



THE LINK

BETA DELTA CHAPTER, FOUNDED 1885

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A PUBLICATION OF ALPHA TAU OMEGA AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA • FALL 2017

Members of the Board of Trustees with University of Alabama President Dr. Stuart Bell and Vice President of Student Affairs Dr. David Grady after the chapter received the Top Chapter Award.



ACHIEVING GREATNESS

BETA DELTA PROMOTES LEADERSHIP AT UA

The unparalleled chapter leadership sets Beta Delta apart from all others. Leadership does not happen by accident or chance; it is a product of the environment and culture established during the years by those that preceded. Leadership development is a core value from its earliest days, and Beta Delta has led the way at the University of Alabama. The Greek community at the University is one of the largest and most vibrant in the United States. With more than 12,000 students, the University Greek community comprises more than 36 percent of the undergraduate student body and is home to 62 social Greek-letter organizations.

In February 2017, Beta Delta was presented with a number of important awards that celebrate the continued excellence displayed by chapter. The Top Fraternity Advisor Award was named for our late brother and chapter advisor, **Amos Burns '49**, who was the posthumous recipient of that award last year. During Honors Week at the University this past spring, three brothers were inducted into the Jasons Honor Society, the highest leadership recognition at the University. Beta Delta members also were recognized by Alpha Lambda Delta, Lambda Sigma, Cardinal Key,

Blue Key, Mortar Board, and Omicron Delta Kappa. Two men of Beta Delta are members of the Anderson Society, the most prestigious organization at the University, selecting each year only 24 members out of a student body of 37,000.

Beta Delta members continue to lead in campus involvement at the University with four members of Capstone Men and Women, 16 University stewards, four SGA senators, five members of the Blackburn Institute, four members of the Computer-Based Honors Program, two members of the University Fellows Experience, and seven Greek ambassadors. Beta Delta has also been heavily involved on campus with its intramural flag football, basketball, floor hockey, softball, and indoor and outdoor soccer teams. More than a third of the chapter played an intramural sport in spring 2017 with more participation than any other fraternity at the University.

In 2016, the chapter recorded a total of 3,800 service hours to the Tuscaloosa community and raised \$44,241 for charitable organizations. The highlight of Beta Delta's philanthropic efforts was raising money for the cost of cancer treatments for **John Stoffer '14**, who was diagnosed with

stage four metastatic melanoma in May 2016. On October 22, 2016, countless alumni, parents, and friends came together at the chapter house to "Stand with John" after donating more than \$17,200 for his treatment costs. Throughout the remainder of the fall semester, the chapter raised an additional \$6,000 and, with the help of University President Stewart Bell, another \$11,000. In addition, John was awarded a needs-based scholarship through the Fair Hope Foundation.

While the men of Beta Delta accomplished great things this last year, they only added to the foundation laid by past members of the chapter. The intangible values of integrity, relationships, leadership, and enthusiasm are not easily measured by statistics or even facts but can be clearly observed at Beta Delta. The brothers of Beta Delta love and respect the eternal and immutable principles of the fraternity and live out those principles as leaders every day at the chapter house and at the University.

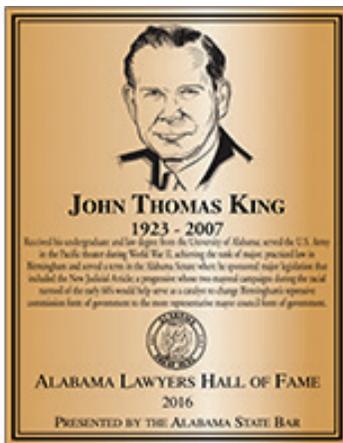
Fraternally,
Walter H. Monroe '63
Chairman, Board of Trustees
whmonroe3@aol.com

Remembering the Honorable John Thomas King '42 Late Senator Inducted into Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame

After entering Chapter Eternal at 83 on January 24, 2007, Senator **John "Tom" Thomas King '42** became the second Beta Delta to be inducted into the Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame. He followed **Lawrence "Drew" Redden '40**, who was inducted in 2009. Tom and Drew were both inducted into the Beta Delta Chapter Hall of Honor in 2011.

Tom was born to lead and with politics in his blood. Born to Circuit Judge Alta King and Donna King in Adamsville, Alabama, he was elected president of the student body at Phillips High School and later, in 1949, as the first Beta Delta elected as SGA president at the University of Alabama. He interrupted his studies to serve his country in the Philippines and graduated from the University of Alabama School of Law in 1951. Just out of law school, he became an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Alabama. During that time, he was tapped to become chief administrative assistant to U.S. Representative George Huddleston in Washington, D.C.

Throughout the 1960s, Tom built and enjoyed a successful law practice. He was determined to make a difference at a critical juncture in Alabama history; he felt compelled to offer himself and was elected to the Alabama Senate from Jefferson County. During his 1971-75 term, he was instrumental in sculpting the way lawyers currently practice law. He helped create the Alabama Rules of Civil Procedure, which discarded the old common law pleading, and he was a staunch supporter of the nationally



The late John Thomas King '42 was inducted into the Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame in 2016.

acclaimed Judicial Article that created the Unified Court System in Alabama. His support was critical in the passage of the bond issue that provided the funds for the State Law Center Complex at the University of Alabama School of Law. He also ensured that Alabama teachers would have group health insurance, and he wrote bills providing rehabilitation programs for juvenile offenders. He succeeded in passing legislation that allowed UAB to become the international medical facility that it is today, and he made sure that if a man could fight for his country at age 18 he could also vote.

Tom received many honors throughout his career, including having a highway named after him and acting as the city attorney of his hometown for more than 20 years. However, his biggest reward was having his three sons, **Tom King Jr. '68**, **Alan King '71**, and **David King '78**, practice law with him. "Our father taught us a great deal," Tom Jr. stated. "He instilled us with a sense of pride in our work." Tom Sr. instilled in them, and so

many others that looked up to Tom Sr. as a lion of the bar, that this profession is about serving others and that his sacrifices and courage changed not only our legal profession but all of Alabama for the better.

Of the tens of thousands who have practiced law in the state, only 60 have been inducted into the Alabama Lawyers Hall of Fame. Beta Delta is proud to see prominent alumnus Tom King honored with such distinction.

FALL 2017 NEW MEMBERS

William Arnold • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Willis Atwater • Owens Cross Roads, Ala.

Christian Babin • Louisville, Ky.

Wheeler Bedwell • Mobile, Ala.

Grant Belcher • Birmingham, Ala.

Hunter Brannon • Hanceville, Ala.

Cole Brown • Cullman, Ala.

Tanner Brown • Montgomery, Ala.

Riley Byars • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Garrett Cornelious • Hanceville, Ala.

Chris Dombrowsky • Huntsville, Ala.

Adam Ducote • Madison, Miss.

Scott Edwards • Trophy Club, Texas

John Freeman • Mountain Brook, Ala.

William Galloway • Mountain Brook, Ala.

Ethan Gentry • Montgomery, Ala.

William Gray • Birmingham, Ala.

Carter Helm • Chattanooga, Tenn.

Braeden Hodges • Athens, Ala.

Hayden Holthaus • Franklin, Tenn.

Tommy Jacobs • Huntsville, Ala.

Andrew Jansen • Owens Cross Roads, Ala.

John Morgan Kramer • Huntsville, Ala.

Kolby Kwarcinski • Sterrett, Ala.

Hunter Mace • Gulfport, Miss.

Davis Manning • Birmingham, Ala.

Colin McCollough • Highlands Ranch, Colo.

Cameron Meyer • Coppell, Texas

Luke Miskelley • Birmingham, Ala.

McKaid Montgomery • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Mason Moorman • Louisville, Ky.

Ben Ncaise • Homewood, Ala.

Jackson Nowlin • Huntsville, Ala.

Manning Owen • Birmingham, Ala.

Hinton Owsley • Anniston, Ala.

Andrew Parker • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Jon Parrish • Huntsville, Ala.

John Pelham • Mountain Brook, Ala.

William Pitman • Mountain Brook, Ala.

Mason Poist • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Daniel Propp • Crestwood, Ky.

Nick Ramos • Cincinnati, Ohio

Jackson Ryan • Tuscaloosa, Ala.

Harris Sanderson • Mountain Brook, Ala.

Pruett Singleton • Montgomery, Ala.

Jeremiah Smith • Hoover, Ala.

John Isaac Stafford • Columbus, Miss.

Alex Tedford • Knoxville, Tenn.

Nick Weaver • Louisville, Ky.

Owen Weis • Louisville, Ky.

Cason Westmoreland • Columbus, Miss.

SPRING 2017 CHAPTER HONORS

ATΩ NATIONAL AWARDS

- ◆ Top Chapter Award
- ◆ Outstanding Service and Philanthropy Award
- ◆ Outstanding Scholarship Award
- ◆ Outstanding University and Community Relations Award

ORDER OF OMEGA AWARDS

- ◆ Most Outstanding Freshman
Finn Veje '17
- ◆ Most Outstanding Sophomore
Matthew Tedford '16
- ◆ Most Outstanding Junior
Jack Albritton '15
- ◆ Rick Funk Award **John Stoffer '14**
- ◆ Order of Omega Initiates
Jack Albritton '15, Samuel Baker '15, Gaines Belcher '15, Jonathan Burks '15, Bradley Gray '15, Wayne Ingram '15, Clay Krout '15, and Logan Skinner '15



John Wilson Booth '14, Rob Grady '14, Sam Baker '15, Jack Albritton '15, and Bradley Gray '15 during the annual Honors Day Tapping Ceremony in April.



Beta Delta brothers celebrate the Top Chapter Award at the chapter house.

ALPHA TAU OMEGA

Beta Delta receives the Top Chapter Award at the ATΩ National Awards Banquet in Indianapolis in August.



BETA DELTA REMAINS STRONG CHAPTER RECOGNIZED FOR CONTINUED EXCELLENCE AT AWARD CEREMONIES

With the fall semester in full swing, Beta Delta members are excited for another year at the University of Alabama. We are poised for another successful semester as a leader among fraternities at the University of Alabama, as well as Alpha Tau Omega chapters nationwide. I would like to reflect on the spring 2017 semester, as it was one of the strongest in Beta Delta history.

PURSuing ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

In the spring semester, our chapter achieved a 3.39 GPA, which placed us third best among IFC fraternities. Despite having one of the largest fraternities at the University, 83 members earned a 3.5 or higher with 23 brothers achieving a 4.0.

BETA DELTA RECEIVES MOST OUTSTANDING CHAPTER AWARD

At the Greek Excellence Awards, Beta Delta was honored to receive the Most Outstanding IFC Chapter Award, as well as Outstanding Service and Philanthropy, Outstanding Scholarship, and Outstanding University and Community Relations awards. In addition, the chapter was recognized at the Order of Omega banquet, where members took home four individual awards: most outstanding freshman, sophomore, and junior, and the Rick Funk Award. Additionally, eight members were initiated into Order of Omega.

FOCUSED ON BROTHERHOOD AND EDUCATION

In addition to Ruh Rah and Viking Week, the chapter held the second annual Blackfoot Ball in honor of our late brother and chapter advisor, **Amos D. Burns '49**. This black-tie party has



Members with their awards at the Order of Omega Awards ceremony in April.

quickly become one of the most notable social events at the University. With the help of Kappa Delta, Beta Delta hosted the Crossing Points Prom. This educational program was established by **George Shirley '44** and his wife, Betty, as a two-tier postsecondary transition program.

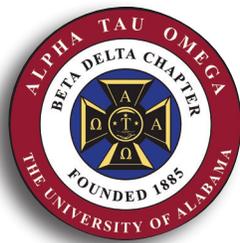
THE NEXT GENERATION

The Beta Delta Chapter graduated 33 seniors and honored them with a banquet on graduation day. Although we are sad to see such great leadership go, spring and summer recruitment produced a strong pledge class of 51 new members. The new members are busy studying, enjoying swaps, and learning the history and values of Alpha Tau Omega. We are always seeking recommendations, so if you have a young man in mind, please invite him to visit the chapter. We would be glad to meet him!

Fraternally,
Jack Albritton '15
Worthy Master
(334) 430-7239 / jnalbritton4@gmail.com

Save the Date

HOMECOMING
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14
VERSUS ARKANSAS



THE LINK

ALUMNI UPDATE

CHAPTER ETERNAL

William "Wam" Alexander Major Jr. '61 entered Chapter Eternal on August 19, 2017, after a long and courageous battle with Parkinson's disease. He was a proud and active member of Alpha Tau Omega. Academically, he was selected to participate in the American Studies Program at Alabama, which became a nationally recognized curriculum of interdisciplinary studies. After graduation from the Capstone, Wam earned his law degree from the University of Virginia and began his law career clerking for Judge Seybourn Lynne of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. He then joined the firm of Cabaniss, Johnson, Gardner, Dumas, and O'Neal. With his interest in energy law, he moved to Sonat, Inc., where he retired in 1992 as senior vice president. As an avid and highly accomplished sailor, Wam enjoyed trips with his family and friends throughout the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Alice Benton, and their son, William Alexander Major, his three daughters, Frannie Aura (Erik), Barbara Lucia Major (Stephen Jackson), and Mimi Major, and their mother, Emily Chenoweth, as well as his many grandchildren. Wam was a person of profound intellect, enormous grace, and charm, and had an endless warmth and love for his family and friends. He was one of those individuals who always generously and positively impacted the lives of everyone around him. He will be greatly missed.



After graduation from the Capstone, Wam earned his law degree from the University of Virginia and began his law career clerking for Judge Seybourn Lynne of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. He then joined the firm of Cabaniss, Johnson, Gardner, Dumas, and O'Neal. With his interest in energy law, he moved to Sonat, Inc., where he retired in 1992 as senior vice president. As an avid and highly accomplished sailor, Wam enjoyed trips with his family and friends throughout the Gulf of Mexico, Atlantic, Caribbean, and Mediterranean. He is survived by his wife of 24 years, Alice Benton, and their son, William Alexander Major, his three daughters, Frannie Aura (Erik), Barbara Lucia Major (Stephen Jackson), and Mimi Major, and their mother, Emily Chenoweth, as well as his many grandchildren. Wam was a person of profound intellect, enormous grace, and charm, and had an endless warmth and love for his family and friends. He was one of those individuals who always generously and positively impacted the lives of everyone around him. He will be greatly missed.

ALUMNI NEWS

Ronald Childree '54 enjoys boating, fishing, and playing tennis. E-mail: bamaronc@gmail.com

John Rosich Jr. '55 retired in 2011 as the president of Rosich Consulting Company. He lives in Clermont, Fla., and enjoys golfing, keeping up with the stock market, and attending social activities. E-mail: joyrosich@aol.com

Kent Rose '59 retired in 2017 as a state purchasing director. He lives in Montgomery, Ala., and en-

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ATTENTION: *This newsletter is intended for Alpha Tau Omega alumni and parents.*

If your son is still attending The University of Alabama, he will receive a copy at the chapter house. If he is no longer in school, please send us his permanent address to update our records. Thank you.

joys golfing, exercising, and supporting UA sports in his free time. E-mail: kentrose6@gmail.com

Ernest Potter '60 is a retired lawyer living in Huntsville, Ala., and enjoys traveling. He has been to China, Canada, Italy, Boston, New York, California, Nevada, and the Gulf Coast. E-mail: elpotter@comcast.net

Douglas Lindley '65 is semi-retired from his full-time position as a management and marketing consultant at AMP Consulting in Montgomery, Ala. He volunteers his time with individuals with Parkinson's disease and was a facilitator of the largest disease support group in Alabama. Doug and his wife, Sheila, have two children, Brian and Katherine. E-mail: doug@ampconsultinginc.com

Bruce Reid Sr. '71 and his wife, Emilie, live in Montgomery, Ala., and have three children. He is a partner at Stamp Idea Group and enjoys golfing. E-mail: breid@reid-odonahue.com

Mark Moore '84 is the vice president of sales for Wireless Environment, which constructs Mr. Beams LED lighting. E-mail: mmoore3232@gmail.com

Zachary Wolf '04 and his wife, Laura, welcomed their first child, George, in December 2015. Zachary lives in Mobile, Ala., where he is the manager of Smith, Dukes, and Buckalew. E-mail: zack@smithdukes.com

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