action” when presented with the Bronze Star on March 25, 1945.

Following the war, Ross enrolled at Denison University in Granville, where he majored in Business and played football for the legendary Woody Hayes. He found fellowship, fun and lifelong friendships within the halls of Beta Theta Pi.

After graduating from Denison in 1949, he embarked on an advertising career, and in 1953 he joined Campbell-Ewald, one of the nation's premier advertising agencies. Ross retired in 1987 as account supervisor and senior vice president.

The following alumni have also been reported as deceased since our last newsletter:

**Jeff Di Fillippo**  
**F.E. Witt '35**  
**Grant A. Sattem Jr. '38**  
**Granville Sharp '39**  
**Samuel Chapman '44**  
**John Hannaway '45**  
**Edward Rupp '46**  
**Frank E. McKenzie '51**  
**John Bovington '52**  
**Robert Sepessy '52**  
**O. Martin '53**  
**Richard R. Prasse '54**  
**H. Richard Wood '56**  
**Jay Sload '58**  
**David Buss '58**  
**Sylvester Robinson '76**



## ALUMNI UPDATES

## 50s

**James R. Edgerly '52**

(105 Ludwig Rd., New Castle, PA 16105)  
Great memories living in the house. Sorry the new Betas can't live that experience.

**Tim Roudebush '52**

(6 Wycklow Place, #704, Overland Park, KS 66207) **Jay "Jack" Sload '58** died on DU practice football field during practice under Coach **Jack Carl '41** in August 1951. **Robert "Bob" Sepessy '52** had very successful career at Owens Corning Fiberglass. (Dr.) **John "Jock" Bovington '52** died in November 2006.

**George Dallas Jr. '53**

(29918 Rolling Ridge Dr., Agoura Hills, CA 91301; gmdallas@charter.net) My hobbies are golf and barbershop harmony singing.

**Edward F. Weber '53**

(6140 N. Chanticleer Dr., Maumee, OH 43537; edwardfweber@buckeye-express.com) **Tom Creager '53**, **Bob Craig '53** and I plus our wives had dinner together at the Golden Lamb in Lebanon, Ohio. It was a great evening of catching up and renewing old friendships.

## 60s

**Thomas Fernley III '63**

(16 La Vista Drive, Point Vedra Beach, FL 32082) Will gladly give if and when residential fraternities return to Denison.

**Daniel Kreer Jr. '68**

(1186 Roosevelt St., Monterey, CA 93940) This golf tournament is played

every year for **Peter "Pete" Stocker '66** (deceased). It was organized by **David Reese '62** and **Andrew Buckles '64**. Players this year included myself, **Richard "Rich" Seils '67** and **Sam White '67**. Also attending were **William "Bill" Free '68**, Pete's sister, Chris Free (Class of '67) and Pete's mother, Ruth.



**L to R: David Reese, Richard Seils, Erik Stocker '92, Daniel Kreer and William Free at Stocker Cup BBQ.**

*Senior Tyler Blair took Alpha Eta's leadership training and developed it for Denison students! Details on page 2!*

320-043 SN

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**DENISON UNIVERSITY**



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