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# The Shrine

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

## ALUMNI REPORT

### It's Up to Us to Stay Connected

#### Help Us Build a Strong Beta Denison Community

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

Our world is one of technological advances that have taken us to places we never imagined. Today, you can stay connected with family members and friends through the incredible innovations of Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat and other applications. It is easier than ever to know what others are doing, the places they are visiting and the feats they have accomplished.

With all of these opportunities to stay connected, I am asking for your help. Currently, we have email addresses for only 260 of our 924 active alumni. That is only 28%. We use email communication as way to keep our brotherhood updated monthly about upcoming events, the state of our undergraduate chapter and the latest news from our alumni. We also use it as a way to grow our annual fund to support our alumni relations program.

Please take a few minutes to look through our lists of brothers with missing or inaccurate email addresses. To access that list, go to [www.betadenison.com](http://www.betadenison.com) and scroll to the bottom of the home page. Here, you will find a box titled "View Lost Email List." Click on this. Once you find a familiar name, click on it. This will take you to an email screen where you can submit the information you have. You can do the same for "View Lost Mailing List." Remember, this database is for Beta Theta Pi Denison alumni relations only. It will never be traded or sold.

Thank you for your help as we continue to build our database of contact information. Be sure to update your own information to ensure that you are receiving our monthly updates.

## Chapter House Undergoes Important Upgrades

Thanks to gifts from our alumni, we have been able to transform the old bar area into a kitchenette complete with appliances. This is now a space where actives can prepare after-hours meals and snacks and is a great addition to the house in our attempt to remain a competitive house option at Denison.



Renovations have begun in the kitchen and restroom thanks to generous donations from alumni.

## CHAPTER REPORT

### Beta Brother Wins Distinguished Leadership Award

By Steven Hix '16, Chapter President

First, we would like to thank all of our alumni for their continued support of our undergraduate chapter. We are especially appreciative as we have been the benefactors of several improvements to the house recently. We are hopeful that you continue to see our growth and development as a testament to the path created for us by previous generations of Beta on the Hill. We welcome you back anytime you are in town.

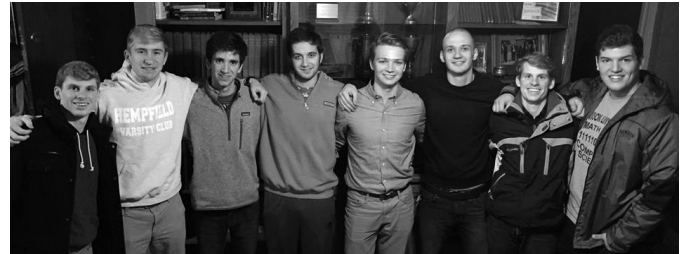
As you have read, we secured an impressive class of pledges this spring. Hats off to our recruitment team for their tireless efforts. Watch for more details on this as we move closer and closer to 60 active brothers.

We are very pleased to announce that

**Jackson Wu-Pong '15** received the coveted Distinguished Leadership Award given each year to the best and brightest leaders on our campus. Though only a small handful are awarded every year, the Alpha Eta Chapter has produced at least one winner every year since recolonization.

In more personal news, **Marc Weaver '17** directed a student production of the play *Rabbit Hole*, which *The Denisonian* described as "raw and tragic." A huge

portion of the chapter went to support him in his production.



Treasurer Mitch Keller '16, VP of Administration Andrew Groff '16, Secretary Patrick Dunn '17, Pledge Educator Andrew Hesch '16, President Steven Hix '16, VP of Brotherhood Bryan Fowler '16, Risk Manager Ryan Keller '16 and Treasurer John Sullivan '17.

## RECRUITMENT

### Spring Recruitment Brings Chapter Close to 60 Members

Alpha Eta Chapter is excited to announce that 14 brilliant young men became the newest pledges of our fraternity last week. Pending their initiation, our chapter will grow to 58 brothers. All are freshman except Harsh, a sophomore. Zach is a legacy of **David C. Munn '84**.

After being gathered by a recruitment team led by AJ Gay, the pledges are now in the hands of Pledge Educator Andrew Hesch. Good luck to brother Andrew and our 14 new members as they navigate pledgship!

**Benson Anderson**  
Cleveland, Ohio  
Music

**Sam Demaree**  
Oak Park, Ill.  
Economics

**Oliver Gladfelter**  
Columbus, Ohio  
History

**Patrick Mangano**  
Chicago, Ill.

**Zach Munn**  
West Concord, Mass.  
Undecided

**Ben Richards**  
Equinunk, Pa.  
Psychology

**Mitchel Tijerina**  
Columbus, Ohio  
Geological Science

**Griffin Baer**  
Holland, Mich.  
Theatre

**Bobby Craig**  
Akron, Ohio  
Computer Science

**Chris Todd, Jr.**  
Canton, Ohio

**Charlie Frank**  
St. Louis, Mo.  
English

**Harsh Sahgal**  
Kolkata, India  
Political Science &  
Economics

**Christian Angelos**  
River Forest, Ill.  
Psychology & Creative  
Writing

**Evan Chernicky**  
Pittsburgh, Pa.  
Political Science &  
Geological Science

## CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

### Meet Our New Chapter President: Steven Hix '16, a Man of Principle

It takes only a quick glance down through the LinkedIn profile of Steven Hix to know that this brother wants to go places. From his hometown of Dayton, Ohio, to vice president of public relations for the North American IFC and treasurer of the Denison University Council to an internship with

the U.S. Senate and the top leadership position at Alpha Eta Chapter, this political science and economics major is quickly making a name for himself. Fortunately, he decided that Beta at Denison is one stop along the way.

Recently, Steven wrote a letter to the

editor of the Financial Times, entitled "Currency tactic may yet rebound on Japan." Go to our website, [www.betadenison.com](http://www.betadenison.com), for the link where you can read some of the great thinking coming from the minds of Alpha Eta.

## ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

### Changing the Game of Professional Networking

#### Brother Mark Heckmann '11 to Launch Image Careers in April 2015

Today, there are numerous options for networking and searching for the right professional opportunity. LinkedIn. Ladders. Monster. The landscape of job-related technology solutions is overwhelming, with each promising candidates a better, more fulfilling career. While many solutions can give job seekers a place to start, Brother **Mark Heckmann '11** has differentiated his technology by giving candidates a platform free of the biases of paid content. Beginning next month, with the launch of Image Careers ([www.imaginecareers.com](http://www.imaginecareers.com)), professionals have an option to look for connections and opportunities based on relationships of trust.

#### **Why did you start Image Careers?**

I started the company because the universe of career advancement information is noisy, disaggregated and full of bias. The staples of an online job search today — job boards and corporate recruiters — exist simply to share biased, paid content with job seekers desperate enough to pursue opportunities rooted in bad information and intentions focused on the company, not the candidate.

#### **What is the purpose of Image Careers?**

Image Careers is a career discovery and advancement platform for all professionals. Just as Pandora recommends music to users based on their historical tastes and preferences, we're building a recommendation and curation engine that can do the same for career content. The types of content being curated include companies, credentials, meet-up groups, individuals worth meeting, skill development opportunities, jobs and other forms of structured professional data. Perhaps the most important differentiation between

what Image Careers does and other players in the professional networking space is that we do not accept paid content. We work for the talent, and that's a brand new thing in this space. Our beta launches in April 2015.

#### **How important is it to make and keep professional contacts?**

These are critical skills and assets to have, but only if you know how to use them. I speak at conferences and colleges frequently and ask people how they quantify their networks, and most do so by quantifying the number of contacts instead of the value the network has created. Having a value-oriented mindset can drastically change how you approach professional networking.

#### **Is Beta a good place to foster professional contacts?**

Very much so. Best practices for professional development through networking rely on the creation of trust. Starting a conversation with a fraternal bond establishes a natural, shared foundation from which trust can be easily built. I've seen this strategy work well for fraternities, branches of the military, alumni networks, neighborhoods of origin and other affiliation-based connections.

#### **How can brothers maximize their professional opportunities for future success?**

It's important to recognize that professional development is no longer an internal function of companies. There was a time when management wanted to create ladders of opportunity to develop talent in-house. A mixture of technological advancement, outsourced training and consulting, the availability of global talent

pools and other trends in HR management has eroded that process, making it critical for individuals to guide their own professional development. Very few professionals have figured how to do it well. Additionally, there is more content available for professional skill and network development than ever before. The proliferation of free or paid skill development sites and professionalized social groups has democratized access to career opportunities outside of the workplace. To the actives, you cannot make the assumption that your academic curriculum will give you everything you need to secure your first job. If you see a software skill or technology platform in a job description, chances are good you can dedicate a weekend to learn it well enough to be apprentice level. When you apply for a job requiring that skill, you'll be one of the only applicants who knows it because you took enough initiative to be self-taught.

#### **You graduated fairly recently. How did Beta Theta Pi Denison prepare you for "the real world"?**

I was fortunate enough to hold a leadership position in the chapter that exposed me to the good and bad sides of organizational leadership. The stakes and motivations change when you transition from college to workforce, but the dynamics of creating incentives, maintaining relationships and demonstrating leadership translate well. I'm very thankful for my brothers, the chapter and the larger fraternity for those reasons.

#### **Brothers can connect with Mark at [markheckmann@gmail.com](mailto:markheckmann@gmail.com).**

## ALUMNI UPDATES

#### **Donald M. Tippet, Sr. '47**

((20 Beachcomber Drive, Corona Del Mar, CA 92625-1414) I pledged and initiated Alpha Eta, but then came World War II. I served but had moved to Los Angeles. I finished my education at UCLA, Beta Chapter.

#### **Gary V. Gieringer '57**

(2 Sequoyah Rd., Colorado Springs, CO 80906-4314) I have had extreme business

and medical training through the USAF and Special Ops in the '60s, followed by a busy medical practice for 50 yrs.

#### **McDaniel M. Kelly '11**

(1560 Burbank Rd., Wooster, OH 44691; [mmk142@case.edu](mailto:mmk142@case.edu)) My Beta brothers, especially my big Reid, have continued to be one of my greatest sources of advice, even four or five years after my time at Denison ended. When I

entered college, I was one of those naturally gifted students who never had to try. Some of the more scholastically serious brothers taught me how to balance my fun life with more efficient studying. Now I'm celebrating a 4.0 semester (3.8 overall) at CWRU school of law (and am treasurer of the Student Bar Association), for which I credit the Alpha Eta of Beta Theta Pi and the brothers who have given me so much of their time and energy over the past nine years.



## BETA SENIOR Q&A

### Jack of All Trades, Master of All

#### Meet Senior Andrew Malin '15

His undergraduate resumé reads like that of a character from a Tom Clancy novel. Intern for the Dept. of State. A year of study in Eastern Europe. Presidential Service Award winner. Member of Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society. And we are proud to call him a Beta brother at Denison. As part of a series this semester featuring our graduating seniors, we introduce **Andrew Malin '15**.

#### **Give us a little information about your major, hometown and family.**

I live with my mother (Sue), father (Hank) and brother (Patrick, a freshman at Hamilton College) in Plymouth, Minn. We enjoy games of fetch with our energetic beagle, watching the Minnesota Timberwolves (regardless of how dismal their performance is) and travelling. I study history and international studies and have focused mainly on the histories of Europe and Africa.

#### **Tell us about your journey to ultimately become an intern for the U.S. Department of State.**

In the fall semester of 2013, I was fortunate enough to study abroad in Prague, Czech Republic where I took a variety of international relations and history courses that piqued my interest in international security issues. I applied to the Department of State's Office of Central European Affairs while abroad and received a decision by the first week of December. Working at the Department of State was incredible on so many levels. I

wrote briefings for deputy directors, sat in on Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearings, escorted the new ambassador to the Czech Republic around the State Building, saw Secretary of State John Kerry twice and drank an unhealthy amount of coffee.

#### **You are very accomplished. How has Beta played a part in that?**

Beta has taught me the importance of listening, negotiating and presenting in group settings. My work this past summer involved frequent interpersonal dialogue with supervisors and high-profile individuals and I believe that membership in Beta contributed to my use of these skills in a professional context.

#### **What inspired you to pledge Beta at Denison?**

When I was a freshman at Denison, I met a number of upperclassman (**Rob Gardner**, **Ray Marolt** and **Dave Locke**, I'm talking to you) within the first week of classes, whom I admired for their involvement on campus, academic achievements and urbane swagger. I found out rather quickly that they were all Betas. My resident assistant was a Beta, my freshman orientation leader was a Beta and our principle trumpet player in wind ensemble was a Beta. I did look at a few other fraternities, but it seemed like Beta had the broadest range of brothers — athletes, participants in math competitions, class senators and tour guides. That was exactly what I wanted at the time, and joining Alpha



**Brother Malin with Sir, Senator and Brother Richard Lugar '54.**

Eta was easily the best decision I made that first year on the Hill.

#### **What is next for you after graduation?**

I'm waiting to hear back about a few teaching opportunities in Greece, Slovakia and the UAE and am hoping to leverage those experiences to a career in international security or business.

#### **What is something not many know about you?**

I am an avid squash player. I don't play on Denison's club team, but I like to think I helped multiply Alpha Eta's interest in the fast-paced sport during my time at Denison. I even convinced my brother, the only Beta who has beaten me, **Chris Townson**, to join a squash league in the Dallas area.

**Brothers can connect with Andrew at [malin\\_a1@denison.edu](mailto:malin_a1@denison.edu).**

## REUNIONS

### Calling All Classes Ending in 5 and 0!

This is a big reunion year for you. Let us know if we can help your class reunite and celebrate. If you are interested in planning a reunion, contact our alumni relations partners at [alumninews@affinityconnection.com](mailto:alumninews@affinityconnection.com). We'll help you get started.



### What's Your Story?

Alumni have told us time and time again they want to read about their brother. However, sometimes it's hard to write about ourselves. You ask, "What story would a brother want to read about me and find it interesting?"

Well, it's just like writing a resume! Have you started something new or turned around something that needed a certain level of expertise? Or have you served in a way to help out an organization or person who is near to your heart or have you overcome something with great courage? That's what we are looking for!

So whether you ran a marathon this last year, welcomed your first child or had a reunion, tell us! Email our alumni relations partner at [content@affinityconnection.com](mailto:content@affinityconnection.com). Be sure to reference Beta Theta Pi at Denison.