

DELTA THETA NEWS

Beta Theta Pi Fraternity
960 University Boulevard
Tuscaloosa, AL 35401

Greetings!

Brothers of the Delta Theta Chapter,

We the active Brothers of the Delta Theta Chapter are pleased to produce the spring newsletter in order to inform the Alumni of the relentless strive for success and the pursuit of excellence this chapter has taken as its daily goal. This mind set is what you, the Alumni, successfully installed and it is our distinct pleasure to continue this tradition!

Delta Theta Honors

The active brothers of the Delta Theta chapter are pleased to announce that we are taking the challenge of bettering the chapter very seriously. Our brothers have compiled an honorable resume this spring which includes receiving the University of Alabama G.E. award for service and philanthropy (for the second year in a row) and the Sisson Award at 173rd General Convention. The Delta Theta Chapter has recently had the honor of being awarded the Southern Eastern Keystone Award for Outstanding Chapter Self-Governance, which is a testament to the excellent leadership that drives this chapter forward. This leadership has been honored locally as well. Stewart Holder -974- represents the chapter as the 2012 Greek Excellence Award winner for Most Outstanding IFC President, and the 2012 Greek Excellence Award winner for IFC Greek Man of the Year!

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A President's Thoughts

I am very pleased to report that the great individual and chapter efforts that produced prestigious awards at the Greek Excellence Banquet were carried over into the 2013 Southeast Regional Keystone Conference for Beta Theta Pi. A portion of our chapter's executive members represented Delta Theta in Jacksonville, Florida at Keystone where we brought back an award recognizing our chapter's ability to self-govern. The Keystone Conference allowed our executive committee to gage our chapter's current state and produce goals for our chapter to improve our position on campus and among other chapters. Our main focus at Keystone was addressing the inactive culture among our members in order to strive for a high retention rate of enrolled four year active members. Our executive members and chapter have already voted in a formal inactive process to our by-laws that formally defines active/inactive obligations. We as a chapter are enforcing the rules upon those inactive members. To increase the retention rate, we are taking our focus towards the process of recruiting new members and instilling in those members the importance of active status as well as its positive impact on the chapter and our University.

Our second cumulative goal was to improve our overall chapter GPA to that of one above the overall undergraduate average. Our chapter GPA has improved year by year for the last two years, but we

remained slightly below the overall undergraduate average mark. We as a chapter take this goal very seriously because the GPA requirements for the Know Award are demanding. We strive to meet them through increasing the term GPA minimum in our Academic Assistance Plan. The redefined AAP keeps members accountable. A recorded below-par term GPA as requires a member to complete mandatory study hall hours and is accompanied by possible social probation. We as a chapter are also stressing the importance of our New Members' GPA's. Alex Ash, the New Member Educator, has a personal goal of a New Member GPA above 3.0 which will be made obtainable through the Pledge Progress Report System. These progress reports will monitor the new members' attendance and grades throughout their pledgship to ensure they are attending class and making good grades.

Our final, yet very important, goal was improving the overall relationship between our valuable alumni and our current active members. As a chapter, we are striving for an electronic and accurate active roster of our alumni that is easily accessible. Upcoming events and announcements can be sent out via email through one, simple database that contains all of our active alumni. Our chapter is also interested in hosting an alumni networking event for upper classmen seeking future employment opportunities.

We know that with all of your continued support, our chapter goals can be reality as we work towards the continuous improvement of our chapter to become the best on campus and in the eyes of the General Fraternity.

Thank you all very much,

Yours in _Kai_,

-938-

John Trippe



Above: Executive committee at Keystone!

Campus Involvement

The brothers of the Delta Theta Chapter also take pride in holding distinguished positions here at The Capstone. These brothers include new members as well as tenured ones. The Chapter has had the honor of having John Lightbourne -998- and Scott Gillaspie -1034- represent the Chapter as newly selected members of The Capstone Men and Women organization, as well as Alec Pratt -878- a tenured member of the group. These Brothers represent the chapter and the university as the official ambassadors for the University of Alabama.



Brothers enjoying a snow day here at UA: as shown above.

Update on Rush

Rush at UA is in full swing this time of year, and it is crucial to the development and future of our notable chapter here at The

Capstone. The active brothers need as much help as possible in the recruitment of future Beta's. If you, as Alumni, have any candidates that you would like to submit to the chapter you can contact Jack Wilson-977- at 251-404-2086 and let your request be known. May we succeed in the selection and recruitment of future brothers, and may they will carry on the Beta way passed down from before.



2013 Executive Officers

President: John Trippe: Birmingham, AL
Internal VP: Paul McKelvey: Birmingham, AL
External VP: Alex Ash: Birmingham, AL
Secretary: Connor Labarge: Birmingham, AL
Treasurer: Preston Hairell: Florence, AL
Head of Kai: Forrest Hames: Florence, AL
Chapter Development: Baxter Knight: Birmingham, AL

Cabinet Officers

Social Chairs: Jackson Williams and Joe Pierce: Southlake, TX
Rush Chairman: Jack Wilson: Spanish Fort, AL
House Manager: Connor Flanary: Flower Mound, TX
Alumni Relations: Scott Gillaspie: Fort Payne, AL
Public Relations: Cole Thompson: The Woodlands, TX
IFC Rep: Justin Woodall: Birmingham, AL
Ritual Chair: Carson Cleveland: Dothan, AL
Scholastic Chair: Evan Lefelstien: Chicago, IL
Historian: Kevin Wood: Birmingham, AL
Web Master: Trevor Brook: Flower Mound, TX
Awards: John Lightbourne: Mobile, AL
Intramural Chair: Craig Edgecombe: Jackson, MS

Something to Ponder

Steve Jobs once said: "Be a yardstick of quality. Some people aren't used to an environment where excellence is expected."

There is no shortcut to excellence. You will have to make the commitment to make excellence your priority. Use your talents, abilities, and skills in the best way possible and get ahead of others by giving that little extra. Live by a higher standard and pay attention to the details that really do make the difference. Excellence is not difficult - simply decide right now to give it your best shot - and you will be amazed with what life gives you back.

Brothers for Life

As expressed in the previous newsletter, one of the main goals the executive committee has this year is to promote continuity between the active brothers and the Alumni. In order to achieve this we are working on a multitude of ideas of which we are very excited about. First, we will be hosting an Alumni Lunch the weekend of the A-day game. This event will be held at the house the day of the game which is April the 20th. We ask that you RSVP for this event by e-mailing Scott Gillaspie -1034- (contact info at bottom). Also, in order to get a better understanding of our Alumni we want to create an up to date roster and bio database, we ask that you submit your information along with your RSVP. It can consist of an up to date picture, general knowledge about yourself, job title, place of current residence, along with any other information you would like to go on file. We believe this will create a great sense of continuity in the chapter and will help foster better relationships in the future, which will help truly define lifelong brotherhood.



In Conclusion

The Chapter as well as the new executive committee is very pleased with the progress and impact the Delta Theta Chapter of Beta Theta Pi is making here at the University of Alabama. The hard work put in by our Alumni, as well as the current active body, is taking this chapter to the next level and is further establishing the fine moral character that exemplifies what being a brother of Beta Theta Pi is all about here at the Capstone.

Written and Designed by Alumni
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