



THE LINK

BETA DELTA CHAPTER, FOUNDED 1885

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Montgomery, Ala.

LOCAL AND NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR UNDERGRADUATES

Spring 2014 proved to be yet another successful semester for Beta Delta Chapter as we continued our legacy as one of the foremost chapters at The University of Alabama. We had a fantastic summer full of recruitment events and brotherhood outings, and **we capped it with our 13th True Merit Bowl at National this August.**

Beta Delta posted the strongest overall grades in recent history. With 154 active members and a 3.33 GPA, we far surpassed the all-men's average of 2.95. We had the second highest overall semester GPA, only falling short to a chapter with a significantly smaller membership. Additionally, we had an impressive 71 members with a 3.5 GPA or higher, placing them each on the Dean's List. Of those 71, an astounding 24 had a semester GPA of 4.0, earning them a spot on the President's List. Equally as impressive, the chapter boasted 3,491 community service hours in the spring, an average of over 20 hours per member.

Our spring semester was also decorated with a litany of chapter awards and accomplishments. At the yearly Greek Excellence Banquet, Beta Delta was recognized for its varied achievements and commitment to excellence with three primary awards: Outstanding Community Relations, Outstanding Alumni Relations, and Outstanding Commitment to Diversity. Also, in the annual seniors honor society tappings, six members were inducted into Mortar Board, three into Blue Key, five into Omicron Delta Kappa, and three into the Anderson Society. Two members were inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, three members into the Order of Omega Greek Honor Society, one was named Outstanding Junior of the Year, and two



A few of the upcoming seniors before a summer recruitment event. This year's efforts brought in 50 excellent new members.

men were tapped into the prestigious Jasons Men's Senior Honorary.

At ATΩ National, we were awarded our 13th True Merit Bowl and previous Worthy Master **Marlan Golden '11** received Beta Delta's first Thomas Arkle Clark Award, which annually recognizes Alpha Tau Omega's most outstanding senior candidates for undergraduate degrees. We are very proud of our chapter's success and will strive for excellence in the coming years.



Fraternally,
Peter Inge '12
Worthy Master
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Alpha Tau Omega Congress— Awards Banquet Honors

Thomas Arkle Clark Honoree
Marlan Golden '09

National President Award
Walter J. Hughes '60

Beta Delta received the True Merit Cup at the 2014 ATΩ National Congress in Orlando.

Beta Delta Chapter Awards

- True Merit Excellence Award
- ATΩ Recruitment Excellence Award
- Upper Alpha Award
- ATΩ Excellence in Scholarship Award

CHAPTER ACCOMPLISHMENTS POINT TO BRIGHT BETA DELTA FUTURE

The best way to sum up the last year at Beta Delta: great guys, great grades, great honors and, oh by the way, another True Merit Award.

The 165 young men who made up the chapter last year had an incredible year, from a 3.3 chapter GPA to the Thomas Arkle Clark award winner, **Marlan Golden '11**. Marlan was the first winner of that prestigious award in the history of Beta Delta. Several members were tapped for Phi Beta Kappa, Jasons, ODK, and many other awards. Forty-nine chapter members held an overall GPA of 3.9 or better at the end of the spring term.

Most importantly, though, is the incredible character of each of the men who make up the membership of Beta Delta. These are truly the kind of guys every father would want his daughter to marry. The future is very bright if it is placed in the good hands of the men of Beta Delta!

From the alumni side, the Board of Trustees welcomes **Kane Burnette '99** as its newest member. Kane is a lawyer at Bradley Arant Boult Cummings and a 2003 graduate of the University of Alabama with a master's degree in accountancy. He worked for Ernst and Young before returning to law school at the University, graduating in 2009 and receiving his law degree magna cum laude. Kane served the chapter as Worthy Master during his time as an undergraduate.

Please join us at the chapter house anytime during the football season for good food, fun, and fellowship—Roll Tide!

Fraternally,

Walter H. Monroe '63

Chairman, Board of Trustees / whmonroe3@aol.com

Beta Delta Friends Rally for House Director Transition

Mary Evelyn Edwards, known by all as Mrs. M, retired last semester after seven faithful and loyal years as house director of the chapter. She was a stalwart of stability and continuity for Beta Delta and a friend to the many brothers who passed through our doors during her tenure. We wish her the best in retirement and during her travels and time with children and seven grandchildren (with one on the way).

Mrs. M has started off retirement on a good note, reporting that she came out on top of the house slots at Reno in a big way! Not enough good things can be said for her loyalty and love for the boys and for her care and concern for the operations of the house. The transition from the old house to the new house could not have been accomplished as smoothly without her untiring work. We will all miss her.

A new house director, Georgia Wise, was brought on this summer and Mrs. M assisted her in transition. Miss Georgia previously served SAE at Mississippi State, Sigma Nu at Ole Miss, and Alpha Gam at the University as house director. She hit the ground running and was preparing for the new school year when she was suddenly taken ill. She is currently recovering from surgery. We wish her the best possible outcome, but please keep Miss Georgia in your thoughts and prayers. Because of the expected length and difficulty of her recovery, Miss Georgia will not be able to continue as our house director.

We hired a new house director to replace Miss Georgia. Sue Downey of Thomasville,

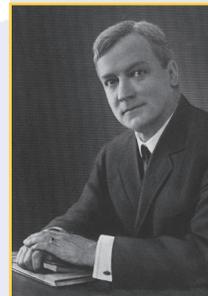
Alabama, a good friend of Mrs. M, has agreed to join the chapter in this position. She has a strong background, having been associated with the South Seas Resort at Captiva Island, Florida, for 15 years and for the past five years has engaged in her own consulting business working for such resorts as the Hilton Waikoloa Village in Kona, Hawaii. Miss Suzie, as she will be called, is a 1986 graduate of the University, where she was a member Alpha Delta Pi. While she has never worked as a house director, her knowledge of the resort and hotel business more than makes up for that inexperience. Please introduce yourself to her when you are at the house and extend to her a warm welcome in her new position.

Our chapter has been unbelievably supported since Miss Georgia's illness by many people, including Mrs. M, who volunteered to help prepare for the new school year and assist until Miss Suzie was comfortable in her new role.

Vivian Anderson, the house director at Delta Chi, stepped in to provide immediate help in filling the gap left by Miss Georgia. She also agreed to train our new house director. Mrs. Vivian worked to get the house ready for the new semester, get guys moved in, and have the staff and kitchen prepared. She continues to work with and train Miss Suzie in the nuances and pitfalls of food service and being a mother to over 150 young men! It would not have been possible to have the house ready without her efforts.

HALL OF HONOR INDUCTEE—JUDGE JOHN C. PUGH 1885

Born in Eufaula, Alabama, in 1866, Judge **John C. Pugh 1885** was the first initiate of Alpha Tau Omega Beta Delta in 1885. He was the son of United States Senator James L. Pugh, who served Alabama in Washington, D.C., from 1880 to 1897.



John graduated from The University of Alabama and received his law degree from Georgetown University. He opened a law office in Gadsden and operated the only newspaper in Etowah County. John moved to

Birmingham in 1897, where he continued in the practice of law.

He was the hospitality chairman for the 20th ATΩ Congress, held in Birmingham in 1906. In the December 1913 edition of the Alpha Tau Omega *Palm* was written, "Those who attended the delightful Birmingham Congress of 1906 have cause to remember the genial personality of John C. Pugh (Alabama). Brother Pugh has for many years been one of Alpha Tau's most zealous proponents in Alabama and the South, and was one of the organizers of the old District of Columbia Alumni Association."

John later became a circuit judge for the Tenth Judicial Circuit in Jefferson County. Judge Pugh passed away on February 3, 1921, at the age of 55.

Have news you want to submit?
Send a note to Greg Houston '75
at grhouston@gmail.com.

My View

By Amos Burns '49

My ATΩ career is quite unique. First, I was initiated at Mississippi State University, Epsilon Epsilon Chapter, as a junior in 1949 after being convinced of the values of membership. I decided to join after being acquainted with the founding principles of ATΩ and its values and the values of fraternity brotherhood.

My undergraduate experience at EE was limited due to time eligibility, but I served as assistant editor for the chapter newsletter and made some friendships, which have lasted for a lifetime. I am still in contact and see occasionally my "big brother" and "little brother" in the chapter. The fraternity taught me the value of friendships in social and business affairs.

Of more importance than offices held in the chapter have been the numerous offices that I have held as an alumnus. Following graduation, my first job was with U.S. Steel Co. in Birmingham, Alabama. This lasted five months when I got a job in Tuscaloosa in the milk and ice cream industry by the name of Dixie Dairy Products Association, where I served 40 years



full time, most of which as general manager, plus 15 years as part-time consultant. During that time, I started my own brokerage sales company, Amos Burns Co. Inc. This career provided the opportunity to travel to most of the larger cities in the U.S. from Maine to California, plus Hawaii, Bermuda, Mexico, and several islands in the Caribbean.

During most of my career and until the present, I have served ATΩ in various volunteer offices. Upon arriving in Tuscaloosa I got acquainted with members of Beta Delta and was invited to take meals at the house and live in the house one year, paying a house bill for these items. In 1962 I was elected to president of the newly reorganized house corporation and served in that office for 32 years and as a member since. Then, I was elected in 1996 to the newly formed Board of Trustees, serving until present, including four years as chairman and election to chairman emeritus.

I had the opportunity to serve in various offices of ATΩ National, including province chief for

Alabama and Mississippi, high council (Board of Directors) chairman, National Foundation Board of Governors, and election to national officer emeritus.

I do not know any secret to success, but of great importance is hard work, honesty, integrity, trustworthiness, dependability, and, to ATΩ's, being true to the lessons taught during their initiation into the fraternity. I feel that it is important to stay in touch with the chapter because of the enjoyment of the friendships made and the opportunities offered to repay in some degree for the benefits received as an undergraduate.

I have enjoyed a wonderful married life for 60 years with a wonderful and beautiful wife, Dorothy "Dot," who was introduced to me by an ATΩ brother. We have two successful sons, Keith '79 and Barry '82, both of whom were Beta Delta initiates. I also have two grandsons, Brooks '12 and Blake, who are an ATΩ junior and ATΩ pledge, respectively, at Bama, and a lovely granddaughter, Mary Elizabeth, a high school student.

THE BETA DELTA EXPERIENCE ACCORDING TO RICH RICHARDS '08

Q: Why did you decide to join ATΩ?

A: When I was a young man, my grandmother told me stories of her grandfather, a Beta Delta alumnus named William Gray Little, whom she called "Pooh Pooh." Bill Little fathered Alabama football in 1892, when he became the captain and coach of the Tide's first team. I was always inspired by Pooh Pooh's bravery and ingenuity, and I wanted to learn more about the fraternity that played such a great role in his development.

In the summer of 2007, I traveled from my hometown of Davidson, N.C., to Tuscaloosa, where I attended several rush parties. My decision to join ATΩ was based 100 percent on the character of the brothers. Among all of the fraternities that I visited, I noticed that our chapter had men of the highest quality. It is rare to see respect, humility, and kindness run so fluidly across a Greek organization, but I found that in Beta Delta.

Q: What did your undergraduate experience at Beta Delta mean to you?



A: I owe the development of my faith and introduction to my occupational calling to the men that I met in ATΩ, and I would not be where I am today without these experiences.

It was through weekly Bible studies with Micah Yoder '08 and Dan Young '08 that I developed my relationship with Christ, and through impassioned conversations with

Marshall Houston '08 that I decided to attack the inequalities that exist within our education system.

Q: How did the fraternity prepare you for life after college?

A: The academic and leadership development programs at ATΩ set me up for great success at the workplace. My involvement on campus and grade point average would not have come

(Continued on page 4)

Chapter Eternal

Hon. Arnold Drennen '37 entered Chapter Eternal on February 24, 2014. While attending The University of Alabama, he was on the tennis team and ROTC. He served in the U.S. Army, finishing his service as a captain and setting up the Army Engineer School in France in 1946. He attended law school at Alabama and went into practice with his father at Drennen Loeb and Drennen in Birmingham. In 1965 he was appointed as a judge for the State District Court for Jefferson County, where he served until his retirement in 1984.

Arnold was active in many local organizations, serving as the president of Planned Parenthood, the YMCA, and Young Men's Business Club. His passion for magic included performances for children and sitting as president of the International Brotherhood of Magicians. He was a lifetime member of Highlands United Methodist Church, where he taught Sunday school from 1948 to 2005. Arnold was preceded in death by his college sweetheart and wife, Jean. He is survived by his children: Arnold, Orlean, Merle, and Lowry; eight grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

RICH RICHARDS '08

(Continued from page 3)

without the guidance from my older mentors, such as **Sam Lynd '06**, **Mitch Relfe '04**, **Jesse Scroggins '04**, **John Bone '04**, and **Joe Thetford '04**. I credit those men for the opportunities that I am now afforded.

Additionally, ATΩ provided me a network of colleagues that are now wildly successful across the south. If I need investment help, I have **Tyler Rudman '08** at Goldman-Sachs. If I want to catch up on the recruiting scoop, I have **Riley Edwards '07** at the University of Alabama Athletic Department. If I want to go skiing in Vail, **John Salzmann '08** is right around the corner at Wells-Fargo. I feel very privileged to have great friends in influential positions across the country.

Q: Why do you believe it is important for all alumni to reconnect or stay in touch with the chapter?

A: Our bond was intended to be as lasting as humanity, and I know the great joys and dividends that this sort of bond pays. You will find many friends throughout life, but none will be as great as the men that you met at Beta Delta.

Q: Where do you work now and what do you do specifically?

A: I am currently serving as the principal-in-residence at Achievement Prep Charter School in Washington, D.C.'s 8th ward. Achievement Prep is ranked as the highest-performing charter school in D.C. by the D.C. Public School Board. Next year, I will spearhead Achievement Prep's growth by designing, founding, and leading a school of my own, which will be founded on three tenants.

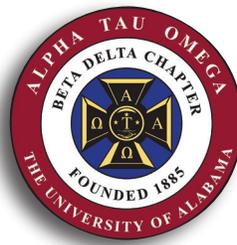
(1) All students, regardless of race or socio-economic status, deserve a top-quality, rigorous college-preparatory education.

(2) When provided with a highly structured, disciplined, and supportive learning environment with quality, targeted instruction, all students will achieve the highest academic standards.

(3) Literacy is the most essential academic skill upon which the majority of all future skill and knowledge acquisition is based.

It is my hope that this school will redefine what it means to be a high-performing public school.

Rich can be reached at rrichardsii@gmail.com.



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Welcome, New Members

- | | |
|---|---|
| Jack Albritton ★ <i>Montgomery, Ala.</i> | Will Hartsock ★ <i>Hoover, Ala.</i> |
| Haddon Alexander ★ <i>Nashville, Tenn.</i> | Chandler Heath ★ <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i> |
| Jon Ayers ★ <i>Tampa, Fla.</i> | Champ Holt ★ <i>Florence, Ala.</i> |
| Sam Baker ★ <i>Vestavia Hills, Ala.</i> | Wayne Ingram ★ <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i> |
| Gaines Belcher ★ <i>Birmingham, Ala.</i> | Jarett Jarvis ★ <i>Columbus, Ohio</i> |
| Matt Bell ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> | Jeremiah Johnson ★ <i>Hazel Green, Ala.</i> |
| Phillip Burke ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> | Sam Johnson ★ <i>Gadsden, Ala.</i> |
| Jonathan Burks ★ <i>Hattiesburg, Miss.</i> | Clay Krout ★ <i>Cullman, Ala.</i> |
| Blake Burns ★ <i>Tuscaloosa, Ala.</i> | Zach Lyles ★ <i>Louisville, Ky.</i> |
| Nolan Corder ★ <i>Hazel Green, Ala.</i> | William Malone ★ <i>Dothan, Ala.</i> |
| Nic Dombrowsky ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> | Grayson McCreary ★ <i>Hoover, Ala.</i> |
| Aidan Dysart ★ <i>Scottsdale, Ariz.</i> | Davis McDougal ★ <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i> |
| Ry Esdale ★ <i>Vestavia Hills, Ala.</i> | Jack McKeen ★ <i>Dallas, Texas</i> |
| Jacob Faulkner ★ <i>Montgomery, Ala.</i> | Michael Pace ★ <i>Madison, Miss.</i> |
| Walker Finnell ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> | Zach Pershin ★ <i>Hartselle, Ala.</i> |
| Patrick Fitzgerald ★ <i>Sparkman, Ala.</i> | Conner Shelton ★ <i>Hartselle, Ala.</i> |
| Jake Fleischer ★ <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i> | Logan Skinner ★ <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i> |
| Chandler Frutiger ★ <i>Katy, Texas</i> | Nick Stastny ★ <i>Minneapolis, Minn.</i> |
| Pierce Goodbread ★ <i>Tuscaloosa, Ala.</i> | Matt Taylor ★ <i>Mobile, Ala.</i> |
| Foster Hinton ★ <i>Mobile, Ala.</i> | Nick Thomas ★ <i>St. Louis, Mo.</i> |
| Bradley Gray ★ <i>Birmingham, Ala.</i> | Peyton Thomas ★ <i>Florence, Ala.</i> |
| Austin Haataja ★ <i>Athens, Ala.</i> | John Tully ★ <i>Mountain Brook, Ala.</i> |
| Andy Hamm ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> | Ben Tyler ★ <i>Atlanta, Ga.</i> |
| Noah Harbin ★ <i>Madison, Ala.</i> | Patton Webb ★ <i>Florence, Ala.</i> |
| Willis Harkey ★ <i>Tuscaloosa, Ala.</i> | Jake Wilson ★ <i>Huntsville, Ala.</i> |

JOIN US ON GAME DAYS THIS FALL

Alabama football games are a high point of every UA student's fall semester and they are a great way for you to stay connected or to reconnect with the chapter and alumni. **Every home game, Beta Delta will have hors d'oeuvres and a meal at the chapter house for all brothers, alumni, and their families and friends. We'd love to see you here!**