

THE ALABAMA BETA



DECEMBER 1968
UNIVERSITY, ALABAMA
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OUR SWEETHEART SPEAKS

By LaVeral Sanders

One of the most thrilling moments of my whole life was January 9, 1968 when I was chosen as the new Beta Sweetheart. It has been wonderful, every minute of it—making such lasting, loyal friends of the greatest boys in the world. I know I'll never forget all the happy times I've spent at the Beta house, eating dinner during the week, the parties, Pancho Villa Week-end, and just listening to the juke box in the basement.

Vann and Mike are coming over to measure my trophy for

Continued on page 6—Sweetheart

A Proposal

BETA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION IN ALABAMA

The Brothers of Delta Theta Chapter in trying to improve alumni relations have resolved to establish an active Alabama Alumni Association. We feel that there has been a communication gap between the alumni and the active chapter which is mainly due to the lack of communications on the chapter's part. We feel that if Delta Theta is going to continue to progress we will need the absolute support of the entire Beta Theta Pi Alumni in the state of Alabama. This means the alumni of Delta Theta and other chapters also.

Although this association is still in the planning stages, we believe that by letting Beta alumni know about such a plan interest will be created among the Brothers who are still proud of their fraternity. Tentative plans for this association are these: (1) Annual state-wide meetings of all Betas, (2) Alumni Day which will allow the alumni to visit the chapter house and (3) local meetings and smokers which will allow Betas to remain in communication with Betas they know and to meet Betas in their community from other chapters.

We realize that this Alumni Association appears to be centered around the University Chapter, but by using Delta Theta as a starting point this association will be able to expand to benefit the Delta Zeta chapter at Auburn and any future chapters that may be established at other schools in the state.

It is not very difficult to imagine the possibilities and advantages of having such an association. The purpose of the association would be to act as a link between the alumni and his social fraternity. In the past in this state the tendency has been to consider the alumni as simply gone and out of the picture. This is the problem we believe that such an association could alleviate. The first step in organizing the association will be made during the Christmas Holidays. Each active member of Delta Theta will attempt to contact the Betas in his area of the state. The purpose of these personal contacts is to discuss the possibility of forming the proposed organization and to see if there is a desire for it. The next step will depend on the results of our contacts. If we find that it will be possible to establish local chapters of a Beta Theta Pi Alumni Association in Alabama then the second step would be to have a state-wide meeting of Betas. This meeting will be used to set the foundation for what is hoped to be a long lasting organization.

We realize that the majority of Betas in Alabama hold allegiance to their Alma Mater, but we firmly believe that there is a bond that holds all Betas together and that there will develop a great interest in the Beta chapters in Alabama. We encourage responses to this article giving us your opinions as to what you think about this proposed organization. Write to **The Alabama Beta**, P. O. Box 4095, University, Alabama 35486. □



LaVeral Sanders

An Editorial . . .

What is a fraternity? Some people say it is only a group of men, but most will agree that this is incomplete. Others say a fraternity is no more than a boarding house, an athletic club, or a place to bring dates. If it is such a difficult task to define a fraternity, one might wonder whether there is a justification for the existence of fraternities. Another definition is that a fraternity is a group of men plus the ties that bind them. Now the obvious question is, what are these ties and how are they developed. To begin with, they are not tangible qualities and this makes the task of defining them more difficult. Paul P. Van Riper, De Pauw '38, was touching on this matter in his address to Delta Theta at our installation banquet on January 9, 1965 when he said, "from fraternal life, more than any other educational device there is to be gained the type of organizational and personal experience so crucially necessary for the survival and prosperity of a way of life based not only on freedom but also on cooperation and responsibility." Although one does not lose his individuality, emphasis is placed upon the idea of mutual assistance. The word, "fraternity," comes from Latin and French derivations which means friendship, comradeship, and love in the spiritual sense. This is the quality that will make or break a fraternity.

Beta Theta Pi was founded on this principle in 1839. This nation has been involved in three great wars since that time and many things have changed but the need for the friendship and brotherhood that our fraternity was based on still exists and probably always will. In answer to the question of how Beta Theta Pi has been able to accomplish so much since their founding, Dr. Seth R. Brooks, former President of Beta Theta Pi, has said "we have no secret weapon, no startling new ideals, and no methods of proceeding not available to others. Rather the secret lies in our willingness to live our lives and conduct our affairs more in terms of the principles upon which we have been founded than many others are willing or able to do."

A fraternity affects all aspects of the lives of its members while they are in college. But if only one aspect had to be chosen as the most important, it would be the ideal of mutual assistance among men. If our chapter, Delta Theta of Beta Theta Pi, is able to teach only one lesson to its members, let it be this principle: If men would assist rather than resist each other, this would be a better world in which to live. If a fraternity can impress upon its members the idea of cooperation among men, this fact alone would justify its existence. □

THE ALABAMA BETA

P. O. Box 4095 University, Alabama 35486
CHARLES NEWTON, Editor

Delta Theta Officers

President.....Doug Phillips Secretary.....Gregg Parsons
Vice President.....David Weems Treasurer.....Hank Bolding

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DECEMBER 1968

A PROFILE

Brother J. R. Brooks '68 was recently elected President of the Freshman Class of the University of Alabama Law School. J. R., who served as President of Delta Theta during his Senior year, has been very active in campus and fraternity affairs. J. R. came to the University on a John F. Kennedy Memorial Scholarship, which is given to the outstanding political science student in Madison County. His Freshman year found J. R. serving as President of his pledge class and a member of Phi Eta Sigma Freshman honorary. His Sophomore year was spent as IFC Representative and Election's Chairman of the Student Government Association. Another honor which Brother Brooks received that year was to visit Yugoslavia as the Huntsville Community Ambassador.

During his Senior year J. R. acted as Executive Assistant to the President of the Student Government Association and was also elected to the Student Legislature. Brother Brooks graduated with a Political Science degree with a 2.4 Q.P.A. He was also a member of Jasons and ODK, Senior men's honoraries. Presently J. R. says that he is studying his head off trying to make the grade in Law School. We of Delta Theta have seen him at work and we have no doubt that he will make it. □

FOUNDER'S FORMAL

Our Fifth Annual Founder's Formal will be held on Saturday, January 11, 1969. In keeping with local Beta tradition absolutely no preparations have been made as yet. However a committee will be set up next week to begin work immediately. One thing for sure, though. It will be a blast. All parents and alumni are cordially invited. (Editor's Note: Since the writing of this article, definite plans have been made and we are expecting to see many friends and alumni in attendance.) □

HOMECOMING '68

Homecoming 1968 was a great week-end for Delta Theta of Beta Theta Pi. Although the most enjoyable parts of Homecoming took place on Saturday, November 2, much preparation was attended to earlier in the week. Social Chairman, Rusty Copeland, had made the arrangements for the party and lined up dates for the brothers and pledges of the chapter. With Pledgetrainer Andy McMahan giving advice to the pledges, they began construction of their entry in the "Famous Persons" event in the Homecoming Parade.

Our alumni began arriving and gave evidence of an exciting week-end that was soon to be. Brother Mickey Kroelinger '66 led the pack by arriving on campus on Thursday. A number of others did not show themselves until just in time to see the foot-



Homecoming '68

ball game between Alabama and Mississippi State, but by the time they all got together after the ball game at the chapter house there was a considerable number of our alums.

Although the Crimson Tide was victorious (20-13), the general consensus was that it was not really a very exciting game. However the afternoon did have a bright spot for the Betas when it was announced at half-time that the Betas had received first place for our entry in the Homecoming parade. The pledges did an excellent job and deserve congratulations.

As usual, the Beta house was packed when the sun set and the band set up their equipment on Saturday night. It would not seem like a Beta party if there was plenty of room to dance or simply turn around to speak to someone.

Actually it was a great Homecoming for the brothers and pledges of Delta Theta and we hope that our guests enjoyed it also. Let us take this opportunity to stress that Betas always have an invitation to visit Delta Theta for Homecoming or any other time. The Betas on the University of Alabama campus are more than glad to see old Beta friends or meet new ones so please feel free to pay us a visit whenever you find it convenient. □

BETA HOUSEMOTHER

It is a rare occasion when we can find an alumna of Delta Theta who has not met our present housemother. Miss Q'Milla Collins came to the Beta house at the beginning of the fall semester of 1966. She had previously been the housemother with the ATO's at Ole Miss for four years. Since the Fall of 1966, "Mom" Collins has become a tradition. To a lot of Betas Delta Theta and "Mom" seem inseparable.

"Mom" was born in Oxford, Mississippi with seven other children in her family. She resided at home while earning her Bachelor's degree (as did five of the other children) from the University of Mississippi. Her social sorority was Kappa Delta. After receiving her degree in history, she taught high school for four years. "Mom" says that she got tired of grading papers so she entered the University of Alabama and earned a Master's degree in Library Science. Returning to her home state, she became a librarian at Canton High School, in Canton, Mississippi.



Q'Milla Collins

Concerning conditions at the Beta house, our housemother thinks her kitchen help is the best on campus. "But things will be even better in many aspects when we get a new house," she says. Quite often one can hear the Brothers expressing personal desires in the new house.

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BETA ACTIVES

- 48 Thomas Martin Phillips
- 51 Stephen John Grenyo
- 52 David Michael Weems
- 56 Vann Max Herring
- 59 Robert James Kelly, Jr.
- 61 Bruce Richard Nelson
- 63 Douglas Eugene Phillips
- 64 Gary Lee Tyler
- 73 Perry Robert Letson, Jr.
- 75 Norman Lance Miles
- 76 Arthur Wesley Pruet, Jr.
- 77 Alfred Carraway Nichols
- 78 Stephen Francis Gilbert
- 79 Stephen Nears Hodges
- 81 Benjamin Anderson McMahan
- 82 Gregg Burns Parsons, Jr.
- 83 Cailup Bowers Curren, Jr.
- 84 Billy Beckham Copeland, Jr.
- 85 Michael Coker Fowler
- 87 Michael Willard Robbins
- 88 William Arthur Burns
- 90 David Wilson Cornet
- 92 John Cleith Henderson, Jr.
- 93 Timothy Linn Crowwhite
- 95 John Martin Howell
- 96 Oscar James McGriff, Jr.
- 97 William Edward Lear, Jr.
- 98 Ronald Barry Hennis
- 103 Floyd Bell Marks, III
- 104 Michael Wilton Wyatt
- 106 Kenneth Edwin Granger
- 107 Jerry Lynn Stewart
- 108 William Thorne Bohne
- 109 Don Odell White
- 110 Peter Graves von Reichbauer
- 111 Sam Henry Bolding, Jr.
- 112 William James Patton
- 113 Michael Duane Lyon
- 114 Walter Austin Griess
- 115 Barry Bryant Copeland
- 116 Anthony Gregory Cashio
- 117 David Barr Crouse

30 NEW PLEDGES

JAMES RAY HUTCHENS

Jim is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio but recently moved to Birmingham. In Cincinnati, Jim attended Western Hills High School where he was vice-president of his senior class.

JOE THIELE McCRARY

Joe is another pledge from Tuscaloosa. He graduated from Tuscaloosa High School where he was in the Student Council and the Spanish Club.

DALE WALLACE MARTIN

Dale comes to Delta Theta from Birmingham. He attended Erwin High School where he played varsity basketball and baseball and was also chosen as senior class favorite. Dale is in Engineering.

JOHN MARK COLEMAN

Mark hails from Fort Deposit, Alabama where he attended Lowndes County High School. He is a transfer student from Troy State where he was a member of the Gamma Beta Phi honorary. Mark is the brother of Toby Coleman

STEPHEN SHELTON DAVIDSON

Steve hails from Birmingham where he attended Hewitt-Trussville High School. At Hewitt he was active in Student Council and was an all county trackman. Steve is in Education.

DOUGLAS LEE DESLATTES

Doug is a local man from Tuscaloosa. He attended Tuscaloosa High School where he played football and was a member of the Science Club.

WILLIAM DAVID DUNSTON

David is a native of Oxford, Alabama where he attended Oxford High. He was a member of the French Club while at Oxford. David is a sophomore in Commerce.

RICHARD WALLACE CARSON

Dicky hails from Florence, Alabama where he graduated from Coffee High School. Dicky's interests at Coffee included Hi-Y, Key Club, C Club, while also participating in football and track. Dicky's brother, Tommy Carson, was also a Beta at the U. of A.



Front row, left to right: Clay, McCrary, Deslattes, Parsons, Hutchens, Hanley, and Dunston. Second row: Martin, Murphy, Ray, Glasscock, Planz, Coleman, and Hill. Third row: Beasley, Midgley, Bailey, Davidson, Wade, McMillan, Leach, and White. Back row: Jordan, Carson, McGriff, Palmer, Barber, Williams, Steward, and Niehuss.

GREG RICK GLASSCOCK

Greg comes to the University from Maplesville, Alabama. He played football at Maplesville and was also a member of N. H. S. and the Beta Club. Greg is a freshman in Engineering.

DAVID ROLLS CLAY

David also comes from the land of the Betas—Gadsden, Alabama. David attended Gadsden High School where he played football and also wrestled. His other activities included True Blues, G Club, and FCA.

ROBERT MICHAEL BEASLEY

Mike is a native of Panama City, Florida where he attended Bay County High. Mike was the editor-in-chief of the Annual his senior year. He was also a member of the Key Club while he participated on the football and basketball teams. Mike is a freshman in Arts and Sciences.

CHARLES HOLLEY MIDGLEY, JR.

Holley comes to the University from Gadsden, Alabama where he attended Gadsden High. He was a debator and a member of the Thespians. Holley is a transfer student from Marion Institute.

JON VERNON McMILLAN

Jon comes to the University on a swimming scholarship. He is a native of Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Jon attended Stranahan High

School where he was on the swim team and in the Key Club.

JOHN RICHARD RAY

Ricky comes from Gadsden where he attended Gadsden High School. While at Gadsden he was in the band, Key Club, and Math Club. Ricky's father was a Beta at U.C.L.A.

JOHN RUSSELL McGRIFF

Russell is a native of Verbena, Alabama. At the present time Russell is the pledge class president. He attended Verbena High School where he was active in football, baseball, and Beta Club. He is the younger brother of another Beta, Jim McGriff.

EDWARD JOHN PLANZ

Ed is a native of Tuscaloosa where he attended Tuscaloosa High School. There he was active in Key Club, N.H.S., and a member of the baseball and swim teams. Ed is a junior in Arts and Sciences.

WILLIAM MICHAEL WHITTEN

Mike comes to the Betas from Florence, Alabama. There he attended Coffee High School where he played baseball, ran track, and was captain of the football team. Mike is a frosh in Commerce.

RAYMOND BRUCE HILL

Bruce is also from Gadsden where he attended Gadsden High

Continued on page 5—Pledges

SPORTS ROUND-UP

The sports scene in the Crimson League for the 1967-1968 school year had a surprise. The Betas did not win the All-Sports Trophy. After bringing this coveted trophy home with us for three consecutive years, the Betas finished second to the Dekes. However, the year was not without its triumphs for the Betas did receive first places in tennis, basketball, and horse-shoes.

Now with a new start, the brothers of Delta Theta are anxious to let everyone know they

are working for the "big" trophy and they are going to be hard to beat. Under the capable leadership of Brothers Steve Grenyo and Mike Fowler, neither the football nor volleyball teams have lost a game, and it is assured that both will go to the play-offs.

It is becoming well known on campus that Betas in intramurals, as well as in all other areas of activity, strive for only one position and that is number 1.

Incidentally, Delta Theta also places great confidence in the

Crimson Tide. We make bets with other Beta chapters for skins which are displayed in the chapter houses. The skin has the score of the game between the Tide and that chapter's team, and the losing chapter sends the other the skin. Thus far this season, we have lost to the University of Mississippi and the University of Tennessee. We still have faith in our team and we'll support them all the way. It was probably time for us to lose because we have received our share of skins from others. □



Continued from page 5—Pledges School. His activities included football, baseball, track, student council, and the National Honor Society.

HOPSON OWEN MURFEE

Hop, a resident of Prattville, Alabama is a sophomore in Commerce and Business Administration. He is a transfer student from Marion Institute where he was active in many organizations.

JIMMY CLEVELAND WHITE

Jimmy is one of eight pledges from Gadsden. Jimmy attended Gadsden High School where he served on the Student Council and the school yearbook. Jimmy is in Arts and Sciences.

LAWRENCE TREDICK NIEHUSS

Larry is from Monroeville, Alabama although he attended high school at Lyman Ward Military Academy where he graduated as salutatorian of the senior class. While there he also participated in football and basketball.

RANDALL GLENN JORDAN

Randy is a native of Gadsden where he attended Gadsden High School. While there Randy was a member of the baseball team as well as serving on various committees. He plans to graduate from Arts and Sciences in 1972.

JERRY WAYNE PALMER

A graduate from Andalusia

High School, Jerry, or Pee Wee as he is commonly called, is a sophomore at the University. While in high school he participated in junior football and basketball and was also a senior class favorite.

STEVEN ALEXANDER LEACH

Steve comes to the Betas from Gadsden also. He attended Gadsden High where he played football and was a member of the Hi-Y and FCA. He is enrolled in Arts and Sciences.

CARL PITTMAN PARSONS, JR.

Buddy comes to the Betas from Fairfield where he graduated

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Continued from page 5—Pledges

from Fairfield High School. His high school activities included Band, Choir, Key Club, and Beta Club while also serving on the student council.

NEIL LAWRENCE HANLEY

Neil is originally from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania although he graduated from Erwin High School in Birmingham. Neil was on the bank board of directors and also played varsity basketball while in high school. Neil is a political science major in Arts and Sciences and later plans to go to Law School.

BENNY ALTON STEWARD

Benny is another one of our fine Gadsden boys. He graduated from Gadsden High where he was an active participant in Hi-Y, track, and baseball. Benny is enrolled in Commerce and Business Administration.

THOMAS GRIFFIN BARBER

Tommy comes to Delta Theta from Fairfield where he attended Fairfield High School. His many activities while at Fairfield included band, track, Key Club, and also a student council representative.

JOHN DAVID BAILEY

John is from here in Tuscaloosa however, he attended Indian Springs School in Birmingham. At Indian Springs, John was the assistant editor of Annual as well as being on the basketball team and serving on the Student Council.

RICKY LYNN WILLIAMS

Rick comes to the Betas from Dothan, Alabama. He graduated from Dothan High School where he played basketball and baseball. He was also a Student Council member. Ricky is the younger brother of Beta, Wayne Williams. □

Continued from page 1—Sweetheart the next lucky girl. I hate for the time to come when I can't claim the distinction of being Beta Sweetheart, but I know that no matter who wins, the boys of Beta Theta Pi will always keep me in their hearts as I do them. I want to close by saying "thank you" in a very special way to the boys I have learned to know and love. □

HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Continued from page 3—Housemother "Mom's" dream would be for an apartment with at least six closets.

"Mom's" hobbies include reading, playing bridge, and even though she may not admit it, her most time consuming affairs are doing things for the Betas that are above and beyond her duties. This seems like a good opportunity for Delta Theta to bestow a sincere expression of appreciation to "Mom" for all her concern and help to our chapter. □

NEW HOUSE
By Mike Lyon

Work toward the construction of a new chapter house for Delta Theta is being accelerated this year. Our present house which was occupied by the ATOs for some fifty-five years and by us for five has just about seen its closing days. It is a fact of life that fraternity houses tend to sway in the breezes after their sixtieth birthday.

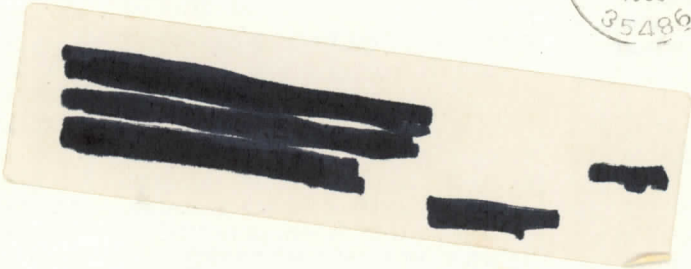
The house fund is now past the \$2800 mark. This is mostly a result of the brothers and pledges of Delta Theta who contribute approximately \$400 per month. This project was only begun last year.

Brother Jim Mezrano has offered his services as an interior designer. Jim has contacted a Birmingham architect and is presently conferring with him about some important details. Doug Phillips, Mike Lyon, and Mike Haney plan to have a meeting with "Mez" and the architect upon receiving word of a meeting date from him.

Brother Haney has word that several alumni have pledged contributions for the house fund as soon as we really get rolling. We hope that in the very near future our readers will receive word of definite plans for the new house. □



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