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BETA DELTA CHAPTER, FOUNDED 1885

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Brothers attended the Greek Excellence Awards banquet in February.

BETA DELTA REACHES LARGEST MEMBERSHIP IN CHAPTER HISTORY

Awarded Most Outstanding Alabama Fraternity

Full 2016 was yet another great semester for the men of Beta Delta. We continued the legacy of those before us by excelling in philanthropy, academics, athletics, recruitment, and social life. Beta Delta sets the highest standard among fraternities at the University of Alabama and ATΩ chapters nationwide.

Chapter Wins 16th True Merit Bowl

In August, we brought home our 16th True Merit Bowl from the National ATΩ Congress in Charlotte, N.C. While we did not take home the Top Chapter award, we did win six additional awards. Former Worthy Master **Conner Herfurth '13** was a Thomas Arkle Clark honorable mention award winner. At the 2016 university Greek Excellence Awards banquet, Beta Delta was honored to receive the Interfraternity Council's awards for Outstanding Service and Philanthropy, Outstanding Scholarship, Outstanding University and Community Relations, and Most Outstanding IFC Chapter. We pledged 53 outstanding men who are the cream of the crop of this year's freshman class. Perhaps the most impressive number from the fall was our membership size of 177 members—the largest in chapter history. Despite having such a large chapter, 75 men recorded a 3.5 GPA or better, placing them on the Dean's List. Twenty-seven of those men earned a 4.0 GPA, placing them on the President's List.

Brothers Stay Actively Involved on Campus

Beta Delta continues to stay involved in many campus groups and organizations. We hold more positions than any other fraternity on campus. Our largest representation is within Capstone Men, The



Jake Varra '16 and North Patterson '16 witnessed Alabama's third consecutive SEC Championship win in front row seats.

University Stewards, and Greek Ambassadors. A truly outstanding brother, **Jeremiah Johnson '15**, graduated in December and has gone to live out his dreams working as a production assistant at ESPN in Bristol, Conn.

Spring Semester Starts Strong

On January 20, we held our second annual Parent's Night at the Tuscaloosa River Market. Norris Dates and the Power Surge played all the hits as we enjoyed hors d'oeuvres with our parents. The next morning, we initiated 48 new brothers into our chapter. A luncheon was held afterward where **Stan Starnes '66** served as our keynote speaker, delivering a powerful message about what it means to be a Beta Delta.

Recently, four of our brothers were named Capstone Men. **Jake Varra '16** and **North Patterson '16** returned for their second year and two new initiates, **James Bamberger '17** and **Finn Veje '17**, were selected for the group. We strive to lead the University of Alabama in terms of academics, ministry, involvement, and leadership. I look forward to leading Beta Delta onward in 2017, pushing my brothers to set the bar higher each day. We are ever thankful for the foundation that has been laid before us for the last 131 years.

Fraternally,
Jack Albritton '15
Worthy Master
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W. STANCIL STARNES '66 GIVES ADDRESS TO INITIATES AND PARENTS

Stan Starnes '66 spoke to the new initiates, Chapter members, and their parents following the initiation luncheon on Saturday, January 21, at the chapter house. Stan is a former practicing lawyer who became chairman and chief executive officer of ProAssurance, one of the largest insurers of physicians in the country. While in the chapter, he served as Worthy Master. More recently, he was instrumental in the resurgence of the chapter, particularly through his efforts with **Barrie Harmon '66** and **Tom Curtin '74**, who headed up the capital campaign, successfully raising over \$2 million for the new chapter house.

Stan told those assembled that their initiation signified several things—completion of pledgship; attaining a high academic record; being accorded the full privileges in the extraordinary organization of ATΩ; but most importantly, receiving the assurance of a permanent place in Beta Delta brotherhood. Initiation into the brotherhood means that each new member has access to tremendous opportunity—access to ideas, friendships, a deeply collaborative environment, a support group, and all the life lessons to which each member will be exposed. Each new member will have the opportunity to serve and grow as a person and student, while developing lifelong friendships and having fun in the process.

Having joined the fraternity in 1965 as a 16-year-old freshman, Stan shared some of his experiences in the chapter and stated that he has always felt he learned more about life from his ATΩ experiences than from his academic endeavors, and Stan was a very good student! He pointed out that we all live by a set of values, either intended, or determined by default or circumstances, but the values learned as a pledge, and as confirmed by our Creed, remain his core values that have served him well in the 50 years since his initiation. Stan shared that ATΩ instilled four core values that he has found so important:

INTEGRITY: The bedrock of values upon which all else stands. Integrity is a “one strike” issue, because you can never get it back. Never get close



to the line because your reputation depends on your integrity. Integrity trumps everything. Honesty, candor, fairness, reliability, and trustworthiness are not choices, but imperatives. Everyone must decide whether integrity is a one strike issue and decide on which side of the line you will stand. But be aware, the human mind is capable of rationalizing anything!

RELATIONSHIPS: In the context of a life lived with integrity, relationships are critical to open the broadest and most fulfilling opportunities, whether in business, personal, or spiritual endeavors, integrity should be the litmus test for all relationships. Relationships will sustain in times of difficulty, nurture in times of need, enhance accomplishments, and color ordinary days with satisfaction and reassurance. Relationships are the lubricant of commerce and pay dividends every day. Relationships that reach maximum potential are grounded in loyalty, devotion, mutuality, effort, and trust.

LEADERSHIP: The first and most important characteristic of a good leader is the ability to lead your own life. Every day you must be intentional as you lead your own life by asking yourself, “Where do I want to end up?” In life, there will be times to be a follower and occasions to be a leader, but all the same characteristics serve to optimize your ability to be a good follower or leader—inspiration, vision, development, performance, and ownership.

ENTHUSIASM: A commitment to optimism and to bring to every undertaking a true passion to acquit yourself well in return for the gift of the day. It is the desire to embrace the ordinary. Throughout his career, Joe DiMaggio always made a point to run from the dugout to his position in center field and did the same when he returned to the dugout. He did not just run, he sprinted as if he were trying to get to home plate. He played the game of baseball every day with incredible enthusiasm! He embraced the ordinary that others took for granted.

2016-17 Scholarship Award Winners

MICHAEL MOAK SCHOLARSHIP

Matthew Tedford '16 is a sophomore from Knoxville, Tenn. He serves as Beta Delta's Secretary and is pursuing a degree in Management Information Systems. His career aspirations are to work in management consulting.

CARL ALBRIGHT SCHOLARSHIP

Grant Logsdon '16 is a sophomore from Vestavia Hills, Ala. Grant is Beta Delta's Risk Management Chairman and is majoring in Management Information Systems.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOLARSHIP

Wyatt Robinson '16 is a junior from Hazel Green, Ala. Wyatt is a member of the university's Army ROTC program and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

Logan Skinner '15 is a junior computer science major from Mountain Brook, Ala. Logan served as Membership Education Chairman for the fall 2016 pledge class.

Trey Thurston '16 is a sophomore nursing major from Vestavia Hills, Ala. Trey serves as a Greek Ambassador and works part time at UA's Women and Gender Resource Center.

Philip Burke '14 is a senior from Huntsville, Ala., studying Management Information Systems. Phil will be working in Nashville for Ernst & Young after graduation.

AMOS D. BURNS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

David McLean '16 is a sophomore from Vestavia Hills, Ala. David is pursuing a degree in Finance.

Ben Butler '16 is a sophomore from Atlanta, Ga. Ben is majoring in Philosophy with minors in Criminal Justice and Political Science. Ben aspires to attend law school after completing his undergraduate studies.

Tyler Green '16 is a sophomore nursing major from Gardendale, Ala.

WELCOME, 2017 INITIATES

- James Bamberger / Bethesda, Md.
- Dylan Barker / Columbus, Miss.
- William Brooks / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Matthew Brown / Hoover, Ala.
- Christopher Chain / Columbus, Miss.
- Zachary Chandler / Hoover, Ala.
- Cameron Cortinas / Fairhope, Ala.
- Collin Crowe / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Albert Elliot / Vestavia Hills, Ala.
- Brendan Fahey / Milton, Ga.
- Jack Farmer / Birmingham, Ala.
- Hayden Frierdich / Gulf Breeze, Fla.
- Mitchell Gaddy / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Bryan Gilliland / Longview, Texas
- Michael Harris / Huntsville, Ala.
- William Hogue / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Thornton Jones / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Daniel Kehl / Birmingham, Ala.
- Steven Kittleson / Collierville, Tenn.
- Judson Krout / Cullman, Ala.
- Charles Lewis / Mountain Brook, Ala.
- Trenton Makin / Daphne, Ala.
- Louis McDonough / Jacksonville, Fla.
- William Mizerany / Homewood, Ala.
- Brett Mosier / Hoover, Ala.
- Samuel Norris / Huntsville, Ala.
- John Parker / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Samuel Perry / Chesterfield, Mo.
- Joseph Pilleteri / Vestavia Hills, Ala.
- Andrew Pratt / Oxford, Ala.
- Fischer Priestley / Vestavia Hills, Ala.
- Raymond Rafool / Miami, Fla.
- William Rantzow / Memphis, Tenn.
- James Robinson / Fairhope, Ala.
- Mitchell Rouse / Huntsville, Ala.
- Dakota Roush / Tulsa, Okla.
- John Rusevlyan / Florence, Ala.
- William Ryan / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Logan Shugarts / Cullman, Ala.
- Sam Sykstus / Huntsville, Ala.
- James Tomlinson / Birmingham, Ala.
- William Tucker / Tuscaloosa, Ala.
- Finn Veje / Los Angeles, Calif.
- William Walker / Homewood, Ala.
- Brandon Wermuth / Brownsboro, Ala.
- Marshall Williams / Kansas City, Mo.
- Britton Webb / Prattville, Ala.
- Charles Wright / Guntersville, Ala.

2017 Executive Committee

- | | |
|--|---|
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| Historian
Wayne Ingram '15 | House Manager
Matt Bell '15 |

STAND WITH JOHN

Undergraduates Raise Thousands for Brother's Cancer Treatment

On October 22, 2016, the University of Alabama hosted Texas A&M University at Bryant-Denny Stadium. Late in the third quarter, Jonathan Allen returned a fumble 29 yards for a touchdown and helped the Tide secure their lead over A&M, 33-14. The team recorded 451 total yards and defended their undefeated record that day, but the truly remarkable statistic of the afternoon was earned by Beta Delta.



Stand with John bracelets were sold on campus for \$3 to raise money for John Stoffer '14, an undergraduate brother battling cancer.

Throughout the fall semester, Beta Delta brothers sold wristbands on campus in exchange for donations. The proceeds were raised for active brother **John Stoffer '14**, who was diagnosed with stage four metastatic melanoma in May 2016. On October 22, 2016, countless alumni, parents, and friends filled the chapter house in support of the Stand with John campaign, raising \$17,200 for John's treatment. With fundraising efforts led by the board of directors, Ms. Sue, and **Parker Dunaway '14**, the chapter came together and raised more than \$23,000 for John throughout the semester.

"My brothers understand my condition, and want to support when they can, but they also recognize me as 'John, their fraternity brother' more than 'John, the cancer patient.' This means so much to me, as my identity before returning to school had become so deeply stained by my disease," he said. "Here at ATΩ, my brothers inspire me to live a life in spite of my disease, not a life characterized by it. I attribute so much of my continued healing to the support and normalcy of life provided to me by all my ATΩ brothers."

Specifically, John would like to thank Parker for spearheading the Stand with John movement, and **Grant Smith '14**, **Ben Davis '15**, and **Carson Ford '15** for assisting Parker. He also appreciates Ms. Sue and her extraordinary 'mom-game,' and **Walter Monroe '66** for the example he's set for the chapter and for organizing a way for John to share his story. "On the individual level, I have felt so supported and loved by my ATΩ brothers. They've provided the friendships and social framework that I've

needed in order to return to life as normal," he said. "By that, I mean to say that the everyday interactions I have with my brothers have meant more to me than any 'get well soon' card I could ever receive."

Easily one of John's favorite memories from his senior year, and college experience in general, was setting up The Anderson Ball with his honor society, The Anderson Society. The Fair Hope Foundation heard about John's story and awarded him a needs-based scholarship for his senior year, and the ball was a way for John to give back to the community for their support. At the ball, John met the chairman of the foundation, Byron Fair, who also battled cancer during his time at UA. With the help of Dr. Bell, the university president, and 200 of the brightest students and faculty, the event raised \$11,000 for The Fair Hope Foundation. "It was the culmination of my experience in college, my hope to give back to those who helped me, and my selfish desire to hob-nob with President Bell all in one event," John said. "I knew I wanted to use my story to some benefit while at school, and I found my inspiration in Byron Fair."

Once every two weeks, John meets up with his oncologist, Dr. Infante, to receive intravenous immunotherapy treatment called opdivo (nivolumab). On October 14, 2016, scans showed continued shrinking of the tumors on his liver and there was no metastasis anywhere else in his body. In January, his scans then revealed some of the tumors on his liver were beginning to disappear. "We've taken both these scan results as wonderful news," John said. "They've allowed me to focus on more long-term goals again, such as applying to medical school this summer."



John Stoffer '14 at a treatment session at Tennessee Oncology.

John is set to take the MCAT on April 22. He has had his nose in the books since December and has made considerable progress since then. John plans to graduate after completing his final engineering course in July; however, the university is allowing him to walk for his diploma in May with his friends. After graduation, he hopes to have a clinical position lined up back home and is seeking opportunities at The Tennessee Oncology at Centennial Hospital, where he receives his treatment. John also hopes to volunteer at Siloam Family Health Center, a nonprofit clinic seeking to serve the most medically vulnerable people in Middle Tennessee. John can be reached at jnstoffer@crimson.ua.edu.

Follow Beta Delta Online

For Beta Delta, 2016 was the year of social media. We have begun a concerted initiative to consistently promote professional content, highlighting the chapter's successes and significant news of our brothers. The chapter Instagram page has more than 600 followers and 100 posts. Our Facebook page has nearly 800 likes. We plan to focus our efforts next on the Beta Delta LinkedIn page, and will be inviting all alumni to encourage professional interaction and networking between ATΩs. As our culture progresses with technology, the Beta Delta chapter hopes to improve active and alumni engagement and interconnectivity through our social media efforts.

Fraternally,

Samuel J. Perry '16

Public Relations Chairman

Website: www.atoalabama.com

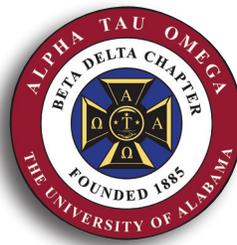
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LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/groups/8519563

Twitter: [@ato_bd](https://twitter.com/ato_bd)

ATΩ Roadshow: <http://roadshow.ato.org/roadshow/posts/snapshot/alabama>



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BETA DELTA INITIATES 48 MEMBERS INTO THE BROTHERHOOD

Board of Trustees Report

Full 2016 was an exciting time for Beta Delta as we welcomed 48 new members to the chapter and began our fifth year in the new chapter house. Football weekends were well attended by alumni who enjoyed good times at the chapter house catching up with old friends and making new friends along the way. It is incredible the number of alumni who come to Tuscaloosa and interact with the brothers and their parents each football weekend. Next fall, plan to come to the chapter house before a game and enjoy the great food prepared by Ms. Sue and her staff.

Undergraduates Prioritize Academics

The chapter continues to excel in every aspect of campus life, especially academics. Last fall, the chapter GPA was 3.31 and the new member class had a GPA of 3.17—all well above the all-men and all-Greek averages for the university. Our chapter has a total of 75 members who earned a GPA of 3.5 or better and 27 brothers who earned 4.0 GPAs last fall!

48 Brothers Initiated in January

Forty-eight outstanding young men were initi-

ated into the Beta Delta Chapter of Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity on Saturday, January 21. A wonderful night preceded initiation with more than 350 people in attendance on Friday evening at the chapter's annual Parent's Night event held at the Tuscaloosa River Place Event Center. Parents from as far away as California attended this festive evening to celebrate this significant occasion for the new initiates.

A luncheon was held on Saturday after the formal initiation ceremony for all chapter members and parents. **Stan Starnes '66**, former Worthy Master and chairman of ProAssurance, spoke to the new members and parents and his remarks were absolutely on point and outstanding. Stan's remarks are included on page 2 of this newsletter and I would encourage everyone to read them as they apply to us all.

Fraternally,

Walter H. Monroe '66

Chairman, Board of Trustees
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*Beta Delta initiated 48
new members on January 21.*



Retired Brigadier General and Circuit Judge Tom King Jr. '68 was recently honored by Athletic Director Bill Battle for his 32 years of service to our country and state. General King, a 1971 distinguished military graduate of the university's ROTC program, was presented with our nation's flag to commemorate his service.